

New Chapter



Carnegie
Library of
Pittsburgh

Vol. III, Issue 1 • 2009

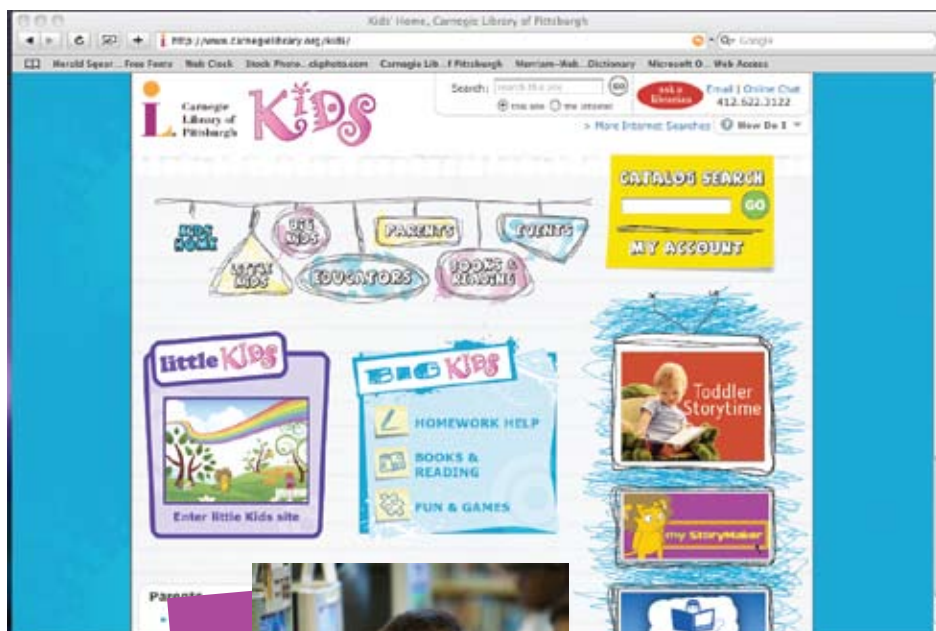
1-2-3 Launch!

Kids' Web site lets kids learn, play and explore

With mouse in hand and computer knowledge far beyond her eight years, Megan gave the Library's new Kids' Web site her stamp of approval. As one of the first customers to test the site, she surfed effortlessly through the pages, pausing briefly to share her thoughts with the Library's Web team. The idea of breaking the site into two age groups, a section for "little kids" and one for "big kids" scored a big thumbs up!

CLP launched www.carnegielibrary.org/kids on January 23 and is receiving high praise from children and caregivers alike. Kids like the fun design and the challenge of finding the hidden gems (just try to take the worm from the bird's mouth) scattered among the pages, while parents enjoy the knowledge that the commercial-free site focuses on learning and nurturing each child's love of reading.

(Continued on page 12)



**Providing Critical Services:
Employment Tools at Your Fingertips!**

Available 24 hours a day at www.carnegielibrary.org
For the full story, see page 13.

www.carnegielibrary.org

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President's Corner

Dear Friends,

As each new year begins, I often wonder what we will think of it when it ends. How will we reflect on the challenges we faced? The successes we achieved?

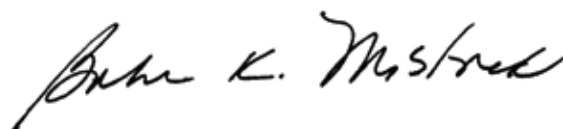
This year, the outcomes are harder than usual to predict. In 2009, our country, our region and our Library can expect more uncertainty than stability. We will need to make tough decisions and explore new opportunities.

In challenging times, communities tend to pull together. But now, a broadening group of people need support and assistance in finding jobs, affording housing and providing for the basic needs of their children and families.

Where does the Library fit in? The services libraries provide can and do make a critical difference in people's lives. We are an essential part of Pittsburgh's educational process. Children gain early literacy skills at the Library, and our professional staff helps parents and children learn together. Our new Kids' Web site is a fine example of how we do both. Our staff also helps people with job searches. Through our librarians, our programs and our robust Web site, we link people to critical social services.

And we are a bright spot in the community. When it's cold, we're a place to get warm. When it's wintry dark, our lights are on. People come to the Library to learn and to get help. But they also come to explore through books and films and music. We need you to tell your friends, your neighbors and your elected officials how essential the Library is to your community. We need your continued financial support for both our operating budget and our capital campaign. We need your advocacy as we explore new ways to fund services and programs that are critical to the well-being of the people we serve.

I truly believe that tough times present opportunities. I am confident we can rise to the challenges before us, and that the coming year will once again bring accomplishments worthy of high praise.



Dr. Barbara K. Mistick
President and Director



Dr. Barbara K. Mistick

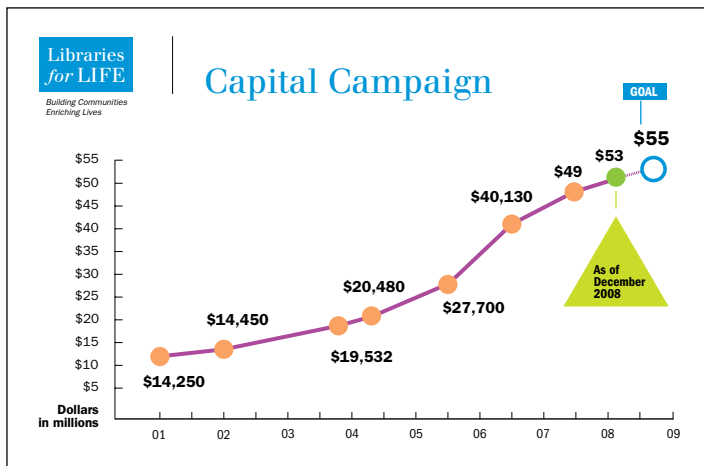
Opening Summer 2009

The wait is almost over!



After a three-year wait, our new North Side Library will be ready to welcome its first visitors this summer. The new \$6 million library building will feature a teen section, a children's outdoor terrace, wireless Internet access and a reading room designed to showcase the rich history of the neighborhood. ■

Keep watching www.carnegielibrary.org to see how we plan to celebrate.



\$53 Million and Counting!

Help us meet our Capital Campaign challenge!

We are so close to reaching the \$55 million goal of our Libraries for LIFE Capital Campaign. Help us meet the challenge! Please contact CLP's Development Office at 412.622.6276 to learn how an investment today impacts the future of the region. Your contribution will be doubled thanks to a matching grant from the Richard King Mellon Foundation. ■

YOU | Make the Difference!

In 2008, your investment in the Library helped open new doors for job seekers, introduce children to new discoveries and renew a community's passion for learning.

In this challenging economic environment, free Library services are needed more than ever, and your gift to CLP has never been more critical.

Thank you for valuing CLP and the importance of a strong library system.

If you haven't already made your pledge for 2009, please consider spreading your total donation over a period of 12 months through our online giving program at www.carnegielibrary.org/support.

Share your love of the Library with your friends. Encourage them to experience the Library's value themselves by visiting our Web site and our neighborhood locations.



www.carnegielibrary.org/support

News Briefs

CLP by the Numbers



125,000th question answered by *Ask Here PA*, a live state-wide reference service, during a demonstration at CLP – Main in December. Pennsylvania Education Secretary Gerald L. Zahorchak asked e-librarian and CLP reference librarian Scott Pyle for the text of President Abraham Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation and Farewell Address. CLP is one of only four county libraries whose reference staff commits volunteer hours to *Ask Here PA*.

**Pennsylvania Education Secretary
Gerald L. Zahorchak**

63 children and **63 grownups** attended CLP – Main’s Baby Lapsit in February – a 33% increase over 2008. The Library’s Baby Lapsit programs are a great way to introduce young children to reading, providing children a head start on language and social development skills.

Get your kids hooked on reading. The Library offers storytimes for children of all age groups. Visit www.carnegielibrary.org/kids to find a program in your neighborhood.



506 people enjoyed CLP – Downtown & Business’ first Light Up Night @ the Library Open House. In addition to staying open late, the Library provided live music, crafts and warm refreshments for those who braved the cold. Customers at CLP – Mt. Washington joined the celebration and had the best seats to watch the closing fireworks.



100 years and counting! CLP – South Side opened its doors on January 30, 1909, housing a collection of books written in Polish, German, Lithuanian, Serbian, Italian, French, Croatian, Hungarian, Swedish and Yiddish. The Library was so popular among the community that less than 350 books remained on the shelf at the end of a typical work day.

Donor Spotlight



Author Nan Weizenbaum Embraces Library's Inclusiveness

Tucked among the Library's treasures at CLP – Main is Nan Weizenbaum's 2001 sci-fi novel, *The Timebroker*.

Pick up a copy and head up the stairs to the Music Department where you'll find CDs and musical scores composed by her husband Reza Vali. If you're lucky, you may even catch Nan during one of her weekly visits to CLP to check out the latest audio book release or to find a good foreign film to watch on a chilly evening.

"My husband and I support the Library because free access to information is so vital," she said. "From the Internet to uncommon pieces of music, the Library gives people the opportunity to find the information they are looking for, and, as an author, that is special to me."

Like many people, Nan began her relationship with the Library while in school, researching topics for class. Her use of the Library evolved with her writing career. Spending hours scanning microfiche to develop her characters (once to see what the weather in Pittsburgh was on a certain day in August 1935) transformed into spending hours researching her family's genealogy, rediscovering classic movies and enjoying CLP's diverse collection. "It makes me happy to see how many people are using the Library," she adds. "Libraries are magical places. It is a place where everyone is welcome, and that is rare." ■

New Hours at CLP – Main

The New Year brings new hours at CLP – Main in Oakland. Facing a funding challenge, CLP made the decision to decrease hours of operation by two hours a week, with CLP – Main opening one hour later on Friday and Saturday. As Library use continues to rise, this change allows the Library to reduce expenses, but ensure that our services are available when the community needs them most.

CLP - Main Hours of Operation

Sunday
12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Monday – Thursday
10:00 am - 8:00 pm

Friday and Saturday
10:00 am - 5:30 pm

Invest in Your Community!

An investment in Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh supports advancement in job and career services, children's literacy, historical preservation, consumer health resources and much, much more. 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. For your convenience, a pre-addressed envelope can be found in this newsletter.

Thank You to Our Donors

CLP Annual Fund Donors October 1 - December 31, 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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Building Communities
Enriching Lives

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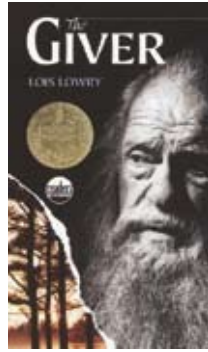
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What Everyone is Reading in April



The Giver by Lois Lowry
2009 One Book, One Community Selection

Designed to engage readers on important public issues, *One Book, One Community* brings the community together through the power of reading. In cooperation with the Allegheny County Library Association (ACLA), Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh will host a variety of programs throughout the month of April that focus around this year's theme "visions of the future." ■

Visit www.carnegielibrary.org for a complete listing of events.



If You Were a Penguin
by Wendell and Florence Minor
Pennsylvania's 2009 One Book, Every Young Child Selection

If you were a penguin you could "fly underwater," "sing a duet," "make funny faces," "learn to toboggan" and "get really wet." The 2009 *One Book, Every Young Child* selection, *If You Were a Penguin*, uses rhyme, vivid pictures and action words to help children discover the wonderful world of penguins. Now in its fourth year, *One Book, Every Young Child* provides free books to children through childcare centers, Head Start programs and libraries to encourage parents and adults to actively engage in reading.



During the month of April, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh will host several penguin-themed family-friendly events. During each program, children's librarians will read *If You Were a Penguin* and provide book-related activities, games, stories and crafts for children. ■

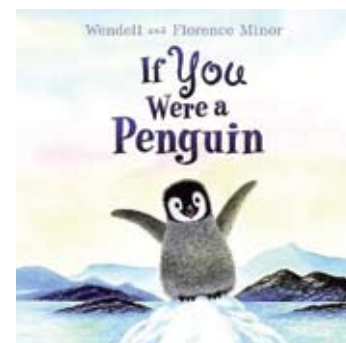
Visit www.carnegielibrary.org for a complete listing of events.

Save the Date –
Summer Reading Extravaganza:
Sunday, June 7

Meet the Authors!

Wendell and Florence Minor

Wendell and Florence Minor, the husband and wife team behind *If You Were a Penguin*, will help kick off Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's summer reading program. Stop by CLP – Main on June 7 to meet the duo during the Library's annual Extravaganza. ■



1-2-3 Launch!

Continued from page 1

Developed with the assistance of children's librarians and educators, the new Web site is rare in the world of Nickelodeon- and Disney-dominated kids' sites. CLP holds the distinction of having the only kids' library Web site in the country that is split into two age groups and features content tailored for distinct ages.

Kids also have the freedom to create, print and share their own unique stories at home through *my StoryMaker*. Since its debut at CLP in late 2007, more than 2,000 children have discovered this exclusive interactive feature. This will mark the first time the computer-based *my StoryMaker* will be available outside of the Library's Children's Departments. Parents and educators also can use the site to find information on Internet safety, bookmark family-friendly events and locate bibliotherapy booklists to help the young children in their lives tackle difficult situations.

"We want all kids to be able to experience everything the site has to offer, including younger children who are just developing reading skills," said Molly Quinlin, Web redesign team member. "The goal is to have new, dynamic content posted on a regular basis to keep children engaged and interested in everything that the Library has to offer from books, events and programming to games, learning and fun."

"Look What I Can Do!"

Web site for "Little Kids"

The first part of the site is designed for children who are just starting to learn to read, although adults will have fun exploring the nuances of the site as well. Its interactive components, including age-directed booklists and original games involving color recognition, memory skills and counting, encourage discovery through random clicking and exploration.

(Continued on page 13)



"We want ...to keep children engaged and interested in everything that the Library has to offer from books, events and programming to games, learning and fun."

– Molly Quinlin, CLP Web site redesign team member

1-2-3 Launch!

Continued from page 12



“Just for Me!”

Web site for “Big Kids”

The site’s “Big Kids” section focuses on the needs of older, school-age children. One of its popular features, *Homework Help*, provides live assistance as well as a tool for research on a number of school subjects. Similar to the “Little Kids” site, “Big Kids” has age-appropriate booklists, a monthly highlight of authors, topics and genres, events, Internet safety information and tools for educators and parents. The monthly “character spot” highlights popular children’s book characters to encourage kids to explore reading. ■

Employment Tools at Your Fingertips!



With the economy on everyone’s mind, the Library has developed an online tool to assist recent graduates, seasoned professionals and people who are between careers with their job searches. CLP’s Job and Career Education Center (JCEC) recently added a Web index to its array of employment resources. Library staff pre-screened quality local and national Internet sites that offer helpful information for all phases of the job search process and formatted the information into a one-stop-shop for job-seekers. This comprehensive index is available 24 hours a day at www.carnegielibrary.org and includes:

- *Career Planning and Occupational Trends* – Visitors can take assessment tests, research a career, learn about upcoming “hot jobs” and read job descriptions.
- *Find a Job* – These sites provide tips for job searches and online job listings.
- *Getting the Job* – Resume and cover letter writing, interviewing techniques and guidance in researching a potential employer are provided to help the jobseeker through the application process.
- *Other Things to Consider* – Topics covered include salary negotiation, relocation and geographic information and cost of living calculators.
- *Miscellaneous* – This category assists with special situations such as unemployment, special needs, avoiding scams, job fairs and placement assistance.
- *Mega Sites* – These large, all-inclusive sites offer a little bit of everything involved in the job search process.
- *Educational Testing* – Links connect customers to the official sites of standardized tests including the SAT, GRE and GED.
- *Literacy* – This section connects people with programs to help them learn to read.
- *Vocational Schools and Apprenticeship Programs* – Links to licensing information, schools and unions are provided here. ■



Discover more at www.carnegielibrary.org! Click on “Tools & Research” then the “Jobs, Careers & Education” link.

Black Holes, Beakers & Books:

A POPULAR SCIENCE BOOK CLUB

Interested in exploring the vast mysteries of the cosmos, understanding human evolutionary history or talking about the long-term future of the planet earth? Then, this book club is for you!

Sundays, 3:30 pm | CLP - Main, Director's Conference Room

April 19 - *The First Human: The Race to Discover Our Earliest Ancestors* by Ann Gibbons

June 21 - *Your Inner Fish: A Journey Into the 3.5-Billion-Year History of the Human Body* by Neil Shubin

StoryCorps[®]
The conversation of a lifetime

Ask now.
Listen forever.

Share the History: StoryCorps, The Conversation of a Lifetime

In the summer of 2006, more than 150 Pittsburgh residents participated in the largest oral history project ever undertaken. Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh partnered with DUQ 90.5 FM to become the first public library to host a StoryCorps Mobile Booth recording studio. Since its inception, more than 35,000 people nationwide have shared and recorded their personal stories for posterity with family and friends through StoryCorps. Along with archiving local interviews at the Library of Congress, copies were given to CLP and are now available on the Library's Web site.

Visit www.carnegielibrary.org
to listen to your neighbors
share their history.

WON'T YOU BE MY NEIGHBOR?

March 18 - 25

Mister Rogers was a special neighbor to Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh. To celebrate his legacy, the Library has planned a week of family-friendly events that focus on the spirit of community.

For a complete list of activities, visit www.carnegielibrary.org.

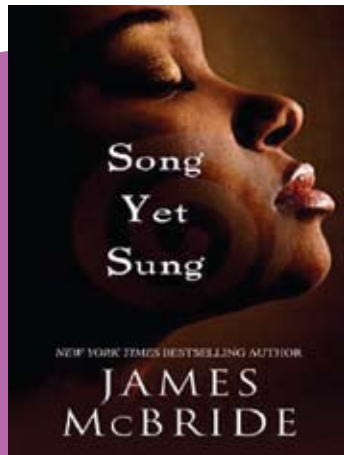
Wear a Sweater to Your Library Day!

Please wear a sweater on

Friday, March 20 and Saturday, March 21

in honor of Mister Rogers' birthday.

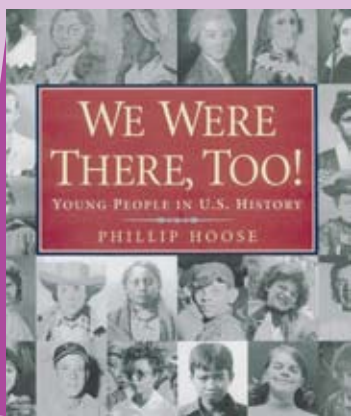




Adult Fiction



Teen Scene Fiction



Children's Corner

Staff Picks

Share the History!

Explore the past through Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's rich collection of biographies, historical fiction, genealogy materials, music, movies and more.

Adult Fiction

- Habila, Helon | *Measuring Time: A Novel*
- McBride, James | *Song Yet Sung*
- Piercy, Marge | *Sex Wars: A Novel of the Turbulent Post-Civil War Period*
- Russell, Mary Doria | *Dreamers of the Day: A Novel*
- Setterfield, Diane | *The Thirteenth Tale: A Novel*

Adult Nonfiction

- Carter, Cynthia Jacobs, editor; foreword by L. Douglas Wilder | *Freedom in My Heart: Voices from the United States National Slavery Museum*
- Isay, Dave, editor | *Listening is an Act of Love: A Celebration of American Life from the StoryCorps Project*
- Switala, William J. | *Underground Railroad in Pennsylvania*
- Ulrich, Laurel Thatcher | *Well-Behaved Women Seldom Make History*
- Compiled by Kaarin Van Ausdal, Department Head, CLP – Main; First Floor, New & Featured

Teen Scene Fiction

- Anderson, Laurie Halse | *Chains: Seeds of America*
- Haddix, Margaret Peterson | *Uprising*

Teen Scene Fiction continued

- Hooper, Mary | *Newes from the Dead*
- Laskas, Gretchen Moran | *The Miner's Daughter*
- Smith, Sherri L. | *Flygirl*

Teen Scene Nonfiction

- Aronson, March | *Witch-Hunt: Mysteries of the Salem Witch Trials*
- Bartoletti, Susan Campbell | *Hitler Youth: Growing Up in Hitler's Shadow*
- Blumenthal, Karen | *Six Days in October: the Stock Market Crash of 1929*
- Crowe, Chris | *Getting Away With Murder: the True Story of the Emmett Till Case*
- Compiled by Karen Brooks-Reese, Teen Services Coordinator, CLP


Children's Corner

- Bolden, Tonya, editor | *33 Things Every Girl Should Know about Women's History: From Suffragettes to Skirt Lengths to the ERA*
- Hoose, Phillip | *We Were There, Too!: Young People in U.S. History*
- Masoff, Joy | *The African American Story: The Events that Shaped our Nation – and the People who Changed our Lives*
- Winter, Jonah | *Steel Town*
- Wolfman, Ira | *Climbing your Family Tree: Online and Offline Genealogy for Kids*
- Compiled by Lisa Dennis, Coordinator of Children's Collections, CLP

Find these lists and more! Click on "Books, Downloads & More" at www.carnegielibrary.org.

Coming Attractions!

Looking for something to do? The Library offers a wide array of free programs for children, teens, adults and families. Check out www.carnegielibrary.org this month to see what's happening at your favorite CLP location.



ParentPrep: Tips for Raising Successful Readers

FREE programs for parents and caregivers
CLP - Downtown & Business | 612 Smithfield St.

Spend a lunch hour on your kids. Discover ways to unlock your child's love for reading and develop tools to prepare him/her for school success. Pick one program or attend them all!

All programs begin at 12:15 pm.

Monday, April 6 - Social-Emotional Learning
Wednesday, April 22 - So, What is My Child Doing All Day?
Wednesday, April 29 - So, What Did You Do in School Today?

Please visit www.carnegielibrary.org or call 412.281.7141 for program descriptions.

Be Creative @ Your Library!


Make CLP a part of your family's summer tradition.

Annual Summer Reading Extravaganza

Sunday, June 7 | 12 - 5 pm
CLP - Main

Rain or Shine!

Sign up the whole family for summer reading - read books and win prizes!



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. Comments and mailing list updates may be sent to donors@carnegielibrary.org or by calling 412.622.6276.

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