

*Arts and Entertainment*

# Progress begins to show at State Theatre

by Pamela Monk

This time next year, the Centre Region will be the home of a new facility, unique to the area. Want to see a retrospective of classic films? Participate in community-wide theatre productions? Discover musicians before the buzz? It's not only possible; it's happening.

The State Theatre renovations have begun. Take a walk down College Avenue and peer through the chain link fence to see for yourself. If all goes according to plan, next summer will see the grand opening of a true community performance space, with all of the opportunities that such a space will make possible.

There has been much work going on behind the scenes but at last, the beginning of construction makes that progress visible to the community at large.

Construction is being funded in part by a \$1.5 million grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The rest of the money, according to the terms of the state grant, must be matched through other sources.

The State Theatre Inc. applied for and received a bridge loan from Omega Bank to match the funds so construction could start. It will be up to the community and individual donors to pay back the loan.

This will happen in a number of ways. The development committee of the board is soliciting major donors for contributions of \$10,000 and higher. These donations include naming opportunities for the stage and various locations. For people who don't have that kind of money to donate, there are other ways to contribute. One of them is coming up Sept. 24: the second annual College Avenue Mile.

This event, which attracted 200 runners last year, is a hybrid—part elite contest, part Mardi Gras. For serious milers, it is a chance for a bracing, uphill run on a brisk fall day.

For those who prefer walking and laughing with friends, this is one of the few opportunities around the Centre Region on days other than Halloween when you may do this dressed as your favorite fantasy, or borne on a palanquin (you need to provide

your own bearers for that one!).

Proud owners of athletic pooches are also encouraged to join the strolling throngs. The prize money of \$2,000 will be split among the winners in various categories. Times are clocked by computer. The entry fee includes a free T-shirt and the use of a timing chip.

After the race, festivities will be held downtown, including the awarding of the prizes and a sampler of the local entertainment that will eventually find a home at the State Theatre. Organizers hope to double the number of participants this year, with an eye to making the race a yearly celebration.

More information on the College Avenue Mile is available online at [www.thestatetheatre.org/events](http://www.thestatetheatre.org/events). There you will find a link to [active.com](http://active.com) for online registration. Before Sept. 17, the cost is \$15 per entry. The fee drops to \$10 per person for groups of ten or more registering at the same time. The cost for youth ages 5 to 12 is \$5 each. There is no charge for children under 5 who toddle (or are pushed in their strollers).

The building has survived. It is now up to

us, as an entire community, to make sure that the State Theatre will thrive.

*Pamela Monk is a member of the board of The State College Theater Inc. and currently serves as board secretary. She answers the question "Do we really need another theater downtown?" by asking, "Do we really need oxygen to breathe?"*

## What you need to know

**College Avenue Mile  
Sept. 24, 2005**

**Walk or run  
Pets invited**

**Costumes encouraged**

**\$15 per entry, \$5 ages 5-12**

**[www.thestatetheatre.org](http://www.thestatetheatre.org/events)  
/events**

**AEByrne**

**Chris Byrne**

**Mike Leitzel**

**Andrew Jackson Quartet**



**FRIDAYS**

**6 to 8**

**TONY'S BIG EASY**

129 S. Pugh St., State College

814-231-4590

**CPDW** Central Pennsylvania Dance Workshop  
Home of the FRASER STREET DANCERS 237-2666  
101 South FRASER STREET [www.cpdw.org](http://www.cpdw.org)

**Register Now for Fall Semester!**

14 Weeks, September 7 - December 18, 2005

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
9:00-10:00 Beg Ballet Workout		9:00-10:00 Beg Ballet Workout			9:00-9:45 Creative
		11:00-11:30 First Step			9:45-10:30 PreBallet
3:30-4:15 Creative	3:30-4:30 Ch Beg Ballet	3:30-4:15 Ch Beg Tap	3:30-4:15 PreBallet	3:30-4:15 PreTap	10:30-11:30 Ch Beg Ballet
4:15-5:30 Children's Int Ballet	4:30-5:30 Ch Beg Jazz	4:15-5:30 Ch Int & Adv Ballet	4:15-5:30 Ch Int Jazz	4:15-5:30 Ch Adv Ballet	11:30-12:30 Ch Modern
5:30-7:00 Int Jazz	5:30-7:00 Int & Adv Ballet	5:30-7:00 Int Jazz	5:30-7:00 Intermediate Ballet	5:30-7:00 Advanced Ballet	12:30-1:00 PrePointe
7:00-8:30 Int/Adv Modern	7:00-7:30 Beginning Pointe	7:00-8:30 Int/Adv Modern	7:00-7:30 Beginning Pointe		1:00-2:30 Intermediate Pointe
	7:30-8:30 Beginning Ballet		7:30-8:30 Beginning Ballet		2:30-3:30 Ch Int Tap
8:30-10:00 Advanced Jazz	8:30-9:30 Beginning Mod/Jazz	8:30-10:00 Advanced Jazz	8:30-9:30 Beginning Mod/Jazz		3:30-4:45 Adv Tap
				<b>Sun</b>	4:45-6:00 Int Tap
				6:30-7:30 Basic Ballroom	6:00-7:00 Beg Tap
				7:30-8:30 Beginning Latin	

The Central Pennsylvania Dance Workshop does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religious creed, handicap, ancestry, national origin, age sexual orientation or gender.

Jill A. Brighton,  
Director



**OPEN  
HOUSE**  
September  
21st-27th

**PLEASE  
STOP BY  
AND  
CHECK  
OUT OUR  
GREAT  
CLASSES!**