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For Immediate Release

Get a Clue @ Your Library! Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh Kicks off Summer Reading Program

(PITTSBURGH, PA – May 29, 2007) More than 6,000 people are expected to help Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh kick off the official start of summer reading at the Library's 7th Annual Summer Reading Extravaganza, "Get a Clue @ Your Library!" On Sunday, June 10, 2007 from Noon until 5:00 pm, the great lawn of the Main Library in Oakland and the newly renovated Schenley Plaza will host a huge celebration, jam-packed with free games, crafts, treats and entertainment.

Families attending the Library's Extravaganza are able to experience more than fifty activities, including:

- A climbing wall;
- A special appearance from the Pirate Parrot and the Pittsburgh Pirates Cannonball Crew;
- Performances by Satin Steel, Alan Irvine, The Sounds of Pittsburgh Chorus and Ray Owen;
- Face painting courtesy of Comcast;
- Basketball demonstrations sponsored by the Pittsburgh Xplosion;
- The Eat'n Park Smiley Cookie Cruiser;
- Carousel rides at Schenley Park Plaza;
- Puppet Shows presented by the Carnegie Characters;
- Fingerprinting courtesy of Applebee's Neighborhood Grill & Bar and the Allegheny County Sheriff's Office;
- Balloon artists, clowns and magicians;
- Story Sharing and drawing with Suzanne Bloom, author of *A Splendid Friend Indeed*; and
- The antics of Radio Disney DJ's Rockin' Renee and JP.

After the Extravaganza, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh and libraries in Allegheny County will continue to offer special programs, activities and prizes to promote reading throughout the summer months. Last year, approximately 9,000 readers participated in Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's Summer Reading Program, reading more than 64,000 books. Studies suggest that children who read during the summer months are more prepared and less likely to fall behind during the start of the school year. Teens and adults are also encouraged to participate in summer reading, with special themes and events scheduled at libraries throughout the summer.

2007 Extravaganza sponsors include: Applebee's Neighborhood Grill and Bar, Comcast, Colonel Pacoe's Kettle Korn, Dominion Foundation, Eat'n Park Hospitality Group, Equitable Resources Inc, Giant Eagle Inc, Kennywood, Larry Berger and the Saturday Light Brigade, Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy, Pittsburgh Pirates, Pittsburgh Xplosion, and Radio Disney.

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's 7th Annual Summer Reading Extravaganza is free and open to the public. For more information, call 412.622.8872 or visit www.carnegielibrary.org/kids.

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Established as a public trust in 1895, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh serves the citizens of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County with a distinguished history of leadership among the country's great public libraries. Through its 19 neighborhood locations, including Main Library and the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh is the region's most visited asset. Each year the Library provides more than 6,000 free programs, classes and other learning and training opportunities that are tailored to meet the dynamic and diverse needs of people living in Western Pennsylvania.