

THE MELALEUCA COMMUNITY PAGE

Most parents today are concerned about the impact of popular media on their children (and on themselves). Messages or images derived from music, magazines and books, television, the Internet, and film leave impressions on the mind and in the emotions. They influence attitudes and behavior. Sometimes they leave scars.

As a service to the community, the first Sunday of each month Melaleuca will provide a brief summation of the content of films currently playing in Idaho Falls cinemas. These "vital snapshots" are condensed from in-depth reviews available on other public sources (like www.screenit.com and www.filmvalues.com) and are not intended (with the rare exception) to be either endorsements or condemnations of any given film. This overview is simply our offer to be of assistance in your efforts to make an informed choice. May you pick well, and live well.

From Melaleuca, The Wellness Company™

Films Now Playing in Idaho Falls

Alien vs. Predator (PG-13)

S1, P3, V3, A1, T2

A team of archaeologists in Antarctica discovers extraterrestrial beings bent on killing them.

Anacondas: The Hunt for the Blood Orchid (PG-13)

S2, P3, V2, A3, T3

Scientists delve into the jungles of Borneo seeking the medicinal "blood orchid." They soon find themselves under attack by giant anacondas, and troubled by their own doubts and fears.

Anchorman (PG-13)

S3, P3, V2, A2, T2

A 1970s newsroom in San Diego breaks the mold of convention by hiring a woman reporter, leading to rivalry, a love affair, confusion, and... more confusion.

Around the World In 80 Days (PG)

S2, P1, V3, A3, T2

A turn of the century inventor and his two companions try to circle the globe in just eighty days to win a bet.

Benji: Off the Leash (PG)

S1, P2, V1, A1, T2

A stray dog avoids two bumbling dogcatchers, while a boy tries to avoid his own mean, uncaring father.

Bourne Supremacy (PG-13)

S1, P3, V3, A1, T2

Officially abandoned U.S. super agent Jason Bourne wants to know why his government now wants him dead. He intends to find out. And he always succeeds.

Catwoman (PG-13)

S2, P1, V3, A1, T2

Resurrected with superhuman powers and feline prowess, a woman sets out to get revenge on the woman who had her killed.

Cellular (PG-13)

S2, P3, V3, A1, T3

An immature young man is forced to grow up when drawn into a desperate situation involving a kidnapped woman and her soon-to-be kidnapped young son. Their only link is a cellular telephone call... and the signal is fading.

Cinderella Story (PG)

S2, P1, V1, A1, T2

A teen/tween-oriented modernization of the fairy tale: mingy step-moms and step sisters, demeaning peers, a bleak future and... but wait! Prince Charming and honorable effort come through to lead our damsel in distress to better days.

Collateral (R)

S2, P3, V3, A1, T3

A cab driver finds himself hosting a cross-country fare... who may be a hired killer.

Exorcist: the Beginning (R)

S3, P3, V3, A1, T3

The Devil is up to no good, and no one has any power to intervene. Violent, irreverent and deeply disturbing.

First Daughter (PG)

S2, P2, V1, A2, T2

The daughter of the President of the United States tries to lead a normal life at a college far from Washington, D.C. College antics, family tensions, and coming-of-age themes prevail.

Forgotten (PG-13)

S1, P3, V3, A1, T3

A grieving mother struggles to cope with the loss of her 8-year-old son... who her psychiatrist tells her she never had.

Garden State (R)

S3, P3, V1, A3, T3

A clinically depressed young man returns to his hometown attempting to heal issues from his past.

Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban (PG)

S1, P1, V2, A1, T3

The young wizard discovers that the murderer of his parents has escaped from prison... and is coming after him.

Hero (PG-13)

S2, P1, V3, A1, T2

Mandarin, with subtitles—a visually rich, highly stylized story of the struggle for power and peace in an earlier age in China.

I, Robot (PG-13)

S1, P2, V3, A1, T3

A homicide detective in the year 2035 investigates a murder he believes was committed by a robot.

King Arthur (PG-13)

S3, P2, V3, A2, T2

Modern telling of the largely unknown and probably unknowable tale of a band of Roman mercenaries (Arthur, Lancelot, Galahad, etc) rescuing a group of Britons from Saxon invasion in the fifth Century A.D.

Little Black Book (PG-13)

S3, P2, V1, A1, T2

A woman digs into her boyfriend's romantic history, and finds that it may not be history after all.

Manchurian Candidate (R)

S1, P3, V3, A1, T2

A group of Gulf War veterans share dreams in the night that may or may not be true... but which could affect the future of the nation.

Mr. 3000 (PG-13)

S3, P2, V1, A2, T1

When a Hall of Fame evaluation determines an arrogant former baseball legend is really three hits shy of immortality, he reenters the game only to discover he may have more to offer than a new shine on old memories.

Napoleon Dynamite (PG)

S1, P1, V1, A1, T2

Shot entirely in Preston, Idaho. A clean-cut, almost offense-free anthem of sorts to highschool nerd-ism.

Notebook (PG-13)

S3, P1, V2, A1, T2

Based on the Nick Sparks novel, two stories intertwined find an older gentleman hoping to light a spark in the mind of a nursing home resident by reading the story of a pair of young, star-crossed lovers in the 1940s.

Open Water (R)

S3, P3, V2, A1, T2

Ascending from a scuba dive in open water, a man and woman discover they have been left alone... in shark-infested waters.

Princess Diaries 2: Royal Engagement (G)

S1, P1, V1, A1, T1

An American girl born into royal European lineage must get married within thirty days or lose all rights to becoming a Queen.

Resident Evil: Apocalypse (R)

S3, P3, V3, A2, T3

A genetically-altered woman risks her life to save a girl trapped in a city of infectious zombies.

Riding Giants (PG-13)

S1, P3, V1, A1, T1

Documentary: The history, allure, and future of big-wave surfing.

Saints and Soldiers (PG-13)

S1, P2, V3, A1, T2

Caught behind enemy lines at the Battle of the Bulge, five allied soldiers give everything they have to bring vital information to their commanders. Completely shot and produced in Utah, a vital, well-crafted exploration of honor, courage, and faith.

Scooby Do 2 (PG)

S1, P2, V2, A2, T2

A ragtag band of young crime solvers and their talking dog try to stop the criminal mind behind a monster-making machine.

Shrek 2 (PG)

S1, P1, V2, A1, T2

The green ogre (with help from sidekick Donkey) and Princess Fiona contend against forces that would destroy their happy marriage... like disgruntled in-laws with a Fairy Godmother. And you thought you had challenges.

Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow (PG)

S1, P1, V2, A1, T2

An ambitious reporter and her dashing companion join forces to save the world in this stylized computer-age reincarnation of the Hero tales of yesteryear.

Spider-Man 2 (PG-13)

S1, P1, V3, A2, T2

Young Peter Parker struggles to find balance between his lives as a Superhero and just a guy with a crush on the now famous former girl-next-door.

Super Babies: Baby Geniuses 2 (PG)

S1, P2, V2, A1, T1

Babies in Los Angeles join a super-hero seven-year-old to fight off an evil mastermind.

Suspect Zero (R)

S3, P3, V3, A1, T2

A demoted FBI agent tries to identify a serial killer before he becomes the next victim.

Terminal (PG-13)

S2, P2, V2, A2, T1

A traveling foreigner is forced to make his home in a New York City airport when his home country erupts in civil war and loses its status as a ... well, as a country.

Village (PG-13)

S1, P2, V3, A1, T2

Inhabitants of a remote village live in fear of strange beings who inhabit the woods that surround their idyll. But now their future may depend on someone making it through those woods.

Wicker Park (PG-13)

S3, P3, V1, A2, T1

A young advertising executive abandons all to chase after an elusive girl who may or may not be the lover who disappeared two years before.

Wimbledon (PG-13)

S2, P2, V1, A1, T1

Unlucky in love and in competition, a tennis player gets a chance at Wimbledon... and romance.

Without A Paddle (PG-13)

S3, P2, V2, A3, T2

Two goofballs search the Oregon woods for the body of famous hijacker D. B. Cooper... and the money he escaped with.

Yu-Gi-Oh (PG)

S1, P1, V2, A1, T2

Animated: A card game champion faces two challengers: one who wants to beat him at cards, and another who wants to take over the world.

Key to Symbols:

These content scores are offered in view of the MPAA rating the film carries. In other words, a film rated PG-13 by the MPAA and receiving a "moderate" score (2) for sex/nudity probably contains sexual material that would earn it an "extreme" score (3) were it a G or PG-rated film.

Degree (as per a film's MPAA rating)

- 1 = not present or minimal
- 2 = moderate
- 3 = extreme

Element

- S = Sex acts, nudity, sexual innuendo
- P = Profanity, vulgarity (a single use of the 'F' word will earn an 'extreme' rating for any film)
- V = Violence, weaponry, gore
- A = Alcohol, drugs
- T = Thematic elements such as child abuse, violent crime, homosexuality, horror, etc.

Thus, a film receiving ratings of S1, V2 and P3 would have little or no overt sexual content, a moderate amount of violence, but a large volume of profanity or use of extreme profanity/vulgarity.

CLIP AND SAVE

Has the Post Register Gone too Far?

Comments by Frank L. VanderSloot
President and CEO, Melaleuca

Much of what many people value in this great community is the fact that Idaho Falls still has a small town feeling, where you can walk or drive down the street and see many people that you know. The same is true when you go to a restaurant, or the barber shop.

This is a friendly town where people greet each other, wave, and exchange pleasantries. Out in the farming community of Osgood, where I live, everyone waves to each other as they pass, whether they are driving a car-or a tractor- or a bicycle, or just walking.

It doesn't matter what church you go to, or whether you are agnostic or atheist. It doesn't matter what political party you belong to, or whether you are Caucasian, or Hispanic, or Oriental, or African American. It doesn't matter if you are a dairy farmer or wheat farmer or a rancher, we all have something in common. We are neighbors!

This special feeling in the Idaho Falls community has not come by accident or by default. Just like every other community, Idaho Falls is made up of many different political persuasions, different religious denominations, different ethnic groups, and special interest groups. In other communities these differences tend to divide people against each other to the point of creating great tension, misunderstanding, anger, and in many cases even hatred between one group and another. In Idaho Falls, the leaders of many of these groups, especially of the various church denominations, have gotten together to foster good feelings and understanding between their congregations. The leaders of many of the Catholics, the Evangelical churches, the Latter-day Saints and the Protestants have found numerous opportunities to seek understanding, camaraderie, and good feelings towards each other.

Many of these great efforts, we feel, are often undone by one of the most powerful and influential entities of our community: the Post Register. The Post Register seems to many to be almost reckless in its approach to community issues as it appears to go to great lengths to foster ill will within the community towards various individuals, business entities, and even one particular religion.

Some might immediately think I am referring to the attacks on Melaleuca or me personally that have appeared regularly in the Post Register ever since I endorsed Dirk Kempthorne as Governor. But I am not referring to that. Neither am I referring to the repeated attacks on Melaleuca employees in the Post Register, calling them names like "stupid" or "lemmings," "squirrels," just because they chose to speak out on the attacks on themselves and on their company.

I do not feel the attacks on me or on my company would normally have warranted a response by me. I would have been content remaining silent on these issues as we have for the past two years. Our philosophy has been if you continually try to do the right thing, people will judge you based on your works, not on what others say about you. But when you start attacking my employees, just because they work for Melaleuca, I feel I need to ask: for what reason does the Post Register lodge these attacks?

I do not pretend to have an answer! I am additionally perplexed when I see the repeated attacks by the Post Register on the LDS people as demonstrated in the article by Paul Lambert. The article appears to try to personally offend members of the LDS faith. Paul insists that he was encouraged to write the article by a "senior staffer." The article is written in an attitude of tongue-in-cheek

and is difficult to dissect "point-for-point" to make the case of why any devoted member of the LDS faith would find it so hurtful. But as Justice Potter Stewart said in his comments about trying to define pornography, "It's difficult to define, but I know it when I see it."

The article pokes fun at and almost ridicules several issues that the LDS people hold in high reverence, like the process of getting a temple recommend, the responsibility of the home teacher, or the fact that the LDS people often refer to each other as "Brother" or "Sister."

How could an LDS person take offense? Possibly because it is evident that it was intended to offend. Possibly because the spirit of the article serves to undo what so many in the community have tried to do— foster good relationships between various religious groups. Possibly because it gives the non-LDS community fodder with which to attack those of the LDS faith. After all, Paul Lambert goes on and on about how he is going to tell us why he "loves LDS." He then makes clear that the only thing Mormons are good for is because they stay off the golf course on Sunday. But the question is... For what reason? Why would a senior staffer at the Post Register intend to offend more than fifty-percent of its subscribers? Again, we do not pretend to know.

By the way, I am confident that the senior staffer is not Jerry Brady. I know Jerry Brady and consider him a good friend, his attacks on Dirk Kempthorne and the RDA loan notwithstanding. I have heard many blame Jerry over the years for what they feel has been antagonistic treatment of the LDS faith. I can say for certain that Jerry holds the LDS people in high regard and that some of the things that the Post Register has done in the past were done without his knowledge. I think that this latest attack may also have been done without his knowledge. Two recent Op-Ed pieces by Jerry Brady indicate his efforts to unite as opposed to divide. But his efforts are being undone by the paper itself.

But why would the Post Register want to offend the LDS people? Or why would the Post Register want to make it "politically correct" to degrade members of the LDS faith just for being members, or for what they believe? That question is hard to answer. It obviously cannot be to increase the number of subscribers. Each time the Post Register does this, many people cancel their subscription.

So, for now, the question remains unanswered. Perhaps the answer is not important. Maybe what is important is for us to ask the Post Register to reconsider its role in the community. A newspaper can be a powerful force for good. It could be a "uniter" rather than a "divider." Channel 8, under similar ownership as the Post Register, but under different management, is indeed a good example of being a great asset to the community. We are asking the Post Register to take a serious look at its true potential in this community. It could become a source of tremendous good. It could create understanding between those who look, think or believe differently. It could help us understand each other better and find good things to say and think about each other.

There is plenty of room for debate and difference of thought without creating bitterness and resentment. It's really something for the senior staffers to think about. We hope they will.

Frank L. VanderSloot