

Annie People



The Little Orphan Annie Fan Club Newsletter

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Jon Merrill, Editor and Publisher
Tricia Trozzi, Co-Editor

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2 BRAND-NEW ORPHAN ANNIE PROJECTS IN THE WORKS

A new animated cartoon series for TV is being worked on by Batfilm Productions. Called *Annie And The Tomorrow Team*, it will bring together familiar characters Annie, Sandy, "Daddy" Warbucks, Punjab, and the Asp, as well as a new cast of international characters. They will all be involved in modern adventures, akin to the 1930s and 1940s Harold Gray LOA strip stories. The most bizarre aspect of this cartoon will be the presence of a 10-year-old Annie, a 16-year-old Annie, and an adult Annie, *all appearing together at the same time!* How this will all work remains to be seen, but we'll all be eagerly awaiting the show's debut. Michael Uslan of Batfilm Productions comments, "*Annie And The Tomorrow Team* now takes the famed heroine into high-tech modern adventures, to be enjoyed by males as well as females, young and old alike." Collectors alert: Get ready for a "wide array of licensed merchandise" relating to this project when it comes out, according to *The Licensing Book* periodical, dated Feb. 1995.

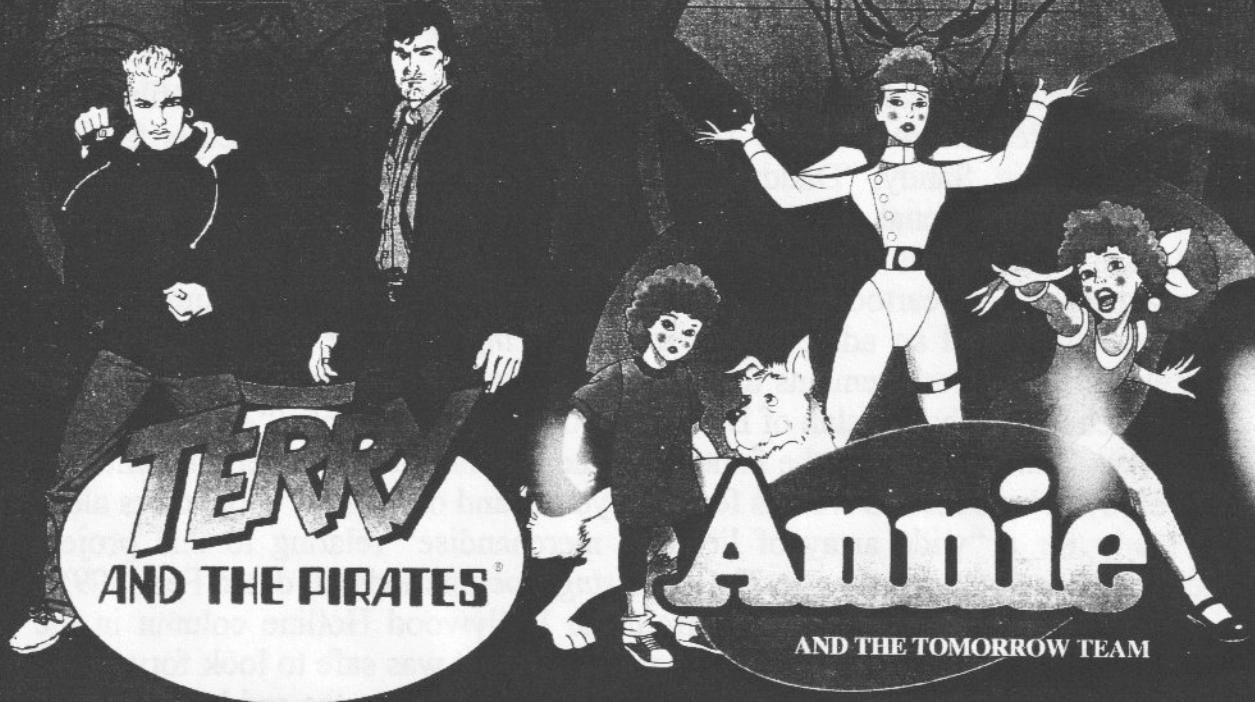
News of another Annie project from the Hollywood Hotline column in the Newark (NJ) *Star-Ledger*: "Just when you thought it was safe to look forward to tomorrow, Little Orphan Annie is coming back. This time, the red-haired comic strip heroine is gracing an ABC telepic, due to be lensed in London in July, titled *Sir Daddy*. Ray Stark is among the exec producers of the project. Stark, you may recall, produced the big-screen Annie and came close to co-producing a sequel to that film in 1988--a big-budget venture for which expensive sets had already been built abroad when it was aborted during an industry strike. Stark's company, Rastar, was also supposed to make *Annie And The Castle Of Terror*, a big, non-musical movie that was to roll in '92 with Patrick Stewart as 'Daddy' Warbucks. That never happened either."

So, be watching for *Sir Daddy* on ABC-TV next season! It looks as if this will be the long-awaited Ray Stark movie "sequel" to *Annie* which we have been anxiously looking forward to for years.

We'll never tell their age.

They look familiar, don't they. Well, they ought to. Terry and the Pirates and the lovable orphan Annie have been winning the hearts of Americans for a long time. Regular American heroes, you could say.

But don't tell the younger generation that. Today's kids will find Terry and Annie and all their friends new, fresh and dynamic. And packing a lot of licensing power.



The all new Terry and the Pirates is back in newspapers with a bang, and a high-tech, adventure-packed bang at that. And look for Terry and crew in their own live-action television series, this fall. This is definitely *not* your father's Terry.

Annie, longtime comic strip favorite, is now headed for her own animated television and theatrical productions. This time, "Annie and the Tomorrow Team" brings together a cast of international characters for space-age adventure.

Let's just keep their
age our little secret.

For information on our license availability, classic and modern alike, call Elyce Goldstein at 1-800-245-6536.

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★ Annie Stars Since Annie... ★

Late breaking news about the ABC-TV movie *Sir Daddy*, discussed on page 1: Annie will be played in the movie by **ASHLEY JOHNSON**, whom you will remember from *Phenom* and *Growing Pains* on ABC. It is believed that Ashley played Annie on the stage somewhere on the West Coast a couple of years ago. **GEORGE HEARN**, who won a Tony in *Sunset Boulevard* on Broadway, will be "Daddy" Warbucks, and well-known TV star **JOAN COLLINS** will be playing Lady Cynthia Hogbottom, the villainess in the movie. Kathryn Zarembo was offered a supporting part as one of Annie's friends, but since she will be starring in *Annie Warbucks* this summer in her native Oklahoma, she had to turn the movie part down. Filming for *Sir Daddy* began in London on July 11....The 1995 Tony Awards script was again written by **THOMAS MEEHAN**. Presenters at the June awards show included **SARAH JESSICA PARKER** and **CAROL BURNETT**....A new stage production of the Rodgers and Hammerstein movie musical *State Fair* will be on a year-long tour with plans to end up on Broadway. **ANDREA McARDLE** and **DONNA McKECHNIE** will be in starring roles....News from the mom of **ASHLEY PETTET**, who was Molly in *Annie Warbucks*: "Ashley returned from *The Sound Of Music* tour in December after six months. It was a wonderful experience, and Marie Osmond is a delightful person to work with.... Ashley had a lead role as young Estella in *Great Expectations*. She had her own song and worked with some very well known people in New York. Many people recognized her as Molly from *Annie Warbucks* and were very complimentary. Recording the *Broadway Kids* (album) was a wonderful experience...During February Ashley performed in Boston with four children from Broadway shows at a special production entitled *Broadway Kids Live!* Ashley performed the *Annie* Medley and was featured singing "Maybe" and "I Always Knew" as solo songs. We have been busy making guest appearances on several television shows including *FX Morning Show*, *America's Talking*, *Lifetime*, and *Live from Queens*. Ashley is interviewed and then performs a song." Ashley also performed with fellow *AW* kids **KATHRYN ZAREMBA** and **LARISSA AUBLE** at the *Kids With Heart* show (see last issue of AP)....**ALENE ROBERTSON**, Commissioner Doyle in *Annie Warbucks*, will again terrorize Annie this summer, this time as Miss Hannigan in *Annie* in Morgantown, West Virginia. Alene is looking forward to the role, which she has played before. Opposite her will be **KELLY FLYNN** of Kent, Ohio, sister of former Ohio Annie **JULIE FLYNN**. The Flynnns might very well be the only "Two-Annie" family anywhere.... Broadway's original Molly, **DANIELLE BRISEBOIS**, has released an album on Epic Records entitled *Are We All Over You?* Right after *Annie*, Danielle was on *Archie Bunker's Place* on TV, and now the 26-year-old star is embarking on a new recording career....**DEBBIE GIBSON** has also released a new album, *Think With Your Heart*, her fifth. Debbie has switched from Atlantic to SBK records, and the album is mostly ballads, a change from the pop/dance style of her earlier albums. Debbie was in *Annie* on Long Island, New York when she was 13, and she later had two triple-platinum albums and two #1 singles in the late '80s. Debbie will be 25 on August 31....**THE DALE HENNESSY STREET** was transformed back in time to 1914 for the 1995 film *A Little Princess*. The New York street scene was built as a million-dollar permanent set in Burbank for the *Annie* movie and was named for the Oscar-nominated set designer who died during filming. It has been seen in several movies and TV shows since, including *The Mask*....*Grease*'s **MONICA LEE GRADISCHEK** and *Show Boat*'s **LARISSA AUBLE** continue to play on Broadway to sell-out crowds. These two shows are among Broadway's most popular right now; catch them if you're in New York this summer and say hello to two of Orphan Annie's biggest fans, now Broadway stars!

FOR SALE: I still have several 1982 Applause **Annie ceramic banks** available, as advertised a couple of issues ago. They show Annie and Sandy and are 6-1/2 inches tall. These are the first ones I have seen in years and are quite possibly the last ones available *anywhere* in mint, in-the-original-box condition. *Price reduction for AP readers:* \$12.00 each, or 3 for \$30.00; price includes handling and first class postage. Satisfaction guaranteed; return in one week for full refund. The perfect souvenir for your favorite *Annie* or *Annie Warbucks* fan or performer. Send check or money order to Jon Merrill, 517 North Fenwick Street, Allentown, PA 18103. (610) 740-0823. Write or call now; when these are gone, that's *it* for Annie banks!

- "SHE COULDN'T 'PICK UP,' IT SEEMED!"

WRITES MRS. H. S. MARTY OF MILWAUKEE, WIS.

READ THIS ACTUAL EXPERIENCE OF LITTLE RUTH JOANNE MARTY (PICTURE AT LEFT)



(ABOVE) Mrs. H. S. MARTY of Milwaukee, Ruth Joanne, or "Sister" as she's called - Mrs. Marty's daughter - is shown on the porch of their Milwaukee home. Ruth Joanne is eight years old now. She was only 7 when the experience here took place.



"RUTH JOANNE," writes Mrs. Marty, "took sick about a year ago. We were visiting relatives and I'd let up on her diet" . . .



. . . Whatever the cause of her illness, Mrs. Marty adds that "Ruth Joanne was good and sick. We called the doctor at once, and . . .



" . . . later, after she began to feel better, we came home. But she couldn't pick up. Just moped around—had no pep . . .



"It was almost impossible to get along with her. You couldn't look at her without her crying. She didn't want to play . . .



" . . . she ate hardly any solid food. I tried filling her up on milk. It didn't help . . .



"I did everything but she kept right on losing weight. She was only a shadow of her old self . . .



"At night—she slept restlessly. She would often wake us up. In the morning she was tired . . .



"One day I read an advertisement for Ovaltine. Right then I made up my mind . . .



" . . . to try it. And did Ruth Joanne like it! . . .



"She picked up at once. It gave her an appetite. The doctor says 'She's so healthy!'"

How Ovaltine helps increase appetite, add weight!

Here's the way Ovaltine helps to give children a better appetite for their food:—

1. It supplies the appetite-stimulating Vitamin B, without which good appetite is impossible.
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3. It prevents milk from forming large heavy curds in the stomach—and so aids milk's digestion. It also makes milk very much better tasting, you know.

In addition, it is extremely nourishing and digestible in itself. And it supplies certain "protective" factors the child needs.

Thus Ovaltine is an excellent food-supplement, for children. Just mix 2 or 3 teaspoonfuls in a cup of milk (either hot or cold) and give it often. Your child will relish its taste.

It has benefited so many—won't you try it, too? See if your child won't eat better and gain weight. Get a can at your grocery or drug store now.

An ORPHAN ANNIE MUG FOR YOUR CHILD

It encourages your child to drink Ovaltine. Get one by taking advantage of the offer at the right.

This mug is regularly priced by us at 50c. By sending in the aluminum seal from under the lid of an Ovaltine can you can get one for 10 cents!

Think how pleased your child will be to have this attractive Beetleware mug with real pictures of Orphan Annie and Sandy on it.

Just cut out the seal from under the lid of a can of Ovaltine, and send it in. (The dime covers cost of handling and mailing.)

Special Offer

Send dime with the thin aluminum seal from under lid of Ovaltine can. Our regular price, 50c.



Only one mug can be sent to a person. Take advantage of the offer now. Just use the coupon below.

MAIL THIS IN NOW

OVALTINE, Dept. 3-M-H7, 180 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill.

I enclose 10c, wrapped in all the thin aluminum seal from under lid of an Ovaltine can. Please send the Orphan Annie Mug featured here. Thank you.

Name _____

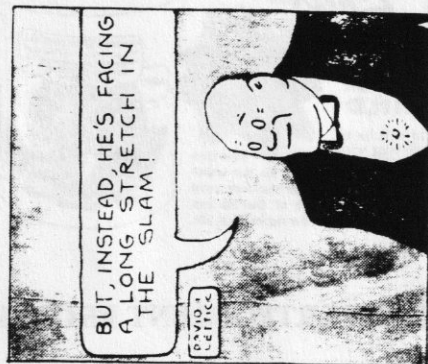
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Town _____ State _____

Coer. 1937. The Wander Co.



"TO RETIRE IS NOT TO FLEE."
-CERVANTES



MEANWHILE - 38 YEARS AGO

Annie and Sandy were on the road, as many others were in that depression year...

Hey, remember when Annie was a spunky national heroine, almost single-handedly fighting the Depression and a succession of dastardly villains? Well, it's time the young people of today learned what the real Orphan Annie was like. We now take you back to 1936 when the genius of Harold Gray was still guiding Annie's fortunes...



LITTLE ORPHAN ANNIE SUNDAY COMIC STRIP

April 21, 1974

After Harold Gray died in 1968 after 44 years of writing and drawing the LOA comic strip, several other artists attempted it through the early 1970s. As the quality of the strip began to deteriorate, an unprecedented decision was made at Tribune Media Services to start reprinting old Harold Gray strips. This was the strip that marked the transition from new to old, and it was interesting because this break occurred suddenly in the middle of the strip. Various sequences from the 1930s and 1940s were used until December 1979, when Leonard Starr began doing LOA, which he still does today. In 1979, unlike what happened in 1974, Starr used a whole week of daily strips to bring Orphan Annie from one time period to another.

FAMILY MATTERS

Have you ever wondered what it is like to be 10 years old and on Broadway? Paul Goldie sent in this page from the national show biz trade magazine *Backstage*, which tells the interesting story of **LARISSA AUBLE**, who has been playing Young Kim in *Show Boat* on Broadway since last fall. Larissa was the Swing Orphan in *Annie Warbucks* in New York in 1993-94 and recently performed in the *Kids With Heart* show (see our last AP issue).

on the phone my manager said, 'You booked "Show Boat." I was so happy. It was very exciting.'

That marked her Broadway debut. Since the production's opening last fall, Larissa and her mother, Louise, have adhered to an unyielding schedule that requires Larissa to leave school early for Wednesday matinees and get home late after evening performances.

Because the public school that Larissa attends is just across the street from the Aubles' home, she can sleep till 8 am and still get to school on time. After school, it's about a 35-minute drive from Livingston to the Gereshwin Theatre.

While Louise drives her daughter into the city, Larissa does homework in the car. What she doesn't get done on the way, she finishes backstage during the show. Going home, Larissa takes out a pillow and blanket and sleeps in the back seat.

Louise, a former phys. ed. teacher, has been on leave since Larissa's birth. The two have encountered strenuous routines before. Larissa was in "Annie Warbucks" Off-Broadway and, while continuing in "Show Boat," will be featured later this month in "Kids With Heart," a benefit concert for children with HIV and AIDS.

As far as her daughter's education is concerned, Louise says she hasn't had to push Larissa—who's in a program for academically gifted students—to keep up her grades. "She actually keeps herself pretty balanced. She's a really good student, and she loves schoolwork."

Loves it enough that Larissa claims one of the *drawbacks* to being a show biz kid is having to leave school early

had a son in the business. She suggested that Louise take Larissa to see her son's personal manager, Marianne Leone of Terrific Talent Associates.

Larissa was just shy of three when she and her mom met with Leone, who asked the girl to sing and memorize a script—and she had yet to learn to read. Louise was amazed at her daughter's precociousness. "When one of the women in the office handed me a script and said, 'Teach her this,' I was ready to stand up and go home. I thought, there's no way that she's going to learn this. But I just said, 'Okay, you and mommy are going to play a little game. I'm going to say this and you're going to say that.' In less than five minutes she had the whole thing memorized."

After Leone offered her a contract, Larissa got a job from her second audition, a voice-over for a national network commercial. Because she was already making an income, her parents didn't have to invest money for headshots and commuting expenses. Louise tries to put most of her daughter's earnings aside for the future. Some of the money, however, is earmarked for travel and meals.

Larissa's classmates know of her "other life," although it's not a subject that often comes up with her friends. "I kinda like to keep my Broadway life separate from my school life. When I'm around them, I just act like a regular kid and we do regular kid things."

—Diane L. Snyder



Larissa Auble

for auditions and performances. She points out other disadvantages: "Sometimes I have to miss birthday parties. And I only see my dad on weekends now." Larissa's father, a teacher, leaves work in the morning when she's still asleep. By the time she gets home at night he's already in bed. "When I do get to see him, it's very happy," she adds.

But for Larissa—who hopes to make acting a lifelong career—the advantages far outweigh any drawbacks. "I like meeting new people, and I like the applause!"

An eight-year veteran of "the biz," Larissa has studied voice and dance, but not acting. Inspired by the children on "Sesame Street," she began pestering her parents to get her started. "We kind of ignored it for as long as we could," her mother remembers. "Then I looked into getting her started."

Louise had to look no further than next door for advice: her neighbor

We hope you all caught *Bringing Up Jack* on ABC-TV this past May and June. This was **Kathryn Zaremba's** first regular television series part, having played guest recurring roles on *Full House* and *Sisters* earlier this year. Kathryn told us at *Kids With Heart* that she had taped 6 episodes. Maybe if ABC picks up the show for the fall season, there might be more, but for now, 6 is all there are. The best one was the camping episode.



By Bob D'Amico, ABC
'BRINGING UP JACK': Jack Gallagher, clockwise from top left, Harley Jane Kozak, Kathryn Zaremba and Matthew Lawrence

Jon Merrill
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Annie**