

# 'Spelling Bee' adult comedy opens June 21

FLORENCE — The Last Resort Players are presenting "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" as its second play this season.

Putnam, as it is referred to, is not really a spelling bee, but a musical adult comedy, bringing some exciting new talent to performing arts in this area.

Director David Lauria says, "What I like about Putnam is it's different from usual theatre. It 'talks to the audience, not past the audience.'"

Lauria lends his considerable experience to both character development and staging of this production, directing the cast in refining its characters' quirks and idiosyncrasies.

Jason Wood, who audiences might remember as "Captain Von Trapp" in "The Sound of Music," is taking on the musical direction of Putnam.

"The music in this show is incredibly intelligent," said Wood. "Right off the bat, William Finn (music and lyrics) hits the audience hard with a high-energy opening number and he keeps the energy up while adding comedy.

"Something that I really appreciate is



COURTESY PHOTO

Cast members (from left) Matt Korso, Tamara Cole, Elizabeth Rose, Hilary Roach, Leah Goodwin, Erin Reinke; stage manager LuAnna Moore and keyboardist Johanna Bonisteel rehearse the score for "25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" under the musical direction of Jason Wood.

ry, etc.

This show is full of fun, humor, and some audience participation.

The play is suitable for more mature audiences, high school and above. Parental discretion is advised because the play is both comedic and adult at times.

"The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" will be playing Fridays and Saturdays, June 12, 13, 19 and 20, at 7 p.m., with matinee showings on two Sundays, June 14 and 21, at 2 p.m., at the Florence Events Center.

Tickets are available at [www.eventcenter.org](http://www.eventcenter.org), by phone at 541-997-1994, or at the FEC box office.

how he takes you by surprise. Just when you think the entire show it going to be all jokes and up tempo music, Finn digs beneath the surface and sneaks in some poignant moments with his characters and this cast brings those moments to the surface beautifully."

In addition to musical direction, Jason is also playing the part of William Barfee (pronounced Bar-fay), the arrogant loner who has a lot to prove.

"Barfee has been picked on his entire life so his defenses are up. Friendship

takes him by surprise," said Wood.

All of the characters personalities run deep and have stories that everyone can relate to: loneliness, puberty, sibling rival-

## It's 'ABOUT FACE' AT BACKSTREET

FLORENCE — For the month of June, Backstreet Gallery will present "About Face," a community challenge that invited local artists to take a simple unadorned face and create a unique piece of art with it.

Enjoy these unique creations and a reception, Saturday, June 13, from 3 to 5 p.m., at Backstreet Gallery, 1421 Bay St., in Old Town Florence.

The rules allowed the artists to add, subtract, multiply or divide the shape and to embellish the face and/or



"About face" creation by artist Jane Rincon

its parts in their own unique way.

Come see these one-of-a-kind art pieces.

In addition, "face the music" with Smilin' Dave Craddock on his keyboard with his own brand of smooth jazz mellow standards that make everyone feel at home.

Come enjoy the music, the great appetizers and see how the artists faced this chal-

lenge during the Second Saturday Gallery Tour.

R  
E  
E  
D  
S  
P  
O  
R  
T

**16<sup>th</sup> Annual**

**Fathers Day Weekend**  
June 18-21  
Thursday-Sunday

**OREGON DIVISIONAL CHAINSAW Sculpting Championship**

250 Rainbow Plaza  
Reedsport, Oregon

**Taking ART to the EXTREME**

- \$3.00 per Day Admission
- Open 7:30 am Daily
- International Carvers
- Quick Carve Auction  
5:30 pm Daily  
1:00 pm Sunday
- Many Vendors
- Family Fun

Presented by:  
Reedsport/Winchester Bay Chamber of Commerce  
541-271-3495

CDABA Art Walk  
Saturday, June 20th  
10 am to 5 pm  
Along Hwy 38  
Contact: Kathleen Miller  
541-261-2101

Northwest COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION

REEDSPORT

LUV 2 CAMP

OREGON INTERNATIONAL

BLOUNT INTERNATIONAL

WINCHESTER BAY VACATION RENTALS

UMPOUA

♦ Mast Logging ♦ Lewis Transportation, Inc.

www.oregonccc.com

Printed by On The Coast Printing, Inc.

Facebook icon

QR code