

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Celebrating the best

Best of Moscow winners represent community, campus favorites

Every year, The Argonaut hosts its annual Best of Moscow competition, and every year I'm reminded again of all the awesome things to do, see and eat in my hometown.

Yes, you read that right. I am not a Palouse transplant — only here for an education, never truly experiencing the town.

Moscow has been my home for the past 22 years, and with only a month left to go, I'm reminded everyday why this is such a great place to grow up and experience college life.

The community is small, but the people are vibrant, passionate souls from all walks of life who embrace the university and everything that comes with it.

So it's only fitting that once a year we take a moment to appreciate everything this town has to offer and let the people decide what it is that truly makes Moscow an exemplary place to live.

This year, we received more than 1,000 votes and saw loads of community and student support for the nominees.

We can say with great certainty that the winners of this year's Best of Moscow competition truly have the community on their side. From best first date spot to the best kept secret of Moscow, the responses were overwhelming and encouraging.

So, without further ado, we present to you the winners of the 2015 Best of Moscow competition.

– Kaitlyn Krasselt















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Soul safari

Simba and the Exceptional Africans keep the beat alive in Moscow

Mary Malone

Argonaut

Simba Tirima was at a conference when a man presented him with a theory about the distribution of IQs amongst races.

In the theory, the man said African-Americans get the lowest share of IQ.

Tirima, an African-American with a Ph.D. in Environmental Science, said he decided not to take offense and thought it was actually somewhat humorous.

After Tirima gave his own presentation on complex mathematical theories, the man approached him apologetically.

He said he didn't mean all African-Americans have a low IQ, and Tirima was exceptional.

"I am an exceptional African — hallelujah," Tirima said.

So, when he started a band two years ago, Tirima decided the name should be, "Simba and the Exceptional Africans."

Despite the name, the majority of the Exceptional Africans, which includes 17 members, are white. Only Tirima and one other band member are African-American.

Tirima said he is humbled and greatly honored by the positive response the band has seen from the people in the community, but he also recognizes the many great local bands in Moscow.

He said he finds it difficult to be compared with others and thoroughly enjoys listening to bands like Blue Funk Jailbreak, Genius in Remission and Skinny the Kid, who played with them recently.

"You have all these groups made up of incredibly talented musicians," he said. "They all



bring something — they're the best at what they do."

Tirima said he is fortunate to play with such talented people, because it takes talented people to learn the difficult African rhythms of the music.

He said he goes through a rigorous recruiting process to get the best, most talented musicians he can find.

When he hears someone he likes, he said he follows their music, going to concerts and performances for weeks before making the decision to ask them to join the band.

He called their genre of music "soul safari," because he said they bring many different instruments to the music, but to call it a fusion doesn't do it justice.

"Fusion can be anything," Tirima said. "Safari is a Swahili word that means journey ... So it's a soul journey and we're not afraid to go there, we're not afraid to experiment, we're not afraid to embrace sound."

He said the sound includes some reggae, jazz, R&B, blues, afrobeat and American folk.

They want people to dance and enjoy the music — to not just hear the music, but to be part of it. He likes when they perform at places like One World Café, because people under 21 can enjoy the music as well. It is usually 8-yearolds to 70-year-olds who come, he said, and every-body dances.

Tirima is from Kenya, and in Africa people sing when they have something to say, so he thinks carefully about his music because he believes it carries a message, he said.

"And it's not like a heavyhanded message," Tirima said. "It's just stating this is what I see, or these are the issues. Music, for the longest time — and still — is used to help people fight the freedom for justice."

He said in Africa people might sing about political heavy-handedness or sing praises about an outstanding individual, so he puts some of these messages into his music.

Tirima said people have tried to describe the band as an orchestra or a big band, but he always responds by saying they are a "community of sound," because if he were to go on stage and play and sing alone it would be like eating alone, he said.

"Humans are not made that way," Tirima said. "Humans are social creatures who actually thrive in community. Without community, we don't exist."

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Food and family

Best of Control of Con

Local restaurant La Casa Lopez maintains friendly atmosphere

Daphne Jackson

Argonaut

Mitch Lopez's favorite memory of La Casa Lopez involved a dinner rush and an argument.

"There was my brother, my two sisters, my mom and dad, one weekend after not working all of us together for years ... and we got into a little argument and we just started laughing in the middle of it, because we noticed how dumb the argument was and how we miss working together," Lopez said. "It was probably one of the best weekends I've ever had here."

Lopez, who currently works as the general manager for La Casa Lopez, said the restaurant has always had a lot of involvement from the Lopez family.

"What most people don't know is that almost every meal is being prepared by a Lopez or being served by a Lopez at one point in time during the day," he said.

Lopez said his family opened the restaurant in Moscow 12 years ago and some of the family recipes were his grandmother's, while others were made up by members of the current Lopez family.

He said Casa Lopez is unique because of its combination of being a Mexican restaurant run by a family.

Before opening the restaurant, the Lopez family owned another restaurant in Moscow, which ran from 1994 to 2002.

Lopez said he and his siblings grew up with his family in the restaurant business.

"It was very hectic, because we didn't get to see our family very much since they worked nights, but after a while you just become involved in the business and it becomes addictive," he said. "It becomes addictive to create new dishes, to create new drinks, to try to meet the goals that you have on a year base, but mainly it's been a lot of fun."

One of the challenges for the business has been the increasing volume of customers as Moscow and Pullman have grown in population, Lopez said.

Since opening the business, the restaurant's staff has grown from about 25 employees to more than 50 to accommodate for the increasing amounts of business rushes.

Lopez said working with the staff is his favorite part about his involvement with the restaurant.

"I have a lot of fun with our staff," he said. "Every night we work hard together, so we get to know each other. They say that, usually, your best friends are your coworkers because you're with them all day long, and that's probably the best part of the business, and the worst part is when they all graduate. There's always been a motto that we've always met here. It's always been 'We train together, we go to war together and at the end of the night, we have a beer together, or a soda, if you're under 21."

Lopez said his immediate family all worked in the restaurant at one point or another, and he and his siblings have all had experience working in every job within Casa Lopez.

"Before you can boss somebody around, you should always be able to help them do their job," he said. "So we were always trained to learn everybody's job before we told somebody what to do, because you're not telling somebody what to do, you're helping them to do it to make sure that you can survive the day, basically."

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Irish Martos | Argonaut La Casa Lopez bartender Chloe Miller prepares a set of popular alcoholic beverages at the restaurant.





Ampersand Oil & Vinegar Tao House offers a diverse range of imported olive oil and vinegar infused with herbs.

Olive oil on tap

Ryan Tarinelli 40 different kinds of imported Argonaut olive oil and vinegar on tap. They

also teach Employees cooking classes that show customers the various uses for olive oil and vinegar.

also sell handcrafted pasta, salts

and a variety of kitchen gadgets.

Peppered bacon, French lav-

ender, black truffle - these are

just a few of the more than 40

flavors of olive oil and vinegar

available for purchase at Amper-

sand Oil & Vinegar Tap House.

are initially skeptical of the dif-

ferent flavors, a simple taste

test can change their minds in

a hurry, said Ampersand owner

changes into almost pure joy of

how good it is, so that's really

newest small businesses in

downtown Moscow, it opened

satisfying," Garrity said.

in November 2014.

"They taste it, and their face

Ampersand is one of the

Ampersand offers more than

Keely Garrity.

Although some customers

While the olive oil is imported from the Mediterranean, Garrity said she works with a distributor in Montana who infuses the oil with herbs and other ingredients to create the different flavors.

Garrity, a UI alumna from Bozeman, Montana, said she decided to open up a store about two years ago while working in marketing at Washington State University.

A conversation with a friend gave Garrity the final push of support she needed to commit

to opening a store, she said.

"I just had a friend ask me one day like, 'What is holding me back from fulfilling my dream, and I didn't have an answer," Garrity said.

Starting with an empty space, Garrity said she constructed the interior of Ampersand in a sixweek period and opened the store two weeks later, just in time for Thanksgiving.

"It was crazy," Garrity said. "I don't think I've had a moment to really think about it, and we've been busy ever since. I mean, it's great. People are loving it."

Unlike traditional oil and vinegar stores in the Southwest, Garrity said she tried to create a trendy store environment to make customers feel welcome.

Behind the trendy storefront,

the kitchen is where Ampersand Chef Mia Ellsworth spends her time teaching cooking classes a few times a week.

The cooking classes are designed to break down the intimidation of working with olive oils and vinegars.

Cooking classes, which cost \$35, also offer participants a meal prepared by one of Ampersand's part-time chefs.

Garrity said balsamic vinegar can be a great addition to steaks, desserts or cocktails, while olive oil can be a healthy substitute for butter when cooking pastries.

"It's the right kind of saturated fat that your body really needs," Garrity said.

Ellsworth said there are numerous ways to incorporate oil and vinegar into recipes, and she has begun experimenting since she started working at Ampersand.

Ampersand offers imported

olive oil and vinegar

Best New Addition

"You can pretty much use olive oil for anything," Ellsworth said.

Garrity and Ellsworth both said Ampersand has received a warm welcome from the Moscow community, with customers coming from around the Palouse to get their olive oil and vinegar.

"It's been a pleasure to be paid for what I love to do in an atmosphere that's really positive," Ellsworth said.

As for the future, Garrity said she plans to start another store in the Lewis-Clark Valley within the next few years.

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Ampersand opened November 2014 and is located on Main Steet next to BookPeople.



Kick your shoes off

The University of Idaho Arboretum deserves recognition for its beauty, serence atmosphere

Too often, we get caught up in the daily tasks of life and forget the important things.

As busy college students, we wake up in our houses, go to class or work and then come back to our houses to

study, consumed by technology. We are so distracted by what's in front of us, we forget how important nature is to our souls, our health and our overall well-being.

The New Arboretum and Botanical Garden, located just on the outskirts of the University of Idaho campus

up New Greek row, is one of Moscow's hidden gems. It provides a beautiful place to take a break from school and technology and to simply enjoy the beauty of nature. Some find it useful as a wholesome place to exercise outdoors, hang out with friends or escape the daily struggles of life.

There are plenty of benches and flat grassy areas to sit and work on homework. I know I've never found the same kind of peace in a library as I have while in nature, and I know many would agree with me.

At first glance, the trees and plants in the New Arboretum would appear to be arranged simply to please the eye, but there is actually much more that goes into the plants' placement than that. Every single plant was carefully placed around the New Arboretum according to its geographical origin. The New Arboretum is divided into different areas — Europe, Asia, Eastern North America and Western North America.

Every single tree has a tag attached to it so it can be better understood by the people observing it. A few of the species of trees exhibited in the New Arboretum I never knew existed before I went myself, but I love them

that much more now that I know their official name.

Walking around, getting lost in the beauty that comes with each different season, while also observing for yourself the true diversity of nature — you can't get that sort of education from a book.



Alexia Neal Argonaut

Try to remember the last time your bare feet touched the earth. If you can't remember the last time, it has been far too long. Walking across the lawn to get the mail doesn't count. Try to find a time to let your toes get lost between blades of grass and chunks of dirt. The New Arboretum is a good place to do just that.

Most people don't know walking barefoot on the ground is the purest way to ground yourself, and we're fortunate to have such a beautiful place to kick our shoes off. Enjoy the free-flowing electrons between classes while reading a book, or even while studying.

Although there are many beautiful locations in Moscow, the New Arboretum is a special one. Not only is it conveniently located near campus, but the New Arboretum is educational and provides peace to those who need it.

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00 or over 1/2 price Selected Micro \$3.00

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Best of Behind the biscuits and gravy



The Breakfast Club keeps Moscow community coming back for more

Erin Bamer Argonaut

Mike Gleixner met his wife working at the Breakfast Club, and they've been working together to create new, delicious recipes for the popular restaurant's menus ever since.

Gleixner has now been at the Breakfast Club for seven years and serves as the restaurant's kitchen manager.

As kitchen manager, most of Gleixner's responsibilities are food-related. He has invented many of the recipes that exist on the Breakfast Club's menu today. Gleixner said some of his favorite new options are the apple pie pancakes and the apple bacon grilled cheese. But the stuffed biscuits and gravy is easily the most popular item available, he said.

We have our staples," Gleixner said. "Things like the stuffed biscuits and gravy, of course. That's been on the menu forever. and it has always been the most popular. I think the highest amount of those we've ever sold in one day is in the 70 range."

Gleixner said the people who work at the Breakfast Club are used to the restaurant being packed. He said they see steady business during the week, but on the weekends they're prepared to have guests out the door, ranging from hungry University of Idaho students to Moscow locals. On special weeks, like Moms' or Dads' Weekends, the restaurant usually breaks its records for business, he said.

Gleixner said the guests are who keep him coming back. He said he thinks the Breakfast Club is the most popular place to get breakfast in Moscow because of the restaurant's commitment to keeping their customers happy.

"I think it comes back to the good product," he said. "Great service, you know our servers

are fantastic. Greeting people at the door I think goes a long way. The fact that that push comes from the top and goes all the way down, as far as making sure our guests are always greeted with a smile, always given the best service possible and the fact that we cater to the people who come in, because we want them to keep coming in, and that's why I think we're always so busy."

Gleixner said while much of the interior of the Breakfast Club has gotten a makeover over the years, most of the rest of the place. like the atmosphere and most of the people, have remained the same. He said something he believes the Breakfast Club will always keep is the sense of community it brings and the priority the employees have toward each and every guest.

"Our No. 1 mission is to make sure the guest is happy and they want to come back and keep including our community in the things that we do," Gleixner said. "I think that's really how you succeed in Moscow — you can't do it without the community."

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Warm summers and paradise

Summertime in Moscow is pleasant for both students and locals

Weather in Moscow is always a hot topic.

It seems that all the beautiful days will suddenly give way

to rain or snow, and it is almost impossible to imagine what summer is like here. The secret is that after all the students have gone home and it's just the locals left, summers are glorious.

Once the students are gone, along with all

of their entourages, there are a few days of boredom. The streets are quiet. It's unnecessary to look both ways while on campus, even though people still should. Frankly, it's eerie.

After everyone gets over the initial shock, going on adventures around town is fantastic. The sun shines about six days a

week or more, and the temperature never gets into the 90s or hotter. It's always mildly warm and is never humid. The sun is always bright and the bike rides around town are quick without the traffic. With all the students gone, the



stores are free to roam through and lines are short enough to make a run to Winco last less than 10 minutes.

Don't get me wrong - the benefits of Moscow summers

aren't all about how uncrowded the area is without students. Moscow in the summertime is a quaint little town that is green from May through August. The flowers keep blooming for a while, and a walk through the Arboretum is a great way to spend an afternoon.

Being active in the summer is the best way to enjoy Moscow. Every Saturday, a quick walk or bike ride downtown brings people to the Farmers Market. Downtown on any day is kind of like the Farmers Market, though. People are sitting out at the restaurants, shops have racks and gizmos outside, especially Antiques by Russ, and kids are

playing in Friendship Square. It's iust a cozy town.

Other ways to stay active during the summer would be to leave the car at home. Moscow isn't a large town, so it usually doesn't take more than 20 minutes to bike anywhere. Sure, it'll take longer than taking a car, but you can go places on a bike you can't in

Paradise Path is a great route to meander through if you have the time. The path follows Paradise Creek from Pullman to Troy, so if anyone wants a few ideas for a daily workout, just head down one direction for a couple miles. There are times when it doesn't follow the creek, but those moments are few and far between.

Best Kept Secret

Summers in Moscow are something not many UI students get to experience, at least not after their first year or two, and this is a shame. After classes finish, there is a whole other area of town to discover. The temperature isn't psychotic like it is during the school year and there are a lot of hidden secrets that just take a bit of time to find.

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A home for precious paws

Moscow Humane Society houses a host of animals searching for a home

Corrin BondArgonaut

While many people seeking to purchase a new pet often turn to places like pet stores or Craigslist, Trina Prickett, a cat technician at the Humane Society of the Palouse, said she believes the best way to go when looking for a new pet is always adoption.

"Humane Society animals come fixed, vaccinated and microchipped, so it is much easier and far less expensive to adopt from us," Prickett said. "We also have a seven-day foster period where you adopt an animal, and if they aren't compatible with your home you have the option to bring them back."

Prickett said the biggest misconception about animals cared for by the Humane Society is that they are defective or broken in some way.

"People have this idea that these animals are rejects, but really most of them were just never given a chance," she said. "They never had the opportunity to prove themselves as good cats or dogs because people got them as cute babies and then didn't provide them with the stability or consistency to grow into mature adults."

Prickett said her hope is to break down the stigma surrounding rescued animals and that over time the humane society will show the community the value of the cats and dogs they house.

She said in her 12 years working for the humane society, she has seen some remarkable adoption stories unfold.

"We once had an Australian Shepherd mix named Caden who I thought was the most unadoptable dog ever," Prickett said. "I thought he would never be a good, calm, decent house dog, but he ended up surprising me."

Prickett said one day a woman expressed interest in adopting Caden, but she wanted to ensure he was compatible with her young son.

"Her son was sitting in the grass when I brought Caden out and he just bolts towards the baby," she said. "I was so scared that he was going to trample the little boy, but he immediately stopped in front of the baby, sat down and rested his head in the baby's lap ... He was so good and kind with that little boy and he ended up making the best house dog."

Prickett said she sees the truth about rescues in Caden's story — that regardless of a tumultuous past, every animal has the potential to make a loving and loyal companion.

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Humane Society of the Palouse Most Eligible Bachelors



Stud Age: 1 year old

Sex: Male
Breed: Lab-Amstaff mix

Stud is an energetic Lab-Amstaff mix with an affectionate green gaze. When Stud first came into the shelter he was in bad shape. He was brought in with nine other dogs who were rescued from an animal hoarding situation. Although Stud was once the smallest dog and was often picked on by others, he has thrived under the hospitality of the humane society and is now a happy, healthy dog who is full of life. Stud has a particularly strong bond with Muffin, who the shelter staff believes is either his mother or sister from another litter.



Mitch

Age: 8 years old Sex: Male

Breed: Domestic Short Hair

Mitch is an easy going orange tabby who loves to sleep and snuggle. Mitch and his companion Monte are two of the older cats at the shelter. They are best friends who have an inseparable bond and have spent their entire lives together. They are mature, social and full of affection.



Muffin

Age: 3 years old Sex: Female Breed: Lab mix

Muffin is a sweet, playful dog with a slender frame and a big heart. She was brought into the humane society with Stud, who she shares a space with. Muffin is sociable and the staff said she would do well in a home with Stud or with other dogs. She dislikes the cold and unfamiliar situations, but she loves playing with other dogs, going for car rides and snuggling.



Minnie

Age: 1 year old

Sex: Female

Breed: Domestic Short Hair

Minnie is a beautiful tortoiseshell cat with a loving gaze. She and her brother Cab first arrived at the humane society as kittens. The pair are just over a year old now and little is known about their history. They are extremely attached to one another and would do best in a home together. Minnie is playful, outgoing and enjoys making new friends.



Foxy

Age: 7 years old
Sex: Female

Breed: Border Collie-Corgi mix

Foxy is a petite Border Collie mix with curious eyes and a big smile. Her unusually long jawline, which is likely a birth defect, gives off the impression that she is constantly smiling. Foxy is an affectionate dog who loves people and is fond of sitting on laps. Although she gets along well with other animals, she does best with more low-energy companions. She has difficulty being around fast moving animals, as her herding instincts kick-in, but she is a calm and caring animal at heart.



Kitty Cat

Age: 4 years old Sex: Male Breed: Tuxedo mix

Kitty Cat is a bit on the shy side, but he is lovable and full of affection. He was given to the humane society after his owners, who adopted him from a pet store as a kitten, decided to move out of the area. Kitty Cat is not particularly fond of dogs, but he does well with other cats. He was previously an indoor cat, but enjoys spending his time outside in the enclosed cat porch area.

Ginger

Age: 1 year old Sex: Female

Breed: Husky-Australian Shepherd mix

Ginger is a golden Husky Australian Shepherd mix with warm hazel eyes. She has a love for life and the energy to prove it. She loves running, playing with other dogs and playing fetch. She is also intelligent but is strong-willed and would do best with a lot of patience when it comes to training and learning new tricks. Ginger is lively and bright with an outgoing personality that makes her fun to be around. She dislikes being alone — she prefers to have companions and does especially well with other young dogs.



Choosing Chuck

Best of COV

Best Rental Agency

Bond Rentals provides students with alternative housing options

Corrin Bond Argonaut

Living off campus is a big step for many new students, but for Josh Bacha, a University of Idaho

sophomore, the transition was made easier because of Chuck Bond of Moscow's Bond Rentals.

"I went straight from the dorms to renting from Chuck, and it was a really good experience," Bacha said. "He's

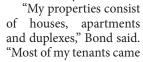
been nothing but helpful as a landlord, and it's made for a positive renting experience."

Bond, who has lived in Moscow since 1968, said he began his rental business at the age of 26

after graduating from UI.

He said his business began when he received a once in a lifetime deal on a house that he later converted into a rental property.

Now the owner of 90 properties in Moscow, Bond said he takes pride in the fact that his last vacancy was for one month in July of 1997.



to me under the recommendations of friends or family ... My business relies heavily on word of mouth."

Bond said he attributes the success of his business to the growth

of the university's student population and an increased demand for off-campus living options.

"When I first started Bond Rentals, there was a rapidly growing student population, but not a lot of off-campus housing," he said. "I had good timing, and now I continue to provide good service, but I'm a small player in the grand scheme of the rental business."

Bond said his one-man operation is enjoyable. He maintains order within his business by being selective about who is able to rent one of his properties.

"I'm very selective about who I rent to and I'm very straight forward about it," he said. "There's no middle man when

you run your own business, so if anyone has a problem they come to me directly."

Although he is selective of his tenants, Bond said he does not feel his selectivity limits his business and said it even helps him build better bonds with his renters.

"Sometimes, I'll get calls from previous tenants who moved to other cities and they'll ask me for renting advice," he said. "They know that they can trust me, and that's what I strive for with everyone who rents from me — to build a foundation of mutual trust."

Managing properties is no easy task, and Bond said he sees a decrease in UI's annual student enrollment as a potential danger

for rental agencies.

"The market is much more competitive now than it was 10 years ago," he said. "Housing has increased, but student enrollment has gone down."

Bond said despite the many challenges with renting out properties in a college town, he feels fortunate to have his business and he appreciates the quality of his tenants in Moscow.

"It's been an enjoyable experience watching my business grow," he said. "It's been successful, and I have the student population to thank for that."

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Bagels for bustles and hustles

When traveling, Moscow Bagel Shop is the place to go

Late night walks during my freshman year often brought me to Moscow Bagel and Deli.

The little shop downtown is hard to spot. It's tucked away between the Prichard Art Gallery and Cafe Artista. The green awning is the only part that stands out until about 1 a.m., when it suddenly becomes difficult to miss.

The busiest times to visit the bagel shop are during bar breaks. Inebriated people show up and it is almost impossible to move through the tight space. There

Claire Whitley

are plenty of stories of intoxicated customers even dancing on the tables. I have never witnessed it, but I wouldn't be surprised.

The bagel shop is a neat little spot with the best food for travellers. Customers can walk in, order a bagel and be out within 15 minutes. It's not as fast as McDon-

ald's, and not as cheap, but the food is amazing.

One of the things separating the bagel shop from other sandwich or bagel places is the fact that they steam their bagels. Once you order your preferred sandwich, they build it and place it on a steamer.

Deft hands fold it up into an aluminum foil package and customers are on their way.

There are 93 bagel sandwiches, not including secret menu items, build it yourself

bagels and extra options such as soup and cookies. The names are what make the bagels even better. There is one called "The Donkey Punch," another is "The Clayboy" and still another is the "Kamikaze." People often walk into the shop and are overwhelmed by the sheer amount of choices on the menu.

I made the mistake early on of ordering the same bagel every time because I was stunned by how many options I had. The workers don't ever rush customers, at least I never felt rushed, but there is still pressure to know what to order.

On days like this, order a Lottery. The people behind the counter get to make you whatever they want. They ask if a customer is allergic to anything or if they prefer spicy or not, but basically it is a completely blind sandwich



for the person who orders it.

If I had the money, I would make it my goal to try every bagel they offer on the menu. It would take at least three months to eat one every day, but I would do it. I have tried Donkey Punch, the After-Burner, the Firz and the Babyface. I have probably tried others as well, since I have risked the Lottery once or twice.

Most people think eating on the go means going to McDonald's or picking something up from a random convenience store. The bagel shop is 10 times better than either of these options, and it's more portable.

Before heading out to hike Moscow Mountain or driving home to southern Idaho, it's worth the extra few minutes to swing by the bagel shop and pick up some travel food.

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Kira Hunter | Argonaut

The interior of local coffee joint One World Cafe. The coffee shop was voted best place to study in the Best of Moscow 2015.

'The living room of Moscow'

One World Cafe offers the community more than just coffee

Erin Bamer Argonaut

This year marks the 10th anniversary of One World Cafe serving the people of Moscow.

Sara Pritchett, co-owner of One World, has worked there for eight of those 10 years and said she couldn't be happier working in a place she loves for a community she loves.

"This is the best job I've ever had," Pritchett said. "Moscow is the most wonderful community, and I love being able to get to know everybody and help everybody out."

Pritchett said she and the other baristas work hard to maintain a welcoming

atmosphere at One World, for both the people of Moscow and members of the University of Idaho community. Part of this local flavor comes from the coffee itself, which is locally roasted for One World, she said.

"From the minute that it's picked off the plant until we pour it into your cup, it's just been handled with such care and love," she said.

Among the many Moscow locals who visit One World for a cup of coffee, Pritchett said she sees just as many UI students who come in to study. She said she has even known of some students who relied on One World so much they noted them in their essays.

Pritchett said she thinks One World is a popular study spot because of the store's social atmosphere. She called One World "the living room of Moscow," and said many people become inspired by some of the things they hear from other customers when they visit.

"It's a great place to people watch," she said. "It's a great place to kind of get lost and hide away upstairs. I think that the smell and kind of the background ambiance creates a creative environment."

Pritchett said the students who come in to study work on a wide range of subjects. She also sees just as many UI faculty and staff come in to finish up on their work over coffee.

One World doesn't just act as a place to get coffee and study though. Pritchett said One World hosts a variety of events every month, from open mic nights to showcasing local musicians. The store even hosts a drag bingo night every second Monday

of the month.

Pritchett said the regular customers are the ones who truly make up the spirit of One World. She said she loves watching people connect with other customers over coffee, and more than anything she just enjoys making people's days a little bit better by working at One World.

"I like to know people's names," Pritchett said. "I like to know what they're working on and kind of a little bit a part of their lives. I think it's almost like a family here, and it a part of their day because they come every day and they know my name and we can kind of catch up."

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Cy Whitling | Argonaut

University of Idaho student Kyle Flack bikes the Mosocw Mountain trail Somalia. Somalia is a tight single-track racing trail for bikes.

Trails for all types

While the Palouse is known for its gently rolling waves of wheat fields, Moscow has been

blessed with the close proximity of Moscow Mountain and its trails.

Just a short drive from town, the mountain is home to a network of trails perfect for hiking, running and mountain biking in the summer, as well as snow-shoe-

ing, cross country skiing and fat biking in the winter. The trails offer something for everyone, ranging from the beginner-level paths, which are basically dirt sidewalks, to steep loamy downhill race trails. For rookies, Idler's Rest is an easy way to get out and enjoy the mountain. Its cedars, ferns and

streams make for a lush and relaxing atmosphere, and its trails are short and well-marked. Don't come here looking for scenic views and rocky vistas, but its amount of wildlife makes it a definite must-see.



Cy Whitling Argonaut

Headwaters is a great starter for intermediate hikers and mountain bikers. It's a solid loop with plenty of elevation changes and a pleasant winding single-track that crosses a creek several times and winds through some beautiful forest. Just make sure to park in the parking area and not in front of the gate.

Over in the Four Corners area of the mountain, mountain biking trails wind and intersect through the ridges and valleys. Jump Trail is a great way to get beginners hooked on mountain biking. It's wide and flowy, which is perfect for a first off-road experience. A little higher up, Nemesis is a steeper, intermediate trail that winds tight switchbacks down through a few creek crossings and between some rock slabs before pulling back up to the road.

From the bottom of Jump Trail, Cabin Trail runs fast and smooth down to the road. A little bellow the top of Jump Trail riders can hop on to Cave trail or to one of the several other loops that wind for miles through dense forests and clear-cuts, just be prepared to be marginally lost and slightly confused.

For more gravity oriented riders, Moscow Mountain is home to a pair of experts-only downhill trails. Somalia is a fast tight and loamy downhill race trail. While it has a few drops and jumps, this is really a trail for those who want to get loose on some tight single-track. Make sure to wear a full face helmet, and some body armor is never a bad idea.

Running from midway down Jump Trail and intersection

Moscow Mountain offers

trails for all abilities

Somalia, Sentinal is a free ride trail straight out of the movies. It's littered with jumps, drops and berms, all groomed to perfection and waiting to be styled out. Regardless of a visitor's trail choice, beware of downed trees. Early in the season, the trails are still in winter conditions and will need to be cleaned up to be completely safe to ride on.

Moscow Mountain has a trail for everyone. From mellow hiking to gnarly downhill single-track, the mountain offers a perfect destination for some weekend hiking or riding and is a great respite from our endless rolling hills.

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Calling for caffeine Dutch Bros. Coffee serves Moscow citizens their much-needed caffeine fix



Mary Malone Argonaut

Carlie Funk loves her job. She said she loves Moscow summers the best, and she loves the small-town feel.

She came to Moscow from Boise three years ago, and has worked at Dutch Bros. Coffee as a full-time employee for a year and a half.

"Just the fact that I get to come to work every day and it's a party," Funk said. "It's literally a party every day. It's just the high energy and the culture ... My co-workers are like family."

Dutch Bros. sits on the north side of Moscow, a bit out of the way for some University of Idaho students, but usually they don't mind the length of the journey for the service they receive at the busy little drivethru coffee shop.

Annie Exline, a UI freshman, said she loves the coffee at Dutch Bros. and makes her way over there at least once a week.

"I like how friendly they are, and the drinks are always good, no matter what you get," Exline said.

Amanda Annotti is the first and only owner of the Moscow Dutch Bros., which is a franchise of over 200 stores in seven states.

She had been working at a Dutch Bros. in Coeur d'Alene before deciding to open the shop in Moscow two years ago.

"I love the small town," Annotti said. "I love going to the store and seeing 10 of my customers and building relationships with people that you

see every single day, because it's such a small community and a close community."

She said the shop keeps a steady pace of customers throughout the day, with a morning rush from 8-10 a.m. and an afternoon rush from about 3-5 p.m.

In January, they launched their 24-hour service by giving out free coffee during the graveyard shift and even though they have been open 24 hours ever since, she said the graveyard shift is still pretty slow.

"But honestly, it just created those really loyal customers that could come at two in the morning or come in the afternoon," Annotti said. "I think the fact that we're open 24 hours helps with that."

Including Annotti, she said there are 18 employees working the different shifts.

In the mornings as many as five people work one shift to keep the customers moving through during the busiest hours of the day.

She said she enjoys owning the shop in Moscow, not only because of the small-town aspect, but because of the people she gets to work with.

"The best part about it is the culture that we have here, and being able to hire employees that I love and who are awesome at the job," Annotti said. "Training them is always a challenge, but after that training period, it's awesome to see them grow."

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Kira Hunter | Argonaut

Dutch Bros. Coffee, located on Highway 95, was voted Moscow's Best Coffee Shop.



Kaitlyn Krasselt Argonaut

After a few years out of the spotlight, the Garden Lounge has reclaimed the Best of Moscow title for Best Bar.

While many would attribute the success of the Garden Lounge to the charisma and well-mixed drinks of long-time bartender and second-year Manager Bill Cole, he has a different theory.

"We don't have many pool tables, we don't have a dance floor, we don't serve food," Cole said. "It's our staff. We have the greatest group of people that enjoy making people happy. It's service with a smile. People like it here because they can have a good drink with their friends and get great service."

The bar, located inside the

Moscow Hotel in the heart of downtown Moscow, has been functioning in its current state as a bar and lounge for more than 30 years. During this time the bar has come to be known for its longest running drink special, Blue Monday.

"It's a great Moscow tradition," Cole said.

Although the Blue Monday success has been great, Cole said he and the 16-member staff are constantly coming up with new ideas for things to do at the Garden. Most notably are the themed nights that have become popular since Cole took over as manager, he said. From Hawaiian Night to '90s Night, the team tries to come up with things they'd enjoy doing at a bar.

66

We are literally customer service based, so when your customers vote you the best bar in town, it really means a lot.

Bill Cole, Garden Lounge Manager

"Like any business that's trying to be successful, we're always talking about new things," Cole said. "But we'll always be a lounge and we are happy with that."

Cole has worked at the Garden for 13 years and said he enjoys the diversity of clients who frequent the bar — from locals who stop in

for a post-work happy hour drink to the ever-changing hoards of college students who arrive later in the evening.

"One of my favorite things about this place is the diversity of clients ... It's not a bar for 'those guys' or a certain type of people," Cole said. "It's a good all-around bar and a meeting place ... It's well-rounded, and more than anything, you can sit and have a good drink. You can party or study or have a meeting ... It's a place for everyone."

In addition to the people who keep the bar in business, Cole said his favorite thing to do is watch the relationships grow that have started in the Garden.

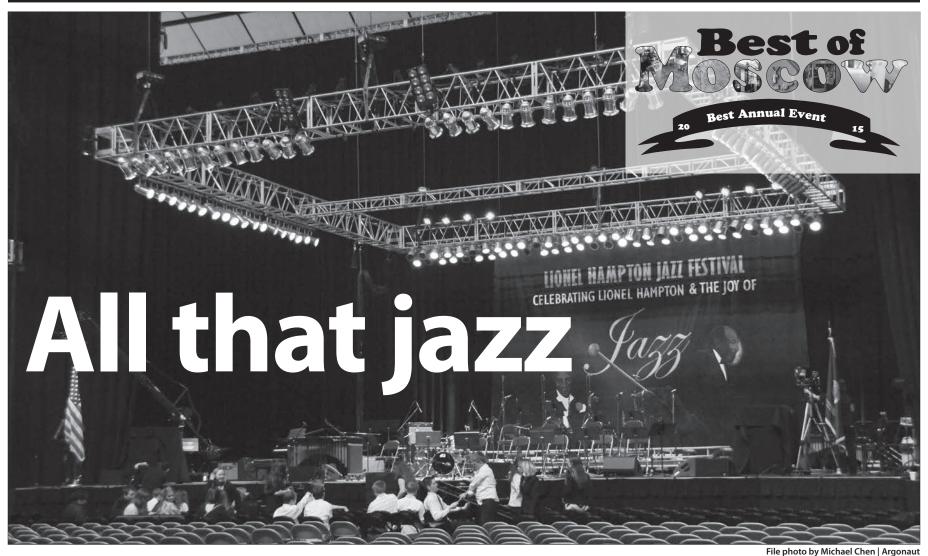
"The friendships that are born here — that's what makes this

place special," Cole said. "I've been to many weddings that started at the Garden ... Employees that have ended up together, customers that came here on their first date ... It's just great to watch."

As for their status as the best bar in town, Cole said he, the staff and the owners are grateful for the customer support and are in the process of planning some sort of thank-you event to show their appreciation.

"We are literally customer service based, so when your customers vote you the best bar in town, it really means a lot," Cole said.

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Fabruary

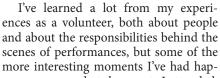
Participants in the 2015 Lionel Hampton International Jazz Festival prepare the stage for a performance. Jazz Fest takes place each February.

The Lionel Hampton International Jazz Festival brings people together

What exactly draws people to the Lionel Hampton International Jazz Festival year after year?

For some people, it may simply be the music, but personally, the allure of Jazz Fest lies in more than just the music — it's also about the people and the experiences surrounding the festival.

For the past five years, I have volunteered for Jazz Fest in various capacities, from delivering food to helping time the performances to being the primary manager for a performance clinic. Each year, I've had numerous great experiences with my fellow volunteers, as well as with the participants of various workshops and performances.



pened at the events I attended. I've heard fascinating stories of struggle and triumph. I've learned dance steps and tips about how to rehearse. I've also listened to some great music.

Moscow citizens and University of Idaho students alike have opportunities to reach out, whether it's through attending an informal performance in a

coffee shop or participating in a workshop. Participating in events like Jazz Fest can bring people closer together and create common ground to improve connections between friends and acquaintances.

It can be more difficult to find workshops that apply to non-musicians and

aren't exclusively meant for high school students, and there is a cost involved, but there are still some interesting opportunities. Anyone who's interested in learning about East Coast Swing Dance, for example, has ample opportunities to participate in the jazz-based dance form.

Local businesses also participate in events. Some hold workshops, while others offer discounted prices for people who have purchased Jazz Fest buttons. Their participation helps both the festival and their business. With more people in town, there is typically more business for small companies, especially those connected to the events.

Despite the inconvenience of having an increase in traffic on campus, it's nice to see young musicians take advantage of the chance to expand their horizons. Some of them, particularly the high school students, are surprisingly good. It's impressive to see the dedication of some young performers.

For more polished student performances though, it's best to listen to the college performers. They've had more time to hone in on their skills, and this typically shows through in terms of stage presence and musical ability.

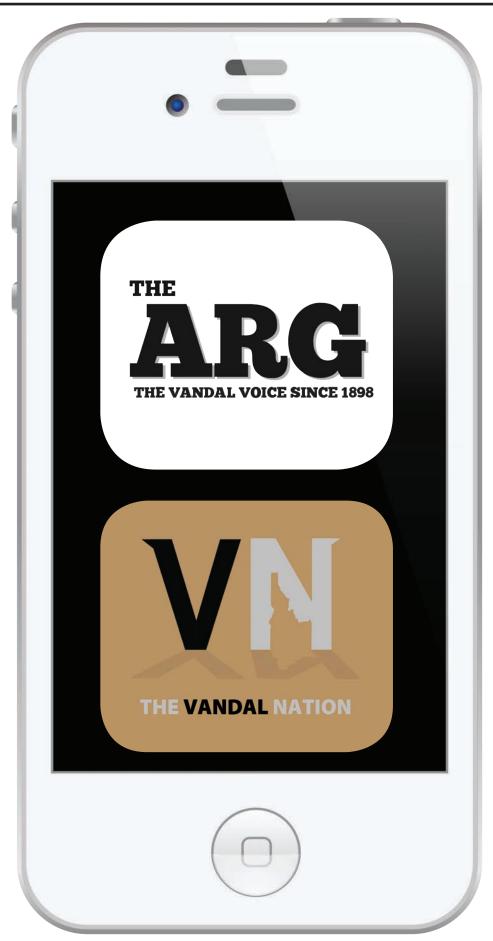
The culture around the festival is great, but the music itself is also a fantastic experience for anyone who enjoys jazz, even if they don't live in Moscow. While the festival is smaller and less impressive than it was at its peak, it's still a great place to listen to talented contemporary musicians play live music.

Overall, my favorite aspect of the Jazz Fest is something that exists within Moscow the rest of the year too — the sense of community that comes from being connected. Getting involved with the festival is just a way to amplify it.

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