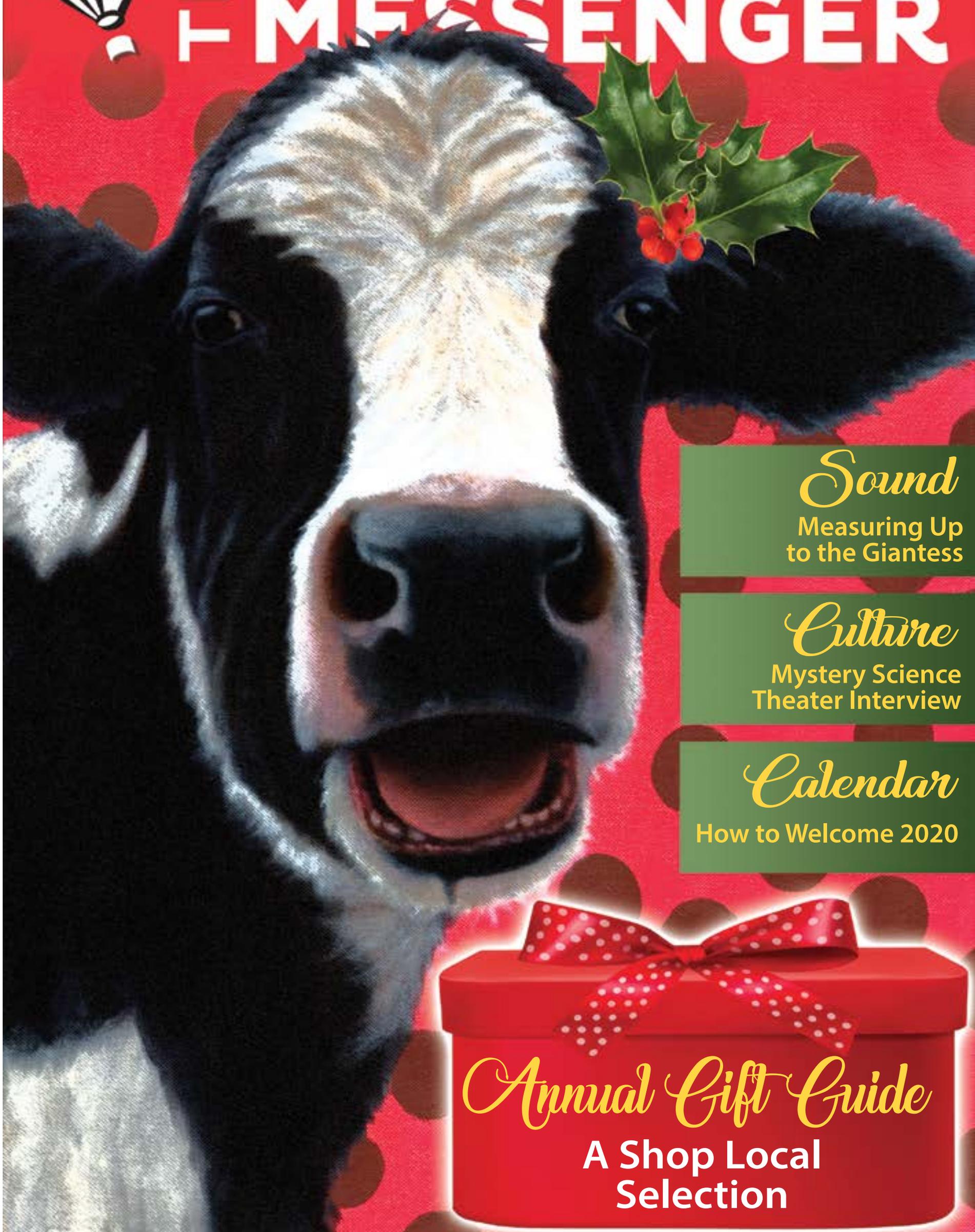




# W H F ROGUE VALLEY THE MESSENGER



## *Sound*

Measuring Up  
to the Giantess

## *Culture*

Mystery Science  
Theater Interview

## *Calendar*

How to Welcome 2020

## *Annual Gift Guide*

A Shop Local  
Selection



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info@roguevalleymessenger.com

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Deadlines may shift for special/holiday issues.

Cover painting of "Cookie" by Dana Feagin.  
See article on page 5.

# CONTENTS

## PUBLIC PROFILE

Buying art as a gift is the opposite from buying an Amazon card: It is personal, local and specific. Spotlight on local artist Dana Feagin.



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## SOUND

Voted best band in the 2019 Messenger's readers' poll, The Little Giantess prove why they have so much community support. They are easy-going and approachable, and, perhaps more critical to their expanding fandom, lead singer's Tess Minnick's voice is truly astounding; silky smooth, but sometimes soaring; enjoyable, straightforward, easy-going blues-based rock.



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## CULTURE

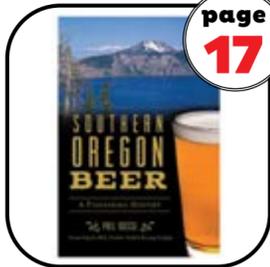
*Mystery Science Theater 3000* is a cult classic and a currently top ranked as one of Netflix's most popular shows. A peculiar concept about robots commenting on B-grade movies has become a cultural icon and comic genius, and its live show lands in Medford this January.



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## DRINK LOCAL

A beer drinker and a history major, Nick Blakeslee takes a deep drink of (the Messenger's Publisher) Phil Busse's book, *Southern Oregon Beer: A Pioneering History*.



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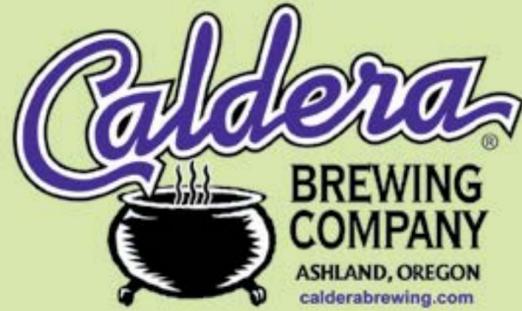
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# PROFILE

## Gift Idea: Buy Local Art! Spotlight on Dana Feagin

INTERVIEW BY PHIL BUSSE

On a recent stop in downtown Ashland, I popped into Ashland Art Center—and was immediately greeted by a painting of a cow (what you see on this issue's cover). I was smitten. Something about the creature's smirk was infectious.

That sly smile—and the painting—are a window to a larger story, and we are so happy that local painter Dana Feagin shared insights into her art and passion for understanding animals.

Looking for a meaningful gift this holiday? Buying art can be tricky, as tastes can be so specific. But buying art as a gift is also the opposite from buying an Amazon card: It is personal, local and specific. Perhaps take a friend on a shopping trip to a local gallery—let them pick out what they like. Or, be more subtle and take note what they seem to like, and return later to pick it up.

**Rogue Valley Messenger: What can you tell us about the cow on our cover that you painted? Is this a local cow?**

Dana Feagin: Yes, that's Cookies, she's a former blood donor cow from UC Davis; she arrived at Sanctuary One with her Charolais friend Cream. Cookies later bonded with Holly, a rescued calf. The two became inseparable and were adopted together by a local family.

**RVM:** Almost invariably, the animals in your paintings seem happy or content. How do you capture or create that mood—and is it important to the philosophy about what you are presenting that each animal seems to be in the middle of laughing at a joke or smiling at a friend?

DF: I am really drawn to the sweet and funny expressions animals make. Capturing an animal's expression is what makes painting them fun and interesting. Many of the animals in my paintings are from sanctuaries and shelters, and sharing their story is an important part of my art. What I know about each animal is on the back of my paintings. Some have overcome great odds just to be alive, and yet, they can be so trusting and joyful again. I like to show those happier moments—after their second chance at something better.

One of my recent paintings "Into the Sunlight" is a portrait of Arthur from Arthur Acres Sanctuary. Sammantha Fisher, a professional photographer, allowed me to paint from a photograph that really shows his human-like eyes. Arthur was the last remaining piglet

on a farm to table establishment for sale, where animals were raised and slaughtered on-site. Luck was on his side when a potential buyer with plans for a pig sanctuary visited the property and found Arthur alone without fresh food or water. He considered it a sign, purchased the property and negotiated Arthur into the deal. Arthur became the first pig in sanctuary at this newly created rescue.

**RVM: An important component of your art is that you give proceeds to various animal welfare organizations. Who is HeARTS Speak, and how did you become aware of them?**

DF: When I left my corporate job, I knew I wanted to do something to help animals and also create art, something I was discouraged from pursuing as a career when I was younger. I started volunteering at the county animal shelter and took up oil painting. Over time, I realized that I was really only interested in painting animals and nothing else, so my art became all about animals. I started painting commissioned pet portraits, local sanctuary/shelter animals, and donating some of my sales and artwork to animal charities to help with their fundraising efforts. Now I donate all of my art proceeds to animal charities. There are so many organizations doing good things helping animals & there is always a need for money to keep that going.

HeARTs Speak is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization uniting art and advocacy to increase the visibility of shelter animals. As an artist member, you are required to give back to the animal welfare community. Some members offer free photography services to shelters. Others, like me, use their art in other ways to benefit animals. I discovered HeARTs Speak from another animal artist when I was just beginning to paint and was happy to find a group of like-minded artists. I've been a member for about 10 years now.

**RVM: Did you have animals growing up?**

DF: We had one family dog and a few smaller animals over the years, but I always wanted more pets. Like many kids, I was told that I could have more pets when I moved out of the house and lived on my own.

**your next life as an animal, what do you think it would be—and, if different, what would you like it to be?**

DF: I'd definitely choose to be a human animal. Most people don't value other animals' lives in the same way as human lives and sometimes make decisions that impact them in negative ways. I wouldn't want to be hunted, farmed, or possibly poisoned as a pest. Even as a beloved family pet, your guardians may not fully understand your needs. It just seems more complicated for other animals.

**RVM: You currently have three former shelter dogs and five rescued bunnies. Do they all get along?**

DF: My Border Collie has a strong herding instinct, so I don't completely trust him with the bunnies. I also have two separate bunny families. They are funny about who they accept, so I have a bonded trio and a pair, with my studio divided by exercise pen fencing running across the room. It's not ideal, but it



DANA FEAGIN

works. I'm also currently fostering three bunnies for Friends of the Animal Shelter (FOTAS), so it's temporarily a little crowded. FOTAS has a growing need for rabbit foster families, so if any of your readers are interested, I'd encourage them to visit the FOTAS website and complete an application.

**RVM: Where are good places to find your art?**

DF: My art is always on display in the main gallery at Ashland Art Center, and online in my Etsy shop ([etsy.com/shop/DanaFeagin](http://etsy.com/shop/DanaFeagin)) and website [DanaFeagin.com](http://DanaFeagin.com).

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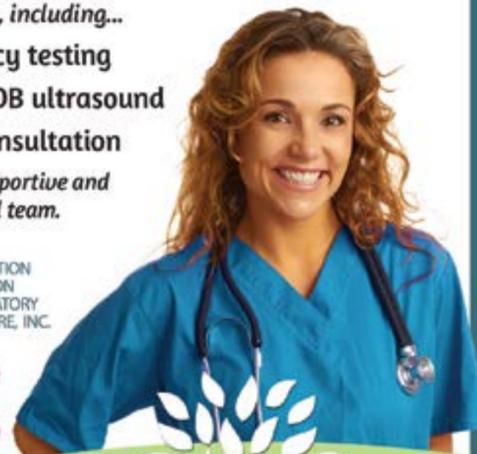
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PO Box 1086, Grants Pass, OR 97528  
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# FEATURE

## Shopping “Unplugged”

### The Messenger Holiday Gift Guide BY CATHERINE KELLEY

Shopping online for the holidays may be convenient, but let’s face it, the intimacy factor is missing. Why not bundle up and head downtown to check out the lights before popping into your area’s local shops to mingle in the spirit of Kris Kringle? We’ve put together a sampler of some unique gift ideas that are worth ditching the screen and going festal.

#### Art

**Lithia Artisans Holiday Market** — December 13-15  
 Medford Armory  
 1701 S. Pacific Hwy, Medford  
 lithiaartisansmarket.com  
 (541) 776-6054

Someone who loves art will be in awe unwrapping a special one-of-a-kind piece crafted by a master artisan. Admission is free to shop over 70 exceptional art vendors and enjoy live music, food trucks, a raffle for a \$100 gift certificate and free DIY gift wrapping.



#### Foods

**Medford Food Co-op**  
 845 S. Riverside, Medford  
 medfordfood.coop  
 (541) 779-2667

For the foodie you know, fill one of their handwoven baskets to create a gorgeous custom gift of artisanal foods, exceptional cheeses, fair-trade chocolates, luxurious body care, locally made beeswax candles, and regional beer and wine. Or purchase a \$100 gift card for \$90 during December!

#### Fashions

**The Creator’s Gallery & Boutique**  
 535 Stevens Street, Medford  
 115 West Main, Eagle Point  
 145 N. 5th Street, Jacksonville  
 Appointments:  
 (541) 944-9787



Let her feminine wiles run wild with a gift certificate for a day of clothes shopping and being personally outfitted, from shoes to handbags and accessories. The popular Sunshine Designer Apparel for full-figured women is now The Creator’s Boutique, offering their designer plus-size clothing line and gently used fashion trade-ins.

#### Spirits

**Immortal Spirits**  
 141 S. Central Avenue, Medford  
 immortalspirits.com  
 (541) 816-4344

A cozy fire, relaxing music and glasses of distinctive, handcrafted spirits can top any wintry eve. It’s hard to choose from their line of personal, handmade liquors, and add to that the unique tasting room grill and cocktail menus and perhaps the best way to experience Immortal Spirits is with a gift card.



#### Chocolates

**Lillie Belle Farms Handmade Artisan Chocolates**  
 211 N. Front Street, Central Point  
 lilliebellefarms.com  
 (541) 664-2815

Handmade, artisan-crafted chocolates make those boxed cherry cordials look like processed hockey pucks. Over 100 decadent specialties like lavender caramels, blue cheese truffle spread and red velvet almonds will have your favorite chocoholic in a daze for hours. So grab one of their popular sampler boxes or a gift certificate, perfect for stockings.



#### Books

**Oregon Books & Games**  
 150 N.E. E Street, Grants Pass  
 oregonbooks.com  
 (541) 476-3132

Got a reader in the family? It’s every bookworm’s fantasy perusing the hundreds of new and used books, not to mention their toys. The largest and most inclusive line of Melissa and Doug creative toys can be found here as well as Klutz educational toys and Elf-On-The-Shelf Christmas collectibles.



#### Toy & Outdoor

**Northwest Nature Shop**  
 154 Oak Street, Ashland  
 northwestnatureshop.com  
 (877) 482-3241

Going for more of an ‘unplugged’ theme for the kids this year? How about a zipline or slackline of their own or (do you remember) pogo sticks and stilts? With swings, solar lights, bird feeders and shelters, and much more you can get a family-size gift certificate and please everybody.



#### Fishing

**The Fishin’ Hole Fly Shop**  
 21873 Hwy 62, Shady Cove  
 thefishinholeflyshop.com  
 (541) 878-4000

Fishing and rafting fans will appreciate a gift certificate to float the Upper Rogue with a professional guide while enjoying a gourmet picnic of exceptional deli sandwiches, soups and salads or a collection of artisan cheeses, wines and bread. Given the wide array of gear, accessories and their unique gift shop, better make that an all-inclusive amount!



### Cooking

**The Kitchen Company**  
301 SE 6th Street, Grants Pass  
thekitchencompanygp.com  
(541) 955-5311

If you've got grumbles, groans and burnt cookie smells wafting from your kitchen it's time to surprise your favorite chef with some great kitchen ware. From cutlery, cookware and linens to cookbooks, barware and gadgets galore, they've got it all, plus the experts to help you pick the perfect tools for the job, not to mention complimentary gift wrapping.



### Dining

**Kaleidoscope Pizza**  
3084 Crater Lake Highway, Medford  
kaleidoscopepizza.com  
(541) 779-7787

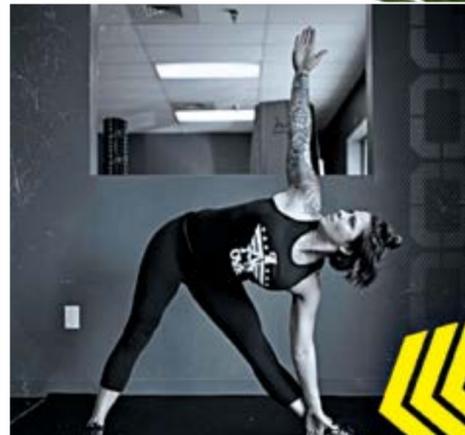
It's a sigh of relief to anyone who runs the range at home when they hear those words, "Let's eat out!" Treat your favorite cook to a fun dining experience at this popular pizzeria and pub. With its friendly staff and funky décor, it's sure to be a memorable night off.



### Fitness

**Ace Force One Complete Fitness**  
2382 W. Main Street Ste B, Medford  
aceforceone.com  
(541) 500-1714

After Christmas cookies comes New Year's resolutions and what better gift to give someone who's aiming to get in shape in 2020 than the gift of health. A holiday membership package special for \$99 includes 28 days of personal coaching and fitness plan, workouts, education and nutritional guidance, or shop the expansive line of supplements and vitamins to help that special someone sculpt their dream body.



#### FEATURE PHOTO CAPTIONS – CREDITS

- The Creator's Boutique – Anna Chauffe
- Immortal Spirits – Catherine Kelley
- Medford Food Co-op – Catherine Kelley
- Northwest Nature Shop – Marie Caballero Uhtoff
- Lithia Artisans Holiday Market, Glass vase by Josh Rodine - Submitted
- Lithia Artisans Holiday Market, Glass beads by Leah Fairbanks - Submitted
- Ace Force One – Catherine Kelley
- Lillie Belle Farms – Catherine Kelley
- The Fishin Hole Fly Shop – Angie Jermain
- The Kitchen Company – Roy Heinze
- Oregon Books & Games – Robert Moore
- Kaleidoscope Pizza – Tim Tidball Photography

Happy Shopping!

# [P] OUR PICKS



### thu 12 – jan 22 The Natural Perspective

**ART**—Art is often all about perspective, and this exhibit gets the viewer up close and personal with the African safari. Specifically focused on birds, Judy Benson LaNier captures the color, the life, and the magnificence of the avian population that most of us only catch a glimpse of on Planet Earth. Rogue Gallery & Art Center, 40 S. Bartlett, Medford.



### thu 12 – tue 31 Peter Pan

**THEATRE**—Off to Neverland! The timeless classic tale of Peter Pan, Wendy, Tinkerbell, the lost boys, Native Americans, mermaids, and the notorious Captain Hook takes the stage for the holiday season at Camelot, bringing back memories of pixie dust, happy thoughts, and alarm clock swallowing crocodiles. Never grow up. 2 and 8 pm. Camelot Theatre, 101 Talent Avenue, Talent. \$30 – \$38.



### sat 14 First Frost

**CELEBRATION**—The actual first frost may be past, but it is not too late to celebrate it. The Ashland Rotary Centennial Ice Rink will ring in the ice skating season with their annual opening event, featuring a hockey exhibition game, discounted family skate, figure skating performances, and rec skate with a live DJ. 2:30 – 10 pm. 95 Winburn Way, Ashland.



### wed 18 Die Geister Beschworen

**MUSIC**—A unique blend of psych-folk, Oryan Peterson-Jones goes by the name of Die Geister Beschworen and he specializes in experimentation with his music as an American Primitive guitarist with a World Music bent. He is currently touring with Portland's folk duo, Crowe, and promoting his new album, Drawn to the Investigation of Shadows. 8 pm. Oberon's, 45 N. Main Street, Ashland.



### thu 19 – jan 23 Speed Dating

**ROMANCE**—Winter is a great time to meet new friends, and it is best to move through the selection process quickly. As You Like It – A Love Revolution presents Speed Dating for everyone. 6 – 9 pm. As You Like It – A Love Revolution, 383 E. Main Street, Ashland. Thurs., Dec. 19, Women. Thurs., Jan. 9, Heterosexual. Thurs., Jan. 23, All Genders. \$5.



### sat 21 – jan 6 Mt. Ashland Winter Holiday Schedule

**SKIING**—Mt. Ashland is officially open for business this season, and the slopes are ready for whatever method of sliding is preferred. Their winter holiday schedule offers even more chances to experience the mountain, which runs from 9 am – 4 pm, daily. Mt. Ashland Ski Area, 11 Mt. Ashland Ski Road, Ashland. \$10 – \$52.



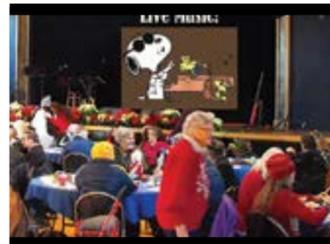
### sat 21 Elding Frost

**CELEBRATION**—Modern science understands the changing of the seasons aligned with the path of the earth around the sun, but back in the day, the winter solstice hinged a bit more on human participation. This Norse Pagan Dinner Theatre Yule Celebration will take patrons back to yesteryear with traditional music, art, and dancing to bring winter on. Ashland Armory, 208 Oak Street, Ashland.



### sun 22 Scott Knickerbocker and Bekkah McAlvage

**MUSIC**—The ringleader of the Boise band Hokum Hi-Flyers, Scott Knickerbocker plays the banjo, fiddle, and resonator guitar to the tune of mountain music, traditional country, and blues. Bekkah McAlvage is a local member of many groups: McAlvage & Fretwell, The Maybe Sometimes, Waking Hazel, and the Runaway Truck Ramps. 7 pm. Black Sheep, 51 N. Main Street, Ashland. Free.



### wed 25 Ashland Community Christmas Dinner

**CHRISTMAS**—For some reason, it just wouldn't be Christmas without dinner. (Though a tasty Christmas breakfast, lunch, or snack wouldn't go amiss.) For its 40th year, the Ashland Community Christmas Dinner will feed up to 900 people, and connect the community for the holiday. 12 – 4 pm. Historic Ashland Armory, 208 Oak Street, Ashland. Free.



### sat 28 Syilent Storm

**MUSIC**—With Christmas past, the Silent Night has turned into a Syilent Storm. A heavy metal show for all ages, Syilent Storm bids farewell to guitarist Chance Lindquist as he moves to a new area. They will be joined by Grants Pass death metalists attic. 8 pm. The Haul, 121 SW H Street, Grants Pass. Free.



### tue 31 New Year's Eve Celebration

**MUSIC**—The best way to ring in 2020? The traditional Viennese New Year's Celebration with Joel Fan & Christine Eggert on Francis Poulenc's Concerto for Two Pianos, of course. This special concert also marks Music Director Martin Majkut's 10 years with the Rogue Valley Symphony. 8:30 pm. Craterian Theatre, 23 S. Central Avenue, Medford. \$50 – \$150.



### fri 10 & sat 11 Beauty and the Beast, Jr.

**THEATRE**—A compelling and classic French story of a bright young woman sacrificing herself to save her father while falling in love with a young man disguised as a beast, Beauty and the Beast, Jr. will continue to capture the hearts of young and old in this rendition by Logos Public Charter School. 6 pm. Central High Auditorium, 815 S. Oakdale Avenue, Medford. Free.

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# LIVE MUSIC *and Nightlife*



BROCELIANDE PERFORM AT GRIZZLY PEAK WINERY IN ASHLAND FOR A WINTER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION ON DEC. 21.

## Thursday, December 12 MEDFORD

**Open Mic** - The Rogue Grape. 7 pm.  
**Eric Leadbetter** - Walkabout Brewing. 6 pm.  
**Live Band Karaoke** - Pier 21. 9 pm.  
**Jen Ambrose** - Lark's. 4:30 pm.

## ASHLAND

**Youssoupha Sidibe** - The Havurah Synagogue in Ashland. 7 pm. World Music.  
**Sing Your Bells Off Karaoke** - Oberon's. 7 pm.

## GRANTS PASS

**Dead Chemist and The Shaky Harlots** - The Sound Lounge. 9 pm.  
**Black Santa Tour featuring Landon Wordswell** - The Haul. 8 pm. \$10  
**The John Dough Boys** - The Copper Mug Cocktail Lounge. 8 pm. \$10

## Friday, December 13 ASHLAND

**The Coffis Brothers** - Brickroom. 8 pm.  
**Nightmare Before Christmas Live Music Event** - O'Ryan's Irish Pub. 9:30 pm. \$4.

## TALENT

**More Fatter** - Talent Club. 10 pm. Funk, soul, jazz, R&B.

## MEDFORD

**The Giantsess** - Grape Street Bar. 8 pm. Rock, blues, and jazz.  
**The Music of Frank Ellis** - Habanero's Mexican Restaurant. 8:30 pm. Indie Rock.  
**Doug Warner** - Morrtons Pizza. 7 pm.

## JACKSONVILLE

**Eric Leadbetter Music** - Bella Union Restaurant. 8 pm.

## GRANTS PASS

**Zepparella** - Rogue Theatre. 8 pm. All female Zeppelin tribute band.  
**Craig Wright and the Understanding** - The Sound Lounge. 9:30 pm.

*Playing a show?*  
**Let us know!**  
events@roguevalleymessenger.com

## Saturday, December 14 ASHLAND

**Supernaut** - Oberon's. Psych-rock.  
**Landon Wordswell** - Brickroom. 9 pm.

## TALENT

**Zak Knutson of Fogline** - Stone River Winery. 4 pm. Pop / 90's Rock / Country.  
**Zepdrix** - The Talent Club. 9 pm. The music of Led Zeppelin & Jimi Hendrix.

## JACKSONVILLE

**J Brothers feat. Eric Leadbetter** - Bella Union Restaurant. 8 pm. Classic rock & pop.

## MEDFORD

**Jeff Kloetzel** - The Rogue Grape. 6 pm. Acoustic Pop/Folk/Rock

## GRANTS PASS

**Holus Bolus** - Weekend Beer Company. 6 pm. Acoustic-psychedelic groove-rock.  
**Latin Dance Night hosted by DJ Fluffy** - The Sound Lounge. 9 pm.  
**Charlie Parr** - Rogue Theatre. 7 pm. \$20

## Sunday, December 15 GRANTS PASS

**Fountainview Academy Orchestra Singers** - Grants Pass Seventh-Day Adventist Church. 5 pm.

## MEDFORD

**Buddy Paprock** - Walkabout Brewing Co. 4 pm. Pop, Indie Rock.  
**Eric Leadbetter** - The Copper Plank. 6 pm.

## TALENT

**Mostly Harmless** - Paschal Winery. 3:30 pm. Popular & eclectic acoustic music.

## Monday, December 16 ASHLAND

**The Sultans** - The Wild Goose Cafe & Bar. 7 pm. Old school blues.

## MEDFORD

**Dean and Grace** - The Rogue Grape. 6 pm.

## Tuesday, December 17 MEDFORD

**SOJO** - Grape Street Bar. 7 pm.

## Wednesday, December 18 ASHLAND

**Wild Goose Chase Trio** - The Wild Goose Cafe & Bar. 7 pm. Jazz, Blues, Rock, and Country.  
**Die Geister Beschwören/ Crowey** - Oberon's. 8 pm.  
**Jen Ambrose** - Belle Fiore Winery. 5 pm. Acoustic music.



SAGE MEADOWS AND JIMMY PINWHEEL BAND PERFORM AT THE WILD GOOSE IN ASHLAND DEC. 26.

## JACKSONVILLE

**Jeff Kloetzel** - South Stage Cellars. 6 pm. Acoustic Pop/Folk/Rock

## MEDFORD

**Musicians Jam** - Grape Street Bar. 6 pm.  
**The Brothers Reed** - RoxyAnn Winery. 5 pm. Folk/Bluegrass/Americana.

## MEDFORD

**Insanitarium** - Double Taps: Tap Room and

## Thursday, December 19 GRANTS PASS

**DJ Rizlo Rinseout** - The Sound Lounge. 8 pm.

## Friday, December 20 ASHLAND

**Jeff Kloetzel** - Belle Fiore Winery. 5:30 pm. Acoustic Pop/Folk/Rock.  
**King Thayo, Kingstone Island & Friends** - Brickroom. 9 pm.

## GRANTS PASS

**The Music of Frank Ellis** - G St. Bar & Grill. 8:30 pm. Indie Rock.  
**Dead AF** - The Sound Lounge. 9 pm. Grateful Dead cover band.

## MEDFORD

**The Reverberays** - Grape Street Bar & Grill. 8:30 pm. Bitchin' Surf Rock.  
**Lee Stewart** - The Urban Cork. 5 pm. Rat Pack, Pop.  
**Buckle Rash** - Howiee's on Front. 9 pm. Outlaw Country/ Southern Rock.  
**Bekkah McAlvage** - Osmo's Alehouse. 6:30 pm. Country-folk, American roots music.  
**Rodeo Flyer** - Morrtons Pizza. 8 pm.

## PHOENIX

**Jay-R Salazar** - The Phoenix Clubhouse. 9 pm. Live DJ performance/EDM.

## Saturday, December 21 ASHLAND

**Repertory Singers** - SOU Music Recital Hall. 7:30 pm. \$15-42.  
**Nicole & Rick** - Belle Fiore Winery. 5:30 pm. Classic and current rock, pop.  
**Broceliande** - Grizzly Peak Winery. 7 pm. \$20 reserved, \$25 at the door.  
**The Mondegreens** - Brickroom. 9 pm. \$10

## TALENT

**Dead AF** - Talent Club. 9 pm. Grateful Dead cover band.

# LIVE MUSIC *and Nightlife*

Craft Spirits. 6:30 pm. Rock.

**The Mercy Duo** - The Laughing Clam. 6 pm.

## CAVE JUNCTION

**Winter Solstice Celebration with Indubious & Alcyon** - Takilma Community Building, 8 pm.

## Sunday, December 22 ASHLAND

**Repertory Singers** - SOU Music Recital Hall. 3 pm. \$15-42  
**Scott Knickerbocker & Bekkah McAlvage** - The Black Sheep. 7 pm. Folk, country & blues.

## MEDFORD

**Zak Knutson** - Walkabout Brewing Co. 4 pm. Pop, Country.

## Thursday, December 26 ASHLAND

**Sage Meadows & Jimmy Pinwheel Band** - The Wild Goose Cafe & Bar. 7 pm. Classic Country and Folk.

## Friday, December 27 MEDFORD

**Mark Charles Hill** - The Urban Cork. 5 pm. Light Rock, Pop.  
**Ring of Trees** - Grape St. Bar & Grill. 8 pm. Rock.  
**Gary Margason** - Morrtons Pizza. 8 pm.

## GRANTS PASS

**Starvation Heights** - The Laughing Clam. 7 pm. Adult Contemporary/ Pop.

## Saturday, December 28 ASHLAND

**Vic Ruggiero and Lauren Napier** - Oberon's. 6 pm. Blues/Folk/Rockabilly/Country

## MEDFORD

**Shybo's Retirement Party with Ring of Trees** - Grape Street Bar. 8 pm. Rock.

# EVENTS

## Art

### SEEING RED

November 15–December 21. 5:30 - 8 pm. 2019 Annual Members' Exhibit [www.roguegallery.org](http://www.roguegallery.org), Rogue Gallery & Art Center, 40 South Bartlett Street, Medford.

### MEMBERSHIP EXHIBITION

November 22 - December 19. Non-juried artworks by Museum members. Approximately 150 artworks are expected in a variety of media and themes. [www.gpmuseum.com](http://www.gpmuseum.com) Grants Pass Museum of Art, 229 SW G Street, Grants Pass.

### NATURAL PERSPECTIVE EXHIBIT

November 29 - January 17. Explore the birds of Africa through the lens of photo safari leader Judy Benson LaNier. [www.roguegallery.org](http://www.roguegallery.org), Rogue Gallery & Art Center, 40 South Bartlett Street, Medford.

### SPECIAL CHRISTMAS EVENT

December 20, 5 - 8 pm. We'll continue our seasonal exhibit with a transition to winter. [www.artdujourgallery.com](http://www.artdujourgallery.com). Art du Jour Gallery, 213 E. Main Street, Medford.

### ARTIST GROUP

January 9, 6 - 7:15 pm. Free. Rogue Valley thriving artists, writers, musicians and more... Info at: [ashlandartcenter.org](http://ashlandartcenter.org) Ashland Art Center, 357 East Main Street, Ashland.

## Classes

### TUTORIAL TUESDAYS

Join fellow genealogy researchers Tuesday evenings at the Jackson County Genealogy Library. For more information call 541-512-2340

## TALENT

**Mercy Duo** - Stone River Winery. 4 pm. Blues, Light Rock.

## GRANTS PASS

**Sylent Storm** - The Haul. 8 pm. All ages. Heavy metal.

## Sunday, December 29 MEDFORD

**Jen Ambrose and Jon Galfano** - Walkabout Brewing Co. 4 pm. Pop, Rock.

## GRANTS PASS

**Bekkah McAlvage** - The Sound Lounge. 8 pm. Country and folk.

## Tuesday, December 31 MEDFORD

**New Year's Eve Party with Saucy** - Grape Street Bar & Grill. 9 pm.

## GRANTS PASS

**World's Least Dangerous New Year's Eve Party** - Cedarwood Saloon. 8:30 pm. Dance music.

**Kenobi, Fraktured, and 1200 Hustle** - The Sound Lounge. 9 pm.

**The John Dough Boys** - G St. Bar & Grill. 9 pm.

**Flat Patty** - JD's Sports Bar & Brewery. 9 pm.

Hard rock.

## Friday, January 3 ASHLAND

**Nicholas Edward Williams w/ Steve Itterly** - Brickroom. 9 pm. \$5. Folk, blues.

## MEDFORD

**DKSP** - RoxyAnn Winery. 6 pm. Southern Oregon Soul.

**Fogline** - Howiee's on Front. 9 pm. Country.

## MEDFORD

**The Miller Twins** - The Rogue Grape. 7 pm.



GYPSY GILLIS PERFORMS AT GRAPE STREET BAR IN MEDFORD ON JAN. 4.

## Saturday, January 4 MEDFORD

**Gypsy Gillis** - Grape Street Bar. 8 pm. Classic Rock and Blues covers.

## Thursday, January 9 ASHLAND

**Nat Miller & The Crop Dusters** - Oberon's. 6:30 pm. Acoustic trio.

## Saturday, January 11 ASHLAND

**Death Plant, StBTtLCO, and While I See Sound** - Oberon's. 8 pm.

## TALENT

**Jeff Kloetzel** - Stone River Winery. 4 pm. Pop, Rock.

## MEDFORD

**The Miller Twins** - The Rogue Grape. 7 pm.

## Wednesday, January 15 ASHLAND

**Bart Budwig** - Brickroom. 9 pm.

## MEDFORD

**The Brothers Reed** - RoxyAnn Winery. 5 pm. Folk/Bluegrass/Americana.

## Thursday, January 16 GRANTS PASS

**The Brothers Reed** - Weekend Beer Company. 6 pm. Folk/Bluegrass/Americana.

## Friday, January 17 GRANTS PASS

**Pablo Cruise** - Rogue Theatre. 8 pm.

## Wednesday, January 22 MEDFORD

**Wailing Aaron Jennings** - Johnny B's. 8 pm. 🎸

## BALLROOM DANCING

Every Tuesday from 1:30 - 4 pm with lessons starting at 12:30 pm. \$3. Live music by Dave Flick. Square Dance Hall, 3377 Table Rock Rd, Medford.

## NIGHT OF THE STORYTELLERS

December 12, 7 - 9 pm. \$10 - \$20 sliding scale at the door. An evening with The Hearth. <https://theearthcommunity.bpt.me/>. Temple Emek Shalom, 1801 East Main, Ashland.

## SEED SAVING WORKSHOP AND COMMUNITY POTLUCK

December 13, 5:30 - 7:30 pm. We will shell beans, share tips for seed cleaning and storage, and then have a potluck meal together. [www.OurFamilyFarms.org](http://www.OurFamilyFarms.org). Phoenix Grange Hall, 209 North Main Street, Phoenix.

## COMMUNITY EVENT

December 13, 12 - 1 pm. Discover how to reach your customers and clients online with Google. More info at: [jcls.org](http://jcls.org). Medford Library, 205 South Central Avenue, Medford.

## VISIT WITH SANTA

Dec. 13, 3:30 - 4 pm. Bring your cameras to take a picture with Santa! Central Point Library, 116 South Third Street, Central Point.

## SISKIYOU SINGERS HOLIDAY CONCERT

Dec. 13 - 15, 7:30 pm, 3 pm. \$20. Siskiyou Singers invite you to join them for an exquisite choral presentation featuring Benjamin Britten's glorious and enchanting "A Ceremony of Carols." [www.siskiyousingers.org](http://www.siskiyousingers.org), SOU Music Recital Hall, 450 South Mountain Avenue, Ashland.

straightforward watercolor design and painting techniques. \$195. Go to [ashlandartcenter.org](http://ashlandartcenter.org) for more information. Ashland Art Center, 357 E Main St, Ashland.

## REALISTIC DRAWING FOR ADULTS & ADOLESCENTS

Thursdays, Jan. 16 through March 5 from 4-6 pm. Do you have very little or no experience drawing? That's great because artist Deb Van Poolen delights in teaching absolute beginners how to draw! \$185. Go to [ashlandartcenter.org](http://ashlandartcenter.org) for more information. Ashland Art Center, 357 E Main St, Ashland.

## MASTER GARDENER CLASS

Wednesdays, Jan. 22 through April 1 from 9 am - 3:30 pm. \$300. Expand your gardening knowledge while sharing it with your community. <https://jacksoncountymga.org/>. OSU Extension Auditorium, 569 Hanley Road, Central Point.

## OPERA MASTER CLASSES

Jan. 25, 12:30 to 2:30pm and 3:00 to 5:00 pm. You are invited to observe a master teacher work with ten regional singers! Go to [bravaopera.com](http://bravaopera.com) for more information. Brava! Opera Theatre hosts this event at Rogue Valley Unitarian Fellowship, 87 4th St., Ashland.

## Community

**SCIENCEWORKS HAPPY HOUR**  
Dec. 12, 5 - 7 pm. You're invited to put the "fun" in fundraiser with us! Enjoy complimentary drinks, apps, and microscope Bingo and find out how you can support this beloved institution. <https://scienceworksmuseum.org/matters/>, Ashland Hills Hotel, 2525 Ashland Street, Ashland.

or email reception [J\\_CGL@gmail.com](mailto:J_CGL@gmail.com). Jackson County Genealogy Library, 3405 S Pacific Hwy, Medford.

## NIA ADVENT CLASSES

Dec. 2 - 21, 9:30 - 10:45 am M,T,Th,F. \$15 to drop in. Nia Advent is a series of 12 holiday classes designed to follow the rhythm of shortening days with contemplative healing movement. [www.NiaNow.com](http://www.NiaNow.com). The DanceSpace, 280 E. Hersey #10, Ashland.

## ROGUE VALLEY MENTORING ESSENTIALS

Dec. 14 at 9 am. Change a life with an hour a week. Become a Mentor! Training covers 1-1 youth mentoring, circle mentoring, relationship building, active listening, healthy boundaries, and more! Register at [rvmentoring.org](http://rvmentoring.org). 815 S Oakdale, Medford.

## BATH BOMBS & BODY SCRUB MAKING!

Dec. 16, 5:45 - 7:45 pm. Spend your evening learning how to make your own! <https://www.bestowandbloom.com/happenings-1>. Bestow, 1606 Ashland Street, Ashland.

## CONNECTIVE ROPE

Jan. 3, 7 - 9 pm. In this evening workshop, we will dive into creating deep connection with our partner using rope as a tool. <https://asyoulikeitshop.com/ashvents/>. \$40 per couple. As You Like It - A Love Revolution, 383 East Main Street, Ashland.

## INTRODUCTION TO WATERCOLORS FOR ADULTS

Mondays, Jan. 13 through March 2 from 3:30-5:30 pm. Let the water do the work in this exciting class! Deb Van Poolen will teach

## EVENTS



COLLABORATIVE THEATRE PROJECT PRESENTS THE SNOW QUEEN FROM DEC. 12 - 29.

## COMMUNITY PRESENTATION

Saturday, December 14. "Regaining Your Sanity in an Insane World" - hosted by Architects of the New Paradigm. More info at: ANPCONFERENCE.com. Ashland Hills Hotel, 2525 Ashland Street, Ashland.

## THE GIFT

Saturday, December 14 at 5 pm. This is an inter-faith program representing multiple denominations. Enjoy holiday music provided by over 100 talented singers and musicians. Grants Pass Seventh-Day Adventist Church, 1360 NE 9th St, Grants Pass.

## HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE

Saturday, December 14, 10 am - 3 pm. Talent Library, 101 Home Street, Talent.

## CHRISTMAS MEMORIES

Saturday, December 14, 7 pm. Southern Oregon Concert Band Christmas performance. For more info: [socbpres@jeffnet.org](mailto:socbpres@jeffnet.org). Stedman Auditorium at Central Medford High School, 815 South Oakdale, Medford.

## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Dec. 14, 1 - 2 pm. Welcome Mrs. Claus to the library! White City Library, 3143 Avenue C, White City.

## SANTA'S WINTER PARTY

Dec. 14, 1 - 3 pm. Take a picture with Santa and other characters! Medford Library, 205 South Central Avenue, Medford.

## VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS TOURS

Saturday and Sunday through Dec. 29 starting at 11 am. This year Historic Jacksonville, Inc. is excited to be offering Victorian Christmas tours of the 1873 Beekman House Museum and 1863 Beekman Bank Museum. \$5. Learn more at [historicjacksonville.org](http://historicjacksonville.org).

## ARTISAN'S MARKET AT THE PHOENIX CLUBHOUSE

Tuesdays from December 3 - February 25, 10 am - 2 pm. Visit [phoenixclubhouse.com](http://phoenixclubhouse.com) for more information. The Phoenix Clubhouse, 310 N Main Street, Phoenix

## FRIENDSHIP CELEBRATION

Dec. 15, 12 - 2 pm. Please join us in celebrating the Year-End with the Horses of Equamore! [www.equamore.org](http://www.equamore.org). Equamore Sanctuary, 4723 Highway 66, Ashland.

## PLANT CARE 101

Dec. 15, 4:30 - 6 pm. Your green thumb will be glowing by the end of the night! <https://www.bestowandbloom.com/happenings-1>. Bestow, 1606 Ashland Street, Ashland.

## CHRISTMAS CAROLING AT THE HISTORIC WOLF CREEK INN

Dec. 15 & Dec. 22, 10 am - 2 pm. Come hear the NVHS Swing Choir carol during our Sunday brunch. Wolf Creek Inn & Tavern, 100 Front Street, Wolf Creek.

## SPEED DATING FOR ALL!

Dec. 19 - Jan. 23, 6 - 9 pm. We will be hosting a series of speed dating events to help people of all persuasions make new friends, get to know their community members, and maybe even make a love connection! <https://asyoulikeitshop.com/ashvents/>. As You Like It - A Love Revolution, 383 East Main Street, Ashland.

## MICHAL PALZEWICZ TRIO CONCERT

Dec. 20, 7:30 pm. Original music as well as classical cello repertoire arrangements by Vivaldi, Bach, and more. [www.music.palzewicz.com](http://www.music.palzewicz.com). Geos Institute, 84 Fourth Street, Ashland.

## LIVE MUSIC AND WINE AT KRISSELLE CELLARS

Dec. 21, 1 - 4 pm. Join us here at the Tasting Room for holiday celebrations and live music by William McBride. <https://www.krisellecellars.com>. Kriselle Cellars, 12956 Modoc Road, White City, Ashland.

## COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS PARTY

Dec. 21, 1 - 5 pm. This family friendly event is the perfect opportunity for the community to get together and celebrate the Holiday season! [www.phoenixclubhouse.com](http://www.phoenixclubhouse.com). The Phoenix Clubhouse, 310 North Main Street, Phoenix.

## SOLSTICE CELEBRATION

December 21, 5 - 7 pm. Northwest Nature Shop is kicking off the longest night of the year with a Solstice Celebration. For more information visit [northwestnatureshop.com](http://northwestnatureshop.com). Northwest Nature Shop and Bestow and Bloom Alley, 154 Oak Street, Ashland.

## WINTER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION

December 21. Solstice stories and live music with Broceliande. [kris@cagefreemusician.com](mailto:kris@cagefreemusician.com). Grizzly Peak Winery, 1600 East Nevada Street, Ashland.

## WINTER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION

December 21. This celebration will feature some stunning dance theatre, gourmet farm to table fare, and amazing live electronic music. <http://www.liveatthearmory.com/calendar-of-events>. Historic Ashland Armory, 210 Oak Street, Ashland.

## FIREBIRD WIND TRIO CONCERT

December 22, 2 pm. A varied program including Mozart and Tchaikovsky. [www.lisanicholsmusic.com](http://www.lisanicholsmusic.com). Peace House, 543 South Mountain Ave., Ashland.

## ASHLAND COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER

December 25, 12 - 4 pm. Free. [ACFweb.org](http://ACFweb.org). Ashland Armory, 208 Oak Street, Ashland.

## HANLEY HOUSE HOLIDAY TOURS

December 26, 10 - 3.

The Hanley home is adorned with festive decorations and open for tours. [www.sohs.org/holiday](http://www.sohs.org/holiday). Hanley Farm, 1053 Hanley Road, Central Point.

## OPEN MIC

December 29, 3 - 5 pm. Hosted by Rick Millward, for all local musicians and music lovers. Vote for the winner who takes the tip jar! [www.roxyann.com](http://www.roxyann.com). RoxyAnn Winery, 3283 Hillcrest Road, Medford.

## — Kids &amp; Family —

## FAMILY FUN ARCHERY

Saturdays from 11 am - 12:30 pm. Learn archery while having fun popping balloons & loosing arrows at creative targets! Rental equipment available. Children required to have an adult supervise and participate with them. More info at [www.moonbowarchery.com](http://www.moonbowarchery.com). Ashland Parks & Rec Center, 1195 E Main St, Ashland.

## PRESCHOOL PUPPET THEATRE

Dec. 13 from 10:30 - 11:45 am. Join Brenda Bear and friends as they discover the wonders of our natural world. Pre-register online or call the Nature Center at 541-488-6606. \$6. North Mountain Park, 620 N Mountain Ave, Ashland.

Dec. 14, 11 - 2. Meet Santa and save the polar bears. \$5. All proceeds will benefit Polar Bears International. [www.polarbearsinternational.org](http://www.polarbearsinternational.org). Paddington Express, 300 East Main Street, Ashland.

## — Sports &amp; Outdoor —

## ARCHERY OPEN SESSION

Wednesdays from 6:30 - 8 pm. Hone your archery skills and learn techniques from other archers, both traditional and modern, while having fun popping balloons & loosing arrows at creative targets! Rental equipment available. Ashland Parks & Rec Center, 1195 E. Main St, Ashland.

## TAI CHI WITH PETE

Wednesdays, 10:30 - 11:45 am. Everyone welcome! If you need more info, call director Rick Patsche, 541-702-2585. \$5. Jacksonville Community Center, 160 E Main St, Jacksonville.

## FIRST FROST CELEBRATION

Saturday, December 14, 2:30 - 10 pm. [www.ashland.or.us/icerink](http://www.ashland.or.us/icerink). Ashland Rotary Centennial Ice Rink, 95 Winburn

Way, Ashland.

## — Stage —

## MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET

Nov. 21 through Dec. 31. Oregon Cabaret presents Miracle on 34th Street: A Live Musical Radio Play adapted from Jon Lorenz' 1947 Lux Radio Broadcast of the classic Christmas story. Learn more at [www.oregoncabaret.com](http://www.oregoncabaret.com). Oregon Cabaret Theatre, 241 Hargadine St, Ashland. \$29 - 43.

## PETER PAN

Nov. 27 - Dec. 31. Soar into the Holidays with the timeless story where dreams are born and no one ever grows up. More info at: [www.camelottheatre.org](http://www.camelottheatre.org). Camelot Theatre, 101 Talent Ave, Talent. \$30 - 38.

## IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

Dec. 6 - 22. Barnstormers presents the classic "It's A Wonderful Life" adapted for the stage. Learn more at [barnstormersgp.com](http://barnstormersgp.com). Barnstormers Theatre, 112 NE Evelyn Ave, Grants Pass.

## THE SNOW QUEEN

Evening Performances are scheduled for 7:30 pm on the following dates: December 12,13,14, 19,20,21, 26, 27, 28 Matinee Performances are scheduled for 1:30 pm on the following dates: December 15,21,22,28 and 29 Snow Queen is a musical based on the theme of friendship and how far we go to help a friend. Tickets range from \$15 (Preview only) to \$28 and are available online at [www.CTPMedford.org](http://www.CTPMedford.org) or by calling (541) 779-1055. Collaborative Theatre Project, 555 Medford Center, Medford.

## A CHRISTMAS STORY

December 13 - 29. \$22. A show for the entire family. [randalltheatre.com](http://randalltheatre.com). Randall Theatre Company, 10 East 3rd Street, Medford.

## 3 RIVERS CHORALE CONCERT

December 14 - 15, 3 pm. \$15. "Alleluia! The Glory of Christmas." More info at: [www.3riverschorale.org](http://www.3riverschorale.org). Dec. 14 - Immanuel United Methodist Church, 200 W Watkins Street, Cave Junction. Dec. 15 - Bethany Presbyterian Church, 741 NW 4th Street, Grants Pass.

## THE NUTCRACKER BALLET

December 14 - 22, 2 pm, 8 pm. Experience a Grants Pass Holiday tradition! Visit [gpnutcracker.org](http://gpnutcracker.org) for tickets and info. Grants Pass Performing Arts Center, 830 NE 9th Street, Grants Pass.

## DISNEY'S FROZEN JR.

December 14, 15, 20, 21. Bundle up and join princesses Elsa and Anna in the mythical kingdom of Arendelle. [www.craterian.org](http://www.craterian.org). Craterian Theater, 23 South Central Avenue, Medford.

## THE VELVETEEN RABBIT

December 14, 11 am. A children's tale of the friendship between a young boy and his toy rabbit. Tickets are a suggested \$5 per person at the door. Collaborative Theatre Project, 555 Medford Center, Medford.

## SLAY RIDE

December 20 - 21, 7 - 10 pm. \$10. This Holiday themed haunt is not for the faint of heart. [randalltheatre.com](http://randalltheatre.com). Randall Theatre Company, 10 East 3rd Street, Medford.

## A CELTIC CHRISTMAS

December 22, 3 & 7:30 pm. Joy and laughter reign when award-winning Celtic musicians, singers, and dancers fill the Craterian with traditional Irish melodies and high-energy steps. [www.craterian.org](http://www.craterian.org). Craterian Theater, 23 South Central Avenue, Medford.

## NEW YEARS EVE CELEBRATION

December 31, 8:30 pm. \$50 - \$150. The Rogue Valley Symphony will be ringing in the New Year with a gala concert. [craterian.org](http://craterian.org). The Craterian Theater, 23 South Central Avenue, Medford.

## EVENTS

## NEW YEARS EVE BASH

December 31, 10 pm. \$15. A 21 and over review. [randalltheatre.com](http://randalltheatre.com). Randall Theatre Company, 10 East 3rd Street, Medford.

## A TOAST TO MAJKUT

December 31, 8:30 pm. A Rogue Valley Symphony presentation. [www.rvsymphony.org](http://www.rvsymphony.org). Craterian Theater, 23 South Central Avenue, Medford.

## DISNEY'S BEAUTY &amp; THE BEAST JR.

Jan. 10 and 11 at 6 pm. Logos Public Charter School presents Disney's "Beauty & the Beast Jr." The 6th-12th grade cast contains approximately 45 students led by Logos Theater Arts Director, April Thielemann. Central High Auditorium, 815 S Oakdale, Medford.

## WITH MALICE TOWARD NONE, WITH CHARITY FOR ALL

Jan. 12, 3 pm. World-renowned baritone Christophèren Nomura to perform a vocal recital dedicated to themes of peace and reconciliation. [www.HumanityTickets.com](http://www.HumanityTickets.com). Oregon Center for the Arts Music Recital Hall, 491 South Mountain, Ashland.

## CHARLEY'S AUNT

Jan. 17 through Feb. 2. Barnstormers Theatre presents "Charley's Aunt" Love and fortunes are lost and found in this timeless comedy. Learn more at [barnstormersgp.com](http://barnstormersgp.com). Barnstormers Theatre, 112 NE Evelyn Ave, Grants Pass.

## BRAVA! OPERA EVENT

Sunday, Jan. 26, 2 pm. Join us for an exciting concert of unforgettable music with the renowned San Francisco Opera Adler Fellows performing staged excerpts from grand operas. SOU Music Recital Hall, 450 South Mountain Ave, Ashland.

## — Presentations —

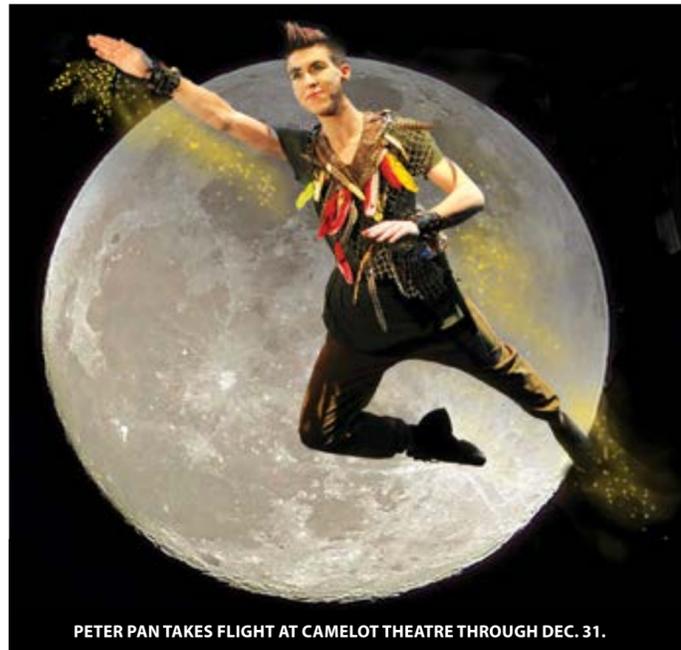
## ALL STARS SONGWRITER SHOWCASE

Sunday, December 15, 3 - 5 pm. An up close and personal experience of how songwriters produce their music. [www.roxyann.com](http://www.roxyann.com). RoxyAnn Winery, 3283 Hillcrest Road, Medford.

## IT'S GETTING BETTER ALL THE TIME

Saturday, December 28 from 1-3 pm. People in America have been predicting the imminent end of the world since the very beginning of our nation. [SaveAmerica.info](http://SaveAmerica.info). Medford Library, 205 S Central Ave, Medford.

## TRACE WEST PRESENTS DESIGN LAB



PETER PAN TAKES FLIGHT AT CAMELOT THEATRE THROUGH DEC. 31.

## TALKS

Saturday, January 18, 11 - 1. An educational guest speaker series featuring contemporary design influencers. More info at: [www.ashlandgalleries.com](http://www.ashlandgalleries.com). Ashland Art Center, 357 East Main Street, Ashland.

## — Meetings —

## WOMEN'S FEMINIST CONSCIOUSNESS- RAISING GATHERING

Sundays from 3:30 - 5:30 pm. This group is for women to gather and discuss feminist issues amongst one another. Boss Up Studio, 1 W 6th St, Medford.

## SOUTHERN OREGON BIRTH CONNECTIONS

Come join us for this month's member meeting! Tuesday December 17th 12-1:30pm - potluck & celebration :) Member meetings are always open to anyone interested in our mission! Family Massage Education Center 77 Manzanita St, Ashland

## — Food —

## COOKIE PARTY!

Dec. 20, 6 - 8 pm. A tradition of cookie swapping. <https://www.bestowandbloom.com/happenings-1>. Bestow, 1606 Ashland Street, Ashland.

## — Wellness —

## COMMUNITY COUNSELING CENTER

The Community Counseling Center offers low cost, sliding-scale, professional counseling for individuals, couples, adolescents, families and children. \$40. Visit [www.cccofashland.com](http://www.cccofashland.com) or call 541-708-5436 for more information. The Phoenix Clubhouse, 310 N Main St, Phoenix.

## AWARENESS THROUGH MOVEMENT WEEKLY FELDENKRAIS CLASS

Tuesdays from 6:30 - 8 pm. Unwind Your Spine! Mindful moves to regain lost mobility. We've all been brainwashed to believe decrepitude in inevitable after 50. Learn resilience for flexibility in mind and body. \$15-50, free for veterans. Learn more info at [www.gabriellepullen.info](http://www.gabriellepullen.info). Feldenkrais Studio, 135 W. Main St., Jacksonville.

## EVENING YOGA

Thursdays from 6 - 7 pm. Fostering Strength, Flexibility and Tranquility through the practice of Awareness in Breath, Meditation and Asana. Sundance Healing & Arts Yoga Studio, 220 SE H St, Grants Pass.



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**OREGON CENTER FOR THE ARTS**  
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# SOUND

## Don't Overlook The Little Giantess A Review of the Live Show at South Stage Cellars

BY ALAN ARMSTRONG

“People sometimes like to ask what kind of music we play,” says Tess Minnick, the voice behind The Giantess. “I like to say, ‘dramatic.’” She proves it by singing seductively about a variety of intriguing topics, such as breaking up with Facebook, getting high, and anticipating murder in her home.

At their November 23 show, I'm eager to spend a couple hours relaxing at one of Minnick's performances; this one at South Stage Cellars in Jacksonville.

The Giantess is the full four-piece band; tonight's show is half of them, though, a duo called The Little Giantess, made up of Minnick and guitarist Rob Gunderson. When I first saw their website, I was intrigued by the artwork, which depicts the singer almost like a seductive, tattooed “Jessica Rabbit” type with little devils on her back; a sexy, sultry songbird, known to croon through a vintage microphone. I pictured a low lit, smoky, and mysterious venue as the setting for her performance; something a bit aloof. But when I arrived at South Stage Cellars, I realized I was 180 degrees off. Instead, the atmosphere was casual, well lit, social and friendly—and the performers emulated this vibe too, being right by the front door, casually dressed and on the same level as the audience.

Voted best band in the 2019 Messenger's readers' poll, The Giantess—or, in this evening's case, The Little Giantess—proved why they have so much community support. They are easy-going and approachable, and, perhaps more critical to their expanding fandom, Minnick's voice is truly astounding; silky smooth, but sometimes soaring, she earnestly sings “Give It On Back” with a yearning voice that is somehow all at once husky and seductive, yet also clear as a bell. Her style pairs well with the precision-based guitar skills of bandmate Gunderson. The music itself is enjoyable, straight-forward, easy-going blues-based rock.

She gets candid with her audience, casually bringing up the fact that the band used to be a cover band with zero original songs, but explains now it is all original work and zero covers. She goes on to introduce “420 Blues” by saying it's for those “that have drama in their lives” and then proceeds to finger snap during the intro,

singing, “I just wanna get a little high and go to bed.”

It is obvious she has immense talent; she not only has a voice that melts butter, but also one she can manipulate so that it either sounds like a guitar's swelling endnote or so that it has a muted trumpet effect. Sometimes it seems as though her voice vibrates to the point where it sounds like more than one. She wistfully (and appropriately) scat-sings in “Ella,” and then ends the tune with such ease in abrupt finality it almost sounds like stopping during a rehearsal.

More than once Minnick assures the audience that her song about murder, “Bearface's Revenge,” is “totally danceable”—and she's right! With her trademark honey-tongued delivery, almost like a goth celebrating the subject of death, she sings “I sleep with one eye open...there's been a murder in my house...I know the worst is yet to come.”

Alongside this singing is something nearing stand-up. She croons “Whoa is me” repeatedly, and then sings of misery before informing the audience that the song is “the inner monologue of my cat.”



LITTLE GIANTESSE. PHOTO CREDIT: CRAIG ALLEN

### THE GIANTESSE

Friday, December 13, 9 pm  
The Grape Street Bar & Grill, 31 S. Grape Street, Medford

# Rogue Sounds

## The See Saw of Parenthood— Captured in Song Locally-Based Musician Kristel Axel Releases A New Song

BY PHIL BUSSE

Some of the best and most iconic music has a specific geography to it—and I don't mean that metaphorically, about musical landscapes, but literally; as if the exact longitude and latitude on earth's globe literally attached something to the spirituality of the songs. Take Muscle Shoals, a recording studio in backwater Alabama that produced the gritty and soulful songs like Bob Seger's “Night Moves,” Staple Singers “I'll Take You There” and the Rolling Stones “Brown Sugar.” Or, consider, LA's Laurel Canyon in the mid-60s that produced an entire genre of folk-rock. Detroit is, of course, Motown magic, and in the late 80s and early 90s, a murky sound bubbled from the darkness of Seattle.

Eau Claire, Wisconsin is perhaps an unlikely cradle for music, but has been producing earnest, heartfelt, easy-going, but well-versed ditties over the past decade. More sonorous than splashy, and more easy-going Americana than electrified anthems, this spot on the globe first gained real notoriety when Justin Vernon emerged from a hunting cabin and heartbreak from a failed relationship to release his Grammy-winning and indie fave album, Bon Ivers' For Emma, Forever Ago. Since then, the northern town has hosted one of the fastest up-and-coming summer music festivals and has built a cottage industry of recording studios.

Recently, local (as in Ashland, Oregon-based) musician Kristel Axel sat for a recording session at one of the hotspot recording studios (and yes, picture a red barn). The day, according to Axel, was awash in fall colors and, later in the session, lit up by a lightning storm. And the result is the musician's first single in a decade, a mellow but catchy tune—and one that whets the appetite for more songs.

Although the sound and softness may be Eau Claire-influenced, Axel's lyric's are clearly Pacific Northwest inspired. “There's a light on the mountain shining over the rain,” he sings. (As a Wisconsin-raised kid and skier, I can tell you, there aren't m/any mountains in the state.) The song, “Weightless Heart” was written a few years ago for his daughter, and captures that emotional tension between the freedom of childhood and the responsibilities of adulthood.

Although the result from the recording session is just one song, Axel has set up an upcoming show and has scheduled another recording session in LA “When I came home from Eau Claire,” says Axel, “I immediately wrote three songs in the course of two days; it was as if the trip itself had unlocked a new part of me.”

Axel also is finding collaborators locally, and has a session this month with Sean McCoy from Central Point.

He goes on, “some of these songs may be featured in the upcoming session; I have continued to write a lot more than usual lately, strictly on piano, so before this summer session I will probably be releasing an EP of songs on piano.”

We can only wait and hope.

Axel will perform a set of original songs—and perhaps a holiday one or two—1 pm, Thursday, December 19, La Baguette Cafe, 340 A Street, Ashland.



KRISTEL AXEL.

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# CULTURE

## Comedy By Robots Is The Most Human of All

### Mystery Science Theater 3000 Lands in Medford

BY PHIL BUSSE

Joel Hodgson is in Little Rock, Arkansas when I finally reach him on the phone. The creator of *Mystery Science Theater 3000*—the cult classic and a currently top ranked as one of Netflix’s most popular shows—is on the move, and it has taken nearly two weeks to set up a 15 minute interview.

In the late 80s, Hodgson began airing episodes of *Mystery Science Theater 3000* in his adopted town of Minneapolis: at first glance, seemed like a slapdash community television show, ripe for stoners. A B-grade movie screened with silhouetted commentators in the foreground taking pot shots at the shotty dialogue and sagging storyline. But, given a slightly more than passing glance, the show emerges as cultural and comic genius parading as pander—clever scripting, intricate backstories for the commentators, and clever plotlines unspooling.

Moreover, what is remarkable is that a seemingly silly concept and show has endured—and arguably improved into something close to high art over the decades. And yes, it has been decades, nearly 30 years, and some 200 episodes.

*Mystery Science Theater 3000* ran for a decade in the 90s, went into syndication and, two years ago, was revived as a Netflix series (support by nothing less than a record-breaking \$6.3 million Kickstarter; yet another testimony to the show’s wide-reaching and enduring popularity). The Netflix show is just one puzzle piece for a larger picture, explains Hodgson, as the show also has spawned a comic book series (from Oregon-based Dark Horse comics) and a live, theater version of the show—which is why Hodgson is in Little Rock when I finally reach him on the phone.

“You’re from Wisconsin,” I say, and with that simple question, he is off and talking. Like myself, Hodgson grew up in Wisconsin and I ask if there is something about that environment that breeds creativity and comedy: During the 20 or so years, from the late 70s to the mid-90s, Wisconsin was an unlikely springboard for genre-bending and creating comedy, from the spoofed *Airplane* movies to *The Onion* newspaper, all gathering a loose tone that spoofed popular culture and created slightly askew realities; a theme and format even more announced in *Mystery Science Theater 3000*.

In those shows, if you have somehow never seen an episode or don’t know the basic premise, I bet you have seen an image of the show or flipped past it channel surfing and been arrested by its oddity. When first launched, the shows picked up on zeitgeist of the moment—on the movie critics Siskle & Ebert. And now, in hindsight, the show also served as a precursor to contemporary culture in which Twitter and



Yelp comments are as entertaining as the main dish.

But the shows were not simply about cheap shots at B-grade movies, but added an entire narrative about the main character, being held captive by robots and circling the earth as a plan for world domination loomed. That cleverness and those intricacies hold a viewer beyond the initial hook and have built an entire universe and cult following—one that has expanded beyond the original run of shows, and into a comic book series and the current tour of live shows.

Each is a “little billboard,” Hodgson says, for the larger, sprawling universe. Then, for a moment, he stops talking. He sounds out of breath. “Do we have to walk up that hill,” he asks to someone standing next to him in Little Rock. “Either we need to stop walking or stop the interview.”

Like the shows, he is seemingly surfing different narratives all at once—his present conversation with me about the show and its meta-themes, and then a more immediate conversation with his walking partner—and he simply keeps on talking. “It is like keeping a balloon afloat,” he says, explaining, I suppose, the show’s constant banter as well as maintaining its spot in the cultural conversation, and then he switches to talking about how the show is different for him to produce and for what people perceive. “People find meaning (in it),” he says, “and, if not, then I just have to entertain them.”

I’m scribbling as fast as I can to keep up with his thoughts that jump from worm holes to maintaining an artist’s integrity, when his publicist, who I didn’t even realize was on the line as well, interrupts: “You have one more minute,” she informs us; but, mostly me, I suppose.

Hodgson, though, just keeps on talking.

*Mystery Science Theater 3000* will present its live performance with the film *No Retreat, No Surrender*. 7:30 pm, Monday, January 20, Craterian Theater, \$39 - \$45.

## Sitting Back with a Beer and a Book

### Southern Oregon Beer: A Pioneering History by Phil Busse

REVIEWED BY NICK BLAKESLEE

I spent a lot of time engrossing myself in history books. I went to school at OSU for history, meaning I spent most of my time reading dusty old tomes written about dead white guys, talking about government and liberties and pursuit of property and stuff. I’ll be honest, most of it was really dry, which is just a nice way of saying dreadful. Historians, for all of their brains and attention to detail, rarely know how to spin a story.

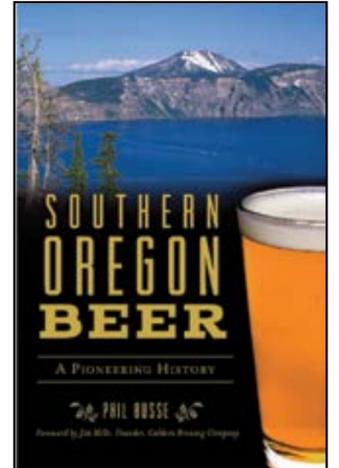
So finding anything that has historical relevance and can keep the reader’s attention is always a breath of fresh air. I got an advanced copy of (the *Messenger*’s Publisher) Phil Busse’s book, *Southern Oregon Beer: A Pioneering History*, and got a chance to read through the first few chapters and his book is exactly that.

The book, as the title would suggest, gives a history of southern Oregon’s rich background in brewing. Anyone who knows anything about brewing knows that Oregon can be considered the (un)official brew-mecca of the United States. It has one of the highest breweries per capita in the nation, and is home to dozens of powerhouse breweries that distribute all over the United States and the world. Often times, people think of Portland and Bend as Oregon’s go-to spots, but the reality is the history of brewing in Oregon has more ties to Southern Oregon than one would expect.

If you read my review of Climate City Brewing, you’ll know that the brewery had opened and

closed several times, but the building itself was first constructed and brewed in in the 19th century. This history is expanded in Busse’s book. Climate City had one of the first female brewers of the time. Jacksonville itself is also the center of brewing in the state, which is quite odd considering just how hard it would be to get any sort of supplies or equipment out here. But, as the old saying goes, put a river between a man and his beer and he’ll build a bridge... wait is that a saying? Busse’s refreshing and academic look at the history of southern Oregon’s breweries is expansive and it’s plain to me he has done a lot of research. Because of the content and his writing style, it’s a very easy book to digest. When I first got it in my hands, I found myself reading it for long periods of time, and its readability makes it an easy coffee table read as well. It’s a book that seeks to inform readers about our rich history.

As an avid beer drinker and researcher, I was pretty sure I knew most of Oregon’s highlights for brewing. As I often am in life, I found out that I was wrong. For example, I learned from Busse’s book that in 1913, Oregon was producing nearly 50 percent of America’s hops for breweries, or that during the height of the growing season, the hop market was so large, that it employed nearly 12 percent of the state’s entire population. And there’s loads more on the politics of not only Prohibition itself, but the complete ban on homebrewing and



breweries until the latter half other 20th century. I don’t want spoil too much of the book; there’s really loads of great information to read. Often I wonder what my education would have looked like if I could have chosen the content that I was studying, and I think if that had been the case, I’d probably be reading less about white dead guys and more about Southern Oregon’s rich beer history.

You can find Busse’s book at any southern Oregon book store, or order it directly from the author ([pwbusse@yahoo.com](mailto:pwbusse@yahoo.com), which gives him a larger chunk of royalties). It’s a perfect coffee table book, something to read to yourself, or something to feature at your local business.

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# SPORTS & Outdoor

## New Year, Fresh Start

### A Competitive Season for the Southern Oregon Spartans Spurs Growth

BY ERIN MCMENOMY



**SPARTAN ANDREW ROTHERMEIR FACES OFF AGAINST BILLY HART OF THE WEST SOUND ADMIRALS DURING THE SEASON HOME OPENER.**

CREDIT FOR BOTH:  
SUBMITTED BY  
COACH MARTIN

**CELEBRATING SPARTAN'S POSE FOR THE CAMERA FOLLOWING THEIR 5-4 VICTORY OVER THE WEST SOUND ADMIRALS.**



Now a third of the way into their season, the Southern Oregon Spartans are primed to end 2019 with strong momentum and are looking to the New Year with optimism. Their goal? Get back into the win column and make the playoffs.

"We started the season off with a great opening weekend, winning both of our first home games, and we have continued to face much tougher competition since," said Head Coach Dylan Martin. "But the team has really come together throughout the difficulties, and I know they are excited for the back half of the season."

The Spartans swept the West Sound Admirals in their two-game opening series back in October, ending the month with their first road-win as they again defeated the Admirals in a 7-1 victory. This came on the heels of a tough, at-home losing streak to the 2018/2019 Thorne Cup finalists and division foe, the Ogden Mustangs.

With a current record of 3 - 17, it's been a season of growth for the Spartans so far and there's still some developing to do, but Martin remains positive that the team's strong bond and comradery will help fuel their continued success. "One thing I love about this team is their sense of affability and fellowship for one another, both on and off the ice," noted Martin, an attribute that's evident on road trips filled with late-night hotel pizza and frequent rounds of their favorite game, "Bus Tag."

"Anytime we leave a restaurant or store as a team, someone will undoubtedly

tag one of their teammates and race ahead to the bus, prompting the rest of the team, including the coaching staff, to take off in pursuit. The last one to touch the bus has to then stand up in front of the entire team and sing a song, no matter how bad that may sound."

The overall sense of community felt throughout the team is particularly significant given this year's roster, which is filled with several new players and a diverse mix of personalities, backgrounds and skill sets.

"We have a unique blend of older and younger players on the roster, including fresh-faces from around the globe and some more seasoned than others but each with a lot of heart," he said. "Everyone understands that we're trending in the right direction as a team, learning together and adapting to new systematic plays that will help us to execute correctly."

Now that all players are finally healthy and eligible to play, the team is gearing-up for the WSHL Showcase, the premier junior hockey event taking place in Las Vegas, December 17 - 20. This four-day hockey getaway will pit the Southern Oregon Spartans up against the Wichita Jr. Thunder, Barrhead Bombers and San Diego Sabers, with more than 100 college and pro scouts expected to be in attendance and on the hunt for fresh talent.

"Junior hockey by definition is about preparing athletes to play at the next level, whether that be college or professional hockey, and attending the Showcase gives players a chance to taste what that next level is like," said Martin. "Along with the potential opportunity to get recruited, I'm confident that this year's Showcase will provide a great lesson for these young men to take with them as they continue their playing career."

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The RRRink, 1349 Center Dr. Medford, OR  
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## Go Here

### The Perfect Place Cross Country Ski Areas

BY JORDAN MARIE MCCAWE

Finally winter is here. It is time to enjoy the scenery of the winter wonderland through cross country skiing. And while the snow pack isn't up to snuff in all areas; it is piling up more every day. Check out these spots for the best trails our area has to offer.

**Lollipop Loops:** Over seven miles of well-maintained trails just east of Medford are perfect for cross country skiers of any difficulty. Lollipop Loops is only two miles from Fish Lake and has a few other cross country skiing trails nearby worth the trip that will take you less than an hour to get there. Go to Fish Lake Sno-Park to find the trails.

**Crater Lake South Entrance:** Cross country skiing cannot possibly get more picturesque than at Crater Lake National Park. The skiing trails here span for 15 miles and are open until May. The best way to do it might be skiing one day and snowshoeing the next, which is a free activity offered by the park and guided by a park ranger. Explore and enjoy the vast Pacific Northwest winter beauty of Crater Lake with a pair of skis, a few friends, and a day of chilling, refreshing fun.

**Willamette Pass:** Less than three hours away is the Willamette Pass, where you'll find 29 beautiful trails. While there are vertical drops over 1,500 feet, there are also cross country skiing trails. Willamette Pass has beginner-friendly slopes as well as areas for advanced or even expert skiers and snowboarders. With over 550 acres to explore, there are a few runs at least two miles long.



**Mt. Ashland:** Since 1964, Rogue Valley locals (and countless visitors from around the world) have enjoyed Mt. Ashland and its lodge. From lessons and rentals to advanced slopes and winter events, Mt. Ashland continues to excel at providing skiers and snowboarders with excellent trails and a well-maintained mountain. The mountain is a consistent safe bet for a winter day well spent. For pass and ticket information, visit their website.

*This article originally ran in our 05.01 issue.*

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# SCREEN

## Action!

### Local Filmmaker Ray Robison Perfects the Art of Modest Moviemaking

BY CATHERINE KELLEY

A film made for a couple million bucks is pretty low-budget these days considering what Hollywood forks out for their Marvel productions. But then there's the clever accomplishment of the ultra-low (we're talking macro low) budget project. Local indie filmmaker, Ray Robison, has learned how to keep cameras rolling a penny at a time.

Raised a military brat, Robison's "home" was the suitcase he knew to pack for his family's next destination. The nomadic, sometimes lonely, lifestyle led him into the world of art and to the dream he'd realize in college.

"The way I grew up, very isolated and introverted, I think I saw film as a way to be able to say things without actually having to say things," Robison shares. "I found that the emotional aspect of filmmaking was a powerful way to communicate and to have a voice."

After graduating from Montana State with a Bachelor's in Film, he spent many years making small-budgeted TV commercials and gleaned some basics he'd eventually use as he began producing films with little to no money. During his years working and volunteering for different local media and film entities, Robison has fostered a large network of like-minded volunteers and aspirants, including college film students and graduates, who share his passion for filmmaking.

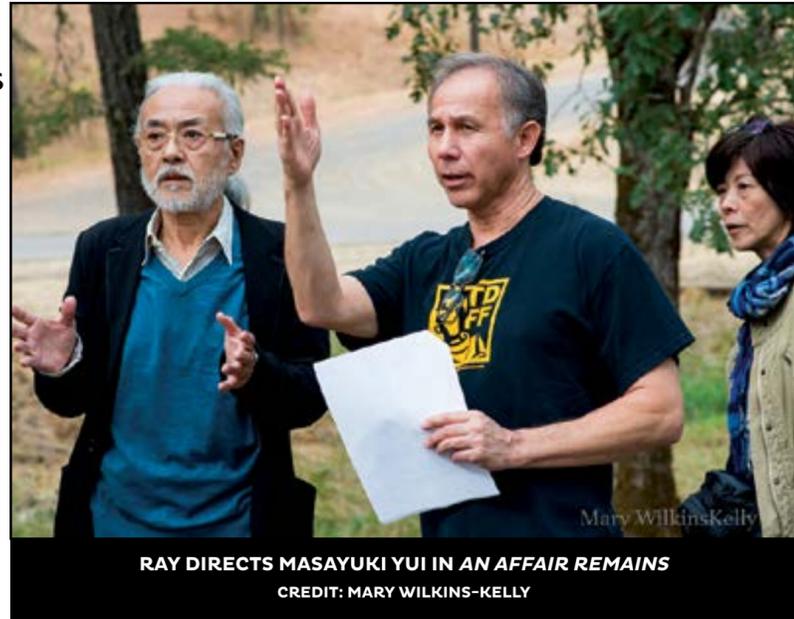
"What I essentially do, as a low-budget producer, is bring together a partnership of artists to work toward a common goal," he says. "For some, the art they practice is acting, for others it's creating unique and interesting hairstyles, or being a part of creating a powerful image on film. I think most of the people who work on my films pro bono realize that establishing relationships during the production can foster more opportunities—and it does."

Through connections and exchanges like film credit, free DVDs and invitations to wrap parties he has acquired donated venues, lodging for actors, food and catering services, loaned equipment (dolly tracks, jibs, lighting etc), even a 1948 Bentley prop. But not every strategy has panned out.

"For my first project I researched making a low-budget feature film and instead of paying for food you just tell everybody to bring a sack lunch. Well, I quickly learned that was a mistake!" he laughs. "People were leaving to go find something to eat and it'd be hours before they'd make it back."

Robison has made several short films for under \$100 and three features for under \$10,000. *Model Rules* (2008), his first of several collaborations with actor/writer/producer, Marlyn Mason (*The Trouble With Girls*), was produced for less than \$200 and earned \$600 from film festivals becoming what he humorously calls his "only financially profitable film".

In the beginning distribution was the one side of post-production that became



RAY DIRECTS MASAYUKI YUI IN AN AFFAIR REMAINS  
CREDIT: MARY WILKINS-KELLY

an expensive learning curve. And though film festival fees add up, Robison considers the exposure and networking aspects priceless.

"I'm definitely working hard to make the most of being at a festival, as far as connections with people and information," he adds. "I never know when there'll be that one person in the audience that likes my work and wants to become a part of my next project."

He's come a long way since his boyhood shyness and the perseverance has paid off with numerous film festival awards including Best Writing (*Dear Future Self*) from the Marietta International, Best Director (*An Affair Remains*) from the Rhode Island International and the Grand Prize, cash winnings and Audience Award (*Model Rules*) from the Eugene DIVA Open Lens.

Nearing retirement, Robison is counting the days till he can wake up and spend the day creating his next movie project.

"One of the greatest challenges for me is to continue on even though I'm looking at a bunch of films that never made me any money, but I'm very happy," he says. "It's really about having fun with my time and energy."



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# WELLNESS

## Look Out, World!

### Health Tips for Foreign Travel During the Holidays

BY DR. DANIEL SMITH



Journeying in another country is an experience that can be exhilarating, enlightening, wonderful, overwhelming, frustrating and disheartening all at the same time. One of the aspects of foreign travel that can be most challenging is remaining healthy. Montezuma's revenge, parasites, rashes, mosquito borne illnesses and cholera are but a few of the common conditions that can make a traveler's life wretched. However, a dose of alternative medicine and of course common sense offer insights that will likely keep you healthy and hardy on your adventures.

Before you leave, think about the basic questions. Are you going to be in an urban area or remote area? What kinds of things are you going to be doing there? Are you a risk taker when you travel? To what degree do you want to experience the culture of the country? These answers will give you an indication of what your exposure levels might be. The Center for Disease Control is an excellent (albeit in my view conservative) resource for alerting you to health information regarding most countries. Vaccinations, the use of anti-malarial medications, and necessity of antibiotics should all be responsibly considered regardless of your ethical position on these therapies.

Herbs and supplements are invaluable when travelling abroad. My recommendations are to bring at a minimum three bottles: one digestive aid, a second supplement to kill pathogens and a third to replenish beneficial bacteria. The most prudent digestive aid is hydrochloric acid, or HCl, which is produced by parietal cells in our stomach and helps us to both digest our food and to kill pathogens that are swallowed with our food and water. During times of stress (e.g. a long flight to another country or perturbances of sleep patterns), parietal cell often reduce production of HCl, making us more susceptible to infections. Taking 200-300 mg of HCl every time you eat will dramatically reduce your risk of illness. Antimicrobial herbs might include berberis and coptis. Black walnut and wormwood are potent anti-helminthics (they dispel worms) and will kill just about everything. The third product I recommend is *Sacharomyces boulardii*. *S. boulardii* is a probiotic that does not need to be refrigerated. It is excellent for acute diarrhea, outcompetes bacteria and yeast for living space and is capable of degrading toxins produced by pathogens, especially those associated with cholera. If you choose to take more than these three bottles, charcoal is good to have on hand for its ability to bind toxins associated with acute gastrointestinal illness, grapefruit seed extract is a potent antimicrobial and antifungal and both Vitamin A and D are both exemplary for their immune stimulating capacity.

I recommend washing your hands frequently, washing your fruits and vegetables and initially only consuming fruits that can be peeled. Eat at places busy with many local people. If you plan on being in rural areas of the "third world", it is worth investing in some form of water treatment. Iodine and chlorine are potent foul-tasting oxidants that effectively kill microbes but also create a whirlwind of free radicals for our bodies to handle. Water filters trap organisms 0.5 microns and larger (amebas, protozoa, bacteria and cysts) but

they do not catch viruses and require a willingness to pump water daily. Steripens will zap the DNA of all microbes, rendering them unable to cause disease; they are easy to use but require batteries and do not work well in water with high sediment. It is important to have an idea of how to replenish electrolytes in case of fever and Montezuma's revenge. Here is a formula that you can put in a small sandwich baggie prior to your departure: sea salt 1/2 tsp, Morton's salt substitute (KCl) 1/2 tsp, baking soda 1/2 tsp, sugar 2 Tbs in 1 liter of water. If needed, start with 1 tsp every 5-10 minutes and increase as tolerated to 2-3 Tbs every 5-10 min.

Do not let the tribulations of travel prevent you from exploring! As Ray Bradbury wrote: "Stuff your eyes with wonder, live as if you'd drop dead in ten seconds. See the world. It's more fantastic than any dream made or paid for in factories."



DR. DANIEL SMITH

Dr. Daniel Smith practices at Bear Creek Naturopathic Clinic. His office is on 2612 Barnett Ave. He specializes in naturopathic oncology, but still maintains a strong family practice, treating all manner of conditions. He can be reached at 541-770-5563 or at [drdanielnd@gmail.com](mailto:drdanielnd@gmail.com). If you would like to schedule an appointment, please ask specifically for Dr. Dan

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## The 2019 Oregon Growers Cup

### Filling the Social Consumption Void for the 5th Year Running

Have you ever dreamed of an event where great music is playing, people everywhere are getting high together and a young stoner in a Santa suit is passing out endless goodies from a bag filled with cannabis? Sounds like a dream, right? That event just happened about an hour away from Medford. But was this just a big weed party? Yes... but no, not at all. This was a serious cannabis contest. I know because they—possibly unwittingly—honored me with a seat on the judging panel for over 275 entries from the best growers, extractors and product-makers in the world.

Now that you have my credentials as a witness (to the event and the entries), please believe me when I say tell you that you will kick yourself if you miss next year's Oregon Growers Cup. Held in Riddle, near Canyonville's 7-Feathers Casino, this is by far the best legal access the average stoner can get to the best craft cannabis from across the state of Oregon... for cheap!

Those samples being passed out by Canna-Santa to the general admission attendees are often from the very growers that enter or win the competition. And those same companies are there for the event, "sharing the love" so to speak and showing off their wares to their fans.

This year it was only \$40 to become an annual member of the private organization that puts on the event where competition winners include growing legends like Decibel Farms, Benson Abor, Midnight Trich Farm, Brave Heart Private Reserve, Dog House. The list goes on. I mean, what an experience. I got to smoke weed with some of my heros--and they grew it.

What's more, for fifty lucky people, \$100 scored a ticket to judge the "People's Choice" award, and actually imbibe in the judging experience.

From the "Growmaster" (won by No-Till Army & Alter Farms this year) in which all growers receive clones from the same exact plant in June--to the hashmakers and processors--think Stoney Acres, Portland Extracts, Green Queen Farms & Artifact Extracts--taking the cannabis after it's grown and turning it into the best cannabis products in the world. There were even categories like topicals, 1:1 (CBD:THC) Flower and Hemp Flower!

And, for the fifth year running at Oregon's oldest cup, it was all done through blind judging! No farm names. No strain names. No hints. No buying wins. Just legit, old school judging. The way we used to buy weed.

I can't imagine a better way to experience the full spectrum of what Oregon's cannabis community has to offer all wrapped up in an incredible local event. While social consumption is still a huge elephant in the room when it comes to the legalization of cannabis in Oregon, events like the Oregon Growers Cup are filling the void that lawmakers and legislators have left open in order to provide the people a chance to gather and celebrate over something we believe in.

Check out [www.OregonGrowersCup.com](http://www.OregonGrowersCup.com) to see a full list of competition winners and stay tuned to the Local Smoke Radio podcast to hear exclusive interviews with winners and more! 🍓

## FREE WILL ASTROLOGY Week of December 12

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** How did humans figure out that a luxurious fabric could be made from the cocoons of insect larvae? Ancient Chinese sage Confucius told the following story. One day in 2460 B.C., 14-year-old Chinese princess Xi Ling Shi was sitting under a mulberry tree sipping tea. A silk worm's cocoon fell off a branch and landed in her drink. She was curious, not bothered. She unrolled the delicate structure and got the idea of using the threads to weave a fabric. The rest is history. I foresee a silk-worm's-cocoon-falling-in-your-cup-of-tea type of event in your future, Sagittarius. Be alert for it.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** "It is the soul's duty to be loyal to its own desires," wrote Capricorn author Rebecca West. "It must abandon itself to its master passion." That's a high standard to live up to! But then you Capricorns have substantial potential to do just that: become the champions of devoting practical commitment to righteous causes. With that in mind, I'll ask you: How are you doing in your work to embody the ideal that Rebecca West articulated? Is your soul loyal to its deepest desires? Has it abandoned itself to its master passion? Take inventory—and make any corrections, if necessary.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** I would never try to talk you into downplaying or denying your suffering. I would never try to convince you that the pain you have experienced is mild or tolerable or eminently manageable. Who among us has the wisdom to judge the severity or intractability of anyone else's afflictions? Not I. But in the coming months, I will ask you to consider the possibility that you have the power—perhaps more than you realize—to diminish your primal aches and angst. I will encourage you to dream of healing yourself in ways that you have previously imagined to be impossible.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** "You owe it to us all to get on with what you're good at," wrote Piscean poet W. H. Auden. In other words, you have a responsibility to develop your potential and figure out how to offer your best gifts. It's not just a selfish act for you to fulfill your promise; it's a generous act of service to your fellow humans. So how are you doing with that assignment, Pisces? According to my analysis, you should be right in the middle of raising your efforts to a higher octave; you should be discovering the key to activating the next phase of your success—which also happens to be the next phase of your ability to bestow blessings on others.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** "Nobody knows really what they're doing," says Aries comedian Conan O'Brien. "And there are two ways to go with that information," he continues. "One is to be afraid, and the other is to be liberated, and I choose to be liberated by it." I hope you'll be inspired by O'Brien's example in the coming weeks, Aries. I suspect that if you shed your worries about the uncertainty you feel, you'll trigger an influx of genius. Declaring your relaxed independence from the temptation to be a know-it-all will bless you with expansive new perspectives and freedom to move.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Creativity expert Roger von Oech tells us, "Everyone has a 'risk muscle.' You keep it in shape by trying new things. If you don't, it atrophies. Make a point of using it at least once a day." Here's what I'll add to his advice. If your risk muscle is flabby right now, the coming weeks will be an excellent time to whip it into better shape. Start with small, modest risks, and gradually work your way up to bigger and braver ones. And what should you do if your risk muscle is already well-toned? Dream and scheme about embarking on a major, long-term venture that is the robust embodiment of a smart gamble.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Many people engage in laughably feeble attempts to appear witty by being cynical—as if by exuding sardonic irony and sneering pessimism they could prove their mettle as brilliant observers of modern culture. An example is this lame wisecrack from humorist David Sedaris: "If you're looking for

sympathy you'll find it between s--- and syphilis in the dictionary." I bring this to your attention in the hope of coaxing you to avoid indulging in gratuitous pessimism during the coming weeks. For the sake of your good health, it's important for you to be as open-minded and generous-spirited as possible. And besides that, pessimism will be unwarranted.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** "You can shop online and find whatever you're looking for," writes pundit Paul Krugman, "but bookstores are where you find what you weren't looking for." That's a good principle to apply in every area of your life. It's always smart to know exactly what you need and want, but sometimes—like now—it's important that you put yourself in position to encounter what you need and want but don't realize that you need and want.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Bachianas Brasileiras is a nine-part piece of music that blends Brazilian folk music with the compositional style of Johann Sebastian Bach. The poet Anne Sexton relied on it, letting it re-play ceaselessly during her long writing sessions. My painter friend Robin sometimes follows a similar method with Leonard Cohen's album Ten New Songs, allowing it to cycle for hours as she works on her latest masterpiece. In accordance with astrological omens, I invite you to select a new theme song or collection of theme songs to inspire your intense efforts in behalf of your labors of love in the coming weeks. It's a favorable time to explore the generative power of joyous, lyrical obsession.



**Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** "I've spent my life butting my head against other people's lack of imagination," mourned Virgo musician Nick Cave, who's renowned for his original approach to his craft. I'm bringing this to your attention because I suspect you will be endowed with an extra fertile imagination in the coming weeks. And I would hate for you to waste time and energy trying to make full use of it in the presence of influences that would resist and discourage you. Therefore, I'll cheer you on as you seek out people and situations that enhance your freedom to express your imagination in its expansive glory.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** A scholar counted up how often the Bible delivers the command "Fear not!" and "Don't be afraid!" and similar advice. The number was 145. I don't think that approach to regulating behavior works very well. To be constantly thinking about what you're not supposed to do and say and think about tends to strengthen and reinforce what you're not supposed to do and say and think about. I prefer author Elizabeth Gilbert's strategy. She writes, "I don't try to kill off my fear. I make all that space for it. Heaps of space. I allow my fear to live and breathe and stretch out its legs comfortably. It seems to me the less I fight my fear, the less it fights back." That's the method I recommend for you, Libra—especially in the coming weeks.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Isaac Newton (1642-1726) was one of history's most influential scientists and a key contributor to physics, astronomy, mathematics, and optics. His mastery of the nuances of human relationships was less developed, however. He had one close friendship with a Swiss mathematician, though he broke it off abruptly after four years. And his biographers agree that he never had sex with another person. What I find most curious, however, is the fact that he refused to even meet the brilliant French philosopher Voltaire, who reached out to him and asked to get together. I trust you won't do anything like that in the coming weeks, Scorpio. In fact, I urge you to be extra receptive to making new acquaintances, accepting invitations, and expanding your circle of influence.

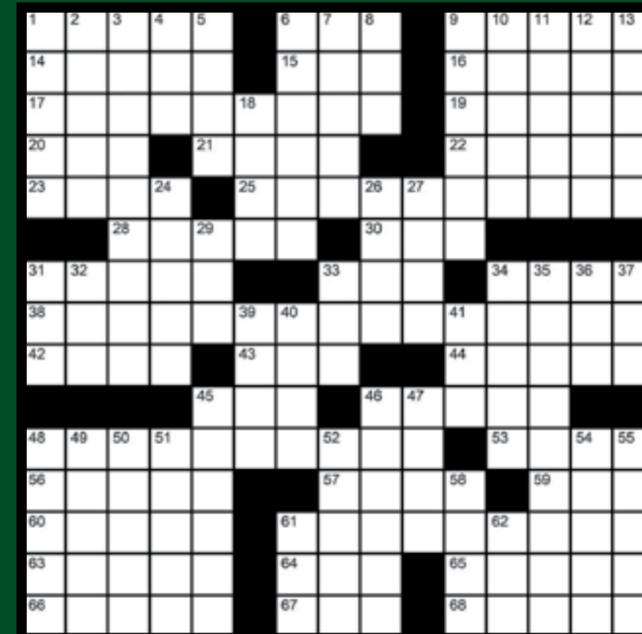
[Editor: Here's this week's homework:]

Resolved: The answer to a pressing question will come within 72 hours after you do a ritual in which you ask for clarity. [FreeWillAstrology.com](http://FreeWillAstrology.com)

# REC ROOM

## "SAVE IT TILL THE END"

—THOSE LAST TWO.  
—MATT JONES



ANSWERS AT [ROGUEVALLEYMESSENGER.COM](http://ROGUEVALLEYMESSENGER.COM)

### Across

- "Anaconda" singer Nicki
- Bot. or ecol.
- Earth-shaking event
- Singer with three albums named after ages
- PC key beside the space bar
- Detach
- Salad ingredient that's fuzzy on the outside
- \_\_\_ di pepe (tiny pasta variety)
- Shoo-\_\_\_ (favorites)
- Raise crops
- Barn-roof adornments
- Drug buster, for short
- Much of Mongolia
- Titular host of NBC's "Game of Games"
- It can cause a row
- Geometry calculations
- Belt loop puncher
- False pretense
- Busy spot for Finnish travel
- "Bonanza" role
- Linseed product
- "I have \_\_\_ / the plums ..." (poem line spoofed in memes)
- Big \_\_\_, California
- De-lumps, as flour
- Obi-Wan or Luke, e.g.
- It's got 14 points on Malaysia's flag
- Not just some
- Aquatic barrier
- Nutritional amt.
- Anniversary gift before wood
- Dwyane Wade's team for most of his career
- Singer Cleo or Frankie
- 1099-\_\_\_ (bank-issued tax form)
- Decline slowly
- Beginning
- "Evil Dead" hero
- Puff pieces?

### Down

- "\_\_\_ Whoopee"
- Menzel of "Frozen 2"
- Bygone documentaries
- "Thrilla in Manila" victor
- "Bring the Funny" judge Foxworthy
- "Lord of the Rings" villain
- Get on up
- "Addams Family" cousin
- Eighth note, in the U.K.
- "The Last of the Mohicans" character
- "\_\_\_ kettle of fish"
- Baseball Hall of Famer Ralph
- Are real
- Boil over
- Reunion group
- "Field of Dreams" state
- "The Burning Giraffe" painter
- Acronymic 1992 single by The Shamen (from "Boss Drum")
- "That feels good!"
- "Can't Fight This Feeling" band \_\_\_
- Speedwagon
- Feel unwell
- Petty arguments
- Great series of wins
- "\_\_\_ you kidding me?"
- \_\_\_ Dew (PepsiCo product)
- Grammatical subject
- Welsh stand-up comedian Pritchard-McLean
- Court judge
- Evil computer system in "The Terminator"
- Dagger holder
- "Big-ticket" thing
- Jiggly dessert
- Aquafina competitor
- Leary of the "Ice Age" series
- "Fame" actress Cara
- Goofy smiles
- "It's \_\_\_!" ("I'll see you then")
- Hotel postings
- Alfa Romeo rival
- "Paper Planes" rapper
- "Last Week Tonight" airt

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## SUDOKU NO. 238 - VERY HARD

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

To complete Sudoku, fill the board by entering numbers 1 to 9 such that each row, column and 3x3 box contains every number uniquely.

For many strategies, hints and tips, visit [SudokuWiki.org](http://SudokuWiki.org)

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### Previous solution - Tough

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

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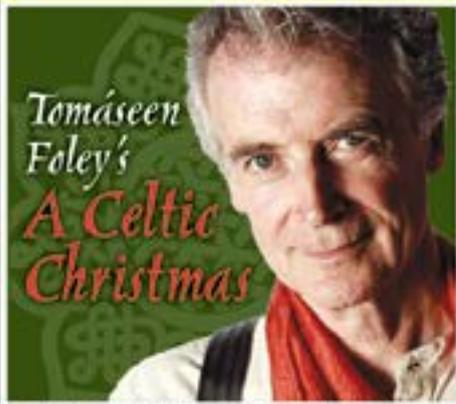
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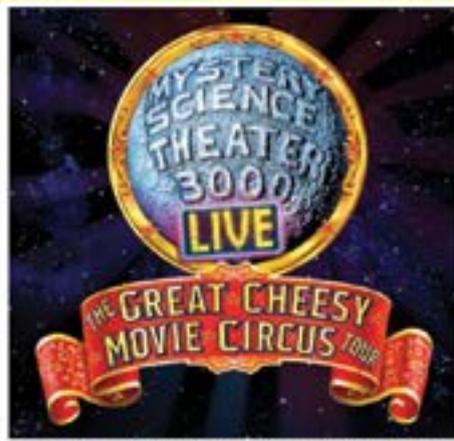
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- Fig & Blue Cheese Flat Bread
- Shrimp & Grits
- Soup of the Evening
- Buttermilk Bisque w/ pinenuts
- Fresh Seafood and Chef's Specials:**  
(Warm Bread & Salad Included)
- Fresh Bouillabaisse Marseilles Style
- Rosemary & Garlic Roasted Prime Rib
- Petite Sirloin & Red King Crab
- Salmon Coulbiac
- Wild King Salmon, Scallops, Shrimp, Spinach and Rice wrapped in a Flaky Puff Pastry
- Pan Seared Scallops
- Dijon & Rosemary Leg of Lamb
- Alaskan Red King Crab
- Top Sirloin

**New Year's Eve Menu**

- Manila Steamer Clams
- Pesto Baked Black Mussels
- Cheese Plate
- Blue Cheese, Mancango, Brie, Smoked Gouda
- Grapes, Apples, Candied Pecans, Pickled Vegetables
- Smoked Salmon
- Lettuce Boats
- Soup of the Evening
- Southwest Corn Chowder
- Fresh Seafood and Chef's Specials:**  
(Warm Bread & Salad Included)
- Fresh Bouillabaisse Marseilles Style
- Rosemary & Garlic Roasted Prime Rib
- Petite Sirloin & Red King Crab
- Pan Seared Salmon
- Pan Diver Scallops
- Red Wine Braised Short Ribs
- Alaskan Red King Crab
- Filet Mignon

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