PIE WARS
THE DOUGH STRIKES BACK

ALSO INSIDE:
World's Greatest Mentalists at NPAC
Abingdon Farmer's Market Opens
A Look Behind the Curtain Many's
Martin School of the Arts
Welcome To
Bristol Beer & Cigar Emporium

Bristol’s Newest
Craft Beer Hotspot

Visit Our Cigar Humidor

Adjacent to Parkway Wine & Liquor
1182 Volunteer Pkwy · Bristol, TN
423-217-1818
on the cover

PIE WARS
The Dough Strikes Back

your week’s line-up

16 Stargazer
Moon Race in High Great 50 Years Ago
17 Skies This Week
18 Batteries Not Included
T-Minus Five Hours and Counting
19 Pop Life
Tomb Raider
20 Mister
Knock Your Socks Off
21 The Nerd’s Corner
To POP! or Not!
33 The Casual Word
Communique
24 Puzzle Page
27 Kelly’s Place
Back To The Fifties

BEEZWAX by John Martin

PEPSI...MT.DEW...COKE...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING, THUGLY?

MRS. LUMPBUZZ OFF QUIT TODAY!
Join us April 26th at the Carnegie Hotel for the 2018 Pie Wars: The Dough Strikes Back presented by One Stop Wines and Spirits for a night filled with pizza, beer, and fundraising!

Participating pizza parlors will compete for Best Overall Pizza, Best Cheese Pizza, Best Pepperoni Pizza and Best Crust but YOU get to vote to decide which pie reigns supreme.

Proceeds from this year's Pie Wars will go to Dawn of Hope. Each ticket includes: pizza from all participating pizzerias and 3 beers. Lemonade & water will also be provided.

Get tickets at: tinyurl.com/ybp75aoh
Children 5 and under: FREE
Children 6+: $12
EARLY BIRD YPTri Members: $20
EARLY BIRD Non-Members: $25
Prices at the door will go to $30 for members and non members, so be sure to buy them in advance!

Young Professionals of the Tri Cities
Organizer of Pie Wars: The Dough Strikes Back
YPTri is an organization for 20 to 40 somethings in the Tri-Cities who are interested in networking socially and professionally in a relaxed setting.

2018 Pie Wars: The Dough Strikes Back presented by
Performing for the first time together in this new production of Masters of the Mind LIVE, four internationally acclaimed mentalists will leave audiences enlightened and enthralled. On Friday, April 6th at 7:30 p.m. explore the mysteries of the human mind in a live spectacle where you will be baffled and inspired beyond belief. These four mentalists have been seen on NBC, FOX, CNN, BRAVO, HISTORY, DISCOVERY & UNIVISION, among others, and demonstrate the phenomenal power of the mind via telekinesis, hypnosis, mind reading and predictions.

For over 30 years, Guy Bavli, known as the “Kinetic Man” has astonished audiences worldwide with his telekinesis skills. Named a Super Human by the History Channel show “Stan Lee’s Super Human” and featured in over 400 television shows, Bavli has performed in 50 countries and has headlined at some of the most prestigious venues around the world, including 1200 shows at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas.

World famous psychic duo Jeff & Tessa Evason present mind-blowing feats of telepathy and ESP that’ll have you buzzing long after the show ends. Jeff & Tessa engage random volunteers throughout the audience who offer personal items to use as focus points of concentration. With uncanny accuracy, Tessa describes their objects and delivers amazing clairvoyant readings that literally make people gasp with surprise!

For almost 3 decades, Dale K has entertained and educated audiences from around the world with his contemporary approach to the art of hypnosis. Hollywood’s fabricated theory of hypnosis usually involves lightning bolts, zombie like trances and humans clucking like chickens. During his performances, Dale challenges these theories proving that hypnosis is simply the power of suggestion that consists of mind “motivation” rather than mind “control.” Using his creative abilities and abstract sense of humor, Dale K produces hypnosis demonstrations that are professional, unconventional and always hilarious.

Don’t miss Masters of the Mind LIVE on Friday, April 6th at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $35 for orchestra level seats, $30 for mezzanine seating and balcony seats are $25. Tickets may be purchased online at NPACgreeneville.com, in person at the NPAC box office, or by calling 423-638-1679. NPAC offers online seat selection with no processing or delivery fees. There is an additional $1.50 ticketing fee per ticket regardless of purchase method. The box office hours are Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. The 1150 seat performing arts center is located adjacent to the campus of Greeneville High School. For venue information, and to purchase tickets, please visit www.npacgreeneville.com.
Opening Day For The **ABINGDON FARMERS MARKET**

The Abingdon Farmers Market will kick off their regular season Saturday, April 7th 2018. The market is located on the corner of Remsburg Dr. and Cummings Street in Abingdon, VA. There will be over 50 vendors from local farms, artisans and prepared food vendors set up to sell their goods and to promote fresh local food throughout the community. This will be the official beginning to the 2018 market season that will continue through Thanksgiving with hours of operation on Saturdays from 8am-1pm and Tuesdays from 3pm-6pm.

The Abingdon Farmers Market fundraiser raffle ticket sales will begin at 8am April 7th with the drawing on April 21st during the Earth Day event at 12:45pm. Tickets are $5.00 each or 5 for $20 and will be available for purchase at the AFM information table as well as at some vendor booths. We will be drawing 3 tickets.

All proceeds will go toward our Farm Fresh Kids Program and on site Chef’s demonstrations.

The market hours will now be: Saturdays, 8am-1pm & Tuesdays, 3pm-6pm, through November. There are several new events planned for this season, including Chef’s demos, an Herb Festival, Berry Festival, Tomato Festival, Squashtober Fest along with other events to celebrate the bounty of locally produced foods & goods. We expect a full season, over 50 full-time vendors, offering a wide variety of local meats, eggs, cheeses, vegetables, fruits, wines, prepared foods and art & crafts. Now you can find even more of your everyday needs at the Abingdon Farmers Market.

Please contact David McLeish at (276)-698-1434 or email abingdonmarket@gmail.com with any questions. You can also visit the market website at www.abingdonfarmersmarket.com or follow us on Facebook: Abingdon Farmers Market, Instagram: abingdonmarket
The Junior League of Johnson City will host its 3rd Annual Cocktails: Celebrate a Night in Black and White, on Saturday, April 21st 2018 from 6pm to 10pm at The Venue in downtown Johnson City. The event will benefit the mission of the Junior League of Johnson City and fund initiatives to raise awareness, gather information, and educate women and the community regarding women and children's health and well being.

Tickets to the event include a full dinner catered by Flavours by ETSU featuring Master Chef Jean Claude, DJ'ed entertainment, a silent auction, a live auction, and access to drinks. Table sponsorship will be available and includes unlimited drinks and event access for 8 guests, an assigned table, and a bottle of champagne for the table. To learn more, please visit www.juniorleagueofjc.com/fundraisers/cocktails.

Cocktails is the League’s largest fundraiser and is essential to our efforts to create a better community for all. In 2016, JLJC partnered with the ETSU Prescription Drug Abuse and Misuse Working Group, an organization currently studying Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS), which is affecting our community in record numbers. In the past 2 years, we have donated $35,000 to help fund the development and staffing of an electronic NAS Registry of Data. This registry is helping to establish standards of care for children born with NAS and increase the awareness and understanding of long term effects. This year’s funding will continue the League's community impact through direct funding to agencies, leadership development, and over 500 hours of volunteer assistance to health initiatives.
MerleFest
13 stages of
"traditional plus" music

MerleFest
Window-Walls

STEAP
CANYON-RANGERS
& FRIENDS
with special guest STEVE MARTIN

KIRK KIRK KIRK KIRK KIRK KIRK

THE MAVERICKS
BELA FLECK AND
ABIGAIL WASHBURN
ROBERT EARL KEEN

Plus many more performers!

AUGUST 26-29, 2018
MerleFest.org 800-343-7857

ROCKS
WOOD FIRED
PIZZA & GRILL

LIVE MUSIC ON THE PATIO
TUESDAY, APRIL 3
STEMWINDER BAND
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4
H.B. BEVERLY
THURSDAY, APRIL 5
THE TIDES

20 BEERS ON TAP
16 WINES ON TAP

ST. ANNE'S CHURCH AND SCHOOL
INVITE YOU TO COME PLAY
BINGO!

MONDAY NIGHT
SCHOOL BINGO

TUESDAY &
SATURDAY NIGHTS
CHURCH BINGO

SALES OPEN @ 4:30
GAMES START @ 6:30

430 OAKVIEW AVENUE, BRISTOL,
MSGR. HICKIE CTR. • CORNER OF CHESTER STREET

BRISTOL
STATION
BREWS & TAPROOM

41 Piedmont Ave, Bristol, VA 24201
www.BristolBrew.com | 276.608.1220

Singh every Friday
Trivia Thursdays

Strawberry Flavor
Coming Soon!

Now Canning
Our Beer!

Join us at
Thirsty Orange!

Mon: 5-9pm • Tues: Closed • Wed: 5-10pm • Thur: 5-11 • Fri: 3-12 • Sat: 12-12 • Sun: 3-9pm
Downtown Bristol's Original Craft Brewery
The Town of Jonesborough, Heritage Alliance of Northeast Tennessee and Southwest Virginia and Watauga Valley Railroad Historical Society are pleased to offer a fundraiser with a one of a kind dining experience aboard a restored 1950 train dining car on April 14th. Proceeds from the fundraiser will go to help fund the museum inside the restored Chuckey Depot, now located in Jonesborough which houses a railroad museum.

Built by the Southern Railway in 1906, the Chuckey Depot, until recently, was privately owned. It was located on Norfolk Southern Railroad property, who had plans to demolish it if it was not moved. Although it was no longer utilized as a train depot, it was added to the National Registry of Historic Places in 1979 for its historical architectural significance, adding to the importance of saving it from demolition.

Patrons can choose from two lunch seatings at the All Aboard Luncheon at 11:30 a.m. or 1 p.m., designed specifically for children and their parents, with a kid-friendly lunch option and another option for adults. Patrons who choose the child ticket will receive Chicken Fingers, Apple Slices, Macaroni & Cheese and Juice. In addition, children will also receive a souvenir engineer train hat, whistle and red bandana to take home. Patrons who choose the adult ticket for lunch will receive a BBQ sandwich, Macaroni & Cheese, Cole Slaw and Tea or Water. The price for each child and adult ticket is $30 must per purchased in packs of 2 or 4 tickets due to dining car seating arrangements.

The dinner seatings will allow for a fine dining experience with all the extras at 5:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. will include a more extravagant dinner of Stuffed Chicken with Spinach, Feta Cheese, Sundried Tomato in a White Wine Butter Sauce, Roasted Garlic New Potatoes, Roasted Vegetable Medley, Roll and Lemon Blueberry Tart for Dessert. Beverages include choice of Tea or Water. Tickets for the dinner seatings are $65.

The lunch and dinner seatings will take place on a stationary dining car on April 14th. Patrons who dine at either dinner seatings will receive a tour of a passenger car and a brief presentation on the history of the railroad in Jonesborough from the Heritage Alliance at the start of the program. The meal will promptly follow.

Patrons are asked to park at Jonesborough Senior Center located at 307 East Main Street and arrive 20 minutes prior to their seating. From there, they will be transported to the train Dining Car off of Spring Street.

For tickets call the Historic Jonesborough Visitors Center at 413.753.1010 or visit Jonesborough.com/tickets

Passengers may choose from true vintage dining in the Dining Car (four to a table) or the smaller tables for two. Parties of less than four in the dining car are subject to assignment with other passengers.
Everyone knows that filmmaker Alfred Hitchcock had his obsessions. Since Hitchcock’s heyday in the 1950s and 60s, new generations of filmmakers and film fans have become equally obsessed with the work of The Master of Suspense.

One of those Hitchcock aficionados is Swiss filmmaker Alexandre O. Philippe. Although he has been studying The Master since he was 5, Philippe’s most recent obsession has been what the Village Voice calls “a gloriously nerdy deep dive” into the three-minute shower scene in the 1960 film “Psycho.” In this scene – barely halfway into the movie – thieving secretary Marion Crane, portrayed by film star Janet Leigh, is slashed to death at the creepy Bates Motel in mid-shower by a shadowy “Mother” figure.

Philippe’s 2017 documentary “78/52” is a frame-by-frame celebration of what Philippe calls “the single most iconic and significant scene in the history of motion picture arts and sciences.” The 92-minute documentary “looks at a brief three minutes of cinema the way it’s never been looked at before,” says the Los Angeles Times.

On Monday, April 16, at 7 p.m. in East Tennessee State University’s Ball Hall Auditorium, room 127, Mary B. Martin School of the Arts at ETSU will present a screening of the documentary film “78/52” as part of the South Arts Southern Circuit Tour of Independent Filmmakers. The screening is free and open to the public and will be followed by a Q&A and reception with the filmmaker.

Philippe started hosting move nights for family friends at his home in Switzerland by the time he was 10 or 12, generally screening Hitchcock films, providing an introduction to the film before and a question-and-answer session afterward. While he has produced films previously, like “Doc of the Dead” and “The People vs. George Lucas” with his master’s degree from NYU’s Tisch School of the Arts, Philippe’s passion for Hitchcock has continued unabated.

“Part of the great appeal of watching [Hitchcock’s movies] is that we’re so far from having connected all the dots,” Philippe tells The Criterion Collection. “I keep having epiphanies. I keep making discoveries.”

CURTAIN continued on page 12
Phil Vassar is as driven today as he was when he first left his Lynchburg, Virginia home to pursue – and realize – his dream of making his mark in entertainment. A career that has seen the release of eight albums, two ASCAP Songwriter of the Year trophies, Billboard Country Songwriter of the Year, countless hits as a singer and songwriter and a mantle full of awards and the launch of his own Rodeowave Entertainment label continues to expand and evolve.

As a singer/songwriter, Phil has hit the Top 5 seven times with songs like “Carlene,” “Last Day of My Life” and “American Child” and topped the charts with “In A Real Love” and the perennial favorite “Just Another Day in Paradise.” Known as one of Nashville’s top tunesmiths, his songs other artists have taken to #1 include “My Next Thirty Years” by Tim McGraw, “She’s Right On The Money” by Alan Jackson, and Jo Dee Messina’s “Bye, Bye” and “I’m Alright.” New artist David Nail had a hit with Phil’s “The Sound of a Million Dreams,” which Billboard named the #1 song in their Top 10 Country Songs of 2012.

“Songs should evoke something, whether it makes you happy and puts you in a good mood, or makes you cry and feel desperation…you know, whether you’re going through a marriage, or a divorce, or you’re in love or you hate somebody, or whatever it is… songs should evoke something,” says Vassar. “And if it’s just having a drink with your friends in the hot tub, that’s just as good as any song for me! I mean, I’ve had hits with every kind of song – ballads, mid-tempo, up-tempo and silly kinds of songs. You can’t save the whales with every song you write, that’s too heavy for me,” he adds, laughing. “I honestly don’t think I’ve written my best songs yet,” he added.

The Virginia native, who received the 2012 VAB Distinguished Virginian Award by the Virginia Association of Broadcasters is definitely no stranger to a good time, and he makes sure with every performance that his fans feel exactly the same way. Years of playing clubs, and even owning his own nightclub at one point, helped Phil cultivate the easygoing, fun-loving manner he displays onstage and the infectious energy that infuses every single show he does.

“I’ve always prided myself on writing a lot of different types of songs, while some people may like to play it safe, I prefer diversity. So it’s about new energy and doing different things, getting away from the old ways and starting fresh, that’s what we’ve been able to do with Rodeowave.”

Excited at the limitless possibilities of the freedom of running his own label, he is also extending the knowledge and experience he has gained over the years to other artists. The full-service record label/promotions/management company not only handles details of his own career but has promoted music by The Lumineers, Neal McCoy, and new artists Miss Willie Brown, High Valley, Old Dominion and Sam Riddle.

Phil Vassar is an artist who has endured his share of ups and downs in life and the “biz,” and one who is not only riding a diverse wave of success but sharing it with others. “I’m not going out there to try and change the world, but for me, this is my thing, this is my little world that I can control now, and I’m really excited about this journey, getting new music out to the fans and working on other avenues to entertain people. For me that’s what it’s all about.”

Get tickets at www.ticketfly.com/purchase/event/1622753
In “78/52,” Philippe unearths more treasure in Bates Motel-tinged interviews with filmmakers and horror aficionados such as Guillermo del Toro and Peter Bogdanovich; other filmmakers, including Karyn Kusama and Danny Elfman; editors and sound designers, including Walter Murch; star Janet Leigh’s daughter Jamie Lee Curtis; costar Anthony Perkins’ son Osgood; and, Leigh’s body double, then-Playboy model Marli Renfro.

“Even moviegoers who know ‘Psycho’ backward and forward – who consider it a sacred text – are bound to learn something new from the movie,” says The New York Times, “which addresses the shower scene from critical, historical, theoretical and technical angles, down to the blinding white of the bathroom tiles.”

The “Psycho” scene opened a Pandora’s box in the film industry, Philippe says, and much of it through the illusion – or “magic trick” as he calls it – created in the brief shower scene and its carefully crafted 78 camera set-ups and 52 deft cuts in the editing room. “He created a perfect illusion,” Phillipe says in the Criterion interview. “Famously, the censors who watched ‘Psycho’ for the first time said, ‘You can’t release it; we saw nudity. We saw the knife puncturing her skin.’ And [Hitchcock] said, ‘No, you didn’t see any of that. That’s all in your head.”

“78/52” is a perfect film to close the 2017-18 Southern Circuit film series, says Anita DeAngelis, director of film series sponsor Mary B. Martin School of the Arts. “If you are a fan of Hitchcock or a student of film, this is a documentary you won’t want to miss,” DeAngelis adds. “‘78/52’ is a great combination of serious study, research and interviews and a sense of fun, much along the lines of Hitchcock’s own quirky humor.”

The Southern Circuit Tour of Independent Filmmakers is a program of South Arts. Southern Circuit screenings are funded in part by a grant from South Arts in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts. South Arts, founded in 1975, is a nonprofit regional arts organization building on the South’s unique heritage and enhancing the public value of the arts.

For more information, call the Martin School of the Arts at 423-439-TKTS (8587) or visit www.etsu.edu/martin. For more information on “78/52,” visit www.iccfilms.com/films/7852.
East Tennessee State University’s Language and Culture Resource Center will celebrate the connection between Latino and Appalachian communities during the ninth annual Corazón Latino Festival on Friday, April 6, from 4-10 p.m. in Founders Park.

The free festival will highlight the vibrant Latino culture with fun activities, live music, food and more. Entertainment includes the return of the “Running of the Bulls” with the Little City Roller Girls, live “Latingrass” music by Argentinian band Che Apalache, dance lessons with Bj Goliday, Zumba demonstrations and music by DJ Torrado. A variety of sweet and savory foods from Mexico, Honduras and Cuba will also be available.

Members of ETSU’s Hispanic American Student Community Alliance organization will offer child-friendly activities in the ChicoZone, such as face painting, sack races and coloring.

ETSU’s Department of Art and Design will showcase Latino roots and culture in the exhibit, “Pawned Quinceañera Jewelry” by Mexican-American artist Rosalie Lopez, at the Tipton Art Gallery, 126 Spring Street.

Quillen College of Medicine, Bill Gatton College of Pharmacy, the Johnson City Community Health Center, Ballad Health and others will provide awareness and prevention information regarding health issues, blood pressure and glucose screenings, and for healthy living and self-care management.

Festival attendees can also enjoy a trip across Latin American countries without leaving Johnson City. Cultural Ambassadors will guide visitors through the beauty and traditions of each country.

The Corazón Latino is made possible through partnerships with Northeast State Community College and the City of Johnson City. For more information, contact ETSU’s Language and Culture Resource Center at 423-439-8342 or lcrc@etsu.edu.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>- TUESDAY - April 3 -</th>
<th>- FRIDAY - April 6 -</th>
<th>- SATURDAY - April 7 -</th>
<th>- SATURDAY - April 7 -</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stemwinder Band</td>
<td>Glass Idols w/ Vices &amp; Vessels and Raviner</td>
<td>Demon Waffle</td>
<td>Shooter Band</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rock's Wood Fired Pizza &amp; Grill</td>
<td>and Capone's</td>
<td>The Hideaway</td>
<td>Show Palace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redleg Husky</td>
<td>Borderline Band</td>
<td>Super Bob w/ BIG MSTR and Set to Fire</td>
<td>Jigsaw Jane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capone's</td>
<td>Quaker Steak &amp; Lube</td>
<td>Capone's</td>
<td>Bristol VFW Post 6975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Hoot</td>
<td>Moonshine Band</td>
<td>Acoustifried</td>
<td>The Bosses Live</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Down Home</td>
<td>at Country Club Bar &amp; Grill</td>
<td>O'Mainnin's Pub</td>
<td>Gypsy Circus Cider Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acoustic Bluegrass Jam</td>
<td>Pocket Change</td>
<td>Ali Randolph</td>
<td>Traci Cochran</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gypsy Circus Cider Company</td>
<td>Elizabethton Elks Lodge</td>
<td>at Country Club Bar &amp; Grill</td>
<td>Yee Haw Brewing Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Mic</td>
<td>The Black Jacket Symphony</td>
<td>The Hyperion Grill</td>
<td>Chris Long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Willow Tree Coffeehouse &amp; Music Room</td>
<td>Paramount Center for the Arts</td>
<td>The Well Dogs</td>
<td>Our House Restaurant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HB Beverly</td>
<td>Missy Raines &amp; the New Hip</td>
<td>High Voltage</td>
<td>EC Frazier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rock's Wood Fired Pizza &amp; Grill</td>
<td>Down Home</td>
<td>Railway Express</td>
<td>Model City Tap House</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Loose Leaves / Magus and the Movers</td>
<td>Kingsport Eagles</td>
<td>Soutern Boyz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sleepy Owl Brewery</td>
<td>Deadwood Drifters</td>
<td>CJ'S Sports Bar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Center Stage Benefit</td>
<td>Sleepy Owl Brewery</td>
<td>U Turn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bristol VFW Post 6975</td>
<td>Kimmie Rhodes</td>
<td>Bears Bar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jerry Pierce &amp; The Nightlife Band</td>
<td>Down Home</td>
<td>Nightshift Band</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Johnson City Senior Center</td>
<td>The Well Dogs</td>
<td>Buffalo Ruritan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nightshift Band</td>
<td>High Voltage</td>
<td>Soul Collision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lion's Club</td>
<td>Sulphur Springs String Dippers</td>
<td>Holston River Brewing Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Banjo Mitch and The Hilltop Haints</td>
<td>Damascus Brewery</td>
<td>Acoustifried</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Moe's Original BBQ</td>
<td>Jeff Little Trio</td>
<td>O'Mainnin's Pub</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Railway Express</td>
<td>Carter Family Fold</td>
<td>The PF Flyers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rain Nightclub</td>
<td>Unbridled Strings</td>
<td>David Thompson's Produce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Charlie Bonnett &amp; the Folkin Gasholes</td>
<td>Capitol Theatre</td>
<td>Loose Leaves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Woodstone Deli</td>
<td></td>
<td>Bloom Cafe and Listening Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Syren</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Holston River Brewing Company</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Fustics</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>O'Mainnin's Pub</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- SATURDAY - April 7 -</td>
<td>- SATURDAY - April 7 -</td>
<td>- SATURDAY - April 7 -</td>
<td>- SATURDAY - April 7 -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Gentleman &amp; Liars</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wild Wing Cafe</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you or your band are playing in the upcoming week and would like to be in The Spotlight, call in advance to (423) 283-4324 or go online to: theloaferonline.com. Due to last minute cancellations or changes, please call the location to confirm.

for show time & more details, visit theloaferonline.com
**TUESDAY**
- Karaoke w/ Crossroads & Josh Blevins at Dawg House Tavern
- Karaoke at Zachary's Steakhouse - Kingsport
- Family Night Karaoke at CJ's Sports Bar
- Karaoke at Numan's

**WEDNESDAY**
- Karaoke w/ Southern Sounds Karaoke at American Legion 8pm
- Karaoke at CJ's Sports Bar
- Karaoke w/ Absolute Entertainment at Smokey Bones
- Turn the Page Karaoke At VFW Post 2108 - Johnson City

**THURSDAY**
- Karaoke w/ Absolute Entertainment at Macado's - Kingsport
- Karaoke at Zachary's Steakhouse - Kingsport
- Karaoke at CJ's Sports Bar
- Karaoke at Numan's
- Karaoke w/ DJ Marques Top Shelf Entertainment at Wild Wing Cafe - Johnson City
- Karaoke w/ Absolute Entertainment at New Beginning's
- Karaoke at Jiggy Rays Pizzaria

**FRIDAY**
- Karaoke w/ Shane Rouse at Bear's Bar
- Karaoke at Kingsport Moose Lodge
- Karaoke w/ Reverb Karaoke at The Cottage 8:30 pm
- Turn the Page Karaoke at VFW Post 2108 - Johnson City
- Karaoke w/ Absolute Entertainment at Moe's Original BBQ
- Karaoke w/ Toddzilla at Sportsmans Pub
- Karaoke At Elizabethton VFW
- Karaoke w/ DJ Marquez & Top Shelf Entertainment At Holiday Inn (Exit 7) - Bristol VA
- Karaoke at Numan's

**SATURDAY**
- Karaoke at The Horseshoe Lounge
- Karaoke w/ Toddzilla at Sportsmans Pub
- Karaoke at Kingsport Moose Lodge
- Turn the Page Karaoke at VFW Post 2108 - Johnson City
- Karaoke w/ Absolute Entertainment at Macado's - Kingsport
- Karaoke at Numan’s
The Moon Race between the USA and USSR was in high gear fifty years ago, and 1968 was a pivotal year when the Communist “Hammer and Sickle” flag was very close to being planted on that alien world in our skies.

The history of America’s two-man Gemini and three-man Apollo missions are clicking off half-century and longer milestones, which is incredible to think about for Baby Boomers who lived the excitement of the Moon Race. The Soviet Union accumulated a lot of space firsts that allowed their propaganda machine to tout the supremacy of Communism.

The USSR had the first satellite, Sputnik 1 in October 1957; the first animal in space, dog Laika in November 1957; the first man in space, Yuri Gagarin, 1961; the first woman in space, Valentina Tereshkova, 1963; the first three-person crew, Voskhod 1, 1964; the first spacewalk by Alexei Leonov, 1965; the first object to hit the Moon, Luna 2, 1959; first photos of back side of Moon, Luna 3, 1959; the first satellite to orbit the Moon, Luna 10, March 1966; the first soft landing on the Moon, Luna 9, 1966; and many more in the details of space flight.

The USSR was just as motivated to go to the Moon as the USA. The Communist not only valued the military aspect of space, but a chance to show the world their superiority. American inspiration came from President John F. Kennedy’s challenge in 1961 to put an American on the Moon before the end of the decade.

President Kennedy said we would figure out how to do it along the way, creating a new energy of progress that would benefit the world.

This Christmas Eve 2018 will mark 50 years when Apollo 8 circled the Moon with three American astronauts sending live photos of the surface moving below as they read the Bible Book of Genesis. The dangerous mission took the mighty Saturn V rocket to pull it off, the 10 orbits of the Moon a statement that really won the Moon Race.

All that was left was the earth-orbit test by Apollo 9 of the Lunar Module moon ship and a full-dress rehearsal Moon voyage, except landing, by Apollo 10. Finally, the bold, successful landing of Apollo 11 in July 1969. And then in November 1969 with Apollo 12, NASA doubled the pledge of President Kennedy by landing two more men on the Moon.

The Moon Race was over for the Soviet Union. Their secret manned space program took us decades to figure out. During the training sessions for the nine Space Shuttle launches to the Russian Mir Space Station, astronauts in Houston and cosmonauts in Star City began sharing space stories, and the truth began to be told. After the Moon Race, the USSR developed a series of Salyut space stations that lead to the 15-year life of Mir. That experience was shared as the two Super Powers bonded to play large roles in the International Space Station.

The path to the Moon for both the USA and USSR was paved by unmanned spacecraft beginning with flybys and then orbiters. The reconnaissance orbiters were particularly important to pinpoint landing sites. The Soviet Union lead the way, with the first orbiter around the Moon being March 6, 1966. That year they had two more orbiters, Luna 11 and 12, and a lander, Luna 13 on Dec. 24, 1966. The orbiters surveyed landing sites for lunar map makers, and the lander tested the surface strength. Heading into the year 1967, NASA feared that the Communists were nearing a manned mission around the Moon.

Spacewalker Leonov, now age 83, has openly said he and first man-in-space Gagarin were training for a moon landing. One would orbit and the other land. Gagarin was killed in a jet crash in 1968, and he was replaced. Privately, Leonov said he felt it was a suicide mission because of the rush in training and lack of testing the spacecrafts. Leonov was the commander of the Soviet-USA Apollo-Soyuz spacecraft docking in 1975.

Americas reconnoitering of the Moon began with a lot of failures before the success of the kamikaze video machine called Ranger 7. The first six Rangers in 1962 and ’63 failed for various reasons, but finally in July 1964 Ranger 7 streamed back images of the Moon down to the final second, showing craters and rocks down to the final inches.

NASA also sent a series of unmanned landers called Surveyor, a three-legged, tubular spacecraft of rockets, cameras, a scoop and other instruments. Seven surveyors were sent, and five were successful and important to developing the manned lander. It was the Surveyor 3 that Apollo 12 landed near in November 1969 to double-down on President Kennedy’s famous challenge.

The Soviets were to the landing on the Moon, but they failed because their giant moon rocket failed. We had the Saturn V, still the world’s largest rocket, that performed nine, flawless missions to the Moon from 1969-1972. They had the N-1 rocket, which blew up four times, once on the launch pad possibly killing dozens.

So top secret was the N-1 rocket that it took the end of the Soviet Union in 1991 for details to be revealed. Hurried and underfunded, the huge 4-stage rocket was 344 feet tall, 10 feet shorter than the Saturn V. The N-1 had a first stage of 30 engines in two rings. Launched in February 1969 with an unmanned moonship called Zond, it blew up 30-seconds into flight. Another unmanned try on July 3 blew up just yards off the launch pad, setting of seismometers around the world and ending any chances for a Russian on the Moon before the United States.

Though America won the Moon Race, the Soviets still had ambitions to land anyway. They launched and blew up another gigantic N-1 rocket in June 1971, and again in November 1972, each getting a few miles from the launch pad before engine failure. The Soviets also sent three successful sample return missions in 1970, ‘72 and ’76 for a total of two ounces of Moon dirt and small rocks. And they put the first two automated rovers on the Moon, Lunokhod 1 in November 1970 and Lunokhod 2 in January 1973.

Just more evidence that the Moon Race was real and won by America.

So, to those fools who say we didn’t go to the Moon… if we didn’t, then why aren’t the Russians saying so? The mountain of paperwork and testimony of the blood, sweet and tears by 500,000 American contractors of NASA from 1961-69 is plenty of evidence of one man’s greatest achievements.
Celestial events in the skies for the week of Apr. 3-9, 2018 as compiled for The Loafer by Mark D. Marquette.

Darkness keeps getting later and later, and that's a joy for gardeners, sports buffs and park lovers. But it's just longer to wait for the stars to come out! When it's good and dark just before 9 pm, the familiar winter constellations like Orion are directly south and ready to disappear in the west. This week in space history has 12 manned missions of America and Russia blasting off more than 50 space people. The night sky is brilliant with the winter stars setting and summer ones rising after midnight. The after 4 am sky is filled with three planets straddling the Milky Way—Jupiter near Scorpius, Mars on one side of Sagittarius and Saturn on the left side.

Tuesday, April 3
The Moon rises around 11 pm with the planet Jupiter to its south. On this 1966 date in space history, the Soviet Union's Luna 10 became the first spacecraft to orbit the Moon.

Wednesday, April 4
On this 1930 date in space history the American Interplanetary Society was formed by three science fiction writers. Four years later, renamed the American Rocket Society, it was pioneering liquid fueled rocket tests, and gaining popularity among those followers of rocket pioneer Robert Goddard. By 1959, there were 21,000 members, all eager to see mankind reach for the stars. In 1983, STS-6 Challenger was launched on its maiden flight with four astronauts. And in 1997 STS-83 Columbia was launched for a 15-day mission cut short to just three days by a fuel cell problem. The same seven astronauts were reassigned to the same mission, which was launched three months later in July as STS-94.

Thursday, April 5
On this 1991 date in space history, Space Shuttle Atlantis was launched on STS-31 with one of NASA's great space observatories, the Compton Gamma Ray Observatory. The 18-ton satellite with four telescopes made discoveries for nine years before being de-orbited in June 2000. In 2010 STS-131 Discovery was launched with seven astronauts on a supply mission to the International Space Station.

Friday, April 6
On this 1965 date in space history, the first communications satellite was launched. Intelsat 1 was nicknamed “Early Bird,” and sent the first live images between America and England from its geosynchronous orbit, 22, 500 miles high. In 1984, STS-41C Challenger was launched and ambitiously tracked down, caught and repaired the Solar Max satellite.

Saturday, April 7
A stunning sight Saturday before sunrise as the nearly Last Quarter Moon is between Mars to its right and Saturn to its left, all in the constellation Sagittarius, the heart of our Milky Way Galaxy.

Sunday, April 8
On this date STS-56 Discovery was launched with five astronauts with an atmospheric laboratory in the cargo bay. And in 2002 STS-110 Atlantis was launched with the truss backbone for the International Space Station. The seven astronauts included Jerry Ross on his record-setting seventh spaceflight.

Monday, April 9
On this 1959 date in space history NASA selected the first seven Mercury astronauts. On this 1994 date, STS-59 Endeavour was launched on its sixth mission with six astronauts. The flight was chronicled on the Discovery Channel about the Space Shuttle Program.
I had family come in last week over the holiday. From the time of their departure, it would be about five hours before they arrived at my house. I began preparing for their arrival three days beforehand. I inherited my mother’s desire for a presentable looking home and gave every single room of the house a deep cleaning. The bathrooms got the most attention. Not that they were awful, but you know everyone is gonna tromp through them so they were cleaned and sanitized, then I cleaned and sanitized them once again just to be safe.

When they called me to say they were on the road I grabbed my shopping list and headed over to the grocery store. Food, drinks, napkins, toilet paper, tissues, paper plates, bowls, and cups just to make my life a little easier. I spent two hours in the grocery making sure I wasn’t forgetting a single thing. I checked out and made it home. As I was unloading my groceries my cat came over to greet me. I picked her up and began to pet her and greet her in return. This is when I realized I forget to get her food. Back to the grocery I went.

The second grocery run over, I put away the rest of the groceries and looked over at the kitchen clock. Two hours had gone by, I had three hours to plan when to get the meal on. You see if your family is anything like mine when family comes in for a visit, that first night at the house meal isn’t just for them. It’s for them, extended family, their friends, and everyone else. If you get easily overwhelmed as I do sometimes, it’s important to have that one room in your house you can escape to while everyone else roams around eating and talking.

Food ready to go, cat fed and already gone into hiding, my family arrived. It was a good thing I gave the bathrooms extra attention, for as soon as people were in the door and hugs were over with, every bathroom in the house had someone in it. This has happened before and usually does when people arrive. I’m surprised my plumbing hasn’t given out from sheer exhaustion yet. The food and revelry go on for a few hours, then bit by bit, the people who are not staying at my home leave.

My cat comes out from hiding and starts a cautious exploration of the house to see if it’s safe to go to her favorite sleeping spot. She settles down and sleeps, I start to clean the kitchen as my houseguests unpack their luggage in the guest room. All the detailed cleaning I did is no longer apparent, it looks like a trashcan and an all you can eat buffet place had a horrible accident in my kitchen. Dishes of food lay empty, with tiny crumbs of what once was. Empty paper cups dot the landscape, my trash can is overflowing.

But for all the madness of that first day it is nice to have family staying in the house, I hear them commenting on how nice the place looks while I try to scrape what I think is cheese off the floor under the kitchen table. Plus, once everyone is settled, I can play a game of Mario Kart with the younger cousins and show them the true meaning of pain is getting a hit by a blue shell when you’re seconds away from first place. See you next week.
"Tomb Raider" first burst into the world of pop entertainment in the form of a video game introduced in 1996. I was a big fan of the game and really enjoyed the adventures of Lara Croft, an English archaeologist always in search of ancient treasures. Due the popularity of the game, Hollywood release a live-action film version of the game to theaters in 2001 as "Lara Croft: Tomb Raider" starring Angelina Jolie. The film was a hit and warranted a sequel in 2003. The series lay dormant until this year when a reboot (a favorite past time for studios) of "Tomb Raider" hit theaters starring Alicia Vikander in the role of Lara Croft. The current film is based on the 2013 version of the game, and sends Croft on a journey to see if her missing father, archaeologist Lord Richard Croft (Dominic West), is still alive. During the years of her fathers absence, Lara has been living as a bike courier, despite the fact she will inherit her father’s vast estate. After being warned if she doesn’t claim her inheritance, she finally accepts, and stumbles upon a secret at her father’s secret home office.

Lord Croft left a video for his daughter explaining why he may be dead. His journey was to find the resting place of the mythical Queen of Yamatai, Himiko, who is said to command the power over life and death. Even though Lord Croft warns Lara to destroy all information related to Himiko, she ignores his message and sets out to locate her father in order to see if he still lives. Lara’s journey takes her from London to Hong Kong, where she hires ship captain Lu Ren (Daniel Wu) to sail into the Devil’s Sea to find the island of Yamatai. As one might expect in an action movie, the two encounter rough seas, and after their ship is destroyed near Yamatai, Lara manages to make it to the shore of the island. However, after making it to the islands shore, she is met by several shadowy figures and is knocked unconscious. Enter the villain of film, Mathias Vogel (Walton Goggins), who is involved with the Trinity, an origination after the secrets and power of Queen Himiko. While being held hostage by the Trinity, Lara manages to escape with help from Ren, and eventually (*Spoiler Alert*) runs across a bearded man who is her missing father. The two want to keep Trinity from discovering the tomb of Himiko, for fear if discovered, the world will be at risk of destruction. Eventually all parties find the tomb of Himiko, and in true video game style the fun really begins via bobby traps and other assorted challenges. As expected the film ends with a planned sequel, but time will tell if the movie scores enough bucks at the box office to warrant another Croft adventure.

The film does feature plenty of the type action expected in a film based on a video game, and even though I wasn’t overly impressed with the 3D version, the film compensates with thrilling sequences. The actors are all well cast in their roles, with Vikander filling the shoes of Jolie just fine, even though the actress lacks the sparkle and star power of the Academy Award winner, and at times seem rather flat. I enjoyed "Tomb Raider" for what it was, a video game come to life. If you attend the film, sit back and relax with your bag of popcorn for an adequate “popcorn” film.
KNOCK YOUR SOCKS OFF!

I know this sounds a bit taboo, but BARE with me here. It's second nature to dip into your chest of drawers—maybe your clothes hamper, brimming with clothing items from days before—and draw out a pair of socks to pair with your shoe of choice. What if I told you that you can omit this morning process altogether. I mean, the Italians have been going sockless for years; and let's be honest, when it comes to style, are you going to trust the Europeans or the guy that just dug into his clothes hamper?

**So Why No Socks?**

Well, to put it simply, it just looks cool. Pairing two pairs of ankles with a formal shoe and a three-piece suit is daring, but it's dashing as well—who knows, you may be able to run faster.

Along with looking cool, you're going to feel cooler as well (in terms of temperature). And the concerns of descending socks and pre-spiring ankles will no longer be an issue; beneficial for focusing on having a functional day.

**Biker Notice**

Runs, Rides and Bike Nights
Sponsored by Bear's Bar

This will be a new addition to The Loafer. Just like the bands in Spotlight and the Karaoke events, we are adding a new section to let folks know about events in our biker community. To list your upcoming ride or event, please email details and basic info to info@theloaferonline.com. A contact name and phone are mandatory as are date, time, etc.
Collecting is a hobby that has been around for decades and is easily accessible to everyone, from tiny toddlers who find new stones on their daily adventures to octogenarians who accumulate cats the way some people amass shoes. Collections can range from the commonplace, such as stamps or currency, to the downright bizarre (anyone been to Gatlinburg’s Salt and Pepper Shaker Museum?) Ever since the 1980’s, toys and action figures have dominated the hobby. The plethora of Star Wars merchandise that inundated the market more than likely can be blamed for starting this trend. Soon though, GI Joes, Barbies, Cabbage Patch Kids, and Masters of the Universe toys helped to cement toy collecting as a permanent hobby not just for kids, but adults as well. Some children never let go of their treasures, while others, smacked with a heavy dose of childhood nostalgia, went back into the game as adults and now have amassed enormous collections.

There is a new phenomenon which has hit the toy collecting world. You’ve more than likely seen them, as they can be found at dozens of retailers, from Walmart to Costco to Best Buy. The occasional grocery store claw machine is stuffed full of them, they line the shelves at arcade redemption counters, and show up on Amazon regularly. They run off pop culture, from 80’s nostalgia to the latest big budget flick playing at the theater. In fact, they’ve already begun to cement themselves as a cultural icon themselves. They even get their name from pop culture!

These little plastic figures that have taken over the world are known as POP! The vast majority of them stand about four inches tall out of the box and can vary from bobbleheads to statues on a base, depending on the line. POP! figures are easily recognizable by the distinct lack of features on the statue. As a rule, they have no mouth and future simple round eyes. Those are about the only thing they have in common, as there is such a huge variety of shapes, sizes, and franchises to choose from. No matter what you are a fan of, there is no doubt a POP! line that will peak your interest.

Modern cinematic experiences see dozens of POPs release, from the latest Avengers movie to Ready Player One. Star Wars, Marvel, and DC are perhaps the three largest lines that can be found, with hundreds of individual statues available for each franchise. We can’t even get into the Disney ones or it would take up the rest of the article. Like your 80’s films? Dark Crystal, Ghostbusters, and Back to the Future are all available. He-Man and Skeleton represent the toys of the period. Do you still love those Saturday morning cartoons? Scooby Doo, Looney Toons, and Animaniacs are all here! Anime fans will be thrilled to find every character from Dragonball Z, Sailor Moon, and Death Note. Sitcoms such as Big Bang Theory, dramas including The Walking Dead, and classics such as The Munsters all have their own lines too. Video games are well represented, with retro classics including Pac-Man and Q-Bert, and modern favorites such as God of War.

If you’re not into movies or TV, there are still hundreds of POPs you can collect. Elton John, Metallica, Kurt Cobain, even Justin Beiber all have graced the faces of the figures. 2016’s election cycle saw Trump, Clinton, and Bernie Sanders receive their own POP! Monsters, pets, sports teams, board games, ad icons, drag queens, and even the Royal Family all have series dedicated to them. No matter what your interests are, you can be sure to find a POP! that fits them.

Even if you find a series you like, it can still be overwhelming when you first start collecting. Where do you put your focus? There are store exclusives only available from certain retailers such as Walgreens or Target. Some show up on the Funko POP! website and are sold out within minutes. Others are con exclusives which require you to either visit the comic con in person or else fork over the cash to someone who’s ready to usually make a hefty profit on their excursion. Exclusive pops can be flocked (that means furry), glow-in-the-dark, 6” (about twice the size of a regular POP!), 8-bit (they look like a retro video game), clear, chrome, or even glittery. POP! Rides feature entire vehicles for our bobblehead friends to ride in style on the bookshelf. Occasionally, you might run across an ultra-rare chase POP! These are usually limited to one per case or even less that a store receives, and can quite often run into the hundreds in aftermarket value. Be prepared to stand outside Hot Topic 30 minutes before the store opens if you want to snag one of these bad boys. We never said it was easy, but that’s what makes this hobby so much fun!

POPs are an international craze which shows no signs of stopping. That is good for die-hard collectors who always must be on the lookout for the next piece to add to their staggering collections. Unfortunately for those who are on a budget, it can also be bad for our wallets, as we contemplate whether we really need electricity for the next week in order to afford that new Avengers: Infinity War set that just showed up for preorder. Watch out when you buy that first one because just like the crazy neighbor who has two dozen cats, you won’t know what hit you until your house is full of them!
Rocky Mount State Historic Site will present its annual "Woolly Day" on April 14th from 11-5. Woolly Day is Rocky Mount’s spring event which features hand shearing of its flock of Cotswold sheep, wool processing techniques of the 18th century and other spring activities on a frontier farm. 

Admission is $8 for adults, $7 for seniors (55+), and $5 for children ages 5-17. Members of Rocky Mount Museum get in free. Group rates are available with a reservation.

Lambs have begun to arrive. There are six lambs currently with more on the way. Lambs are available for photos. As in years past, Rocky Mount will have a contest for children 12 and younger to name these lambs. Submissions can be made at Rocky Mount and will be taken through April 21st. The newborn lambs are always a hit at Woolly Day; children will have opportunities throughout the day to meet and pet the lambs.

At 1 p.m. a special ceremony and ribbon cutting will celebrate the completion of a $500,000 site improvements project featuring new fencing and ADA accessible walkways in the Historic area.

Rocky Mount’s Woolly Day is an opportunity for visitors to experience the spring activities of the early settlers of Tennessee. Wool processing is featured during this event. Rocky Mount’s flock of sheep will be sheared throughout the day using hand shears. This is a great opportunity for children to get a close look, and even pet sheep, feel their wool and learn how it would be made into clothing. Visitors will be given the opportunity to wash the freshly sheared wool, use wool cards to straighten the fibers, and see how it is spun into yarn, and woven into cloth. Other demonstrations include hearth-side cooking, gardening and 18th century toys. Living History tours of the Cobb House and historic buildings will be given throughout the day.

For more information call (423) 538-7396 or 888-538-1791 or email us at info@rockymountmuseum.com.
Was it that my expectations
Were too high?
Or maybe
Not having any expectations at all
Was the downfall
Creating my own ruination
Begrudgingly apathetic
Inconsequential and irrelevant
I walk a lonely road
Where my shadow becomes my only
companion
With my mind
Being the only other being
There was never a need to be vocal
For who would hear?
More importantly
Who would care?
In my developing world
And underdeveloped syntax
I failed
To share my needs
Express my displeasure
And ironically
I now sit here
Silent
SUDOKU

Answers on page 26

DROP QUOTE

CRYPTOGRAM

C FWK CQ W SRTTU EDDH, NMCOYCOZ EIKTVP ATUI DVH: JRN QDF C WE W
FDEWQ WZWCQ - WK C WVFWIK WE FMTQ C FUCNT.

— Virginia Woolf
The Bridge Home has an ongoing aluminum can collection in front of the shelter at 2061 Hwy 75 in Blountville, TN 37617 and a second aluminum can collection site at Airworks Heating and Cooling, 5633 Memorial Blvd Kingsport. The cans are collected by a volunteer and the money from the aluminum goes towards badly needed food and supplies for the animals.

The Bridge Home No Kill Animal Rescue has started a pet food pantry for people that have had financial hardships because of job loss or medical problems and are struggling to feed their pet. They can come by the shelter and get cat or dog food to get through the tough time.

Donations can be sent to The Bridge Home Shelter PO Box 654 Blountville, TN 37617. Every animal in their care is spayed or neutered and fully vaccinated before being adopted. Being a non profit the shelter is funded entirely by membership dues and private donations. They always need volunteers or monetary donations. Other always needed items: pet food, cat litter & cat toys dog treats & dog toys, paper towels, cleaners, office supplies, Purina weight circles. Phone: 423-239-5237 Hours are Mon-Fri 12pm-6pm Sat 12pm-3pm and Sun 2pm-4pm. Website is www.bridgehomerescue@gmail.com or like them on Facebook: www.facebook.com/bridgehome

Peaches is a 2 year old domestic short hair. She is spayed and up to date on all vaccines. A very sweet and friendly cat!

Charlie is a one year old domestic short hair. He is neutered and up to date on all vaccines. This sweetie is the ultimate lap cat!
Wisdom of Mantra
Russill Paul, world-renowned teacher, musician and mantra master returns to Johnson City.

Friday, April 20, 2018, 7:30pm
Healing the Healer
Healing the Mantra Meditations
Saturday, April 21, 2018, 1-4pm
Transform Negative Energy into Positive Force: Mantras for Daily Living.

Train excursion & Riverboat cruise
The George L. Carter Railroad Museum at East Tennessee State University and the George L. Carter Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society will sponsor a scenic train excursion and riverboat cruise in Knoxville on Saturday, May 19.

The Casual Word
Adult Creative Writing Class
Join us for a free, fun, engaging, and different look into writing. In this class, we will not focus on structure, form, or rules, but on the freedom of writing. It is the goal of this class to open the mind to its full creative potential by allowing participants to write what they want, how they want to write it. Sessions will be student lead; we will engage in topics and subjects that are of interest to the students. The atmosphere is casual and jovial. This class is designed for all those 18 and up who wish to try their hand at creative writing. Thursdays @ 6:00 p.m.

Cryptogram: I was in a queer mood, thinking myself very old: but now I am a woman again - as I always am when I write.

DropQuote: "I believe that if I should die, and you were to walk near my grave, from the very depths of the earth I would hear your footsteps."
After watching the Academy-Award-Winning film “The Shape of Water” in its recently-released 4K version, I couldn’t wait to revisit its inspiration, “Creature From The Black Lagoon,” which was first released in 1954. These two films gave me a welcome reason to rethink many of my assumptions about a group of sci-fi and horror films released in the 1950s. I have always disagreed with those who say we can’t change the past, because we do this all the time. While we can’t alter the events themselves, we change our perspectives on the past as often as we change our clothes. And the 1950s provides an ideal case in point.

The popular image of the Fifties conjured up by many people originated in the Seventies, when TV shows like “Happy Days” and “Laverne and Shirley” were joined by movies like “Grease” and “American Graffiti” (all of which, interestingly enough, were set in the early Sixties). The reality of the decade, however, is perhaps best portrayed in a set of movies that capture the fears and anxieties that characterized this period in time. Rather than being a decade shaped by conformity and complacency, the Fifties were permeated by Cold War uncertainties, a dread of nuclear annihilation, dangers presented by the creation of teenage hoards who defied adult authority, new definitions of sexuality and civil rights, consumer culture, and identity. Like any period of time, the Fifties presents itself as a puzzle rather than as a road map. The story found in most history textbooks lacks any real sense of what it was like to have been there to experience the non-textbook range of emotions and uncertainties. As history David McCullough reminds us, no one ever lived in the past.

Perhaps the best way to begin reevaluating the Fifties is by watching the classic “Duck and Cover” public service program starring Bert the Turtle, who turns anxieties over nuclear annihilation into a children’s game. The very idea that we can protect ourselves from the nearby detonation of an atomic bomb by ducking and covering is ludicrous, and shows just how scared and misinformed the inhabitants of that decade were. Of course, Bert’s advice takes on an even more surreal meaning now that we are experiencing anxieties over North Korea’s nuclear arsenal.

I have identified five themes that we can use to best understand some of the sci-fi and horror films of the Fifties. First we have the addition of the term “flying saucers” to our vocabulary. In the wake of World War II, the phrase “Watch the skies!” appeared in many conversations as we puzzled over just what had happened in Roswell, New Mexico as as the new decade was greeting with increased sightings of UFOs. For this reason, “The Day The Earth Stood Still” (1951) provides an ideal springboard into this troubled decade, and highlights the ways in which skies were filled with terror and apprehension rather than with optimism. “Arrival,” the recent film starring Amy Adams should be seen as a contemporary reimagining of its 1951 counterpart.

Our next theme, The Bomb, is reflected in that strange movie about giant ants, “Them” (1954). The ants got that way after being exposed to nuclear radiation generated by bomb testing in the Arizona desert, back in the day when we did that sort of thing quite frequently. Of course, these ants could easily be seen as an invasion of Communist agents, bent on destroying our way of life. Like “The Day The Earth Stood Still,” “Them” pits scientists against the military in a tense standoff about how best to deal with this menace; in these films, scientists generally want to study the menace while the military wants to exterminate it (a common thread that runs through countless films).

Films like “I Was A Teenage Werewolf” (1957) and “Teenagers From Outer Space” (1959) serve as tepid attempts to capitalize on the success of “Rebel Without A Cause” and reflect the uneasy feeling many parents had about their teenage sons’ and daughters’ raging hormones (our third theme). The “teenager” classification was a new one on the 1950s and caused many sleepless nights as non-teens worried about the dangers of rock ‘n’ roll; add aliens and werewolves to the mix and you have a recipe for terror and mayhem. The best film of this lot is “Invasion Of The Body Snatchers” (1956), which can be seen as a parable about many things, including the fear of Communism and apprehensions about the pressures of conformity (our fourth theme), and how we might be sacrificing our souls on the altar of the Cold War. A companion film, “I Married A Monster From Outer Space” (1958) brings the fears of soul possession into the realm of marriage, as a new bride tries to cope with her new husband’s identity being stolen by some pretty strange alien invaders. Despite the wholesome images presented to us by TV shows like “Leave It To Beaver” and “Father Knows Best,” the Fifties was in reality a breeding ground for marital infidelity and uncertainty.

Our fifth theme reflects the struggle for civil rights that unites the Fifties and the Sixties (decades, after all, are artificial barriers erected by historians who want to make things appear neat and tidy for their rather unimaginative textbooks). Although many will not agree, “The Creature From The Black Lagoon” (1954) is at heart a film about prejudice and our inability to accept those who are different. “The Shape of Water” examines this theme in a much deeper way and develops a very touching love story that moves the Creature into the 21st century.

It is perhaps appropriate that the Fifties come to an end with Alfred Hitchcock’s “Psycho” (1960), a movie that relocates the monster from the world outside to the world inside our heads, marking a new direction for horror that leads into our Age of the Selfie. Lots to think about, and perhaps the best place to end this week’s meditation on popular culture. See you next week. In the meantime, don’t forget to duck and cover.