

A bewitching play presented by the Coaster **Theatre**

By Dani Palmer Cannon Beach Gazette

"Bell. Book and Candle" is a tale about a New Yorker who falls head over heals for a witch after she casts a spell on him. The catch is that she'll lose her powers if she loves him back. The play, written by John Van Druten and directed by Edward James, opens this week at the Coaster Theatre in Cannon Beach.

Henderson Shepherd stops by Gillian Holroyd's store on his way to an engagement party. Learning he's to marry an old rival, Gillian uses her magic on him, and that's how the story begins, said Daric Moore, who plays the leading man.

"Bell, Book and Candle" is Coaster's fall show. The theater does seven a year, including two during the summer, Marketing and Operations Director Jenni Tronier said.

The play was written in 1953 and the original film, produced in 1958, starred James Stewart and Kim Novak. It received Academy Award nominations for art direction and costume design. The TV show "Bewitched," popular in the 1960s and '70s, was partially based on the play.

James called "Bell, Book and Candle" a universal love story, rather than a supernatural one. "There's no overwhelming levitating of chairs," he said. "We may mesmerize the audience, we hope."

'Love is pretty magical," added Priscilla Fairall, who plays Gillian.

Fairall and Moore met before practices began on Aug. 2. As actors who pretend to have feelings for each other, they said, it's important to get comfortable with one another.

"Because it's a romantic comedy, the romance has to work," Moore said. "We have to make it believable.

It takes commitment, Fairall added. She's also gotten to know the other actors well as they play family.

Fairall, who began acting last winter, said the role has been good for her to tackle. Gillian is a powerful, sensual character. Often silly, it's a side Fairall doesn't show much. She read Coaster Theatre's summary of the play and was intrigued as she wanted to play a witch.

"It just spoke to me," she said.

Moore, who plays Shepherd, has been in community theater since 1996, but he wasn't originally going to do the role until another actor dropped out. Moore, a musician, spends the majority of his time on his new CD, and James agreed to work with his schedule.

Moore said he finds it interesting to see a character in one way after reading the script for the first time and learning more as he gets on stage to see that character differently.

The actors are volunteers in a variety of careers with a wide range of experience, Tronier said.

The roughly 100 hours they spend preparing before opening night are a "big commitment," James added.

He's been doing community theater for decades and has directed about 100 plays. This is his second with Coaster Theatre.



Priscilla Fairall and Daric Moore star as Gillian Holroyd and Shepherd Henderson in "Bell, Book and Candle," opening Friday at the Coaster Theatre.

"Bell, Book and Candle" is an old-school period piece, James said. Since romantic comedy has changed, there are hurdles, but he is confident the cast is up to it.

Moore watched the classics to prepare for the way the characters talk and move.

"A lot has changed," he said. "But it is fun to dress up in that era, to have that sort of style, a sense of New York in the '50s."

Fairall added it was like learning Shakespeare.

She called the play a comedic, emotional "roller coaster ride.'

"Bell, Book and Candle" will be performed Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. through Oct. 24, with a Thursday performance on Oct. 15 and Sunday matinées on Oct. 4 and Oct. 18 at 3 p.m.

Tickets are \$15 or \$20 depending on the seating and may be purchased online, by calling (503) 436-1242 or stopping by the box office -- open Wednesday through Saturday 1 to 5 p.m.

The theater is still looking for ushers who get a free ticket for that evening's show.

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Events at Gearhart

October ArtWalk

lover; 738 Pacific Way, (503) 738-5332, flowers@

Pacific Crest Cottage is stocked with gifts for all oc-

casions. The work of Dutch

artist Wim Vlek will be on

display. Vlek grew up in

Holland enjoying the pure

light of the Dutch sky. He

began to paint at an early age under the instruction of

a mother and brother who

dabbled with paint and can-

vas. Further inspiration was

his grandparents art collec-

tion which included 17th-,

18th- and 19th-century oil

paintings. Since moving

to the North Coast in 1990 Vlek has earned respect and

admiration as an accom-

plished artist and art instructor. 726 Pacific Way, (503)

738-6560; email joysigler@

Solfrid Price is the fea-

tured artist for October at

Trail's End Art Gallery in

Gearhart. Her show will

include her works in pho-

tography. The opening reception takes place Satur-

day, Oct. 3, from 2-5 p.m.

Along with other members'

work, the show will be

open throughout October. The public is welcome

to browse the gallery and

gift shop featuring an all

new monthly exhibit of

oil paintings, watercolors,

acrylics, photography, col-

lage, cards and gifts. Gal-

lery and gift shop are open

Wednesdays through Sundays, 11-3 p.m. For more

information visit www.

trailsendart.org. 656 "A"

Street, (503) 717-9458,

trailsendart.org.

hotmail.com 6560.

seasidenaturalnook.com.

On Saturday, Oct. 3,

from 2 to 5 p.m. the Gearhart ArtWalk hoist "Wel-

come to the Shore" flags

indicating participation in

agreatgallery.com. pres-

ents more sunflowers in

the form of originals, new

glicées, photographs on

canvas by Ashley Thomas, seasonal stationery boxes

in time for the holiday sea-

son, pumpkins, fall scenes

as well as new fall cre-

ic Way offers art and home

furnishings, (503) 739-7025; 564bytheway@gmail.com.

Company, presents finely crafted custom knives and

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3348 Highway 101 N.,

(503) 738-9812; cougar-

iron in every way imagin-

able. Visit John Emmer-

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(800) 738-5434; gearhar-

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Hwy 101 N. (503) 738-

9977; email linda_toler@

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to-be, and hand-stamped

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Natural Nook presents the

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Gearhart Ironwerks uses

ridgeknives.com.

tironwerks.com.

yahoo.com.

By The Way, 564 Pacif-

Cougar Ridge Knife

ations by DM Designs.

A Great Gallery, 576 Pacific Way, (503) 709-2840;

the monthly event.

"Fjord Cat," by Solfrid Price, exhibited at Trail's End gallery.



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beach GAZETTE

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35 Lost & Found

Found: Svenson area, end of July, grey tabby type cat.
Also, Hammond area, calico cat. Call 503-861-2003 to positively identify or with info.

70 HELP WANTED

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Applications available at

Bud's RV in Gearhart 4412 Hwy. 101 North Gearhart, OR. 97138



lorth Shore Homes is seeking an experienced carpenter for a full time year round position with competitive wages. Must have transportation and basic tools.

Please send resume to Brookeenglish.nsh@gmail.con or call Matt at 503-717-2098

70 HELP WANTED

Archipelago Marine Research, a world leader in developing fisheries monitoring technology, is seeking two part-time service technicians for Astoria/Warrenton/surrounding areas. This position involves installation and servicing of CCTV cameras and computer components onboard commercial

fishing vessels. The position requires a vehicle, smart phone and flexible work schedule, as evening and weekend work is required. For complete job description and application instructions visit www.archipelago.ca



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time off (PTO), and a 401(k)/Roth 401(k) retirement plan. 401(k) retirement plan.

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at 949 Exchange St. or send resume
to EO Media Group, PO Box 2048,
Salem, OR 97308-2048,
e-mail: hr@eomediagroup.com

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Please fax resume to:
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Friday.

Benefits include paid time off (PTO), insurances and a 401(k)/Roth 401(k) retirement plan. Send resume and letter of interest to EO Media Group, PO Box 2048, Salem, OR 97308-2048, by fax to 503-371-2935 or e-mail hr@eomediagroup.com

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