

Why Can't I Be Me? Around You

YOUR LOCAL, NON-PROFIT, INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER
Volume 6, Issue 6 // April 11-24, 2019

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FILM
FESTIVAL**

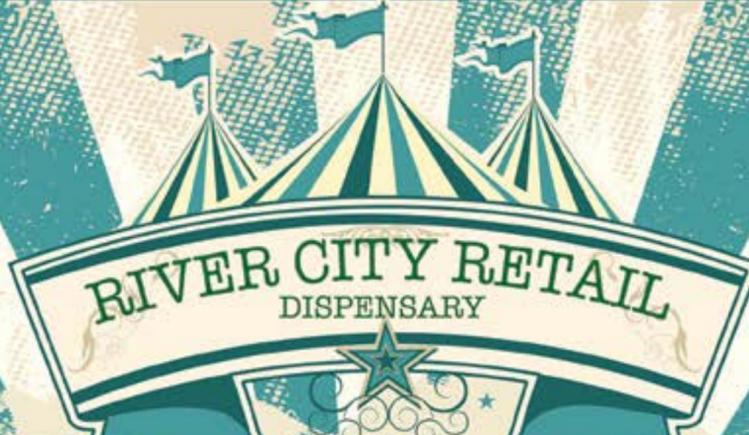
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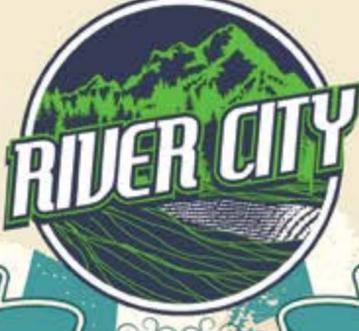
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The cheapest Marvel production cost (\$130 million, *Ant Man*) may have been enough to produce the entire batch of 150 movies at this year's Ashland Independent Film Festival. Yet many of this year's batch of documentaries and narratives hold more soul, emotion and individual heroism in a single scene than an entire superhero blockbuster.



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ROGUE SOUND

The Brothers Reed have come to prominence in the southern Oregon folk scene over the past several years, touring extensively throughout the US and releasing three studio albums to date. Our Music Reviewer Josh Stirm checks out their fourth release, titled *Caught In a Dream*.



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DRINK LOCAL

Normally our Drink Local correspondent Nick Blakeslee dives into pints of beer, but this time around he stops at Red Lily to explore the region's other drink (wine, in case you couldn't figure that one out).



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ARTWATCH

Celebrating its 40th year anniversary and decades removed from the Vietnam War, the heart of darkness film *Apocalypse Now* continues to impact audiences, and is a centerpiece for this year's Ashland Independent Film Festival, including an interpretative exhibit at the Schneider Museum of Art.



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FEATURE

Filming Real Life Superheroes Global Issues Personified

INTRODUCTION BY PHIL BUSSE

At a production cost of \$130 million, *Ant Man* is a relatively inexpensive Marvel movie; the cheapest of the batch of superhero films. However, that figure is an amount that most likely could have produced the entire batch of 150 movies at this year's Ashland Independent Film Festival. And, while *Ant Man* and its collection of Marvel friends who have taken over American cinema in the past decade deliver big-bang entertainment and plucky one-liners, the emotional and social commentary bang-for-the buck from this year's films at AIFF is extraordinary.

A standout film at the festival is *The Rescue List*, equally uplifting and depressing. In one single scene, when a young boy recently rescued from slavery is being interviewed about whether he wishes he had never been born, there is more heartfelt emotion and honest resolve than the entire junket of *Ant Man*, *Captain Marvel* and *Avengers*. This is true good versus evil, as a small group attempts to rescue children from slavery in Ghana. Some 20,000 young boys are enslaved by fishermen on Lake Volta, the largest man-made lake in the world; many snagged at a young age and set to work in boats and to dive into murky waters to untangle fishing nets. Unflinching, the film introduces a few of these boys. In one scene, the filmmakers watch as a rescue attempt is made and a young boy who has been held captive jumps from his fishing boat and tries to swim away from his rescuers. The boy's fear is raw and the filming unflinching. Yet in spite of the cruelty that defines the "industry" of children slaves and fishing, there is an unsinkable kindness and resilience that pervades this documentary.



Likewise, looking for an origin story of a hero? *Grit* picks up the story a young woman Dian, whose village in East Java—and 15 others—were wiped out 13 years ago by a tidal wave of hot, toxic sludge that had been uncorked by a reckless Indonesian company drilling for natural gas in 2006, killing scores and displacing some 60,000 people. The filmmakers patiently followed her story over several years; after the immediate destruction and displacement, Dian's family were haunted by chronic problems resulting from the industrial catastrophe, like cancer and financial hardship. She personifies the ability to fight back against forces bigger than oneself as she turns that tragedy into strength and a political voice. The film is emotionally stirring, and also visually stunning, with vivid colors set against drab grays of concrete and muddy villages. Likewise, these personal dramas push against massive, ugly global forces of politics and money. Which is all to say, yes, skip *Captain Marvel* and see what a true life female hero looks and acts like.

Other films also pick up global stories about immigrants, environmental destruction and bigotry—and bring them into sharp focus on one or two characters. Like *The Rescue List* and *Grit*, *The Infiltrators* personalizes a global story. Every day some 1400 men and women are detained or deported from America. These are daunting numbers; roughly the entire community of Talent every day. A narrative, but styled like a documentary and based on real events, the film tells the story about an activist going undercover and into one of the detention centers when a father is snagged by ICE; both tense and insightful, the theme of ordinary transforming and expanding into heroic dimensions is at play in this film. (See interview with filmmakers Alex Rivera and Cristina Ibarra, winners of the 2019 Rogue Award; page 18.)

"The 'Apocalypses' theme that encompasses the 40th anniversary tribute to *Apocalypse Now* (with guest Eleanor Coppola bringing the making-of documentary *Hearts of Darkness*), the Schneider Museum "Apocalypse" exhibition, and several foreboding environmental documentaries, may seem to be inviting a dark cloud to hover," explains AIFF Executive Director Richard Herskowitz. "But those documentaries, like many others we choose that address dire situations, emphasize the activism that is rising in response. *Grit*, for example, focuses on an Indonesian teenage girl's political awakening and engagement. *Metamorphosis* looks at the threat of climate change, and the creative responses of artists, engineers, children, and scientists around the world."

Herskowitz also adds that he finds a good amount of fun and lightheartedness at the festival this year "Regarding the seriousness of the selections," he says, "I actually think the selections are lighter this year, especially the narrative features. *Phoenix*, *Oregon*, *In Reality*, *International Falls*, and *Original Sin* are all comedies!"

Over the past few years, AIFF has established its importance as the sophomore stop for many films released at the esteemed Sundance Film Festival or at SXSW. At this year's AIFF, Portland-based, Oscar-nominated and Emmy-winning filmmaker Irene Taylor Brodsky will screen her latest film. A decade ago, Brodsky won the Audience Award at Sundance for her documentary *Hear and Now*, a touching and surprising documentary that followed her deaf parents after they received implants to hear sound for the first time. At this year's Sundance in February, she premiered a sequel to that film, *Moonlight Sonata: Deafness in Three Movements*, which makes its next pitstop at AIFF.

In all, five films that debuted at Sundance make their appearances at AIFF, including a darling of the festival, Penny Lane, whose *Hail Satan?* whose smart filmmaking follows a group of clever activists supporting freedom of religion; Nanfu Wang's *One Child Nation* looking at China's family planning policies; Julia Reichert and Steven Bognar's *American Factory* about a Chinese company in Ohio; and Ivete Lucas and Patrick Bresnan's *Pahoek* (see review). Also coming hot from another marquee film festival (SXSW), Harrod Blank and Jessica Oreck bring their films *Why Can't I Be Me? Around You* and *One Man Dies a Million Times* (see reviews starting on page 7).



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Pahokee

Pahokee documents the final year for high school seniors at Pahokee Junior/Senior High School in Florida, as it is experienced through four of the students; each with different paths, but similar hopes of leaving their hometown and circumstances to better themselves. In a town locally nicknamed “the muck” for its fertile black soil, where agriculture has been the mainstay for generations, the story braids ethnicities, culture and school popularity as it follows the triumphs and heartbreaks of football, Homecoming royalty and college possibilities.

Of Hispanic descent, Jocabed Martinez helps out in her parents’ taqueria as she works hard to keep good grades, and prove she is a “good daughter.”

Junior Walker, a father at age 18 and drum major for the marching band, tells of spoiling his one-year old daughter with anything she wants with all the money he dreams of making.

Na’kerria Nelson is a cheerleader wanting out of Pahokee, working part-time in a café and keeping intimate vlogs of her life.

Pro-football hopeful, BJ Crawford, works through college forms and football wins with his supportive parents, consistently praising God.

The population is primarily black and Hispanic, the school colors patriotically red, white and blue and vibrant against the tones of their skins. When the time comes for Jocabed, the graduating class’s salutatorian, to give thanks that her grandparents were able to travel from Mexico to watch her walk across the stage, the roar of the crowd reveals unmistakable support.

The take-away from the film is left to its observers. With no narration or music to affect, the focal point becomes the artistic layering and weaving of character, backdrop and story about the ebb and flow of high school

PAHOKEE PHOTO COURTESY OF AIFF

life in these particular demographics, at times shockingly disrupted and unforeseen in the small town.

Directing/producing team, Ivete Lucas (Skip Day) and her partner, videographer Patrick Bresnan, expand their ‘observational’ style storytelling in Pahokee, their first feature length documentary. The editing creates a superb draw, helping sustain the film’s 2-hour length.

This is a film worth sitting for; the colors, places, people and Florida glades unfold into a setting for the soul. Lucas and Bresnan’s idea to capture the era in this landscape, without the need to traumatize the audience, feels good; the people are real, and the situations the film crew and townspeople go through, unexpectedly caught on film, are handled beautifully. —CATHERINE KELLEY

WHY CAN'T I BE ME? AROUND YOU PHOTO COURTESY OF AIFF

Why Can't I Be Me? Around You

Rusty is a marvelous individual with incredible talent, charisma and warmth, and yet one decision in his life dictates how the world sees him. His story is like many that have come out about their sexuality; many friends left him, and his family struggles to accept him. Rusty displays an amazing amount of bravery in expressing herself. *Why Can't I Be Me? Around You* is the story of Rusty, a transgender individual.

The documentary provides an eye-opening experience that humanizes the struggle of transgendered people in America. Rusty lives in her father’s trailer park in New Mexico, in a small town, and works doing maintenance. She’s into cars, working with her hands, motorcycles, builds homes, welds, and generally does all things considered “masculine.” The movie touches on very deep issues regarding the transgender movement, from both the human and the psychological perspective.

What I particularly liked about the movie, is that it uses Rusty as a focal point, but branches out to a handful of other transgendered individuals and their brief story. A man who transitioned to becoming a woman, after a confirming experience at burning man; an intersexual individual who expresses their identity through art; an asexual individual who identifies not as man or woman, but “goth”; and a dozen others who have found a way to express themselves.

Furthermore, the documentary shares the other side of things. With interviews with psychologists regarding Rusty’s decision and what the research shows those who have had the same feelings and made the same choices

The story seeks to inject logic and reason into a subject that is very emotionally charged in our current political world. For anyone confused about what the movement means, or where it comes from, or if someone feels alone in the whole process, *Why Can't I Be Me? Around You* is a must see. —NICK BLAKESLEE



ONE MAN DIES A MILLION TIMES PHOTO COURTESY OF AIFF

One Man Dies a Million Times

One Man Dies a Million Times paints a bleak picture of humanity at its most raw. In a post apocalyptic world, people reveal their true selves when faced with cold and hunger. In turn two young scientists, Alyssa (Alyssa Lozovskaya) and Maksim (Maksim Blinov) learn what they themselves are capable of as well. Day in and day out they guard the Vavilov seed bank, housing possibly the greatest selection of rare seeds. As famine spreads and they watch their friends starve one by one, these two botanists must also resist their most basic need to eat while living in the epitome of temptation. For what? The survival of future generations? What future will there be, what food will there be if there is no one left to cultivate it?

We follow these two characters through a harsh winter, days without food and days where they must watch those around them wither away. We watch as they drag their friends' remains to the sanitation brigade. The sounds of air-raided sirens, bombs dropping, gunfire and screams take the audience to the edge of the battlefield. While the milieu of this film

is set to the backdrop of Russia during World War II just after the Siege of Leningrad, it actually takes place in our near future. A future that is tested by war, by famine, by humanity and the lack thereof.

For those of us who have not experienced wartime like this, *One Man Dies a Million Times* is a deeply perspective-driven film which allows the audience to see everything through Alyssa's eyes. The connection that develops between Maksim and her, gives the audience a glimmer of hope to hold onto in an otherwise dark existence. Lozovskaya and Blinov have a natural chemistry on screen that does not always need the support of words. The most touching aspect of this film in my opinion was the narration, the dialogue was pulled from poems and journals of those individuals who lived through the actual siege. Their words, their feelings, their hearts were heard.

Directed by Jessica Oreck, *One Man Dies a Million Times* is both poetically brilliant and a walk back through a historical sacrifice that can only be described as benevolent to future generations. Filmed entirely in Russian with a Russian cast. —HEATHER METZ

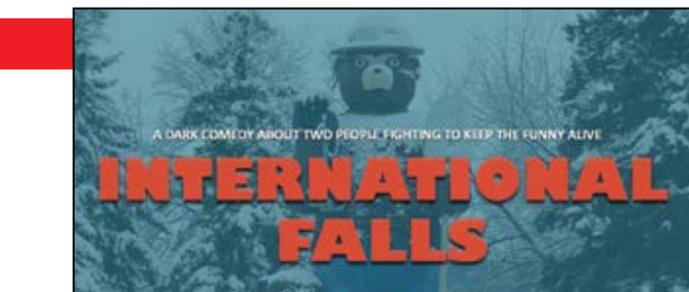
International Falls

Billed as a dark comedy, *International Falls* is, at once, a simple story about a middleage woman clawing her way out of a Midwest rut; but it is simultaneously a complicated, knotted ball of yarn about standup comedians, desperation, emotional fatigue and unsinkable optimism. It is funny, and in equal parts, sad and gloomy, just like the northern Minnesota town where it is set.

Carrying this storyline is Dee, a mom of two, played by Rachel Harris. Dee is stuck in a dour life, working the front desk at a hotel and with a dolt of a husband, who is also cheating on her. The hotel happens to host touring, no-name stand-up comedians—and Dee happens to harbor a secret flame to be a comedian; two narratives that embark on a collision course when Dee strikes up a halfhearted affair with a down-and-nearly-out touring comedian.

The bones of the film are strong, with a script that structures a layered narrative and also is punctured with stinging one-liners (like when Dee signs her divorce papers, the attorney flatly tells her, “welcome back to single life.”).

It is Harris, who plays Dee, that brings life and soul to the script. She is casually magnetic. Her stage presence as a stand-up is gripping, to be expected from an actress who started with the LA-comedy troupe, the Groundlings (a group which has alumni like Will Ferrell and Phil



Hartman), and her acting is deft, conquering equal parts from *Fargo* and from the title character of *The Marvelous Miss Maisel*.

Originally a two-person play, the screenplay still holds some of the same stark intimacy as a stage production. Over five years, though, director Amber McGinnis has adopted the original script to the big screen, and the scenes with the wayward couple on a frozen expanse and a playful afternoon through town are visually charming (at least to this boy from Wisconsin). Yes, the film has been a labor of love—and hard work—and that heart and muscle show through in the final product—and places the movie as a film that punches far above its weight class (or, in this matter, budget). Ultimately, *International Falls* delivers its punchlines as a sock to the gut—which is a good thing. —PHIL BUSSE

Princess of the Row

How far would you go for someone you love? 12-year-old Alicia (Tayler Buck) takes this test as we see her innocence begin to slip away in *Princess of the Row*. In this tale of the ultimate role reversal we see a young girl's profound love for her father, a father who is unable to care for himself, let alone his daughter. After suffering a traumatic brain injury while serving in Iraq, veteran Sergeant Beaumont Willis III (Edi Gathegi) is fated to live out his days on the street, skid row to be exact. Each day is compounded with more and more bouts of severe PTSD, but each day his daughter moves heaven and earth, it seems, to be with him even if she only gets fleeting moments of lucidity in return.

Strong, resilient, loving, stubborn, creative. These are the exact words used to describe Alicia in *Princess of the Row* and she lives up to every single one. They are the same words I would use to describe this film. The music could not have been more perfect, lyrically we are guided through scenes feeling exactly what Alicia and her father are feeling in the moment. Not to mention the flashbacks that take us back to when



Alicia was a child, before her father's injury. These scenes are peppered throughout the film and help to further the story as well as allowing the audience to develop a deeper connection with the characters.

Princess of the Row sheds light on multiple realities, the desolate nothingness that can await soldiers who have been separated from service, a feeling no one seems to understand. A parallel to the spotlight put on the foster care system, a child is handed off to home after home, sometimes being told she is not worthy of a family. Maybe the most important of all, at what point do you sacrifice the fairytale for self-preservation? We are there as Alicia reaches her hour of truth, a heartbreakingly honest and real moment. A moment that Gathegi and Buck pull the audience into, almost as if we are right there experiencing it with them. —HEATHER METZ



Midnight Traveler

Afghan director, Hassan Fazili, has documented his family's arduous journey to a safe country, over 3000 miles in as many years. Fazili and his wife, Fatima Hussaini, have filmed life in Afghanistan before (*Peace in Afghanistan, Mr. Fazili's Wife*), pushing the boundary of restrictions they've been under during years of Taliban control until they have to flee for their lives. *Midnight Traveler* reveals much of the cause and reason behind the plight of refugees fighting to escape the war torn Middle East.

The family's hurdles change with each country, and the two daughters, Nargis and Zahra, grow older during the film's three year journal, which was entirely shot using cell phones. It captures violent prejudices, one daughter celebrating their most recent settlement into a warm camp with beds by dancing candidly to Michael Jackson, Fatima's painful attempts to learn how to ride a bike, plus simple accounts one could take for

granted, like a planet at dusk or snowflakes appearing out of the dark, night sky.

At one point, Nargis tells her mother during an “open-minded” family conversation that she won't cover her head when she grows up. When Fatima consents, Nargis leaps into her mother's arms in joy. These added touches by the film's production team help emphasize the humanness, rather than divisiveness, of the movie's globally sensitive subject matter.

From Tajikistan to Afghanistan to Serbia, Bulgaria and Hungary, the journey takes them over mountains, across borders in the dark and into the hands of devious smugglers demanding more money, or they'll take the little girls.

“Wherever we can go, that's where we're going,” says Fatima, pointing at all the countries on a map for Nargis.

The documentary is well made; never forgetting Fazili is a filmmaker and knows the effect of drama. At times, it seems as though it is used to spotlight points to a somewhat stagey feel, but that's what the Fazili's, both experienced filmmakers, aim to do—effect change through their art. The threats, the tears and the fatigue are undeniably real. One can't flee a home and country without taking the reasons behind the upheaval with them—Fazili has chosen to make it an artfully accomplished message. —

CATHERINE KELLEY

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[P] OUR PICKS



thurs 11-may 26 Sherlock Holmes and the Sign of the Four

THEATRE—Holmes (Matt Koenig) and Watson (Galen Schloming) are back at the Cabaret, last performing in 2017's Baskerville. This world premiere of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's classic tale by director/adaptor Rick Robinson promises that perfect balance of intrigue and comedy, complete with an onstage boat chase. 1 and 8 pm. Oregon Cabaret Theatre, 241 Hargadine Street, Ashland. \$12 - \$36.



sat 13 Brick Fest

LEGOS—When in doubt, build it out of Legos. Kids of all ages are invited to create with Legos (those age 12 and younger must be accompanied by an adult). This event will preview the opening of the Rogue Innovation Hub, a maker space with shared tools and technologies. 11 am - 2 pm. Rogue Innovation Hub, 214 SW Fourth Street, Grants Pass. Free.



sat 13 Portland Gay Men's Chorus

MUSIC—More than just a singing group, the Portland Gay Men's Chorus are activists with their voices. This program is titled "Our Audacity to Hope," and features tunes including, "Mercy, Mercy Me," "You Don't Own Me," "This is Me," and "Glory." Proceeds benefit local youth shelter Hearts With a Mission. 7 pm. Newman United Methodist Church, 132 NE 8 Street, Grants Pass. \$16.



sat 13 Dirty Revival

MUSIC—Seven masters of soul/rock from P-town truly know how to tear it up, especially for a live show. Most of them Portland natives, Dirty Revival knows what makes Oregon tick, and from their catchy original work to their unique take on other's work, they don't let genres define them. 9 pm. Talent Club, 114 Talent Avenue, Talent.



sun 14 Jump, Jive and Wail

MUSIC—The Jive Aces hail all the way from the United Kingdom to show us mainlanders what a party really looks like. Swinging and singing through songs like "That Old Black Magic," "I'm Just a Gigolo," and "Mack the Knife," this group doesn't drop the energy or the beat for a second. 7 pm. Craterian Theatre, 23 S. Central Avenue, Medford. \$22 - \$38.



wed 17 Home Free

MUSIC—This five-man a cappella country vocal group started young in 2000 in Minnesota, and from winning NBC's The Sing Off show in 2013, to their 2016 album Full Of (Even More) Cheer hitting number two on Top Country Albums, these fellas can sure sing. Next stop? Nashville for the CMA Fest in June. Rogue Theatre, 143 SE H Street, Grants Pass. \$39.50 - \$69.50



tues 16-thurs 18 Environmental Justice Film Festival

FILM—As a part of Earth Week, SOU has chosen three important films addressing the Dakota Access Pipeline fight (Viceland's Rise: Standing Rock Part II, 6 - 8 pm, Tues.), climbing Denali (An American Ascent, 6 - 8 pm, Wed.), and the demise of the American industrial town (Urban Roots, 6 - 8:30 pm, Thurs). Discussion to follow each. Southern Oregon



thurs 18 Melvin Seals & JGB

MUSIC—Melvin Seals basically invented "Jam Band Music." For nearly 20 years, he and his Hammond B-3 organ played with the Jerry Garcia Band, creating with funk, blues, rock, jazz, gospel and R&B. He has also made his mark as a producer, adding to his 30-year music career, with no end in sight. 8 pm. Historic Ashland Armory, 208 Oak Street, Ashland. \$25, advance. \$30, day of.



sat 20 Wolf Creek Easter Egg Parade & Hunt

HUNT—Basically a sport of its own, egg hunting requires speed, strategy, endurance, and a large yet aerodynamic basket. Wolf Creek boasts the largest egg hunt in Oregon, along with a dedicated Easter Parade. Between the parade candy and the egg candy, the event will surely fill anyone's quota. 11:30 am - 3:30 pm. Wolf Creek Park, 370 Main Street, Wolf Creek.



tues 23 Gaelynn Lea

MUSIC—Winner of NPR Music's 2016 Tiny Desk Contest, Gaelynn Lea stood out from over 6,000 submissions nationwide with her unique voice and powerful story. In addition to her classical and fiddle violin training, she utilizes a loop to create her songs. Not only is her music breathtaking, her encouraging speaking on topics like enrichment demand inspiration. 7 pm. AQUA, 31 Water Street, Ashland. Free.



tues 23-sun 28 Oregon Fringe Festival

FESTIVAL—Literally on the fringe of our nation, while Rogue Valley residents (and Oregonians in general) have always been a bit different, the Oregon Fringe Festival celebrates our differences specifically. Non-standard artists and audiences will gather for the sixth annual extravaganza. Visit oregonfringefestival.org for full schedule. Oregon Fringe Festival, 1250 Siskiyou Boulevard, Ashland.



wed 24 End the Silence of Sex Trafficking

CONFERENCE—Advocates, survivors, law enforcement, and coordinators will all gather together to fight the growing issue of sex trafficking in our Valley. The new Jackson County Sex Trafficking Intervention Task Force will also be introduced at this event. 8:30 am - 4:30 pm. Smullin Health Education Center, 2825 E. Barnett Road, Medford. \$25 per person.

Advertising Space Available!

This is a great spot to advertise if you host any sort of weekly events. Great prices and maximum exposure. Contact us today!

LIVE MUSIC *and Nightlife*

Thursday, April 11 ASHLAND

Dart Tourney and Game Knight - Black Sheep Pub & Restaurant. 7:30 pm.
Karaoke - Oberon's. 9 pm.
Trivia with Peter Bolton - Smithfields Pub & Pies. 7:45 pm.
Craig Martin and Friends - Wild Goose Cafe & Bar. 7 – 10 pm.

GRANTS PASS

Paint and Sip Pottery - Double Taps. 6 – 8 pm. \$40.

MEDFORD

Mizere, SpaZZZ, Sleep Bandz, Primetime, Savage Watson, Aelem, Epiphany, Jason Blood, and Gryzzlee - The Bamboo Room at King Wah's. 8 pm. \$5. Hip Hop.
Live Band Karaoke - Pier 21. 8 pm.
Yu-Gi-Oh Tournament - Astral Games. 5:30 pm.

Friday, April 12 ASHLAND

Waking Hazel - Black Sheep Pub & Restaurant. 9 pm. \$5. Bluegrass, Americana.
True Life Trio and Plain Folk - Geos Institute. 7 – 9 pm. Folk. \$15-20.
Dan Engle and Friends - Oberon's. 6 pm.
Robbie DaCosta and Tom Stamper - O'Shea's Irish Pub. 6 – 8 pm. Rock.

GRANTS PASS

The Pandora Band - The Laughing Clam. 7 pm – 10 pm. Classic Rock Covers.

JACKSONVILLE

The J Brothers - South Stage Cellars. 6 – 8 pm. Singer-songwriter, Rock.

MEDFORD

Rick Millward and Nicole Dahl - The Urban Cork. 5 – 7 pm. Rock.
Doc Martin - The Edge. 10 pm. \$15-20. Hip Hop, DJ.
Gringo - Johnny B's. 9 pm.
Mercy - Grape Street Bar & Grill. 8 pm. Rock, Soul.
The Brothers Reed - Craterian Theater. 6 pm. \$20-60. Acoustic, Folk.

PHOENIX

Unicorn Paint & Sip - Wine & Brush. 6 – 9 pm. \$45.

WILLIAMS

Emily Turner Music - Cocina 7. 7 pm. Americana, Indie.

Saturday, April 13 APPLEGATE

Jeff Kloetzel - Augustino Estate Winery. 2 – 5 pm.

ASHLAND

GreenHaus Drag - Black Sheep Pub & Restaurant. \$5. 2 pm.
Johnny Callahan and Wind Fields - Black Sheep Pub & Restaurant. 9 pm. \$5. Americana.
Shimshai with Sasha Rose and Al Torre - Rogue Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. 7:30 – 10 pm. \$20-30. Singer-songwriter, Acoustic.
The Done Goners - Oberon's. 9 – 11 pm. Rockabilly, Honky Tonk.
Blades of Grass - O'Shea's Irish Pub. **5 – 7 pm**. Bluegrass.

GRANTS PASS

Portland Gay Men's Chorus - Newman Methodist Church. 7 pm.
Frankie Hernandez - Spring Soiree at Josephine County Fairgrounds. 5:30 pm. Soul, Reggae, Funk.
Latin Dance Night with DJ Fluffy - The Sound Lounge. 9 pm.



SINGER-SONGWRITER NORMAN BAKER PERFORMS AT JOHNNY B'S APRIL 17.

MEDFORD

Phil King - The Rogue Grape. 7 – 9 pm. Singer-songwriter.
Stars on Stage: Celebrating State Soloists - Craterian Theater. 7 – 9 pm.

ROGUE RIVER

Ruby Rain - Homestead. 8 pm. Blues, R&B, Pop, Rock.

TALENT

Dirty Revival - Talent Club. 9 pm. Soul, Rock.
Band du Pays Swing - Paschal Winery. 7 – 9:30 pm. Swing, Dance.
Community #9 Hip Hop Social - TonTon's Artisan Affections. 9 pm. \$7. Hip Hop.

Sunday, April 14 ASHLAND

Sunday Nights Unplugged - Applegate River Lodge. 7 – 11 pm.

ASHLAND

Celtic Music Session - Black Sheep Pub & Restaurant. 2 – 5 pm.
Robbie DaCosta and Kristen Calvin - Black Sheep Pub & Restaurant. 7 pm. Rock.
Grover - Oberon's. 8 – 10 pm. Americana.
Danielle Kelly Soul Project - Luna Cafe + Mercantile. 4 – 6 pm.
The Merry Mariner's - O'Shea's Irish Pub. 4:30 – 6:30 pm. Acapella.

GRANTS PASS

Ambur Rose Open Mic - The Sound Lounge. 8 – 11 pm.

MEDFORD

Rick Millward and Nicole Dahl - RoxyAnn Winery. 3 – 5 pm. Rock.
Jazz Vespers - First Presbyterian Church. 5 pm.
Armed for Apocalypse, Splitjaw, Chains of Belmont, Attic - The Bamboo Room at King Wah's. 7 – 10 pm. \$7. Metal.
Board Games and Mead - Steamworks Meadery. 4 – 8 pm.

Jump, Jive, & Wail - Craterian Theater. 7 pm. \$22-38. Swing.
The Jive Aces - Craterian Theater. 7 pm. Blues, Rock.

PHOENIX

Creators Gathering & Jam Session - Phoenix Clubhouse. 2 – 6 pm.

TALENT

Jeff Kloetzel - Paschal Winery. 3:30 – 5:30 pm.

Monday, April 15 ASHLAND

Antics Improv - Black Sheep Pub & Restaurant. 8 pm.
Drãrn - Cage Free Concerts. 7:30 pm. Details for each show will be sent when you RSVP to Kevin at kccarr@gmail.com, or 541-301-5306.
Open Mic - Oberon's. 9 pm.
The Sultans - Wild Goose Cafe & Bar. 7 – 10 pm. Blues.

CAVE JUNCTION

Game Night - Creative Self Collective. 6-9:30 pm.

MEDFORD

Jon Galfano - Centennial Golf Club. 5 – 8 pm.

Tuesday, April 16 ASHLAND

Poetry Slam - Black Sheep Pub & Restaurant. 8 pm. \$5.
Tutunov Piano Series: Garrick Ohlsson - Oregon Center for the Arts at SOU. 7:30 – 10:30 pm. \$20.
Pub Karaoke - Smithfields Pub & Pies. 9 pm.
Ashland Tango Practica - Ashland Community Center. 8 pm.

GRANTS PASS

Latin Tuesdays - Climate City Brewing Company. 7 – 9 pm. \$5.

MEDFORD

Paint and Sip Pottery - The Rogue Grape. 6 – 8 pm. \$45.

Dusty Santamaria + Moira Ichiban - Johnny B's. 9 – 11 pm. Avantgarde.
March Madness Karaoke Event - Rumors. 9 pm.

Wednesday, April 17 ASHLAND

Blades of Grass - Black Sheep Pub & Restaurant. 9 pm. Bluegrass.
Griffin House - Brickroom. 9 pm. \$18. Singer-songwriter.
The People's Open Mic - Jackson Wellsprings. 8 pm.
J Brothers Duo - Green Springs Inn. 6 – 8 pm. Blues, Folk, Pop.

GRANTS PASS

Home Free - Rogue Theatre. 8 – 11 pm. \$39.50-69.50. Country.

JACKSONVILLE

Jeff Kloetzel - South Stage Cellars. 6 – 8 pm. Acoustic.

MEDFORD

Norman Baker - Johnny B's. 9 pm. Singer-songwriter.
Open Jam - Pier 21. 8 pm.
Trivia Night - Osmo's Alehouse. 7 – 9 pm.

TALENT

Harry Potter Trivia Night - Talent Library. 5:30 – 6:30 pm.
Ghost-Note - Talent Club. 7 pm. Funk, Hip Hop, Jazz.

Thursday, April 18 ASHLAND

Dart Tourney and Game Knight - Black Sheep Pub & Restaurant. 7:30 pm.
Karaoke - Oberon's. 9 pm.
Trivia with Peter Bolton - Smithfields Pub & Pies. 7:45 pm.
Ashleigh Flynn - Wild Goose Cafe & Bar. 8 pm.

MEDFORD

Paint and Sip Pottery - 4 Daughters. 6 – 8 pm. \$45.
Live Band Karaoke - Pier 21. 8 pm.
Yu-Gi-Oh Tournament - Astral Games. 5:30 pm.
Crucifix - Rocky Tonk Saloon. 7 pm. Dirt Rock, Hip Hop.
Moonshine Bandits - Rocky Tonk Saloon. 9 pm. Country Rap, Country Rock.

Friday, April 19 ASHLAND

Sound Farm - Black Sheep Pub & Restaurant. 9 pm. \$5. Rock, Bluegrass, Jazz, Folk, Covers.
Jeff Kloetzel - Belle Fiore Winery. 5:30 – 7:30 pm. Acoustic.
Fortune's Folly - Brickroom. 9 pm. \$10. Dance.
Dan Engle and Friends - Oberon's. 6 pm.
Nick and Luke - Oberon's. 9:30 – 11:30 pm. Jazz, Rock.

GRANTS PASS

Adam Knight - The SpeakEasy Taproom. 7 – 10 pm. Singer-songwriter.
Funqdaqit, Dusty Jones and the Devils High Society, and the Herbal Crew - The Sound Lounge. 9 pm.
Claude Bourbon - Grants Pass Museum of Art. 7 – 9 pm. Classical Guitar.
Parole Denied - G Street Bar and Grill. 9 pm. Rock.

MEDFORD

Danielle Kelly Soul Project - Howiee's on Front. 9:30 pm. Soul, Jazz.
Robbie DaCosta Band - RoxyAnn Winery. 6 – 8 pm. Rock.
Sip & Paint Love Life Llama - Art 4 Joy. 6 – 9 pm. \$40.
Douse, The Elephant, The Music of Frank Ellis - Johnny B's. 9 pm. \$5. Electric Rock, Dream Pop.

LIVE MUSIC *and Nightlife*

TALENT

James Kline - Paschal Winery. 7:30 pm.

Saturday, April 20 ASHLAND

Ukulele Club - Black Sheep Pub & Restaurant. 3 pm.
Robbie DaCosta Trio - Black Sheep Pub & Restaurant. 9 pm. Rock, R&B.
Steve Schein - O'Shea's Irish Pub. 5 – 8 pm. Jazz.
Latin Dance Night - O'Shea's Irish Pub. 8:30 – 11:30 pm. \$7.
Jack Wilhite's Rock & Roll Comedy Show - Ashland Elks Lodge. 7 – 9 pm.
Lovebite - Stone House. 7 – 10:30 pm. R&B, Funk, Rock. Advance Reservations only: please email newbohemiaproductions@gmail.com.
Bekkah McAlvage - Green Springs Inn. 6 – 8 pm. Folk, Country, Blues.
Indubious - Ashland Armory. 7 pm. \$15-20.

GRANTS PASS

Dawg Trio - Rogue Theatre. 7 – 10 pm.
Fortune's Folly - The Sound Lounge. 9 pm. Dance.
David Grisman - Rogue Theatre. 7 pm. Bluegrass, Country.

JACKSONVILLE

Saucy - Boomtown Saloon. 8:30 – 11:30 pm. Jazz, Rock, Pop.

MEDFORD

Jeff Kloetzel - Rogue Valley Country Club. 6 – 9 pm. Acoustic.
Jim Witters - Craterian Theater. 7:30 pm. \$22-38. Music of Billy Joel and Elton John.
The Evening Shades - Walkabout Brewing Company. 6 – 8 pm.
Alcyon Massive - Howiee's on Front. 9 pm. \$10-12. Reggae, Soul.
Danielle Kelly Soul Project - The Rogue Grape. 7 – 9 pm. Jazz, Soul.

ROGUE RIVER

Gypsy Gillis - Homestead. 8 pm. Rock.

TALENT

Dennis Mertens - StoneRiver Vineyard. 4 – 6

pm. Classic Rock, Country.

WILLIAMS

Arkaingelle - Blaze and Praise. 2 pm. Reggae, Roots.

Sunday, April 21 APPLEGATE

Sunday Nights Unplugged - Applegate River Lodge. 7 – 11 pm.

ASHLAND

Celtic Music Session - Black Sheep Pub & Restaurant. 2 – 5 pm.
Sam Warner - Black Sheep Pub & Restaurant. 7 pm. Acoustic.
Ed Dunsavage Trio - Luna Cafe + Mercantile. 4 – 6 pm. Jazz.

MEDFORD

Jeff Kloetzel - RoxyAnn Winery. 3 – 5 pm. Acoustic.

Monday, April 22 ASHLAND

Antics Improv - Black Sheep Pub & Restaurant. 8 – 10 pm.
Open Mic - Oberon's. 9 pm.

CAVE JUNCTION

Open Mic Mondays - Creative Self Collective. 6 – 10 pm.

MEDFORD

Whole Milk, Plum, and Reverend Hylton - Johnny B's. 9 pm. Indie Music, Math Rock.

Tuesday, April 23 ASHLAND

Gaelynn Lea - AQUA. 7 – 9 pm.
Open Mic with Robbie DaCosta - Black Sheep Pub & Restaurant. 8:30 pm.
Haiku d'etat, Myka 9, AbRude, and AceyAlone - O'Ryan's Irish Pub. 8 pm. \$5-10.
Jack Garton and the Demon Squadron - Wild Goose Cafe & Bar. 9 – 11 pm. Roots, Folk.
Ashland Tango Practica - Ashland Community Center. 8 pm.

GRANTS PASS

EVENTS

Art

JOHN KIRK, JEANNE LARAE, AND MICHAEL LYNN ADAMS AT ASHLAND ART CENTER

The month of April. Birds are flying works of art and as seen through John's images you can hear their music and feel their wild hearts. Jeanne is a Studio and Plein Air painter and she will be anxious to get outside and capture the greens, new blossoms and the rushing waters. For Michael Lynn Adams painting is an act of contemplation and discovery, reflecting his love of beauty and simplicity. Ashland Art Center, 357 E Main St, Ashland.

DEBORAH OROPALLO AT HANSON HOWARD GALLERY

April 5 through 23. "Dark Landscapes for a White House" critiques our cultural habituation to political and ecological traumas. Oropallo employs video and photomontage as a strategy for visualizing how media-based images accumulate and overwhelm our collective consciousness. Hanson Howard Gallery, 89 Oak St, Ashland.

MARIANNE NIELSEN AND MARILYN ZUPAN AT ART DU JOUR

Throughout April. With a passion for watercolor,

Marianne Nielsen say it is her favorite media because of its versatility regarding techniques and textures. Marilyn Zupan has always had a deep love for England's gentle country landscapes and rustic stone homes and bridges. Her father was English and she spent three years in England falling in love with her ancestral land. Art du Jour, 213 E Main St, Medford.

BETTY LADUKE AT GRANTS PASS MUSEUM OF ART

April 2 through May 24. Betty LaDuke, an Ashland artist who is well known both nationally and internationally will exhibit her artwork at the Grants Pass Museum of Art. Social Justice Revisited spans five decades of select artwork: remembering, reliving, resisting. This series raises questions about personal and political relationships concerning how we live, what we have done, and what we need to do individually and collectively for peace and global survival. Grants Pass Museum of Art, 229 SW G St, Grants Pass.

SPRING TERM ROUND ONE AT CVA AT SOU

Through April 26. View digital, photographer, and multimedia art by SOU students. Southern Oregon University, 1250 Siskiyou Blvd, Ashland.

Classes

SPANISH CONVERSATION GROUP TUTORIAL TUESDAYS

Join fellow genealogy researchers Tuesday evenings at the Jackson County Genealogy Library. Learn how to access the Library's websites, how to use them effectively, and how to improve your research skills. Each webinar is shown twice, once at 5pm and again at 7pm. Webinars are FREE for Rogue Valley Genealogical Society members, and \$5 for non-members. Jackson County Genealogy Library, 3405 S. Pacific Highway, Medford. For more information call 541-512-2340, email reception. JCGL@gmail.com, or stop by the Genealogy Library. For a listing of all events and Tuesday tutorials, visit www.rvgsociety.org. Jackson County Genealogy Library, 3405 S Pacific Hwy, Medford.

INTERMEDIATE ACRYLIC PAINTING

Tuesdays, April 16 through May 21 from 10:45 am – 12:45 pm. Continue your studies in acrylic painting techniques ranging from nature studies, landscape, figures and still life. Instructor-led studies as well as the opportunity for students to follow their own interests with individual support. PRE-REGISTRATION AT ashland.or.us/register is required. Please call 541.488.5340 for a supply list. \$99. The Grove, 1195 E Main St, Ashland.



ENJOY THE MUSIC OF GAELYNN LEA AT AQUA APRIL 23.

UADA, Wormwitch, Cloak, and Attic - The Sound Lounge. 7 – 11 pm. \$10. Metal.
Latin Tuesdays - Climate City Brewing Company. 7 – 9 pm. \$5.

MEDFORD

Paint and Sip Pottery - Old 99 Road Beer & Wine Shop. 6 – 8 pm. \$45.

Wednesday, April 24 ASHLAND

Blades of Grass - Black Sheep Pub & Restaurant. 9 pm.
Powerman5000 - Ashland Armory. 7 – 11 pm. \$20.
The People's Open Mic - Jackson Wellsprings. 8 pm.
Green Mountain Guild - Belle Fiore. 5 pm.

GRANTS PASS

Haiku d'etat, Myka 9, AbRude, and AceyAlone - The Sound Lounge. 8 pm. \$5.
The Brothers Reed - Wild River Pub. 6 – 8 pm. Folk, Acoustic.

MEDFORD

Sip & Paint Autism Awareness - Art 4 Joy. 6 – 9 pm. \$40.
Open Jam - Pier 21. 8 pm.

PHOENIX

Sunset Palms - Wine & Brush. 6 – 8 pm. \$40. \$20.

TALENT

Polyrhythms - Talent Club. 9 pm. \$20. R&B, Progressive Jazz. 🍷

ADVANCED LINOCUTS WITH VANESSA JO BAHR

April 17 and 24 from 5 – 7pm. In this advanced printmaking series you will transition from a beginning relief printmaker into an advanced linocut artist. Students will further their knowledge to the next level by learning new techniques in both the carving and printing process. Students will master print processes using multiple registration techniques that allow for the overlaying of multiple colors and images. \$120. Sign up here: <https://www.ashlandartcenter.org/event/advanced-linocuts-with-vanessa-jobahr/2019-04-10/>. Ashland Art Center, 357 E Main St, Ashland.

INTRO TO JAPANESE WOODBLOCK PRINTMAKING WITH WALT PADGETT

Thursdays, April 4 through 25 from 11 am – 3 pm. Japanese Woodblock Prints have been created for centuries to capture a variety of subject matter. Using influences from cultures of the West and the East, this class will explore various techniques for creating timeless woodblock prints. \$290-300. Register at <https://www.roguegallery.org/register.pl>. Rogue Gallery & Art Center, 40 S Bartlett St, Medford.

EVENTS

COMMUNICATION SKILLS FOR CHALLENGING TIMES

Thursdays, April 4 through 25 from 5:30 – 8:30 pm. This series of classes prepares you to prevent conflicts through the use of effective communication skills and to respond with clarity and compassion to conflicts that do arise. For details go to www.growingpeace.net or call 541-301-7993. \$90-120.

OIL & ACRYLIC STUDIO WITH LINDA DIXON

Wednesdays, April 3 through 24 from 10 am – 12:30 pm. Select your own subject matter to work on. Linda will help you with your process and solve problems as needed. Demonstrations on subjects & techniques are a regular feature, with students determining content. Studio is open to most skill levels. 75-94. Ashland Art Center, 357 E Main St, Ashland.

FIRE BY FRICTION WORKSHOP

Sunday, April 14 from 10 am – 5 pm. The Sharpening Stone in Sunny Valley. Learn the ancient bow drill method of making fire. Harvest materials from the forest, make your own kit, and learn the technique. Visit www.thesharpeningstone.com for more information and to register.

THE FUTURE OF FARMING IS REGENERATIVE

April 14 and 28, May 9 and 10, June 9, July 21, Aug. 11, and Oct. 11. The Future of Farming is a six part learning series about Regenerative agriculture. We will begin by laying the foundation for theory about regenerative agriculture, then the series will focus on connecting theory with practices in-the-field, and conclude with examples of farms that have successfully implemented these principles. \$30-130. Visit www.ourfamilyfarms.org for more info and to register.

REALIZING THE AMERICAN DREAM

Saturday, April 20 from 9 am – 5 pm. This class is for people who are interested in buying their first home and getting information that can assist them. The class is being held at Rogue Community College's Grants Pass location in room RWS - T1. \$45. Co-students are free. Pre-registration is required. For more information, email or call the Homeownership Center at ACCESS at hocinfo@accesshelps.org or 541-774-4305. Rogue Community College, 3345 Redwood Hwy, Grants Pass.



LEARN HOW TO MAKE A BOOK WITH DENISE KESTER AT ASHLAND ART CENTER APRIL 13.

PASTE, PAPER, & BOOK MAKING WITH DENISE KESTER

April 13 from 1 – 3 pm and April 14 from 9:30 am – 3:30 pm. Create beautiful paste papers using non-toxic paints, stencils, and design tools. The paste papers will be used to make one 6x9 "button hole" or "open back" blank art journal book. \$145. Go to ashlandartcenter.org to register. Ashland Art Center, 357 E Main St, Ashland.

SAFE MEDICATION USE IN OLDER ADULTS

Wednesday, April 17 from 8:30 am – 12:30 pm. This class is designed to help anyone who cares for an aging Oregonian learn about safe medication use,

pain management and medication reviews. This half-day class is free of charge, thanks to funding from the State of Oregon and partnerships with trusted non-profits including the Alzheimer's Association and Oregon Health Care Association. The Lodge at Riverside Event Center, 900 SE 8th St, Grants Pass.

Community

BALLROOM DANCING

Every Tuesday from 1:30 – 4 pm with lessons starting at 12:30 pm. Every week Square Dance Hall is not only teaching the public how to ballroom dance, but is opening its doors to invite everyone to enjoy the dance together. \$3. Live music by Dave Flick. Square Dance Hall, 3377, Table Rock Rd, Medford.

SUNDAYS IN SPRING AT HANLEY FARM

April 14, May 5, 19, and 26 from 11 am to 3 pm. Stroll the gardens and visit the orchards, fields, chickens and sheep; join in family-fun gardening activities; enjoy live music; and tour the historic Hanley House. Bring a picnic or make your own pizza and salad with locally grown fresh food available at the farm. Hanley Farm, 1053 Hanley Rd, Central Point.

4TH ANNUAL WILLIAMS PROPAGATION FAIR

Saturday, April 13 from 10 am – 4 pm. When you arrive you will see many cups full of twigs. This is the scion. There will be brief workshops and demos, and maybe food. SCA Pavilion, 206 Tethrow, Williams.

WOLF CREEK EASTER HUNT

Saturday, April 20 from 11:30 am – 3:30 pm. Wolf Creek does EAster with a Bang! Parade starts at 12 noon, and leads to the Wolf Creek Park where the Egg Hunt takes place. While you're here come by the Wolf Creek Inn and enjoy a great meal.

SPRING SOIREE

Saturday, April 13 from 5:30 – 11 pm. Enjoy an evening of live music, food, and a live and silent auction to benefit Woodland Charter School. \$30 per ticket or 225 for a table of eight. Tickets can be purchased at www.woodlandcharterschool.org. Josephine County Fairgrounds, Floral Building, 1451 Fairgrounds Rd, Grants Pass.

CALLAHAN'S EASTER BRUNCH CELEBRATION

Sunday, April 21 from 9:30 am – 3:30 pm. Bring your family to Callahan's for your Easter brunch and enjoy their special Easter menu together. \$17-36. Callahan's Mountain Lodge, 7100 Old Highway 99 South, Ashland.

Stage

OREGON SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

March through October. Hairspray: The Broadway Musical. Macbeth. Cambodian Rock Band. All's Well That Ends Well. As You Like It. How to Catch Creation. Between Two Knees. Mother Road. Alice in Wonderland. Indecent. La Comedia of Errors. Visit osashland.org for tickets and more information.

THE GOOD GERMAN

April 6, 7, 13, and 14 at Carpenter Hall and April 19, 20, and 21 at Grizzly Peak Winery. Set in Nazi Germany, Wiltse's play is an intense drama that explores prejudice, cultural identity, duty, patriotism, and the strategies we employ to survive. Who do we have to become to make it through perilous times and how do we justify our choices? \$18. Learn more and purchase tickets at www.ashlandcontemporarytheatre.org.

THE DIXIE SWIM CLUB

April 12 through 28. Five Southern women, whose friendships began many years ago on their college swim team, set aside a long weekend every August to recharge those relationships. Free from husbands, kids and jobs, they meet at the same beach cottage on North Carolina's Outer Banks to catch up, laugh and meddle in each other's lives. \$12-15. Barnstormers Theatre, 112 NE Evelyn Ave, Grants Pass.

SHERLOCK HOLMES AND THE SIGN OF THE FOUR

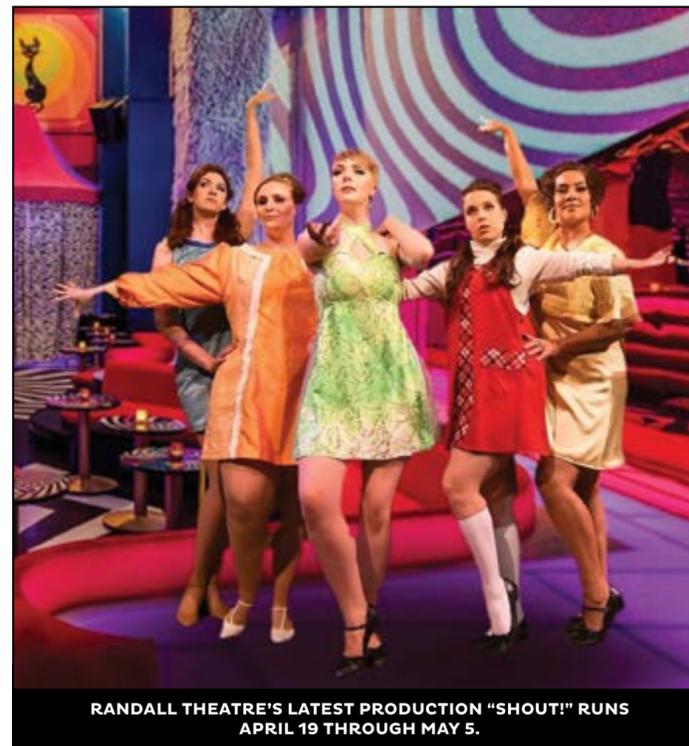
April 11 through May 26. "Sherlock Holmes & the Sign of the Four" brings Holmes and Watson back to the Cabaret for an adventure that takes the audience from a prison in India to 221B Baker Street and on to the Thames for an onstage boat chase. Go to oregoncabaret.com for more information.

CATTLE MUTILATION: THE MUSICAL

April 23 through 28. "Cattle Mutilation: The Musical" tells the story of two dueling parent child relationships, one from Earth, and another from the Crab Nebula, and what happens when they all get mixed up on a late-night search for Bigfoot. Will be performed at Oregon Fringe Festival.

SHOUT!

April 19 through May 5. Musical theater meets Laugh-In in this frothy, infectious, all-new production of "Shout! The Mod Musical." This bright vinyl time capsule tracks five groovy girls as they come of age in the 60's, and flips through the years taking you back to the music, fashion and freedom of that liberating decade. \$5-20. Purchase tickets at www.randalltheatre.com. Randall Theatre, 10 E 3rd St, Medford.



RANDALL THEATRE'S LATEST PRODUCTION "SHOUT!" RUNS APRIL 19 THROUGH MAY 5.

THE BRIDGES OF MADISON COUNTY

April 12 through May 12. "The Bridges of Madison County," based on the best-selling Robert James Waller novel of the same name, focuses on Francesca, an Italian war bride living in Iowa in 1965 and her encounter with Robert Kincaid. \$15-28. Purchase tickets and get more information at ctpmeford.org. Collaborative Theatre Project, 555 Medford Center, Medford.



"THE DIXIE SWIM CLUB" WILL PLAY AT BARNSTORMERS THEATRE APRIL 12 THROUGH 28.

Email: events@roguevalleymessenger.com

EVENTS

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE FILM FESTIVAL

April 16 through 18. Join ECOS Sustainability Resource Center and partners for an Environmental Justice Film Festival during Earth Week at Southern Oregon University. Discussion to follow each film. Go to <https://sustainability.sou.edu/Earthweek2019> for more information.

INDIGENOUS FIRE MANAGEMENT SEMINAR AND FILM

Sunday, April 14 from 5 – 9 pm. Did you happen to miss the Siskiyou FilmFest this year? Don't fret because we're coming to a town near you and our first stop is in Williams, Oregon! Giving folks the opportunity to join in on the Siskiyou FilmFest tradition! More details and to sign up via siskiyoufilmfest.org. Williams Grange, 20100 Williams Hwy, Williams.

Presentations

POETRY READING WITH AMY MILLER AND JUDITH MONTGOMERY

Thursday, April 11 at 7 pm. Amy Miller's latest poetry collection, "The Trouble with New England Girls," explores themes of home, loss, wolves, and legends of what has vanished and what stays with us. Judith Montgomery's fourth poetry collection, "Litany for Wound and Bloom," explores the joys and challenges of motherhood and considers women's many identities in the arena of a violent, modern world. Bloomsbury Books, 290 E Main St, Ashland.

AUTHOR SIERRA FAITH AT BLOOMSBURY BOOKS

Monday, April 15 at 7 pm. Join dating and relationship coach, Sierra Faith, for a reading from her new book, "Absolutely Adored-Stop Choosing Narcissistic Men and Finally Be a Well-Loved Woman." Bloomsbury Books, 290 E Main St, Ashland.

AUTHOR RICK SNYDER AT BLOOMSBURY BOOKS

Tuesday, April 16 at 7 pm. Snyder's book "Decisive Intuition" explores how we can each learn to listen to, trust, and act on our intuitive intelligence so that we can make choices from a deeper and wiser resources that has impacts in our personal and professional lives. Bloomsbury Books, 290 E Main St, Ashland.

POET KIM STAFFORD AT BLOOMSBURY BOOKS

Thursday, April 18 at 7 pm. Kim Stafford, founding director of the Northwest Writing Institute at Lewis & Clark College, is the author of a dozen books of poetry. Bloomsbury Books, 290 E Main St, Ashland.

HOW DO WE DECIDES WHAT'S FAIR?

Thursday, April 18 from 4 – 5:30 pm. Join Marla Estes & Rob Schlapfer for One Nation Indivisible. This series of community talks examines three pillars of our Liberal Democratic Republic: Liberty, Justice & Inclusiveness. Eagle Point Library, 239 W Main St, Eagle Point.

AUTHOR JOHN SOARES

April 13 at Medford Library and April 14 at Ashland Library from 1 – 2:30 pm. Ashland-based outdoor writer John Soares will share the best nearby day hikes and backpacking trips.

THE BRITISH POETS LAUREATE: 1616 TO PRESENT

Saturday, April 13 from 5 – 6 pm. In honour of National Poetry Month professional British actor John Rainer performs poems from the recipients of this award. The recitation creates a rich thread of poetic imagery weaving a fascinating tapestry of English verse spanning the centuries. Medford Library, 205 S Central Ave, Medford.

AUTHOR ANDREA CHILDRETH AT OREGON BOOKS

Saturday, April 13 from 11 am – 2 pm. Alongside the Nonprofit Booksale Oregon Books and Games will be hosting Medford Native Andrea Childers with her powerful book "On the Edge." Part Memoir, part parenting guide, "On the Edge" provides a realistic and practical guide to parenting children with mental illness. Oregon Books, 150 NE E St, Grants Pass.

LOST AND MAROONED AT CRATER LAKE

Tuesday, April 16 1:30 – 3 pm. Educator and Historian Larry Smith will share the fate of a 19-year-old traveler lost at Crater lake, and tell the story about the 12-year-old boy who was "marooned at Crater Lake" for winter in 1915. Jackson County Genealogy Library, 3405 S. Pacific Hwy, Medford.

AWAKENING THE DREAMER SYMPOSIUM

Saturday, April 13 from 1 – 4:30 pm. This interactive, transformative educational program explores the challenges facing humanity at this critical moment in time and the opportunities we as a human family have to create a new future. For more info call Michelle (707) 508-5052. Reserve your spot by email: larkswain@jeffnet.org. UUGP Fellowship, 129 E St, Grants Pass.

Sports & Outdoors

PEAR BLOSSOM RUN SIGN-UPS

Sign-up now to walk or run in the 43rd annual Pear Blossom Run presented by Asante on Saturday, April 13. There is a 1 and 2 mile fun run, a 5K and the classic 10 mile run. Check out the new courses this year! All proceeds help local kids, teens, families and schools. Go to www.pearblossomrun.com for more information and to sign up.

GRAND RONDE TRIBES

Sunday, April 14 at 9 am. Join Michael Karnosh, Ceded Lands Program Manager at the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde, to learn about traditional and culturally important plants of the tribes whose ancestors include the original residents of the Table Rocks area. Go to <https://grand-ronde-hike-2019.eventbrite.com> for more information.

LEGACY OF A LANDMARK

Saturday, April 20 at 9 am. Jeff LaLande, retired archaeologist and historian for the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest, will discuss the role of the Table Rocks in the culture and legends of the Takelma Indians, as well as the history of the Table Rocks area during the "Indian Wars" of the 1850s. Go to <https://legacy-of-a-landmark-2019.eventbrite.com> for more information.

VESPER VOLUNTEERING FOR EARTH DAY: WILLOW PLANTING

Monday, April 22 from 8:30 am – 2 pm. Participate in a community act of restoration: help plant the naked banks of the creek and help prepare native plants for planting. We'll follow up our work with snacks and celebration. Come join friends in some muddy fun! Carpooling encouraged. REI, 85 Rossanley Dr, Medford.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT WHETSTONE SAVANNA NATURE PRESERVE

Saturday, April 13 at 9 am. Celebrate Earth Month with The Nature Conservancy and SOLVE! Volunteers can help remove invasive weeds from vernal pools. Registration is required at nature.org/oregonvolunteers. For more information please contact Molly at 541-708-4990 or mmorison@tnc.org.

BIG TREE TOUR IN LITHIA PARK

Sunday, April 14 from 12 – 1 pm. Friends of Lithia Park will guide a 40-minute walking tour of large legacy trees: Firs, Redwoods, Cedars, Pines, and more. Learn about the citizen petition to designate the Douglas Fir Grove as "Ashland Heritage Trees." Meet at the picnic table between the Sycamore Grove and the Japanese Garden (close parking along Granite St., south of Nutley). Details at www.tinyurl.com/FirGrove.

Kids & Family

NINJAKIDS

Mondays and Wednesdays from 4 – 5 pm. Children walk away from this class with a tough workout under his and her belt and having developed a basic Ninjutsu skills. This class is not only to teach children these, but also to build self esteem, encourage exercising, and discipline. The first week is free. \$50. Rogue Protection Group, 2185 #A1, Spalding Ave, Grants Pass.

FAMILY FUN ARCHERY

Mondays from 6:30 – 7:30 pm. Featuring moving targets/4D archery. Beginner's welcome. All

equipment supplied. Family rates. For ages 8 and up. Children required to shoot with a supervising adult. More info at www.MoonbowArchery.com. The Grove, 1195 E Main St, Ashland.

PRESCHOOL PUPPET THEATER

Second Friday of each month: April 12 and May 10 from 10:30 – 11:45 am. Gather around and see what Trickster Coyote and friends are up to this season. A brief nature lesson will be followed by the puppet show and play time. A snack and related craft/activity will then be available. Reservations are guaranteed only until 10:30am. Please arrive early, as space and parking is limited (no late seating). Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times during the program. PRE-REGISTRATION at ashland.or.us/register is required. \$6 per child. North Mountain Park, 620 N Mountain Ave, Ashland.

CERAMICS FOR KIDS WITH LIZ O'BRIEN

Mondays from 3:30 – 5 pm. A fun way for kids to explore the world of clay! Ages five to six must bring a supervising adult for their first class. Ages seven to 12 may come unaccompanied by adult. All parents must sign their children in, pay prior to class and leave emergency contact info with Ashland Art Center. \$10 for drop-ins, plus \$3 firing fee. Ashland Art Center, 357 E Main St, Ashland.

KIDS CLAY WITH KEELEY BITTNER

Tuesdays from 3:30 – 5 pm. A special clay class created just for kids! Join clay instructor Keeley Bittner for a special clay class tailored just for young people. Explore the medium and make some cool stuff! Max 10 students. \$10 for drop-ins, plus \$3 firing fee. Ashland Art Center, 357 E Main St, Ashland.

SCIENCE WORKS SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION OPEN

April 1 through June 3 from 10 am – 5 pm. Summer camps at ScienceWorks are an enriching and educational way for youth to spend their summers. Sign up for one week, or the entire summer! Every week at ScienceWorks, summer camps are focused on different science topics some include Scientific Illustration, Mushrooms, Space, and more! To Sign up for Summer Camps: <https://scienceworksmuseum.org/camps/>. ScienceWorks Hands-On Museum, 1500 E. Main St, Ashland

BRICK FEST

Saturday, April 13 from 11 am – 2 pm. Brick Fest is fun event filled with thousands of Lego bricks that encourages innovative thinking and creative building skills. All ages are welcome; children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Rogue Innovation Hub, 214 SW Fourth St, Grants Pass.

SPRING YOUNG ARTISTS' STUDIO

Tuesdays, April 30 through June 4 from 3:30 – 5 pm. Ages 7 – 11. In this exploratory workshop young artists will get their hands in clay, press original prints, construct eye catching mosaics, and much more! \$75 for members, \$85 for non-members. Sign up at <https://www.roguegallery.org/register.pl>. Rogue Gallery & Art Center, 40 S Bartlett St, Medford.

RCC MESSAGE THERAPY PROGRAM MEETINGS

April 16 and May 28 from 5:30 – 7 pm. Learn about local employment opportunities, including wage ranges and the meaning of "accredited," a "one-year certificate," and "financial-aid eligible." This program includes the training and practicum hours that meet the requirements for Oregon state licensure and national certification. For more information, visit www.roguecc.edu/message or contact them at 541-956-7066 or massage@roguecc.edu. RCC Redwood Campus, Building M, Room 1, 3345 Redwood Hwy, Grants Pass.

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EVENTS

MAMA TEA TIME

Thursdays from 10 am – 12 pm. A safe space created by women for women. Through deep sharing, we will discuss all things motherhood, from the mystical to the mundane. Whether you have been a mother for 2 days or 30 years, are an Auntie, a Sister, haven't yet welcomed your babe earthside, or are still waiting to become pregnant, you are welcome here. Family Massage Education Center, 77 Manzanita St, Ashland.

PEACE CORPS PANEL DISCUSSION: STORIES FROM RETURNED VOLUNTEERS

Wednesday, April 24 from 4 – 5 pm. Discover the benefits of Peace Corps service from returned volunteers. Join us to learn about the challenging, rewarding, and inspirational moments from their service. Ask questions and gain tips to guide you through the application process. Southern Oregon University, Stevenson Union, 1250 Siskiyou Blvd, Ashland.

Food

ROGUE VALLEY GROWERS & CRAFTERS MARKET

March 7 – Nov. 21 on Thursdays from 8:30 am – 1:30 pm. Hawthorne Park, Medford.
March 5 – Nov. 26 on Tuesdays from 8:30 am to 1:30 pm. National Guard Armory, 1420 E Main St, Ashland.

SIP AND DECORATE CHOCOLATE EASTER EGGS

Sunday, April 14 at 1:30 pm. In this hands-on class, you will learn professional decorating techniques of experienced Chocolatier Deena Branson! Ticket price includes 1 large Chocolate Egg and colored chocolate needed for decorating, 2 hours of hands on, interactive time and 1 complimentary glass of Paschal Wine. \$35. Go to www.paschalwinery.com for more

information. Paschal Winery, 1122 Suncrest Rd, Talent.

CORK 'N' FORK

April 17 and 24 at 6 pm. Arbor House is preparing dinner at Paschal Winery for April. April 17 entails Italian Sausage penne in vodka cream sauce, green salad, and bread. April 24 includes chicken fajita pasta, green salad, and bread. \$10. Paschal Winery, 1122 Suncrest Rd, Talent.

Wellness

COMMUNITY COUNSELING CENTER

The Community Counseling Center offers low cost, sliding-scale, professional counseling for individuals, couples, adolescents, families and children. The CCC is located at 600 Siskiyou Blvd, Ashland. \$40. Visit www.cccofashland.com or call 541-708-5436 for more information and to purchase tickets. The Phoenix Clubhouse, 310 N Main St, Phoenix.

NEW YOGA CLASS WITH WOLF PURNANANDA

Wednesdays from 8 – 9:30 am. Wolf's enthusiasm for healing infuses his Yoga teachings. He teaches Hatha based classes focused on foundational alignment and connection within. His Yoga and Meditation classes are designed to not only advance your practice physically, but to tap into the emotional, mental and energetic bodies. He completes his classes with sound healings and meditation techniques. Wolf's classes have been described as, "Healings...sprinkled with yoga." \$15 per class. Family Massage Education Center, 77 Manzanita St, Ashland.

AWARENESS THROUGH MOVEMENT WEEKLY FELDENKRAIS CLASS

Wednesdays from 10 – 11:30 am. Feldenkrais is a method that shows you how to move through the field of gravity in ways that use

it to your advantage. Most people have an adversarial relationship with gravity, but it can ground you if you know how to use it. This not only reduces wear and tear on joints, reducing pain; it also improves focus and learning. When you are comfortable in your body, learning is easy, inspiration is spontaneous and creativity abounds. \$15 Drop-in, \$50 per month, first class free. Feldenkrais Studio Jacksonville, 235 Main St, Jacksonville.

BEING WITH LIFE AND DEATH

Saturdays April 6 through May 11 from 1 – 4 pm. Join the us for this workshop series exploring aging, illness, death and bereavement through the lens of giving and receiving. Explore how to support each other's life experience. Be inspired through interactive workshops including community dialogues, personal exploration, expert guest speakers and local resources. \$15-50. For more information and to register call 541-414-3181 or go to compassionatecommunity.com.

OUTER RADIANCE

Thursday, April 18 from 6 – 8 am. Donnie will be giving the next workshop in his 2 Part series, Inner Health: Outer Radiance. Discussions will continue on the "hallmarks of aging," Essential blood tests for monitoring and managing your biological terrain, and more. Mederi Center, 478 Russell Street, Suite 101, Ashland.

AWARENESS THROUGH MOVEMENT WEEKLY FELDENKRAIS CLASS

Wednesdays from 10 – 11:30 am. Unwind Your Spine! Mindful moves to regain lost mobility. We've all been brainwashed to believe decrepitude is inevitable after 50. It's not true. Do not buy into the lie! Learned resilience for flexibility in mind and body. \$15-50. Learn more info at www.gabriellepullen.info. Feldenkrais Studio, 235 W. Main St. Jacksonville.

FOOD & Drink

Let the Falafel Speak for Itself Falafel Republic in Ashland

BY JOSH STIRM

It's no secret that food in Ashland is expensive. It can be tricky to eat out for people on a tight budget. That being said, there is also an abundance of fantastic food in the Rogue Valley. This issue can oftentimes put southern Oregon food lovers in a difficult position: sacrifice flavor for economy? Or just splurge all the time? That's where restaurants like Falafel Republic come in.

Founded by local restaurant-worker-turned-restauranteur Sam Jackson in January 2018, Falafel Republic aims to bring low- and high-brow food culture together.

When asked what his mission statement would be for the restaurant, Jackson said: "I wanted to do something a little more health-conscious. I have to feed a family and it can often be difficult for me to find healthy food within my budget without having to prepare it at home."

Falafel Republic sports a simple, well curated menu with just enough options for exploration, but not too many that it comes off as daunting. They offer pitas, salads, and bowls comprising of your choice of protein: falafel, Za'atar grilled eggplant, Moroccan-spiced chicken, or the Greek classic beef and lamb shawarma.

Something immediately apparent about Falafel



Republic is their attention to details such as cleanliness and branding. Many local restaurants seem to follow the "proof is in the pudding" approach when decorating their restaurants, so it's really refreshing to see a locally-owned restaurant have such a clearly defined visual aesthetic. It is also remarkably clean, especially when you consider how few employees they currently have (when I visited, there was only one worker behind the counter making

all the food, and taking all the orders, and the place was spotless).

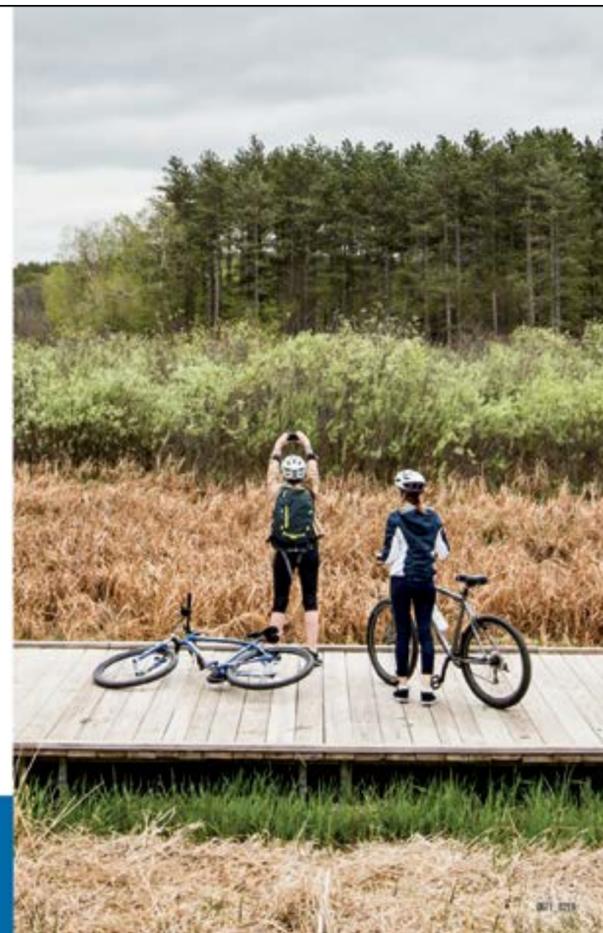
When asked about this attention to detail, Jackson stated: "Branding is something serious, there's a reason big companies do things the way they do them and you can't ignore that. I believe that the way you keep your kitchen and restaurant is reflected in your food."

Something many locals also love about the restaurant is its family vibe. When I visited, I was greeted by one of Jackson's daughters. She told me about a cotton-candy machine she had been saving up for and recently purchased, as well as bringing me a small bowl of her homemade cotton candy as a dessert once I had finished my meal.

When asked about his future plans for the restaurant, Jackson mentioned he had just bought a new chicken rotisserie that can fit 32 birds on it at once. He intends to take his mission of bringing cheap, fast, and healthy meals to the people of Ashland even further this spring by beginning to do to-go orders with the rotisserie.

FALAFEL REPUBLIC

11:30 am – 7:30 pm, 7 days a week
1465 Siskiyou Blvd, Ashland
541-708-6121



DRINK Local

Running vs. Drinking Wine Red Lily Vineyards in Jacksonville

BY NICK BLAKESLEE

Every year I do the Wild Rogue Relay. It's a masochistic event where you gather eleven friends and run 227 miles to the coast. Every runner runs about 17 miles over the course of 24 hours and, generally speaking, there's a lot of suffering involved. Certainly, there are times when I'm running and I wonder what in God's name compelled me to sacrifice a weekend so I could put on an old pair of running shoes and run to the Brookings. Every one runs three legs, with hand-offs along the way.

One such handoff is at Red Lily Vineyards. So I've been there several times, but never sat down and drank the wine. I find a Tempranillo doesn't really go well with a six-mile run. This is a vineyard with sprawling green grass, beautiful trees and rustic architecture. The Applegate River runs through it, and in the springtime, all sorts of flowers bloom peppering their property with a rich rainbow of colors and scents. It's incredibly idyllic. Butterflies probably use this place as a vacation home and I wouldn't be surprised if Tinker Bell rented a little cottage behind the tasting room.

Jasmine was kind enough to recommend one of their Signature Flights and answered all sorts of questions I had about what they do. With wine flight in hand, I posted up at a table right next to the river. Their flight included four wines, ranging from 2014s to 2017s. The rosé was really nice; most I've had in-

volve a girlfriend's birthday, so I'd grown accustomed to fact that they lean towards sweet. This, however, was a dry rosé with a fresh and full flavor, and a great aroma. The Verdejo was a full bodied, rich wine with herbal flavors, some citrus zest and even pineapple. It balanced sweet well with acidity. My favorite was their 2014 Tempranillo; its nose rich in berry aromas, with a bit of dry wood, the flavor wonderfully earthy and full, but not overbearing.

Red Lily has been there for me in my greatest time of need: when running the Wild Rogue Relay. A little slice of heaven, of paradise, amidst the grueling run to the coast. That's why I've learned to love it. Now, good news is I do almost everything wrong. Which means you should probably just go to the vineyard without running and enjoy it with a book to read, or



RED LILY VINEYARDS CREDIT: NICK BLAKESLEE

with friends; you know, like an adult. They're incredibly warm and welcoming and their product is not only top notch, but affordable as well. It'll be worth the drive.

RED LILY VINEYARDS

11 am – 5 pm, Thursday – Sunday
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SCREEN

Rebels With a Cause

Two "Rogues" Get Awards at AIFF

INTERVIEW BY VANESSA NEWMAN

Sometimes, being labeled a rebel is a compliment, and when the Ashland Independent Film Festival pins the title, it is definitely something to be proud of. This year's winners are Alex Rivera and Cristina Ibarra, a filmmaking duo that shares a passion for the history, story, and especially the people of the Mexican-American border. As evidenced in their joint film, *The Infiltrators*, Rivera and Ibarra tell the important story of the people, creating a hybrid documentary/fiction film focusing on the struggles faced by many. The film also won both the NEXT Jury and Audience awards at the 2019 Sundance Film Festival. We were able to connect with Rivera about this unique project, and their other films showing at AIFF—*Sleep Dealer* (Rivera) and *Las Marthas* (Ibarra).

Rogue Valley Messenger: How did you find out that you and Cristina were Rogue Award winners this year?

Alex Rivera: Richard Herskowitz,

Festival and Executive Director, called us and let us know that we were the winners. It was a total shock, delight, and honor! At first, I thought it was because we were sly, undercover and considered "rogues" but then I learned that "rogue" was the name of the geographical valley.

RVM: How was the experience working together with Cristina on the film, *The Infiltrators*?

AR: We are both filmmakers working independently.

Cristina works in the documentary arena, and I have been working in the world of fiction. The story that we are telling in this film was one that needed both techniques. We use observational documentary to depict our real-world characters outside of detention, but when they go into detention, we depict those characters with actors in scripted form. This is the first time we have made something together with both of our names as director. But we have been comrades and colleagues for over 20 years and now we are parents together.

RVM: Explain why you think *The Infiltrators* was a creative leap?

AR: I don't think there has been a film like this before that uses fiction and documentary on one forward-moving timeline. For example, an actor who is portraying a real person in detention picks up a phone and calls someone in the documentary which is outside the detention center. The two forms interlace with each other in an unusual way. The film is meant to take both political and creative risks.

RVM: How is *The Infiltrators* different than other hybrid films?

AR: Most "hybrid" films use re-creations set clearly in the past. You typically have an interview subject telling a story, and then the scripted section re-



ALEX RIVERA AND CRISTINA IBARRA
PHOTO CREDIT: ALEX RIVERA

creates that story. In *The Infiltrators*, our documentary layer is primarily real-time observational footage that interweaves with the scripted layer. The two forms run forward in story-time. You never know when you are mixing two elements whether it is going to "oil and water" or "oil and vinegar." We had no idea if it would work or not, but we are happy with how it came out. We had a concern that the form would be so strange that it would take all the attention away from the characters and the story. It's an experimental form that is also meant to be very legible, accessible, and to ultimately allow the audience to focus on story, character, and emotion.

RVM: Tell us about your other feature film, *Sleep Dealer*, at the Ashland Independent Film Festival.

AR: It is a science fiction film set on the US/Mexico border, and it imagines the border is sealed. Instead of crossing the border, workers in countries like Mexico connect their bodies to a high-speed internet and control robots that do their labor on the other side of the border. So their pure labor crosses, but their bodies stay out. The film is an attempt to use science fiction to explore questions of labor and alienation.

RVM: Since Cristina is in Honduras working on another project and could not speak with the Messenger, tell us about *Las Marthas*.

AR: *Las Marthas* is a creative and wild exploration of an unusual festival that happens on the US/Mexico border: a celebration of George Washington's birthday. The largest and longest running celebration, for over 150 years, takes place in Laredo, Texas, right on the border. At the center of the festival

are these young women who participate in this sort of baroque pageant and they wear \$30,000 gowns that weigh 100 pounds and they reenact Martha Washington's life. The film is sort of a mystery about why this is happening in Laredo. The answer gets into deep histories regarding land and power in that region but looks at those histories through this sort of funhouse mirror.

RVM: What else do you want audience members to know about you and Cristina as filmmakers?

AR: We live in a time of crisis. I don't want to make entertainment. I want to make some films that have some political guts. But I also think that to make effective political films, they need to be inviting to watch and visually rich. Film attendees who encounter our work in Ashland will see explosions, sex, women in Victorian gowns, robots and a heist movie about breaking into jail. We are trying to do something meaningful that resonates with the times we live in but also creates great fun cinema.

- THE INFILTRATORS**
6 pm, Friday, April 12
Historic Ashland Armory, 208 Oak Street, Ashland
- SLEEP DEALER**
10:10 am, Saturday, April 13
Varsity Theatre 3, 166 E. Main Street, Ashland
12:10 pm, Monday, April 15
Varsity Theatre 4, 166 E. Main Street, Ashland
- LAS MARTHAS**
3:30 pm, Saturday, April 13
Varsity Theatre 5, 166 E. Main Street, Ashland
- TALKBACK: ART AGAINST THE WALL: ILLUMINATING THE BORDER**
10 - 11:30 am, Friday, April 12
Ashland Springs Hotel, 212 E. Main Street, Ashland



SCREEN

On the Map

The World Premiere of *Phoenix, Oregon*

INTERVIEWS BY SARA JANE WILTERMOOD

They've got the Lowe's. They've got the fancy off-ramps and an overpass—construction of which slowed traffic on I-5 for what seemed like eons last year. For Rogue Valley residents, we don't often give Phoenix too much thought as we whiz past on our way to Ashland or Medford. But, the world premiere of *Phoenix, Oregon* on April 13 at the Ashland Independent Film Festival (AIFF) should put the little town of Phoenix on the map for many. Stuck in a rut, two friends take a risk and embark on a new business adventure to ward off (or jump in with both feet) a mid-life crisis. We caught up with a couple of the locals that worked on this film—set in Phoenix, of course—who will be sharing the glory of AIFF with filmmakers from around the globe.

Dave Marshall (Production Designer) Rogue Valley Messenger: How did you get involved with the *Phoenix, Oregon* film?

Dave Marshall: I've worked on previous

films written, directed, and produced by the Lundgrens such as *Redwood Highway* and *Black Road*.

RVM: What other films have you worked on, and how did *Phoenix* compare?

DM: I've worked on commercials, spots, and music videos. To name a couple of the larger films are *Brother Nature* and *Wild* but most of my work has been within the Indy and small budget films.

RVM: What was the most challenging part of working on the film?

DM: Each film has its own identity in ease or difficulty, crew and locations. There's always something that you'll be unprepared for but that is part of the joy and adventure in this industry—especially having a collective team helping one another. One of the greatest challenges with *Phoenix, Oregon* was creating and building a full scale set interior of a 30-foot airstream along with trying to production design the rest of the locations, props and sets in a very limited time. It's one of the larger stage sound stage sets I've done to date. I'm very proud of all the crew, cast and the generous help from those that donated their time or services, to create Phoenix, Oregon.

Gary Lundgren (Director) RVM: What was the most challenging part of working on the film?

GL: We had so much to shoot in 20 days, that I'd have to say the pace. There's really an art to executing each shot the best you can before moving on. Filmmaking is exciting,



fun and collaborative—but it can be very unpredictable and stressful when you're moving so fast.

RVM: What is the most impactful part of the film for you? (Without any spoilers, of course.)

GL: I love our cast and the characters they play. Just watching their external and internal struggles play out on screen. Seeing them take risks and pursue more fulfilling lives is still very satisfying to me.

RVM: What in the film do you think specifically speaks to Rogue Valley residents?

GL: It will be interesting to residents who love Southern Oregon and even to those who call the northwest their home. It will definitely speak to those who have opened their own businesses and understand those challenges. Mostly though, this film is for people who love real characters and independent, narrative films. It's not a documentary. It's a work of fiction that was shot all over Southern Oregon.

RVM: What do you hope the audience will take away from the film?

GL: I hope film lovers find it cinematic, funny and emotional. I hope they enjoy their time with these characters and can relate to them. And I hope they find the film life-affirming and meaningful.

WORLD PREMIERE OF PHOENIX, OREGON
6 pm, Saturday, April 13
Historic Ashland Armory, 208 Oak Street, Ashland





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SOUND

Celebrating Record Store Day on April 13

Biscuits & Vinyl in Talent

BY JORDAN MARIE MCCA



INSIDE BISCUITS & VINYL IN TALENT
CREDIT: COURTESY OF BISCUITS & VINYL

Thanks to the inauguration of Record Store Day in 2008, vinyl has enjoyed a renaissance in popularity and in sales around the world.

Record sales have been up, consumers have a desire to listen to music on a record player again, and vinyl pressings are becoming more and more exciting. Not long ago, opening a record store would sound outrageous. Today, however, new record stores have found a strong audience of people rifling through stacks of records old and new. In November of 2017 Biscuits & Vinyl opened its doors in Talent.

Biscuits & Vinyl Owner Matt Farrington says simply working at a record store was a childhood dream of his. When he had the opportunity to move to the Rogue Valley, he decided now was a good time to open his own shop. "It's a place for people to discover new music and/or reconnect with music they love," he says about Biscuits & Vinyl.

Self-proclaimed music nerd, Farrington's shop is filled wall to wall with vintage records and new pressings from current artists. "Vinyl sales have definitely been increasing for the past few years and seems to remain popular," he says. "I also get lots of new customers just getting into records. I don't think it's a fad at all. Records have been around for a long time and I don't think they will ever stop being made."

The story behind his shop's name comes from the name of the vinyl when it's melted down, right before it's pressed. Biscuits & Vinyl's bio explains: "This is

the center of the record, the round part with no grooves and the little hole. To this is added the label, which is pressed onto the biscuit, a step that doesn't require any adhesive. Rather, the biscuit is so hot from the vinyl being melted down that the label sticks right on. And there you have it!"

Farrington's all-time favorite record is "Reggae Got Soul" by Toots & The Maytalls. "It came from my Dad's collection, and has a great story," he says. "The record got me and my underaged friends into a club to see the group perform in my hometown while I was still in high school. We ended up getting invited onstage and got the record signed by Toots after the show." Ever since then Reggae has been a big part of his life. "This was the record that made me want to start collecting and now I run a record store, so quite the impact really."

For Record Store Day on April 13, Biscuits & Vinyl will have "a large selection of the exclusive releases and some other goodies." Check out the shop's Facebook page for daily posts about new records in the shop and new deals.



BISCUITS & VINYL
12 - 6 pm, Tuesday - Sunday
103 Talent Ave, Talent.
541-897-4429

Rogue Sounds

Safe and Sound

Caught In a Dream by The Brothers Reed

BY JOSH STIRM

The Brothers Reed have come to prominence in the southern Oregon folk scene over the past several years, touring extensively throughout the US and releasing three studio albums to date. This month they are set to release their fourth, titled *Caught In a Dream*.

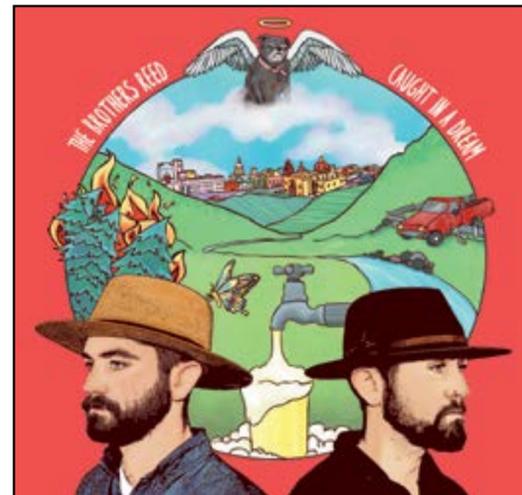
The album begins with the soft, mostly acoustic "Sweepin' In The Kitchen," driven forward by a gentle bed of fingerpicked acoustic guitars, shakers, and a round, settling bassline. The song begins with the lyrics, "I'm just a troubled lad, you don't want no part of that, wakin' life ain't what I choose, I prefer hittin' snooze," setting the subdued, somewhat sleepy tone of the rest of the album. The track continues on to tell the vague story of a person yearning for the opportunity to correct their past mistakes, complete with an obligatory reference to "gettin' pissed and throwin' fists at God, or whatever is listening."

The pace of *Caught In A Dream* picks up on the third track, "16oz." The instrumental palette is broadened with the incorporation of electric guitar, drums, and organ to interesting effect but yep you guessed it, it's a song about how, "these 16 ounces are my only friend." This track highlights one of the main pitfalls of this album. We've all heard plenty of tear-in-my-beer country songs before—and for good reason. They can be a really great vehicle for complicated emotions. The thing about "16oz" is that it doesn't seem to offer anything new in this area. If I wanted to hear this sentiment, I'd rather do so by someone with something new to add.

That's not to say this album is entirely without personality. Take for example its fifth track, "Smith River." The lyrics here are bound to grab anyone from southern Oregon with their references to local landmarks. The track goes on to outline the personal dissatisfaction of its narrator with lyrics like, "well I've got some buds, and a wife I love, a nice guitar, and a couple pups. Why can't I shut off my mind?" While this track certainly doesn't lack in honesty, it may do so in relatability. The lyrics on *Caught In A Dream* are emphasized heavily, leading the listener to pay close attention to where they lead. They are sometimes difficult to immerse oneself in due to their tendency towards either cliché or trite self-observation.

In terms of musicality, this record is obviously made by some very talented players. The harmonies are spot-on, the rhythm section is tight, and the arrangements skew towards layered/sparse in all the right places. The Brothers Reed are very good at putting together a song in these ways, but one wonders when they will have something unique to say.

On the last song of *Caught In A Dream* titled "All Dogs Go To Heaven," we hear the story of an old man named Pete coming to terms with his own mortality. This track highlights some of the Brothers' penchant for humor to great effect. Lyrics like "he lived in the woods in a bacon-filled house" (in reference to a "Lion who roars like a mouse") show another side of the Brothers Reed, one that knows how to use humor to enrich a message.



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Art Watch

Celebrating Film Through Art
"Apocalypse" at Schneider Museum of Art

BY JORDAN MARIE MCCAW



Celebrating its 40th year anniversary and decades removed from the Vietnam War, the heart of darkness film *Apocalypse Now* continues to impact audiences, and is a centerpiece for this year's Ashland Independent Film Festival. Schneider Museum of Art will also celebrate Francis Ford Coppola's film in preparation for AIFF. The exhibit features the work of artists Bruce Bayard, Matthew Picton, and Stephanie Syjuco. Bayard's work contains video collages and electronic music performances. In 2014 Bayard, along with three other artists, performed a live improvised show using Buchla Music Easels at Schneider Museum of Art. Picton's masterful landscape artwork has been featured in galleries internationally. Schneider Museum of Art Director Scott Malbaurn says Stephanie Syjuco's conceptual artwork has been "featured in Season 9 of the acclaimed PBS documentary series 'ART21: Art in the Twenty-First Century' and has shown at the Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and the Moscow Museum of Modern Art among others." The exhibit covers mediums ranging in digital drawing, paper map sculptures, video, and photography. The exhibit is not only to celebrate the classic film, but is to also inspire conversations and debate between those who view the work. "Academic groups may use the work on view to research themes found in 'Apocalypse Now' such as western imperialism catastrophes, colonialism, and environmental degradation as well as our lens outward from ethnographic photography to global warming," he says. "Community groups may engage in these themes as well or they may bring their own personal associations to the work on view." Deborah Oropallo's work will also be featured during this exhibit at Hanson Howard Gallery. Her digital video and photo montages compliments Schneider's theme of social commentary and global issues. Malbaurn adds, "Some museum goers enjoy aesthetics and materials used by the artists and to be able to see artwork by artists from beyond our borders in person."

APOCALYPSE
10 am - 4 pm, Monday - Saturday
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*Deborah Oropallo's work will be on view at the Hanson Howard Gallery through April 23.

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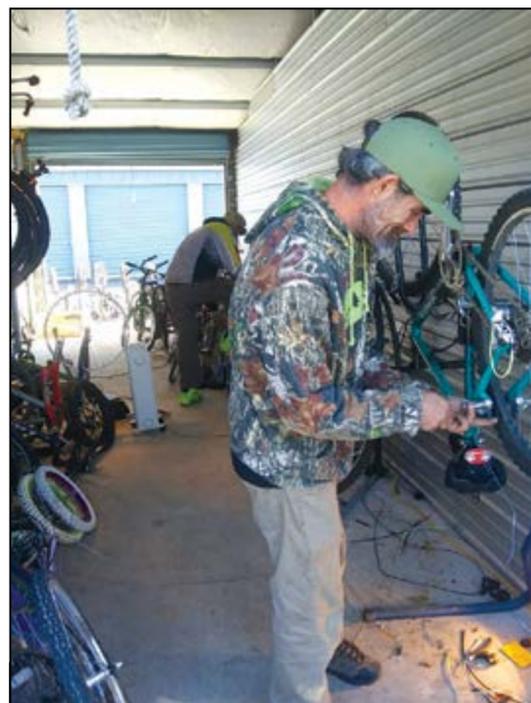

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Take a Ride

Josephine County Community Bike Giveaway Program Fosters Empowerment

BY CATHERINE KELLEY



LONNIE WORKING IN HIS TINY SHOP.
CREDIT: MARCHELLE BOYER

On any given weeknight, after pulling long hours working construction, Lonnie Boyer can be found tinkering in a rented storage unit, building bikes to give away for free. The Community Bike Giveaway Program his family began four months ago has exceeded their expectations and pushed their tiny shop to capacity, but it hasn't stopped them from their vision to improve

the lives of the most challenged, one pedal at a time.

"It was just before Thanksgiving last year," says Boyer. "We were pondering getting some free bikes so we could give them away to kids for Christmas. I ran a Craigslist ad and got 15 bikes the first day, and we knew we were going to be busy for the next six months to a year, easy."

The family has built and donated nearly 200 bikes to rehabilitation programs, shelters and food pantries throughout Josephine and Jackson counties with more orders coming in.

After researching other bike share and giveaway organizations the Boyers saw more growth potential if they attained non-profit status, enabling them down the road to work through the law enforcement and city of Grants Pass in possibly starting a city-wide bike share program.

"It takes getting the money together to pay all of the filing and licensing fees. We're renting a storage unit to work in, so funding-wise, it's a little tough right now. We ended up with such an overload it got kind of scary for a minute," he laughs.

The brothers, growing up low-income and watching their father "take a motorcycle that was in pieces in a basket and bring it home and put it together", learned early that 'new' wasn't an option and if they got a flat, "fix it."

"My first bike was a Schwinn Stingray with no training wheels. I'd stand on a curb and run alongside it and jump on. I was four; my feet couldn't touch the ground."

In the early '90s, hitting the streets of Sacramento on their rebuilt bikes, the brothers would head to a

local dump to climb the 30-foot heap of discarded bikes and dig down to its treasures at the bottom.

"They wouldn't crush it back then because there wasn't an international buyer. We'd find 1940's and '50's Schwinn's, or Free Spirits. The quality was way different, and we'd rebuild them and sell them."

Today, one of their favorite reclaiming centers is Cascade Recycling in Grants Pass where they can sometimes find up to 15 bicycles set aside for them. Boyer says he is amazed by the amount of community effort to donate and participate.

"The real success is when we go drop off bikes and hear 'they really love the bikes', or, 'yes, we need more bikes!'"

Options for Southern Oregon, a private, non-profit mental health agency, was one of the first recipients for the free bikes.

"Our employment works program is designed to help facilitate our clients in getting competitive employment," shares Development Associate, Sarah Small. "Having reliable transportation is a huge need. If somebody is trying to get the treatment they need, or they can't get to their appointments or job interviews, that directly affects their mental health."

"Pretty much all of our spare time goes to this," says Micah Boyer, who oversees a rescue mission kitchen and spends his after-hours at the shop. "A lot of the guys at the mission need bikes so it's nice to hook them up."

"The ultimate dream of this whole thing," says Lonnie, "is to one day be able to teach repair classes, or have people come in and volunteer to work in exchange for a bike, maybe even in the long run becoming a community service option."

To find out more you can reach Lonnie Boyer at 541-660-3456 or Micah Boyer at 747-264-7822.

Go Here

Get Ready to Garden Nurseries in Southern Oregon

BY JORDAN MARIE MCCAUGH



SHOOTING STAR NURSERY. CREDIT: SHOOTING STAR NURSERY

As sunny skies burn through the last of winter's clouds, it's time to spend time outside and in the garden. Southern Oregon is teeming with wonderful nurseries offering countless plant types and planting methods. Below are a few of the best of what the Rogue Valley has to offer.

Four Seasons Nursery: Whether you're in the market for a new tree for your front yard or if you're looking to landscape it altogether, Four Seasons Nursery has everything you need. The nursery has been helping locals landscape their yards for over 40 years, including supplying gardening tools and supplies. If what you're looking for isn't at the nursery, customers can order off the website to ensure you get exactly what you're looking for. 9 am - 5 pm, Monday - Saturday, 10 am - 4 pm, Sunday, 5736 Crater Lake Ave, Central Point 541-779-5603

Shooting Star Nursery: At Shooting Star Nursery, you'll find everything from drought tolerant plants to deer resistant plants. The nursery and its staff are even equipped to offer "firewise" landscaping tips and grows most of its perennials and ornamental grasses on site. Classes are offered throughout the year, covering topics such as dry shade plants, plants for pollinators, and how to best utilize Shooting Star's plant collections. 8 am - 5 pm, Monday - Saturday, 323 Taylor Rd, Central Point 541-840-6453

Valley View Nursery: This family-owned business has decades of experience, countless types of plants, and certifications from Oregon State University. Owner Steve and Karla Chianello also offer assistance in landscaping one's backyard, including paving, patios, and outdoor living areas. 9 am - 5:30 pm, Monday - Saturday, 10 am - 4 pm, Sunday, 1675 N Valley View Rd, Ashland 541-488-1595

PenniesWorth Acres Nursery: PenniesWorth Acres Nursery boasts having the best quality plants at its Grants Pass location. From Japanese maples to dogwoods, owners Jedediah Jester and Christin Bryk will special order anything they don't have in stock. Locals throughout the Rogue Valley are encouraged to visit the mountain-surrounded location, though the easy to navigate website lists everything in stock as well. 8 am - 5 pm, Monday - Saturday, 7016 New Hope Rd, Grants Pass 541-761-1908

Hooked on Palms: Not only is there a place in Southern Oregon to buy exotic plants and palm trees, you can also do it sustainably. At Hooked on Palms, customers can also find banana trees, bamboo, and hardy palms. The nursery will educate buyers in how to best fertilize, care for, and plant the exotic plants. 3368 Forest Ave, Medford 541-941-3916.

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WELLNESS

We Appreciate the Mushrooms, But ...

Mold's Effect on Health: Part II

BY DR. CORY TICHAUER

So, you've done some deep thinking since the last article and you're concerned that you might be suffering from symptoms of mold illness/chronic inflammatory response syndrome. You may have even identified an exposure time and place and can directly link it to an issue with water damage in that building. Now you're wondering what the next steps are to get an official diagnosis and recover your health.

If you're still living or spending significant time in the suspect building, the first step is to ensure that you aren't currently being exposed to toxic mold. Healing cannot happen if you are living with the very thing responsible for your illness. An effective way to self test your home is through an Environmental Mold and Mycotoxin Assessment (EMMA test) which identifies both the type and quantity of mold spores and associated Mycotoxin found in the dust, filter or vacuum sample submitted to the lab.

If there is a problem, steps for remediation of your home need to be taken before anything else is done. Work should not be wrapped up until all repeat testing returns normal.

While working to ensure your environment is clean, you can take an inexpensive test at home to further substantiate an exposure to biotoxins. This assessment, known as a Visual Contrast Sensitivity Test (VCS), looks at how toxins effect neurologic functioning by measuring visual processing from the optic nerve to the brain. Widely used and backed by a plethora of research, the test, while not diagnostic, functions as a very useful tool to both confirm mold illness and track effective treatment interventions by recording progressive improvement.

Establishing that symptoms are due to mold illness and making a diagnosis of Chronic Inflammatory Response Syndrome can be done through both direct and indirect testing. The later, based on the work of Richie Shoemaker, MD, is a complex topic that greatly exceeds the limitations of this article. It is based on assessing multiple lab markers which are commonly abnormal as a result of the disruptive effects of mycotoxin on our normal physiology. Direct testing, on the other hand, is more straight-forward and involves measuring the quantitative level of numerous mycotoxins in urine. Avoiding foods known to harbor mold such as grains, corn, cheeses, nuts and seeds as well as provoking a release of toxin with liposomal or IV glutathione can help to avoid both false positive and false negative results.

Based on the work of a prominent infectious

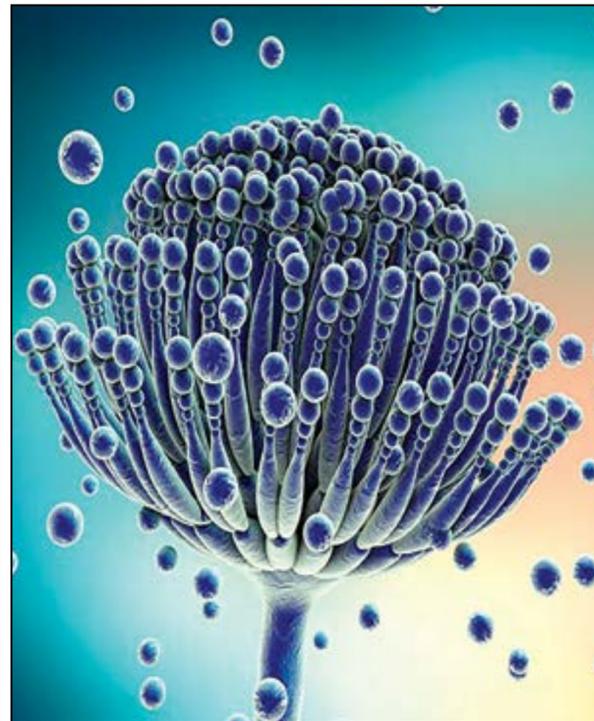


DR. CORY TICHAUER

disease specialist, we commonly also recommend a swab be done to assess for possible mold or fungal growth in the sinuses. As a dark, moist and hollow organ, it presents an ideal location for mold spores to take up residence. If found, appropriate nasal anti-fungal therapies are utilized to eliminate this foci of toxin production.

Once a diagnosis has been made, the goal is to detoxify the affected individual and address the affected organ systems in the body. Detoxification, as I tell my patients, involves both "pushing" and "pulling". Pulling is the most historically well recognized portion of the treatment and involves the use of either natural or pharmaceutical binders to sequester mycotoxins in the bile, preventing it from being reabsorbed back into the blood stream through the bowel wall. Useful agents include cholestyramine, charcoal, calcium bentonite, propolmannan, zeolite and chlorella.

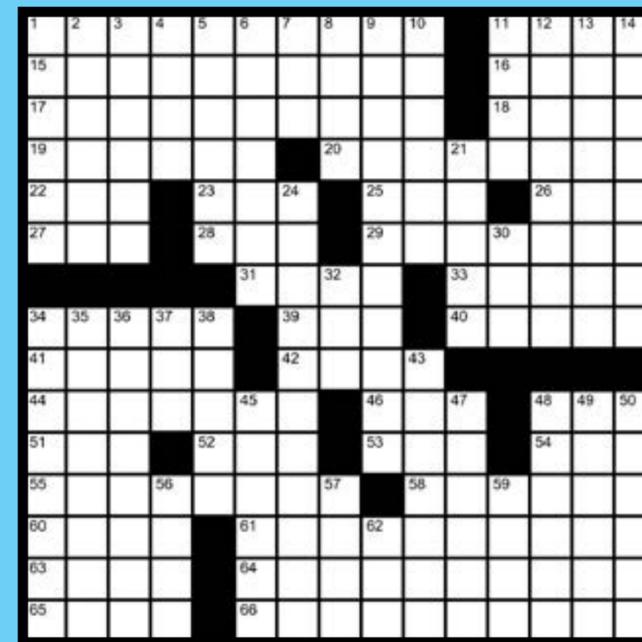
Pushing, on the other hand, involves mobilizing toxin from its storage sites in fatty tissues and cell membranes. Sauna therapy is key in this regard and can be further supported with phospholipids, essential fatty acids, methylation support, butyrate, niacin, glutathione and other cellular and organ specific detoxifying agents. Once the toxic load has been effectively reduced as evidenced on repeat testing, the process of restoring mitochondrial and glandular function can begin. This, of course, is a topic for another article! Until then, I encourage you to seek the assistance of a physician proficient in mold illness if you have concerns.



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Across

- 1 Wish for success
- 11 Nemesis for Hook
- 15 It stops at ports of call
- 16 "You leave ___ choice"
- 17 Nonstop
- 18 Lenovo competitor
- 19 PC menu command
- 20 Short-term positions
- 22 20-20, e.g.
- 23 Gp. with a Seattle team come 2021
- 25 Maiden name lead-in
- 26 Turn green, perhaps
- 27 Pre-grads
- 28 Kool Moe ___
- 29 "The Hollow Men" poet
- 31 Instruction segment
- 33 British heavyweight?
- 34 Word before operandi
- 39 ___-Caps (concession stand candy)
- 40 Pushed, with "on"
- 41 Home of California's Mendocino College
- 42 TV character who jumped the shark, with "the"
- 44 Course outlines
- 46 Short Morse code bit
- 48 Break stuff?
- 51 Ohio airport code
- 52 Dad joke, often
- 53 Upscale hotel offering
- 54 Noir investigator, slangily
- 55 Bob Mould's band before Sugar
- 58 He played Wiseau
- 60 "Just ___ bit more"
- 61 Drama with a title character voiced by Kristen Bell
- 63 Contested
- 64 Embarrassed
- 65 Parts of loaves
- 66 Buckeye and others

Down

- 1 Speaks too proudly
- 2 Cream-filled pastry
- 3 Individual beings
- 4 ___ Modern (London art gallery)
- 5 Nearby
- 6 Gives substance to, with "out"
- 7 Tipsy
- 8 Fathom or foot
- 9 Swimming pools, a la "The Beverly Hillbillies"
- 10 Krispy ___ (some doughnuts)
- 11 Key with no flats or sharps, for short
- 12 Editing a program, say
- 13 Single-file
- 14 Wearing some Victorian garb
- 21 PGA's Calvin
- 24 Explorative phrase in kids' science shows, maybe
- 30 Yule symbol
- 32 Ambient music producer Brian
- 34 Requisite
- 35 "Fine, I give up"
- 36 Pork roast flavorer
- 37 Suffix after habit or sex
- 38 Rhombus, e.g.
- 43 Archive format
- 45 Old Scottish towns (as opposed to towns elsewhere?)
- 47 La Brea attraction
- 48 Nick follower on cable TV
- 49 Ruling
- 50 Reprimands
- 56 Classic canvas shoe brand
- 57 Pres. Eisenhower's alma mater
- 59 Petri dish medium
- 62 Plop down

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NO. 222 - VERY HARD

		7		2	3			6
5				8		9		4
	6				9			8
		5						
	3						8	
						7		
3			2					1
1	4			7				9
8			1	4		3		

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Previous solution - Tough

3	7	8	4	2	9	1	5	6
5	6	2	8	3	1	4	9	7
4	9	1	5	6	7	2	8	3
9	2	5	3	4	6	8	7	1
7	8	4	1	5	2	6	3	9
6	1	3	9	7	8	5	2	4
8	5	6	7	9	4	3	1	2
1	4	9	2	8	3	7	6	5
2	3	7	6	1	5	9	4	8

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BY ROO GROSTEIN - HOST/PRODUCER OF LOCAL SMOKE RADIO ON
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Spannabis – The World’s Best Cannabis Gathering

Cannabis Worldwide: Part 2

In the first part of this series, I gave impressions on what the worldwide cannabis climate is currently like. Having never been out of the country beyond Canada, Mexico and Bermuda (Yes, I’ve smoked cannabis in all three locations) I was feeling rather un-experienced for a “cannabis professional.” Fast forward with me a few weeks through extreme jet-lag, the Spanish plague and a truly global cannabis experience: I bring news of *the promised land* . . . well, sort of.

Some aspects of the cannabis industry and culture in Spain easily stand out. Cannabis is quite socially accepted. Barcelona has a thriving social consumption club scene. The industry, technology and development--and therefore products--are not nearly as far along as in legalized U.S. states. Yet the cannabis community is distinctively excited in this unique atmosphere.

Spannabis 2019. This year Barcelona was graced by over 25,000 visitors clamoring to attend a three day saturation of smoke--both cannabis and tobacco--almost exclusively resulting from joints or spliffs. Fellow cannabis enthusiasts & professionals, international businesses, celebrities and cultural intermingling came together in an exemplary showing of what community and love over commonalities can achieve. I’ve never felt more at home than among thousands of cannabis-flavored misfits, weirdos, entrepreneurs, unfortunate “outlaws” and every other imaginable kind of fellow human. Our common cause made all in attendance immediately unspoken friends. This shared dream and goal coming to fruition on a planet-wide scale made us all family.

Spannabis cultivates a uniquely accepted environment for the cannabis community from all corners to feel comfortable enough to open up and share their love for and involvement with the cannabis plant. Sparking up with thousands of friends at 4:20 on the second day of the event felt like an exercise in shared global consciousness. Unquestionably, this surreal experience will stay with me always on my own path through the future of cannabis.

But just because there was a *lot of weed* being smoked does not mean that things were not getting done. I’ve never seen so much action. Business. Education. Music. Seminars. Food. Business. Seeds. Seeds. More seeds. Technology & innovations. Did I mention business and seeds? This was the cannabis community coming out in full force and proving ourselves a normal industry that gets sh%t done. #stonerswithgoals

Because of the unique point along the timeline of cannabis at which we currently reside, these trailblazing businesses, seed-breeders and other entrepreneurs emerging from the shadows are celebrities to the greater cannabis community. These are the shoulders the future of cannabis stands on and it showed in the smiles and palpable enthusiasm emanating from bonafide cannabis fans. People were geeking out over the chance to meet heroes.

Though strict about membership, entrance, and discretion, gathering for multiple safety meetings at the private-membership cannabis clubs was a must for the full experience. A veritable Eden of relaxation, conversation and cannabis enthusiasm, even alcohol is allowed in these true nods to the pub atmosphere where cannabis is the star. Plus, there was actually plenty of decent cannabis available at these clubs. Though expensive, it proved much better than I was dreading to encounter based on stories and internet searches. But in all honesty, it’s really great to be back in Oregon where cannabis is the best in the world . . . and cheap!

Thank you to Spain’s cannabis community for teaching me how lucky we are here in Oregon and how much the U.S. can learn from the genuine anticipation that the rest of the worldwide cannabis family has toward the future of weed! [Check out @roogrostein on instagram for pictures and videos from his trip]

FREE WILL ASTROLOGY Week of April 11

ARIES (March 21-April 19): The Qing Dynasty controlled China from the mid-seventeenth century to the early twentieth century. It was the fifth biggest empire in world history. But eventually it faded, as all mighty regimes do. Revolution came in 1911, forcing the last emperor to abdicate and giving birth to the Republic of China. I’m inclined to think of your life in 2019 as having some similarities to that transition. It’s the end of one era and the beginning of another; a changing of the guard and a passing of the torch. The coming weeks will be a favorable time to be very active in deciding and visualizing the empire you want next.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): I hope that sometime soon you’ll acquire a new source of support or inspiration. Now is a phase of your astrological cycle when you’re likely to attract influences that are in alignment with your deep values. This addition might be a person or animal. It could be a vibrant symbol or useful tool. It may even be a fantasy character or departed ancestor that will stimulate vitality you haven’t been able to summon on your own. Be on the lookout for this enhancement.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Poet David Hinton analyzed the Chinese word for “poetry.” Its etymological meaning is “words spoken at the fertility altar.” Let’s make that your theme, even if you don’t write or read poetry. I suspect the coming weeks will be a favorable time to take a vow or utter a solemn intention in front of a homemade fertility altar. The oath you speak might express a desire to boost your use of your physical vitality; your lust for life, your adoration of the natural world, or your power to produce new human life. Or your vow to foster your fertility could be more metaphorical and symbolic in nature: the imaginative intimacy you will explore or the creativity you’ll express in future works of art or the generous effects you want to have on the world.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Christopher Robin Milne was the son of author A. A. Milne, who wrote the Winnie-the-Pooh stories. He said there are two ways to navigate through life. Either you “take a bearing on something in the future and steer towards it, or take a bearing on something in the past and steer away from it.” So in his view, “There are those who look ahead and pull and those who look behind and push.” I’m hoping that in the coming weeks and months, you will make a delighted commitment to the first option: taking a bearing on something in the future and steering towards it. I think that approach will inspire you toward the most interesting success.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): The national animal of Finland is the brown bear. The national insect is the ladybug and the national instrument is a stringed instrument known as the kantele. As for the national author, it’s Aleksis Kivi, who produced just one novel that took him ten years to write. He also published a short collection of odes and a few plays, adding up to a grand total of less than 800 pages of work. I think that the efforts you make in the coming weeks could have a disproportionately large impact, as well, Leo. What you lack in quantity will be irrelevant compared to the sheer quality you generate.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): I follow the blogger Evanescent Voyager because she makes me cry with sad joy and exultant poignance on a regular basis. One of her other fans wrote her a love note I could have written myself. It said, “Your emotional brilliance and thoughtful passion break me into pieces and then weave me back together with more coherence than I had before reading you. I revere your alchemical talent for undoing me so you can heal me; for lowering my defenses so I can be open to your riches; for demolishing my habitual trance so you can awaken my sleeping genius.” I believe that in the coming weeks, life itself will offer to perform these same services for you, Virgo. I urge you to accept!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): “Love is no assignment for cowards.” That’s a quote attributed to the ancient Roman poet Ovid. What did he mean? Was he foreshadowing the wisdom

of pop singer Pat Benatar, who in 1983 told us, “Love is a battlefield”? Was Ovid implying that to succeed in the amorous arts we must be heroic warriors prepared to overcome fears and risk psychological dangers? Probably. But I will also point out that it takes as much courage to create fun, interesting togetherness as it does to wrestle with the problems that togetherness brings. You need just as much bravura and panache to explore the sweet mysteries of intimacy as you do to explore the achy mysteries of intimacy. Keep these thoughts in mind as you marshal your audacity to deepen and expand your best relationships in the coming weeks.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): The literal meaning of the French term *jolie-laide* is “pretty and ugly.” Bloggers at wordsnquotes.com define it as follows: “It’s a fascinating quirkiness that’s irresistible, like a face you want to keep looking at even if you can’t decide whether it is beautiful or not.” *Jolie-laide* overlaps with the Japanese term *wabi-sabi*, which describes a person or thing that is lovely because of its imperfection and incompleteness. I bring these facts to your attention because I think you have extraordinary potential to be a master embodier of both *jolie-laide* and *wabi-sabi* in the coming weeks.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): As Czech playwright Vaclav Havel (1936–2011) matured, he became a political dissident who opposed the Soviet Union’s authoritarian grip on his country. Eventually he was a key player in the Velvet Revolution that banished Communism. When Czechoslovakia emerged as a new democracy, its people elected him president. Havel later thanked Lou Reed and the band the Velvet Underground for fully awakening his liberationist leadership. He said their unruly music stoked his longing to establish a culture where total creative freedom was possible. I mention this, Sagittarius, because now is a favorable time to identify the music or art or films or literature that might fuel your emancipation in the coming months.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Capricorn author J. R. R. Tolkien toiled on his masterpiece *The Lord of the Rings* for twelve years. Once he finished, it wasn’t published for more than five years. So seventeen years passed between the time he launched his precious project and the time when it reached an audience. I don’t think you will need that much patience in shepherding your own venture to full expression, Capricorn. But I hope you’ll summon as much faith in yourself as Tolkien had to rouse in himself. To do so will bring out the best in you!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Released in 1998, *The Prince of Egypt* is an animated film that tells the story of the Hebrew prophet Moses. In the climactic event, the hero uses magic to part the waters of the Red Sea, allowing his people to run across the sea floor and escape the army that’s chasing them. To make that seven-minute scene, 28 professional animators labored for 318,000 hours. In the coming months, you could create your own version of that marvel, Aquarius. But you’ll need a team to help you, and that team is not yet ready to go. The coming weeks will be a favorable time to get it ready, though.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Piscean businessman Steve Jobs testified that taking LSD was “one of the two or three most important things” he ever did in his life. It opened his mind in ways he felt were crucial to his development. What are the three most important things you’ve ever done, Pisces? I invite you to revisit at least one of them, and see if you can take it to the next step of its power to inspire you. What if it has even more to offer you in your efforts to become the person you want to be?

[Editor: Here’s this week’s homework:]

Homework: What other sign would you want to be if you could take a vacation from your actual sign? Why? Write FreeWillAstrology.com.



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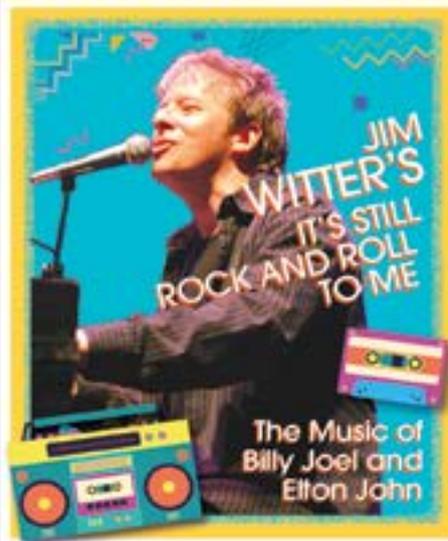


Sunday, April 14, 7:00pm

JUMP, JIVE & WAIL
THE JIVE ACES
 Celebrated as the top swing band in the UK, The Jive Aces are bringing their high-octane and colorful show to the Craterian stage. Get ready to jump, jive and wail away to tunes such as "I Wanna Be Like You," "Mack the Knife" and "That Old Black Magic!"

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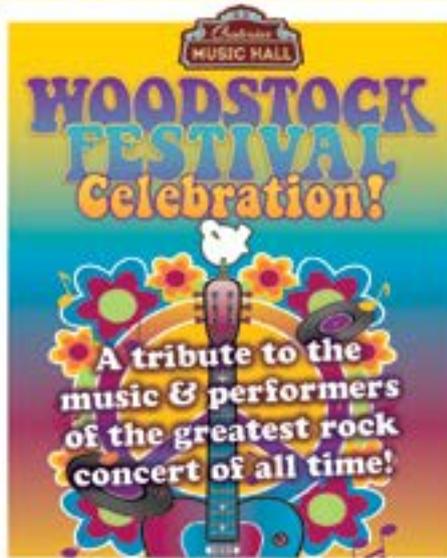


Saturday, April 20, 7:30pm

JIM WITTER'S IT'S STILL ROCK AND ROLL TO ME
 The Music of Billy Joel and Elton John
 Jim Witter's *It's Still Rock and Roll To Me* picks up in the '80s where *The Piano Men* (Witter's previous Billy Joel & Elton John tribute) left off. In the midst of Rubik's Cubes, Spandex, big hair, and new technological marvels, Billy Joel and Elton John continued to reign supreme as two of the most prolific and popular stars of the era.

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Fri.-Sat., May 10-11, 7:30pm

Enjoy complimentary beer tasting at 6:30pm

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SUMMER Musicals



Auditions: in May (TBA)
 Performances: July 19-21 & 26-27



Auditions: in May (TBA)
 Performances: August 10 & 17

For more information, visit craterian.org

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For more details or to purchase tickets: call, click or stop by the Box Office.

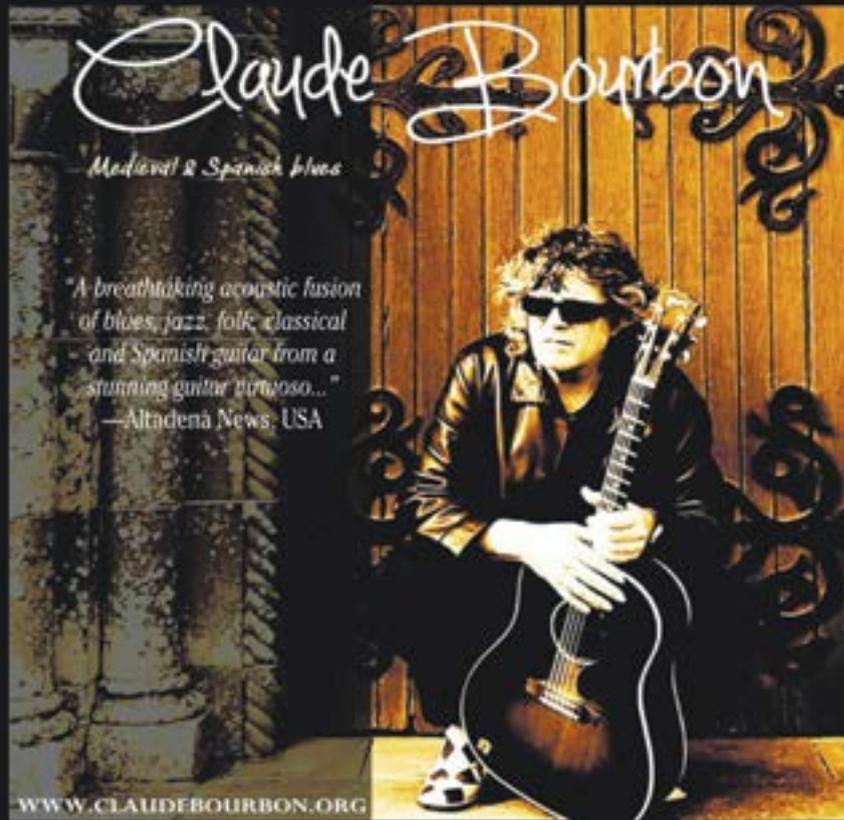
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