

CP **BEST**

of

PITTSBURGH

2010

*Our Readers
Pick the City's
Best Bets*



COCKTAILS

MS PITTS

\$

CPBEST

CULTURE &
NIGHTLIFE

2010

BEST COCKTAIL LIST
BEST BAR FOR A FIRST DATE
Kelly's Bar & Lounge

Doubling Down

"BEST OF" RESULTS TOO FAMILIAR TO YOU? ROLL THE DICE WITH THESE RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE CITY PAPER STAFF.

BEST FLASHBACK TO AN EARLIER ERA THAT ISN'T YOUR RICK SEBAK DVD COLLECTION

DOWN & DERBY ROLLER DISCO

BELVEDERE'S, 4016 BUTLER ST., LAWRENCEVILLE.
WWW.DOWNANDDERBY.ORG

Started five years ago by promoter Vince Masi, Down & Derby has grown from an occasional party held at temporary locations to a regular monthly roller disco at Belvedere's. Roller skates, tube socks and short-shorts are the norm, along with dance tunes spun by guest DJs. The phenomenon has grown — there are now Down & Derby parties in Brooklyn, Las Vegas, Los Angeles and elsewhere — but it all started here.

BEST INCONSPICUOUS MUSIC VENUE

THE SHOP

4312 MAIN ST., BLOOMFIELD. 412-951-0622
It's easy to miss from the street, but this latest in a line of gallery/venues operated by local curator-promoter team Lauri Mancuso and Edgar Um is also perhaps the best yet. The Shop, which opened in the spring, is minimalist in furnishings but comfortable, and hosts all manner of small rock shows while leaning toward the underground. From noise to punk to hipster hip-hop, the nascent venue has somehow established a reputation without calling attention to itself.

BEST LOCAL YOUTUBE PHENOMENON:

JASIRI X'S TEA PARTY TAKEDOWN

(HTTP://TINYURL.COM/2BLCKVY)

A catchy beat and controversial lyrics helped Jasiri X's rap video, "What if the Tea Party was black?" go viral after its summer release. The song, which targets the conservative movement, has received nearly 250,000 views since being posted on YouTube in July. While the song never explicitly accuses the Tea Party of being racist, Jasiri's lyrics take aim at media and government hypocrisy, challenging listeners to imagine the reaction to a Tea Party movement led by black Americans. "What if the Tea Party was black / holding guns like the Black Panther Party was back?" the chorus begins. It concludes, "Ya'll know if the Tea Party was black / The government would have been had the army attack."

BEST THEATRICAL PROVOCATION

THE SHIPMENT

Cult-favorite Brooklyn-based playwright Young Jean Lee and a cast of five African-American performers collaborated on this "minstrel show," an in-your-face deconstruction of race, racism and racial stereotypes that played in April as part of the Warhol's Off the Wall series. Really, it was the profane opening "standup comedy" routine that prompted the most walkouts at the New Hazlett Theater by people who didn't quite get it. But a parodic "ghetto" narrative and a strangely "normal" third act drove home the point that everybody's got some presumptions to confront.

BEST CROSSOVER ART EXHIBIT OF 2010

WHATEVER IT TAKES

MILLER GALLERY, CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY.
MILLERGALLERY.CFA.CMU.EDU

Sure, Andy Warhol blurred the lines between high art and popular culture decades ago. But in Pittsburgh, if you ain't a Steelers-themed gallery exhibit, *you ain't shit*. Curated by Jon Rubin and Astria Suparak, *Whatever It Takes* features Steelers tattoos, fan garb, homemade football shrines ... everything you can imagine and some things you can't. Visitors are invited to consider Steelers fandom in light of working-class identity and the desire for stability during periods of economic upheaval. Or they can just think about how much ass Jack "Splat" Lambert used to kick.

BEST NEW PERFORMING ARTS TROUPE

MICROSCOPIC OPERA COMPANY

WWW.MICROSCOPICOPERA.COM

The oft-neglected repertoire of contemporary one-act operas has proved fertile terrain for co-founders Andres Cladera and Erica Olden. Working on a shoestring, they staged two evening-length programs in 2010, the second with a small orchestra. And they met the challenge of ambitious material like Jake Heggie's tragic "To Hell and Back" and Katarzyna Brochocka's "Happy Garden of Life," the latter a dark but wacky adaptation of a satiric Kurt Vonnegut story. ☞



Well woman exams

Family planning

Breast health care

STD testing

Emergency contraception

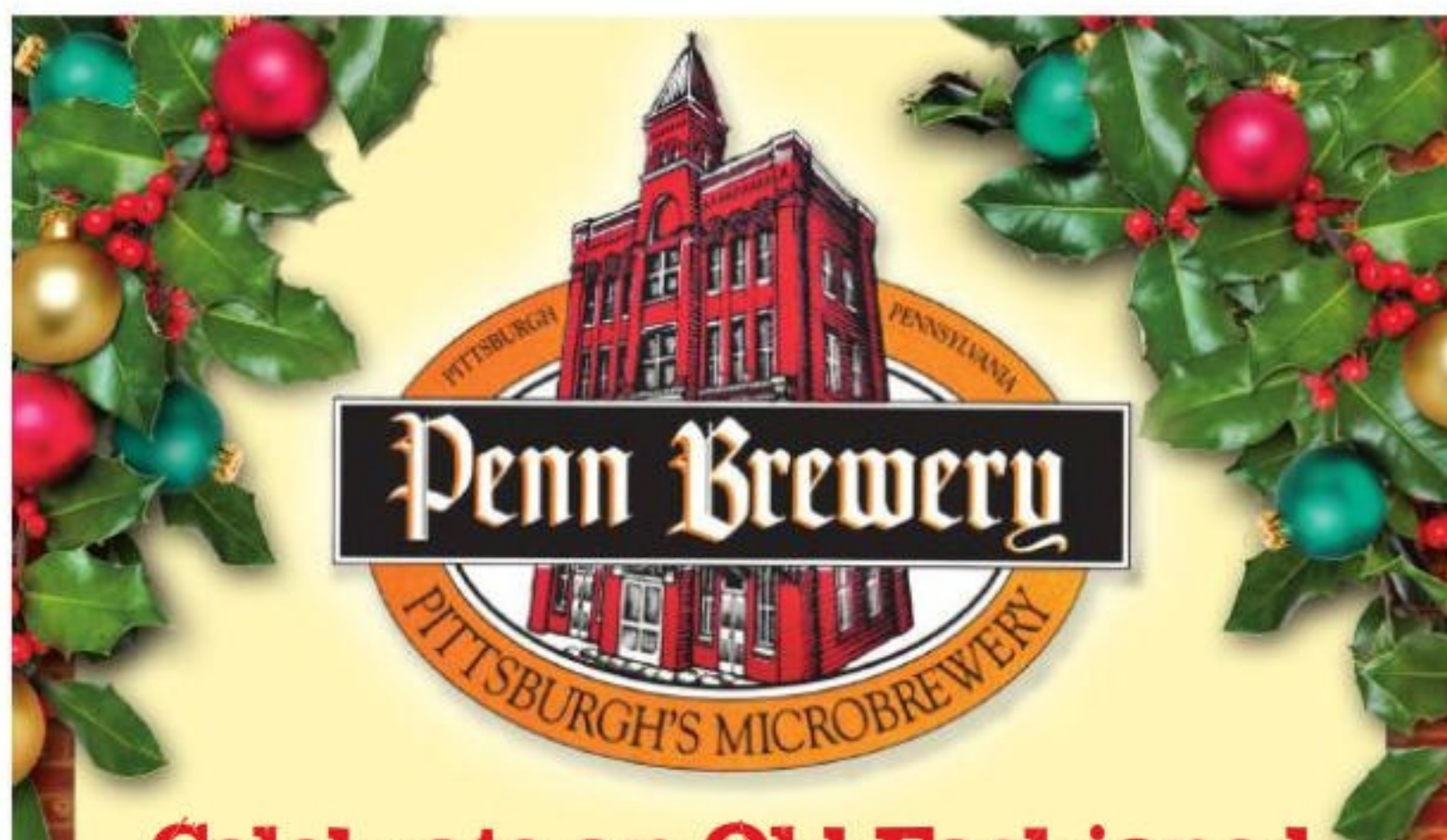
Cancer screenings

Planned Parenthood
of Western Pennsylvania, Inc.
WE'RE HERE.

We're here with a variety of programs that offer FREE services

1.800.230.PLAN

www.ppwp.org



Celebrate an Old-Fashioned St. Nikolaus Weekend

December 10 and 11

Come enjoy the cozy spirit of Pittsburgh's Christmas Past in our 19-century brewery decked out for the holidays.

Friday

Live Entertainment with

Gaudi Buam and the Blues Orphans

Ceremonial Keg Tapping of St. Nikolaus Bock

Friday/Saturday

European-style Christmas Market

featuring Original Handmade Crafts Fri 5-8pm and Sat 10:30-4pm

Saturday

"Brunch with St. Nick" Buffet

from 11am-3pm. Meet St. Nick himself as well as the Pirate Parrot, the Pittsburgh Penguins IceBurgh, and the Washington Wild Thing.

BUFFET: \$11.95 for adults, \$7.95 children 10 and under, and kids under two are free.

Reservations suggested call 412-237-9400 x120

800 VINIAL ST. • NORTH SIDE • WWW.PENNBREW.COM