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SPORTS:

Pirates at the Half

by Stacy Kauffman, Sports Editor, Nightwire Magazine
Photos ©2019 Pittsburgh Pirates / Dave Arrigo

Who are the 2019 Pirates? At the halfway point of the season, we may not have the answer yet. Coming into the year, the team proclaimed itself built on pitching and hoped timely hitting would help them win low-scoring affairs. They were right. Well, partly. The pitching staff was one of the best in the National League in April, with an ERA of 3.47. But the bats didn't cooperate, compiling a team average of .231 and OPS of just .665, blowing the opportunity to get off to a good start. They finished April with a 13-14 record. And then the injuries started piling up.

With pitchers Chris Archer and Nick Burdi already on the injured list, Jameson Taillon, Keone Kela and Trevor Williams joined them in May, then Jordan Lyles in June. 60 percent of the Pirates starting rotation was on the IL at the same time. Archer

has struggled in his nine starts since coming back with an ERA of 6.17 and opposing batters slugging .536 against him. Nick Kingham was designated for assignment and subsequently traded to Toronto after posting an ERA of nearly 10 and a WHIP over 2. A revolving door of bullpen arms and openers was spinning and the Bucs' dream of pitching their way into contention went up in smoke. The team ERA for May was 6.19.

The good news? The offense came alive in May, led by Josh Bell's amazing month at the plate. Bell rang up a slash line of .390/.442/.797 and earned player of the month honors. The team record climbed into winning territory, hitting a season high 4 games over .500 before the pitching really tanked. Since they were 24-20, the Bucs have gone 15-22. Through 81 games, they are 39-42 and are in fourth place in the division. Which



is exactly where they were a year ago. Except last year, they were nine games back. This year, they are just five behind the division-leading Cubs.

So GM Neal Huntington has some tough decisions to make. Is the club a contender or a pretender? Their record versus winning teams is 22-33 and they are 17-9 when playing teams under .500. That points to pretender. But with the offense on fire and the pitching beginning to settle, can they put it all together? Can they depend on a couple of rookies – Kevin Newman and Bryan Reynolds – to keep playing at a high level?

Will the starting rotation get stronger?

It's hard to try and predict baseball. Impossible, really. And with the inconsistency of the Pirates' season so far, can you trust that making moves to improve this year's team won't backfire like it did last year? Is it foolish to buy into their recent hot streak? Maybe. But that's not a job for the fans. Instead of wringing hands over what to do or trying to figure out who the team is, why not enjoy the ride? You never know where you'll end up.





Stacy Kauffman, Sports Feature Writer for Nightwire Magazine can be heard weekends on CBS Sports Radio 93.7 The Fan, and has appeared on numerous sports media outlets including Fox Sports Pittsburgh, CBS and ESPN Radio. She can be reached on Twitter @SportsnWhatnot or at sportsnwhatnot@gmail.com

Let Freedom Ring!! God Bless America!!!

Those who live in freedom will always be grateful to those who helped preserve it! We wish to thank our military, police officers, firefighters, first responders and EMT's. We thank you all for your courage - your dedication - your service is appreciated each and every day Thank You for upholding our fine nation with pride and for keeping us safe and free!

On this Fourth of July we celebrate freedom...a day set aside to honor our country but it's really about honoring those that serve our great country. We want to thank our veterans and show our appreciation for the courage and patriotism of all the men and women who have served in the military.

From the fields and forests of war-torn Europe to the jungles of Southeast Asia, from the deserts of Iraq to the mountains of Afghanistan, brave patriots have protected our nation's ideals, rescued millions from tyranny, and helped spread freedom around the globe. America's veterans answered the call when asked to protect our nation from some of the most brutal oppression the world has ever known.

Military service demands a special kind of sacrifice. The places where you are sent to live and serve bring risk every day. From the time you put on that uniform for the first time, the interests of the nation move to the forefront and define your life. Those duties are ultimately shared by family members who make many sacrifices of their own, sometimes bearing the burden of losing a loved one.

Service brings rewards as well. There is the pride in developing one's own character, serving a cause far greater than self-interest. Every man and woman who wears America's uniform is part of a long, unbroken line of achievement and honor. No single military power in history has done greater good, shown greater courage, liberated more people or upheld higher standards of decency and valor than the Armed Forces of the United States of America.

That is a legacy to be proud of and those who contributed to it must never be taken for granted. To honor our veterans, we must keep the promises we have made to them. We must care for those who have been injured in the service of our country. We must honor and remember those who have died. And we must remember those whose fate is still undetermined.

Movie Reviews

NIGHTWIRE - FILM REVIEWS by FIORE



MEN IN BLACK INTERNATIONAL

MEN IN BLACK INTERNATIONAL is an average film. It's okay to view and watch once. It's cute and entertaining, but it is not in any way noteworthy.

The film is not a reboot of the series, but rather a spin off. Gone are Will Smith and Tommy Lee Jones. Cameos from previous episodes in MEN IN BLACK INTERNATIONAL are made by aliens and technology.

Screenwriters Art Marcum and Matt Holloway issue a familiar tale following a template established by myriad previous films. Their story includes rather inept British agents, who are constantly upstaged by a minority female probationary American agent. In the news headlines of Britain's struggle of Brexit, this certainly cannot be an advantageous plotline for harmonious discord across the pond. Thankfully, the film is not as political in the Woman Warrior propaganda as it could be, but director F. Gary Gray does manage to throw in a few digs to the Men In Black moniker.

Agent H (Chris Hemsworth) is Britain's finest MIB agent, yet his exploits and skills are questioned by novice Agent M (Tessa Thompson) when an intergalactic weapon of mass destruction is sought by two warring factions. Adding gravitas to the shenanigans are Liam Neeson and Emma Thompson.

The SFX are adequate, for the most part, but several key scenes, like the ride on the space motorcycle, are slipshod. The reason is the post-production sequences were farmed out to Middle Eastern studios to save money. It shows.

Clint's son Wade Eastwood serves as stunt coordinator and second unit director. There are a multitude of heavy hitters behind the camera, including Stephen Spielberg and Danny Elfman, and they help immensely in the film's presentation. Chinese studio Tencent is credited for much of the production.

MEN IN BLACK INTERNATIONAL is a decent addition to the franchise. It is certainly better than the second and third installments, but truly this franchise died after the first film. With a predictable plot, mundane characterizations and wanting SFX, it is hard to justify a prime ticket price to see it. Perhaps waiting for VOD, or even Netflix would be advantageous.

GODZILLA KING OF THE MONSTERS



I can hear the wailing and gnashing of teeth of all the Marvel fanboys whining because their beloved AVENGERS ENDGAME was just smacked by GODZILLA KING OF THE MONSTERS. You can bring on X-MEN, STAR WARS, THE JOKER and SPIDER MAN, nothing is going to top this film as the summer's pinnacle blockbuster. It is the first film this year to earn the coveted FIST OF FIORE Award, exemplifying excellence in film entertainment.

Michael Dougherty brings to the screen the epitome of the Godzilla movie templates. As both director and writer, he encapsulates elements of the original MOTHRA, RODAN and GHIDORAH, THE THREE HEADED MONSTER. From the latter

years, he purloins scenes from GODZILLA VS. KING GHIDORAH and GODZILLA VS DESTROYER. While the scenes are familiar, they are updated and presented with top-notch SFX, all under the guidance and tutelage of Scott Chambliss.

The story begins with Mark Russell (Kyle Chandler), formerly of Monarch, who is living a life of secluded research. He is separated from his wife, Dr. Emma Russell (Vera Farmiga) still with Monarch, who has a mad desire to bring order to the world. (Sounds a bit like Thanos, doesn't it?) She teams with Jonah Alan (Charles Dance), a rogue Monarch post commander who is a "man who just likes to see the world burn." Together, they hatch a plan to release all the known Titans and establish their version of the New Green Deal. Caught in the middle of the conflict is Madison Russell, played by Millie Bobby Brown.

Back for more kaiju conflicts are Ken Watanabe, who pays a fitting tribute to his character of Dr. Serizawa, Ziti Zhang, Bradley Whitford and David Strathairn.

GODZILLA KING OF THE MONSTERS is also solid in crew. Bear McCreary provides a routing soundtrack, complete with interpolations of the monsters' original theme songs. Lawrence Sher masters the cinematography between live action and CGI effects and the team of Roger Barton, Bob Ducsay and Richard Pearson do an adequate job of editing the film. Clocking in at twelve minutes over the two-hour mark, GODZILLA KING OF THE MONSTERS could lose several story sequences, but this is Godzilla, so exceptions are justified.

This movie is not to be missed. I enjoyed every aspect and reveled in its spectacle. We are accustomed, from previous Godzilla films, of having alien races attempt world domination and having Godzilla prevent them. I find it deliciously ironic that this time, it's not aliens but environmentalists who are the antagonists.

DARK PHOENIX

I am not a fan of the X-Men films. Unlike many of the Marvel fanboys, I enjoyed the first trilogy of films under the direction of Bryan Singer, but did not like, and was often bored with all the subsequent films and their spin-offs. So, it is rather remarkable that I thoroughly enjoyed DARK PHOENIX and found it to be only the fourth film in the series I relished.

The X-Men series, after the initial trilogy, has no concept of continuity. The stories bounced through time and space much like a rogue comet. The entire cast was supplanted by a new one, and then the two were mixed. DARK PHOENIX serves as a stand-alone movie. If you know little or nothing of the X-Men, you can watch it with enjoyment. It is essentially the story of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde embodied in a female character with an alien twist.

DARK PHOENIX stars James McAvoy, Michael Fassbender, Jennifer Lawrence, Nicholas Hoult, Sophie Turner, Tye Sheridan, Alexandra Shipp and Jessica Chastain. Ironically, the weakest link in the acting ensemble is Sophie who cannot effectively convey the emotional trauma of her character Jean Gray. She appears to be sleep walking through the role.

There is a great music score by Hans Zimmer, and the SFX are spectacular, thanks to Philip Brennan. Look for the fight on the train, and Magneto's destruction of the train car as examples. Editor Lee Smith provides a pounding pace and Mauro Fiore, one of the best in the business, handles the cinematography.

DARK PHOENIX is to the X-Men what ENDGAME is to the Avengers. It totally discards all but select previous storylines and brings the tales of the mutants to an end. This is essential, because now the X-Men, formerly the property of 20th Century Fox, now belongs to Disney. If the X-Men are reborn, it will be under the politically correct, and philosophically multicultural Disney banner. Fox ended its run of the X-Men in style, and they, like the Avengers, are now laid to rest.



Get that Can-Do Attitude with Oskar Blues Brewery

by Brian Meyer

The craft beer industry hasn't been around for very long, but the can-centric Oskar Blues Brewery based in Lyons, Colorado have been around for just about all of it nonetheless. Founded by Dale Katechis in Lyons, Colorado in 1997, the brewery started putting their beer out in can form starting in 2002.

This was no easy feat, mind you. At the time only large-scale breweries worked with the Ball Can Company, meaning that founder Dale Katechis had to do some beer magic to get Ball on board with the Lyons-based brewery to can their beer. Thankfully the sales pitch worked and today we have more Oskar Blues cans that we can count.

Dale loved canned beer so much that we even have him to thank for the stovepipe 19.2 oz beer cans making their way to American shores, as it was his request that made these wonders available to the US market.

Speaking of big cans, we also have Oskar Blues to thank for the Crowler that your local brewery probably fills for you, too. These 32-oz cans and the machine to seal them up all come from Oskar Blues and Ball Corporation, making them continued innovators in the craft beer canning world.

Today, Oskar Blues operates a total of five breweries including ones in Longmont, Boulder, and Oak Room, all in Colorado as well as Austin, Texas and Brevard, North Carolina. Oskar Blues ships their beer to all 50 states and the District of Columbia as well as 17 other countries and counting.

The big question that always comes up when talking about canned beer though, is why a can instead of a bottle? Isn't the glass in a beer bottle better? The short answer is that a can is



always better than a bottle for beer, but the long answer has a few more facts.

Why Put Beer in a Can?

Beer has been put into bottles for over 440 years, making this receptacle for beer quite the long-standing champ of getting beer from brewer to drinker. There's been a revolution in craft beer lately though that's trying to change that. Canned beer is making a comeback in a major way, with more and more craft breweries jumping on the canning wagon and not looking back. Before we get into why cans are better than bottles (and yes, they really are), a very short history lesson is in order.

The first beer can was available to the public in 1935 from Kruger Brewing. These cans were flat tops that required a church key, or can piercing opener, to open. Jump ahead to 1962 and our very own Iron City Brewing was the first brewery to introduce



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pull tab cans that required no opener, other than your fingers that is.

Travel ahead in time once more to 2002 and Oscar Blues Brewing becomes the first craft brewery to sell their beer only in cans, no bottles. Today craft beer in cans abounds, with more available every day. So what's so great about a can?

There's a lot that's great about cans, actually. First and probably most importantly, cans are nowhere near as fragile as bottles are. This means no breakage and sharp shards of glass to worry about. Cans are lighter than bottles, so it's easier to ship them and easier for you to carry a six-pack or case home. Cans are far more recyclable than bottles are, and since they're lighter, they use less fuel when shipping, so cans are definitely more environmentally friendly than a bottle could ever be.

You can also pack more cans into a truck than bottles, which means beer trucks can transport more beer per trip. A typical

pallet can hold 70 cases of bottles while the very same pallet can hold 100 cases of cans. With 30 more cases per pallet, that's an extra 720 cans of beer per pallet!

Cans also protect your beer from light and oxygen, the two biggest enemies of beer, cans get cold quicker, stack easier, and fit into a cooler better with no worry of finding a broken one when you get where you're going.

Canned beer is perfect for the great outdoors, too. From the beach to the outdoor concerts, hiking, camping, boating, and baseball/softball games that are spread throughout the summer months, canned beer is just about perfect. There's no breakage, no fear of injury, and best of all, you can fit more cans into the cooler than bottles!

Oskar Blues Beer

Learning about the history of Oskar Blues and why beer cans are awesome is all nice and fine, but it's the beer we really care about, right? Currently Oskar Blues offers 6 year-round beers as well as the new Wild Basin Boozy Sparkling Water, which we'll get to in a moment. For now, let's check out the longest-running beers that have earned the title of Year Round at Oskar Blues.

Dale's Pale Ale – If history is what you want, then Oskar Blues Dale's Pale Ale is what you need to get. Oskar Blues is the first craft brewery to can their beer and is still one of the only craft breweries in the country that relies solely on canning for individual sales. Big and hoppy, this American Pale Ale (APA) comes in at 6.5% ABV and is as refreshing as it is bitter, and that is to say a lot on both counts. This critically acclaimed trailblazer was the first craft kid on the block in a can and is still one of the best examples of an APA out there today.

Mama's Yella Pils – Always in a can, Mama's Little Yella Pils is a craft version of the pilsners available around the world. Brewed with 100% malted barley, Mama's comes in at 5.3% ABV and a bitterness level that's just right for a hot day.



Old Chub Scotch Ale/Wee Heavy – Scottish Ales are an interesting breed of beer. They're dark, yet rarely do these beers feature the flavors you typically associate with dark beers. Old Chub comes in at 8% ABV and like many other Scottish Ales, features prominent aromas and flavors of toasted barley paired with a lightly smoked malt. Together, this gives Old Chub a sweet character that's backed up with some alcohol and a slight hint of smoke to make it a truly unique experience.

G'Knight Imperial Red Ale – Some beers are named to be catchy and attention-grabbing on the shelf, while others are inside jokes that the brewery chooses to make public. In the case of G'Knight, there's much more to the name of this beer than meets the eye. Named for another pioneer in the craft beer industry, Gordon Knight, this beer was named to honor him and the impact he had not only on Oskar Blues, but craft

beer as a while. This beer is a hefty, dry-hopped imperial red IPA that's malty, sticky, and full of hop flavor. Coming in at 8.7% ABV and 60 IBU, this is one seriously great beer.

Originally named Gordon, the beer was renamed G'Knight after a naming dispute with another brewery. Echoing the history behind this beer and its renaming, G'Knight got another, albeit smaller, renaming specifically in the Pittsburgh area when local craft beer legend Tony "The Beerman" Knipling suddenly passed away. The brewery then sent cases of G'Knipling to be shared with his friends and family.

Was this difficult to do for Oskar Blues? No, not really. Did it mean the world to everyone that got a can of G'Knipling? Well, as one of those lucky enough to know Tony and to have one of these cans, all I can say is that it all of a sudden got really dusty in here, and I'm not tearing up, you are!

Wild Basin Boozy Sparkling Water – The newest kid on the block in the year-round collection for Oskar Blues isn't really a beer, but a boozy water. Crafted with a light, refreshing flavor in mind, Wild Basin has flavors including Classic Lime, Lemon Agave Hibiscus, Melon Basil, and Cucumber Peach. With zero grams of sugar and only 100 calories, this 5% ABV boozy water is surprisingly exactly what you need for the hot, hot summer. Beers are great and everything but sometimes you need



Kennywood's Steel Curtain Roller Coaster Opens July 13

Record-setting roller coaster collaboration with Pittsburgh Steelers almost ready for public

America's most anticipated roller coaster of 2019, The Steel Curtain at Kennywood Park, will open to the public on Saturday, July 13.

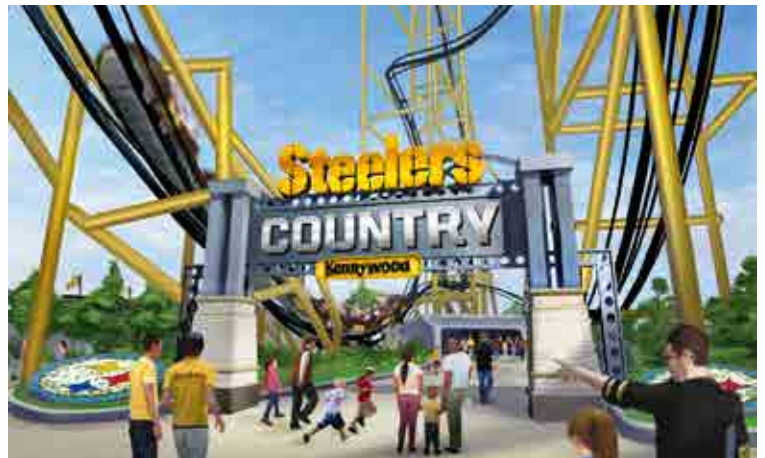
Pittsburgh residents and coaster enthusiasts the world over have eagerly awaited The Steel Curtain since it was announced in July 2018. The standout attraction of an unprecedented partnership with the Pittsburgh Steelers, The Steel Curtain will send riders upside down through nine different inversions, the most of any roller coaster in North America, including the world's tallest inversion at 197 feet high. In addition, The Steel Curtain is Pennsylvania's tallest roller coaster at 220 feet, hits a top speed of 75 miles per hour and features a stunning 205-foot drop coming out of that record-setting inversion.

"The Steel Curtain isn't like any other roller coaster out there, and we can't wait to start taking guests the world over for the ride of their lives," says Kennywood General Manager Jerome Gibas. "This is the next great addition to Kennywood, America's Finest Traditional Amusement Park."

Designed by S&S Worldwide, The Steel Curtain zooms across 4,000 feet of track, crossing over midways and even through Kennywood's Lagoon, a central gathering place at the National Historic Landmark amusement park since its opening in 1898.

"The Steelers organization is very excited to see The Steel Curtain roller coaster come to life," says Steelers Vice President of Sales & Marketing Ryan Huzjak. "We've been following the construction process closely and we're hopeful it will live up to its namesake. As we approach Training Camp and our season, we're also excited to continue to work with Kennywood to open Steelers Country later this summer."

The Steel Curtain is the flagship attraction of the forthcoming Steelers Country at Kennywood themed land, including interactive games, retail and dining experiences designed to bring fans "onto the field" in a way never seen before. The remaining attractions of Steelers Country will open at a later date.



PITTSBURGH CULTURAL TRUST ANNOUNCES SUMMER GALLERY CRAWL IN THE CULTURAL DISTRICT

FRIDAY, JULY 12, 2019

The free summer Gallery Crawl in the Cultural District will take place on Friday, July 12, 2019, from 5:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. featuring over 20 Crawl stops at various indoor and outdoor locations and public art places. Everyone is welcome to spend a summer evening in Pittsburgh's world renowned Cultural District and enjoy free visual art exhibition openings, live music, art-focused activities, and more! Visit: www.TrustArts.org/Crawl or call 412-456-6666 for more information.

The Gallery Crawl in the Cultural District is a production of the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust. The summer Gallery Crawl is presented by UPMC and UPMC Health Plan.

"The summer Crawl is a great opportunity for people of all ages to explore the Cultural District through immersive activities during this arts-focused community open house," remarks Sarah Gilmer, Program Manager of Strategic Partnerships and Community Engagement for the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust. "This quarterly event is made possible by the dedicated support of our Cultural District neighbors and local artists who are instrumental in creating a unique evening with many one-of-a-kind offerings, pop-up exhibitions, world premiere artwork, and gallery happenings exclusively programmed for the Gallery Crawl."

Crawl After Dark begins at 10:00 p.m. (unless otherwise noted) offering Salsa Friday at the Greer Cabaret Theater, plus the ticketed event FOOTWORK After Dark presented by UPMC and UPMC Health Plan starts at 9:00 p.m. to midnight, in the Trust Arts Education Center, Peirce Studio, 805 Liberty Avenue. The event (\$25, over age 21+) includes a Pittsburgh Cultural Trust one year Partners Membership, 1 drink + bites, cash bar, all within an immersive dance party space! FOOTWORK After Dark is designed by LUXE Creative.

Summer Gallery Crawl in the Cultural District Events Wood Street Galleries (New exhibit opening, and DJ music) (July 12 through August 25) MYTHOLOGIES, works by Guillaume Marmin

The work of Guillaume Marmin is part of a revival of visual creation that avoids traditional forms of narration and scenic supports. He is looking for a common language between image and sound—a synesthetic alphabet made of rhythms, contrasts, and refined figures in motion. Guillaume Marmin is a French visual artist who received his training at the University of Lyon II and ARFIS.

Timée (2nd Floor) Artist Guillaume Marmin and musician



Philippe Gordini were drawn to one of Plato's theories, which suggested that each planet had its own tone based on its unique orbital revolution. In effect, the entire solar system would compose a perfect musical score. *Timée* is Marmin and Gordini's attempt to recreate Plato's vision in installation form. It is formed in a dark space with a wall that is perforated with a pattern of 300 holes. Light shines through each of them via a video projector placed in the rear and, as the space fills with smoke, shapes are formed within a stunning cosmic void. *Anger & Hope* (3rd Floor) *Anger & Hope* is a reference to the Greek myth of Pandora's box out of which escaped these two recurring emotions of our everyday lives. The aim of the device is to give physical form to sound frequencies, rendered in three dimensions through luminous flux. Images and sounds merge into one medium, with shifting contours, which appears to be alive and tangible.

937 Gallery (New exhibit opening) What We Don't Talk About

Life cannot exist without death. Even stars—from the massive supergiant to the cool white dwarf—die. Despite this, in many Western cultures, death is what we don't talk about, its inevitability the constant hum we try to ignore. Until we can't. Art can examine the comforts and constraints of ritual practices, and it can allow for humor—laughter—making space for a catharsis that is greater than tears. This exhibition intends to reveal the range of possibilities.



Trust Arts Education Center, 805 Liberty Avenue

Third Floor: The Art Trap: Paint Night

Create your own masterpiece in a painting session with instruction by local artists from BOOM Concepts or participate in painting a community canvas. Jam to the beats of your favorite rap, trap, and R&B hits! Painting sessions are offered on a first come first served basis at 6 – 7 p.m. and 8 – 9 p.m.



Fourth Floor: American Society of Media Photographers plus music by DJ Inception

There are many things that make a great city; food, jobs, landscape, buildings, or possibly a sports team. For us, we believe that what makes Pittsburgh so great is the people. "Burghers" is a photography project by Pittsburgh ASMP that celebrates what it means to be a citizen of this region. Whether they are working, playing, studying, putting out folding chairs for a parking spot, eating a hoagie, or cheering on the "Stillers", we are glad to call these people our neighbors.

Peirce Studio: Crawl After Dark event

Ticketed event (cost: \$25)

9pm-Midnight, ages 21+

FOOTWORK After Dark presented by UPMC and UMPC Health Plan

This ticketed event includes a Pittsburgh Cultural Trust one year Partners Membership, 1 drink + bites, and dancing to music.

707 Penn Gallery (exhibition, plus live music by SPEED PLANS)

Darkest Dark - Charcoal Drawings by Oreen Cohen (May 18-July 14, 2019)

"Darkest Dark" is an ongoing series of large scale charcoal works on paper built up with residual marks from aggressive automatic drawing. For the Crawl, the exhibition will include drawing fiery motivated by live lo-fi punk music by SPEED PLANS.

SPACE

___Curated by: Brett Yasko (May 31 - August 4, 2019)

An exhibition of 1,921 photographs never been seen before — even by the photographers who took them. Brett Yasko asked 87 Pittsburgh artists to each shoot a roll of 35mm film and return it back to him, undeveloped. What he asked to be documented is between him and each of them. Just like you, the artists saw the results of their work once they entered the gallery.

Agnes R. Katz Plaza

The Flow Band (6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.)

Enjoy music and dancing to Pittsburgh's The Flow Band, a Reggae dance band that fuses the sounds of Neo Soul Rhythms over Tropical World beats.

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh and Friends: Join the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh at their table for a fun activity, and to learn about the library's collections and services. The Carnegie Library's Friends group will also be selling great, used books with a focus on Art!

Arcade Comedy Theater

Improve Comedy Shows: Stop by Arcade Comedy Theater for family-friendly improv comedy shows every half-hour during the Crawl! Each show features a handful of games and scenes inspired by your ideas.

August Wilson African American Cultural Center

Artmaking with Women of Visions, Inc. (New exhibit opening)
Women of Visions, Inc. based in Pittsburgh, is the oldest, active African-American women artist collective in the U.S. Seventeen Women of Visions artists will have on display a diverse range of works from sculpture, quilts and textile pieces, painting, mixed media, and installation art. There are a few participatory works that engage visitors: playing a card game, writing, and making art.

Seats of Power (April 27-July 21, 2019)

Seats of Power exhibition pays tribute to prominent and unsung heroes, mentors, and sources of inspiration that echo stories of the past, present, and future. Seats of Power honors those who saw teachable moments in the lives of Women of Visions, Inc. artists and helped to shape their character and their art.

Race and Revolution: Still Separate - Still Unequal (April 27-July 21, 2019)

The exhibition examines the ongoing racial and economic disparity in the U.S. public school system.

ColorPerfect Printing Homeward Bound

Homeward Bound is a new mini exhibition by Pittsburgh based artist Danny Devine. It features new prints as well as books from City Slicker Press

Courtyard by Marriott Pittsburgh Downtown

Works by local artist Fred Benson.

Crazy Mocha, 801 Liberty Avenue SMS Art Studio

Live mural drawing by Scott Saloney. Scott Saloney is a muralist, portrait artist, illustrator, tattoo designer, and designer of homemade wooden frames. A lot of his mural draft work is done inside of the Crazy Mocha! Stop in to watch Scott's live mural drawing.

Emmanuel Fine Art Photography Gallery

Come interact with one of Pittsburgh's premiere painters. You can view his work and get tips about painting, all while surrounded by stunning outdoor photography.

Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council

We are Here: Asian Pacific Islander American Artists in



Pittsburgh Although Asian Pacific Islander Americans (APIA) have been present in Pittsburgh since the 1870s and represent an ever-growing community in the city and in the country at-large, APIA's continue to struggle for representation. This exhibition aims to provide visibility for this community: for the first time in Pittsburgh's history, every exhibiting artist in We Are Here identifies as APIA.

Harris Theater

High and Low Art: A poster gallery of The Harris Theater's fantastic film history.

Neighborhood Legal Services

Affordable Housing? Who, What, Where, Why, When, and How? love, Pittsburgh

Small Mall Wall

love, Pittsburgh is happy to partner with Lawrenceville's Small Mall, by showcasing local artists. Stop by and see who is featured in this quarterly rotating Small Mall Wall.

Market Square

Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership presents the Night Market, Market Square. AcoustiCafe Songwriters at the Night Market.

Omni William Penn Hotel

Jen Joyce, art therapist

Stop by Wigle Whiskey's Tasting Room in the Omni William Penn Hotel for photography and art by Jen Joyce.

Pop-Up Public Art Exhibit

Los Trompos (through fall of 2019)

133 7th Street (across from Agnes R. Katz Plaza)

Los Trompos or 'spinning tops' are interactive public art works created by award-winning Mexican artists Héctor Esrawe and Ignacio Cadena. These brightly-colored, interactive sculptures function as both artwork and rotating seating spaces and are made possible by generous support from the Laurel Foundation. Los Trompos was presented as a public art installation during the 2019 Dollar Bank Three Rivers Arts Festival, a production of the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust.

Public Art

Outdoor public art is on display throughout the Cultural District

Cultural District Walking Art Tour: Agnes R. Katz Plaza -

Allegheny Riverfront Park – FLOW -

168 Lightbulbs - Haas Mural - Water Cube - Art Bicycle Racks – Magnolias - Cell Phone Disco

Social Status

24 by Tony Duff

24 is a showcase of new works by Pittsburgh based contemporary photographer Tony Duff. His highly conceptual imagery consists of manipulated extremities, and bold pops of color, which he leaves the viewer to interpret the meaning behind. He considers his works subjective, and shies away from contextualizing any given image.

Theater Square, 655 Penn Avenue

Backstage Bar: Yoko Suzuki Trio. Yoko Suzuki is an alto saxophonist working in Pittsburgh and New York City. Rotating exhibitions throughout the year feature artwork by local artists.

Greer Cabaret Theater: Salsa Friday (\$5); part of Crawl After Dark events.

Tito Way (between 803 Liberty Avenue and 804 Penn Avenue)

Food trucks will be selling a variety of options from desserts to snacks, and light supper fare! Welcome Pittsburgh Information Center

KLoRebel Art is the 100% hand-drawn and handcrafted work of native Pittsburgh artist Kirsten Lowe-Rebel. With a strong connection to time and place, Kirsten reimagines her architectural illustration into pieces you can use, wear and gift. Her product line is grounded in the architecture of her hometown of Pittsburgh, though she continues to add to her stock of skylines, urban landscapes and landmarks as she travels to new destinations.

Since 2004, the quarterly Gallery Crawls, a production of the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust, have brought nearly 30,000 annual visitors in and around the community to be part of this immersive artistic 'open house' experience for Pittsburgh's Cultural District. The Gallery Crawl in the Cultural District serves as a medium to promote inclusion and diversity through collaborative partnerships and welcomes everyone in the community, and visitors alike, to participate in a showcase of immersive artistic experiences. The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust is committed to developing partnerships with local businesses, artists and nonprofits who facilitate a dynamic atmosphere for communal artistic expression. Each business partner has creative choice over the content displayed in their space during the Gallery Crawl. Visual art galleries owned by the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust including Wood Street Galleries, SPACE, 707 Penn Gallery and 937 Liberty feature exhibition openings during each Crawl by local, regional, national and international artists, as well as throughout the year. TrustArts.org/Crawl

The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust has overseen one of Pittsburgh's most historic transformations: turning a seedy red-light district into a magnet destination for arts lovers, residents, visitors, and business owners. Founded in 1984, the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust is a non-profit arts organization whose mission is the cultural and economic revitalization of a 14-block arts and entertainment/residential neighborhood called the Cultural District. The District is one of the country's largest land masses "curated" by a single nonprofit arts organization. A major catalytic force in the city, the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust is a unique model of how public-private partnerships can reinvent a city with authenticity, innovation and creativity. Using the arts as an economic catalyst, the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust has holistically created a world-renowned Cultural District that is revitalizing the city, improving the regional economy and enhancing Pittsburgh's quality of life. Thanks to the support of foundations, corporations, government agencies and thousands of private citizens, the Trust stands as a national model of urban redevelopment through the arts.

TrustArts.org | [@CulturalTrust](#) on Facebook · Instagram · Twitter

Pittsburgh Public Theater Presents The Vaudevillians

Jinkx Monsoon and Major Scales bring their rowdy musical revue to Pittsburgh Public Theater for the first time.

Jinkx Monsoon, the 2013 winner of the hit TV competition "RuPaul's Drag Race," and her onstage partner and pianist Major Scales, are bringing their sensational pop culture celebration, The Vaudevillians, to Pittsburgh Public Theater. The show runs for four performances only at the O'Reilly Theater, Pittsburgh Public Theater's home in the heart of Downtown's Cultural District. Performance times are Thursday, July 11 & Friday, July 12 at 8 pm and Saturday, July 13 at 5:30 & 9 pm. For tickets call 412.316.1600, go to ppt.org, or visit the Box Office.

As conceived by Jerick Hoffer (Jinkx) and Richard Andriessen (Major), the vaudeville performers Kitty Witless and Dan Von Dandy were frozen in an avalanche during the 1920s. Thanks to global warming they are now thawed, and appalled to learn what 21st century artists have done to "their" music. The Vaudevillians deliver songs from the likes of Lady Gaga, DJ Kool, Gloria Gaynor, and Janis Joplin in their own unique style. Expect ball gowns, put-downs, catty remarks, and lyrical larks in this vintage cabaret with a twist of drag. Contains strong sexual content and profanity.

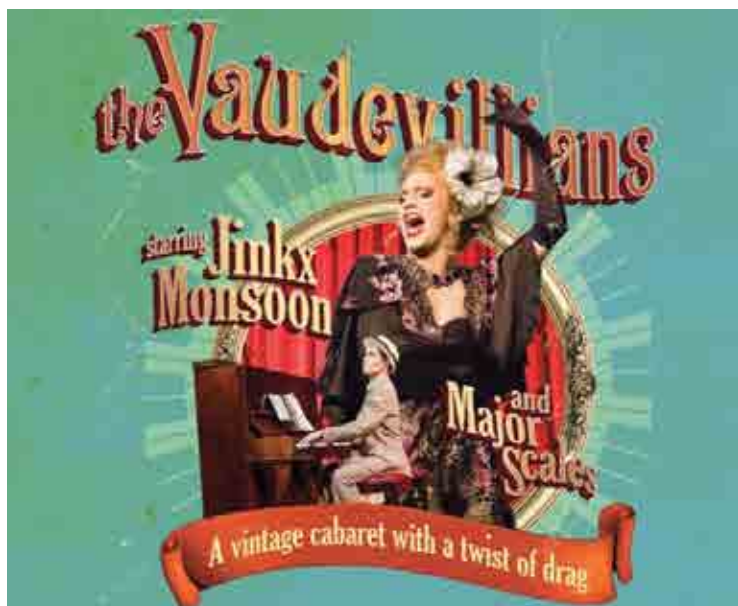


"Everyone leaves this show with sides aching from laughter."

-The New York Times

"Every moment of this show has been written to make your sides split."

-The Gay Times



Pittsburgh Public Theater Presents The Vaudevillians July 11 - 13, 2019

Performance Schedule

- Thursday, July 11 & Friday July 12 at 8 pm
- Saturday, July 13 at 5:30 and 9 pm

Ticket prices start at \$30.

Discounts for groups of 10+ are available by contacting groupsales@ppt.org or 412.316.8821.

Ticket prices are subject to change.

For tickets call 412.316.1600, go to ppt.org, or visit the O'Reilly Theater Box Office.



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Experience Kissimmee 2019

By: Suz Pisano



When you think about Florida what are the top 3 things that come to mind almost instantly?

Sunshine? Mickey Mouse? Alligators? In-Laws? Theme Parks? Rodeo?

Rodeo in Florida? Yes! Nightwire was recently invited to experience a wide variety of activities in Kissimmee & we can't wait to tell you all about our fun & travels. There's even more than a couple alligator sightings!

The Silver Spurs Arena in Osceola County Heritage Park hosted the RAM National Circuit Rodeo Finals. The weekend was filled with over 200 contestants in all facets of rodeo competing for titles and prize money as well as a spot in the Grand Nationals in Las Vegas. The cowboys come from all across the country and Mexico. My favorite parts were the Women's Barrel Racing & seeing the bucking bulls and the meet & greet with all the cowboys! This particular event happens in the Spring but there are events held throughout the year. It really was fun watching the different events and since there aren't any rodeo's in Pittsburgh- why not give it a try?

Events are highlighted on www.silverspursrodeo.com

Did you know that Kissimmee, Florida is the Vacation Home Capital of the World? According to our friends at Visit Kissimmee there are more types of themed vacation homes in Kissimmee than anywhere in the US, something for absolutely everyone and every family. We toured magnificent vacation

rentals at Magical Vacation Homes. Homeowners work closely with design teams to create unique and outstanding décor. Wouldn't your kids love a Star Wars theme bedroom? Or how about an Indoor bowling or a private pool? Homes in this community can accommodate family reunions and corporate retreats. Bedrooms can number up to 15 in some of the larger homes! Their concierge service will assist with all of your rental needs, And here's a hot tip - last time I drooled over their website there was quite a nice perk to providing an email address. Check it out and start your vacation in style, I think you'll be surprised at just how affordable a theme park vacation can be away from the hustle and bustle of busy





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If your needs, tastes or budget are for a less private home and more condo oriented - let me recommend to you Magic Village Yards. This is a gated condo vacation community with a full service restaurant & concierge. Beautiful and comfortable with luxurious décor, a full size kitchen, fireplace & balcony, it was the perfect respite after a busy day vacationing. The condo had 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, was very spacious, comfortable and extremely well appointed.

3151 Pantanal Ln, Kissimmee, FL 34747 Phone: (800) 622-1922 Website: <https://www.experiencekissimmee.com/places-to-stay/vacation-home-rentals/magic-village-resort> Instagram: @magicvillagevacationhomes Facebook: @magicvillagevacationhomes

Theme Parks & Disney loom large in Kissimmee with an actual portion of Disney located in this Central Florida neighboring city. At Disney Springs you can explore a themed retail, dining, and entertainment complex inspired by Florida's charming waterfront towns. The carefully curated environment is filled with unique boutiques, world-class restaurants, and cutting-edge entertainment including live

music every night. When Nightwire visited Jose Andreas (aka the man who brought tapas to the US!) opened another Jaleo location. We were lucky to score a table on the 2nd night! And having been to the original Jaleo in Washington DC, it was fun to take my fellow journalists out for a treat!

You know traveling always involves a lot of eating and lots of famous Chefs are represented at Disney Springs. Dig into farm-to-fork cuisine showcasing Florida's freshest flavors; all crafted from recipes by award-winning celebrity Chef Art Smith. His restaurant Homecomin' served up Chicken & Donuts for lunch in a deliciously decorated down home on the farm style theme. There are so many restaurants to choose from and shops and sights to see, that you could easily spend an entire day exploring, shopping, eating or just chilling. Here are just a few of my favorite shops – Zara, Uniqlo and of course the gigantic Disney store. www.disneysprings.com/

Facebook: @DisneySprings - Instagram: @DisneySprings - Twitter: @DisneySprings

www.experiencekissimmee.com/things-to-do/dining/listings/chef-art-smiths-homecomin-florida-kitchen - Facebook: @



ChefArtSmithsHomecominFL

Instagram: @homecominfl

Another interesting activity while in Kissimmee is to plan a visit to Celebration Florida, a master planned community built by Walt Disney. It's one of the most beautiful communities with raised bike paths weaving around lakes and gorgeous homes. Celebration Bike Rental took us on a tour and we saw our first alligator lounging in the sun by the lake. Our guide

grew up in Celebration and now resides there and operates the bike rental with his wife. His knowledge of the homes and streets was much appreciated. He pointed out Disney details on many of the homes. Later in the evening we strolled the main street boutiques had dinner at Columbia a fine Cuban & Spanish restaurant offering a sidewalk cafe, indoor & outdoor dining.

www.experiencekissimmee.com/things-to-do/outdoor-adventuresactivities/celebration-bike-rental
www.experiencekissimmee.com/things-to-do/dining/listings/columbia-restaurant

10 years ago we last visited Central Florida my personal absolute favorite thing to do was going on an airboat ride! Last time it was at night, looking for alligators. This time it was daylight & we were still looking for gators! This is such a fun activity for any age but if you have kids this is an absolute must activity! The place has recently been renovated to include a little cafe and kids activities center outside. They even have a resident survivalist who does an incredible presentation in native garb. It was so wonderful to see Boggy Creek Airboat Ride surviving and thriving for such a long time. Families love them!

www.experiencekissimmee.com/things-to-do/outdoor-adventuresactivities/boggy-creek-airboat-rides
 Facebook: @BoggyCreekAirboatRides Instagram: @





boggy_creek_airboat_rides

if you're feeling like you want to connect with nature and go on an adventure on the water, the Paddling Center at Shingle Creek will help you explore the natural beauty that is Shingle Creek. This habitat is home to many big beautiful birds, reptiles and of course alligators! The knowledgeable guides will identify plant and bird species like you've never seen. The alligators are known to the guides and safety is their first priority as you glide along in a kayak. No paddling experience necessary!

Address: 4266 W. Vine St. Kissimmee, FL 34741, USA

Phone: (407) 343-7740

Website: <https://www.experiencekissimmee.com/things-to-do/outdoor-adventures-activities/paddling-center-shingle-creek>

Facebook: @thepaddlingcenter

Instagram: @thepaddlingcenter

If laid back afternoons are more your thing then head over to the Island Grove Wine Company at Formosa Gardens. Have lunch at the Bistro, do a wine tasting & end by shopping in the gift shop!

Yes, Kissimmee has everything and something for everyone!

Address: 3011 Formosa Gardens Blvd, Kissimmee, FL 34747

Phone: (407) 507-9888

www.formosawinery.com

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How Many States Can You Name?

Father William, the old priest, made it a practice to visit the parish school one day a week. He walked into the 4th grade class, where the children were studying the states, and asked them how many states they could name. They came up with about 40 names. Father William jokingly told them that in his day students knew the names of all the states. One lad raised his hand and said, 'Yes sir, but in those days there were only 13 states.

4th of July Jokes

The difference between a duck and George Washington is: One has a bill on his face; the other has his face on a bill! What kind of tea did the American colonists thirst for? Liberty! What was the craziest battle of the Revolutionary War? The Battle of Bonkers Hill. Why were the first Pennsylvania settlers like ants? Because they lived in colonies. What's red, white, blue, and almost as ugly as a dog? A revolutionary warthog! Why did Paul Revere ride his horse from Boston to Lexington? Because the horse was too heavy to carry!



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Back to the Roots

The Fourth of July weekend was approaching, and Miss Pelham, the nursery school teacher, took the opportunity to tell her class about patriotism. 'We live in a great country,' she announced. 'One of the things we should be happy is that, in this country, we are all free.' Trevor, who was a little boy in her class, came walking up to her from the back of the room. He stood with his hands on his hips and said loudly, 'I'm not free. I'm four.' Footnote: Good 4th of July jokes are hard to find, so if you have one, please send it to us.

Readers' Letters

Is it an urban legend that in George III's diary on July 4, 1776 he put, "Nothing much happened today." In Arkansas Hill country, the Fourth of July is celebrated annually on the 2nd in deference to those who cannot count beyond two. Kindly sent by Merv - ye olde hot-metal newspaper typesetter

Parable For The 4th of July

Once, in the 1820's, a little boy called Sam was playing in the yard behind his house. During his pretend fighting game, he knocked over the outhouse. Now Sam was upset and worried that he would get into trouble so he ran into the woods and didn't come out until after got dark. When he arrived back home, his pappy was waiting for him. He asked suspiciously, "Son, did you knock over the outhouse this afternoon?" "No, pappy," Sam lied. "Well, let me tell you a story," said the father. "Once, not that long ago, Mr Lincoln received a shiny new axe from his father. Excited, he tried it out on a tree, swiftly cutting it down. But as he looked at the tree, with dismay he realized it was his mother's favorite cherry tree," his pappy paused." just like you, he ran into the woods. When he returned, his pappy asked, 'Abraham, did you cut down the cherry tree?' Abraham answered with, 'Father, I cannot tell a lie. I did indeed chop down the tree.' Then his father said, 'Well, since you were honest with me, you are spared from punishment. I hope you have learned your lesson, though.' So," the Sam's father asked again, "did you knock down the outhouse?" "Pappy, I cannot tell a lie any more." said the little boy. "I did indeed knock down the outhouse." Then his pappy father spanked Sam boy red, white, and blue. The boy whimpered, "Pappy, I told you the truth! Why did you spank me?" Pappy answered, "That's because Abraham Lincoln's father wasn't in the tree when he chopped it down!"

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Ten Independence Day Items of Trivia About The Bald Eagle: Test Your Family

1. Benjamin Franklin, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson served on the committee that picked the eagle for the national seal [Franklin wanted the turkey].
2. Bald eagles have few natural enemies and live only in North America.
3. Bald eagles get their white head and tail feathers about 4/5 years of age.
4. Bald eagles are not, and never were bald. The term comes from when "bald" meant "white-headed".
5. Their maximum speed: 40 mph or over 100 mph while in a dive.
6. They can lift roughly half their body weight.
7. The Bald Eagle is no longer considered endangered, and now only threatened.
8. The only other kind of eagle in North America is the golden eagle.
9. Bald eagles mate for life, but if one dies, the survivor will accept a new mate.
10. It is a felony to shoot an eagle.

Rare Copy of United States Declaration of Independence Found

Rare copy of United States Declaration of Independence found in Kew Archives, Richmond, Surrey, England The document, which is in perfect condition, is believed to be one of only 200 ever printed and was found among files at the National Archives in Kew in Richmond, Surrey. Will and Guy have learned that it was discovered by an American antiquarian bookseller carrying out research, the Dunlap print of the declaration was printed on July 4, 1776 and brings the total of known surviving copies worldwide to 26. The last discovery of a Dunlap print was at a flea market in 1989, and it sold at auction in 2000 for 8.14 million US dollars. Dunlaps were the first official printings of the Declaration of Independence and were named after John Dunlap, the printer whose name is given at the bottom of each copy. Edward Hampshire, the diplomatic and colonial specialist at the National Archives, said, 'This is an incredibly exciting find. The Declaration of Independence is effectively America's birth certificate, making it one of the seminal documents in world history. It is likely that only around 200 of these were ever printed, so uncovering a new one nearly 250 years later is extremely rare, especially one in such good condition.'



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More 4th of July One-liners

What happened as a result of the Stamp Act? The Americans licked the British! What did King George think of the American colonists? He thought they were revolting!

Historical Humor For 4th July

Some Amusing, Funny and Thought Provoking Quotations of Benjamin Franklin [1705-1790] In the great tradition of American humor, the title of "First American Humorist" rightfully belongs to Benjamin Franklin. He was the beginning of a long line of writers who created a uniquely American form of humor filled with clever wit, folksy wisdom, and a generous portion of irreverence. In his Poor Richard's Almanac, Franklin wrote many clever sayings which are still part of our cultural heritage today. At 26, Franklin published the first edition of Poor Richard's Almanac under the pseudonym Richard Saunders.

- Remember that time is money.
- A little neglect may breed mischief: for want of a nail, the shoe was lost; for want of a shoe the horse was lost; and for want of a horse the rider was lost.
- A penny saved is a penny earned.
- Any fool can criticize, condemn and complain and most

fools do.

- Early to bed, early to rise makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise.
- Fish and visitors smell in three days.
- Genius without education is like silver in the mine.
- God helps them that help themselves.
- Haste makes waste.
- Hide not your talents. They for use were made. What's a sundial in the shade?
- It is hard for an empty bag to stand upright.
- Little strokes fell great oaks.
- Never leave that till to-morrow which you can do to-day.
- Three may keep a secret, if two of them are dead.
- Well done is better than well said.
- In this world nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes.
- There never was a good war nor a bad peace.
- Never contradict anybody.
- Ben Franklin experts question whether, in fact, he wrote all his humorous lines. Some believe he researched them and revamped them into his own inimitable style. Whatever the truth Will and Guy are certain that they are witty.

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Ben Franklin Tells Us How To Be Seen As A Person With A Brain And A Social Wit

Dr Benjamin Franklin was not really a doctor; his title Doctor was one of those first honorariums given a man of great achievement and reflects the impact he had on his age. Here are seven ways Benjamin Franklin would suggest you consider to be seen as one with a brain and a social wit.

Elevate, not desecrate. Never use cutting humor, dissect theirs.

1. Keep your humor light, fun, open to participation.
2. Reflect your humor to show you row your own boat.
3. You row merrily, and you attract others to you.
4. As you deflect bitterness, fear, answers appear.
5. Your summary encapsulates the situation and hints that the best way out may be to back up to where we went wrong, once we all clearly agree what that was.
6. Elevate, even exaggerate, achievement. Mock an obvious folly but with a twist. If attacked, return their volley as a mirror.

Will and Guy's Selection of Five of the Best Quotations

- Where there's marriage without love, there will be love without marriage.
- Any society that would give up a little liberty to gain a little security will deserve neither and lose both.
- They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety.
- Be civil to all; sociable to many; familiar with few; friend to one; enemy to none.
- Some are weather-wise, some are otherwise.

Did You Know?

Independence Day is marked by fireworks, barbecues and parades. Previously called "rockets," the term "fireworks" was not established until 1777. Later fireworks that made a noise were invented and called "fire crackers" and by 1880 sparklers had been created.

The 4th July Picnic

A Jewish Rabbi and a Catholic Priest met at Albuquerque's annual 4th of July picnic. Old friends, they began their usual banter. 'This baked ham is really delicious,' the priest teased the

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rabbi. 'You really ought to try it. I know it's against your religion, but I can't understand why such a wonderful food should be forbidden. You don't know what you're missing. You just haven't lived until you've tried Mrs Warren's prized Virginia Baked Ham. Tell me, Rabbi, when are you going to break down and try it?' The rabbi looked at the priest with a big grin, and said, 'At your wedding.'

More 4th of July Humor

Nicholas took his four-year-old son, Bryan, to several baseball games where "The Star-Spangled Banner" was sung before the start of each game. Later, Nicholas and Bryan attended St Bartholomew's church on the Sunday before Independence Day. The congregation sang The Star-Spangled Banner, and after everyone sat down, Bryan suddenly yelled out at the top of his voice, 'Play ball.'

Little Andy Was At His First Day of School

Mrs Whyte, his teacher advises the class that each school day starts with the "Pledge of Allegiance" and instructs them to put their right hand over their heart and repeat after her. As Mrs Whyte starts the recitation she looks around the room,

'I pledge allegiance to the flag.....', when her eyes are drawn to Andy who has his hand over the right cheek of his bottom. 'Andy, I cannot continue till you put your hand over your heart,' she demands. Andy looks up and replies, 'It is over my heart.' After several more attempts to get Andy to put his hand over his heart, Mrs Whyte enquires, 'Why do you think that is your heart, Andy?' 'Well Miss,' answers Andy, 'because every time my Grandma comes to visit she pats me there and says, "Bless your little heart," and my Grandma never lies.'

English Humor - Message from Her Majesty The Queen

To the citizens of the United States of America from Her Sovereign Majesty Queen Elizabeth II: In light of your failure in recent years to nominate competent candidates for President of the USA and thus to govern yourselves, we hereby give notice of the revocation of your independence, effective immediately. Her Sovereign Majesty Queen Elizabeth II will resume monarchical duties over all states, commonwealths, and territories (except Kansas, which she does not fancy). Your new Prime Minister, David Cameron, will appoint a Governor for America without the need for further elections. Congress



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Award Winner!**

and the Senate will be disbanded. A questionnaire may be circulated next year to determine whether any of you noticed. To aid in the transition to a British Crown dependency, the following rules are introduced with immediate effect: (You should look up 'revocation' in the Oxford English Dictionary.)

1. Look up aluminium, and check the pronunciation guide. You will be amazed at just how wrongly you have been pronouncing it. 2. The letter 'U' will be reinstated in words such as 'colour', 'favour', 'labour' and 'neighbour.' Likewise, you will learn to spell 'doughnut' without skipping half the letters, and the suffix '-ize' will be replaced by the suffix '-ise'. Generally, you will be expected to raise your vocabulary to acceptable levels. (look up 'vocabulary'). 3. Daily Tea Time begins promptly at 4 pm with proper cups, with saucers, and never mugs, with high quality biscuits (cookies) and cakes; plus strawberries (with cream) when in season. God Save the Queen!

Brief History of American Independence

On July 4, 1776, thirteen colonies claimed independence from England's King George III. And thus was born the mightiest nation on earth: The United States of America. Leading up to the signing, there had been growing unrest in the colonies surrounding the taxes that the American colonists were

required to pay to England. The major objection was 'Taxation without Representation': the colonists had no say in the decisions of the English Parliament since they did not send representative to sit in the English House of Commons. Rather than attempting to negotiate a satisfactory settlement, King George sent troops to the colonies to quell any rebellion that might break out. The following timeline will give you some idea of the history that lead to the signing of the Declaration of Independence and America's break away from British rule.

4th of July Name Trivia

There is a Liberty in Missouri population of about 30,000. However the state of Iowa has more Liberty places than any other state (Libertyville, New Liberty, North Liberty and West Liberty). The most well know 'Independence' is found in Missouri, it has about 120,000 residents. Five places adopted the name "freedom." New Freedom, Pennsylvania is the most populous with 5,000 residents. There is but one place named "Patriot" and that is Patriot, Indiana, with a population of 210.

Timeline for Independence

1774 - The 13 colonies send delegates to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to form the First Continental Congress. While

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unrest was brewing, the colonies were far from ready to declare war. April 1775 - King George's troops advance on Concord, Massachusetts, prompting Paul Revere's midnight ride that sounded the alarm: "The British are coming, the British are coming." Thus began the American Revolution at the battle of Concord. May 1776 - After nearly a year of trying to settle their differences with England, the colonies, once again, send delegates to the Second Continental Congress. June 1776 - Admitting that their efforts were hopeless, a committee was formed to compose the formal Declaration of Independence. Headed by Thomas Jefferson, the committee also included John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Philip Livingston and Roger Sherman. June 28, 1776 - Jefferson presents the first draft of the declaration to congress. July 4, 1776 - After various changes to Jefferson's original draft, a vote was taken late in the afternoon of July 4th. Of the 13 colonies, 9 voted in favour of the Declaration; 2, Pennsylvania and South Carolina voted No; Delaware was undecided and New York abstained. John Hancock, President of the Continental Congress, was the first to sign the Declaration of Independence. It is said that he signed his name "with a great flourish" so "King George can read that without spectacles!" July 6, 1776 - The Pennsylvania Evening Post is the first newspaper to print the Declaration of Independence. July 8, 1776 - The first public reading of the declaration takes place in Philadelphia's Independence Square. The bell in Independence Hall, then known as the "Province Bell" would later be renamed the "Liberty Bell" after its inscription - "Proclaim Liberty Throughout All the Land Unto All the Inhabitants Thereof." August 1776 - The task begun on July 4, the signing of the Declaration of Independence, was not actually completed until August.

Nonetheless, the 4th of July has been accepted as the official anniversary of United States independence from Britain. July 4, 1777 - The first Independence Day celebration takes place. It's interesting to speculate what those first 4th festivities were like. By the early 1800s the traditions of parades, picnics, and fireworks were firmly established as part of American Independence Day culture. Footnote: Why do Americans use the date format mm/dd/yy, yet still refer to this day using the English date format of 4th of July?

The Drinks Are On Me

A drunk walks into a bar and says to the bartender [with a drunken slur], 'Bartender, buy everyone in the house a drink, pour yourself one, and give me the bill.' So, the bartender does just that and hands the man a bill for \$57.00. The drunk says, 'I haven't got it.' The bartender slaps the guy around a few times then throws him out into the street. The very next day the same drunk walks into the bar and once again says [with a drunken slur], 'Bartender, buy everyone in the house a drink, pour yourself one, and give me the bill.' The bartender looks at the guy and figures to himself that he can't possibly be stupid enough to pull the same trick twice, so he gives him the benefit of the doubt, pours a round of drinks for the house, has a drink himself and hands the drunk a bill for \$67.00. The drunk says, 'I haven't got it.' The bartender can't believe it. He picks the guy up, beats the living daylight out of him, then throws him out into the street. The next day the same drunk walks back into the same bar and says [with a drunken slur], 'Bartender, buy everyone in the house a drink, give me the bill.' In disgust, the bartender says, 'What, no drink for me this time?' The drunk replies, 'You! No Way! You get too violent when you drink.'

Lecture Tour With A Difference

After an evening out, Roger was in no shape to drive, so he sensibly left his car parked and walked home. As he was staggering along, he was stopped by a policeman. 'What are you doing out here at three o'clock in the morning?' asked the police officer. 'I'm on my way to a lecture,' answered Roger. 'And who on earth, in their right mind, is going to give a lecture at this time of night?' enquired the constable sarcastically. 'My wife,' slurred Roger grimly.

Raffle Winner

'Tell me, Ronan, how did you manage to get so very drunk last night?' asked the parish priest. 'Well you see, Father, it was like this. I got into very bad company after winning a bottle of whiskey at a raffle.' 'But you were with Mick McGahey, Ryan O'Toole, and Patrick McCann and they don't drink.' 'Dat's what I mean, Father...'

Meet The Wife

Mike, an alcoholic, staggered into a bar and, after staring for some time at the only woman seated there, walked up to her and gave her a kiss. She jumped up and slapped him really hard. Mike immediately apologized and explained, 'Look, I'm sorry. I thought you were my wife. You look exactly like her.' 'Why you worthless, insufferable, wretched, no good drunk!' she bellowed at the top of her voice. 'Funny,' Mike muttered, shaking his head, 'you even sound exactly like her.' Classic Barman Joke Donncha Cleary walked into a bar in Dublin and asked the barman if he had heard the latest Kerryman joke. 'I'm warning you,' said the barman, 'That I come from Tralee in Kerry meself.' 'Dat's alright,' said Donncha, 'I'll tell it slowly.'

Story About an Early Morning Drunk

Rodney and his wife Wilma are awakened at 3 o'clock early one Saturday morning by a loud pounding on the door. Rodney gets up and goes to the door where he sees a drunken stranger, standing in the pouring rain. 'Give us a push' says the swaying stranger. 'Not a chance', says the husband, 'It is three o' clock in the morning.' He slams the door and returns to bed. 'Who was that?' asked his wife. 'Just some drunk guy asking for a push', he answers. 'Did you help him?' Wilma asks. 'No. I did not. It is three o' clock in the morning and it is pouring with rain outside. His wife said, 'Don't you remember about three months ago when we broke down and those two guys helped us? I think you should help him, and you should be ashamed of yourself. Rodney does as he is told, gets dressed and goes out

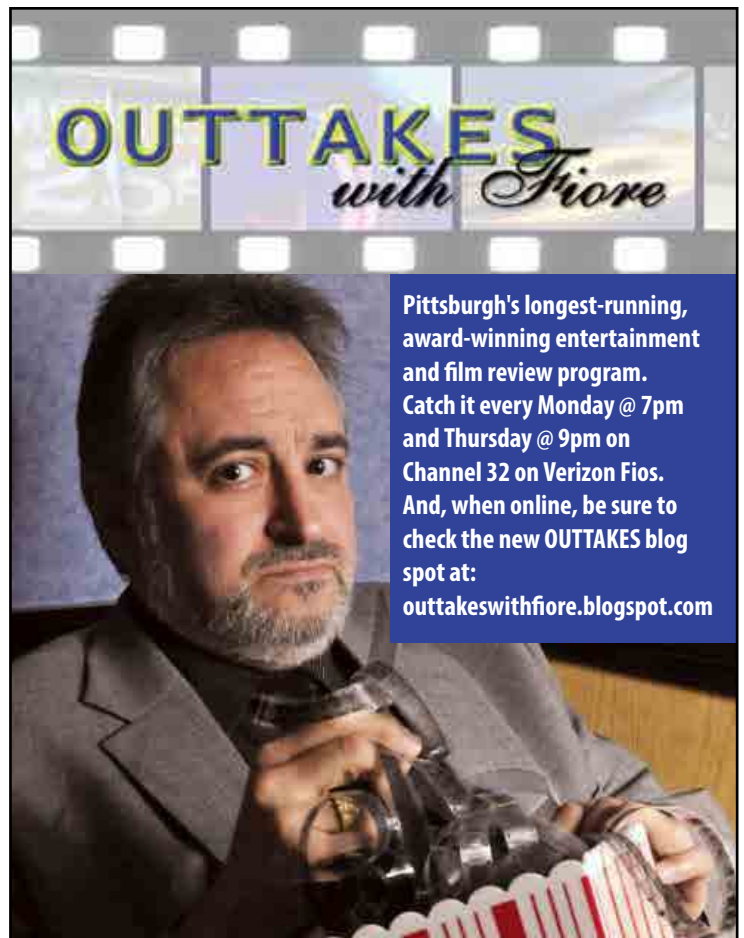
into the pouring rain. He calls out into the dark, 'Hello! Are you still there? 'Yes', comes back the answer.

'Do you still need a push?' calls out Rodney. 'Yes. Please.' comes the reply from the darkness.

'Where are you?' asks Rodney. 'Over here on the swing', replies the drunk.

Not Drunk - Just Plain Dumb

A robber wielding an ornamental sword returned to the service station he had apparently just held up when he realized he had left his swag behind, police told News.com.au. The 20-year-old man approached an attendant at a service station in South Perth, Australia at about 1.30am and allegedly demanded money and cigarettes. The attendant took money from the till and packets of cigarettes and placed them in a bag. The offender fled on foot across the Canning highway before realizing he had left the bag in the service station. Police report he returned to find the door locked and begged the attendant to let him back in for his booty. The attendant refused so the offender fled again. Police caught up with him several streets away, supposedly still wielding his sword. It is thought that the same man held up the service station on August 17, commented police. He was charged with two counts of armed robbery and will appear in Perth Magistrates Court soon.



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Beemers Gentleman's Club



Glass, brass and class is what you will find at this upscale intimate gentleman's club. For a great night of fun adult entertainment check out Beemers in McKeesport. It's only 4.6 miles from the Waterfront and 2.5 miles from Allegheny County Airport. Beemers just celebrated their 13th anniversary in May, making it one of Pittsburgh's outstanding clubs for adult entertainment. Classy and sassy!

The club features a gorgeous bar hand crafted from refurbished bowling alley wood with inlays by local McKeesport Artist Jeff Madden depicting his 12 oil paintings of the city of McKeesport before railroad crossings were eliminated. The bar is highlighted and encased in brass, and overhead etched glass making this bar truly a fabulous masterpiece. Beemers has a full service bar and offers nightly drink specials. The club opens at 7pm with live on stage entertainment beginning at 8pm till 2am Tuesday through Saturday.

In addition the rooms and club are decorated very tastefully with inlayed wall hangings provided by our own Nightwire photographer, Caleb Green, his professionalism and art photos are truly amazing! Beemers dress code is casual to formal attire, so be sure to dress to impress! In addition to live adult entertainment they have a pool room equipped with two pool tables for all you pool sharks. There are also Private VIP rooms available for 15 – 30 or 60 minutes starting at only \$90. Plus, Beemers offers "happy hour" couch lap dances Tuesday thru Thursday

8pm-11pm for only \$30!

Beemers Gentleman's Club is conveniently located on the edge of McKeesport only 10.8 miles from downtown with a door cover of only \$5. So plan a night out and treat yourself or gather your friends and plan a guy's night, couples night or girl's night out today! Beemers is located at 600 West 5th Avenue, McKeesport, PA 15132. To learn more visit their website mybeemers.com – or phone 412 678 7400.





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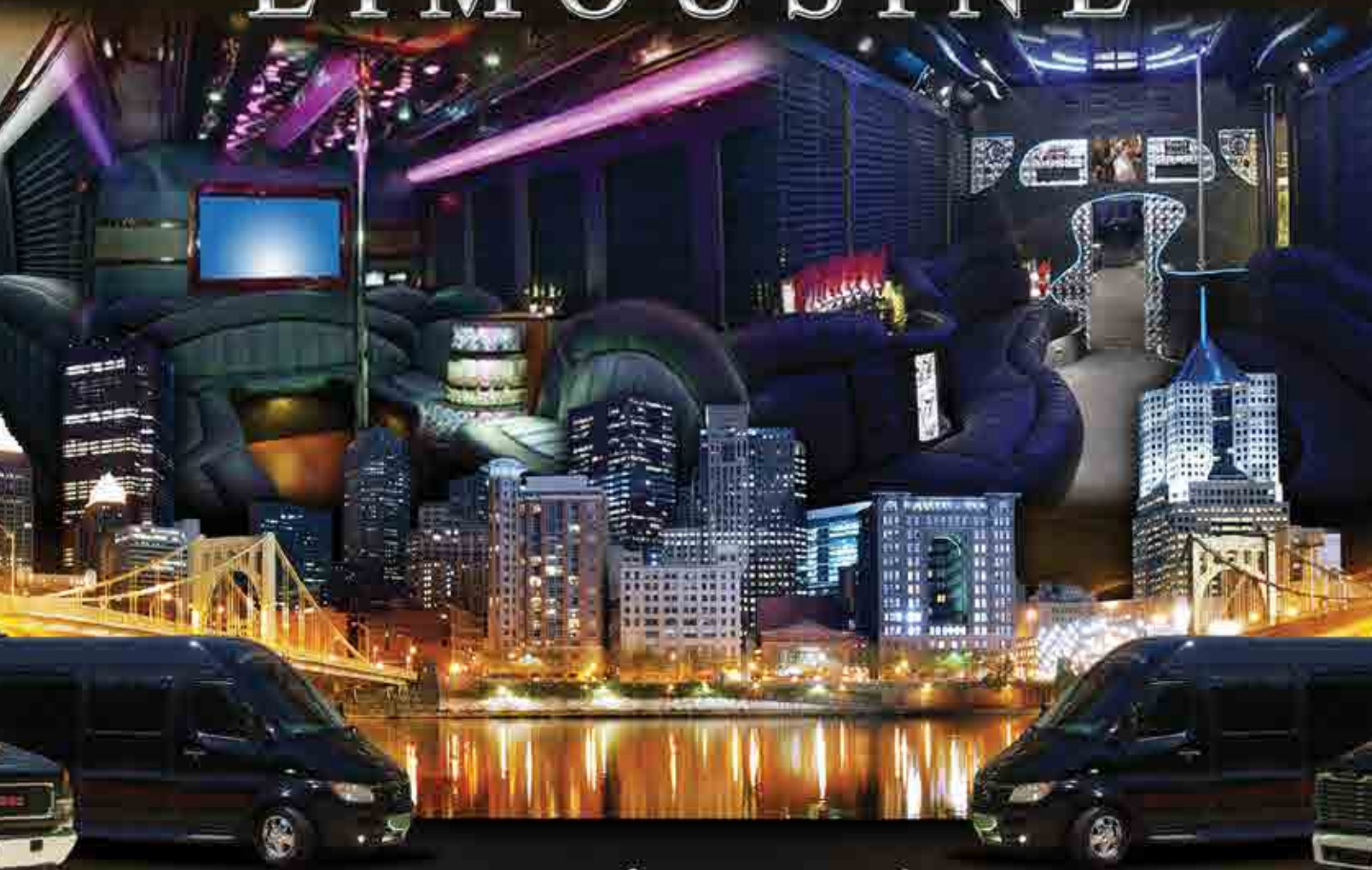
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