

## FILM SHORTS

**Reviewers: Bob Grimm, Juan-Carlos Selznick and Neesa Sonoquie.**

### Opening this week



#### After the Wedding

See review this issue. Pageant Theatre. Rated PG-13 —J.C.S.

#### Bennett's War

An American soldier is medically discharged from combat after he breaks his back during an IED explosion while serving in an Army Motorcycle Unit. When he returns home, he needs to support his family, so—say it with us—“against all odds” he rehabs and trains to become a pro motocross rider. Feather River Cinemas. Rated PG-13.

### Reopening this week



#### It

In this 2017 adaptation of Stephen King's novel, the core story remains the same: Children in Derry, Maine, have been disappearing for many years. The film starts with the sad case of Georgie (Jackson Robert Scott), a little boy in a yellow rain slicker who follows his paper boat to the sewer drain and makes an unfortunate acquaintance. That would be Pennywise, the dancing, sewer-dwelling, evil clown, played as a most savage beast by Bill Skarsgard. The kids are great. The standout is Sophia Lillis as Beverly Marsh, and Jeremy Ray Taylor will break your heart as Ben Hanscom, the chubby kid who has a crush on Bev. Their first meeting is one of the best scenes in the film. Director Andy Muschietti scores some big scares, especially during a slideshow gone very wrong, and a meeting between the Denbrough brothers in the family basement: “You’ll float, too!” Cinemark 14. Rated R —B.G.

#### Spider-Man: Far From Home

A re-release (with four extra minutes of footage) of the sequel to *Spider-Man: Homecoming* picks up after the events of *Avengers: Endgame*, and finds Peter Parker/Spider-Man recruited by Nick Fury to battle new threats to the world. Cinemark 14, Feather River Cinemas. Rated PG-13.

### Now playing

#### 47 Meters Down: Uncaged

Teen girls diving among Mexican ruins on holiday find themselves stranded in shark-infested waters. Cinemark 14, Feather River Cinemas. Rated PG-13.

#### Angel Has Fallen

Gerard Butler and Morgan Freeman return for this third *Fallen* film (following *Olympus Has Fallen* and *London Has Fallen*), with the former as a Secret Service agent now on the run after being framed for an assassination attempt on the latter (now playing the U.S. president). Cinemark 14, Feather River Cinemas. Rated R.

#### The Angry Birds Movie 2

It's angry birds vs. green pigs in installment two of the video game-turned-animated-film series. Cinemark 14, Feather River Cinemas. Rated PG.

#### Dora and the Lost City of Gold

A live-action adaptation of the popular Nickelodeon animated series about the adventure-loving 7-year-old, Dora, and her monkey pal, Boots. Cinemark 14. Rated PG.



#### Fast & Furious Presents: Hobbs & Shaw

*Hobbs & Shaw* is actually a spinoff from the series. In other words, rejoice! The leaden, dreary Vin Diesel is nowhere to be seen in this movie. Now we can have some real fun! *Hobbs & Shaw* is a bizarre hybrid of spy thriller, action flick, screwball comedy and science fic-

tion. Here, *Furious* franchise regulars Hobbs (Dwayne Johnson) and Shaw (Jason Statham) are tasked with protecting the latter's sister, Hattie (Vanessa Kirby), after she injects herself with something that will have worldwide consequences if she's captured. The main antagonist is Brixton (Idris Elba), a former Shaw ally who has turned into some sort of bionic badass dubbed, by himself, “Black Superman.” Stuntman-turned-director David Leitch, who gave us the first *John Wick* and *Deadpool 2*, knows his way around an action scene, and his edits create constant action and laughs—thanks in large part to Johnson and Statham's great timing and onscreen chemistry. And while it's expected that the tough-guy leads will kick ass in movies such as this, it's Kirby who steals the show as the action hero of this installment. She is a total badass. Cinemark 14. Rated PG-13 —B.G.

#### Good Boys

Three sixth-grade boys embark on an epic, R-rated coming-of-age odyssey. Cinemark 14, Feather River Cinemas. Rated R.

#### The Lion King

Jon Favreau (*Elf*, *Iron Man*) directs this photorealistic CGI remake of the 1994 Disney animated classic that features an impressive cast of voice actors, including Chiwetel Ejiofor, Donald Glover, Beyoncé, Seth Rogen, John Oliver and, naturally, James Earl Jones as Mufasa. Cinemark 14. Rated PG.



#### Once Upon a Time in ... Hollywood

When Quentin Tarantino is behind the camera, mayhem and artistic license win out—history and conventionality be damned. Movie No. 9 is a dreamy doozy, and maybe the director/screenwriter's most unapologetic film yet. Set in 1969, *Once Upon a Time in ... Hollywood* captures the dying days of both sixties culture and the Golden Age of Hollywood. And through Tarantino's storytelling lens, they die hard—in mysterious and hallucinogenic ways. For leading men, we get the pairing of Leonardo DiCaprio and Brad Pitt starring as insecure, has-been actor Rick Dalton and his trusty stuntman, Cliff Booth, respectively. Dalton's career has devolved into playing the bad guys on weekly installments of TV's *The F.B.I.*, while the blackballed and past-his-prime Booth is relegated to driving the actor around and acting as his confidant. The setup allows Tarantino to go hog wild with the sixties visuals and soundtrack. The end of the sixties was bona fide nuts, and this is a nutty movie. It also manages to be quite heartfelt and moving. Cinemark 14. Rated R —B.G.

#### Overcomer

A Christian-based film about a high-school basketball coach who faces a crisis of faith and a new challenge as a mentor for an unlikely cross-country athlete. Cinemark 14. Rated PG.

#### The Peanut Butter Falcon

The story of teen boy with Down syndrome (Zack Gottsagen) who runs away and sets off on a journey to a wrestling camp to realize his dream of becoming a pro wrestler. Also starring Shia LaBeouf, Dakota Johnson and Bruce Dern. Cinemark 14, Feather River Cinemas. Rated PG-13.

#### Ready or Not

A black comedy/thriller about a wedding night that takes a deadly turn when the groom's family introduces the new couple to a messed up version of hide-and-seek. Cinemark 14, Feather River Cinemas. Rated R.

#### Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark

Alvin Schwartz's 1980s series of children's scary short stories gets the cinematic horror treatment. Cinemark 14, Feather River Cinemas. Rated PG.

#### Toy Story 4

The whole computer-animated gang is back—including Woody (Tom Hanks), Buzz Lightyear (Tim Allen) and Bo Peep (Annie Potts)—for a new adventure with a new homemade toy pal named Forky. Cinemark 14, Feather River Cinemas. Rated G.

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