

ANDREW CARNEGIE FREE LIBRARY & MUSIC HALL CAMPAIGN NEWSLETTER



A National Historic Landmark

SPRING 2011

The Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall Campaign

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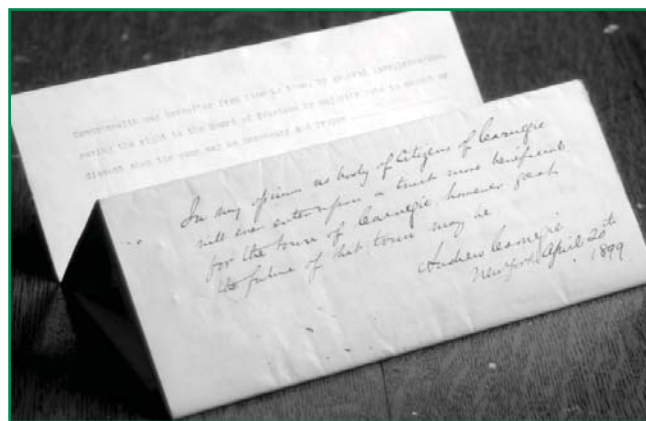
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Our Beginnings...A Borough and its Library

Carnegie Borough legally incorporated on March 1, 1894. This was not a quick or impulsive action. The merger between the towns of Chartiers and Mansfield had been formally suggested in *The Mansfield Item* by its publisher, the Rev. Charles Knepper, in the January 7, 1873 inaugural edition.

Chartiers and Mansfield were separated by Chartiers Creek and led by separate councils. However, the two cooperated on fire protection and police services, and essentially functioned as one social and economic entity.



Correspondence from Andrew Carnegie with a note in his handwriting.

Stories swirl as to how the new borough came to be named "Carnegie". Giving the new borough a name universally associated with industrial might and prosperity held sway with leaders of Chartiers and Mansfield as well as the public. Not surprisingly, representatives of Superior Steel and Chartiers Iron and Steel balked at the idea of naming the town after such a powerful competitor. In a referendum held on February 20, 1894, the populace voted overwhelmingly—79% in Chartiers and 90% in Mansfield—in favor of the new borough with its famous name.

As evidence of the overall spirit of cooperation that governed the merger, the Burgess (chief elected official) of the new borough was selected by a coin toss between John S. Robb, Jr., Burgess of Chartiers, and Robert S. Hardy, Burgess of Mansfield. Robb won the toss...

Indeed there was such inevitability about the merger that leaders of Chartiers and Mansfield approached Andrew Carnegie with the apparent *fait accompli* in early 1893. In a March 7 letter to Mr. Robb, Andrew Carnegie wrote about the new name, "...I confess that the wholly unexpected action of the people of the Boroughs of Mansfield and Chartiers has quite touched my heart."

In a second letter written the same day, he responded to Robb's suggestion that he get together with members of the committee proposing the merger. Mr. Carnegie agreed to do so within a couple of weeks, either in New York or at Pittsburgh's Duquesne Club. In an apparent reference to the Homestead Strike and Pinkerton battle the previous year, he wrote poignantly about what naming the new borough "Carnegie" meant to him. "...I have been in Purgatory since last July, and this is about the first ray of pure happiness that has come to Mrs. Carnegie and myself."

When the committee met with Mr. Carnegie and in subsequent dealings, it was put forth to the richest man in the world that he might want a steel mill in the town that bore his name...and he might want to fund a high school and a library.

See "Where We Began," page 4

Sesquicentennial Events

A rich roster of programming awaits visitors to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the beginning of the Civil War. See pages 8 through 10.



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Library Hours

Monday

2 p.m.—8 p.m.

Tues., Wed., Thurs.

11 a.m.—8 p.m.

Friday

11 a.m.—5 p.m.

Saturday

10 a.m.—5 p.m.

Sunday Closed

SUMMER HOURS

(Memorial Day to Labor Day)

Monday

2 p.m.—8 p.m.

Tues., Wed., Thurs.

11 a.m.—8 p.m.

Friday

11 a.m.—5 p.m.

Saturday

11 a.m.—3 p.m.

Sunday Closed

Contacts

Phone:

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ACFL&MH

Executive Director

Maggie Forbes, x6

Library Director

Diane Klinefelter, x5

Assistant Library Director

Erin Tipping, x8

Director of Rental Operations

Lynne Cochran, x7

ACFL&MH Website

www.carnegiecarnegie.com

The official registration and financial information of the Chartiers Valley Partnership may be obtained from the PA Department of State by calling toll-free within PA 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

A Message to Library & Music Hall Supporters

2011 is a year of milestones for the Library & Music Hall. This year, our nation will remember the 150th anniversary of the start of the Civil War. Our rare Civil War room, the Captain Thomas Espy Post, positions the ACFL&MH to take a leadership role regionally in programming that fosters understanding and interest in the Civil War and Pennsylvania's role in it. As part of our Sesquicentennial programming, the Library & Music Hall will bring Civil War history to life through a unique one-day event on April 30 that promises something for everyone from military skirmishes, a vintage baseball game, to a Civil War ball.

2011 also marks the 110th anniversary of the Library & Music Hall itself. The Library opened its doors on May 1, 1901, and has been serving its community ever since. Although there have been struggles over the years to keep open the doors of our historic landmark facility, the "Carnegie" has re-emerged as a source of community and regional pride that provides vibrant and valued programming—in the Library, in the Music Hall and in the Espy Post. And with more than half of our goal raised in our capital campaign, we are well on our way to another successful 110 years!

However, our greatest accomplishment is the Library & Music Hall's renewed and ever deepening relationship with the people we serve. Please continue to visit us often during this important year and to spread the word about this amazing place.



Bill Manby
Campaign Chair



Chris W. Brussalis
President, ACFL&MH Board of Trustees

Library & Music Hall Loses Devoted Friend

William F. English, Carnegie High School Class of 1951, played an extraordinary role in the transformation of the Library & Music Hall. He passed away on March 31 after suffering a stroke while in Florida.

A retired architect from the firm Valentour English Bodnar & Howell, Registered Architects (now VEBH Architects), Bill volunteered his professional expertise to the restoration of the ACFL&MH since before the official launch of the campaign. "It's impossible to overestimate what it meant to have an architect of Bill's caliber sitting at the table as a member of the design team year in and year out. Bill was our touchstone," says Executive Director Maggie Forbes.

Bill was the Vice President of the Chartiers Valley Partnership, which runs the Library & Music Hall's capital campaign.

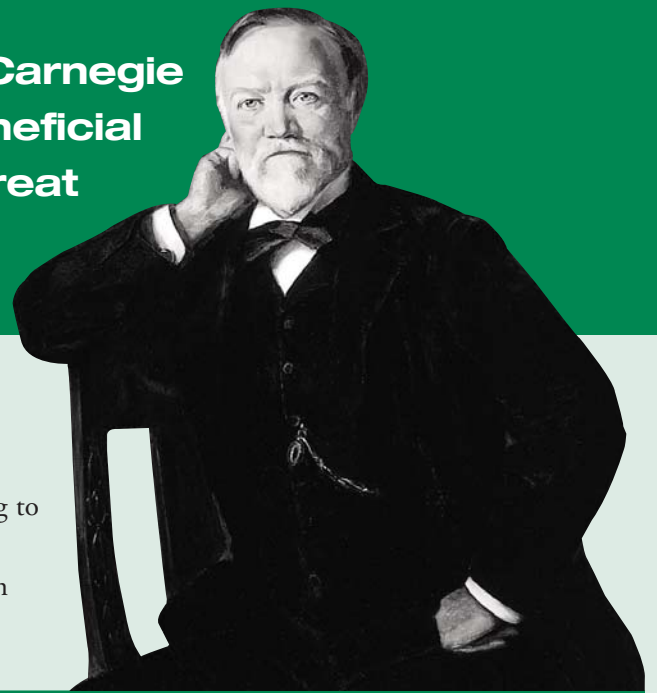
Bill, who grew up on Carnegie's Wabash Avenue, spent a lot of time in the Library & Music Hall in his youth, not just with books, but playing basketball in the gym and performing in the Music Hall—singing baritone with the High School's Double Quartet and playing trombone with the band. He returned all the good the ACFL&MH did for him 1000-fold.

Campaign Chair and classmate Bill Manby mourns the loss of his life-long friend. "A light has gone out of my world, out of this project. Bill guided us through this whole undertaking. I cannot tell you what a good friend the Library and I have lost."



Bill English, far right, with, left to right, Bill Manby, Maggie Forbes, and the late Charlie Goetz.

**“In my opinion no body of Citizens of Carnegie
will ever enter upon a trust more beneficial
for the town of Carnegie, however great
the future of that town may be.”**



A Letter from Andrew Carnegie

In early 1893, John S. Robb, Jr., Burgess of Chartiers, wrote to Andrew Carnegie telling him that Chartiers and Mansfield were going to merge and become Carnegie.

Mr. Carnegie's reply written from his home at 5 West 51st Street in New York City is reprinted in its entirety.

My Dear Sir:

Your favor of the 6th instant has just been received. I confess that the wholly unexpected action of the people of the Boroughs of Mansfield and Chartiers has quite touched my heart. Coming at this time, it is peculiarly gratifying. Life would not be worth living to me if I felt that the people in and around Pittsburgh did not, at least, in some degree, reciprocate the affection which I have for them; and why should I affect to value their good opinion, when I consider this as among the chief prizes of life to be won?

When I think of Pittsburgh and its neighborhood, I see neither party, class, nor organization; neither employed nor employer; all bend in one complete whole, and I ask myself only how I can render the community genuine service.

It is a bold step to christen any place after one still living. That your people have chosen my name, must make me more careful than ever to do nothing that can cause them to lose the confidence evinced that my future life will be such as to place no stain upon it; and although I can never fully deserve the honor they have conferred, I shall hope never wholly to discredit their choice.

I beg you to convey to the people, through your Committee, my grateful appreciation of their action, and with best wishes for yourself and other members of the Committee, and for all the people of the boroughs, believe me,

Very truly yours,

*In my opinion no body of Citizens of Carnegie
will ever enter upon a trust more beneficial
for the town of Carnegie, however great
the future of that town may be.*

*Andrew Carnegie
New York April 20th
1899*

(Handwritten message on the Trust Agreement between Andrew Carnegie and the Library Committee.)

Mr. Carnegie did not open a steel mill in the borough nor did he fund a high school. He believed the latter was a municipal responsibility, and wisdom has it he would not open a mill on a creek. However, he not only gave funds to build a library, but he made it one of only five libraries in world that he endowed with funds for operations; his initial gift was \$200,000. The other endowed libraries are in Carnegie's home town of Dunfermline, Scotland, and in three Mon Valley communities where Carnegie operated steel mills: Braddock, Homestead and Duquesne, the last sadly torn down.

A Family Affair

George Zahnizer Hosack played a leading role in the development of both Carnegie and the Library. He was a member of the delegation that met with Andrew Carnegie to secure a library for the borough. He served as a member of the first Carnegie Council, on the school board, as Carnegie Burgess, then as Allegheny County Treasurer. He was one of the original life trustees of the Andrew Carnegie Free Library. According to ACFL&MH records he served on the sub-committees charged with finding a suitable site for the Library & Music Hall and with selecting an architect who was to spend "not more than \$100,000" in the design and construction of the building.

The ACFL&MH's site was purchased from the Mansfield Land Company for \$26,000. W.E. Struthers and Thomas Hannah were the building's architects. While records of the actual costs of the building have not been found, the design and construction proceeded with alacrity. The hiring of an architect was proposed in March 1899. The cornerstone of the roughly 35,000 square foot building was laid with great fanfare in October of the same year. The Library & Music Hall opened on May 1, 1901. The formal dedication, attended by Andrew Carnegie, took place on April 22 the following year (see also "Family Heirloom Found", page 5).

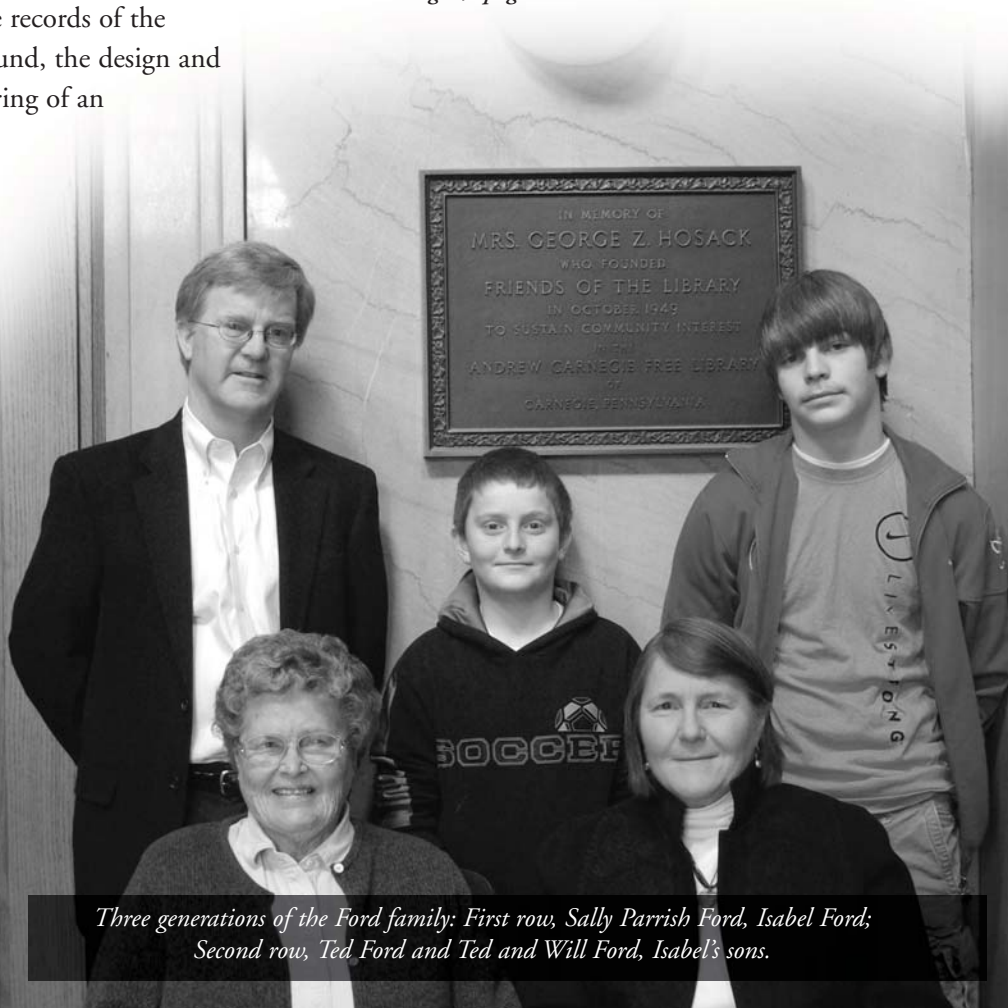
George Hosack (1858-1923) was one of a group of men who left an extraordinary legacy to the community he helped forge: a beautifully designed Library & Music Hall gracefully sited on a hill overlooking Carnegie's Main Street.

Mr. Hosack's commitment to the ACFL&MH became a family affair. His wife Sadie (Sarah) Emma Cubbage Hosack (1857-1954) founded the Friends of the Library in October 1949 when she was 92 years old!

George and Sadie's granddaughter Sally Parrish Ford is a staunch supporter of the restoration of the Library & Music Hall, though she confesses that during the Library's long years of decline financial support felt "like throwing money down a dark hole." But she is so impressed with the Library & Music Hall's turnaround that she asked, "Who wouldn't want to support it in any way that they can? Even by going to an opera program?" (Not Sally's first choice of entertainment!)

Sally has taken a special interest in naming new Music Hall seats. After securing seats for her parents and grandparents, she started populating the Hall with people important to Carnegie: Reverend and Mrs. Joseph M. Duff of the First Presbyterian Church; Agnes E. Nesbitt, a favorite English and Latin teacher from Carnegie High School; Honus Wagner and Governor James H. Duff. When Sally called to say she wanted to buy a seat in memory of Gwilym A. Price, Executive Director and native New Yorker Maggie Forbes drew a blank. Sally explained that this remarkable self-made man and a dear friend grew up on Cubbage Hill and became President, then Chairman, of Westinghouse Electric Corporation in the 1950s.

See "Where We Began," page 5



Three generations of the Ford family: First row, Sally Parrish Ford, Isabel Ford; Second row, Ted Ford and Ted and Will Ford, Isabel's sons.

Family Heirloom Found

The formal dedication of the Andrew Carnegie Free Library took place on April 22, 1902, a year after the Library's official opening. The Library's benefactor and borough's namesake was the celebrated guest of honor. Mr. Carnegie rode the street car from downtown Pittsburgh to Carnegie. Library Trustee John A. Bell met him with his carriage to take him up the hill where quite a crowd had assembled, both in the Music Hall and on the grounds.

One of the bystanders, James A. Waldie, called out in a thick Scottish burr "Ye Banks and Braes O'Bonnie Doone" (the title of a poem by Robert Burns). The agile philanthropist jumped from the carriage and embraced his fellow countryman. The two bantered a bit and Mr. Carnegie asked "Have you a little woman at home?" "Yea, a Bonnie Jean...."

Whereupon Mr. Carnegie pulled a golden thimble from his pocket and gave it to Mr. Waldie as a gift for his wife.

Mrs. Waldie gave the thimble to her granddaughter Ida Kirkbride when she was 10. She prized it highly, though somehow it disappeared. Years later, when her grandmother died, Ida was given the feather bed she used to jump upon as a child as a remembrance. After she married, she took apart the feather bed to make pillows. One morning her husband Sam Haudenshield complained of a hard object that he worked to the corner of his pillow. The pillow itself had sentimental value, so Ida and Sam cautiously opened it...

Mr. Carnegie's golden thimble was found!

As told by Ida Kirkbride Haudenshield. The thimble and Mrs. Haudenshield's documentation were given to the ACFL&MH in May 2008 by Marcella McGrogan.



Where We Began, from page 4

Two of Sally's five children have taken up the cause. Ted Ford, President of Knepper Press, has been donating the printing of the Library & Music Hall's newsletter since the mid-1990s. "You can't underestimate the newsletter's impact," says Forbes. "It's the mouthpiece of the campaign with which we've connected with people throughout the community and across the country."

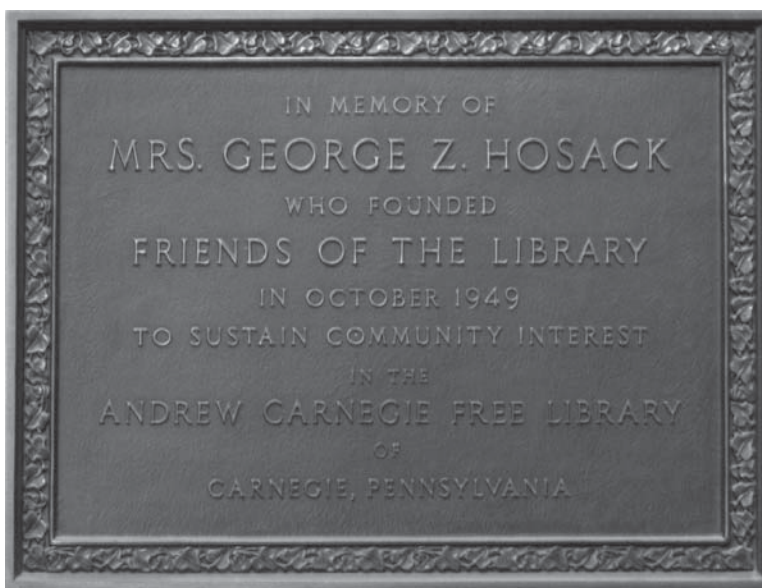
"Knepper Press has been proud to support the library over many years. We have a number of employees from the Carnegie area, and the company operated exclusively in Carnegie for well over 100 years!" explains Ford. "It is fantastic to see how much progress has been made to the Library & Music Hall over the last eight years. I am sure our great grandparents, who lived within eyesight of the library, would be pleased to see how it looks after all this time."

Ted's twin sister Isabel Ford was an ACFL&MH trustee from 2004-2010, serving as president in her final year. She continues to serve on the Chartiers Valley Partnership board. Isabel

attributes her involvement to her interest in family history—"It's neat to be part of something my great grandfather helped start," and that it is also important to give back to the community—"The Library's an amazing asset."

Isabel loves the proverb, "A society grows great when old men plant trees in whose shade they know they will never sit." She

said, "My grandparents and the founders of Carnegie planted a seed that has been growing for 110 years and hopefully this institution will continue to thrive for my children and grandchildren someday." She's even persuaded her sons Ted and Will to help out now and then—moving entire shelves of books and volunteering at the Festival booth. "Hopefully this family thing will continue for another generation..."



Historical information regarding the incorporation and naming of Carnegie found in A Track Through Time: A Centennial History of Carnegie PA 1894-1994, V. Robert Agostino, editor. Chapters I & II Dr. Samuel Astorino, 1994, Wolfson Publishing Company. All else found in the document collection of Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall.

Intern Focuses on Espy Collection

Having studied the Civil War for more than fifteen years, Jon-Erik Gilot wasn't prepared for what he saw upon entering the Espy Post in February of 2009—"It felt like stepping back in time...as if the veterans had left only moments before instead of nearly a century," Gilot recalls. Following his visit, he remained in contact with Library Director Diane Klinefelter, and arranged to complete an internship as a requirement towards completing a Masters degree in Library & Information Science. In working with the Espy Post manuscript collection, Jon-Erik is uncovering new information to shed light on the veterans of Post 153.

"Having an interest in both the Civil War and archival work, this internship is the perfect opportunity to put my energy and research skills to work for the ACFL&MH," Gilot noted. Utilizing Post records, regimental histories, military and pension records and online material, he is compiling information on each veteran from the Espy Post, hoping this information will help to paint a clearer picture of the Espy Post and the Carnegie community in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

"What I find impressive is the scope of the members of this Post. You had lawyers, ministers and prosperous businessmen sitting as equals next to men who swept gutters, washed tunnels and even a 'huckster,' a peddler who sells cheap or shoddy products," Gilot said. "Having suffered the same experiences in the camp and on the battlefield, men who wouldn't normally associate with each other met here as brothers. This collection has truly opened my eyes to appreciate how the Grand Army of the Republic operated not only in our local community, but on a national level."

In addition to working with the Post records, Gilot is transcribing meeting minutes from the 1880s and leads tours of the Espy Post on weekends. He created the archival enclosures for the Corps Badges that were recently returned to the room and is working to return other original photographs and prints to their frames to go back on walls of the Espy Post. He encourages everyone to visit the Post, even those who have visited since the renovation—"We're planning to bring back several more original items into the room. I want people to see that the Espy Post is continually evolving, not a flat museum display you only visit once."

Gilot will finish his internship in April but plans to remain actively involved with the ACFL&MH and the Espy Post. That sits very well with Diane Klinefelter. "It's hard to imagine someone with his skill set, work ethic and passion for the Civil War and libraries coming along in one person. We will find a way to keep Jon-Erik involved!"



Carnegie Film Discovered

While working with the Espy collection, intern Jon-Erik Gilot discovered a 16mm, silent black and white film labeled "Chartiers Bridge Opening." As a Preservation Program Specialist working for Preservation Technologies and The MediaPreserve in Cranberry Township, Gilot took the film to Diana Little, Director, Film Preservation at The MediaPreserve, to have it cleaned and digitized. The digitized copy of the film transports viewers to an earlier, vibrant Carnegie.

The film captures eleven minutes of parade footage relating to the opening of the new (still current) bridge across the Chartiers Creek on June 27, 1934. The parade shows local military, social and ethnic groups marching down Main Street and assembling at the bridge. The film then cuts to a platform erected near the bridge where local dignitaries had gathered to mark the occasion. As a testament to how well the film was preserved over the past 76 years, a billboard is clearly visible near the speakers' stand promoting a new movie that was showing in Carnegie at that time, *Melody in Spring*, starring Ann Sothern, Lanny Ross and Charles Ruggles.

The film concludes with the ribbon cutting to open the bridge with Thomas E. Morgan of the Espy Post doing the honors. Morgan was one of the last surviving members of the Post, being 89 years old when the bridge opened.

"It's fascinating to see a glimpse of Carnegie in 1934 with crowded streets and decorated storefronts," says Gilot. "We're not so far removed from the bustling heyday of Carnegie...the charm of downtown is still there."

The Library & Music Hall is developing a program to showcase this rare film along with other elements of Carnegie history, "and probably some music and dessert" says Executive Director Maggie Forbes. "This rare film captures Carnegie as it was, and is an inspiration for what it will be again. We may make this the centerpiece of this year's Thanksgiving Saturday programming."

Stay tuned.

150 Years Ago Fort Sumter Begins it All

"...promptly at 4:30 a.m. a flash as of distant lightning. . . followed by the dull roar of a mortar, told us the bombardment had begun." Sgt. James Chester, USA.

In December 1860, in the wake of Abraham Lincoln's election as President, South Carolina became the first southern state to secede from the Union. By February of 1861 Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana and Texas followed South Carolina's lead.

Fort Sumter had come to symbolize federal authority in South Carolina, a horrible affront to the Confederate's declaration of being an independent nation. On April 12, 1861, a signal shot, fired from Fort Johnson across the Charleston Harbor on orders of Confederate General P. G. T. Beauregard began the bombardment that led to the eventual surrender of Fort Sumter to the Confederates. Years of negotiations and compromises sidestepping the politics of slavery were over—the Civil War had finally begun. Fort Sumter launched the defining moment in the nation's history. Lincoln's call for troops in response to Sumter prompted Virginia, Arkansas, Tennessee and North Carolina to secede by May 1861.

The bombardment of Fort Sumter lasted 34 hours and ended without a single casualty from enemy fire, despite the fact that 3,341 destructive rounds had been fired. On April 14, Major Robert Anderson assembled his weary Union men for a formal surrender ceremony, lowered the United States flag, and departed with the 33-star folded flag under his arm.

The Fort was occupied until General William T. Sherman's advance through South Carolina finally forced the Confederates to evacuate Charleston on February 17, 1865 and abandon Fort Sumter. Days after Lee's surrender at Appomattox on April 9, 1864, Anderson returned to Charleston and, four years after lowering the flag in surrender, raised it in victory over the badly battered Fort Sumter. That same evening, April 14, 1865, President Abraham Lincoln was assassinated.



*Charleston, South Carolina. Flag-raising ceremony at Fort Sumter. (Generals Robert Anderson and Quincy A. Gillmore near the center of the photo preparing to raise the flag.) Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division Washington, D.C. 20540 USA
Forms part of Civil War glass negative collection.*



"Union Prisoners at Salisbury, N.C." Drawn from nature by Major Otto Boettcher. Courtesy Library of Congress.

Civil War Base Ball

"Base Ball" during the Civil War? Indeed, as evidenced by this print "drawn from nature" of Union prisoners in North Carolina.

Join us during our Living History Event, April 30, to watch the Pittsburgh Franklins play 1860 Vintage Base Ball in Carnegie Park, 2:30 to 4PM.

Find details of the day's events on pages 8 and 9.

Sesquicentennial Programming: Join Us For a Day Full of Events

“April is the cruellest month.” So wrote T.S. Eliot in “The Wasteland”; students of American history would agree. The Civil War began (April 12, 1861) and ended (April 9, 1865), and Abraham Lincoln was shot on April 14, 1865 and died the next day.

April 2011 marks the sesquicentennial of the start of the Civil War. The Library & Music Hall has planned a rich roster of day and evening of programming to make April 30 a memorable month for anyone interested in the defining chapter in the nation’s history.

“We wanted to do something special for the Sesquicentennial,” says Executive Director Maggie Forbes. “Fortunately, our Library Director, Diane Klinefelter, is a Civil War historian with all the right connections. The programming has really taken off. We have a little something for everyone!”

Carnegie Park will be the site of an encampment, skirmishes and artillery demonstrations. Union and Confederate troops will re-enact skirmishes from Fredericksburg and Gettysburg. “Hopefully, the neighbors will be forewarned about the canon blasts,” laughs Klinefelter. Working with members of the 9th PA Reserves—and the research skills of a professional librarian—Klinefelter has put together a series of safety precautions to govern the re-enactments. The Library & Music Hall is coordinating the event with the cooperation of the Carnegie Police and Public Works Departments.

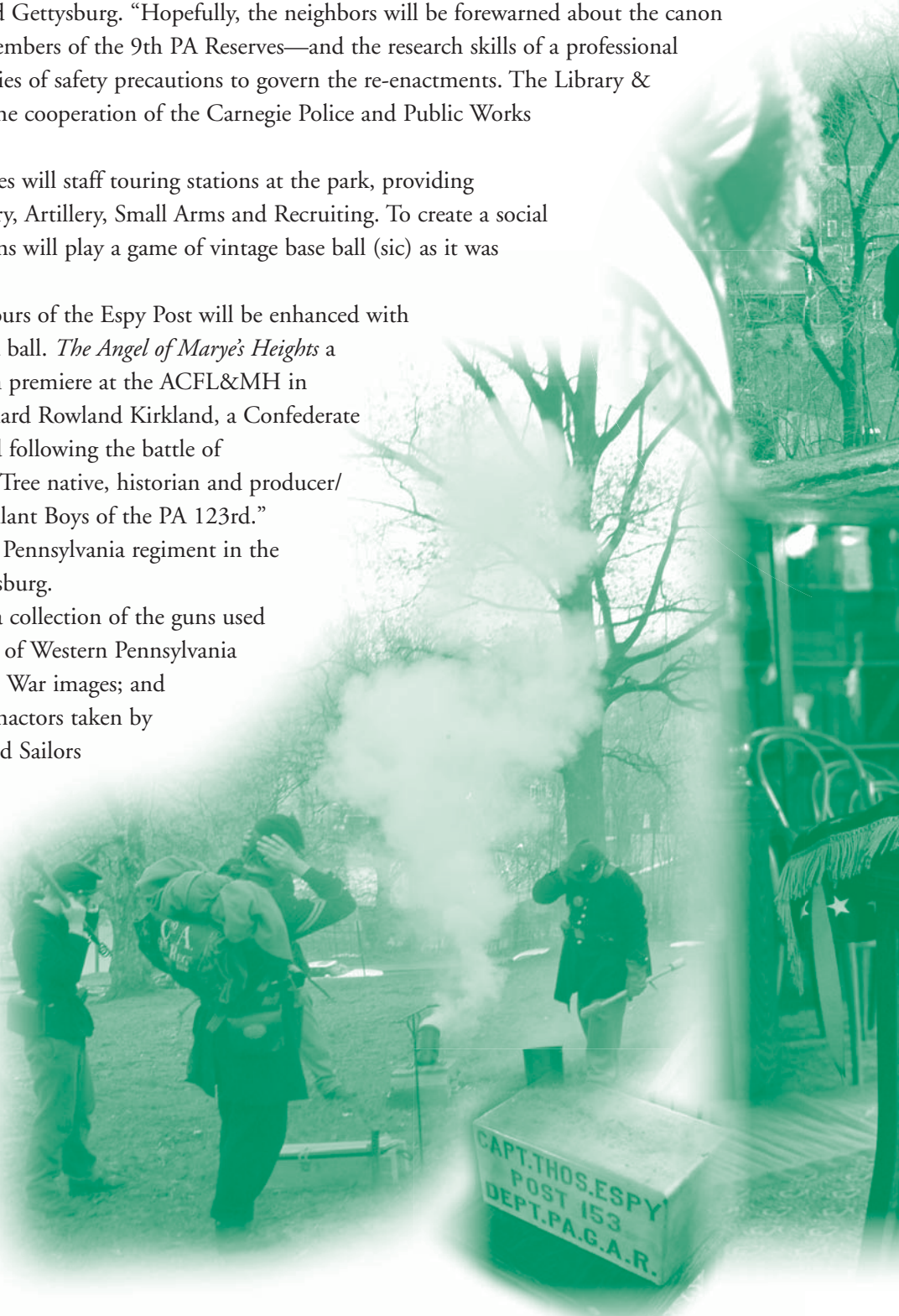
Members of the 9th Pennsylvania Reserves will staff touring stations at the park, providing information on Civil War Medicine, Infantry, Artillery, Small Arms and Recruiting. To create a social context of the times, the Pittsburgh Franklins will play a game of vintage base ball (sic) as it was played in 1860.

At the Library & Music Hall, ongoing tours of the Espy Post will be enhanced with exhibits, a film, a talk, a Victorian tea and a ball. *The Angel of Marye’s Heights* a documentary film (which had its Pittsburgh premiere at the ACFL&MH in November 2010) tells the story of Sgt. Richard Rowland Kirkland, a Confederate soldier who gave aid to the Union wounded following the battle of Fredericksburg. Michael Aubrecht, a Green Tree native, historian and producer/co-author of the film, will talk on “The Gallant Boys of the PA 123rd.” Aubrecht’s talk will examine the role of this Pennsylvania regiment in the devastating 1862 Union defeat at Fredericksburg.

Exhibits include “Guns of Gettysburg,” a collection of the guns used at Gettysburg; original vintage photographs of Western Pennsylvania soldiers from Ronn Palm’s Museum of Civil War images; and “Civil War Memories,” photographs of re-enactors taken by James E. Meldrum. Members of Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall USCT Drum Corps will perform at 12:00 and 2:45 p.m.

As an antidote to all the war and weapons, a Victorian Tea will take place at 1:00 p.m. in the ACFL&MH’s Reception Hall. In the evening the Reception Hall will be transformed for a Civil War Ball. Music will be performed by the Susquehanna Travellers and the dances will be “called” by Heather Nichols. Period attire is strongly encouraged for those attending the Ball, which begins at 8:00 p.m.

Sutlers (civilian merchants) will display their wares and food will be



available in the ACFL&MH's lower level. All programming is free and open to the public except for the tea (\$12) and ball (\$20/\$30 per couple) for which tickets are required. A free shuttle will take visitors back and forth between the Library & Music Hall, Carnegie Park and ancillary parking at the Main Street parking lot (across from the old Post Office). There is limited parking at the ACFL&MH and no parking at the Park during the re-enactment.

Visit www.carnegiecarnegie.org for more information or tickets.

ACFL&MH Civil War programming is made possible through a generous grant from the Massey Charitable Trust.



2011 Civil War Living History Event

LOCATION: LIBRARY & MUSIC HALL

300 Beechwood Avenue, Carnegie, PA 15106

- Thomas Espy Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) Room Tours 10AM to 4PM
- Guns of Gettysburg Display—Basement Studio 10AM to 4PM
- Museum of Civil War Images—1st Floor Library 10AM to 4PM
- “Civil War Memories” Photographs of James E. Meldrum—Reception Hall 10AM to 4PM
(Please note the Reception Hall is closed between 1 and 2PM for the Victorian Tea)
- Sutlers/Food Court—Basement Studio 10AM to 4PM
- Victorian Tea—Reception Hall (\$12) Seating Limited 1 to 2PM
- Soldiers & Sailors USCT Drum Corps Demonstration—Music Hall 12PM & 2:45PM
- “Gallant Boys of the 123rd” Michael Aubrecht Lecture—Music Hall 11AM & 1:45PM
- Documentary Film: *Angel of Marye’s Heights*—Music Hall 12:45PM & 3:30PM
- Civil War Ball—Reception Hall (\$20/\$30 per couple) 8PM. Period attire encouraged but not required. Music by the Susquehanna Travelers. Heather Nichols, Caller

LOCATION: CARNEGIE PARK

201 Cooks Lane, Carnegie, PA 15106

- Touring Stations: Civil War Medicine, 10AM to 4PM
- Infantry, Artillery, Small Arms & Recruiting Artillery Demonstrations 11:30AM & 2:30PM
- Skirmish/Fredericksburg 1PM
- Pittsburgh Franklins—1860 Vintage Base Ball 2:30 to 4PM
- Skirmish/Gettysburg 4:30PM

All programming is free and open to the public unless otherwise noted (\$\$)

Free continuous shuttle service is available between the Library, Carnegie Park, and E. Main Street parking lot (Old Post Office Lot) between 10:00 AM and 5:00 PM.

Two Photography Exhibits Commemorate Start of Civil War

During this 150th anniversary of the Civil War, the Library & Music Hall has worked hard to put together a very special program on April 30. However, it did not want the official start of the War, the bombardment of Fort Sumter on April 12, 1861 to pass by unremarked. Instead, on Tuesday April 12, the ACFL&MH unveils two very different photography exhibits and a reception with the collector and the photographer.

Ronn Palm has had a “bug” since 1971 that he has no interest in shaking. That’s when he bought his first Civil War “quarter plate ambrotype” of an unidentified Union Civil War soldier from a dealer in Carrick for \$1.25. Since then he has amassed a collection of well over 8,000 original Civil War photographs and related Civil War memorabilia.

Palm has put together an exhibit of Western Pennsylvania soldiers’ photographs and some complementary artifacts for the Library. In his opinion the Union Army’s finest regiments came from Western Pennsylvania. These will be displayed in the Library’s first and second floor exhibit cases.

A native of Port Vue, PA, Palm now splits his time between Kittanning and Gettysburg where he displays his collection in the *Ronn Palm’s Museum of Civil War Images*. His museum is housed in the second oldest building (1802) in Gettysburg’s historic district. Palm bought the building in 1997 and thought he’d have his museum open in six months: it opened in June 2000. Like his collection, it turned into something much more ambitious than he anticipated.

Palm’s collection began with random Civil War photographs, but his interest became focused on photographs of soldiers, and

then narrowed to Pennsylvania soldiers. His passion is identifying the soldiers and learning their stories. “Putting a name to the image makes all the difference in the world. Once I find out who a soldier is—that’s my high!” Palm has become a detective tracking down all sorts of leads to identify soldiers. He relies on internet sites and an ever-growing network of connections to make his identifications.

Palm’s knowledge of the stories behind his photographs is astonishing, though he modestly claims to be no expert. His museum and his efforts to identify soldiers is his way of honoring the men who served in the Civil War.

Palm, a sales rep for a furniture company, collected coins and cards as a boy, and had a fascination with Egyptian and Roman history rather than the Civil War. However, an article in *Shotgun News* led him to the Carrick dealer, and “that \$1.25 photo was in my price range!” he says with a wide smile.

Photographer James E. Meldrum has put together an exhibit of “Civil War Memories” for the Library & Music Hall’s sesquicentennial programming. The 33 color photographs of Civil War

re-enactors were culled from thousands of photographs taken over about ten years at the Rockford Midway Village and Museum Center in Rockford, Illinois. As Meldrum’s photographs convey, the Rockford re-enactments became the biggest Civil War event of its kind in the Midwest, drawing re-enactors from throughout the United States.

A biologist by training and a technical writer, Meldrum has been taking photographs and perfecting his

technique for more than 40 years. He started taking photography seriously as a freshman in high school, and began entering photography contests in 1972 while a student at the University of Wisconsin. He has won numerous awards. Meldrum’s work is held in a variety of private collections and



Three pieces from Ronn Palm's collection: top, On Roper Rock at Lookout Mountain; middle, Surgeon George Kimball, CDV; bottom, a collection of personal items.

Ronn Palm's Museum of Civil War Images James E. Meldrum's Civil War Memories

has been exhibited at numerous galleries and museums.

Meldrum's photography interests are eclectic, though his specialty is portrait photography. He began photographing Civil War re-enactments during the 1980s. "It was just like going into a time machine—a photographer's dream," recalls Meldrum.

In the 1990s when Rockford switched to World War II re-enactments (now the largest WWII event of its kind in the country), Meldrum took photographs and became a re-enactor himself, participating as a German photographer.

Executive Director Maggie Forbes has had the *Civil War Memories* exhibit in the wings for almost two years. In 2009 Nancy (a



prefer the color versions. The sepia photos could be mistaken for historic images. "These are beautiful photographs of re-enactors, depicting contemporary people with whom the Civil War still resonates profoundly," says Forbes.



Carnegie native) and Nelson Cappy visited the Library & Music Hall. Forbes gave them a look at the not yet restored Espy Post, and Nelson told her about Meldrum's work. Meldrum offered the Library & Music Hall a choice of color or sepia photos.

Meldrum and Forbes both

The opening reception with Ronn Palm and James Meldrum takes place April 12 from 5 to 7 p.m., and is free and open to the public. The two complementary exhibits of Civil War photographs will be on display from April 13 through May 14. They can be viewed during regular Library hours.

Could One of These Men Be Your Ancestor?

One of the most compelling artifacts in the Espy Post is the striking photograph of Civil War veterans posing for a proud Memorial Day picture on the Library steps.

The Espy Post kept meticulous membership records. The Library & Music Hall has the names of veterans who were members of the Post, but so far has only matched three names with the nearly 100 men pictured.

A large framed print was a gift to the veterans from the Elks when the Espy Post moved to the Library in 1906.

Please visit www.carnegiecarnegie.com to see if you recognize any of the pictured veterans from family photographs. Then check all the links on the Manuscript Collection page to see if you find your relatives' names. Please contact Library director Diane Klinefelter with your discovery at 412-276-3456, x. 5.



ACFL&MH Celebrates 110 Years With Ice Cream, Cake & Break Dancing

The Andrew Carnegie Free Library has been serving its community for 110 years. It opened to the public on May 1, 1901, though the formal dedication attended by benefactor Andrew Carnegie took place with great ceremony nearly a year later on April 22, 1902.

The Carnegie Carnegie is assuming “important personage” stature by celebrating this milestone birthday on a day that works best for the Library & Music Hall. June 25, the first Saturday of summer, seems an ideal time to have an old-fashioned ice cream and cake party to which the community is invited. Thankfully, the ACFL&MH’s new neighbor Bob Marshall, owner of Carnegie’s greatly anticipated Bob’s Diner, agreed to provide the ice cream and cake. “Hopefully Carnegie folk will be eating plenty of meals at the Diner,” chuckled Marshall. “I think we can treat them to some ice cream and cake for this very special birthday.”

With the exception of its refreshments, the Library & Music Hall celebration will not be traditional. The only programming of the afternoon is a short dance performance. Lou Short, a Glendale resident, had contacted Executive Director Maggie Forbes about his dance group getting more involved in the community. Forbes was explaining that he could rent the Music Hall, then asked what sort of dance group Short was part of. When Forbes learned that the Get Down Gang are break dancers the juxtaposition of venerable institution and the extraordinary physical exuberance of break dancing struck her as a perfect birthday combo. “It just seems a fabulous way to let everyone know that this old girl—the Library & Music Hall, not me—is not as staid as some people might think!”

Short, whose stage name is Mr_Street, is excited about performing in the Music Hall. “I am so happy to bring the Get Down Gang to my home town! And whether they are eight or 80 we will give them 20 minutes or so of dancing that people will be talking about!”

At its party, the ACFL&MH will unveil a very special gift for its community: an air conditioned Library! Forbes has heard stories that people’s parents and grandparents used to come to the Library to stay warm in the winter. “Library service/library usage is year round,” says Forbes. “Our patrons, our staff and our collections won’t have to suffer through summer any more!”

The Library & Music Hall’s 110th Birthday Party is free and open to the public. It takes place from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. on June 25. The Get Down Gang performs at 3:00 p.m. For more information visit www.carnegiecarnegie.org or call 412-276-3456.



Summer Reading Program Under Development



Spend your summer at the library this year. It will be a cool thing to do—quite literally with our new air conditioning!

Another exciting summer reading program is already in the works here at the Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall. Kids, teens, and parents are all welcome to join in the fun. This summer’s theme is all about traveling the world and beyond through books. Fasten your seat belts!

As a wonderful addition to this year’s program, we are asking patrons to “Read for a Paws.” We will be partnering with a local animal shelter to run a book-a-thon and donate the proceeds to the animal shelter. Stay tuned to the library website, calendar, Facebook page, and Twitter feed to find out more about summer reading this coming summer.

Daphne Alderson) and celebrity speakers (Lynne Rossetto Kasper). A spotlight on Jazz is long overdue at the Music Hall's premiere annual event.

2011 marks the 25th Anniversary of BNY Mellon Jazz. BNY Mellon Jazz partners with non-profit organizations to underwrite jazz concerts and concert series, educational initiatives and scholarships. This year-round focus provides cultural and educational institutions with exceptional opportunities to offer the best in jazz artistry. The ACFL&MH's tribute to Joe Negri is a perfect fit.

Negri is one of the most recognized names in Pittsburgh music circles and one of the country's acclaimed guitar virtuosos. He credits Charlie Christian, Les Paul, and Django Reinhardt as the guitarists who most influenced his early years, and describes himself as being part of a "second wave of post-World War II guitarists" that includes Johnny Smith, Jimmy Raney, Wes Montgomery, Tal Farlow, Herb Ellis, Barney Kessel, Joe Pass and Kenny Burrell.

Negri is also known to millions of fans around the country as the familiar, friendly Handyman Negri from WQED's beloved *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood* series. Negri's television work actually began at KDKA-TV, where he headed up his own music trio. Following KDKA, Negri spent more than 20 years at WTAE-TV as an on-air performer and the station's musical director.

As befits a musician who is the quintessential Pittsburgh artist, Negri is planning a program featuring Pittsburgh jazz greats such as Billy Strayhorn, Henry Mancini, Earl "Fatha" Hines and Mary Lou Williams. And, of course, the event won't be complete without some of Joe Negri's favorite jazz standards.

"Growing up is not an easy thing," muses a bona fide grown-up Negri. "But there are some things that happen in your life that make it all worth while. This concert is one of those happenings. I'm so proud and happy to be once again associated with the Carnegie Carnegie. The hall is a real gem. The acoustics are ideal, and the stage and size of the hall are perfect for the intimacy and subtleties of jazz and other chamber musical art forms. I'm looking forward to a very special evening."

Negri will be joined by Negri regulars Max Leake on piano, Tom Wendt on drums and Tony DiPaolis on bass. However, guest performers taking the stage to honor the man who has contributed so much to jazz, music and Pittsburgh include vocalist Maureen

Budway, saxophonist Mike Tomaro, drummer Roger Humphreys, and a rising star in the jazz firmament—trumpeter Sean Jones.

"A night to remember!" Forbes exults about the line-up. She expects that when word gets out about the concert more musicians will want to pay tribute to Negri. When she told Bach Choir director Thomas Douglas about the concert he said, "Make me part of that." The affable Mr. Negri was delighted to count Douglas in. "We may have a



Joe Negri performs in our Music Hall in 2008.

crowded stage," Forbes predicts.

BNY Mellon Jazz Presents A Gala Tribute to Joe Negri takes place at 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 1. The concert will be followed by an after-theater party throughout the ACFL&MH's historic facility.

Tickets are \$125 apiece (\$90 tax deductible) for reserved seats in the orchestra or \$75 apiece (\$40 tax deductible) for open historic seating in the balcony. Proceeds from the concert benefit the campaign to restore the Library & Music Hall. Tickets may be purchased at www.carnegiecarnegie.org or by calling 412-276-3456, x6.

Socially Networking? So are we! Find us at:

www.Youtube.com/AndrewCarnegieFree

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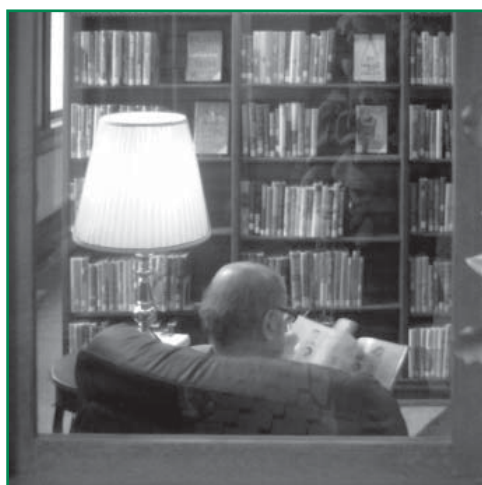
Remember to bring your cast-off paper products to the ACFL&MH's Paper Retriever bin. The more you recycle the more money you raise for children's programming at the Library! Paper Retriever is back on track with regularly scheduled pick-ups. The ACFL&MH can call for a special pick up if the bin fills up unexpectedly.

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For the full list of campaign donors visit www.carnegiecarnegie.com.

*The Chartiers Valley Partnership and the ACFL&MH gratefully acknowledge the many individuals, businesses and organizations who have made gifts to the campaign **given from November 9, 2010 through April 6, 2011**. Please visit www.carnegiecarnegie.com for the full list of donors since the campaign's official November 2003 launch.*

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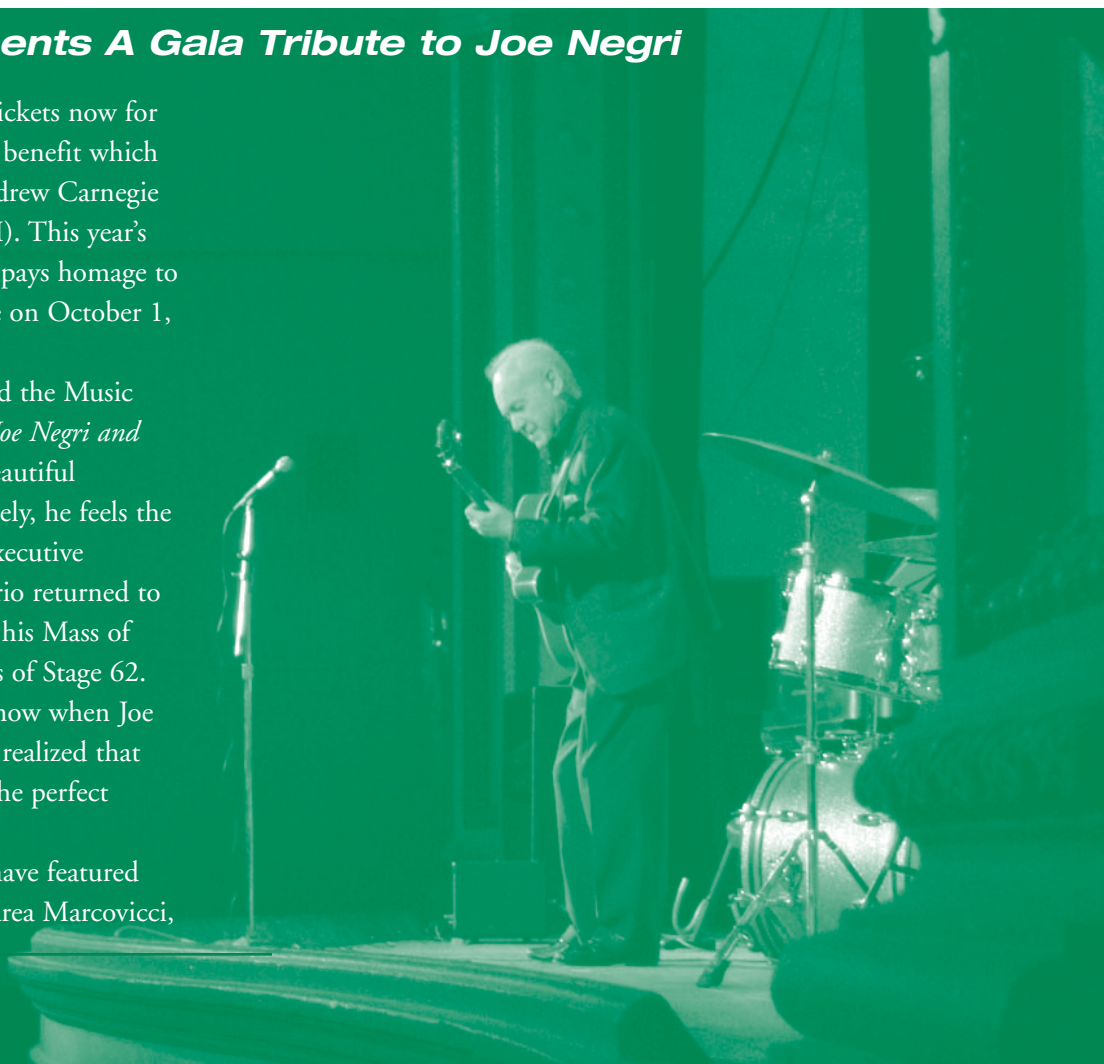
BNY Mellon Jazz Presents A Gala Tribute to Joe Negri

Mark your calendars and order your tickets now for the Chartiers Valley Partnership's annual benefit which supports the campaign to restore the Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall (ACFL&MH). This year's concert, presented by BNY Mellon Jazz, pays homage to Pittsburgh's own Joe Negri. It takes place on October 1, and is sure to be a sell out!

This legendary jazz guitarist has graced the Music Hall stage twice before. His April 2008 *Joe Negri and Friends* performance was the start of a beautiful relationship. "We love him, and fortunately, he feels the same way about the Music Hall," says Executive Director Maggie Forbes. Negri and his trio returned to the Music Hall later in 2008 to perform his Mass of Hope with the Bach Choir and members of Stage 62.

"Since then, people have wanted to know when Joe will be back," says Forbes. Forbes finally realized that ACFL&MH's annual benefit would be the perfect occasion for a Joe Negri tribute concert.

The ACFL&MH's previous benefits have featured opera (Marianne Cornetti), cabaret (Andrea Marcovicci,



See Negri, page 13