

Movie Titles That Made the Cutting Room Floor



Nick Thomas
ALONG THESE LINES

I've been pestering the Hollywood moguls with original movie scripts for years, but all my ideas have been rejected. For instance, I had a really good outline for a sequel to Hitchcock's avian thriller, "The Birds." But Universal Pictures didn't like my title: "12 Angry Wren."

For a while, I was hopeful that Orion Pictures would embrace my comedy about an aspiring hairdresser who practices on her sleeping siblings. But eventually they declined the rights to "Hannah and Her Scissors."

Here's a list of my other dazzling film outlines and their proposed titles, all of which were, for some reason, rejected: This comedy was about a New England veterinarian who leaves his practice to start a business manufacturing sweet treats for pampered pooches. Film title: "Yankee Poodle Candy."

Returning from World War II, a group of husbands learn that their wives have formed a neighborhood ale tasting club and published a book recommending their favorite brands. Film title: "The Best Beers of Our Wives."
This drama featured an eccentric high school English teacher with an aversion to using small grammatical phrases in the classroom. Film title: "Rebel Without a Clause."
Crime suspense following the adventures of two New York detectives named "Hacksaw" Doyle and Buddy "The Hammer" Russo who uncover the largest hand-to-hand smuggling syndicate in the world. Film title: "The Wrench Connection."

Musical comedy about a popular entertainer who falls through a manhole cover, then sings and dances his way to safety out of the city sewer system. Film title: "Singin' in the Drain."

In this comedy, a teenager goes crazy after accidentally getting locked in the house when his parents leave on vacation. Film title: "Home a Loon."

The hero of this time loop saga, Phil, awakens each morning only to discover that every day the mailman

leaves him the same package, which is always filled with a common Asian grain food staple. Film title: "The Postman Always Brings Rice."

This drama would have been set in a Japanese retirement home where the occupants pool their money and hire a private detective to investigate corrupt management. Film title: "All the Residents' Yen."

Drama following the personal growth of a young man who suddenly discovers he has become a father. Film title: "From Her to Paternity."

Docudrama of a hip 1930s musician who becomes a stand-up comedian. Film title: "The Jazz Zinger."

In this introspective story, a group of environmentalists must reassess their organization after discovering their group left behind mountains of trash during a public demonstration to promote conservation awareness. Film title: "How Green was my Rally."

A documentary film suggesting that a popular FOX News host really was fired from his show. Film title: "The Empire Strikes Beck."

In this tense psychological thriller, a gardener who talks

to his root vegetables becomes psychopathic when they fail to answer. Film title: "Silence of the Yams."

In this Sci-Fi fantasy, an infectious skin disease spreads through a city causing its demented victims to wander the streets at night, driven crazy by the itchy lesions. Film title: "Invasion of the Body Scratchers."

This feature would have followed a group of ultra-thin reality show contestants attempting to gain weight. Film title: "They Were Expandable."

After losing his cell phone signal in a strange town, a journalist struggles for survival. Film title: "Lost Verizon." A trades person, who must travel many miles each day for work, has difficulty maintaining a relationship. Film title: "Loneliness of the Long Distance Plumber."

In this historical biopic, it's revealed that the shortage of exotic fruit was the real cause of the French Revolution. Film title: "Last Mango in Paris."

Thomas features and columns have appeared in more than 300 magazines and newspapers, and he is the author of "Raised by the Stars," published by McFarland. He can be reached at his blog: <http://getnick.blogspot.com>.



Struthers Police Report

PARTIAL LISTING

JUNE 22
• 4:18 p.m.: A woman from the 100 block of Omar said individuals were coming to her residence and harassing her. The woman was unable to identify the suspects. An officer advised the reporter that extra patrols would be made in the area.

JUNE 23
• 12:23 a.m.: A male from the first block of Morrison said there was loud music coming from the house directly behind his on Creed Street. An officer was dispatched and was unable to hear any loud music in the area. The officer cleared without incident.

• 2:46 a.m.: A caller from a convenience store in the 300 block of Maplewood said there was a male urinating in public and he had the license plate number of male's vehicle.
• 10:40 a.m.: A woman from Youngstown requested that a report be on file regarding a custody exchange dispute that

recently occurred.
• 11:02 a.m.: A caller from the 500 block of Maplewood said someone broke out his car window with a rock.
• 12:31 p.m.: A caller from the 300 block of Sexton requested an officer at her residence due to her 13-year-old daughter saying she was leaving without permission. The caller said someone dumped soda on her vehicle as well. Two officers responded and mediated the situation.

JUNE 24
• 5:56 p.m.: A caller said her juvenile daughter was sexually assaulted. An officer responded and determined that the assault took place in Poland Township.

• 7:59 p.m.: A caller said there was a verbal altercation in the 200 block of Poland Avenue. Two officers responded and found that the dispute had dispersed prior to police arrival.

• 8:25 p.m.: A male turned in a bag of silver dollars that he found at Renee and Argonne. An officer took possession of the bag and logged it into evidence.

JUNE 25
• 6:42 p.m.: A caller advised that his step sons vandalized his daughter's bedroom while he was on vacation.
• 7:30 p.m.: A caller said there was a tree down in the middle of the roadway near Lowellville Road and the sev-

age plant. An officer located the bush and moved it off to the side of the roadway.

• 10:28 p.m.: A caller advised that a 70-year-old female had taken too much of her medication and needed an ambulance. An officer arrived and stood by until the fire department departed and the ambulance arrived.

• 11:05 p.m.: A caller from the 500 block of Sixth Street said he and his girlfriend were receiving threats from her ex-husband.

JUNE 26
• 6:20 p.m.: A caller from the 200 block of Overlook said her son was drunk and was refusing to leave. Three officers responded. An arrest was made.

• 7:45 p.m.: A caller said her neighbor was cutting the grass with a tractor, which threw up an object that broke a car window. An officer responded.

• 8 p.m.: A caller said a male was refusing to give her property back to her. Two officers responded and mediated the situation.

• 8:07 p.m.: A caller said there was a possible water line break around his residence in the first block of Reed Street because his garden was flooded. An officer responded and advised that the neighbor was draining the pool.

• 9:04 p.m.: A caller said there were three juveniles playing near the road on Renee Street with no adult around. An officer responded and was unable to locate anyone in the area.
• 9:11 p.m.: A caller advised there was a possible drunk driver on Sexton Street. An officer responded and advised

that the vehicle was gone prior to her arrival. The officer searched the surrounding areas and was unable to locate the vehicle.

• 9:29 p.m.: A caller from the 3900 block of Riley Street said his wife beat him up. Two officers responded.

JUNE 27
• 12:43 a.m.: A male said he and his girlfriend were involved in a verbal dispute. Two officers were dispatched and spoke with the couple. The couple agreed to separate for the night and an officer stood by until they departed.

• 12:44 a.m.: A caller said there were juveniles in the roadway in the first block of Iroquois. An officer was dispatched but was unable to locate any juveniles in the area.

• 1:05 a.m.: A caller said there was underage drinking occurring in the first block of Iroquois. Three officers were dispatched and spoke with the juveniles.

• 2:01 a.m.: A caller from the first block of Narcissa said her boyfriend had returned to the residence after being told to leave by officers and had taken her child. An officer responded and spoke to the reporter.

• 6:14 p.m.: An officer went to the 100 block of Katherine Street regarding an active alarm. An officer responded and all seemed secure. The key holder arrived at the scene and all was in good order.

• 6:27 p.m.: A male said someone blocked in his vehicle while he was at a convenience store. Officers responded to the business and spoke with both owners. The situation was resolved.



Campbell Police Report

PARTIAL LISTING

JUNE 27
THEFT: At 4:42 p.m., a male from the 100 block of Bright Avenue said a tall male with short dark hair and tattoos came into his house and stole a laptop between midnight and 2 a.m. The reporter said he was unsure if the suspect was let into the residence by another resident of the house.
THEFT: At 6:57 p.m., an officer was flagged down by a woman from the 100 block of Monroe Street regarding someone stealing her green garden hose from the porch of her apartment.

ASSAULT: At 9:49 p.m., officers were dispatched to the 200 block of Reed regarding a report that a man was assaulted. The male said he was near Chambers at Delmare when a man began striking him in the face because of a money-related argument. An ambulance arrived at the scene and the victim refused medical treatment. Officers spoke to a homeowner nearby who had surveillance set up. Officers were able to positively identify the attacker from the video.

JUNE 28
THEFT: At 10:10 a.m., an officer was dispatched to the 600 block of Hyatt regarding a theft from a motor vehicle. The owner of the vehicle said he was unsure of what was missing, but said his bank checks were gone. The victim was advised that a report will be on file.

JUNE 29
• 12:59 a.m.: An officer observed a gray car with no rear license plate light and initiated a traffic stop on Wilson Avenue near Third Street. The driver had a non-compliance suspension and was arrested.

JUNE 30
DRIVING UNDER SUSPENSION: At 3:10 a.m., an officer pulled over a 2004 Chevrolet Impala on 12th Street

near Blossom Avenue for objects hanging from the rear view mirror. The driver was found to have a suspended license and was arrested.

JULY 1
• 7:12 a.m.: Two officers went to the 200 block of 12th Street regarding graffiti on a building. The building owner was contacted and informed of the vandalism. The owner said he would get the graffiti covered up. Additional gang-related graffiti was located at 10th Street and Whipple.

• 12:40 p.m.: Two officers went to the 100 block of Gladstone regarding a male threatening a female with a gun. The male departed the residence in a burgundy Chevrolet Tahoe prior to police arrival.

OBSTRUCTING OFFICIAL BUSINESS/DISORDERLY CONDUCT/FLEEING AND ELUDING POLICE: At 6:27 p.m., two officers were dispatched to the 600 block of Martha regarding multiple complaints of an all-terrain vehicle speeding up and down Martha Avenue between interstate Route 422 and Coitsville Road, causing a noise disturbance and obstructing traffic. Officers arrived and located a male riding the vehicle on two of its wheels. Upon seeing the officer, the male fled to the 600 block of Martha Avenue and continued behind a residence, despite police demands to stop the vehicle. As one officer attempted to locate the male on the vehicle, another officer approached a man on a porch who was holding an infant. The man holding the infant was yelling obscenities at neighbors and asking who was the person who called police. The male was told he would be arrested for disorderly conduct, but the officer was hesitant to arrest the male because he was standing on a concrete surface while holding a baby. The male tossed the baby to a nearby female and fled into the woods. Neither suspect was found by officers. Upon questioning the witnesses of the event, no one would give police any information pertaining to the suspects, including the owner of the vehicle, who gave police false information.

JULY 2
POSSESSION OF DRUGS/PARAPHERNALIA/DRUG ABUSE INSTRUMENTS/ENDANGERING

CHILDREN: At 3:28 p.m., police were dispatched to an ice cream restaurant regarding a suspicious vehicle parked behind the building. Police located a male, a female and an infant boy sitting in the grass next to the vehicle. As police approached, the female began to act nervously and put something in her shirt. The female was ordered to show her hands and was asked twice if she had anything in her shirt. The first time, she said she had nothing in there and lifted her shirt a bit. The second time she admitted to officers that she had a hypodermic syringe containing suspected heroin. The female and male were both arrested. Police found a medicine bottle containing suspected crack cocaine in the vehicle. Children's services was notified. The child was

turned over to his grandmother.

MENACING: At 4:05 p.m., police were dispatched to Jean and Jackson regarding a male being threatened by another person. The reporter said he was at a general store when he was verbally abused by a former coworker. The male said he returned home and later found 37 bullets on the ground next to his vehicle. Police advised that a report will be on file.

JULY 3
• 12:20 a.m.: A female from the 200 block of Gordon said her identity had been stolen. She said an unknown person in Wyoming had attempted to sign up for car insurance using her name.

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Do you remember ...

Swimming at the birdbath? Looking forward to the Babydoll Dance? Movies at The Ritz Theatre? Rollerskating at The Neighborhood House? The circus train? Minstrel shows? Skyscraper Ice Cream Cones? The counter at Isaly's? The old ball field at Jackson Park? Boxing matches at the Struthers Field House? The Bell Theater? Stop 147 ice trucks? Milk men? The Hilltop Dairy? Riding the bus downtown?

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