



Meet

# Colette Burson

Director of  
"Permanent"

Her film is based on her memories of growing up in Abingdon. Burson is the award-winning writer/director of the HBO series, "Hung," as well as an earlier feature film, "Coming Soon."

Sunday With  
Friends  
April 8 @ 3 p.m.

Washington County Public Library  
Conference Room  
Abingdon, Virginia

Reception/Book Sale & Signing  
follow

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ABINGDON - DAMASCUS - GLADE SPRING - HAYTERS GAP - MENDOTA

## Arts Array announces April lineup of films

Virginia Highlands Community College announces its April film lineup. Show times are Monday and Tuesday at 4 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at the Abingdon Cinemall, Abingdon, Virginia. Admission is free for all students and staff members of VHCC, Emory & Henry College, King University and Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center, including participants in the College of Older Adults who purchase an Arts Array pass. Community admission is \$7.75. VHCC's partnering sponsors for the Arts Array Film Series include the Virginia Commission for the Arts, the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center, King University and Emory & Henry College.

"The Shape of Water" is on screen April 2 and 3. A mute cleaning lady (Sally Hawkins) working in a secret U.S. government lab in 1962 befriends an otherworldly, aquatic creature (Doug Jones) who's being held there against its will. In time, she and her friends decide to help it escape from captivity, even if it means risking the wrath of a ruthless G-man (Michael Shannon).

"Permanent" is shown April 9 and 10. Set in 1982 in small town Virginia, "Permanent" centers around 13-year-old Aurelie Dickson (Kira McLean) and her parents, Jeanne and Jim (Patricia Arquette and Rainn Wilson). In this hilariously awkward telling full of wit and wisdom of a hairstyle gone wrong, the Dicksons are struggling through major life changes together all the while trying to emerge intact on the other side.

Burson appears at the Washington County Public Library, Abingdon, Va., Sunday, April 8 at 3 p.m., courtesy of WCPL Sundays with Friends. She will also host talk-backs after each Cinemall showing Monday, April 9.

## SVCC presents Festival of the Arts

Southwest Virginia and southern West Virginia have a rich and vibrant history, the foundation of which has been "written" by the early settlers whose families settled here from many countries abroad. To celebrate diversity, the 2018 Festival of the Arts, sponsored by Southwest Virginia Community College, explores the theme From Across the Pond to Southwest Virginia: A Fusion of Cultures. The dates are April 12-22. It incorporates elements from the background of the early settlers, including Native American Indians, those of Scots-Irish heritage and others who came "across the pond," African Americans and symbols of mountains, valleys and water, representing "the pond."

The core part of the festival includes performances by the Knoxville Symphony Chamber Orchestra accompanying the SVCC Community Chorus and pianist Pavlina Dokovska, soprano Sharin Apostolou and Celtic Indian Arvel Bird. There will be three performances by Camerata Virtuoso New York, each performance with a different theme and program. These performances will be in Bluefield, Tazewell and Elk Garden. The festival includes the popular Piano Times Three featuring pianists Pavlina Dokovska, Vladimir Valjarevic and Joseph Trivette. A performance by the SWCC Community Chorus includes Fusion of Musical Cultures. Much of this programming is music written by composers from the many European and British Isles countries from where settlers came.

There will be Festival Café and piano master classes, concluding with the "Spotlight on Talent" featuring piano students of Pavlina Dokovska and Vladimir Valjarevic. The Blue Grass Kinsmen present "From Across the Pond to the Blue Ridge: Our Musical Heritage." Festival theme-related art exhibits are "Art from the Heart of Home: Johnny Hager-

"The Post" is on screen April 16 and 17. Steven Spielberg directs Tom Hanks and Meryl Streep in a film about the Pentagon Papers controversy. The story will follow the 1971 scandal after the decision of The Washington Post editor Ben Bradlee (Hanks) and publisher Katharine Graham (Streep) to publish The Pentagon Papers. Written and leaked by military analyst Daniel Ellsberg, the Pentagon Papers established that the Johnson Administration had lied to the public and Congress about U.S. military involvement in the Vietnam War, and revealed that the Nixon administration had secretly escalated the war. Rated PG-13.

"Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri" is shown April 23 and 24. This dark comedy is from Academy Award winner Martin McDonagh. After months have passed without a culprit in her daughter's murder case, Mildred Hayes (Academy Award-winner Frances McDormand) makes a bold move, painting three signs leading into her town with a controversial message directed at William Willoughby (Woody Harrelson), the town's revered chief of police.

"Phantom Thread" is on screen April 30 and May 1. Daniel Day-Lewis' self-proclaimed "final film" is set in the glamour of 1950's post-war London. Renowned dressmaker Reynolds Woodcock (Day-Lewis) and his sister Cyril (Lesley Manville) are at the center of British fashion, dressing royalty, movie stars, heiresses, socialites, debutants and dames with the distinct style of The House of Woodcock. Women come and go through Woodcock's life, providing the confirmed bachelor with inspiration and companionship, until he comes across a young, strong-willed woman, Alma (Vicky Krieps), who soon becomes a fixture in his life as his muse and lover. *A!*

man's Brick Sculptures," "Ellen Elmes' Murals" and Edith Boothe's Paintings. An exhibit "The Goodwin Family Weavers: from England to Cedar Bluff" displays treasured woven coverlets and historical mementos from the Goodwin Family.

African-American storyteller, Sheila Arnold Jones offers opportunities to share the region's African American culture in "History's Alive! An Evening of Storytelling and Poetry," hosted by Crab Orchard Museum. Readings include poetry written by Tazewell County's poet laureate, George Dickerson, and storytelling by Sheila Arnold Jones.

The musical group Che Apalache, from Buenos Aires and co-sponsored by The Crooked Road and Ralph Stanley Museum, presents a program that blends bluegrass and Latin Rhythms. Scots Irish heritage is illustrated by Jack Beck and Wendy Welch who share their "Gifts from our Scottish Heritage: Music and Stories." Early inhabitants in the area, before those who arrived from "Across the Pond," include the Native American, represented by Arvel Bird, Celtic Indian with mixed-blood American Indian and Celtic heritage. Bird is a classically trained violinist who plays the violin, "fiddle" and native flutes and whistles. He shares a glimpse into his Native American heart and Scottish soul as he performs his own compositions with Camerata Virtuosi New York and Knoxville Symphony Chamber Orchestra and in a solo performance.

For more information, contact 276-964-7348 or 276-964-7347, mary.lawson@sw.edu or www.sw.edu. *A!*