

MOVIE REVIEW

'Interstellar'

By Leonard Pirkle



The space and time travel epic "Interstellar," this year's "Gravity," is well worth seeing in a large theater with an audience – the true cinematic experience. Potentially not the best movie of the year on some lists, this film is definitely the most ambitious and visually impactful to come out in a long time. It is important to see "Interstellar" on the large screen; if you choose to wait until it comes out for home viewing you will likely not appreciate it

to the level that it deserves. I loved it and would highly recommend this film. The acting led by Matthew McConaughey, Jessica Chastain and Anne Hathaway is superb and the visual landscape is striking and appears to go on forever – much like the vastness of space.

A story that was originally tied to Steven Spielberg, it has been worked and reworked over the last few years by Christopher Nolan (also the director) and his brother Jonathan Nolan. Both are known for the Dark Knight Trilogy as well as "The Prestige and Memento" – all top shelf films. The common complaint is that the film seems like two stories jammed together. I believe that is part of its complexity – a layered film that hits on multiple levels. A space journey that has not left behind the human aspect in its eagerness to leave Earth, it brings home the harsh and desperate realities of those left behind.

The initial reviews of this film are mixed; I recommend you see it and make your own decisions. I can honestly state that I have thought about this film over the last week since first screening and it has only piqued my interest to see it again. It has raised questions and I am eager to experience some of the more nuanced aspects with a second viewing. This film has been aligned with "2001 A Space Odyssey" – a film that was also initially received with mixed reviews. Now the film appears on most top film lists and is No. 22 on the American Film Institute's (AFI) top 100 Greatest American Movies. Time will tell if "Interstellar" makes this list – I would not be surprised, with sufficient seasoning, to see this film become a classic.

Image provided

Not to be missed

OTHER ... continued

Moraga Movers Holiday Luncheon at Saint Mary's College Soda Center from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday, Dec. 8 will feature the College's international award winning singers in a program of contemporary and holiday music. The entrée will be London broil with all the trimmings and apple pie for dessert. Reservations are required and can be made at (925) 376-6622 or on the Movers website. Cost: \$20 per person.

SENIORS

Apple Basics - facilitated by Sharon Beck, owner of Mac-Senior from 10:30 to noon on the first and third Thursday's in the Elderberry room of the Lafayette Community Center. This series will start at the very beginning: the technology needed for wireless communication, your Apple ID, iTunes, iCloud and the basics of iPad and iPhone usage. Topics for future sessions will be determined by participants' input and needs. There will be time for Q&A at the end of each class. Please note: this series deals with Apple devices only. Cost per class: free to Senior Services members; \$5 non-members.

Downsizing and Moving - an interactive and engaging presentation offering tips and techniques on how to go about the moving process as well as the actual physical move of your belongings – presented by Gentle Transitions and Seniors on the Move, in

conjunction with Merrill Gardens Lafayette from 1:30 to 3 p.m. on Dec. 2 at Merrill Gardens Lafayette, Corner of Mt. Diablo Blvd. and Second Street, Lafayette. Free.

Living with Alzheimer's: Early Stage Alzheimer's - Educational program for individuals with Early Stage Alzheimer's disease or related dementia, and their Care Partners. Many topics covered, including coping with the diagnosis and changes, planning for the future, learning about research and treatment options and caring for important relationships. Wednesdays, Dec. 3, 10, and 17 in Lafayette. Time given at completion of registration. Pre-registration is required. Please contact Lan Trinh at (800) 272-3900 or ltrinh@alz.org to register.

GARDEN

Moraga Garden Club will meet Thursday, Nov. 20 at Holy Trinity Cultural Center, 1700 School St., Moraga. Social time at 9:30 a.m., meeting starts at 10 a.m. featuring speaker Susan Morrison, who will discuss "Design Solutions for Small Spaces." Guests are welcome.

Montelindo Garden Club meeting will feature speaker Matthew Levesque, author, designers, speaker and advocate for material reuse, who will discuss "Reuse in the Garden" at 9 a.m. Friday, Nov. 21 at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 66 St. Stephens Drive, Orinda. Visitors welcome. For info, visit www.matthewlevesque.com.

Service Clubs Announcements

Rotary



Explore Lamorinda Rotary clubs The heart of Rotary is our clubs- dedicated people who share a passion for both community service and friendship. Learn about Lamorinda's Rotary clubs.

A global volunteer organization working to improve the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment.



Please join us at our new location **THE LAFAYETTE PARK HOTEL** on Friday mornings at 7am. For more info, please email us at lamorindasunrise@gmail.com

November 21:

Columnist, editorial writer and consumer watchdog, Daniel Borenstein will provide us with an update on the issues surrounding Pension Under Funding.

December 5:

Veteran, fellow Rotarian and Sentinels of Freedom Scholarship Program graduate Ryan Sykes will speak about the Sentinels of Freedom program.

We will not meet on Nov. 28th in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday!!

SOROPTIMIST OF 24/680



Please join us for our next meeting:

WHEN: Wednesday 12/3/14 Social 5:30-6:00 p.m. Meeting 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

WHERE: The Buttercup Grill 660 Ygnacio Valley Road, Walnut Creek.

December Speaker: Randy Wight, Topic: "Yes, AND....techniques for improving communication."

For more information, contact: Regina Englehart @925-876-9076 or go to: soroptimist24-680.org

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