

Friday, July 5, 2013

HERALD-Standard

GO! MAGAZINE!

Edge

Sophisticated music with an

Sammy Brooks injects cool jazz
classics with new intensity

Page 2



Jazz in his blood



Sammy Brooks Band injects new passion into cool classics

By Nicole Lemal

nlemal@heraldstandard.com

When Sammy Brooks discovered his grandfather's old records as a child, he said it was just the beginning of his passion.

Listening to Frank Sinatra, Louis Prima and Charles Dean ignited a fire inside of his heart and soul and a powerful desire to pursue a career in jazz music.

Now, as the lead singer of the Sammy Brooks Band based in Connellsville, Brooks said he is enthused that his dream has come to fruition and

his band is performing at various local events, including the Storey Square summer concert series, which begins Monday. The Sammy Brooks Band will take the stage July 22 at the square in Uniontown.

"We are honored to be a part of it and to give back to the community," Brooks said. "We are excited to share that music with the community and with all generations."

About a year ago, he and band members Patrick Kelly, Noah Delmar and John Olearchick

Storey Square Summer Concert Series

The celebrated Storey Square Summer Concert Series and Uniontown Farmers Market on Main Street will move to Monday evenings from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. this season beginning Monday and continuing through September.

The schedule is as follows:

- **July 8:** VFW Post 8543 Band
- **July 15:** OutPost
- **July 22:** The Sammy Brooks Band
- **July 29:** Polish Six Pack
- **Aug. 5:** Shelly McCombie
- **Aug. 12:** Abacus Jones
- **Aug. 19:** Neon Swing X-Perience
- **Aug. 26:** The High Ryder
- **Sept. 9:** Ed McDade
- **Sept. 16:** Harold Betters

chelsea speaks

Another way to think of food

By Chelsea Settles
For the Herald-Standard

The vast majority of the American population is overfed and undernourished; and that's putting it mildly. We are consuming more calories than we actively use, and lacking the essentials our bodies need to flourish throughout our life spans.

This trend shows no sign of decreasing, as nation's obesity rate and influx of weight-related diseases both continue to rise.

Which leads me to a question I'd like to propose, food: friend or foe?

For many, the answer is foe. In fact, the word 'diet' is probably one of the most overused words in the English language, and simply stated; it's a word that I wish would...well...DIE.

The most effective way to change poor eating habits is not by restricting yourself, but rather work toward making fitness and nutrition your new normal.

Think about it: Why would you want to waste your time on fads asking you to temporarily banish entire food groups, when you could be learning the value of healthy living?

There is no such thing as a 'good' or 'bad' food when your nutrition practices are balanced. Food is not the enemy — over time you were just programmed to view it as such.

Try living by the 80/20 rule! Eighty percent of the time is spent eating as clean as possible, while the remaining 20 percent allows the wiggle room to indulge.

Restricting



Chelsea Settles

yourself too severely increases the likelihood of rebounding in a massive binge.

It's hard to believe that our ancestors were once hunters and gatherers, who consumed anything found that was considered safe and edible. Their attitude toward food was simple. Food is fuel used to nourish the body. That's a far cry from today, where one of our basic survival needs is securing a wi-fi signal.

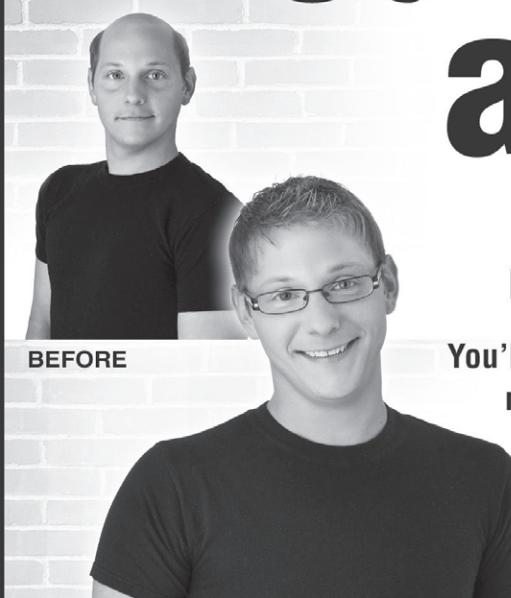
As you approach this budding lifestyle change, it's important to remember that every day is not going to be perfect, nor will the decisions that you make. That's normal!

Think about how your food choices are benefiting your body. The key is to continue to progress day by day, and finally make peace with food once and for all.

xo

Chelsea Settles of Uniontown is a former MTV reality television personality who starred in a show of her same name.

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music review

Black Sabbath – '13' a lucky number for rock legends

For Black Sabbath's 19th studio album, the number 13 proves to be very lucky.

The latest release by the legends of the heavy metal realm features three-fourths of the original band.

Guitarist Tony Iommi, bassist Geezer Butler and singer Ozzy Osbourne, minus drummer Bill Ward who declined because of a contract dispute, reunite to reclaim the classic menacing sound they

Clint Rhodes

spawned on their debut effort over 43 years ago.

The 1970 self-titled release still gives me chills as it possesses one of the creepiest album covers ever. I still have a vivid memory of borrowing my brother's copy of "Paranoid" and hearing the epic anthems "Iron Man" and "War Pigs."

In my opinion, the latter arrangement will always be one of the greatest heavy metal arrangements of all time.

In fact, my teenage "Aha!" moment came when my friends and I performed a combination of the Ramones' "Rockaway Beach" and "Paranoid" at our high school talent show.

Under the masterful guidance of producer Rick Rubin, "13" sounds as if it was released directly after 1971's "Master of Reality."

Iommi's guitar work is inspired and dark.

Butler shows he can still deliver unnerving lyrics that conjure up images of the struggle between good and evil and Ozzy sounds not only surprisingly coherent, but reenergized and purposeful.

Ward's absence is hardly noticed as Brad Wilk of Rage Against the Machine and Audioslave hammers out the thundering percussion pieces.



"End of the Beginning" and "Loner" feature the unmistakable Iommi riffs, reminiscent of the band's debut.

"Dear Father" closes the album with the chilling sounds of rain showers and the ringing of an isolated church bell, the same sounds that appear on the opening track of "Black Sabbath."

"Age of Reason" melodically plods along until Iommi unleashes a burning solo that brings the song to a spirited climax.

The band's hauntingly apocalyptic mojo is still strong enough to make "13" Black Sabbath's first No. 1 album on the US Billboard 200 album chart. On "Live Forever," Osbourne sings, "I don't want to live forever, but I don't want to die."

movie review



ASSOCIATED PRESS

This undated publicity photo released by Radius-TWC shows Merry Clayton in a scene from the film, "Twenty Feet From Stardom."

3 small movies to see in hot weather

By Lou Gaul
Calkins Media Film Critics

Are these blazing hot days of summer starting to make your skin sizzle?

You can fix that.

Here are three suggested titles designed to be enjoyed inside the comfort of an air-conditioned theater with snacks and sodas as close as the lobby.

Some suggested adult-oriented titles include:

"Twenty Feet From Stardom," with Darlene Love, Patti Austin, Merry Clayton and other performers appearing in an informative, entertaining and slightly unsettling documentary about often overlooked backup singers whose incredible talents help to create memorable music. The guest stars include Ray Charles (in archival footage), Mick Jagger, Sheryl Crow, Bette Midler and Sting. Morgan Deville (TV's "Brian Wilson: A Beach Boy's Tale") directed. (90 minutes; PG-13)

"Unfinished Song," with Terence Stamp, Vanessa Redgrave and Gemma Arterton starring in an emotional drama about a stubborn British retiree who very reluctantly joins the choir that his late wife found so powerful in her life. Stamp remains a commanding screen presence. (93 minutes; PG-13)

"Much Ado About Nothing," with Nathan Fillion in this creative adaptation of Shakespeare's play that's performed in the Los Angeles house of Joss Whedon ("Marvel's The Avengers"). He directed and shot the film in just 12 days. And it's introducing a whole new audience to work by the Bard.

Jazz

Continued from Page 2

performed together for the first time in a breast cancer benefit at a local school. Since then, the band has performed at several venues.

Described as sophisticated music with an edge, their songs are covers taken from the Great American Songbook. For their upcoming show, they will be performing songs such as Sinatra's "Fly Me to the Moon" and "Jump, Jive an' Wail" by Prima.

A well-known local jazz trombonist, Harold Betters has even played with them on occasion. Betters, 85, is Kelly's grandfather.

"(Kelly) has got it in his blood," Brooks said of the drummer. "He has so many stories. We're very lucky to have him around."

Expected to be a high-energy

show, the music strives to preserve timeless American standards with a modern edge. While Brooks sings, he never stops moving and will sporadically dance with audience members.

"I have been known to do that," Brooks laughed.

"It's a fun time."

Although it may be music the older generation tends to enjoy, Brooks is hoping the younger crowd will attend the upcoming show to witness it for themselves.

"It's nice to get young people involved in listening to this kind of music as well, and we hope to get the audience up and swinging," Brooks said. "It's a very high energy, interactive show."

As passionate as Brooks is about his music, he said it's more than just an opportunity to appreciate the beat and the rhythm. It's also a chance to have a fun evening.

"We want everyone to be involved," he said. "We want everyone up dancing, laughing and having fun."

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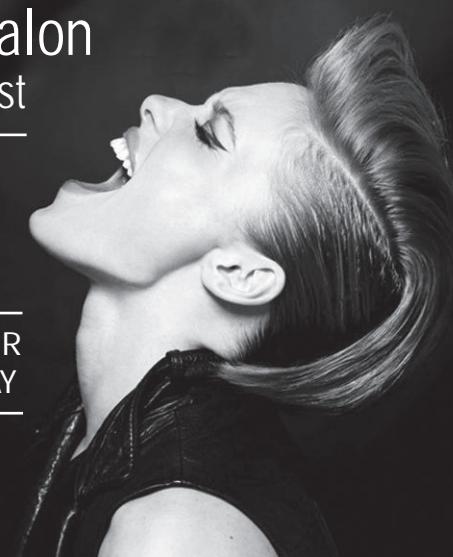
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the dish



VANNA WEAVER

Emily Thompson (left) and Nina Kalivoda showcase a banana supreme sundae available from Yum Yum Bakery.

By Jessica Vozel
For the Herald-Standard

Since 1998, Yum Yum's Bagel Café has been a go-to spot for Uniontown residents in search of a cup of coffee and a hearty homemade bagel. In 2011, Yum Yum's expanded to include Yum Yum's Bakery next door, and then again in October 2012, to bring Yum Yum's Ice Cream Parlor into the mix.

Now, Yum Yum's on Morgantown Street is a one-stop shop for delicious gourmet-style goodies — from

Yum Yum's Bagel Café: One-stop shop for gourmet-style goodies

smoked salmon and capers on a bagel, to dozens of varieties of loose-leaf tea, to a burnt almond torte, to an espresso and ice cream concoction called a BlenJava, to over 60 kinds of homemade soups, rotating daily, like their popular tomato and dumpling soup with basil dumplings and a hint of

cinnamon.

Yum Yum's co-owner, Wendy Shriver-Elias, started with a hobby for creating unique, flavorful foods, and with her husband, co-owner Paul Elias, turned that love into a booming business. They dreamed up most of the original recipes themselves, and Shriver-Elias

said this allows them to offer foods that people would find in big cities, but nowhere else in Uniontown. And providing a unique selection to the community, the couple said, was their goal from the beginning.

"The biggest reward has been hearing people say, 'I've never had anything like

this before,'" said Elias.

"The community appreciates what we do here," said Elias.

"And having us close," added Shriver-Elias. "People can walk here, bike here."

Rather than being on the outskirts of town in the business district, explains Shriver-Elias, Yum Yum's is centrally located where families can walk in the evening for an ice cream cone, or in the morning for a place to sit with the paper. And

Dish, Page 7



VANNA WEAVER

Corrina Ellis presents an all occasion cake (left) along with an Ombre chocolate cake with European butter cream covered in chocolate truffle and a Fourth of July cake.

Dish

Continued from Page 6

because they're centrally located in the community, Yum Yum's is committed to making a positive impact.

When asked if they planned to expand to other locations, Shriver-Elias said she doubted it, because it might mean they'd lose some of that community spirit, as well as the close relationship they have with their staff.

"We have an excellent staff here, and low turnover," said Shriver-Elias.

"Some of our employees have been here seventeen years, ten years. It's more personal. I love everyone here, and we're like a team."

Instead of expanding to other locations, Yum Yum's will focus on adding to the location they already have. A drive-thru window is in the works, as well as an expansion of

the interior of the Bagel Café.

The newest edition to the Yum Yum's building, the Ice Cream Parlor, features seasonal hand-dipped and soft serve ice cream flavors and year-round staples, as well as specialty sundaes, banana splits, milkshakes and Brain-freezes, which, said Shriver-Elias, is their version of thick, blended combinations of ice cream and toppings.

For those with health concerns and food allergies, Yum Yum's carries a range of gluten-free baked goods (note, however, that they are made in a wheat-producing facility), dairy-free frozen treats, and no-sugar-added ice cream flavors, which, Shriver-Elias promises, "are just as delicious as any other choice from the dipping cabinet."

Yum Yum's also caters a variety of events, from business meetings to baby showers. And every Sunday afternoon, weather permitting, Yum Yum's hosts a classic car cruise in their parking lot, with fire-pit roasted barbecue baby-back ribs, burgers and live music.

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Movies

In theaters

1. "Monsters University" (\$46.1 million)
2. "The Heat" (\$40 million)
3. "World War Z" (\$29.8 million)
4. "White House Down" (\$25.7 million)
5. "Man of Steel" (\$20.8 million)
6. "This Is the End" (\$8.7 million)
7. "Now You See Me" (\$5.5 million)
8. "Fast & Furious 6" (\$2.4 million)
9. "Star Trek Into Darkness" (\$2 million)

10. "The Internship" (\$1.4 million)

Renters

1. "The Call" (R)
2. "The Incredible Burt Wonderstone" (PG-13)
3. "Jack the Giant Slayer" (PG-13)
4. "Oz the Great and Powerful" (PG)
5. "Identity Thief: Unrated" (R and Unrated)
6. "The Last Exorcism Part II: Unrated" (Unrated)
7. "A Good Day to Die Hard: Extended Cut" (R)
8. "Tai Chi Hero" (Unrated)
9. "Snitch" (PG-13)

10. "Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters" (R)

Sellers

1. "The Call" (R)
2. "Oz the Great and Powerful" (PG)
3. "The Incredible Burt Wonderstone" (PG-13)
4. "Jack the Giant Slayer" (PG-13)
5. "A Good Day to Die Hard: Extended Cut" (R)
6. "Identity Thief: Unrated" (R and Unrated)
7. "The Last Exorcism Part II: Unrated" (Unrated)
8. "The Host" (PG-13)
9. "Quartet" (PG-13)
10. "Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters" (R)

Music

Hot tunes

1. "Blurred Lines" – Robin Thicke Featuring T.I. +

Pharrell

2. "Get Lucky" – Daft Punk Featuring Pharrell Williams
3. "Radioactive" - Imagine Dragons
4. "Cruise" – Florida Georgia Line Featuring Nelly
5. "We Can't Stop" – Miley Cyrus
6. "Can't Hold Us" – Macklemore & Ryan Lewis Featuring Ray Dalton
7. "Mirrors" - Justin Timberlake
8. "Treasure" – Bruno Mars
9. "Come and Get It" – Selena Gomez
10. "Just Give Me a Reason" – Pink Featuring Nate Ruess

Boys 'Round Here"

- Blake Shelton Featuring Pistol Annies & Friends
3. "I Want Crazy" – Hunter Hayes
4. "Wagon Wheel" – Darius Rucker
5. "Crash My Party" – Luke Bryan
6. "Highway Don't Care" – Tim McGraw with Taylor Swift
7. "Runnin' Outta Moonlight" – Randy Houser
8. "Anywhere With You" – Jake Owen
9. "Beat This Summer" – Brad Paisley
10. "See You Again" – Carrie Underwood

Books

1. "Inferno" – Dan Brown

2. "The Heist" – Janet Evanovich with Lee Goldberg

3. "The Ocean at the End of the Lane" – Neil Gaiman

4. "And the Mountains Echoed" – Khaled Hosseini

5. "A Wanted Man (with Bonus Short Story Deep Down): A Jack Reacher Novel" – Lee Child

6. "Joyland" – Stephen King

7. "Tales from a Not-So-Happy Heartbreaker" – Rachel Renee Russell with Nikki Russell and Erin Russell

8. "Entwined with You" – Sylvia Day

9. "Happy, Happy, Happy: My Life and Legacy as the Duck Commander" – Phil Robertson with Mark Schlabach

10. "One Summer" – David Baldacci

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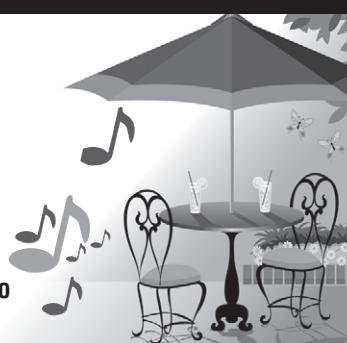
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Tennis superstars Venus, Serena Williams profiled

By Lou Gaul
Calkins Media Film Critic

Two sisters who are great competitors and champion athletes allow the public a rare glimpse into their sports world during "Venus and Serena" (\$26.99, DVD; \$29.99, Blu-ray Disc; July 2).

In the PG-13 documentary, debuting co-directors Maiken Baird and Michelle Major enjoyed access to the tennis superstars, who have four Olympic gold medals. Those offering in-depth opinions on the sisters include President Bill Clinton, Vogue editor Anna Wintour, tennis legend Billie Jean King, comic Chris Rock and men's champion John McEnroe.

Baird designed the documentary to tell the story of how the sisters, thanks to incredible athletic skills and visionary parents who recognized their potential, conquered the tennis world. Their

now-divorced parents, Richard and Oracene Williams, instilled a work ethic in their daughters.

The sisters talked to an ABC News blog to promote "Venus and Serena."

"I feel like I haven't accomplished anything in my career," the 31-year-old Serena said. "Maybe that sounds ridiculous, but I feel like I have to do so much more."

In the ABC News blog, Venus, who shares a house in Florida with her sister, talks about the road in life her father and mother asked her to follow.

"My parents told me I'd be No. 1 in the world," the 33-year-old Venus said.

"I was brainwashed."

The extras on "Venus and Serena" include extended interviews, a documentary ("AXS TV's: A Look at Venus and Serena"), and the theatrical trailer.



U.S. tennis players Serena Williams, left, and Venus Williams, are the subjects of a documentary that tell the story of how the sisters conquered the tennis world.

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'The Heat' cinematic comfort food

By Lou Gaul
Calkins Media Film Critic

For fans of warm-weather fare, "The Heat" delivers exactly what's expected, thanks to the smart stunt casting of Melissa McCarthy and Sandra Bullock.

Think of the R-rated crime comedy as cinematic comfort food for a hot night when you just feel like kicking back and enjoying a farce that lacks surprises but delivers nonstop kicks, pushes and punches, as well as some laughs.

The 43-year-old McCarthy, who added so much humor to "Bridesmaids" and "Identity Thief," and 48-year-old screen favorite Bullock team for this slap-happy buddy picture about a tough street cop and an uptight FBI agent who kick butts, harass criminals and

make arrests.

They also put their jobs before their personal lives and reluctantly team to take down a Boston drug kingpin after they stop hating each other and get down to nasty police business.

Director Paul Feig enjoyed huge success along with McCarthy on "Bridesmaids."

The filmmaker obviously realized that the key to success with "The Heat" was to pour on the physical humor, especially any scenes where McCarthy targets the bad guys and delivers beatings that even the late two-fisted star John Wayne might salute.

For Bullock, whose fellow agents consider her character arrogant and unlikable, this type of comedy in some ways echoes the actresses' successful "Miss Congeniality" (2000) and its sequel,

"Armed & Dangerous" (2005). To her credit, the Oscar-winning actress ("The Blind Side") holds her own on screen but wisely steps back whenever McCarthy goes into full slapstick mode and allows her costar room to rumble and tumble.

"The Heat" loses some steam after it becomes more about the drug deal than the characters, but that doesn't matter as much thanks to the supporting players Feig hired with the \$43 million budget.

They include Michael Rappaport, Marlon Wayans, Demian Bichir, Jane Curtin, Jamie Denbo and Jessica Chaffin.

Thanks to Bullock and McCarthy, "The Heat" is on and their fans should be happy to hear that a sequel has already been announced.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

This film publicity image released by 20th Century Fox shows Sandra Bullock as FBI Special Agent Sarah Ashburn, right, and Melissa McCarthy as Boston Detective Shannon Mullins in a scene from "The Heat."

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First half of summer film season lucrative, star studded

By Lou Gaul
Calkins Media Film Critic

For the first half of the lucrative summer film season, which began May 3, Robert Downey Jr., Vin Diesel and Leonardo DiCaprio soared, while Will Smith, Bradley Cooper and Vince Vaughn snored.

Smith, Cooper and Vaughn stalled in "After Earth" (a \$130 million environmental thriller with little consumer interest), "The Hangover Part III" (please, retire the toothless Wolfpack) and "The Internship" (a borderline creepy comedy that makes the impossible – getting a spot at Google – seem possible), respectively.

Despite star power, each film fizzled. "After Earth," "The Hangover Part III" and "The Internship" grossed \$57.3 million, \$110 million and \$38.3 million, respectively. After foreign grosses are added, the films may show profits, but they have already been written off by their studios as disappointing. (All grosses are from the United States and Canada only.)

At the other end of the scale are the mega-hits — "Iron Man 3," "Fast & Furious 6" and, to a lesser extent, "The Great Gatsby" — from early in the summer season.

Movies, Page 16



This film publicity image released by Sony - Columbia Pictures shows Jaden Smith in a scene from "After Earth."

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Marlana Vassar establishes herself on regional art scene

By Adam Kenney
For the Herald-Standard

Editor's note: This is one in an occasional series that will profile the region's most talented artists.

Visual artists gravitate towards large cities. In many ways, the attraction to bustling urban environments makes sense for aspiring visual artists looking to establish themselves in the competitive world of contemporary art.

There tend to be more galleries and museums per capita in large cities versus the more sparsely populated rural areas that surround them. Uniontown painter and graphic designer Marlana Vassar defies this trend, and has chosen Uniontown as the springboard for her creative career.

Vassar recalls that after a significant project she was working on in Philadelphia unexpectedly imploded, her family

Makers, Page 14



Marlana Vassar spends time working in her studio.



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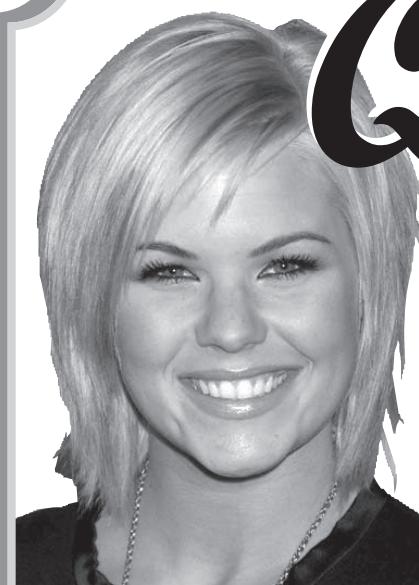
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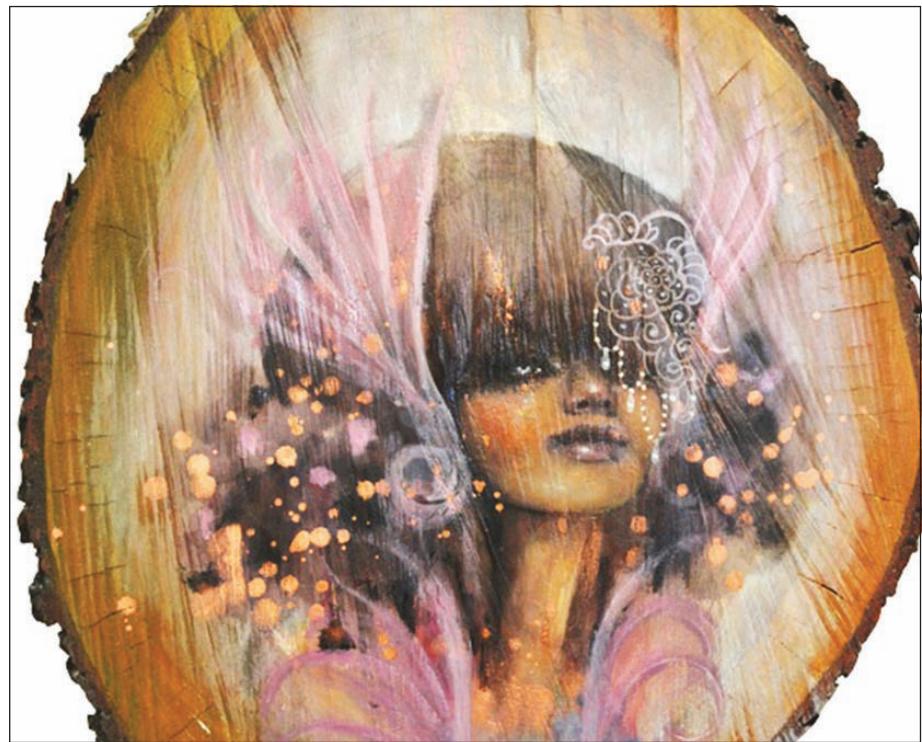
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Makers

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convinced her to return to Fayette County.

"Through the help of a family friend I obtained a temporary studio space in town. It happened very gradually, but things started to look up. I looked around for work, eventually I got hired at Herald-Standard, gained representation at The Gallery 4 in Shadyside, and have been working steadily since then," said Vassar.

Vassar graduated in 2006 from the University of Pittsburgh with a bachelor's degree in studio art. She also studied at La Roche College in

Pittsburgh and Drexel University in Philadelphia. With such a comprehensive educational background, one might assume that Vassar's next steps would include Los Angeles, New York City, or some other urban hub for the visual arts.

Instead Vassar, daughter of Phillip and Molli Vassar of Uniontown, settled in the region. She is employed locally as a graphic designer at the Uniontown Newspapers Inc. Between design assignments, Vassar spends much of her time promoting her own artistic work, and is a member of the Uniontown Art Club. In addition to museum and gallery work, she also does portraits, freelance design and private commissions through her own

company, Marlana LLC. Vassar feels privileged that her current job aligns so well with her artistic interests.

"Designing ads gives me new inspiration on ways to approach my fine art projects, mostly when it comes to colors, shapes and layout," she said. "In some ways it has made my process more efficient in terms of timing and scheduling."

Vassar's emergence in the regional and national visual arts scene has been quick and far-reaching. Since 2007, her work has been showcased nationally in galleries and museums, including the Franklin Institute, The Melega Museum, and The Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts in Grand Rapids, Mich. She recently

was featured in her own one-woman show entitled "Debutante" at the Gallery 4 in Pittsburgh. Her accolades include 1st Place and Patron's Choice in Philadelphia's "Art of I" Exhibition; and locally she was awarded "Artist of the Pike," a special recognition given annually to art educators in western Pennsylvania. In addition, Vassar placed first in the Molson Coors Brewing Company's "Art of Beer" advertising campaign.

Even as her career picks up more and more momentum, Vassar remains modest about her success.

"I'm excited that my style is starting to be accepted, even though it's more unusual. I also feel very fortunate for my awards and recognitions, as well as my recent fellowship with the August Wilson Center. All of these opportunities had extremely talented artists included in the selection pool, so it feels pretty incredible," said Vassar.

Vassar's most recent accomplishment is being named one of five August Wilson Arts Fellows for 2012-13 by The August Wilson Center for African American Culture. Established in 2009, the annual cash awards support the needs of African American artists and artists of African descent living and working in Southwestern Pennsylvania. Her fellowship goals are to create larger scale works which reflect visual narratives of local performances. The results of her fellowship experience will be

shared with the public in a solo exhibition entitled "Call and Response." The exhibition will be a part of the August Wilson Centers First Voice Festival, which runs from May 17 through August 31 at the AL Wilson Center in Pittsburgh.

Vassar's rise in the region will surely expose her distinctive artistic vision to a wider national audience, but it all started in Fayette County. She is a graduate of Laurel Highlands High School where she showed a strong interest in pursuing a career in art. Her artistic interests were reinforced outside of the classroom as well. Vassar was a scholarship recipient to Touchstone Center for Crafts, where

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Makers

Continued from Page 14

she was immersed in the craft school's intensive and inspiring visual arts environment.

"I was probably about 7 years old when I was a student at Touchstone. That whole area around Touchstone was like a magical place for me, there were woods, animals and friends to play with," Vassar said.

"It was safe, there were no fences, and you made art all the time. So perhaps my fascination with nature themes started at Touchstone."

Vassar's success can be attributed to her synthesis of technical adeptness and ethereal imagery.

Her work is often

figurative at the core, and her subjects seem to inhabit atmospheric dream worlds reminiscent of the Art Nouveau movement. Vassar is a self-taught painter and illustrator.

Her innate ability for the visual arts is demonstrated by her capacity to effortlessly employ both representative and abstract visual elements.

She draws her inspiration from a wide range of sources.

"Since I've been influenced by so many different types of artists and been involved in fine art, design and illustration circles, it's been very helpful in shaping my philosophy of creating art. I don't see strong boundaries or definitions on what art is. It could be fashion, perhaps the pattern on your clothing, maybe a photo or a graphic

novel. Maybe it's the advertisements you read in the morning or that hand-painted sign you see during your evening walk. It's all art, and it's all very inspiring" said Vassar.

Vassar's success could be an inspiration to all aspiring visual artist from Fayette County. Her career demonstrates that passion and ability are more important than an urban zip code when it comes to pursuing in a successful creative career.

Hopefully, future high school students interested in the visual arts as a profession will hear her compelling story, and will be able to imagine their own pathways to professional and artistic achievement.

Adam Kenney is the executive director of Touchstone Center for Crafts in Farmington.



This painting shows the imagination and skill of artist Mariana Vassar.

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Movies

Continued from Page 11

"Iron Man 3," co-starring Gwyneth Paltrow and Don Cheadle and rated PG-13, arrived in theaters eight weeks ago, grossed \$403 million (plus much more overseas), and became the film to beat. None has so far. Downey now rests on top of the Hollywood food chain.

Marvel is anxious for a fourth installment, but Downey was only contracted to three appearances in the free-standing "Iron Man" movies (as opposed to his cameo role as part of

"Marvel's The Avengers"). The studio and the star are now working out a deal, and Downey will no doubt be offered a mountain of cash (thinking north of \$50 million may be right).

Diesel and his car crew are also in high demand thanks to the \$228.4 million return on the hugely enjoyable "Fast & Furious 6," rated PG-13. The star power of Diesel and Dwayne Johnson certainly guided the film to the winner's circle, and, quite wisely, Diesel and company are now creating the seventh installment featuring British tough-guy actor Jason Statham as a villain.

One of the biggest questions of the early

summer season was how would Baz Luhrmann's "The Great Gatsby" be greeted, especially after it was supposed to be released in December? Thanks to the star power of DiCaprio in the title role and the 3-D images by Luhrmann, the lavish PG-13 picture, co-starring Carey Mulligan, attracted audiences and grossed more than \$140 million on these shores.

Actually, studio chiefs have little to complain about this summer.

The recently opened PG-13 Superman saga, "Man of Steel," co-starring Henry Cavill, Amy Adams and Laurence Fishburne, grossed \$210 million in just two weeks, while Pixar's G-rated "Monsters

University" opened with an impressive \$82 million. Even Brad Pitt's troubled PG-13 zombie epic, "World War Z," took in \$66 million in a weekend and could play through Labor Day due to the popularity of cable TV's "The Walking Dead" and the continued interest of the creatures.

Some smaller films have also made a surprisingly large impact at the office.

The magic-fueled thriller "Now You See Me," starring Jesse Eisenberg and Isla Fisher, proved a warm-weather favorite by grossing \$95 million in its first four weeks and continues in the top 10. Seth Rogen's stoner comedy, "This Is the

End," in which some young stars, including James Franco, Jonah Hill and Craig Robinson, play fictionalized versions of themselves at the apocalypse, has enough laughs to predict it won't go up in smoke anytime soon. The R-rated satire has grossed almost \$60 million in two weeks.

One of the summer's most profitable surprises has been "The Purge," a dark and violent R-rated fantasy starring Ethan Hawke and Lena Headley and budgeted at just \$3 million. Word-of-mouth endorsements helped it become an under-the-radar hit that passed the \$60 million mark and is still going. "Star Trek Into

Darkness," budgeted at a whopping \$190 million, promised fans another mega-adventure on the U.S.S. Enterprise, but for some reason, the word-of-mouth was not as strong as it might have been. Still, the PG-13 picture, starring Chris Pine, Zoe Saldana and Zachary Quinto, grossed \$217 million, although no new "Star Trek" project has been announced.

One of the season's luckiest titles is the computer-animated "Epic." The PG-rated picture, which grossed \$100 million and remains in theaters, arrived five weeks ago and enjoyed an extended period of no competition. That's a gift from the movie gods.

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West Virginia Public Theatre will

stage the following musicals this season: "Les Misérables," July 17-21; "Happy Days: A New Musical," July 31-Aug. 4; "The Fantasticks," July 24-28. Tickets: www.wvpublictheatre.org or 877-999-9878.

Stage Right's School for Performing Arts will hold summer musical theater camps at their new location at 105 W. Fourth St., Greensburg. Separate sessions will be held for varying age groups July 15-Aug. 3 and Aug. 5-9. Information: 724-832-7464 or www.stagerightgreensburg.com.

Nemacolin's Funnier Business Comedy Series will feature the improv comedy show "Without A Script" at 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday in the Grand Ballroom of Nemacolin Woodlands Resort, 1001

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List

Continued from Page 17

Lafayette Drive, Farmington. All ages for the 7 p.m. show; adults 18 years and over only for the 9:30 p.m. show. Tickets and details: 866-344-6957 or www.nemacolin.com.

The Meadows Race-track & Casino announces its slate of national performances for the outdoor concert series for 2013. This year's concerts include the band O'Jays, who will appear Saturday with special guest Gladys Knight. Also performing will be country icon Ronnie Dunn Aug. 3. The concert series wraps up with comedian and actor Bill Cosby Aug. 17. Tickets and details: ticketmaster.com, 800-745-3000 or www.meadowsgaming.com.

Pittsburgh's newest dance company, Texture Contemporary Ballet, presents "Perpetual Motion" July 18-21 at The New Hazlett Theater, Allegheny Square East, Pittsburgh, for three evening performances and one matinee. Tickets are available through ShowClix and are \$20 in advance and \$25 the day of the performance. Details: www.textureballet.org.

The Sullivan & Sons Comedy Tour will take stage at 8 p.m. Aug. 9 at the Byham Theater, Pittsburgh. The Sullivan & Sons Comedy Tour features Steve Byrne (The Tonight Show, Conan, The Byrne Identity: Comedy Central Special, Four Christmases, Couples Retreat), Owen Benjamin (The Tonight Show, Late Night with Jimmy Fallon, Comedy Central



Actors and Artists of Fayette County will present "The Wedding Singer" July 11-14 at the Geyer Performing Arts Center in Scottdale. Shown rehearsing a scene from the show are (from left) Allison Malia, 17, of Connellsville; Victoria Buchtan, 19, of Carmichaels as the female lead Julia; and Rylie Rusnica, 16, of Irwin. Show times are 7:30 p.m. July 11-13 and 2:30 p.m. July 14. Tickets: \$12 or \$25 for a dinner and show package with Miss Martha's Tearoom next to the theater. Reservations: 724-887-0887 or geyerpac.com.

Presents, The House Bunny, Jack And Jill), Roy Wood Jr. (The Late Show with David Letterman, The Late Late Show, The Funny Spot with Tony Rock, HBO's Def Comedy Jam, Chelsea Lately), and Ahmed Ahmed (The Tonight Show, Axis Of Evil: Comedy Central, Iron Man, You Don't Mess With The Zohan, Swingers). Details: www.trustarts.org.

PNC Broadway Across America — Pittsburgh will present "The Lion King" Sept. 3-29 at the Benedum Center, 7th St., Pittsburgh. Featured will be the rhythms of the African Pridelands and a score including Elton John and Tim Rice's Oscar-winning song "Can You Feel The Love Tonight" and "Circle Of Life." Tickets range from \$40-\$150. Details: 412-456-6666 or www.trustarts.org.

The best-selling cookbook author and star of Food Network's Barefoot Contessa will appear at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 17 at the Benedum Center, Pittsburgh. Ina Garten will share her natural approach to food: sharing tips, stories and recipes and engaging in an interactive Q&A. Details: www.trustarts.org.

The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust's 2013-14

TRUST Cabaret Series includes: Marilyn Maye (Oct. 6), Maureen McGovern (Nov. 4), Carol Woods (March 3), Liz Callaway (April 7) and Clint Holmes (May 12). The performances will be held at Cabaret at Theater Square, 655 Penn Ave., Pittsburgh. Performances begin at 7:30 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m. Single tickets and packages are available. Details: 456-6666 or www.trustarts.org/cabaretseries.

Pittsburgh International Children's Theater will feature Theatreworks USA in the Pittsburgh premiere of **Peter Pan** at 2 p.m. Oct. 20 in the Byham Theatre, Pittsburgh. This live stage performance of Peter Pan is based on John Caird and Trevor Nunn's adaptation of Peter Pan or The Boy Who Would Not Grow Up. This 60-minute play is recommended for children 3-10 years. Individual tickets are \$11 at the door and \$9.50 in advance. Details: 412-456-6666 or www.trustarts.org/kids.

"We Will Rock You" — the musical by Queen and Ben Alton — will take stage Oct. 29-Nov. 3 at the Benedum Center, Pittsburgh. Twenty four of Queen's biggest hits will be featured in the show that marks the bands' legendary live performances. Details and tickets: www.trustarts.org.

Actors and Artists of Fayette County will present "The Wedding Singer" July 11-14 at the Geyer Performing Arts Center in Scottdale. Show times are 7:30 p.m. July 11-13 and 2:30 p.m. July 14. Tickets: \$12 or \$25 for a dinner and show package with Miss Martha's Tearoom next to the theater. Reservations: 724-887-0887 or

geyerpac.com.

art

The Fayette County Law Library's July Artist of the Month is Jessica Lotman, acrylic and oil paintings. The exhibit will run through June 28. The Law Library is located on the second floor of the courthouse, Uniontown. Hours are 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. weekdays. Admission is free.

Lynn Johnson and Jen Saffron: The Koraput Survivors Project, a photojournalism exhibit, opens July 12 and runs through Sept. 1 at 707 Penn Gallery. The exhibit is a photographic exhibition that explores the destruction and recreation of a small community in Odisha State, India, documenting the stories of 500 villagers violently driven from their homes in a rising tide of religious intolerance. Gallery Hours: 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays, 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sundays. Admission is free. Details: www.TrustArts.org.

The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust announces a new exhibit opening at SPACE, 812 Liberty Ave., Pittsburgh. "Crowdsourced" features participating artists Kim Beck, Casey Droege, Corey Escoto, Gabe Felice, Lori Hepner, Renee Ickes, William Kofmehl III, Maritza Mosquera, Tom Sarver, Shaun Slifer, Barbara Weissberger and Paul Zelevansky. Each artist will create a large drawing directly on the walls of the gallery and the art making process will be open to the public for both observation and input into the artistic

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List

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process. On July 12, the gallery will open early, beginning at 1 p.m. until 9 p.m. The exhibit runs from July 12 through Sept. 1. Gallery Hours: Wed & Thurs: 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Fri & Sat: 11 a.m. – 8 p.m. Free and open to the public. Details: www.TrustArts.org

The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust will hold the July Gallery Crawl from 5:30-10 p.m. July 12. The crawl will showcase a wide variety of

thought provoking art exhibitions in downtown Pittsburgh's Cultural District. Live bands, DJs, dance, comedy and participatory activities will also be featured. Admission is free. Details: 412-456-6666 or www.trustarts.org.

The "From Slavery to Freedom" exhibit, chronicling more than 250 years of African American history, will be on display at Senator John Heinz History Center, 1212 Smallman St., Pittsburgh. Details: www.heinzhistorycenter.org.

An exhibition of two rarely-seen Japanese collections will be on display in Gallery One at the Carnegie Museum of Art, 4440 Forbes Ave., Pittsburgh. With works from the early years of Carnegie Institute (now

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The Frank L. Melega Art Museum has announced that sculptor

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and composition, as well as more advanced techniques. The club is free, but students will need access to a camera. A digital SLR is preferred, but smaller cameras are acceptable. Registration and details: david@dsmithphoto.net.

Pittsburgh artist Nick Bubash will feature his work in a solo museum exhibition titled, "The Patron Saint of White Guys That Went Tribal and Other Works," through Sept. 15 at the Andy Warhol Museum, 117 Sandusky St., Pittsburgh. Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays and Saturdays and Sundays, and 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Fridays. The museum is closed Mondays. The exhibit is free with museum admission. Details: www.warhol.org.

Panza Gallery will feature In Good Company, a group exhibit featuring new works by artists Zivi Aviraz, Lila Hirsch-Brody, Joel Kranich, Lilli Nieland, Phiris (Kathy) Sickels and Susan Sparks at the gallery at 115 Sedgwick Street. Millvale. Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturdays. Details: www.panzagallery.com.

The 2013 Norwin Art League Annual Membership Show will be held July 1-31 at Greensburg Garden & Civic Center, 951 Old Salem Road, Greensburg. Gallery hours are 9 a.m.-8 p.m. weekdays and 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturdays.

Ronald Nigro is the 2013 Artist of the Pike. Nigro's exhibit is currently on display. The museum is open weekdays from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sundays 1-4 p.m. and by appointment. Details: 724-785-9331 or melegaartmuseum.org.

Area students grades 7-12 are invited to join the 304 Photo Club, which will meet twice monthly at Monongalia Arts Center. Meetings will be held 6:30-8:30 p.m. every other Tuesday. Students taking part in the club, hosted by local photographer David Smith, will learn the basics of digital photography, lighting



Grammy Award-winning artist Jonny Lang will appear Nov. 12 at The Palace Theatre in Greensburg. Other scheduled events include: The Charlie Daniels Band (Aug. 16), River City Brass' Stars in Brass (Sept. 7), River City Brass' Autumn Leaves (Oct. 5), Westmoreland Symphony's Opening Night (Nov. 2), River City Brass' All American Heroes (Nov. 9), Matt Nathanson (Nov. 10), River City Brass' Christmas Brasstacular, and Westmoreland Symphony Orchestra's Home for the Holidays. All shows take place at the theater at 21 W. Otterman St., Greensburg. For show times, details or tickets: 724-836-8000 or www.palacetheatre.org.

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all ages, 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m. July 20; Guitar camp, Monday through Thursdays, July 22-25; Open-mic Coffeehouse & Art Class Showcase, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Aug. 2, all ages, suggested donation \$5 per family; Oil painting class, teens through adults, 6-8 p.m. Mondays beginning Sept. 9 through Oct. 28, cost: \$125. Scholarships available for those who qualify. Details and registration: 724-562-1041 or thephoenixartscenter.org.

MUSIC

The Storey Square Summer Concert Series and Uniontown Farmers Market on Main Street will move to Monday evenings from 5:30-7:30 p.m. this season beginning Monday through September. This year's entertainment line-up includes: VFW Post 8543 Band (Monday), OutPost (July 15), The Sammy Brooks Band (July 22), Polish Six Pack (July 29), Shelly McCombie (Aug. 5) Abacus Jones (Aug. 12), Neon Swing X-Perience (Aug. 19), The High Ruder (Aug. 26), Ed McDade (Sept. 9) and Harold Betters (Sept. 16). Tune in to Channel 77 Monday at 9 p.m. or go to FayetteTV.org to view the prior week's concert.

The Meadows Racetrack & Casino revealed its entertainment line-up for July with a mix of national and local performers: Mercedez (Friday), Airborne (Saturday), Dallas Marks (July 12), House of Soul (July 13), Tony Janalone Jr. (July 19), No Bad JuJu (July 20), Smoke



Psychic TV/PTV3 members Genesis Breyer P-Orridge, vocals and violin; Edley ODowd, drums and samples; Alice Genese, bass; Jeff 'Bunsen' Berner, guitar; Jess Stewart, keyboards; and projections by Jeanne Angel and Sam Zimmerman will perform 8 p.m. Aug. 16 at the New Hazlett Theater. Psychic TV (born out of Industrial Music pioneers, Throbbing Gristle) made highly innovative and provocative music from the early 80s to mid-90s. The performance is presented in connection with the exhibition, *Genesis Breyer P-Orridge: S/HE IS HER/E* on view through Sept. 15 at The Warhol. Tickets: \$25,\$20. Details: www.warhol.org or 412-237-8300.

n Guns (July 26-27). All shows begin at 8 p.m. and are free. Details: 724-503-1200.

The Sagebrush Round-Up will hold an open stage from 6-6:30 p.m. Saturday on Bunner Ridge near Fairmont, W.Va. Details: Bill at wjanoske@yahoo.com.

Open Mic Nights are held 8-11 p.m. Wednesdays for musicians and performers at Jozart Center for the Arts, 333 2nd St., California. Details: 724-938-9730 or www.jozart.com.

JazzLive, a year-round free live jazz series, is held at the Backstage Bar, Cabaret at Theater Square and Katz Plaza. The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust music series showcases some of the region's jazz musicians 5-11 p.m. every Tuesday

mustGO!

in the heart of the cultural district. All performances take place in the Backstage Bar. Details: trustarts.org.

Bike Night will be held 6-10 p.m. every Thursday at the Stone House, 3023 National Pike, Farmington. Scheduled bands are: Fat Man's Face (July 11), Daddy Long Leg (July 18), Magin-Nat (July 25), Cellar Dwellers (Aug. 1), Martyr Kanin (Aug. 8), Daddy Long Leg (Aug. 15), Short Brothers (Aug. 22), Magin-Nat (Aug. 29), Finally Free (Sept. 5), Martyr Kanin (Sept. 12), Short Brothers (Sept. 19), Shiva Sky Driver (Sept. 26), Magin-Nat (Oct. 3) and Finally Free (Oct. 10). Details. www.stonehouseinn.com.

Westmoreland Cultural Trust will hold a free summer concert series 6-9:30 p.m. Thursdays in the Megan Suite Courtyard next to The Palace Theatre in Greensburg. Scheduled musicians are Darryl & Kim (July 11), Hamilton Ave (July 18), Gary Pratt (July 25), Jeff Perigo & Friends/ Jody Perigo & Josh Verbanets (Aug. 1), James Boggs (Aug. 8), Eric Barchiesi Trio (Aug. 15), Sugar Mountain (Aug. 22), Michael Christopher (Aug. 29) and The Bricks (Sept. 5). Details: 724 836-1123 or www.westmorelandculturaltrust.org.

Harold Betters will perform from 6-7:30 p.m. today at the Westmoreland Arts & Heritage Festival, 252 Twin Lakes Road, Greensburg, and 6-9 p.m. Sunday at Nemacolin Castle, 136 Front St., Brownsville.

A free series of Music In the Park concerts will be featured 6-8 p.m. at Palmer Park in Donora.

Performances include: The Wally Gingers Orchestra, music from the Big Band Era (July 14); The Townsmen Plus One, standards, rock and roll and songs for line dancing (Aug. 5); 4R Jazz Plus 1, contemporary and classic jazz (Sept. 1).

Pure Gold, Ronnie Dunn of Brooks & Dunn and Bon Journey will be featured in the Mylan Classic's 2013 concert series. The series will highlight the Mylan Classic's seven-day schedule of events which begin July 29. Pittsburgh doo-wop legends Pure Gold will take the stage at Southpointe Golf Club Aug. 1 and on Aug. 2, Bon Journey will perform at the club. The concert series heads to The Meadows Racetrack and Casino as Ronnie Dunn closes out the week of entertainment there at 7:30 p.m. Aug. 3. Weekly tournament tickets are \$25 and

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List

Continued from Page 21

include admission for the tournament, concert series, clinics, evening entertainment and special events. Details and tickets: www.MylanClassic.com.

Belle & Sebastian will perform 8 p.m. July 13 at Stage AE, 400 N. Shore Dr., Pittsburgh. Indie-pop/rock trio Yo La Tengo from Hoboken, N.J. will open the show. Tickets: www.ticketmaster.com or Stage AE Box Office.

The Connellsville Lions Club will host a series of free concerts in Lions Square, Connellsville, listed as follows: Travelin Road Show (Sunday); Dunbar Boys (July 14); Wally Gingers Orchestra (July 21); Molinaro Band (July 28); Del Sols (Aug. 4); High Ryder (Aug. 11); Dawson's Creek (Aug. 18); Eric Harvey & Band (July 25); Harold Betters (Sept. 1). All shows 7-9 p.m. Details: 724-628-7460.

British rock band Whitesnake will perform 8 p.m. July 29 at the Palace Theatre, 21 W. Otterman St., Greensburg. Whitesnake was founded in 1978 by David Coverdale after his departure from his previous band, Deep Purple. Tickets: 724-836-8000 or www.thepalacetheatre.org.

The Warhol welcomes Psychic TV/PTV3 at 8 p.m. Aug. 16 to New Hazlett Theater. Fronted by performance artist, Genesis Breyer P-Orridge, Psychic TV (born out of Industrial Music pioneers, Throbbing Gristle) made highly innovative and provocative music from the early 80's to mid-90's. The performance is



Opera Theater's three-week festival will begin running through July 21 in the Twentieth Century Club, 4201 Bigelow Blvd., Pittsburgh. Classic and new operas sung in English and a variety of festive offerings will be featured as well as late night cabaret, world premiere mini-operas, and fine dining options. Pictured are Toni Esker (left), who plays Giulietta, and Robert Chafin, who plays the title character E.T.A. Hoffmann in *The Tales of Hoffmann*-Retold which will be staged Saturday, and July 13 and 21. Other shows include: "A Little Night Music" (July 12 and 20), "Shining Brow" (July 11 and 19), "Nightcaps International International" (July 11-21), "A Little Nightmare Music" (July 18 and 20), "Mozart in Concert" (July 16-18), and "Mozart Camp" (July 16-20). Tickets: \$25. Details: 412-621-1499 or www.otsummerfest.org. Tickets: 412-326-9687.

presented in connection with the exhibition, Genesis Breyer P-Orridge: S/HE IS HER/E on view through Sept. 15 at The Warhol. Tickets \$25/\$20 Members & students; visit www.warhol.org or call 412-237-8300.

The Palace Theatre in Greensburg has scheduled the following events: The Charlie Daniels Band (Aug. 16), River City Brass' Stars in Brass (Sept. 7), River City Brass' Autumn Leaves (Oct. 5), Westmoreland Symphony's

Opening Night (Nov. 2), River City Brass' All American Heroes (Nov. 9), Matt Nathanson (Nov. 10), Jonny Lang (Nov. 12), River City Brass' Christmas Brasstacular, and Westmoreland Symphony Orchestra's Home for the Holidays. All shows take place at the theater at 21 W. Otterman St., Greensburg. For show times, details or tickets: 724-836-8000 or www.thepalacetheatre.org.

River City Brass presents "Stars in Brass" at

7:30 p.m. Sept. 7 at the Palace Theatre, 21 W. Otterman St., Greensburg. Tickets \$31, \$26 and \$24. Discounts for seniors and students. Details and tickets: 1-800-292-7222 or www.rivercitybrass.org.

Oldies pop musicians Kenny Vance & The Planotones will appear 8 p.m. Sept. 26 at the Palace Theatre, 21 W. Otterman St., Greensburg. Tickets are \$55, \$45 and \$35. Details and tickets: www.thepalacetheatre.org.

Elko Concerts presents Tower of Power at 8 p.m. Sept. 28 at the Palace Theatre, 21 W. Otterman St., Greensburg. Tickets \$45 and \$40. Details and tickets: www.thepalacetheatre.org.

Michael English & The Easters will perform at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Sept. 27 at the Palace Theatre, 21 W. Otterman St., Greensburg. Tickets are \$48, \$38 and \$28. Details and tickets: www.thepalacetheatre.org.

Fifties music legend performers Sha Na Na will take stage 8 p.m. Oct. 4 at the Palace Theatre, 21 W. Otterman St., Greensburg. Group members include Jocko, Screamin' Scott Simon, Donny, Tim, Paulie, Gene and Michael. The group performed six songs on the original *Grease* soundtrack. Simon co-wrote the smash hit ballad, "Sandy," performed in the movie by John Travolta. Tickets are \$55, \$45, \$35 and \$25. Details and tickets: www.thepalacetheatre.org.

John Fogerty brings his 'Wrote a Song for Everyone' tour to the Convocation Center at California University of Pennsylvania at 8 p.m. Nov. 5. Tickets are \$100, \$69 and \$49. Tickets: Convocation Center Box Office (8 a.m.-4 p.m. weekdays), www.ticketmaster.com, 800-745-3000 and at participating Giant Eagle stores.

car shows

A car cruise will be held, weather permitting, 6-9 p.m. every Friday through September at the Uniontown Shopping Center on Morgantown Road; 5-8 p.m. every Sunday through September at the Yum Yum Cafe, Bakery and Ice Cream Parlor on Morgantown Street in Uniontown; and 6-9 p.m. Wednesdays at Sonics, near the Uniontown Wal-Mart.

special events

Round and square dances will be held from 7-10 p.m. Friday at the Waynesburg Moose, Waynesburg, from 7-10 p.m. July 12 at Rogersville Fire Hall, Rte. 21, from 7-10 p.m. July

onfilm

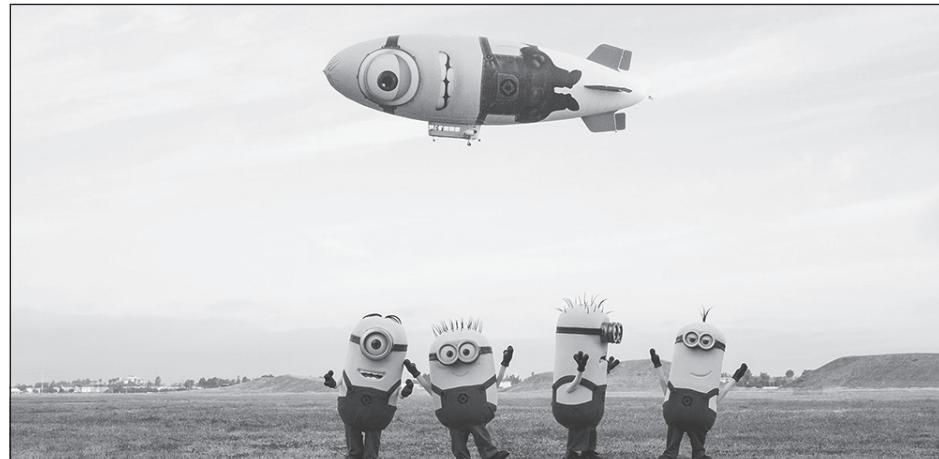
Animated sequel, frontier epic await movie fans this week

By Lou Gaul
Calkins Media Film Critic

An animated sequel ("Despicable Me 2"), a stand-up concert ("Kevin Hart: Let Me Explain") and a frontier epic ("The Lone Ranger") are among the new arrivals on this Fourth of July weekend.

The new arrivals (with all dates subject to change) include:

"The Act of Killing," with executive producer Werner Herzog ("Grizzly Man") in an unsettling documentary about mass murderers being invited to live in Indonesia when the government of that country was overturned in 1965. The prisoners formed a death squad that helped the army kill more than 1 million communists



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Several of the Minions from Universal Pictures and Illumination Entertainment's DESPICABLE ME 2 will be the first to board the Despicablimp.

and intellectuals. Joshua Oppenheimer directed the unrated title.

"The Attack," with Amin Jaafari in an R-rated drama about an Arab surgeon who lives

in Tel Aviv and must prove that his wife was not responsible for a suicide bombing. It's based on the novel by Yasmina Khadra. Ziad Doueiri directed.

"Despicable Me 2," with the voices of Steve Carell, Kristen Wiig and Benjamin Bratt in a computer-animated sequel, with Carell's character preparing to

become a father and struggling to become a member of the Anti-Villain League. Pierre Coffin and Chris Renaud, who teamed on the original, co-directed the PG-rated follow-up.

"A Hijacking," with Dar Salim in an R-rated drama about Somali pirates who hijack a cargo ship and then hold those onboard for ransom. Tobias Lindholm directed.

"Kevin Hart: Let Me Explain," with the hot comic giving his R-rated observations on life during a stand-up concert performance.

"The Lone Ranger," with superstar Johnny Depp and rising star Armie Hammer ("The Social Network") as an odd-couple team in this expensive \$250 million Western inspired by the

vintage TV series. The PG-13 film, which lacks emotional moments, is littered with explosions, crashes and shootings during a story about a Native American who inspires a reluctant lawman to help him win a war against a greedy railroad tycoon. His fans should enjoy debating whether Depp should have tackled the role of Tonto and played it much like Capt. Jack Sparrow in the "Pirates of the Caribbean" franchise. The movie is sometimes out of control, but it's rarely boring.

"Museum Hours," with Bobby Sommer as a Vienna museum guard who's dedicated to film history and technology and becomes interested in a former actress.

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17 at Uniontown Knights of Columbus, Old Rte. 119, and from 7-10 p.m. July 26 at Haydentown Community Center, Haydentown. Admission is \$5 per person. Music and figure calling by Dave Dahl.

The Butler Wobble will show off the science and skills behind the art of unicycle riding at Carnegie Science Center on Saturday from noon-2 p.m. in conjunction with the Science Center's newest exhibit, BIKES: Science on Two Wheels. Visitors can watch the Butler Wobble demonstrate unicycle skills

while learning about the various differences between riding a unicycle and a bicycle and the science behind the contrast. The demonstration will be located on the Science Center's back lawn at Bikes Plaza. Bikes Plaza will host outdoor programming on select Saturdays through October. Events are free with general admission. Details: CarnegieScienceCenter.org

Admission to Carnegie Museums of Art and Natural History will be free for all active duty military personnel and their families through Sept. 2 as part of the Blue Star Museums Program. Admission to fee-based Carnegie Museum of Art and Carnegie Museum of Natural History programs. Details: 412-622-3131 or www.carnegiemuseums.org.

Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens will bring more glass to the garden for Summer Flower Show: Glass Roots. Featuring talents working in and around the Pittsburgh region and designed by Phipps Exhibit Coordinator Jordyn Melino, Summer Flower Show, which runs through Oct. 6, will be open from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily and until 10 p.m. on Fridays. Details: phipps.conservatory.org.

Saint Vincent College will present two planetarium shows in the Angelo J. Taiani Planetarium and Astronaut Exhibit in the Sis and Herman Dupré Science Pavilion on the campus near Latrobe. The shows, all scheduled to begin at 11 a.m., include Mid-Summer Sky Show and Two Small

Pieces of Glass on July 20; and Late Summer Sky Show and IBEX-Search for the Edge of the Solar System on Sept. 14. A second, 30-minute show, appropriate for children age 3-10, The Sky Over Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood, will be presented at 12:30 p.m. Reservations: 724-805-2631.

Westmoreland Roller Derby will hold an "Anniversary Bout" July 13 at Hot Shots Sports Arena in Mount Pleasant. The bout starts at 7 p.m., doors open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Admission is free for children 12 and under. Details and tickets: facebook.com/westcoderby.

An evening of tropical fun is on tap with the National Aviary's flock from 7-11 p.m. July 13 at "Night of the

Tropics" with a VIP reception to be held at 6 p.m. at the Aviary, 700 Arch St., Pittsburgh. Details: 412-323-7235 or www.aviary.org.

The State Theatre Center for the Arts, 27 E. Main St., Uniontown, will present the classic film "American Graffiti" 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Aug. 9. Tickets are \$5. A discount is available for seniors and children. Details and tickets: 724-439-1360 or www.statetheatre.info.

Send items for GO! Magazine at least two weeks before the event to go@heraldstandard.com. All fundraiser announcements are published in Herald-Standard's Community Calendar and can be emailed to hscalendar@heraldstandard.com.

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