

## Three Rivers Regatta Suddenly Cancelled

In a stunning announcement made late on the morning of July 30 --- a mere two days before its 2019 edition was to start --- the Three Rivers Regatta was cancelled.

First held in 1978, the Pittsburgh Three Rivers Regatta is an annual motorboat and river festival. It had been produced for the non-profit **Pittsburgh Three Rivers Regatta Inc.** by **LionHeart Event Group.**

A press release indicated issues revolving LionHeart's professionalism are the cause. "[The board] learned late last week that the event management company charged with overseeing all aspects of the regatta failed to provide the necessary assurances for a safe, sanctioned and fully coordinated event. They did not secure the mandatory insurance for it, which forced us to withdraw our application for an event permit."

Per the firm's web site: LionHeart is owned by founder Derek Weber, who once served as the Director of Operations for the Regatta. The company's portfolio of projects is few in number but many are high profile. LionHeart was launched in 2015. Weber and events coordinator Samantha Moyer are the firm's only full-time employees (although there are apparently part-time and free-lance personnel). Moyer told the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* that she left the company months ago.

Leading up to the 2019 regatta, PGHevents' James A. Richards (who also publishes *Pittsburgh Applause*) tried to reach LionHeart to confirm the schedule for the web site. The company never responded. KDKA-TV reports that Weber failed to appear at a planned events meeting.

LionHeart's Facebook and Twitter profiles haven't had any new postings since Octo-

ber 2018. The last video the company added to its YouTube channel was uploaded in December 2018. The board learned days earlier that LionHeart has "misrepresented" its work and "had not met critical benchmarks" to ensure the event's happening as scheduled.

"We have launched a probe to unravel what has transpired. We are also working to communicate with all key stakeholders affected by today's announcement, including sponsors, vendors, entertainers and others," Regatta board member Charles D. Scholz announced in the press release. "We will pursue all legal means necessary to resolve this as we work to determine the future of this event."

The future of LionHeart may also be at stake.

An impressive and disturbing list of allegations against LionHeart Event Group and its owner, Derek Weber. At press time, these include the following:

- Failure to pay the City of Pittsburgh for police protection in 2017 and 2018.
- Failure to pay Allegheny County for security expenses in 2018.
- Some vendors failed to receive payment for at least one regatta.
- LionHeart may have falsified records submitted to the Three Rivers Regatta board as well as other parties.
- Derek Weber was directly responsible for record-keeping, sponsorship revenue, insurance and required payments. "He runs this whole festival and he has a whole company he runs by himself," former employee Samantha Moyer told the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette's* Jonathan D. Silver.

**Check out the KDKA-TV report below.**



## Cultural District Safety Issues

The safety of patrons, employees and residents of the Pittsburgh Cultural District has grown as an issue --- particularly after a July 4 shooting incident.



Two teenage boys were shot and hospitalized. Camerin Caldwell, an 18-year-old North Sider, turned himself in to police on July 15. *The Pittsburgh Tribune-Review's* Michael Divittorio writes about the charges at <https://triblive.com/local/pittsburgh-allegeny/suspect-in-pittsburgh-fourth-of-july-double-shooting-arrested/>

District stakeholders have apparently been quiet about the issue, but the shooting in Katz Plaza (apparently bullets hit a door at the nearby Benedum Center) sparked a sympathetic three-page letter to local businesses from the **Pittsburgh Cultural Trust's** Kevin McMahon.

"I've seen it. I've read it. He couldn't have put it in any better words," restaurateur Len Semplice told KDKA-TV's Jon Delano. "He couldn't have put [situation] in any better words."

*The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* reports that McMahon wrote a letter to Pittsburgh Mayor Bill Peduto that he should "not mistake this recent incident as just another isolated holiday spike . . . the decline in safety in the Cultural District has been consistently coming to a tipping point."

Also affecting the sense of safety, Semplice told Delano, are panhandlers who directly approach diners eating at outdoor tables. "People are sitting there, a nice family, couple, they're sitting there eating and all of a sudden they're coming up begging for money."

Nevertheless, a statement from the mayor's office points out statistics show a 3% drop this year in violent and property crimes. WESA-FM has posted an Associated Press story about the situation at <https://www.wesa.fm/post/group-says-pittsburgh-downtown-safety-declining#stream/0>

**See the KDKA-TV report by clicking the icon below**



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## Netflix & SAG-AFTRA

With **Netflix** producing series in Pittsburgh, the streaming network and **SAG-AFTRA** (which has a full-time local office) have reached a new agreement.

**SAG-AFTRA**

Netflix has been functioning under the standard SAG-AFTRA television and film agreements. A press release says "the new deal also includes gains in theatrical residuals, greater rights for members in the areas of options and exclusivity, improved overtime rules for stunt performers and specific protections for members

regarding harassment and auditions."

Highlights of the contact are available at <https://www.sagaftra.org/sag-aftra-and-netflix-announce-historic-contract>

In other news, the union has established guidelines for nudity and simulated sex; define the duties and standards for intimacy coordinators on productions. This includes acceptable training, vetting and qualifications of intimacy coordinators.

## PG Cuts Print Edition

It's a sad sign of the times: the financially struggling *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* will cut its print edition to just three days a week.



Block Communications, Inc.

The digital edition will continue daily publication, but the print version essentially becomes a weekend paper (Thursday, Friday, Sunday). Rob Williams, reporting for MediaPost.com, quotes an executive "that the newspaper is 'maintaining our news department,' although it's not clear whether parent company **Block Communications** can avoid job cuts in printing and distribution."

There has also been friction between the paper's staff and publisher John R. Block.

"Newsrooms shed almost one-quarter of their employees from 2008 to 2017," adds Williams, "and that was before the loss of 3,000 jobs announced so far this year. The closure of 1,800 newspapers in the past 15 years has meant that half of U.S. counties are lucky if they have one newspaper."



Channel  
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## PSO's CD

A release date has been announced for the **Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra's** (PSO) latest recording.



The CD is of the ninth and final symphony written by Austrian composer Anton Bruckner (1824-1896). He dedicated it "to the beloved God." The last movement remained incomplete upon Bruckner's death. It debuted in Vienna in 1903.

A PSO press release calls it "an iconic work" and one performed by the symphony "in a new and definitive interpretation." The PSO "invites us to explore the presence of the divine, and to experience the beauty of this world, while also facing the darker and more violent abysses."

The CD, to be released on August 23, is part of the PSO's "Pittsburgh Live Series." Last year, another recording in the series won two Grammy Awards.



## Silver Eye Gets \$100K

A grant of \$100,000 has been presented to the **Silver Eye Center for Photography** by the **Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts**.

The foundation was created in the will of pop art icon and Pittsburgh native Andy Warhol (1928-1987). Its primary focus is to support the creation, presentation and documentation of contemporary art.

Silver Eye will be using the funds for exhibitions and related programming.

## Rapper & AE Pact

Pittsburgh-based fashion giant **American Eagle Outfitters** is partnering with rapper Dwayne "Lil Wayne" Carter for a new line of jeans and other clothes, reports MediaPost.com's Sarah Mahoney.

The 25-piece men's line, called AE X Young Money, is to debut this fall. The jeans will be available in a wider range of sizes than has been customary. Many of the items will feature graphics inspired by the singer's Young Money record label.

Read Carter's full article by clicking <https://www.mediapost.com/publications/article/338570/american-eagle-lil-wayne-shakin-it-up-for-all.html>

## "Pgh Dad" Kickstarter

Actor-writer Curt Wootton and his creative partner Chrs Preksta have launched a Kickstarter campaign to finance their next film, reports Hanah Lynn for *Pittsburgh City Paper*.

The two are best known for their popular "Pittsburgh Dad" series of comedic online videos.

Launched on July 29, the campaign hopes to raise \$10,000 to bankroll a sequel to their 2017 short film "Street Light Stories." To learn more, click <https://www.pghcitypaper.com/pittsburgh/pittsburgh-dad-launches-kickstarter-to-fund-sequel-to-street-light-stories/Content?oid=15526765>

## Kenzie Inks Arista Deal

Singer and Pittsburgh native Mackenzie "Kenzie" Ziegler has signed a 15-year deal with Arista Records, reports *Variety's* Michele Amabile Angermiller.

"We are so excited to welcome Kenzie to the Arista family," the article quotes David Massey, CEO of Arista. "At just 15 years old, she has built an incredible fanbase and possesses so much talent. We are looking forward to a very bright future together."

Arista is part of **Sony Corporation of America's** music entertainment division.

## Images



*Tony Award winning actress Betty Buckley stars in the latest turning production of the musical "Hello Dolly".*

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## SportsNet Pittsburgh May Be Sold

**AT&T**, the owner of SportsNet Pittsburgh, has indicated an interest in selling it and its sister networks. The news was first reported in July on Bloomberg.com by Nabila Ahmed, Eben Novy-Williams and Scott Moritz.

What is now AT&T SportsNet Pittsburgh began as the Pirate's Cable Network in 1986. After several ownership and name changes, the network became known as FSN Pittsburgh. AT&T bought it and three other sports channels in 2017. AT&T was founded in 1885 as American Telephone and Telegraph Company.

The Bloomberg article explains that the company is trying to shed a staggering \$180 billion in debt.

"AT&T hasn't started a formal process to sell the networks, and there are no guarantees a deal will be announced," the report continued. Potential buyers include the **Sinclair Broadcast Group**, which owns two television stations in Pittsburgh.

Read the full article at [https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-07-02/at-t-said-to-mull-sale-of-regional-sports-networks-to-slash-debt?srnd=premium&\\_ga=2.22230657.9.942695459.1564514759.99082774.1564514759](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-07-02/at-t-said-to-mull-sale-of-regional-sports-networks-to-slash-debt?srnd=premium&_ga=2.22230657.9.942695459.1564514759.99082774.1564514759)

## Sinclair Promotes Cook

Richard Cook has been named general manager of **Sinclair Broadcast Group's** (SBG) Pittsburgh stations, WPGH-TV and WPNT-TV.



This is a promotion for Cook, who had been the stations' sales director.

"I am very excited and honored by the opportunity to lead WPGH and WPNT," commented Cook in a press release. "This promotion wouldn't be possible without the tremendous help and performance of our great people here in Pitts-

burgh. I look forward to working with them as we continue to serve the Pittsburgh community, work to face the challenges before us, and embrace the opportunities that arise as we move into the next generation of television broadcasting."



## New Carnegie Trustees

Six new trustees were added to the **Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh** board. They were added at the June meeting, but the official press release announcing them was not issued until July.



Founded in 1895 by industrialist Andrew Carnegie (1835-1919), the Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh is a family of four diverse, dynamic museums: Carnegie Museum of Art, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Carnegie Science Center and The Andy Warhol Museum.

"We're so fortunate and honored to welcome these talented individuals to the Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh board of trustees," said board chair Bill Hunt in the release. "They join a group of dedicated community leaders who believe in the difference the four Carnegie Museums make in the region, and the world."

Read the full list at [https://mailchi.mp/carnegiemuseums/newtrustees?e=\[UNIQID\]](https://mailchi.mp/carnegiemuseums/newtrustees?e=[UNIQID])



THU  
1

*Heart*

The *Second City*

FRI  
23



TUE  
6



FRI  
23



THU  
8



FRI  
9



TUE  
27



THU  
15



FRI  
30



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"I have received tons of compliments on how cool the stage looked. Your crew was extremely easy to work with, and they were very professional and got the job done!"



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## Patron Buy Expands Its Global Reach

The parent company of Pittsburgh-based ShowClix --- **Patron Technology** --- has acquired three interconnected companies: Ticketbooth, Token Systems and Audiencetools.



Ticketbooth provides innovative event ticketing and marketing solutions to hundreds of events across Australia, New Zealand

and Europe. Token provides advanced radio-frequency identification (RFID) solutions for a new age of cashless payments, access control and experiential activations at events of all sizes. Audiencetools is a platform designed to help harness an event's social media reach.

"Over the past few years, Patron Technology has grown into a global presence in the event industry, offering event organizers a better, more flexible way to manage their events and deepen their

relationship with attendees and sponsors," Patron's Marc Jenkins said in a press release. "Our top priority, always, is providing our partners with the tools they need to take their event to the next level. With this latest acquisition of Ticketbooth, we will be able to do even more to give attendees an amazing event experience."

*Hal Prince*  
*(1928-2019)*

# Opportunities

A position has opened at the **Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh** for an early learning professional. Requirements include a good knowledge of the state's early learning standards. Learn more and apply by clicking [https://www.appone.com/MainInfoReq.asp?R\\_ID=2584713](https://www.appone.com/MainInfoReq.asp?R_ID=2584713)

Various positions are available at the **Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh**. These include a web developer, exhibit designer and a special events manager. Check them out at <https://carnegiemuseums.org/opportunities/search-careers/>

Twelve openings at **CBS Corporation's** KDKA-TV include production, sales, engineering, promotion and the web. See the full list by clicking <https://cbscorporation.jobs/jobs/?location=Pittsburgh%2C+PA>

**The Children's Museum of Pittsburgh** is looking for a youth teaching artist. The museum is especially interested in someone capable of working with kids in middle school and older. Download a PDF with the details by clicking [https://s3.amazonaws.com/cmop\\_production/downloads/527/Youth\\_Teaching\\_Artisit-ML\\_06.12.2019.pdf?1561053255](https://s3.amazonaws.com/cmop_production/downloads/527/Youth_Teaching_Artisit-ML_06.12.2019.pdf?1561053255)

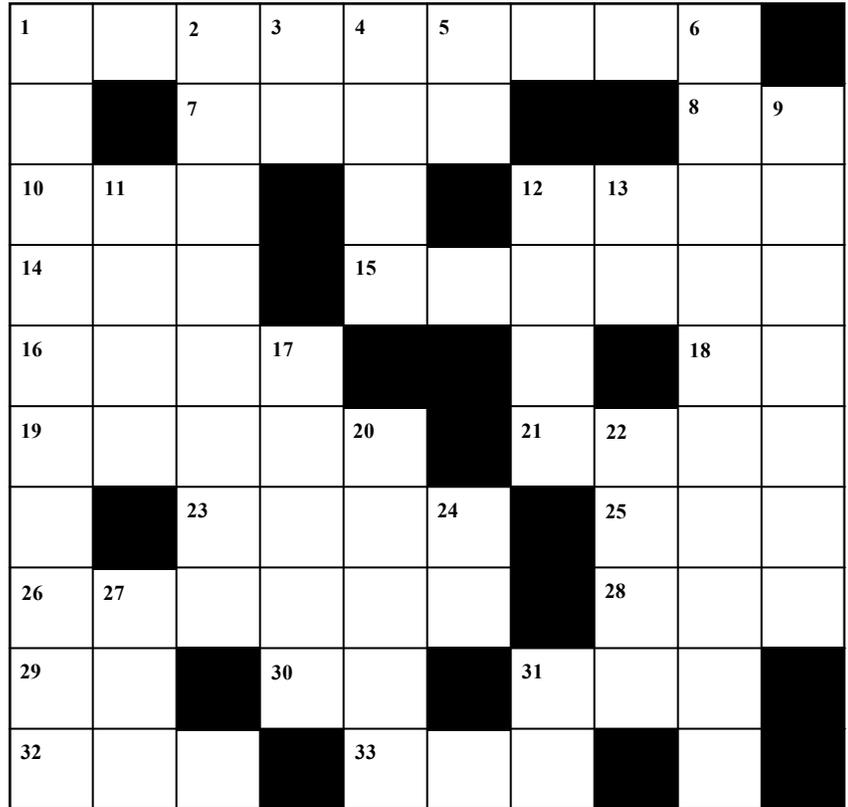
Posted on Craig's List on July 30 is a producer job at **WQED Multimedia**. This person "will have diverse responsibilities including production of live, televised broadcasts, digital-first content, televised and web-based documentary length content and shorter feature stories." See the full posting at <https://pittsburgh.craigslist.org/tfr/d/pittsburgh-content-producer/6945742686.html>



**Channel  
Pittsburgh**

## Across

1. Actor Holt, co-star of 1-Down
7. Mend
8. Quick approval
10. Knicks' grp.
12. Leslie Caron's 1958 title role
14. Ladies' patriotic org. founded in 1890
15. The villains of 1-Down (with 9-Down)
16. Angel topper?
18. Big MO city
19. The term for an addict practicing his addiction
21. Reusable bag and popular PBS premium
23. 1957 movie "\_\_\_\_\_ Hour," which was parodied by the 1980 movie "Airplane!"
25. The lowest class of dog
26. See 2-Down
28. Football goals, initially
29. 2000 Nelly rap
30. Big CA city
31. French word for "king"
32. Ump's cousin?
33. Agcy. Featured in 1-Down



## Down

1. Pittsburgh-produced Netflix series
2. Oscar winning actress and co-producer of 1-Down (with 26-Across)
3. The first two vowels
4. Laird's girl
5. Star of TV's "Alice," initially
6. Place to stretch out?
9. See 15-Across
11. Sheep's comments?
12. Perseverance
13. The answer to X minus VIII
17. Solos?
20. Actor Jonathan, co-star of 1-Down
22. Eight prefix
24. Light switch choice
27. Shinto shrine in Tokyo
31. NE state

### Last Month's Solution

D	A	V	I	N	C	I		H	A
U	T	A	H			V	I	E	W
S	E	N	O	R				R	E
T		I	P	O		A		V	
Y	E	S		T	U	L	L	E	T
		H		H		V	A		E
			S	K	E	I	N		L
	P	O	L	O		N	E	I	L
D	A	V	E		O			K	E
G	N	A	W		P	E	T	E	R