



December 2008

Heinz History Center Celebrates Pittsburgh

In celebration of Pittsburgh's 250th anniversary, the History Center's newest exhibition, Pittsburgh: A Tradition of Innovation, celebrates our region's incredible impact on the world.



The new 16,000 square-foot exhibit, features more than 50 hands-on activities and audio-visual displays, to help tell Pittsburgh's definitive story.

Visitors will experience history like never before by:

- Come face-to-face with influential Pittsburgh innovators
- Talk with a "virtual" George Westinghouse
- Discover Pittsburgh jazz inside the Crawford Grill
- Learn about hundreds of Pittsburgh Innovators
- And much, much more

Heinz History Center & Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum is located at 1212 Smallman Street. For more information on Pittsburgh: A Tradition of Innovation and other exhibits and events at the History Center visit www.pghhistory.org



Strip District Guide to the Holidays

Do you long for a time when the holidays were filled with a sense of discovery and fun, instead of frustration and stress? Try something different this year and alter your perception of holiday shopping ...just keep repeating "It's not a chore, it's a joy" and, if you shop in the Strip, it will be!

Visit www.neighborsinthestrip.com and click on the Index for a guide to the best the Strip has to offer. Keep your Holiday happy—visit us soon and often during this festive season. And remember, that in the Strip you'll always find something new and always an old friend!

Strip Scavenger Hunt – the Final Photo!

Do you know your way around the Strip District? Test your knowledge in NITS Online Scavenger Hunt. Here is the sixth



Where can you find this regal 'Secret of the Strip'?

Photo from Neighbors in the Strip Archives

featured photo – this one is from our personal archives. The first person to identify where the photo was taken will win a Strip Tote Bag. Remember, only the first person to correctly identify the photo each month will be acknowledged, giving the monthly winner an advantage (you'll know at least one of the locations) so send your guesses to cynthiahelffrich@yahoo.com quickly!

GRAND PRIZE TO BE AWARDED IN JANUARY!

In January we will be drawing for the grand prize from those entries that correctly identify the location for all six photos. Instructions for entering the competition for the grand prize will be included in the January NITS-e-gram.



We have selected as our Grand Prize an item that will continue to remind you of the Strip - a large tin of gourmet popcorn from **The Pittsburgh Popcorn Company** in the special edition 2008 holiday tin, displaying the charm of the Strip District during the holidays!



If you want to refresh your memory on photos from previous months, visit our website at www.neighborsinthestrip.com.

But don't wait too long!

New Year's Celebrations in the Strip



Mullaney's Harp & Fiddle, 2329 Penn Avenue - 2009 New Years Eve Bash with Red Hand Paddy 9pm-1am; Champagne toasts at 7PM (midnight in Ireland) and Midnight.

Spaghetti Warehouse, 26th & Smallman Streets – Mysterys Most Wanted dinner theatre: *It's Murder, CB*. Charlie, Lucy, Linus, Marcie, and Patty are reuniting for one last holiday together. But when Lucy decides to dig deeper into Charlie's psyche, the Christmas tree might not be the only thing that ends up dead. Dinner includes, Salad, Soft Drinks, Bread, and Entrée (choice from list of 8); \$29.25 per person. For reservations call 412-261-6511.

Eleven, 1150 Smallman Street - Chef's Tasting Menu, Vegetarian Chef's Tasting Menu, and limited a la carte menu. Chef Derek Steven's selections for the evening range from Porcini Gnocchetti to Pacific Black Cod. Visit <http://bigburrito.com/eleven/eleven.shtml> for a complete menu. \$85 per person for Chef's Tasting Menu and \$70 per person for Vegetarian Menu, with wine pairings available for an additional \$50 per person. And, if you need a location for an amazing New Year's Eve party, check out Eleven's selection of private rooms. Call 412-201-5656 for donations



Kaya, 2000 Smallman Street - Kaya will be serving up a fresh, three course menu including Grilled Duck Breast, Jalapeño Relleno Three Ways, and vegetarian choices, too. \$35 per person; a wine package and martini tasting will be offered for an additional \$15 each. For reservations, call 412-261-6565 and visit <http://www.bigburrito.com/kaya/> for complete menu.

Lidia's, 1400 Smallman Street - Lidia's has a real Italian holiday dinner lined up for New Year's Eve. The menu includes a choice of seven entrees. Other courses include some of the restaurant's most popular dishes, including lobster frico with mixed greens and krafi ravioli with wild mushroom risotto. Price: \$75 per person. Call 412-552-0150 for reservations.

Roland's Seafood Grill, 1904 Penn Avenue – Dinner Buf-fet, Breakfast Buffet, DJ's on both floors, champagne toasts and open bar from 9:30 – 1:30 am. Couples \$215; singles \$115. Call 412-261-3401 for reservations and visit www.rolandsseafoodgrill.com/ for more details.



Club Zoo, 1630 Smallman Street – Follow the searchlights to Club Zoo for an under-21 New Year's celebration from 9:00 – 2:00 am. Tickets are \$22 in advance and \$25 at the door. Call 412-201-1100 or email zoopgh@gmail.com for reservations.

Welcome!

Welcome and thanks to our New and Renewing Members of Neighbors in the Strip:



Members:
Euclid Fish Company
John CR Kelly Realty
Klavon's Ice Cream Parlor
Mahla Office Furniture
Mid Atlantic Capital *NEW*
Bikram Yoga "NEW"
Bradley Books
The Crane Building
Eleven
Fudgie Wudgie
Homeless Children's Education Fund
The Hub
Kaya
The Midwife Center
Mon Aimee Chocolat
Mullen
Penn Avenue Pottery
Pitt Ohio Express
Pittsburgh Water Limo "NEW"
Right By Nature "NEW"
St. Stanislaus Kostka/St. Patrick Parish
Schoolhouse Yoga
Schorin Paper Company
Strip District Meats
Two Louie's Market Inc. "NEW"
WDO Photography "NEW"
Walnut Capital Partners
Zerrer's Antiques

Friends:
Georgianna Hillenbrand
Sara B. Moeller "NEW"
David Scott "NEW"
Bob Snyder "NEW"

Cigar Night at Leaf & Bean

If you're a fan of Leaf & Bean and enjoy their Singer Songwriter Saturdays, you might want to know about a new series of events they are instituting...Cigar Nights. The most recent Cigar Night celebrated our dubious economy with a "soup kitchen" with a variety of homemade soups to warm the shivering masses that showed up. The next Cigar Night will be held on January 8 at 6 pm. There will be cigar puffing, fellowship and the food theme for the night is Gourmet Peanut butter and Jelly Sandwiches!

And while we're talking about Leaf & Bean, if you're stuck for a last minute Christmas gift, don't forget Leaf & Bean. They have lots of cigar gift stocking stuffers as well as coffee, humidors and the very popular "Cigar Wedge" – a MUST for every cigar smoking golfer!

Have You Seen...

...Happy Birthday to one of Neighbors in the Strip's most dedicated volunteers, Marlene "Cookie" Cummings (whom you may have met at one of our events doing all the drudgery tasks that are necessary for a successful party) recently returned to her beloved Island State, Hawaii to visit her many friends there. The following picture appeared on the website for KPOA Hawaiian Music Maui Style. Looks like they think as highly of Cookie as we do!



"We call her Aunty Cookie Pittsburgh and she is one of our most avid listeners. We would like to thank her for her continued generosity. She sends us all kind of presents and sports stuff. In fact she has inspired me to do an on line auction for all of the KPOA Ohana. Look for it in 2009. Travel safe and give our Aloha to your Mom, and Ian, and the rest of the Pittsburgh Ohana."

... from "Passing on Tradition" by Mary Wade Burnside in the December 7 2008 edition of the Times West Virginian: "Lucy Eates of Fairmont has gotten a head start on her Feast of the Seven Fishes preparations. She spent a day this week at the Strip District in Pittsburgh, buying ingredients that she will turn into a fish-filled spread for the three of her four children and their families who will be traveling from out of town for the holidays. Like many area residents do, Eates made mandatory stops at the Pennsylvania Macaroni Co. and Wholey's Seafood Market on the Strip. **'It puts you in the mood for the holidays by making the trip to the Strip District,'** Eates said." (Emphasis added) **See – and you thought we were just exaggerating when we claimed it is THE place to shop for the holidays!**

Some Fun Photos

Business owners and residents from the Strip, Bloomfield, Polish Hill and Lawrenceville gathered to perfect their celebratory skills at the second annual Multi-Community, Pre-Holiday Celebration held at The Pittsburgh Opera on November 20, 2008. The festivities were sponsored by PNC Bank. Don't you wish you were there! Thanks to Don Orkoskey of WDO Photography for sharing these immortal images.



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We wish you and yours a joyous holiday season. And if this isn't a holiday season for you, we encourage you to adopt a holiday. It's always a good thing to celebrate with friends and show appreciation for those we love. If it takes a holiday to remind us of that, well, we say grab on to as many holidays as you can.

See you next year...Cindy H.

P.S. If you have any questions, comments or news about the Strip, please e-mail me at cynthiahelffrich@yahoo.com