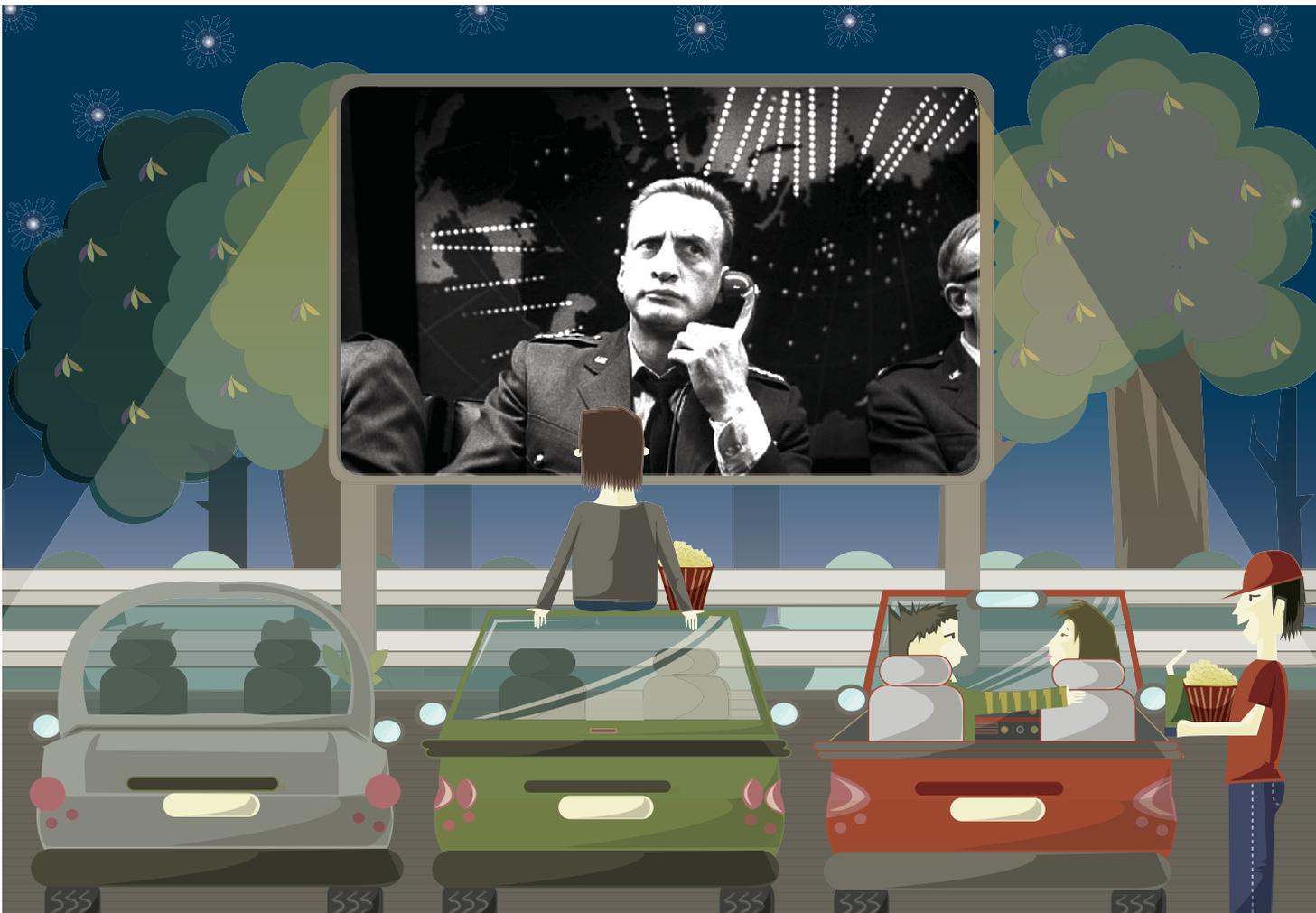


weekend 07.12.2013

lookout



The rock 'em sock 'em robots in 'Pacific Rim' are more than meets the eye **22** | Dig through our guide to the best flea markets in the area **18**



The team at Union Market and the D.C. Committee on Arts and Humanities had to make some concessions to the urban environment. There's a picnic area for folks who arrive by foot or bike. And Washingtonians spoiled by food trucks and fancy cinema snacks now have higher dining expectations.

Drive-In Decorum

What you've seen in films isn't necessarily what goes down at the DC Drive-In. Here's your guide for novices:

- ◆ Smuggling friends onto the lot in the trunk of your car won't save money, because the event is free.
- ◆ You will not be attaching a speaker to your car. Instead, tune your car radio to 88.1 FM. If you're sitting in the picnic area, there will be speakers, and all films will be captioned.
- ◆ Making out is not only allowed, "but highly encouraged," Boyle says.

"I don't think you could get gourmet food at a drive-in back in the '50s," says Steven Boyle, managing director of Union Market. Vendors such as TaKorean and Curbside Cupcakes will be open for business; stale popcorn with butter-ish chemicals won't be on anyone's menu.

The evening starts at 7 p.m. with music, contests and giveaways. Members of the D.C. Rollergirls will zoom around with snacks for purchase. Reservations for the car lot are all gone, but drive-ins are welcome: Line up on southbound Sixth Street NE. The lot opens at 8 p.m. and showtime's at 9.

Strange as it may seem to prepare for a movie by turning off your headlights, it's certainly worth trying once in your life. Just unfasten your seat belt and enjoy the ride. KRISTEN PAGE-KIRBY (EXPRESS)

● Union Market, 1309 Fifth St. NE; Fridays through Aug. 2, 7 p.m., free; unionmarketdc.com. (NoMa-Gallaudet U)

Parkin' Re-Creation

It's tough to experience the quintessential American drive-in these days. You could drive up to Bengies in Baltimore or out to rural Virginia, or huddle in a car squinting at Netflix on an iPad, yes. But finding somewhere convenient where you can bask in the warm glow of the screen and the dashboard at the same time has been impossible. Until now! Union Market's new DC Drive-In brings the 1950s staple to the heart of the District, if only for a few weeks.

What's Playing

All four films are D.C.-centric, starting with "Dr. Strangelove or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb" on July 12, because nothing says "family fun" like the threat of nuclear apocalypse. Next is "The Distinguished Gentleman" on July 19. It stars Eddie Murphy as a con man who has the same name as a deceased congressman, making it easy for him to win the guy's seat and get his own show on Fox News (not really). "The American President," in which screenwriter Aaron Sorkin shows the lack of knowledge of D.C. geography that would later plague him on "The West Wing," plays on July 26. The Kevin Costner thriller "No Way Out" wraps things up Aug. 2.

outdoor movies **lookout**

MORE Movies Under Moonlight

If you miss the Union Market drive-in, there are still plenty of spots to see a movie under the stars. You can catch an outdoor flick nearly every night through the end of August! Times, as well as rules about alcohol, chairs, pets, kids and weather, vary from place to place, so check websites before heading out.

Movies on the Potomac:

Sundays through Sept. 1, the Plaza at National Harbor; nationalharbor.com. **Next film:** "Back to the Future," Sunday



Screen on the Green:

Mondays, July 22-Aug. 12, National Mall between Seventh and 12th streets NW; friendsofscreenonthegreen.org. (Smithsonian) **Next film:** "E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial," July 22

Crystal Screen: Mondays through Aug. 26, 1851 S. Bell St., Arlington; crystalcity.org. (Crystal City) **Next film:** "Moneyball," Monday

Family Night at Sursum Corda:

Tuesdays, July 23, Aug. 6 and Aug. 20, First and L streets NW; nomabid.org. **Next film:** "Toy Story 3," July 23

NoMa Summer Screen:

Wednesdays through Aug. 21, Loree Grand Field, Second and L streets NE; nomabid.org. **Next film:** "Moonrise Kingdom," Wednesday

Movies on the Square:

Wednesdays through Aug. 21, 200 E. Middle Lane, Rockville; rockvilletownsquare.com. (Rockville) **Next film:** "Men in Black 3," July 17

Hack Your Own Drive-In

In 2005, mobile movie hobbyist **Bryan Kennedy** founded mobmov.org, an online community that supports and facilitates guerrilla drive-ins across the world. (MobMov boasts more than 20,000 members across 36 countries who stage drive-in screenings in public outdoor spaces.) Care to give it a try? This particular set-up requires a modest investment in equipment, but smaller-scale viewings on roofs, and in backyards or driveways, don't require gear this specialized. HOLLEY SIMMONS (EXPRESS)



THE POWER SOURCE

You'll want to screen your movie in a big open space, so access to a traditional power outlet is unlikely. You can use a generator or hook cables to a car's battery, but Kennedy prefers a rechargeable deep-cycle marine battery, which costs about \$80 at boating supply stores. Because you can't simply plug your projector into the battery, Kennedy says you'll also need a power inverter with at least a 1,600-watt output. Cobra makes a well-reviewed model for \$80 (solidsignal.com).



THE PROJECTOR

Kennedy suggests a model with at least 2,000 lumens to fight the ambient light with outdoors. Both BenQ and InFocus make solid models costing about \$300 (amazon.com). Plug in a DVD player, laptop or iPad — make sure you have the right cables and adapters! — and you're set.



THE SOUND

An FM transmitter lets viewers listen along on their car radios. Kennedy uses a Ramsey FM25B, which broadcasts sound up to 200 feet (\$140, amazon.com, assembly required). Speakers are an option if you want a more open-air experience.



THE SCREEN

There's no need to invest in anything fancy; a non-textured, semi-white wall will serve you just fine and takes pesky wind out of the equation. For his very first screening, Kennedy projected "Ghostbusters" onto a wall in a UC Berkeley parking lot.



... WHAT ABOUT THAT FBI WARNING I SEE EVERY TIME I RENT A MOVIE? IS THIS ILLEGAL?

As a drive-in host, you must respect copyright. Barath Chari, an intellectual property lawyer at the D.C. office of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, says: "If it's just you and your friends watching a DVD in your backyard, that's fine. If you invite hundreds of people and charge for it, that violates the copyright license." Kennedy has had luck with Swank Pictures (swank.com), which grants non-theatrical licenses for \$100-\$300.

THE REELIST'S BEST MOVIES TO WATCH IN A GROUP

'Dirty Dancing'

Required viewing at any late-'80s slumber party, the 1987 romance has plenty to sing along to, as well as the classic "Nobody puts Baby in a corner" line. **Moment to Watch For:** The triumphant lift at the end. Have the guests try it themselves. Have waivers on hand.

'Showgirls'

When this 1995 flop is shown on basic cable (and it is!) they digitally insert bikinis. Throw caution to the wind and a middle finger to the FCC and embrace the real thing. **Things. Moment to Watch For:** It involves ice. You'll know it when you see it.

'Halloween'

So what if it's not October? The 1978 horror classic works any time of year. After the show, invite everyone to sleep over. With the lights on. **Moment to Watch For:** Create your own. Hire a friend to burst out of nowhere wearing a Michael Myers mask. Get video!

'Grease'

Most everyone's seen this 1978 musical, so it's OK if the time is spent making out instead. **Moment to Watch For:** "Greased Lightning." Make guests write down what they think the words are. Then hand out the actual lyrics so everyone can see how incredibly dirty they are.

Golden Cinema Series:

Fridays through July 12, Heurich House Museum, 1307 New Hampshire Ave. NW; goldentriangledc.com. (Dupont Circle) **Next film:** "The Philadelphia Story," July 12



Capitol Riverfront:

Thursdays through Aug. 8, Canal Park, M and Second streets SE; capitolriverfront.org. (Navy Yard) **Next film:** "Thor," Thursday

Movies Under the Stars:

Fridays, July 19-Aug. 30, David R. Pinn Community Center, 10255 Zion Drive, Fairfax; fairfaxcounty.gov. **Next film:** "Oz the Great and Powerful," July 19

Mosaic Films in the

Park: Fridays through Aug. 30, Strawberry Park, 2910 District Ave., Fairfax; mosaicdistrict.com. **Next film:** "Moneyball," Friday

Rosslyn Outdoor Film

Festival: Fridays through Aug. 30, Gateway Park, 1300 Lee Highway; rosslynva.org. (Rosslyn) **Next film:** "Pretty in Pink," Friday



Cinema Del Ray:

Third Saturdays through Aug. 17, Mount Vernon RECenter, 2017 Belle View Blvd., Alexandria. **Next film:** "Wreck-It Ralph," July 20

Bethesda Outdoor

Movies: Daily July 23-27, Norfolk and Auburn avenues, Bethesda; bethesda.org. **Next film:** "The Princess Bride," July 23