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at The Abingdon Market Pavilion
2018
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JULY 19
SAM LEWIS
May 17th, 2018
7- 9:30pm
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Steel Magnolias
Written by Robert Harling
BEGINS MAY 31
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Founder: Bill Williams

Let’s Get Social!
Full 7-Event Rodeo
Friday and Saturday May 25 & 26

It's been a while since a full-blown rodeo has visited the Tri Cities. The crew at Holston River Brewing Co. has been working to convert part of their Thunder Mountain Campground into a professional rodeo venue complete with bleachers, food & beverage venues and even the finals of their month-long Karaoke contest. Gates open each evening at 6:30 with the Karaoke playoffs at 7:30 and the rodeo itself at 8:00.

Kids 12 & under can get a free ticket at any of these sponsors who are making this event happen. 93.9, WMEV, Country is handling the radio. The other sponsors are Southern Co-op, Lee Bank, Stellar Studios, Sunbelt Rentals of Blountville, Century 21 - Garrett Addington, Appalachian Heritage Distillery and Admiral Propane.

The fun doesn't stop when the rodeo is over either. Each night there is a Cowboy/Cowgirl After Rodeo Dance. On Friday night Coal Creek will be playing in the brewery at 10:30. At press time they were still booking the Saturday night band but, knowing them, it will be a good one.

Never been to a rodeo? Now is your chance! Great family fun, a whole lot of excitement and, naturally, great refreshments, as is the brewery's reputation. Come on out and see what it's all about for yourself. I'll be the guy in the cowboy hat!

A Rodeo Primer
What are these seven events, who participates and how do they work. Here is what you need to know:

**Bull Riding**: The world’s most dangerous sport. It is for men, and to qualify for judging you need to stay on the bull for 8 seconds.

**Calf Roping**: Very popular on TV, the horse and calf come out of separate gates at the same time. This event is for men and is timed.

**Saddle Bronc Riding**: We’re all familiar with the bucking broncos trying to throw their rider off. This event is for men and is like bull riding – to be judged you must stay on for 8 seconds.

**Team Roping**: As the name implies, there are two-person teams doing the roping. Event is open to men and women and is a timed event.

**Cowgirl Barrel Racing**: Obviously for the women, this fast-paced event is quite exciting and uses the full arena for the competition. It is a timed event.

**Breakaway Roping**: A women's event, this differs from calf roping because as soon as the cowgirl gets the rope set it is designed to breakaway. A timed event.

**Bareback Riding**: An even tougher version of saddle bronc riding, the cowboy only has a rope to hold onto – no saddle! Another event where the guy must stay on for 8 seconds to be eligible for judging.

You just might come away with a new favorite rodeo event. Personally, I think the cowgirls doing the barrel racing looks to be a really fun event for the spectators.
Calling All Mountain Bikers

May is National Bike Month, and Tennessee’s beautiful scenic landscapes include trails and parks so you can get out there and celebrate. Whether you’re a beginner or a more advanced rider, check out our list of four incredible mountain biking destinations across the state.

https://www.tnvacation.com/articles/4-beautiful-places-mountain-bike-tennessee

The Virginia Highlands Festival in partnership with the Abingdon Arts Depot and the William King Museum of Art announces their third annual plein air paint-out and pop-up gallery to provide an opportunity for local artists to show their work, highlight all that downtown Abingdon has to offer, and build support for the Festival’s annual art prizes.

“Abingdon is synonymous with art, rich with both high quality artists and informed collectors,” said Christine Berg, chair of this year’s event. “Paint the Town brings art to our sidewalks, our parks, even our front porches.”

Becky Caldwell, Festival Executive Director, calls the event a “love letter” to the town of Abingdon. “Abingdon gifts us with a beautiful town, people, and life to capture. In return the artists gift us with their perspective and capture a moment in time with an emotional poignancy you can only get from the hand of an artist.”

Betsy White, WKMA Executive Director, says, “William King Museum of Art is delighted to partner once again with the Virginia Highlands Festival on this project. It brings together artists and art lovers in our community in a unique way and celebrates the architectural history and natural beauty of Abingdon.”

Susan Yates, Director of the Arts Depot, said “The Arts Depot and its member artists are excited to participate in the ‘Paint the Town’ plein air event. What a fun way to celebrate our creative community and talented artists.”

New this year is a plein air painting workshop taught by artist Kyle Buckland, a $500 cash first prize (as judged by Buckland), and an extended partnership with WKMA to show the top 3 works created that day in the summer during the Festival. Funds raised at this year’s event help support the Festival’s Juried Fine Art, Youth Art, and Photography prizes.

Timeline of events on Saturday, May 19th:

3 – 4:30 PM Kyle Buckland plein air demo: Everyone is invited to join artist Kyle Buckland for a free plein air painting lecture/demonstration in front of the William King Museum of Art. The painting he creates will be raffled off at the pop-up gallery just two hours later.

5 – 7 PM Pop-up Gallery and Cocktail Party: Friends, fans, and collectors are invited to attend this free reception to honor our artists and see what they created earlier in the day. Collectors may choose to purchase artwork for sale by registered artists, with some of the proceeds going to fund the Festival’s many summer art prizes. Additionally, Kyle Buckland’s painting created that day will be raffled ($5 per ticket) to one lucky winner. 50% of all art sales and raffle ticket sales will help fund the Festival’s art prizes this summer. The other 50% goes directly to the artists to support their work.

Guests at the party will be entertained by Asheville band, One Leg Up, as they perform a vibrant mixture of upbeat Gypsy Jazz, Latin, Swing and original jazz compositions.

Paint the Town is sponsored, in part, by Laurel Springs Studio, the Virginia Commission for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Town of Abingdon, and the Virginia Tourism Corporation. The 70th annual Virginia Highlands Festival takes place July 27-August 5. The Juried Fine Art competition and gallery will be housed at the Arts Depot. The Youth Art and Photography competitions and galleries will be at the William King Museum of Art.
Tim Hawkins makes a return to the stage at the Niswonger Performing Arts Center on Saturday, May 19 at 7:30 p.m.
Since giving up his job as a grocery truck driver in 2002, Tim Hawkins has been establishing himself as one of the most in-demand comedians in the country. With 300,000,000 video views online and over 100 sold-out concerts every year, his Jackwagon Crew has grown into a revolution of multi-generational proportions. But don’t take it from us.
Tim’s gut-busting comedy show entertains the entire family while doubling down on the funny, a daunting task in an age where the obscene has become routine. His act is 1 part gifted + 2 parts twisted, the only certainty being his on-the-nose observations that expose the ridiculousness of daily life while marveling in its hilarity. The perils of marriage, homeschooling, and growing up in the Midwest may not exemplify the rock star life, but they make for really good punchlines.
Sure he’s funny, but fans are often even more amazed at his singing voice and guitar chops. Tim’s hilarious music videos have brought him viral YouTube fame with fan favorites including The Chick-fil-A Song, Yoga Pants, Aging Rockers, Things You Don’t Say to Your Wife, Cletus Take the Reel, A Homeschool Family, and The Government Can. Still, Tim is no rock star: “It’s not like I have a choice. Comedy is my only life skill.” Tim reminds us that for life’s many difficulties, laughter is always the best medicine – when the medication runs out. He just released his 9th comedy DVD, “Just About Enough”. Tim lives in Missouri with his wife and four crud muffins.

Don’t miss the comedy of Tim Hawkins, Saturday, May 19th at 7:30 p.m. 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.
The lady and I were out having dinner the other night. We hadn’t had a proper date night in far too long, our lives have been quite busy lately. I also owed her massive apologies for what went down during our last game of “Mario Kart,” which I hoped to do by taking her out for a meal. We were at a nice restaurant enjoying our meal when I suddenly heard it playing faintly in the background. At first I ignored it. I chose to not pay attention to it as it was playing so softly I wasn’t sure I was actually hearing what I thought I was hearing.

But then it got louder and my fears were confirmed. The radio in the restaurant was playing “Wagon Wheel” and to make things worse it was the version recorded by Hootie. The lady picked up on what was happening, she reached out, held my hand, and said: “Babe, it’s OK.” Just about that time is when the song reached the “Johnson City, Tennessee” part and people in the restaurant went “WOOOO!”

You see, I don’t like the song “Wagon Wheel.” It’s not just that everyone in the area screams when they sing “Johnson City, Tennessee”(WOOOO!) or the fact that the song is geographically incorrect (heading WEST to Johnson City, Tennessee (WOOOO!)? West?). It’s not even the fact that Hootie up and went and did his own version of it. Nope, my friends, you see, the fact is—“Wagon Wheel” broke up my marriage.

The year was 2005. I was but a young and carefree lad, she was a smart and sophisticated lass. We married in the spring of 2007, and all was warm, sunny, and bright. We had a little house and used to have friends over for cookouts and nights of Scrabble. We made puns, we made cakes, we had a lovely basement we wanted to finish off into a den. Then, one day, the song “Wagon Wheel” entered our lives. It was around the time it began to get played around here—a lot.

I couldn’t help but notice the song was name-checking our area and that caused many a jovial reaction from those participants listening to it in a public drinking house. “WOOOO!” they would exclaim. “Oh, I see the song mentions our fair town, how nice” I would say. Yet every time my wife and I would visit a public house, we would hear the song over and over and over. “Johnson City, Tennessee!” (WOOOO!) So perhaps I lied a bit and said my consternation towards the song has nothing to do with its geographical errors—but it does, it has everything to do it with. My wife soon took up a love for the song, which was fine, until the night terrors began. I would lie awake at night, sweating, looking at the ceiling of our bedroom in the dark, focusing on one thing. “You can’t go West from the Cumberland Gap to Johnson City, Tennessee!”(WOOOO!)

This error in the song vexed me so that I turned our unfinished basement not into a den, but into a Wagon Wheel Crisis Command Center. There was a cork board with many strings and maps trying to tie the logic together. I had a series of computers that looked like they came from the set of “The Time Tunnel” working to process it all. But my pride and joy of the Command Center was my 1-800 hotline for other people who I knew must be as vexed as I was. If anyone needed to talk to someone about their feelings towards the song and its geographical sins, all they had to do was dial 1-800-WHY-WEEL. My wife wasn’t amused or pleased by this turn of events. We started to drift apart. She didn’t’ like that our games of Scrabble now featured me only playing words that were in the song “Wagon Wheel.” We lasted for a few years more, but she left me alone with my Command Center. I sold off the hotline and the computers. I kept the cork board—I found a dandy way to repurpose it thanks to Pinterest. In time I too moved on, forgave myself for falling into the siren-like call of “Wagon Wheel.” The lady in my life right now is very kind and understanding of this time in my life. Now when the song comes on, much like it did when we were out having dinner, she just holds my hand and makes sure that I stay in the moment and let the feelings pass. I’ve gone from blank stares out into space to only mildly twitching when they reach the “Johnson City, Tennessee”(WOOOO!) part. Life, uh, finds a way. Right? See you next week.
Former Dr. Who David Tennant stars in the new horror/thriller "Bad Samaritan", and his role as Cale Erendreich could not be further from the beloved Who. Tennant stars a billionaire who kidnaps people and tortures them to "whip them into shape." The film also stars Robert Sheehan ("Geostorm") as Sean Falco, a restaurant valet who burglarizes houses on the side with his friend Derek (Carlito Olivero).

The two part-time burglars have quite the gig going by using their job as valets to access the homes of restaurant patrons. One night when at work, Sean decides to use the car of the rich Erendreich in order to gain access to his home and see why goodies he can steal. However, when Sean enters the billionaire's home he shockingly discovers a woman being held hostage, and attempts to devise a plan to help her escape. Sean's efforts do not go exactly as planned and he is forced to involve the police and confesses his crime in order to help save the hostage.

As is typical with this genre of film, the bad guy fools the police and eventually learns the identity of the person trying to bring him down. Erendreich is not a villain to trifle with as he has been up to his disgusting deeds for years, and thanks to his wealth and cleverness, has been able to elude the police. Erendreich also goes on the defense after he learns Sean has now involved the FBI. Erendreich begins his efforts to take down Sean through his family, girlfriend and friend Derek. Even though Sean is being attacked from all sides, he refuses to give up his efforts to free the hostage (Kerry Condon) and catch the sadistic billionaire. The film eventually ends with a thrilling showdown between Erendreich and Sean in a remote area of Oregon, the film's location. The performances in this film were superb, and I was amazed by the performance of the Scottish Tennant, who is best know for heroic roles. His character is smooth, yet deadly, and you never know when he will strike. Tennant is able to hide his Scottish accent with ease, and never sounds like he is trying too hard with his American accent. Co-star Sheehan is also effective in his role of the repentant burglar, and you can really feel his sincerity and determination to bring justice to the vile Erendreich.

Director Dean Devlin ("The Librarians") does a masterful job in keeping us on the edge of our seats, and keeps the story moving at a brisk pace with a 107 minute running time. The film doesn't leave me with the desire to use a valet anytime soon, and if you are in said profession, don't blame me for my reluctance. "Bad Samaritan" is a film that features plenty of thrills and chills, while providing a break from all the summer, and sometimes exhaustive, blockbusters playing in theaters. I rate this film high based on the performances of the featured actors.

(Rated R)
MCU IN REVIEW

Avengers: Infinity War has been out less than three full weeks, and yet it continues to break records across the world. While we are writing this from last week, it undoubtedly continued to dominate the box office over the weekend as it opened for the first time in China, the second-biggest market for Hollywood films outside the US. Just a few of the amazing records the Avengers’ third team-up event has garnered include: largest domestic opening weekend, beating Star Wars: The Force Awakens’ previous $247.9 million haul as it raked in $257 million from loyal fans and casual moviegoers alike, largest worldwide box-office opening week at $640.5 million (remember, this doesn’t even include China!), and fastest film in history to make $1 billion, scoring that insane amount in only eleven days!

It’s been a long time since we’ve seen this level of hype for a film, probably the last time being when The Force Awakens dropped the new Star Wars universe on us back in 2015. Unlike some past MCU movies, it’s not just our nerdy friends talking about watching it at what is probably the most daring superhero film, or they want fifty random questions answered since they know we are the comic book geeks. Random strangers see one of our Avengers shirts and ask rather we think they should see the movie and what we thought about it. We always tell them what we are going to tell you now if you somehow have not seen it… get to a theater now!

Perhaps you’ve yet to see a Marvel film though. If you have, you might remember watching the first Avengers film six years ago or the more recent Spider-Man: Homecoming, but don’t remember much about them. Can you still watch and enjoy this movie? That’s a complicated question. This movie is built on eighteen movies that have come before it, beginning with The Iron Man way back in 2008. Infinity War is the start of a culmination event, bringing dozens of storylines introduced across the network of MCU films together for the final showdown with Thanos. Sure, you can still enjoy it, but you might miss out on the sheer fun of seeing the Avengers interact with the Guardians of the Galaxy for the first time. When a big reveal comes, you might wonder why half the theater screams in excitement… should you know that character? Will the inevitable deaths you’ve probably heard about hit you in the feels if you’ve just been introduced to the unlucky victims?

It’s time to take a trip down memory road, with a fast-paced review of the films which compose the Marvel Cinematic Universe. If you want to watch all the films, you’ll need to take a long weekend. If you want to include all the tie-in TV shows and short films as well, you’d better request a week of vacation, as it adds up to more than seven days of comic book awesomeness.

As already mentioned, Iron Man kickstarted the MCU over a decade ago. Robert Downey Jr. credits this role with reinventing his career, and it cemented Tony Stark’s place as the face of Marvel. We forgot how small a film this was until we recently watched it on our own pre-Infinity War marathon. Despite its restrained scope, this is without a doubt one of the best movies Marvel Studios has produced. Iron Man is introduced to the world after Tony, a weapons manufacturer and arms dealer, is kidnapped by a terrorist organization. Using only metal scraps, the man with the glowing heart builds an iron suit to escape but returns home to find only more trouble waiting for him. This film started the precedent of after credit scenes, as Nick Fury showed up to tease us about a small project called the Avengers Initiative.

Although the next film was released just months later in the summer of 2008, it actually takes place two years in the future alongside the next two MCU releases. The Incredible Hulk is the only film in the bunch that can be considered a disappointment when it comes to the box office. Although many fans dislike it due to the fact that Edward Norton played the troubled Bruce Banner, it’s no way a bad film and is a personal guilty pleasure of Daniel’s. Dr. Banner is on the run from himself and the U.S. government after an experiment gone wrong that causes him to become big, mean, and green. Not only does the film have an amazing chase sequence, but it also features Liv Tyler in the role of Betty Ross, Dr. Banner’s accomplice and girlfriend.

Iron Man 2 came about in 2010, and while it served to really lay much of the groundwork for the MCU’s future, it undoubtedly suffers for it. Probably the worst film in the series, it tries to juggle too much instead of focusing on telling a good story. Iron Man is back as he must stop a villain created from his father’s past, while also dealing with his own mortality. We are first introduced to War Machine, Tony’s best friend and Air Force pilot. James Rhodes who steals (or, um, commandeers) one of Tony’s suits when he is seen as too reckless and careless. We also get our first look at Scarlet Johansson’s Black Widow, who becomes a major player in future films.

Thor was the first film to introduce the more mystical side of the Marvel universe. While previous films all revolved around science, it delved into the otherworldly dimension of Norse mythology. Thor, the son of Odin and crown prince of Asgard, is banished to Earth as punishment for nearly starting a war with a neighboring realm. He must prove himself worthy if he is ever to return home or brandish the power of his mighty hammer known as Mjolnir. He better do so in haste, as his deceptive brother Loki throws a plot into action that not only puts those on earth at risk but the fate of an entire people. Some people say this film is also one of the weakest, but we think it’s more of a matter of size. Marvel Studios was still a rather small production company and the MCU was growing as well. Thor doesn’t have the huge scope that more recent films have, but that doesn’t make it any less enjoyable.

Finally, we come to the last film before the big team up, Captain America: The First Avenger. Like Thor, it came out in 2011 and helped set up the events that would lead into the final film of Phase 1. Set during the events of World War II, we follow the story of Steve Rogers, a sickly young man from New York who is determined to join the U.S. Army. Fate leads to him becoming the one and only Captain America, a super soldier who is instrumental in stopping Hydra. The scientist division of Germany’s forces, it is led by a rival super soldier known as the Red Skull. They’ve discovered a dangerous macguffin called the Tesseract that has the power to turn the tide of war in favor of the Axis Powers. This film is essential in our pre-Infinity War lineup, as both Captain America and the Tesseract become two of the most important parts of the MCU. We are also introduced to Bucky Barnes, Cap’s wartime best friend who becomes a major player further down the line. Even if it didn’t have these important connections, The First Avenger is just a fun, pulp-inspired action movie that feels like an Indiana Jones adventure.

Our final film we’ll review this week is Marvel’s The Avengers. Just like today, this film was on everybody’s mind when it broke box office records and film industry standards back in 2012. Never before had a lineup of films led to such a big crossover event in the history of cinema. Seeing the likes of Iron Man, Captain America, Thor, Hulk, Black Widow, and Hawkeye join forces to defeat Loki’s evil scheme to use the Tesseract was something comic fans had never dreamed was possible. It still stands today as the fifth-highest grossing film of all time, bringing in $1.5 billion dollars (it was as of this writing at least, unless Infinity War kicked it off that coveted throne). This film is a must see as it redefined the superhero genre and what Hollywood films were allowed to do. It’s also one of the best stories in the MCU.

We’ll be back next time to cover Phase 2 and beyond of our MCU marathon. Go watch these films and remember, Black Panther is now available to own everywhere on Blu-Ray and DVD!
The Greene County Partnership’s 24th Annual Iris Festival will draw thousands of visitors to the streets of downtown Greeneville Saturday and Sunday, May 19-20, when it features two entertainment stages, a food court, a beauty pageant, “Sundown on Depot” Car Show, the Evergreen Woodcarvers, and artists, craftsmen, food vendors and merchants from numerous states selling their wares.

Hours of the festival will be Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m.

Arts and crafts booths with be positioned along College, Depot and Academy streets with a wide variety of items for purchase, including several types of jewelry, wood crafts, metal art, Christmas items, teak furniture, annual and perennial plants, goats milk products, pottery, exotic air plants, muscadine juice, hand-made clothing, iris rhizomes and other types of plants, spices, herbs, teas, hot sauces, jellies, soups and dips.

The Merchants’ Market will feature a varied selection of products from Thirty-One items, home improvement, boutique clothing, jewelry, etc.

Food vendors will be filling the festival food court with enticing aromas to tempt each and every visitor. Delicacies that will be available include grilled sandwiches, kettle corn, bloomin’ onions, fried green tomatoes, funnel cakes, hot fudge cakes, gyro wraps, fried candy bars, bratwurst, fried pickles, roasted corn on the cob, baked potatoes, bar-b-que, along with other traditional festival treats.

Two stages will provide singing and dancing entertainment non-stop during the festival. Entertainers on the singing stage will perform a variety of music, including country, bluegrass, rock, pop and gospel, while the dance stage, will feature all kinds of dance styles, from clogging to line dancing. Sponsors for entertainment include Rodefer Moss, ServPro, Consumer Credit Union, First Tennessee Bank, and McInturff, Milligan & Brooks.

The 3rd Annual “Sundown on Depot,” car show featuring cars, trucks and bikes, will take place Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on West Depot. Organizers of the show have pledged all proceeds from the event to Holston United Methodist Home for Children. Registration for cars, trucks and bikes in the show is $10 and additional information is available by calling Bill Collins (423-552-8376) or Mike Boles (423-638-4558).

The Depot Street Farmers’ Market will also be offering locally-grown foods to visitors at the festival and will be located in the gravel lot across from the food bank on Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon.

Other venues to draw visitors will include the Evergreen Woodcarvers Competition and Sale which will take place in the First Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall Saturday and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. and the Miss Iris Festival Pageant at the Capitol Theatre Saturday beginning at noon, featuring eight different age categories ranging from 0-11 months to 16 years old and older. Entry forms for the contest are available at the Partnership office. Admission to the pageant will be $5 per person.

The Greeneville-Greene County Library Book Sale will be held Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 406 North Irish Street.

A special shuttle service will be provided both days of the festival. Visitors may park at Greeneville High School Main Lot, First Baptist Church off Irish Street or Towne Square Shopping Center and the tour bus will make rounds at 15-minute intervals during the festival hours. There will be no charge to use the service. Those using the shuttle will be dropped off and picked up at the Greeneville Light and Power System Building.

Major sponsors for the festival are Parker Hannifin, Eastman Credit Union, The Greeneville Sun, and Radio Greeneville.

To apply for a booth space or obtain more information on the various aspects of the festival, call the Partnership at 423-638-4111 or email gcp@greenecop.com.
Locally Owned for 36 Years

Those who have leg cramps have described them as debilitating and especially aggravating when sleep is disrupted. Painful muscle cramps/spasms can be the result of dehydration, mineral deficiencies (magnesium and potassium) and/or the use of certain medications (diuretics, statins or steroids).

An amazing, time-tested Amish remedy called “Stops Leg & Foot Cramps” works promptly on cramps and spasms, including not only those in your legs and feet, but in your hands, back, thighs and/or arms, as well. Taken regularly or even after cramps begin, this remedy effectively relieves associated pain.

Discovered in the 1880’s, this Amish remedy is still made today the original old-fashioned way by Caleb Treeze Organic Farm. A carefully-balanced mix of organic unfiltered raw apple cider vinegar with ginger and garlic juice, it’s taken as a capful diluted in water or can be rubbed directly on the cramp. Giving relief in roughly a minute, it can help prevent muscle cramps throughout the night.

As always, we guarantee your satisfaction.

Locally Owned for 36 Years

LampLight Theatre will present an iconic, production of Biblical proportions! With just a sling and a harp, David was ushered onto a throne, but not without being tried and tested. David, the worshipful warrior, had to overcome the giant hatred of his sometimes monstrous enemies and the failings of his own flesh.

Meet the prophets, the women, the warriors, and the worshippers who shift David’s balance as he grapples to maintain his throne. This dramatic portrayal unveils David’s struggle during his most vulnerable moments, the people who blessed and tested him, and the battles we can all win by surrendering to God’s will. David’s story is powerful and convicting, as it exposes the impact of sin and the holiness of God on the heart of a man.

Join us for Lamplight Theatre’s premier of David: The Shepherd King, an intimate look into the life of a man after God’s own heart. Performances will be held May 18 - 20, 25 - 27 and June 1 - 3 show times are 7:00 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays with additional matinee performances on Saturdays at 2:00 p.m. and Sundays at 3:00 p.m. Doors will open one hour prior to performances. This show is rated PG-13, due to the content of David’s life story.

Treat your date, family, or church group to Dinner before the performance! A delicious catered meal will be offered May 26th. Meals will be served at The Emporium Banquet Hall (Next door to theatre). The cost is $30 per Adult / $17 per Student (ages 4-12) / Children FREE (3 & Under). Advanced reservations are required for dinner.

(Prices include ticket to the show.) Show Only: Admission is a suggested donation of $10 Adults, $5 Students, and FREE for children 5 and under. Doors will open one hour prior. For reservations and more information, please contact the LampLight box office at 423-343-1766, Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., or visit www.LampLightTheatre.com.

See the Bible lift off of its pages and onto the LampLight stage in David: The Shepherd King, the epic Biblical story of a shepherd boy, called by God to be the King over His chosen flock, the nation of Israel. This month,

Health Matters

by Patsy Meridith, C.N.C.

Owner of Natural Foods Market

Those who have leg cramps have described them as debilitating and especially aggravating when sleep is disrupted. Painful muscle cramps/spasms can be the result of dehydration, mineral deficiencies (magnesium and potassium) and/or the use of certain medications (diuretics, statins or steroids).

An amazing, time-tested Amish remedy called “Stops Leg & Foot Cramps” works promptly on cramps and spasms, including not only those in your legs and feet, but in your hands, back, thighs and/or arms, as well. Taken regularly or even after cramps begin, this remedy effectively relieves associated pain.

Discovered in the 1880’s, this Amish remedy is still made today the original old-fashioned way by Caleb Treeze Organic Farm. A carefully-balanced mix of organic unfiltered raw apple cider vinegar with ginger and garlic juice, it's taken as a capful diluted in water or can be rubbed directly on the cramp. Giving relief in roughly a minute, it can help prevent muscle cramps throughout the night.

As always, we guarantee your satisfaction.
Celebrating 19 years in Historic Downtown, Border Bash—Bristol’s premier summer concert series—is back for another amazing season starting May 18, 2018! Hosted by Believe in Bristol and the Cities of Bristol, Virginia and Tennessee, Border Bash is about fun, family, great music, and creating memories to last a lifetime.

“Border Bash is a tradition that showcases everything that makes Downtown Bristol special, and that includes great live music,” said Maggie Bishop, Executive Director of Believe in Bristol. “Bristol’s downtown is definitely a hub for a wide variety of food, unique shopping, community events, and an all-around great place to come together with friends and family. This year Border Bash will introduce audiences to a whole new roster of talented, emerging acts as well as a few familiar favorites.”

The Border Bash line-up for 2018 is:
May 18 – Piedmont / State Street Intersection
  7:00 pm, A Great Disaster
  8:30 pm, Holy Ghost Tent Revival

June 1 – Downtown Center / 800 Block of State Street
  7:00 pm, Sulpher Springs String Dippers
  8:30 pm, Appalachian Trail Bluegrass

June 15 – 400 / 500 Blocks of State Street
  7:00 pm, JP Parsons & The American Bandwagon
  8:30 pm, Beth Snapp

July 4 – Partnership with Celebrate Bristol in Cumberland Square Park
  7:00 pm, Bill and the Belles
  8:30 pm, Teen Spirit

July 20 – Downtown Center / 800 Block of State Street
  7:00 pm, Ancient Cities
  8:30 pm, Justin Fedor & Frank Bronson

August 3 – Piedmont / State Street Intersection
  7:00 pm, Thrift Store Cowboys
  8:30 pm, Guy Marshall

Border Bash takes place on State Street in Historic Downtown Bristol. Children’s activities and vendors begin at 6:30 PM and live music will kick off at 7:00 PM. Border Bash is hosted by Believe in Bristol and the Cities of Bristol, TN & VA. Border Bash would not be possible without our community sponsors. Our sponsors in 2018 include The Antique Automobile Club of America – Appalachian Region, Bank of America, Bank of Tennessee, Birthplace of Country Music, Blackbird Bakery, Bristol Herald Courier, Camellia Digital, Coca-Cola Bottling Company, Anne & Ben Cowan, Discover Bristol, Express AV Productions, John & Brenda Fincher, Highlands Realty – Bristol Branch, Anna Morgan, Tom and Barbara Smith/ Merrill Lynch, Stateline Bar & Grille, Tri-Cities Escape Game, Tri-City Tent and Event, Walling Distributing Dr. & Mrs. Zaidi and media sponsors Bristol Herald Courier, WBCM Radio Bristol, WCYB-5, and WXBO 96.9 FM.
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.

**Spotlight**

- **TUESDAY - May 15**
  - Downtown Country
    - Jiggy Ray’s Pizzeria
  - Stemwinder
    - Rock’s Wood Fired Pizza & Grill
  - Rusty Steel
    - Wild Wing Cafe
  - Open Mic
    - The Willow Tree Coffeehouse & Music Room
  - Open Bluegrass Jam
    - Gypsy Circus Cider Company
  - HB Beverly
    - Rock’s Wood Fired Pizza & Grill

- **WEDNESDAY - May 16**
  - Moose “Trainwreck” Roberts w/ Adam Bolt & Momma Molasses
    - The Willow Tree Coffeehouse & Music Room
  - Jam w/ The Diamonds
    - Wellington’s Restaurant
  - Seckond Chaynce
    - at Bristol VFW
  - Wolf Hills Jazz
    - Blackbird Bakery
  - Hip Gypsy
    - Woodstone Deli
  - JP Parsons
    - Sleepy Owl Brewery
  - Donny and the Dry Heavers
    - Model City Tap House
  - Mark Larkins
    - Rock’s Wood Fired Pizza & Grill

- **THURSDAY - May 17**
  - Cash Revisited
    - at Bristol VFW
  - Anthony Wayne
    - Gypsy Circus Cider Company
  - Johnny Pierce, The Nightlife Band
    - Johnson City Senior Center
  - Asylum Suite
    - Holston River Brewing Company
  - Hip Gypsy
    - Woodstone Deli
  - Momma Molasses
    - Yee Haw Brewing Company

- **FRIDAY - May 18**
  - Area 52
    - CJ’s Sports Bar
  - Lightnin’ Charlie & The Upsetters
    - Down Home
  - Robby Heckt & Caroline Spence
    - The Willow Tree Coffeehouse & Music Room
  - Dobyns Bennett Steel Drum Band
    - High Voltage
  - Grand Ole Uproar
    - at Country Club Bar & Grill
  - Southern Rebellion
    - Marker ‘2’ Grille
  - Peterson Perkins Quintet
    - Founders After 5
  - Rory Kelly, The Nightlife Band
    - Johnson City Senior Center
  - Asylum Suite
    - Holston River Brewing Company
  - Hip Gypsy
    - Woodstone Deli
  - Momma Molasses
    - Yee Haw Brewing Company

- **SATURDAY - May 19**
  - The Nouveaux Honkies
    - Down Home
  - Jet Black Audio
    - Woodstone Deli
  - Troy Breslow
    - Yee Haw Brewing Company
  - Stone Creek Four
    - Kingsport Eagles
  - Broad Street Band
    - Johnson City Moose Lodge
  - Borderline Band
    - Quaker Steak & Lube
  - Nightshift Band
    - Show Palace
  - Appalachia Rising
    - Carter Family Fold
  - Tim Hawkins
    -尼斯wonger Performing Arts Center
  - 7 Mile Mushroom
    - Sleepy Owl Brewery
  - Westwend
    - Gypsy Circus Cider Company
  - Bella Raye
    - The Pinnacle
  - James Meadows
    - at Bristol VFW
  - Loose Leaves
    - Willow Tree
  - Rusty Steel & Quarter Bounce
    - Holston River Brewing Company
  - Borderline
    - Quaker Steak & Lube
  - Under The Table Band
    - Marker “2” Grille
  - Southern 76
    - David Thompson’s Produce

- **SUNDAY - May 20**
  - Ivy Road
    - at Marker “2” Grille
Karaoke

TUESDAY
Karaoke w/ Crossroads & Josh Blevins at Dawg House Tavern
Karaoke at Zachary’s Steakhouse
Family Night Karaoke at CJ’s Sports Bar
Karaoke at Numan’s - Johnson City TN

WEDNESDAY
Karaoke w/ Southern Sounds Karaoke at American Legion 8pm
Michael’s Krazy Karaoke at Marx the Spot
Karaoke at CJ’s Sports Bar
Karaoke w/ Absolute Entertainment at Smokey Bones - Johnson City TN
Turn the Page Karaoke at VFW Post 2108 - Johnson City TN
Karaoke w/DJ Brad (Open Mic) at Holston River Brewing - Bristol, TN

THURSDAY
Karaoke w/ Absolute Entertainment at Macado’s - Kingsport
Get Wylde Entertainment Karaoke at Painter Creek
Karaoke at Zachary’s Steakhouse
Michael’s Krazy Karaoke at Stateline Bar & Grill
Karaoke at CJ’s Sports Bar
Karaoke w/ DJ Marques Top Shelf Entertainment at Wild Wing Cafe JC
Karaoke at Numan’s - Johnson City TN
Karaoke w/ Absolute Entertainment at New Beginning’s
Karaoke at Jiggy Rays Pizzaria

FRIDAY
Karaoke w/ Southern Sounds Karaoke at Sportsman’s Bar & Grill 9pm
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 TN
Karaoke w/ Absolute Entertainment at Moe’s Original BBQ
Karaoke w/ Toddzilla at Sportsmans Pub
Karaoke at Elizabethton VFW - Elizabethton TN
Karaoke w/ DJ Marquez & Top Shelf Entertainment at Holiday Inn (Exit 7) - Bristol VA
Karaoke at Numan’s - Johnson City TN

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 TN
Karaoke w/ Absolute Entertainment at Macado’s - Kingsport
Karaoke at Numan’s - Johnson City TN
Everyone sees the brilliant “star” after sunset but few realize what a crazy place it is: Earth’s evil twin planet Venus.

Venus, the second planet from the Sun, is closest in size, but she’s a real b*tch! What makes her beautiful—a global cocoon of clouds—also makes her the hellish sibling in our planetary family. Reflecting more than 75 per cent of the sunlight that hits her, Venus’ clouds may look pure and innocent, but they are made up of deadly carbon dioxide.

That envelope of deadly gas is up to 40 miles thick in four layers, the upper two whipping around at speeds of 100 to 250 miles per hour. The third layer is tamer and rains down corrosive sulfuric acid. However, that toxic rain never reaches the surface, as it evaporates in the lower atmosphere from the intense 900-degree heat caused by the runaway greenhouse effect of the cloud system.

Talk about global warming...everywhere on Venus is hot as hell. Imagine a world where there is no escape from a constant 860-degree F. heat day and night!

What that does after millions of years is create a landscape of soft rocks where an ominous orange glow of sunlight is reflected around the surface by the tent-like clouds. There is no night on Venus, just an eerie glow like earthly twilight.

Seen in earthbound telescopes from 25 million miles away, the clouds of Venus obscure any details, creating a mystery and imagination that has just recently been unraveled. Remarkably like Earth in size and weight, the atmosphere and surface of Venus couldn’t be more different. At 7,520 miles wide, it is just 400 miles less than Earth.

The globe itself is covered with volcanoes, it is incredibly level with no ocean-like depressions and just two continents, Ishtar Terra and Aphrodite Terra, named for the Babylonian and Greek goddesses of love. All the features of Venus have female names.

Everywhere are millions of square miles of scorched plains. Thousands of volcanoes of various types have been discovered, but do they lie dormant, or not? A few are known to erupt as the lava has been seen seething across the planet, creating a Dante’s inferno that smooths the surface.

Curiously, there are about 1,000 craters from meteor impacts, while lava rivers meander between fractures, rifts and global cracks. The landscape has little wind and obviously no water, the main erosion being an atmospheric acid reaction that has flattened most of the surface rocks like alien cow pies.

But the weirdest thing about Venus is the length of its day and year. Would you believe that the time between two sunrises is longer than it takes the planet to orbit the Sun? Venus “day” is longer than its year! While it orbits the Sun every 224 days, the time from sunrise to sunrise is 243 of our days. How’s that possible? Venus rotates backwards...that’s right backwards!

If you can visualize our entire Solar System from billions of miles above Earth’s North Pole, you would see that almost all the planets, their moons and even the Sun all rotate on their axis in a counter-clockwise direction. (All orbits of the planets and most of their moons are also counter-clockwise, or right to left.)

There are two exceptions in this Solar System celestial spin: Venus and Uranus. The giant seventh planet is knocked over on its side and it rolls around the Sun like a wheel.

While Venus orbits the Sun in 243 days (counter-clockwise like the other planets), this red-hot globe rotates extremely slow in a clockwise (left to right) direction. Venus is lucky it isn’t locked in a daily rotation that keeps the same side towards (or away) from the Sun, like most moons that orbit around their parent planets.

All this technical celestial mechanics is important to understanding the dynamics of Venus. After all, scientists didn’t figure out this strange rotational anomaly of Venus until 1996.

In fact, until the 1960s, it was thought plausible that Venus had a surface of lush, jungle-like vegetation with abundant water and new species of live organisms. A near 24-hour day was assumed. What changed all that thinking?

American and Russian space programs practiced their infant rocket and satellite designs on Venus and Mars in the 1960s, justifying the public dollars with the groundbreaking science.

The Soviets really got obsessed with Venus, first thinking they’d find alien life (maybe to convert to Communism?), then sending some of the heartiest spacecraft ever built to land on an alien surface as hot as a blast furnace.

The Russian probes called Venera were highlighted by landers that sent a quick weather report, sniffed the atmosphere, and snapped some impressive photos before the heat fried the electronics and the heavy atmosphere crushed the vehicle like a soda can.

Four successful Venera landers in the 1970s sent back our only images to date of the bizarre Venusian surface. We saw those four alien landscapes years before orbiters visualized the entire, volcanic global mayhem.

NASA sent spacecrafts called Pioneer and Mariner in flybys of the planet in the 1960s and ’70s that revealed a few of Venus’ secrets. But it was the versatile orbiter of the 1990s called Magellan that spent years filling books full of today’s knowledge about Earth’s crazy sister. Magellan, named for the 16th Century, Portuguese navigator, was truly a flagship of NASA’s attempt to perform a long surveillance mission on a planet. Magellan was put in space by Shuttle Atlantis and orbited Venus with powerful, cloud-piercing radar from 1990-94. It was an important prototype for NASA’s interplanetary orbiters: Galileo around Jupiter from 1995-2003; Cassini at Saturn 2004-2017; and several Martian orbiters including currently operating Mars Odyssey and Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter. The European Space Agency had an orbiter called Venus Express from 2006-2014 that filled in the blanks left by Magellan.

What made Venus the way it is? There are plenty of theories. Could Venus be a model of what Earth will look like in a billion years or so? Maybe. It’s a lesson in runaway global warming in the extreme.

Tonight, take a different look at Venus as it lingers high in the early evening sky. It’s not such a bad planet—when seen from Mother Earth.
Celestial events in the skies for the week of May 15-21, 2018, as compiled for The Loafer by Mark D. Marquette.

The Moon starts the week at New phase and ends it at First Quarter, drawing everyone’s eyes skyward, if for just an instant. Playing tag with super-bright Venus in the beginning of the week and ending it above the regal star of Leo the Lion, Regulus. Jupiter rises before sunset and is brilliant gold in the southeast.

Tuesday, May 15
On this 1963 date in space history, NASA launched the sixth and last Mercury mission, Faith 7 with astronaut Gordon Cooper, deceased. Cooper spent 34 hours in space and was the first American to sleep and last American to fly solo in space. Also on this date, Space Shuttle Atlantis was blasted into space in 1997 on the sixth docking mission with Russia’s space station Mir, delivering American Mike Foale for a six month stay.

Wednesday, May 16
Space Shuttle Endeavour was launched on this 2011 date in space history, the next to last mission of the 30-year program. Loaded with extra supplies and hardware like replacement motors, computers, fresh clothes and disposable products, Endeavour is now on display at the California Science Museum, south of Downtown Los Angeles.

Thursday, May 17
Spectacular scene after sunset as the ultra-thin, two-day old Moon is to the left of blazing planet Venus. Tomorrow night it will be higher and easier to see, having moved 12.5 degrees each day eastward. Leo the Lion is beginning to nose down in the west from its high perch overhead, and the Big Dipper is easy to see directly north. After midnight, the Milky Way begins climbing above the eastern horizon.

Friday, May 18
On this 1969 date in space history, Apollo 10 was launched toward the Moon for a full-dress rehearsal of the landing to be attempted by Apollo 11. Three days later, astronauts Gene Cernan and Tom Stafford flew their moonship “Snoopy” to within 10 miles of the target in Mare Tranquility. Orbiting the Moon alone and driving the Command Module nicknamed “Charlie Brown” was John Young, another Gemini veteran. Young walked on the Moon on Apollo 16, and Cernan was the last man on the Moon with Apollo 17. They have both died, and Stafford, 87, is among 12 alive of the 24 men who orbited the Moon from 1968-72.

Saturday, May 19
Two Space Shuttles were launched on this date: Endeavour in 1996 and Atlantis in 2000. The six astronauts on Endeavour spent 10 days in Spacehab in the cargo bay doing experiments on commercial applications. Atlantis (with a new computerized “glass cockpit”) and seven astronauts docked at the International Space Station with lots of construction supplies like batteries, handrails, docking mechanisms and miles of electrical cables.

Sunday, May 20
The Big Dipper is pouring its celestial contents over the north horizon, pointing to the North Pole star Polaris. It’s at the end of the handle of the Little Dipper—both dippers being star “asterisms” of the much larger constellations of Ursa Major and Ursa Minor, the big and little bears.

Monday, May 21
Corralling those bears around the night sky is an ancient herdsman named Bootes. Follow the handle of the Big Dipper to the bright star, Arcturus, which anchors the base of Bootes—which looks like a giant ice cream cone or flying kite. Continue that arc from Arcturus to the white star, Spica, in Virgo. The old astronomy axiom: “Follow the Big Dipper’s handle, arc to Arcturus and speed on to Spica!”
THINGS TO DO

Washington County (TN)
Friends of the Library Spring Book Sale
May 18-19

Book lovers of all ages are invited to come to the Washington County Friends of the Library (FOL) Book Sale scheduled for Friday and Saturday, May 18 and 19. The sale will be held at the Gray Community Chest Building, 113 Gray Rutian Drive (next to the Gray Volunteer Fire Dept., below the Appalachian Fairgrounds).

Hours will be Friday from 9 to 6, and Saturday, from 9 to 2.

Items for sale will include adult and children’s books, audiobooks, DVDS, music CDs, textbooks, magazines, etc.

Proceeds from the sale will be used to provide funding for programs, services, and items outside the regular budget of the libraries at Gray and Jonesborough.

For more information, call the Gray Library at (423) 477-1550.

Birding Kingsport

Birding Kingsport, a club formed to connect area birders with all things birds, will meet Tuesday, May 22, 2018 at Toy F. Reid Eastman Employee Center, 400 S. Wilcox Drive, Kingsport, at 7:00 p.m. Belinda Bridwell, well-known area birder and photographer, will present the program ‘Florida is for the Birds!’ a delightful and informative program of interest to both birders and photographers. For more information see birdingkingsport.org

Chucky Day to be Celebrated in Jonesborough

The Town of Jonesborough welcomes the residents of the Chucky Community to Jonesborough for Chucky Day on Saturday, May 19th at 11am at the Chucky Depot at Jonesborough, located at 109 Second Avenue.

The Chucky Depot’s original home was in Chucky, TN, approximately 15 miles from its current location in Jonesborough. The depot was built in 1906 to replace the original depot that burned in 1905. It consisted of two public waiting rooms, a ticket office and warehouse.

For more information about this event, please contact Rachel Conger at 423.791.3869 or rachelc@jonesboroughtn.org.

The JRT to present Welcome to Mitford

The Jonesborough Repertory Theatre is delighted to bring the Jan Karon fictional town of Mitford to their stage in Welcome to Mitford. The show runs May 24 through June 3 at the theatre located at 125½ West Main Street in Jonesborough.

Shows are Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., and Saturdays and Sundays at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are $16 general admission, $14 for students and seniors. There is also a special group rate for parties of 15 or more. To purchase tickets, call the Historic Jonesborough Visitors Center at 423.753.1010 or go online to www.jonesboroughtheatre.com.

Open call for athletes to “audition” for Olympic sport

Do you think you have what it takes to compete at the elite level in sports? The Olympic Training Site at East Tennessee State University wants to hear from you.

The ETSU Next Olympic Hopeful Tryout will be held Saturday, May 26, and is open to anyone ages 14 and up. The event will be held at Science Hill High School’s Kermit Tipton Stadium from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. Check-in will begin at 10 a.m.

Tests to be performed at the event include a 30-meter sprint, vertical jump and maximum pull-ups. Optional tests are the one-mile run and three-repetition maximum back squat. There is no cost to participate but pre-registration is required. The registration deadline is Sunday, May 20. To register, or for more information, contact Emily Brockelman at brockelman@etsu.edu.

Jonesborough to Welcome Storyteller Elizabeth Ellis

The 2018 season of the International Storytelling Center’s popular performance series, is underway. The next person to take the stage will be Elizabeth Ellis, award-winning teller and daughter of Appalachia (though she now resides in Texas).

All ticketholders can present their ticket stubs for a 10 percent discount on same-day dining at JJ’s Eatery and Ice Cream; Medley Vegan Vegetarian; Olde Towne Pancake House; and The Corner Cup. Boone Street Market is offering 10 percent off prepared meals and 5 percent off any other purchase.

Information about all performers, as well as a detailed schedule for 2018, is available at www.storytellingcenter.net. The premier sponsor of Storytelling Live! is Ballad Health. Additional program funding comes from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Tennessee Arts Commission, the Niswonger Foundation, Eastman Credit Union, and Food City.

The International Storytelling Center is open 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday. For more information about Storytelling Live! or to make a group reservation, call (800) 952-8392 ext. 222 or (423) 913-1276.

Johnson City Community Drum Circle

The Johnson City Community Drum Circle meets every Wednesday evenings through October 24, 7pm – 8:30pm, inside the Farmers’ Market Pavilion next to Founders Park. Everyone is welcome and any body can play. Come drum, hoop/holler, dance, or just relax and take in the scene, no experience or “talent” necessary. There are shared instruments and of course you can bring your own drums or percussion. It’s all improvised, so there are no mistakes. We just smile and keep playing. Shine or rain, the pavilion has us covered. Bring your own seating!

Tech Class: Digital Cameras

Digital Cameras will be the topic of a free class offered at Gray Library on May 17 at 4:30 p.m. The class will cover basics, and there will be an opportunity for you to ask questions. Bring your camera to the class, if you have one.

Everyone is welcome. Call the library at (423) 477-1550 for more information or to register.

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CRYPTOGRAM:

SVEN HATER SLIP LANA ARORA LODI INTO NEGOTIABLE DEEM DAS ENVOYS RIFFS ADAU NASSAU EGG SALAD AMI ALAMO AGAPE JONG SPEND SKIM AUTO SHAYEK ELM FROSTBIT FEEBLE AUS LIBRA SKINNY DUN NIPS ANNODOMINI SKIP LOFT UBOAT TATA TWOS TERRE SLEY

DropQuote: “Always treat people with respect and kindness, for they may be selected to be on your jury.”
In his must-read book published earlier this year, THE BIG PICTURE: THE FIGHT FOR THE FUTURE OF MOVIES, Wall Street Journal reporter Ben Fritz offers a meditation on the current state of the cinema. Of course, “cinema” is probably becoming an anachronistic term now that movies are watchable in multiple formats and locations, from mall multiplexes to the smartphones in our pockets. There are those, like Fritz, who speculate that perhaps only Marvel Universe movies will be able to lure audiences into physical theatres in the near future. Just how many Avengers sequels will we be able to tolerate? Of course, these kinds of movies constitute our modern-day mythology, contradicting those who believe that myths are relics of a long-vanished ancient world. I was able to dispel this assumption in my Humanities class when we made a list of all the movies we could think of that are based on the archetypes laid down over 4,000 years ago in the Sumerian Epic of Gilgamesh, our oldest recorded story. The puzzling questions about Gilgamesh is why no one has ever made a movie based on this timeless story, and who would be ideal cast members for such an epic presentation starring egotistic rulers, seductive deities, civilization-destroying natural calamities, and vicious monsters? Sounds uncomfortably like the headlines I read every morning while gulping down my cereal and almond milk (yes, I have succumbed to this trendy habit of replacing “real” milk with “fake” milk).

Fritz concludes his book with the following observation about the future of movies: “The more digital our entertainment becomes, the more creators are going to discard old ideas about how long a ‘movie’ should be and how many minutes define an ‘episode’ of a television show or how many episodes define a ‘season.’” Movies, as most of us watch them most of the time, will just be one part of a spectrum that also includes mini-series, television shows, digital shorts, and forms that haven’t yet been invented. The lines that divide these types of content will blur to nonexistence.

Speculation about the future of movies is nothing new. Immediately after the screening of the first cinematic presentation to a paying audience by the Lumiere Brothers in a Parisian cafe (1895), there were those who were certain this type of entertainment would replace live theatre (similar to the debate about how television would replace the movies during the 1950s) and, as Fritz points out above, were also convinced that this experience would bring about a situation where the lines between reality and unreality would be forever blurred. Our modern-day debate about the nature of virtual reality began in that cafe one hundred and twenty-three years ago.

Last month—April 14—marked the twentieth anniversary of a small California company’s website. Netflix.com, like the Lumiere screening, can now been seen as a turning point in the way movies are marketed and experienced. On a timeline of life-altering moments in the history of movies, we should include the Lumiere screening, the creation of the studio system in the 1920s, the advent of the “talkies” in the 1930s, the impact of television in the 1950s, the emergence of independent cinema in the 1970s, the home video revolution of the 1980s, and the appearance of those ubiquitous red and white Netflix envelopes in our mailboxes in the mid-2000s. In a very short time we have gone from a nation of movie-goers who could only experience movies from within a physical and darkened theatre to a nation of movie streamers, consumers, and moviemakers who carry our movie theatres and film production tools around in our pockets.

I am proud to date my first experience with Netflix to November 2004, when I helped host an appearance by Kevin Murphy, “Tom Servo” from Comedy Central’s “Mystery Science Theatre and a walking encyclopedia of movie history, at Northeast State Community College. Kevin convinced me to take out a Netflix subscription, which I did. And I fondly remember receiving those red and white envelopes in the mail on a regular basis. Although I had to put up with occasional cracked discs (with those tell-tale footprints on the envelope), I relished the ability to choose from a very small library (at the time) of movies I would never find on the shelves of my local video store; a video store, by the way, that saved movies for me every Tuesday, like an early precursor of today’s online recommendation lists. We could, of course, argue that those video stores have morphed into clerkless Redboxes.

Although Amazon was also founded in 1998, its primary stock and trade was still books when I took out my Netflix subscription. All this began to change, however, the following year when Amazon Prime was launched. But, in 2007, another milestone was reached when Netflix started its streaming service. Of course, I wasn’t immediately attracted to this because I was just emerging from the dial-up era and my internet provider’s broadband was not very streaming friendly at the time, giving me my earliest introduction to pixelation and that ever-present spinning wheel. But all that has changed, and I have lived without a cable box for several years, relying exclusively on streaming services and titles from my much-too-vast collection of DVD, Blu-Ray, and 4K discs (which will undoubtedly be going the way of the 8-track tape in the very near future).

Netflix, along with most everyone else, is now not just a provider of pre-existing movies, but also a movie studio that rivals the traditional Hollywood ways of doing things (a fact that is well-documented in Fritz’s aforementioned book). The cable network era is now at an end, and who knows where streaming will take us? We certainly won’t have to wait another twenty years to find out.

Here’s hoping you find your own ways this week of commemorating the twentieth anniversary of Netflix. I may get a little teary-eyed knowing I will no longer be able to see that footprint on the red and white envelope in my mailbox.
The final concert of the Johnson City Symphony Orchestra's 2017/2018 season will be held May 19 at 7:30 pm at the TVA Credit Union Ball Park in Johnson City. The music for the season finale will be filled with excitement, whimsy, drama, and terror as it will be from the many blockbuster movie scores of John Williams, one of Hollywood's most famous composers for the last six decades. Music from E.T., Harry Potter, Superman, Star Wars, Schindler's List, Catch Me If You Can, and Jaws will keep the night lively. Also on hand will be Cosplay characters for your entertainment, and a costume contest for kids dressed as their favorite characters from a John Williams movie. This concert is being sponsored by The Honorable Lynn Brown, William & Judy Tindall, Donna & Bob Jacobson, Brenda Phillips, Heather Gilreath, Col. & Mrs. Robert Tregaskis, Karen & Will Manley, Susan Street, Mickey Jilton, and Fidelity Investments. WHJL is the media sponsor. Tickets are $10 for students, $35 for adults and $50 for a family of four with two children 12 and under. For more information about ordering tickets, visit www.jcsymphony.com/events or call the Symphony office at 423-926-8742. Tickets will also be sold at the door. In the event of rain in the forecast, the concert will be moved to Milligan College, Seeger Chapel. Check our website and Facebook page for updates.

In conjunction with WJHL News Channel 11 & Good Samaritan Ministries Back to School Drive, school supply items will be collected at the concert. We encourage everyone attending this event to bring school supplies, which will be given to children in need at the beginning of the next school year. Your support is appreciated!

Celebrate National Music Week at Sabores (202 E Main St, Johnson City) on May 9 where 20% of the proceeds go to benefit the Johnson City Symphony Orchestra. You can also enter for a chance to win a family four pack of tickets to the John Williams concert. Great food for a great cause!

Presented By Johnson City Symphony Orchestra

Music of John Williams

Music of John Williams

Presented By Johnson City Symphony Orchestra

Musicians Unite!

Open Community Jams Coming To Birthplace of Country Music Museum Monthly Sessions Open to All Ages

Calling all musicians! The Birthplace of Country Music Museum will begin hosting a monthly gathering of local musicians for a community jam session starting on Saturday, May 19, 2018. The community jams are open to all ages and all skill levels.

We are excited to be offering regular community jams at the museum, says Head Curator René Rodgers. We hope that inviting the local music community to be part of our museum programming will foster greater engagement between the museum and this audience and give local musicians a wonderful space for sharing their music with each other. These live jams will also offer our museum visitors a fun experience, either as listeners or pickers!

The jam events have been organized to provide a space for local musicians to gather and pick, collaborate, share their experiences, and most importantly to have fun!

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Jams will be scheduled for the third Saturday of each month from 2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m., serving as a great warm-up for Saturday night gigs. Musicians are asked to bring their own acoustic instruments. The sessions will be held in the Learning Center at the Birthplace of Country Music Museum.

For more information about community jams, visit BirthplaceOfCountryMusic.org/events.
Marsh Regional To Hold Blood Drives

Marsh Regional Blood Center will conduct public blood drives at the following locations:

- Tuesday, May 15, 7:30am-3:00pm, Eastman Building 409, Kingsport, TN
- Tuesday, May 15, 9:00am-4:00pm, Hancock County High School, Sneedville, TN
- Wednesday, May 16, 9:00am-12:00pm, Wolf Hills Fabricators, Abingdon, VA
- Wednesday, May 16, 9:00am-4:00pm, CGI, Lebanon, VA
- Wednesday, May 16, 2:00pm-6:00pm, St Anne Catholic Church, Bristol, VA
- Wednesday, May 16, 4:00pm-8:00pm, Oak Grove Baptist Church, Mt Carmel, TN
- Thursday, May 17, 9:00am-3:00pm, Swords Creek Elementary School, Swords Creek, VA
- Thursday, May 17, 10:00am-2:00pm, Kingsport Hematology & Oncology, Kingsport, TN
- Thursday, May 17, 1:00pm-6:00pm, Food City, Coeburn, VA
- Friday, May 18, 8:30am-12:00pm, Northeast Comm. Credit Union 19E, Elizabethton, TN
- Friday, May 18, 9:00am-3:00pm, Flatwoods Job Corps, Coeburn, VA
- Friday, May 18, 9:00am-2:30pm, Clintwood Elementary School, Clintwood, VA
- Friday, May 18, 1:30pm-4:20pm, Northeast Comm. Credit Union, Whitten Way, Elizabethton, TN

May is Brain Cancer Awareness Month

Wednesday Fundraiser for Alidiah Simpson

by Paul Kavanaugh

The good folks from J Frank and Machiavelli’s are hosting a fundraiser on Wednesday at Machiavelli’s to support Ronald and Danielle Simpson and their daughter Alidiah who is fighting this insidious disease. Childhood cancer is the very worst for all concerned – I think we can all agree on that. Families need help to get through these tough times.

Wednesday from 4:00 – 6:00 all tips from the bar will be donated – and you never know who may be bartending! Then, from 6:00 – 9:00, there is a silent auction while DJ BDigital spins your favorites from oldies to the newest hit.

It’s a darn worthwhile cause. Alidiah herself will be there for a few hours, so come on out, say hello, drop a few bucks in the kitty, bid on something and generally have a nice evening while you’re helping some folks who could really use it. See you there, neighbors!
On Saturday, May 19th and Sunday, May 20th, Sycamore Shoals State Historic Park will host nearly 200 living history re-enactors for the annual Siege of Fort Watauga. Colonial, British, and Native re-enactors will converge at the re-created Fort Watauga at Sycamore Shoals to relive the days when America’s first frontier was the land beyond the blue ridge.

The Siege of Fort Watauga is a live retelling of the Cherokee attack brought upon the settlers of the Watauga valley in the summer of 1776. At Sycamore Shoals, Fort Watauga offered protection to nearly 200 settlers during a two-week siege led by Cherokee War Chief, Old Abram, and 300 warriors.

Sycamore Shoals will once again be the scene of war during the Siege of Fort Watauga. The event lasts from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm on Saturday, May 19th and 10:00 am to 3:00 pm on Sunday, May 20th. Step back in time as you visit the fort, militia camps, British encampment, and Native American camp. Be immersed in the 18th century as you witness daily aspects of colonial frontier life. See the clash of two cultures as the attack on fort Watauga is recreated at 1:00 pm on Saturday and 2:00 pm on Sunday. Also, attend our auction of 18th century reproductions on Saturday.

During the event, take advantage of colonial merchants selling period wares in “Sutler’s Row”. There will be several vendors offering a myriad of 18th century reproduction items for the colonial enthusiast or the primitive decorator. Vendors this year include “Johnson & Moffet” specializing in hand crafted wooden items and herbal remedies, The Virginia Floorcloth and Textiles Co offering hand painted canvas floor coverings and block printed neckerchiefs, Ft. Vause Outfitters specializing in finished leather goods, Windhil Woolens offering hand processed and dyed woolen goods such as yarn, blankets, and clothing, and several other vendors offering everything from 18th century reproduction clothing, weaponry, and original antiques, to replica housewares and military accouterments. Food vending and concessions will also be available for purchase from the Friends of Sycamore Shoals State Historic Park.

Several Revolutionary War living history units will be in attendance and will make the 18th century come to life during the weekend. Units include the 1st Maryland based in Hendersonville, NC, Musgrove’s Mill Militia and the South Carolina Rangers based in upstate South Carolina, and British units; the 42nd Light Infantry, the 71st Highland Regiment, and the British Legion. The host unit is the Washington County Regiment of North Carolina Militia based at Sycamore Shoals State Historic Park. Also, enjoy musical entertainment from The Sons of Liberty, Faire Wynds, and the Watauga Valley Fife & Drum Corps. Numerous individuals also participate in the event portraying many 18th century walks of life including Cherokee Natives, Backcountry Hunters, Farmers, Housewives, Indentured Servants, Commoners and Gentry.

A special addition to this year’s event is an evening concert on Saturday, May 19th featuring the talents of the Watauga Valley Fifes & Drums, the official file and drum corps of the State of Tennessee. During the concert corps members will showcase traditional and martial music of the 18th century on fife and drum as well as individual performances on other traditional instruments. This is a great opportunity to be entertained and educated by a truly talented group of young performers and historians. The show begins at 7:30 pm at the Fort Watauga Amphitheater. Admission to the concert is $5/Adults, $3/ages 7-17, and children 6 and under are free. Concert tickets will be available during the daytime events at the park as well as before the concert. Proceeds will benefit the Watauga Valley Fife & Drums in their mission to promote the cultural heritage of our area through music and historic interpretation.

For more information on this and other exciting events at Sycamore Shoals please contact the park at 423-543-5808 or visit the park’s website at www.sycamoreshoalstn.org. Admission to the event is free so bring the entire family and see how your ancestors played a crucial role in our region’s history and in the formation of our nation. Witness the 18th century come to life, hear the rattle of muskets, smell the campfire smoke, and come “Share in the Glorious Cause of Liberty” at the Siege of Fort Watauga. This event is sponsored by The Washington County Regiment of North Carolina Militia and The Friends of Sycamore Shoals State Historic Park.
SUDOKU

Answers on page 30

DROP QUOTE

CRYPTOGRAM

FJ FY GMWH UH NFYVFMA GLN CPNYGMY TNGX GMP IGLN JG SMGJIPN JISJ ZP WFBP SJ SWW.

— William James
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.

Next we have some of Delilah’s puppies left to be adopted. These cuties are spayed or neutered and up to date on all vaccines. Come and see all the sweet pets ready to be adopted!

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.bridgehomeshelter@gmail.com or like them on Facebook: www.Facebook.com/bridgehome
BIKE NIGHTS
Wednesdays  Bear’s Bar
Wednesdays  Holston River Brewing Co.
Thursdays  Quaker Steak & Lube
Fridays  Tulips American Grub and Pub

RUNS & RIDES
May 19:  Honor Flight NE TN Vietnam Veteran Benefit Ride; starts at Black Wolf Harley Davidson and ends at Bear’s Bar. 423-341-8500
July 14:  Apple Tyree 3rd Annual Poker Chip Memorial Ride; benefits Special Olympics; Smith Bros. Harley Davidson; 423-946-5423 or 423-283-0422

CAR SHOWS
Fridays  Krystal’s Johnson City
Saturdays  Carter County Car Club Downtown Elizabethton
May 19:  The 3rd Annual “Sundown on Depot” car show 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on West Depot Street in Greeneville
June 1-3:  2nd Annual Home Built Summit, RatRod; Holston River Brewing Co. and Thunder Mountain Campground; all manner of vehicles can enter; camping available; 423-946-2380
June 16:  FLBC Car and Bike Show; all cars and motorcycles welcome; 423-794-8142 or 423-282-0655
July 28:  6th Annual Open Car Show by American Patriots Pastime; Anything with Wheels; Tri Cities Cinemas at exit 66 off I-81; 423-323-3981

Carter Family Fold presents
Appalachia Rising

On Saturday, May 19th, 2018, at 7 p.m., the Carter Family Fold will present a special fundraising event featuring live performances from Jim Lauderdale, Junior Sisk & Ramblers Choice, Hogslop String Band and the Church Sisters. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Admission to the concert is $20 at the door, children 6-11 $2, under age 6 free. Tickets are being sold with assigned seating, and advance tickets can be ordered online. To order online tickets, go to this link - https://carterfamilyfold.brushfire.com/events/442862/. The first 100 online tickets purchased will receive a Virginia is for Music Lovers hat.
Jonesborough’s Board of Mayor & Alderman and the Veteran’s Affairs Committee will host the Town’s Memorial tribute to veterans on Sunday, May 27 2018 @ 2:30 p.m. in the Jonesborough Visitors Center Auditorium.

In honor of both living and deceased veterans, Jonesborough’s Memorial Musical Concert will feature the Johnson City Community Concert Band, under the direction Dr. Christopher Zembower, themed “To Honor and Remember”: A Patriotic Musical Offering honoring those who Defended our Freedom”. Included in the Offering will be FANFARE FOR THE COMMON MAN by Aaron Copeland, CELEBRATE AMERICA by Robert Foster and LIBERTY BELLS SALUTE by John Philip Sousa.

The Tennessee Highway Patrol Honor Guard and the Daniel Boone High School Marine JROTC Honor Guard will be returning to conduct the Flag Ceremony.

A reception will follow the ceremony that is open to the public. For additional information, call 423-753-1010 or visit jonesborough.com.

The leafonline.com | May 15, 2018
Moe’s Original Bar B Que

2nd Anniversary Moe-Down

Saturday May 19th
2pm to 10pm

Kick Off Summer with Moe’s Low Country Boil

$15 All You Care To Eat Wristband

$15

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Back of Academy Sports Shopping Center

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11-9 Sun-Wed 11-10 Thurs-Sat