

# FILM REVIEW: 'Chappaquiddick' Revisits Kennedy Cover-Up of Tragic Car Accident

by Kam Williams  
For The Skanner News

**O**n July 18, 1969, Senator Ted Kennedy (Jason Clarke) hosted a reunion in a rented cottage on Chappaquiddick, a tiny island just 150 yards off the coast of Martha's Vineyard. The gathering was in honor of the Boiler Room Girls, a half-dozen women who had worked on his late brother Bobby's presidential campaign the previous year.

Around 11:15 pm, Teddy left the party in his '67 Oldsmobile with one of those young staffers, 28-year-old Mary Jo Kopechne (Kate Mara). An hour or so later, the car ambled down a dirt road and off a wooden bridge, before landing upside-down in Poucha Pond.

Senator Kennedy escaped and swam to shore, leaving Mary Jo in the submerged automobile,



'Chappaquiddick'

In fact, the authorities only learned about the wreck the next morning when, at low tide, a couple of fishermen spotted the wheels of a car bobbing in the channel. Unfortunately, by the time divers arrived, Mary Jo

influence the inquest. Without performing an autopsy, the medical examiner concluded that Kopechne died of drowning. Consequently, the powerful senator would not be indicted by the grand jury or charge

tain on a dynasty known as Camelot.

Excellent ★★★★★

Rated PG-13 for smoking, profanity, mature themes and disturbing images

Running time: 101 minutes

Production Studio: Apex Entertainment / DMG Entertainment

Distributor: Entertainment Studios Motion Pictures

To see a trailer visit: [TheSkanner.com](http://TheSkanner.com).



View movie trailers at [TheSkanner.com](http://TheSkanner.com)

“Chappaquiddick is a damning docudrama belatedly setting the record straight about what really transpired in Massachusetts on that fateful night back in 1969

wrongly assuming that she had drowned. Truth be told, she was still alive and able to breathe, thanks to a large air pocket.

However, instead of trying to save Mary Jo, Ted turned his attention to damage control. After all, he was already planning a run for the White House in '72. So, while she remained trapped and terrified for hours, he convened the Kennedy family brain trust, rather than report the accident to the police and fire department.

had already run out of oxygen and died of asphyxiation.

Nevertheless, Teddy, with the help of his cronies, did his best to exculpate himself of any wrongdoing. At first, he claimed Mary Jo had been driving, so that no one could accuse him of driving under the influence. Later, he admitted being behind the wheel but concocted a tall tale about having tried to rescue his passenger several times before she expired.

Lucky for Teddy, his legal team was able to

with a crime of any nature.

Directed by John Curran ("The Painted Veil"), Chappaquiddick is a damning docudrama belatedly setting the record straight about what really transpired in Massachusetts on that fateful night back in 1969. Ironically, the elaborate cover-up didn't enable Kennedy to become president, though it did at least keep him out of jail.

Don't let it be forgot, that once there was a crash which in one brief, shameful moment brought down the cur-

## 'Beirut'

cont'd from pg 6

lished at the outset of Beirut, an edge-of-the-seat, political thriller cleverly crafted by Oscar-nominee Tony Gilroy (for Michael Clayton). The picture was directed by Brad Anderson and features a top flight cast that includes Jon Hamm, Rosamund Pike, Dean Norris and Shea Whigham.

The plot thickens upon Mason's landing in Lebanon when he learns that the mastermind he must deal with is none other than the now-grown Karim, who is willing to exchange Cal for his

missing brother, rumored to be languishing in an Israeli prison. A raw, super-realistic tale of revenge, set in a god-forsaken kill zone not on this critic's bucket list.

Excellent ★★★★★

Rated R for profanity, violence and a nude image

In English and Arabic with subtitles

Running time: 109 minutes

Production Studios: Radar Pictures / ShivHans Pictures / Kasbah - Film Tanger

To see a trailer visit [TheSkanner.com](http://TheSkanner.com).

# RACING TO CHANGE

## OREGON'S CIVIL RIGHTS YEARS

On exhibit at the Oregon Historical Society  
**Now – June 24, 2018**

OREGON BLACK PIONEERS

THE OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
FOUNDED 1898

FREE ADMISSION for Multnomah County residents!

[ohs.org/racingtochange](http://ohs.org/racingtochange) KGW8 OregonLive.com OregonLive.com TheSkanner

FRIDAY-SUNDAY JUNE 22-24, 2018

# GOOD IN THE HOOD Festival

PRESENTED BY UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

HOSTED BY SAM "SEEZNI" THOMPSON

MUSIC BY DJ PRYCE MIYAGI

LIVE PERFORMANCE BY THE LEGENDARY HOWARD HEWITT OF SHALAMAR

A WEEKEND FILLED WITH LIVE JAZZ, BLUES R&B, LATIN, POP, NEO-SOUL + CONSCIOUS HIP/HOP

AT KING SCHOOL PARK  
NE GOING STREET  
PORTLAND OR 97211  
[WWW.GOODINTHENEIGHBORHOOD.ORG](http://WWW.GOODINTHENEIGHBORHOOD.ORG)

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE MULTICULTURAL FOOD MARKETPLACE INFORMATION VILLAGE KIDS SPACE & PARADE

IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A FOOD VENDOR, SELLING MERCHANDISE, INFORMATION BOOTH PARADE PARTICIPATION, SPONSORING A KIDS SPACE OR VOLUNTEERING, CONTACT GITH HOTLINE AT 971-302-6380 OR EMAIL: [GOODINTHEHOOD.ORG](mailto:GOODINTHEHOOD.ORG)

**SHOWTIMES**

The Week of  
Friday, April 13 through  
Thursday, April 19

<b>THOROUGHBREDS (PG)</b> Fri-Thur: 2:50, 9:35	<b>THE SHAPE OF WATER (R)</b> Fri-Thur: 7:00
<b>PETER RABBIT (PG)</b> Fri-Thur: 12:05, 4:55	<b>THREE BILLBOARDS OUTSIDE EBBING, MISSOURI (R)</b> Fri-Thur: 4:45, 9:00
<b>THE POST (PG-13)</b> Fri-Thur: 4:15	<b>LADY BIRD (R)</b> Fri-Thur: 2:10
<b>THE GREATEST SHOWMAN (PG)</b> Fri-Thur: 12:15, 6:45	<b>EVENT HORIZON (R)</b> Fri-Thur: 2:35, 9:45
<b>I, TONYA (R)</b> Fri-Thur: 12:20, 7:15	

\$4 adults, \$3 senior citizens (65+), \$3 for kids (12 & under)

7818 SE Stark St, Portland, OR 97215  
503-252-1707 • [AcademyTheaterPdx.com](http://AcademyTheaterPdx.com)

Babysitting: Children 2 to 8 years old. Fri: shows starting between 3:30 pm and 8 pm. Sat - Sun: shows starting between 1 pm and 8 pm. \$9.50 per child for the length of the movie. Call to reserve a spot, no drop ins.