



# 'Fantasticks' play at the Firehouse Center

SPECIAL TO BEACH NEWS

NEWBURYPORT | The Firehouse Center for the Arts, located in downtown Newburyport, is pleased to present the world's longest running musical "The Fantasticks," playing July 14-31.

When "The Fantasticks" was written by Tom Jones and Harvey Schmidt in 1960, the United States was coming down from the wholesomeness of the post-war 50s and building up to the Beatles, Woodstock and the Vietnam War.

The story tells a tale of the neighboring fathers of Luisa and Matt.

Though good friends, feel they must appear as enemies to make sure that their children fall in love. Having thought up this bit of logic, they next find a way to reverse themselves by hiring El Gallo, aided by the Old Actor and the Indian, to perform a mock abduction my moonlight so that Matt might prove his valor, thus paving the way for reconciliation.

But daylight reveals the parental deception; the lovers quarrel and young Matt goes off to see the world. After a number of horrible experiences, he returns home to Luisa's

waiting arms.

Directed by Tim Diering with Assistant Director Tom Rosa and Musical Director Evelyn Mann, the cast includes Michael Letch, Katie Letien, Scott Ippolito, Gil Thomas, Al Voutour, Julianne Richards, Craig Downs, and David Houlden. With heart-touching music such as "Try and Remember" and "Soon It's Gonna Rain," this play (sponsored by TD Banknorth) is one not to be missed.

Performances of "The Fantasticks" will play Thursdays through Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 5 p.m. Tickets range from \$21-\$24 and are available at [www.firehouse.org](http://www.firehouse.org) or by calling the box office at (978) 462-7336.

The Firehouse Center for the Arts is an arts and cultural member based organization

located on the waterfront in Newburyport, with a 195 seat theater, which offers diverse programming including film, dance, theatre and concerts, children's series, new works festival and has a gallery which exhibits works by local and international artists.



**FANTASTIC SHOW** — Scott Ippolito (center) as El Gallo surprises the young lovebirds Matt (left, played by Michael Letch) and Luisa (Julianne Richards) in "The Fantasticks," playing July 14-31 at the Firehouse Center for the Arts, located in downtown Newburyport. Showtimes are Thursdays through Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 5 p.m. Tickets range from \$21-\$24 and are available at [www.firehouse.org](http://www.firehouse.org) or by calling the box office at (978) 462-7336.

— Beach News Courtesy Photo



**RUN IN, RUN OUT** — Children try to outrun the surf at Salisbury Beach.

— Beach News Photo by Hirtle

## A sizzling Salisbury summer

SPECIAL TO THE BEACH NEWS

SALISBURY | The Salisbury Chamber of Commerce recently announced its beach center calendar of events for Summer 2005.

The schedule includes music provided by a DJ every Saturday night at 7:30 p.m. now through September 3; the upcoming Fourth of July Weekend

Celebration July 1-4, and live music on the mall presented every Friday night at 7:30 p.m.

The line-up for live music on the mall is as follows: Smokin' Joe and the Henchmen, July 8; Groove Alliance, July 15; "B" Street Bombers, July 22; Groove Alliance, August 5; Smokin' Joe and the Henchmen,

August 12; "B" Street Bombers, August 19; and Compaq Big Band, September 2. Performers TBA for the July 29 and August 26 performances.

For more information about this entertainment schedule, call the Salisbury Chamber of Commerce at (978) 465-3581 or (800) 779-1771.

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### EVENTS AT THE CENTER OF SALISBURY BEACH STARTING AT 7:30 PM

THIS WEEK:

FRIDAY, JULY 8 . . . . .SMOKIN' JOE AND THE HENCHMEN

SATURDAY, JULY 9 . . .DJ GARY FRANCIS

NEXT WEEK:

FRIDAY, JULY 8 . . . . .GROOVE ALLIANCE

SATURDAY, JULY 9 . . .DJ GARY FRANCIS

**Salisbury BeachChamber of Commerce**

P.O. Box 1000 • Salisbury, MA 01952

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