

Community News



EMILY BLY

Von Trapp Family: Gretl (Zoe Goings), Brigitta (Nicole Wilhour), Kurt (William Blakely), Louisa (Kira Carver), Friedrich (Maia Wilhour), Liesl (Hanna Foshay), Captain Georg von Trapp (Nathan Blakely)

'Sound of Music' opens at Cottage Theatre April 5

Cottage Theatre's spring musical this year is *The Sound of Music*, the inspirational story of Maria von Trapp. Winner of the 1959 Tony Award for Best Musical, *The Sound of Music* features music by Richard Rodgers and lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II. The book, by Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse, is inspired by the Trapp Family Singers by Maria Augusta Trapp. This iconic musical will be onstage for four weekends at Cottage Theatre beginning Friday, April 5.

The story behind *The Sound of Music* is well-known thanks to the 1965 movie version starring Julie Andrews. In 1930s Austria, a troublesome postulant named Maria proves too high-spirited for the discipline of religious life, so the Mother Abbess sends her away to care for the children of a widowed naval Captain. As Maria's world turns upside down, she rises to the challenge of befriending the seven youngsters, who have driven away countless prior governesses. Maria's generosity of spirit and her love of music gradually win the children's, and eventually the Cap-

tain's, affections. When Austria is invaded by the Nazis, the family flees over the mountains to Switzerland, providing the thrilling finale to this inspirational story.

Cottage Theatre's production of *The Sound of Music* is directed by Joel Ibañez, with music direction by Chris King and choreography by Janet Rust. Costume design is by Rhonda Turnquist, set design by Tony Rust, and lighting design by Amanda Ferguson. The production stars Sabrina Gross as Maria and Nathan Blakely as Captain Georg von Trapp. The seven von Trapp children are played by Hanna Foshay (Liesl), Maia Wilhour (Friedrich), Kira Carver (Louisa), Nicole Wilhour (Brigitta), William Blakely (Kurt), Audriahna Jones (Marta), and Zoe Goings (Gretl). Other featured actors include Tracy Nygard (Mother Abbess), Brittany Dreier (Elsa Schraeder), Blake Nelson (Max Detweiler), and Oshen Parris-Austin (Rolf).

The Sound of Music runs for four weekends at Cottage Theatre from April 5-28. Performances are Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings at 8 p.m.,

and Sunday afternoons at 2:30 p.m. There is no performance on Easter Sunday, April 21.

Tickets are available online at www.cottagetheatre.org, by phone at 541-942-8001, or in person at the Cottage Theatre Box Office, 700 Village Drive, Cottage Grove. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$15 for youth (age 6-18). Box Office hours are Wednesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and one hour before performances.

All seating is reserved. Advanced purchase for seating is recommended.

The Sound of Music will be the final production in Cottage Theatre's current auditorium. The theatre will be closing temporarily in May for a major remodeling project that will add 50 seats. A variety of technical and safety features will also be upgraded. Cottage Theatre will resume its 2019 season in October with *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare* (abridged).

-Submitted Report

Transitional housing program receives additional funding from Kaiser Permanente, PeaceHealth

ShelterCare, a private, non-profit human services agency, has received \$600,000 from Kaiser Permanente and PeaceHealth to continue its transitional housing program for people with severe mental illness or medical conditions.

The Phoenix program provides up to six months of shelter for individuals experiencing homelessness and either substance abuse disorder, medical fragility or behavioral health diagnoses. The program's goal is to connect some of Lane County's most vulnerable residents with permanent housing and to improve their overall health.

In the first year of the Phoenix program, ShelterCare has assisted 36 people in transitioning from homelessness into safe temporary shelter. Eighteen of them have moved into permanent housing; more participants are nearing a similar move. All of the participants report that:

- They have been connected to a primary care professional and/or behavioral health care.
- All of them have seen an improvement in their current health.
- All of them have maintained or improved their living skills.

Kaiser Permanente and PeaceHealth jointly contributed a total of \$595,000 in 2017 to help launch the Phoenix program. With the program's first-year success, the two organizations have contributed another \$300,000 each to support another 18 months of services. "ShelterCare is part of

Lane County's planning groups for the systems of care addressing homelessness," explained Susan Ban, executive director of ShelterCare. "We provide the Phoenix program as a bridge between vulnerability and stability. It provides flexible resources that fund creative, innovative and individually relevant solutions. Phoenix allows people who have fallen through the social network's cracks to find a safe landing and enough time to rebuild their individual assets to be successful for the long-term. We are so grateful to Kaiser Permanente and PeaceHealth for recognizing that 'cookie cutter' programs are frequently not adequate to meet the unique needs of individuals and that stable housing is essential to improving health. Being able to directly put funds and staff resources where they are most impactful is life changing for our clients who have not been able to address these needs on their own or in more traditional programs. The Phoenix program is an amazing model of services with successful outcomes."

"There's a critical need in this community for affordable, safe, stable housing," said Mary Kingston, chief executive, PeaceHealth Oregon. "Good health starts where we live," said Ruth Williams-Brinkley, president, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan and Hospitals of the Northwest. "We know that someone without stable housing is more likely to suffer from disease, chronic health conditions and even

reduced life expectancy."

Kingston added, "An investment in housing for our most vulnerable citizens is an investment in community health and wellness. Our collaboration with ShelterCare and Kaiser Permanente has helped people either secure stable housing or move closer to that goal. The Phoenix program has also connected each person with essential primary care or behavioral health care services. It is an honor to extend our funding for this very important and successful program to serve our community."

Williams-Brinkley agreed, saying "We're proud to continue this unique partnership with ShelterCare and PeaceHealth, which supports both mental and physical health for people during critical times of transition."

Founded in 1970, ShelterCare is a private, nonprofit human-services agency directed by a board of community volunteers. ShelterCare offers a range of housing solutions combined with support services for vulnerable community members who are homeless or on the verge of homelessness. The organization strives to ensure everyone has access to stable, affordable housing and the support to live as fully and independently as possible. Prevention, outreach and housing services are complemented by behavioral health services and social service case management support to promote housing stability and personal well-being.

-Submitted Report

CT Cottage Theatre presents
The inspirational story of Maria von Trapp

APRIL 5 - 28

The Sound of Music

"To sing through the night..."

Music by Richard Rodgers
Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II
Book by Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse

Suggested by *The Trapp Family Singers*
by Maria Augusta Trapp

Directed by Joel Ibañez
Music Direction by Chris King
Choreography by Janet Rust

Sponsored by: *Magnolia Gardens*

Tickets available online, by phone, or at the door one hour before performance
Thursday - Saturday 8:00 pm; Sunday 2:30 pm. \$25 Adult, \$15 Youth (6-18)

541-942-8001 • 700 Village Drive • Cottage Grove
www.cottagetheatre.org

Brad's Chevy
COTTAGE GROVE CHEVROLET, INC.

Alec
Certified Service

Meet
ALEC MAY

Alec has worked for Brad's since 2012 as the Lube Tech. Alec is a graduate of Cottage Grove High School and enjoys riding dirt bikes and spending time with his family during his off time.

CLIP & SAVE • CLIP & SAVE • CLIP & SAVE

OIL CHANGE SPECIAL

\$19.95 up to 6 qts of oil

Gas Engines Only.

Excludes Diesel Engines, Dexos & Synthetic Oils
With this coupon offer good through 4/30/19
Not Valid with any other offer.

Service Now Open Saturdays 8am-5pm
541-942-4415
2775 Row River Rd. • Cottage Grove
www.bradschevy.com

Find us on Facebook