

Out and about

'Lust 'n' Rust': The music and jokes keep on rolling

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Trailer parks get no respect. Give a place a name like Payton Place and it's all about suburbia, no matter what goes on behind closed doors.

Give a neighborhood a name with mobile estates tacked on the end of it and the jokes start rolling out.

Especially when you meet the characters who actually live in the Red Bud Mobile Estates, Twister Plains, Ill. Single sizes and double-wides sit side by side in this cozy little community.

Add newcomer, mild-mannered factory supervisor (we think) Steve, played by Greg Rumpf, and it's sure to cause a little bit of ruffle.

Rising executive Steve takes to the highway out of corporate headquarters in New Jersey to take over management of the Agribig plant in Twister Plains.

Deciding to take on the rent of a

trailer rather than purchase a home, Steve sings his way across country, catching eyefuls of the usual tourist sights from the highway, like the largest ball of string, biggest apple, you know the places.

If you traveled anywhere as a kid, you stopped in most of them, primarily to give Dad a break behind the wheel and Mom a chance to wash us kids down and throw out the debris.

Anyway, after a long ride West, Steve pulls into Twister Plains late at night and finds his way into the recommended local greasy spoon, an unassuming place called Smitty's Diner.

There's more to admire than the patty melt or chicken steak. Pouring coffee and serving up chocolate shakes and fries is the lovely Connie, played by Geri Reynolds. She has definitely caught Steve's attention.

She's in the midst of breaking up with childhood sweetheart and husband Duane, played by Josh Smalls.

If you go ...

Patuxent Playhouse will present the musical comedy "Lust 'n' Rust: The Trailer Park Musical" Fridays and Saturdays Sept. 7-22 at St John Vianney Family Life Center in Prince Frederick. Performances are at 8 p.m. with a matinee at 2 p.m. Sept. 22. Tickets are \$15, \$12 for the matinee. Receive a free promotional item Sept. 7 and meet the playwrights after the Sept. 22 evening show. The theater is at 105 Vianney Lane. Call 410-414-9099 or 410-326-1401 or go to www.patuxentplayhouse.com.

But she's not too bothered to notice the stranger in town — who is actually no stranger to anyone in town, because, as she tells Steve, there's aren't any secrets here.

Back at the trailer park, er, mobile estates, Red, played by Montario Hill, explains to newcomer Janette, played by Elizabeth Lang, that the band rehearsing afternoons in the trailer next door should be no hindrance to putting her twins down for their afternoon nap.

"After all, you can get along," Red says, "or you can get along."

Joining Red in explaining the facts of life at the Red Bud are Buzz, played by Jack Reynolds, Latisha, played by Dionne Gause, Junior, played by Mike Harrenton and Tanya, played by Lisa Sciannella.

The men all work at Agribig. Well, actually, almost everyone in town who works, works at Agribig. It is the single largest employer and Steve's arrival does not make anyone feel comfortable, especially since he is living in a trailer and not in a big house worthy of his big salary.

Gradually the locals begin to accept Steve, especially his fellow residents at Red Bud. But they're still not too sure about him. Is his arrival good news or is it an evil omen?

Rated PG for basic bad language — POSDJAALOFG: Plenty Of Singing, Dancing, Jokin' Around And Lots Of Fun. Go.



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