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CONFESSIONS OF A FILM ADDICT

Before **Patton Oswalt** performed stand-up comedy at sold-out Carnegie Hall and wrote books, he was a compulsive moviegoer



JEFF BAKER
BOOKMARKS

Patton Oswalt was an ambitious young comedian on the rise in the mid-1990s. He bounced from club gigs to open-mic nights to auditions throughout Los Angeles, tracking his progress on calendars that were filled with another of his obsessions — seeing as many movies as possible.

Oswalt's home away from home — his spiritual home, really — was the New Beverly, a revival theater now run by Quentin Tarantino. Oswalt inhaled double features the way Al Pacino inhaled cocaine in "Scarface" (the movie/addiction comparison is too on the nose, but it fits). He loved movies, sure, he wanted to be in movies and make movies, but what he did back then was watch movies so he could check them off in the reference books he kept in his apartment: "The Film Noir Encyclopedia" and "Psychotronic Encyclopedia of Film" and the three-volume "Cult Movies."

Almost 20 years later, Oswalt is one of the most successful — *See Oswalt, 4*

MARK MAINZ/ASSOCIATED PRESS

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MOVIES

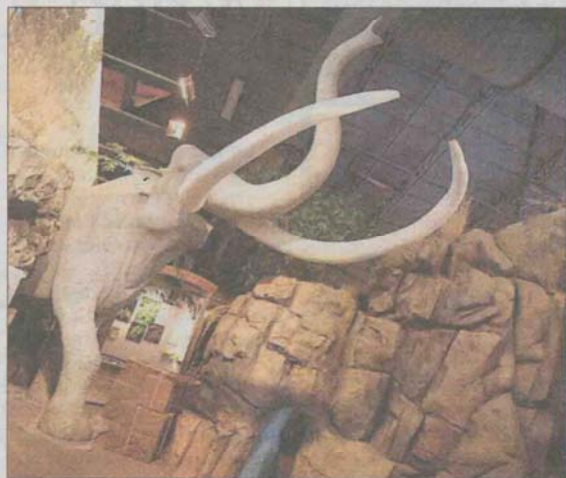
"Black Sea": Director Kevin MacDonald talks Jude Law, submarine films and manhood | **Page 12**

Find more travel news at oregonlive.com/travel**RAINY DAY ESCAPE** Columbia Gorge Discovery Center and Museum

At the official interpretive center for the Columbia River Gorge National Historic Area, the staff of the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center and Museum are stewards of the Columbia River's story.

It's a simple story that's taken millions of years to tell. The gorge was created during the Ice Age. Native Americans lived there for thousands of years. Then came Lewis and Clark, followed by the Oregon Trail pioneers, the railroad and the historic Columbia River Highway. Interstate 84 followed the rail tracks along the banks of the river. But none of these evolutionary impulses ruined the gorge. Of course, that would be a tall order. Named one of the Top 10 Wonders of the West (by the Travel Channel), the gorge is a popular destination in warm weather but is often avoided in the winter.

If gray skies and rain are your only travel obstacles, then don't hesitate to make a road trip to The Dalles to visit the center. With an entry made of glass, the building brings the outdoors inside, which remains warm and dry. The exhibits tell the story of the geology, biology, sociology and history of the gorge and its people. They will keep you occupied for a while. On weekends during the win-



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ter, the raptor demonstration explores the big birds of the area.

The winter schedule is full. On Saturday, Dr. Roberto M. de Anda, professor of Latino and Chicano Studies at Portland State University, will discuss the creation of the Bracero program, the subject of a traveling exhibit from the Smithsonian Institution, "Bittersweet Harvest," on display at the center. On Valentine's Day, a candle-lit dinner for



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL LLOYD/STAFF

two will be served in the River Gallery while the kids attend a PJ Party in the Discovery Center. Got a better deal than that?

— Michael Lloyd

5000 Discovery Drive,
The Dalles; gorgediscovery.org

**GERRY FRANK'S PICKS**

A short drive southwest of Bend is **Tetherow** (61240 Skyline Ranch Road, Bend; 541-388-2582; tetherow.com). The development includes a boutique hotel, two restaurants, an 18-hole golf course and homesites. Guest lodges (rates \$179 to \$349) are tastefully appointed with custom-crafted furniture and feature local artwork and

tish-inspired items such as bangers and mash, braised elk shepherds pie, fish and chips, sandwiches, salads and mini-corn dogs (which are actually bangers) are on the menu. A tasty twist to the Bloody Mary is a glass rimmed in bacon salt. **Tetherow Grill** is open all day. Among the usual breakfast offerings are butter-milk biscuits with maple sausage gravy, stuffed crepes and Benedicts made with duck confit, crab cakes, portobello mushrooms or Black Forest ham. Dinners are a la carte or prix fixe meals (\$30 and \$40) and feature pork, duck, beef,

as eclectic as the menu with labels from around the world; cocktails are interesting and may contain sagebrush-infused spirits. The restaurant is open for dinner 4 to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Happy hour is 4 to 6 p.m. in the restaurant and 4 to 9 p.m. in the bar.

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"Gerry Frank's Oregon" all new guidebook (June 2014) is available through oregonguidebook.com; 503-585-8411; gerry@teleport.com; or P.O. Box 2225, Salem, OR 97308.

THE BUZZ | AAA's four-diamond Oregon picks

Oregon has 15 hotels and one restaurant that received the prestigious Four Diamond rating, a system used for the 79th year by the American Automobile Association for North America's lodging and dining establishment.

2,417 hotels and restaurants in the U.S. made the top two rating categories. Only one establishment in Oregon or Washington rated Five Diamonds, the Herbfarm restaurant in Woodinville, Washington.

The list of Four Diamond properties in Oregon is impressive indeed, but it also brings up the question, what happened to the other places that you might expect to be on the list? Among them is Jory Restaurant at Newberg's Allison Inn and Spa. The inn made the list, but not the restaurant.

Marie Dodds, AAA spokesperson, could not give reasons why properties are not on the list, but she said not to worry: "You can absolutely have a fabulous experience at one, two and three diamond properties."

AAA's diamond rating system is similar to Michelin's star ratings, both gold standards for such ratings, but are independent from each other and don't always give the same rating numbers.

Oregon hotels that captured AAA's Four Diamond rating (with the year they first achieved the status) are Oxford Hotel, Bend (2010); Stephanie Inn, Cannon Beach (1995); Whale Cove Inn, Depoe Bay (2011); Inn at the 5th, Eugene (2012); Tu Tu' Tun Lodge, Gold Beach (1976); Allison Inn & Spa, Newport (2010); in Portland, Hotel Monaco (1997), Hotel Vintage Plaza (2001), RiverPlace Hotel (1986), Sentinel (formerly Governor Hotel, 2001), Heathman Hotel (1985), Nines (2009) and Westin Portland (2000); FivePine Lodge & Spa, Sisters (2011); and Sunriver Resort, Sunriver (1999).

Oregon's Four Diamond restaurant is the Painted Lady, Newberg (2011).

— Terry Richard