



# The Bulletin

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Bulletin photos by Rick Swartz

## East Liberty library to close June 13 for renovation

The Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh in East Liberty will close for renovations at the end of the business day on Saturday, June 13.

Parents and children will be pleased to know that services to the East Liberty area won't disappear completely. During renovation, Senior Children's Librarian Caralee Sommerer will be at the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh in Lawrenceville. Ms. Caralee will continue to provide outreach to the East Liberty community in a variety of ways.

Borders Books and the Parental Stress Center will provide space for literary programs such as storytimes for babies, toddlers, preschoolers, and elementary-age children. Visits to the Pittsburgh Public Schools pre-K classrooms will continue during the Summer extended-year program from June 22 to July 17 at the Fulton and Kingsley sites.

There are some possibilities of providing summer camps and other groups with storytimes. Outreach to East Liberty will continue through the 2009-2010 school year with monthly visits to the Pittsburgh Public Schools Early Childhood Centers and other schools.

For those who wish to enroll in the Summer Reading program, the program can be completed online. Children who read books from June 7 to August 8 may record the number of books or hours spent reading by visiting the website <http://www.carnegielibrary.org/summer/>.

Families will select a nearby library, Homewood, Lawrenceville, Squirrel Hill or the Main Library, where they may pick up reading rewards, such as a free book or an Applebee's coupon.

For more information, contact library staff via email at [eastliberty@carnegielibrary.org](mailto:eastliberty@carnegielibrary.org).

### JULY DEADLINE!

The **FINAL DEADLINE** for the **JULY 2009** issue is **MONDAY, JUNE 15**

This includes ALL classified ads, Bulletin Board announcements, story submissions, and ad space reservations. All content is accepted on a space-available basis. For more information, call 412-441-6915.

## Ups and downs in East Liberty



Bulletin photo by Vince Chandler

ABOVE LEFT: Rob Stephany, Director of the City of Pittsburgh Urban Redevelopment Authority, addressed a crowd that included Mayor Luke Ravenstahl and local leaders during a groundbreaking ceremony for a new affordable housing and retail development that Community Builders, Inc. will construct at the former site of a high-rise apartment building on Penn Circle West.

ABOVE RIGHT: Hundreds of early risers witnessed the implosion of the high-rise at 6231 Penn Ave. on May 17. The third and final high-rise public housing structure on Penn Circle came down in a dramatic style to make room for a Target store. Many of the structure's former residents have relocated to new housing in East Liberty and other East End neighborhoods.

## PUBLIC SAFETY TASK FORCE REPORT

### ***Narcotics and vice arrests in Garfield-Friendship-East Liberty during March, April***

March 4, 10:35 a.m. - Vice Squad detectives arrested a 45-year-old female at Penn Ave. and S. Fairmount St. Charges: prostitution and loitering for the purpose of prostitution.

March 13, 7:59 p.m. - Narcotics Investigation detectives arrested a 37-year-old male. Charges: drug paraphernalia; fleeing and eluding a police officer. The individual fled from the detectives in his vehicle when they attempted to pull him over at Kincaid St. and N. Pacific Ave.

March 20, 5:25 p.m. - Vice Squad detectives arrested a 30-year-old female at Penn and N. Pacific Aves. Charges: prostitution, and loitering for the purpose of prostitution; aggravated assault on a police officer after she reportedly punched one of the detectives.

March 25, 8:50 p.m. - Vice Squad detectives arrested a 36-year-old female at N. Negley Ave. and East Liberty Blvd. Charges: prostitution and loitering for the purpose of prostitution.

March 25, 10:20 p.m. - Vice Squad detectives arrested a 37-year-old female at N. Negley Ave. and Black St. Charges: prostitution and loitering for the purpose of prostitution.

March 25, 10:50 p.m. - Vice Squad detectives arrested a 41-year-old female at Penn and N. Pacific Ave. Charges: prostitution and loitering for the purpose of prostitution.

March 26, 11:20 p.m. - Vice Squad detectives arrested a 49-year-old female at N. Negley Ave. and Rural St. Charges: prostitution and loitering for the purpose of prostitution.

March 27, 6:30 p.m. - Impact Squad detectives arrested a 32-year-old male. Charges: possession of a controlled substance (heroin and suboxon). The individual was reportedly observed in the parking lot of an apartment complex at S. Winebiddle St. and Friendship Ave. in possession of the heroin in plain view of the detectives.

March 30, 8:45 p.m. - Impact Squad detectives arrested a 23-year-old male and a 31-year-old male. Charges: possession of a controlled substance (crack cocaine). The individuals were reportedly observed in a vehicle in the 5100 block of Penn Ave., with the crack cocaine in their possession.

April 2, 9:40 p.m. - Vice Squad detectives arrested a 24-year-old female at Penn Ave. and S. Winebiddle St. Charges: prostitution and loitering for the purpose of prostitution.

April 2 11:35 p.m. - Vice Squad detectives arrested a 44-year-old female at Penn Ave. and N. Winebiddle St. Charges: prostitution and loitering for the purpose of prostitution.

April 24, 5:15 p.m. - Vice Squad detectives arrested a 45-year-old female in the 4700 block of Penn Ave. Charges: prostitution and loitering for the purpose of prostitution.

## ***Be streetwise, stay safe***

Know how to protect yourself and join with your neighbors to make your streets and neighborhoods safer places. If you keep three basic guidelines in mind, you can reduce the opportunity for muggers, purse snatchers, thieves and other criminals to strike.

1. Stay alert and be aware of who is in front of you and behind you.
2. Communicate the message that you are calm, confident and know where you are going.
3. Trust your instincts. If you feel uncomfortable in a place or situation, leave.

Here are some more ideas for staying safe from the Zone 5 Citizen's Public Safety Council. The Council meets at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month at the Union Project, at the corner of Stanton and North Highland Avenues.

### **WALKING:**

Plan a safe, well-lit route to your destination. Avoid vacant lots, alleys and construction sites. Take the long way if it is the safest route. ♦♦♦ Know your neighborhood – how late stores and restaurants are open and where the police and fire stations are located. ♦♦♦ Know where your children are going and encourage them to stay in groups. Show them safe places to go if they are ever scared. ♦♦♦ Carry your handbag close to your body and keep a firm grip on it. Keep your wallet in an inside coat pocket or a side trouser pocket, not a back pocket. ♦♦♦ Don't flaunt expensive jewelry, clothing or electronics. ♦♦♦ Don't carry so many packages that you slow your reaction time. ♦♦♦ Carry extra cash for a cab or bus. ♦♦♦ Have your house or car key out as you approach your home or vehicle. ♦♦♦ If you suspect you are being followed, cross the street and head for the nearest well-lit, populated area. Walk quickly or run to a house or store for help. If you are really scared, scream for help. ♦♦♦ If you are being followed by someone in a car, change directions immediately and make a point of writing down the license plate number.

### **BUSES:**

Try to use well-lit, busier stops. ♦♦♦ Sit near the bus driver. ♦♦♦ Don't fall asleep – stay alert! ♦♦♦ If you are verbally or physically harassed, attract attention by talking loudly or screaming. ♦♦♦ Be aware of who gets off the bus with you. If you are uncomfortable, walk quickly to a place where there are other people.

### **IF SOMETHING HAPPENS TO YOU:**

Remain calm, give the attacker what he wants. ♦♦♦ Get an accurate description of the attacker: age, race, complexion, body build, height, weight, color of clothing, distinguishing marks. ♦♦♦ Call 911 immediately. ♦♦♦ Contact the Center for Victims of Violence and Crime to help you address the trauma. Their 24-hour helpline is 412-392-8582.



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# Weed and Seed-funded Employment Events

Job seekers ages 14 to 24 are encouraged to attend an Employment Recruitment Fair on Thursday, June 4 from 3 to 7 p.m. in the Community Resource Room at Eastminster Presbyterian Church, 250 N. Highland Ave. in East Liberty (opposite Home Depot).

Participants will be able to attend presentations every 30 minutes about numerous summer and year-round employment and employment readiness programs funded for 2009 by the City of Pittsburgh and the Pittsburgh Partnership for Neighborhood Development. The fair is funded by the City of Pittsburgh Operation Weed and Seed in the East Liberty/Larimer/Garfield site.

The following programs will be described in detail and the agencies involved will provide applications. In addition, applications for all programs presented will also be available at Eastside Neighborhood Employment Center's new office at 5321 Penn Ave. daily between 3 and 6 p.m.

**City of Pittsburgh Summer Youth Employment Program:** Eastside Neighborhood Employment Center, a City-funded YouthLink program, will distribute and explain the detailed application for youths 14-21 (as of July 7, 2009) interested in the City of Pittsburgh's Summer Youth Employment Program. This six-week, 30-hour-per-week program ends August 14. Family income eligibility requirements apply. Fully-completed applications are due back to the ENEC by Wednesday, June 10.

**Out-of-School Youth Employment Program:** Bloomfield-Garfield Corp. will enroll high school graduates ages 17 to 21 (as of July 1, 2009) in a one-year career readiness and job placement program funded by the Pittsburgh Partnership. Other providers and agencies looking to recruit youths to the same program will also be represented.

**Workforce Preparation Program:** BGC representatives will be on hand to explain the opportunities for young adults ages 22 to 24 (as of July 1, 2009) who are eligible for a special employment preparedness program and paid work experience.

## A Message from the Mayor

As the weather warms, I remain as committed as ever to keeping the City of Pittsburgh safe and secure for our families and children. Over the past three years, I have implemented a variety of initiatives to fight crime – from putting more beat officers on the street, to equipping the police with up-to-date technology – public safety continues to be a top priority.

One innovative public safety initiative that has made important changes in City neighborhoods is Operation Weed and Seed. This multi-agency strategy, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Justice, is focused on crime prevention and community revitalization. Pittsburgh currently has three Federally-designated Weed and Seed sites: 1) East Liberty/Larimer/Garfield; 2) Lawrenceville; and 3) West Pittsburgh Communities. Steering Committees in each site help to “weed out” guns and drugs from their neighborhood, and “seed” community resources.

Operation Weed and Seed is a community-driven strategy. Residents, community leaders, business owners, law enforcement, social service providers, partners, and other key stakeholders come together to plan and implement programs that address the strengths and needs of their neighborhoods.

The Operation Weed and Seed strategy encompasses four components: 1) law enforcement; 2) community policing; 3) prevention, intervention, and treatment services; and 4) neighborhood restoration programs. If we truly wish to address the long-term health and resilience of our neighborhoods, we must do more than address the criminal element. Through Operation Weed and Seed, we are making sure that our communities provide opportunities for those who want to succeed.

East Liberty began to implement the Weed and Seed strategy in 1997. In 2003, the site was expanded to include Larimer and Garfield. This past decade has brought changes to these communities, and I am heartened by the work that has been accomplished. In the past year, Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation and Eastside Neighborhood Employment Center were awarded Weed and Seed funding for a workforce development initiative that brings together more than a dozen local organizations to provide job training and placement. I encourage you to take advantage of these programs.

Lastly, I would like to thank our partners – the U.S. Attorney of Western Pennsylvania, the Bureau of Police, and all of the community stakeholders that believe that their streets, blocks, corners, and homes can be places for people to safely live, work, and thrive.

*Lucretia Rosenthal*

For additional information about Operation Weed and Seed, call my office at 412-255-4772 or 412-255-4773.

## OSHA certification

The Eastside Neighborhood Employment Center and East Liberty Development, Inc. will co-sponsor a construction industry certification for residents in the East Liberty/Larimer/Garfield Weed and Seed site.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Safety Certification course is a 10-hour, one-day program designed to teach participants how to work safely in a construction-related environment. The course will be held in June, but the date and location have not been determined. The certification is permanent and will be a long-term asset to participants' resumes, since employers in the construction trades require certification.

If you are interested in attending this training, call Bill Woodward of ENEC at 412-362-8580 for further information and applicant qualifications for participation in this activity, funded by Operation Weed and Seed.

## Bank teller skills training

The Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation's Youth Development Center, Eastside Neighborhood Employment Center and the Community College of Allegheny County recently partnered together to conduct Bank Teller Training.

The collaboration, a component of the recent City of Pittsburgh Weed and Seed grant awarded to BGC, addresses the need for Youth Employment Program participants to earn a credential. The Weed and Seed grant extends workforce development opportunities to residents of the East Liberty/Larimer/Garfield sites. The Bank Teller Training was offered as a 12-hour, non-credit course.

The program started with a Meet and Greet session in which bank managers and community members mingled for a networking opportunity before the first of four training sessions. At the conclusion of the program, students who completed all hours of training received a certificate.

These types of workforce development opportunities are typically offered throughout the year on various CCAC campuses. The Bank Teller Training, however, is the first collaboration with a community organization. While students who attended the Bank Teller Training at CCAC paid a \$50 fee, participants in the Weed and Seed-funded Youth Employment Program training attended classes at no charge to them. Youth Employment Program Coordinator, Charis Walker, explained that “credentialing” provides youth with a stronger opportunity to acquire employment, and said that the CCAC Bank Teller Program is a perfect example of how furthering education can provide community residents with secure and well-paying positions.

The program was developed in 2007 when PNC Bank approached Paul Blackford, of Community College Continuing Education, to design a program to prepare applicants for PNC Bank teller positions. The curriculum covers aspects of a bank teller's typical day, PNC's interview process for bank tellers, and a skills assessment. Mr. Blackford used “teaching for meaning,” a popular method that helps the student look beyond the lesson and apply their skills to real life. Tactics such as role playing and hands-on experiences were used to guide attendees in recognizing counterfeit money, making cash transactions, dressing appropriately, speaking courteously, dealing with disgruntled customers, and honing team-building skills.

In 2008, Sylvia Elsayed was brought on board to add proficiency in Microsoft Office to the students' skill set. Ms. Elsayed helps students update resumes and apply for positions while gaining comfort with Microsoft Windows and learning keyboarding methods.

Asia Jackson intends to use her newly-developed skills as a part-time bank teller to support herself as she completes her studies. Asia chose the Bank Teller Training above other credentialing options because of her desire to study promotional and professional communication. She believes many parallels exist between the techniques used in banking and the entertainment industry. Trina Ebores hopes to secure a full-time teller position after the upcoming birth of her first son.

ENEC and CCAC hope to establish a continuing partnership and offer more training in the future. Prerequisites for the training include a high school diploma or a GED, customer service experience, and a minimum age of 18. If you are interested in future trainings please contact Charis Walker to enroll in the Out of

School Youth Employment Program (412-441-9833) or Bill Woodward at the ENEC (412-362-8580).



# The Bulletin

serving Bloomfield, Garfield, East Liberty,  
Friendship, and Lawrenceville since 1975



The Bulletin is published by the Bloomfield-Garfield Corp. to:

- serve the incorporated territory of the BGC and surrounding communities
- report on activities and ideas affecting those communities
- offer an opportunity to express opinions and exchange ideas

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Email: Bulletin@bloomfield-garfield.org

**Interim Editor:** Stacie Chandler

**Advertising:** Martin Pochapin

**Proofreading:** Rick Swartz

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## SUBMISSIONS POLICY

All submissions to *The Bulletin* must include the writer's name, address and phone number. We welcome your letters, opinions, articles, and notices. We reserve the right to edit submissions for space. Manuscripts and photographs will be returned only if accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope. The deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month prior to publication, unless otherwise noted. *The Bulletin* is published monthly.

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The Bulletin is funded in part by:



## BLOOMFIELD-GARFIELD CORPORATION'S

# EYESORE PROPERTY

OF THE MONTH

Each month we highlight either property owners whose neglect hurts the neighborhood or those who have admirably maintained or renovated their properties. Properties are nominated by community members. To nominate a property for either Eyesore or Showcase Property of the Month, call Aggie Brose at 412-441-6950.

## Plans for Eyesore's future could "raise the bar" for Penn Avenue

The property at 4100 Penn Avenue, City of Pittsburgh, 9th Ward, was nominated and selected for this month's Eyesore Property of the Month. According to the Allegheny County Real Estate website, Angelo Ralph Posteraro is the recorded owner. He acquired the building on January 8, 2009 from Angelo Ray Posteraro, who had owned the property since 2004. The mailing address for the tax bill is 4109 Penn Ave. and the taxes are current.

The complainant who nominated the property informed the Bloomfield-Garfield Corp. that the building has been vacant and abandoned for years. BGC staff visited the property and found it vacant and blighted. BGC contacted the Bureau of Building Inspection and found the property was cited July 22, 2008. The citation reported that the building was open and vacant, had broken windows, and was unsecured. Mr. Posteraro addressed the violations and the citation was abated.

The property is now secured, but remains in poor condition. Because of its prime location, this property is the gateway to the Penn Avenue Corridor,



the site of millions of dollars of investment in the community.

BGC contacted Mr. Posteraro to ask about his plans for the property and he had good news to report – he plans to open a sports bar at the location. He has a liquor license coming, is currently negotiating with several part-

ners and is working with an architect on the design of the building. His planned reinvestment in this building will bring something new to the corridor and has the potential to turn a community eyesore into a community gem.

## ERRATUM

In the May 2009 issue of *The Bulletin*, the following errors were made in articles related to Operation Weed and Seed, a partnership of the Office of Mayor Luke Ravenstahl, the U.S. Attorney for Western Pennsylvania and community stakeholders in designated federally-designated Weed and Seed sites:

1. "Greater East End Weed and Seed Steering Committee" should read "East Liberty, Larimer, Garfield Weed and Seed Steering Committee."
2. Weed and Seed is a funder of the program profiled in "Cutting-Edge Technology Helps Peabody Students Learn from Virtual Patients in a Virtual Hospital" on page 14. We regret the errors

## East Liberty/Highland Park

# Group seeks resident participation

East Liberty and Highland Park residents representing various neighborhood enclaves are once again coming together in an effort to create an East Liberty Community Council. While the idea is nothing new, the Council has met with fits and starts over the last decade. Recently however, the formation of a Council has gained new momentum as Union Project staff has picked up the torch and begun to facilitate Council meetings.

After several meetings with key neighborhood leaders and residents, the Union Project has been asked to lead a community that includes the following: compilation of past Council history; identification of current levels of organization in the neighborhood; and identification of existing neighborhood organizations, city agencies, and their processes.

East Liberty and Highland Park residents are invited complete an individual survey, meet members of the current Council Working Group and learn more about the project at the Union Project on Sunday, June 7 from 9 a.m., to 2 p.m. during the Union Project's Community Day.

If you would like to attend Council Meetings or if you participate in a neighborhood block group or resident group that meets throughout the summer, we'd like to come to you to speak about the Council and gain feedback from your group. Please contact Jeffrey Dorsey, Union Project Program Manager, at 412-363-4550x26 or via email at Jeffrey@unionproject.org.

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## First Neighborhood Academy grads receive college degrees

Three alumnae of The Neighborhood Academy in Garfield were the first in the history of the school to graduate from college.

Catherine Moore, of Homewood, graduated from Oral Roberts University on May 2 with a B.A. in writing and is now exploring a number of career opportunities.

Candycia Thompson, of Highland Park, graduated from LaRoche College on May 9 with a B.A. in psychology. Thompson hopes to work for a non-profit organization helping at-risk youths. She is the first person in her family to have attended college.

Jana'a Washington, of Highland Park, graduated from Edinboro University on May 2, 2009, with a B.A. in communications. She will begin classes at Empire Beauty School on June 1, the next step in her goal to operate her own salon. She was a member of the first class at The Neighborhood Academy when it began in 1993. She, too, is the first in her family to attend college.

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## Community invited to prayer service for children, officers

On Friday, June 12, the East Liberty Concerned Citizens Corporation will hold its second annual special prayer service in observance of the anniversary of the death of five Larimer children who perished in a house fire in the summer of 2007, as well as a service in honor of the three Zone 5 policemen killed in the line of duty in April.

The entire community is invited to attend. The prayer service for the officers begins at 7 p.m. at the Meadow Street Bridge and will continue with prayers for the children at 6429 Winslow St.

To honor the children, the community is making a memorial garden at the Winslow St. site. Volunteers are needed to help prepare the site from Tuesday, June 2 through Thursday, June 11. Please contribute your time to help make this a special community event.

For more information about any of these activities, call ELCCC at 412-361-8310 or send an email to ELCCC@verizon.net.

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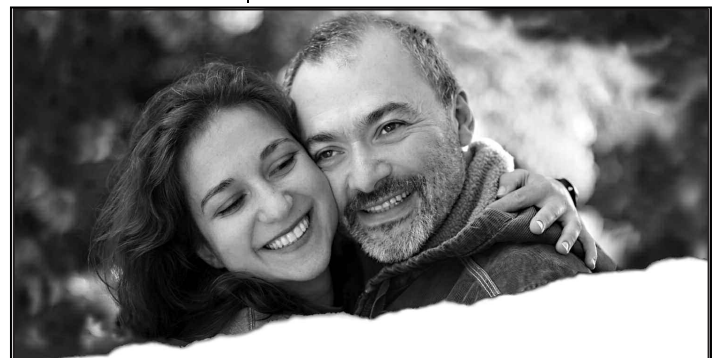
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## Addressing low back pain

According to the American Academy of Family Physicians, ninety percent of Americans will develop low back pain at some point in their lives. The pain can be severe and incapacitating, causing people to miss out on work and the things they enjoy. The causes are varied, and can include muscle strains, broken bones, arthritis, kidney stones or infections, shingles, an abdominal aortic aneurysm, or a herniated disc. This article will focus mainly on musculoskeletal causes.

It is important to get a good description of the back pain. When did it start? Is this the first time you have had back pain? Does the pain come and go, or is it constant? Was there any trauma? Does the pain travel or does it stay in one place? Have you had fevers or

chills? These questions, as well as others, and your past medical history can help to give clues to the possible diagnosis.

The next step is a thorough physical examination of your back and nervous system. Most of the time, the history plus the examination is enough to determine the diagnosis. Imaging studies like x-rays and MRIs are not routinely done unless the pain is long lasting or the examiner finds other cause for concern.

Low back pain is often due to a musculoskeletal problem -- a problem with the bones in the spine or with the muscles in the low back. If the pain is due to a muscle spasm, strain, or weakness, your doctor will probably recommend a course of physical therapy. Your physical therapist can use different treatments



By Jen Middleton, MPH, MD  
& Amy J. DiPlacido, M.D.  
Bloomfield-Garfield Family Health

to help with the pain such as heat, massage, and even a gentle electric current. Your physical therapist will also help you to strengthen the muscles in your back and your core -- including your abdominal muscles -- so they are better able to support your everyday activities without getting overused.

Arthritis of the bones in the spine is another common cause of back pain in older people. Physical therapy to strengthen the muscles around the bones can help this condition as well. Your doctor may also recommend anti-inflammatory medicines such as ibuprofen or naproxen; acetaminophen can also make daily arthritis pain better. Regular exercise, such as walking, also helps.

No matter the cause, keep working with your doctor until you find the right treatment plan for you. Together, you and your doctor can make a big difference in your pain and its effects.

## It's a word Can summ

For many children, one of the best ways to spend a sunny summer day is with a book. The lure of an engrossing story is all it takes to make these kids happy.

But what about those for whom reading is more of a chore than a treat? The kids that teachers and educators call "reluctant readers." Schools provide lists of summer reading for youth, but the ongoing struggle of getting reluctant readers to pick up the book, much less read it, can have parents tearing their hair out.

Parents and educators who have grappled with getting kids to read have come up with all kinds of solutions. Check out the box (right) to see if there are ideas that might work with your kids.

An internet search failed to come up with specific reasons why some kids dislike reading. "Boring" and "stupid" are typical responses kids give when asked why they don't like to read. But such responses describe their reaction to reading more than what they don't like about reading.

Experts believe that kids who say they don't like to read are really saying that they haven't read anything they liked. Providing access to all kinds of reading materials -- magazines, comic books, graphic novels, catalogs and books in every genre (literature, science fiction, adventure, fantasy, biography, science, thriller, mystery, art, music, cooking, sports, media, etc.) -- may be the first step toward finding what a child enjoys reading.

Perhaps the best place to find that kind of selection is the public library. A library card opens up a world of possibility; not just books, but music, movies, books on CD, books on MP3, computers, and games, as well.

The East Liberty branch of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh is scheduled to close for renovations on June 13 and will not reopen until Fall of 2010. That may present a challenge for readers of all ages, but there is a way to overcome that challenge - visit other branches. You could be pleasantly surprised by the array of materials and services offered at the different locations, as well as by the vastly different atmospheres, from the warm woods of the Homewood branch to the edgy glass and metal of the Squirrel Hill branch.

If you currently have book requests that are sent to the East Liberty

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# Summer problem: Summer reading = summer fun?

Branch for pick-up, be sure to contact the library to arrange to have your requests sent to another branch.

Two branches are less than two miles away: Homewood, 7101 Hamilton Ave., is open Monday and Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and is closed Friday and Sunday.

Lawrenceville, 279 Fisk St., is open Monday through Thursday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and is closed Friday and

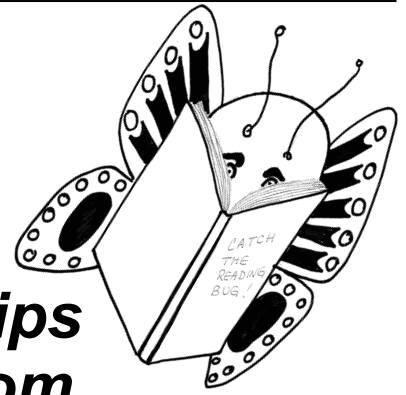
Sunday.

It's not quite three miles to these branches: Hill District, 2177 Centre Ave. is open Monday and Tuesday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and is closed Friday and Sunday.

The Main Library in Oakland, 4400 Forbes Ave., is open Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m.

By Stacie Chandler  
The Bulletin Interim Editor

## Reading tips from Pittsburgh Parents



Incentives. While I haven't used this in the summer, I think I'm going to. My son's school is in the midst of read-a-thon this week, and he is reading more than he ever does on his own because his class is in third place and he wants to help them move into second. It's a fundraiser as well - he's got me and grandma pledging 5 cents/minute up to a certain amount. I'm thinking of making minutes read = something he wants at that rate.

Maria Lauro

This is a little dated, but for the reluctant reader in our house, we did three things. One was simply being around other people who enjoyed reading. Two was books on tape and Three was to choose exciting plot-based books. One summer we started Harry Potter on tape in the car on the way to vacation, then everyone wanted to finish it before anyone gave away the ending. The only tape player was in the car, so the only alternative was to read.

Gail Morin

When my kids were little, they read all the time, partly because I worked at the library and they had access to all the books they wanted. Later on, I think we did some sort of incentive program, like read five books and get a coupon good for an ice cream cone. Another idea is to have everyone in the family read the same book and have dinner-time discussions.

Martha Terry

Drop everything and read.....at various times during the day, I would signal an alarm and they would stop doing whatever they were up to (it helped if it was cleaning their room!) and read for 10-20 minutes.

Jennifer Peterson

## Tips from librarians

via [www2.scholastic.com](http://www2.scholastic.com) :

Make reading a family activity. When everyone gathers together at the end of a busy summer day, read a book aloud. It's a great way to unwind. A picture book is a fine choice, but reading a book that will last several weeks or more extends the pleasure and excitement.

— Jennifer Hubert Swan, NY

Some children respond better when they know other children are going to read and respond to a book, which is why book discussion groups are great. I also think parents should be required to read what their children read at all ages so they can really connect with their child and be able to answer questions and instigate discussion. This is one of the reasons parent/child book groups are so great.

— John Peters, NY Public Library

The number one golden rule is to make time to read over the summer — parents should designate an hour a day just for books, or set aside a time once a week to go to the library. There's so much going on in the summer, so much temptation to be outside, that it's important to schedule time just for reading. Have kids keep a reading journal — even if it's just the book titles. Once the journal gets filled up, there's a real sense of accomplishment that's very rewarding.

— Dorie Freebury, MI

## Tips from students

Pittsburgh High School for the Creative and Performing Arts

As soon to be Pittsburgh Public School Alumni, we feel it is important for all students to have the same opportunities for advancement as we did. So, we've built on the district's reading list to help students select books that suit their interests, as well as challenge them. We hope you enjoy these books as much as we did.

- Jacob Minsinger, Nicole Sharkey, Madeline Chandler

### If you like...

*Twilight* by Stephanie Meyer

### Then you will like...

*Dracula* by Bram Stoker

*Tuck Everlasting* by Natalie Babbitt

*Interview with a Vampire* and other

works by Anne Rice

*Emma* by Jane Austen

### If you like...

*Feed* by M.T. Anderson

### Then you will like...

*Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*

by Douglas Adams

*Jumanji* by Chris Van Allsburg

*Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury

*Night Watch* by Terry Pratchett

### If you like...

*Marley and Me* by John Grogan

### Then you will like...

*Shiloh* by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor

*The Red Pony* by John Steinbeck

*The Yearling* by Marjorie Rawlings

*White Fang* by Jack London

### If you like...

*The Curious Case of the Dog in the*

*Night Time* by Mark Haddon

### Then you will like...

*Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck

*Flowers for Algernon*

by Daniel Keyes

*Sherlock Holmes*

by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

*Murder on the Orient Express*

by Agatha Christie

### If you like...

*Quiet Strength: A Memoir*

by Tony Dungy

### Then you will like...

*Sex, Drugs, and Cocoa Puffs: A Sub-*

*Culture Manifesto*

by Chuck Klosterman

*Psychotic Reactions and Carburetor*

*Dung* by Lester Bangs

*The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls

*Naked* by David Sedaris

### CHALLENGES:

These two series are fast, funny, reads, but you need to have read some of the classics to understand the references.

For *Wuthering High*, *The Scarlet*

*Letterman*, and *Moby Clique* by Cara

Lockwood, read *The Old Man and*

*the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway;

*Wuthering Heights* by Emily Bronte

*Mrs. Dalloway* by Virginia Woolf

*Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte; *The*

*Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel

Hawthorne; and *Moby Dick* by

Herman Melville

For *The Eyre Affair* and others by

Jasper Fforde, read: *Great*

*Expectations* by Charles Dickens;

*Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte; *The*

*Raven* by Edgar Allen Poe; *Sense*

*and Sensibility* and *Pride and*

*Prejudice* by Jane Austen and *The*

*Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka

## On-line Resources

\* Scholastic Books ([www.scholastic.com/summerreading](http://www.scholastic.com/summerreading)) is conducting a Summer Challenge. Kids can be part of a team quest to eat, sleep, and dream books all summer! Look for their suggested reading list, too.

\* The International Reading Association has lists of books for both young adults and younger readers that were chosen, reviewed and recommended by children and young adults. Visit [www.reading.org/Resources/Booklists.aspx](http://www.reading.org/Resources/Booklists.aspx)

\* Barbara Feldman of Surfing the Net with Kids has accumulated a list of sites where children can post their book reviews. Find it at [www.surfnetkids.com/bookrpt.htm](http://www.surfnetkids.com/bookrpt.htm).



# tweek: to be overly excited at a situation or event that is highly positive and causes exuberance beyond classification of excitement *(from urban dictionary.com)*

## Tweek Clothing.

Soft, simple, casual, utterly unique.  
And available right here on Penn Avenue.  
At 4913 Penn Avenue, to be exact.

Upstate New York native Jamal Krolowitz fell in love with Pittsburgh when he came here to make skateboarding videos a few years ago. He settled on the North Side and continued to pursue the customized clothing business that he started way back in high school.

Back then, he used to spray paint his shirts with his own designs. People kept asking where he got them, so he started painting shirts for friends. As interest in his designs grew, Jamal branched out. He learned screen-printing techniques and started creating tee-shirts and accessories for bands.

A child of the internet-savvy generation, Jamal began to sell his work online through Myspace, Facebook and Twitter, as well as his own website – [www.tweekclothing.com](http://www.tweekclothing.com). His designs are simple. He uses American Apparel clothing and makes each article himself, one

at a time, ensuring that every piece is unique.

There are tee shirts, hoodies, pants, shorts, bags and even underwear. He's adding a line of sunglasses and Tweek Clothing sells Alternative Apparel items, as well.

Jamal's designs are aimed at an edgy, urban younger audience. The prints are bold and dramatic. Think skater or hardcore, not preppy. That's why Jamal chose space on Penn Avenue. With its growing population of artists and 20-somethings, restaurants that cater to vegan and vegetarian customers, and emerging nightspots, Penn Avenue is a great location.

Jamal's undertaking may fly in the face of conventional wisdom, which says Pittsburgh has nothing to offer young people and that now is a bad time to launch a business. But Jamal says Pittsburgh is great and has welcomed his entrepreneurial efforts with open arms. "It's a big city with a small-town feel," he said. And as for a risky venture during uncertain economic times, Jamal said now is a good time because people are looking for new and different alternatives.

If new and different is what you are looking for, Tweek Clothing, with its distinctive reversed, double "e" logo, can be found on-line or at their new Penn Ave. location, which is open Tuesday through Sunday from 1 to 9 p.m.



By Stacie Chandler  
*The Bulletin Interim Editor*



Photos by Jamal Krolowitz for The Bulletin

# Save the Date

The Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation will hold its annual Luncheon and Awards Banquet on Friday, November 6 at the Pittsburgh Athletic Association. The guest speaker will be Henry Beukema, Executive Director of the McCune Foundation. Tickets will be available beginning October 1. For more information, please contact Aggie Brose at 412-440-6950.





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**Desperately Seeking:** a community-oriented, people person to help The Bulletin keep pace with the growing East End economy. Flexible hours and 18% Commission. Send a resume and letter of introduction to: [bulletin@bloomfield-garfield.org](mailto:bulletin@bloomfield-garfield.org)



**Time for a change?**

The new year is upon us and once again we find ourselves wondering where time has gone.  
 It's already *time* to consider a New Year's Resolution.  
 This year, make a resolution to gain peace of mind.  
 We can help you gain peace of mind by writing down your funeral or cremation needs.  
 Now that's a successful resolution.  
 Call today for an appointment.



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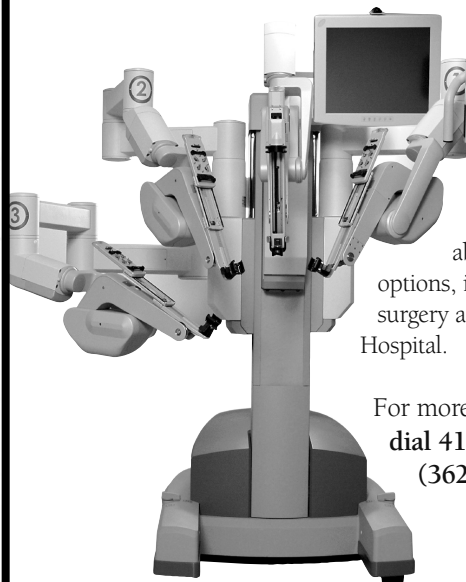
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For more information, dial 412-DOCTORS (362-8677).



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## BULLETIN BOARD

### CHILDREN, YOUTH DAY

The Summer Vacation Bible School of the Morningside Church of God in Christ, 5173 Dearborn St., will hold Children and Youth Day on Sunday, June 14, at 3 p.m. All are welcome and encouraged enjoy a celebration of youth. To participate or for more information, call 412-361-9865.

### COMMUNITY DAY

The Union Project will host Community Day in conjunction with the Highland Park Yard Sale from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sunday, June 7. In addition to being a distribution site for Highland Park Yard Sale maps, the Union Project will host craft vendors, live music, kids' activities, and food specials at the Eat UP Café, such as ice cream, hot dogs, hamburgers and ice cream. The Union Project is located at the corner of N. Negley and Stanton Avenues in Highland Park.

### COUNCIL TO GO

Meet Councilman Patrick Dowd at Council to Go, his mobile district office. He and his staff will be available to hear your concerns, provide news on issues at Council, and help you access city services. Several summer dates have changed. This month's sessions will be held on Monday, Jun. 1 from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Polish Hill Civic Association; Thursday, Jun. 25 from

5:30 to 7 p.m. at Morning Glory Coffeehouse in Morningside; and on Friday, Jun. 26 from 7:30 to 9 a.m. at Perk Me Up in Lawrenceville. For a full schedule or information visit [www.pghgov.com/district7](http://www.pghgov.com/district7) or call 412-255-2140.

### STUDENT ART SHOW

The community is welcome to view the artwork created by the students of Arsenal Elementary School, at the corner of 39th and Butler Streets. on Thursday June 4, from 5 to 7 p.m. The Arsenal Elementary Chorus, under the direction of Carvis Fisher, will perform and crafts activities will be available for children.

### FLEA MARKET

The East Liberty Family Support Center is looking for participants for its upcoming series of Great East End Flea Market Fundraising Events.

The Flea Markets will be held on Sundays, June 28, August 2 and October 4, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the parking lot of the Kingsley Association at the corner of Frankstown Rd. and East Liberty Blvd. in Larimer.

The Support Center will supply 28 tables, chairs, and spaces. Vendor tables are available for \$25 each and Used Item tables are available for \$10 each. No food vendors, please.

For information, call 412-773-0005.

### IT COMPETITION CHAMPS

Last month, students from the Pittsburgh Job Corps Center Cisco (Netsy) class in East Liberty competed in the Regional IT Competition. Local winners who defeated Cisco Academy students from other Western PA schools such as Steel Valley, Parkway West, Southside Beaver, and Forbes Rd Vo- Tech were: Carlton Akers – individual and team cabling; Antonio Marrow – team cabling; Alex Turner and Xavier Lewis – team jeopardy.

### CALL FOR HOUSES

The Lawrenceville House Tour Planning Committee is seeking houses to be showcased during the 2009 Hospitality House Tour on Sunday, October 4 from noon to 5 p.m.

Both homeowners and community members can nominate houses they feel would promote the spirit of the tour and meet the general criteria established. Nominated houses should be restored or renovated in a thoughtful, creative or unique manner that reflects the labor many of our residents have invested in restoring and living in some of the neighborhood's unique homes. Houses must be located in the 6th, 9th and 10th wards. For information contact Kate Bayer, 412-600-2068 or [kb\\_4738@yahoo.com](mailto:kb_4738@yahoo.com)

### SUMMERFOOD PROGRAM

SummerFood, a free breakfast, lunch and recreation program for economically disadvantaged children 18 years of age and under runs from June 15 to August 21.

Delicious, nourishing meals will be served weekdays at approximately 120 locations throughout Allegheny County. A site supervisor and accompanying staff will be present to assure the well-being and interest of the children.

For information on SummerFood site locations and meal times, call the Allegheny County Department of Human Services at 1-800-851-3838 or visit the web site at <http://www.alleghenycounty.us/dhs/f>

### FREEDOM CAMP

Looking for a great way to spend your summer? If you are between the ages of 6 and 12, we have the program for you. Valley View Presbyterian Church will again offer its five-week Freedom Camp from Monday, June 22 through Thursday, July 23 from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

This FREE Camp includes breakfast, lunch, academics, crafts, bible studies, weekly field trips and a variety of activities. Space is limited, so sign up early.

For information and applications, please call 412-361-0870.

## FREE TO THE PEOPLE

[www.carnegielibrary.org](http://www.carnegielibrary.org)

**Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh  
East Liberty Branch  
130 S Whitfield St. 412-363-8232**

The East Liberty Branch will close for renovations at the end of business on Saturday, June 13. Customers can still call and leave voicemail messages on the regular number 412-363-8232 or contact the staff by email at [eastliberty@carnegielibrary.org](mailto:eastliberty@carnegielibrary.org). For children's services questions, call Caralee Sommerer at Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh--Lawrenceville at 412-682-3668.

#### Preschool Storytime

For ages 3-5. Thursdays, 10:30 a.m., Thursdays, 10:30 AM, June 4, 11

#### Aloha to the Library: A Family Luau

Saturday, June 7 at 1 p.m.  
Say goodbye to the East Liberty library with our final event.  
Activities for children, teens and adults.

#### East Liberty PC Center *The PC Center is closed*

The Summer Reading Extravaganza, the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh's largest event, will be held on the lawn of the Main Library in Oakland on Sunday, June 7 from noon to 5 p.m. to kick off the Summer Reading Program.

**Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh  
Lawrenceville Branch  
279 Fisk Street 412-682-3668**

#### Toddler Storytime

For ages 3-5. Thursdays, 11 a.m., June 4, 11, 18 and 25.

#### Adult Book Discussion

Monday, June 8 at 5 p.m.  
"The Savior" by Eugene Drucker

#### Terrific Tales for Twos and Threes

For ages 2-3. Saturdays, 10 to 11 a.m. June 13 and 27

#### Creativity Starts at the Library!

Neighborhood Art Show and Opening Reception  
For everyone. Saturday, June 13 from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

#### Passport Around the World Summer Camp

For ages 5-10. From 10:30 a.m. to noon.. To register in advance, call 412-682-3668 by June 13.



**Carnegie  
Library of  
Pittsburgh**

## BULLETIN BOARD

### DANCE -THEATER CAMP

Pittsburgh Dance and Theatre Arts will hold classes and camps for kids and adults at their studio at 4059 Penn Ave. Classes in clued Tumbling Camp (4 and up), Ballet Intensive (Pre-professional), Musical Theater 6 and up), Ballet Intensive (kids-Intermediate), World Beat Camp (Multicultural dance from around the world). For schedules and registration information visit [www.pgh-dance.com](http://www.pgh-dance.com) or call 412-681-7523.

### FOOD STAMPS

Representative Costa and Just Harvest volunteers will help constituents apply for food stamps on Tuesday, June 2 at the Community Activity Center 113 N. Pacific Ave. from noon to 3 p.m..By appointment only. To schedule an appointment, call 412-361-2040 or 412-431-8963.

### AUCTION FUNDRAISER

A fundraising auction will be held on Saturday, June 6 at 7 p.m. at the Stephen Foster Community Center at 286 Main St. in Lawrenceville. Proceeds will benefit Common Thread, a used clothing store coming to 5400 Butler St. For more information, or to donate, please email [info@matthewsquater.org](mailto:info@matthewsquater.org).

### EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS

Register now for Pittsburgh Public Schools Early Childhood Programs for 3- and 4-year-olds. You will need proof of income, child's birth certificate and immunization record, two proofs of city residency, physical and dental exams or appointment dates.

For assistance visit Pittsburgh McCleary, 2521 Holmes St.; Pittsburgh Homewood, 7100 Hamilton Ave.; or call 412-325-7512.

## CLASSIFIEDS

### CLASSIFIED POLICY

**ALL TEXT ADS (INCLUDING FOR SALE ADS) are \$5 for 15 words and 10 cents for each additional word. We DO NOT run "personal ads." BLOCK ads (1.5" x 2.5") are \$15**

Please send ad with full payment to:

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Pittsburgh, PA 15224.

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#### Job Benefits include:

- Bus passes
- Job skills
- Paid on-the-job training
- Academic tutoring
- Competitive wages

#### Eligibility:

- City of Pittsburgh resident
- Ages 17 to 21
- High school diploma or GED
- Meet income guidelines

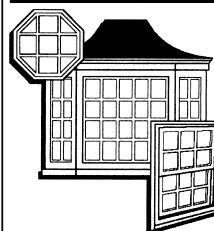
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**JOBS! JOBS! JOBS! JOBS! JOBS! JOBS! JOBS!**

ages 14-24

WHERE: Eastminster Presbyterian Church  
250 N. Highland Ave. (Across from Home Depot)

WHEN: Thursday, June 4 from 3- 7 p.m.

WHY: Summer and Year-Round  
Employment Opportunities

## START EARNING MONEY TODAY!

### City of Pittsburgh Summer Youth Employment Program

The Eastside Neighborhood Employment Center (ENEC), a YouthLink Contractor, will assist youths aged 14-21 and their parents/guardians in the application process. The City's 6-week summer employment program begins July 6. There are family income eligibility requirements. **Act immediately!!** Application deadline is Wednesday, June 10.

### Out-of-School Youth Employment Program

The Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation will enroll high school graduates between the ages of 17-21 who wish to be involved in a one-year career readiness and job placement program funded by Pittsburgh Partnership. Other providers and agencies looking to recruit youth to the same program will also be represented.

### Workforce Preparation Program

Young adults aged 22-24 are eligible for a special employment preparedness program. This year-round program provides career opportunities to young adults in the Finance, Construction, and Education sectors while they earn cash!

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON ALL THREE PROGRAMS IS  
AVAILABLE AT THE JOB RECRUITMENT FAIR OR AT  
THE EASTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD EMPLOYMENT CENTER**

**ENEC - 5321 Penn Avenue - 412-362-8580**

*The ENEC also assists adults in finding jobs.  
If you are an adult looking for employment, please call or stop by.*

By Lisa Porter Werner  
Bulletin Contributor

## The Dish

### Crepes Parisiennes

723 Filbert Street

Shadyside

412.683.2333

CASH ONLY

Tuesday – Saturday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sunday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## Food and fun all rolled into one!

Crepes Parisiennes, a creperie located off the beaten path in Shadyside -- below a sidewalk on Filbert St -- is a delightful reprieve from Walnut Street.

It was opened in 2000 by Shannon Reilly and David Handler, who had quite a following when he sold scrumptious crepes from a cart in Oakland. His blue crepe cart is the first thing you see as you walk into the tiny restaurant, which seats about 30. A loyal following of regular customers

knows the drill: line up at the counter to place your order before taking a seat, which helps keep the busy spot ticking like a well-oiled machine.

My latest visit was on Mother's Day and my mother-in-law feared we'd be unable to secure a seat when we entered the packed creperie without a reservation. When she suggested saving four seats that opened as we stood in line, I assured her we'd get a seat if we followed the "proper" procedure of ordering first and -- sure enough -- by the time we ordered, four more seats were waiting for us.

The menu consists of both sweet and savory crepe. While traditional sweet and savory French crepes are made with different batters, only one batter is used for both varieties at Crepes Parisiennes, a mixture of white and buckwheat flour -- the recipe Handler perfected after spending time in Paris.

Standing in line, I watched Handler artistically pour the batter onto the griddle. As he made each crepe right before my eyes, my stomach growled even louder. My favorite from the savory menu is the mixed vegetable crepe with fresh mushrooms, spinach, tomatoes and a choice of cheese complimented by béchamel sauce (\$7). We also tried the smoked Icelandic salmon crepe with crème fraiche (\$7.75) and the breakfast crepe, made with sausage, egg, and cheese (\$7.50).

"Oh my goodness!" and "Wow!" we exclaimed between bites of the piping hot crepes. They were evenly formed and cooked and the vegetables, neither over- nor under-cooked, were full of flavor. There was just the right amount of cheese, so it added to the taste of the vegetables and did not make the crepe greasy. The salmon crepe had a delicate, smoky taste and a silky texture, the sign of a fresh cut of fish. As for the breakfast crepe, my husband, John, devoured it in a matter of seconds and obviously enjoy it.

From the sweet crepe menu we ordered the incredibly delicious Banana Nutella, slices of banana wrapped in chocolate hazelnut spread and topped with nuts and whipped cream (\$5.50). The menu offers an array of fillings (dark chocolate, a variety of fruits, etc.) that are combined to your liking. They are priced from \$4 to \$6 and berries can be added for an additional \$1.25.

Crepes Parisiennes serves a variety of juices. Their chocolat chaud gets my vote for the best in the city -- real melted chocolate without added sugary syrups (\$3.75). They serve Mariage Freres teas (\$2), imported from the Paris company often said to offer the "best tea in the world" and café au lait, a French version of espresso with steamed milk (\$2.50).

Currently, Crepes Parisiennes is THE Pittsburgh place for crepes, (their South Craig St. location also offers paninis), but this may change when a new creperie opens on Centre Ave. in East Liberty, near Vanilla Bakery. The buzz on the street says the new creperie will offer traditional French crepes with two different types of batter and -- I'm guessing -- mimosas and bellinis, since the notice for a liquor license is firmly affixed to their window.

Until then, Bon Appetit at Crepes Parisiennes!

## Boogie at Full Bloom

Full Bloom, a summer dance party to support the Kelly-Strayhorn Theater and kick off its "Celebrate East Liberty" series of events, will be held Saturday, June 27 at the Kelly-Strayhorn Theater, 5941 Penn Ave.

The evening will include live music and dancing in the theater, along with DJ sets and a sampling of treats from neighborhood restaurants. The VIP reception (tickets: \$75) begins at 7 p.m. The dance party begins at 8 p.m.. Tickets are \$35 in advance and \$40 at the door. The party will end at midnight.

For information or tickets, call the Kelly-Strayhorn executive director, Janera Solomon, at 412-363-6000 or send an email to [info@kelly-strayhorn.org](mailto:info@kelly-strayhorn.org).