

VIDEO VIEWS... more than meets the eye
by Bob Morello

SMILE
(4K Ultra HD)
Paramount Home Ent.
Fans of the terrifying and mind-bending box office smash hit film *Smile* can now watch at home with over an hour of heart-pounding bonus content. Face your fears with deleted scares not seen in theatres, go behind the scenes with the cast and crew, and then fully immerse yourself in the escalating nightmare with the director's commentary. After witnessing a bizarre, traumatic incident involving a patient, Dr. Rose Cotter (Sosie Bacon) starts experiencing frightening occurrences that she can't explain. As an overwhelming terror begins taking over her life, Rose must confront her troubling past in order to survive and escape her horrifying new reality.

SECRET HEADQUARTERS
(Blu-ray)
Paramount Home Ent.
Friendship and courage take center stage when Charlie and his friends stumble upon the headquarters of the Guard (Owen Wilson) and realize the world's most powerful superhero is Charlie's dad. When an evil businessman (Michael Peña) sends in a team to infiltrate the lair and retrieve the Guard's energy source, the youngsters spring into action and turn the tables on the intruders. Includes over 30 minutes of fun-filled bonus content featuring Wilson and Peña. Meet the cast and crew as they reflect on their time on set and enjoy a gag reel and deleted/extended scenes. Then learn how the Secret Headquarters was built, explore the stunt choreography, and find out how special effects brought everything together!

HINTERLAND (DVD)
Film Movement
The year is 1920. The Austro-Hungarian Empire has fallen and what remains has devolved into social unrest and political turmoil. Peter Perg, a soldier of the Great War, returns home to Vienna, only to realize the place he once called home is now unfamiliar to him. Having spent years as a prisoner of war, Perg is disillusioned by this strange, new city distorted by the nightmares of war. His

world is further upended when a gruesome series of murders targeting veterans begins to unfold. Feeling connected to the victims, Perg decides to investigate the mysterious crimes. Pulled back into his old duties as a former police detective, he finds an ally in his old duties as a former police detective, he finds an ally in the cool-headed forensic doctor, Theresa Korner, and their investigation leads them into the darkest corners of the city. A stranger in his own city, the looming threat of a serial killer begins to take its toll on him.

OLD FRIENDS: A DOGUMENTARY (Blu-ray)
What Were We Thinkin + MVDvisual

Old Friends: A Dogumentary is the paw-inspiring story of the most beloved animal sanctuary in the world, the Old Friends Senior Dog Sanctuary in Mount Juliet, Tennessee. From their humble beginnings as a small backyard sanctuary, we follow founders Zina & Michael Gooden, their amazing staff, and the gang of 100 senior dogs, as they grow and settle into a 20,000 square foot state-of-the-art facility. You'll meet the dogs, and the people who fostered them and gave them a reason to wage their tails. It's a tale of compassion and commitment, where love knows no bounds, a film about a place where love never grows old!

THE LAST BOOKSHOP OF THE WORLD (DVD)
IndiePix Films

Four Europeans from different cultures and fields of art set off in search of a remote place to establish the world's last bookshop. During their journey, they discuss the power of literature and reveal how certain classics have changed each of them in profound ways. Bringing the almost-lost purpose of books to light, this hybrid road-movie/documentary poses important questions about reading and its importance to our inner lives and to civilization as a whole. Finnish director Rax Rinnekangas explains, "The theme of the documentary is very topical and touches people everywhere, because, without the development of reading skills, we will lose our language of thought and the ability to

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The time has come, the walrus said,
TO TALK OF MANY THINGS
of shoes and ships and sealing wax of cabbages and kings

by Sal Giarratani

This week, leading up to Christmas Day on Sunday, I don't have too many things to talk about. Yeah, I can talk about Mariah Carey and her "All I Want for Christmas is You" torturing all of us (me in particular). I could just grind my teeth but then I might have to wish for my two front teeth like another Christmas diddle I've heard endlessly. Or I could talk about a thing or two about Santa needing to bring us more affordable housing in the New Year.

Sometimes you can get tired of constant chatter over stupid ideas out of our City Councilors like letting kids vote who are either 16 or 17 years old, or about letting non-citizens tell citizens who should be in office representing us. Hey, I really don't wanna play the Grinch here but sometimes enough with the talk and more with the action.

There are, however, two things I really want badly this Christmas. One is never hearing Mariah Carey singing "All I Want for Christmas" again and again and again, and the other is getting the Boston City Council serious again about doing the people's will. Yet, they pontificate on affordable housing, and pontificate on zoning in this city being constantly done by variance.

This city needs a real plan that keeps folks here rather than moving away because no one



Sydney Curley performing at the 50th Anniversary of the North End Christmas parade singing Santa Claus is coming to town.

can afford to live here anymore. We need our elected officials representing our voices and not those of special interests.

As bad as the idea of letting 16 and 17 year olds vote in municipal elections, members of the Boston City Council now want legal status immigrants also being able to do likewise. I only wonder how long before the undocumented find advocates sitting on the Boston City Council?

Meanwhile, people can't afford to live in this city. Developers get anything they want from Santa Claus all year long. We have zoning board members who rarely see a developer's

plan that doesn't need a variance or two.

We now live in, we are told, "the Greenest City in America." God save our trees. As for the rest of us? We seem on our own. Unless of course, we are high school voters or non-citizen voters. Good luck to struggling homeowners or renters. Don't let the door hit you on the way out of town.

Even listening to endless repeats from Mariah Carey is starting to seem more palatable. Merry Christmas, Ho, Ho, Ho! Bah, Humbug. Maybe, maybe not. Just keep your chin up and pray for rain over snow.



Saint Leonard's 150th Anniversary Celebration Presents
**From Italy to the North End:
Migrant Stories & Human
Lives**

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 2023
3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

ST. JOSEPH'S HALL (ENTRANCE
AT 44 PRINCE STREET)

Join North End historians and friends for an in-depth discussion about Anthony Riccio's recent publication of oral history accounts of neighborhood residents ("Stories, Streets and Saints") which sheds new light on Italian immigration to Boston and its enduring legacy to the North End.



For more information:
celebrating150Years@leonard.org

Have a Magical and Blissful Holiday Season!

Terramia
Ristorante

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CUCINA
A LEGNA

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