

EVENTS

Things to Do

BANGOR — Exhibition of work by artists from Penobscot Valley Industries and Ralph Leek Elders, both divisions of Amicus, through September, Bangor Public Library, 145 Harlow St. Pam Colson Power, 941-2898.

BANGOR — September workshops at Bangor Public Library: Ann Joles, “The Truth About College: Sink or Swim,” 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 14; “Understanding the Role Essays, SATs, Interviews, Extracurricular Activities, Sports and Other Factors Play in Admissions Decisions Make,” Wendy Thompson, 6 p.m. Monday, Sept. 19, Cartooning Workshop with George Danby, Friday, Sept. 23, paper and pencils provided, walk away with your very own cartoon. bangorpubliclibrary.org or 947-8336.

BANGOR — Celebration and book signing of first picture book by Bangor author/illustrator Abigail and Eric Zelz, “Pass the Pandowdy, Please,” 5-8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 16, as part of Downtown Bangor Artwalk, which also will feature Eric Zelz’s original artwork; 11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 17, The Briar Patch, 27 Central St. 941-0255.

BANGOR — “Cutting Edge Quilts: The Work of Sally K. Field, with Elizabeth Busch and Ellie Pancoe,” on display 9 a.m.-7 p.m. daily through Sept. 30,

Boyd Place Gallery, 21 Boyd St.

BANGOR — September book talk series at Bangor Public Library: Douglas Rooks, “Statesman: George Mitchell and the Art of the Possible,” 6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 13; Lyn Mikel Brown, “Powered by Girl: A Field Guide for Supporting Youth Activists,” 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 21; Hale Bradt, “Wilber’s War, An American Family’s Journey through WWII,” 6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 22. Free. bangor-publiclibrary.org or 947-8336.

BANGOR — Pulitzer Prize-winning play “Wit” by Margaret Edson, 7-9 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Sept. 23-24, and 3:30-5:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 25, Union Street Brick Church, corner of Union and Main streets. No admission charge. Refreshments. 945-9798. charlenejkent@gmail.com

BANGOR — Vigil and speakout for fifth anniversary of the Occupy Movement, 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 17, Peirce Park, next to Bangor Public Library, followed by potluck lunch at Peace and Justice Center, 96 Harlow St., No. 100. Participants encouraged to attend End Violence Together rally and march, 1 p.m., West Market Square, downtown Bangor. 942-9343 or larryd@myfairpoint.net.

BANGOR — Penobscot Theatre Company will present “The Grand Tour

— A Celebration of the Music of George Jones,” 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 1; 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 2, Bangor Opera House, 131 Main St. 942-3333 or penobscottheatre.org.

BELFAST — Midcoast Actors’ Studio production of “Arms and the Man,” 7 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; 2 p.m. Sundays, through Sept. 18, Troy Howard Stage, 173 Lincolnville Ave. Tickets \$15, \$10 students and seniors. 370-7592.

CORINTH — Motorcyclists invited to take part in ride to raise awareness of domestic abuse violence, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 1. Depart from Heart and Soul Customs Tattoo Studio in Corinth, 10:30 a.m., stop at the Cambridge General Store and Restaurant in Cambridge for lunch, then return to Corinth. \$25 motorcycle and rider, \$10 passenger, includes lunch. Benefits Spruce Run WomenCare Alliance. 285-1100 or heartn-soulcustoms@gmail.com.

EDDINGTON — Baked bean and casserole supper, 5 and 5:45 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 17, North Brewer-Eddington United Methodist Church, Route 9, at the bend. \$8, \$4 children. Child care available. 989-4715.

HOLDEN — Mushroom expert David Spahr talking about the world of fungi, 1-4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 17, Fields Pond Audubon Center, 216 Fields Pond Road. Time spent indoors and out-

doors. \$20 center members, \$27 others.

LEWISTON — Maine Romance Writers September workshop “The Character in Crisis” by presenter Laima Vince, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 17, University of Southern Maine Lewiston Campus, 51 Westminster St., Room 103. Participants will present in-class writing exercises. Bring a bag lunch. First time guests free; otherwise \$5. RSVP Marianne at MaineRomanceWriters@gmail.com. www.MaineRomanceWriters.com.

LUBEC — Retro-Spective-Market, work by artist Sheryl Denbo, through Wednesday, Sept. 14, Mulholland Gallery, 50 Water St.

MILO — Maine Highlands Senior Center and Thriving in Place Collaborative free fall risk screening, 10 a.m.-noon Tuesday, Sept. 19, Town Hall, 6 Pleasant St. 992-6822.

MONMOUTH — “Boeing, Boeing,” 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 15 (preview); 7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 16 (opening); 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 17; 1 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 18; 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 22; 7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 23; 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 24; 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 24; 1 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 25, Theater at Monmouth, 796 Main St. Ticket information, 933-9999, boxoffice@theateratmonmouth.org or theateratmonmouth.org.

NEWBURGH — Newburgh Day, 4 p.m.-dusk, Saturday, Sept. 17, Newburgh town office. Free admission. Games, kids craft area, make your own sundaes, barbecue. Bring your decorated bike for the bike parade. Fireworks at dusk.

NEWPORT — Talk and book signing by Maine author Dean Bennett on “Ghost Buck — The Legacy of One Man’s Family and its Hunting Traditions,” 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 17, Newport Cultural Center, 154 Main St. Free. Books for sale and signing and free refreshments.

ORONO — Organizational Zen with Janie Downey Maxwell, 1-2:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 14, Orono Public Library, 39 Pine St. Tips and tricks on how to keep control of time and get more accomplished each day. RSVP at 866-5060.

ORONO — Women of the World luncheon schedule: noon Monday, Sept. 12, farm fresh fare, Church of Universal Fellowship, Main Street. \$5 women and children over 10, \$2 children 6 to 10, free to children under 6 who attend with their mother. Mireille Le Gal, 581-3423.

PORTLAND — Tim Garrity, executive director of Mount Desert Island Historical Society, reflecting on history of Acadia National Park, 6-7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 22, Maine Historical Society, 489 Congress St. Tickets \$5 Maine Historical Soci-

ety members, \$10 general admission. 774-1822 or ddippolito@mainehistory.org.

SEBEC — Hot dogs, hamburgers, cole slaw, macaroni and cheese, pasta salad and ice cream sundae, 4:30-6:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 17, Reading Room. Free, but donations accepted to assist with ongoing costs of maintaining Reading Room. 564-3232.

SOUTHWEST HARBOR — Natalie Springuel, Maine Sea Grant Marine Extension associate, College of the Atlantic, discussing Gulf of Maine and its future, 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 13, Southwest Harbor Public Library, 338 Main St. 244-7065.

SURRY — Last movie of season “Cutie and the Boxer,” 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 12, Surry Arts at the Barn, 8 Cross Road. During intermission, audience will get to try art method of dipping gloves in paint and hitting a canvas. Goggles and protective clothing provided. Cost \$5. 667-1308 or surryartsatthebarn.com.

UNITY — The Hudson Valley-based band Spuyten Duyvil, 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 16, Unity College Center for the Performing Arts, 42 Depot St. Tickets \$15. spuyten-duyvilmusic.com and uccpa.unity.edu/.

For a complete listing of calendar items or to submit your event, visit www.bangordailynews.com.

‘Magnificent Seven’ really ‘The Adequate Seven’

BY OWEN GLEIBERMAN
REUTERS

LOS ANGELES (Variety.com) — Now that the Summer of Rehashes is over, a lot of people suddenly seem to agree that remaking movies, especially when they’re beloved and indelible classics, is a lousy idea for Hollywood to be pursuing. It’s evidence of creative bankruptcy — an addiction to non-originality. That said, just because a movie is a copy doesn’t mean it’s bad. (There are good remakes, like “Ocean’s Eleven” or “Cape Fear,” and good sequels, like the “Bourne” films.) The cheeky but square, dutifully manufactured, ultimately uninspired remake of “The Magnificent Seven,” which kicks off the 41st Toronto International Film Festival, points to a deeper reason why remakes often don’t pan out: The appeal of the original tends to be rooted in the way it expresses something of its era, so trying to recapture what made it winning is a fool’s game. You can reassemble the same plot and characters; what’s tricky is reigniting the material’s inner spark.

FILM REVIEW

“The Magnificent Seven” is a case in point. The original, made in 1960, is a fondly remembered Western — itself a rawhide remake of Kurosawa’s “Seven Samurai” — that’s a “classic” more by dint of nostalgia than greatness. It’s graced with one of the most ecstatic musical themes in Hollywood history (Dun! Dun de dun! Dun! de dun-dun-dun!), but the movie itself is what Variety, in the old days, would have called a light-hearted, action-heavy oater. It gave seven actors, led by the diamond-sharp glare of Yul Brynner, a chance to strut their hambone stuff. The logic of remakes says: Why not round up a new cavalry of stars to step into their spurs? It’s not blasphemy.

Well, here’s why. When “The Magnificent Seven” came out, six years after Kurosawa’s epic, the premise was colorful and novel and, in its way, kind of late-1950s badass. Seven gunslingers band together, for mercenary reasons (but really because they’re noble wastrels), to save the residents of a Mexican village from an evil bandit. The size of the cast allowed for shtick and diversity: At heart, this was a non-serious Western about a bunch of machos who have to learn to work together, and who get to shoot up a town. (“Ocean’s 11,” a much worse movie made the same year,

had a related premise.)

But consider, for a moment, how un-novel that premise sounds now. It has been more than 50 years since “The Magnificent Seven,” and since then countless movies have showcased the antic jostle and thrust, the shoulder-poke camaraderie of gunslingers in groups, starting with two memorably dark and bold ones in the late ’60s: “The Dirty Dozen” (which was “The Magnificent Seven” spiked with nihilism) and “The Wild Bunch” (Sam Peckinpah’s staggering free-range bloodbath of alienation). Fast forward to today, when action heroes in big-group form are legion. They’ve taken over the superhero genre (“The Avengers,” “X-Men,” “Suicide Squad”), they’re the defining dynamic of heist thrillers (from “Point Break” to the “Ocean’s” series), and they’ve staked out a manly relic museum wing of B-movie kitsch (the “Expendables” films). There’s this rowdy bunch of sort of outlaw guys, see, and they all band together, and... snore. It worked in 1960 because it was fresh. In 2016, it’s old Stetson.

Yet if there’s a so-what? quality to it all, Antoine Fuqua’s “Magnificent Seven” is still a reasonably engaging movie for its first hour or so, when Sam Chisom (Denzel Washington), a bounty hunter, gathers up a passel of supposedly disreputable but more-convivial-than-they-look cowboys for hire. It’s all because Bogue (Peter Sarsgaard), a gold-greedy industrialist, wants to take over the town of Rose Creek and mine every inch of it, grabbing the land from the residents and paying them close to dirt. How do you make a black-hatted Western villain sing today? Eli Wallach had a silky menace in the original, but Sarsgaard just acts sulky and irked; he comes off as a corporate weakling protected by a wall of henchmen (though that’s supposed to be the point). At a meeting in the town church, he equates capitalism and democracy in the film’s token nugget of “relevance,” and when the townsfolk speak out against him, they get tomahawked in the back. For good measure, Bogue’s men set the church on fire.

Enter Denzel. Dressed in black, rocking a bolero hat, he saunters into a bar and messes with the bartender’s mind (he’s been hired to kill him), which Washington does

better than anyone. It’s all in the ironic way he uses those upbeat, lawyerly cadences of his — he turns “friendly” into ominous. When Chisom learns that the townsfolk have been given just three weeks before Bogue grabs their land, he sets out — for a price — to put together a band of protectors.

If Washington is the film’s sly center of gravity, Chris Pratt, as the hard-drinking reckless charmer Josh Faraday, who uses card tricks to distract his enemies into letting him shoot them, has its most combustible star quality. He had it in “Guardians of the Galaxy” too, and in “The Magnificent Seven” Pratt pops onscreen. He’s like a good guy with an outlaw inside — a gunman who can hardly wait to start shooting. Which makes the other five men seem like kernels who pop about halfway. Ethan Hawke shows up as Goodnight Robicheaux, a haunted former Confederate soldier who has interesting facial hair but not much personality. He turns out to be old buddies with Chisom — we can tell because Washington flashes his smile for the first, and just about only, time — and he also brings along his Asian road-show partner, Billy Rocks (Byung-hun Lee), who’s a wizard with a penknife. This is very much a multiculti “Magnificent Seven”: In addition to Billy, there is Vasquez (Manuel Garcia-Rulfo), a “Texican” with a mean streak, and Red Harvest (Martin Sensmeier), a Comanche in face paint that he changes like a mood ring. Aside from Washington and Pratt, though, the only actor who makes a true impression is Vincent D’Onofrio as Jack Horne, who’s like an off-his-rocker religious-nut Grizzly Adams in a long furry animal-tail cap (Pratt: “I believe that bear was wearing people’s clothes”).

Fuqua is trying for John Ford meets Sergio Leone: a funky classical sweep, with room for delirious shootouts. The trouble is that he mimics the trademarks of those directors without their elan, and the plot that was once catchy is now rote. Chisom gathers up his men, they head into town and shoot the handful of goons Bogue has put in place, then they wait for Bogue to retaliate by bringing in a vast army of goons. That’s it: No twists, no fuss. Fuqua has shown that he can be a subtle, layered filmmaker (just watch Wesley Snipes and Hawke in the dread-ridden

indie cop drama “Brooklyn’s Finest”), but his Hollywood movies have a way of clinging to the noisy violent surface.

Which is all the second hour of “The Magnificent Seven” is. Bogue shows up with his army and a gleaming black-and-gold Gatling gun, and the film basically says, “Let the Old West mor-

tal-combat videogames begin!” Pistols, tomahawks, bow and arrows, that Gatling gun: All are deployed to standard destructive effect. That seven sharpshooters could take on this many bad guys and never raise our pulses by a beat says something about the audience threshold for outrageous violence — but

then, we’ve seen it all 70 times before. And though, in the end, not everyone gets out alive, it would be an overstatement to say that created any sense of loss. In the original, it did, but that’s not about to happen in a remake that would have been more aptly called “The Adequate Seven.”

Monday prime time

MOVIES

		7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM			
BROADCAST	2	NBC	207	Inside Ed.	American Ninja Warrior (N) (HD)				Running Wild-Bear Grylls	News			
	4	CBC	Murdoch Mysteries		Undercover (N)	The National (N)			CBC Coronation	Rio Para.			
	5	CBS	Big Bang	Broke Girl	Big Bang	CBS Fall	Big Bang	Mom	Scorpion (HD)	News			
	5.2	CW	Family Guy	Family Guy	Supergirl (HD)	Supergirl (HD)			News	Seinfeld	Cougar		
	6	NBC	207	Inside Ed.	American Ninja Warrior (N) (HD)				Running Wild-Bear Grylls	News			
	7	ABC	Wheel	Jeopardy!	Dancing With the Stars (N) () (HD)				The \$100,000 Pyramid	News			
	WAGM	FOX	The Insider	Ent. Tonight	So You Think You Can Dance (N) () (HD)				News	Broke Girl	Broke Girl		
	8	ABC	Wheel	Jeopardy!	Dancing With the Stars (N) () (HDTV SAP)				The \$100,000 Pyramid	News			
	MPBN	PBS	PBS NewsHour (N) (HD)		Antiques Roadshow	Antiques Roadshow			POV (N) (HD)				
	9	IND	The \$100,000 Pyramid		American Ninja Warrior (N) (HD)				News-Lisa	CTV News	Daily Show		
KIDS	13	CBS	Ent. Tonight	The Insider	Big Bang	CBS Fall	Big Bang	Mom	Scorpion (HD)	News			
	22	FOX	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	So You Think You Can Dance (N) () (HD)			FOX 22 News at 10 (N)			Law-SVU		
	33	IND	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Happy Days	Gilligan Isle	Hogan Hero	Hogan Hero	C. Burnett		
	38	IND	Big Bang	Big Bang	WBZ News (N) (HD)			Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU			Seinfeld	
	NICK	Thunder		Thunder	Nicky, Ricky		Game	Full House	Full House	Full House	Full House	Friends	
	DISN	Bizaardvark		Stuck	Cloud 9 (2014, Drama)			Dove Cameron.	Liv-Mad.	(:05) Bunk'd	Liv-Mad.	Backstage	
	FREE	(6:30) ** Paul Blart: Mall Cop (2009)			*** Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (2005)			Johnny Depp.	700 Club				
	HIST	American Pickers			American Pickers			American Pickers	American Pickers	Pickers			
	DISC	Fast N' Loud (ESP)			Fast N' Loud: Revved Up			Fast N' Loud (N)	(:01) Sacred Steel Bikes			Fast-Loud	
	TLC	90 Day Fiancé			90 Day Fiancé (N)			Too Close to Home (N)			(:01) Too Close to Home		Too Close
LEARN	A&E	The First 48			The First 48			Behind Bars	The First 48	The First 48		The First 48	
	ANPL	Yukon Men			Yukon Men			(:01) Yukon Men	(:02) Yukon Men			Rugged	
	CSNE	Patriots		Quick	College Football Nevada at Notre Dame. (Taped)				Sports	SportsNet	Sports		
	ESPN	(6:55) NFL Football Pittsburgh Steelers at Washington Redskins. ()				Redskins. ()			NFL Football: Rams at 49ers				
	ESPN2	Sports Shorts (N)			World/Poker		World/Poker		SportsCenter (N) ()				SportCtr
	NBCSP	Rio Paralympics From Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. (N) ()											
	NESN	MLB Baseball Baltimore Orioles at Boston Red Sox. (N) ()							Extra	Red Sox	Sports		
	CNBC	Ground Zero Rising			Shark Tank			Shark Tank	Adventure Capitalists		The Profit		
	CNN	Erin Burnett OutFront (N)			Anderson Cooper 360			Anderson Cooper 360	CNN Tonight		Tonight		
	FNC	On the Record With Brit			The O'Reilly Factor (N)			The Kelly File (N)			Hannity (N) O'Reilly		
SPORTS	MSNBC	Hardball Chris Matthews			All In With Chris Hayes			Rachel Maddow Show		The Last Word		Hardball	
	AMC	(5:00) Erin Brockovich (R)			*** Charlie's Angels (2000) (ESP)			Cameron Diaz.		** Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle			
	BRV	Housewives/OC			Housewives/OC			Housewives/OC		(:01) Botched By Nature			Happens
	CMT	Last Man		Last Man	** Garfield: The Movie (2004) (PG)			Last Man	Last Man		Last Man	Last Man	
	COM	Futurama		Futurama	South Park		South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	Daily Show		
	E!	E! News (N)			Fashion Police			Hollywood Medium		Hollywood Medium			E! News
	FOOD	Cake Wars			Food Network Star Kids			Cake Wars (N)		Chopped		Chopped	
	FX	(6:00) * R.I.P.D. (2013)			*** 21 Jump Street (2012, Comedy)			Jonah Hill, Brie Larson. (R)		** Ride Along (2014)			
	GAC	Big Time RV		Big Time RV	Big Time RV		Big Time RV	Big Time RV	Big Time RV	Big Time RV	Big Time RV	Big Time RV	
	HALL	Last Man		Last Man	Last Man		Last Man	The Middle	The Middle	The Middle	The Middle	Golden Girls	
VARIETY	HGTV	Hunters		Hunters	Tiny House		Tiny House	Tiny House	Hunters	Hunters Int'l	Tiny House		
	LIFE	(6:00) ** The Switch			* The Ugly Truth (2009)			Katherine Heigl. (R)	(:02) Tyler Perry's Madea Goes to Jail				
	MTV	Teen Mom OG			Teen Mom OG			Teen Mom OG (N)		Mary-Jane	Nicole	Wild 'n Out	
	OXY	Sisterhood-Trav			*** The Color Purple (1985, Drama)			Whoopi Goldberg, Danny Glover. (PG-13)					
	SPIKE	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops		
	SYFY	Indiana Jones			** Percy Jackson & the Olympians: The Lightning Thief (2010)			** Lake Placid (1999)					
	TBN	Rodriguez	Potters	JimEvans	GregLau	Franklin	J. Duplantis	Praise the Lord					
	TBS	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Family Guy	Family Guy	Full Frontal	Conan (N)			
	TCM	(6:00) Island of Love (NR)			AFI Life Achievement			(:15) **** Jaws (1975, Suspense) Roy Scheider. (PG)					
	TMC	The Lovers (2014, Action)			(ESP) Josh Hartnett. (R)			*** 1492: Conquest of Paradise (1992) Gérard Depardieu.					
PREMIUM	TNT	Castle			Rizzoli & Isles			Major Crimes		Major Crimes (N)		Crimes	
	TRAVEL	Bizarre Foods America			Bizarre Foods/Zimmerman			Delicious		Delicious	Secret Eats	Delicious	
	TRU	Imp. Jokers		Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers		Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Fameless	Fameless	Knockout		
	TVL	Andy Griffith		Andy Griffith	The Andy Griffith Show			Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	King		
	USA	Mod Fam			Mod Fam			WWE Monday Night RAW (N) ()			Chrisley		
	VH1	Love & Hip Hop			Love & Hip Hop			T.I. and Tiny		Love & Hip Hop		VH1 Live	
	WGN-A	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Cops	Elementary		
	HBO	(6:00) I Now Pronounce You Chuck and Larry			Ballers (ESP)			** Child 44 (2015, Mystery) (ESP) Tom Hardy, Gary Oldman. A disgraced Soviet agent probes a series of child murders. (R)			Boxing		
	MAX	(6:55) ** The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel (2015, Comedy-Drama) (ESP) Judi Dench. (PG)						** The Mothman Prophecies (2002, Suspense) (ESP) Richard Gere, Laura Linney. (PG-13)			Quarry (ESP)		
	SHOW	Masters of Sex (ESP)			Ray Donovan Ray makes a plan to save Avi.			Masters of Sex (ESP)			Ray Donovan Ray makes a plan to save Avi.		Masters of Sex (ESP)
STARZ	(:15) ** Nine Months (1995, Comedy) (ESP) Hugh Grant, Julianne Moore, Tom Arnold. (PG-13)						** Vertical Limit (2000) Chris O'Donnell. A climber must rescue his sister stranded by an avalanche.			Extreme Measures (R)			
STZENC	(5:35) *** On Her Majesty's Secret Service			** The Peacemaker (1997) George Clooney. A scientist and a soldier seek stolen nuclear weapons. (R)						(:10) *** Men of Honor (2000, Drama) (ESP) Robert De Niro.			