

August 2016

Digital 60

pittsburgh applause!

arts & entertainment newsletter

Eric Shiner Leaves Warhol Museum

Eric Shiner, the director of the Andy Warhol Museum, has surprised many by taking a senior executive position at the New York branch of **Sotheby's**.

CARNEGIE MUSEUMS OF PITTSBURGH

Established in 1994, the Andy Warhol Museum is the largest museum in the United States dedicated to a single artist, Pittsburgh native and pop art pioneer Andy Warhol (1928-1987). It's part of the **Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh**. Sotheby's is one of the

world largest art and collectables auction houses. It's based in London where it was founded in 1770 by auctioneer John Sotheby (1740-1807) and his partners.

The formal announcement came through a press release issued on July 8. "It has been an honor to lead The Andy Warhol Museum, and I enter this new phase in my career knowing that the museum is on incredibly solid ground --- strong in both financial health and in future potential," the release quotes Shiner. He was congratulated by Carnegie Museums CEO Jo Ellen Parker in the same release.

"Moves between the nonprofit museum world and the commercial side of the art game are rare" the editors of *Art News* have reported, explaining that Shiner is joining a new Sotheby's division "headed up by Amy Cappellazzo and Allan Schwartzman, who joined the house earlier this year, along with their advisory firm, Art Agency, Partners, in a high-profile deal that could be worth as much as \$85 million, depending on the unit's performance."

Shiner has been with the Warhol since 2008 and has been director since 2011.

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“Fences” Dates Set

The long-anticipated film adaptation of August Wilson's play “Fences” will arrive in theaters this December, reports Dave McNary in *Variety*.

“Fences” was first staged in 1983 and is part of his internationally lauded “Pittsburgh Cycle” of plays. Set in the 1950s, the play centers on a former professional baseball player now struggling to support his family as a garbage man living in the city's Hill District. It was the Pulitzer Prize for Drama and the Tony Award for Best Play in 1987.

Academy Award winning actor Denzel Washington stars and di-

rected the film, which was shot locally earlier this year. McNary writes that “Fences” is being released specifically for “award season” --- the period a film is most likely to receive a major award nomination.

“Fences” will receive limited release on December 16 before bowing nationwide on Christmas Day. The scheduling hints that **Viacom's** Paramount Pictures has confidence in both its critical and box office potential.

The Second City

PITTSBURGH

PUBLIC

THEATER



August 26 & 27, 2016

Sinclair & FCC Settle Over Violations

With applause from the **American Cable Association**, the **Sinclair Broadcast Group** (SBG) has settled a dispute with the Federal Communications Commission.



Sinclair owns or operates over 150 broadcast stations across the United States including two Pittsburgh TV stations. The company has often been involved in high-profile disputes since its creation in 1971 as the Chesapeake Television Corporation. Many of these have involved conservative politi-

cal positions supported by founder Julian Sinclair Smith and his heirs.

The company has also been involved in carriage disputes with various cable and satellite providers, including **Comcast**. Most recently these have centered on cable systems servicing small and medium-size markets. According to a law amended by the US Congress in 2014, broadcasters are prohibited from “coordinating negotiations or negotiating on a joint basis with another television broadcast station in the same local market . . . to grant retransmission consent . . . unless such stations are directly or indirectly under common *de jure* control permitted under the regulations of the

[Federal Communication Commission].”

An FCC investigation revealed that for several months in 2015, Sinclair represented stations owned by other companies in negotiating retransmission fees. None were in Pittsburgh. Sinclair has agreed to cease such activities in the future and to pay \$9.5 million to the US Treasury.

In a press release, the American Cable Association’s (ACA) Matthew M. Polka praised the FCC “for taking strong, first-ever action against Sinclair ---- a bad actor in retransmission consent negotiations by anyone’s definition.” The ACA is based in Pittsburgh.

Never Underestimate The Power Of A Good Scandal!



Bricolage & ScareHouse Partnership

Details have been released about the frightening partnership between **Bricolage** and the **ScareHouse**.

Founded in 2001, Bricolage is a non-profit theater company whose



mission is to immerse artists and audiences in adventurous theatrical experiences that foster connections and alter perceptions. ScareHouse is a popular Halloween attraction in a remolded bank building constructed in 1912 in the northern suburb Etna. It's an artist-driven enterprise that prides itself on its detail and theatricality.

This new joint project is called the Imaginarium. A press release issued on July 25 describes it as "a thrilling live-action adventure where immersive theater meets escape room."

The press release continues: "With themes ranging from zombie apocalypse to prison break, the majority of these rooms follow the same basic format: players find clues, solve puzzles and complete a series of tasks in order to escape before time runs out. [The attraction includes] fully integrating lavish scenic elements and robust storylines within the game design. Instead of individually themed rooms, each room propels the plot forward in the attraction's overarching narrative."

Pittsburgh Applause used the address on the Imaginarium's Face-

book profile to determine that the new attraction will be located inside a retail building along Alpha Drive that used to house a skating rink. It will open in mid-September, although a specific date has not yet been announced. Information will soon be published online at www.entertheimaginariumpgh.com

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Two Passings: Cardille & Name

One of Pittsburgh's most beloved entertainers and media personalities, Bill Cardille, has died. He was 87.

For roughly sixty years, Cardille has been enjoyed by generations of Pittsburghers in many forms including as a weather reporter. But he will be best remembered as the host of TV's "Chiller Theater" (1963-1984), a weekly screening of often low-grade horror movies. He did so as campy "Chilly Billy."

A detailed obituary was written for the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* by Maria Sciallo and Anya Sostek, which can be read at <http://www.post-gazette.com/ae/tv-radio/2016/07/21/Bill-Cardille-longtime-Pittsburgh-TV-host-dies-at-age-87-chiller-theatre/stories/201607210143>

Billy Name (born William Linich Jr.), one of the most prominent members of Pittsburgh native and pop icon Andy Warhol's famous Factory has died. He was 76.

Name was an accomplished photographer, filmmaker and lighting designer. He also served as the archivist for the Warhol Factory in the 1960s. It was at The Factory (actually a series of facilities) where Andy Warhol and his associates created a variety of works.

He spent his final years at an assistant living facility in his home town of Poughkeepsie, New York.



Images

Celebrate Pittsburgh's arts & entertainment



Here is a photo of actor and Pittsburgh native Michael Keaton during his appearance at the 2004 Dallas Comic Con. Last month he received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

Source: Wikipedia.



To have an image considered contact Jim Richards at jim@james-richards.com

Inspection Causes Altar Bar Close Early

The long-operating concert venue **Altar Bar** has closed its doors, reports the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*'s Scott Mervis.

Altar Bar's actual closing date fluctuated but it happened suddenly on July 15 after a building inspection revealed a serious safety issue. The final act to perform at the club was Let Live on July 10.

The club was constructed in 1908 as St. Elizabeth Church to serve the immigrant, blue-collar workers who lived and worked in the Strip District. It ceased to be a church in 2001 and since 2002 has functioned as a concert venue

under the names Sanctuary and Altar Bar.

"There were so many shows that were special to me in different ways," Mervis quotes Josh Bakaitus, of Drusky Entertainment, the exclusive promoter for the club. "I'd say though that the Imagine Dragons, The Struts, Grouplove, Hopsin and G-Eazy shows were some of the best. There was a special magic in the air at those shows. For each it was during a time when they were coming up, when the excitement was high and you could tell that they were going to be long-lasting staple acts."

The building has been acquired by

Orchard Hill Church, which plans to use it as a satellite of its main worship center in suburban Wexford. Formed in 1989, Orchard Hill describes itself as "a community that would be relevant in today's culture while teaching the timeless truths of the Bible."

Read Mervis' full article at <http://www.post-gazette.com/ae/music/2016/07/28/ALTAR-BAR-RIP-Strip-District-club-vanishes-without-saying-goodbye/stories/201607280003>

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AUG
3



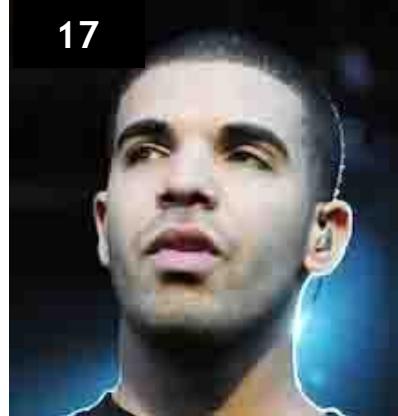
Kick up your heels for a fun screening of "Ferris Bueller's Day Off" as part of a rooftop party.

FRI
5



Be sure to wash that man right out of your hair with "South Pacific" at the **Benedum Center**.

WED
17



The sexy Drake brings his engaging raps to the **Consol Energy Center**.

THU
4



The **Carnegie Museum of Art** dedicates a special night of programming to Pittsburgh documentary filmmaker Tony Buba.

SUN
16



Emmy Award winning actress Megan Mullally comes to the **Benedum Center** with her husband for a night of marital mirth.

FRI
26



Politics gets a good poking at the **O'Reilly Theater** with the help of the famous Second City troupe.

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Library Design Wins Award

The local chapter of the **American Institute of Architects** (AIA) has honored **GBBN Architects** for their recent work with the **Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh**.



GBBN has created the “Teen Zone” in the library’s East Liberty branch, part of a system-wide project to provide special learning sections for teens. An online posting explains that “Based loosely on the form of a beehive, the Studio Hive provides an intentional

personal space for teens to engage in creative exploration within a focused place for concentration. Even so, the design allows for subtle views into and out of the hive, facilitating a feeling of community and connection to others.” The firm has received an AIA 2016 Small Project Award for the design.

The firm has offices in Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Louisville and one overseas in Beijing.

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Parsons is Promoted

Jim Parsons has been promoted to News Director of **Hearst Television's** WTAE-TV, reports Maria Sciuillo in the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*.

HEARST corporation

Parsons has been with the Pittsburgh’s station for 15 years, first as an investigative reporter and later assistant news director. WTAE is an affiliate of the American Broadcasting Company

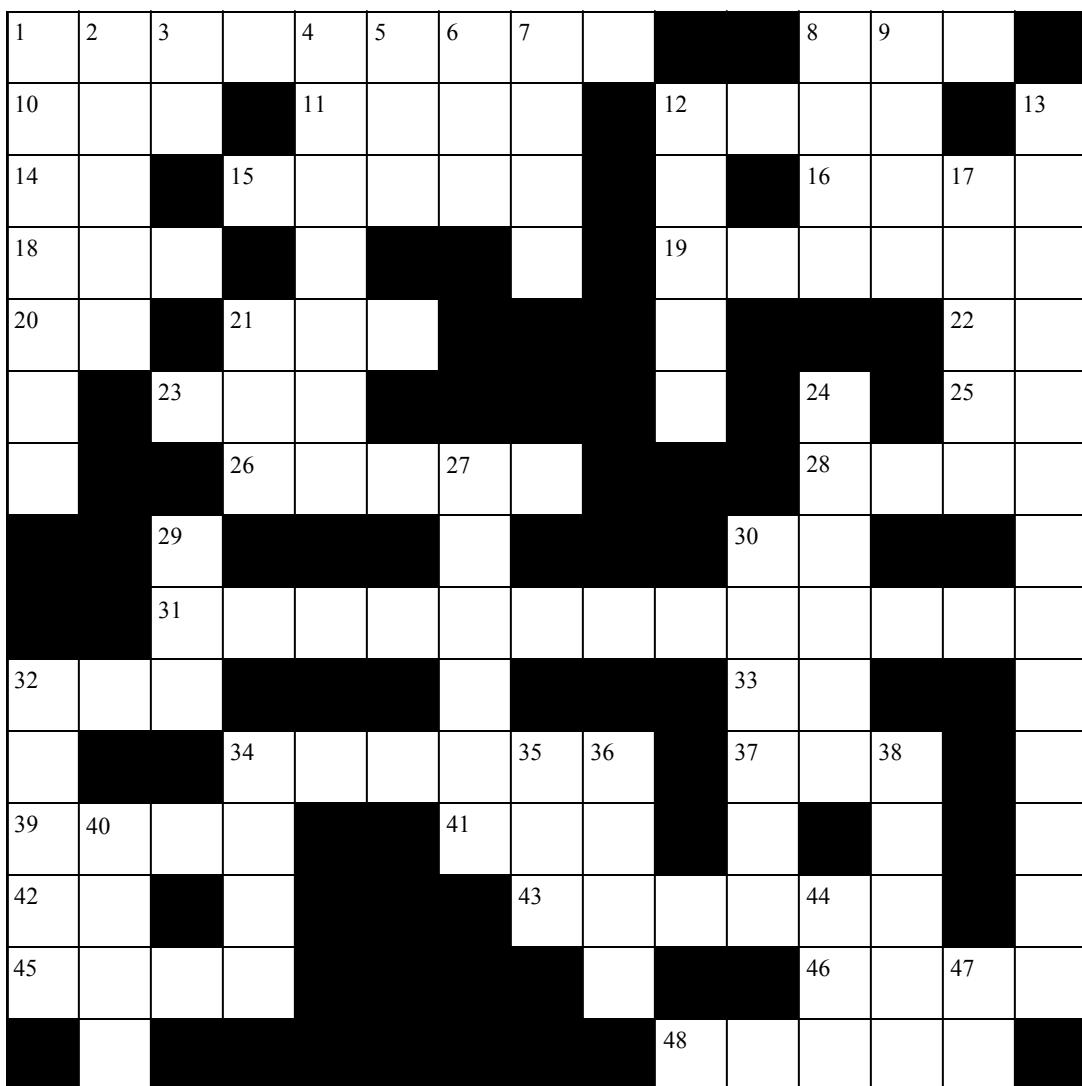
(ABC), a unit of the **Walt Disney Company**.

“Jim’s strong news instincts, passion for journalism and knowledge of Pittsburgh make him uniquely prepared to take on this important position,” Sciuillo quotes station manager Charles Wolfertz III. Her full article is available at <http://www.post-gazette.com/ae/tv-radio/2016/07/25/Jim-Parsons-named-WTAE-TV-s-news-director/stories/201607250148>



THE APPLAUSE PUZZLE

“Walking the Cultural District”



ACROSS

1. Storefront theater at 937 Liberty Ave.
8. Place to spoil yourself
10. Snaky fish
11. Ms. Sofer, to pals
12. 18-Across is an example
14. State north of KS
16. Famed Roman invention
18. A type of 12-Across
19. Student gallery at 819 Penn Ave. (with 30-Down)
20. Dilly bar home, briefly
21. Not new
22. MGM partner
23. Web site start
25. Phone calling movie alien
26. Theater at 101 Sixth Str.
28. Dis and un suffix
30. Prez before WHT.
31. Art retailer at 805 Liberty Ave.
32. Saucer companion
33. Chemical symbol for nickel
34. See 27-Down
37. Cleo had a poisonous one
39. Gun need, briefly
41. Movie: “____ of Steve”
42. “Hawaii Five-O” baddie Fat
43. Former name of 26-Across
45. Praise
46. Taboo habit
48. Gallery at 812 Liberty Ave.

DOWN

1. Center at Liberty & 7th
2. October film fest held at 24-Down
3. State south of WI
4. Theater at 621 Penn Ave.
5. Flower garland
6. Barack's mom
7. Look intently
8. What a ticket gets you at 1-Down
9. Lima's home
12. Stretchy, sticky treat you might buy at 709 Liberty Ave.
13. Home of the Cabaret
17. Really mean
21. Sphere
24. Movie theater at 809 Liberty Ave.
27. Center at 980 Liberty Ave. (with 34-Across)
29. Psych test, briefly
30. See 19-Across
32. One of these happen in the District every three months
34. Gallery overlooking Liberty Ave.
35. Clumsy idiot
36. A verb's need
38. Go crazy with fear
40. Castle's watery defense
44. Eggs, by another name
47. System debugger, briefly

Last Month's Solution

H	A	N	C	O	C	K				W	A	S	P	
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All ads need to be built-to-size and provided in a low-res JPG file format. All ads must be pre-paid with the check made payable to the Pittsburgh A&E Group.

For more information, contact Jim at jim@james-richards.com



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