



## MARCH—APRIL 2026

Theater Bus, Inc. is a nonprofit organization committed to enriching the quality of life for all adults over 55 by providing safe, affordable, volunteer led outings to theatrical, cultural and social events.

### Curtain Up on a Spring to Remember!

The Theater Bus is ready to whisk you into the heart of March and April with a season full of sparkle and charm! This spring, we'll journey together to see captivating stage productions, from laugh-out-loud comedies to stirring dramas, plus enjoy scenic rides, great company, and a few surprise stops along the way. Whether it's the satisfaction of supporting live theater, the joy of shared travel, or the beauty of spring unfolding outside your window, every trip promises memories worth keeping. So dust off your favorite travel sweater, bring your curiosity, and let's make this season one for the storybooks!

Don't forget to **SPRING FORWARD** an hour on March 8th.  
(We don't want you to miss the bus!)



A very SPECIAL Thank you to the  
**Pleasant T Rowland Foundation**  
for their continued support.



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Heather Holy  
Advance Planning Specialist  
608-206-5588  
hholy@gundersonfh.com

## Volunteers Still Needed! American Family Insurance Golf Tournament

It is more crucial than ever, to raise money for Theater Bus, to help keep the costs of trips down. To secure our spots and participate in this fundraiser, we must confirm our volunteer numbers NOW. If we do not enough volunteers committed by March 15th, we can not do this fundraiser. **We need you to commit now!**

The funds from this effort go directly to the cost of trips. Help us by signing up early. Volunteer shifts are approximately 4-5 hours with some overlap. We need committed volunteers for mornings and afternoons across all three days. **You can sign up for more than one shift or you can work the whole day or weekend if you like.** You will receive free admission on the day that you work, access to golf viewing and a meal the day of your shift.

**What:** The AmFam Golf Tourney

**When:** June 5-7, 2026

**Where:** TPC Wisconsin (Formerly Cherokee Golf Course) on the North side of Madison

**Contact Dawn at [volunteer@theaterbus.org](mailto:volunteer@theaterbus.org)** and let her know you are committing to work this fundraiser and what shift you would like to commit to, as well as where you would like to work (cart or booth).

Due to the large number of donors we had in 2025, it isn't possible to list everyone in our newsletter.

We are VERY GRATEFUL to all of you! Our special Super Star fundraiser was a great success and our end of the year fundraiser helped us reach our total goal for 2025.

**THANK YOU!**

We lost many long term participants and volunteers in 2025. We hold those memories near to our hearts.

### Donations made in MEMORIAL for:

By Asta Blanchard in memory of

**Rita Tubbs  
Marlyn Hodges  
Robert Kaalberg**

By Janet Likwarz in memory of

**Robert Kaalberg**

By Judy Fenske in Memory of

**Rita Tubbs**

By Shirley Noyce in memory of

**Marlyn Hodges**

By Ruth Hellenbrand in memory of

**Sandra Hardie  
Dick Hodges  
Dennis Austin**

**4. Death By Design**

Date: Saturday, March 7th, 2026

Price: \$117

Place: The Grand, Oshkosh

Lunch&gt;Show: 12:00/2:00

9:30am- (West) Theater Bus

10:00am — (Monona) South Towne Mall

10:15am- (East) Marshall's

Approximate return to Madison 5:30pm

1932: Edward Bennett, a playwright, and his wife, Sorel Bennett, an actress, flee to a Cookham manor after a disastrous opening night of a show. Other wild and crazy guests arrive (a politician, a socialist, a "modern" dancer, and a nearsighted ingenue) with their own secrets to hide. When a guest ends up dead, Bridgit, the feisty Irish maid with too much interest in homicide, works on figuring out "whodunnit"! Warning: Simulated Gunshot with flashing lights.

Lunch at the Roxy Supper Club in Oshkosh. Choice of Haddock Gratinæ (topped with Mayo & bread crumbs), Chicken Princess with Asparagus spears and mozzarella (GF) Open Faced Tenderloin with Onion Rings (GF)

**5. Come From Away**

Date: Sunday, March 15th, 2026

Price: \$154

Place: LaCrosse Community Theater

Lunch&gt;Show: 12:00/2:00

8:45am — (West) Theater Bus

9:15am — (Monona) South Towne Mall

9:30am- (East) Marshall's

Approx. return to Madison 6:00pm

Come from Away is based on the true story of the time when the isolated community of Gander, Newfoundland, played host to the world. What started as an average day in a small town turned into an international sleepover, when 38 planes, carrying thousands of people from around the globe, were diverted to Gander's airstrip on September 11, 2001. Undaunted by culture clashes and language barriers, the people of Gander cheered the stranded travelers with music, an open bar and the recognition that we're all part of a global family.

Lunch will be across the street and down the block at the Raddison Hotel's restaurant. Choices are: Loaded Chicken (grilled chicken topped with mushrooms, bacon, onion & swiss served with mashed potatoes; Stuffed Bell Pepper (V); or Mac N Cheese w/Bacon and pulled pork. Dessert is Raspberry Cake and non alcoholic beverages included.

**4. Death By Design**

Date: Sat., March 7th, 2026

Deadline: Feb 23rd, 2026

Price: \$117

Deadline: January 5th, 2026

Check: #\_\_\_\_\_

Additional Contribution: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Amount encl \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_# people

1. Name/address

2. Home Phone:\_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone:\_\_\_\_\_

Email:\_\_\_\_\_

3. Pick-up Location:

\_\_\_\_West—Theater Bus (559 D'Onofrio Dr)

\_\_\_\_Monona—South Towne Mall (near Floor and Décor)

\_\_\_\_East—Marshall's (2117 Zeier Rd)

4. I wish to sit with:\_\_\_\_\_

5. Emergency Contact/number \_\_\_\_\_

6. Circle one per person:      Haddock

Chicken (GF)      Tenderloin (GF)

**5. Come From Away**

Date: March 15th, 2026      Price: \$154

Deadline: Feb. 23rd , 2026

Check: #\_\_\_\_\_

Additional Contribution: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Amount encl \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_# people

1. Name/address

2. Home Phone:\_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone:\_\_\_\_\_

Email:\_\_\_\_\_

3. Pick-up Location:

\_\_\_\_West—Theater Bus (559 D'Onofrio Dr)

\_\_\_\_Monona—South Towne Mall (near Floor N Décor end)

\_\_\_\_East—Marshall's, 2117 Zeier Rd.

4. I wish to sit with:\_\_\_\_\_

5. Emergency Contact Name &amp; Phone Number:

6. Circle one per person:      Chicken

Stuffed pepper

Mac N cheese



## 8. Ultimate Elvis

Date: Friday, April 10th, 2026

Price: \$122

Place: Dells Dinner Adventures (Legacy Theater)

Time lunch/show: 2:00/3:00pm

12:00pm- (West) Theater Bus

12:15pm — (Monona) South Towne Mall

12:30pm- (East) Marshall's

Approximate return to Madison 5:30pm

Jimmy Holmes is a world-renowned Elvis Tribute Artist who burst onto the spotlight after winning the Images of the King World Championship in Memphis, Tennessee. Since then, he has toured extensively across the United States and internationally, performing in the UK, Germany, Belgium, The Netherlands, Canada, Australia, Chile, and beyond. With his remarkable ability to embody Elvis Presley's vocals, appearance, charisma, and onstage magic, Jimmy captivates audiences everywhere he goes. Widely regarded as one of the most authentic and accurate Elvis tributes in the world, he has earned numerous accolades throughout his career. In 2025, Jimmy achieved the highest honor in the Elvis tribute industry when he was named **Elvis Presley Enterprises' Ultimate Elvis Tribute Artist** during Elvis Week in Memphis—the most prestigious recognition an Elvis Tribute Artist can receive.

Lunch will be Roasted Pork, Bread and Salad, Rice Pilaf, Green Beans, Mustard Brown Gravy, Chef's Choice Dessert

## 9. Country Legends Show

Date: Wednesday, April 15th, 2026

Price: \$136

Place: Clausen Family Barn, Coloma

Time lunch/show: 12:00/1:00pm

9:30am- (West) Theater Bus

10:00am — (Monona) South Towne Mall

10:15am- (East) Marshall's

Approximate return to Madison 5:30pm

An afternoon of spectacular entertainment awaits you at the **Clauson Family Music Show** performing the Country Legends Show!

See a live show at the Historic Barn Theatre in Coloma, Wisconsin, with shows year-round and a special summer and Christmas season.

Enjoy a delectable dinner, browse in the gift shoppes, pick up a treat from the Coffee Shoppe and then enjoy a spectacular show filled with great music from the past and present.

From couples, to families and friends and of course tour groups, our high-energy cast presents a show that is sure to please any audience!

## 8. Ultimate Elvis

Date: Fri, April 10th, 2026 Price: \$122

Deadline: March 5th, 2026

Check: # \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Contribution: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Amount encl \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ # people

1. Name/address

2. Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Pick-up Location:

\_\_\_ West—Theater Bus (559 D'Onofrio Dr)

\_\_\_ Monona—South Towne Mall (near Floor and Décor)

\_\_\_ East—Marshall's (2117 Zeier Rd)

4. I wish to sit with: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Emergency Contact Name & Phone Number:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## 9. Country Legends Show

Date: Wed, April 15th, 2026 Price: \$136

Deadline: March 20th, 2026

Check: # \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Contribution: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Amount encl \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ # people

1. Name/address

2. Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Pick-up Location:

\_\_\_ West—Theater Bus (559 D'Onofrio Dr)

\_\_\_ Monona—South Towne Mall (near Floor and Décor)

\_\_\_ East—Marshall's (2117 Zeier Rd)

4. I wish to sit with: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Emergency Contact Name & Phone Number:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## 10. Tuesdays with Morrie

Date: Saturday, April 25th, 2026

Price: \$120

Place: Attic Theater, Vaudette in Kaukauna

Time lunch/show: 12:00/2:00pm

9:00am- (West) Theater Bus

9:30am — (Monona) South Towne Mall

9:45am- (East) Marshall's

*Tuesdays with Morrie* is the autobiographical story of Mitch Albom, an accomplished journalist driven solely by his career, and Morrie Schwartz, his former college professor. Sixteen years after graduation, Mitch happens to catch Morrie's appearance on a television news program and learns that his old professor is battling Lou Gehrig's Disease. Mitch is reunited with Morrie, and what starts as a simple visit turns into a weekly pilgrimage and a last class in the meaning of life.

This show is being held by Attic Theater at the Vaudette. This is an old and historic Theater in Kaukana. It does have an elevator.

Cheddars in Appleton—a NEW restaurant for us! Lunch choice Vegetarian Philly Cheesesteak with Fries, Homemade pot pie, or chicken Fried Steak with Mashed Potatoes & green beans. Includes Lemonade or coffee and fried Apple Pie for dessert.

## 10. Tuesdays with Morrie

Date: Sat., April 25th, 2026

Cost: \$120

Deadline: April 1st, 2026

Check: # \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Contribution: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Amount encl \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_# people

1. Name/address

2. Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Pick-up Location:

West—Theater Bus (559 D'Onofrio Dr)

Monona—South Towne Mall (near Floor and Décor)

East—Marshall's (2117 Zeier Rd)

4. I wish to sit with: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Emergency Contact Name & Phone Number:

6. Circle one per person: Vegetarian Philly

Homemade Pot Pie

Chicken Fried Steak

## New Theater Bus Merchandise is Available for Sale!

T-shirts, Hats, Sweatshirts, Mugs, Bags & Water Bottles!

<https://www.bonfire.com/store/theater-bus-2025/>

There is also a link on our website  
[www.theaterbus.org](http://www.theaterbus.org)

## 7 THEATER BUS INFORMATION

### THEATER BUS

#### Please review these important tips:

- We will not contact you to tell you we have received your check. We will only contact you if the trip is full and you are on a waitlist or if the trip is cancelled. If you are on a waitlist, your check will be returned immediately.
- Checks are deposited after the deadline listed in the newsletter. No refunds after the deadline.
- You will get a reminder call from us 2-3 days before the trip. We will make 2 attempts to contact you. It's important that you check your voicemail **or call in to verify if you didn't receive a call.**
- Sometimes we have to adjust trip pick up times/locations for construction, weather, etc. PLEASE pay attention when you get your reminder call so that you are aware of any changes. The volunteers that call have the most up to date info. Please listen to your phone messages. If we can't speak to you when we call, we will leave a message with all the information.
- It is **important** that you are able to get up and down the bus steps on your own. Our volunteers are not trained to give any care assistance.
- Registrations will **not** be taken over the telephone or spaces held unless payment has been received.
- Select the form for the event you wish to attend. Please complete all of the information. (Use a return address label if you have them) Otherwise, print your name and address and telephone number clearly. Please do not assume we will get your information from your check. Sometimes, checks get separated from the registration form. Please complete your name and address. Print **CLEARLY**. Please DO NOT leave this blank!
- Number attending—If you are registering just yourself, enter "1." If you are registering more than one person, write the number attending and then write the name, address, phone number, pickup location, and meal choice, if required, for EACH person.
- ***The deadline listed on the registration form is the date all checks will be deposited and you no longer will get a refund for cancellation. While many trips fill quickly, even with waitlists, there may still be openings. Please call the office to verify.***
- Theater Bus accepts checks, and cash, but not credit cards, as payment. **Separate checks must be written for each event.** Checks should be made payable to Theater Bus.
- Mail or drop off your registration form(s) and payment to: Theater Bus, Inc , 559 D'Onofrio Dr, Suite 17, Madison, WI 53719. If you want to drop off your registration after office hours, we do have a mail slot you can use.
- All tips are included in the cost of the trip, including a tip for the bus driver and wait staff.
- It is **very important** that you bring your cell phone on the trip and keep it with you. We do need a cell phone number on file.
- Please park away from the office and businesses. (Park at the far end of the office lot, etc) We do not want to disrupt parking for businesses that are open.
- *Thank you for continuing to be part of the Theater Bus community!*

**We have Theater Bus coffee mugs ( with lids) for sale in the office!  
Only \$5.00 ! Limited supplies**



# March—April 2026

559 D'Onofrio Dr. Suite 17  
Madison, WI 53719  
608-257-0003

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Mail your reservation today!

*If you no longer wish to receive this mailing, please let us know. Call 608-257-0003 Thank you!*

## Pickup Locations

Theater Bus provides the following convenient Madison pickup locations. **Please arrive 15 minutes earlier than listed in the newsletter.**

**West** - All WEST side trips will now start at the *Theater Bus Office*, 559 D'Onofrio Dr. any day of the week.

**East** - *Marshalls*, 2117 Zeier Rd., park in stalls at far end of lot, away from the entrance of the store.

**Monona** - *South Towne Mall*, Broadway Dr, near Floor and Décor end of parking area.

**Note:** Before each trip, we check messages at (608) 257-0003. *Please let us know if your plans change.*

## Contact Info

**Ruth Hellenbrand**

**Director**

**Theater Bus**

**559 D'Onofrio Dr**

**Suite 17**

**Madison, WI 53719**

**(608) 257-0003**

**Email:** [info@theaterbus.org](mailto:info@theaterbus.org)

**Website:** [www.theaterbus.org](http://www.theaterbus.org)

After hours, please leave a message and your call will be returned during regular business hours. After office hours, we do have a mail slot in the door for dropping off registrations.

## OFFICE HOURS:

Monday—THURSDAY 10am-1:00pm  
Office is closed on Fridays!  
(email and voicemail will be checked)  
(608) 257-0003 [info@theaterbus.org](mailto:info@theaterbus.org)