

FREE
LIKE SPEECH

Live music, P.7 | Events, P.10 | Movies, P.9
Issue 53, Vol. 2 • Thursday, Dec. 25, 2014

WEEKLY
EVERY THURSDAY

F5

*work like a farmer
party like a rock star*

> **Final Friday art crawl**

Here it is the end of the month, and we thought to give you this map for Christmas. p.6-7

> **Let's show *The Interview***

All we need are some theaters, a little chutzpah and a whole lot of people with guns. p.2

> **Coffee-flavored drunk**

The season is here for getting mom her favorite flavored alcohol, so we did the homework. p.4

> **The Plight After Christmas**

Shoppers would not be denied their reward, their lack of receipts stores dare not ignore. p.3

> ***The Hobbit* is finally done**

Tolkein fans haven't gone nuts over *The Hobbit*, and this conclusion won't change things. p.8

Celebrate no matter what

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LEGAL MUMBO JUMBO

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ABOUT THE COVER



Ah, Christmas ... that time of year when we want nothing more than to get pass-out drunk in the middle of family and friends. Well, one of those times.

by Don Winsor
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The ridiculousness of the faux-outrage in our media culture regarding the imagined war on Christmas, with people strangely taking offense at being wished happiness during a generally holiday-filled season, has led many to give up on the holiday altogether. According to an ISI (Imaginary Survey Institute) study, as many as 64% of Americans actually avoid leaving their homes for fear of being wished or wishing someone a pleasant season in the wrong way and then being stabbed. This is good for traffic and mall-crowding, but completely unnecessary because I have a simple solution. I've found a few ways we can ALL celebrate on Dec. 25th!

I'm not saying that everyone regardless of their beliefs needs suddenly throw up their hands and grudgingly accept the same theological constructs of virgin birth and transubstantiation but that we can all find a reason to celebrate on Dec. 25th. Most of our treasured Christmas icons will have as much relevance to the meanings I'll offer as they do the original reason for the season. I'm sorry, not the original ... I mean, the current one. Saturnalia is SO two millenniums ago.

So, should you not be inclined to celebrate Christmas in the traditional sense, you can use one of the following reasons.

If you, like me, are Christmas-inclined to being with, this will only add layers to the onion of your overall Christmas experience. It's a yuletide win-win!

Isaac Newton's Birthday

Christmas is the day famous scientist and discoverer of gravity, Isaac Newton, was born. Hard to believe that prior to the birth of this great man in 1642, people floated about aimlessly. Truthfully, Newton's discoveries and contributions to mankind are great enough that were there no other reason to celebrate on Dec. 25th, his birthday alone would be reason for everyone to raise a glass. So that's one.



DON
WINSOR

The Internet's Birthday

On Dec. 25, 1990, the first web server (info.cern.ch) went online. Today, you can go online and wish the internet a happy birthday on the internet, if you're friends with the internet on Facebook. I used to be, but there was some weirdness involving an ex ... she and the internet were spending a lot of time together, things got awkward, we drifted apart. We still keep in touch, but ... yeah. The internet was born on Christmas. I hear he's doing well.

Humphrey Bogart's Birthday

Humphrey Bogart was actually born on Dec. 25. There's an old Hollywood myth that Bogie's X-mas b-day was an old Hollywood myth. Someone once started

a rumor that his birthday was not, in fact, on Christmas, but that the studios had spread that as part of a bio to make him look like more of a decent fella. Not true. I mean, true. I mean, not true. I mean, HIS BIRTHDAY IS ON CHRISTMAS. This is confusing, but he actually was born on this day. I hope to spend much of Christmas the same way Bogie would — in a dark, empty Moroccan-themed bar, making grim faces into glasses of scotch while monologuing about a dame.

Washington Crosses The Delaware

On Dec. 25, 1776, George Washington crossed the Delaware River to surprise an army of Hessian mercenaries during their holiday celebrations. If you hear any communist pinko complaining that there is a "war on Christmas," you stick your finger in their face and say "YEAH THERE IS, because I'm an AMERICAN, buddy!" George Washington made war on Christmas, quite literally, and thanks to that we defeated the Hessians, won the war against Hestia, and are not speaking Hessian today. Later, Washington invented the bridge, making river crossings less remarkable though sometimes (in the case of the Delaware River Bridge) a bit more expensive than it is really worth.

Nick Marchello's Birthday

He's just some guy I know, but he's cool.

see "Celebrate" page 12

A solution for *The Interview*

by Bill Jenkins
 bjenkins@f5paper.com

Perhaps Bill Warren will team up with the NRA to bring *The Interview* to his screens. I can see it now. The eyes of the nation, indeed the world, would turn to Wichita, Kansas, on New Year's Eve this year. The world premiere of the film could be at the Oldtown Warren Theater in the city's Old Town entertainment area. Then, on New Year's Day, the film will open in the Warren chain's other theaters in the Midwest.

You will recall that the computers at Sony Corporation's movie production division were hacked by what the FBI has assured the president was North Korean hackers. They stole emails, four unreleased films and threatened to expose

many secrets or embarrassing details (such as salaries) if the film *The Interview* opened anywhere. The Sony executives announced that they were pulling the film from release not because of the threats but because the theater chains, who are their main customers, are afraid to show the film. Retribution in the 9-11 style was promised.

President Obama expressed disappointment that the movie would not be shown. He fears that the success of one hacking/blackmail enterprise would spawn a plethora of copy cats.

This is where Wichita would step to the fore. Owner Bill Warren of the Warren Theater Group could, co-sponsored by the National Rifle Association, run the film. Its press release would be titled "Suck It, Kim," and he would say that the citizens of Kansas, unlike those



BILL
JENKINS

>GET HEARD

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on both coasts, would not allow such bullying to take place. It is time for the common folks, in his words, to "Man up."

National Rifle Association officials, meanwhile, would send advanced representatives to Wichita to enter talks with the theater chain. They would agree to provide members to serve both as audience and security for the theater opening. Warren, in turn, would agree to

see "Interview" page 3

The Plight After Christmas

(with apologies to Clement Clark Moore)

by Michael Kline
mkline@f5paper.com

Twas the plight after Christmas and all through the mall
Were the sounds of returning; "This thing is too small!"

"It fits like a stove pipe. It squeezes my head.
The button's too small, and the color's too red!"
Vouchers and gift cards appeared everywhere,
Uneasiness hung like a fog in the air.
The shoppers would not be denied their reward
Their lack of receipts stores would not dare ignore.
The socks that were hung on display with great care
Were littered about as though tossed through the air.
The store clerks stood fast. "There's a spot on this cuff!"
While registers blossomed with unwanted stuff.
And out on the streets there arose a great noise
(Like the sound a dog makes when you hide all its toys).
T'were garbage trucks rumbling and crunching great rows
Of decorative wrapping and now useless bows.
In all of the homes things were not a lot better...
The flocking was falling from Aunt Margie's sweater,
The batt'ries were spent and the blades were now toast
Of the toy drone that Johnny had wanted the most.
The season was nigh and in fits of despair,
The lawn decorations had lost all their air.
And fathers lamented the large looming chore
Of light disassemblage and now where to store.

I then had to ask "What is happening here?
Do you not love your gifts? Do you not hold them dear?
And standing in line at the Black Friday queue,
Were you buying for someone or buying for you?"
That one thing is missing (forgotten, I'm betting):
The season's for giving and not just for getting.
Perhaps a refresher. Perhaps a reform
Of just what it means to feel fuzzy and warm?
The things one can give are ubiquitous too.
Advice, your best shot, and a darn are a few.
Give credit. Give credence. Give someone a chance.
Give someone a ring and say, "Wanna go dance?"
Give someone some skin or the shirt off your back.
Or something away! Yes, you're on the right track.
Give someone a chance and give something a rest.
A lift can be given — when *needed* is best.
No, giving is not something found on the web.
It's found in your heart and it's found in your head.
Give someone a hug and I'm sure you will see
That if it's returned it's returned joyfully.
And while we are at it, let's look at the year.
We'll see something special and see something clear...
The days we can give, we can't simply ignore.
They number three hundred and sixty four more.
So give of yourself and then give of your time,
It won't break the bank. No, it won't cost a dime.
And you'll feel the spirit of Christmas at last,
A feeling that hopefully never will pass.



ILLUSTRATION BY MICHAEL KLINE

"Interview" from page 2

free admission to those NRA members who would attend the premiere openly carrying legal weapons.

The stars/creators of the film, Seth Rogen and James Franco, would surely agree to attend the gala premiere to be held on New Year's Eve. They would be picked up from the soon-to-be Dwight D. Eisenhower National Airport and escorted to the theater by a phalanx of motorcyclists armed to the teeth. The Wichita Police Department would monitor the motorcade to insure that no laws would be violated.

The gala would be hosted by Bill Warren and Bob Knight, known by some as the Once and Future Mayor and by others as the Ghost of Cronyism Past. They will meet the motorcade in Old Town Square and walk the stars up a red carpet to the theater. After the showing, the public will greet the stars in a ceremony at the Intrust Arena a few blocks away.

The security detail and any other armed citizens will view the proceedings from the seating area of the arena. They will remain vigilant and upright (since there is not enough leg and butt room for the bikers to sit comfortably). The arena and the theater areas will be swept for explosives both before and after the events.

As a postscript to the planning, Bill Warren would ask the City Council for another substantial cash infusion for the Old Town Theatre since, he'd say, it is a major anchor business for the square but operates at a loss. Mr. Knight would


agree that, were he to find himself in the mayor's office again, Mr. Warren's request would be treated favorably and in an expedited manner.

Kansas Governor Sam Brownback and his Brownshirt followers would be quick to endorse the plans for the screening. They'd cite the ability of private enterprise to provide innovative solutions to social problems.

The governor would also estimate that the event would result in the creation of 12,537 new jobs and would contribute to an economic resurgence which has already begun to revitalize Kansas' financial landscape and that the budget would be balanced within a matter of months. In fact, he would say he was looking forward to a day in the near future when no individual would need to pay income taxes.

There's no place like home, eh Dorothy?



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Food: WE DOUBLE-DOG DARE YOU TO TRY IT

Let's try some coffee-flavored alcoholic drinks

by Don Winsor
dwinsor@f5paper.com

It's the holiday season, which is a time that often calls for extraordinary levels of either caffeination or intoxication. This evening, I've taken it upon myself to sample a couple of the best recent entries into the now-extensive market of coffee flavored alcoholic beverages. While most people think of Bailey's or Kahlua and such coffee liqueurs when you mention alcoholic coffee drinks, the range of coffee-flavored vodkas, tequilas, whiskies and ales now on the market can leave you dumbfounded with options when all you want to do is make an espresso martini for your mom on Christmas.

Many of these drinks are disgustingly flavored with awful syrups, but some are top notch.

In the higher echelon I would never hesitate to mention Boulevard's Smokestack Series Coffee Ale. It's no longer made, but you can luck into one of the few remaining bottles if you're really fortunate. They'll be making another version of this in yet another limited run in February 2015. Boulevard partners with Kansas City's The Roasterie to make their coffee beers, and they're always great.

But I'm not here to talk about coffee beer. No.

I have two bottles in front of me. One is a coffee tequila from Avion Tequila, a bottle they've graciously provided for testing.

The other is made by The Roasterie itself. It's called Dizzy Three and is their own very special espresso vodka, made with their own beans.

To begin with, I'm not the world's biggest fan of tequila-based coffee liqueurs. Avion hits a few better notes here than Patron XO Cafe while still managing to be cloyingly sweet. It's not my favorite thing straight, and I've yet to find a mixed drink that effectively hides the fact that tequila and coffee don't mix that well together.

I tried another round of Avion on the rocks. This softened it somewhat, maybe offering hope that this could make a decent white Russian, but the tequila would probably put a stop to that nonsense. Let's move on to the Dizzy Three.

I've always liked 360's flavored vodkas. Generally they're just right, even if the flavors are a bit overpowering in some cases. Their coffee flavored vodka is OK, but if that's the only one you've ever tried you're in for an eye-opener when you try Dizzy Three. Things that are coffee flavored are never as good as the real thing.



see "Coffee" page 5



Avion Espresso is a tequila-based coffee-flavored liqueur that, well, it tastes mostly like coffee and tequila, which is fundamentally a difficult mix. Dizzy Three, by Kansas City's The Roasterie, on the other hand, is coffee-flavored vodka, and it's a real eye-opener.



> DRINK IT

Who: Chime Cellars

What: 2012 Chime Pinot Noir

Where: Healdsburg, CA

Why: Pairs with everything, except fruitcake

How much: average \$13

Chime is so much better than fruitcake

by Vickie Kline
vkline@f5paper.com

Have you ever received a gift not especially suited to your taste and wondered how to respond to the giver? Maybe you don't wear ties, need another pair of fuzzy slippers, or appreciate the beer can holder that attaches to your belt.

Many friends know I often imbibe and treat me with wine every Christmas. Several years ago, I received a bottle simply labeled as "red." There was no listing of a blend, what type of grape or any other information ... just red.

It was bottled in a state that shall remain unnamed to protect the innocent, but is definitely not known for its vineyards. That evening, I decanted the wine, tasted it and quickly decided it wasn't to my liking.

Later when asked how I liked it, being polite, my reply was, "Not bad." And guess what? Very soon there was another bottle on my doorstep.

This second bottle has become the proverbial wine "fruitcake" in our home. One summer, our neighbors, who are close friends, took a vacation and asked us to watch their house and water plants.

see "Wine" page 5

LiveMusic:

>GET LISTED

To get on this page, submit your info to events@f5paper.com.

Thu., Dec. 25

Dustin Arbuckle's Birthday Bash
6 p.m. Music starts around 9 p.m. Must be 21. \$5. @ Shamrock Lounge, 1724 W. Douglas.

Fri., Dec. 26

Grant Snider
4 p.m. Must be 21. Free. @ Mort's Cigar Bar, 923 E. First.

Whitnie Means
5:30 p.m. Free. @ Jerry's Bar and Grill, 630 N. Robin.

Mary Beth Quintet Jazz
6:30 p.m. @ Reverie Coffee Roasters, 2611 E. Douglas.

Nathan Hittle
7:30 p.m. @ Larkspur Bistro, 904 E. Douglas.

Erin and Allen
8 p.m. Must be 21. @ Mort's Cigar Bar, 923 E. First.

2 Picks and a Kick
8 p.m. @ The Donut Whole, 1720 E. Douglas.

Tony Ngo; Rudy Love Jr.; Jordan Dee Minnis
9 p.m. Must be 21. \$5. @ John Barleycorn's, 608 E. Douglas.

Erik Mallory; Gibber
10 p.m. Must be 21. Free. @ Kirby's Beer Store, 3227 E. 17th.

Divorce Corpse; Future Horse
10 p.m. Must be 21. \$5. @ Lucky's Everyday, 1217 E. Douglas.

Sat., Dec. 27

Jeremiah Johnsen
4 p.m. Must be 21. Free. @ Mort's Cigar Bar, 923 E. First.

Howard Hewett
7 p.m. DAT Entertainment presents an intimate evening with R&B and gospel singer Howard Hewett. Hewett is also known as the former lead vocalist of the R&B group Shalamar. \$35 General Admission, \$40 VIP. @ 40 Plus Lounge, 3926 E. 13th.

Nathan Hittle
7:30 p.m. @ Larkspur Bistro, 904 E. Douglas.

Matt Bauer
8 p.m. Must be 21. @ Mort's Cigar Bar, 923 E. First.

Jason Boland and the Stragglers
8 p.m. All ages. \$15-\$18. @ The Cotillion, 11120 W. Kellogg.

Televised Birth
8 p.m. @ The Donut Whole, 1720 E. Douglas.

Honest Ape
9 p.m. Must be 21. \$5. @ John Barleycorn's, 608 E. Douglas.

Josh Sallee; Beverly Hills; Staxx; Super Shaq
9 p.m. 18 and older. \$7 for +21, \$10 for +18. @ Rock Island Live, 101 N. Rock Island.

El Cuco; Evasive Flowers; Jenny Wood
10 p.m. Must be 21. @ Kirby's Beer Store, 3227 E. 17th.

Paranoiac
10 p.m. Must be 21. Free. @ Crow's Nest, 4000 S. Broadway.

Sun., Dec. 28

Gilded Hearts; Jeremiah Foundation; Living Ghost; Mystery Bones
9 p.m. Must be 21. @ Kirby's Beer Store, 3227 E. 17th.

Mon., Dec. 29

Open Mic
9 p.m. Must be 21. @ John Barleycorn's, 608 E. Douglas.

Belly Belt; Coolzey; Lewelheads
10 p.m. Must be 21. @ Kirby's Beer Store, 3227 E. 17th.

Tue., Dec. 30

William Flynn
8 p.m. Must be 21. @ Mort's Cigar Bar, 923 E. First.

Jazz Night
8 p.m. @ The Donut Whole, 1720 E. Douglas.

Wed., Dec. 31

New Year's Eve Gala
5:30 p.m. Price includes dinner, party favors, champagne toast at midnight and breakfast. Live music by Cool Blue Band. \$45. @ Dancing in Paradise, 2841 S. Hydraulic.

Cindy Summers: One Voice
7 p.m. Tie a shiny bow on 2014. Spend the evening with Cindy Summers as she performs her original one-woman tribute to Patsy Cline, Karen Carpenter and Judy Garland. Dinner served at 7 p.m., catered by Mediterranean Grill. Show starts at 8 p.m. \$50. @ Roxy's Downtown, 412 1/2 E. Douglas.

New Year's Eve Party with the Sleepy Truckers
7 p.m. Cover includes music, buffet, party favors, champagne toast. Must be 21. \$10. @ Shamrock Lounge, 1724 W. Douglas.

Sunshine and the Bunny - New Year's Eve Party
8 p.m. Must be 21. @ Mort's Cigar Bar, 923 E. First.

Logan Mize; Erik Dylan
9 p.m. All ages. \$25-\$30 @ The Cotillion, 11120 W. Kellogg.

False Flag; Softie
10 p.m. Must be 21. @ Kirby's Beer Store, 3227 E. 17th.

Carrie Nation and the Speakeasy; Japanese Gameshow; Soleb Theory
10 p.m. Must be 21. \$10. @ Rock Island Live, 101 N. Rock Island.

Fri., Jan. 2

Grant Snider
4 p.m. Must be 21. @ Mort's Cigar Bar, 923 E. First.

Whitnie Means
5:30 p.m. @ Jerry's Bar and Grill, 630 N. Robin.

CW Ayon; El Jefe
9 p.m. Must be 21. \$5. @ Lizard Lounge, 300 S. Greenwich.

Sat., Jan. 3

Jeremiah Johnsen
4 p.m. Must be 21. @ Mort's Cigar Bar, 923 E. First.

Karlos Moran; The Golden Living Room
10 p.m. Must be 21. @ Kirby's Beer Store, 3227 E. 17th.



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"Coffee" from page 4

Dizzy Three's flavor is clearly more authentic than the Avion's, with a darkness underscoring the sweetness at the front. To be fair, a vodka is much less to overcome than a tequila's strong flavor, and being that this is now my third drink, I'm beginning to feel very Christmasy.

I'm sure a Dizzy Three espresso martini would be excellent, and here is the recipe

I'll be using on Christmas:

- One martini glass
- Pour in Dizzy Three vodka
- Drop in one coffee bean
- Serve.

It really takes the guesswork out of making the espresso martini. It's my mom's favorite beverage, and while she's easy to please, I think a straight tumbler of Dizzy Three will settle her in for the evening.

I'm now on my fifth drink, another Dizzy Tree. It's still much better than the Avion.

Adding almond milk to attempt to approximate a white Russian did not go well, but I still drank it.

All in all, I still prefer scotch, but if you've got to have some sort of sweetened libation that smacks of coffee, you can't do much better than The Roasterie's vodka.

"Wine" from page 4

We took the opportunity to place this bottle of red wine in their cooler and waited to be discovered. Nothing was ever said, but on my next birthday, the package I received contained the same bottle of red wine.

This bottle has been passed around between a group of friends for over three years now, and we still get a laugh every time it unexpectedly shows up.

It's important to acknowledge though, most times when giving wine, my friends hit it right on the nose. A close friend introduced me to Chime wines, and the meeting was a pleasure. The 2012 Chime Pinot Noir is referred to as "the wine of reflection" because of the thought process and difficulty of growing the thin-skinned grape.

Growing the grape is only half the

battle, which requires great respect and attention throughout the entire winemaking process. Even handling the grapes too much can cause lack of flavor. Very often, whole grapes rather than crushed are placed in fermenting tanks to help guarantee and protect the dominant fruit flavors.

The name Pinot Noir is taken from the French words "pine" and "black," referring to the tightly clustered dark purple bunches of grapes on the vine. Once poured in a glass though, the color is an appealing translucent purple that should always be enjoyed in a clear wine glass. The beautiful color is part of the whole experience.

Chime Pinot Noir is a great high-class Pinot without the high-class price. Because of all the time and care required in production, Pinots can be expensive. But Chime Cellars gives us the oppor-

tunity to enjoy this Pinot on any day without feeling guilty because that day is not a special occasion. Pair this beauty with anything you're eating, from poultry, beef, fish, ham, lamb to pork. It goes well with everything due to the delicate mix of spice and fruit. Foods such as ham will bring out the fruitier side, while Southwest cuisine will enhance the spice. I've even been known to drink it with a burger from the grill or macaroni and cheese. Nothing is off limits.

Chime Cellar wines aren't normally found in mass retail chains and supermarkets, but instead in independent wine shops and on carefully chosen wine lists. Notice the different wind chimes on each of Chime Cellar's varietals, and try to collect them all.


So, if you're looking for the perfect gift this year, don't choose a wine "fruitcake." Choose a Chime instead.

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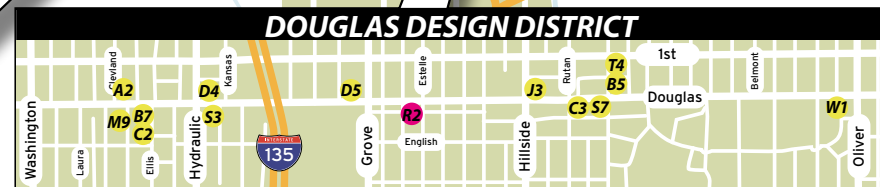
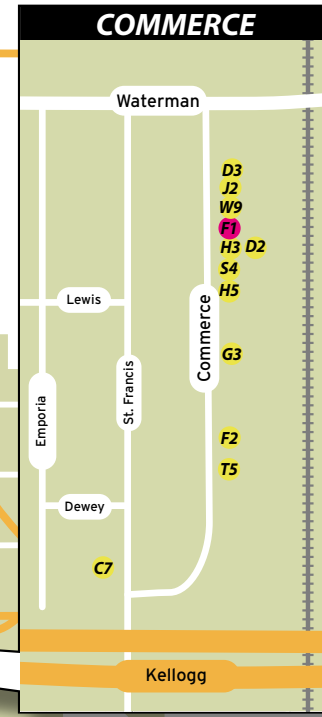
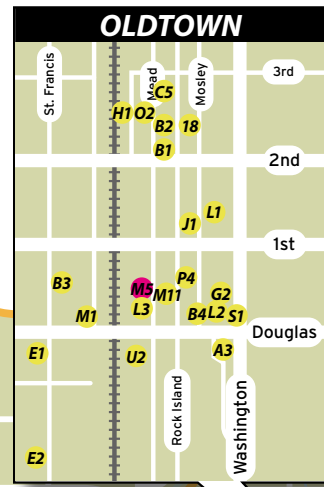
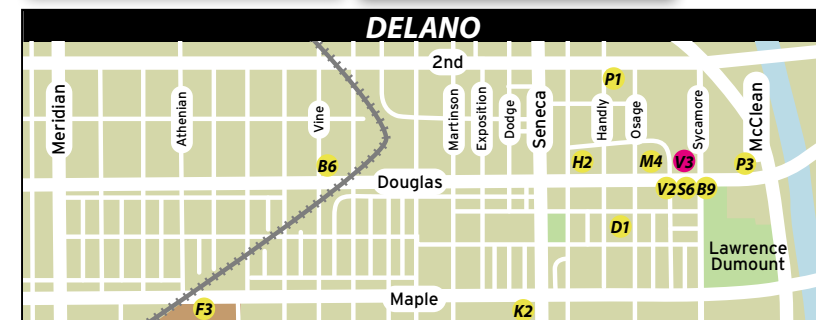
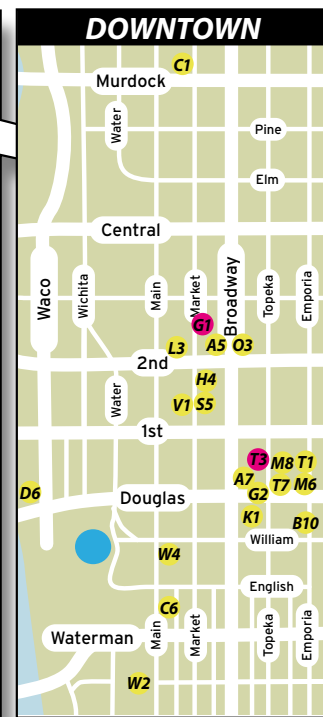
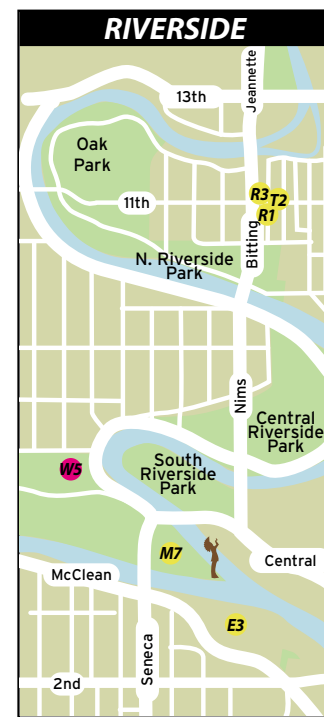
Live Music!

For a schedule of events or to book a show, go online to barleycornswichita.com

Final Friday: ARTS FOR THE CITY



Gray means no known event this month.



- A1. A.R.T.S. Gallery and Studio**
4904 E. Central
- A2. Abode Venue**
1330 E. Douglas
- A3. The Alibi Room**
919 E. Douglas
- A5. Art at First**
315 N. Broadway
- A6. Artist Central Gallery and Studios**
5014 E. Central
- A7. Artists at Old Town**
412 E. Douglas, Ste. C
- A8. ArtWorks**
7724 E. Central.
- B1. Beadzzled Art Glass Studio**
307 N. Mead
- B2. Bella Luz Gallery and Gifts**
300 N. Mead St. #105
- B10. Better Than Cheesecake**
106 S. Emporia
- B3. Bite Me BBQ**
132 N. St. Francis
- B4. Bliss-fulness Custom Cakes and Pastries**
910 E. Douglas
- B5. BloomHaus**
3700 E. Douglas
- B6. Blue Swallowtail Studio**
1528 W. Douglas
- B7. Bob Schwan Studios**
111 S. Ellis
6 to 10 p.m.
Reception: Kansas Academy of Oil Painters "Holiday Show"
Final Friday artist reception.
- B8. Broomsticks Crossing**
3314 W. Douglas.
- B9. Bungalow 26**
613 W. Douglas
- C1. C.A.F.E. Gallery at Inter-Faith Ministries**
829 N. Market
- C2. Center Gallery**
111 S. Ellis
- C3. Cero's Candies**
3429 E. Douglas
- C5. CityArts**
334 N. Mead
- C6. Collectors Fine Art Gallery**
340 S. Main
- C7. The Corridor at the Ffarquhar**
515 E. Dewey
- D1. Delano Community Garden**
200 S. Handley
- D2. Diver Studio**
424 S. Commerce
- D3. Dock 410**
410 S. Commerce
- D4. The Donut Whole**
1720 E. Douglas
- D5. DPI - Douglas Photographic Imaging**
2300 E. Douglas
- E1. Eaton Place**
517 E. Douglas
- E3. Exploration Place**
300 N. McLean Blvd
- F1. Fiber Studio**
418 S. Commerce
6 to 10 p.m.

- Reception: "Clay for the Cause: Small Works Holiday Show"
Clay Cartel artists featured in this exhibition: David Self, Dylan Seoney, Michelle Jeffries, Debi Cox, David Long, Andy Corcoran.
- F2. Fisch Haus Studios**
524 S. Commerce
- F3. Friends University Riney Fine Arts Gallery**
2100 W. University
- G1. Gallery Vertigo 232**
232 N. Market
- G2. Gallery XII**
412 E. Douglas
5:30 to 10 p.m.
Reception: "Autumn Reflections" by Justin Bayles
Opening reception to the work of Justin Bayles and his photography collection "Autumn Reflections."
His photographs capture the beauty of autumn in Kansas.
- G3. Go Away Garage**
514 S. Commerce

- H1. Hana Next Door**
321 N. Mead
- H2. Harvester Arts**
924 W. Douglas
- H3. Harris & Co. Frame Shop**
424 S. Commerce
- H4. Hewitt's Antiques**
228 N. Market
- H5. Hue Gallery**
430 S. Commerce, Ste 200
- J1. Jennifer Le Photography Studio**
216 N. Mosley, Ste. 130
- J2. The Jones Gallery**
414 S. Commerce
- J3. Juliana Daniel Antiques**
3224 E. Douglas
- L1. The Labor Party**
216 N. Mosley

- L2. Lola Boutique**
916 E. Douglas
- L3. The Lux**
120 E. 1st
- M1. Mathematics**
630 E. Douglas
- M2. Matthews Gallery**
4902 E. Central
- M3. McKnight Art Center**
Wichita State University
- M4. Melange Gallery**
718 W. Douglas
- M5. Mead Street Gallery and Gifts**
121 N. Mead, Ste. 107
6:30 to 9 p.m.
Reception: Ninth Annual Small Works Show
Original artwork in a variety of mediums, all by local and regional artists, judged by Steve Murrillo.
- M7. Mid-America All-Indian Center**
650 N. Seneca

- M8. Mid-American Fine Arts**
401 E. Douglas
- M9. Midwest Center for Photography**
111 S. Ellis
- M10. MindFire Academy Art Gallery**
3805 E. Harry, Ste 105
- M11. Mrs. O'Leary's**
126 N. Mead St
- N1. NOMAR International Market**
204 E. 21st
- P1. Palim's**
919 W. 2nd
- P2. Pea Pod Consignment Gallery at Three Pea**
1646 E. 2nd
- P3. The Perfect Touch**
535 W. Douglas, Ste 120
- P4. Prairie Vistas Photography Gallery**
151 N. Rock Island, Ste. 1D

- R1. R Coffeehouse**
1144 N. Biting
- R2. Reverie Coffee Roasters**
2611 E. Douglas
6 to 9 p.m.
Final Friday at Reverie
Reverie will be hosting a reception for artist Eric Carbery. A jazz performance by Mary Beth Quintet will begin at 6:30 p.m.
- R3. Riverside Hair Station**
816 W. 11th
- S1. Sandbar Trading**
924 E. Douglas
- S2. Secret Gallery**
300 N. Meridian
- S3. Shine Salon**
1725 E. Douglas

- S4. Shelter Salon**
400 S. Commerce
- S6. Skeletons Out of the Closet**
615 W. Douglas
- S7. Springpark Gallery**
3555 E. Douglas
- S8. Steckline Gallery**
Newman University, DeMattias Hall, 3100 McCormick
- T1. T&J Studios**
144 N. Emporia
- T3. Tessera Fine Art Gallery**
412 E. Douglas Ave.
5:30 to 9 p.m.
Reception: Small Works of Art for the Holidays
- T4. TISSU Sewing Studio**
3700 E. Douglas.
- T5. Trish Higgins**
536 S. Commerce
- U1. Ulrich Museum of Art**
Wichita State University, 1845 Fairmount
- U2. Union Station**
801 E. Douglas.
- V1. Vertigo 232 Art Gallery**
232 N. Market.
- V2. Visual Fusion**
623 W. Douglas.
- V3. The Vagabond**
614 W. Douglas

- 6 to 8 p.m.
Reception: "Kansas Skies" by Nathan Swink
Collection of photographs paying tribute to the beautiful Kansas skies.
- W1. Watermark Books & Cafe**
4701 E. Douglas
- W2. WaterWalk Place**
515 S. Main
- W4. Wichita - Sedgwick County Historical Museum**
204 S. Main
- W5. Wichita Art Museum**
1400 W. Museum Blvd.
Fri., Dec. 26 to Sun., Dec. 28
Winter Art Mania
The Wichita Art Museum presents three days of Winter Art Mania for the whole family. Come for an hour or stay for the whole day. There is something for everyone. Watch a fun flick, make art, meet an artist and create a masterpiece together, or take a mini tour. Each day brings new fun and activities!
- W6. The Wichita Center for the Arts**
9112 E. Central
- W7. Wichita Pottery**
300 N. Meridian
- W8. William J. Reals Gallery of Art**
1010 N. Kansas
- W9. WSU Shift Space Gallery**
416 S. Commerce
- Y1. YWCA Treasure Chest Thrift Store**
1217 W. Douglas

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Movies::

The Homesman is not the usual Western film

by Dan Kampling
dkampling@f5paper.com

It should be no surprise that the Western film genre is largely an exaggeration of the time period. There have been a slew of revisionist Westerns made over the last half century that portray the less-heroic aspects of the Old West. While those stories involved gunplay, foreplay and foul play, very rarely did they ever tap into real mental illness. The immigrants who came to settle in the Plains didn't all manage to keep their sanity, which is the core idea that drives *The Homesman*.

This Western tale is based on an award-winning novel by Glendon Swarthout, which follows a spinster (Hilary Swank) taking the daunting task of transporting a trio of crazed women to a sanatorium, with the reluctant help of a claims jumper (Tommy Lee Jones), serving as the "homesman" for the trip. Naturally, it's no day in the park as the characters encounter various hazards on the trail and with themselves.

Jones makes his directorial debut with this film and presents a very subdued style, which resembles the Coen Brothers' *No Country for Old Men* and their version of *True Grit*. It perfectly fits the grim tone of the story, which has moments of shock that jazz up the audience in times when boredom begins to settle in. An all-star cast drives this one home with John Lithgow and James Spader in supporting roles, but the advertised roles given to Meryl Streep and Hailee Steinfeld are essentially cameo roles, so don't expect them until the very end.

The Homesman taps into a notion that is overlooked in history of just how much of a shift it was for many settlers to move to a remote location and the resulting slip of insanity that occurred, but it's not those stories that drive the myth and reputation of the Old West. It's the people who overcame those obstacles and flourished. At least the film dares to see it as it was, so it may not be a good fit for those who are wanting something along the familiar Western tropes.

>SEE IT

Title: *The Homesman*

Rating: F3

Short review: A grim Western about insanity, but it has an uncommonly subdued style that may not catch Western fans the right way.



>SEE IT

Title: *The Hobbit: The Battle of Five Armies*

Rating: F3

Short review:

A mostly successful conclusion to the arc despite adaptation issues.

Third *Hobbit* film a hacky toy box

by Jeremy Webster
jwebster@f5paper.com

One thing you've got to say in director/co-screenwriter Peter Jackson's favor in regards to his *Hobbit* trilogy finale — he went with everything but the kitchen sink as far as awesome visuals are concerned.

As for everything else, well, it's called *The Battle of Five Armies* for a reason. Eighty percent of the film is open warfare in one way or another. That's pretty much it.

Oh, there's some character stuff wedged in there. Martin Freeman continues his excellent turn as Bilbo Baggins, torn between his loyalty to the ever-maddening Thorin Oakenshield (Richard Armitage) and his desire to not

die at the hands of the elf and orc armies massing to invade and take the gold for themselves.

Oh, and Smaug sets stuff on fire for a few minutes. So there's that.

With this outing, Jackson opens up his toy boxes and has a good old time, and, in that aspect, the viewer certainly will as well. The vistas, the huge, massed armies, the mass combats — Jackson ends the trilogy with a lot of eye candy for the buck, and nobody does huge scale epic quite the way he can.

This entry is also about twenty minutes shorter than the previous two, and, comparatively, spends very little time on the sort of meandering and navel-gazing that came with the first two films.

But there are plenty of grating elements as well. There is, of course, the

non-Tolkien crap Jackson and crew have shoved into Middle-Earth for whatever reason, the chief example of which being the unnecessary Legolas/Tauriel/Fili love triangle that was just created out of thin air.

The film also spends waaaaay too much time on the craven Alfrid, a comic humor asskisser from Laketown whose sheer obnoxiousness and impotence easily make him the most irritating character in all six of Jackson's Middle-Earth films.

An early sequence in which the White Council rescue Gandalf from the clutches of a regenerating Sauron and his nine as-yet incorporeal ringwraiths is fine stuff for the Tolkien buff, though. Watching

see "*Hobbit*" page 12

Hobbit series is no *Lord of the Rings*

by Jeremy Webster
jwebster@f5paper.com

Peter Jackson's *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy has been an annual tradition in my house for years now. Once a year, somewhere between Christmas and New Year's, the little golden box with the extended edition Blu-rays is hauled out and, over two evenings, the family once more thrills over the adventures of Frodo, Gandalf and the rest of their friends as they journey throughout Middle-Earth in the hopes of destroying Sauron's Ring of Power for all time.

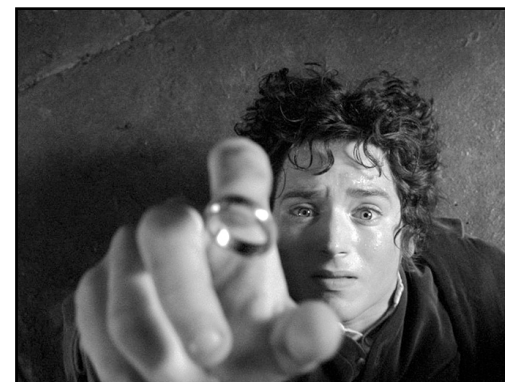
I regret to say that, as far as traditions go, the same won't be happen-

ing with *The Hobbit*.

First, let me say I don't hate Jackson's *Hobbit* trilogy. As movies go, they're not bad as far as their entirety is concerned. But they're a meandering mess nowhere nearly as loyal to the source material they're based on as Jackson's *Lord of the Rings* was.

Much of the problem with *The Hobbit* trilogy lies with the fact that it was decided to make it a trilogy as opposed to the single film or duology intended director Guillermo del Toro had in mind before leaving the project in frustration over how long it was taking to get underway.

see "*LOTR*" page 12



MY PRECIOUS: *The Lord of the Ring* movies have a hobbit and a ring, but they should have completely different tones. They don't.

NowPlaying::

Showtimes
are from
Thursday,
Dec. 25 to
Thursday,
Jan. 1

F5

MOVIE RATINGS GUIDE

- F5 • Awe-Inspiring
- F4 • Batten Down the Trailer!
- F3 • Blew Off A Few Shingles
- F2 • Slightly Sucks
- F1 • Just Blows

>NEW THIS WEEK

- *Big Eyes*
- *The Gambler*
- *The Imitation Game*
- *Into the Woods*
- *Unbroken*

>RETRO

- *A Christmas Story*

Retro

A Christmas Story (PG)
Starring Peter Billingsley, Melinda Dillon, Darren McGavin. Directed by Bob Clark.
Plot: Ralphie has to convince his parents, his teacher, and Santa that a Red Ryder B.B. gun really is the perfect gift for the 1940s.
Genre: Comedy, Family
Palace West: (Thu-Sat only) 1:40, 3:55, 6:10, 8:30 with 10:40 p.m. Fri-Sat

Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day (PG)
Starring Steve Carell, Jennifer Garner, Ed Oxenbould. Directed by Miguel Arteta.
Plot: Alexander begins to wonder if bad things only happen to him during a terrible, horrible, no good, very bad day.
Genre: Comedy, Family
Palace West: 1:10, 3:45, 6:15, 8:35 with 10:30 p.m. Fri-Sat

Annie (PG)
Starring Quvenzhané Wallis, Cameron Diaz, Jamie Foxx. Directed by Will Gluck.
Plot: A foster kid, who lives with her mean foster mom, sees her life change when business tycoon and New York mayoral candidate Will Stacks makes a thinly veiled campaign move and takes her in.
Genre: Comedy, Drama, Family, Musical
13th Ave Warren: 1, 4, 7, 10; **21st St Warren:** 1:05, 4:05, 7:05, 10:05; **Derby Plaza Theatres:** 1:25, 4:05, 7:10 with 9:45 Thu-Tue; **Movie Machine:** 1, 4:10, 6:50 with 9:30 Thu-Sat

The Best of Me (PG-13)
Starring James Marsden, Michelle Monaghan, Luke Bracey. Directed by Michael Hoffman.
Plot: A pair of former high school sweethearts reunite after many years when they return to visit their small hometown.
Genre: Drama, Romance
Palace West: 1, 3:35, 6:15 (No Thu-Sat), 8:55 (No Thu-Sat)

New This Week

Big Eyes (PG-13)
Starring Amy Adams, Christoph Waltz, Krysten Ritter. Directed by Tim Burton.
Plot: A drama about the awakening of the painter Margaret Keane, her phenomenal success in the 1950s, and the subsequent legal difficulties she had with her husband, who claimed credit for her works in the 1960s.
Genre: Biography, Drama
13th Ave Warren: 12:20, 3:50, 6:45, 9:50; **21st St Warren:** 1:20, 4:15, 7:10, 10:05

Big Hero 6 (PG)
Starring Ryan Potter, Scott Adsit, Jamie Chung. Directed by Don Hall, Chris Williams.
Plot: A special bond develops between inflatable robot Baymax and prodigy Hiro Hamada, who team up with a group of friends to form a band of high-tech heroes.
Genre: Animation, Action, Comedy
Rating: F4
Short review: A superhero thrill ride ideal for kids still too young for the big Marvel/DC films proper.
13th Ave Warren: 12:50, 3:30; **21st St Warren:** 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10

Birdman (R)
Starring Michael Keaton, Zach Galifianakis, Edward Norton. Directed by Alejandro González Iñárritu.
Plot: A washed-up actor who once played an iconic superhero must overcome his ego and family trouble as he mounts a Broadway play in a bid to reclaim his past glory.
Genre: Comedy, Drama
Rating: F5
Short review: Michael Keaton shines through in a story reflective of his own career as he puts on a Broadway play amidst distractions from all directions.
13th Ave Warren: 2:30, 5:15, 7:50

The Boxtrolls (PG)
Starring Ben Kingsley, Jared Harris, Nick Frost. Directed by Graham Annable, Anthony Stacchi.
Plot: An orphaned boy raised by underground cave-dwelling trash collectors tries to save his friends from an evil exterminator.
Genre: Animation, Adventure, Comedy, Family, Fantasy
Palace West: 1:50, 4:40

Dumb and Dumber To (PG-13)
Starring Jim Carrey, Jeff Daniels, Laurie Holden. Directed by Bobby Farrelly, Peter Farrelly.
Plot: 20 years after the dimwits set out on their first adventure, they head out in search of one of their long lost children in the hope of gaining a new kidney.
Genre: Comedy
Rating: F4
Short review: Harry and Lloyd are reunited to amuse audiences — not high-minded critics — with their schtick. And it mostly works.
Palace West: 1, 3:40, 6:30, 9 with 11:25 p.m. Fri-Sat

The Equalizer (R)
Starring Denzel Washington, Marton Csokas, Chloë Grace Moretz. Directed by Antoine Fuqua.
Plot: A man who has put his mysterious past behind him meets a young girl under the control of ultra-violent Russian gangsters and can't stand idly by.
Genre: Action, Crime, Thriller
Short review: Fantastic characterization and a brilliant performance by Washington, but little to no real tension.
Palace West: 1:25, 4:30, 7:45 with 10:30 p.m. Fri-Sat

Exodus: Gods and Kings (PG-13)
Starring Christian Bale, Joel Edgerton, Ben Kingsley. Directed by Ridley Scott.
Plot: The defiant leader Moses rises up against the Egyptian Pharaoh Ramses, setting 600,000 slaves on a monumental journey of escape from Egypt and its terrifying cycle of deadly plagues.
Genre: Action, Adventure, Drama
Rating: F3
Short review: Beautiful visual storytelling that often falls apart on the character level.
13th Ave Warren: 11:40 a.m., 3:10, 6:45, 10:15; **21st St Warren:** 11:45 a.m., 3:15, 6:45, 10:10; **Derby Plaza Theatres:** 1, 4, 7:05; **Movie Machine:** 6:15 with 9:25 Thu-Sat; **Warren Oldtown:** 11:30 a.m., 3, 6:30, 9:50

Fury (R)
Starring Brad Pitt, Shia LaBeouf, Logan Lerman. Directed by David Ayer.
Plot: April, 1945. As the Allies make their final push into Europe, a battle-hardened army sergeant commands a five-man tank crew on a deadly mission behind Nazi lines.
Genre: Action, Drama, War

Rating: F5
Short review: A stark reminder of the horrors of war.
Palace West: 1:15, 4:50, 8:15 with 11:05 p.m. Fri-Sat

New This Week

The Gambler (R)
Starring Jessica Lange, Mark Wahlberg, Brie Larson. Directed by Rupert Wyatt.
Plot: Lit professor and gambler Jim Bennett's debt causes him to borrow money from his mother and a loan shark.
Genre: Crime, Drama, Thriller
13th Ave Warren: 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 9:50; **21st St Warren:** 12:50, 3:50, 6:50, 9:50; **Derby Plaza Theatres:** 1:35, 4:10, 7:10 with 9:40 Thu-Tue; **Warren Oldtown:** 12:30, 3:45, 4, 6:45, 7:30, 10:20

Guardians of the Galaxy (PG-13)
Starring Chris Pratt, Vin Diesel, Bradley Cooper. Directed by James Gunn.
Plot: In the far reaches of space, an American pilot finds himself the object of a manhunt after stealing a coveted orb.
Genre: Action, Adventure, Sci-Fi
Rating: F4
Short review: Generic space opera elevated by great character writing and an able mix of sweet and sour wit.
Palace West: 1:15, 4, 6:50, 9:35

The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies (PG-13)
Starring Ian McKellen, Martin Freeman, Richard Armitage. Directed by Peter Jackson.
Plot: Bilbo and Company are forced to engage in a war against an array of combatants and keep the terrifying Smaug from acquiring a kingdom of treasure and obliterating all of Middle-Earth.
Genre: Adventure, Fantasy
13th Ave Warren: 11:45 a.m., 12:15 (3D), 12:45, 3:15, 4 (3D), 4:30, 6:50, 7:45 (3D), 8, 10:15; **21st St Warren:** 11:30 a.m., 12:15 (IMAX, 3D), 1, 2:50, 3:30 (IMAX, 3D), 4:30, 6:15, 7 (IMAX, 3D), 8, 9:40, 10:15 (3D); **Derby Plaza Theatres:** 1, 4, 7 with 10 Thu-Tue; **Movie Machine:** 12:30, 3:40, 6:25 with 9:15 Thu-Sat; **Warren Oldtown:** 11:30 a.m., 3, 6:30, 9:50

The Homesman (R)
Starring Tommy Lee Jones, Hilary Swank, Grace Gummer. Directed by Tommy Lee Jones.
Plot: Three women who have been driven mad by pioneer life are transported across the country by covered wagon by a pious woman and low-life drifter.
Genre: Drama, Western
13th Ave Warren: 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:10

Horrible Bosses 2 (R)
Starring Jason Bateman, Charlie Day, Jason Sudeikis. Directed by Sean Anders.
Plot: Here comes another unnecessary sequel as a trio of would-be kidnappers bumble their way through a lot of dumb laughs.
Genre: Comedy
Rating: F2
Short review: The kids might love it, but Mom and Dad will end up with a headache.
13th Ave Warren: 6:20, 9:40; **21st St Warren:** 12:55, 3:55, 6:55, 9:55

The Hunger Games: Mockingjay - Part 1 (PG-13)
Starring Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson, Liam Hemsworth. Directed by Francis Lawrence.

Plot: After Katniss Everdeen shattered the games forever, she must fight against all odds and save a nation moved by her courage.
Genre: Adventure, Sci-Fi
13th Ave Warren: 12:30, 3:40, 6:50, 10:10; **21st St Warren:** 1, 3:55, 6:50, 9:45; **Derby Plaza Theatres:** 1:30, 4:15, 7 with 9:45 Thu-Tue

New This Week

The Imitation Game (PG-13)
Starring Benedict Cumberbatch, Keira Knightley, Matthew Goode. Directed by Morten Tyldum.
Plot: English mathematician and logician Alan Turing helps crack the German code during World War II.
Genre: Biography, Drama, Thriller, War
13th Ave Warren: 1, 3:50, 6:40, 9:45

Interstellar (PG-13)
Starring Matthew McConaughey, Anne Hathaway, Jessica Chastain. Directed by Christopher Nolan.
Plot: A group of explorers make use of a newly discovered wormhole to surpass the limitations on human space travel and conquer the vast distances involved in an interstellar voyage.
Genre: Adventure, Mystery, Sci-Fi
Rating: F3
Short review: A fantastic space exploration narrative swallowed in its final hour by the Hollywood black hole of oversentimentality.
13th Ave Warren: 6, 9:40; **21st St Warren:** Noon, 4, 8

New This Week

Into the Woods (PG)
Starring Anna Kendrick, Meryl Streep, Chris Pine. Directed by Rob Marshall.
Plot: A witch tasks a childless baker and his wife with procuring magical items from classic fairy tales to reverse the curse put on their family tree.
Genre: Comedy, Family, Fantasy, Musical
13th Ave Warren: 11:45 a.m., 12:30, 3, 3:45, 6:15, 7, 9:30, 10:15; **21st St Warren:** 11:30 a.m., 12:55, 2:45, 4, 6, 7:05, 9:15, 10:10; **Warren Oldtown:** 11:45 a.m., Noon, 3:45, 7, 9:40, 10:10

John Wick (R)
Starring Keanu Reeves, Bridget Moynahan, Willem Dafoe. Directed by David Leitch, Chad Stahelski.
Plot: An ex-hitman comes out of retirement to track down the gangsters that took everything from him.
Genre: Action, Thriller
Palace West: 6:20, 8:50 with 11:05 p.m. Fri-Sat

The Maze Runner (PG-13)
Starring Dylan O'Brien, Kaya Scodelario, Will Poulter. Directed by Wes Ball.
Plot: Thomas is deposited in a community of boys after his memory is erased, soon learning they're all trapped in a maze.
Genre: Action, Mystery, Sci-Fi, Thriller
Rating: F3
Short review: Familiar themes and a near-fatal story flub at the end don't YA entertain.
Palace West: 1:30 (No Thu-Sat), 4:10 (No Thu-Sat), 6:45, 9:05 with 11:30 p.m. Fri-Sat

see "Movies" page 10

Events:

> GET LISTED

Don't see your event? Send an email to events@F5paper.com

ARTS

Fri., Dec. 26

Winter Art Mania

Fri., Dec. 26 to Sun., Dec. 28
The Wichita Art Museum presents three days of Winter Art Mania for the whole family. Join us at the museum for action-packed days of art exploration and activity. Come for an hour or stay for the whole day. Watch a fun flick, make art, meet an artist and create a masterpiece together or take a mini tour. Each day brings new fun and activities! Free. @ Wichita Art Museum, 1400 W. Museum Blvd.

Reception: "Autumn Reflections" by Justin Bayles

5:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Opening reception to the work of Justin Bayles and his photography collection "Autumn Reflections." His photographs capture the beauty of autumn in Kansas. @ Gallery XII, 412 E. Douglas.

Reception: Small Works of Art for the Holidays

5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Exhibition runs Mon., Dec. 22 to Sat., Jan. 17
@ Tessera Fine Art Gallery, 412 E. Douglas Ave.

Reception: Kansas Academy of Oil Painters "Holiday Show"

6 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Final Friday artist reception. @ Bob Schwan Studios, 111 S. Ellis.

Final Friday at Reverie

6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Reverie will be hosting a reception for artist Eric Carbrey. A jazz performance by Mary Beth Quintet will begin at 6:30 p.m. @ Reverie Coffee Roasters, 2611 E. Douglas.

Reception: "Clay for the Cause: Small Works Holiday Show"

6 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Exhibition runs Tue., Dec. 9 to Fri., Dec. 26
Clay Cartel artists featured in this exhibition: David Self, Dylan Seeney, Michelle Jeffries, Debi Cox, David Long, Andy Corcoran. @ Fiber Studio, 418 S. Commerce.

Reception: "Kansas Skies" by Nathan Swink

6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Collection runs Tue., Dec. 16 to Fri., Jan. 9
Collection of photographs paying tribute to the beautiful Kansas skies. @ The Vagabond, 614 W. Douglas.

Reception: Ninth Annual Small Works Show

6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Exhibition runs Fri., Nov. 28 to Wed., Dec. 31
Original artwork in a variety of mediums, all by local and regional artists, judged by Steve Murillo. @ Mead Street Gallery and Gifts, 121 N. Mead, Ste. 107.

Ongoing

Exhibition: Wichita's Mid-Century Modernist Galleries

Fri., March 28 to Sun., March 15

"Movies" from page 9

Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb (PG)

Starring Ben Stiller, Robin Williams, Owen Wilson. Directed by Shawn Levy.
Plot: Larry spans the globe, uniting favorite and new characters while embarking on an epic quest to save the magic before it is gone forever.
Genre: Adventure, Comedy, Family, Fantasy
Augusta Historic Theatre: 7:30 Fri-Sun; **21st St Warren:** 12:50, 1:45, 3:35, 4:30, 7:10, 6:15, 9:10, 9:50; **13th Ave Warren:** 11:30 a.m., 12:50, 2:30, 3:45, 5:30, 6:40, 8:30, 9:45; **Derby Plaza Theatres:** 1:35, 3:55, 7:05 with 9:25 Thu-Tue; **Movie Machine:** 1:15, 6:45, 3:45 with 9:30 Thu-Sat; **Warren Oldtown:** 12:30, 4:15, 7:30, 10:20

@ Wichita - Sedgwick County Historical Museum, 204 S. Main.

Bridging Art and Science: Beauty and the Bugs

Fri., Nov. 7 to Sun., Feb. 22
This exhibit features work of Susie Cunningham, Susan de Wit and Rachel Stone. Visitors can encounter these creepy creatures in a whole new way with insects engineered using paper and various media. Free with regular museum admission. @ Exploration Place, 300 N. McLean Blvd.

The Kansas Watercolor Society National Exhibition 2014

Fri., Nov. 21 to Sun., Jan. 4
@ Wichita Center for the Arts, 9112 E. Central.

Exhibition: "Journey Through Time" by Bob Regier

Tue., Dec. 9 to Sat., Jan. 31
@ Carriage Factory Art Gallery, 128 E. Sixth, Newton.

Exhibition: The Mundi Group Art Collection

Tue., Dec. 9 to Sun., Feb. 1
@ The Gallery at Larkfield Place, 7373 E. 29th St. N.

Exhibition: Kansas Academy of Oil Painters "Holiday Show"

Fri., Dec. 12 to Fri., Feb. 6
@ Bob Schwan Studios, 111 S. Ellis.

ARTS: CALL FOR ENTRIES

Ongoing

National Fiber Directions Exhibition 2015

Thu., Aug. 7 to Mon., Dec. 29
Juried show will be at the Wichita Center for the Arts, March 27 to May 10. \$7,500 in cash and purchase awards. Postmarked deadline: Dec. 29. Information and prospectus available at www.wcfta.com, (316) 634-2787, or email areep@wcfta.com. Entry fee is \$30 for three entries. @ Wichita Center for the Arts, 9112 E. Central.

Riverfest 2015 Poster and Button Artwork Contest

Wed., Nov. 5 to Wed., Dec. 31
the 2015 theme, "Button Up. Have a Blast!"
The winning artist will receive a \$3,500 cash prize and bragging rights galore. Complete information, (including the contest rules and entry form) is available at WichitaRiverfest.com. Deadline for submissions is 5 p.m., Wed., Dec. 31. @ Wichita Festivals, Inc., 1820 E. Douglas.

"Porti-Ful Actions" WSU undergraduate exhibition

Tue., Dec. 9 to Tue., Jan. 20
Porti-ful Actions is a Call for Entry for duo collaborative interactive artwork that is created using two artistic talents to create a piece of art. It will be displayed at WSU ShiftSpace, Jan. 21 through Feb. 14. @ WSU Shift Space Gallery, 416 S. Commerce.

13th annual Tallgrass Film Festival

Tue., Dec. 16 to Wed., July 8
Tallgrass Film Association announces the call for submissions for the 13th annual Tallgrass Film Festival, Oct. 14-18, 2015. Cash prizes awarded for \$500, \$100, and \$2500 for the Stubbornly Independent Gala Winner. Deadline for submissions is July 8, with early bird submissions due by April 15. Find out more about fees, program categories and more at <http://tallgrassfilmfest.com>. @ Tallgrass Film Festival, 212 N. Market.

Penguins of Madagascar (PG)

Starring Tom McGrath, Chris Miller, Christopher Knights. Directed by Eric Darnell, Simon J. Smith.
Plot: Super spy teams aren't born...they're hatched. Discover the secrets of the greatest and most hilarious covert birds in the global espionage biz.
Genre: Animation, Comedy, Family
Rating: F3
Short review: The kids might love it, but Mom and Dad will end up with a headache.
13th Ave Warren: 12:45, 3:30; **21st St Warren:** 2:15, 4:50; **Movie Machine:** 1:30, 4

Top Five (R)

Starring Chris Rock, Rosario Dawson, Gabrielle Union. Directed by Chris Rock.

LECTURE

Tue., Dec. 30

Kindle Fire

6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Learn different ways you can use your Kindle Fire besides reading e-books. We will introduce you to the other functions of your tablet, including Apps, Settings and Browsing the Internet. @ Wichita Public Library - Central Library, 223 S. Main.

SPECIAL

Fri., Dec. 26

Christmas Village under the Tree

Fri., Dec. 26 to Wed., Dec. 31
A Christmas village with lights and music along with the Polar Express electric train is set up in the historic museum atrium for the holiday season. Along with the special display, the museum is collecting toys for the Wichita Children's Home. Bring in a new, unwrapped toy to get \$2 off admission for up to four people. General museum admission. @ Kansas Aviation Museum, 3350 George Washington Blvd.

Rock the Dome

7:30 p.m. Three Pink Floyd Cosmic Light Shows, including songs from *Dark Side of the Moon*, *The Wall* and *Wish You Were Here*. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Age 17 and older. \$12. @ Exploration Place, 300 N. McLean Blvd.

Sat., Dec. 27

Family Photo Scavenger Hunt & Dino Family Day

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
General museum admission. @ Museum of World Treasures, 835 E. First.

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Mon., Dec. 29

Winter Break: Snow Dough

2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Squish it, roll it, cut it, sculpt it — turn dough into snowmen, snowbugs or whatever. For children ages 6-10. @ Wichita Public Library - Evergreen Branch, 2601 N. Arkansas.

Tue., Dec. 30

Winter Carnival

2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Enjoy games and activities with prizes for children ages 3-11 with their families. @ Wichita Public Library - Rockwell Branch, 5939 E. 9th.

Wed., Dec. 31

Make a Family Time Capsule

11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Save your memories in a time capsule to delight your family both now and in the future. General museum admission. @ Museum of World Treasures, 835 E. First.

Ongoing

Celebrating the "Mystery S" and Walter Beech

Plot: A comedian tries to make it as a serious actor when his reality-TV star fiancée talks him into broadcasting their wedding on her TV show.
Genre: Comedy
13th Ave Warren: 12:40, 6:30; **21st St Warren:** 7:15, 9:55

New This Week

Unbroken (PG-13)

Starring Jack O'Connell, Domhnall Gleeson, Jai Courtney. Directed by Angelina Jolie.
Plot: After a near-fatal plane crash in WWII, Olympian Louis Zamperini spends a harrowing 47 days in a raft with two fellow crewmen before he's caught by the Japanese navy and sent to a prisoner-of-war camp.

Air Race Trophies

Tue., Nov. 4 to Wed., Dec. 31
Featuring film footage taken at the Wichita Airport circa 1930 and 12 Walter Beech Air Race trophies. All ages. Free. @ Wichita - Sedgwick County Historical Museum, 204 S. Main.

Lights on St. Paul

Thu., Nov. 27 to Sun., Dec. 28
Drive through the largest neighborhood lights display in Kansas made up of 1.4 million lights with over 200 displays in a musical wonderland. Opens nightly at 5:30 p.m. and is open until 9 Mon-Thu and until 10 Fri-Sat and Dec. 25. Suggested donation of \$5 per vehicle. @ Douglas and St. Paul.

Illuminations

Fri., Nov. 28 to Wed., Dec. 31
Open seven days a week (excluding Dec. 24 and 25), 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. It has new themed displays, 5,000 LED luminaries and more than 120 wrapped trees and hundreds of structures aglow with twinkling white lights. In total, a million lights combine with nature to create a stunning atmosphere and a lot of holiday fun. \$8 (\$7 members) for adults and \$6 for youth (3-12). @ Botanica, 701 Amidon.

Indians in Aviation

Tue., Dec. 23 to Wed., Dec. 31
Outside of Code Talkers, American Indians' contributions to World War II from the home front have largely been overlooked by history. This is an exhibition that fills those gaps and tells the stories of many Indians who moved to Wichita during the war years making planes behind the scenes at Boeing Wichita and other companies. General museum admission. @ Mid America All-Indian Center, 650 N. Seneca.

THEATER & DANCE

Sat., Dec. 27

Rawxy's Unfiltered presents: Joseph Boover; Arri Simon

8 p.m. \$10. @ Roxy's Downtown, 412 1/2 E. Douglas.

Sun., Dec. 28

The Santaland Diaries and Cindy Summers

7 p.m. David Stone performs David Sadaris' *The Santaland Diaries*. Summers opens the evening with Christmas songs in the styles of Karen Carpenter, Judy Garland and Patsy Cline. Appetizers and drinks only. Doors open at 5:30 with show at 7. \$22. @ Roxy's Downtown, 412 1/2 E. Douglas.

Wed., Dec. 31

Mainly Sinatra: A Rat Pack New Year's Eve Celebration

8:30 p.m. Wichita's favorite performers in a performance of Rat Pack favorites plus a coursed dinner, a champagne toast, party favors and dancing in the New Year. All ages. \$50. @ Crown Uptown Theatre, 3207 E. Douglas.

Ongoing

Bad Christmas Carol or Scrooge You and Mistletoe

Mayhem Musical Comedy Revue
Tue., Dec. 9 to Tue., Dec. 30
Shows start Monday through Friday at 6 p.m., Saturday at Noon and 6 p.m., and Sunday at 5 p.m. \$18-\$28. @ Mosley Street Melodrama, 234 N. Mosley.

Genre: Action, Drama, Sport, War

13th Ave Warren: 11:30 a.m., 2:45, 3:15, 6:30, 9:30, 10; **21st St Warren:** Noon, 2, 3:15, 5:15, 6:45, 8:30, 10; **Derby Plaza Theatres:** 1:15, 4:10, 7:10; **Movie Machine:** 12:30, 3:35, 6:30 with 9:25 Thu-Sat; **Warren Oldtown:** Noon, 3:30, 7, 10:10

Wild (R)

Starring Reese Witherspoon, Laura Dern, Gaby Hoffmann. Directed by Jean-Marc Vallée.
Plot: A chronicle of one woman's 1,100-mile solo hike undertaken as a way to recover from a recent catastrophe.
Genre: Biography, Drama
13th Ave Warren: 12:40, 3:40, 6:20, 9:20

ASTROPOOP!

THE SKINNY ON YOUR WEEK
by Diviner Mme Zanzibird

Aries: (March 21 — April 19)
Week rating: F3
Once this pesky Christmas thing is over, you can revel in your favorite: New Year's Eve. This week: Put cinnamon in everything.

Taurus: (April 20 — May 20)
Week rating: F4
You are destined to be an award-winning train conductor. This week: Take in a picture show with someone handsome.

Gemini: (May 21 — June 21)
Week rating: F2
You will be the very person this season to see the Lights at St. Paul. This week: Take a Cancer friend out to Picasso's.

Cancer: (June 22 — July 22)
Week rating: F5
Pizza will cure all that ails you. This week: Do not put metal things into the science oven.

Leo: (July 23 — Aug. 22)
Week rating: F3
You will become a guru at avoiding student loan interest. This week: Have fun getting "It's a Hard Knock Life" out of your head.

Virgo: (Aug. 23 — Sept. 22)
Week rating: F2
You will overdose on peppermint-flavored things. This week: Stop capitalizing the word "Jazz" in everyday usage.

Libra: (Sept. 23 — Oct. 23)
Week rating: F1
When life gets you down, remember that you are just a tiny, insignificant grain of sand. This week: Play checkers with your cousins.

Scorpio: (Oct. 24 — Nov. 21)
Week rating: F5
Romance awaits you at your local DiFazio's. This week: Dream of a way to live in Venus' atmosphere in a space ship.

Sagittarius: (Nov. 22 — Dec. 21)
Week rating: F4
You'll discover that your old 8-track player still works. Yeah! This week: Clean the local Williams Sonoma out of peppermint bark.

Capricorn: (Dec. 22 — Jan. 19)
Week rating: F5
Hey! For once everyone will forget about Christmas and remember your birthday. This week: Read every true crime novel you can get your hands on.

Aquarius: (Jan. 20 — Feb. 18)
Week rating: F4
Christmas break is the perfect time to re-read the Harry Potter series. This week: Start jogging, but don't do it as a New Year's resolution.

Pisces: (Feb. 19 — March 20)
Week rating: F3
Your mom will catch you trying to take a post-workout selfie. This week: Take up deep sea diving.

¡Ask a Mexican!

by Gustavo Arellano
themexican@f5paper.com

Dear Mexican: The other day, my Italian boyfriend and I were sitting in a cafe in Santa Monica. He asked me an interesting question: "If you had the choice to be any nationality in the world, which one would you choose?" Being the proud Latina that I am, I said, "Mexican." Then he said, "Why? What have Mexicans done that is so great?" The only come back I could think of was Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera. Please help me come up with more reasons why I should be proud to be a Mexican.

— Smitten with Salami
Dear Wabette: Since it's the



¡ASK A MEXICAN!

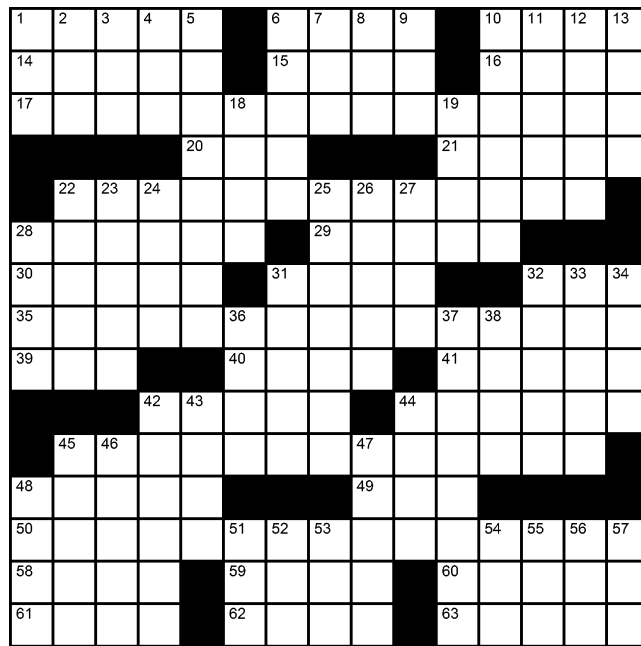
holidays, and the Mexican is in a giving spirit *gracias* to all the *tamales de rajas con queso* in his *panza* and the *baconara* in his bloodstream, I will be kind *contigo*. While you say you're proud of being Latina, you also say you have little clue *why* you should feel this way, so it's obvious you're a *pocha* (an assimilated Mexican, for those of *ustedes* who aren't regular readers — man, am I a charitable *chingón* this season!). Look at last week's column for books that'll make you proud of being a *mexicana*, then go hang out with the undocumented students, whose courage and drive will shut up that Italian *pendejo* forever. Finally, *salami* folds easily under pressure, while *chorizo* stays firm in a *torta* or a *taco* — just sayin'.

Jonesin' Crosswords "Extended Family" — all its members have something in common.

by Matt Jones

ACROSS

- 1 Overwhelm
- 6 Mark a ballot
- 10 "I Am ___ of Constant Sorrow"
- 14 FDR had it
- 15 Sent notes to online
- 16 Go as fast as you can
- 17 Mix up the letters in a former "SNL" player's last name?
- 20 Even score
- 21 "I'm Like ___" (Nelly Furtado hit)
- 22 Pretentious name for the Jan Brady fan club?
- 28 Jong and others
- 29 Rejoice
- 30 Swiss potato dish
- 31 Recipe command
- 32 Animal with antlers
- 35 Bizarre way an African dictator used to close his letters?
- 39 Ping-pong table divider
- 40 Concoct
- 41 Top group
- 42 Bathroom floor item
- 44 Person who holds property in trust
- 45 NBA player who grew up in Istanbul?
- 48 "There Will Be ___"
- 49 ___ Arbor
- 50 Howl the surname of a theater great?
- 58 Spot on the Web
- 59 "Fine, have it your way!"
- 60 Student helper
- 61 Thomas Hardy title heroine
- 62 Prefix with physics
- 63 "It's always something with you!"



DOWN

- 1 Business that offers foot massages
- 2 Came out on top
- 3 In the style of
- 4 Russian plane
- 5 Painting of a person
- 6 YouTube rival
- 7 "r u kidding?!"
- 8 It can be iced or spiced
- 9 Mag workers
- 10 "I know you ___ what am I?"
- 11 Bialik of "The Big Bang Theory"
- 12 Sharp, poetically
- 13 "___ alert!"
- 18 Intentions
- 19 Starbucks size
- 22 Gradually diminish
- 23 Drop in on
- 24 Prefix with plasm
- 25 Captured back

every week, gentle readers — you never know when I might be *borracho* enough to start giving out stuff, like a sneak preview of FOX's animated show, *Bordertown!* Details to come.

HAPPY 2015! So ends another year of this *pinche columna*, and I want to thank *ustedes* for another year of questions, rants, love and hate. Your humble Mexican is going to man the rancho by himself the rest of the year so all his newspaper *compadres y comadres* can spend the holidays on vacation, so *ustedes* will read a Best Of edition next week, with a new level of DESMADRE for the first week of the *año Nuevo*. *Gracias*, don't drink and drive and all the Mexican wants for Christmas from *ustedes* is for you to follow all my social media accounts. Oh, and read my column both online and in the print edition of whatever newspaper is near your *casa* — don't let alt-weeklies go the way of Cuauhtémoc, *cabrones*.

LAST WEEK'S ANSWER



- 26 Boot out of the country
- 27 Do some knitting
- 28 Ms. Brockovich
- 31 La ___ (famed opera house)
- 32 Hirsch of "Into the Wild"
- 33 Petrol amount
- 34 Proposer's joint
- 36 Mosque head
- 37 Doesn't just think about
- 38 Dismounted
- 42 Fur shawls
- 43 Last part of a classical piece
- 44 Irishman in sunglasses
- 45 Skateboard move
- 46 Aggressive sellers
- 47 Hooded coat
- 48 Bankrupt
- 51 He meows
- 52 Manage (a living)
- 53 Obtained
- 54 Believe, as a dubious story
- 55 Golf cart's cousin, for short
- 56 Fish eggs
- 57 Like some humor

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“Celebrate” from page 2

The Invasion Of Afghanistan

No, not ours. The one that eventually led to ours. The U.S.S.R. invaded Afghanistan in 1979, our handling of which led to a great many of the problems we have today. Again, a historical precedent for war on Christmas.

Andrew Johnson Pardons Confederate Soldiers

On Christmas 1868, U.S. President and murderer Andrew Johnson (he killed Charles Dickens in a duel*) pardoned all Confederate soldiers for their roles in the Civil War, thus helping to heal a wounded nation and put an end to a burgeoning badass bounty hunter industry. Here's a fun fact: Richmond, Virginia, has a street named “Monument Avenue,” which is full of statues to Confederate heroes. If you want to make a friend in Richmond, where I used to live, say to someone there, “It's great that America is so proud of its history that we leave standing statues to what are, essentially, traitors.”

“LOTR” from page 8

“We're going to use material from the appendices of *The Return of the King*,” they said. Which was a good idea — Galdalf wasn't just walking around in the middle of nowhere because he was tired of Oakenshield and company and needed a break, after all.

But, honestly, there just simply wasn't enough material to create another massive trilogy akin to the previous one.

But it's not as simple as that. They cut perfectly good stuff from the book and replaced it with gobs of stuff that *wasn't* in the book.

The classic example at this point would be the use of the werewolf Beorn, who, while not a major character, is an important one whenever he comes up. He was scaled way back in the film. Meanwhile, we get a lot of added garbage in the form of a love triangle between Legolas — who isn't even in the book — his betrothed and one of the dwarves.

That's the sort of thing fans hate — cutting back on the things that really matter in the tale they love in order to make room for trite Hollywood conventional bullshit.

The accusation could, of course, be made that I'm being nitpicky with this — that lots of stuff didn't make it into *The*

“Hobbit” from page 8

Cate Blanchett's Galadriel call Sauron “servant of Morgoth” before laying down some ancient elven whoop-ass gives a small cultural peek, in a way, to what might have been had there been a way to easily adapt some of the First Age stuff for the screen.

While Bilbo's still there and still important, this outing is far more centered around Thorin, who has fallen into mad-

ness caused by his own greed for the gold in the reclaimed stronghold. The character has a satisfying arc, though, once again, Jackson and crew bring in their own element — the orc general who shares a mutual animosity toward Thorin — to supply the character's ultimate direction.

The Christmas Truce

In 1914, only months into World War I, all was quiet on the western front. German and British troops, having already slaughtered one another by the *hundreds of thousands*, climbed from their trenches and greeted one another. They smoked cigars, made each other laugh as they sang carols in their own languages, played soccer and exchanged photos. Before year's end, they were back to unleashing every manner of death at their technology's disposal, but for one day they had a moment of legendary detente. When British officers heard about the “Christmas Truce,” probably while sipping tea in a flowery wingback chair at the club, they made British harrumph noises and ordered extra shellings every Christmas Eve throughout the rest of the war.

A Christmas Carol Cosplay

Finally, if you're just not fussed on any of these other ideas, you have to admit

Lord of the Rings that was in the book. The thing is, a lot of those changes more or less made sense. Tom Bombadil's deletion from that trilogy made perfect sense because, tonally, his jolly nutzoid comicality didn't fit in that movie.

Even when *The Lord of the Rings* made changes that weren't entirely sensical, like dropping Frodo in Osgiliath toward the end of *The Two Towers*, it wasn't taking huge tracts of material away in order to do so.

The biggest problem that plagues *The Hobbit* trilogy most likely is the fact that Jackson and crew approached it as being an extension of *The Lord of the Rings* universe. Simply put, it isn't. It is, of course, a shorter work, but it's far more whimsical in nature, and certainly more episodic in terms of the adventures Bilbo and crew have.

The Hobbit is, really, a children's fairy tale, while *The Lord of the Rings* is a pseudohistorical record that happens to have dialogue. It's not the same *type* of book as the latter work in terms of tone, complexity and execution, and, as such, it does not easily convert to the format Jackson and crew so carefully created with their first trilogy. *The Hobbit* isn't *The Lord of the Rings Part One*; it's just a little book that pretends to be what Bilbo Baggins wrote about his adventure to find The Lonely Mountain.

loyally adapting its subject matter to screen to being a breathtaking example of what a truly brilliant visionary can do when equipped with the right talent in all departments.

The Battle of Five Armies is no *Return of the King*. It is, within its own parameters — and certainly not Tolkien's — a mostly successful conclusion to the arc that, while flawed, is riveting to look at and is brisk enough to not feel as if it's overstayed its welcome.

that Victorian era clothes are much, much cooler than our current nonsense. Take advantage of Christmas to celebrate the genius of Charles Dickens' immortal classic, and dress as one of his wonderful characters for the day. Pro tip: Whenever you see Victorian carolers, or others in the dress of the era, they're always at least 70% too clean. Make sure to REALLY get grimy to set yourself apart. Things were very dirty then in the very best of circumstances. I'm not talking community theater grimy, either — with a couple of smears of black stuff on your face. You need to be COVERED in coal soot, ash and probably traces of human ... stuff. You're trying to embody an era when many people still threw their shit out of windows into the street. Get those reproduction waistcoats dirty.

That should do it. If you can't find something to celebrate there, you're just a big old Richard Dawkins. And if you are Richard Dawkins, and you're reading this now, I bet you're feeling a little silly.

*[Correction: President Andrew Jackson killed rival horse breeder and plantation owner Charles Dickenson in a duel.]

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