



July 2008

Primanti Brothers Celebrates 75 Years!

Free Concert and Street Festival Mark 75 Years of Pittsburgh Sandwich History



Primanti Brothers, home of the sandwich that put Pittsburgh on the map, is celebrating its 75th Anniversary by giving Pittsburgh a Free Concert and Street Festival presented by WDVE and Iron City Brewing Company. The celebration will feature Pittsburgh's own favorite band for the last two decades – The Clarks, plus Good Brother Earl, King Friday, and Tres Lads on Saturday, July 19, 2008 from noon to 9 pm at **Primanti's** on 18th Street.

Home of the first **Primanti Brothers Restaurant**, 18th Street will be closed to traffic for the festival and proclaimed "**Primanti Way**" by Mayor Luke Ravenstahl. In addition, Iron City Brewing Company has produced an Iron City **Primanti Brothers** Commemorative Beer Can of the original **Primanti's** location in the Strip which will be on sale during the celebration and in local distributors.



The **Primanti** sandwich has been recognized as the signature sandwich of Pittsburgh with television appearances on The Food Network, The Travel Network, and NFL Monday Night Football. The sandwich has also been touted in

publications including National Geographic and Everyday with Rachel Ray, and most recently has been recognized by the James Beard Foundation as an American Classic.

Primanti Brothers began not as a restaurant, but as a small wooden lunch stand in the Strip, run by Joe Primanti and his nephew John during the Great Depression. In 1933, with help from brothers Dick and Stanley, they purchased the restaurant today known as the "original" **Primanti's**. Today **Primanti's** has 17 locations, including two in Fort Lauderdale. The **Primanti Brothers** sandwich has become known as Pittsburgh's sandwich, with grilled meats, cheese, tomatoes, cole slaw and French fries piled high on freshly sliced Italian bread.

For more information on **Primanti's 75th Celebration**, visit www.primantibros.com

Strip Scavenger Hunt

Do you think you're an expert on the Strip District? Test your knowledge in NITS first ever **Online Scavenger Hunt**. Here is the second featured photo from the **Spirit of the Strip PhotoWalk**.

The first person to identify where the photo was taken will win a Strip Tote Bag. If you can't identify the location immediately, never fear! Keep your eyes open as you shop, dine, stroll or otherwise enjoy the Strip and maybe you will discover the location later. NITS will feature a photo from the Spirit of the Strip PhotoWalk (or other occasion) each month through December 2008 and ask "Where in the Strip can you find this?"



Where in the Strip could you find this gathering of heroes?

Photo Courtesy of Sohail Khwaja

If you want to refresh your memory on last month's photo, visit our website at www.neighborsinthestrip.com. Remember, that after the publication of the December NITS-e-gram, those who can correctly identify the location of all six photos will be entered into a drawing for an amazing grand prize! 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!

Mark Your Calendar!



Don't miss **Zerrer's Antiques** annual Tent Event & Fleatique Sidewalk Sale from Friday, July 18 to Sunday, July 20. There will be plenty of outdoor bargains on furniture, small collectibles, glassware and vintage jewelry, as well as reductions on many other items. **Zerrer's** has an eclectic mix with something to appeal to every taste. The sale will take place rain or shine, so plan on being there early for the best buys! Hours for the event are 9 am – 4 pm on Friday and Saturday and 10 am to 2 pm on Sunday.



Zerrer's Antiques is located at 2703 Penn Avenue

United Way Raises Over \$31 Million in 2007 Campaign



Overall Campaign Contributions Increase for Two Consecutive Years!

United Way of Allegheny County announced that the 2007 campaign raised \$31,022,233, a 4% increase over the 2006 campaign and the second consecutive year of campaign increases. A total of \$18,687,224 was contributed to **United Way's Impact Fund**, which supports only the most effective programs helping people with great human needs. The remaining funds were designated by donors to 4,000 non-profit agencies.

"These results are great!" stated **United Way** Board Chair Art Rooney II, "The increased support of United Way indicates that our donors appreciate our new initiatives and directions: identifying and addressing our most critical needs and allocating our dollars through open competition to the agencies best able to show results."



Have You Seen...

Marla and John Zerrer of **Zerrer's Antiques** served as co-chairs of the ninth annual Paw Prints benefit auction for the Animal Rescue League on June 6 at the Regional Enterprise Tower, Downtown. See their photo at: <http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/08173/891752-461.stm>
Hard to say who is cuter, Marla, John or the Kitten!

It's not too late to vote for your favorite (i.e., Strip District) restaurant for AOL's City Best. There are quite a few Strip restaurants and nightspots up for honors, but your votes are needed. Deadline is July 10 and you can vote once each day. Make your voice heard! <http://citybest.aol.com/pittsburgh/>

The Spaghetti Warehouse's 15-layer lasagna received the First Place People's Choice Award at the 2008 A Taste of Pittsburgh's Pasta event on June 19. The event benefits the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Bravo! Pittsburghers know a good thing when they taste it!

Check the KDKA Videos at <http://kdk.com/video/?cid=49> for the Ultimate Summer Picnic, with Christina French from Table Magazine and Rhonda Schuldts of Local Goodness. Naturally enough the video features a number of our favorite Strip businesses, including **Enrico Biscotti**, **Parma Sausage**, **Penn Mac** and **Farmers @ Firehouse**.

For Your Information...

The National Kidney Foundation will be holding their transplant games and convention in Pittsburgh July 11 – 16. Total attendance for this event is estimated at 10,000. If you have any special offers for this group, contact VisitPittsburgh and they will make them available at the restaurant booth. According to VisitPittsburgh, when this event was held in Louisville, restaurants ran out of food and were overwhelmed!

The Yum Report:



A food tasting adventure and historic walking tour explores the Strip District of past and present

And it's about time says Yum. Yum can't do all the work of letting people know the many and varied delights of the Strip all by Yumself. **Burgh Bits & Bites**, founded by Sylvia McCoy, takes its tour groups through some of the tastiest spots in the Strip. But even as you eat your way through the Strip, Sylvia also tells you about the buildings, the businesses, and the history of the Strip. But without a doubt food is the Star of this tour.

Yum was eagerly anticipating touring the Strip with Sylvia last week, but an unexpected disaster left Yum unable to manage even a moderate trundle and reluctantly Yum had to defer this delightful trip until a later date. Sib and Chum were otherwise engaged and that left the Steel Magnolia, alone among the Strip's intrepid band of foodaholics, to experience the wonders of the Strip. Steel returned with wondrous tales of tastings at **Mancini's**, **Labad's**, **Enrico Biscotti**, **Penn Mac**, **Colangelo and Sunseri's** (and Yum will leave you to guess whether Steel brought back even a crumb to share with colleagues). Ah well, at least Yum is left with something to anticipate.



Steel Magnolia reports that Sylvia is a most excellent tour guide: charming, knowledgeable and enthusiastic. Sylvia spent most of the previous decade in Switzerland and exploring the food markets of Europe. Sylvia has also volunteered as a tour guide for the Pittsburgh Historic Landmark Foundation, giving her a wealth of experience and knowledge about the city. Oh, and the tours are offered in English and German. Yum is very peeved to have missed the tour. As you may have noted, Yum is not a big fan of deferred gratification.

If you would like to take the tour: Burgh Bits & Bites tours are on Thursdays, beginning at 10am and last for approximately two hours. Tours start from the Old St. Patrick Church grotto and include 6-10 people (although private tours may be customized to meet the specific needs of your group). For more information and to make reservations, visit www.burghfoodtour.com

IMPORTANT: Take advantage of special offers at The Spaghetti Warehouse! Enjoy special offers sent directly to your inbox including a gift on your birthday! You'll also be the first to receive updates on new dishes, promotions, and special events. Sign up to join the Warehouse Club and find even more reasons to go to **The Spaghetti Warehouse** (in addition to the great food, friendly service and fun atmosphere!)

www.fishbowl.com/ct/SpghttWrhs/lp/join/join.asp

Events



July 12 and July 26 – I Loathe Lucy. At **The Spaghetti Warehouse**, Mystery's Most Wanted presents a night of comedy and mystery. Somebody has some 'splainin to do when America's favorite red head turns up dead. Visit www.mysterymostwanted.com/Warehouse.htm for additional information and reservations.

July 19 - Artist Demonstration. At **The Society for Contemporary Craft**, featured artist Tom Sarver will demonstrate his cooking skills on SCC's outdoor plaza - a one-of-a-kind opportunity to watch, learn and dialogue with the artist. The demonstration will take place from noon – 2 pm. For additional information, visit www.contemporarycraft.org

July 20 – Art What You Got. Polish Hill's first-ever arts festival will be held from 12-7 pm. Forty artists will display and sell their original artworks and crafts. Music and food will be provided throughout the day. The event will be held, rain or shine, under tents on Brereton Street, between Dobson and 30th Streets. For more information, visit <http://blogski.phcapgh.org>

July Music Schedule for Mullaney's Harp & Fiddle. The **Harp and Fiddle** has a red, white and blue lineup of talent for the month of July:

July 12	Tree
July 18	Ceann CD Release Party
July 19	Sean McClorey
July 24 & 25	Danny Burns Defectors
July 26	Terry Griffith

And don't forget the Acoustic Happy Hours on the back deck, on Fridays from 5:00 – 7:00 featuring some of Pittsburgh's finest acoustic acts:

July 11	Tim & John
July 18	Bobby V
July 25	Marty, Frank & Mary

Visit www.harpandfiddle.com for the latest!

August 14 – 6th Annual Wine & Baseball Night. **Palate Partners and Dreadnought Wines** are bringing together oenophiliacs and Pirate fans for an evening of fun, franks and fireworks. The event begins at Palate Partners at 5:00 with a barbecue and carefully selected wines, followed by the Pirates - Reds game at PNC Park. Reservations are required and space is limited. Visit dreadnoughtwines.com/events.shtml for more information

Reservations are required, and space is limited. Tickets for this entire evening of fun are only \$40 per person, and can be purchased at the store at 2013 Penn Avenue, or by calling Palate Partners at (412) 391-8502. For more information on Palate Partners and Dreadnought Wines, visit www.palatepartners.com.

August 16 – The Art and Sport of Marbles. Learn everything about the marble as a piece of glass and as a sport in which local athletes have excelled. Meet some of the national marble champions from Allegheny County, learn the rules of the game and strategies from champions, and meet local marble collectors. Participate in fun hands-on activities. For more information, visit www.pghhistory.org



August 3 – Can You Dig It? The August edition of Family Saturday at the **Heinz History Center** features *The Darkest Month*, an exhibit looking back at our region's mining history and remembering the hundreds of miners who lost their lives. Families will listen to a story about children whose parents were miners and what it was like to grow up in a mining town, tour the exhibit and make their own "bituminous buddy." To register, or for more information, visit www.pghhistory.org

Through September 13 – Contemporary Masters. In recognition of the vision of the founder of the **Society for Contemporary Craft**, Pittsburgh arts patron Elizabeth Rockwell Raphael, this exhibition features work by Lenore Tawney, Marek Cecula, Jonathan Bonner, John Cederquist and Steven Maslach, who were shown in SCC's Verona store in the 1970's. For more information, visit www.contemporarycraft.org

Another Strip District Fan

We received a great note from Holly Melott of Emporium, PA, who visited the Strip with her three children recently. Holly writes,

"We all had a great time in the Strip. My 16 year old son was surprisingly impressed. We also have a 7 year old daughter and a 3 year old son - so we had a host of people to keep happy. I was excited about the opportunity that the children had to see and briefly interact with people that were so very different than themselves. We live in a very small, rural community tucked in the mountains of PA – so it's not every day we see posters hanging in shop windows in another language. The kids enjoyed walking through (**Lucy's**). We lunched on delicious pizza at **Bella Notte**, but were too full for ice cream at **Klavon's**. The atmosphere was very quaint there – everyone picked out a piece of penny candy – some of which I had not seen in years."



See you next month...Cindy H.

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

P.P.S. There's a new Happy Hour in town at Eleven, Monday through Friday from 4:00 to 6:00. Sample some delightful cocktails or a variety of fine wines for \$6.00! For a menu of offerings, visit www.bigburrito.com/eleven/index.shtml

