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TRAVERSE CITY
FILM FESTIVAL
JULY 27-31

PROGRAM GUIDE

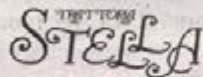


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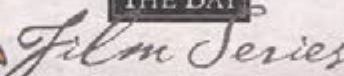
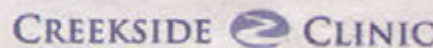
tiny toes
Footwear | Bandages | Gripe



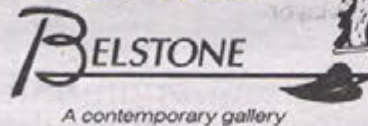
One-piece infant wear with the layered look of separates.



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**Letter from Governor
Jennifer M. Granholm**



Dear Friends,

I am honored to have the opportunity to welcome you to the first annual Traverse City Film Festival. It's cultural events such as this that provide us all with invaluable opportunities to learn more about ourselves, our neighbors and the world around us.

Events like this are also a driving force behind economic growth as they bring people of all ages and backgrounds downtown for arts and cultural experiences. Experiences that create a buzz within a community and among its residents. Experiences that help existing businesses to thrive, and encourage new businesses to locate here.

Please accept my very best wishes for a successful event — an event that I hope will continue for years to come.

Now sit back, relax, and pass the popcorn.

Warm regards,

Jennifer M. Granholm
Governor

**Letter from Mayor
Linda Smyka**



Dear Traverse City Residents and Visitors:

I would like to welcome you to our beautiful City on the bay for the inaugural Traverse City Film Festival.

More than 300 of our residents are working to bring this festival to Traverse City, and together, they have resurrected one of our downtown landmarks, the State Theatre — an achievement that not only brings added vitality to our already vibrant downtown but also is testimony to the important role of arts in our lives.

Traverse City, indeed, has a rich slate of arts and cultural offerings. We're home to such notable groups as the Traverse Symphony Orchestra, Traverse Area Arts Council, City Opera House, Old Town Playhouse and Dennon Museum. The Traverse Area District Library hosts the winter film series, Cinema Curioso. In addition, the City is populated by those engaged in various aspects of film and stage production — directors, writers, producers, as well as actors, artists, musicians and dancers. This festival will add a new dimension — a five-day celebration of cinema — to the City's bountiful slate of arts and entertainment.

For those of you who are visiting, I invite you to truly experience our fine City — explore our sugar-sand beaches, dine at our fine restaurants and family diners, and browse our scores of locally owned stores. Be sure to take home a taste of Traverse with such regional specialties as cherries, fudge and wine. For those who live here, may you enjoy movie magic on the silver screen, whether at our three historic theater venues or out beneath the stars along the bay.

Sincerely,
Linda Smyka
Mayor

FAST FILM FACT: Studio publicity in 1941 claimed Ronald Reagan and Ann Sheridan were to appear in *Casablanca* - a false story (successfully) planted by clever publicists to get ink for the actors.

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(231) 276-7800

Pick up tickets at "will call" at the Bravo Store,
237 E. Front St.

Mon: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Tues-Sun: Noon-8:30 p.m.

In Person:

At the Bravo store, 237 E. Front St.

Next to the State Theater in downtown

Traverse City. Mon-Fri 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Sat: 10

a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun: Noon-4 p.m.

Tickets will be sold at the door of each show.

(If a show is listed as sold out, a stand-by
ticket line will form 10 minutes before each
screening.)

All tickets \$7.00

For more information, call (231) 392-1134 or log on to
www.traversecityfilmfestival.org

Festival Committee

Michael Moore, founder	Ed Mulcahy
Doug Stanton, co-founder	Linda Price
John Robert Williams, co-founder	Rebecca Reynolds
Mary Bevans Gillett	Justin Rowe
Rich Brauer	Heather Shaw
Lori Hall Steele	Sondra Shaw Hardy
Timothy Hall	Joseph Walker
Robert Hughes	Michael Pollock
Rebecca Kinnee	Festival manager Jason Pollock
Tracy Kurtz	Operations manager Susan Brown

Program designed by Andy Taylor-Fabe



Letter from Michael Moore

Dear Festival Fans,

Welcome to this very first Traverse City Film Festival!

A group of us were sitting around one night and wondering why the *good* movies rarely come to Traverse City. We know that there are plenty of people in northern Michigan who love to go to the movies, and there are a number of groups who often bring many highly-acclaimed films to the area.

So we thought, "Hey, why not throw a festival of films? Sundance of the Dunes! Cannes by the Bay!" Before we knew it, we were talking to world's greatest directors and telling them about what a great place Traverse City would be to showcase their films. And faster than you can say, "I'm ready for my close-up," we were being shipped some of the best movies we have seen in years.

As you avail yourselves of the films in this festival, here's a few suggestions. Take a chance on some of the hidden gems we're showing that don't have famous movie stars or might be in a foreign language. Check out the non-fiction films which will knock your socks off. At least 8 of the films in the festival are being shown here in Traverse City BEFORE their national release. So you get to see them here *first*. Isn't that a cool switch for a change?!

There's lots of other fun things you won't want to miss this week: the free films by the bay (I heard there might be sharks in the water!), the parties where you can meet the directors visiting the festival, and the great conversations which will be taking place on the street after the movies. Also, we are offering some lively free panel discussions with Hollywood insiders who have come to Traverse City to talk about the art of film and what really goes on in Tinseltown!

Thanks again, northern Michigan, for all your support!

Michael Moore, Festival Founder

FAST FILM FACT: The Avedøre, Denmark, auditorium used for *Italian for Beginner's* lessons also was a location in 2000's *Dancer in the Dark*, where it was used for *Sound of Music* rehearsals.

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Traverse City Film Festival

FAQ Fact Sheet



1. What is the Traverse City Film Festival?

The Traverse City Film Festival is an annual celebration of film in one of the most beautiful areas in the country, Traverse City, Michigan. We will show the best in world cinema – American and Foreign, Fiction & Non-Fiction, Live Action & Animation, Classics, and Premieres. Our mission is to show “just great films.”

2. When will the Traverse City Film Festival take place?

The Traverse City Film Festival will hold its inaugural festival on July 27-31, 2005. Films will be shown on Thursday through Sunday at 1PM, 4PM, 7PM, and 10PM at each of the indoor venues and 10PM each night at the outdoor cinema.

3. Where will the festival be?

In downtown Traverse City, Michigan at four separate venues: The State Theatre, The Old Town Playhouse, The City Opera House, The Open Space on the waterfront

4. What is the outdoor cinema?

Each night at dusk, a classic film will be shown on the waterfront in the city's Open Space Park. There is no admission charge. This year's festival will kick-off with the 30th anniversary showing of the film “Jaws”. All films shown here will be G, PG, or PG 13. Seating is first come, first served.

5. Where do I buy tickets for rest of the festival?

Tickets can be purchased by calling our ticket hotline number, 276-7800 (through July 26 only). Tickets can be mailed or held for pick-up at the Bravo store on Front St. Tickets can also be purchased at Bravo and at the festival theaters the day of the show. If a show is sold out, stand-by tickets will be sold at showtime.

6. What are the ticket prices?

Film tickets are \$7 (ex. opening & closing Night).

7. Is there an Opening night film?

Yes. Opening Night is Wednesday July 27th at 8PM and 10PM. It will be a red carpet event at the State Theatre. It is primarily a fund-raising event for the festival. Tickets are \$25. There is an opening night reception at 10PM, after the opening night movie. This is ticketed as a separate event. Tickets are \$25 and are available at the Bravo store.

8. Is there a Closing Night film?

Yes. Sunday night at the State Theater, 7 & 10 PM. Admission is \$25. There is a closing night reception at 9PM, after the closing night movie. This is ticketed as a separate event. Tickets are \$25 and are available at the Bravo store.

9. Where can I learn more about the films?

The festival schedule is available online at www.traversecityfilmfestival.org.

10. Who is funding the festival?

The festival will be funded by local and national businesses, community groups and individuals. Sponsors are needed for each theater and each film. If you would like to contribute please contact us. The Traverse City Film Festival is a non-profit organization with tax exempt status.

11. Who are the people behind the Traverse City Film Festival?

The Traverse City Film Festival was founded by Oscar winning filmmaker Michael Moore in collaboration with John Robert Williams and Doug Stanton. The festival committee is made up of 30 local individuals who have generously donated their time.

12. How do I contact the Traverse City Film Festival?

Via E-mail at the addresses below. We can be reached by phone at (231) 392-1134 or via mail at: The Traverse City Film Festival
P.O. Box 4064, Traverse City, MI 49685

Mission Statement

The Traverse City Film Festival is an annual event committed to showing just great movies and helping to save one of America's few indigenous art forms—the cinema.

The Traverse City Film Festival believes that people love to go to the movies, but the movies these days don't seem to love the people. Where are the great films that both entertain and enlighten the audience? Attendance at the movies continues to drop each year. Why is this? We need movies that seek to enrich the human spirit and the art of filmmaking—not the misguided bottom line.

The Traverse City Film Festival is committed to this mission. We believe people will flock to good movies and pack the theaters that show great ones.

Traverse City is your typical American town. It's places like Traverse City, with neighborhood movie theaters, that made going to the movies the most popular form of entertainment in the world.

Something of that magic has been lost, and we seek to reclaim it. We believe the public will respond with enthusiasm if they are presented with great movies. Our one goal is for people to leave the theater with the feeling they just watched something special.

So, each year, we will show all kinds of movies that leave our audiences cheering and wanting more. American and foreign, fiction and nonfiction, live action and animation—all will be presented on our screens.

Each night, at the bayside Open Space park, we will screen a popular classic film—free of charge, for the community. This “On the Waterfront” cinema will be one of the signature events of the Traverse City Film Festival, a throwback to the days when great movies would be shown out under the stars, and moviegoers could lose themselves in the magic of the moment.

The historic State Theater will serve as the anchor to the Traverse City Film Festival. The festival is not only honored to be able to temporarily open up this once-great movie palace, it is committed to being a partner with other community groups in restoring it to its original glory.

See you at the movies!

Free discussion panels

Panels are open on a first-come-first-served basis and are scheduled at 11 a.m. in the City Opera House, 112-1/2 E. Front St., Traverse City.

■ “Is It Art? Is It Politics? Traverse City Wants to Know,” Thursday, July 28: A live talk with Michael Moore about what makes for good cinema.

■ “Is Fiction Dead? The Rise of Documentary Films,” Friday, July 29: Documentary directors Alex Gibney and Marilyn Agrelo square off with fiction writers Ethan Canin and Bob Sloan

■ “Hollywood Confidential: Stories We Will Only Tell in Traverse City,” Saturday, July 30: Panelists include Rob Tappert, producer of *Spiderman*; Larry Brand, screenwriter of *Halloween*; Chuck Pfarrer, screenwriter for *The Jackal* and *Darkman*; HBO producer Rebecca Reynolds; animator Rob Hughes, and others.

■ “How to Make a Great Movie for \$30,000,” Sunday, July 31: A discussion with director Andrew Wagner (“The Talent Given Us”) and Jonathan Caouette (“Tarnation”).

FAST FILM FACT:

Home of the Brave's Tony Luizzo was second-in-command of the Michigan Militia during filming. The movie honors his mother, slain civil rights hero Viola Luizzo.



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Opening night...

Mad Hot Ballroom

US/Doc./PG

You'll foxtrot with 11-year-olds as the Traverse City Film Festival kicks off with a red-carpet premiere of this acclaimed and award-winning documentary.

Mad Hot Ballroom is an ebullient and excruciating quest for ballroom triumph by New York sixth-graders. You will root and cheer, cha cha and rumba, laugh and cry, in this uplifting, remarkable story of talented youngsters learning about puppy love, fancy footwork, and the anguish and glory of competition.

Director Marilyn Agrelo and stars will be in attendance. Best-film awards at Philadelphia, Malibu, Cleveland

International and Chicago Documentary film festivals.

"Mad hot ballroom isn't just for people who like documentaries, or dance, or New York. It's a celebration of life."

— Calvin Wilson, Post-Dispatch

"Wins you over! Has the sort of pathos and final-act gravity major motion picture producers pray for."

— Lisa Kennedy, Denver Post

Opening Night / We 8, 10 ST

The opening night film and party are made possible by a donation from Kathleen Glynn, Blue Lake Entertainment



Closing night...

Broken Flowers

US/Comedy/NR

The Grand Prize Winner at this year's Cannes Film Festival, *Broken Flowers* stars Bill Murray as a man who receives an anonymous note from one of his ex-girlfriends telling him he has a son.

This aging Don Juan embarks on a sleuthing journey through his love life, jetting across the country to find his child. This intelligent comedy also stars Sharon Stone as an oversexed widow with a libidinous teenage girl; Jessica Lange as a self-styled analyst for pets; and Tilda Swinton as an aging biker with no happy memories of Murray. Chloë

Sevigny and Julie Delpy also star. Unannounced visits to his former flames force Murray to confront his past — and his present.

Broken Flowers is being made available by its director, Jim Jarmusch, before its American release, to the Traverse City Film Festival as our closing night film.

Closing Night / Su 7, 10 ST

Movie made possible by a donation from Le Fetiche, Bynum & Bang Closing night reception made possible by Williams Honda

COH = City Opera House / ST = State Theatre / OTP = Old Town Playhouse

FAST FILM FACT:

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Tarnation was edited with Apple computer's free program iMovie. The original cut cost \$218, took three weeks to make and ran 2 hours and 40 minutes long.

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coast to coast
for many years.

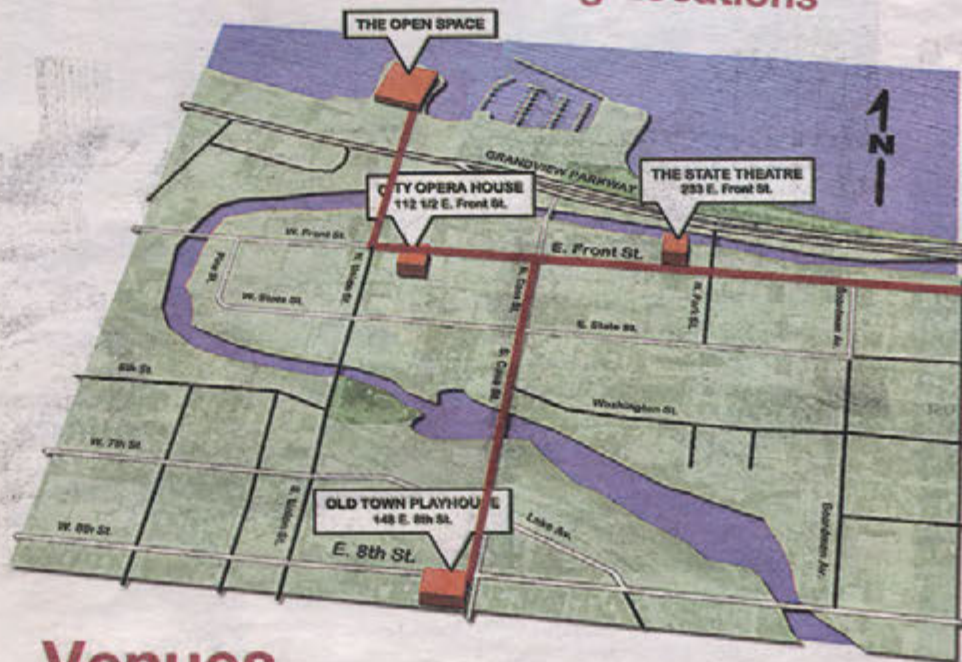


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Traverse City Film Festival Screening Locations



Free movies at

The Open Space



Jaws

In the terrifying motion picture from the No. 1 best-seller, a police chief, scientist and grizzled sailor set out to kill a shark that is menacing the seaside community of Amity Island. From director Steven Spielberg. *Don't go in the water.*

US/Drama/PG Thursday at Dusk

Made possible by a donation from Critter Control



The Princess Bride

Scaling the Cliffs of Insanity, battling rodents of unusual size, facing torture in the Pit of Despair — true love has never been a snap. This Oscar-nominated fairy tale for all ages features giants, swordplay, an evil prince and yes, some kissing.

US/Comedy/PG Friday at Dusk

Made possible by a donation from Anna Christina Wege



Ferris Bueller's Day Off

Witness one man's struggle to take it easy in this classic 1980s comedy by John Hughes about a high school wise-guy determined to take a day off school, despite what the principal thinks.

US/Comedy/PG-13 Saturday at Dusk

Made possible by a donation from Espresso Bay & Juice Island



Casablanca

This triple-Oscar-winning classic love story pairs Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman in occupied Africa during the early days of World War II. Round up the usual suspects, and play it again, Sam.

US/Drama/PG Sunday at Dusk

Made possible by a donation from Fifth Third Bank

In case of rain, movie will be cancelled. To check whether movie will be shown, call the festival hotline at 392-1134 or visit www.traverscityfilmfestival.org

Venues

State Theatre - 233 W. Front St.

The marquee of this classic downtown movie theater shines again, thanks to several thousand hours of volunteer labor to reopen its doors for the inaugural Traverse City Film Festival.

Dozens worked round the clock, painting, cleaning and repairing this gem, which had been largely vacant since the mid-1990s.

The State originally opened on June 30, 1949, with *It Happens Every Spring*, a baseball comedy starring Jean Peters and Ray Milland. The theater replaced the opulent Lyric Theater, first built in 1915, then destroyed by fire. *The State Theatre is generously being sponsored by Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream.*

City Opera House - 112 W. Front St.

This 1891 opera house, where vaudeville shows and grand balls were staged, was recently restored to its Victorian splendor. *The City Opera House is generously being sponsored by Richard and Diana Millock.*

Old Town Playhouse - Eighth and Cass streets

This former church is home to a thriving community theater, Traverse City Civic Players. *The Old Town Playhouse is being generously sponsored by John Robert Williams Photography*

Open Space - Grandview Parkway and Union Street

This well-used public park jutting into West Grand Traverse Bay was once the site of a cherry cannery. *The Open Space is being sponsored by Michael Moore.*

FAST FILM FACT:



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The Talent Given Us stars the director's parents and siblings in a fictional road-trip story. It was made by a two-man crew for less than \$30,000.

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Traverse City Film Festival

Premieres



A Good Woman

International/Comedy/PG

From her opening delivery of the legendary lines — "Some women bring happiness wherever they go. Some whenever they go. I do both. Husbands like to see me come, and wives like to see me go" — Helen Hunt's impeccable performance as the notorious seductress Mrs. Erlynne is as good as it gets in this updated tale based upon an Oscar Wilde classic.

Set in the decadent 1930s Italian Riviera, this romantic comedy weaves a web of love, lies and humor. As the scandalous Mrs. Erlynne sets her sights on young, happily married Robert Windermere, his beautiful wife Meg (Scarlett Johansson from *Girl with a Pearl Earring*) fends off advances from a rakish friend.

Meanwhile, Tuppy (Tom Wilkinson) haplessly pursues the lady of his dreams, Mrs. Erlynne. From the stunning cinematography to the elegant score and costumes,

the intelligent script to the award-winning acting, director Mike Barker sets a new standard in period-piece filmmaking.

"Skillfully banishes theatricality."
— Neil Smith, BBCi News

"Amusing, witty and well-done."
— Avril Carruthers, Movie Vault

"Deliciously divine entertainment that I cannot wait to take my mother to see."

— Tracy from Tinseltown,
WTCM AM 580, Traverse City

Fri 7 ST/Sun 1 OTP

Made possible by a donation from Ward, Mary, Katie & Alexandra Gillett, Hanna Bistro Bar, Federico's Design Jewelers



Land of Plenty

US-Germany/Drama/NR

Acclaimed German director Wim Wenders (*Paris, Texas*; *Buena Vista Social Club*) scrutinizes America's post-9/11 fear and faith in this road-trip tale. Christian missionary Lana (Michelle Williams of *Dawson's Creek*) returns from a life abroad to find her only living relative, uncle Paul (John Diehl), a haunted Vietnam-vet loner who's become a one-man homeland security force. When a penniless Pakistani man is shot outside the homeless shelter where Lana works, the duo joins forces — Lana to serve the man's family, Paul to protect the nation from suspected terrorist dangers. Whispery prayers and gauzy cinematography are reminiscent of Wenders' classics *Wings of*

Desire and Far Away, So Close in this Venice Film Festival UNESCO Award winner.

"As an examination of the post-9/11 landscape, Land of Plenty is undoubtedly a success. The film effectively captures the sense of paranoia and shortsightedness that seems to have plagued the United States since that horrific event."

— Reel Film Reviews

Th 4 ST/Fri 7 COH

Made possible by a donation from The Talon Group and Cindy Anderson / Realtor, Coldwell Banker Schmidt

The Ax

France/Drama-Comedy/NR

Oscar-winning director Costa Gavras (*Z, Missing*) gives us this brilliant, dark satire about corporate downsizing, based on the best-selling novel by Donald Westlake.

Bruno has been laid-off from his paper-company job, a victim of "efficiency" cuts. As money gets tighter, Bruno decides to act. Determined to regain his rightful position in paper manufacturing, he decides he'll have a far better chance of landing an appropriate job, should one open up, if he could eliminate other leading candidates.

Literally. Jose Garcia displays flawless comic timing in his nuanced performance as Bruno, a man driven to desperate acts by heartless social circumstances. A brutally funny film from one of the world's best directors, presented here in Traverse City before its American release.



"A jet-black social comedy marbled with delectably close-calls, The Ax puts the merciless world of downsizing, outsourcing and other capitalist trends on the chopping block... It's laugh-out-loud funny as Bruno juggles murder, parenting, couples counseling and an unnerving number of brushes with the law."

— Variety

Th 1 ST/Sun 7 COH

Made possible by a donation from Sheila Bailey and Terri Beia; James and Kirsten Pappas



Czech film students conceive and document the nation's biggest public hoax in this European hit that explores the deceptive power of advertising and the peculiar humor of consumer impulses in post-communist times. Directors Filip Remunda and Vit Klusak stage the fake opening of "Czech Dream," a

Czech Dream Czech Rep./Doc./NR

big-box megamall, promising shoppers \$19 televisions and 10-cent mineral water. Word of this "Hypermarket for a Better Life!" saturates radio and TV, as Prague is deluged with 200,000 flyers and 400 billboards. When more than 1,000 shoppers arrive for opening day, they rush toward the hypermarket's 320-foot façade — only to learn it's a stage set. Angered, then resigned, the shoppers become starring characters in this "film reality show." "I thought the era of lies was over," sighs one duped shop-

per. "But it's not." Best documentary award-winner at Denmark's Aarhus Film Festival, the Czech International Documentary Festival Jihlava, and Slovenia's International Film Festival Ljubljana.

"The practical joke was so vast and baffling as to verge on surrealism."

— The Economist

Thu 1 OTP/Fri 4 OTP

Made possible by a donation from Dr. Patrick and Susan Tobin; Scott Craig and Carol Bawden



The Baxter US/Comedy/PG-13

This polite and graceful romantic comedy is reminiscent of an old Frank Capra movie, where all the characters behave themselves.

The story unfolds with accountant Elliot Sherman (writer/director Michael Showalter of Comedy Centra's *Stella*) being left at the altar by the beautiful socialite Caroline Swan for her handsome ex-beau. Sherman is a "baxter" who, according to his grandmother, is the guy who never gets the girl, who either has soup spilled on him or spills the soup. But is he?

With the help of his best friend and temporary secretary, Sherman discovers that love is in the eye of the beholder, and there is someone for every "Harvey-Wallbanger-drinking accountant whose main excitement is backward-jeans-day at the office" in the world.

A lovable tale about taking risks, not settling for contentment but reaching beyond it for what you really want. Co-starring Michelle Williams (*Dawson's Creek*), Justin Theroux (*Six Feet Under*), Michael Ian Black (*Ed*), and Peter Dinklage (*The Station Agent*).

"The Baxter may find a following among those who stand in awe of the names Sandler, Ferrell and Spade."

— John Anderson, Variety

"A sweet, innocent, romantic comedy that is the Napoleon Dynamite for intelligent adults."

— Tracy from Tinseltown, WTCM AM 580, Traverse City

Fri 7 OTP/Sat 4 ST

Made possible by a donation from The Cherry Republic; American Spoon Foods and DeYoung's Wallpaper and Paint Inc.

The Edukators Germany/Drama/R

Presented here in Traverse City before its American release, the best German film of the year (and official selection of the Cannes Film Festival) follows a group of twenty-somethings who have had enough of demonstrations and believe it's time to send a different kind of political and social message: "What you own, someone once said, one day owns you."

They form a clandestine gang called The Edukators and

break in to the homes of the rich, rearrange their furniture, and leave them a message about their greedy ways. *Your days of plenty are numbered.*

But things go awry as sexual attraction intrudes, and a kidnapped CEO upsets their master plan.

"Tense, evocative and emotional. One of the smartest thrillers this year."

— Michael Wilmington, Chicago Tribune



Fri 4 ST/Sat 7 OTP

Made possible by a donation from Belstone Gallery and McMillen's Instant Framer; Mary's Kitchen Port

Grizzly Man US/Doc./R

teen summers living among bears in Alaska's wilds.

Herzog edited more than 100 hours of Treadwell's film footage into this riveting man-vs.-nature cautionary tale that culminates in the horrific mauling deaths of Treadwell and his girlfriend by one of Treadwell's beloved grizzlies.

This Sundance winner is presented here in Traverse City before its nationwide release through the generosity of Werner Herzog.

"Grizzly Man is something hard to find - a documentary with imagination."

—International Herald Tribune

"One of the director's finest — beautiful and richly ambivalent."

— Toronto Star

Thu 7 OTP/Fri 10 ST /Sat 7 COH

Made possible by a donation from David Hanawalt, Michael Belitos and Anderson Construction & Real Estate, Inc.; Grand Traverse Resort & Casinos



Celebrated German filmmaker Werner Herzog explores obsession, madness and the boundaries between man and beast in this mind-blowing documentary about grizzly enthusiast Timothy Treadwell, who spent thir-

Documentaries

COH = City Opera House
ST = State Theatre
OTP = Old Town Playhouse



Mondovino

International/Doc./PG-13

More than a documentary, *Mondovino* is a subtle love letter to place, to *terroir*. Small vintners from Argentina to southern France share their passion for their land, their art and their vines in the face of a wine industry increasingly populated by big-business buy-outs, branding strategies, *Wine Spectator* ratings and consultants who, with oak barrels and oxygenation, help homogenize taste for a global market. Even so, these small vintners remain believers. They believe in the magic of their *terroir*—small wine-growing regions

that share the same soil, weather and spirit, that produce wines that taste like home. It's individual regional vintners who will keep winemaking an art, not a commodity, this movie argues.

Only the third documentary in 50 years to be made an Official Selection at the Cannes Film Festival.

Thu 4 OTP/Sat 1 OTP

Made possible by a donation from William and Barbara Alldredge; and Stylease



Home of the Brave

US/Doc./NR

In this wrenching journey toward redemption, comprehension and solace, the daughter of Detroit's Viola Liuzzo — the only white woman murdered in the civil rights movement — visits her mother's memorial in Selma, Alabama, the scene of 1965's brutal voting rights marches. Liuzzo's heroic legacy of giving her life for constitutional rights

and prompting the first federal civil rights prosecution of klansmen is juxtaposed against her children's lifelong yearning to see a triggerman convicted and to restore Viola's honorable name following an FBI smear campaign.

Thu 4 COH/Sat 4 COH

Made possible by a donation from The Dean Robb Law Firm; Parsons Ringsmuth Law Firm

Tarnation US/Doc./NR

This cinematic memoir, the edgiest film in our line-up, is a revolution in filmmaking: A \$218 movie made on an iMac with home videos, answering machine tapes and snapshots.

Director Jonathan Caouette began production, unwittingly, at age 11, when he began videotaping his harrowing upbringing

with his mentally ill mother.

Some 20 years later, he created the rough cut of this brilliant film in three weeks on his computer, using 160 hours of accumulated footage. The fast-moving imagery and unrivaled soundtrack combine for a powerful, complex movie experience. This deeply moving mon-



tage is a shattering personal story of love and unbreakable bonds between mother and son. Winner of the Los Angeles IFF/West Film Festival.

Fri 1 OTP

Made possible by a donation from Rainbow Rehabilitation Centers

Enron: The Smartest Guys in the Room US/Doc./NR

Described by the L.A. Weekly as "fiercely intelligent, terrifying, and absurdly funny," *Enron* is the largest-grossing documentary so far this year. Every inch of this sordid tale is true: compelling characters, scary villains, gold bathroom fixtures

and a plotline that will have you laughing one minute and gasping the next. *Enron* tells it all about a company run on greed with friends in high places.

The director, Alex Gibney, will appear in person at the screening.



Fri 1 ST/Sun 4 OTP

Shag, Venus and Ella's Vintage & Retro; Wednesday Lunch Bunch: Sondra Hardy, Nancy Hayward, Jean Howard, Lynn Larson, Judith Lindenau, Marcy Manseau and Jan Warren, and Uppity Women: Ann Krantz, Maureen Riley, Judith Ramsdell and June Thaden



Gunner Palace US/Doc./PG-13

The U.S. Army's 2/3 Field Artillery Unit, otherwise known as The Gunners, share barracks in Uday Hussein's bombed-out

pleasure palace in the battle-ravaged heart of Baghdad, where director Michael Tucker spent two months documenting their day-to-day lives in a war without a seeming end. These 400 soldiers rap for cameras, dodge roadside bombs and float in Hussein's opulent pool. They execute raids, tee up on the palace greens, and intro-

duce orphaned Iraqi children to SpongeBob Squarepants in this film documenting the complex realities of the Iraq war.

Fri 4 COH/Sat 10 ST

Made possible by a donation from Michigan Citizens for Water Conservation, Olson, Bzdok & Howard, P.C.

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vt 7/25, 8/26/16

Director Laurent Cantet used non-professionals for most acting roles in *Human Resources*. He "discovered" much of the cast in unemployment lines.

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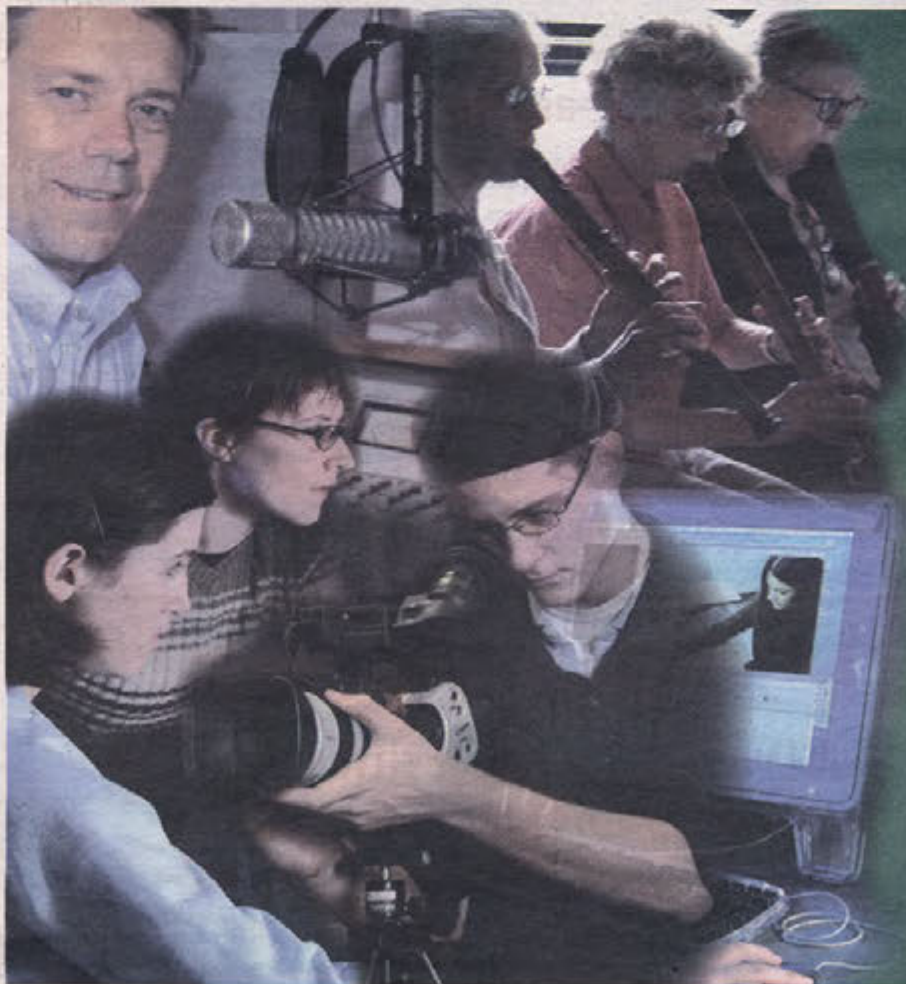


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Founders Preview Screening through the generosity of Classic Real Estate and Northwood Paint & Supply

The Festival Committee has done its best to correctly recognize all of our valued sponsors and patrons. We sincerely apologize for any unintentional omissions or errors.



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Traverse City Film Festival

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Foreign Language



Italian for Beginners

Denmark-Sweedden
/Comedy/R

day-to-day lives. As they begin to reveal themselves, in funny and poignant scenes, they form bonds and a network which becomes a family — a safety net and a new reason to live. In their naivete and heartbreaking honesty, each character is funny and achingly human. Winner of the Jury Prize at the Berlin Film Festival.

Fri 1 COH/Sun 7 OTP

Made possible by a donation from Cali's Boutique, Mary Fisher and Cindy Robb, Traverse City Eye Consultants



Downfall

Berlin, 1945: A nation awaits its downfall. With the Russian army at city gates, Adolph Hitler, his generals, their families and staff retreat beneath the German Chancellery, where epic stories of delusion, destruction and death play out. Hitler prepares for victory until the final moment. One by one, figures from the worst hours of Germany's history enter. Josef Goebbels, his wife

Germany-Italy/Drama/R

and six children arrive to meet their tragic fates. Eva Braun and Hitler marry, while beyond the bunker the fight for Berlin rages, street to street, with a ragtag army of zealots and young boys. Peter, 13, proudly destroys two Russian tanks before running home to find his parents murdered by the SS. All hope for the future of Germany lies in Peter and Trudi, Hitler's personal secretary, who must somehow survive.

Thu 7 COH/Sat 1 ST

Made possible by a donation from Rhonda L. Estes; Epstein, Levin, Bodine & Hurwitz

Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress

France-China/Drama/NR

A best-foreign-film nominee at the Golden Globes, this lush, exotic love story from China is set during the Cultural Revolution of the early 1970s. Two bright city boys must be "re-educated" and broken of their western ways, so they are sent to a remote mountainous

village where no one can read or write. They stumble upon a cache of banned books and begin to read the stories of Balzac and Madame Bovary to a beautiful seamstress girl, who becomes liberated by the literature, and is willing to risk her life for art.



Thu 10 ST/Sun 4 COH

Made possible by a donation from Miner's North Jewelers, Barbara Dennon

Time Out

France/Drama/PG-13

Vincent is a man who gets up every morning and goes to work. Only problem is, he was laid off months ago. Too embarrassed to tell anyone he no longer has a job, he travels the French countryside, checks in with his wife often, talking about nonexistent meetings and clients. When questioned, he invents a new job with the United Nations. Vincent creates a series of lies that dig him in only deeper — with



growing consequences and dangerous results. This Venice Film Festival winner is our second film — in addition to *Human Resources* — from director Laurent Cantet.

Sat 10 COH/Sun 1 COH

Made possible by a donation from Chris Dennon, Anne Shuyler; Ask the Real Estate Guy! with Jack Lane



Human Resources

France/Drama/NR

A working-class son returns from graduate school to his father's factory, where his good-hearted initiatives unexpectedly prompt layoffs of older workers - including dad, who's worked there for thirty years. Power and sympathies shift in this compelling, suspenseful drama about class and family, labor and management. Many actors in this winner of France's Academy Award are nonprofessionals found in

unemployment lines. Director Laurent Cantet creates a human morality tale that is overpowering in evocation of paternal and filial love. Cezar and Prix Louis Delluc best first film awards and winner at Torino, Thessaloniki, Seattle, San Sebastain, Entrevues, Emden, Buenos Aires and Amiens film festivals.

Thu 10 COH/Sat 1 COH

Made possible by a donation from the Law Offices of Stuart J. Hollander, PLC

FAST FILM FACT: *The Assassination of Richard Nixon* adapts the true story of Sam Bick, an office furniture salesman who in 1972 attempted to hijack a plane and fly it into the White House.

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Indie films

COH = City Opera House
ST = State Theatre
OTP = Old Town Playhouse



My Summer of Love

UK/Drama/R

When two girls meet during their summer holiday, they form an intense bond that borders on obsession and causes clashes within families. A working-class Yorkshire girl becomes fast friends with a rich girl who's been suspended from school

and sent to the countryside for summer. The relationship doesn't sit well with an overly protective born-again brother. Winner of the Best New British Film at the Edinburgh Film Festival and already a hit in New York and L.A.

"Spellbinding and seductive."
— Newsweek

Thu 7 ST/Fri 10 COH

Made possible by a donation from Beyond the Bay Film Series, Drs. Ken and Terrie Taylor - Happy Birthday Vianca!



Me and You and Everyone We Know

US-UK/Drama/R

This Sundance and Cannes winner is a lyrical, delicate and inventive look at acceptance, love and the fragility of human connections. This first film by director and actor Miranda July is independent in every sense of the word. As Christine, July and her whimsical community of oddballs — an artist, a single-father shoe salesman — live in a world where life is magical, love is possible and mundane moments are radiant.

"This year's Sideways. It's original, complex, tender, poetic and daring. It's about the mysteries of sex and the enchantments of the heart."
— Roger Ebert, Chicago Sun Times

"Breathtaking. So unique, so true; a marvelous movie ... not to be missed."
— Lisa Schwarzbaum, Entertainment Weekly

"A moonbeam romance laced with startling wit and gravity."
— Rolling Stone

Thu 1 COH/Sat 7 ST

Made possible by a donation from Andrew and Leisa Hankins, My Favorite Things, Tiny Toes, Orchard Creek Health Care

The Talent Given Us

US/Comedy-Drama/NR

Made for \$30,000 with a two-person crew, this hilarious, biting comedy about a dysfunctional family is already the most talked-about film of the year. Roger Ebert calls it "brave" and Newsday says it's "breathtaking." Director Andrew Wagner cast his parents and siblings in this fictional story about a 70-year-old couple and their daughter driving cross-country from New York's upper west side to Los Angeles, where their loner son is trying to make it as a film director. It's never clear what's fact

and what's fiction in this film that's painfully real and ultimately a riot. Wagner will attend the screening and participate in a panel discussion.

"Uncommonly confessional and perceptive — brutally truthful, funny and touching in nearly equal measure."

— Scott Foundas, Variety

"The Talent Given Us could quality as the bravest film I have ever see."

— Wendy Mitchell, indieWIRE



Sat 4 OTP/Sun 4 ST

Made possible by a donation from Michael and Christine Zenn, La Cuisine Amical, Grand Traverse Pie

FAST FILM FACT: The public hoax in *Czech Dream* provoked weeks of debate among residents and in the media. The film, made by students, was discussed in Czech Parliament.

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The Assassination of Richard Nixon US-Mexico/Drama/R

One of the most overlooked films from last year (it didn't play within 200 miles of here), this brilliant movie stars Sean Penn in a *tour de force* performance that surpasses his Oscar-winning role in *Mystic River*.

It's a chilling drama that has little to do with Richard Nixon but everything to do with a man named Sam. His wife has left him, he's underperforming on the job, and he realizes all his hopes and wishes may never come true. A masterful exploration of the dark side of the American Dream, with an excellent supporting cast including

Naomi Watts and Don Cheadle. Based on the real life of a man who, in a move prescient of the 9/11 attacks, schemed to fly a plane into the White House in 1974.

"The beauty of this astonishing performance is the way Penn finds the loneliness that isolates him. It isn't easy to watch Bicke deteriorate into madness, but Penn makes it unthinkable to turn away."

— Peter Travers, Rolling Stone

Fri 10 OTP

Made possible by a donation from Ed and Karen Walker

The Woodsman US/Doc./NR

In one of the best and most overlooked films of 2004, Kevin Bacon turns in the performance of his career in role few actors would have the courage to take on. Walter is a pedophile who has just been released from prison, yet is determined to lead a normal life, though he's surrounded by those who loathe him. Every day is a struggle as he tries to come to grips with his past — and the knowledge

that he may do it again. Kevin Bacon plays Walter with sensitivity and intelligence, fighting doubts about himself and his ability to control his lingering desires. A winner at the London, Deauville, Cannes and Slamdance film festivals.

"The Woodsman is long on truth and utterly gripping"

— Karen Durbin, Elle



Thu 10 OTP

Made possible by a donation from Rainbow Rehabilitation Centers

11 de Septembre

International/Compilation/NR

11 of the world's top directors were commissioned to make a short film, fiction or nonfiction, reflecting their visions of the world after September 11, 2001. These eleven-minute, nine-second shorts, all one-shot long, are profound, moving, controversial, and sublime. These diverse and personal shorts range from the emotional to the political,

giving international perspective to the monumental world tragedy. There is nothing like this anywhere, thanks to such fine directors as Ken Loach, Mira Nair and Sean Penn.

"Often brilliant, always revelatory, deeply interesting omnibus film."

— Chicago Tribune



Sun 1 ST

Made possible by a donation from the Endeavor Agency



This best-foreign-film Oscar winner takes Victor Hugo's classic novel and moves it to Nazi-occupied France, where the Zimans, a Jewish family on the run, are picked up by an illiterate ex-boxer named

Les Misérables France/Drama/R

Fortin (played by the great French actor Jean-Paul Belmondo). As the Zimans read aloud from the epic 1862 novel, similarities between its story and theirs become poignant and immediate. Moved by this book he can't even read, Fortin searches for the strength to become the hero he never was. A rich, powerful, ageless movie.

"Part dream, part nightmare, shimmers with moral urgency."

— Washington Post

"A story of the indomitable nature of the human spirit. To be sure, there's much evil in this world, but there's good as well."

— James Berardinelli, ReelViews

Sat 10 OTP

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FAST FILM FACT: Director Wim Wenders developed his treatment for *Land of Plenty* in three days, finished the screenplay in three weeks, and shot the entire movie in 16 days.



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Sylvia Rector, Detroit Free Press Restaurant Critic, 2004

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Christopher Cook, Detroit's Hour Magazine 2005

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	STATE THEATRE	OLDTOWN PLAYHOUSE	CITY OPERA HOUSE
WED. 7/27	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 & 10 p.m. Mad Hot Ballroom — Second show just added		
THUR. 7/28	<input type="checkbox"/> 1:00 pm The Ax	<input type="checkbox"/> 1:00 pm Czech Dream	<input type="checkbox"/> 1:00 pm Me and You and Everyone We Know
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4:00 pm Land of Plenty	<input type="checkbox"/> 4:00 pm Mondovino	<input type="checkbox"/> 4:00 pm Home of the Brave
	<input type="checkbox"/> 7:00 pm My Summer of Love	<input type="checkbox"/> 7:00 pm Grizzly Man	<input type="checkbox"/> 7:00 pm Downfall
	<input type="checkbox"/> 10:00 pm Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress	<input type="checkbox"/> 10:00 pm The Woodsman	<input type="checkbox"/> 10:00 pm Human Resources
FRI. 7/29	<input type="checkbox"/> 1:00 pm Enron: The Smartest Guys in the Room	<input type="checkbox"/> 1:00 pm Tarnation	<input type="checkbox"/> 1:00 pm Italian for Beginners
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4:00 pm The Edukators	<input type="checkbox"/> 4:00 pm Czech Dream	<input type="checkbox"/> 4:00 pm Gunner Palace
	<input type="checkbox"/> 7:00 pm A Good Woman	<input type="checkbox"/> 7:00 pm The Baxter	<input type="checkbox"/> 7:00 pm Land of Plenty
	<input type="checkbox"/> 10:00 pm Grizzly Man	<input type="checkbox"/> 10:00 pm The Assassination of Richard Nixon	<input type="checkbox"/> 10:00 pm My Summer of Love
SAT. 7/30	<input type="checkbox"/> 1:00 pm Downfall	<input type="checkbox"/> 1:00 pm Mondovino	<input type="checkbox"/> 1:00 pm Human Resources
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4:00 pm The Baxter	<input type="checkbox"/> 4:00 pm The Talent Given Us	<input type="checkbox"/> 4:00 pm Home of the Brave
	<input type="checkbox"/> 7:00 pm Me and You and Everyone We Know	<input type="checkbox"/> 7:00 pm The Edukators	<input type="checkbox"/> 7:00 pm Grizzly Man
	<input type="checkbox"/> 10:00 pm Gunner Palace	<input type="checkbox"/> 10:00 pm Les Miserables	<input type="checkbox"/> 10:00 pm Time Out
SUN. 7/31	<input type="checkbox"/> 1:00 pm 11 de Septembre	<input type="checkbox"/> 1:00 pm A Good Woman	<input type="checkbox"/> 1:00 pm Time Out
	<input type="checkbox"/> 4:00 pm The Talent Given Us	<input type="checkbox"/> 4:00 pm Enron: The Smartest Guys in the Room	<input type="checkbox"/> 4:00 pm Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress
	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 & 10 p.m. Broken Flowers — Second show just added!	<input type="checkbox"/> 7:00 pm Italian for Beginners	<input type="checkbox"/> 7:00 pm The Ax
		<input type="checkbox"/> 10:00 pm Mike's surprise screening	<input type="checkbox"/> 10:00 pm Founders Prize Screening

All movies are subject to change. Consult our website: www.traverscityfilmfestival.org

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Director Rob Reiner left the set of *Princess Bride* during Billy Crystal's scenes because if he didn't, he'd laugh so hard that he'd become nauseated.

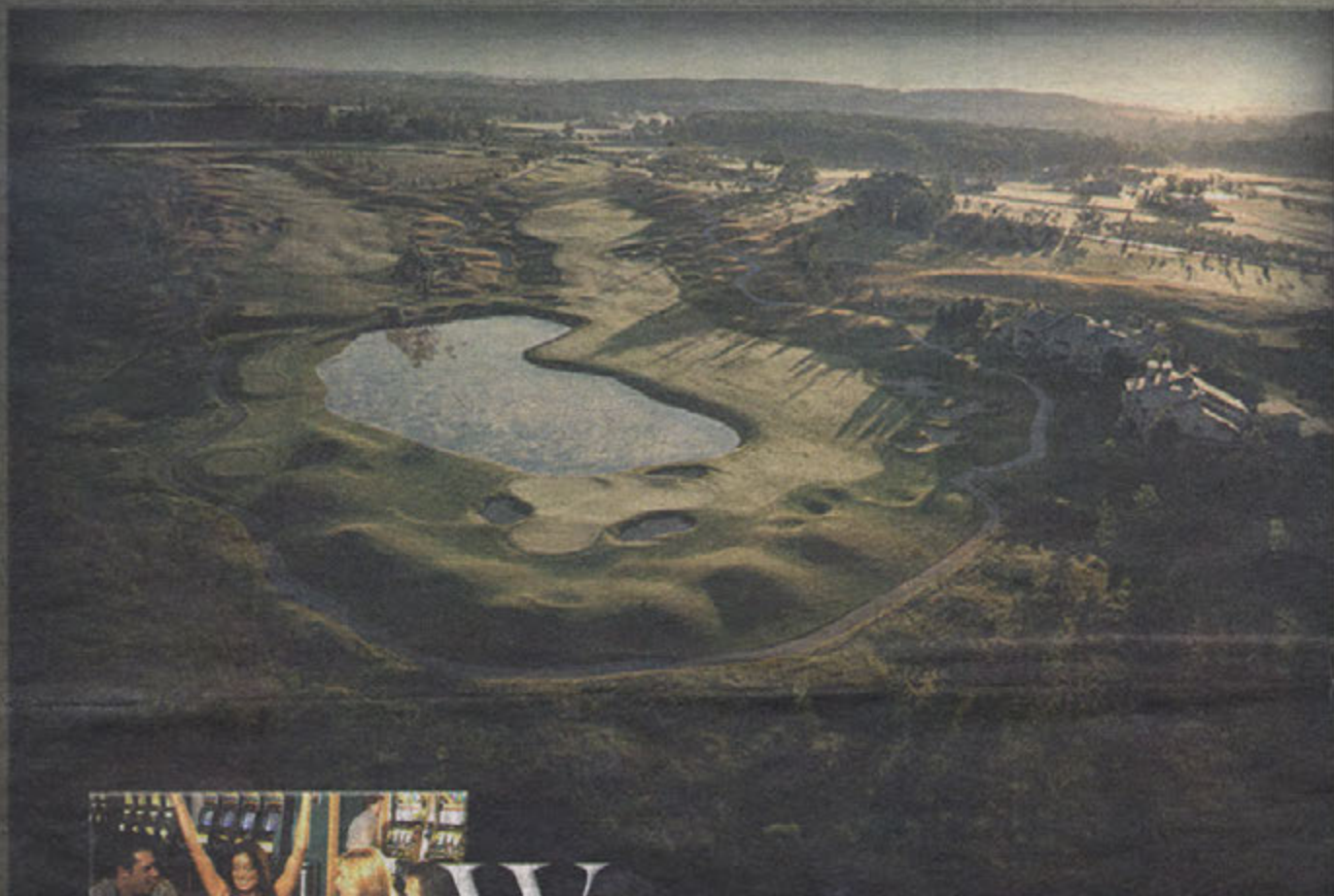


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