

DRAMA

Continued from Page 1A skipping to the next lines seamlessly and with such conviction that it would not have been apparent to an audience that anything had been left out.

The moment illustrated why Farrell is passionate about directing. She enjoys preparing students to deal with unexpected rough spots without the audience noticing. The opportunity to do this is what inspires her as she leads the resurgence of Cove High School's drama program.

CHS's drama program was revived about a year ago and is now preparing its second production, "Psych," a comedy written by Lisa Rowe, which will be performed Nov. 15, 16 and 17. It is about a successful

If you go

The performances of "Psych" will begin at 7 p.m. Nov. 15 and 16 and at 2 p.m. Nov. 17. Tickets are available at Cove High School and will also be sold at the door. They are \$5 for adults and \$3 for students and seniors.

psychiatrist who is beloved by many of his patients until he is framed for a murder.

Farrell selected "Psych" because she believes students and parents alike will enjoy it. "Parents want a play to be peaceful and students want it to be fun," Farrell said.

She said finding a play that will make both happy is a "very difficult" process.

Putting on plays is still a new experience for CHS students, since their school,

until last spring, had not produced one since at least 2011. Drama classes had been taught until a few years ago, said Farrell, who is in her second year as a teacher at CHS. She came to Cove from Eastern Oregon University where she was an education professor for six years. Prior to that she directed student plays while teaching high school for 10 years in Klamath Falls.

Farrell, who has a degree in theater from Montana State University, said teaching drama is rewarding because it helps students who are not sure of themselves to blossom.

"It takes students who feel awkward and gives them self-confidence. (Theater) is a great safe vehicle. It provides them with a safe place to be someone other than themselves," Farrell said.

Cove High School

sophomore Hayden Taggart, a member of the cast of "Psych," said what he likes about theater is that it provides people an opportunity to escape from themselves.

"Most people have two or three things they do not like about themselves, and this gives them a chance to become someone else," he said.

Taggart said he enjoys taking on the mindset of another character and jokes that sometimes he and his castmates do not totally let go of them.

"We will call each other by our character names," he said.

Taggart is part of a seven-person cast along with CHS students Isaac Lee, Terran Matthews, Elise Farrell, Amein Gallegos, Hannah Allredge and Cove eighth-grade teacher Ross Hubbard, who has a cameo role as a

pizza delivery man.

This cast will perform "Psych" at the Coe Kerr Community Center on the Ascension School campus on Church Street in Cove. This is the same site where CHS students rehearse and where last spring they

put on a production of "The Murder Room," a crime thriller spoof. Farrell likes the site for production and rehearsals in part because her production team is able to leave materials there at the end of a performance or practice.



D'ANTONIO

Continued from Page 1A from one to the next, but in her troop she allows the girls to take the lead and find their passions and interests, while also working to help their community. D'Antonio's troop is made up of eight middle school aged girls, but she helps all of the other troops in the area. D'Antonio was honored for how she supports and helps all the troops in her area participate in these opportunities.

"Angela does everything," her co-leader, Krisandra Kellogg, said. "She turned around Girl Scouts in the community."

According to D'Antonio, when her daughters joined the local Girl Scouts, there wasn't much parent participation and the troops were fizzling out. Thanks to her dedication to keeping Girl Scouts alive, there are now more than 100 girls from kindergarten to 12th grade participating in the organization in the three-county service unit area.

"She got more girls in here, and she got it organized," Kellogg said.

According to D'Antonio, they could have more girls if they get more adult volunteers. There are currently five leadership roles filled in the service unit, and around 20 parents who are actively involved with the troops.

In May, D'Antonio was given the Guiding Star award, recognizing her service to the local community. Kellogg also nominated D'Antonio for the national Appreciation Pin award, which according to GSUSA means that she is a registered Girl Scout adult volunteer who has shown "exemplary service in support of delivering the Girl Scout Leadership Experience. This service, which has had a measurable impact on one geographic area of service, helps reach and surpass the mission-delivery goals of the area."

D'Antonio was presented the award by La Grande Mayor Steve Clements at the service unit's November meeting.

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- Improvements to accommodate grades seven to 12 at Union High School.
- Improvements to the gymnasium and athletic complex.
- Improvements to the S.E. Miller and J.F. Hutchinson grade school buildings to accommodate students in kindergarten through sixth grade.

BOND

Continued from Page 1A

The average tax rate will be \$1.10 per \$1,000 of assessed property value for the levy. This means that the owner of a \$100,000 house in the school district will pay \$110 more a year in property taxes. The bond will be paid for over a period not to exceed 21 years.

The upgrades the bond will cover are needed primarily because of the age of the Union School District's buildings. The high school

was built in 1912 and the J.F. Hutchinson building in the late 1920s or early 1930s. The S.E. Miller building and the high school gym were constructed in the 1950s.

The double majority rule was not in effect for the election, but it would not have mattered if it was since about 52.6% of the voters in the Union School District participated, said Union County Clerk Robin Church. When the double majority rule is in effect, a bond cannot pass if less than 50% of the voters participated in the election.

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