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## TRUST MEMBER NEWS

# WINTER 2020

## WHAT'S HAPPENING . . .

### ... WITH THE TRUST!



*Masquerade Party at the Palace will be on  
Saturday, February 29!*

### **MASQUERADE PARTY AT THE PALACE - February 29, 2020**

This year's signature fundraising event, Party at the Palace, reveals some of the liveliest parties under one roof in Downtown Greensburg.

Beginning at 6:30 PM, VIP guests will experience a Masquerade Ball on The Palace Theatre stage where they will indulge in hors d'oeuvres from Elegant Catering and sip on champagne while EBT Jazz plays perched above in the loge.

At 7:30 PM, enticing bites from area restaurants await each guest as they move about the theatre and celebrate the New Orleans tradition of Mardi Gras in Megan's Suite, revel in a classic Venetian Carnivale in the Mezzanine or encounter the elegant charm of a French Tea Room in Upper Megan's Suite. The popular Whiskey and Cigar Tent also returns to the S&T Bank Courtyard.

The Stage Right Sensations kick-off the night's entertainment on the grand staircase. Throughout the evening, Kayla



Ostaffe will fill the air with elegant harp sounds upstairs while Walkin' Rosie keeps the party going below. The evening will commence with a dance party in Megan's Suite.

Tickets are available now.

MAIN EVENT ONLY -

\$75 Trust Members; \$85 Non-members

VIP PARTY - SOLD OUT

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE AND PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS](#)

## NEW MEMBER BENEFITS

Westmoreland Cultural Trust has rolled out new membership benefits for the 2020 season! One of the most exciting additions is the VIP Lounge, offered to Silver Members and above. The lounge will be open during Palace Theatre performances and offers members a private area to relax and purchase top shelf liquor, select beer and wine without the wait.

[Click here for full details.](#)



## WELCOME ADAM SEIFERT

We are pleased to welcome Adam Seifert as the newest member of our team at Westmoreland Cultural Trust. Adam will assume the role of Manager, Corporate & Community Engagement.

Adam is originally from Chicago, Illinois and moved to Greensburg four years ago. Adam is a musician himself and is thrilled to be on the other side, promoting the arts in Westmoreland County.



*Chef Dave Sobota of Major Stokes (left) presents Adam Seifert of Westmoreland Cultural Trust (right) with a donation check.*

## **MAJOR STOKES DONATION**

Major Stokes - a beloved downtown Greensburg eatery - is committed to giving back. Each month, the establishment chooses a nonprofit organization to which they donate 50% of their tips. For the month of December, they selected Westmoreland Cultural Trust. On January 15, WCT accepted a check for \$1000. Thank you so much to Major Stokes and staff for their generosity.

Major Stokes is located on 108 W Pittsburgh St. in Greensburg, PA - just a few blocks from The Palace Theatre and offers 50% off desserts during Palace show nights when Trust members present their Perks Card.



*Recipients of the Westmoreland Tourism Grant were welcomed to The Palace Theatre's Megan's Suite.*

## **WESTMORELAND COUNTY GRANT RECEIVED**

Westmoreland Cultural Trust was awarded a grant as part of the 2020 Westmoreland County Tourism Grant program. Other arts partners in the area such as The Westmoreland Museum of American Art, Westmoreland Symphony Orchestra, Latshaw Productions, Stage Right!, and Westmoreland Arts and Heritage Festival were included among the honorees.

On Friday, January 17, a ceremony to receive this grant was held in The Palace Theatre's Megan's Suite.





## 2020 CORPORATE PARTNERS

We are pleased to announce Westmoreland Cultural Trust's 2020 Corporate Partners. Thank you for supporting the arts!

To learn more about becoming a corporate partner, please call 724-836-1123 or email [april@wctrust.net](mailto:april@wctrust.net)



*WCT CEO speaks on the importance of participating in the upcoming 2020 census.*

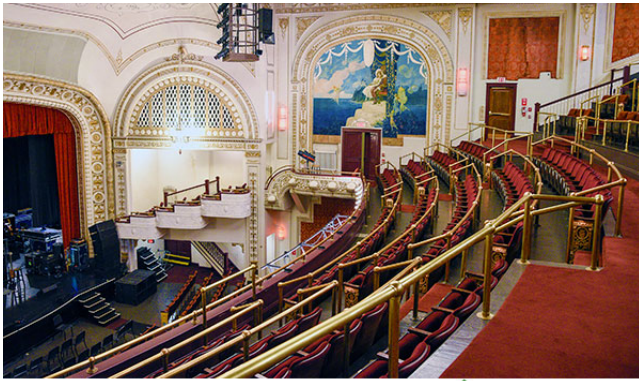
## 2020 CENSUS

WCT CEO April Kopas took part in a video awareness campaign for the 2020 US Census. The census helps ensure proper funding for community programs, including arts initiatives. Be sure to count everyone who lives and sleeps in your home on your 2020 census!

In addition, seven-year-old actress and opera singer Victory Brinker visited The Palace Theatre and filmed a video advocating for kids to be counted in the census.

Click here to view the campaign videos:  
<https://www.thepalacetheatre.org/westmoreland-cultural-trust/2020-census/>

**... AT THE PALACE THEATRE!**



## NEW TICKETING SYSTEM

The Trust is pleased to announce that we will be implementing a new ticketing system this spring. PatronManager will streamline the ticket-buying process and help us to manage our members and corporate partners more efficiently.

## UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE PALACE THEATRE



**ROME & DUDDY**  
Family & Friends  
Acoustic Tour  
Fri, March 6



**River City Brass**  
**CELTIC**  
**CONNECTIONS IV**  
Sat, March 7



**RHYTHM OF**  
**THE DANCE**  
Sat, Mar 8

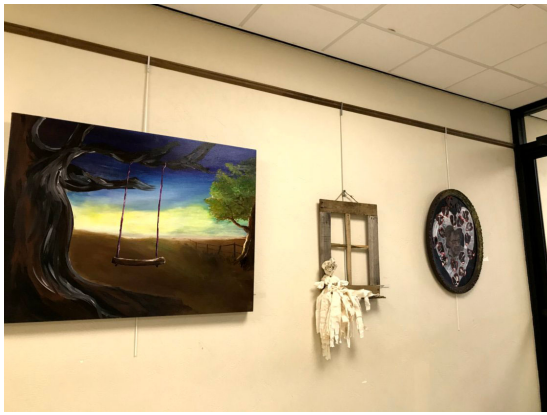


**WINDERSSON**  
**NUNES**  
Fri, Mar 13

Sat, Mar 14 - **IRISH RHAPSODY** *Westmoreland Cultural Trust*  
 Sun, Mar 15 - **LITTLE ANTHONY AND THE IMPERIALS, THE CRYSTALS & THE MARCELS**  
 Sat, Mar 20 - **MASTERCHEF JUNIOR LIVE!**  
 Sun, Mar 21 - **NEAL McCOY**  
 Tues, Mar 24 - **RAIN** *A Tribute to the Beatles*  
 Thu, Mar 26 - **HOTEL CALIFORNIA** *The Original Eagles Tribute Band*  
 Sat, April 4 - *River City Brass* **LATIN FIESTA**  
 Sat, April 11 - **JAMEY JOHNSON**  
 Fri-Sun, April 17-19 - **LEGALLY BLONDE**  
 Tue, April 21 - **ILLUSIONIST RICK THOMAS**  
 Sat, April 25 - **ITALIAN OPERA FEST** *Westmoreland Symphony Orchestra*  
 Sun, April 26 - **THE RETURN OF KENNY VANCE**  
 Tue, April 28 - **PEPPA PIG LIVE! PEPPA'S BIG ADVENTURE**  
 Thu, April 30 - **MARTINA MCBRIDE**

[Click here for a complete Palace Schedule of Events](#)

**... AT GREENSBURG GARDEN & CIVIC CENTER!**



## ART OF LOVE EXHIBIT now through March 26

Now through the end of March, Greensburg Garden & Civic Center will be the location of a brand new exhibition by local artists. Centered around the theme of love, this juried show explores love in all its splendid and non-splendid moments.

The show includes several compositions by local writers inspired by the pieces in the exhibit.

The Art of Love is organized by Mary Ellen Ranei, a local artist and WCT Art in the Alley contributor. The show will feature guest juror Kenneth Nicholson, adjunct instructor at Westmoreland County Community College, Seton Hill University, and University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg.

## UPCOMING SHOWS AT GREENSBURG GARDEN AND CIVIC CENTER

*Greensburg Civic Theatre's Greasepaint Players*  
present

### **MISS NELSON IS MISSING!**

Miss Nelson can't control her crazy classroom because she's just too nice. But when she disappears, her replacement is the hard-as-nails, detention-loving, recess-canceling, homework-overloading substitute teacher Viola Swamp! The kids suddenly realize how much they miss Miss Nelson and they'll do anything to solve the mystery of her disappearance and bring her back.

- Friday, March 20 at 7:30 PM
- Saturday, March 21 at 1 PM
- Saturday, March 21 at 4 PM

[Click here to purchase tickets.](#)



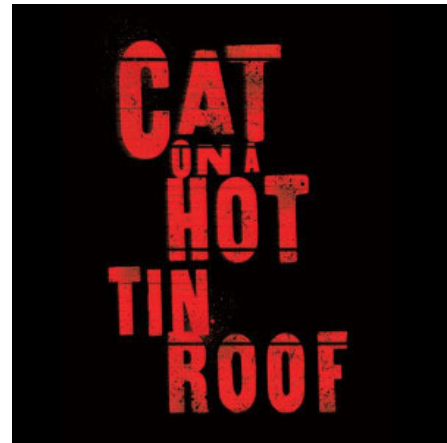


*Greensburg Civic Theatre presents*  
**CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF**

In a plantation house, a family celebrates the sixty-fifth birthday of Big Daddy, who is slowly dying, hence a number of evils poison the gaiety: greed, sins of the past and desperate, clawing hopes for the future. By evening's end, ingenuity, fortitude and passion will set things right.

- Thursday, April 30 at 8 PM
- Friday, May 1 at 8 PM
- Saturday, May 2 at 2 PM

[Click here to purchase tickets.](#)



## WHAT HAPPENED . . .

## ... WITH THE TRUST!

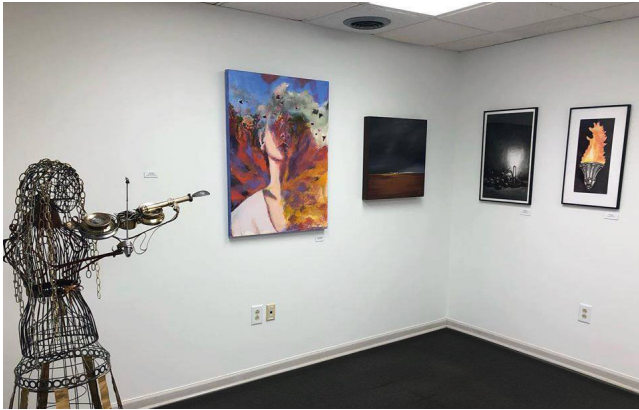


*Carolers take the stage at Greensburg's 50th Annual Luminary Night.*

### LUMINARY NIGHT

To ring in the holiday season, Westmoreland Cultural Trust took part in Downtown Greensburg's 50th Annual Luminary Night on December 5, 2019. It was an evening of family fun, including letters to Santa and a sELFie photo booth. DiMartino Ice Company thrilled the crowd with live ice carvings and also displayed some pre-carved glittering creations throughout the festival area.

Luminary Night featured entertainment by local artists The Harrold Honors Choir, Carolers from the Vocal Studio of Chris Pickering, Adam Fitz, Safety Last Acoustic, and Antolea Damico. In addition to the music, WCT's Tiny Gallery was open with a brand-new exhibit *Radiant*.



*WCT Tiny Gallery opened to provide local artists with a new space to display their work.*

## **WCT TINY GALLERY EXHIBITS CONTINUE INTO NEW YEAR**

After a successful launch in November 2019, WCT Tiny Gallery has brought in exhibitions by local artists during the holiday season and beyond.

The *Radiant* exhibit opened during Luminary Night in December and featured a number of works from Incubator and local artists, including Ray Hursh's life-sized musical angel made out of recycled metal.

In addition, *Original Art* by Patrick Mahoney and daughter Riley is showing now for one week only through February 27.

The WCT Tiny Gallery is located at 108 N Main Street at the Union Trust Building and is open from 9 AM - 5 PM on weekdays.



*April Kopas, CEO of WCT, and Art in the Alley supporters Melinda and John Sherid with Overly's Country Christmas' pair of wings.*

## **WINGS ACROSS WESTMORELAND CONTINUES TO EXPAND TO NEW LOCATIONS**

Wings Across Westmoreland ended 2019 with the addition of two new locations in Jeannette and at Overly's Country Christmas and began 2020 with a reveal during the Ice Festival in Ligonier.

Inspired by a piece found in WCT's Art in the Alley that celebrated the surrounding iconic landmarks of Greensburg, each set of wings commemorates what makes each location unique. The initial wings were created by WCT Incubator for the Arts artist Patrick Mahoney, who is continuing his work by designing each successive pair of wings all over Westmoreland County.

Jeannette was the first town outside of Greensburg to receive a pair of wings. The wings were installed outside of Sobel's Obscure Brewery and feature images of the Manos Theatre, the Jeannette Fire Station, and Keynote Cafe, among other city landmarks. A ceremony was held on November 30 to welcome the wings to their new home.

As a holiday tradition in Westmoreland County for generations, Overly's Country Christmas received a pair of wings to display during their 2019/2020 season. The artwork captured the spirit of the holidays, with imagery of Overly's throughout the years.





*Jackie Sobel, Sobel's Obscure Brewery COO, poses for a photo at the Jeannette wing reveal.*



*Mariah Fisher, Ligonier Borough's Chair of Parks and Recreation, tries out the new pair of wings located on the Ligonier Town Hall building.*

The Wings project continued in 2020 with a ceremony on January 25 during the 29th Annual Ligonier Ice Fest. The artwork celebrates such distinct features of Ligonier as The Diamond, Idlewild Park and Town Hall.

Future locations for Wings Across Westmoreland include Vandergrift May 31 and Mt Pleasant and Youngwood later in the year.

**... AT THE PALACE THEATRE!**



*Tom Harrold (Baltzer Meyer Historical Society Board President and WCT volunteer), Kathie Smiley, Judy Marinelli, and WCT's Teresa Baughman swap stories about the theatre during Judy's visit.*

## **VISIT FROM FORMER OWNER - JUDY MARINELLI**

Judy Marinelli, former Palace Theatre owner, returned to Greensburg in December to tour the theatre and reminisce with Palace Theatre Director of Operations and Programming Teresa Baughman.

Judy, along with her husband, the late Carl V. Marinelli, purchased The Palace in 1977 after it had fallen into disarray. With hard work, they helped make The Palace what it is today by renovating the space and bringing in musical acts to keep the arts thriving in the county.

The Greensburg Tribune-Review documented Judy's visit. [Click here to read the entire article about some of Judy Marinelli's favorite memories of The Palace.](#)

## **LADIES NIGHT**

November 14's Ladies Night was a night of shopping, pampering, and treats in downtown Greensburg, with deals at local establishments being offered throughout the day. GBPA converted The Palace's Megan's Suite into a beauty bar and hosted a raffle for some incredible prizes!

## **NBC DATELINE**

The Palace Theatre was recently utilized by NBC as an interview location for an episode of the long-running NBC series "Dateline." The episode - "The Premonition" aired on November 14, 2019, and told the story of Blairsville dentist John Yelenic.

## **... AT GREENSBURG GARDEN & CIVIC CENTER!**



## **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS SALE**

This past December, Greensburg Garden Center continued their yearly tradition of selling evergreen decorations just in time for the Christmas season. Arrangements included wreaths, kissing balls, and hanging baskets. A variety of styles were represented from traditional to rustic allowing shoppers to find decor perfect for any home.

## A STARRY NIGHT

On December 11, 2019, Greensburg Civic Theatre held the fundraising gala *A Starry Night* at Greensburg Garden & Civic Center. Hosted by Emcee Brian Edward, it was a night full of food, wine, and music and featured the talents of several local performers. There was also a silent auction to raise money for Greensburg Civic Theatre's continued work as a premiere theatre organization in Westmoreland County.



## OTHER NEWS

### ARTIST SPOTLIGHT - Rev. Dashier Rocket



If you're interested in viewing more of Daisher Rocket's art, check his [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#) pages.

Westmoreland Cultural Trust's Incubator artist The Reverend Daisher Rocket has been part of the Incubator for the Arts program from its inception.

"It has been exciting to watch the community become aware of the local talent that has been evolving right here in Greensburg. I believe that the Incubator has 'incubated' a diverse collective of well-rounded artists with amazing skills and talents - all of which you should check out further. We're located in The Union Trust Building in downtown Greensburg, and you can see our artwork first-hand behind the building, featured in what we call 'Art in the Alley'", explained Daisher.

Daisher dabbles in a variety of creative endeavors. When asked about his artwork, he explained, "I'm a painter, printmaker, and I also perform these weird public projects that I hope you'd find funny. Creating art is the way I talk to people, and I feel I'm getting better at that every day. I just want people to look at my art and say to themselves, 'That Reverend Daisher Rocket is a nice guy.' Ultimately, it's my personal mission to serve the community by exploring new ways to advance emerging artists by promoting the local arts scene."



## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHTS



### **Magdelyn Vale**

#### ***Westmoreland Cultural Trust volunteer***

Volunteering has been in Magdelyn Vale's family for generations. Her mother helped establish the March of Dimes campaign. "I've been volunteering all my life," Magdelyn says.

A native of Houston, Texas, she worked at several organizations including her local food bank, women's shelter, Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy and International Organization of Women. Following her move to Greensburg in 2006, she joined the Trust to meet people within her new community after finding a flier during her granddaughter's ballet recital at Greensburg Garden & Civic Center (GGCC).

An avid bocce player, Magdelyn helped organize a number of WCT events including the annual bocce tournaments at GGCC. She also assisted with the International Children's Christmas Party, filled with arts, crafts, and stories of holiday traditions around the world.

However, the largest venture Magdelyn has taken part in is the annual Party at the Palace. What started as the "Hollywood Party at The Palace" – a celebration of a decade of famous movies – evolved into the event we know today. She has been part of the planning committee for most of her time with WCT and is known for her attention to detail coordinating the decorations. Her artistic style and beautiful creations transform Megan's Suite each year during Party at the Palace.

On top of her commitments to Westmoreland Cultural Trust, Magdelyn has volunteered at Greensburg Hempfield Area Library and Laurel Ballet, focusing primarily on fundraising.

Prior to her retirement, Magdelyn worked at a brokerage firm, serving as the first woman vice

president of the organization. During her free time, she likes to play bocce, fish, make jewelry, and cook.

Thank you for sharing your time with us,  
Magdelyn Vale!

*Experience Magdelyn's Mardi Gras in Megan's Suite at this year's Party at The Palace.*

**Becky Bortz**  
***The Palace Theatre volunteer***

Becky Bortz has been ushering at The Palace Theatre for 13 of the 23 years she's lived in the Greensburg area, although she has fond memories of the theatre prior to her involvement. In 1965, she saw Walt Disney's *Mary Poppins* when The Palace served as a cinema. Another of Becky's special memories was seeing her nephew perform in *The King and I* on the stage in 1995.

Becky became involved with ushering after she received an invitation from a friend. Her favorite part of being an usher is being able to greet and talk to patrons, some who might have traveled long distances to see the show or who might be visiting for the first time. "I also love socializing with the other ushers," she adds. "We have such a great group."

She says one of the most mermorable times she's ushered at The Palace was during a Jonas Brothers' performance, which was sold out and filled with screaming teenage girls. "The balcony [was] practically shaking," she says.

Outside of her work with The Palace, Becky volunteers at her church's food pantry and at Westmoreland Arts and Heritage Festival. She is also retired from working at the Area Agency on Aging after 33 years.



"I've enjoyed my time at the Palace and hope to be serving for many more years," added Becky.

Thank you for your years of service and for providing exceptional service to our guests!

## **SUPPORT THE TRUST**

### **INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS**

**Invite a friend or relative to become a member of the Trust.**

**A referral is the best compliment.**

Contact Kelly Smith at 724-836-1123, x250 or email [ksmith@wctrust.net](mailto:ksmith@wctrust.net)

### **CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS**

**Interested in supporting our efforts in exchange for unique advertising opportunities?**

Contact 724-836-1123 or email [april@wctrust.net](mailto:april@wctrust.net)

### **A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR CORPORATE PARTNERS FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE:**





102 N. Main St, Suite 232  
Greensburg, PA 15601  
724-836-1123

*Westmoreland Cultural Trust is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to stimulate cultural and economic development in the Westmoreland County region. We promote the performing arts; we preserve and enhance our region's assets for the benefit of the community.*

The Palace Theatre | Greensburg Garden & Civic Center | Stark/James Building | Union Trust Building

This email was sent from Jennifer Benford to [jbenford@wctrust.net](mailto:jbenford@wctrust.net).  
The Palace Theatre | 21 W. Otterman St, Greensburg, PA, 15601, United States

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