

Carson Chronicle

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North Allegheny Fiddlers

By: Juliet G.

Mr. Dennis Morton has been a string teacher at McKnight Elementary School since 1995, and organized the [NA Fiddlers](#) in 2002. Most fiddling is done on a violin with many different styles of music. It is mostly learned and passed along by ear and associated with dancing. The group is made up of NA students in grades 6-12 who are interested in expanding their knowledge and love of music. Fiddlers take a week-long workshop during the summer together to learn new tunes. These tunes are taught in a traditional aural format (by ear without written notes). I have found that practicing this skill with the fiddlers is helpful when learning other musical pieces. Mark Tamsula is a local folk musician and attends the workshop with us. He presents many different styles of music (Scottish, Irish, Old Timey, Scandinavian, Finnish, Cajun, and others). The NA Fiddlers have performed at many locations throughout the area, such as retirement homes, churches, festivals, picnics, country clubs,

and more. In this picture, we performed at Phipps Conservatory in December 2019. As we played festive and traditional tunes under the palm trees, a group of little kids danced to our music! We handed out jingle bells to members of the crowd to participate with us. It was heartwarming to see the



kids - and everyone else there - having a great time! The fiddlers have also performed yearly at the [Butler Ice Jam](#). Our last time performing at the local bluegrass festival was in January 2020, and we had the coveted 5pm time slot where the room was filled with many people!

I joined the NA Fiddlers in 2019, and I have had a lot of fun! We have attended many fantastic

events, and I get to connect with the other

students in the district. We learned new tunes together, and some of the fiddlers brought new music with them! I play viola (read music and play by ear; main instrument in orchestra) and fiddle (play by ear; my main instrument in NA Fiddlers).



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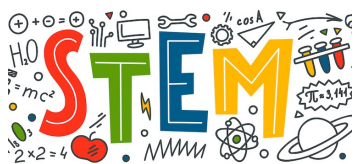
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Summer Camps Available

Summer is almost upon us and after a year or more of being quarantined and housebound, many of us are ready to get out and do something FUN!

Listed below are camps and activities that are scheduled to happen in 2021. Some of the information listed was taken from the Kidsburgh website.

Carnegie Science Center - offers more than 75 camps, fully immersing kids in all the STEM subjects: science, technology, engineering and math. Kids ages



6-17 can return to comfortable favorites from past years or jump into some of the 20 new themes coming this summer. Sports Maker Camp, held in the BNY Mellon Fab Lab, looks at ways to redesign sports equipment to make a better hockey stick or baseball mitt. Robots of the Round Table offers a medieval twist for kids to program robot knights to joust or batter down castle walls. Kids can learn wizard skills in Spellbound Science by making objects glow, fizz and disappear. Two sessions of sensory camps are offered as well.

Download the complete brochure [here](#). The Science Center offers a limited number of need-based



scholarships. [Email](#) or call 412-237-3400 for details.

The **Trust Arts Education Camps for Creatives** series returns this summer with in-person camps for grades 3-12. The 5-day sessions concentrate on developing creative skills.



Science of Visual Art camp emphasizes the laws of physics, chemical reactions and other scientific principles to create art. Sewing for the Stage looks at designing costumes for the theater. And kids will collaborate to put on a show in Theatre Production Camp. Register [here](#).

Dragon's Den is a newcomer to the [summer camp](#) lineup. The transformative educational environment has reinvented the former St. Mary Magdalene Church as a two-level rope course and zipline. Kids ages 7-18 will find exciting camps that range from Circus in the Sky and Myths and Magic to Dragon's Laboratory. Choose from half-day or full-day camps, all of which include outdoor fun in the sun with the help of Venture Outdoors. Browse camps and register [here](#).



Summer Musical Theater Camp at the PMT Conservatory shines the spotlight on kids ages 4-18. The four-week camps train kids in acting, voice and dance. They rehearse for a full-scale performance offered under the canopy at the West End school as a grand finale. Depending on age, kids can take part in "Jukebox Time Machine," "Footloose the Musical" and "Grease." Teens can choose the Technical Theater and Design track to learn about set design and construction, lighting and costumes. [Registration](#) opens on April 12. Financial aid and payment plans are available.

JCC Day Camps organize kids ages 2-15 in three locations — Squirrel Hill, Monroeville and the South Hills. Miscellaneous

Adventures includes a magic and balloon workshop with Weird Eric. Lights, Camera, Action employs the experts from Steeltown for a lesson in filmmaking. Kids learn to use hand tools in the Carving Out the Fun woodworking course. Download the complete brochure [here](#). Financial assistance is available for members, but eligible families can also receive assistance for membership. Call 412-339-5398.

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The [National Aviary](#) offers both in-person and virtual camps this year. At Safari Camp, kids ages 6-12 explore free-flight habitats where they'll find species of birds from around the world. Guided sessions demonstrate how Aviary staff care for more than 500 birds and animals. Teens ages 13-16 can opt for the Career Camp Teen Week, where they can learn what it takes to pursue a future as a zookeeper, ornithologist or veterinarian. Register [here](#).

The annual [Air Force Association CyberCamp](#) is presented via a partnership between the University of Pittsburgh Institute for Cyber Law, Policy and Security and [Pitt Information Technology](#). This year, the free, weeklong camp is scheduled from July



19-23. High school kids will be immersed in a range of technical skills and digital literacy with a focus on cyberethics and systems security. CyberCamp will take place virtually this year. [Sign up to be notified](#) about registration tentatively opening in May.

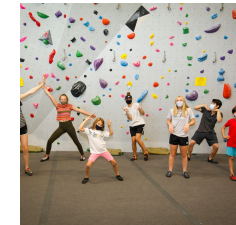
[Venture Outdoors'](#) [summer camps](#) for kids in grades 3-8 take place at North Park and on the North Shore. Outdoor enthusiasts will enjoy active recreation like kayaking, fishing, biking and geocaching. Science experiments, crafts and leadership development will help kids gain self-confidence and a greater appreciation for nature. Choose from Outdoor Adventure Camp, Cycling Through Summer or one of the two Survival Skills camps. Check out the lineup and register [here](#).

Violinists, cellists, bassists and violists are invited to bring it to [Cello Fury Rock Camp for Strings](#), offered in hybrid, in-person and online sessions this year. Cello Fury's camp gives young musicians an alternative to traditional classical training to play in a high-energy string rock orchestra. Workshops include subjects like music composition, fitness for musicians, improvisation and music promotion. The camp concludes with an outdoor concert for friends and family. All skill levels are welcome from ages 7-17. Register [here](#).

At [Ascend Pittsburgh summer camps](#), kids' strength and dexterity will be tested through



activities like rope climbing and bouldering. Balance is another skill to master



when walking a slackline. Are your kids new to climbing? No problem. These classes are designed to be accessible for

all levels and for ages 6-16. Register [here](#). Summer camp [financial assistance](#) is available.

NA Fiddlers (refer to [page #](#) for more information!) Interested in fiddling or folk music? Participate in the 2021 NA Fiddlers workshop with Mr. Morton and sixth-twelfth grade students from North Allegheny! Learn fiddle tunes by ear and hang out with other students from NA. This takes place the week of July 5-9 for 3 hours a day (9:00AM - 12:00).

Mask or No Mask?

Within the last two weeks, Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf announced that the state has gotten closer to being totally mask free by the end of June

2021. He said, "70 percent of Pennsylvanian's eighteen and older have received their first dose of the Covid-19 vaccination." To date, fifty three percent of all

Pennsylvania residents are fully vaccinated. Why are these numbers important? Governor Wolf said he will lift the mask mandate [Continued on pg 4](#)

LITTLE MEDICAL SCHOOL

By: Charlee Sunday

Carson Middle School GOAL students had an incredible opportunity to explore the medical field through *Little Medical School*. UPMC Passavant Foundation partnered with the North Allegheny School District to provide gifted students with this once in a lifetime opportunity. Doctor Kristen Lin led the workshop on May 17, in our very own Ponce Room located at the Baierl Center.

If you ever get bit by a snake, these students will be able to fix you right back up! That's right, at *Little Medical School*, students learned how to perform sutures and apply medical gauze. The workshop allowed students to make interactive models of blood using "really cool gel beads" (Charlee Sunday- student who attended LMS). Have a question

about digestion? These kids are sure to help! Using *Magic Noodles*, a grinder, and water- students got hands-on experience about what exactly happens in people's bodies after chowing down on their *Big Mac*!

The workshop focused on several aspects of the body's process. Skin, cardiovascular, human anatomy, digestion, and more! All participants of LMS received a t-shirt, medical-grade stethoscope, life-sized sticker model of the body's internal organs, markers, and plenty of take-home interactive worksheets.

"Little Med School allowed me to learn hands-on and it was a blast. The staff was extremely kind and energetic and I learned a lot!" (Sadie Kim, Carson Eighth-Grade GOAL student). The

workshop appears to have been a unanimous success!

"I am very glad that I got to participate in this event," said eighth grader Madison Emekter. "It really expanded my knowledge in the medical field and I am excited to share the new knowledge that I learned."

"I'm thrilled that we were able to offer students the opportunity to learn more about the medical field from professionals in the industry," said GOALTeacher Dana Boyd, who coordinated the program. "I'd like to thank the UPMC Passavant Foundation for sponsoring the event, and give a special thanks to Dr. Lin for being a fountain of knowledge and an extraordinary instructor."

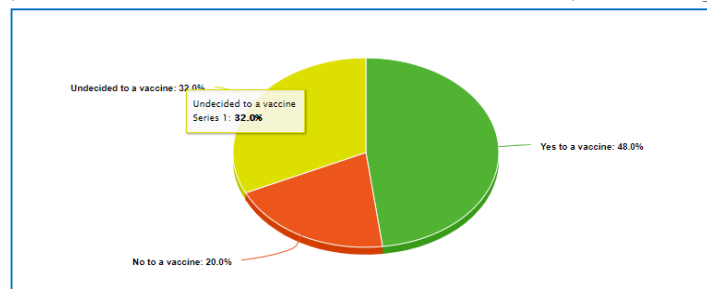
Special thanks to Dr. Lin and UPMC for running the workshop

Continued from page 3 Vaccinated? Maskless?

once 70% of adults are fully vaccinated. The second dose for next three weeks, meaning we will reach that 70% number by the end of June. Children twelve and older are now eligible to receive a Covid - 19 vaccine with their parents consent. Do you want to get the vaccine? I asked several students what they thought about getting the shot, and the pie chart shows their responses. One

thousands of residents is scheduled to occur within the student said, "If it means I can go

to class and not wear a mask, then yes, I want to get the shot." Another student said, "I hate shots, so no, I don't want to get one." What will YOU do?



Fiddlers

(Continued from pg 1.)

You don't need to play violin or read treble clef to be a part of the NA Fiddlers because we learn the pieces by ear. Cellos, basses, and other instruments are welcome as the fiddlers start at the basics. If you have no fiddling experience, NA Fiddlers is a great place to start if you're a string player. I am so glad that I joined the group, as I have learned many new skills - musical and general life skills!



If you are interested in fiddling or curious about folk music, I suggest participating in the 2021 NA Fiddlers workshop. The workshop will take place at North Park during the week of July 5-9 for three hours each day from 9:00 AM - 12:00. At the end of the workshop, the fiddlers host an old-time jam session (Friday, July 9th) for parents, family, and friends to listen along. Bring a chair, relax, and have a picnic while listening to some old-time folk music. Students who participate in the summer workshop will have the opportunity to meet throughout the 2021/2022 school year at various events and jam sessions.

You can sign up for the workshop by filling out the online application found at

nafiddlers.net. After filling out the application, you will send a \$50.00 check to the NA Fiddlers (details in the [flyer](#)). The check helps to purchase supplies, get an official NA Fiddlers shirt, and cover the costs of guest musicians.

To get involved, ask questions, or comment about the NA Fiddlers, you can contact Mr. Morton (**Email:** dmorton@northalleggheny.org). If you'd like the NA Fiddlers to play at your event, fill out the online form or Word Document on the [NA Fiddlers website](#).

Anticipation of What's Awaiting @ NAI

As this unique school year comes to an end, students are experiencing many emotions. Eighth graders have the most feelings, as some are leaving the place they have been at for the past three years; however, students, such as myself, haven't been at in-person school since March 2020. So, I interviewed some 8th grade students from both in-person at Carson and from NACA to see what their

thoughts were about leaving middle school and moving onto high school at NAI. First, mostly everyone I interviewed said they were looking forward to getting a fresh start in 9th grade. When you move from the place you've been at with the same people for the past 3 years to a new school, it means new beginnings, friends, and opportunities.

Some students, however, said they were experiencing a mix of emotions about this. One in-person Carson student, Maggie Zhang, stated that she was "nervous to get used to a new routine different than it has been for the past 3 years," but also is "excited for the larger variety of class choices, which means greater opportunities to learn new things."

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Mrs. Boyd Reaches Retirement “GOAL”

By: Anna Getz

Mrs. Boyd, the CMS GOAL teacher, is retiring after 32 years of hard work at North Allegheny. This was not her first job, though. She has worked as both an elementary and middle school GOAL teacher, and as a highschool NACA teacher this year as well. This means that



she has been able to teach kids of all ages, and have many different experiences as a GOAL teacher. She also coaches the high school junior varsity tennis team, but has

not yet decided if she will continue to coach after her retirement.

Mrs. Boyd is retiring this year for multiple reasons, but the biggest one by far is so she can spend more quality time with her sons and their families. Along with family time, she plans on sleeping in, playing pickleball, and just relaxing after this school year.

Both her favorite thing about teaching GOAL and what she will miss most after this year is all of her students. Impressively, she received the [Gifted Support](#)

[Teacher of the Year](#) in Pennsylvania in 2012, and while there, thoroughly enjoyed meeting and having conversations with people from all around with similar interests and values. The thing she has learned most of all from teaching GOAL is that putting in time and energy into her students is important and rewarding.

She wants her students to remember that,

“Successful people are **RESILIENT** (think weeble wobbles), persevere, and consider themselves lifelong learners.”

-Dana Boyd

Heading to NAI.....

Continued from pg 5

Another in-person student, Emma Neff, stated that she was also experiencing mixed feelings, being excited about moving onto high school because “leaving middle school gives me a sense of completion, satisfaction, and maturity,” but also “sad about leaving middle school because I’ve been there for a while, and I’ve gotten to know the staff and students really well.” She also said that she knew she wouldn’t be able to see everyone from Carson as often anymore, with everyone

“taking different classes, joining new clubs, being involved in new activities, and making new friends.” This comment makes sense, as there will be over 400 new students to meet at NAI from the other two middle schools. Students that have been virtual all year in NACA are also experiencing different emotions about starting high school. NACA students agree that it will be hard to adjust to in-person school after not being there for a year and a half, let alone a whole new school

building, with an earlier time to wake up and having to transition to classes all day with no asynchronous time. One NACA student, Jennifer Zhang, said that “getting used to an in-person routine would be difficult,” but she is “excited to get to experience classes, like orchestra, in person again.” NACA students also are excited to get to talk to other students in person all day again, after only being able to communicate with other students virtually this year.

A Man of Miracles

by Sadie Kim

Judah Samet, an 80-year-old Holocaust survivor and Tree of Life shooting victim, has survived countless attacks of anti-Semitism—prejudice against Jewish people. This “Man of Miracles” is located in Pittsburgh and lives to pass on his important stories.

At the age of six, Hungarian-born Samet was sent to the Bergen-Belson concentration camp, along with his family, where they spent 11 months locked up. There, he and his siblings starved based on such small to no food rations which resulted in the consumption of lice that had infected the camp. Samet grew ill from eating this parasite and developed a build up of puss under his skin, abscess, on the back of his head. A fellow inmate with a medical background performed an open surgery with no sedatives or pain medications. Despite the unsanitary environment of the concentration camp, Samet survived this dangerous operation with no expected infections. This was just the beginning of Samet's luck.

Samet said he boarded three “death trains” throughout the war. On his ride, he was sent on a train to an unknown location—assumed an

by Sadie Kim

extermination camp. Later, the train stopped in a forest close to Berlin and the German soldiers holding them captive fled. Soon after, an American infantry and an armored tank arrived, saving their lives.

After the war, Samet spread his stories and continued to practice the religion he had fought so hard for. However, in 2018, disaster struck again. As stated by the Jerusalem Post, a gunman entered his place of prayer – the Tree of Life Congregation in Pittsburgh – and massacred 11 people who were in the middle of a Shabbat service. Samet had arrived a few minutes late due to his housekeeper keeping him. If he had arrived any sooner, he would most likely have been shot. Judah had a clear view of the gunfire exchange. “The murderer was standing in the doorway with a large, black submachine gun. Tatatatata – five shots each burst. I felt the bullets whizzing past my head.” Samet later recalls being shocked by all of his friends who had been caught in the massacre. He remembers looking at the memorial pictures and wondering how he had survived.

“I was four minutes late arriving at the Tree of Life Congregation; if I'd been on time, I



wouldn't be here today.” Samet says, “The first thing that came to Samet's mind after the shooting: his time at a concentration camp. ‘It never ends. That was my thought.’”

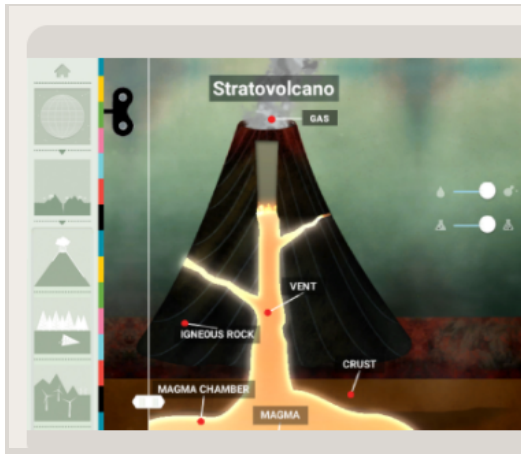
Samet has been spared from yet another anti-Semitism crime and is forever grateful. He shares his experiences to thousands of people at schools, discussion panels, and through the Pittsburgh Holocaust Center. On one occasion, he was invited to the White House while attending the State of the Union address on his 81st birthday as US President Donald Trump's guest.

On May 26th, 2021, Judah Samet even took a virtual trip to CMS to recall and reteach his inspiring stories for the 8th graders learning about the Holocaust to hear. He enjoyed telling his “tale of survival.”

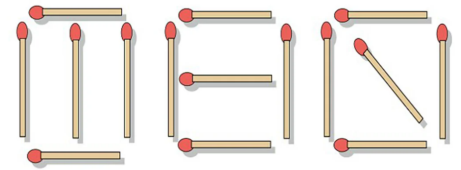
Asked by Rabbi Shraga Simmons on how he managed to survive these two horrific events, Samet states, “You got to go on,” he says pensively. “Someone is looking out for me.” Judah Samet is truly a “Man of Miracles,” a “Double Survivor”—even when he looks danger right in the eye.

Fun Page – Random websites that get your mind working!

Explore from crust to core to see how our home changes right under our feet.



Design you own Video games at Gamestar Mechanic



Remove six matches to make 10

