

# "God of Carnage" showing at Opal Theatre

# Reaching 10,000

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Nikki Pagniano, Kim Fairbairn, Dale Flynn and Phil Dempsey perform "God of Carnage" at the Opal Theatre.

By Caitlyn May  
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It begins with a squabble over semantics regarding a fight between two 11-year-old boys but not before a pair of bumbling burglars serve as the traditional dancing popcorn and soda warning movie-goers to silence their cellphones, inform the audience to do the same and pitch the opportunity to donate to the playhouse. It's the Opal Center's rendition of "God of Carnage."

The Tony award-winning play comes to Main St. in Cottage Grove this month and it is not for the faint of heart. Vomit flies and once the 'f-bomb' is dropped mid-way through the play, it becomes all out warfare.

Ben picked up a stick and hit Henry in the mouth. That's what had their parents stuck in a room for 90 minutes running the spectrum of humanity, society and depravity.

And 30 minutes in, there was rum.

It served as a catalyst for the marriages of Alan and Annette and Michael and Veronica to unravel in the best way—Veronica doesn't drink, it makes her mean. Michael is in fact, not a liberal. Alan isn't a huge fan of his kid (neither is Michael of his) and Annette is having the saddest day of her life.

"It has so many different layers," said Kim Fairbairn, the show's Annette. "We take every path and explore every emotion."

What begins as a meeting of the parents to discuss the damage done to Henry's teeth becomes a tortured back-and-forth between parenting styles and eventually, morality with a few reality checks brought to us in part by frequent phone calls; sometimes from Michael's ill mother and others from a business associate of Alan's who is peddling a drug most likely contributing to Michael's mother's illness.

The comedy is dark, the conversations darker and the final moments of the play, the group's reflection of their behavior over the last 90 minutes hinges on a (hopefully not, probably is) dead hamster.

While the start is slow-to-the-point and audience members may not buy into the conversation going beyond the first five minutes of discussing Henry's injury, if reason can be suspended for a brief moment then the actors are good enough, convincing enough, committed enough and the play is done well enough to force you down the road to boredom, confusion, investment in life and theatre.

"God of Carnage," a Yasmina Reza play, will be performed at Opal Theatre from July 15 to the 25. Phil Dempsey, Nikki Pagniano and Dale Flynn round out the cast. Tickets are \$12 and can be purchased at Opal Theatre on Main St.

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goes off, someone's life is being saved. We need to remember that," he said, promising to come back and visit the board and the members of the district's crew. Earlier in the meeting, the board approved a budget totaling a tad more than \$9 million.

"There were no surprises in this budget whatsoever," said district chief Joe Raade.

The Creswell fire station, part of the district, may be seeing an overhaul with the district working with the

city to use the community center in some capacity. "It's just an idea right now. It's strictly an idea," Raade said. The building, which according to the district, could be replaced due to age and seismic shortcomings, is not on the schedule to be replaced due to cost.

Jonathon Small was sworn in as the district's new firefighter, following in his father's footsteps before chief John Wooten informed the public that the new fleet of trucks will be complete later this summer.

## LORANE NEWS

Well, school is now officially out for the Crow-Appligate-Lorane School District. Hope everyone has a fun and safe summer. Please watch out for children walking and riding along the roads and drive carefully, especially on the main part of Lorane on Territorial Rd. Remember, the speed there is 35 mph.

The July Lorane Grange meeting is on the third Thursday. There is, however, a meeting prior to the Lane County Fair to put together all our ideas for the fair booth.

Are you a resident of Yoncalla, Elkton or Drain and have your ear to the ground on community events? Send news tips and event dates to The Sentinel by emailing cmay@cgsentinel.com or calling (541) 942-3325.

Fourth Annual COTTAGE GROVE



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Bring the family and your camera to the Oregon Aviation History Center on June 24th for the Fourth Annual Wings & Wheels Vintage Aircraft and Car show!! The weather is supposed to be great this year and we are looking forward to a number of new cars and aircraft for the event.

Event will host Big Bites food truck with floats and ice cream! We will also have on site raffles and a people's choice award for car, aircraft, and motorcycle!



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