

PENDLETON

Community theater doubles the fun with 'The Odd Couple'

Production features male, female versions

East Oregonian

Best friends who include a neat freak and a slob fail miserably as roommates, but bring hilarity to the stage during "The Odd Couple." The Neil Simon play will be presented in separate male and female versions at Blue Mountain Community College in Pendleton.

Simon's classic comedy is familiar to many audiences. The 1968 Oscar-nominated movie starring Walter Matthau and Jack Lemmon hit the big screen three years after the original Broadway play in 1965 featured Matthau and Art Carney. Lemmon and Matthau also teamed up in 1998 for "The Odd Couple II."

A long-running TV series of the '70s featuring Tony Randall and Jack Klugman resulted in awards for both leads. Other TV spin-offs include an African American remake in 1982 and a recent three-season television revival featuring Matthew Perry and Thomas Lennon. The various creations have garnered exposure to "The Odd Couple" across six decades.

Craig McIntosh, College



LEFT: Janette Lemons as Olive Madison, and MJ Kuhar as Florence Ungar, play the leading roles in the female version of "The Odd Couple." RIGHT: JJ Hill as Oscar Madison, and Riley Mulvihill as Felix Ungar, play the leading roles in the male version of "The Odd Couple." The College Community Theatre production opens Thursday, May 11 with a Pay-What-You-Can Preview Night.



Photos contributed by Debbie McIntosh

Community Theatre artistic director and director of the male version, said they decided to do dual productions to offer audiences a opportunity to experience a double dose of Simon's comic genius. Also, he said it provides twice the number of acting opportunities and an additional directing slot.

What many folks don't know, McIntosh said, is 20 years after the original production opened on Broadway, the playwright wrote a female-based version. Simon modeled it after the original, with women in all of

the major roles and updated for the 1980s.

They say that opposites attract, said Steve Bowen, CCT president and director of the female version. In the female version, Bowen said, the two women create tons of sparks.

"Hilarity abounds when one of the women invites two Spaniards to dinner who almost speak English," he said. "This, coupled with four wacky Trivial Pursuit game players (all female), creates an evening of delightful comedy."

The leading roles for

College Community Theatre's male version are JJ Hill as Oscar Madison and Riley Mulvihill playing Felix Ungar. In the female version, Janette Lemons is Olive Madison and MJ Kuhar portrays Florence Ungar.

Audiences can attend a Pay-What-You-Can Preview Night of the male version Thursday, May 11 at 7:30 p.m. in Bob Clapp Theatre, located in Pioneer Hall at Blue Mountain Community College, 2411 N.W. Carden Ave., Pendleton.

The subsequent male version includes matinee

shows Saturday, May 13 and Sunday, May 14 at 2 p.m. And evening performances are Friday, May 19 and Saturday, May 20 at 7:30 p.m.

The female version takes the stage Friday, May 12, Saturday, May 13 and Thursday, May 18 at 7:30 p.m. The female matinee shows are Saturday, May 20 and Sunday, May 21 at 2 p.m.

Tickets for all regular performances are \$15 for adults and \$10 for children and students of all ages. Kids 3-and-under are not permitted. The Pioneer Hall

box office is open Monday through Fridays from noon to 2 p.m. In addition, tickets will be available at the door.

As a special bonus, audience members who attend both versions can enter "The Odd Couple" I Saw Both Shows! Raffle for an opportunity to win prizes donated by local businesses and nonprofits. Tickets will be drawn at the final performance Sunday, May 21. The winners don't have to be present.

For more information, contact 541-278-5953 or cct@bluecc.edu.

BRIEFLY

Gallery show inspired by 'Spirit of Place'

PENDLETON — Landscape oil paintings of the changing seasons around Pendleton are included in a show by Paulette Carter titled "Spirit of Place."

Also, Carter's display features colored pen and ink images inspired by a trip to the Grotto at St. Andrew's Mission. The free opening is Thursday, May 11 from 5-7:30 p.m. at Pendleton Art + Frame, 36 S.W. Court Ave. Carter will talk about her work at 6 p.m. In addition, Carter will be available for appointments Monday and Tuesday at the gallery by calling 541-276-3617.

A Pacific Northwest artist who previously lived in Pendleton, Carter's work has been shown throughout the West Coast and New York City. The Pendleton show remains through Friday, June 30.

Pendleton Art + Frame is open Monday through Fridays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, contact 541-276-3617, artofframing@cotnet.net or visit www.pendletonartandframe.com.

The Pilot Tour jets into region

Hip hop artists Gem Starks will take the stage during a pair of regional shows in Walla Walla and Pendleton.

The Pilot Tour is Friday, May 12 at 7 p.m. at the Walla Walla Fairgrounds Pavilion, 363 Orchard St.; and Saturday, May 13 at 7 p.m. in the Little Vert Theater, 345 S.W. Fourth St., Pendleton. Tickets are \$10 each and are available at www.thepilottour.com.

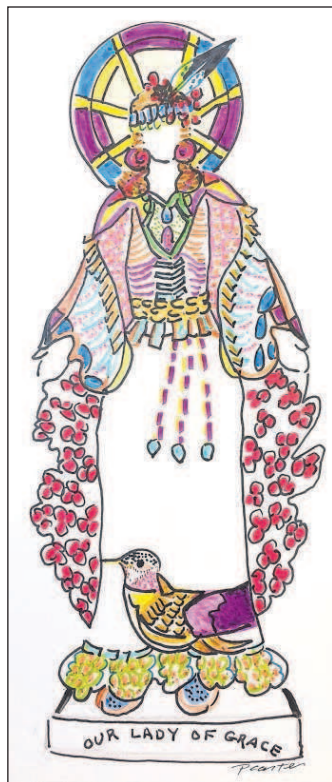
The tour showcases a variety of top hip hop and rap talent from Portland. The Pendleton show also has VIP passes for \$20, which include priority seating and free entry to an after-party from 10 p.m. to midnight.

For more information, visit www.facebook.com/events/431691130525352.

Eagles file trademark suit against Mexican Hotel California

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Eagles are suing the owners of a Mexican hotel named Hotel California, claiming it's capitalizing off the band's hit song of the same name.

The band filed a federal trademark infringement lawsuit Monday against the U.S.-based owners of Hotel California in Todos Santos, a town on the Pacific Coast near the southern tip of Mexico's



Contributed

A colored pen and ink image inspired by the Grotto at St. Andrew's Mission by Paulette Carter is featured in a gallery show that opens May 11 at Pendleton Art + Frame.

Baja California Sur.

The Eagles say Hotel California has wrongly led guests to believe it's associated with the Eagles and served as the inspiration for their song "Hotel California," which the band says isn't true.

The hotel website says that the owners don't promote any association with the band but that visitors are mesmerized by the "coincidences" between the hotel and the song.

The hotel didn't immediately respond to a request for comment Thursday.

Ringling's final show coming to Facebook Live

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus first wowed audiences in the 19th century. For the iconic American spectacle's final act, it will broadcast the final performance on a 21st century medium: Facebook Live.

The company told The Associated Press this week that the final circus show on the evening of May 21 will be streamed live on the social media network and on the circus's website. The final performance will be in Uniondale, New York.

Earlier this year, Feld Entertainment, the company that owns the iconic circus, announced that the show would end in May.

The circus's decline happened due to a variety of factors. Declining attendance, combined with high operating costs, changing public tastes and prolonged battles with animal rights groups all contributed to its demise.

Festivals

Spring Release Weekend

•May 5-7
•Various wineries in Milton-Freewater, Walla Walla region
www.wallawallawine.com
Some events free. Cellar doors are open and new releases are available for tasting. Celebrate the end of harvest season with special pours, winemaker dinners, live music and more.

Milton-Freewater Cinco de Mayo

•Friday, May 5; 5-9 p.m.
•North Main, Old Town Freewater
•Saturday, May 6; 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
•Yantis Park, 200 Dehaven St., Milton-Freewater
www.facebook.com/MiltonFreewater-CincoDeMayoCU
Free. Friday features a Main Street Fiesta with live music, shopping, tastings and vendors. Saturday's park activities include food, a parade (noon), live music, bouncy houses, dancing horses, raffles and vendors. Also, a Cinco de Mayo Breakfast is Saturday from 7-10 a.m. at Yantis Park. A fundraiser for Community United Milton-Freewater and Milton-Freewater Downtown Alliance, it costs \$10 per person.

Hermiston Cinco de Mayo

•Saturday, May 6; 1-10 p.m.; Sunday, May 7, noon-8 p.m.
•Butte Park, 1245 N.W. Seventh St., Hermiston
Free. Features a carnival, food, entertainment, competitions, a speech by Portland's consul general of Mexico, a dance and fireworks. A parade is Saturday at 1 p.m.

Boardman Cinco de Mayo

•Saturday, May 6; 4-10 p.m.
•Boardman Marina Park, Boardman
Free. Features food, live entertainment, karaoke and dancing.

Pendleton Cattle Barons Weekend

•May 12-13
•Blue Mountain Community College
www.cattlebarons.net
Free/many activities. Preserves the regions ranching heritage and raises money for scholarships. Features select gelding sale, working dog sale, ranch rodeo events, North American Stock Saddle Bronc Championship, the Bit, Spur and Engraver show, a world-class Saddlemaker's Show, The Tradin' Post and the Buckaroo Barbecue Challenge.

Downtown Comes Alive

•Saturday, May 20; 9 a.m.-11 p.m.
•Downtown Pendleton
www.facebook.com/events/1625907804103122
Free. Features live music, period actors from College Community Theatre, sidewalk sales, refreshments and a beer garden.

Art, Museums & Authors

Pendleton Quilt Show

•Saturday, May 6; 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, May 7, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
•Pendleton Convention Center, 1601 Westgate
www.krazyhorsequilters.org
\$5/good for both days. Features 200+ quilts, including a special display by Alice Fossatti and featured quilter Joyce Dean Giesler of Hillsboro. Vendors offer quilting supplies and sewing accessories.

"Spirit of Place"

•Thursday, May 11; 5-7:30 p.m., opening reception
•Monday-Fridays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturdays; 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
•Pendleton Art + Frame, 36 S.W. Court Ave.
www.pendletonartandframe.com
Free. Artwork of former Pendleton artist Paulette Carter on display through June 30. Carter is available for appointments in the gallery May 8-9 by calling 541-276-3617.

Open Regional Exhibit

•Tuesday-Fridays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Saturdays, noon-4 p.m.
•Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St.
www.pendletonarts.org
Free. View work of 100+ regional artists, who are vying for more than \$1,200 in prize money. Runs through June 23.

"Western Shadows"

•Monday-Saturdays; 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
•Crossroads Carnegie Art Center, 2020 Auburn St., Baker City
www.crossroads-arts.org
Free. Features acrylic paintings on Plexiglas by Brian Sostrom of Carnation, Washington. Runs through May 27.

Creative Spirits Art Party

•Thursday, May 11; 6:30-9 p.m.
•Historic Balch Hotel, 40 S. Heimrich St., Dufur
www.balchhotel.com

WHAT TO DO

\$40. Participants will create their own guided painting. Food and drinks available for purchase.

Eastern Oregon Arts Festival

•Saturday, May 13
•Downtown Hermiston
www.facebook.com/events/1418769738186395
Free. Artists from across the region are showing and selling their work. Includes student art exhibit and local nurseries/master gardeners displays and workshops. Food and other vendors on hand.

Art Swap

•Saturday, May 13, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
•Christian Science Building, 13 S.W. Byers Ave., Pendleton
www.pendletonarts.org
Free. Coordinated by Pendleton Center for the Arts, people are invited to bring old art supplies to swap with others.

Music

The Weather Machine

•Saturday, May 6; 7-10 p.m.
•Great Pacific Wine & Coffee Co., 403 S. Main St., Pendleton
No cover, all ages.

Oldies Night in Milton-Freewater

•Saturday, May 6; 7 p.m.
•Wesley Methodist Church, 816 S. Main St., Milton-Freewater.
Free. BJ the DJ spins tunes from 1967.

Raucous

•Saturday, May 6; 8 p.m. No cover
•Wildhorse Sports Bar, Wildhorse Resort & Casino, off I-84 Exit 216, Mission

The Desert River Band

•Saturday, May 6; 9 p.m. No cover
•Sub Zero Restaurant & Lounge, 100 W. Highway 730, Irigoin

Elwood

•Thursday, May 11; 7-9 p.m.
•40 Taps, 337 S.W. Emigrant Ave., Pendleton

No cover during Live Music Thursday.

Dakota Brown

•Friday, May 12; 7 p.m.
•Sno Road Winery, 111 W. Main St., Echo

No cover. Kid-friendly.

Hanneke Cassel, Mike Block & Christopher Lewis

•Friday, May 12; 7 p.m.
•Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St.
www.pendletonarts.org

\$15. Features a unique trio that creates sounds on the cutting edge of acoustic music while retaining the integrity and soul of the Scottish fiddle tradition.

The Pilot Tour

•Saturday, May 13; 7 p.m.
•Little Vert Theater, 345 S.W. Fourth St., Pendleton.
www.thepilottour.com

\$10. Features hip-hop artists Gem Starks and other top rap and hip-hop artists from Portland.

Preludes Orchestra

•Tuesday, May 16; 6:30 p.m.
•Little Vert Theater, 345 S.W. Fourth St., Pendleton
www.oregoneastsymphony.org

Free. The Oregon East Symphony's beginner level preparatory orchestra will perform. The program includes "The Cuckoo Clock," "Scarborough Fair" and the theme from Beethoven's "Symphony No. 5." Reception follows.

Brooks & Conley

•Thursday, May 18; 7-9 p.m. No cover
•40 Taps, 337 S.W. Emigrant Ave., Pendleton

Seffarine

•Friday, May 19; 7 p.m.
•Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St.
www.pendletonarts.org

\$15. The duo features Moroccan singer Lamiae Naki and oud player/flamenco guitarist Nat Hulskamp.

Elwood w/Greg Botsford

•Friday, May 19; 7-10 p.m.
•Great Pacific Wine & Coffee Co., 403 S. Main St., Pendleton
No cover, all ages.

Night life

DJ music

•Saturdays, 8 p.m.
•The Pheasant, 149 E. Main St., Hermiston

Digital Karaoke

•Thursdays and Fridays, 8 p.m.
•The Pheasant, 149 E. Main St., Hermiston

LOL Comedy Jam

•Thursdays; 8 p.m.
•Wildhorse Sports Bar, Wildhorse Re-

sort & Casino, off I-84 Exit 216, Mission.

No cover. May 11: Emmanuel; May 18: Jamie Boyd

Wine tasting

•Fridays, 4-8 p.m.
•Sno Road Winery, 111 W. Main St., Echo.

Open Mic

•First/third Friday each month, 8 p.m.-midnight
•The Packard Tavern, 118 S.E. Court Ave., Pendleton
www.facebook.com/groups/pendletonopenmic

DJ and dancing

•Fridays, 8 p.m.
•The Pheasant, 149 E. Main St., Hermiston

Beach Party

•Friday, May 12; 9 p.m.-2 a.m.
•Sub Zero Restaurant & Lounge, 100 W. Highway 730, Irigoin

No cover if arrive by 8 p.m., \$4 after 8 p.m. Live DJ featuring beach party songs and a night with the Lucky Coyotes. Raffles and a flat screen TV giveaway.

Cimmi's Late Night Martini Lounge

•Fridays; 9 p.m.-midnight
•Virgil's at Cimmiyotti's, 137 S. Main St., Pendleton

No cover. Features martinis, mixology and music.

Theater, stage & film

"Sing"

•Saturday, May 6; 2:30 p.m.
•SAGE Center, 101 Olson Road, Boardman
www.visitsage.com

\$3. Family-friendly animated flick about animals banding together to save the town's theater by hosting a singing competition.

"The Name of The Rose"

•Saturday, May 6; 5:30 p.m.
•Agape House, 500 Harper Road, Hermiston.

\$25. Murder mystery dinner. For reservations, call 541-567-8774.

"The Odd Couple" (male version)

•Thursday, May 11; Friday, May 19; Saturday, May 20; 7:30 p.m.
•Saturday, May 13; Sunday, May 14; 2 p.m.

•BMCC, Bob Clapp Theatre, 2411 N.W. Carden Ave., Pendleton

\$15/adults, \$10/students & children. Ages 3-and-under not admitted. Note: Thursday, May 11 is a Pay-What-You-Can Preview Night. College Community Theatre presents Neil Simon's "The Odd Couple" with JJ Hill as Oscar Madison and Riley Mulvihill as Felix Ungar in the male version.

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Hot tickets

•What the Festival: June 16-19, Wolf Run Ranch, near Dufur. Three-day music, art, film and interactive festival. Features 90 electronic music DJs on eight stages and the largest splash pool in North America. Camping options available (\$300-\$2,500) via www.whatthefestival.com

•Pendleton Whisky Fest: (featuring Maroon 5) July 15, Pendleton Round-Up Grounds. Box/grand stand seats still available (\$70-\$95) via www.pendletonwhisky-musicfest.com

•Umatilla County Fair Main Stage: Reserved seats \$15. LoCash (Aug. 8), Tracy Lawrence (Aug. 9), Marshall Tucker Band (Aug. 10), Latino Night (Aug. 11), Great White (Aug. 12). Tickets via

•Maryhill Winery Summer Concert Series: Michael McDonald & Boz Scaggs, Aug. 12 (\$46-\$325), ZZ Top & The Doobie Brothers Aug. 26 (\$76-\$400), Steve Winwood, Sept. 9 (\$46-\$86), Goo Goo Dolls & Phillip Phillips, Sept. 17 (\$50-\$1,500) near Goldendale, Washington. Tickets via www.ticketfly.com

Want to get your event listed in our calendar? Send information to community@eastoregonian.com, or c/o Tammy Malgesini, 333 E. Main Street, Hermiston, OR, 97838