

GOP fundraising dinner on West Slope

Tickets are available for the annual Lincoln-Reagan Dinner.

The event is co-hosted by the El Dorado County Republican Central Committee and the El Dorado County Unit of the California Republican Assembly.

Guest speakers include Rep. Tom McClintock, gubernatorial candidate Assemblyman Travis Allen; District 6 Assemblyman Kevin Kiley and El Dorado County District Attorney Vern Pierson.

The dinner is March 29 at the American Legion Hall, 4561 Greenstone Road, Placerville. The evening kicks off at 5:30pm with a no host wine and beer bar, followed by dinner at 6:30pm. Tickets are \$45 per person or \$85 per couple.

All proceeds will go for the funding of a county Republican campaign headquarters.

To purchase tickets or for more information, contact Todd White at 530.417.0807 or Terry Gherardi at 530.677.4294.

Basinwide prescribed fires this week

Members of the Tahoe Fire and Fuels Team, which includes local, state and federal agencies, will continue prescribed

fire operations this week in multiple locations around the Tahoe basin, weather permitting.

North Lake Tahoe and Tahoe Douglas fire protection districts, California Tahoe Conservancy and U.S. Forest Service operations will take place near General Creek west of Tahoma, Brockway Summit above Kings Beach, West 1st Creek in Incline Village, from Logan Shoals to Spooner Summit, on Kingsbury Grade near Edgewood Creek, the south end of Fallen Leaf Lake and off Fountain Place Road in South Lake Tahoe. Smoke may be present.

Whenever weather and conditions allow, prescribed fire operations are conducted by the TFFT to reduce overgrown vegetation, which decreases the severity of future wildland fires and protects communities.

Winter typically brings cooler temperatures and precipitation, which favor prescribed burning.

Celebrating the worst Hollywood movies of 2017

By Howie Nave

Before the 90th Academy Awards show takes place this Sunday there's another awards show happening the night before the Oscars that's been around since 1981. Hollywood doesn't like to give it much recognition.

Why? Well, unlike the Emmys and the Golden Globes that are a barometer of who might win at the Oscars, the annual Razzie Awards celebrates Hollywood's worst movies and all those

responsible for making it, so Hollywood would rather you skip that show.

But, c'mon, how many times have you gone to see a movie only to find out that it was so bad you wanted your money back? Exactly. Enter John Wilson who majored in film and television at UCLA and after graduation worked on film marketing campaigns so he knows a thing or two about the industry. And yes, he asked himself that same question after seeing a couple of turkeys and realized there were so many bad movies out there that a niche just had to be filled. That laid the foundation what would ultimately become the annual Razzie Awards.

This will be its 38th year. It has become an institution right up there with all those other award shows. But I digress. Let's go back in time shall we?



Sandra Bullock embraces her Razzie by giving the audience free DVDs of the bad movie. Photo/Provided

The year was 1981, the year "Mommie Dearest" and "Wolfen" were released. Wilson told me he'd had enough after seeing a double feature of "Xanadu" and "Can't Stop the Music" and the theater owner wouldn't give him his money back when he asked for a refund. Granted it was 99 cents, but it was the principle. While driving home he thought about how bad those movies were and then thought of other equally bad flicks as well such as "Raise the Titanic," "Saturn 5" and Neil Diamond's "The Jazz Singer" among others. Wilson crystallized that idea at his next Oscar after party potluck that he had been having in his living room, but in 1981 this time almost as a goof came up with the idea of creating ballots that he passed out to his friends (who thought it was hysterical) for some of the worst flicks and as simplified as it sounds the very first Golden Raspberry Awards program (Razzie for short) was born.

This marks the 13th or 14th year that Wilson and I have had our annual chat regarding the worst movies that Hollywood turns out each year. We could easily go on for hours taking turkeys a part because some years the bad movies seem to outnumber the good ones. I can't believe how many movies released this past year were either sequels, prequels, re-boots or movies based on old television sitcoms that weren't that great to begin with. Nowadays it's all about creating the franchise, which is why when I reviewed Tom Cruise's "The Mummy" (remade pretty close to the Brendan Fraser franchise which I thought was pretty good) I felt 10 minutes into that turkey it had a forced feel to it wanting, no begging you, the moviegoer to want this to become the latest franchise to join his "Mission: Impossible" and "Jack Reacher" franchises. So, I was not surprised that Cruise's "Mummy" has been nominated at this year's Razzies for worst picture, worst actor (Cruise), worst supporting actor (Russell Crowe), worst supporting actress (Sofia Boutella who is the first female Mummy), worst director (Alex Kurtzman), worst screenplay and my favorite, worst remake, rip-off or sequel.

At least Cruise has been spared being nominated or winning the most Razzie awards for worst actor. That distinction goes to Madonna whose record could stand for quite awhile. The Material Girl has nine wins and 15 Razzie nominations to her credit. She received her first Razzie for 1987's "Shanghai Surprise" and wound up winning in the worst actress category the following year as well for "Who's That Girl." A few more nominations and wins later and Madonna found herself the recipient of the worst actress of the century award beating out Brooke Shields and Elizabeth Berkley, among others.

In the male category Sylvester Stallone has eight wins with an incredible 22 nominations. He received his first nomination and win for the 1985 bomb "Rhinestone" and trust me, that was a tough movie to sit all the way through. I wanted to yell, "Yo, where's Adrian?"



Howie Nave and Razzie founder John Wilson. Photo/Provided

For years Wilson has extended an invite to attend his annual

tradition and I finally took him up on his offer a few years back and had a blast. Like the Oscars there were singers and sketches. Just down the street where I was the red carpet was already rolled out for the stars that would make their way for Hollywood's best movies. Very surreal to say the least. There have been many Razzie highlights over the years; Wilson telling me that at the 24th Razzie Awards actor Ben Affleck was up in the worst actor category for his performances in the movies "Gigi," "Daredevil" and "Paycheck" (which I kinda liked actually because of the time travel significance). Affleck was on "Larry King Live" in 2004 and a perplexing looking Larry King (who seemed to have no idea what a Razzie was) gave Affleck his trophy live on-air.

Wilson has a lot of friends in the business and Affleck's trophy found it's way to King's desk. Affleck commented that the trophy was kinda cheap looking and it fell apart (or he broke it on air ,I forget) and left it there. The very resourceful Wilson was able to get Affleck's trophy back and he put it up on eBay, raising well over a thousand dollars auctioning off this Razzie, enough to rent the Ivar Theater for the 2005 Razzie Awards. But wait, there's more.

The following year actress Halle Berry made a surprise appearance to accept her worst actress Razzie award for "Catwoman" and while holding her "Monster's Ball" Oscar from 2001 with her Razzie trophy in the other gave a speech that would've made a sailor blush. It was all in good fun and gave The Razzie Awards are a ton of good willed credibility.

The biggest had to be at the 2010 Razzie Awards where actress Sandra Bullock showed up accepting her award for worst actress from the movie "All About Steve." Her speech was classic saying she didn't believe that all 700 of the Golden Raspberry Committee's voting members had watched her movie so she wheeled out a Radio Flyer red wagon with DVD copies of "All About Steve" and tossed them out to the very appreciative crowd. OK, that to me shows just how cool Bullock is, and the

best part? The following night at the Oscar Awards she won for best actress in the movie "The Blindside." Now that is classic folks.

By the way, actress Meryl Streep has never been nominated for a Razzie and Oliver Stone's "Wall Street" (1987) is still the only film to win both an Oscar and a Razzie. Michael Douglas won best actor at the Oscars for his role in that movie, but his co-star, Daryl Hannah was nominated and won a Razzie for worst supporting actress.

Here's a list for this year's lucky contenders:

Worst Picture

"Baywatch"

"The Emoji Movie"

"Fifty Shades Darker"

"The Mummy"

"Transformers XVII: The Last Knight"

Worst Actress

Katherine Heigl – "Unforgettable"

Dakota Johnson – "Fifty Shades Darker"

Jennifer Lawrence – "Mother!"

Tyler Perry – "Boyz n the Hood 2: A Medea Halloween"

Emma Watson – "The Circle"

Worst Actor

Tom Cruise – "The Mummy"

Johnny Depp – "Pirates of The Caribbean XIII: Dead Men Tell No Tales"

Jamie Dornan – "Fifty Shades Darker"

Zac Efron – "Baywatch"

Mark Wahlberg – "Daddy's Home 2 & Transformers XVII: The Last Knight"

Worst Supporting Actor

Javier Bardem – “Mother” and “Pirates of The Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales”

Russell Crowe – “The Mummy”

Josh Duhamel – “Transformers XVII: Last Knight”

Mel Gibson – “Daddy’s Home 2”

Anthony Hopkins – “Collide” and “Transformers XVII: Last Knight”

Worst Supporting Actress

Kim Basinger – “Fifty Shades Darker”

Sofia Boutella – “The Mummy”

Laura Haddock – “Transformers XVII: Last Knight”

Goldie Hawn – “Snatched”

Susan Sarandon – “A Bad Moms Christmas”

Worst Screen Combo

Any Combination of Two Characters, Two Sex Toys or Two Sexual Positions – “Fifty Shades Darker”

Any Combination of Two Humans, Two Robots or Two Explosions – “Transformers XVII: Last Knight”

Any Two Obnoxious Emojis – “The Emoji Movie”

Johnny Depp & His Worn Out Drunk Routine – “Pirates of the Caribbean XIII: Dead Men Tell No Tales”

Tyler Perry and Either The Ratty Old Dress or Worn Out Wig – “Boo! 2: A Madea Halloween”

Worst Remake, Rip-off or Sequel

“Baywatch”

“Boo 2: A Madea Halloween”

“Fifty Shades Darker”

“The Mummy”

“Transformers XVII: Last Knight”

Worst Director

Darren Aronofsky – “Mother!”

Michael Bay – “Transformers XVII: Last Knight”

James Foley – “Fifty Shades Darker”

Alex Kurtzman – “The Mummy”

Anthony (Tony) Leonidis – “The Emoji Movie”

Worst Screenplay

“Baywatch”

“The Emoji Movie”

“Fifty Shades Darker”

“The Mummy”

“Transformers XVII: The Last Knight”

In case you skipped it, go back and check out the Worst Screen Combo category and chuckle along with me at some of the items nominated? If you’d like to become a voting member of the Razzies, go **online**. If you’d like to hear my chat with Razzie founder John Wilson, tune in this Friday on my morning radio show, Howie’s Morning Rush here in South Lake Tahoe on 93-9 KRLT The Lake or listen in the online worldwide (starting at 6:45am PST). To hear our annual conversation uncensored, check out my podcast Friday afternoon where the entire one hour chat will be uploaded. Where? At Howie’s High Sierra Comedy Vault Podcast @ Howienave.com.

SnowGlobe tops residents’ concerns at mayor’s talk



South Lake Tahoe council members Brooke Laine and Wendy David, center, listen Feb. 21 to people's concerns. Photo/LTN

By Kathryn Reed

While the mayor wants a discussion, the people of South Lake Tahoe want answers. And those answers were not always forthcoming because usually it's staff who has them, not the electeds.

Resident William Dickert attended last week's gathering organized by Mayor Wendy David at the senior center. He told her that facts are what's needed and she ought to have the people there who can answer the questions.

Police Chief Brian Uhler and PIO Tracy Sheldon were in the back scrambling to text/email other staff for the answers. Some they got, other questions went unanswered.

This was somewhat of the same frustration at David's **inaugural gathering** in January. Lots of questions, few answers.

This is in part because South Lake Tahoe has a city manager-led government, not a strong mayor form of leadership. It means the electeds, while they are in office to set policy, seldom actually retain the minutia of detail staff does. This is because it is staff who is doing the work and is intimately familiar with what is going on. These sessions are often done

in election years, such as this. David's term is about to expire.

SnowGlobe dominated much of the conversation, with many complaining about the noise, and believing the economy at New Year's would be just fine without the three-day music festival.

Dickert, though, pointed out that with SnowGlobe and anything the city is involved with has trade-offs. Eliminating a revenue source means having to get rid of an expense. That line item could be public safety personnel or snow removal or something of importance to people.

Scott Blasser, president of the South Lake Tahoe Firefighters Association, spoke of how SnowGlobe is an improvement for first responders compared to the chaos at Stateline in years past.

"Yes, it's a drug event. All concerts are. It's on the safer end," Blasser said. "The drugs being used there don't kill people unless it's egregious. It's not like heroin."

Councilwoman Brooke Laine was David's guest at the conversation. They both said the damage to the field is not acceptable.

Blasser assured those with concerns about the fireworks that the fire chief would not let them be shot off if there were a threat to a forest fire.

Opinion: USOC needs to be

overhauled

By Sally Jenkins, Washington Post

Every four years, athletes scrape the grime and graft off of the Olympics, and restore them to magnificence. We should demand that the Jessie Digginses, Red Gerards, John Shusters and Lamoureux sisters become the genuine focus of this country's Olympic movement. Congress should knock down the U.S. Olympic Committee, get rid of the bilkers who skim cash off the sweat of our greatest competitors and give them little or nothing in return.

The USOC has its nerve taking any credit for a gold medal in USA women's ice hockey, given that the team had to threaten to strike just to get decent meal money. USOC Chief Executive Scott Blackmun made \$1 million in salary and bonuses in 2016. Meanwhile, until last spring, our women's hockey squad members were paid just \$6,000 in an entire four-year cycle. This is a national team that has medaled in every Olympics since 1998, yet not until they staged a boycott were they granted a raise to a living wage. How is this system excusable?

Read the whole story

Tourist traffic topic of town hall meeting in Meyers

El Dorado County Supervisor Sue Novasel is hosting a town hall meeting on Feb. 28 about the issue of tourist traffic in neighborhoods.

The large volume of traffic leaving the Tahoe basin on weekends, and the significant congestion and potential public safety issues is something the county is trying to address.

County staff will be at the 6-8pm gathering at the magnet school in Meyers.

Anderson, Wise nominated for athlete of the Games

The U.S. Olympic Committee is recognizing Lake Tahoe/Reno natives Jamie Anderson and David Wise's success in PyeongChang, South Korea, by naming them as finalists for the female and male Olympic athlete of the Games.

People may cast their vote **online**.

The full roster of Olympic finalists is included below.

Female Olympic athlete of the Games:

Anderson, snowboarding

Brittany Bowe, long track speedskating

Chloe Kim, snowboarding

Elana Meyers Taylor, bobsled

Mikaela Shiffrin, alpine skiing

Male Olympic athlete of the Games:

Wise, freestyle skiing

Red Gerard, snowboarding

John-Henry Krueger, short track speedskating

Chris Mazdzer, luge

Shaun White, snowboarding.

Public invited to honor Sierra-at-Tahoe's athletes

Sierra-at-Tahoe is having an athlete appreciation/Olympic homecoming party for its athletes.

Sierra's athletes include Jamie Anderson, Maddie Bowman, Hannah Teter and Kyle Smaine.

The event will be March 3 at the ski resort. The athletes are expected to arrive at 11:30am. There will be a welcome home ceremony at 12:30pm.

Nevada marijuana sales continue to take off

By Colton Lochhead, Las Vegas Review-Journal

Nevada has brought in more than \$30 million in tax revenue from marijuana in its first six months of legal recreational sales, according to the revenue numbers released Friday by the Nevada Department of Taxation.

About that \$19.5 million of that has come from the special 10 percent sales tax on the nearly \$200 million worth of recreational marijuana sold across the state.

Read the whole story

Snippets about Lake Tahoe

- Incline Village General Improvement District board is having a public hearing April 11 at 6pm regarding the proposed 3.4 percent water rate increase and 2.7 percent sewer hike. The meeting will be at the Chateau.
- NoGlobe's next meeting will be March 1 at 5:30pm at the South Lake Tahoe Recreation Center.
- During March, staff from the Nevada Division of Water Resources will be measuring groundwater levels in wells throughout various hydrographic basins in the state. Water level measurements may be reviewed **online**.
- Olympian David Wise's return to Reno has been pushed back as he is headed on a media tour before returning home.