

A cool treat found on the Square for Father's Day

When does a joke become a Dad joke? When the punchline becomes apparent.

When does the punchline become apparent? After the delivery.

In honor of fathers everywhere I thought I'd open with some eye-roll dad jokes.

New Yorkers of a certain age will remember ice cream man Tom Carvel, who was known for commercials as lame as a bad dad joke. For Father's Day 1977, he created the Fudgie the Whale Cake, adorned with the phrase "To a Whale of a Dad," and pitched it on television.

The cake became a staple of Father's Day celebrations across the greater tri-state area and Fudgie became an iconic character. He made a cameo appearance at Shea Stadium and was parodied on "The Simpsons" and referenced on morning-show and late-night TV segments.

The Carvel company



TASTES OF THE TOWN

Linda Dwyer

changed hands, but Fudgie continues to outsell other cakes.

Creative ice cream creations have been enjoyed for a very long time. Baked Alaska was created at Delmonico restaurant in New York City after the U.S. acquisition of the Alaska territory in 1867. Baked Alaska has cake on the bottom as insulation for the ice cream and is covered in meringue.

The Baked Bear was started in San Diego by college buddies who decided customized ice cream sand-



The Baked Bear serves customized dreamy, creamy ice cream sandwiches.

wiches were a cool idea. A local franchise at 109 East Seventh Street in Georgetown was started by local residents Bobby and Melissa Aleman. It's the perfect place to give dad his just desserts this Father's Day.

Bill and I customized

our own dreamy, creamy sandwiches at The Baked Bear and visited with Mr. Aleman. We were quite impressed with the quality of ice cream as well as the variety of flavors. The mix and match concept was fun. My caramelized pretzel

fudge ice cream was topped with fudge sauce and nestled between two brownies. I named it Fudgie the Goldfish in homage to the whale cake. It was deliciously decadent.

Mr. Aleman fondly recalled how quickly the business became part of the Georgetown community. A soft opening during covid had lines wrapped around the block. After pandemic restrictions eased, Georgetown once again became a popular day trip destination. Every tourist town needs a good ice cream shop and The Baked Bear fits the bill. Mr. Aleman enjoys the steady mix of regulars, newbies and out of towners.

The longtime Georgetownian is proud of the product and believes an abundance of "have it your way" options makes Baked Bear special. A rotation of Ice cream flavors come from Wisconsin dairy country. Cookies and brownies are baked daily on site. The July "cookie of the month" will be Lemon Glaze. Sand-

wich edges can be rolled in candy, crunchies, nuts or even cereal. Sandwiches are the main draw but waffle cones and bowls are available.

Mr. Aleman gave plenty of credit to the young employees who become part of the Bear family.

"Once they're on our roster we welcome them back during college breaks and holidays. We love working with the kids. We see them grow up and take initiative," he said.

Bobby or Melissa are always on hand during busy hours.

Looking for another excuse to indulge in the decadence at Baked Bear? In 1984, President Ronald Reagan designated July as National Ice Cream Month and the third Sunday of the month as National Ice Cream Day. Reagan described ice cream as "a nutritious and wholesome food enjoyed by over ninety percent of the people in the United States."

Splash into summer reading at the Georgetown Library

BIBLIOFILES

Ann Evans

It is time to dive into reading. Summers are a busy time at the Georgetown Public Library. Not only is the library a great place to cool off, but we also have plenty of ways to help pass the time including participating in our summer reading program, or SRP for short.

This year's theme is "Oceans of Possibilities." All land based and sea creatures are welcome to participate in the program for their age group.

Kids may pick up their reading tracker and calendar at the children's desk and teens can find theirs in the teen space. For each day they read, or are read to, they get a ticket for a chance to win treasure, more commonly known as prizes.

The more they read, the more chances they will have to win. Reading materials can include books, comics or graphic novels, magazines, audio books and ebooks. Optional challenges can be completed for additional tickets. Reading trackers for June are already available and the reading tracker for July will be released the last

week of June. The last day for kids to turn in a reading tracker is July 24. Teens have until July 29 to turn in their trackers. Reading trackers can be turned in at the children's desk in the children's room for both kids and teens.

Additionally, kids and teens are competing in teams for the chance to decorate their respective spaces. Sea faring readers up to age 12 will be assigned to team narwhal, penguin or jellyfish. The children's

room will be decorated for the final program, based on the animal of the team that wins. Teens can choose between the sea beasts Krakren, Siren or Hydra and there will be a shell-abration for the winning team that all teens are welcome to attend on August 6.

All SRP events are free and open to the public, though space is limited. Tickets are required for kid, tween and teen events, and will be handed out on a first come, first served basis

one hour before the start of a program at the children's desk in the children's room.

Due to the popularity of the programs, the library cannot accommodate groups such as churches, camps or daycares. Baby and family storytimes will continue with some slight changes in the schedule.

This summer the library is also excited to offer Playtime Playdates in cooperation with Georgetown Parks and Recreation. Located at San Gabriel Park

in the Legacy Pavilion, an outdoor storytime will be followed by playtime.

The kid, tween and teen SRP programs kicked off the first week of June and continue through July. The adult SRP, for ages 18 and up, will kick off on July 8, with the talk "Going Back from Whence we Came: The Search for Ancient Peoples in the Seas" presented by Gault Site Executive Director Clark Wernecke. Adult reading challenges will run through August. Adult chal-

lenge cards will be available to fill out online or in person at the circulation desk. The treasure prizes for adults will include a Kindle Fire, an adult SRP t-shirt and a kayaking gift certificate for Lake Georgetown.

All programs are also listed on the library's website and calendar of events. See you soon at the library!

Ann Evans is the Adult Services Librarian at the Georgetown Public Library.

Summer Reading Program Calendars

Kids SRP Events (Up to age 12)

Space is limited so free tickets will be handed out on a first come, first served basis one hour before the start of a program at the Children's Desk in the Children's Room.

June 15, 10 a.m.: Storytime Playdate in San Gabriel Park

June 21, 11 a.m.: A Real Mad Hatter

June 29, 10 a.m.: Storytime Playdate in San Gabriel Park

July 5, 10 a.m.: Nancy and Friends

July 6, 10 a.m.: Storytime Playdate in San Gabriel Park

July 9, 11 a.m.: Mad Science

July 19, 10 a.m.: Staci Gray

July 20, 10 a.m.: Storytime Playdate in San Gabriel Park

July 26, 10 a.m.: Jeff Hapke

Tween SRP Events (ages 9-12)

Space is limited so free tickets will be handed out on a first come, first served basis one hour before the start of a program at the Children's Desk in the Children's Room.

July 1, 1 p.m.: Fidget Cubes and Bad Art

July 15, 1 p.m.: Lego Fun Day

July 29, 1 p.m.: Draw Manga

Teen SRP Events (ages 12-18)

Space is limited so free tickets will be handed out on a first come, first served basis one hour before the start of a program at the Children's Desk in the Children's Room.

July 1, 3 p.m.: Fidget Cubes & Bad Art

July 15, 3 p.m.: Lego Fun Day

July 29, 3 p.m.: Manga Drawing with Surapsari

August 6, 1 p.m.: Winners' Finale Party

Adult SRP Events (ages 18 and older)

Some adult SRP events may be restricted based on age or available space. Event registration for those events will be found online at library.georgetown.org/events-calendar.

July 8, 7 p.m.: Going Back from Whence we Came: The Search for Ancient Peoples in the Seas

July 13, 6:30 p.m.: GPL World Cinema: Swimming with Men

July 22, 7 p.m.: Shanties and Shandies (ages 21+, pre-registration required)

August 5, 7 p.m.: ASRP wrap party

August 10, 6:30 p.m.: GPL World Cinema: My Octopus Teacher

For more information about these and other library events, visit library.georgetown.org/events-calendar or call 512-930-3551.

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This June we celebrate **Pride Month** in Georgetown. As an employer and a local government, we recognize our residents and employees who have been historically marginalized or underrepresented as members of the LGBTQIA+ community. This month we are taking a moment to honor their contributions and celebrate the value they bring to our city. For more information, visit georgetown.org.

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