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SPORTS FINAL

## Madison gets to shine in new movie

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**MADISON** — The town is playing a starring role in a film that premieres at the Madison Arts Cinemas this weekend.

"Harvest" was written and directed by Marc Meyers, who has family in Madison and has spent summers in town. Set mostly in the coastal town, the film allows viewers to catch a glimpse of Main Street, the Madison Coffee Shop and the annual Fourth of July parade.

Residents will recognize hot spots and breezy side streets that give the film just the quality Meyers was looking for.

A popular promotional image for the movie shows Academy Award-nominated actor Robert Loggia smiling and riding his bicycle down sun-speckled Island Avenue.

"When I wrote the script, I wanted to write with some detail that was familiar," said Meyers. "I thought Madison would be a great place to film because it's a beautiful Shoreline town. You can spend a lot of energy trying

to recreate a situation and trying to find another location that resembles what is imagined in the script."

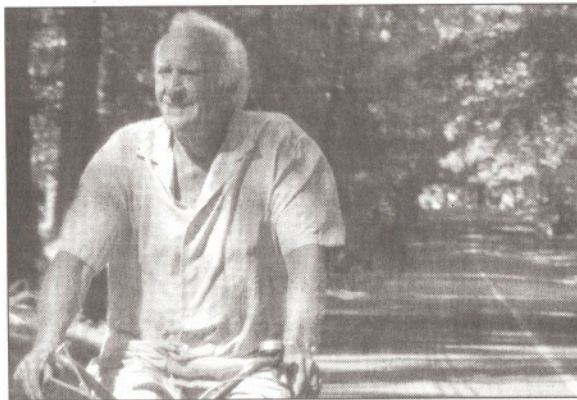
The film centers around three generations of a family coming together one summer over the death of the patriarch, a World War II veteran who is played by Loggia. The family finds comfort and conflict in one another as the college-age grandson, played by Jack T. Carpenter, tries to hold them together.

"It is loosely based on family drama," said Meyers. "It is a combination of things I wish could happen with family and things that I am afraid may happen. It creates a new story."

Meyers has gone back and forth between making films and writing plays for two decades. He made his first feature film, "Approaching Union Square" in 2005. It is being shown on the Sundance channel.

"Harvest" was filmed in fall 2008, mostly in Madison, but it also features scenes from Guilford and Tweed New Haven Regional Airport.

"We got a lot of help from



Keith Marzurkowitz/For the Register

Actor Robert Loggia rides down Island Avenue in Madison in a scene from the movie "Harvest," which will be shown later this week at the Madison Arts Cinema.

the town, Police Department, residents and local businesses with this film," said Meyers. "And many of the secondary cast and crew are Connecticut residents."

Madison residents not only had to get used to the cameras, but they had to make way for some stars. Academy Award nominee Barbara Barrie and Tony winner Victoria Clark

also play prominent roles in the film.

But this isn't the first time the town has had to get accustomed to stardom. The Madison Arts Cinemas recently screened "Once More With Feeling," which was also shot locally.

"I think it's always interesting to see a place you know well represented on film,"

said Max Haddad, manager at Madison Arts Cinemas. "It gives you a different perspective. You get to see something you have always known differently or see it the way the director does."

"Harvest" won Best American Independent Film at the 34th Cleveland International Film Festival, the Jury Prize and Audience Award for Best Feature Film at the Sacramento Film & Music Festival and Best Connecticut Grown Film at the Connecticut Film Festival.

"I'm really proud of it. I think Madison itself is a significant character in the movie," said Meyers. "It will be interesting for residents to see the town on screen."

The film will be shown at 4:15 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The theater is at 761 Boston Post Road. A question and answer period will follow. AARP members receive a discount at the box office. For more information go to [www.madisonartcinemas.com](http://www.madisonartcinemas.com) or [www.raisingharvest.com](http://www.raisingharvest.com).

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