

Nostalgia for silver screen is small-theater gold

By BRENNA GRITEMAN Courier managing editor

In this very strange era of uncertainty and social distancing, many cinema lovers are harkening back to a simpler time through the magic of nostalgic films.

To that end, performance theaters and movie theaters — struggling to survive while balancing limited seating, a halt in national touring acts and a lack of new material coming out of Hollywood — are bringing former blockbusters back to the big

screen. And with them are coming happy patrons.
Shannon The-

atre in Bluffton and North Baltimore's Virginia Motion Pictures resumed operations in late summer, featuring classic and first-run films such as "Monty Python and the Holy Grail," "Back to the Future" and "The Karate Kid."

The theaters are also showcasing some serious COVID-related modifications.

Admitting only 50 customers for its screenings, Shannon Theatre is using just 15% of its capacity, said Pete Suter, who owns the theater along with his wife, Kim.

Every other row in the theater is blocked

off, and parties must sit three seats apart. The ropes blocking a row are moved after every movie showing so that no seat is occupied for two consecutive showings.

Disposable seat covers are available upon request, Suter said. Masks are required except for when one is eating popcorn or sipping a drink.

Virginia Motion Pictures also has limited seating and is keeping moviegoers spaced. The theater also requires masks, except when customers eat a snack or sip a drink, owner Shawn Benjamin said.

Continued on page 3



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The Shannon made other changes to minimize human contact that have been downright dazzling for the charming small-town theater.

"We've never accepted credit cards. We might be one of the last businesses to have made that change," Suter said. "We are still accepting cash, but for the first time in our history we are also accepting credit cards."

But wait. There's more: "We've gone to some online ticketing for folks that don't want to wait in line."

"We had to make a lot of changes," Suter said.

But none of it seems to have diminished the Shannon Theatre's charm. People still flock to the small theater to watch throwbacks like "A League of Their Own" and "E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial."

"It really depends on the film," Suter said. "I suppose it's just like normal times. There's just some films that go over better than others.

"There are times where we have absolutely maxed that out. Then there other shows where it's pretty quiet. But overall, we are absolutely thrilled with the support of the broader tri-county community area here (Allen, Hancock and Putnam counties) and we've had a good response."

Meanwhile, The Ritz Theatre in downtown Tiffin has announced its "Pandemic Pictures Presents" series. Featuring top-grossing, 1970s blockbuster films, the presentations take place in the historic theater's main house.

"Pandemic Pictures" offerings include "The Godfather" on Nov. 17; "Grease" on Nov. 28; and "Saturday Night Fever" on Dec. 12. Tickets are \$5 each, available in advance at the Ritz Theatre's box office or at the door on the night of the movie. Masks are required to enter the theater.

In accordance with guidelines from the Ohio Department of Health, The Ritz may seat up to 150 guests. The theater's seating plan allows for at least 6 feet between individual groups and guests. The normal seating capacity is 1,260.

















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Humans of Findlay is a documentary project based on the blog "Humans of New York." The project was created to introduce many of the unique people of Findlay, Ohio. The man behind the lens and the project is Dave Morrow. Morrow has interviewed over 700 people of Findlay, ranging from age 5 to 102 years old, with a wide range of diversity and backgrounds. Jenna Wilkins has joined Dave in continuing the Humans of Findlay project.

On April 4, 2018, a proclamation was signed by Mayor Lydia Mihalik designating the day as "Humans of Findlay Day." Each of the stories have been read up to 30,000 times, and can be located on humansoffindlay.com, Humans of Findlay Facebook page, as well as in this monthly magazine. Know someone that you feel should be featured? Send a nomination on the Facebook page.

RICK McGINNIS



Rick McGinnis, a Human dedicated to saving exploited Children!!!

Dave note: The news has been busy lately, (and finally), highlighting the efforts of Law Enforcement/ US Marshall's/Prosecutors/Child Advocates who are combining their resources to rescue missing and exploited children locally and throughout the United States. The number of children that vanish and go missing each year is staggering, estimated to be between 500-800,000! The children who are found, rescued and brought home annually is in the mere hundreds. Those fortunate enough to be recovered are usually found to have been targeted and trafficked as sexual "property". The average age of a trafficking victim is 12 years old, 75% female, 25 % male. Those children that don't get forced into prostitution are used to create horrific child pornography, which just in the United States is a multi-billion-dollar industry! (The state of Ohio ranks sixth this year in the number of missing children and cases of child trafficking!)

I would like to share with you the Humans of Findlay story of Rick McGinnis, a native Ohioan who served as an Ada police officer, an Undercover Investigator with the Cuyahoga Prosecutors Office's "Child Exploitation Division/Cold Case Homicide Unit/Human Trafficking Unit, and as a sworn U.S. Marshal. He worked on taskforces with the FBI. Secret Service and US Marshall's

before retiring here in Findlay. Since his retirement in 2014 Rick has channeled his years of investigating experience into the private sector opening Chagrin Solutions, LLC, providing Investigation and security services. Even though he is retired, Rick is often called upon to assist in ongoing children exploitation cases.

Rick was born in Hardin County, graduating as Kenton high school Wildcat in 1977. He entered the workforce immediately, but his goal was always to become a member of the law enforcement world. In 1991 Rick graduated from the Sheriff's Academy in Bellefontaine and joined the Logan County Sheriff's Office as an auxiliary Deputy. He served full-time first with the Kenton Police Department. After a year he was hired full-time by the Ada police department. Assigned as a street officer, Rick responded to all the typical police calls; domestic issues, auto accidents, drug and alcohol issues etc.

One evening Rick was watching "Dateline" as they presented an in-depth report on Child Exploitation. The graphic details drew Rick into wanting to know more and how he could become involved in fighting this epidemic and bringing the children back home. He voluntarily went through an intensive training process on how to communicate as a 12-14-year old girl to the predators surfing both websites/chatrooms popular to young people looking for victims to deceive. (There is also what is known as the "dark web" where disgusting videos of children are shared for a price.)

These perpetrators are skilled at chatting, identifying and luring lonely or vulnerable young people. Eventually they attempt to convince the children to participate in sexting, doing pornographic phone chats and finally arranging for the victim to meet with them for sex. The perpetrators almost always claim to be 14-18-year old males themselves while online

Rick had no idea the depravity of these online predators, until he started "chatting" with them, in the role of a young teenage girl. Rick had been working at this for several years, often working 50-60 hours a week (half on the road and half on the computer, occasionally even on his own time at the police department, when one conversation with a perp hit his soul so hard he made a commitment to fight them full-time. In this conversation he was portraying himself as a 12-year-old girl, when after several conversations the perp shared a "graphic sexual video" with this "12 year old girl"

"I had no idea of what 12 year old kids were being subjected to by these monsters." The depravity of this event made Rick kick the computer, walk out to his patrol car and drive for hours. When the night was over Rick knew he wanted to pursue these monsters full-time.

In a very short period of time Rick reached out to the Cuyahoga City Prosecutors Office in Cleveland, wellknown for its dedicated team fighting Child Exploitation. After 15.5 years with the ADA police department Rick was hired to join the Cuyahoga County Prosecuting Attorney's office as an Investigator. The team included members of the US Marshall's office, the FBI, the DOJ, and state and local law enforcement officials. The team's intense focus was seeking out the perps and con-men on the web, setting up "stings" where the perps believe they are meeting young females to have sex, and to track the web to find those producing and sharing child pornography on regular and "dark web" sites.

For the next seven years Rick and the rest of the team immersed themselves into the darkness to help rescue the exploited children and arrest the perps. In 2014, after nearly 25 years of dedicating his time and efforts to this cause, Rick retired. His expertise, polished over the past decades, still makes him valuable as a consultant to state and national law enforcement groups.

"The perps have gotten very skilled at how to approach and talk to kids in chat rooms, hiding their locations and it takes so much effort to track them down." Rick admits he bears "scars from all he has seen and experienced over the years dealing with the graphic abuse of children."

(Dave note: There are no words to explain how those fighting this epidemic suffer themselves, as they are subjected to having to view all levels of child/teen/ adult abusive pornography as they pursue the predators. The eyes and soul are not meant to see such horrific scenes. God Bless them and help them find peace as well.)

Rick enjoys running his private investigative firm, Chagrin Solutions. The workload varies every day. On any given day his team is serving subpoenas, doing surveillance for insurance companies investigating fraud, or providing security for executives and events. Rick is supported in the office by his two "right -hand" women, Office Manager and head of business development Kali Price (L) along with assistant Denice Reed (R).

Rick enjoys the quiet of the home he shares with Rhonda, his dear wife of 25 plus years, and their two fur children. The couple have four grown children and 11 grandchildren. Rhonda and Rick call themselves "home-bodies" enjoying time together at home. They also like to spend time fishing, "hanging out" in Chagrin Falls where they once resided and visiting the NE Ohio wine making region.

Parting thoughts from Rick, "Parents! It is OKAY to restrict your children's access to websites, chat rooms. They may be angry now, but the danger you are protecting them from will be realized by them later. It is OKAY to monitor and check the phones and computers while your child is online! Please, they need you to do this!"

Thank you, Rick, for working tirelessly all these years, along with other great individuals, to save our children....

Dave



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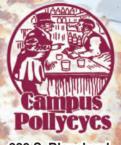






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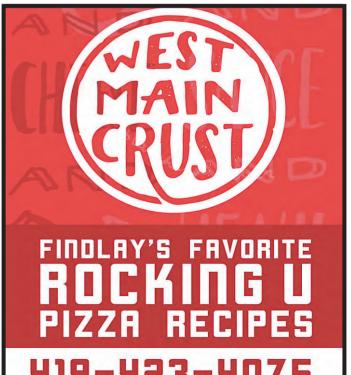
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What is Giving Tuesday?

While Black Friday and Cyber Monday are some of the more widely known retail holidays, Giving Tuesday is becoming pretty popular in its own right.

Celebrated on the Tuesday following American
Thanksgiving, Giving Tuesday helps raise awareness that charity is an important component of the holiday season. The nonprofit services company Neon says nearly one-third of all annual giving occurs in December, with 12 percent happening over the final three days of the year. Giving Tuesday is positioned right in the midst of the most popular time for charitable giving.

The day was actually created by the 92nd Street Y, a cultural center in New York City that has been instrumental in bringing diverse groups of people together with the goals of giving back through service. The 92nd Street Y and the

United Nations Foundation came together in 2012 to help form a day that was focused on the generosity of giving during the holiday season. Thus, Giving Tuesday was born.

Technology and social media play a large role in uniting people for Giving Tuesday. Founding partners included Mashable, a technology website, Skype and Cisco. But the success of Giving Tuesday is thanks in large part to the general public, who have both spread the word and made their own contributions to charity.

In 2017, Giving Tuesday soared to new heights when technology mogul Bill Gates and his wife,



Melinda, announced their foundation would match up to \$2 million in donations to Giving Tuesday fundraisers started on Facebook. Facebook similarly waived its 5 percent fee for U.S.-based nonprofits all day long.

COVID-19 created challenges for non-profit organizations with many of them unable to hold their annual fundraising events. Many non-profits have also experienced an increase in the number of people who need their services. The organizations need donations now more than ever. Every dollar helps make a difference in the lives of those in need.

You can donate locally to the agency of your choice at https://community. thecourier.com/givekindness/

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Learn more at www. givingtuesday.org.



Due to the COVID-19 pandemic many local nonprofit organizations were forced to cancel their annual fundraising events. The organizations rely heavily on these events to support their cause and budget. While some were fortunate to be able to move to a virtual experience, many could not. Our nonprofit organizations need our help more than ever.

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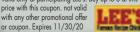
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Discover 419 NOVEMBER 2020 10





JACK D. PATTERSON US Army, 1975-1978

Jack D. Patterson is the son of John and Hazel and was born in Galion, Ohio in 1947. He and his older sister Carol were raised on a 110-acre farm where the family raised corn, oats, wheat and soy. Jack and Carol also raised Hereford Cattle as part of the FFA and 4-H programs to "show" at the Morrow County fair. Jack learned welding from watching his dad and would use that at his first job.

While in the 8th grade Jack and his dad were returning home from his basketball practice when they were involved in a serious car accident. Jack suffered a serious concussion that caused reoccurring severe migraines. He was under doctor's care for the next four years and was not allowed to participate in any sports. Jack graduated from Northmor High School in 1965.

(Jack is proud to have earned his Eagle Scout award in 1963. His two sons and a grandson have followed this tradition. Another grandson is very close to earning his Eagle as well!)

On January 14, 1967 Jack married Judy, a young lady whom he met two years earlier through her cousin. "I got up the courage and asked her to dance, no fast dances...only slow ones!" After their wedding Jack and Judy moved into an apartment in Galion. Five months later, in June of 1967, Jack received his draft notice.

(The Army chose not to disqualify Jack from duty even though he was still having migraines.)

He was ordered to Ft. Jackson, South Carolina for basic training. Jack had chosen to train as a mechanic in the Army but his MOS was changed to 95B, Military Police which took him next to Ft. Gordon, Georgia for specialized AIT training.

Jack was granted two weeks leave home after AIT before reporting to Ft. Dix in November of 1967 where he was issued jungle fatigues, placed on a plane at McGuire AFB, with his next stop being Bien Hoa Air Base, South Vietnam.

After joining his unit, the 199th LIB, (Light Infantry Battalion), HQ Company, MP Platoon, Jack's initial duties as an MP were providing security at a small "field" POW compound that temporarily housed captured VC and possible enemy sympathizers. On Christmas Eve of 1967, after five weeks of "boring, monotonous" duty, the 199th moved north of Long Binh, setting up at Camp Frenzell-Jones. (Named in memory of the first two 199th soldiers KIA in Vietnam.) This would be home for Jack through January of 1969, right in the thick of the Tet Offensive.

The camp had a larger POW compound that was patrolled by MP's. The MP's also had the responsibility to attach to infantry units sent out on missions into areas around the camp. Any prisoners taken captive by the infantry in the field were turned over to the MP's to escort back to base camp.

Jack gained a reputation, (that served

him well), as being able to procure almost anything requested but not available through normal Army supply channels. His favorite "acquisition" occurred when Jack was trying to obtain several truckloads of gravel to cover a pathway into the POW compound, that during monsoon season was usually ankle-deep mud. When his request was initially denied, Jack took advantage of the arrival of a Major and his E-6 adjutant, who wondered if Jack had any "access" to five gallons of orange paint. Jack's response was to put on a sharp new "shiny" uniform, check out a jeep and head to Bien Hoa Air Base where he "just happened" to have "connections" with an unnamed Air Force "full bird" Colonel.

Bottom line, after negotiations, on a frontage road just outside of the base, an exchange was made swapping five gallons of orange Air Force paint for a case of warm Army poncho liners, (not normally available to Air Force personnel.) Amazingly, that afternoon, the paint was traded to the Major for an order of "several loads of stone and gravel." (See picture of the finished project!)

Jack elected to stay in Vietnam for 14 ½ months instead of 12, in order to qualify for an "early out." He arrived at the Oakland Out-processing Center on January 19, 1969 and was honorably discharged as an E-5 Sergeant on the 20th.

Returning to Ohio, Jack accepted a job in 1969 with Atlas Crankshaft

in Fostoria beginning first as a "pin grinder", working up to a gear lathe operator and finally becoming a machine repairman. After 30 years and 8 months of working at Atlas Jack retired on January 31st, 2000. Not ready to sit around, Jack joined Jeep working as a machine repairman and on the assembly line for just over 11 years, finally punching his last timecard on October 31st, 2012.

Jack and Judy are the proud parents of three children, Kevin, Jennifer and Chad. All three are successful in their fields of work and have seven grandbabies for Jack and Judy to be grandparents to. Their family home from 1972 to 2017 was in the small community of Bloomdale, located in Wood County, Ohio. Health issues were a deciding factor to downsize their home and move to Findlay.

Jack and Judy

are "snowbirds" spending three plus months each year in warm Winter Haven, Florida. While there, Jack can be often be found at Lake Henry, fishing for bass, black crappie, catfish and the occasional alligator gar. Jack and Judy also pass the time playing cards, card bingo and eating southern cuisine.

Jack is proud of his military service and is a life member of the VVA 440, AmVets 69 of Fostoria and the DAV 43 in Findlay. He is also a charter member of the Findlay Military Association that puts on the military show each May at the Hancock County Fairgrounds.









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Planning a Fun & Safe Wedding

Happy couples planning to tie the knot are confronted with a challenge they likely never saw coming. While many couples fear inclement weather on their wedding days, 2021's prospective brides and grooms may have to contend with something far more disruptive than rain clouds.

The outbreak of the novel coronavirus that began in the winter of 2019-20 and was ultimately declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization put many couples' wedding plans in peril. In an effort to stop the spread of the virus and protect those most vulnerable to it, governments across the globe placed restrictions on social gatherings, including weddings. Those restrictions prompted some couples to postpone their nuptials while others tied the knot at considerably smaller ceremonies than they initially planned for.

Couples planning to tie the knot in the months ahead can still do so, but the WHO recommends they take certain precautions as they organize their ceremonies and receptions.

- Confirm local regulations. Restrictions related to COVID-19 differ greatly by region. Areas that were not hit hard by the virus may not have as many restrictions in place as those that were devastated by the outbreak. In addition, cities or regions whose responses to the virus have been successful may have relaxed restrictions more than areas that are still struggling. The WHO notes the importance of checking local guidelines prior to planning an event, and that's especially important for couples who hope to get married in towns or cities where they do not currently reside.
- Keep guests up to date about precautions.
 Include detailed information about the safety

measures that will be implemented during the wedding on your wedding website. Insert a card detailing this information into your invitation envelopes as well so all guests know what to expect when they accept the invitation. In addition, remind guests of the safety precautions throughout the ceremony.

• Provide sanitary supplies. Make sure hand sanitizer, soap, water, and masks are readily available for all guests. Social distance markers also can be placed on the ground throughout the venue to make it easy for guests to stay six feet apart from one another.

Weddings will be different until the world puts COVID-19 in its rearview mirror. In the meantime, happy couples can still make their big day memorable.



Shop small businesses to improve the holiday experience

It's the time of year when newspapers thicken with sales circulars and holiday advertisements. Consumers looking to beat the hustle and bustle and steer clear of the crowds this year may want to pay attention to local businesses in lieu of shopping online or at big box stores.

Every time consumers visit local coffee shops to grab a latte, pick up a dress at a nearby boutique or patronize a farmer's market down the street, they are supporting a small business. The Friday and Saturday after Thanksgiving are some of the busiest shopping days of the season, and they also can be some of the friendliest to small businesses.

Plaid Friday was conceptualized in Oakland. It may have been born in the Golden State, but the movement soon spread across the country. Plaid Friday is an alternative to big box stores' Black Friday bonanzas. It is designed to promote both local and independently-owned businesses during the holiday season. The name

Plaid Friday was used to help people visualize the various threads of small businesses coming together to create a strong community fabric that was diverse and creativity.

Shoppers can continue their small business patronage with Small Business Saturday. This, too, is a counterpart to Black Friday and Cyber Monday. The first event was created by American Express in conjunction with the nonprofit National Trust for Historic Preservation. Since its inception, many small business groups, merchants and politicians have touted the event and the Shop Small* mantra. The idea is that when small businesses thrive, communities and individuals thrive along with them.

The Small Business Administration says that, since 1995, small businesses have generated 66 percent of all new jobs in the United States. There are a number of big reasons to shop small. One can start around the holidays and then continue all year long.

 Shopping small businesses helps give back to the community directly.
 According to Civic Economics, a strategic planning business, on average 48 percent of each purchase made at independent businesses is recirculated locally through tax money and other support.

- Small business owners often strive to provide personalized, hands-on customer service. Repeat business is key to their survival, so they want to ensure shoppers are happy.
- Small businesses, since they are not beholden to corporate oversight in terms of what they sell, have greater flexibility. That allows them to offer a diverse product selection.
- · Small business owners often live nearby, and they're the people you see in town, schools and elsewhere in the local community. Many consumers are comforted to know they're supporting their neighbors, especially during the holiday season.

Supporting local businesses is easy. And shoppers who like what they see can share the good news with others on social media.





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