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For Immediate Release

Pittsburgh Steelers Quarterback Ben Roethlisberger Receives Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh Library Card in Support of National Library Card Sign-Up Month

(PITTSBURGH, PA – September 25, 2007) Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh and Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger have teamed to promote literacy. As the 2007 national spokesperson for September’s Library Card Sign-Up Month, Roethlisberger stressed the importance of owning a library card during a surprise visit to Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh – Main where he applied for his first Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh library card and shared one of his favorite children’s books, *The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs!*, with a storytime group.

Observed during the month of September since 1987, Library Card Sign-up Month is a time when libraries across the country remind parents that a library card is one of the most important school supplies they can provide their children. Studies show that children who are read to in the home and who use the library perform better in school and are more likely to continue to use the library as a source of lifetime learning. More than 181,000 people, or one in six residents of Allegheny County, have a Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh card.

“Throughout the years, the Pittsburgh Steelers organization has shown tremendous support for library services,” states Dr. Barbara K. Mistick, President & Director, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh. “A champion on, as well as off, the field, Ben Roethlisberger understands that literacy begins at the Library and the first step to literacy is with a library card. We are delighted to work with him to highlight the importance of early literacy to our community.”

“I have always enjoyed the process of learning and improving in everything I do,” says Roethlisberger. “An essential tool for learning is reading, and the best place to start is at your neighborhood library. I’m really glad I have my card.”

A Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh card offers free access to homework help, more than 5 million books, CDs, DVDs and resources items, as well as free public programs and Internet use. All Allegheny County residents are eligible for a library card.

For more information on how to sign up for a library card, visit any Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh location or apply for a card online at www.carnegielibrary.org.

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About Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh

“Free to the People” since 1895

Established as a public trust in 1895, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh serves the citizens of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County with a distinguished history of leadership among the country’s great public libraries. Through its 19 neighborhood locations, including Main Library and the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh is the region’s most visited asset. Each year the Library provides more than 6,000 free programs, classes and other learning and training opportunities that are tailored to meet the dynamic and diverse needs of people living in Western Pennsylvania.