# The Week in Review

#### **Teen Shot at Pier Park**

A 15-year-old boy was hospitalized with non-life threatening injuries Tuesday after being shot around 1:45 a.m. at Piet Park in St. Johns. Police were called to the park on reports of gunfire. No arrests were made.

#### **Scooter Crash Kills Woman**

A 66-year-old Portland woman on a scooter died early Friday evening after a crash with a Ford Expedition. Police said the SUV turned in front of Susan V. Bartlett around 8:45 p.m. at Northeast 40th and Tillamook. The driver of the SUV was charged with making an illegal left turn.

#### **Four Escape Albina Fire**

Four people were displaced by an early Sunday morning fire at an apartment at 3955 N. Albina St. Firefighters said a woman with



significant injuries was rescued from her second story apartment. A man had minor injuries after jumping from the second floor.

#### Grant Opens with Upgrade

Grant High School students started their new school year last week

in a fully renovated building, part of a school improvement bond passed in 2012. The renovation retains the historic features of the school, with improvements to the building's interior.

## Lillard Helps Kids Start School

Portland Trail Blazer and NBA great Damian Lillard helped Rigler Elementary kids start classes on the first day of school last week part of an initiative with Moda Health and Tools for School program.



Gov. Signs Student Success Act Gov. Kate Brown met freshmen at Jefferson High School on the first day of school last week in a special ceremony to sign the Student Success Act. The legislation

was approved in May, adding \$1

billion in state support to class-

### **Homeless Camp Arson**

rooms across Oregon

Roy Elworthy, 44, of Portland was charged last week with setting a fire in a homeless camp because he was frustrated about "police not enforcing laws against homeless people." He is being held in Clackamas County.

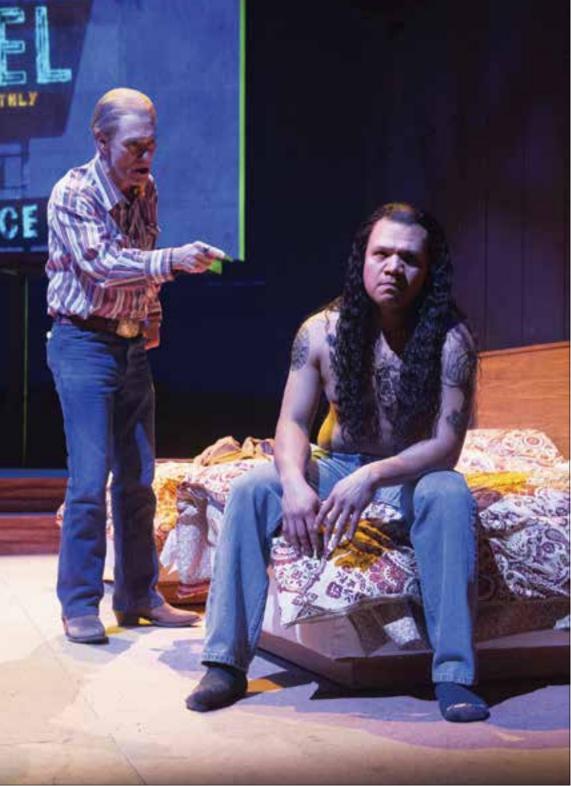


PHOTO BY JENNY GRAHAM/OREGON SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

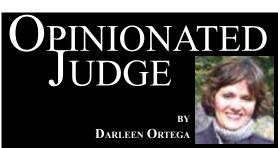
Martin Jodes (Tony Sancho) and William Joad (Mark Murphy) find they are related, connected by Anglo and Latinx cultures in "Mother Road," now showing through October at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in Ashland.

## Road Trips of Cultural Connections

Ashland plays bring richness of Latinx experience

One diverse and largely Latin American cast performs two plays at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival this season, offering opportunities for them, and us, to explore the complexity and richness of Latinx experience. Both productions are world premieres with deep connections to classic work that did not originally seek to explore the experiences of people of color-and both productions, in their way, carry those classic stories into new and fertile territory. Most excitingly, one of them is a fully bilingual invitation to English- and Spanish-speaking audiences to be in community in a radical way.

"Mother Road" opened at the top of OSF's long-running season, the first Latinx play to be programmed in a season-long spot. The inspiration for the play came during a road trip commissioned by the Steinbeck National Center in preparation for a celebration of John Steinbeck's classic novel, "The Grapes of Wrath." In retracing the steps of the fam-



ily in the novel along Route 66 from Oklahoma to California, playwright Octavio Solis began to notice the many connections between the white "Okie" migrants in Steinbeck's story and Mexican farmworkers then and now.

In "Mother Road," then, Solis conceives a journey from California back to Oklahoma. William Joad, an elderly cousin of Tom Joad (the protagonist of Steinbeck's novel), comes to California looking for his only remaining kin, Tom Joad's great-grandson, hoping to pass the family property in Oklahoma to him. It turns out that his last living relative, Martin Jodes, is a Mexican-American farmworker. Their road trip back to the family land in Oklahoma

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