## THE Marquee

From the Desk of Vonnie Corsini, Executive Director

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Drag the Gut! The headlights of hotrods and classic cars lit Broadway as they hit the streets on June 29th at 7:00pm It was a nostalgic reenactment of this famous tradition. This event was organized by Damian Christeson as a way for car enthusist and community members to get out and have some fun. The current route starts in the Applebee's parking lot and from there heads south on Broadway. Draggin' the Gut, back-in-the-day, was defined by a north turn-around at the White Grill, which was located where the TS Roger's parking lot is now, and a south turn-around at the Ottoway Drive-In (now Salon SaVVy), at Carlton and South Broadway. Please, "Like" the Drag the Gut Cruise



Facebook page and stay informed about the next Drag the Gut in July https://www.facebook.com/Drag-the-GutPittsburg-KS-109687147391867/

We extend our deepest sympathies to the families on the recent passing of our dear friends Billie Pitzer, Isobel Bartelli, Richard Pyle, John Martel, Scotty Bitner, Ed Koehler and Janet Pittman. They will be missed by their families and by our community.

Amazing Amphibians presented by Greenbush Education at Pittsburg's Public Library! The amazingly creative people at Greenbush will be at Pittsburg's Library on July Ist and every Thursday with new educational programs. The age group recommendation is third grade to sixth grade and is limited to 24 kids per session, with four sessions a day. Registration and masks are required for this free program. You can register for the event by visiting Pittsburg Public Library's Facebook page at: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/PPLonline/">www.facebook.com/PPLonline/</a>. Also, the library's new summer reading program Tails and Tales is a great way for students to brush up on their reading while also having a chance to win prizes.



The Proscenium Arch gracing the Colonial Fox Theatre stage is much the same as you would see in many historic theatres. These elegant prosceniums were intended to act as an invisible line between the reality of the audience and the fantasy of the stage. The Colonial Fox has a double proscenium, giving it the added advantage of a giant megaphone that carries the sound of a pin dropping on stage throughout the auditorium. This feature,



however, was covered over in circa 1945 by a frame built around a larger movie screen that spanned the width of the stage apron. It was hidden and forgotten until Mike Joyce and a group of his friends set about to reveal it in 2010. They discovered not only a magnificent historic proscenium arch, but one that had serious structural issues after decades of water damage from a aged roof. In 2016 Eby Construction, historic theatre specialist, was hired to rectify the damage. The giant blue hydraulic jacks, seen in the image above, were used to gradually lift the arch back to its original position. Once level, the arch was sandwiched by steel trusses to secure and hold its postion. The process took approximately 3 weeks to raise the arch 3.25 inches. It was amazing.

The 4th of July celebration is back! The City of Pittsburg Parks and Recreation Department will again host their annual Fourth of July Celebration. Events begin on July 1st and continue through the 4th, culminating with the area's largest fireworks display at 10 p.m. Last year many of the Pittsburg's 4th of July events were canceled, but they are back to business as normal this year. It is great to see Pittsburg bouncing back strong this year with a



plethora of events. This year's events will feature a baby contest, Kiddy Land, bocce tournament, fishing derby, Firecracker 5K race, Rolling Nostalgia car show, Pride of Pets dog show, and many more fun activities for the entire family. Be on the lookout for any news or announcements ahead of the event. You may also find information about these events at <a href="https://www.pittks.org">www.pittks.org</a>.

**Did you know?** The Cow Creek Skirmish was between the Sixth Regiment, Kansas Cavalry, headed by Lt. Col. William Campbell and the First Indian Brigade, a Confederate unit under the command of Maj. Andrew Jackson Piercy. It occurred on Oct. 23, 1864, starting near the site of the current Pittsburg Waste Water Treatment Plant. A granite marker memorial for the "Cow Creek Skirmish" was placed near the Crawford County Historical Museum on October 30, 2011.

## **QUESTIONS?**

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The MARQUEE is provided to individuals and businesses who help advance the cause of philanthropy through the renovation and operation of the Colonial Fox Theatre.