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SPORTS:

Let's Go Pens

by Stacy Kauffman, Sports Editor, Nightwire Magazine
Photos ©2018 Pittsburgh Steelers/ Karl Roser

Temperatures are cooling down so that means the Penguins season is about to heat up. After a longer than usual wait, Pens fans are ready for hockey nights in Pittsburgh, and so is the team. While nobody would complain about having the history-making pressure of going for a three-peat, there may be some sense of relief coming into this season without that responsibility. Not to mention, the extra rest and recovery time a shorter post season allows.

"It's good to get a full summer in and train," said Sidney Crosby when asked about a longer offseason. "Probably more mentally than anything. It's coming in fresh and knowing you lost the year before and you want to prove something."

Not that anyone associated with the back-to-back champs would admit it last year, but playing 213 games during their two Stanley Cup runs had to take its toll physically and Crosby said that the group didn't necessarily have the desperation level needed to succeed at the start of the last season. It definitely showed as the team lost more than they won through the first half, with a record of 19-18-3 and not even in the playoff picture. Having 19 sets of back-to-back games, the most in the NHL, didn't help the cause either. This year that number drops to 11.

As the preseason ends, players are refreshed and ready to go. Especially some of the guys who might be coming into

the season with a chip on their shoulders. GM Jim Rutherford made a splash when he acquired the offensive-minded Derick Brassard before last year's trade deadline, he didn't necessarily live up to expectations. Even though he was hampered by a groin injury, 12 points in 26 games and just four goals wasn't up to snuff.

"It's kind of hard when you come in in the middle of a season, especially on this team when they won the two years before that," Brassard said. "We have a really deep lineup, four lines that can play, so when you're a new guy and come in in the middle of the season like that, it just made it a little hard.

"But I'm just looking ahead. I'm not going to look behind. I know I can help this team. Just going to try to go have fun and try to play with my teammates and make plays." In three preseason games Brassard looked healthy and much more like the scoring threat his "Big Game Brass" nickname suggests, with three goals and an assist. In just 26 minutes of ice time, the ageless wonder Matt Cullen produced the same, as he returns from a one-year stint in Minnesota. His presence on the fourth line and in the locker room will give the guys a boost.

Kris Letang was most likely boosted by a full offseason of training instead of recuperating from neck surgery, so expect to see a fast start from the blueliner. While the Penguins had the top power play in the regular season last year at 26.2 percent, head





coach Mike Sullivan doesn't want his guys to get complacent. "Just because we were good last year doesn't mean we're going to be good this year. We have to find new ways to get better," said Sullivan. "We're going to push the group we have here to get to another level and I believe we can."

A fully healthy Letang will help. Hopefully, defenseman Brian Dumoulin will be healthy to start the season after an upper body injury in the last preseason game. If not, there will be more playing time for the 24-year-old out of Finland, Juuso Riikola, who has two goals and two assists and has made quite

the impression on the Penguins coaching staff. Not only has he made noise offensively, but he has been good defensively as well and led the team in plus/minus in his six preseason games. And the most glaring area in need of an improvement over last year is the defense, so it's nice knowing there's talent available in the system, even if Riikola doesn't make the team out of camp.

The Pens will start the season against the same team that ended theirs last year, the Washington Capitals, reigning Stanley Cup champs. It's time to take it back.





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



HOME GAMES

Thursday, Oct. 4	7:00PM	Washington Capitals
Saturday, Oct. 6	7:00PM	Montreal Canadiens
Thursday, Oct. 11	7:00PM	Vegas Golden Knights
Tuesday, Oct. 16	7:00PM	Vancouver Canucks
Tuesday, Oct. 30	7:00PM	New York Islanders
Saturday, Nov. 3	7:00PM	Toronto Maple Leafs
Monday, Nov. 5	7:00PM	New Jersey Devils
Saturday, Nov. 10	7:00PM	Arizona Coyotes
Thursday, Nov. 15	7:00PM	Tampa Bay Lightning
Monday, Nov. 19	7:00PM	Buffalo Sabres
Wednesday, Nov. 21	7:00PM	Dallas Stars
Saturday, Nov. 24	7:00PM	Columbus Blue Jackets
Saturday, Dec. 1	7:00PM	Philadelphia Flyers
Tuesday, Dec. 4	7:00PM	Colorado Avalanche
Thursday, Dec. 6	7:00PM	New York Islanders
Friday, Dec. 14	7:00PM	Boston Bruins
Saturday, Dec. 15	7:00PM	Los Angeles Kings
Monday, Dec. 17	7:00PM	Anaheim Ducks
Thursday, Dec. 20	7:00PM	Minnesota Wild
Thursday, Dec. 27	7:00PM	Detroit Red Wings
Friday, Jan. 4	7:00PM	Winnipeg Jets
Sunday, Jan. 6	8:00PM	Chicago Blackhawks
Tuesday, Jan. 8	7:00PM	Florida Panthers
Monday, Jan. 28	7:00PM	New Jersey Devils
Wednesday, Jan. 30	8:00PM	Tampa Bay Lightning
Friday, Feb. 1	7:00PM	Ottawa Senators
Tuesday, Feb. 5	7:00PM	Carolina Hurricanes
Wednesday, Feb. 13	8:00PM	Edmonton Oilers
Saturday, Feb. 16	1:00PM	Calgary Flames
Sunday, Feb. 17	12:30PM	New York Rangers
Thursday, Feb. 21	7:00PM	San Jose Sharks
Tuesday, Mar. 5	7:00PM	Florida Panthers
Thursday, Mar. 7	7:00PM	Columbus Blue Jackets
Sunday, Mar. 10	7:30PM	Boston Bruins
Tuesday, Mar. 12	7:00PM	Washington Capitals
Saturday, Mar. 16	1:00PM	St. Louis Blues
Sunday, Mar. 17	7:30PM	Philadelphia Flyers
Friday, Mar. 29	7:00PM	Nashville Predators
Sunday, Mar. 31	5:00PM	Carolina Hurricanes
Thursday, Apr. 4	7:00PM	Detroit Red Wings
Saturday, Apr. 6	7:00PM	New York Rangers

AWAY GAMES

Saturday, Oct. 13	7:00PM	@ Montreal Canadiens
Thursday, Oct. 18	7:00PM	@ Toronto Maple Leafs
Tuesday, Oct. 23	9:00PM	@ Edmonton Oilers
Thursday, Oct. 25	9:00PM	@ Calgary Flames
Saturday, Oct. 27	10:00PM	@ Vancouver Canucks
Thursday, Nov. 1	7:00PM	@ New York Islanders
Wednesday, Nov. 7	7:30PM	@ Washington Capitals
Tuesday, Nov. 13	7:00PM	@ New Jersey Devils
Saturday, Nov. 17	7:00PM	@ Ottawa Senators
Friday, Nov. 23	7:30PM	@ Boston Bruins
Tuesday, Nov. 27	8:00PM	@ Winnipeg Jets
Wednesday, Nov. 28	9:30PM	@ Colorado Avalanche
Saturday, Dec. 8	7:00PM	@ Ottawa Senators
Monday, Dec. 10	7:00PM	@ New York Islanders
Wednesday, Dec. 12	8:00PM	@ Chicago Blackhawks
Wednesday, Dec. 19	8:00PM	@ Washington Capitals
Saturday, Dec. 22	7:00PM	@ Carolina Hurricanes
Saturday, Dec. 29	8:00PM	@ St. Louis Blues
Monday, Dec. 31	6:00PM	@ Minnesota Wild
Wednesday, Jan. 2	7:00PM	@ New York Rangers
Friday, Jan. 11	10:00PM	@ Anaheim Ducks
Saturday, Jan. 12	10:30PM	@ Los Angeles Kings
Tuesday, Jan. 15	10:00PM	@ San Jose Sharks
Friday, Jan. 18	9:00PM	@ Arizona Coyotes
Saturday, Jan. 19	10:00PM	@ Vegas Golden Knights
Saturday, Feb. 2	7:00PM	@ Toronto Maple Leafs
Thursday, Feb. 7	7:00PM	@ Florida Panthers
Saturday, Feb. 9	7:00PM	@ Tampa Bay Lightning
Monday, Feb. 11	7:00PM	@ Philadelphia Flyers
Tuesday, Feb. 19	7:00PM	@ New Jersey Devils
Saturday, Feb. 23	8:00PM	@ Philadelphia Flyers
Tuesday, Feb. 26	7:00PM	@ Columbus Blue Jackets
Friday, Mar. 1	7:00PM	@ Buffalo Sabres
Saturday, Mar. 2	7:00PM	@ Montreal Canadiens
Saturday, Mar. 9	7:00PM	@ Columbus Blue Jackets
Thursday, Mar. 14	7:00PM	@ Buffalo Sabres
Tuesday, Mar. 19	7:00PM	@ Carolina Hurricanes
Thursday, Mar. 21	8:00PM	@ Nashville Predators
Saturday, Mar. 23	8:00PM	@ Dallas Stars
Monday, Mar. 25	7:00PM	@ New York Rangers
Tuesday, Apr. 2	7:30PM	@ Detroit Red Wings

Game dates, times and opponents are subject to change. All times listed EST.

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OTB Brand Story

OTB came about after Founder Shelly Fisher's second diagnosis with cancer. In Shelly's words: Feeling tired and frustrated I felt sucker punched. After going through it once, I could not believe I had a second unrelated experience. At first, naturally I had a very hard time. In fact I think that is very normal. I think it is the first important step to get to "toughness". Let yourself be realistic and feel. It is important to allow yourself the opportunity to feel the pain and challenge

of the situation. But then, drum beat....you dig into your soul, the depths of who you are, you gather your internal soldiers and you stand back up. It might be wobbly at first but that's ok. The important thing is to stand back up. Because inside you know you can. You might not be able to control the way the cards are dealt but you can control the way you play the hand. So personally I thought you can do this Shelly. You can do this. You are tough. As a matter of fact you are gritty, strong, and resilient. You are One Tough Bitch and you will survive. I have always liked something tangible I could hold on to. Something that made me remember my internal power. So I ordered a necklace, and engraved One Tough Bitch on the front. I have 2 other small charms that have meaning to me also on that chain. And when I feel a little off, I hold onto it. I remind myself that I am here and I am ok. OTB is not about going into an office or anywhere else and being tough to other people. It is an internal brand. It is your strength for you and by you. It has nothing to do with anyone else. The purpose is to empower the person who wears the accessory as a reminder that they can do it.

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Movie Reviews

NIGHTWIRE - FILM REVIEWS by FIORE

WHITE BOY RICK

WHITE BOY RICK is one of the worst films I've seen this year. Hyped as one of the year's best, and spreading accolades for its stars, the movie offers no entertaining nor socially redeeming value. It is a film that seems to come directly out of the manifesto for Black Lives Matter. Poor blacks are forced into a world of crime, white folks are better served if they live like blacks, and law enforcement officers are all devious villains not to be trusted.

Despite PR statements to the contrary, the acting is sub-par; the script is horrendous, offering a platterful of victimhood and stupidity; the cinematography is dark and washed out; and the music score is generically tepid. It seems the only reason this film was made, was to provide star Matthew McConaughey with a chance for gold at year's end. If he wins, it will demonstrate how insipid the Academy has become. He acted better in REIGN OF FIRE.

McConaughey plays Richard Wershe, Sr. He is a man who believes in the American Dream and the concepts that make this country great. Yet, his beliefs do not provide him success nor a satisfactory life. This theme serves as a backhanded slap at all who hold similar beliefs or wish to make America great again.

Richie Meritt plays his son Rick. Rick believes in his father and is loyal to him, but that loyalty to the family is rewarded with severe punishment. This allows the film to denigrate the American Dream and the concept of family. Rick spends his time with the black drug gangs of south Detroit and comes to believe their lifestyle is the only way to save his father and sister from the decrepit life they lead. Meritt's performance is stiff and unconvincing. He brings no life to the character.

Director Yann Demange tossed in a few veteran actors to help the story. They include: Bruce Dern and Piper Laurie as Rick's grandpa and grandma; Jennifer Jason Leigh and Rory Cochrane as FBI agents; and Eddie Marsan as a Florida based drug dealer. As these roles are mere cameos, they are insufficient to pull WHITE BOY RICK out of the dregs of thespian despair. Chris Wyatt cuts the film in a slipshod manner. His pacing is haphazard, making a one hour and 45 minutes film seem three weeks long. For example: a shift in scenes from the slums of Detroit to the glamor of Las Vegas is so choppy, the story line is destroyed, and it takes several moments to regain the narrative.

Tat Radcliffe shoots WHITE BOY RICK dark and grainy. It is a period film, taking place in the mid to late 1980's, but the movie looks like films did when the stock they used was past its good by date.

WHITE BOY RICK attempts to make media stars out of a group of people who consistently display a lack of intelligence and common sense. Like too many TV shows, WHITE BOY RICK endeavors to make heroes out of folks who are not heroic. It elevates the ghetto culture into one of nobility, paints law



enforcement as oppressors and expects viewers to believe Rick suffered unjustly because running dope and guns are non-violent crimes.

Screenwriters Andy Weiss, Logan and Noah Miller attempt to elicit viewer empathy for the Wershe family, but their endeavors are lame. Instead, they create characters none but the feeble-minded could find engaging. The concept of law enforcement entities being subversive to the poor and minorities has been done effectively in films before, but in WHITE BOY RICK, the theme is lost because the characters are developed in an unendearing fashion.

WHITE BOY RICK is boring. It has characters no one can identify with, and a theme no one will accept as viable. The question "What was the point of making this movie?" entered my mind as soon as the end credits began to roll. I could offer no reasonable response. And therein lies the enigma, for there is none.

THE PREDATOR

It was so close. During the first hour and ten minutes of THE PREDATOR, I thought Director Shane Black returned the franchise to its original excellence. PREDATOR, with Arnold Schwarzenegger, Jessie Ventura, Bill Duke, Sony Latham and Carl Weathers was a FIST OF FIORE AWARD winner, exemplifying excellence in film entertainment. PREDATOR 2, numerous AVP flicks, and PREDATORS, with Adrian Brody attempted to recapture that glory, but failed dismally. I actually thought Black did it. THE PREDATOR opens with a great scene; Predator ships traveling through a space wormhole, landing on Earth, disrupting a special ops sniper attack on a cartel drug lord. The SFX are good, the action sequences are good, and the film takes off on an adventure, soon destroyed by what seems to me, to be a very big mouse.

Boyd Holbrook is Quinn McKenna, a special ops sniper, assigned to eliminate a cartel drug lord. During the operation, a Predator ship crashes, interfering with the assassination. McKenna's team is attacked and killed by the Predator in a



most gruesome manner. McKenna escapes with the alien's helmet and arm gauntlet.

Quickly, the government enters the picture, headed by Traeger, played by Sterling K. Brown, who also appeared in the most excellent HOTEL ARTEMIS (FOF) earlier this year. He is obsessed with acquiring Predator technology, and eliminating anyone wise to the alien's visit to Earth. Pressed into service to help his cause is Dr. Casey Bracket, played by Olivia Munn. She is there, primarily to provide an outlet for Hollywood's Woman Warrior Agenda.

McKenna realizes he has gold with the Predator armament, so he forwards it to his home, where he has an autistic son, Rory, played by Jacob Tremblay who is an idiot savant with technology, and soon learns to operate the weapons. This enables him to stop the lads bullying him in school, and turns both the government and the Predator onto his location. McKenna now must race to save his family from both entities. He has, however, been placed in an asylum with a group of burnt out soldiers, who soon opt to help McKenna with his quest.

While Keegan Michael Key (another three name), as Coyle, is notable in the group of loonies, the true standout is Thomas Jane. His performance as Baxley, an ex-mercenary with Tourette's syndrome, is great, worthy of Best Supporting Actor considerations.

During filming, Olivia trolled a few of the crew, and discovered one was a registered sex offender. She did an end run past Black, and complained directly to Fox studio executives. The crewman quickly left the production, but then Olivia grumbled when the other male members of the cast declined to appear with her on the talk show circuit. She became toxic, and not surprisingly, none of the males wanted to be in the company of a woman with an schema. Can't say I blame them.

The set up is followed by two solid action sequences, at the football stadium and the middle school. There is a nod to John Carpenter, as events unfold on Halloween. At this point, THE PREDATOR was well on its way to earning The Fist, but then, it became Disneyized.

First, the agendas come, then the film turns cartoonish. Traeger explains the Predators are coming to Earth more frequently because of... wait for it... global warming! Really?

This AI Gore myth, designed solely to implement a carbon tax for the government, is now relegated to schlock-C horror flicks seen at 2am. No one takes this nonsense serious anymore, and to tie it to the Predator show a lack of imagination in scriptwriting.

Next comes the dog. One of the Predator's attack dogs is shot in the head, and suddenly becomes a pet to Rory and Dr. Bracket. With a dog and a little outcast kid, THE PREDATOR is like a Stephen Spielberg movie, but it turns shoddier.

The final reels are so cartoonish and out of pace with the Predator legacy, it seems as if they were written by some hack screenwriter from Disney. Actually, Black penned the script along with Fred Dekker. The Mouse, by the way does now own all properties of Fox Studios, including Predator and Alien. The conclusion of THE PREDATOR sets up a Disney adventure which will follow all of the Mouse's socialist, progressive agendas, featuring a kid, a dog and his dysfunctional family, and a dad who must save the world. It's enough to make this critic wretch in the aisle. First they destroyed STAR WARS, then MARVEL. Is there no stopping the Disney Big Brother Platform?

The first hour was momentous. Unfortunately, the film is two hours long. How did this near epic go so wrong? Did Disney really influence the second half of the film? Did Black simply sell out, knowing Disney was coming on board? Whatever the reason, THE PREDATOR turned from epic to comic with the change of a reel. By the time the protagonists begin riding on the outside of the Predator ship, the film is lost.

THE LITTLE STRANGER

For the past several months, I've been critiquing Independent Irish Horror films. While some were right on target, and others missed the mark, the one element they have in common is an incredibly slow pace. While the Irish folks seem content with molasses horror, it tends to unsettle American viewers who prefer a quicker pace.

With THE LITTLE STRANGER, Irish filmmakers team with British filmmakers and the movie plods through two hours of celluloid as if it were a week. The fidgeting I did in my seat was not due to scares or gore or even tension. It was derived from a general anxiety of "getting on with it". The British are known for a methodical pace in their period pieces. Mixed with the Irish horror pace, THE LITTLE STRANGER will enable you to multitask other chores and duties while still retaining the plotline. Penned by Lucinda Coxen, the script also has overly extended scenes, so commonplace with female screenwriters.

While THE LITTLE STRANGER is slow, it is also moody. It is a psychological, gothic thriller. Pay no never mind to the trailers. This is not a BlumHouse or Hammer Film production. There are no "boo" scenes, nor any nail-biting sequences. The story unfolds at a proper English manner with the utmost pomp and circumstance.

What helps this film immensely is the cinematography of Ole Bratt Birkeland. He uses extreme close-ups with set shots, highlighting characters when needed and setting mood



otherwise. The quick cuts between the two serve to keep the viewer off guard. The technique helped keep me to the final reel.

The other key element *THE LITTLE STRANGER* has is a powerful performance by Domhnall Gleeson. He plays Dr. Faraday, the one man who seems to have the ability to halt the destruction of one of the town's oldest families. When he was young, and they packed him off to school, his mom worked as a housemaid for the Ayers family who live in the Hundreds Estate. There was, however, a distinct line between the two family's social status and the estate was something Faraday could only dream of, but still desired. Now, as a doctor, he becomes a frequent inhabitant of the estate as he attempts to cure a malady which befalls the Ayers family. Ruth Wilson plays Caroline Ayres, the young, strong-headed mistress of the mansion, and love foil for Faraday. Her mother is played by Charlotte Rampling and her brother Roderick is played by Will Poulter. This tandem of top stars offer enthralling performances and help make watching this film worthwhile.

In the hidden core of *THE LITTLE STRANGER* is an odd, quirky message. It's one of class struggle, with the common man prevailing against the bourgeois, but at a rather steep cost. It would be communistic, if it weren't so decidedly negative. It is, however, war which facilitates the common man victory; an odd subplot in the script.

The final scene in *THE LITTLE STRANGER* is worthwhile. In retrospect, there was foreshadowing in the script, but I did not pick up on it, and I am usually adept at these things. While the twist at the end did not make up for all the film's sins, it certainly did make it more palatable.

PEPPERMINT

Generally, when Hollywood attempts to insert women into traditional male roles to be politically correct, it fails miserably. Can you say *GHOSTBUSTERS*? Sometimes, however, they do get it right.

With so many male action heroes, Tinseltown decided, in order to play fair, women should be action heroes, too. Outside of *WONDER WOMAN*, because she is a superhero, those attempts have failed. One that succeeded was *ATOMIC BLONDE* with Charlize Theron. It worked because the producers hired the crew from *JOHN WICK* to handle production. They made Theron look realistic, and avoided the unrealistical tossing



around of 300 pound men by a ninety pound princess.

When STX Films wanted to make Jennifer Garner an action film star, they hired the folks behind *TAKEN*. That movie revitalized Liam Neeson's career and made him a box office star. *PEPPERMINT* could do the same for Garner. The film offers nothing new. It's a standard revenge action film, with a female lead where you would normally see Jason Statham, but he is currently busy battling giant sharks. The pace is swift enough to not notice the inconsistencies. For fans of the action genre, *PEPPERMINT* will be a nice addition.

Jennifer plays Riley North. She witnesses the erroneous drive by shooting of her husband and daughter. When the justice system fails to prosecute the perpetrators, she falls off the grid for five years. During that time, she trains as a mercenary and Muay Thai fighter. When she returns, she's loaded for bear and the mayhem begins.

Action film fans will recognize *PEPPERMINT*'s nod to Chinese revenge films as the first of Riley's victims are strung up on a Ferris wheel, much like the antagonists were hanged from telephone poles in Bruce Lee films. Riley's revenge is satiated within the confines of the second reel. The rest of the film is filled with the aftermath of the killings, and Riley eventually tracking the main drug lord behind the cartel.

Technically, Armorer Ian Kay is to be commended for selecting a noteworthy collection of weapons in the celluloid carnage. Some small-minded critics are already criticizing Kay and the producers for the amount of guns in the film, especially during this current progressive charge politically to eradicate the Second Amendment. Taking guns out of a revenge action film is like filming *JURASSIC WORLD* with no dinosaurs. Pay no attention to these nimrods. They are what is wrong with the film industry.

Smartly, the script by Chad St. John has Riley shooting the majority of her victims, avoiding hand to hand combat scenes which no actress can make believable, outside of Gina Carano. There is also a little used collision montage during the drive-by scene which spawns Riley retribution. This is a rare cinematic event, the most memorable involving Tom Hanks and Paul Newman in *ROAD TO PERDITION*.

All told, *PEPPERMINT* is a template revenge action film. It's done well, and Jennifer pulls off the role of Riley mainly because she is not a runway model afraid to break a nail. I believe she could get down and dirty and shoot up the place. I



think you will, too.

I AM VENGEANCE

Remember WWE super villain Wade Barrett, originator of the Barrett Barrage? He's back. Not with WWE, but in movies, staking a legitimate claim as a top box office action star. He is now using his real name, Stu Bennett and in *I AM VENGEANCE* he fills in many of the gaps missing from most action stars today. He has a code of honor, a sense of justice and all of the training necessary to ensure people who cross those boundaries pay dearly. I thoroughly enjoyed this movie.

I AM VENGEANCE opens with a manhunt. Sgt. Danny Mason (Kevin Leslie) is pursued through a wooded area by masked mercenaries. Outgunned and outnumbered, he is caught, and brutally murdered. Enter John Gold (Bennett). He served with Mason and comes into the town of Devotion to investigate and seek vengeance for his murder.

It's not long before Gold discovers the town is ruled by a cabal of ex-special forces agents, who secure their retirement funds by taking over the local drug trade. They are led by Hatcher (Gary Daniels) and his main henchmen Frost (Mark Griffin) and Marshall (Bryan Larkin). It takes until the final reels, but each has a dramatic showdown with Gold. The fight scenes are choreographed by Andrei Nazarenko and are staged realistically and shot so that the stars can display their fighting acumen.

To bring things to conclusion, Gold enlists the help of Sandra (Anna Shaffer), one of the town's junkies, and her supplier Keith (Sebastian Knapp). Because they are usually strung out on heroin, Gold really can't trust them, and treats them with the same disdain as he does Hatcher. Sapphire Elia plays Rose, owner of the local diner and a romantic interest for Gold.

Written and directed by Ross Boyask, *I AM VENGEANCE* follows a proven template for action films and action heroes. Lots of violence, to prove a point; something sorely missing from modern action films, save for *JOHN WICK*. Ross Boyask cuts the film to a perfect ninety minutes and paces it well with drama and action. Because these stars, and their respective stuntmen, can actually perform the fight moves, Director of Photography Simon Rowling does not need to use close-ups and can hold the camera on a medium or set shot, showing all the action.

I really enjoyed *I AM VENGEANCE*. It harkens back to the days of the Chuck Norris, Arnold Schwarzenegger and Steven Seagal action classics. The John Gold character is one Bennett plays well, and hopefully this will springboard for him into a franchise.

I AM VENGEANCE is currently in selected theatres and will come to VOD and home video soon.

DON'T LEAVE HOME

Aye, laddies and lasses, what's happening in the Emerald Isle? Psychologists tell us when a society is in turmoil, the amount of horror and monster films increases. The Irish have released four horror film in the past five months! Something must be amiss.

DON'T LEAVE HOME follows the template of Irish horror tales. It is methodical in its plot and character development and as such, moves too slowly. Like a bonnie lass, rambling onward with her red hair flowing, you just want to scream: "Get to the point!"

Can't really blame Director and Writer Michael Tully because this is the MO for Irish horror films; he's just following form. The film is shot through hazy filters and low lighting, presenting a somber aura.

DON'T LEAVE HOME begins solid. A priest in a small local town back in the 1980's, paints a portrait of a little girl in front of a statue of the Blessed Mother in a grotto. The morning after the family receives the painting, the little girl vanishes, and her image is also gone from the painting. Weird stuff. But, then the script falters. It starts with a supernatural curse and ends with a greedy money scheme. In the present day, a struggling artist Melanie Thomas, played by Anna Margaret Hollyman (one of the dreaded three name people) creates dioramas of Ireland's famous missing people. Her gallery show is lambasted by the local critics, but this doesn't stop the reclusive priest painter Conor Callahan, played by Mark Lawrence, from contacting Thomas and requesting a special commission piece. She flies to Ireland, and there begins the dawdling unraveling of what happened some three decades ago.

When I was back there in seminary school, there was a person there who put forth the proposition that you can't mix religion and science. Yet, that is what Tully attempts in meshing devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary with the time space continuum. It seems *DON'T LEAVE HOME* is alluding to some long lost Celtic mythos that evades the viewer. This causes most of the 'horror' of the movie to be cerebral, rather than actual.

DON'T LEAVE HOME fits in well with the other Irish horror tales released this year, but it's too plodding for non-Irish audiences. There is no explanation given for the victims' disappearance, nor the significance of the other world they travel to, though that may have required an unwanted religious tone. Somehow, the Catholic religion is responsible for the abductions of innocents, though how and why are ignored. This makes *DON'T LEAVE HOME* a film most likely enjoyed by folk who already hold a grudge against the religion.

Victory Brewing Company

by Brian Meyer

When I think about how long ago 1996 was, my gut reaction is to say about ten years or so, and it's no sooner those words are out of my mouth that I realize that no, it's more like TWENTY years ago, with a few more years added on for good measure. 1996 isn't an arbitrary year I've chosen to make myself feel old, it's the year that Victory Brewing Company was founded by Bill Covalleski and Ron Barchet in Downingtown, PA. In those twenty-ish years, Victory has grown into a powerhouse of craft beer and an outspoken supporter of the environment and the beer industry as a whole.

In their first year, Victory brewed 1,725 barrels of beer. In the 22 years since then, Victory has expanded production capacity, increased their distribution, and when Victory celebrated 20 years in the business, they were producing more than 140,000 barrels of beer annually. How's that for impressive?

Today, Victory Brewing Co. brews 10 year-round beers, 15 seasonal and specialty beers thanks to 70 yeast strains utilized by the brewers. You'll find Victory in 35 states plus DC and in a total of 9 countries including Australia, Japan, Italy, and of course the United States amongst others. While that's quite the lineup of beers, when Ron and Bill first opened for business they brewed HopDevil, Festbier, and Brandywine Valley Lager.

Along with a love of beer, the people at Victory Brewing Co. love doing good for the world around them, too. In 2015 alone, Victory Brewing diverted 7 million pounds of waste from landfills thanks to reuse, recycling, and reduction of waste. That includes more than 3,000 tons of spent grain that went to local farm animals that year, too.

Finally, if you wonder why Victory beers have that extra something special that sets them apart from others, it may very well



be the freshness of the hops. Unlike many other breweries, Victory Brewing Co. only uses whole flower hops in every beer they brew. Most breweries use pelletized hops to save money and time, but the folks at Victory believe that by using the whole flower hops their beers get a purer flavor and aroma, and in turn give you the best beer they can brew.

Beers

Speaking of beers, Victory has some pretty special beers available this year, and since that's why you're probably reading this, let's get to it.

First up is one of the most popular beers Victory brews; a beer so special that it has its own cult-like following wherever Victory beers are found. **Golden Monkey** is a mythical concoction that



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starts as a Belgian-style tripel and adds some special hops to make this beer one that shouldn't be...monkeyed...around with, thanks to its 9.5% ABV. Available in bottles, cans, and on draft, Golden Monkey is one beer that you will want more than one of.

Next up is the newest sibling to Golden Monkey, and that's the tart and funky **Sour Monkey**. Sour Monkey is a 9.5% ABV version of the popular Golden Monkey is soured using a strain of Brettanomyces, giving it added flavors of lemon, tartness, and overall Brett funkiness. Sour beer is something of an acquired taste, though. When first trying a sour beer, it can be somewhat overpowering and not at all what you're expecting but given a few tastes you'll find depth of flavor and aroma that makes these beers a truly unique experience. Much like its sibling,



Sour Monkey has grown in popularity and might just steal the spotlight from Golden Monkey.

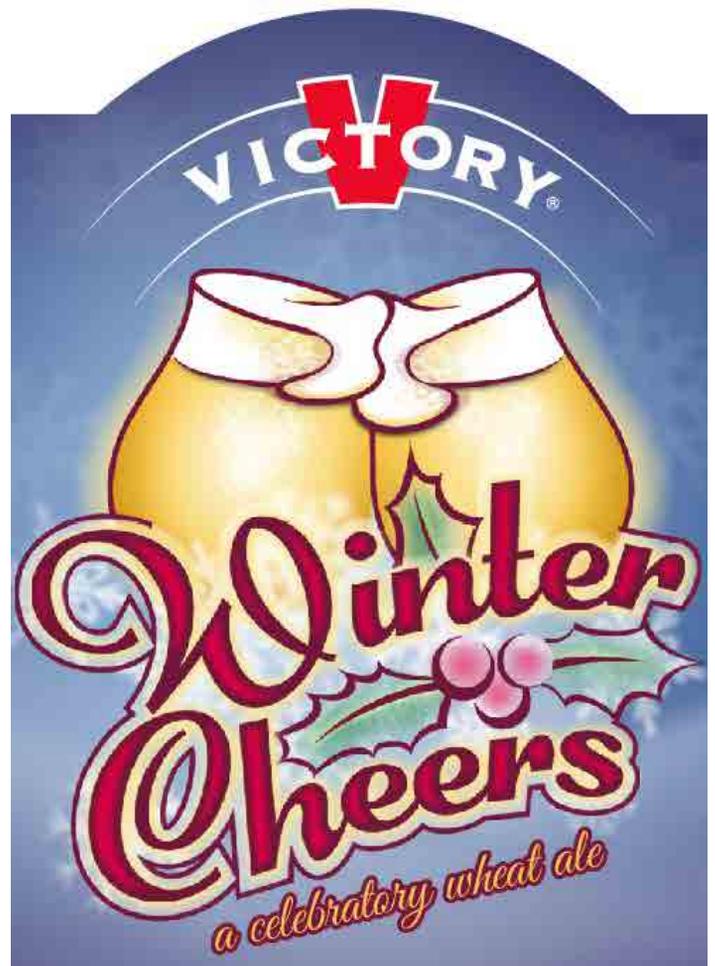
Humulus Lupulus, also known as hops, are a magical plant that grow on a bine (not a vine, as some assume). This wonderful flowering plant borrowed part of its name from the Latin word for small wolf thanks to its ability to grow over many plants in the wild, gaining the nickname willow-wolf. It's thanks to this play on words that we get Victory Brewing's **DirtWolf Double IPA**. This 8.7% ABV beer uses Citra, Chinook, Mosaic, and Simcoe hops to give you a beer that has citrus, pine, resin, and tropical fruit with a full body and finish.

Thanks to its popularity and success, DirtWolf is now available in 16-oz cans as well as bottles and draft, making it not only impressive and highly drinkable, but also highly transportable and tailgate-able. Barring any run-ins with Little Red Riding Hood, this wolf is staying on the up-and-up, and is ready and waiting for you.

Back to the beer history lesson for a minute, because one beer that's been around as long as the brewery is still one of the best beers coming out of Pennsylvania today. **Hop Devil** from Victory Brewing Co. was one of the first beers brewed by Victory, and thanks to the bold and spicy character that's balanced out with a solid malt bill, it's one that is still going strong today. Not only is Hop Devil one of Victory's first beers, it's also one of Pennsylvania's first IPAs to be produced. Pretty cool, eh?

Hop Devil is an American IPA that comes in at 6.7% ABV and focuses on an aromatic kick on the nose that follows through with a full-bodied lasting finish that's hard to beat. Expect to taste pine and citrus notes that play alongside extra-juicy hop character for a beer that's balanced yet bold and perfect for strong, meaty dinners or some solid porch sitting.

While Oktoberfest might be closing out, that doesn't mean that you should ignore the countless examples of festbiers still available. Take for example Victory Brewing's **Festbier**, which is their take on the Oktoberfest-style lager that is typically found in massive tankards and consumed under blue and white tents. Thankfully you don't have to travel to Bavaria to try this shining example that comes in at 5.6% ABV and features German malts and hops for a smooth, full-bodied beer that's an instant classic



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while never boring us. Festbier season is more than Oktoberfest, so get the most of this beer while you can.

As the leaves start to change and the weather takes a turn for the cold, our tastes seem to drift towards big, dark beers with massive flavor. Victory's answer to this yearly shift is the impressive Storm King Imperial Stout.

Coming in at an impressive 9.1% ABV, **Storm King** uses whole flower American hops paired with three different imported 2-row malt varieties to give this beer huge hop presence with malty flavors of dark chocolate, espresso, and roasted malt. In short, this is one intense beer that's still impressively smooth to drink, regardless of the temperature outside.

Finally, as the calendar keeps flipping, we keep edging closer and closer to the holiday season, and while that often means traffic, shopping, and snow, it also means winter beer season, which I would call a fair and even trade. **Winter Cheers** is a 6.7% ABV wheat beer that uses Tettnang and Citra hops to make a hoppy wheat beer that's ready to warm you up and give some winter cheer to spread, as long as you remember to keep a few of these back for yourself.



Travel: Out of This World

By Suzanne Ferrara

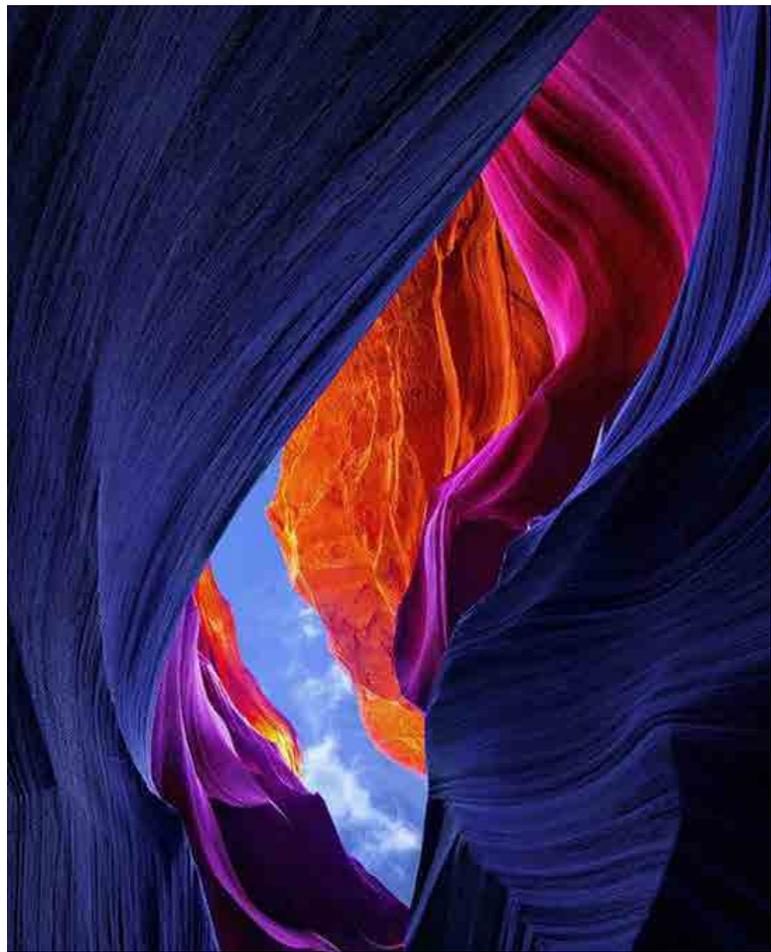
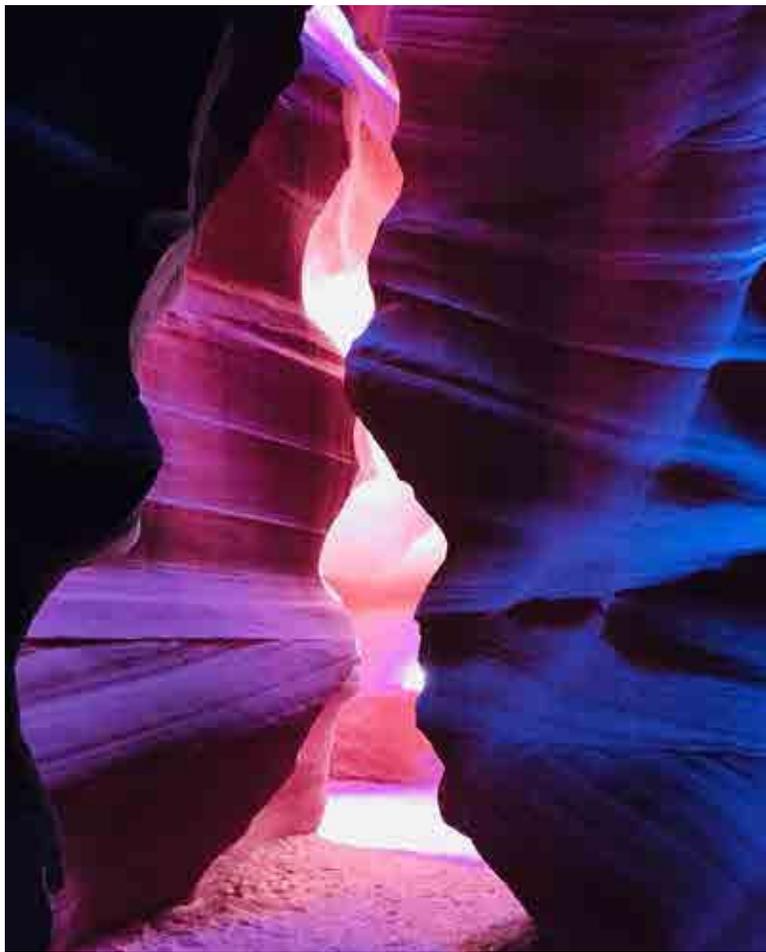


If you haven't witnessed the awe and majestic splendor of Antelope Canyon and Horseshoe Bend, take a trip to north-west Arizona, and prepare to be totally enamored by Mother Nature's magnificence. This is the closest you will get to walking on Saturn or Mars—if it were possible—but instead, you'll do so on the planet Earth.

It's quite a sight, as Antelope Canyon's meandering and deep-carved walls are sculpted in hues of purple and orange that have been formed over thousands of years. (Fun Fact: The areas around the canyon-- including Lake Powell-- have been used as the backdrop in several movies including Planet of the Apes and most recently, Gravity). It's truly an awe-striking view that you will never forget, and to say that you'll feel far removed from the day-to-day world in which you live is an understatement. Add to this majestic scene is that Antelope Canyon is

considered a sacred place to both the natives who roamed this land centuries ago and to their ancestors who still live here today.

There are two parts to this great slot like labyrinth canyon: the Upper Canyon (above ground) and the Lower Canyon (underground), the latter of which exudes more of the aforementioned unexpected variations of color. You cannot go into the national treasure without a Navajo guide because it is located on Navajo soil, and these guides drive you to the canyon in a 4x4 truck, right to the entrance. While the Antelope Canyon Navajo Guided Sightseers Tour takes about an hour-and-a-half, if you can spend the extra money and have a DSLR camera and tripod take the Professional Photographers' Tour so you can spend more time in the Canyon, and without as many people. (Big Tip: If you are looking for reduced crowds, the best time



to go is off-season which is spring and fall. While you will not see the famous light shafts in the Upper Canyon this time of year, the canyon walls have different colors and are still breathtaking).

The Upper Canyon is where you can witness the breathtaking beams of light shining down into the openings above. Witnessing this is like seeing something from a biblical movie because of the way the light beams down onto the ground. The best time to see this is midday during the months of June, July and August; however, this is also the most crowded time to witness this magic. Regardless of when you go, the view is still amazing and the Antelope Canyon Navajo Tour guides do a great job explaining the geology and mystery of the canyon. (Tip: You need a reservation to get into the canyon; but if you show up late, you cannot go on that particular tour and your ticket will not be refunded). (Tip: If you wear contacts, you may want to switch to your eyeglasses because of dust particles).

Less than ten miles west of Antelope Canyon in the small city of Page is the spectacular and often-photographed Colorado River's Horseshoe Bend. Horseshoe Bend has chiseled towering walls which extend more than a thousand-feet high from the water's surface, and it is indeed shaped like a horseshoe. (Fun Fact: The sandstone rock wall is made of hematite, platinum and garnet plus many other minerals). This breathtaking

masterpiece is located within the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, and as you stand at the lookout point, you will be awed by the view; plus, the lookout area is about three-quarters of a mile from the trailhead and is a fairly easy hike. (Fact: There are no railings from the lookout point, so stay away from the cliff edges, wear hiking shoes, and bring water).

You can also view this majestic wonder from a totally different vantage point, namely, aboard a boat or raft; many visitors say this is the way to go because of the calm water and captivating views. Colorado River Discovery Smoothwater Float Trips is a great option for everyone including families and kids as young as four-years-old. This 15-mile long jaunt aboard a motorized pontoon boat is a pleasurable ride, during which an experienced guide shares the history of the Canyon, its geology, and the explorations of John Wesley Powell. Another great option is to hop on a fixed-wing plane or chopper tour and be wowed by this natural marvel, all from a bird's eye view.

After viewing one of the most spectacular sights on the meandering Colorado River, you will most likely have worked up an appetite. Head back into town of Page which, by the way, is the perfect place to make your home-base as you tour and vacation in this area. While on Page's Main Street (which is Lake Powell Boulevard) don't be surprised if you are hypnotized by the scent of barbecue coming from Big John's Texas BBQ. That



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intoxicating aroma is coming from the meat that is slow smoked on oak and mesquite wood for hours, and it's something you can smell from two blocks away.

There's something comforting about enjoying this mouthwatering and award-winning Texas barbeque in Arizona. This cozy restaurant was converted from an old gas station and has great atmosphere, not to mention the American Flags hanging about. Big John, a Texas native, started serving his award-winning BBQ in these parts from a pop up tent and later invested in a custom built BBQ trailer. Big John got his start watching cooks at the world famous Louie Mueller's TX BBQ, which was located across the street from his father's furniture store in Taylor, Texas. (Menu Tip: Be sure to try the Big John's Sampler Plate which includes brisket, baby back ribs, pulled pork, hot links, cowboy beans and potato salad. A second favorite is the Barbeque Sandwich and Rib plate that comes with sides).

You can enjoy your BBQ with a locally-made bottle of beer; they serve Grand Canyon's Horseshoe Bend Pale Ale, American Pilsner, or Sunset Al. If you are not watching calories, finish off lunch or dinner with their delicious house-baked fruit cobbler with ice-cream or their Old Fashioned Mug Root Beer Float.



There's inside seating and outside family-style picnic table seating, the latter of which from where you can enjoy the sunny blue skies of Page. Plus, they serve buckets of peanuts for free, and you eat as many as you want and throw the shells on the ground.

Extend your Native American experience and, no doubt, your admiration for this unparalleled southwest territory by taking



part in the dinner show at Sanderson's Into the Grand. This family-owned restaurant is unlike any other, and offers dinner and a show that will leave you with an even a greater appreciation for the people and the natural marvels in and around Page. Live music, Native American dance performances, stories about the Navajo Nation, and tales of Grand Canyon river rafting adventures are just a few things that entertain guests.

The restaurant and its stage are housed in what was originally the Sanderson families' boat warehouse which was converted into a rather unique scene itself: it's also a museum with an exhibit dedicated to the history of the early Grand Canyon River Runners of the 1950s. (Fact: The Sandersons are among some of those river runners and are the founders of Sanderson River Adventures whose operation dates back to the 1950s). The walls inside the converted warehouse are draped with large murals depicting scenes of the Grand Canyon and rafting expeditions. Speaking of rafts, you will hear the incredible story of the journeys the Sanderson family made rafting down the Colorado River with descriptions of some of the most beautiful points on these trips; these verbal descriptions alone will make you want to raft the Colorado as soon as you exit the door. By the way, owner Hoss Sanderson exudes passion for this land and will make sure you have a good time. (Menu Tip: The salsa and chips are delicious and complimentary, and the Pork Carnitas and Beef Brisket are among favorite menu items. Be sure to try the beer sampler of four locally produced beers). (Fact: In September of 2018, The Arizona Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Network awarded the owners and operators of



Into the Grand, with the 2018 Success Awards).

Looking for a goodnight's rest during your vacation? Page has all that you need. While there are several hotel chains strewn about the area, there's one in particular at which you may want to take a second look and that's the new Hyatt Place Page/Lake Powell. This micro-hotel offers complimentary breakfast and has some rooms with views of the canyon and the Glen Canyon Dam. There's an outside pool overlooking the canyon, and it's only a few blocks from the nine-mile Rimview Trail which encircles Page and offers great views of the Canyon and Lake Powell.

To witness these natural marvels in northwest Arizona is an experience you won't forget and one you will certainly want to share with family and friends. There are even more captivating treasures in and around the area which can't all be covered in one article; so do your homework and head to Antelope Canyon and Horseshoe Bend for a trip of a lifetime. (Travel Tip: If you are trying to save money, take a direct flight from Pittsburgh to Las Vegas and make the five-hour drive to Antelope Canyon; however you opt for a connecting flight to the Page Municipal Airport).





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Pittsburgh Cultural Trust offers a variety of workshops for all ages during the month of October!

The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust's Arts Education Department invites everyone in the community to explore, create, and learn from local and internationally renowned artists with workshops and classes designed for audiences of all ages with diverse skills levels. Classes and workshops take place at the Trust Arts Education Center, 805-807 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222. For more information, visit: www.TrustArts.org or call 412-471-6079.



The White Album | Separating Sound and Picture: The White Album Art Lab

October 5 | 1-3 pm | Ages: 18+

In this class for performance maker of all disciplines, director, visual artist and writer Lars Jan explores participatory actions and the creation of staging in response to scores of some kind. Jan guides participants through prompts and provocations to create their own visual and performative harmonies with the text.



There Will Be Blood! Moulage Make-Up Effects

October 13 | 1-4 pm | \$20 | Ages 13-17

Come and get your scare on as you learn how to create realistic bruises, gashes, and bites using special effects make-up materials, such as wax, latex, and stage blood... lots... and lots of blood.



Zombie Date Night

October 13 | 5-8 pm | \$25 | Ages 18+

Have a night of undead fun as you and your special someone learn techniques and tips to create your own unique zombie look.



Deborah Colker Dance MasterClass

October 14 | 1:30-3 pm | \$15

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Join dancers from this internationally recognized company for a masterclass in the company's artistic dance style.



Know the Show Before You Go | Anastasia

October 17 | 6:30 -7 pm | Free with Show Ticket | All Ages

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Mrs. Krishnan's Party Mask Performance Workshop

October 18 | 4:30 -6 pm | \$15 | Ages 16+

In this workshop students participate in exercises and games to experience what it is to act "at the level of mask." The workshop focuses on liberating the body and voice to create characters that amplify human emotion, relationships and truth.



Panoramic Theater Workshop - Anastasia

October 20 | 11 am - 1 pm | \$20 | Ages 13-16

During this workshop, participants fulfill the roles of set, costume, light and sound designers, stage managers, director, actors and marketing staff. The workshop culminates with teams presenting their own interpretation of an excerpt from the musical, Anastasia.



Midnight Radio: Sound Exploration in Object Theatre

October 18 | 4:30 - 6 pm | \$15 | Ages 16+

Company members from Tel Aviv's Hanut31 will provide an overview of Object Theatre, followed by a hands-on workshop on how sound can serve as a dramatic element within the genre.



ESPÆCE Masterclass

October 18 | 4:30 - 6 pm | \$15 | Ages 16+

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Corteo, One Of The Best-Loved Cirque Du Soleil Productions, Is Coming To Pittsburgh With Its North American Arena Tour

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From January 16 to 20, 2019



Corteo, the latest and most enchanting Cirque du Soleil's arena production is now touring in North America. The show will visit Pittsburgh at the PPG Paints Arena from January 16 to 20, 2019 for a limited run of seven performances. This unique production, directed by Daniele Finzi Pasca, first premiered in Montreal under the Big Top in April 2005. Since then, the show has been a great success and has amazed 8 million people in 19 countries on four continents.

Advance tickets for Corteo are available now online to Cirque Club members. Cirque Club membership is free and benefits includes access to advance tickets, special offers and exclusive behind the scenes information. To join, go to www.cirqueclub.com.

Tickets available to the public at cirquedusoleil.com/corteo. Corteo, which means cortege in Italian, is a joyous procession, a festive parade imagined by a clown. The show brings together the passion of the actor with the grace and power of the acrobat to plunge the audience into a theatrical world of fun, comedy and spontaneity situated in a mysterious space between heaven and earth.

The clown pictures his own funeral taking place in a carnival atmosphere, watched over by quietly caring angels. Juxtaposing the large with the small, the ridiculous with the tragic and the magic of perfection with the charm of imperfection, the show

highlights the strength and fragility of the clown, as well as his wisdom and kindness, to illustrate the portion of humanity that is within each of us. The music turns lyrical and playful carrying Corteo through a timeless celebration in which illusion teases reality.

The concept and disposition of the stage bring the audience in a theatrical atmosphere like never seen before in Cirque du Soleil arena shows. The set curtains, inspired by the Eiffel Tower, and the central curtains, which were hand painted, give a grandiose feel to the stage. This sets the tone for the poetry of Corteo.

Ticket information

Show Schedule:

Wednesday, January 16, 2019 – 7:30 pm

Thursday, January 17, 2019 – 7:30 pm

Friday, January 18, 2019 – 7:30 pm

Saturday, January 19, 2019 – 3:30 pm & 7:30 pm

Sunday, January 20, 2019 – 1:00 pm & 5:00 pm

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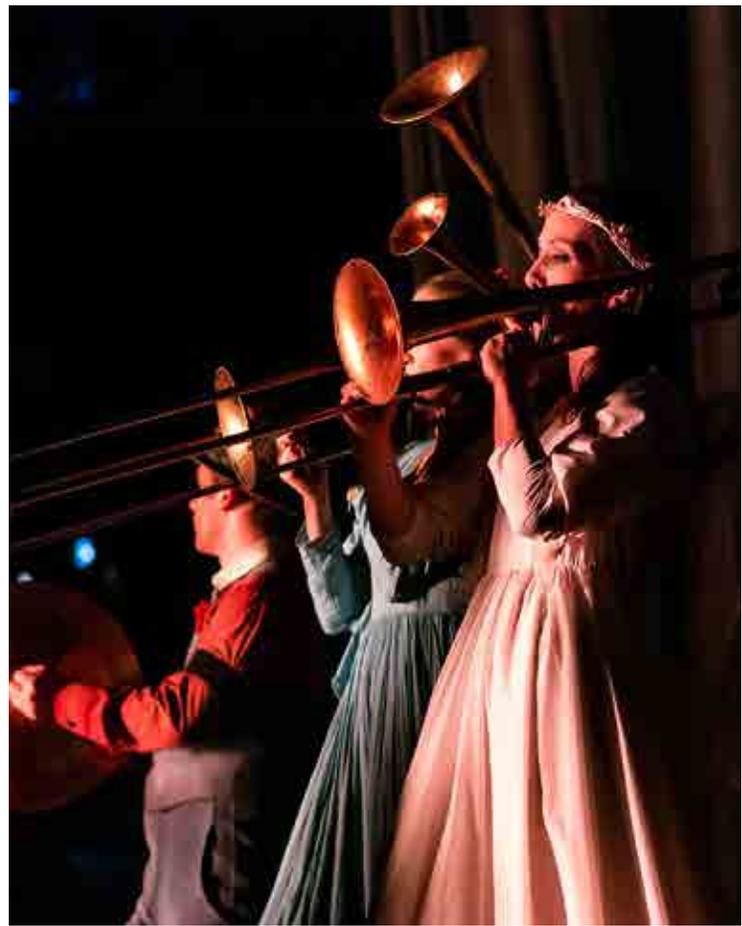
All specials dine in only and subject to change!

The cast of Corteo includes 51 acrobats, musicians, singers and actors from all around the world.

About Cirque du Soleil

Originally composed of 20 street performers in 1984, Cirque du Soleil completely reinvented circus arts and went on to become a world leader in artistic entertainment. Established in Montreal, the Canadian organization has brought wonder and delight to over 180 million spectators with 42 productions that have taken place in close to 450 cities in 60 countries. Cirque du Soleil currently has over 4,000 employees, including 1,300 artists, from nearly 50 countries. In 2017 alone, 19 shows are being presented simultaneously throughout the world.

For more information about Cirque du Soleil, please go to www.cirquedusoleil.com





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Joe: What do you call wood when it's scared?

Bob: I don't know.

Joe: Petrified!

Michael: What treat do eye doctors give out on Halloween?

Matthew: I don't know. What?

Michael: Candy corneas.

A photographer goes to a haunted castle determined to get a picture of a ghost on Halloween. The ghost he encounters turns out to be friendly and poses for a snapshot. The happy photographer later downloads his photos and finds that the photos are underexposed and completely blank. Moral to the story: The spirit is willing, but the flash is weak.

Brett: What do mummies like listening to on Halloween?

Brent: I don't know.

Brett: Wrap music!

Spencer: What plants like Halloween the most?

Tanner: Which ones?

Spencer: Bam-BOO!

Bill: Why did the policeman ticket the ghost on Halloween?

McKenzie: Why?

Bill: It didn't have a haunting license.

Sarah: What are a ghost's favorite rides at the fair?

Brian: Tell me.

Sarah: The scary-go-round and rollerghoster!

Max: What would you find on a haunted beach?

Sam: I'm stumped.

Max: A sand-witch!

John: Why didn't the skeleton like the Halloween candy?

Mark: Why?

John: He didn't have the stomach for it!

Sam: What do you call a cleaning skeleton?

Frank: I don't know.

Sam: The "grim sweeper."

Chris: What's worse than being a five-ton witch on Halloween?

Jill: No clue. Hit me with it.

Chris: Being her broom!

Daffynition: Pocahontas — A card game that comes back to scare you..

Jake: Why couldn't the ghost see its mom and dad?

Philip: I don't know.

Jake: Because they were trans-parents!

Darius: What part of the street do vampires live on?

Chad: I don't know.

Darius: The dead end.

Brandon: Which ghost is the best dancer?

Nolan: I don't know.

Brandon: The Boogie Man!

Everett: What's a ghoulish favorite game on Halloween?

Francisco: What?

Everett: Hide-and-ghost-seek.

Rich: Why do they put fences around graveyards?

Mitch: Tell me.

Rich: Because people are dying to get in!

Jerry: Why do ghosts like to ride in elevators?

Woody: Why?

Jerry: It raises their spirits.

Joshua: What do you get if you cross Bambi with a ghost?

Belia: What?

Joshua: Bamboo.

Gavin: What do you call a tired skeleton on Halloween?

Connor: Beats me.

Gavin: The "grim sleeper."

Tim: What is a ghost's favorite dessert?

Tom: What?

Tim: Booberry pie.

Tom: What's a ghost's favorite room?

Jerry: I dunno.

Tom: The living room!

Kirk: Why do mummies have no friends?

Mike: Why

Kirk: Because they're too wrapped up in themselves!

Aidan: What is a ghost's favorite Cub Scout event?

Taylor: What?

Aidan: Boo and Gold.

Aidan: What is a witch's favorite Cub Scout event?

Taylor: I give up.

Aidan: Brew and Gold.

Aidan: What is a werewolf's favorite Cub Scout event?

Taylor: What?

Aidan: Pack meetings, of course!

Stephen: What did the ghost say when the skeleton lied to him?

David: I haven't a clue.

Stephen: "I can see right through you."

Jess: Why don't ghosts like rain on Halloween?

Thomas: Why?

Jess: It dampens their spirits!

Race: What is a goblin's favorite cheese?

Nathan: What is it?

Race: Monster-ella!

Joker: Why did the monster's mother knit him three socks for Halloween?

Harvey: I have no clue.

Joker: She heard he grew another foot!

Two monsters went to a Halloween party. Suddenly one said to the other, "A lady just rolled her eyes at me. What should I do?"
"Be a gentleman and roll them back to her."

Jack: Whom do monsters buy their cookies from?

Jill: Who?

Jack: The Ghoul Scouts.

Sam: What is Dracula's favorite circus act?

Ethan: Tell me.

Sam: He always goes for the juggler!

Dale: What do you do if you want to learn more about Dracula?

Gayle: You join his fang club.

Bill: What can you say about a horrible mummy joke?

Bob: What?

Bill: It Sphinx!

Chris: What's a vampire's favorite fruit?

Taylor: I have no idea.

Chris: A necktarine!

Gracie: Why do vampires need mouthwash?

Selena: Why?

Gracie: Because they have bat breath.

Bruce: What is a vampire's favorite dance?

Kevin: I don't know. What?

Bruce: The Fang-Dango.

Trent: Why are vampires so easy to fool?

Brent: Why?

Trent: Because they're suckers.

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Eddie: What do you call a vampire that lives in a kitchen?

Red: What?

Eddie: Count Spatula.

Ben: What do you call a kind and considerate monster?

Jonathan: What?

Ben: A complete failure.

Tim: What would you get if you crossed a vampire and a teacher?

Tom: What?

Tim: Lots of blood tests!

1. A plateau is the highest form of flattery.
2. It's hard to explain puns to kleptomaniacs because they always take things literally.
3. Time flies like an arrow, fruit flies like a banana.
4. A soldier survived mustard gas in battle, and then pepper spray by the police. He's now a seasoned veteran.
5. I hate Russian dolls...so full of themselves.
6. A Buddhist walks up to a hotdog stand and says, "Make me one with everything."
7. I'm addicted to brake fluid, but I can stop whenever I want.
8. What's the difference between my ex and the titanic? The titanic only went down on 1,000 people.
9. Why is 6 afraid of 7? Because 7 is a registered 6 offender.
10. Two fish are sitting in a tank. One looks over at the other and says: "Hey, do you know how to drive this thing?"
11. "This is your captain speaking, AND THIS IS YOUR CAPTAIN SHOUTING."
12. I told my doctor that I broke my arm in two places. He told me to stop going to those places.
13. Atheism is a non-prophet organization.
14. What do you call it when Batman skips church? Christian Bale.
15. Some people think it's romantic to carve their names on trees in the park while on a date.
I'm more worried about why they're bringing a knife on their date.
16. How do you keep an idiot in suspense?
17. Two whales walk into a bar. The first one says,
"Weeeeeooooouuhhhh." The next whale says, "Shut up, Steve.
You're drunk."
19. What's E.T. short for? Because he's only got little legs.
20. I want to die peacefully in my sleep like my grandfather did, not screaming in terror like the passengers in his car.
21. Wanna hear a joke about Potassium? Whether they say 'yes' or 'no': K.
22. What's the difference between a golfer and a skydiver? A golfer goes *whack* "damn" and a skydiver goes "damn" *whack*.
23. A baby seal walks into a club.
24. My granddad has the heart of a lion and a lifetime ban from the San Diego Zoo.
25. I went on a once in a lifetime holiday. Never again.
26. Rick Astley will let you borrow any movie from his Pixar

- collection, except one. He's never gonna give you up.
27. It takes a lot of balls to golf like me.
 28. I asked my North Korean friend how it was there, he said he couldn't complain.
 29. There's no "I" in Denial.
 30. Last night me and my girlfriend watched three DVDs back to back. Luckily I was the one facing the tv.
 31. Exaggerations went up by a million percent last year.
 32. They all laughed when I said I wanted to be a comedian. Well, they're not laughing now.
 33. I used to be addicted to soap, but I'm clean now.
 34. Two penguins walk into a bar... which is stupid because the second one should have seen it.
 35. I was wondering, why does a frisbee appear larger the closer it gets... then it hit me.
 36. Have I told you this deja vu joke before?
 37. Where do you find a cow with no legs? Right where you left it.
 38. Nostalgia isn't what it used to be...
 39. I didn't know my dad was a construction site thief, but when I got home all the signs were there.
 40. What's the best thing about Switzerland? I don't know, but their flag is a huge plus.
 41. "I stand corrected," said the man in the orthopedic shoes.

 1. I bought some shoes from a drug dealer. I don't know what he laced them with, but I've been tripping all day.

2. I told my girlfriend she drew her eyebrows too high. She seemed surprised.
3. Two clowns are eating a cannibal. One turns to the other and says "I think we got this joke wrong"
4. My wife told me I had to stop acting like a flamingo. So I had to put my foot down.
5. What's the difference between in-laws and outlaws?
Outlaws are wanted.
6. I bought my friend an elephant for his room.
He said "Thanks"
I said "Don't mention it"
7. I have an EpiPen. My friend gave it to me when he was dying, it seemed very important to him that I have it.
8. I poured root beer in a square glass.
Now I just have beer.
9. What's the difference between a hippo and a zippo?
One is really heavy, and the other is a little lighter.
10. My friend says to me: "What rhymes with orange" I said: "no it doesn't"
11. And God said to John, come forth and you shall be granted eternal life.
But John came fifth and won a toaster.
12. How many opticians does it take to change a lightbulb?
Is it one or two? One... or two?
13. What do we want?
Low flying airplane noises!



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When do we want them?

NNNEEEEEEOOOOOOOWWWWWW.

14. What do you call a Frenchman wearing sandals?

Phillipe Phillope.

15. What's orange and sounds like a parrot?

A carrot.

16. What do you call a dog that does magic tricks?

A labracadabrador.

17. So what if I don't know what Armageddon means? It's not the end of the world.

18. How do you get two whales in a car? Start in England and drive west.

19. A blind man walks into a bar. And a table. And a chair.

20. Why did the old man fall in the well?

Because he couldn't see that well.

21. I bought the world's worst thesaurus yesterday. Not only is it terrible, it's terrible.

22. This is my step ladder. I never knew my real ladder.

23. My friend asked me to help him round up his 37 sheep. I said "40"

24. I've found a job helping a one armed typist do capital letters.

It's shift work.

25. I went bobsleighbing the other day, killed 250 bobs.

26. I have the heart of a lion and a lifetime ban from the Toronto zoo.

27. What's the difference between a good joke and a bad joke timing.

28. Wife says to her programmer husband, "Go to the store and buy a loaf of bread. If they have eggs, buy a dozen."

Husband returns with 12 loaves of bread.

29. Communism jokes aren't funny unless everyone gets them.

30. What did the pirate say when he turned 80 years old?

Aye matey.

31. What do the movies titanic and the sixth sense have in common.

Icy dead people.

32. Knock Knock

Who's There?

Dishes

Dishes Who?

Dishes Sean Connery.

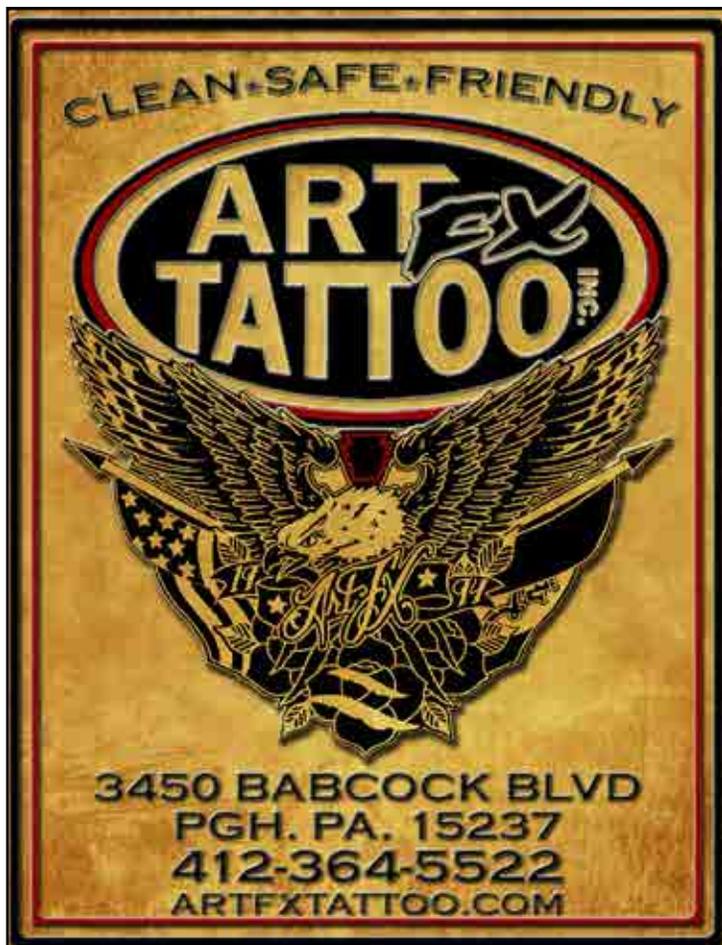
33. Have you heard about those new corduroy pillows? They're making headlines.

34. Two men meet on opposite sides of a river. One shouts to the other "I need you to help me get to the other side!"

The other guy replies "You are on the other side!"

35. I couldn't figure out why the baseball kept getting larger. Then it hit me.

36. My friends say there's a gay guy in our circle of friends... I



really hope it's Todd, he's cute.

37. People in Dubai don't like the Flintstones.

But people in Abu Dhabi do!

38. Guy walks into a bar and orders a fruit punch.

Bartender says "Pal, if you want a punch you'll have to stand in line" Guy looks around, but there is no punch line.

39. I've been told I'm condescending.

(that means I talk down to people)

40. How did the hipster burn his mouth?

He ate the pizza before it was cool.

41. Before you criticize someone, walk a mile in their shoes. That way, when you do criticize them, you're a mile away and have their shoes.

42. What's ET short for?

He's only got little legs.

43. What's the difference between a dirty old bus stop and a lobster with breast implants? One is a crusty bus station the other one is a busty crustacean.

44. Why aren't koalas actual bears?

They don't meet the koalafications

45. It's hard to explain puns to kleptomaniacs because they always take things literally.

1. A woman gets on a bus with her baby. The bus driver says:

"Ugh, that's the ugliest baby I've ever seen!" The woman walks to the rear of the bus and sits down, fuming. She says to a man next to her: "The driver just insulted me!" The man says: "You go up there and tell him off. Go on, I'll hold your monkey for you."

2. "I went to the zoo the other day, there was only one dog in it, it was a shitzu."

3. "Dyslexic man walks into a bra"

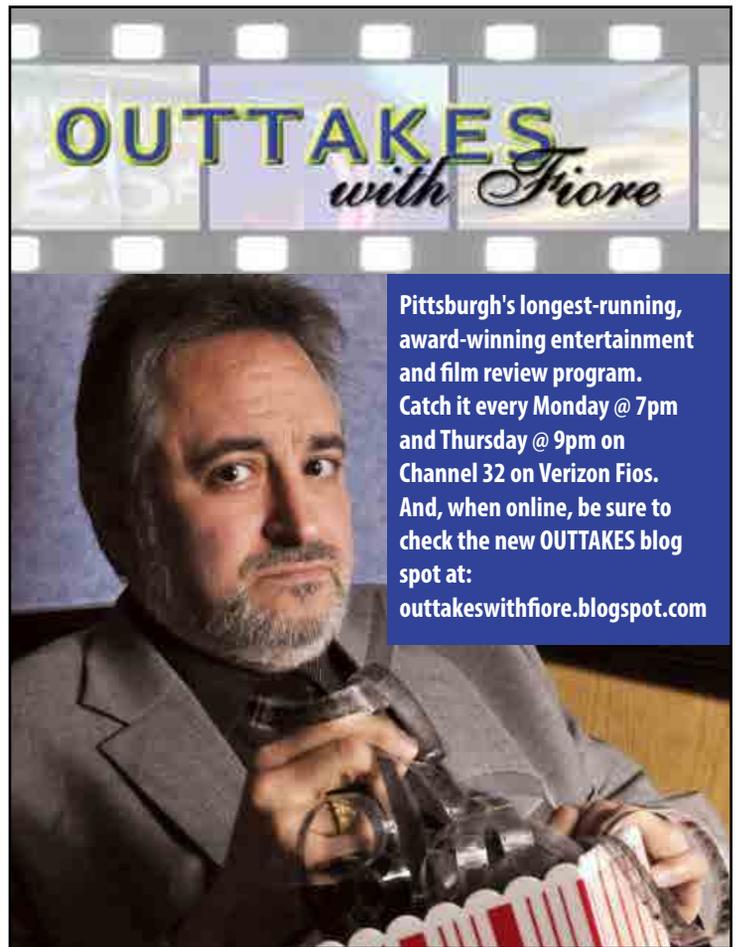
4. A young blonde woman is distraught because she fears her husband is having an affair, so she goes to a gun shop and buys a handgun. The next day she comes home to find her husband in bed with a beautiful redhead. She grabs the gun and holds it to her own head. The husband jumps out of bed, begging and pleading with her not to shoot herself. Hysterically the blonde responds to the husband, "Shut up...you're next!"

5. A classic Tommy Cooper gag "I said to the Gym instructor "Can you teach me to do the splits?" He said, "How flexible are you?" I said, "I can't make Tuesdays", was fifth.

6. Police arrested two kids yesterday, one was drinking battery acid, the other was eating fireworks. They charged one - and let the other one off.

7. Two aerials meet on a roof - fall in love - get married. The ceremony was rubbish - but the reception was brilliant.

8. Another one was: Doc, I can't stop singing the 'Green Green Grass of Home'. He said: 'That sounds like Tom Jones syndrome'. 'Is it common?' I asked. 'It's not unusual' he replied.



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9. I'm on a whiskey diet. I've lost three days already.

10. A man walks into a bar with a roll of tarmac under his arm and says: "Pint please, and one for the road."

11. I went to the doctors the other day and I said, 'Have you got anything for wind?' So he gave me a kite.

12. My mother-in-law fell down a wishing well, I was amazed, I never knew they worked.

13. I saw this bloke chatting up a cheetah; I thought, "He's trying to pull a fast one".

14. A woman has twins, and gives them up for adoption. One of them goes to a family in Egypt and is named 'Amal.' The other goes to a family in Spain, they name him Juan'. Years later; Juan sends a picture of himself to his mum. Upon receiving the picture, she tells her husband that she wished she also had a picture of Amal. Her husband responds, "But they are twins. If you've seen Juan, you've seen Amal."

15. There's two fish in a tank, and one says "How do you drive this thing?"

16. I went to buy some camouflage trousers the other day but I couldn't find any.

17. When Susan's boyfriend proposed marriage to her she said: "I love the simple things in life, but I don't want one of them for my husband".

18. "My therapist says I have a preoccupation with vengeance. We'll see about that."

19. I rang up British Telecom, I said, "I want to report a nuisance caller", he said "Not you again".

20. I met a Dutch girl with inflatable shoes last week, phoned her up to arrange a date but unfortunately she'd popped her clogs.

21. A jump-lead walks into a bar. The barman says "I'll serve you, but don't start anything"

22. Slept like a log last night..... Woke up in the fireplace.

23. A priest, a rabbi and a vicar walk into a bar. The barman says, "Is this some kind

of joke?"

24. A sandwich walks into a bar. The barman says "Sorry we don't serve food in here"

25. The other day I sent my girlfriend a huge pile of snow. I rang her up, I said "Did you get my drift?".

26. I cleaned the attic with the wife the other day. Now I can't get the cobwebs out of her hair.

27. Went to the paper shop - it had blown away.

28. A group of chess enthusiasts checked into a hotel and were standing in the lobby discussing their recent tournament victories. After about an hour, the manager came out of the office and asked them to disperse. "But why?" they asked, as they moved off. "because," he said "I can't stand chess nuts boasting in an open foyer."

29. I was in Tesco's and I saw this man and woman wrapped in a barcode. I said, "Are you two an item?"

30. I'm in great mood tonight because the other day I entered a competition and I won a years supply of Marmite..... one jar.

31. So I went to the Chinese restaurant and this duck came up to me with a red rose and says "Your eyes sparkle like diamonds". I said, "Waiter, I asked for a-
ROMATIC duck".

32. Four fonts walk into a bar the barman says "Oi - get out! We don't want your type in here"

33. I was having dinner with Garry Kasparov (world chess champion) and there was a check tablecloth. It took him two hours to pass me the salt.

34. There was a man who entered a local paper's pun contest.. He sent in ten different puns, in the hope that at least one of the puns would win. Unfortunately, no pun in ten did.

35. I went down the local supermarket, I said, "I want to make a complaint, this vinegar's got lumps in it", he said, "Those are pickled onions".

36. I backed a horse last week at ten to

one. It came in at quarter past four.

37. I swear, the other day I bought a packet of peanuts, and on the packet it said "may contain nuts." Well, YES! That's what I bought the buggers for! You'd be annoyed if you opened it and a socket set fell out!"

38. A lorry-load of tortoises crashed into a trainload of ter-rapins, What a turtle disaster

39. My phone will ring at 2 in the morning, and my wife will look at me and go, "Who's that calling at this time?" "I don't know! If I knew that we wouldn't need the bloody phone!"

40. I said to this train driver "I want to go to Paris". He said "Eurostar?" I said, "I've been on tv but I'm no Dean Martin".

41. Two Eskimos sitting in a kayak were chilly. But when they lit a fire in the craft, it sank, proving once and for all that you can't have your kayak and heat it.

42. I've got a friend who's fallen in love with two school bags, he's bisatchel.

43. You see my next-door neighbor worships exhaust pipes, he's a catholic converter.

44. A three-legged dog walks into a saloon in the Old West. He slides up to the bar and announces: "I'm looking for the man who shot my paw."

45. I tried water polo but my horse drowned.

46. I'll tell you what I love doing more than anything: trying to

pack myself in a small suitcase. I can hardly contain myself.

47. So I met this gangster who pulls up the back of people's pants, it was Wedgie Kray.

48. Went to the corner shop - bought 4 corners.

49. A seal walks into a club...

50. I went to the Doctors the other day, and he said, 'Go to Bournemouth, it's great for flu'. So I went - and I got it.

Plane Announcement

A plane was taking off from Kennedy Airport. After it reached a comfortable cruising altitude, the captain made an announcement over the intercom. "Ladies and gentlemen, this is your captain speaking. Welcome to Flight 293, nonstop from New York to Los Angeles. The weather ahead is good and therefore we should have a smooth and uneventful flight. Now, please sit back and relax... AAHHHHH!DAMMIT!" The passengers sat in silence, waiting for terrible news. Then, the captain came back on the intercom and said, "Ladies and Gentlemen, I am so sorry if I scared you earlier, but while I was talking, the flight- attendant brought me a cup of coffee and spilled the hot coffee in my lap. You should see the front of my pants!" A passenger in Coach said, "That's nothing. You should see the back of mine!"

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Vytorin 10mg/40mg	90	\$155.00
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Asacol 800mg	300	\$250.00
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Actigall 300mg	300	\$205.00
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Namenda 10 mg	84	\$46.00
Prempro 0.3mg/1.5mg	84	\$100.00
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Prayer

A man walking along a California beach was deep in prayer. All of a sudden, he said out loud, "Lord, grant me one wish." Suddenly the sky clouded above his head and in a booming voice, the Lord said, "Because you have TRIED to be faithful to me in all ways, I will grant you one wish." The man said, "Build a bridge to Hawaii, so I can drive over anytime I want to." The Lord said, "Your request is very materialistic. Think of the logistics of that kind of undertaking. The supports required to reach the bottom of the Pacific! The concrete and steel it would take! I can do it, but is hard for me to justify your desire for worldly things. Take a little more time and think of another wish. A wish you think would honor and glorify me." The man thought about it for a long time. Finally, he said, "Lord, I wish that I could understand women. I want to know how they feel inside, what they are thinking when they give me the silent treatment, why they cry, what they mean when they say 'nothing,' and how I can make a woman truly happy."

Why English Is Tough

Twenty-one reasons why English is hard to learn.

1. The bandage was wound around the wound.
2. The farm was used to produce produce.
3. The dump was so full it had to refuse more refuse.
4. We must polish the Polish furniture.
5. He could lead if he would get the lead out.
6. The soldier decided to desert his dessert in the desert.
7. Since there was no time like the present, he thought it was time to present the present.
8. A bass was painted on the head of the bass drum.
9. When shot at, the dove dove into the bushes.
10. I did not object to the object.
11. The insurance was invalid for the invalid.
12. There was a row among the oarsmen on how to row.
13. They were too close to the door to close it.
14. The buck does funny things when does are present.
15. A seamstress and a sewer fell down into a sewer line.
16. To help with planting, the farmer taught his sow to sow.
17. The wind was too strong to wind the sail.
18. After a number of injections my jaw got number.
19. Upon seeing the tear in the painting I shed a tear.
20. I had to subject the subject to a series of tests.
21. How can I intimate this to my most intimate friend?



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PURPLESTRIDE



Marya Pendro-Thomson, Julie Miller, Heidi Fortwangler and Theresa Dukovich at the first PanCAN Walk held in 2004 called "Pick Up the Pace" against Pancreatic Cancer.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." – Margaret Mead

On Sunday, August 22, 2004 the inaugural walk to raise funds in the fight against pancreatic cancer was held in North Park. The event was planned by Julie Miller, Theresa Dukovich, Marya Pendro-Thomson and Heidi Fortwangler. (In 2003 they became the of the newly formed Pittsburgh Affiliate of the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network.) The Walk was then called "Pick Up The Pace" against Pancreatic Cancer. They forged out to do this in honor and memory of their loved ones. Theresa and Marya lost their Mother RoseMarie Pendro in 2001 at 62. Heidi lost her Husband Bob, age 37 in 2001. Julie's Mother, Geraldine Davies was still battling the disease at the time of the event, but later succumbed to the disease in 2008. The participants (numbering nearly 100 consisted largely of their friends and family). This small but mighty group put together one of the first walks to benefit PanCAN. Over the coming years PanCAN re-branded the event as PurpleStride.



In 2013 for the 10th Anniversary Pancreatic Cancer Action Network's founder, Pamela Acosta Marquardt flew in to address the PurpleStride crowd with an inspiring speech. She told the crowds how just 2 days prior her step-children lost their Grandfather to Pancreatic Cancer 13 days after diagnosis. She went on to tell everyone how important the mission is, because it is projected to become the 2nd leading cause of Cancer death by 2020. Pam started the organization back in 1999, after her mother Rose was diagnosed with Pancreatic Cancer and she quickly found, that there were no organizations addressing this dreaded disease.



In the years since Pam's speech, Pancreatic Cancer surpassed Breast Cancer to become the 3rd leading cause of cancer death in the U.S. and is well on its way to fulfill the projection by 2020, if efforts are not increased to stop it.

The Pancreatic Cancer Action Network (PanCAN) is dedicated to fighting the world's toughest cancer. In our urgent mission to save lives, we attack pancreatic cancer on all fronts: research, clinical initiatives, patient services and advocacy. Our effort is amplified by a nationwide network of grassroots support. We are determined to improve patient outcomes today and to double survival by 2020.

Pamela Acosta Marquardt addressing the PurpleStride 2013 crowd. with an inspiring speech. Pam started the organization back in 1999, after her mother Rose was diagnosed with Pancreatic Cancer and she quickly found, that there were no organizations addressing this dreaded disease.

PITTSBURGH



The five-year survival rate has increased three percentage points since 2014 and is now 9 percent. Those three percentage points represent approximately 1,600 mothers, daughters, fathers, sons, sisters, brothers, colleagues and friends.

The organization's PurpleStride event contribute funds to research grants to fund cutting edge research the will change the future, to Advocacy to fight for better funding and to the Patient Central program, ensuring that patients and their loved ones have access to these important resources as well as other programs such as Precision Promise.

PurpleStride Pittsburgh 2018, presented by HM Insurance, and will take place on October 13, at the Oval in Schenley Park.

The 5k run/walk will be one of over 50 PurpleStride events that will take place across the country. These events range in size from brief walks to longer timed-runs, but they all share one common goal – to end pancreatic cancer. PurpleStride events raise awareness about the critical mission of the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network, and gives local residents the opportunity to help make strides toward a better future. The events also contribute millions of dollars towards the organization's mission to advance research, support patients and create hope.

For participants, it is a journey toward hope that is filled with inspiration. It is a time to honor loved ones fighting pancreatic cancer. It is a day when all of the family and friends of pancreatic cancer patients can come together in solidarity and gain both comfort and encouragement.

In the Pittsburgh Affiliate Core team, over the past 15 years, different people have stepped into roles, moved on and new individuals have taken their places, but one thing remains true to this day. There is still a need for caring individuals to join the fight against this disease. If you would like to join the fight and want to volunteer within the Affiliate please contact Affiliate Chair, Andrea Bauer-Kuczma at abauer-kuczma@pancanvolunteer.org.

"Never ever depend on governments or institutions to solve any major problems. All social change comes from the passion of individuals." – Margaret Mead



The Pittsburgh Affiliate Core Team 2018: Andrea Bauer-Kuczma, Jessica Turberville, Elina Mukherjee, Ken Parme, Tami Haslett, Donna Hager, Courtney Hermeling and Kathy Cronin.

**PurpleStride isn't the only thing we do
– But, everything we do depends on it.**



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