

arts & entertainment news

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NEW YORK

**Claire Danes and Hugh Dancy Welcome Second Baby Boy on Monday**

Claire Danes and Hugh Dancy have welcomed a baby boy. A publicist for the actors told The Associated Press on Friday that the couple gave birth Monday in New York. This is the second child for the 39-year-old actress and 42-year-old actor. They are already parents to their 5-year-old son Cyrus Michael Christopher. The actors have been married since 2009.

— The Associated Press

**Backstage Pass**

INSIGHTS ON STAGE, SCREEN AND BEYOND

**Do the Cell Block Tango In the Iconic Play ‘Chicago’**

By **KRISTEN FIORE**  
*Daily Sun Senior Staff Writer*

“Pop, six, squish, uh uh, Cicero, Lipschitz!” You have it coming — “Chicago,” that is.

The Tony-award winning Broadway musical will make a three-day stop at the Sharon L. Morse Performing Arts Center at the end of this month.

Set in the 1920s, “Chicago” tells the story of housewife and dancer Roxie Hart, who winds up in jail after murdering her lover.

Hart, in attempt to be released from jail, hires a lawyer that makes her a “celebrity criminal.”

Jennifer Fouche, who plays Matron “Mama” Morton in the show, describes the music as unparalleled, the storyline as frighteningly relevant, the characters as unforgettable and the choreography as undeniable.

“Every actor wants to do an iconic show and play an iconic role, which Mama Morton absolutely is,” Fouche said. “Even more than that, working on this kind of Broadway show is working with people who are simply at the top of their game, and you feel humble to be counted among them.”

Matron Mama Morton was

amount of power at a time when women were not really in roles of authority,” Fouche said.

The story was actually inspired by real people and true events, according to Fouche. It tells the sad truth of fame and what people will do to get it and keep it, but also how the public will feed it.

Fouche said she hopes people leave the show feeling uplifted, entertained and thoughtful.

“There’s so much about our current situation in this country that is relevant to the themes of celebrities and how we view them and whether or not they feel a responsibility as a person in the public eye to handle it with care and use it for good,” Fouche said.

Fouche said her favorite part about working on “Chicago,” is the applause, but not for the reasons people might think.

“When people come into a theater, you don’t know what kind of week or month or year they’ve had,” she said. “It could be somebody with season tickets who loves the show or someone who put their last few pennies together because they’ve never seen a Broadway show. It could be someone whose husband recently died or someone who’s going through a divorce.”

So hearing the applause at the end is humbling for Fouche. “Whatever is going on in their life didn’t occur to them for two hours,” she said. “You were able to bring joy, and you feel that with the applause.”

The original production of “Chicago” was on Broadway in 1975 and then revived in 1996.

“Anyone from the community who had the opportunity to see this risky, groundbreaking, sexy show will be flocking to

the theater for another chance to see the drama and flare,” said Elizabeth Constant, booking coordinator at The Sharon. “If you have not had an opportunity to see this title, your chance has arrived.”

Constant said she has been waiting for the show to be scaled down enough for it to stop in The Villages.

Up until this season, the production traveled in eight semi trucks loaded with scenery, costumes and technological equipment, which was more than The Sharon could fit.

“Now that they have tightened up the tech needs, we can host it in a Sharon-sized performing arts center venue,” Constant said. “We’re thrilled!”

“Chicago” will be performed at 7:30 p.m. on Sept. 24 and 26 and at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Sept. 25 at The Sharon.

**HOW DO I BUY TICKETS?**

The Villages Entertainment sells tickets in person at their four box office locations or online at thevillagesentertainment.com

All box office locations are open from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Spanish Springs:** 970 Del Mar Drive

**Lake Sumter Landing:** 1070 Canal Street

**Brownwood:** 2726 Brownwood Blvd.

**Savannah Center:** 1545 N. Buena Vista Blvd.

portrayed by Queen Latifah in the 2002 film adaptation, and Fouche said she’s an interesting character to play.

“She’s a woman with a certain

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Q&A WITH **Julia Butler**  
Director, Writer, Executive Producer and Filmmaker of “Slip Away”

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