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For Immediate Release

Making Your Money Go Further!

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh Begins Money Matters, a Personal Finance Lecture Series

(PITTSBURGH, PA – March 12, 2009) Area residents struggling to overcome debt, confused about investing in the current economic climate or looking for ways to manage their personal finances are finding Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's resources invaluable. Responding to an increased demand for personal finance information, the Library is hosting a free lecture series to bring attention to the issues that are affecting many local residents in these challenging economic times. Throughout the series, representatives from the Financial Education Consortium of Southwestern Pennsylvania will offer time-tested strategies to help customers navigate the world of personal finance.

All programs will take place in the Quiet Reading room of CLP – Main, 4400 Forbes Avenue in Oakland and include:

Smart Housing – Making Good Choices

Saturday, April 18 (3:00-4:30 PM)

Sarah Newman, NeighborWorks® Western Pennsylvania

This session will focus on the benefits and pitfalls of renting vs. owning a home and how to make the most of either choice. Topics for discussion include knowing about your rights as a tenant, understanding the home-buying process and becoming familiar with great local programs for low-income and/or first-time homebuyers.

Get a Handle On It: Credit and Debt

Wednesday, April 29 (6:00-7:30 PM)

Iris Valentin, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) and Jada Grandy, Fifth Third Bank

You can get out of debt. We'll help you evaluate and repair your credit, stay safe from unwise use of credit and avoid predatory lending.

Budgeting – Hold on to More of Your Money

Saturday, May 16 (3:00-4:30 PM)

Amanda Burkhart, ACTION Housing, Inc. and Bill Long, Operation HOPE

Do you find yourself spending more than you earn? Learn the fundamentals to successfully budget your income and cut back on spending so you can save more, invest more and worry less.

Understanding Investing – Taking Care of Ourselves and Our Kids

Wednesday, May 27 (6:00-7:30 PM)

BetterInvesting, Pittsburgh Chapter and Larry Garvin, PA Treasury Department

Don't let the economic downturn scare you away from investing in your family's future! Now is the perfect time to learn about investing for your retirement and your children's college education.

ADD 1

Personal Finance Series Begins at Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh

Play it Safe: Insuring Your Assets

Saturday, June 13 (3:00-4:30 PM)

Presented by Ed Cerezo and Kevin Kerr of The Kerr Agency

Protect yourself and your loved ones with appropriate levels of insurance. Learn more about the ins and outs of auto, home, health, life and renter's insurance at this informative presentation.

For more information or to locate an event at your favorite neighborhood library, please visit www.carnegielibrary.org.

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About Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh

To Engage our Community in Literacy and Learning

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, with 2.6 million visitors in 2008. Each year the Library provides valuable resources, programs, classes and training opportunities that engage the community in literacy, and life-long learning.

About Libraries for LIFE

Building Communities, Enriching Lives

While Andrew Carnegie provided the seed money to build the library facilities; he did not leave an endowment for their ongoing operations and maintenance. Thanks to local, county and state governments, corporations, foundations and individuals, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's Libraries for LIFE Capital Campaign is renewing library buildings to meet the needs of today's library customer. In 2000 Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh embarked upon a \$55 million capital campaign, the first in the Library's history, to make neighborhood libraries accessible system-wide. Since the campaign began, the Library has renovated or relocated seven neighborhood libraries and completed a partial renovation of the Main Library, First Floor. CLP-Hill District is the seventh library to be completed in the system-wide renewal, and the city's first newly constructed library since 1980. To date, the Library's efforts have resulted in significant investment in Pittsburgh neighborhoods, providing a range of library services and programs for children, teens and adults and facilities that accommodate new collections and 21st century technology.