

# The NEWS LEADER

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## Toby Show celebrates 10 years

Get your laughing shoes on and get ready to laugh your socks off as the 2016 Toby Show comes to town! It's the 10-year celebration and it is OUT OF THIS WORLD!

"In the last 10 years our cast has grown into a family (maybe a dysfunctional family)," acknowledged Shane Bridges, writer, director and actor. "I'm amazed that from the first show we ever did in 2007, everyone who did that show is in this show. We've added and lost along the way, but we're still all part of the Toby family."

The first year that the Rivertime Players performed a Toby Show, only about 300 people came to see the production. As the years have passed and the "fame" of the show has once again spread around the country, the show now aver-



ages from 1,500 to 1,800 people each year. People come from many different states, from coast to coast to see the original "ole time-gone semi-modern" Toby shows filled with slap stick comedy. Parsons has the last Toby Show in existence and it is keeping the laughing bones tickled, alive and well.

As people go under the big top tent located at the Parsons Municipal building for the show, some say the spirits of all the old Toby show troopers are there to laugh along with everyone else.

"This year's show is still a crazy show that has something in it for everybody," noted Mark Tubbs. "I'm really excited that it is our 10th year of doing the Toby Show. When I first started, I

See "Toby" on A4

knew nothing about Toby Shows. Now, I'm amazed at the long history of the shows and honored to be a part of it and grateful Shane hasn't killed us yet!"

This year's production has a little Star Wars, Wizard of Oz and even political humor.

"We want to make it real clear, we're not trying to offend anyone in anyway," declares Shane. "We are bipartisan offenders! We ain't picking sides. We're poking fun!"

There will be three different weekends of the show to allow everyone to have a time to fit it in their schedule. You don't want to miss it! The first shows will be held Friday night and Saturday night, Sept. 23-24th. The tent opens at 6:30 with pre-show "stuff" followed by the show which begins at 7:30

p.m. each night.

The next production will be on Saturday, Oct. 1, followed by the last productions, which will be on Friday and Saturday, Oct. 7-8.

This year's production is called "Star Bores Episode LXXXVIII: A New Dope." Star Bores finds our hero sucked from his Parsons home into an alien world of political intrigue, light saber battles, flatulence, and rap battles.

In the wake of Emperor Palpatine's untimely death, Darth Drumpf and Princess Hillarileia race to the Galactic Council to make their respective cases for the Chancellorship!

In the words of Toby, "Well, it looks like I've got myself into the middle of some serious star wars here!"

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The Rivertime Players are closing out their first decade of Toby Shows in Parsons with a big, silly, silent but deadly bang! Because—in space, no one can hear you toot!

Cast members include: Shane Bridges as Toby; Joe Singletary as Joe/SFX2; Posey Bridges as Posey/Cokey; Cole Powers as Cole/Pole; Dotty Hill as Hillary/Hillarileia; Mark Tubbs as Trump/Drumpf;

Ivan Hobbs as SFX; Jerry Evans as Jerry; Jacob Blackstock as Jacob; Elicia Spain as CPPO; David Taylor as Juan Bolo; Clayton Quinn as Chewin'bacca and MaKayla Blackstock as Betty.

The Toby Show actors also want to help others in the community, so anyone who brings in donations of canned goods for the Shepherds Fund, will get a free bag of popcorn.

Mark your calendar for at least one of the nights (you'll even want to go back for a second or third time)! They say laughter is good for the soul, so get ready to laugh from the soles of your feet to the top of your head! Toby's back in town!