Fresh off an exciting Pittsburgh 250 anniversary celebration, the Senator John Heinz History Center recently announced a compelling schedule of upcoming exhibitions that will keep the museum buzzing for years to come.

The outstanding lineup features a variety of blockbuster exhibitions that will complement the History Center’s schedule of upcoming family programs, community-based exhibits, and educational outreach.

**Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War**

*Presented by: PNC Financial Services Group*

May 30, 2009 – February 2010

As part of Abraham Lincoln's bicentennial in 2009, the History Center will welcome *Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War*, a 2,500 square-foot traveling exhibition from The National Constitution Center in Philadelphia.

Set to open on May 30, *Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War* will show how Lincoln's momentous struggle to save the Union transformed our nation and Constitution.

The exhibition will explore several key themes across American history, including whether the states were truly “united,” and how our nation dealt with the issues of slavery and civil liberties for all.

The History Center will augment *Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War* with Lincoln's bed and bedroom set from the Monongahela House, the downtown Pittsburgh hotel that hosted the president-elect en route to his inauguration on Feb. 14, 1861.

Using the recently re-discovered Lincoln items from the Monongahela House, the History Center will explore his visit to Pittsburgh on the eve of the Civil War and the details of Lincoln’s pre-inauguration speech that was intended to soothe the public’s growing fear over a possible war.

**Discovering the Real George Washington, A View from Mount Vernon**

Feb. 12, 2010 – June 2010

This brand new exhibition features highlights from Mount Vernon’s world-class collection of George Washington items, many of which have never traveled outside of Virginia.

The History Center will serve as the first venue on a national tour of *Discovering the Real George Washington*, which celebrates the remarkable story of the first American hero.

More than 100 original artifacts owned by, or closely related to, Washington will be on display, including:

- The only surviving set of Washington’s wooden dentures;
- Firearms and a cannon from the Revolutionary War;
- Letters and surveys written by Washington; and
- A diverse array of paintings and decorative arts from the Mount Vernon collection.

Life-size figures, interactive games and videos will provide visitors with refreshing perspectives on Washington and his family, including his intellectual pursuits, entrepreneurial ventures, and world-changing legacy.

The History Center will supplement the exhibit with educational programs for local school students to learn about Washington’s life and his critical role in the formation of Western Pennsylvania during the French & Indian War.
SPORTS

Recently, Steelers legend Franco Harris and History Center president and CEO Andy Masich unveiled a new life-like figure of Harris making the Immaculate Reception that greets fans at the entrance to the Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum. Harris signed autographs and took photos with more than 500 visitors as part of the History Center’s “Countdown to Kickoff” leading up to the Steelers’ sixth Super Bowl win.

Fans flocking to the Sports Museum that week also enjoyed the Steelers’ 2008 AFC Championship Trophy, Harris’ championship ring from Super Bowl IX, and the actual piece of turf on which he made the famous catch, now on permanent display.

To see more photos from Franco Harris’ day at the Sports Museum, please visit the History Center’s Web site at www.heinzhistorycenter.org.

The History Center has partnered with FSN Pittsburgh to produce a series of 30-second sports history segments that will air throughout 2009. Anne Madarasz, director of the Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum, takes viewers on a fun look back at famous athletes such as Billy Conn and Chuck Cooper; incredible moments, including Super Bowl IX and Pitt’s Big East Championships; unforgettable teams like Duquense’s 1955 NIT champions, and fabulous firsts like the Steelerettes cheerleaders.

The segments began airing on FSN in February and are also available online at www.heinzhistorycenter.org by clicking on the Sports Museum tab.

Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum Hockey Highlights

With hockey season in full swing, fans can skate down to the Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum to cheer on the Penguins.

Visitors to the Sports Museum will enjoy an extraordinary collection of Penguins’ artifacts, including game-used jerseys and sticks from past and current stars such as Mario Lemieux, Sidney Crosby, and Marc-Andre Fleury, as well as a display commemorating Ryan Malone’s first career hat trick alongside photos and video highlights from the team’s 1991 and 1992 Stanley Cup championships.

Visitors can travel back to the days of the Duquesne Gardens and see items from previous Pittsburgh hockey teams, including the Pittsburgh Hornets, and enjoy a team video narrated by legendary Penguins’ broadcaster Mike Lange. The Sports Museum is the ideal spot for fans to rally the Pens into the 2009 Stanley Cup Playoffs.

Your Pride. Your Place.

Show your hometown pride by autographing a baseball bat, baseball, hockey puck or football for permanent display in the special fan section of the Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum. Pay tribute to your favorite sports fan with a plaque on our “Black and Gold Wall” or customize a trading card in our Kaiser Trophy Room.

For more information, contact Tara Czekaj at 412-454-6436 or membership@hswp.org.

An Immaculate Day

It’s hard to remember that at one time, there was no Terrible Towel. Charged by station management to find a gimmick to galvanize fans and drive advertising sponsorship for his coverage of the Steelers on WTAE Radio, Myron Cope developed the towel. Originally, Cope asked fans to bring any gold or black towel to Three Rivers Stadium to wave in support of the Steelers. Fans responded by the thousands, waving homemade towels during the playoffs in December 1975.

Later that season, WTAE printed about 10 dozen towels as gifts for station sponsors attending Super Bowl IX. Ray Gusky, a former salesman for the radio station, recently offered his WTAE towel, the first printed generation of the towel, for display in the Sports Museum.

That version had only a one-time use. The following season, Myron Cope inked a deal with Gimbel’s and the Towel as we now know it was born. Cope’s family donated a towel from that original run to the Sports Museum so we now have an example of each of the early towels. The Terrible Towel, still imbued with special powers, reigned supreme at Super Bowl XLIII, still a vital part of the fan experience and the celebration that followed.

The Wave

By: Anne Madarasz, Director of the Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum
17th Annual History Makers Award Dinner

On Friday, April 17, the History Center presents the seventeenth annual History Makers Award Dinner at the Westin Convention Center and Hotel. Chaired by Ralph J. Papa, president and CEO of Citizens Bank, and Robert P. Kelly, chairman, president and CEO of BNY Mellon, and presented by Citizens Bank and BNY Mellon, the dinner honors men and women whose achievements, while rooted here in Western Pennsylvania, transcend geographic bounds.

This year’s honorees include James E. Rohr, chairman and chief executive officer of PNC Financial Services Corporation, for Business and Industry; Sandra and Seward Prosser Mellon, for Community Service; Stephen W. Graffam and William C. King, founding fathers of the new History Center, for Heritage; Mark A. Nordenberg, chancellor of the University of Pittsburgh, for Education; and Joe Greene, former Pittsburgh Steelers defensive tackle, for Sports.

For information about event sponsorship and ticket purchases, please contact Amy Kozusko at 412-454-6324 or askozusko@hswp.org.

Preserve Your History

Enjoy the best cultural values in the region. With one membership, you get all the benefits of the History Center and the Smithsonian Institution. All membership levels include free admission to our facilities, new exhibit previews, as well as museum shop discounts, magazine subscriptions, and much more.

Membership gifts directly support our exhibitions, public programming, artifacts and archival materials, as well as fascinating and educational publications. We need your help to continue our important work of preserving and protecting our region’s history. Please become a member or give a gift membership today!

For more information or to purchase a membership, please contact Tara Czekaj at 412-454-6436 or membership@hswp.org or purchase a membership online at www.heinzhistorycenter.org.

Celebrate Your Memories

Commemorate your own personal history or honor a family legacy with a History Center tile, time capsule or rocking chair. These unique items, which are permanently displayed throughout the museum, help to support History Center programs and exhibitions. Please consider making your past a part of our future today. For more information on our commemorative opportunities please contact Tara Czekaj at 412-454-6436 or membership@hswp.org.

History Center Launches New Web Site and Online Store

The Senator John Heinz History Center launched a new Web site as part of the museum’s long-term virtual initiatives to provide content related to Western Pennsylvania to a worldwide audience.

Redesigned with a fresh and unique look, the new Web site features cutting edge technology and improved, user-friendly navigation.

Other features of the new site include:

- A new URL – www.heinzhistorycenter.org
- Interactive multimedia sections, including videos, audio clips, and photo galleries
- Rotating marketing message boards on the homepage highlighting must-see exhibits and events
- Links to membership, donate now, contact us, e-store, and E-newsletter sign-ups – on every page

In addition, the History Center also launched a newly-designed e-store – www.heinzhistorycenter.org/estore – now fully integrated within the museum’s Web site.

Improved navigation allows visitors to shop by merchandise categories or by History Center exhibits. Enhanced online membership and donation capabilities allow visitors to purchase and renew memberships, and donate online in a few easy clicks.

As part of the History Center’s virtual initiatives, the museum also launched several social networking sites, including YouTube, Facebook, and Twitter. The sites have attracted thousands of followers and continue to gain popularity all across the world.

Throughout 2009, the History Center will continue to add content to the new Web site, including an interactive blog, virtual exhibition tours, video and audio clips, and much more.

To explore the new Web site, please visit us at www.heinzhistorycenter.org.
More than 30 members of the Westinghouse family gathered at the History Center this fall for a family reunion at the History Center.

Coinciding with the opening of the History Center’s new, long-term exhibition, Pittsburgh: A Tradition of Innovation, the reunion attracted visitors from across the United States, including Georgia, Illinois, and Washington, as well as from around the world, with family members from Austria, Italy, and New Zealand. The family was delighted with the exhibit, which features family patriarch George Westinghouse as one of Western Pennsylvania’s most influential innovators.
Students Enjoy Hands-On History With Meadowcroft Field Trips

It’s been said that students learn best from experience, and that’s the concept behind the new Woodland Encounters educational program at Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Museum of Rural Life. Educators at Meadowcroft provide students with an out-of-the-classroom experience in a setting that allows them to engage all of their senses while connecting with history and the outdoors.

The Woodland Encounters program, recently developed through the generosity of the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation, is a hands-on program that takes students back 400 years to explore a recreated Eastern Woodland Indian village. The two-hour program emphasizes the forest-centered lifestyle of American Indians in the upper Ohio Valley prior to the arrival of European settlers.

Like all Meadowcroft educational programs, Woodland Encounters is linked to Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia educational standards.

For more information about Meadowcroft’s educational programs, please visit www.heinzhistorycenter.org and click the Meadowcroft tab or call 724-587-3412.

Meadowcroft Celebrates A Ruby Anniversary

Forty years ago this June, Meadowcroft first opened its doors to the public and made a reality out of Albert and Delvin Miller’s vision to preserve our region’s rural heritage.

As a unique asset to the Western Pennsylvania region, Meadowcroft joined forces with the Heinz History Center in 1993, with long-term development plans for the outdoor museum and world famous archaeological site.

The first phase of development was completed last spring at Meadowcroft Rockshelter - the oldest site of human habitation in North America - with the opening of a new, visitor-friendly enclosure and the addition of a recreated 17th century Indian Village. Future plans for the National Historic Landmark include a complete renovation of the visitor center and the addition of new program areas.

The result will be a complete look at how people have adapted to the land over the past 16,000 years and shaped their environment in Western Pennsylvania.

Happy 40th anniversary to Meadowcroft!

Thousands Tune in to KDKA for Pittsburgh’s Hidden Treasures

Earlier this year, KDKA-TV began airing monthly broadcasts of “Pittsburgh’s Hidden Treasures, An Antiques Appraisal Show,” filmed at the History Center in September 2008.

Co-hosted by KDKA-TV news anchor Ken Rice and History Center president and CEO Andy Masich, the 30-minute special programs highlight the collectibles, heirlooms and other prized possessions that nearly 2,000 Pittsburghers brought to the History Center for appraisal last fall.

The initial airing of “Pittsburgh’s Hidden Treasures” received a 9.5 Nielsen rating (approximately 111,000 homes) and was the top-rated show in its time slot across all television networks that evening. Ratings for the second and third shows were once again the highest between the three major networks during that time slot.

Sponsored by The Bank of New York Mellon, the event welcomed visitors to bring in their items and meet with Smithsonian Institution experts for conservation tips and with local professional appraisers for a verbal assessment of potential monetary value.

Mark your calendars now for the second annual “Pittsburgh’s Hidden Treasures” event at the History Center on August 2, 2009. Stay tuned to www.heinzhistorycenter.org for more information.
In 1896, the New York Herald declared her to be the “only woman electrical engineer in the country.” In 1907, Chicago-based Young People’s Weekly described her as a “slide rule phenomenon,” for her abilities as a mathematician and calculator.

Bertha Lamme blazed new trails for women when she accepted a job as an engineer with the Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Company. Lamme came to Pittsburgh to work for George Westinghouse several months after her 1893 graduation from Ohio State University, where her thesis, “An Analysis of Tests of a Westinghouse Railway Generator,” familiarized her with the company.

Lamme worked at Westinghouse for 12 years, taking on intricate calculations for machinery design and performance. There is also an indication that Lamme designed, drafted, and possibly invented electrical machinery.

Despite her equality among engineers, some traditions of the day remained steadfast, and Lamme resigned in October of 1905, just months before she married fellow engineer Russell Feicht. Though she never returned to work, Lamme’s daughter Florence inherited her scientific prowess, working as a physicist for the Bureau of Mines.

Visit the History Center to learn more about Pittsburgh’s female pioneers in the new exhibition, Pittsburgh: A Tradition of Innovation.
In commemoration of The Pittsburgh Courier’s 100th anniversary in 2010, the History Center will explore the newspaper’s reach and impact throughout the nation over the past century. Established in 1910 by Edward Harleston, a guard at the H.J. Heinz Company, the Courier eventually gained national prominence and grew to become the largest African American newspaper in the nation, with a circulation of 250,000 and more than 400 employees in 14 cities. Today, the Courier is one of the African American newspapers in the United States.

Using a number of artifacts and audio-visual displays, America’s Best Weekly will profile the major contributors who propelled the Courier from its humble beginnings, to its prominence during World War II’s “Double V” campaign and throughout the Civil Rights Movement, to today’s award-winning local publication.

Ben Franklin: In Search of a Better World
April 14 – July 31, 2011

Benjamin Franklin – scientist, inventor, diplomat, entrepreneur – played a crucial role in the formation of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, and helped to establish the first public hospital, university and library, among many other world-changing innovations.

The award-winning exhibition, developed by the Minnesota History Center, highlights 75 rare artifacts from Franklin’s life, along with 40 interactive activities and innovative educational programming. Throughout the exhibit, visitors will get to know Franklin as a brilliant and unconventional innovator of the 18th century and explore his contributions to the founding of the United States.

For additional information on the History Center’s upcoming exhibition calendar, please visit our new Web site at www.theneighborhistorycenter.org.
Local photographer John Beale recently chronicled a 350-mile journey along the Allegheny River, beginning with a trickle in Coudersport, Pa., all the way to the confluence of the Monongahela River in downtown Pittsburgh to form the Ohio River. This unique photo exhibit, made up of more than 25 images from Beale’s 13-month journey, won the 2008 Edward Romano Award for photography in the Press Club of Western Pennsylvania’s Golden Quill Awards.

In partnership with the Post-Gazette, the History Center now features 40 of the newspaper’s most compelling images from the past year. The news in 2008 featured change - political change as we chose a new president, economic change, and also the individual challenges and changes that impacted daily life. Throughout the year, photographers from the Post-Gazette documented these stories, on the campaign trail and at home. Their images capture the exhilaration and the exhaustion of change and detail its effect on the people of this region.

The Stories that Touch Our Lives: Images from the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette 2008 Now through April 19, 2009

First Floor
John Heinz: A Western Pennsylvania Legacy; Kidsburgh (mezazine); Vintage Vehicles, NEW! Pittsburgh At 250;

Second Floor
NEW! Pittsburgh: A Tradition of Innovation; Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum

Third Floor
Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum; Discovery Place; Prime Collection of Woodworking Planes; Rediscovering Lewis and Clark: A Journey with the Rooney Family; Outdoor Advertising

Fourth Floor
NEW! The Stories that Touch Our Lives (through April 19): Images from the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette 2008; Special Collections Gallery; Glass: Shattering Notions; Heinz 57; The Darkest Month (through May 29)

Fifth Floor
Clash of Empires: The British, French, and Indian War, 1754-1763

Sixth Floor
Wrought Metal Treasures from the Blum Collection

The History Center is an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution and funded in part by the Allegheny Regional Asset District and the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.