



EMILY MENTZER/Itemizer-Observer  
Western Oregon University students will perform, “All in the Timing,” six, one-act plays, in Rice Auditorium’s Studio Theater, a room that feels like a comedy club.

# ‘ALL IN THE TIMING’

WOU presents six one-act plays opening Thursday

By Emily Mentzer  
The Itemizer-Observer

MONMOUTH — A young woman, Dawn, seeking help for a stutter, hopes learning a new, universal language will help her untie her tongue. A man, Don, who has created a universal language, is eager to teach her. The duo stumble on words before finding their groove — and true love — in a short comedic play, one of six one-act plays that make up “All in the Timing,” by David Ives. Western Oregon University theater department will perform the work Thursday through Saturday. Curtain is at 7:30 p.m. with a matinee performance at 2 p.m. on Saturday. Each play revolves around the concepts of wordplay, interpersonal relations and existential reflection.

## Be ready to laugh

**What:** Western Oregon University’s production of “All in the Timing,” by David Ives.  
**When:** Thursday through Saturday at 7:30 p.m. with a matinee at 2 p.m. on Saturday.  
**Where:** The Studio Theater at Rice Auditorium on the WOU campus.  
**Admission:** \$14 for adults; \$8 for students; \$10 for seniors and WOU faculty and staff.  
**Of note:** Friday’s performance will include American Sign Language interpretation.

“The plays all deal with the humor that results from coincidental events in life and odd intersections of people and events,” said director Kent Neely in a press release. “We see three

chimps given typewriters and told to write ‘Hamlet.’ Then there’s the creation of a ‘universal language’ that can solve humanity’s difficulties. And we see what happened to Trotsky after an ice axe was smashed in the back of his head.” The six plays, Sure Thing; Words, Words, Words; Universal Language; The Philadelphia; Mere Mortals; and Variations on the Death of Trotsky, are unrelated. Each one stands on its own, Neely said. Neely chose the play because of the performance space. It is the Studio Theater in Rice Auditorium, not on the main stage. That meant space was at a premium. With six sort-of sketches rather than one big performance, it allows actors to use minimal sets. The cozy atmosphere of the studio creates a comedy-club feel.

# DDA seeks help from city

By Jolene Guzman  
The Itemizer-Observer

DALLAS — The Dallas Downtown Association has big plans for 2017 and asked the city of Dallas for some help in seeing those through. Mark Sturtevant, the president of DDA, spoke to the Dallas City Council during the “public comment” portion of Monday’s council meeting. He noted that the DDA had a busy year in 2016, completing the train mural on Main Street downtown, sponsoring a Christmas bazaar, hosting an interactive murder-mystery show, and helping sponsor the celebration gathering for Blue Garden sign re-lighting. Sturtevant said the organization hopes to make the murder-mystery an annual event each October, and will be co-sponsoring a downtown solar eclipse party in August and downtown cruise-in. He said that since joining the group in September, AmeriCorps Resource Assistance for Rural Environment (RARE) volunteer Emma Guida has been key to the

success of the DDA. Guida serves as DDA program manager and will be on the job for 11 months. The RARE program, run through the University of Oregon, has encouraged DDA to apply for a second year. Last year, the city of Dallas helped the organization by providing \$22,000 to support the program. “You challenged us to show you we had staying power and skin in the game before you committed to supporting the RARE program,” Sturtevant said. “We done very well in that regard and we were able to raise the capital to fully fund the RARE program this year. “Now we have a growing operational budget in excess of \$42,000. That doesn’t sound like a whole lot of money, but for a small organization, it’s kind of big.” DDA will apply for grants from the Ford Family Foundation and the Oregon Community Foundation, Sturtevant said. “In order to assure them that we have community support we would like the city of Dallas to include in the 2017-18 budget the sum

of \$8,500, substantially less than \$22,000, to support the RARE program,” he said. Guida, who attended Monday’s meeting, gave an impromptu presentation to the council. “In the coming year, we’re working on developing a strategic plan for the DDA,” Guida said. She said that is important, especially if the organization is asking for grant support. In other business, the council: • Approved a resolution for a supplementary budget containing a transfer from capital projects in the amount of \$261,500 to record the cost of purchasing the former RadioShack property and \$350,000 transfer from the general fund to create a new risk management fund, which allocates for insurance premiums, deductibles, claim losses and other insurance-related expenses. • Approved a resolution officially naming the pedestrian bridge spanning Rickreall Creek from the Dallas Aquatic Center to Central Bark, the city’s dog park, after former Dallas parks supervisor Ron Lines.



## Corrections posts ‘most wanted’

DALLAS — Polk County Community Corrections lists these individuals as “most wanted” for February. Citizens with information on the whereabouts of any of them can call Community Corrections at 503-623-5226. • Raymond William Huffman, born Jan. 11, 1964, 5-7, 180 pounds, brown hair, brown eyes. Charge: Possession of heroin, delivery of

heroin. • Carl James Pointer, born June 3, 1966, 6-3, 185 pounds, brown hair, brown eyes. Charge: Felon in possession of a firearm, driving under the influence of intoxicants. • Joshua Michael Rose, born July 9, 1984, 5-9, 209 pounds, blond hair, hazel eyes. Charge: Fourth-degree assault.

• Jeremy Wolfgang Wright, born April 24, 1986, 5-8, 145 pounds, blond hair, blue eyes. Charge: Third-degree assault, first-degree mistreatment, possession of methamphetamine, possession of heroin. • Eric Clifford Jones, born June 2, 1970, 5-11, 147 pounds, brown hair, brown eyes. Charge: Eluding police.

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