











MOVING FORWARD

UNTIL THREE DECADES AGO, MUCH OF THE PITTSBURGH REGION RELIED ON STEEL. IT BUILT THE ECONOMY, SHAPED THE WAY OF LIFE AND FUELED THE "STEEL CITY" IDENTITY. THEN THE BOTTOM FELL OUT. THE STEEL INDUSTRY CRUMBLED AND THOUSANDS OF JOBS DISAPPEARED. FROM 1973 TO 1983, THE NUMBER OF MANUFACTURING-RELATED POSITIONS PLUMMETED FROM MORE THAN 300,000 TO LESS THAN 200,000, AND THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE ROSE TO 15 PERCENT. BUT THE REGION'S ECONOMY STEADILY REGAINED ITS FOOTING THROUGH THE INNOVATIVE, ENTREPRENEURIAL AND VISIONARY LEADERSHIP OF THE GOVERNMENT, UNIVERSITY, BUSINESS AND PHILANTHROPIC SECTORS. WHILE THERE IS STILL WORK TO BE DONE, PITTSBURGH'S PROGRESS HAS BEEN NOTEWORTHY, ESPECIALLY AS IT WEATHERED A RECESSION THAT CRIPPLED OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTRY. TODAY, IT IS RENEWED, ENERGIZED AND, YES, EVEN MORE YOUTHFUL. THIS SPECIAL ISSUE OF *h* HIGHLIGHTS THE RESURGENCE, WITH YOUNG ADULT WRITERS TELLING STORIES ABOUT LIFE IN PITTSBURGH FROM THEIR POINTS OF VIEW.







