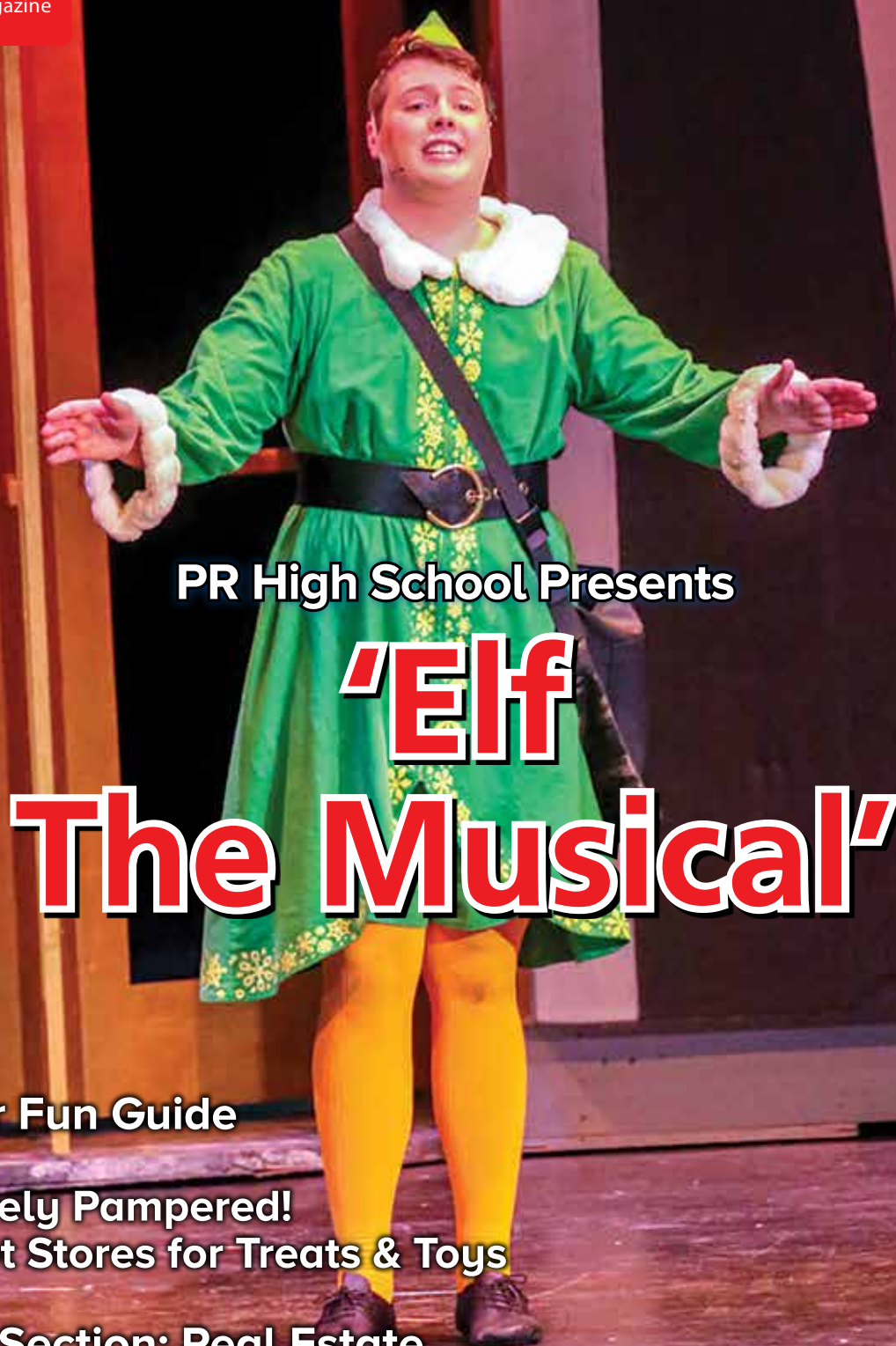


IN

An IN Community Magazine

Pine-Richland



PR High School Presents

'Elf The Musical'



Summer Fun Guide

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**Pawsitively Pampered!
Local Pet Stores for Treats & Toys**

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SUMMER 2023
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Swift, compassionate care, when it mattered most.

It was Thanksgiving week, 2022, and things weren't going as planned. Tracy's husband had tested positive for COVID-19 the week before. Earlier in the year, the whole family got it, and it put their 11-year-old daughter, who has a rare preexisting condition, in the hospital for two nights due to COVID-induced heart irregularities. So they were being extra vigilant. Tracy's husband was isolating in their bedroom. She was sleeping downstairs in the family room. Their two daughters were sleeping in their rooms. And everyone was watching for symptoms. "That Monday night, a strange noise woke me up," Tracy said. "It was our three-year-old daughter Quinn screaming."

She ran upstairs to the child's bedroom and found her gasping for air. "She couldn't catch a breath. I took her temperature. It was 104." Tracy sat with her and tried to calm her down. "But she was still straining and working so hard to get a breath."

At 4:30 a.m. she decided to take Quinn to the emergency room at AHN Wexford Hospital. They were in a room within five minutes, where the little girl was X-rayed and given a three-panel test to check for COVID-19, RSV, and flu.

"The doctor really took the time to treat a three-year-old who wasn't feeling well, which meant the world to me," Tracy said. "He explained everything that he was going to do, and used words that were understandable without talking down to her. He treated her as a child, but also as a person who had feelings — who was scared and who didn't want to be where they were."

"And the nursing staff couldn't have been kinder," Tracy added. "They checked in often to see if there was anything she needed, made sure she was comfortable, and reassured her everything was going to be okay. And we had brought her stuffed animal, Mama Bunny. They gave it the same exam as they gave my daughter so she could see there was nothing to be scared of."

Ultimately, Tracy's daughter was diagnosed with Croup and was treated with steroids and medication to bring her fever down. "I couldn't have been happier with our experience," Tracy said. "Within 30 minutes of receiving medicine, Quinn's heart rate went down, and she wasn't breathing as heavily. We were in and out in two hours. At no point in that time did I ever feel that my daughter wasn't their priority."

**"We were in and
out in two hours.
At no point in that
time did I ever
feel that my
daughter wasn't
their priority."**

Quinn's mother, Tracy





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Serious illness or injury often happens at the most inconvenient times. Here at the AHN Wexford Emergency Department, we strive to get you or your loved one seen within minutes. No matter the time, no matter the day. Our 24-bed, full-service, state-of-the-art, patient-focused emergency department is designed from the ground up for speed, efficiency, and comfort. And we have the specialized services, experienced and accredited staff, and full range of equipment and services needed to handle all manner of emergency situations.

Our emergency services include:

- Advanced comprehensive adult emergency care
- Advanced comprehensive pediatric emergency care

Additionally, our physicians have Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) Certification and are specially trained to identify and treat children with conditions such

as respiratory emergencies, shock, and cardiopulmonary arrest.

New inpatient pediatric beds coming this fall.

We are so excited about the opening of our inpatient pediatric beds this fall. If your child needs emergency care, surgery, hydration, or overnight observation, they’ll be able to stay right here.

Wexford Hospital recently received Joint Commission® Stroke Center Certification.

This certification, offered in collaboration with the American Heart Association® and American Stroke Association®, is recognition of the high-quality care our stroke patients receive. It also means ambulances can now bring you or your loved one here for emergency stroke care close to home.

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For appointments or more information, visit ahn.org/wexford.



Welcome to the summer issue of IN Pine-Richland magazine.

Now that my wife Lisa and I are almost empty nesters, our two Morkies, Barry and Charlie, and our Shih Tzu, Marley, get even more love and attention—and we enjoy spoiling them.

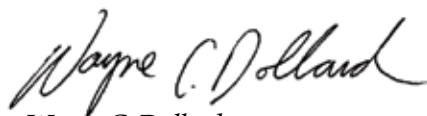
The average pet owner spends about \$150 per year on treats and toys alone. Don't miss "Pawsitively Purrfect" for a list of local pet stores that carry all things pet, ranging from food and toys, to clothing, accessories and more. And if

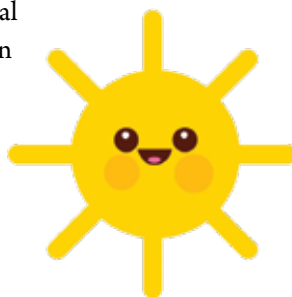
you want to give your canine and kitties a little extra love, check out our list of pet bakeries that offer tasty treats baked locally in-house with certified organic ingredients. You'll find dairy-free ice cream scoops, grain-free biscuits, and cakes made with all-natural ingredients that will keep bellies happy and tails wagging.

Summer is the perfect time for picnics in the park, community days, festivals, art shows, fairs, movies in the park, summer concert series and more! It's one of the best times of the year for friends and neighbors to come together and enjoy the amazing communities in which we live. You can fill your calendar and make family memories at little or no cost all summer long with our 2023 Summer Events Guide in this issue.

Summer is also one of the best times to buy a home. Whether you're looking for a hassle-free, comfort-rich patio-style home, a spacious condo, or a spectacular single-family abode, you can find what you're looking for in some of the new housing developments in north, east, south and west communities. So, if you're ready to sell your home or are in the market to buy or build a new one, don't miss our Special Real Estate Section for timely advice and insider tips on buying or selling.

Wishing you a safe and fun-filled summer!


Wayne C. Dollard



SEND US YOUR PHOTOS!

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IN Community is a publication dedicated to representing, encouraging and promoting the Pine-Richland area and its comprising municipalities by focusing on the talents and gifts of the people who live and work here. Our goal is to provide readers with the most informative and professional regional publication in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

summer 2023

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Pine-Richland High School presented "Elf The Musical," starring Jack Exline as Buddy. See story and photos on page 10. Photo by Madia Photography.

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LOOP

IN

THE

WHAT'S NEWS IN PINE-RICHLAND



JOIN INGOMAR GARDEN CLUB

The Ingomar Garden Club holds monthly meetings March through November at Northmont Church, 8169 Perry Highway. A business meeting begins at 10:30 a.m., which is followed by a light luncheon and guest speaker. Prospective members are invited. Visit ingomar-garden-club.com for additional information.

NORTH HILLS CHORALE TO PRESENT SPRING CONCERT, 'SING ON!'

"Sing On!" will be presented on Saturday, May 6, at 7 p.m. and Sunday, May 7, at 3 p.m. at Memorial Park Church, 8800 Peebles Road in Allison Park. Free-will offerings will be accepted. Visit nhchorale.com for more information.



BEAUTIFUL ROSES!

The Pittsburgh Rose Society, in cooperation with the Mt. Lebanon Public Library, will host its 2023 Rose Show from 1 to 4 p.m. on Saturday, June 10, at the library, 16 Castle Shannon Boulevard in Mt. Lebanon. This event is free and open to the public, all ages.

The Rose Show will be held under the auspices of the American Rose Society (ARS) with growers displaying their finest rose specimens in various classes. ARS-certified horticulture judges will review all entries by strict standards and award top prizes. The superior hybrid tea rose will be awarded the coveted "Queen of the Show" title.

Consulting rosarians and judges will be on hand to answer your rose-related questions. For more information, contact local society president Bill Dorn at billdorn@pghrosesociety.org.



PIA AND SKYWEST LAUNCH AMT PROGRAM WITH FINANCIAL AID INCENTIVE AND DIRECT PATHWAY TO EMPLOYMENT

To help fill the growing number of job openings in the field of aviation maintenance, Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics (PIA) and SkyWest have announced a new, elite partnership. The SkyWest AMT Pathway Program offers PIA students training in aviation maintenance technology (AMT) the chance to jump-start their careers while they're still in school.

Through the program, students can receive mentorship, hands-on experience, and a direct pathway to a career in commercial aviation. They are also eligible for up to \$7,600 in financial aid, including:

- Up to \$4,500 in education assistance
- Up to \$1,600 in A&P (airframe & powerplant) test fee reimbursements
- Up to \$1,500 in moving expense reimbursements, plus mileage
- Guaranteed final interview to become an A&P mechanic at SkyWest
- Enhanced SkyWest seniority for benefits like health insurance, profit-sharing programs, and travel

To be eligible for the program, candidates must be attending PIA and be in good standing. Unlike an internship, the program allows students to remain at PIA to complete their training until they are able to gain their A&P license.

"Due to high demand for new AMTs, forward-thinking employers like SkyWest are no longer waiting for candidates to come to them. Instead, they are creating high-value educator-employer partnerships like the AMT Pathway Program to actively invest in and support talented students with a direct route to entry-level employment," said Suzanne Markle, president and CEO of PIA.

"We are excited to be partnering with PIA and to provide more opportunities for their AMT students to get started with their aviation careers," said Joe Sigg, SkyWest VP of maintenance. "Plus, the benefits of the SkyWest AMT Pathway Program, including the financial support, make it easier for students to enter this important career field."

According to Boeing's 2022-2041 Pilot and Technician Outlook, 134,000 new mechanics and avionics professionals will need to join the field over the next 20 years to meet the growing needs of the aviation industry. Many of these openings are due to upcoming retirements, as ATEC (Aviation Technical Education Council) estimates that 38% of current aviation mechanics are at least 60 years of age.

To learn more about PIA's AMT program, visit pia.edu.

JOIN GREYBROOKE GARDEN CLUB

Greybrooke Garden Club holds regular meetings the second Wednesday of each month in the Fellowship Hall of Parkwood United Presbyterian Church, 4289 Mt. Royal Boulevard in Allison Park. Founded in 1969 in the residential Greybrooke neighborhood, the club has expanded its footprint to include members who reside in various communities of the North Hills.

The club will host its fall Mums Sale on Saturday, Sept. 9, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at McCandless Crossing (grassy area near BJ's Restaurant and Bonefish Grill). Proceeds from this fundraiser help support the club's annual donations to conservancy groups and worthy community organizations.

For additional information about the club, membership and scheduled meetings and events, visit greybrookegardenclub.org. ■

Don't Let Fear Drive Investment Decisions



In the past year, we've seen some big swings in the financial markets. This volatility may make you feel as if you have little control over your investment success. But the truth is, you do have more control than you might think — as long as you don't let fear guide your decisions.

Investment-related fear can manifest itself in a few different ways:

- **Fear of loss** — Some investors may emphasize avoiding losses more than achieving gains. Consequently, they might build portfolios they consider very low in risk, possibly containing a high percentage of certificates of deposit (CDs) and U.S. Treasury securities. Yet, a highly conservative approach carries its own risk — the risk of not achieving enough growth to stay ahead of inflation, much less meet long-term goals such as a comfortable retirement. To reach these goals, you'll want to construct a diversified portfolio containing different types of assets and investments — each of which may perform differently at different times. Your objective shouldn't be to avoid all risk — which is impossible — but to create an investment strategy that accommodates your personal risk tolerance and time horizon.

- **Fear of missing out** — You're probably familiar with the term "herd mentality" — the idea that people will follow the lead of others for fear of missing out on something. This behavior is responsible for fads or the sudden emergence of "hot" products, and it's also relevant to investing. In fact, herd mentality may contribute to sharp jumps in the financial markets as investors drive up prices by buying stocks to avoid being left behind. And the same may be true in reverse — when the market starts dropping, skittish investors may accelerate the decline by selling stocks so they, too, can get out before it's too late. Buying or selling

investments should be considered as needed to help advance your long-term financial strategy — not in response to what others are doing.

- **Fear of the unknown** — Some investors fall victim to "familiarity bias" — the tendency to invest only in what they know, such as local or domestic companies. But this behavior can lead to under-diversified portfolios. If your portfolio is dominated by just a few investments, and these investments are fairly similar to each other, you could experience some losses when the inevitable market downturn occurs. To help reduce the impact of market volatility, it's a good idea to spread your investment dollars across large and small companies in a range of industries and geographical regions. And that's just on the equities side — it's also wise to consider further diversifying your portfolio by owning bonds and government securities. (Keep in mind, though, that diversification can't guarantee profits or protect against all losses.)

- **Fear of admitting failure** — Some individuals don't like to admit when they've been wrong about something, and they may continue the same failed activities, hoping for eventual success. This behavior can be costly in the investment arena. Sometimes, a particular investment, or even an investment strategy, just doesn't work out, but an investor is determined to stick with it — even if it ultimately means considerable financial loss. Don't let this happen to you — if it becomes apparent you need to change your investment approach, move on to something better.

Fear can hold us back in many walks of life — but don't let it keep you from making appropriate investment moves.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

Edward Jones, Member SIPC



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Matt Dudkowski has been a financial advisor with Edward Jones since 2002, serving individual investors in the Pittsburgh area from his Shaler Township office. In January of 2015, Dudkowski accepted an invitation to become a limited partner with the firm.

Since joining Edward Jones, Dudkowski has obtained the professional designation of AAMS®. Prior to Edward Jones, Dudkowski, as a CPA, worked at the H.J. Heinz Company, and at Ernst & Young* LLP. He currently serves on the board of directors for Keystone Wellness Programs, a local nonprofit organization.

A native of Butler County and a graduate of the University of Notre Dame, Dudkowski resides in Gibsonia with his wife, two sons and daughter.

*Edward Jones and its financial advisors do not provide tax advice.

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Jimmy "Pie" Gerasole, Owner, Girasole

Girasole

733 Copeland Street, Pittsburgh (Shadyside); 412.682.2130, girasolepgh.com

On the Menu:

Modern Italian fare using fresh ingredients in a variety of homemade seasonal dishes, from a Soup of the Day and a Girasole Salad with mixed greens, garbanzo beans, olives and gorgonzola tossed in a sunflower vinaigrette, to lunch and dinner offerings that include Penne Marinara with a choice of grilled chicken, meatballs, sausage or shrimp, Gnocchi, Ravioli, Linguine and Cocoa Fettucine. The Wine Bar is a curated selection of wine by the glass or bottle, slightly effervescent or semi-sparkling options, beer, cocktails and a variety of Nebbiolo.



What is the meaning of Girasole?

Girasole is Italian for sunflower. When our family came over from Italy, the spelling of our last name was changed to Gerasole. When we opened the restaurant, we decided to keep the spelling accurate to the Italian language. Another story about my name comes from my childhood. Everyone would call me paisono, which is Italian for "my friend." I eventually shortened

it to Pie (the abbreviated American spelling of the word) and now I'm known as Jimmy Pie—or Mr. Gerasole to a few.

Why did you open Girasole?

My son Gino and I were walking down Copeland Street one day and he told me he thought this restaurant space would become vacant and available soon. He said we should open a restaurant here. Even though I was never in a kitchen in my life, I decided to go for it. That was 23 years ago.

Describe the essence of Girasole.

Girasole is an Italian joint. It's a fun place to be. We have live music by guitarist Jamie Wright and special guest singer Ores Mariannu every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. They sing songs in Italian and one of the songs they play is so beautiful that I cry every time I hear it.

Who has influenced the business the most?

My daughter-in-law Jennifer is 90 percent of the success of Girasole. Everything you see on this menu was her creation. There would be no restaurant without her. From the look and feel of the entire place, she was and still is a very large influence and a part of this place.

What local resources do you use for your ingredients?

We use Fede in North Huntingdon for our pasta, Weiss Provision in the Strip for our



Jimmy "Pie" Gerasole, Owner, Girasole in Shadyside

meats, Schneider's Dairy for our dairy products and Paragon for our produce, which uses a variety of farms in western Pennsylvania.

What's your favorite go-to meal at Girasole?

Everything I eat here is not on the menu. It's almost made-to-order. I'll get a pasta garlic aioli, hot peppers and onions—they're my favorite ingredients.

What is your go-to meal when you cook from home?

I'm never home to cook. I spend my days and nights at the restaurant. This is more like home to me and I'm happy here.

What tool can't you live without?

I'm a people person so I would say it's my people skills that I use as a tool in business.

What's your best advice for a novice?

Owning a restaurant is a very hard occupation. My recommendation is not to open one!

Other than Girasole, where's your favorite place to eat in Pittsburgh?

If I go out, I've always enjoyed the food at Dish in South Side.

What's the next big food or dining trend?

I think people enjoy going out again and when they do, they like a place like Girasole—where the food is delicious, the wine is flowing, the music is inviting, and everybody is welcome. ■

—Reese Randall



Gnocchi alla Sorrentina (a potato gnocchi baked in a rich marinara sauce with fresh mozzarella)



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PINE-RICHLAND HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS 'ELF THE MUSICAL'

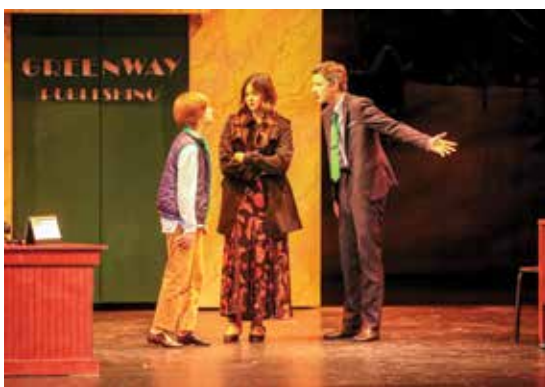
Pine-Richland High School was pleased to present "Elf The Musical" March 16-25. Based on the beloved holiday film, the musical follows Buddy the Elf in his quest to find his biological father in New York City. As a young orphan, Buddy crawled into Santa's sack and was mistakenly transported to the North Pole, where he was raised as an elf, unaware of his human identity. In Buddy's adventures to find and connect with his father, he also helps remind everyone about the true meaning of Christmas.

"Elf The Musical" starred Jack Exline as Buddy, Rylee Branscum as Jovie, Conor Barcaskey as Walter Hobbs, Sophia Girodano as Emily Hobbs, Paige Johnson as Michael Hobbs and Owen Russel as Santa.

Rehearsals for the show started in December with 91 students participating in the cast, crew and orchestra.

PHOTOS BY MADIA PHOTOGRAPHY






AMONG THE

Stars

**Pine-Richland alum Jake Pedersen
makes his Broadway debut.**

BY NICOLE TAFE



"All of the experiences, shows and mentors along the way while in high school and college, as well as my incredible parents, are the reason I was able to choose this career. After trusting and believing in myself and what the mentors around me were saying, I never looked back."

Pine-Richland's Jake Pedersen has gone from being a local fan favorite to lighting up the stage in *The Big Apple* in Broadway's "Parade." Pedersen, 24, is a 2017 graduate of Pine-Richland High School. In high school, he was very involved with the spring musicals and choir—in fact, the majority of his friends came from those groups and pushed him to continue a career in musical theater. "I have a lot of beautiful memories from my time at Pine-Richland," says Pedersen. "I am very lucky to have a twin brother, Luke Pedersen, to have experienced and grown up with through our years at PR."

Having found his passion, Pedersen pursued musical theater in the Pittsburgh area from a young age. "An incredible woman, Christie Jeter, took me under her wing and started my love for musical theater," he recalls. Pedersen studied at her studio—Jeter Backyard Theater—for years while also performing in the spring musicals each year at Pine-Richland. "I also grew as an artist and human in Lee Rickard and Heather Flora's choir and music classes at Pine-Richland," he says.

In his senior year, Pedersen went on to study at the CLO Academy downtown where Jim Scriven (associate director of education at PCLO) and others helped him focus and fine-tune his skills to prepare for college. Rounding out his journey in high school, Pedersen won the Gene Kelly award for best actor and moved on to perform in the 2017 Jimmy Awards in NYC.

Pedersen went to college at Penn State University where he earned his BFA in Musical Theatre in 2021. "The process of getting into a school for musical theater is not for the faint of heart," he says. "Penn State was on a short list of schools I auditioned for, and I was lucky enough to fill a spot in a class of 12 students."

"The 12 of us spent every day together for four years," he continues. "Our days were filled with dancing, movement, singing,



Jay Armstrong Johnson, Jake Pedersen and the cast of "Parade." Photo by Joan Marcus.



"Parade" Opening. Photo by Michaelah Reynolds.



Erin Rose Doyle and Jake Pedersen. Photo by Joan Marcus.

acting and academics, and would start at 8 a.m. and go until 11 p.m.—depending on the show you were in at night.”

Pedersen credits a lot of his success to Penn State and professors who trained him. John Simpkins is the head of musical theatre at PSU and continues to be a huge mentor in Pedersen’s life. “Almost half of my college career was online due to a worldwide pandemic, however my time at Penn State was nothing short of beautiful,” he says.

“All of the experiences, shows and mentors along the way while in high school and college, as well as my incredible parents, are the reason I was able to choose this career,” continues Pedersen. “I didn’t

know this was going to be my life at first. There were not many alumni who went on to receive a degree in musical theater—in fact there were some instances where I was told maybe have a ‘plan B, or just minor in musical theater’ because there was no road map for a career like this. But that’s the beauty of it; nothing about a career in this field is linear or ‘normal.’ After trusting and believing in myself and what the mentors around me were saying, I never looked back.”

This spring, Pedersen made his Broadway debut in “Parade.” Before joining the company of “Parade,” he played Boq on the national tour of “Wicked” and

the tumbler track in the national tour of “Escape to Margaritaville.”

“Debuting in ‘Parade’ is truly a dream come true,” says Pedersen. “The artists I get to share the stage with every day continue to inspire me.”

Pedersen auditioned for the role of Frankie Epps back in December, while still on tour with “Wicked.” He was asked to send in a few tapes of him singing and acting the material, and then later was brought in for final callbacks in NYC. “January 13 was my final audition day, and I received a phone call from my agent the following Monday,” recalls Pedersen. “From there I had to leave ‘Wicked’ a week early and head immediately into rehearsals for ‘Parade’ in NYC. It all happened very fast—but I had a lot of love and support behind me.”

Pedersen now lives in NYC with his partner, Will Jewett, and their cat and dog—Suni and Melvin. As far as his future, Pedersen plans to enjoy the ride and life in NYC.

“I am going to continue telling this beautifully complex story every night,” he says. “I do believe that what is meant to be will be, but I look forward to taking dance class, voice lessons and acting classes in the city because there is always something to learn.”

“‘Parade’ is this unicorn event in my life and, like all live theater, it’s beautifully impermanent,” he continues. “It has been a wild journey getting to this point, and I must thank my parents, Susie and Dan Pedersen, for being by my side the whole time.” ■

A photograph of two young girls playing in a swimming pool. One girl, wearing a yellow swimsuit and pink goggles, is holding a large, multi-colored beach ball (red, blue, yellow, purple, pink) high above her head. The other girl, wearing a pink swimsuit, is also reaching up towards the beach ball. The water is clear blue with some ripples.

FAIRS, FESTIVALS & FUNDRAISERS

Bantam Jeep Heritage Festival

When: June 9-11

Where: Downtown Butler

For more info: bantamjeepfestival.com

Plan a road trip to experience the original "Jeep invasion" in downtown Butler, birthplace of the Jeep. Hit the off-road trails, shop for your next Jeep part or accessory in the vendor area, or simply show off your Jeep. Military history lovers, show 'n' shiners, off-roaders... all types of Jeep owners are welcome.

Berry Festival and Craft Show

When: June 24 & 25

Where: Freedom Farms,
434 Overbrook Road, Valencia

For more info: freedomfarmspa.com

The Berry Festival and Craft Show features tractor rides, a petting zoo, more than 50 craft vendors, a beer and wine garden, berry-flavored everything, and activities for the kids. There will also be a full open-air market for shopping, concessions with food from Freedom Farms, and face painting.

The Big Butler Fair

When: June 30 through July 8

Where: Butler Fairgrounds,
1127 New Castle Road, Prospect

For more info: bigbutlerfair.com

Families from all over PA, Ohio, New York and West Virginia attend this annual fair and enjoy fireworks, midway games, demolition derbies, concerts and truck pulls.

Days of SUMMER!

Your guide to the **best** festivals, fairs,
outdoor concerts **and more!**

BY DEBBIE MOUNTAIN

Butler Italian Festival

When: August 25-27

Where: West Jefferson and South Main Streets, Butler

For more info: butleritalianfestival.com

This festival is all-Italian all the time! Expect lots of music and food, games and activities for the kids, more food, and other fun things to do amidst Downtown Butler's unique shops and fine restaurants.

Divine Grace Parish Family Festival

When: August 11-13

Where: 2535 Rochester Road, Cranberry Township

For more info: parishfamilyfestival.org

This event will be three days of live music, food, bingo, raffles, games, a children's play area, and a massive "white elephant" sale.

Festival in the Park, Bicentennial Edition

When: June 24

Where: Blueberry Hill Park, Blaine's Way, Franklin Park

For more info: franklinparkborough.us

The festivities will start with a special performance by River City Brass and will be filled with inflatable fun for all ages, food trucks, activities, entertainment, a petting zoo, axe throwing, and more live music. The night will end with a magnificent fireworks display.

Flea Market and Craft Sale

When: July 15

Where: Glenshaw Presbyterian Church, 300 Glenn Avenue, Glenshaw

For more info: Call Iris at 814.720.2868.

This flea market, silent auction, craft and bake sale will take place rain or shine.

Holy Trinity 'Taste of Greece' Festival

When: August 31 through September 3

Where: 985 Providence Boulevard, McCandless

For more info: holytrinitypgh.org

Souvlaki, moussaka, soutzoukakia, gyros and so much more will be on the menu for the Taste of Greece Festival. There will be a Greek band playing nightly plus the HOPE, JOY and GOYA student ministries will be dancing to entertain the masses.

Mars Brew Fest

When: June 17

Where: At the Mars flying saucer, Pittsburgh Street and Grand Avenue, Mars

For more info:

marsnewyear.com/marsbrewfest

Enjoy brews from Butler County and beyond at the Mars Brew Fest. There will also be live music, food trucks, and much more.

Mars New Year Festival

When: June 9 & 10

Where: The streets of Mars, PA

For more info: marsnewyear.com

Mars New Year Festival is a family-friendly community event that celebrates our fascination and curiosity about outer space and humankind's journey to the moon, Mars and beyond.

Saint Alexis Festival

When: July 12-15

Where: St. Alexis Catholic Church, 10090 Old Perry Highway, Wexford

For more info: saintalexisfestival.com

This annual event offers games, rides, entertainment, and lots of great food. Additional parking is available at the North Allegheny Senior High School with a free, continuous shuttle to the festival grounds.

Seven Fields Community Days Carnival

When: June 8-10

Where: Town Park Community Center, 380 Castle Creek Drive, Seven Fields

For more info: visitbutlercounty.com

Live entertainment each night, rides, games, food and fun are all part of this three-day carnival. Saturday will feature a fireworks display provided by Pyrotecnico.

Sewickley Community Center Juneteenth Festival

When: June 17

Where: 15 Chadwick Street, Sewickley

For more info:

sewickleycommunitycenter.com

This festival is a growing and evolving Sewickley tradition. There will be a full day of fun for the entire family that includes children's activities, local vendors and artists, a variety of food options, opportunities to purchase unique merchandise, and great music. Attendees also get the opportunity to learn about the unique deep-rooted history of the communities that make up the Sewickley Valley.

Continued on next page >



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Wildflower Festival

When: July 15 & 16

Where: Freedom Farms,
434 Overbrook Road, Valencia

For more info: freedomfarmspa.com

A tractor ride to the beautiful flower fields allowing you to pick all the sunflowers, zinnias, snapdragons, and gomphrena you would like is worth the price of admission. However, there will also be pony rides, swings, a sunflower maze, corn pit, hay mountain, an animal barn, and a tractor tire playground. An open-air market for shopping, concessions with food by Freedom Farms, and face painting will also be part of the event.

Zelienople Horse Trading Days

When: July 20-22

Where: Downtown Zelienople

For more info: horsetradingdays.com

The Zelienople Area Business Association will proudly present the 59th annual Horse Trading Days. This longtime Zelienople tradition offers tons of vendors, unique food options, local products, live music, a family fun run and lots of carnival enjoyment.

LIVE PERFORMANCES

Beach Party Boys – Tribute to the Beach Boys

When: July 22

Where: The Legacy Theater, Cumberland Woods Village, 700 Cumberland Woods Drive, Allison Park

For more info: thelegacylineup.com

Experience the classic sounds of summer with the Beach Party Boys! Known to throw “the ultimate beach party,” this tribute group reproduces the look, vocal harmony, and instrumentation of the Beach Boys. This fun and interactive show will have you singing along.

Comtra Theatre Presents ‘Rent’ (School Edition)

When: May (Check for exact dates on the website.)

Where: 20540 Route 19, Cranberry Township

For more info: comtratheatre.org

Based loosely on Puccini’s “La Boheme,” “Rent” (School Edition) follows a year in the life of a group of impoverished young artists and musicians struggling to survive and create in New York’s Lower East Side, under the shadow of the HIV/AIDS public health crisis.

Monty Python’s ‘Spamalot’

When: June 23 through July 2

Where: The Strand Theater,
119 North Main Street, Zelienople

For more info: thestrاندtheater.org

We all need to laugh more, right? Well, “Spamalot,” the comedic musical “lovingly ripped off” from the film “Monty Python and the Holy Grail,” delivers those laughs with a side of gut-wrenching hysteria.

WonderWorks Music & Arts Festival

When: May 27 & 28

Where: Hartwood Acres Park,
200 Hartwood Acres, Allison Park

For more info: wonderworksfest.com

This brand-new festival will feature lots of live music on three different stages, an array of local, regional and international food, arts & crafts, activities for all ages and a robust artisan vendor village.

FAMILY FUN

Cranberry Township Community Chest Community Days

When: July 13-16

Where: Cranberry Community Park,
111 Ernie Mashuda Drive,
Cranberry Township

For more info:
yourtcc.org/communitydays

This event will be three fun-filled days of live music, carnival rides, food and craft vendors, games and more. Admission is free.

Dino Dig

When: July 24

Where: Richland Township Community Park (volleyball courts),
1157 Van Velsor Drive, Bakerstown

For more info: richland.pa.us

Attention all future paleontologists! Hunt for dinosaur eggs at this Dino Dig. It will be a 45-minute interactive session of cracking through dinosaur eggs to uncover baby dinosaurs. Participants should bring a small hammer and protective eyewear from home. Registration is required.

First Responders’ Night Out

When: August 1

Where: Franklin Park Regional Municipal Building, 2344 West Ingomar Road, Franklin Park

For more info: franklinparkborough.us

Thank local first responders for their service and participate in a touch-a-truck



style event. There will be ambulances, fire trucks, police cars, public works trucks and tons of other fun things.

Marshall Township Community Day

When: August 26

Where: Knob Hill Community Park, 415 Knob Road, Marshall Township

For more info: twp.marshall.pa.us

Community Day in Marshall Township will be jam-packed with fun, offering inflatables, laser tag, rock climbing, face painting, caricature drawings, fireworks and much more.

Moraine State Park Regatta

When: August 5 & 6

Where: Moraine State Park (South Shore), 225 Pleasant Valley Road, Portersville

For more info:

morainestateparkregatta.org

This regatta is the region's premiere eco-recreational event with free family fun for all ages.

Ohio Township Community Day

When: July 22

Where: Ohio Township Municipal Park, 325 Nicholson Road, Ohio Township

For more info: ohiotwp.org

Community Day begins with a parade, which will travel from the Ohio Township Volunteer Fire Station on Roosevelt Road to the municipal park off Nicholson Road. The event will feature music, food trucks, games, and a variety of activities for all ages. The night will conclude with a fireworks display at dusk.

Summer Nights and Fireflies

When: June 30

Where: Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve, 614 Dorseyville Road, Fox Chapel

For more info: aswp.org

Is there anything more enjoyable than a summer night filled with fireflies? Learn about our state insect and its interesting life and how to count fireflies in your own backyard. The evening will begin with

a presentation, then everyone will head outside to observe and count as night falls. Registration is required.

SUMMER INSPIRATION

Cranberry Community Chase 5K Run/Walk

When: July 15

Where: Community Park, 111 Ernie Mashuda Drive, Cranberry Township

For more info: yourctcc.org/5k

Lace up your running shoes and join in the fun. Registration includes a branded t-shirt, timing chip, bib, goody bag and admission to the Lions Pancake Breakfast. Bring the kids along so they can race during the free Kids Fun Run (100-yard dash). Prizes and medals will be awarded to the top finishers.

Native Plant Sale

When: May 28

Where: Stormy Oaks Nature Conservancy, 120 Forsythe Road, Valencia

For more info: wildbirdrecovery.org

Make your yard more wildlife friendly by adding native plants to your landscape. Asters, bee balm, and mountain mint, to name just a few, will be available for purchase.

North Boroughs 5K and Walk

When: August 12

Where: Greenstone Methodist Church, 939 California Avenue, Avalon

For more info: nhco.org

Support North Hills Community Outreach and the Northgate cross country team at this year's North Boroughs 5K and Walk. Stick around after the race for door prizes and giveaways. This is also a pet-friendly event.

Southern Butler County Garden Club Annual Garden Tour


When: July 8

For more info:

southernbutlercountygardenclub.org

Get inspired by touring several private gardens in and around the Cranberry Township area. Homeowners will be available to answer your questions and share their gardening design insight. Tickets will be collected for a chance to win a door prize, chances will be available for purchase to win several "Gardener's Delight" raffle baskets, and stepping stones and birdbaths will be for sale at one of the stops.

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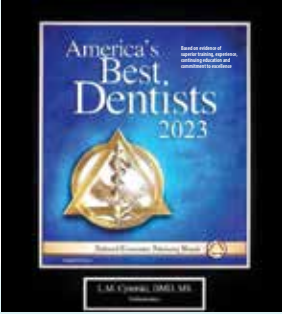


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Youth Triathlon

When: July 22

Where: North Park Pool,
South Ridge Drive, Allison Park
For more info: kidstriathlon.org

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Pittsburgh's Youth Triathlon is for young athletes ages 7-15 of all ability levels. Participants must be able to swim, bike, and run on their own. Athletes will receive a t-shirt to tie-dye, as well as a medal upon finishing. Trophies will be awarded to the top three boy and girl finishers in each age bracket. Registration is required.

FESTIVALS IN THE BURGH

3 Rivers Comicon 2023

When: June 3 & 4

Where: David L. Lawrence Convention Center, 1000 Fort Duquesne Boulevard, Downtown Pittsburgh
For more info: 3riverscomicon.com

This family-friendly event brings comics, books, and collectibles to life! There will be more than 200 artists, vendors, and other guests at this year's Comicon.

Bloomfield Little Italy Days

When: August 17-20

Where: Liberty Avenue (from Ella St. to Gross St.), Pittsburgh (Bloomfield)
For more info: littleitalydays.com

Bring your appetite to one of the region's largest heritage festivals. Expect lots of music and food, games, and activities for the kids amidst Bloomfield's unique shops and fine restaurants. This four-day festival will have three packed stages with more than 30 acts. Little Italy Days started in 2002 to celebrate

Bloomfield's Italian heritage and to create a destination spot for Italian-themed entertainment and food.

Northside Music Festival

When: July 14-16

Where: Various locations on Pittsburgh's North Side

For more info: northsidemusicfestival.com

Northside Musical Festival, formerly known as the Deutschtown Music Festival, is free for anyone who wants to listen to some great live music. Organizers say the rebranding is an effort to focus more on the North Side as a whole and not just the Deutschtown neighborhood.

Picklesburgh

When: July 21-23

Where: The Roberto Clemente Bridge, Downtown Pittsburgh
For more info: picklesburgh.com

Picklesburgh is the destination for all things pickled. This culinary celebration goes well beyond the dill pickle. Those in attendance can enjoy international dishes, artisan cocktails and beers that feature pickled ingredients, and lots of other prepared foods. There will also be canning demonstrations and much more. It's kind of a big dill!

Pittsburgh Black Music Festival

When: July 13-15

Where: Point State Park and Market Square, Downtown Pittsburgh
For more info: visitpittsburgh.com

This festival celebrates the history and heritage of jazz, gospel, R&B and soul music in America. This free outdoor music event also features food vendors, speakers, cultural activities and more.

Pittsburgh International Jazz Festival

When: September 15-17

Where: Highmark Stadium,
510 West Station Square Drive,
Pittsburgh

For more info: pittsburghjazzfest.org

This festival brings the best of jazz to Pittsburgh. World-renowned musicians, local jazz pros as well as new artists to watch will take the stage to create a sound experience like no other. The annual event is presented by the August Wilson African American Cultural Center. Be ready to party, dance, sing and even make some musical memories.

Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix

When: Starting July 13

Where: Various locations in and around the city of Pittsburgh

For more info: pvpg.org

The Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix is "the nation's largest vintage street race," part of a huge race event spanning 10 days with two race weekends, car shows, parties, parades, and motorsport events.



The Dollar Bank Three Rivers Arts Festival

When: June 2-11

Where: The Cultural District in Downtown Pittsburgh

For more info: traf.trustarts.org

The Dollar Bank Three Rivers Arts Festival, a production of the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust, is a celebration of the arts unlike any other. Each of its world-class multidisciplinary performing and visual arts attractions is free to attend and open to everyone. This outdoor music and arts festival features live music, performance and visual art as well as a large artisan market. ■



* We love to inform our readers about fun events happening in our local communities. Send an email to d.mountain@icmags.com if you have details about a future event in this or the surrounding area.



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David's Fight Against Esophageal Cancer



David and his wife Gladys

In May 2022, David, of Butler, started having chest pains. A stress test and echocardiogram confirmed he wasn't having a heart attack, but the tests didn't reveal the cause of his pain.

What followed were many appointments with specialists, countless tests, dramatic weight loss, and a steady decline in David's health. "I was having a harder time swallowing, and it just got worse," says David, 83.

In June, he was diagnosed with Barrett's esophagus, a precancerous condition caused by repeated exposure to acid reflux.

A Cancer Diagnosis

David's pain and weight loss worsened. He underwent testing to rule out gallbladder problems,

but the results showed a growth low in David's esophagus, near his stomach. Additional tests revealed it was cancerous.

David received a referral to UPMC Hillman Cancer Center at Butler Health System, where the oncologist immediately referred him to **Ryan Levy, MD**, a thoracic surgeon with UPMC Hillman Cancer Center and chief of thoracic surgery at UPMC Passavant. Dr. Levy saw them the next day at UPMC Passavant-McCandless.

"David had a large obstructing esophageal cancer. By the time he came to us, he was in bad shape," says Dr. Levy. "He was too weak to tolerate the standard treatment of chemotherapy and radiation to shrink the tumor before surgery."

Dr. Levy inserted a feeding tube that gave David the critical nutrients he needed to shore up his strength before surgery. He was scheduled for an esophagectomy, one of the most technically challenging, minimally invasive thoracic surgeries.

It involves removing part of the esophagus — the swallowing tube between the mouth and the stomach. Surgeons then recreate the esophagus using part of another organ, usually the stomach.

Every year, UPMC Passavant-McCandless performs nearly 1,300 thoracic surgeries, making it one of the region's most experienced thoracic surgery programs.

An Unexpected Challenge

David's surgery occurred at UPMC Passavant-McCandless in November.

"As we started to reconstruct David's stomach into a new esophagus, we identified that part of the blood supply source we use for the new esophagus had been divided in one of his prior abdominal surgeries," explains Dr. Levy. "David's surgery was already very challenging with his age and poor health. But this was an unexpected and major anatomical problem that dramatically increased his risk."

In less experienced hands, the discovery likely would have resulted in a need to end the surgery. The family decided to move forward with the procedure.

"I think our ability to pivot when unexpected challenges like this arise is what differentiates the quality of our care at UPMC Passavant," notes Dr. Levy. "It's a testament to everyone involved in high-risk cases."

Dr. Levy rebuilt a smaller, shorter esophagus for David. Released from the hospital within one week, he was eating soft foods by mid-December. "His family had their husband and father back — just in time for Christmas," says Dr. Levy.

"I am doing great — something none of us ever expected," says David. "That's all thanks to Dr. Levy and the amazing care I received at UPMC Passavant."



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HOME IS WHERE YOUR HEART IS



What you need to know if
you're dipping your toe into the
housing market this summer.

BY MANDIE GIAMBRONI

Continued on next page >



If you've had your eyes on the housing market the past few years, you know things are changing quickly, in every direction. Mortgage rates were at an all-time low during the height of the pandemic and home prices had been on the rise ever since as demand heavily outweighed supply. More recently, however, mortgage rates rose, and home prices are finally starting to level off from their steep increase through 2022.

Zillow ranks Pittsburgh as one of the hottest markets for 2023, and while many metro areas are expecting home sales to decline, Realtor.com predicts Pittsburgh's will stay healthy. The region remains a desirable market for first-time homebuyers and remote workers thanks to affordability. The low cost of living also makes it an attractive location to raise a family.

In the heat of home-buying season, families may still face multiple-offer situations, especially in highly sought-after neighborhoods where inventory is low. In all locations, inventory

remains a challenge as homes priced at market value are typically selling quickly. Mortgage rates are also predicted to remain under 7 percent throughout the peak buying season, well under the 15+ percent many baby boomers took on in the early 1980s.

If buyers are serious about purchasing a home, it's important to be prepared. Even if you think you just want to start the process by seeing what's out there, know what you can afford (think down payment, monthly mortgage, funds for house projects, etc.) and have a preapproval letter ready to go. Knowing what you're preapproved to spend will give you and your realtor an idea of where to start looking.

Whether you're buying or selling this summer, the process can be an emotional one, especially in a competitive landscape. Be sure to arm yourself with knowledge and know-how before you hit the market. Enlist the help of a professional real estate agent to help guide you on the journey.

WANT TO SELL IN 2023?

Putting your home on the market requires a lot of work and can be emotional. Sellers often assume buyers will like their taste in decor and design, and may overlook simple things that could keep their home from appealing to a wide variety of buyers. These tips will help you make your house marketable:

- 1. You only get to make a first impression once.** Start with good pictures for your listing. Clean the space as if you were already showing your house before pictures are taken. Then, check out your home's curb appeal. Look for the first thing buyers will see when they pull up for a walkthrough. Do dead bushes need to be removed? Old holiday decorations need to be put away? Try to view your house as if you were seeing it for the first time. Maybe an exterior power-wash or fresh coat of paint on your front door would make buyers eager to go inside.



- 2. Make your interior warm and neutral.** Bold or bright colors may have been an accent to you but could turn off a buyer. Some buyers want move-in ready and don't want to think about putting work in, even if it's just choosing a new paint color. Use freshly painted neutral colors and remove abstract art and family photos from the walls. This will be a great opportunity for you to start packing up your personal belongings while providing buyers the opportunity to imagine their own touches in the rooms.
- 3. Space sells.** Buyers want to feel like they can move right in and have a spot for all of their furniture and belongings. Store (off-site, if possible) unnecessary items that you don't need for day-to-day living, such as off-season clothing, holiday decorations, and old toys. This gives cabinets, closets, and storage spaces a clean, spacious look. You could also use this decluttering opportunity to donate or sell these items, giving your next home a fresh start.

Continued on page 27 >

HOW TO GET TOP DOLLAR IN A SELLER'S MARKET

High demand and low inventory make up a seller's market in real estate. Listing your home in a seller's market could be the difference of having your home sell in days versus months. Demand for houses typically drives up competition, allowing sellers to potentially receive above asking price for their homes. But listing in a seller's market doesn't automatically guarantee your home will sell quickly. You still need to take the time to find a good real estate agent, ready your home to be listed, and do some research on the housing market in your neighborhood.

Once you decide you are ready to take the next step and sell your home, do some research on real estate agents in your area. Ask family, friends, and coworkers for recommendations and feedback on why they liked their agents. Once you have a few recommendations, reach out to them to learn more about their experience in selling homes like yours, the types of clients they usually work with, and to gauge if your personalities jibe. It's critical to have someone you can trust.

Upon hiring, ask your agent to do a walkthrough of your home from the outside in, to provide you with constructive feedback on how to best ready your home for a buyer's eyes. Be sure to keep an open mind when hearing feedback because decorations or paint colors that appealed to you may not appeal to potential buyers.

Once your home is ready to list, work with your agent to do some research on the housing market in your neighborhood. In a seller's market, you may be able to list slightly higher because of limited inventory, but you'll need to still list at a fair market value. If you list too high, it will immediately turn buyers off.



Julie Snider

Achieve Realty, Inc.

FIND YOUR NEW NEST!

One of Julie Snider's best qualities is being an expert listener and problem solver. "Every real estate transaction is so different," says Julie. "And that's why you can't just approach them with a one-size-fits-all mindset." She digs deep to understand the needs and desires of her buyers and sellers to ensure that they get to the closing table happy. After all, that's the goal for everyone in a real estate transaction, and Julie's focus is always on the client's wishes and best interests. You'll truly feel like she is in your corner from start to finish.

If you are looking for your hometown realtor, look no further than Julie Snider. She is a Pine-Richland and Penn State University grad, with 12 years of real estate experience. And even though she has remained close to home and her community, Julie has an extensive knowledge of the full Pittsburgh area and works hard to help place people where they feel they fit best.

Julie has a long list of satisfied clients and even repeat clients who have relied on her to help them find what they're looking for. She assists first-time homebuyers and the senior population to secure their nests, holding both the SRES (Seniors Real Estate Specialist) and ABR (Accredited Buyers Representative) designations. While these two niches have certainly been a big part of Julie's portfolio, she has clients in all stages of life. So whether you're looking for a first-time home, your retirement nest, an investment property, or just your next adventure, Julie can be of assistance.

The market is very complicated right now and you will appreciate having Julie Snider's knowledge and experience to assist you. To find out more about Julie, with no obligation, you can reach out to her at 412.352.8941. Julie's office at Achieve Realty, Inc. is located at 11676 Perry Highway, Suite 3101, Wexford, PA 15090. The office phone number is 724.933.1980. Find Julie on Facebook @JulieHousePgh.



Julie was such a pleasure to work with! She helped us with both a purchase and a sale and helped us navigate an extremely difficult market with lots of unknowns. Despite the tough market, Julie's guidance made us feel confident in all of our offers and eventual purchase. She was very knowledgeable about the North Hills and had a vast list of reputable contacts to help us make the best decision possible.

— The D family, Wexford, 2020.

**Wexford Professional Building III
11676 Perry Hwy., Ste. 3101, Wexford, PA 15090
PA#RB065444**



4. **Don't go overboard with updates.** Ask your real estate agent about changes that can add value to or create appeal for your home. You don't want to put too much money into unnecessary upgrades that may not even appeal to the type of buyer looking at your home. A small update may be just what you need to close a sale.
5. **Don't price yourself out of a sale.** A listing price might seal the deal on selling your home. Make sure to work with your real estate agent to review comparable homes listed in your area, pricing trends and inventory available, and work to list your home appropriately. A fair market price will attract buyers interested in making your home their dream home.

WANT TO BUY IN 2023?

You're ready to buy a house. Whether it's your first home, your forever home, or your retirement home, buying a house is an exciting and exhausting experience. Make sure you're prepared with knowledge of the market and what exactly you're looking for in a home.

1. **Watch your credit.** Start preparing early by avoiding expensive purchases on your credit card and making sure you don't deposit a large amount of money into your bank account. The first thing lenders check is your credit score and bank balances to determine how much you could be approved for on a home loan. Try to pay off as much debt as possible

in advance of your home purchase and keep your credit card balances low.

2. **Where in the world?** Choose the locations where you're interested in purchasing a home and check out home prices in those areas. You don't want to have your heart set on a location and come to find it is out of your budget. Determine what you like about certain areas, such as the school district, accessibility to work, and proximity to parks and restaurants. Your real estate agent can then help you narrow down more specific locations in which to focus your home search.
3. **Create a list.** Or create a few lists. Must-haves versus wish lists are critical, especially if you're buying a home with someone else. What do you consider a non-negotiable? For you it may be a certain number of bedrooms or bathrooms. For someone else it may be a big yard. Do you dream of owning a home with a pool? Writing out the specifics not only helps you identify what is important to you and your family, it also helps your real estate agent determine what is on the market that fits those needs and wants.
4. **Photos may be deceiving.** Home photos, if done right, are often taken at the very best angle, in the best light, and sometimes with retouching. Photos of problem areas will not be posted, so keep an open mind when you find something online that you like. Room sizes may appear quite larger in a photo than in person—that's why it's important to work

Continued on page 29 >

Moving can be complicated.

When buying or selling a home, working with someone you trust can make all the difference. The Honeywill Team has been proudly serving the North Hills of Pittsburgh for over 30 years. We remain committed to providing each and every client with exceptional care and service, and we would be happy to do the same for you.

Choose the Trusted Name in Real Estate.



Recent Home Sales

Pine Richland School District

MLS data provided by Linda Honeywill, Associate Broker. Information is not complete or guaranteed.

Address	Built	Price	Address	Built	Price
10754 Babcock Blvd	2022	\$2,150,000	7012 Oak Park Dr	2001	\$750,000
107 Bluebird	2018	\$2,068,000	303 Pinyon Dr	2012	\$749,470
571 Macleod Drive	2010	\$1,665,000	7022 Oak Park Dr.	1998	\$747,319
516 Salem Heights Dr	2021	\$1,661,500	203 Stonecrest Ct	2011	\$731,900
503 Ridge Ct	2019	\$1,435,000	108 Oakhaven Dr	1998	\$720,000
209 Pin Oak Dr	2019	\$1,350,000	111 Oakhaven Dr	1998	\$715,000
207 Kilclare Court	2017	\$1,311,000	203 Gander Drive	1999	\$708,000
2010 Cherry Road	2021	\$1,285,000	131 Blue Heron Dr	2006	\$702,000
251 Timothy Road	1974	\$1,275,000	2615 Fountain Hills Dr	1990	\$649,000
202 Emerald Fields Dr	2022	\$1,250,000	412 Fox Meadow Dr	1992	\$600,000
706 Parkview Dr	2003	\$1,200,000	122 Kestler Dr	2013	\$600,000
402 Wynstone Dr	2008	\$1,168,000	232 Fox Meadow Dr	1999	\$595,000
218 Whetherburn Dr	1998	\$1,070,000	5234 Karrington	2003	\$575,000
302 Macintosh Dr	2014	\$1,010,000	435 Pinkerton Rd	1991	\$566,000
918 Black Oak Ct	2004	\$830,000	520 Tree Line Dr.	2003	\$535,000
217 Pine Crest Court	2013	\$830,000	324 Cloverdale Dr	1990	\$480,000
7006 Oak Park Dr	2001	\$810,000	622 Karrastyn Ct.	1990	\$480,000
410 English Rd	1939	\$799,900	524 Douglas	2019	\$465,000
308 Scarlet Cir	1995	\$790,000	122 Hill Rd	1987	\$450,000
320 Macintosh Drive	2007	\$788,000	99 E Belmere Ln	1955	\$400,000

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Linda@HoneywillTeam.com | NorthofPittsburgh.com



with your real estate agent to visit any home that has potential. Your agent might also show you homes that may not have photographed well but are exactly what you're looking for. Don't be fooled by a real estate catfish!

5. Be open-minded and on your toes.

There will likely be several buyers vying for a similar home in the same market as you. If you think you've found the perfect home, alert your real estate agent as soon as possible to go see it in person. Being quick, but smart, could help you secure the home of your dreams in a low-inventory market. If you do get outbid by another buyer, be patient—something is sure to come along! ■



BUYING & SELLING *a home?*

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Address: 3000 Village Run Road, Suite #103-320, Wexford
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American-made products that improve cat dining, scratching, playing, sleeping, and bathroom experiences.

AQUA-WORLD PET SUPER CENTER

Address: 8143 Ohio River Boulevard, Emsworth
Contact: aquaworldpesc.com or 412.732.9100

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HEALTHY PET PRODUCTS

Address: North Hills and Cranberry locations
Contact: healthypetproducts.net or 412.831.3700

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HOLLYWOOD FEED (FORMERLY PETPEOPLE)

Address: 9190 Covenant Avenue, McCandless
Contact: hollywoodfeed.com or 412.366.1738

You'll find the natural and holistic pet products you need at Hollywood Feed. Each sales associate has more than 40 hours of training from veterinarians, nutritionists, vendors, and behaviorists each year to help offer recommendations for your furry friend.

LEONE ANIMAL SUPPLY CENTERS

Address: 10596 Perry Highway, Wexford
Contact: leoneanimalsupply.com or 724.935.4880

Providing high-quality pet supplies, great customer service, and three locations to visit around the city.

ONE HAUTE DOG

Address: 1000 Ross Park Mall Drive, Ross Township
Contact: onehautedog.com or 412.613.4085

Look no further than One Haute Dog for unique collars, harnesses, clothing, beds, and more for your four-legged friends.

PETS IN THE PARK

Address: 256 Moraine Pointe Plaza, Butler
Contact: 724.285.7387

Locally owned and operated pet store with supplies for all your pet needs.

PET SUPPLIES PLUS

Address: 4960 William Flinn Highway, Suite 10, Allison Park
Contact: petsuppliesplus.com or 724.939.7006

With multiple locations in the region, each Pet Supplies Plus store is independently owned and operated, providing everything you need for a dog, cat, bird, fish, reptile, and more.

Continued on next page >





SAXONBURG FEED COMPANY

Address: 145 North Butler Street,
Saxonburg
Contact: saxonburgfeed.com or
724.352.1650

From puppies to pigs and cats to cows, Saxonburg Feed Company has food and supplies to serve animals on the farm and in the home.

SHEDQUARTERS SELF-SERVE PET WASH & PET SUPPLIES

Address: 419 Grant Avenue, Millvale
Contact: dogwash15209.com or
412.223.5467

Stop in with your furry friend for a bath and a treat! Offering raised and floor-level tubs and all the supplies needed to leave with a fresh pet and pet goodies.

SPRUCE

Address: 205 Reichold Road, Wexford
Contact: sprucepup.com or 215.301.8754

Does your four-legged friend love to travel with you? Check out the beds, leash bags, and apparel at Spruce.

WAGSBURGH

Address: 632 East Ohio Street, Pittsburgh (North Side)
Contact: wagsburgh.com or 412.904.3459

Aiming to build a healthy, lasting relationship between two- and four-legged guests by offering nutritious foods, treats, grooming supplies, and toys.

SOUTH



AGWAY – EIGHTY FOUR, PORTMAN FARMS

Address: Multiple locations in the Pittsburgh area
Contact: pittsburghagway.com

Agway has the essentials for all your furry friends, even beyond cats and dogs! Find what you need for horses, cows, pigs, chickens, and more.

HEALTHY PET PRODUCTS

Address: 3043 Washington Road, McMurray
Contact: healthypetproducts.net or
412.831.0700

As it says in the name, Healthy Pet Products keeps your furry friends thriving!

LEONE ANIMAL SUPPLY CENTERS

Address: 3917 Washington Road, McMurray
Contact: leoneanimalsupply.com or
724.941.2281

Providing pet owners with high-quality pet supplies, great customer service, and three locations to visit around the city.

PET WANTS

Address: 1017 Brookline Boulevard, Pittsburgh (Brookline)
Contact: petwantssouthhills.com or
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2810 Robinson Boulevard, Penn Hills
Contact: 412.731.6500

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LEONE ANIMAL SUPPLY CENTERS

Address: 4352 William Penn Highway, Murrysville
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724.325.3030

Providing pet owners with high-quality pet supplies, great customer service, and three locations to visit around the city.

PETAGOGY GREENSBURG

Address: 240 East Pittsburgh Street, Greensburg
Contact: petagogy.com or 724.691.0325

Offering a premium selection of natural pet foods and supplies, Petagogy strives to be a resource for customers to keep their furry friends healthy and happy.

WEST



AGWAY – IMPERIAL

Address: Multiple locations in the Pittsburgh area
Contact: pittsburghagway.com

Agway has the essentials for all your furry friends, even beyond cats and dogs! Find what you need for horses, cows, pigs, chickens, and more.

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AROUND THE CITY



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Address: 702 South Trenton Avenue, Regent Square
Contact: localpetpgh.com or 412.404.7273

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PETAGOGY

Address: 5880 Ellsworth Avenue, Shadyside
Contact: petagogy.com or 412.362.7387

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WAGSBURGH

Address: 632 East Ohio Street, North Side
Contact: wagsburgh.com or 412.904.3459

Aiming to build a healthy, lasting relationship between two- and four-legged guests by offering nutritious foods, treats, grooming supplies, and toys. ■

* If we missed your favorite pet store, please let us know. Email editors@icmags.com and we will include it in a future issue.

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555 Beaver Street, Sewickley
threedogsewickley.com or 412.356.5129

Paws in the Sand
Warrendale
412.614.1790 or
pawsinthesandpettreats.com

Woof Stop Barkery
139 Hunter Drive, Cranberry
woofstop.com or 412.600.2148

EAST

Canine Confections
420 East Pittsburgh Street, Greensburg
724.850.9663 or facebook.com/CanineConfectionsGreensburg

Pet Pastries
Pittsburgh (Squirrel Hill)
pet-pastries.com

Woof Gang Bakery & Grooming
6201 Spirit Street, Pittsburgh (East Liberty)
woofgangeastliberty.com or 412.815.8076

WEST

Kim's K9 Droolers
Imperial
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Pawmazing Bakery
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pawmazingbakery.com or 724.777.4858

DOWNTOWN

My Sweet Lilly
2013 Penn Avenue, Strip District
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Salty Paws
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saltypawspittsburgh.com or 412.251.0294

Wagsburgh
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Thriving Connections goes beyond “activities” and integrates hospitality with wellbeing to promote staying physically and mentally active and creating social engagement. We appreciate that each of The Waters of Wexford communities has a unique resident population, which is why our “in-house” Active Life team is always hard at work tailoring purposeful activities to accommodate the needs, interests, and aspirations of our residents. We ensure that our residents have an active voice in shaping their community and its activities, to encourage social connections & nurture friendships.



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What is Happening This Summer at the Library?

Northern Tier Library

Richland Center, 4015 Dickey Road,
Gibsonia, PA 15044
724.449.2665 | northerntierlibrary.org

Library Hours:

Monday - Wednesday – 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Thursday - Saturday – 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday – Closed

Bookmobile Service

Bookmobile Hours:

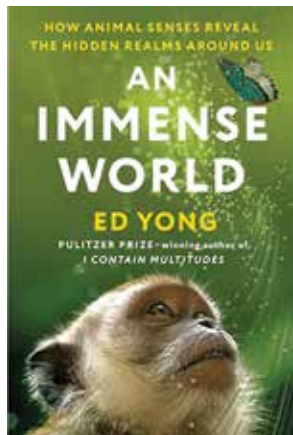
Pine Tree Shoppes in Wexford
Friday 12:30 to 2:45 p.m.

Pine Community Center

PRHS, 700 Warrendale Road,
Gibsonia, PA 15044
724.625.5655

Hours:

Wednesday from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.



NONFICTION BOOK DISCUSSION

Earth teems with sights and textures, sounds and vibrations, smells and tastes, electric and magnetic fields. But every kind of animal, including humans, is enclosed within its own unique sensory bubble, perceiving but a tiny sliver of our immense world. Discover what bees see in flowers, what songbirds hear in their tunes, and what dogs smell on the street. *An Immense World*

tells stories of pivotal discoveries in the field, while looking ahead at the many mysteries that remain unsolved. Join us on Tuesday, May 23, at 1 p.m. for a discussion of *An Immense World: How Animal Senses Reveal the Hidden Realms Around Us* by Ed Yong.

A GREAT DEAL: CARD GROUP

Join us every Monday from 1 to 3 p.m. in the program room to play some card games! Currently, the game is pinochle but additional games may follow. It's a "great deal" of fun so don't miss out! Registration is requested.



TECHNOLOGY HELP

Wednesdays, May 3-17
& 31, 2 to 4 p.m.

Thursdays, May 4-25,
10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

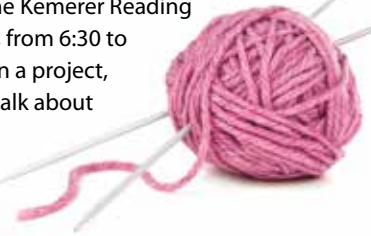
Get help with technology! In these one-on-one 30-minute sessions, we can focus on basic skills for using



computers, smartphones, eReaders and more. Registration is required. Please include the specific topics you need assistance with during registration.

KNIT LIT

Knitters, crocheters and yarn art enthusiasts are welcome to join us on the lower level in the Kemerer Reading Room on Wednesday, May 31, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. If you are working on a project, bring it along with you. We'll talk about life, books we've read and projects we're never going to finish. Hope to see you then! Registration is required.



A THANK-YOU FROM THE FRIENDS

The Friends of the Library want to thank the volunteers and patrons who helped make our 2023 Used Book Sale a success!

LIBRARY HOURS

Richland Center

The library will be closed on Monday, May 29, in observance of Memorial Day.

Pine Center

The last day for the Pine Center will be Thursday, May 25. The Pine Center will remain closed during the summer and will reopen in the fall after Labor Day for the new school year.



SUMMER LEARNING PROGRAM

Mark your calendars for our Summer Learning Program that will run from June 12 until Aug. 5. We will have a full schedule of weekly programs for all ages, volunteer opportunities, and of course the chance to win a range of prizes.




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Scholastic Art & Writing Awards

Senior Noah Moskala was honored in the National Scholastic Art & Writing Awards with a Gold Medal as well as an American Visions Medal for "exceptional work in painting" for his painting Duality. Art teacher Ramon Riley was also honored with the National Educator Award as "an outstanding educator whose dedication, commitment and guidance are represented by student work selected for national honors." These awards are considered the nation's longest-running and most prestigious fine arts awards for students.

In the regional Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, senior Catrina Knox won a Gold Key award for poetry, and senior Abby Knox, along with ninth-graders Brooke Deegan and Elizabeth Liebe, won Silver Key awards for poetry. Gold Key winners for art included seniors Kayla Karmanos (6), Kate Lindrose (4), Noah Moskala (1, nominated for the American Vision Award), and juniors Riley Turner (3), Ella Guo (3) and Katherine Beck (1). Silver Key award winners include seniors Kayla Karmanos (7), Kate Lindrose (3) and Noah Moskala (2), and juniors Ella Guo (1), Phoenix Schwierking (1) and Riley Turner (1). Honorable mentions went to seniors Layney Chapman (1), Hailey Dolny (2), Kayla Karmanos (3), Kate Lindrose (2), Noah Moskala (4), Rachel Muth (1) and Mary Skundrich (1), and juniors Logan Alexander (2), Walker Clack (1), Klaus Gergerich (1), Samantha Katruska (1), Eliza Munchok (1), Phoenix Schwierking (1), Riley Turner (2), Neill Vaiko (1) and Annie Wu (1).



President's Volunteer Service Awards

Senior Katie Yanni earned two President's Volunteer Service Awards: a gold award for 252.5 hours of volunteer service during the 2021-2022 school year and a bronze award for completing 101.5 hours of service this school year. The President's Volunteer Service Award recognizes the important role of volunteers in America's strength and national identity and honors individuals whose service positively impacts communities in every corner of the nation and inspires those around them to take action.

AFJROTC Flight Academy

Pine-Richland junior and AFJROTC cadet Mackenzie Roy has been selected to attend Air Force Junior ROTC Flight Academy this summer. During the eight-week program held at colleges and universities throughout the United States, cadets learn about aviation and flight and train for private pilot certification. Sponsored by the Air Force, the program includes a \$20,000 scholarship that covers instruction, room and board and transportation.



Most Valuable Principal

Mrs. Kelly Gustafson, principal of Wexford Elementary, was named a Most Valuable Principal by the Pittsburgh Penguins Foundation. Mrs. Gustafson is one of 15 principals out of over 100 nominated to be selected for this honor, which recognizes principals who demonstrate an innovative approach to learning, a continuous strive for excellence and a passion for their school and students.



National History Day

Two Pine-Richland High School students will compete April 22-23 in the National History Day in Pennsylvania State Contest at the University of Scranton. Following their participation in the regional National History Day competition at the Heinz History Center March 18-19, ninth-grader Alexis Ross earned third place in the individual exhibit category for her project on the Guerilla Girls. Eleventh-grader Jocelyn Curreri earned fourth place in the individual exhibit category with her project on Hedy Lamarr.



Students of the Month

Pine-Richland students named December/January Students of the Month at A.W. Beattie included sophomore Jessica Bui, Culinary Arts, and senior Bradley Menke, Veterinary Sciences.

January/February Students of the Month included senior Robert Aguglia, Advertising Design, junior Adam Zwastetzky, Automotive Collision Technology, junior Chloi Zi, Emergency Response Technology, and senior Daniel Connolly, Pastry Arts. Students of the Month for February/March at A.W. Beattie included junior Jasmine Robinson (Advertising Design), senior Mara Hopf (Cosmetology), junior Madeline Slayton (Health and Nursing Sciences) and junior Logan Trembulak (HVAC).

A.W. Beattie Chapter of the National Technical Honor Society

Senior Layney Chapman (Advertising Design) and junior Madeline Slayton (Health and Nursing Sciences) were inducted into the A.W. Beattie chapter of the National Technical Honor Society.

Pennsylvania Music Educators Association

Senior Grace Hazlett performed with the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) All-State Festival Orchestra April 19-23, 2023. This is the second consecutive year that Grace, who plays viola, has earned a place in this prestigious orchestra.

Four Pine-Richland students were selected for the PMEA District 1 West Jr. High Band Festival on March 4 at Mt. Lebanon High School: ninth-graders Ashlyn Casale (Flute 1) and Ryan Noir (Clarinet 1); and eighth-graders Alex Goss (Trumpet 3) and Cody Leeper (Trumpet 3).

On March 17, six Eden Hall students represented Pine-Richland at the PMEA Elementary Strings Fest at North Hills Middle School: fifth-graders Claire Cassisi (violin) and Maddie Vigna (bass) and sixth-graders Haya Alqassab (violin), Juliana Lo (violin), Juliana Hunkele (viola) and Emilia Lazzaro (bass).



Sreyashi Mondal

Senior Sreyashi Mondal received a National Honorable Mention for the 2023 National Center for Women & Information Technology (NCWIT) Award for Aspirations in Computing. Only 360 honorable mention recipients were selected nationwide from a pool of 3,300. This award honors 9th-12th grade students for their computing-related achievements and interests. Award recipients are selected based on their aptitude and aspirations in technology and computing as demonstrated by their computing experience, computing-related activities, leadership experience, tenacity in the face of barriers to access, and future plans.



PHOTO COURTESY OF JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA.

Sreyashi was recently named a semifinalist in the 2023 Coca-Cola Scholars Program. Sreyashi was one of just over 1,500 students selected as semifinalists from more than 91,000 applicants. Students were selected based on academic excellence,

leadership and community service. 150 students will ultimately be selected as finalists and receive a \$20,000 scholarship.

On February 7, Sreyashi was honored as part of 18 Under Eighteen for Junior Achievement. This honor highlights the notable talents and achievements of eighteen of the region's most incredible young people. The class of 2023 includes students from ages 10-18 from Allegheny, Beaver, Cambria and Washington Counties. Sreyashi was selected for her work in STEM, particularly her role in Girls of Steel, as well as her work with MIT alumna and Pitt professors analyzing COVID indicators, which led to her receiving the Pittsburgh Regional Science and Engineering Fair Certificate of Excellence Sponsor Award.

SkillsUSA

Senior Grace Neuhart, Ad Design, won a \$1,000 Rex Wright Memorial Scholarship in Pennsylvania's SkillsUSA competition on April 12 in Hershey.

The 2023 SkillsUSA Pennsylvania District 8 Competition was held January 13 and 16. Senior Mark Wolfe (automotive technology) won a Silver Medal in Automotive Service Technology. Senior Robert Aguglia (advertising design) won a Bronze Medal for T-Shirt Design. Junior Alijah Christner (carpentry/building construction) advances straight to states for Career Pathways Showcase: Industrial and Engineering Technology



Coach of the Year

Head football coach Jon LeDonne was named the Steelers' High School Coach of the Year and was their nominee for the Don Shula NFL High School Coach of the Year Award.



Not pictured Isaiah Kerns.

National Signing Day

On National Signing Day on February 1, 11 students signed letters of intent, including:

- Jacob Beam for football at Sacred Heart University
- Brady Carrigan for football at Walsh University
- Kiley Hassinger for soccer at Indiana University of Pennsylvania
- Max Heckert for football at Slippery Rock University
- Isaiah Kerns for football at the University of Charleston
- Sophia Menke for volleyball at Kenyon College
- Matthew Nicely for football at Wheeling University
- Ryan Palmieri for football at Sacred Heart University
- Joey Perry for baseball at Seton Hall University
- John Rottinghaus for football at Duquesne University
- Katherine (Katie) Yanni for volleyball at Case Western Reserve University

IN THE *Burgh*



Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership/Renee Rosensteel

Get Pickled

‘Picklesburgh’ to be the destination of everything pickled again this summer.

A beloved summer staple in the ‘burgh, Picklesburgh will return to downtown this year, July 21-23.

Organized by the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership (PDP), pickle fanatics will not be disappointed at the “massive array of dill-ectable products and foods that will be central to all that is Picklesburgh.” The event will also include dozens of live music performances alongside popular features like pickle cocktails, pickle beer, the Pickle Juice

Drinking Contest and an abundance of pickle-themed apparel, merch and more.

Once again, this culinary and cultural celebration will fly the signature Heinz pickle balloon and offer a one-of-a-kind experience for festival goers to linger, enjoy food, listen to music and “relish” the energy of the event.

“Every year we try to make Picklesburgh better than the year before, and this year is no exception. We want to ensure that the tens of thousands of visitors have a great time,” says Jeremy Waldrup, president and CEO of the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership. “It’s always exciting to share the news of its return, and to Pittsburghers and the dedicated fans nationally and internationally, it’s the preeminent place to placate your pickle pining!”

Established in 2015, Picklesburgh is a cornerstone activation program for the PDP that continues to build momentum and attract national attention.

More details about the expanded 2023 event will be available online. Be sure to visit picklesburgh.com and downtownpittsburgh.com for the most up-to-date information. ■

Picklesburgh has been recognized with two consecutive victories as the #1 Best Specialty Food Festival in America and named a Signature Event of the Commonwealth by the Pennsylvania Tourism Office. It is also recognized globally as one of the most unique and interesting food festivals in the world.



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