

TAPA teaches 'Six Dance Lessons in Six Weeks' with new play

TILLAMOOK — The Tillamook Association for the Performing Arts and Oregon Coast Dance Center present the play "Six Dance Lessons in Six Weeks," written by Richard Alfieri, directed by Chris Chiola and produced by Diane Cross.

In roles originated by Uta Hagen and David Hyde Pierce, this two-character comedy opens as an aging, but still formidable woman hires an acerbic dance instructor to give her lessons in St. Petersburg Beach, Florida.

Antagonism between the two gives way to friendship. As Michael, the dance instructor, takes Lily by the arm, they both transcend fear and mortality while the sun sets on the last dance.

This international hit play has wit, sarcasm and touching moments between the two characters. Playing Lily and Michael are Ann Harper and Robert Buckingham, respectively. Both actors have been in many TAPA productions, but "Six Dance Lessons in Six Weeks" is the first time either has had to

formally dance on stage.

"Dancing has added an additional layer of complexity to the show that I hope audiences enjoy," says Chiola.

The actors had to learn ballroom dances including the cha-cha and tango with the help of Oregon Coast Dance Center's Lisa Greiner, along with Wally and Diane Nelson.

"Six Dance Lessons in Six Weeks" runs at 7 p.m. Nov. 27, 28 and Dec. 4, 5, 11 and 12. It also has two Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. Nov. 29 and Dec. 13.

Tickets are on sale at Diamond Art Jewelers, or call 503-842-7940. Reserved seating is recommended. Tickets are \$15. This show deals with adult themes and has some adult language.

Celebrating 35 years in Tillamook, TAPA is a nonprofit community theater dedicated to providing high-quality performing arts experiences through entertainment, education and community participation. TAPA's Barn Community Playhouse is located at 1204 Ivy St.

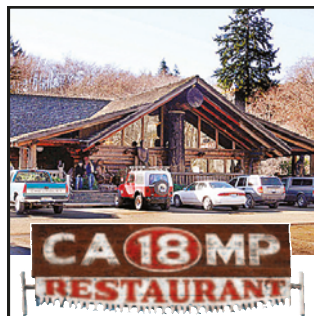


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Ann Harper plays Lily, left, and Robert Buckingham portrays her acerbic dance instructor, Michael, in the play "Six Dance Lessons in Six Weeks."



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