

Video: 'I love movies. I have a passion for it'

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"I hear so many people who visit from out of town and think, 'God, I miss video stores. I wish we had one in our town,'" Cummings said.

While some customers get much of their media online, others don't want to deal with the hassles of technology or enter their credit card information into a website. The stores remain afloat through a steady stream of regulars, visitors and people who know that the internet only offers so much.

"Some people are such movie fanatics that they want to be able to choose from all movies," Cummings said. "You can't get everything that comes to your mind that you want to see online."

Local businesses

Another reason Cummings suspects people return again and again to his store: the importance of supporting local businesses. And because Video Horizons sells previously-viewed movies, folks stop by to fill out their personal collections as well.

Both stores continue to rent VHS in addition to DVDs and Blu-rays. Both carry tens of thousands of titles.

And both stores saw a decline in business during the advent of pay-per-view, rental by mail and streaming services.

Jim Haugen — who lives above Universal Video with his brother — said that when they first opened, their main competitors were other local video stores. Now the threat is all online. The store, he said, saw a noticeable but not devastating decline when online rivals started taking over the market.

But at Video Horizons, the impact was sudden and nearly terminal. Around 2008, shortly after its peak, the store lost more than 50 percent of its business.

Asked if the store was ever in danger of closing, Cummings said, "Every day."



Photos by Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian
A customer browses the selection of movies at Video Horizons in Astoria.



Gail Bernard, right, rents a movie from Universal Video store owner Jim Haugen in Seaside.

"When business went down really hard, it was tough," he said. His landlord was willing to work with him to maintain his space on Astor Street, next to Sahara Pizza.

Why did he decide to keep the store open? "I'm just stubborn," Cummings said with a laugh. "I love movies. That's

why I got into it in the first place. I have a passion for it."

A man who studied architecture at Washington State University, Cummings started working in video stores because of his love of film. A cinema history class he took in the early 1970s opened up his world to Kubrick and Kuro-

sawa, Hitchcock and DeMille.

Affinity for film

Jim Haugen wasn't a film buff per se, but he enjoys classics like "12 Angry Men," "The Best Years of Our Lives" and "Casablanca," a movie all but universally loved by people who love movies.

Cummings has tried to hire employees with a similar affinity for film, people who can speak the language of cinema and help guide customers' tastes. Cummings digs the art house specimens — Wes Anderson is his favorite director lately — whereas Tim Allwein, a Horizons clerk, knows the older and esoteric flicks. Allwein used to own an Astoria comic book store, Amazing Stories, which also rented movies.

On a recent afternoon, Allwein helped a Forest Grove man find "Strange Brew," an obscure 1983 film with Rick Moranis and Dave Thomas. The store just happened to have a spare copy in the back for sale. Allwein recently brought the Netflix show "Stranger Things" to the attention of Astoria resident Mike Transue, who rented both seasons at once and said he got hooked after episode No. 5.

Transue remembers an outing to the video store as an event, something worth carving out time for. Video Horizons is "like a magical throwback to when I was a kid," he said.

Though he isn't averse to getting movies online, "if you're at home and you're making your decisions, you're not getting out. You're being very reclusive," Transue said.

"For a lot of people, this is their social outlet for the day," Cummings said. "They go and have coffee at their favorite cafe, and then they might go to the gym and work out or something, and then stop by the video store. We see people on a daily basis. And they love to come and chat and talk and (ask) 'What's good this week?'"

Center: Nonprofit will continue to hunt for a space

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In 2015, Rising Tide Enterprises owed the county more than \$27,000 in unpaid property taxes and interest, according to county records. By the end of 2017, the county announced the redemption period for the property was set to expire this September.

Lustig has been told Rising Tide Enterprises still hopes to resolve the tax issues. However, if the county does foreclose on the property, Lustig said TEAM would be interested in acquiring it.

Vernon Hall, co-director of Filling Empty Bellies, said the nonprofit will continue the hunt for a space. Organizers have been looking for a building since January. Hall said they will still work with TEAM to match people



The Daily Astorian
Food collected for Filling Empty Bellies, a nonprofit that feeds the homeless.

with jobs. "We haven't given up on it," Lustig said of the building off Highway 202. "It was the perfect fit."

The former restaurant was equipped with a commercial kitchen, office space and parking, as well as other amenities. The two groups said the building had the added benefit of being located away from downtown, where the presence of homeless people has become a source of controversy.

Adams: First joined Armory when her family became involved in roller derby

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Friday's family skate nights, follows up with kids in the programs, organizes staffing for weekend events and programs, returns emails — the list goes on.

"She is like my right-hand man, basically," said Robyn Koustic, the director of the Armory and the organization's only employee. "She maybe misses four weekends out of the year."

Adams first joined the Armory when her family became involved in roller derby. Adams and her daughters were born with a form of dwarfism and at first doubted if skating would be an activity for them. Koustic told them, "Why not?"

Adams was raised by a family that didn't treat her differently because of her dwarfism. Sure, there were step stools everywhere to make sure she could reach things, but her over 6-foot-tall brothers still wrestled with her like they would any other sibling.

She didn't realize there was a name for what made her different from the people around her until she walked into a doctor's office as a 12-year-old and he started rattling off terminology.

"As a mom, I wanted to make sure my girls knew from the very beginning that this is what you have but it doesn't determine who you are," Adams said.

When Adams started volunteering at the Armory, there was a learning curve, Koustic said. Kids will be curious about Adams' dwarfism, but are rarely cruel, she said. It's the adults who often will stare and be rude.

"But she takes it all with a grain of salt," Koustic said. "She's beautiful. She's discriminated against so much because of her size, but she has tremendous courage and tolerance."

"At the Armory, none of us see her as different ... that's her home, the Armory, and no one can take that from her."

Tongue Point: 'This habitat is critical to so many species'

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Dan Roix, conservation director for the land trust, said the group has submitted an application to the state Land Board for a hearing to buy the property, which is located south of Liberty Lane. The Columbia River Estuary Study Taskforce will oversee the restoration of South Tongue Point, created between the mid-1940s and '70s by dredge spoils along a deep-water channel of the Columbia River.

"Once the initial restoration and stewardship happens, the hope is the site will be ecologically self-sustaining," Roix said.

There are several grant sources the land trust will look at to pay for the restoration. Many of the task force's projects are funded by the Bonneville Power Administration. The agency is required to fund habitat restoration as an offset to the impact of its hydroelectric dams along the Columbia and Snake rivers.

Christopher Breitmeyer, the college president, said it is waiting for an appraisal and hopes to go before the Land Board in October to buy the land under the Marine and Environmental Research and Training Station on the north side of Liberty Lane. The college has rented the land for its career-technical

campus since its construction in the mid-1990s.

The restored wetlands will be a major component of an environmental sciences program the college is developing. Breitmeyer said the program will likely focus on helping students transfer to universities, while providing certificates in areas such as resource management and ecological restoration.

"We are just starting that process, looking at potential

curricular paths and identifying degree and certificate paths," he said. "We can move forward without the land acquisition, but having ownership allows us to have access to a living lab."

"We are grateful to the land trust for partnering on the land on the other side of Liberty Lane. This habitat is critical to so many species and allows for some real good science to be done by our students."

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TV SCHEDULE

Evening listings

MONDAY

MONDAY EVENING												JULY 30	
A	L	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
2	KATU	(2) KATU News at 6 (N)		Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	The Bachelorette	"The Men Tell All" (N)			The Proposal (N)		KATU News (N)	(3:5) Jimmy Kimmel
3	KOMO	(4) KOMO 4 News (N)		Wheel of Fortune	Jeopardy!	The Bachelorette	"The Men Tell All" (N)			The Proposal (N)		KOMO 4 News (N)	(3:5) Jimmy Kimmel
4	KING	(5) NBC News (N)	KING 5 News	KING 5 News	Evening	American Ninja Warrior	"Miami City Finals" (N)			Dateline NBC		KING 5 News (N)	(3:5) Tonight Show
5	KOIN	(6) KOIN Local 6 (N)	Evening News (N)	Extra	Ent. Tonight	Mom	Life in Pieces	Salvation	"Let the Chips Fall" (N)	Elementary	"Breathe" (N)	News (N)	(3:5) Colbert
6	KIRO	(7) KIRO 7 News (N)	Evening News (N)	KIRO 7 News (N)	Ent. Tonight	Mom	Man With a Plan	Salvation		Elementary		KIRO News (N)	(3:5) Colbert
7	KGW	(8) KGW News at 6:00 p.m. (N)		Tonight Cassidy	Inside Edition	American Ninja Warrior	"Miami City Finals" (N)			Dateline NBC		KGW News (N)	(3:5) Tonight Show
8	KRCW	(3) Modern Family	Modern Family	The Goldbergs	The Goldbergs	Penn & Teller: Fool Us (N)		Whose Line (N)	Whose Line Is It?	News at 10 (N)	Friends	Two and a Half	Two and a Half
9	KOPB	(10) This Old House	Business (N)	PBS NewsHour (N)		Antiques Rd. "Vintage Birmingham" (N)		An Oregon Experience		Antiques Rd. "Vintage Baltimore"		POV "Whose Streets?" (N)	
10	KPTV	(12) 6 O'Clock News (N)		Family Feud	Family Feud	Think You Can Dance "Top 10 Men" (N)		10 O'Clock News (N)		10 O'Clock News (N)		News (N)	Page Six TV
11	KPDV	(2) Mike & Molly	Mike & Molly	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	FOX 12's News (N)		9 O'Clock News (N)		Family Guy	American Dad!	The Game	The Game
12	KCPQ	(13) Seahawks Training	Modern Family	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Think You Can Dance "Top 10 Men" (N)		9-1-1 "A Whole New You"		Q13 NEWS AT 10 (N)		News (N)	The Simpsons
13	TBS	(20) Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Drop the Mic	Conan	
14	KZJN	(22) Friends	Friends	Mom	Modern Family	Mom	Modern Family			Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Two and a Half	Two and a Half
15	ESPN	(29) (5:00) MLB Baseball (L)				SportsCenter (N)		SportsCenter With Scott Van Pelt (N)		SportsCenter (N)		SportsCenter (N)	
16	ESPN2	(30) (5:00) SEC Storied	SEC Storied "The Believer"			BODY10: ESPN Mag		Around the Horn	Interruption	First Take	The hottest topics in sports are debated.		
17	NICK	(31) The Loud House	The Loud House	The Loud House	The Loud House	Double Dare	Double Dare	** Alvin and the Chipmunks (07) David Cross, Cameron Richardson, Jason Lee.		Friends		(3:5) Friends	
18	DISN	(32) Raven's Home	Stuck in Middle	Bunk'd	Bug Juice	Andi Mack	Raven's Home	Stuck in Middle	Big City Greens	Bizaardvark	Bug Juice	Andi Mack	Bunk'd
19	FAM	(34) (10) *** Despicable Me (10) Voices of Jason Segel, Russell Brand, Steve Carell.				(20) *** Ratatouille (2007, Family) Voices of Patton Oswalt, John Ratzenberger, Brad Garrett.						The 700 Club	
20	FMC	(35) (5:00) *** Gone Girl (14) Rosamund Pike, Ben Affleck.				(50) *** Gone Girl (2014, Mystery) Rosamund Pike, Missi Pyle, Ben Affleck.				(40) FXM Presents		Taken 2 (2012, Action) Liam Neeson.	
21	LIFE	(36) The First 48 "The Witness/The Trunk"	The First 48: Lost	The Good Son"	Live PD: Women	Live PD: Women	Live PD: Women	PD Women (N)	PD Women (N)	(05) Esc.Polygamy "Forbidden Love" (N)	(05) Escaping Polygamy (N)		
22	ROOT	(38) Mariners Access	MarinersPre-game	MLB Baseball Houston Astros at Seattle Mariners Site: Safeco Field -- Seattle, Wash. (L)						Post-game	MLB Baseball Houston Astros at Seattle Mariners		
23	F51	(39) NFL Turning Point (N)		All the Way Up	All the Way Up	MLB Whiparound (L)		TMZ Sports (N)	Skip and Shannon:	Undisputed Opinions on the biggest sports topics of the day.	Speak for Yourself		
24	SPIKE	(43) Mom	Mom	*** Creed (2015, Sport) Sylvester Stallone, Tessa Thompson, Michael B. Jordan.						Power "Stand Your Ground" (P) (N)	Creed (2015, Sport) Michael B. Jordan.		
25	COM	(44) (1:15) The Office	(5:0) The Office	(2:5) The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Daily Show	The Opposition
26	HIST	(45) American Pickers "Divide and Conquer"	American Pickers	American Pickers	"Frank's Big Day"	American Pickers	"Texas Pick'em"	A. Pickers	"Roll Like a Rock Star" (N)	(05) Blood Money (N)	(05) Pickers "Escape to Motor Mountain"		
27	A&E	(46) (5:00) David Cassidy: The Last Session	To Be Announced			Biography	"Freddie Mercury"	Bio.	"Janis Joplin: Southern Discomfort"	Biography	"Jimi Hendrix"	(05) Biography "The Who"	
28	TLC	(47) Say Yes-Dress	Say Yes-Dress	Who Do You Think You Are?	Who Do You Think You Are?	Who Do You Think You Are?	Who Do You Think You Are?	Counting On	"First Comes a Wedding, Then Comes a Honeymoon" (N)	(05) Counting On			
29	DISC	(48) Street Outlaws "Flor-I-Do"	Street Outlaws	Street Outlaws	Street Outlaws	Street Outlaws	"Clashes and Crashes"	Street Outlaws	"Oh, Canada!" (N)	Diesel Brothers	"Hoy Bombs" (N)	(05) Outlaws "Oh, Canada!"	
30	NGEO	(49) Life Below Zero "Hell and High Water"	Drain the Ocean	"Deep Sea Mysteries"	DrainOcean	"Ultimate Battleships"	DrainOcean	"Malaysia Airlines 370" (N)	DrainOcean	"Ghost Ships of the Atlantic" (N)	DrainOcean	"Malaysia Airlines 370"	
31	TNT	(50) (5:30) *** We're the Millers (13) Jennifer Aniston, Emma Roberts, Jason Sudeikis.				The Intern (2015, Comedy) Anne Hathaway, Adam DeVine, Robert De Niro.				*** Pretty Woman	(90, Rom) Julia Roberts, Richard Gere.		
32	AMC	(51) *** Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (2011, Action) Jude Law, Jared Harris, Robert Downey Jr..				Dietland "Bedwomb" (N)		(05) Unapologetic With Aisha Tyler		(05) Dietland "Bedwomb"			
33	USA	(52) Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	Modern Family	WWE Monday Night Raw		Chopped	"Fabulous Baker Boys" (N)	Ridic Cakes (N)	Ridic Cakes (N)	(05) Miz & Mrs. (3:5) Modern Family	
34	FOOD	(53) Kids Baking Champion "Pet Shop Joys"	Kids Baking	"Molecular Kidstronomy"	Kids Baking	"Superhero Grand Finale"		Chopped	"Fabulous Baker Boys" (N)	Ridic Cakes (N)	Ridic Cakes (N)	To Be Announced	To Be Announced
35	HGTV	(54) Love It or List It	Love It or List It	"Home Working Woes"	Love It or List It	Love It or List It		Love It or List It	"An Artful Promise" (N)	House Hunters (N)	House Hunters (N)	House Hunters	House Hunters
36	FX	(56) (5:30) *** Sicario (2015, Crime Story) Josh Brolin, Benicio Del Toro, Emily Blunt.				*** Kingsman: The Secret Service (2014, Action) Colin Firth, Samuel L. Jackson, Taron Egerton.				Anderson Cooper 360	Anderson Cooper 360	Kingsman: The Secret Service	
37	CNN	(57) Anderson Cooper 360	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon			CNN Tonight With Don Lemon		Anderson Cooper 360		Anderson Cooper 360		CNN Tonight With Don Lemon	
38	FNC	(58) Hannity	The Ingraham Angle			Fox News @ Night		Tucker Carlson Tonight		Hannity		The Ingraham Angle	
39	CNBC	(61) Shark Tank	Deadly Rich "The Boy Toy Killer" (N)			Deadly Rich "A Glittering Murder"		Deadly Rich "The Dungeon Master"		Deadly Rich "The Boy Toy Killer"		Paid Program	
40	BRM	(63) The Real Housewives "The Finale"	The Real Housewives	"The Next Chap"	The Real Housewives	The Real Housewives		Real Housewives	"Tres Amigas" (N)	Southern Charm Savannah (N)	Watch What (N)	Real Housewives	
41	TCM	(64) (5:00) Them! (54) James Whitmore.	*** Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore (74) Kris Kristofferson, Ellen Burstyn.			Wagon Train (40, Adventure) Tim Holt.				(15) ** Duchess of Idaho (50, Musical) Van Johnson, John Lund, Esther Williams.			
42	SYFY	(65) (1:0) ** G.I. Joe: Retaliation (13) Dwayne Johnson, Channing Tatum.				(10) *** Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets (2002, Family) Rupert Grint, Emma Watson, Daniel Radcliffe.							Movie
43	RFD	(62) Rancher (N)	Red Steagall (N)	Horse Master	Horse of the West	Craig Cameron	Rural Eve. News	Rural America 'Live'		American Rancher	Red Steagall	Product Showcase	