

‘Trump: The Game’ a relic of president-elect’s celebrity

There are so many firsts with President-elect Donald Trump, it’s hard to know where to begin. The first president to be inducted into the World Wrestling Entertainment Hall of Fame. The first president to have been nominated for an Emmy (twice in fact). The first president to make a cameo in an adult film. Donald Trump certainly has the most impressive Wikipedia entry of any U.S. president, though that may change as the line between politics and entertainment becomes further blurred with more celebrities sure to enter the political arena (Kayne West has repeatedly asserted he will run for president in 2020).



J.D. KINDLE
Comment

Among Trump’s notable firsts is that he will be the first president to have an official board game prior to entering office (Reagan had his likeness featured on Opportunity, a 1983 repackaging of the strategy game Vagabondo), which is simply titled Trump: The Game. Published by Milton Bradley in 1989 in the wake of “The Art of the Deal” and later reissued by Parker Brothers following the success of “The Apprentice,” Trump: The Game is effectively a rewrite of Monopoly. The objective is the same: The player who has consolidated the most wealth by the end of the game is crowned the winner. Just as “The Art of the Deal”



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Trump the game was first releases by the Milton Brady Company on Feb. 7, 1989.

was largely ghostwritten, it is assumed that Trump: The Game was developed by its publishers and received minimal input from Donald Trump — the most important element is that his name and image are emblazoned on the game. Gone are the iconic player tokens of the thimble and Scottish terrier, which are replaced with plastic “T”s. Game currency in denominations of \$10 million, \$50 million and \$100 million bills feature Trump’s visage. Park Place and the Reading Railroad are

replaced with generic properties that Donald Trump would own such as the Hotel or Tropical Island. Even the six-sided die sacrifices its highest roll for the sake of brandishing a “T.” That said, there are a few differences between Trump: The Game and Monopoly. There is no jail, though if there were it would be reserved for Hillary Clinton per his campaign rhetoric. Game play proceeds much like Monopoly. Players move clockwise around the game board,

occasionally landing on properties upon which they are required to pay a fee. Properties only go up for sale when a player lands on a space instructing them to. At that point all players participate in a bidding process over a piece of property with the prize going to the highest bidder. As with Monopoly, Trump: The Game has the potential to ruin friendships. Players also receive Trump cards, which provide opportunities for players to make a profit from their properties

as well as inflict pain upon opponents. The most diabolical of the Trump cards, the “You’re Out of the Bidding!” card, can be played against another player to prevent them from participating in a bidding war over a piece of property. Since there are an abundance of these cards, players can effectively gang up on a single player and shut them out of the competition and hurt some feelings in the process. When all properties have been acquired, the game moves to the “deal making” phase where players expend their remaining Trump cards and attempt to cut deals with each other by trading or selling properties. Of the deal-making phase, the rulebook states on the ambiguous nature of game play that, “Of course, some situations may be open to interpretation. Players should work together to resolve any differences.” That’s the art of the deal, baby! Though the notion of either ironically or earnestly engaging in a game that buoys a cult of personalty may sound like fun, the length of time required to decipher Trump: The Game’s incoherent rule book sucks any initial enthusiasm from the players and the remainder is drained once everybody realizes how much a lesser-shade of Monopoly it is. Family game night is best left to playing Monopoly. ■ James Dean Kindle is a Pendleton musician and executive director of the Oregon East Symphony. Contact him at jamesdeankindle@gmail.com.

Festivals

Pendleton Festival of Trees

- Friday, Dec. 2, 6 p.m.; celebration & auction
- Saturday, Dec. 3, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; Family Day
- Pendleton Convention Center, 1601 Westgate
- www.sahpendleton.org
- \$30/evening gala, free/Family Day. Gala features heavy hors d'oeuvres, live/silent auction; Family Day includes tree viewing, games, activities and live entertainment.

Hermiston Festival of Trees

- Saturday, Dec. 3, 6 p.m.; dinner, gala event
- Sunday, Dec. 4, noon; Family Day
- Hermiston Conference Center, 415 S. Highway 395
- www.facebook.com/hermistonfestivaloftrees
- \$35/dinner. Features dinner, tree viewing and live/silent auction. If tickets are sold out, people may attend the auction free of charge. Family Day is \$5 suggested donation per family, includes tree viewing, games, activities and live entertainment.

Holiday Barrel Tasting

- Dec. 2-4
- Various wineries in Milton-Freewater, Walla Walla region
- www.wallawallawine.com
- Free some events, fee for others. Wineries and tasting rooms celebrate the holiday season in unique ways with tastings, music, food, live entertainment and more.

Old-Fashioned Holiday Stroll

- Saturday, Dec. 10; 3-7 p.m.
- Downtown Pendleton
- www.facebook.com/events/726842304145210
- Free. Celebrate the holiday season while admiring winter window displays and drinking free hot cocoa. Holiday carols performed by local musical groups. Also, specials and discounts at many local shops and venues.

Art & Museums

Art of the Gift

- Tuesday-Fridays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturdays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St.
- www.pendletonarts.org
- Free. Unique holiday gift shopping of more than 35 artists. Also in the gallery are gor-

geous antique American stained glass windows from the collection of Frank Duff. Handcrafted furniture by Bruce Gianotti and Jeff Blackwood also on display and available for sale. Runs through Dec. 31.

“A Creek Named Sorrow”

- Thursday, Dec. 1, 6:30 p.m.
- Prodigal Son Brewery & Pub, 230 S.E. Court Ave., Pendleton
- Free. Judith Kelly Quaempts will read from her new novel. Food available for purchase.

First Saturday Spin-In

- Saturday, Dec. 3; 1-4 p.m.
- Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St.
- Free. Fiber enthusiasts can drop in and bring a project to work on. Coffee, tea and work space provided.

Jean Ann Mitchell & Ariel Anderson

- Saturdays/Sundays; noon-5 p.m.
- Arts Portal Gallery, 508 N. Main St., Milton-Freewater
- Free. November exhibit features Mitchell (watercolors) and Anderson (mixed media).

Fishtrap Fireside

- Friday, Dec. 9; 7 p.m.
- 400 E. Grant St., Enterprise
- www.fishtrap.org
- Free. Hear new works by local authors. Featured writers are Lisa Hollingsworth, Barrie Qualle and Danny Weaver. An open mic follows for audience to share their stories.

“Drunk Strange Waters”

- Monday-Fridays, noon-4 p.m.
- Nightingale Gallery, Eastern Oregon University, La Grande
- www.eou.edu/art/nightingale-gallery
- Free. John Michael Byrd’s solo exhibit title is derived from Biblical passage II Kings 19:24. Images inspired from a Bible coloring book the artist had as a child and recently rediscovered. Runs through Dec. 6.

“Borderline”

- Monday-Thursdays, 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
- Betty Feves Memorial Gallery, BMCC, 2411 N.W. Carden Ave., Pendleton
- Free. In conjunction with a mental health awareness campaign on campus, Michigan artist Jill Miller work examines an autobiographical understanding of depression through a series of figurative paintings. Gallery also open by appointment by calling 541-278-5952. Runs through Dec. 8.

“The Infinite Possibilities

WHAT TO DO

in Clay”

- Monday-Saturdays, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Crossroads Carnegie Art Center, 2020 Auburn St., Baker City
- www.crossroads-arts.org
- Free. A handful of clay artists are featured. Much of the artwork is for sale. Runs through Nov. 30.
- Tuesday-Sundays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
- Peterson’s Gallery, 1925 Main St., Baker City
- www.petersonsgallery.net
- Free. Features a collective of regional batik watercolor artists. Runs through Nov. 30.

Music

Groove City

- Saturday, Nov. 26; 8 p.m.
- No cover
- Wildhorse Sports Bar, Wildhorse Resort & Casino, off I-84 Exit 216, Mission

Community Christmas Concert

- Friday, Dec. 2; 7:30 p.m.
- Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saint, 850 S.W. 11th St., Hermiston
- Free. Features local talent.

Shanks Pony

- Friday, Dec. 2; Saturday, Dec. 3; 8 p.m. No cover
- Wildhorse Sports Bar, Wildhorse Resort & Casino, off I-84 Exit 216, Mission

Jason Michael Carroll

- Friday, Dec. 2; 9 p.m.
- Stet’s Steakhouse, 1619 N. First St., Hermiston
- www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2707263
- \$20/general admission, \$40/VIP reserved, includes meet-and-greet. 21-and-older event features North Carolina country musician, whose debut release, “Waitin’ In The Country,” produced three Top 40 hits.

Williams & Ree

- Thursday, Dec. 8; 7 p.m.
- Rivers Event Center, Wildhorse Resort & Casino, off I-84 Exit 216, Mission
- www.wildhorseresort.com
- \$29/premium seats (with free barbecue gift), \$19/general admission. Better known as “The Indian and the White Guy,” the musical-comedy team of Bruce Williams and Terry Ree present their popular politically incorrect show. 21 and older.

An Evening with the Classics

- Saturday, Dec. 10; 7 p.m.
- Hermiston High School au-

ditorium, 600 S. First St.

www.desertartscouncil.com

\$20/adults, \$10/youths (\$5 additional at the door). Desert Arts Council presents Hermiston’s own Kelly Kuo (piano) and Ron Blessinger (violin), who will perform classical music.

Holiday Music Festival

- Sunday, Dec. 11; 3:15 p.m.
- Vert Auditorium, 480 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton
- www.oregoneastsymphony.org

\$20/adults, \$15/students, seniors, \$45/family. Presented by the Oregon East Symphony, a holiday celebration featuring a variety of community groups including Sisters in Song and The Pendleton Big Band.

Night life

DJ music

- Saturdays, 8 p.m.
- The Pheasant, 149 E. Main St., Hermiston

Karaoke w/DJ David

- Saturdays; 8 p.m.
- Riverside Sports Bar, 1501 Sixth St., Umatilla

Charity Pool Tournament

- Saturday, Dec. 10; noon-9 p.m.
- Midway Tavern, 1750 N. First St., Hermiston
- Donations accepted for Hermiston Senior Center.

Wine & Chocolate Pairing

- Sunday, Dec. 4; 1-4 p.m.
- Echo Ridge Cellars, 551 N. Thielsen St., Echo
- Free. Enjoy chocolate samples, wine tasting and meet the chocolatiers from Alexander’s Chocolaterie & Vino Bistro.

Whiskey Wednesday Game Night

- Wednesdays; 3-7 p.m.
- The Pheasant, 149 E. Main St., Hermiston
- No cover. Xbox 360, Nintendo Wii, PlayStation 3 and Nintendo 64.

Digital Karaoke

- Thursdays and Fridays, 8 p.m.
- The Pheasant, 149 E. Main St., Hermiston

Mac’s Trivia Night

- Thursdays, 8 p.m. No cover
- Mac’s Bar & Grill, 1400 S.W. Dorion Ave., Pendleton
- 21 and older. East. Drink. Think. Teams of 2-8 compete in trivia contest with other teams. Live host and prizes.

Wine tasting

- Fridays, 4-8 p.m.
- Sno Road Winery, 111 W. Main St., Echo.

Open Mic

BRIEFLY

Athena resident releases new book

PENDLETON — Athena resident Judith Kelly Quaempts will read from her new book, “A Creek Named Sorrow,” during an upcoming event in Pendleton.

The Athena woman, who grew up on Air Force bases in several states, was a finalist for self-published novel of the year (Underground Book Review) for her first book, “A Place Called Winter.” Her second book takes up where the other left off — set in a fictitious village just off the Umatilla Indian Reservation.

The free event is Thursday, Dec. 1 at 6:30 p.m. at The Prodigal Son Brewery & Pub, 230 S.E. Court Ave., Pendleton. Food will be available for purchase.

Quaempts began writing after retirement and worked with an online writers’ workshop. Her work has appeared in Pemmican, Persimmon Tree, The Corner Club Press and other journals.

For more information, call 541-966-0380. For more about Quaempts’ work, search www.amazon.com.

Echo Ridge sets sweet event

ECHO — The public is invited to enjoy chocolate samples, wine tasting and meet the chocolatiers from Alexander’s Chocolaterie & Vino Bistro.

The Wine & Chocolate Pairing is Sunday, Dec. 4 from 1-4 p.m. at Echo Ridge Cellars, 551 Thielsen St. Echo. In addition to the delectable tastes, items will be available for purchase.

For more information, call 541-376-8100 or visit www.facebook.com.

MOVIE REVIEW

Set sail with the spirited, familiar ‘Moana’

By LINDSEY BAHR
AP Film Writer

Stop me if this sounds familiar: A Disney animation film about a bright and spirited young woman who feels stifled by outmoded expectations and dreams of exploring beyond the confines of her home. It’s the premise of “Moana,” but it’s also that of “The Little Mermaid,” “Beauty and the Beast,” “Mulan,” “Brave” and scores of other animated films about teenage girls.

It’s not a bad one by any means, and an understandably captivating foundation for children especially, but “Moana” is, like so many recent films, dressed up as something wholly new and bold and corrective against all the sins of fairy tales past. There’s an entire scene where Moana (Auli’i Cravalho) fights back against the demigod Maui (Dwayne

Johnson) for calling her a “princess” with such fervor that the ultimate effect isn’t “who is” but more “who cares?” What is so wrong with being a princess versus being the daughter of a chief who will eventually lead the island? It’s just semantics.

It’s distracting from both the real virtues of “Moana,” of which there are many, and also fairly dismissive of the mere “princesses” who came before who basically accomplish the same things. In fact, the only real advancement lately is the recent exciting of a love interest — but I imagine that has more to do with modern audiences wincing at the idea of a 16-year-old heroine getting married than actual progress in developing more complex female characters.

But perhaps that, too, is just getting bogged down in semantics in another way and deflecting from the very wonderful and joyous

“Moana”

★★★★☆

PG, 113 minutes

“Moana,” a classic Disney pic to the core, bursting with stunning visuals, good hearted humor, adventure and some truly catchy songs from “Hamilton” maestro Lin-Manuel Miranda. (Move over, “Let it Go,” there is something really grand and even superior about the swelling rally cry of “How Far I’ll Go.”)

On Moana’s island, everything looks like a dream — saturated colors and lush landscapes surrounded by an ocean, the lifelike waters of which are a technical and artistic marvel. But Moana’s people distrust the ocean and outsiders and keep themselves isolated from the rest of the world. Moana, however,



Disney via AP

This image shows characters Maui, voiced by Dwayne Johnson, right, and Moana, voiced by Auli’i Cravalho, in a scene from the animated film, “Moana.”

is drawn to the sea, and the sea, a character in its own right, is likewise drawn to her. She has been selected as its chosen one. Thus, when things on the idyllic island start to decay, it’s Moana, encouraged by her quirky grandmother Tala (Rachel House), who takes the initiative to sail away to try to return the stolen heart to the fabled island of Te Fiti and save her people.

The fable of “Moana” is sweet, often funny, spiritual and epic, although Johnson’s reliable charisma gets lost under the animation and the writing. Moana, however, is an excellent character with spirit, doubts, drive and a heck of a voice. She is a perfect addition to the roster of modern Disney heroines and one whom young girls will admire for years to come, princess or not.