

Meet Dorian Perkey

Territorial Land Company welcomes Dorian Perkey as a newly licensed Real Estate Broker. Dorian was born and raised in Cottage Grove. She is a graduate of CGHS and of the University of Oregon. Her father has been a local Real Estate Broker for over 25 years, so it would seem as though Real Estate is in her blood. With ambition and high expectations, Dorian plans on making this a successful life-long career.



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'Parallel Lives' uses comedy, vulgarity to offer a deeper message

BY SAM WRIGHT
The Cottage Grove Sentinel

Mo Gaffney and Kathy Najimy have written a spectacularly original and humorous play that no parent would want to bring their younger children to. For the same reasons adolescents should avoid this play, adults should definitely see it.

Firstly, the play is extremely long. With intermission, the 15 scenes and two acts played out for almost two and a half hours. Secondly, it's thought-provokingly vulgar. F-bombs and other colorful language are frequently used. However, this shouldn't be a deterrent. The use of swears and curses are very deliberate and do well to establish and develop characters. Finally, there are myriad complex dynamics that cover gender issues and sexuality that children simply wouldn't understand.

'Parallel Lives' is not so much a play, but a series of sketch comedy scenes that are mostly unrelated to each other. However, these sketches bravely explore the gender stereotypes and cultural appropriation toward genders. The entire play is casted by two actors, Nikki Pagniano and Miriam Major, who portray dozens of different characters throughout the play.

In the opening scene, Pagniano and Major are portrayed as two angels sitting above the world and discussing how to create man and woman. They bargain and discuss what aspects of life to give which gender. They con-



Pagniano and Major brought dozens of characters to life in 'Parallel Lives.'

clude that since women get the gift of child birth, it should have to be extremely painful, and since men are left out of the process, they are compensated with extra ego. It's a comical dialogue that sets the tone for the entire play. The angels are brought back at the beginning of act two to discuss how their plans played out.

The rest of the play includes various scenes of various lengths that attack various different emotions of the viewer.

For example, one of the best scenes is of two elderly ladies taking a women's studies course attending a feminist production called "Sister Woman Sister." The two women are consistent jokers and sound like New Jersey grandmothers, but one of them soon reveals her nephew has AIDS and how much she cares for him and his homosexual partner. It was moments like that where the audience realizes that the comedy is just a

tool to portray a more emotional message with aspects of compassion or even despair.

The penultimate scene portrays Hank and Karen Sue, a couple at a country music bar. An intoxicated Hank tries to repeatedly ask Karen Sue to marry him. The sloppiness of Hank and quick wit of Karen Sue provide for a hilarious dialogue, but soon enough the characters reveal their empty lives and despair permeates the theater.

The writing is of extremely talented playwrights, and Pagniano and Major both lived up to the task and portrayed every character in the way they are meant to be portrayed. The actors challenged the audience to feel more than one emotion at a time.

"Parallel Lives" runs for three more productions — Feb. 25-27 at 7:30 p.m. — at the Opal Center downtown.

Christmas trees help native fish

The holiday season may be over, but Douglas County's fish are just getting their gifts. December's used Christmas trees were recently placed in East Fork Rock Creek and Buck Creek to enhance fish habitat.

"We put the Christmas trees in streams that already have large woody debris habitat restoration structures. The decomposing needles put nutrients in the streams, providing food for micro-organisms that in turn feed juvenile salmon," said Evan Leonetti, Oregon Depart-

ment of Fish and Wildlife STEP biologist.

Leonetti worked with the Coastal Conservation Association's Steve Godin and Phoenix School's Thomas McGregor to coordinate the project. Students with Phoenix School in Roseburg placed trees in East Fork Rock Creek while Reedsport Community Charter School students worked on Buck Creek.

Students from both schools get work experience while learning about fish biology and stream ecology. McGregor said these types of projects create



Reedsport Community Charter School students and staff put Christmas trees in Buck Creek.

meaningful opportunities for the students while enhancing local communities.

Willing landowners were also an integral part of the process. Seneca Timber and Roseburg

(formerly Roseburg Forest Products) have been working with ODFW for years and again partnered to help restore fish habitat.

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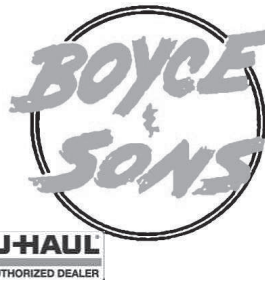
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