

New Chapter



Fall 2008

CLP – Hill District is Now Open!

The wait for Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's first **new library building** in more than 28 years is finally over!



On **Saturday, October 25**, more than 900 community members braved the elements and helped create history. Neither rain nor wind could keep people from celebrating their new library.

Hill District resident Sylvia Griffen started the day's festivities as the first volunteer in a book processional that delivered August Wilson's *Radio Golf*, the last book housed at the area's former library on Dinwiddie Street, to its new home at 2177 Centre Avenue at Kirkpatrick Street. An African Drum ensemble from The Miller School

accompanied the processional through its half-mile journey where Niger Hilaire (age one) and his mother, Nava, were waiting to place the book in its rightful spot in the Library's Reading Room.

By mid-day the sky had cleared, casting sunlight on hundreds of

smiling faces as residents toured and enjoyed the library. The community event capped off a two-day celebration that included a champagne benefit luncheon, balloon drop, storytelling, jazz performances and author appearances.

(Continued on page 15.)



Time is Running Out ...

You can renew more than just books at the Library! Your donation to our Libraries for LIFE capital campaign enables us to renew our facilities so that we can better serve the community. *And your donation will be matched by the Richard King Mellon Foundation.*

Help us to reach our year-end goal. Visit www.carnegielibrary.org/challenge before we say goodbye to 2008!

www.carnegielibrary.org

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President's Corner

Happy Holidays!

At Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh we have a lot to be thankful for this holiday season. Pittsburgh is repeatedly praised as one of the most literate cities in the country; the Library continues to be the region's most visited asset with the number of people using our services consistently rising; and, with the help of friends and supporters, we reinforced our commitment to life-long learning and community development with the opening of a beautiful library in the Hill District.



Dr. Barbara K. Mistick

As we look toward the new year I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your generosity. As a supporter of library services you can be proud to know that, because of your gift, children are introduced to early learning skills, small business owners have access to specialty resources, unemployed workers are able to apply for jobs online and teens can research career opportunities. These are a few small examples of how the Library impacts the more than 2.8 million customers who rely on our services every year.

In the year ahead we expect public library usage to rise significantly across the nation. Traditionally, people turn to public libraries during hard economic times for access to books, to help with employment searches, to start or improve a business, to access computers and broadband service and to help save money by doing things themselves, such as home and auto repairs.

In 2009 library funding from both state and local sources will remain flat. At the same time we also know that the increased demand for our services will cause our expenses to rise. The Library is taking the appropriate steps to ensure that our services are available when the community needs them the most. I invite you to join us in keeping our communities strong and guaranteeing the success of the Library.

Thank you again for supporting Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh. From our family to yours, may you have a joyful and peaceful holiday season!

Dr. Barbara K. Mistick
President and Director

Libraries for LIFE

Building Communities
Enriching Lives

A Toast – to CLP – Hill District

*Can you tell that we are
all jazzed up about our
new library?*

On Friday, October 24, Mayor Luke Ravenstahl, Allegheny County Executive Dan Onorato and Libraries for LIFE Capital Campaign Cabinet Co-chairs, Leo Gerard and John Surma joined 170 community leaders at a Champagne Luncheon to toast the opening of CLP – Hill District.

The sold-out event raised approximately \$60,000 for the campaign.



We want to see your name on our walls!



2,400 Paper Hard Hats Need Owners

Did you know you can renew more than just books at the Library? Customers can lend their support to the Libraries for LIFE Capital Campaign by purchasing a paper hard hat (or two or three ...) at any CLP neighborhood location. A donation of \$1.00 or more places your name on a hard hat and enables the Library to renew facilities to better serve the community. As a bonus, your donation will be matched by the Richard King Mellon Foundation.

Don't let a lonely hard hat sit while its friends hang on the Library walls. Please visit any CLP location and adopt one today.

\$1,000,000 Challenge

YOU | *Make the
Difference!*

It's not the size of the gift that matters, it's the action of giving that counts. To date, more than 400 individuals have responded to the \$1 million Richard King Mellon Challenge Grant, putting us \$440,000 closer to our goal. But that means we still **have \$560,000 to raise toward this challenge!** The need for increased library support is resonating throughout the community. Please join individuals such as Dawn and David Hickton, Barry Lohmer and Janet Markel, and Peter and Sybil Veeder, whose gifts will allow the Library to address urgent capital needs. Your support, whether it is large or small, contributes to the future of our libraries and our communities.

To learn how your donation to the Libraries for LIFE Capital Campaign can go twice as far, please visit www.carnegielibary.org/challenge.

News Briefs

CLP by the Numbers



1 **New social services resource area** found on the CLP Web site. On August 18, the Library launched a *Housing & Homelessness* resource page to coincide with *Sleep-in for the Homeless*, an initiative designed to raise awareness and funds for those deprived of basic needs. CLP was a partner in the event, providing book bags, information, reading and viewing materials and book lists for the more than 200 participants.

954 **Visitors** didn't let a little rain stop them from checking out CLP – Hill District, Pittsburgh's newest library on opening day. The building continues to draw crowds — more than 100 people have applied for library cards since the Library opened.

4,189,500

Items are projected to pass through the Library's Support Center in 2008. When the economy slows, more people gravitate to Allegheny County's seventy-three libraries, making CLP's fleet of vans an efficient way to move requested materials throughout the region.



Pittsburgh Pirates Pitcher Matt Capps with his CLP Library Card.

51 **Libraries in Allegheny County** teamed up with CLP and the Pittsburgh Pirates for the second season of *Pirates Tales*. Pirates Pitcher Matt Capps recognized the Library for encouraging kids to set reading goals during the summer months during an on-field ceremony at PNC Park before the September 14 home game. More than 1,250 students participated in this year's program.

13,388

People caught the reading bug this summer, logging 78,757 books read over the course of three months. The Library's annual summer reading program experienced an 18.7% increase in overall participation.

Donor Spotlight

Support a New Chapter

**2008 Annual Fund
Appeal Ends December 31**



As we prepare for 2009, we anticipate increased use of our materials and increased traffic to our facilities across the system. At the same time we are dealing with flat funding from government funding sources, which is putting a strain on our budgets. It is imperative that we continue to be able to provide the services our community needs.

Your support helps to create and sustain our community vitality. In a typical week, thousands of young people stop by the Library to work on their homework or to socialize with friends online. Our librarians provide support and resources to customers of all ages, from families introducing small children to reading through picture books and puppet shows to adults reading for pleasure. The Library also provides specialized assistance on topics such as job and career searches, “how-to” information, family genealogy and much, much more.

Andrew Carnegie did not endow the Library. He felt that the responsibility for the maintenance and development of such a valuable public resource rested with the community. Our present and future depends on an active and generous commitment from people like you who understand that Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh provides a priceless and irreplaceable benefit to our region. ■

Please consider a gift to the Library's Annual Fund before December 31!

Please consider making a gift or increasing your support today. Forms can be obtained by calling the Library's Development Office at 412.622.6276, or you may donate securely online at www.carnegielibrary.org/support. For your convenience, a pre-addressed envelope can be found in this newsletter.

National Grant Takes “Iron and Steel” Into the Modern Age

A \$600,000 National Leadership Demonstration Grant from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) is enabling CLP to digitally preserve more than 400,000 pages of historic materials related to the iron and steel industry and make them available to the public. Dating as far back as the 1800s, nearly 20 percent of the Library's large collection of historic books and other materials that document Pittsburgh's steel and iron legacy is too fragile to handle. By saving the materials in a digital format, CLP is able to make them accessible to local students as well as national historians via computers and the Internet. A unique feature of the *The Legacy of Iron and Steel* project incorporates the use of social networking software that will enable customers to comment upon and tell stories about the items. The software also has the capability to connect customers with each other. ■

See page 14 for more Donor Spotlights.

Thank You to Our Donors

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July 1 - September 30, 2008

Every effort has been made to acknowledge the generosity of our donors correctly and completely. Should you discover an error or omission, please contact us at donors@carnegielibrary.org or 412.622.6276.

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Donor Spotlight



Vote CLP!

Tired of seeing the same old boring political sign in your neighbor's front lawn? You see them all over the city — the signs that won't go away now that the election is over. Thanks to a community outreach grant from The Pittsburgh Foundation a new kind of yard sign is cropping up all over the Hill District. Cardholders are proudly showing their support for their new library declaring, "We're All Jazzed Up. Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh – Hill District is Now Open!" ■

RADical Improvements!

The next time you are at CLP – Main, look down!



Thanks to an Allegheny Regional Asset District capital improvement grant, the Library installed new carpeting on the 2nd and 3rd floors of the Main Library in Oakland. This project put CLP one step closer to completing the renovation and reorganization project at Main that began in 2003. Two library services relocated during this time – the Job & Career Education Center moved to the 2nd floor and the Patent and Government Document and Microfiche Departments joined the 3rd floor Microfilm area – improving customer access in both departments. ■

Digital Talking Books

on the Horizon for Readers

by Lynn Vroblick,
LBPH Publicity Liaison

An exciting new phase is beginning for readers with visual and physical disabilities. Digital talking books and players will become available in 2009 through the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS) and will be distributed in Western Pennsylvania by Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (LBPH). This new service will eventually replace the now outdated analog audio-cassette books and players which the Library has loaned customers since the 1970s.

The features of the digital system will empower patrons and greatly enhance their reading experience. Using a flash cartridge slightly larger than a credit card with a label in both Braille and large print, the new digital talking book will produce crisper, clearer audio quality. It also has enhanced navigation features that allow the reader to jump to various chapters and sections of a book. Weighing less than an audiocassette player, the digital playback machine will consume less power, enabling longer operation for a given battery capacity.

(Continued on page 15.)

Digital Talking Books
continued from page 14.

LBPH serves readers of all ages and is recruiting new customers so they may be placed on the waiting list for digital players. Readers who cannot see print, hold books steady for long periods of time or those who cannot turn pages are eligible for LBPH services. Individuals with reading disabilities caused by conditions such as dyslexia or stroke can also benefit from the digital devices. ■

Please call 800.242.0586
or visit LBPH online at
www.carnegielibrary.org.

CLP – Hill District Now Open
continued from page 1.

“Libraries are microcosms of the community – a central anchor to our past, present and future,” Dr. Barbara K. Mistick, President and Director, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh told the crowd. “Our new location provides even greater access to the Library and positions the Library as a cornerstone of this community’s redevelopment. We are honored to be part of its future.”

The new library transforms the site of a 1950s-era gas station into a welcoming gateway to the Hill District. Features of the new \$3.15 million construction project include a teen lounge, reading room with café style seating, community meeting room, children’s room and free wireless Internet access. Outside, customers will immediately notice an

urban bioswale, or sustainable rain garden. This unique element is designed to recycle rain water and prevent silt and pollution from running into the sewage system. CLP – Hill District is the first freestanding library built under Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh’s Libraries for LIFE Capital Campaign.

Since the building opened, the staff has issued more than 100 library cards. Joyce Broadus, manager of CLP – Hill District, remarks “The overwhelming response from the community shows just how important the construction of this new library is for the Hill District. The central location allows more people to enjoy the library’s many resources, including our extensive African American literature section.” ■



“The overwhelming response from the community shows just how important the construction of this new library is for the Hill District.”

– Joyce Broadus, Manager, CLP - Hill District



Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh – Hill District

Grand Opening Weekend
October 24 & 25, 2008



August Wilson

Tribute to August Wilson

.....

The history of Pittsburgh's Hill District community has been captured in the words of late playwright August Wilson. A portion of the lot used to construct CLP – Hill District at one time housed Eddie's Restaurant, a neighborhood eatery frequented by Wilson and featured in his play *Two Trains Running*. In the Library's Reading Room customers are able to sit on a stool salvaged from Eddie's and locate landmarks referenced by the playwright in his *Century Cycle* boxed set. A copy of the 10-play collection sits on a piece of African zebra wood beneath a 10-foot-by-7-foot map from 1923 with locations highlighted from his plays.

The staff of CLP – Hill District is looking forward to your visit! The library is open Monday – Thursday, with weekend hours on Saturday. ■

For more information about this and other projects in our Libraries for LIFE campaign please visit www.carnegielibrary.org.



CLP Holiday Gift Guide

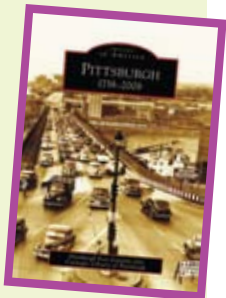
Don't be left out in the cold without the perfect gift this holiday season. CLP makes it easy to find unique gifts for the hard-to-shop-for people on your list.

Pittsburgh: 1758 – 2008

Be among the first to purchase *Pittsburgh 1758 – 2008*. Prepared jointly by the staffs of the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* and Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, this book commemorates the city's 250th birthday by documenting the people, events and achievements that have shaped Pittsburgh.

Available at CLP – Main, 4400 Forbes Avenue, or your favorite local bookstore.

Price: \$21.99



Umbrella

This perfectly-sized black umbrella's surprising inside design is perfect for a rainy day. All you have to do is look up to see a map of Pittsburgh – with landmarks such as Primanti Brothers and the National Aviary and Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh!

Exclusively at CLP – Main, 4400 Forbes Avenue.

Price: \$24.99

Reusable Tote Bag

Support your library and the environment with a Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh reusable tote bag – perfect for carrying your newly borrowed books. Makes a great stocking stuffer!

Available at all nineteen CLP locations.

Price: \$1.00

Donation

A donation to Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh is the gift that keeps giving. Contact our Development Department at 412.622.6276 to explore ways to honor your loved ones, including placing their name in a book.

Priceless.



2008 CLP Volunteer Honorees with CLP Deputy Director Mary Frances Cooper (center).

We Love our Volunteers!

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh volunteers logged more than 17,526 hours of service last year. On Monday, October 13, it was the Library's turn to give back. At a luncheon in the Carnegie Museum of Art's Hall of Architecture, President and Director Dr. Barbara K. Mistick, Deputy Director Mary Frances Cooper and Volunteer Coordinator Karen Meherra thanked volunteers for their passion and dedication to Pittsburgh's libraries.

Congratulations to the following Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh volunteers who celebrated a milestone in 2008.

5,000 Hours

Bill Adams, *Library for the Blind & Physically Handicapped*

3,000 Hours

Frances Burych, *CLP – Mount Washington*

Jack Goerl, *Library for the Blind & Physically Handicapped*

Maxine Heller, *Communications & Creative Services*

Fritz Seldon, *Library for the Blind & Physically Handicapped*

2,000 Hours

Fred Dollin, *Library for the Blind & Physically Handicapped*

Burt Kennedy, *Library for the Blind & Physically Handicapped*

Tom Masterson, *Library for the Blind & Physically Handicapped*

Frank Noah, *Library for the Blind & Physically Handicapped*

1,000 Hours

Jerry Sestrich, *Library for the Blind & Physically Handicapped*

Paul Tumolo, *Library for the Blind & Physically Handicapped*

500 Hours

Bill Mancini, *Library for the Blind & Physically Handicapped*

Edith Schneider, *CLP – Main, Reference Services*

Olga Yee, *Customer Services* ■

Staff Picks



Adult Nonfiction



Teen Scene Nonfiction



Children's Corner

Let's Get Cooking!

Adult Fiction

- Andrews, Mary Kay | *Deep Dish*
Davidson, Diane Mott |
Sweet Revenge
Jacobs, Kate | *Comfort Food*
Johnson, Claire M. | *Roux Morgue*
Volland, Susan | *Cooking for Mr. Right*

Adult Nonfiction

- Cohen, Jayne | *Jewish Holiday Cooking: A Food Lover's Classics and Improvisations*
Deen, Paula | *Christmas with Paula Deen: Recipes and Stories from My Favorite Holiday*
The Editors of Country Living | *Country Living: Merry & Bright: 301 Festive Ideas for Celebrating Christmas*

Fox, Lori, editor | *Holiday Baking: Treats Filled with Cheer for a Magical Time of Year*

Fulweiler, Megan | *Holiday Decorating*

- Compiled by Kaarin Van Ausdal, Department Head and Noufissa Lamrani-Powell, Library Assistant, CLP - Main; First Floor, New & Featured

Teen Scene Fiction

- Bradley, Alex | *Hot Lunch*
Elliott, Jessie | *Girls Dinner Club*

Teen Scene Fiction continued

- Shaw, Tucker | *Flavor of the Week*
Smith, Cynthia Leitich | *Tantalize*
Smith, Sherri L. | *Hot, Sour, Salty, Sweet*

Teen Scene Nonfiction

- Carle, Megan and Jill Carle | *Teens Cook: How to Cook What You Want to Eat*
Krizmanic, Judy | *The Teen's Vegetarian Cookbook*
The Manga University Culinary Institute | *The Manga Cookbook*
Schlosser, Eric and Charles Wilson | *Chew on This: Everything You Don't Want to Know About Fast Food*
Stern, Sam | *Cooking Up a Storm*
- Compiled by Karen Brooks Reese, Teen Services Coordinator, CLP

Children's Corner

- Gold, Rozanne | *Kids Cook 1-2-3*
Karmel, Annabel | *The Toddler Cookbook*
Katzen, Mollie | *Salad People and More Real Recipes: A New Cookbook for Preschoolers & Up*
MacLeod, Elizabeth | *Bake and Make Amazing Cookies*
Zalben, Jane Breskin | *To Every Season: A Family Holiday Cookbook*
- Compiled by Lisa Dennis, Coordinator of Children's Collections, CLP

Coming Attractions!

It's going to be a very good year! Watch for these events in 2009.

Warm up your days with a Library program!

January

- KazooFest
- Sunday Afternoon Music Series
- Film Screenings
- Book Discussions

February

- Share the History - Black History Month
- Harambee Read Aloud

March

- Share the History - Women's History Month
- Won't You Be My Neighbor? Days

Coming soon...

New Library on the North Side!

Check out www.carnegielibrary.org for more information and to find events at your favorite CLP location.

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