

Opal Theater's 'Hate Mail' makes a statement

Modern communication explored in downtown theater's latest

BY SAM WRIGHT
For the Sentinel



courtesy photo

Opal Theater's 'You've Got Hate Mail' stars, from left, Marian Dempsey, Jennifer Mandeville-Schulz, Charles Mattoon, Judy Smith and Matt Schaft.

The Opal Center downtown describes its goal as providing community members "with a variety of interesting and fun creative opportunities every chance [they] get." The most recent project, a play titled "You've Got Hate Mail," achieves that goal quite thoroughly.

The play is unique in the sense that there is absolutely no face-to-face or personal interaction between its actors throughout. All communication is done through email, as five actors sit behind respective laptops and speak out the emails they write to other characters. This allows room for the audience to invent off-stage interactions and broadens viewers' abilities to individually develop the charac-

ters in their minds.

"You've Got Hate Mail" revolves around a pretentious lawyer attempting to tip-toe between his oblivious wife and a barely sane mistress. Matt Schaft plays Richard the lawyer and nails the look with his slicked-back hair and suit. The opening cyber dialogue between his mistress and Wanda (Jennifer Mandeville-Schulz) gives a raunchy and unsavory impression the audience is intended to have, and it's nothing short of entertaining. The vulgar cybersex had many audience members squirming in their seats in uncomfortable laughter.

The characters vary in personality, which adds a distinct color to the show. Richard's wife, Stephanie (Judy Smith) is the computer-illiterate and innocently unaware wife who evokes pity. Stephanie is also close friends with Peg (Marian Dempsey) who works in the same office as Richard and tries to undermine his romance on the side. Charles Mattoon plays George, Richard's best friend, who is more introverted and simple. A couple back-and-forths between Richard and George show the comical contrast between the two characters. Mattoon's humble look brings

George's ignorance to life.

A play such as this is a creative way to utilize the limited stage space within the Opal Center. While there isn't much extravagance to the set, it is simple and complimentary to the writing and the underlying theme of cyber communication.

"You've Got Hate Mail" provided a great night of entertainment. The quick-witted adult humor and modern themes were a great reflection on the technological age this country has entered and were a strong commentary on how communication and interaction has changed through the decades.

State receives almost \$15 million in pot tax revenue

As of May 30, the Oregon Department of Revenue reports that it has processed \$14.9 million in marijuana tax payments this year. Medical marijuana dispensaries started collecting a 25-percent tax on their recreational marijuana sales in January.

The department would like to remind dispensaries that their first-quarter marijuana tax returns were due on May 2, 2016. As of June 17, 57 percent of the 319 dispensaries that have made at least one monthly payment have filed a return. Dispensaries who haven't filed their returns should have received a notice from the department reminding them of their filing obligation.

"There may be some confusion about when returns are due

because it's quarterly as opposed to the monthly payment requirement," said John Galvin, manager for Revenue's Marijuana Tax Program. According to Galvin, they've been providing dispensaries with information about making payments and filing returns by email and on the department's website.

Dispensaries that haven't yet filed are being urged by the department to file as soon as possible. The quarterly return form and instructions are available at www.oregon.gov/dor/marijuana. If dispensaries have any questions about filling out the form or their filing obligation, they can contact the Marijuana Tax Program at (503) 947-2597 or marijuanatax.dor@oregon.gov.



Inspection of the Mott Bridge on the North Umpqua River is expected to cause significant delays July 7.

Bridge inspections to cause delays

Bridge inspections planned for five locations on the Umpqua National Forest could cause delays for drivers. Flaggers will direct traffic while each bridge is inspected with an Under Bridge Inspection Truck.

Tuesday, July 5: inspections of the Rujada and Row River bridges on the Cottage Grove Ranger District. The Rujada Bridge is at the entrance to Rujada Campground. The Row River

Bridge is at milepost 0.3 on Forest Road 17.

Wednesday, July 6: inspections of the Medicine Creek and Cedar Creek bridges.

The Medicine Creek Bridge (legal name of Jack E. Setzer Bridge) is located on Forest Road 4775 at milepost 0.1. The Cedar Creek Bridge is at milepost 13 on Forest Road 38 (Steamboat Road).

Thursday, July 7: inspection of the Mott Bridge, which crosses the North Umpqua River. Expect significant delays at this site.

Those seeking more information can contact the Umpqua National Forest at 541-957-3200.

SENIOR MEALS PROGRAMS

Offering Meals on Wheels and Cafe 60 at the following locations: Anyone age 60 and older is served, regardless of income, suggested donation is \$3. Guests under age 60 are welcome to attend for \$8 per meal.

Cottage Grove Riverview Terrace
925 W. Main St., Cottage Grove

Noon: Tuesday-Thursday

Creswell Cresview Villa
350 S. 2nd St., Creswell
Noon: Monday, Wednesday, Friday

Thursday, June 30: Baked Beef Rigatoni or Turkey Rice Bake
Friday, July 1: BBQ Chicken or Kielbasa w/Sauerkraut, both on a bun.
Monday, July 4: Holiday
Tuesday, July 5: Cream Chicken & Veg. or BBQ Smokehouse Chop
Wednesday, July 6: Mini Garden Chicken

Salad or Mini Egg and BLT Salad on Spinach Romaine

Drain/Yoncalla area
Served at 400 Main St., Yoncalla. (For Douglas County Meals on Wheels eligibility, call 541-440-3677.) Suggested donation \$3.50

Thursday, June 30: Turkey Divan Bake
Friday, July 1: BBQ Chicken
Tuesdays, July 5: Turkey A La King

OFFBEAT

Continued from page 4A

have failed. The crack had split right through the plates of

steel themselves.

The report ended up pointing to an excessively stiff design, pre-existing stresses that had been somehow locked into the hull, and the relatively extreme temperature spread between the icy air and the temperate water.

It was also well known, by this time, that welded ships were more susceptible to this sort of thing than were the old-fashioned riveted kind, because once a crack gets started in a welded ship, it can spread all the way around, like a crack in a car windshield; in a riveted ship, the crack goes to the end of the plate and stops. This had happened to several other ships, and would happen to others later; but it took three times as long to rivet a ship together as

it did to weld it, so the practice continued throughout the war.

Eventually, much later, the true culprit would be identified: The low-grade steel used for ships' hulls was subject to brittle fractures when it got below a certain temperature, and when it did, invisible flaws in the steel would concentrate forces acting on the steel at certain vulnerable breaking points. So, if a flawed panel just happened to be installed in a high-stress location, the ship was essentially doomed. Those lessons wouldn't be learned for some time after the war, however.

As for the Schenectady, because of where it was the repair was a simple one. Water was pumped into the compartments amidships, so that the entire hull

could settle onto the river bottom; then scab steel was welded across the breach to hold her together and she was refloated. Towed to a dry dock, she was put back together with a heavy reinforcing plate across the spot where the crack had opened, and was out moving gasoline across the Atlantic Ocean just a few months later.

Still, the breaking of the Schenectady was so strange, and the F.B.I.'s response was so swift and decisive, that one just has to wonder ... was it really just the weather? Or could this have actually been a case of sophisticated sabotage, covered up by the wartime government to prevent the public from learning what had really happened?

Almost certainly not. But it

would make a whale of a plot for a paperback thriller, wouldn't it?

(Sources: Portland Morning Oregonian, Jan. 10, 17, 19, 21, 22, 23 and 24, 1943; Murray, Charles. "Engineering Disasters: S.S. Schenectady, a Lesson in Brittle Fracture." Design News magazine, March 5, 2015)

Finn J.D. John teaches at Oregon State University and writes about odd tidbits of Oregon history. For details, see <http://finjohn.com>. To contact him or suggest a topic: finn2@offbeatoregon.com or 541-357-2222.

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Worship Directory

WORSHIP WITH US

DRAIN:
Gateway Family Fellowship
Church of the Nazarene
337 "C" St. Drain, OR
Sunday School 9:30am
Worship 10:45am
Living Hope Free Lunch
Wed. at 12:30pm
541-836-7051 www.drainnaz.org

HOPE U.M.C.
131 W "A" St. Drain, OR
541-315-1617
Pastor: Lura Kidner-Miesen
Bible Study: 10:45am
Potluck Lunch: Noon
Worship: 12:45pm

COTTAGE GROVE:
6th & Gibbs Church of Christ
195 N. 6th St. • 541-942-3822
Pastor: Aaron Earlywine
Youth & Families Pastor: Seth Bailey
Services: 9am and 10:30am
Christian Education
Nursery for pre-k - 3rd Grade
www.6thandgibbs.com

Calvary Baptist Church
77873 S 6th St • 541-942-4290
Pastor: Riley Hendricks
Sunday School: 9:45am
Worship: 11:00am
The Journey: Sunday 5:00pm
Praying Thru Life: Wednesday 6:00pm

Calvary Chapel Cottage Grove
1447 Hwy 99 (Village Plaza)
541-942-6842
Pastor: Jeff Smith
Two Services on Sun: 9am & 10:45am
Youth Group Bible Study
Child Care 10:45am Service Only
www.cgcalvary.org

Center for Spiritual Living
Cottage Grove
700 Gibbs Ave. (Community Center)
Rev. Bobby Lee
Meets Sunday 3:00 p.m.
cslcottagegrove@gmail.com

Church of Christ
420 Monroe St • 541-942-8565
Sunday Service: 10:30am

Cottage Grove Bible Church
1200 East Quincy Avenue
541-942-4771
Pastor: Bob Singer
Worship 11am
Sunday School: 9:45am
AWANA age 3-8th Grade,
Wednesdays Sept-May, 6:30pm
www.cgbible.org

Cottage Grove Faith Center
1637 Row River Rd. • 541-942-4851
Lead Pastor: Isaac Hovet
www.cg4.tv
Summer Schedule: Sunday Service 10am
Full Children's Ministry available

Covered Bridge Nazarene Church
152 S. M St.
541-942-4422
Pastor: Cindy Slaymaker
Sunday School: 9:30am
Worship 10:30am

Delight Valley
Church of Christ
33087 Saginaw Rd. East
541-942-7711
Pastor: Bob Friend
Two Services:
9am - Classic in the Chapel
10:30am - Contemporary in the Auditorium

First Presbyterian Church
3rd and Adams St • 541-942-4479
Pastor: Karen Hill
Worship: 10:00am
Sunday School: 10:00am
www.cgpresbynews.com

Grove Community Church
77820 Mosby Creek Rd.
Cottage Grove, OR 97424
541-942-0123
Pastor: Bryan Parsons
Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Nursery: Infant - Pre-K
Kid's Church: K to 5th grade

Hope Fellowship
United Pentecostal Church
100 S. Gateway Blvd. • 541-942-2061
Pastor: Dave Bragg
Worship: 11:00am Sunday
Bible Study: 7:00pm Wednesday
www.hopefellowshippuc.com
"FINDING HOPE IN YOUR LIFE"

Living Faith Assembly
467 S. 10th St. • 541-942-2612
Pastor Rulon Combs
Sunday School All Ages 9am
Worship & Children's
Church 10:00 am
Sat Evening Service 6:00pm
Youth 180 Mondays 5:30-8pm

Non-Denominational
Church of Christ
1041 Penoyer Ave • 541-767-0447
Preachers: Tony Martin & Robert Evans
Sunday Bible Study: 10:00am
Sunday Worship: 10:50am & 5:30pm
www.penoyeravccoc.com

Old Time Gospel Fellowship
103 S. 5th St. • 541-942-4999
Pastor: Jim Edwards
Sunday Service: 10:00am
Join us in Traditional
Christian Worship

Our Lady of Perpetual Help
and St. Philip Benizi
Catholic Churches
1025 N. 19th St.
541-942-3420 / 541-942-4712
Pastor: Roy L. Antunez, S.J.
Euch. Liturgies; Sat. 5:30pm
Sun. 10:30am
St. Philip Benizi, Creswell:
552 Holbrook Lane • 541-895-8686
Sunday: 8:30am

St. Andrews Episcopal Church
1301 W. Main • 541-767-9050
Rev. Lawrence Crumb
"Church with the flags."
Worship: Sunday 10:30am
All Welcome

Seventh-day Adventist Church
820 South 10th Street
541-942-5213
Pastor: Kevin Miller
Bible Study: Saturday, 9:15 am
Worship Service: Saturday, 10:40 am
Mid-week Service: Wednesday, 1:00 pm

Trinity Lutheran Church
6th & Quincy • 541-942-2373
Pastor: James L. Markus
Sunday School & Adult Education 9:15am
Sunday Worship 10:30 am
Comm. Kitchen Free Meal Tue & Thur
5:00pm TLC Groups
tlccg.com

United Methodist Church
334 Washington • 541-942-3033
Pastor: Lura Kidner-Miesen
Worship: 10:30am
Comm. Dinner (Adults \$5, Kids Free)
2nd & 3rd Monday 5-6:00pm
cottagegroveumc.org

"VICTORY" Country Church
913 S. 6th Street • 541-942-5913
Pastor: Barbara Dockery
Worship Service: 10:00am
Message: 11:00am
"WE BELIEVE IN MIRACLES"

Our Worship Directory is a weekly feature in the newspaper. If your congregation would like to be a part of this directory, please contact the Cottage Grove Sentinel at 541-942-3325.