

To ‘Infinity’ and beyond

Latest Avengers film caps a decade of Marvel movies, with no end in sight

By LINDSEY BAHR
AP Film Writer

LOS ANGELES — Marvel Studios President Kevin Feige talks about his job like a fan who’s just lucky to be there.

To hear his genuine enthusiasm about the movies, the actors, the audience and the stories almost belies the fact that he is essentially the architect of and driving force behind Hollywood’s most valuable brand that has in just over 10 years netted over \$14.8 billion in worldwide grosses (according to comScore) and become the envy of every studio executive in town.

He’s a mogul with a fanboy’s verve who has helped to change the very fabric of the entertainment industry.

Ten years ago, many moviegoers didn’t know who Iron Man was, and those who



Marvel Studios via AP

This image released by Marvel Studios shows, from left, Tom Holland, Robert Downey Jr., Dave Bautista, Chris Pratt and Pom Klementieff in a scene from “Avengers: Infinity War.”

did thought of him as a minor comic book character. On Thursday, Marvel Studios’ 19th film, “Avengers: Infinity War,” an epic mashup of characters once considered to be part of the “superhero B-list,” from Iron Man to Star Lord, opens in theaters worldwide. It is cruising for a record-breaking debut that could surpass “Star Wars: The Force Awakens” as the biggest opening ever.

The scope of the Marvel effect is somewhat difficult to pin down, especially with a force as formidable as The Walt Disney Co. behind it. (Disney acquired Marvel Entertainment for \$4 billion in 2009.)

It’s revitalized careers (Robert Downey Jr.), minted movie stars (Chris Hemsworth, Chris Evans and Chris Pratt, to name a few), and become an outpost

for Oscar-winners too (like Robert Redford, Gwyneth Paltrow, Anthony Hopkins, Natalie Portman, Jeff Bridges, Michael Douglas and Cate Blanchett).

And beyond that, every few months the studio seems to be breaking new ground, whether it’s as small as a change in tone, like “Thor: Ragnarok,” or as big as producing a downright cultural phenomenon, such

as “Black Panther,” now the third highest-grossing domestic film of all time.

“We dream big at Marvel Studios. We have very lofty aspirations at Marvel Studios. For those dreams to be surpassed is saying something,” Feige, 44, said of “Black Panther’s” success.

And it shows no sign of slowing down, or running out of story. They have 70 years of comic book source

material to draw on, after all.

“There are still things that are key elements to a lot of our characters in their comic incarnations that we haven’t even done yet for characters who have had three or four movies,” Feige said. “It is an amazing wealth of creative material to pull from.”

Feige is amused when reporters try to predict Marvel’s next move, or make big conclusions based on what’s just happened. Under Feige, Marvel is not looking in the rear-view mirror.

When “Thor: Ragnarok” came out, he remembers reading articles declaring that, “Marvel is committing to a surrealist, silly tone” and just laughed.

“I thought, ‘We have ‘Black Panther’ coming out in three months! They don’t even know what’s coming,’” Feige said. “We’re always thinking ahead. Just when people think they can pin us down, we go somewhere else and that’s going to happen again after ‘Infinity War’ in the build-up to the next Avengers film. And we had meetings earlier today about 2024 and 2025.”

Tamastslíkt hosts Free Admission Friday

MISSION — The public is invited to enjoy the exhibits at Tamastslíkt Cultural Institute during Free Admission Friday.

The event is Friday, May 4 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The museum is located near Wildhorse Resort & Casino, off Interstate 84 at Exit 216. Also, the Kinship Café offers light fare, including fry bread tacos.

The current temporary exhibit, “H2O Today,” explores man’s relationship with water. It is part of the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition program. Celebrating the traditions of Cayuse, Umatilla and Walla Walla tribes, Tamastslíkt also features permanent exhibits and the Coyote Theater, where visitors are introduced to Spilyáy, the magical coyote who shares about wisdom and foolishness.

Regular admission is \$10 for adults, \$9 for seniors, \$6 for youths 6-17 and free for ages 5 and under. There is a family rate of \$25 for four. Also, the Libraries of Eastern Oregon has provided many area libraries with passes that can be checked out.

For more information, call 541-429-7700 or visit www.tamastslíkt.org.

Performance features ‘BroadMay’ revue

PENDLETON — The public is invited to a Broadway revue presented by Pendleton High School students.

The school’s swing choir will be presenting its annual “BroadMay” show Wednesday, May 2 at 7 p.m. at Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St. The performance features soloists, small ensembles and full ensemble performances by both the swing choir and the PHS jazz ensemble.

Admission is by donation. It is requested that children attending must not be younger than 3 years old.

For more information, contact music teacher Emily Callender at emily.callender@pendleton.k12.or.us.

Festivals

Spring Fever Pub Crawl
•Saturday, April 28; 4-10 p.m.
•Pendleton
\$15/early sales. Sponsored by the Pendleton Downtown Association to benefit the Oregon East Symphony.

Spring Release Weekend
•May 4-6
•Milton-Freewater, Walla Walla area wineries
www.wallawallawine.com
Some activities free.

Pendleton Quilt Show
•Saturday, May 5, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, May 6, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

•Pendleton Convention Center, 1601 Westgate
www.krazyhorsequilters.org
\$5/good for both days. Features quilt displays, regional supply vendors, a raffle quilt (\$1 each or six for \$5) and featured quilter Janine Burke of Designs by JB in Reardan, Washington.

Challenge of Champions Bull Riding Tour
•Saturday, May 5; 7:30 p.m.
•Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center, 1705 Airport Road, Hermiston
www.challengeofchampionstour.com

\$14/advance, \$17/gate, free/5 and under. Features professional bull riders. At 6 p.m., kids 4-11 will compete in a pedal tractor pull-off.

Pendleton Cattle Barons Weekend
•May 11-12
•Pendleton Convention Center, 1601 Westgate (in/around)

www.cattlebarons.net <http://jall23.wix.com/hatrockhounds>
Free/many activities. A celebration of the region’s cattlemen and ranching roots, it features Stock Saddle Bronc Championship (\$), Ranch Rodeo (\$), invitational select gelding sale, working cow dog sale, engraved jewelry and leather work exhibition and demonstrations, and the Buckaroo Barbecue Challenge. Proceeds provide scholarships to area students in agriculture-related fields.

Hatrockhounds Rock & Gem Show
•May 12-13; 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
•Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center, 1705 Airport Road, Hermiston
<http://jall23.wix.com/hatrockhounds>
\$3. New venue for the show, which features dealers, kids corner, demonstrations, silent auction and door prizes. (Mike Filarski, 541-571-2593, stonemorlin1@netscape.net).

Cinco de Mayo

Milton-Freewater Cinco de Mayo
•Saturday, May 5, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.
•Yantis Park, 200 Dehaven St.
Free admission. Parade at 11

Melodrama offers western fun

DAYTON — Get ready for some raucous fun as the Liberty Theater presents a melodrama.

“Bad Day at Gopher’s Breath” features the notorious Rawlins gang, who ride into Gopher’s Breath to rob the bank. While Rawhide Rawlins dreams of a farm for his ma, Sheriff Crutchwaffle also has his designs on the loot. Audiences will roar with laughter, and enjoy participating in the lively play that’s riddled with traditional clichés of classic westerns.

The performances are Thursday, May 10 through Sunday, May 13 and Friday, May 18 through Sunday, May 20. Show times are 7-9 p.m. at the Liberty Theater, 344 E. Main Street, Dayton, Washington. Tickets are \$10-\$15 at www.libertytheater.org.

For more information, contact 509-382-1380 or kirsten@libertytheater.org.

a.m., followed by festival activities, including live music, dance performances, food, vendors, bouncy castles and other kids’ activities.

Hermiston Cinco de Mayo
•Saturday, May 5, noon-11 p.m.; Sunday, May 6, noon-10 p.m.

•Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center, 1705 Airport Road, Hermiston

Free admission. Includes live entertainment, food vendors, a beer garden, carnival, family activities, food eating contests and dancing. Advance sale discount of carnival wristbands are \$20 at Quick Stop Drive Thru Food Mart, 455 N. First St.

Boardman Cinco de Mayo

•Saturday, May 5, 3-10 p.m.
•Boardman Marina Park
Free admission. Features musical entertainment, food vendors, family fun and an information center.

Live Mariachi Band
•Saturday, May 5; 5-9 p.m.
•Sister’s Cafe, 308 S. Main St., Pendleton

No cover. Live music in celebration of Cinco de Mayo. Also, Mexican food, handcrafted margaritas and beer/garitas are available for purchase.

Cinco de Mayo Mexican Dance Party
•Saturday, May 5; 9 p.m.-2 a.m.

•Sub Zero Restaurant & Lounge, 100 W. Highway 730, Irrigon
\$5/men, free/women. Live DJ with Spanish music.

Art, Museums & Authors

Louise Bourgeois
•Tuesday-Fridays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Saturdays, noon-4 p.m.
•Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St.
www.pendletonarts.org
Free. Exhibit features works of Louise Bourgeois (1911-2010), a French-American artist whose work explores themes of

WHAT TO DO

Exit 216, Mission.
Acousta Noir
•Saturday, April 28; 9 p.m. No cover

•Hamley Steakhouse & Saloon, 8 S.E. Court Ave., Pendleton

’70s Disco Party
•Saturday, April 28; 9 p.m.
•Midway Bar & Grill, 1750 N. First St., Hermiston

No cover. Last Saturday of the month features a theme night. Features music, costume contest, food/drink specials and fun.

Austin Lindstrom & The Wheatlanders
•Saturday, April 28; 9 p.m.
•The Pheasant Blue Col-lar Bar & Grill, 149 E. Main St., Hermiston
thepheasant.ticketleap.com

\$10. Put on your dancing boots and get ready for a mix of mix of country, originals and covers. Drink/cocktail specials, night-themed giveaways.

‘BroadMay’ show
•Wednesday, May 2; 7 p.m.
•Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St.

By donation. Presented by the Pendleton High School swing choir, the show features a Broadway revue.

Dana Osborn Band
•Friday, May 4; Saturday, May 5; 8 p.m. No cover
•Wildhorse Sports Bar, Wildhorse Resort & Casino, off I-84 Exit 216, Mission.

Blue Tattoo
•Friday, May 4; 8-11 p.m.
•Midway Bar & Grill, 1750 N. First St., Hermiston

No cover. Donations accepted for the Umatilla High School “Safe & Sober” graduation party.

Night life

Karaoke w/DJ David
•Saturdays; 8 p.m.
•Riverside Sports Bar, 1501 Sixth St., Umatilla

Saturday Trivia Nights
•Saturdays; 9 p.m.
•Midway Bar & Grill, 1750 N. First St., Hermiston

No cover. Join in for trivia fun and a chance to win prizes. Also features DJ music.

Midgets With Attitude
•Saturday, May 5; 9-11:30 p.m. (21-and-older)
•Sunday, May 6; 4-7 p.m. (all-ages)

•The Pheasant Blue Col-lar Bar & Grill, 149 E. Main St., Hermiston
thepheasant.ticketleap.com
\$20-\$40/Saturday; \$15-\$30/Sunday. Midget Wrestling Entertainment features 2-Day Midget Wrestling Fiesta. Pre-funk party Saturday at 7 p.m. with food and drink specials.

Wino Wednesdays
•Wednesdays, 2-6 p.m.
•Echo Ridge Cellars, 551 N. Thielsen St., Echo

Karaoke at the Packard
•1st/3rd Wednesday, 9 p.m.-midnight

•The Packard Tavern, 118 S.E. Court Ave., Pendleton
No cover.

Thirsty Thursdays
•Third Thursday; 5-8 p.m.
•Midway Bar & Grill, 1750 N. First St., Hermiston

No cover. Special guest breweries offer tastings.

LOL Comedy Jam
•Thursdays; 8 p.m.

•Wildhorse Sports Bar, Wildhorse Resort & Casino, off I-84 Exit 216, Mission.

No cover. May 3: Art Krug, Steven Tye; May 10: Cole Parker, Carl Spitaler

Wine tasting
•Fridays, 4-8 p.m.

•Sno Road Winery, 111 W. Main St., Echo.

Karaoke w/DJ David

•Fridays; 8 p.m.
•Riverside Sports Bar, 1501 Sixth St., Umatilla

DJ and dancing
•Fridays, 8 p.m.

•The Pheasant, 149 E. Main St., Hermiston

Karaoke

•Fridays; 9 p.m.
•Midway Tavern, 1750 N. First St., Hermiston

Cimmi’s Late Night Martini Lounge

•Fridays; 9 p.m.-midnight
•Virgil’s at Cimmiyotti’s, 137 S. Main St., Pendleton
No cover. Features martinis, mixology and music.

Hot tickets

•**Umatilla County Fair** main stage performers **Sawyer Brown** (Aug. 7), **Ned LeDoux** (Aug. 8); **Skid Row** (Aug. 9) **Latino Night** (Aug. 10) **Blues Traveler** (Aug. 11) (free/general admission, \$12/reserved, \$20/premium) www.umatillacountyfair.net (541-567-6121)

•**Hal Ketchum** (May 26, \$25-\$45), at Wildhorse Resort & Casino. Buy tickets for the 21-and-older show via the Wildhorse Gift Shop or www.wildhorseresort.com

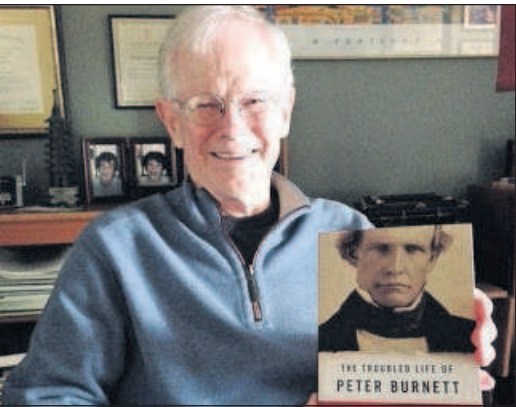
•**Eagles**. May 5, Moda Center, Portland. Tickets (\$59-\$400) via www.ticketmaster.com

•**Summer Concert Series: Hunks the Show** (June 2, \$29-\$65); **Kim Russo: The Happy Medium** (June 16, \$65); **Naughty by Nature, hip hop party w/ Sir Mix-A-Lot & Tone Loc** (July 27, \$49-\$99); and **Ramon Ayala** (July 28, \$49-\$129) at Wildhorse Resort & Casino. All shows are 21-and-older, except the hip hop party, which is 18-and-older. Tickets via Wildhorse Gift Shop or www.wildhorseresort.com

•**Old Dominion**. Sept. 8, Happy Canyon Arena, Pendleton. Tickets (\$46-\$150) via 1-800-457-6336 or www.pendletonroundup.com.

Want to get your event listed in our calendar? Send information to community@eastoregonian.com, or c/o Tammy Malgesini, 333 E. Main Street, Hermiston, OR, 97838.

Journalist Nokes pens book about troubled Oregon pioneer



Contributed photo

A former reporter and editor, R. Gregory Nokes’ new book, “The Troubled Life of Peter Burnett,” will be available May 15. Published by Oregon State University Press, it chronicles the life of the Oregon pioneer and California’s first governor.

East Oregonian

Few people in the 19th century American West could boast the achievements of Peter Burnett.

He helped organize the first major wagon train to the Oregon Country. He served on Oregon’s first elected government and was Oregon’s first supreme court judge. He opened a wagon road from Oregon to California. He worked with the young John Sutter to develop the new city of Sacramento. Within a year of arriving in California, voters overwhelmingly elected him as the first U.S. governor. He also won appointment to the California Supreme Court.

It was one heck of a resume. Yet with the exception of the wagon road to California, in none of these roles was Burnett considered successful or well remembered. Indeed, he resigned from many of his most important positions, including the governorship, where he was widely perceived a failure.

R. Gregory Nokes, a former reporter and editor for The Associated Press and *The Oregonian*, recently penned a new book chronicling Burnett and his troubles. “The Troubled Life of Peter Burnett” will be available May 15. Published by Oregon State University Press, the 288-page book includes photos and is listed at \$19.95.

Burnett’s weakness was that he refused to take advice from others. He insisted on marching to his own drum, even when it led to some terrible decisions. A former slaveholder, he could never seem to get beyond his single-minded goal of banning blacks and other minorities from the West.

“The Troubled Life of Peter Burnett” is the first full-length biography of this complicated character. Historians, scholars, and general readers with an interest in Western history will want to read Nokes’ in-depth researched account.

Nokes also is the author of “Breaking Chains: Slavery on Trial in the Oregon Territory”

and “Massacred for Gold: The Chinese in Hells Canyon.” A graduate of Willamette University in Salem, Nokes attended Harvard University as a Nieman Fellow.

His reporting on the 1887 murders of more than 30 Chinese gold miners in Hells Canyon resulted in a formal designation of the site as Chinese Massacre Cove and was the basis for an Oregon Public Broadcasting documentary.

After retiring from a 40-year journalism career, Nokes embarked on a second career as a historian, lecturer and author. Nokes and his wife, Candise, live in West Linn.