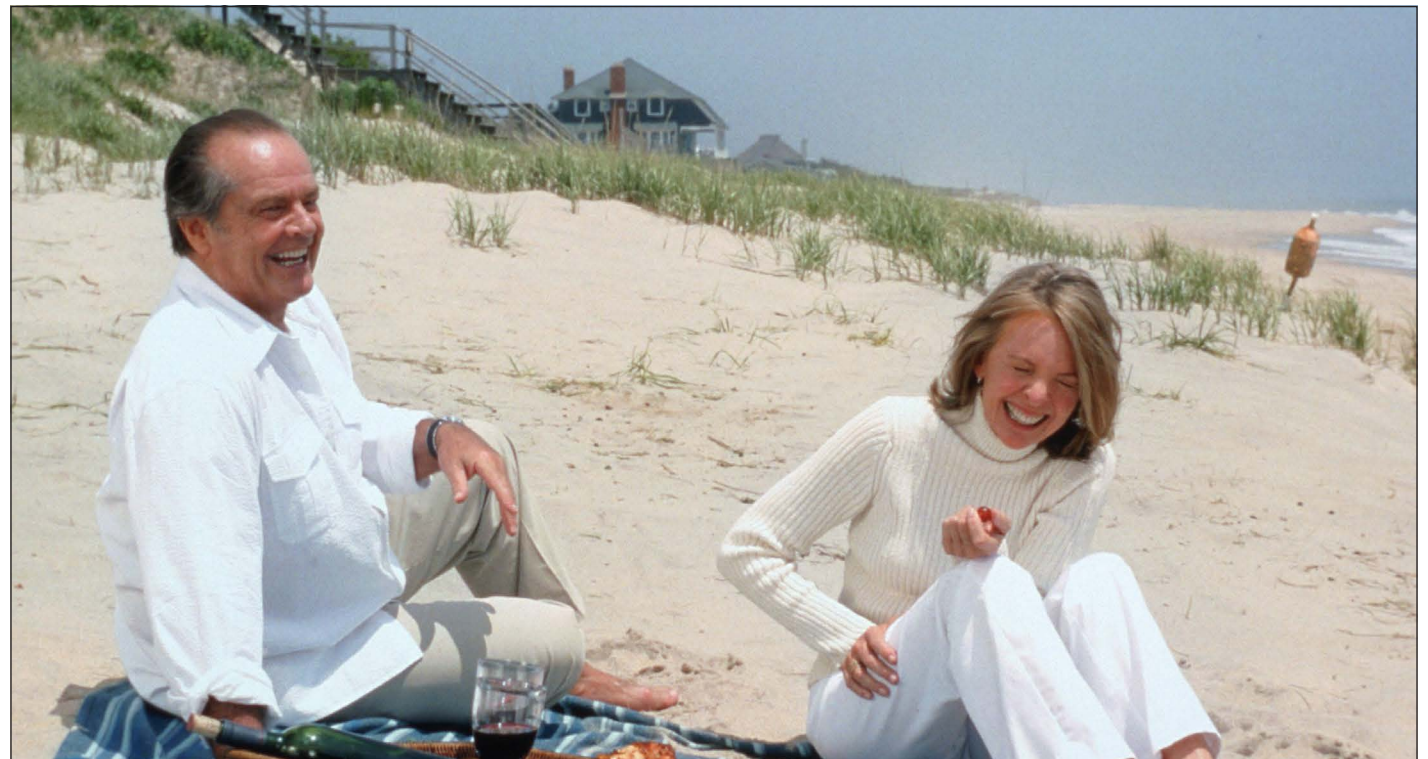


Continued from previous page

"Harlan County U.S.A." (1976) — The documentary by Barbara Kopple shows bluntly the struggle coal miners in Harlan County, Kentucky, experienced for 13 months during the Brookside Strike of 1973. In it, Kopple doesn't use narration to move the story forward and instead allows her subjects to do that on their own. The strike was sparked by the miners' calls for better and safer working conditions, and throughout the months of picketing, Koppell captured the violent clashes between both sides, the development of black lung in some of the workers and even murder. The haunting bluegrass soundtrack that accompanies the film makes it even more powerful to watch all these years later. Stream it on HBO Max.

"The Hitch-Hiker" (1953) — Director Ida Lupino is one of the most prolific female filmmakers of the 1950s and started her career off as an actress who would only accept roles if the script was acceptable to her. As such, she found herself suspended by her boss Jack Warner (this was during the studio system when an actor was under contract to one studio). She took the opportunity to step behind the camera and thrived. This 1953 film noir classic was written by Lupino and her ex-husband Collier Young and follows two friends (Edmond O'Brien and Frank Lovejoy) as they pick up a killer hitchhiker (William Talman) who assures them he will kill them if he deems them unuseful. The film is in public domain and can be streamed on Tubi and Vudu for free, or on Amazon Prime with a subscription.

"My Brilliant Career" (1979) — Gillian Armstrong directs this impressive Australian period drama based on the novel of the same name by Miles Franklin. In 1897, Sybylla (Judy Davis) is a headstrong and independent woman who is torn between social expectations, romance and being a writer. The film plays on the ideas of late 19th century manners and features a young Sam Neill as Sybylla's suitor. Davis is won-



Columbia Pictures

Jack Nicholson and Diane Keaton in a scene from "Something's Gotta Give" (2003).

derful, and her performance earned her a BAFTA at the time while the film went on to be nominated for an Oscar for its costumes and for Best Foreign Film at the Golden Globes. Stream it on HBO Max or rent it on iTunes.

"The Matrix" (1999) — Lana and Lilly Wachowski broke the mold when they brought their cyber-punk, kung-fu, sci-fi film to the screen. The trippy concept follows the idea that a man named Neo (Keanu Reeves) is awakened to the fact that his reality isn't reality at all and is instead a simulation. When he is brought into the fold of a band of people who are working to wake the rest of humanity to rise up against the forces that bind them in the simulation, he discov-

ers that he is the only one who can do it. A fourth installment in the saga is supposedly being released in December. It will hopefully be better than the second and third films, but nothing can beat the originality of the first. Stream it on HBO Max or rent it on Amazon Prime, Google Play, iTunes, Vudu or YouTube.

"Something's Gotta Give" (2003) — A peak Nancy Myers comedy that stars Jack Nicholson and Diane Keaton and has all the hallmarks of a Myers film that audiences love. Keaton plays Erica, a playwright who's

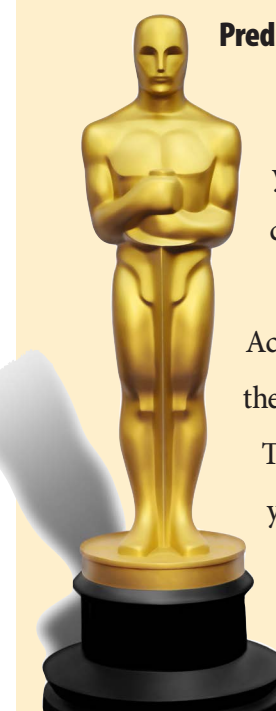
holed herself away at her stunning Hampton beach house in order to finish her next play when she meets her daughter's (Amanda Peet) new boyfriend Harry (Nicholson), an aging womanizer. The two are then forced to live together when Harry has a heart attack and begin to form a deeper connection than Harry has ever known. Meanwhile, Erica begins dating a handsome young doctor (Keanu Reeves). Stream it on Starz or rent it on Amazon Prime, Google Play, iTunes, Vudu or YouTube.

■ Reporter: 541-383-0304, mwhittle@bendbulletin.com



Warner Bros.

Keanu Reeves in a scene from "The Matrix" (1999).



Predict who will take home Oscar gold, win a \$50 gift card

Think you know who will take home Oscar gold this year? Test your prediction skills against Central Oregon cinephiles for a chance to win a \$50 gift card!

Enter now through 4 p.m. April 25, before the 93rd Academy Award broadcast on ABC and then check out the ceremony to see how you did.

The contest is open to all Central Oregon residents and you must include your full name and contact email in order to win.

Enter online at bit.ly/BulletinOscars. Good luck!

—Makenzie Whittle, *The Bulletin*