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PROVIDING INFORMATION ON RESOURCES AND EVENTS THAT IMPROVE THE LIFESTYLE OF INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES IN OUR COMMUNITY

KEITH W.'S 12 STEP LEAD

Keith W. leads at Discovery Recovery AA meeting in Chicago

In a short talk that began noting that there was a lot of diversity in the midst of a crowded north side church basement during a nice quiet evening. A fine cool late, Windy Chicago evening it was, thanks to Rose who got the meeting started with a brief quiet time. "Twenty minutes to talk, 56, coast to coast on a piece of toast, I drank and drugged to much" Keith continued. This progressively fatal disease progressed into what the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous written by Bill W. (Williams) and over 100 other Alcoholics refer to as - anything but a **real alcoholic** I am.

"Yes, I too wanted to stop and get off. I was a pay period binger willing to stop between pay periods. Stopping never worked. In the year 1986, they changed the

policy and procedures at my job because of my alcoholic behavior. Though I never went to treatment for the right reason, CATC's, where sobriety all began now owned by The Cook County Jail, where ironically I've worked for over 30 years. On the 4th floor thanks be to God, But I now will be retiring in just a few days, Amen. September sixth 1989 I was taking 4 to 5 day lunch breaks believe it or not, and again, One More I Took. **It was too sad and despicable.** Paid on Friday, broke by Monday. Over and over again, folks knew. Denial / Refusal Thorndale & Broadway on pay day again, broke again. I found THAT PAYPHONE. I wasn't stealing. I



put a call out to my Dad who just said no. You ain't nothing. No, No,

no, he said, No Money. My life, my job, my money. Dad is cheap maybe just, I t h o u g h t so I called back and asked for just \$20 or so maybe. . . Then Keith stopped running. Keith threw his hands up. Both hands up just like in an old western movie where the villain finally surrenders.

Welcome home to AA Keith. Seeds once planted in AA meetings, ruins the drinking for real, and forces surrender. At least, thanks be to GOD it did, in ME. I couldn't keep on with this information within my gut. Girl friend put him OUT. Back to sister's house and another awakening. Upon looking in the mirror I saw 20 years of the pain of addiction. Preacher, God,

6 or more steps. **I Tried God**, but I wasn't for real. Please help me, I proclaimed. I tried to stay on the journey. A Battle with the truth and the mirror. True pain. Finally I cried out to God - - PLEASE HELP ME, AND GOD ANSWERED. It was. Alcoholism at its best or worst. Finally, the things I heard at CATC began to stick. I matriculated to Luther Social Services (LSSI) Men's Residence South, Men's Residence North, found a life time friend at Women's Residence, whom I married 20 years ago. Who cares to admit complete defeat. Keith surrendered, followed Skip L. and them AA's to the restaurant to Sober Fun. It don't work He was going out like scar face. But AA worked for Keith W.

Keith learned at AA meetings,
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THE MIGHTY MEN & WOMEN OF GOD TALENT SHOW

Article And Editorial By Chevette Conley



Ron Walters, Gospel Artists performed at the event



Helen Wooten, music producer and founder of the Gospel Heritage Museum



Fred Hampton Jr., chairman of The Prisoners of Conscience



John Barbush, host of the event presenting an award

This is a follow up to the story that I did on the Gospel Artist Ron C. Walters. I interviewed the Gospel Artist at a show called The 9th Annual Mighty Men & Women of GOD. This show was hosted by John Barbush. This Organization was founded by: Dr. Larry Love. This Organization was about creating UNITY & PEACE, and mostly stopping the violence. This show was giving people from all over a chance to use their energy and Talents and show their expressions through performing arts. The entire show was about dismantling the Culture of Violence going on in Chicago and The United States. John Barbush talked about there being over 2,000 people killed in Afghanistan and over 5,000 gunned down

in the city of Chicago in the past 10 years. Chicago is now known as The Murder Capital of the World. I don't know about you, but, that's a distinction I am not proud of, and hopefully we will change that real soon. "This is Terrible!" 81 was the number of people killed in Chicago in the month of August!" Can we continue to let this happen? We can make a difference by signing Petitions to get these guns off the streets and by closing certain gun shops who sell guns to known criminals and the youth. "Violence is a Disease: It spreads from one- person- to- another. To cure it you need to interrupt it. As stated by: Our President of The United States Barack Obama.

Mary Reed attended the Event. She's a Community Organizer who had a Street named after her in Chicago through her efforts. She is from the office of Danny Davis. Former Cook County Board President Bobbie Steele spoke and talked about wanting to be a part of the causes of The Mighty Men & Women of God, although she retired, and her son Robert Steele is now the Cook County Commissioner. Bobbie Steele is serious about still working to stop the Violence here in Chicago. She also accepted an award for her participation and efforts.

There was an Award given to Bobby Rush and it was accepted by his brother on his behalf. Helen Wooten was also in attendance which was very exciting to

many attendees. She is a Music producer and Founder of The Gospel Museum. She produced Artist R' KELLY and many others. There was much Talent throughout the evening, singers, skaters, dancers, and even a band. CHICAGO has so much new talent that we have to look forward to experiencing in the near future. But, the reason for the evening was to shed the light on the Rash of Violence and Murders in CHICAGO". Let's please do what we can from the police, community organizers, parents, ministers, Aldermen, Governor, Mayor, and yes, even the Ex Gang members, whoever and whatever it takes to stop these senseless killings!" It is destroying

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North Lawndale Community News
Winner of the 2005 SBC Beyond the Call Award

North Lawndale Community News
Winner of the 7th Congressional District 2004
Education Champion Award
Presented By Congressman Danny K. Davis &
Residents of the 7th Congressional District

NLCN

2012 Focus

Health and Education

Twelve years have past since the New Millenium scare of the year 2000, a time of uncertainty. In 1999, NLCN began by thanking God for making this newsletter possible. Much has happened since October of 1999 when we first published the North Lawndale Community News more than eleven years ago. Many have contributed, supported, volunteered, written, taken photos, done research, and/or completed our workshops. We have helped many and many have helped us. Health is essential to a good life. Education is necessary for the pursuit of happiness in an economy driven society.

In 2001, our focus targeted the “Revival of the Family”. In 2002, we targeted “Wholistic Wellness”. In 2003, we targeted “Education and Training”. In 2004, the North Lawndale Community News focused on helping our community acquire a better quality of life through higher levels of reading and responsible wealth creation. In 2005, it was Technology, Business Development, and Employment. In 2006, the primary focus for SHS/ NCLN was Health, Education, and Welfare. In 2007, the primary focus for SHS/ NLCN was People and Education. In 2008, the primary focus for was the Church, Financial Literacy, and Technology. In 2009, the primary focus for SHS/NLCN was HEALTH & THE ECONOMY. In 2010, our primary focus was to live and reflect on our previous years of focus, as we progress to a better quality of life. In 2011 Health and Education.

So many things remain a high priority in our life. As we struggle to enjoy life, many have neglected the necessary choices that preserve and extend a healthy and abundant, spirit, mind, and body. So along with health, there is education (knowing) and the need to have the resources to act upon the knowledge for a better quality of life. The North Lawndale newspaper was and is created to help fulfill the mission of Strategic Human Services. That mission is to provide information on resources and events that improved the lifestyle of individuals and families.

This is our primary objective that includes all of the sub-objectives that help to reach that primary objective.

There is a saying that if your’re not sure where you’re going, your’re liable to end up someplace else- and not even know it.

Even though tough times are among us setting positive objectives and staying committed to them will be the focus of our news for this 2011 year.

Writer’s Meetings!!
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Time 6:00pm
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The North Lawndale
Community News

The North Lawndale Community News is now published weekly by Strategic Human Services. Our purpose is to help inform our community on resources, events, and issues relevant to them and our neighboring communities. Our community includes those who live, work, worship in, and/or care about North Lawndale. Our focus is on positive, productive solutions, that will improve the lifestyle of our community members.

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24th Ward Alderman Michael D. Chandler

★ “News You Can Use” Report ★

Get Your Business Concept Off The
Ground!!!
Participate In Chicago Urban
League NextSTEP Business Classes

24TH Ward Alderman Michael Chandler is encouraging all 24th Ward residents interested in developing a successful small business to take advantage of the upcoming NextSTEP Business Classes being sponsored by Chicago Urban League. The NextSTEP business classes are offered **free of charge** and helps to provide hands-on learning with the goal to assist prospective entrepreneurs in developing the skills to write a business plan, conduct market research and financial forecasting that can be used to start or grow an existing business.

The series of workshops and classes associated with the program are geared to educate emerging entrepreneurs on how to prepare business plans and provide fundamental training in business best practices and financial literacy. New classes under the NextSTEP program will begin starting **October 16, 2012 –February 19, 2013**. A business plan template will be provided

Strategic Human Services
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Helping People. Changing Lives.
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Home Energy Assistance Programs

This winter heating season, LIHEAP-eligible applicants will have an option to decide which of the 2 affordable energy programs is best for you.

LIHEAP Direct Vendor Payment

LIHEAP DVP is designed to assist income-eligible households with winter energy services, in the form of a one-time benefit payment to the utility companies that are applied directly to the household's energy bills. The amount of the payment is determined by income, household size, and fuel type.

LIHEAP Percent of Income Payment Plan

LIHEAP PIPP provides a monthly benefit payment to the utilities based on household utility usage and monthly income. Customers are required to pay a reduced amount on their utility bills each month to get the benefit payments. PIPP participants who make their utility payments on time will receive credits toward their outstanding balance. Disconnected households not eligible.

LIHEAP ENROLLMENT DATES:

Seniors and Disabled Individuals September 1, 2011	Emergency Furnace, Reconnection Assistance and Households with Children under 5 years old October 1, 2011	General Enrollment November 1, 2011
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DOCUMENTS NEEDED TO APPLY:

- Proof of gross income from all household members for the 30-day period to the application date.
- Copy of most recent heat and electric bills (if you pay for your home energy directly)
- Proof of Social Security Numbers of all household members
- If a member of your household receives TANF, you must bring their Medical Eligibility Card
- Applicants that have their utilities included in the rent must bring proof of rental agreement stating monthly rental amount, that utilities are included, and landlord contact information. (Rent costs must be greater than 30% of household gross income for 30 days prior to application).

INCOME GUIDELINES (EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2011)	
Family Size	*Gross Income for 30 Days Prior to Application Date
1	\$1,361
2	\$1,839
3	\$2,316
4	\$2,794
5	\$3,271
6	\$3,749

*For each additional person, add \$477.50

Expect Longer Wait Times in September and November. Programs end when funds are exhausted.

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AUSTIN HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

Photos by Todd Thomas



Austin plays games in their practice jerseys. They were never issued game uniforms, but they say they don't care about appearance, they just want to win.



Austin running back Christopher Thompson also plays wide receiver.



Coach Terry Carter gives his quarterback Donta Thompson a few pointers.



Wide receiver Kewon Spriggs is having an excellent season at the wide receiver position.

 Strategic Human Services
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Isaac Lewis, Executive Director

Dear Reader:

It has been 12 years, since the first issue of the *North Lawndale Community News* was published in October of 1999. Thanks to the hard work of our staff and the generosity of donors like you, it appears at your home and at drop sites every week with good news about the community, advice you can use to improve your life, and columns that allow neighbors to voice their concerns. But the newspaper and the organization behind it, Strategic Human Services, are about more than getting out the news. Strategic Human Services is about people who are helping to transform the community, one life and one business at a time.

The efforts of SHS have been possible because of supporters like you. You are valuable to us. Your support not only helps us pay the expenses we incur to help the people who need it most, but it also inspires us. Your support lets us know you care about our struggle, people with little resources who struggle to improve their lives in spite of poverty and/or other barriers.

The work we do is measured by success of the youth and adults we serve. Assisting them on their way to high school, college, employment, and achieving or maintaining independent productive lives is our chief goal. SHS is a place where community youth learn, while being safe,

I want to support Strategic Human Service and North Lawndale Community News by donating

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and adults also get the help they need whether its job training, energy assistance or other resources.

Just as the organization provides opportunities for expression and accomplishment for these individuals, it offers hope and power to the many in the underserved communities on the West side of Chicago. Here people can share their ideas, find out about services and businesses in their area, and participate in the revitalization of our community.

Please consider what this newspaper means to the community and to you and make a donation of at least \$10, \$20, \$50, \$100 or more today! If you would like to support us with less than these amounts, please do so also. We know that many small amounts add up to larger amounts. We would greatly appreciate any amount that you can contribute for the betterment of our communities and keeping alive a vital community resource, community news. We are a 501C3 Tax Exempt organization and your donations are tax deductible. May God Bless Your Blessing!

Sincerely,

Isaac Lewis, Jr.
Executive Director, Strategic Human Services
Publisher, *North Lawndale Community News*

Special Feature: VIOLA DAVIS HONORED; STARS AND HOMETOWN TALENT CONVERGE AT 48TH CHICAGO FILM FESTIVAL

David Schultz, film critic



Viola Davis

Hollywood comes to Chicago for the next two weeks seems to truly apply for the 48th International Chicago Film festival that kickoffs with the star studded world premiere of "The Stand-Up Guys" with the red carpet arrival of its heavyweights stars, Al Pacino, Christopher Walken, Alan Arkin Julianne Margulies and director

Fisher Stevens and Chi-born producer Tom Rosenberg at the Harris Theatre (205 East Randolph St.) Thursday, October 11. This gala jumps starts a wide array of movies being showcase and in competition at the 48th International Chicago Film Festival that will unspool at the AMC River East 21 (322 E. Illinois), October 11 through October 25, 2012.

Some notable events includes Viola Davis, the Oscar nominated actress from "The Help" currently seen in "Won't Back Down" will be honored at the "Black Perspective" evening tribute with the festival's Career Achievement Award at the River East 21, Monday, October 22. In particular, this year's festival will welcome back many home town talents and their latest films. While showcasing several fresh Chicagoan filmmakers in their works as well as a few films that centers on Chicago based subjects.


Besides, director Fisher Stevens and veteran producer Tom Rosenberg as the first Chicagoan returning home on opening night; The festival will conclude with another homecoming for Chicago

born native filmmaker Robert Zemeckis' return with his first non animated feature in over a decade in "Flight" with Denzel Washington closing out the festivities, Thurs. Oct. 25 at the AMC River East 21. Other Chicagoans includes; directors Lana and Andy Wachowski, best known for their "Matrix" trilogy" who unspool their latest ambitious three

hour film, "Cloud Atlas" as the festival; centerpiece event on Wed. Oct.17. Some of the notable movies to check out include the following recommendations. All movies will be screened at the AMC River East 21.

- "Benji", a documentary that offers the fresh insight through the friends

See Davis page 7



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ON VIDEO
Compiled and Reviewed by
David Schultz



Disney's THE GREAT MOUSE DETECTIVE (****) In its "Mystery in the Mist" edition that marks the 25th anniversary and its Blue Ray HD debut of this underrated but brisk animated adaptation of Eve Titus' book, "The Basil of Baker Street", about Sherlockian mouse who matches his wits against the nefarious Prof. Ratigan (well voiced with gusto and charm by Vincent Price) who kidnaps London's master toymaker for the perfect crime. The cartoon feature lacks depth, but not the fun in this rodent spoof to Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's character.

G: 74min. Walt Disney Home Video
Coming Soon to Home Video: Whitney Houston in her last screen and song appearance, Jordin Sparks and Mike Epps stars in "Sparkle" arrives Nov. 30.

Lead from front page

you've got to give it away in order to keep it. It's imperative to help other desperate addicts and alcoholics in order to stay clean and sober yourself Keith learned. Keith's sobriety has been further enhanced opening up his home and establishing a program called Metamorphosis, a 501c3 not for profit ministry. Keith is an ordained Deacon at Trinity United Church of Christ, under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Otis Moss III and has literally helped thousands in the cook county jail system men and right in our community here in Garfield, North Lawndale, and Austin.

Want to learn more about AA and get some more experience, strength, and hope out of Keith, consider joining him on his retirement AA retreat in Michigan right on the other side of South Bend, Indiana on the border of Indiana and Michigan. Enjoy Food, Fellowship, pontoon boating, cards, chess, peace, serenity, The Promises and much, much more call Keith for more information at 773-671-1137

Mighty from front page

our City and it affects us all." We need to find a way to dismantle the Gangs in Chicago and Rid the youth of these guns.

It may sound Impossible, but I believe anything is possible!

Also in attendance at this event was, Fred Hampton JR. who is an African American Political Activist and son of Fred Hampton Sr. (Fred Hampton Sr.) was a Black Panther (who was shot to death by the Chicago Police as he slept during a Police Raid back in 1969.

Fred Hampton Jr. wasn't even born when this occurred, he was still in his mother's womb, and she was eight months pregnant with him. So, his father Fred Hampton Sr. was 21 when he was shot to Death and his mother was 19 she was shot also.

So, FRED Hampton Jr. soon followed his father's Legacy and became a Prominent Black Nationalist Politically. He was the President of the International People's Democratic uhuru Movement back in 1990. But, in 1993 he was convicted of Firebombing of a Korean Grocery store after the 1992 national protest of the Acquittal of The Los Angeles Police Department officers who beat RODNEY KING. So, Mr. FRED Hampton Jr. was then sentenced to 8 yrs, in prison and he was paroled on Sept. 14, 2001.

He is now the Chairman of The Prisoners of Conscience Committee. (P.O.C.C.). He was also given an Award at this event for his efforts, and it was well received by the Audience. I spoke with him briefly. He is also serious about the young men in our communities and our entire city and Stopping the conflicts and Violence and senseless Murders in Chicago.

The event was very enlightening! I hope to Experience more like this in the near Future in order to curb the Violence in Chicago. But, hopefully we won't have to do too many more, and we will be able to hold our heads up, and be Proud to say, that we live in CHICAGO THE GREATEST CITY IN AMERICA!!

This is a Great City and we will be able to Preserve that Title and feel SAFE."

AT THE FLICKS

David Schultz, film critic



ARGO (**1/2) Actor Ben Affleck continues his growth as a film director and takes a giant (and unexpected) leap with his third and most ambitious feature to date. Based on an incredible but true incident that was recently declassified under President Clinton 18 years ago that occurred under President Carter’s tenure.

“Argo” details most aspects of what we know from news reports that intermingled with what we didn’t know behind the scenes, while taking some dramatic(and light comedic refrain) license in the telling of the six Americans that were hostages in hiding in Tehran for 444 days (Remember the news reports counting phrase of how many “days America held hostage?”)

In particular, the film account for Hollywood’s involvement on this CIA mission to rescue the six Americans who managed to escape the U.S. Embassy under seized by Iranian protestors and rebels seeking the U.S. to release and return the exiled Shah of Iran back to stand trial and execution for his atrocities against its people; whom the U.S. initially supported in a military coup for the country’s oil wealth.

A bearded Affleck portrays Tony Mendez, a semi-retired agent reactivated by the CIA when ever in need of an expert extractor for a perilous rescue mission that could have global implications along with concerns toward a proper U.S. image. (It takes more than being

right, it’s also about how you’re perceived.)

Mendez gets his inspiration to smuggle the hostages out; from a phone chat with his young son living with his mother in Virginia watching one of the” Planet of the Apes” sequels on the hotel room TV.

Meeting with his CIA boss, Jack O’Donnell (Bryan Cranston) and the board of directors; Tony offers his “best worst idea” to form a fake Hollywood production with plans to make a sci-fi movie on location in Tehran that would

be used as cover for the hostages posing as the film crew scouting locale there and eventually smuggle them onto plane at the airport.

The film’s first half offers the most self depreciating humor and fascinating look into how the illusion making process works in Hollywood before the filming begins. Mendez travels to L.A. to meet with “Planet of the Apes” Oscar winning make-up artist John Chambers (well embodied by John Goodman) to help orchestrate his plan to create a fake Hollywood production.

Chambers introduces Mendez to Lester Siegel (Alan Arkin in a good comedic turn here) an uber-movie producer who agrees to create media frenzy during a script reading press conference and even takes out a full page in the trade paper, Variety to legitimize the project

Once the set-up is achieved, Mendez takes on an aura of a con artist/undercover spy who enters the country. Mendez meets with the Canadian consulate (Victor Garber) who takes him to the American hostages kept hidden in his retreat home.

In a brief discussion, While one particular hostage member who is intellectual linguist expressing his doubts in Mendez’s scheme. Regardless, the hostages all know they have little choice since its becoming increasingly dangerous for all involved.

Especially since the Iranian rebels are using kids and women to go through the mountains of shredded paper files to account for the total fifty hostages. Until the shredded photos of each of the six hostages are slowly being pieced together.

And later the rebels use those shredded photos to begin matching up each member from street surveillance photos taken of Mendez and the hostages posing as the film crew doing scouting locations in a crowded business district that leads to an altercation with an Iranian store merchant.

The race against time and the mounting tension builds. When Mendez was suddenly told to abort his rescue plan that was out of public image concern over Hollywood’s involvement in the mission that was going to be replaced by a last-minute delta force raid.

Even though, we essentially walk into this movie already knowing the outcome, And predictable to see Affleck’s real life character ignore his orders that leads to the film’s critical scene at the airport. Where the airport guards question their passports. The complaining hostage member who doubted the mission finally step up in time before the rebels can reach the plane.

Even though, “Argo” is still the Hollywood version to what happened. Affleck’s direction manages to keep the film enjoyable and insightful with a little peppering in the script. .

It’s apparent there was more than what we were shown. Affleck takes the “showbiz” approach to this film that easily could have been politicized more that possibly would have bog the entire movie down.

Instead, Affleck divides the movie between satire and light humor and the tension of an espionage-like thriller. The movie does underscore and lightly suggest Hollywood’s patriotism over the government’s preoccupation with public image and perception that almost interfered with what really matter more. Something that Affleck could have hit a little harder than he did.

Still “Argo” is a fascinating true story that allows Hollywood to pat itself on the back for its participation and our government officials who didn’t feel comfortable with how they were perceived by the rest of the world. **R; 120min. A Warner Bros. Pictures Release – Presented at selected theaters**

HERE COMES THE BOOM (***) “Here Comes the Boom” turns out to be a better-than-expected surprise and the best Kevin James comedy so far. Because this is a comedy that not only spoofs the “Ultimate Fighter” sports craze. But there is some occasional social thought to some of the real-life financial concerns about our teachers and the bureaucracy of the school system that was more front and center and dramatic recently in “Won’t Back Down”.

While James’ screen character image is still that clumsy buffoon with a good heart. James shows some comedic growth in this co-written script that delivers more than just another vehicle comedy like “The Zookeeper” or “Paul Blart, Mall Cop”

James plays Scott Voss, a biology teacher whose tries to inspire his class while barely making the grade being late that keeps him in trouble with his stern principal-boss Becher (Greg Germann) at a financially strapped Boston high school .

When Becher announces to the facility during an assembly that because of a budget deficit. The high school would have to cut all extra-curriculum programs that would especially hurt passionate music teacher, Marty (Henry Winkler) whose young wife is expecting their first child.

Scott learns the school needs to raise \$48,000 before the end of the fiscal year and vows to somehow raise the money that would also save Marty’s job.

The teacher sets out to make extra money by preparing immigrants for their citizenship test. When a former mixed martial arts fighter turn aerobic trainer, Niko (Bas Ruttan) asks for extra help with his studies at his home. Scott gets the idea from watching an MMA cage match on TV that even the loser wins \$10G’s.

Since Scott was a former collegiate wrestler, he figures he could lose enough matches to raise the money to save the school programs. Scott gets Marty involved who create a theatrical image with from his music intro to the ring. While Scott begins to lose these low level cage matches, he turns in his loser’s earnings to the school’s vice principal.

But it soon becomes apparent Scott needs some training from Niko to learn the MMA tactics to survive the physical abuses to his face and body in these defeats that are attended to by fellow teacher and school nurse, Bella Flores (Salma Hayek) whom he’s trying to date with. While Scott turns in his loser’s earnings to the school’s vice principal.

Until he manages a lucky punch to win his first cage match that ups his prize money and makes Scott realize he could lessen the amount of matches needed if he were to win more to earn more for the school.

This eventually leads Scott to accept a televised UFC match in Las Vegas. When upon Scott and company’s hotel arrival for the match. Scott receives a phone call from Bella who reports the vice principal has been caught too late for embezzling all the money Scott earned for the school. Naturally, this sets up the “win at all cost” scenario for Scott facing a veteran and dangerous ultimate fighter

Director Frank Coraci, a veteran of several Adam Sandler comedies handles the second half of this movie better than the uneven pacing of the film’s early character and story formation that could have been tighter in the editing process. And there are some glaring mistakes that should come under question by the moviegoer that are clearly glossed over during the film’s finale.

The fight sequences grow well into the film’s crescendo under James’ physicality that seems to relish the challenge without the well defined six-abs body frame that even makes James represent more of today’s everyday physique with the demeanor.

Naturally, the big fight finale can’t help having the aura of “Rocky” that is even played off when

Bella rushes down to the ring like Adrian to finally give the first kiss to Scott through the steel cyclone fence. Clearly, there is more to like and appreciate than not, that that spirit and energy comes across.

Much like James’ character here, “Here Comes the Boom” is not without faults and missteps, but they are out-weighted by its intentions and good natured humor that could provide an angle for Kevin James and his movies to build on without sacrificing the kind of humor that brought him to this dance to begin with. **PG; 105min. A Columbia Pictures Release – Presented at selected theaters**

SINISTER (**1/2) Ethan Hawke plays Ellison Oswalt, a famed true crime novelist whose a one book hit wonder determined to make lightning strike twice Even if it involves relocating while endangering the life of his family. This involves not telling his wife, Tracy (Juliet Rylance) and their two children, Trevor (Michael Hall D’Addario) who suffers from night tremors and Ashley (Clare Foley) who draws pictures on her bedroom walls, who are moved to King County, Pennsylvania, to live in a murder victim family’s house.

Oswalt begins researching for his next book about the unusual circumstances that led to the murder of the Patterson family who were mysteriously hung to death on a tree in the backyard that leaves one of their children missing.

This leads to the writer killing a scorpion in the attic that uncovers his discovery of a wooden cache of super 8mm home movies that not only reveals this family murder captured on film. But other heinous murders to other previous families that are seen on other reels showing the murders by lawnmower; drowning while tied to lawn chairs into the pool; bound and gagged inside the family car set on fire. etc. While each family has a missing child. And then Oswalt notices the photo image of a mysterious entity spotted in each photo enlargement made from his film-to-video transfer on his computer

Without telling his family about his late night occurrences in the house and repeatedly watching those home movies kept lock up in his work room that later begin to mysteriously start up on the projector on their own.

. Oswalt’s presence and reputation already has him an unwelcomed resident to the local sheriff (Fred Dalton Thompson).

While his celebrity status helps Oswalt gain an assistant in the deputy (James Ransome) to uncover some information that eventually connects him to meet with an occult criminologist, Professor Jonas (Vincent D’Onofrio in brief cameo seen on the writer’s laptop screen) who tells him about the symbols and story surrounding a ghoul that needs to eat

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children to survive

Guided well by Christopher Young’s atmospheric and eerie music, the erratic editing style and moody direction; “Sinister” is a horror thriller that will creep you out. But I think some audiences will be expecting to be frightened out of their wits more than they are.

While the film’s ending might split the audience’s approval of this film that half might feel the finale is a letdown. But if half the audience had paid more attention to the discussion between the professor and writer about the ghoul. They might have better appreciate the ending

The action leading up to the finale that follows when finally Oswalt decides to destroy those movies and leave their new home .After he happens to venture into the attic to find the missing children as ghostly images to each murdered family watching those same home movies that the

ghoul appears on the screen and jumps out at the writer.

Of course Oswalt thinks he’s resolve his supernatural problems by returning back to their initial home. (Even though he needed to write this book because he was suppose to be financially broke.) But it’s only a matter of time before we knew the ghostly children and ghoul would follow and torment the family.

This only proves that no matter how different this film tries to be in its approach. The movie can’t escape some of its own predictability and similarities to other paranormal movies. This is what might be some moviegoers are respond to as this movie’s letdown in its ending. But it doesn’t change that most of the film is quite a spooky movie that doesn’t go overboard like The Cabin in the Woods”.

R; 110min.ASummit Entertainment Pictures Release – Presented at selected theaters

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