The Senator John Heinz History Center recently opened the new-and-improved Fort Pitt Museum, located in downtown Pittsburgh’s historic Point State Park.

The Fort Pitt Museum is a two-floor, 12,000-square-foot museum that tells the story of Western Pennsylvania’s pivotal role during the French & Indian War, the American Revolution, and as the birthplace of Pittsburgh. The strategic location of the fort – at the Forks of the Ohio River – helped to shape the course of American and world history.

“First opened in 1969 in a reconstructed bastion, the expanded Fort Pitt Museum provides visitors with a rich understanding of the world-changing events that occurred right here in Western Pennsylvania,” said Andy Masich, president and CEO of the History Center. “The addition of the Fort Pitt Museum adds to the History Center’s museum system and helps to further reinforce our mission to present American history with a Western Pennsylvania connection.”

The History Center’s museum system also includes Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village, the oldest site of human habitation in North America located in Avella, Pa.; and the Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum, a two-floor museum-within-a-museum at the History Center.

Through an array of exhibitions and public programs, the Fort Pitt Museum addresses the important role our region played in the development of the United States.

Staff from the History Center and Fort Pitt Museum have been updating and supplementing the exhibits to provide enhanced interpretation of the French & Indian War and American Revolution eras. In the fall of 2009, the History Center assumed management of the Fort Pitt Museum from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC), who operated the museum since its inception in 1969.

Visitors to the Fort Pitt Museum can experience Western Pennsylvania’s early history through a variety of interactive stations, life-like figures, and recently added artifacts, including:

- Life-like figures of several 18th century characters, including a new figure of Tamaqua (known to the British as King Beaver), a Delaware Indian diplomat who suggested the English build a fort at the Forks of the Ohio;
- Updated interpretation of three recreated rooms that detail life inside the Fort from the 1750s, including a fur trader’s cabin, a casemate storage room for munitions, and a British soldiers’ barrack;
- An enhanced object theatre with life-like figures representing the three-sided struggle for control of the Forks of the Ohio – a French fur trader, a British surveyor, and an American Indian family – along with a 10-minute introductory video;
- A number of 18th century artifacts, including a newly acquired American Indian powderhorn featuring an underwater panther – an ancient symbol of power – common to many tribes of the eastern half of the United States;
- Items from Gen. Braddock’s expedition, such as musket balls and rifle locks, along with Gen. Lafayette’s 1758 six-pounder cannon marked “La Embushade” (“The Ambusher”);
- A newly displayed pewter writing desk inscribed with “Fort Pitt Province Store 1761”.

History Center Opens Fort Pitt Museum
Fans Flock to see Lord Stanley’s Cup

More than 17,000 hockey fans swarmed the History Center this spring to get up-close-and-personal with the Stanley Cup, as part of a special display at the Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum.

Thanks to the generosity of the Penguins organization and the Hockey Hall of Fame, History Center visitors enjoyed a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to pose alongside the Stanley Cup and 10 additional trophies earned by Penguins players through the years.

Fans arrived early and often throughout the April 1-4 weekend to see hockey’s most prized trophy, while some visitors patiently waited in a three-hour line that wrapped around the block.

History Center members enjoyed a special “fast-track” line, which allowed them quick access to Lord Stanley’s Cup. In fact, more than 1,200 new members joined the History Center, a record membership total for a weekend.

Once they reached the front of the line, fans of all ages hugged and kissed the Cup, while babies as young as three weeks old posed in the bowl of the trophy.

The special weekend attracted visitors from across the country and Canada throughout the Cup’s four-day stay.

Beat ‘Em Bucs – The Story of the 1960 Pittsburgh Pirates

This summer, the History Center and Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum will welcome a new exhibition commemorating the 50th anniversary of one of baseball’s most famous teams.

Beat ‘Em Bucs – The Story of the 1960 Pittsburgh Pirates will allow visitors to re-live the Pirates’ improbable World Series win against the heavily-favored New York Yankees and Bill Mazeroski’s shot heard ‘round the world.

Fans will enjoy a number of one-of-a-kind artifacts, including:
• The pitching rubber and first base from the seventh game of the World Series;
• Signed baseballs from each member of the 1960 Pirates team;
• More than 50 iconic photographs from the Associated Press, Time Life, and private collections;
• Fan memorabilia, such as pennants, banners, and ticket stubs; and
• Audio and video clips that help tell the story of the Pirates’ first World Series championship in 35 years.

In conjunction with the opening of the Beat ‘Em Bucs exhibit, the Sports Museum will unveil a new life-like figure of Bill Mazeroski hitting his legendary homerun.

When the exhibit closes in January 2011, the Maz figure will become a permanent part of the Sports Museum.

For more information about the exhibit and related events, please visit www.heinzhistorycenter.org.

One of the people key to the success of the 1960 Pirates is native son Dick Groat. Born in Wilkinsburg, he built a reputation as a two-sport star in the 1950s while attending Duke University. There, he put together stellar numbers on the basketball court and the baseball diamond. Twice named an All-American in baseball, he was named the 1951 College Player of the Year in basketball and became the first Duke player to have his number, 10, retired.

After college, Groat played in 1952 for the Pittsburgh Pirates, where he hit .284 his rookie year, and for the Fort Wayne Pistons of the NBL, averaging almost 12 points a game. He spent two years in the U.S. Army, then concentrated on baseball, playing for the Pirates through 1962. Along with teammates Roberto Clemente and Bill Mazeroski, Groat formed the nucleus that led the Pirates from the cellar to success, winning a World Series championship in 1960 with Groat named the National League MVP. Along the way, Groat posted his first .300 plus season, hitting .319 in 1957. In ’59, he was named to the All Star team, the first of five appearances. Traded in 1962, Groat led the league in doubles and hit .319 for St. Louis the following season.

He retired from baseball after the 1967 season, but maintained his association with sports, running a golf course and taking to the airwaves as play-by-play announcer for the University of Pittsburgh basketball team. Native son and Bucco leader, Groat became one of the few to master sport across seasons. His jersey from 1960 will be featured in the Beat ‘Em Bucs - The Story of the 1960 Pittsburgh Pirates exhibition, opening this summer.
History Center Honors Five History Makers

The History Center recently celebrated its 18th annual History Makers Award Dinner at the Westin Convention Center, chaired by Robert P. Kelly, president and CEO of BNY Mellon, and Ralph J. Papa, chairman of Citizens Bank of Pennsylvania.

Presented by BNY Mellon and Citizens Bank, this year’s dinner honored five remarkable individuals whose achievements have impacted Western Pennsylvania and the world.

Mr. Kelly emceed the event along with History Center President & CEO Andy Masich. The 2010 History Makers included F. Murray Abraham, Academy Award-winning actor, for Theater Arts; The Honorable Cynthia A. Baldwin, Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice (Retired), for Government; Dr. Jared L. Cohon, President, Carnegie Mellon University, for Education; Patricia Pratts Jennings, Principal Keyboardist for the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra (Retired), for Arts & Letters; and Jeffrey A. Romoff, President and CEO, UPMC, for Business & Industry.

This year’s dinner was among the most successful to date, generating vital support for the History Center’s educational programs and services.

Washington VIP Opening

On Feb. 18, donors and friends of the Mount Vernon Ladies Association, led by Jim Rees, executive director of Mount Vernon, gathered for a private dinner hosted by History Center Board Trustee Nadine Bognar in the Library & Archives to celebrate the world premiere of the exhibition, Discover the Real George Washington: New Views from Mount Vernon. Bonnie Walker planned the elegant event which paid homage to George and Martha’s style with beautiful table dressings, a warm, candlelit décor and a meal fit for the “Father of our Country.”

Discover the Real George Washington is generously underwritten by the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation and sponsored in Pittsburgh by PPG Industries, Inc.

Support the History Center While Earning Tax Credits

Help your company receive valuable tax credits, while helping to support the History Center’s education programs at the same time. By giving through the Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program (EITC), eligible businesses are awarded significant tax credits for their philanthropic efforts. For more details, contact Cara Lindberg at 412-454-6325 or calindberg@heinzhistorycenter.org.
Peter and Jonathan Salk recently visited the History Center’s Pittsburgh: A Tradition of Innovation exhibition to see the display of their late father, Dr. Jonas Salk. Peter and Jonathan, both doctors from California, visited Pittsburgh to see the world premiere of “The Shot Felt Round the World,” a documentary that aired in conjunction with the 55th anniversary of Dr. Jonas Salk’s team’s successful development of the Salk polio vaccine.

Joanne Rogers recently joined History Center President and CEO Andy Masich to help unveil a new life-like figure of Fred Rogers inside the Pittsburgh: A Tradition of Innovation exhibition. The unveiling was part of the annual “Won’t You Be My Neighbor Day” celebration to commemorate Mister Rogers’ birthday.

The History Center is also working closely with Bishop David Zubik and the Diocese of Pittsburgh to exhibit rarely seen regional artifacts and historical documents.

Tickets for Vatican Splendors will be made available through Ticketmaster, online, or on site at the History Center later this summer. The History Center is currently accepting group tour reservations. For more information, please call 412-454-6370 and stay tuned to www.heinzhistorycenter.org.
Third Annual Hidden Treasures Appraisal Event Set For Aug. 29

Did you uncover a family heirloom or discover a potentially valuable item while spring cleaning your attic or garage? Then mark your calendar for Sunday, Aug. 29, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for the History Center’s third annual “Pittsburgh’s Hidden Treasures, An Antiques Appraisal Show” event.

Visitors to the popular event are encouraged to bring their prized possessions to the History Center and meet with professional appraisers as KDKA-TV cameras roam the museum. The most unique items will be featured as part of special 30-minute programs on KDKA later this year hosted by KDKA’s Ken Rice and History Center President and CEO Andy Masich.

Appraisers from a variety of disciplines will assess the historic significance of your items and provide a verbal assessment of potential monetary value. Among the areas of expertise discussed by appraisers:

- Civil War, World War I, and World War II items
- Political and presidential memorabilia
- Books and documents
- Antique coins and jewelry
- Household items (glass, China, silver, vases, etc.)
- Classic toys
- Textiles (wedding dresses, quilts, etc.)
- Fine arts
- Furniture
- Historic photographs

Whether your item has great monetary or sentimental value, Smithsonian and History Center curators will provide suggestions and techniques related to the care, upkeep, organization, and storage of your prized possessions.

Last year, nearly 2,000 visitors flocked to the History Center for “Pittsburgh’s Hidden Treasures,” which provided enough content for nine televised shows on KDKA.

The “Pittsburgh’s Hidden Treasures” event is free for members and is included in the regular History Center admission price for non-members: $10.00 for adults, $9.00 for seniors, $5.00 for children ages 4-17 and students with valid ID, and free for children under age three.

Special Members-Only Access
History Center members are invited to visit the History Center beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Aug. 29, one hour before the museum opens to the public, to attend a “members only” appraisal session.

Throughout the day, History Center members will also have access to a fast-track line that will expedite their opportunity to meet with appraisers.

For more information about becoming a History Center member, please contact Megan Kuniansky at 412-454-6436 or membership@heinzhistorycenter.org. Representatives from the History Center’s membership department will also be on-hand at the event.

Stay tuned to www.heinzhistorycenter.org for additional information and a detailed list of appraisers scheduled to attend.

Thousands Join History Center’s Social Networking Sites

Since the launch of the History Center’s social networking sites last spring, thousands of fans from around the world have joined our Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Flickr, and Blogger pages. In fact, the History Center’s Facebook page has already attracted more than 1,100 fans while the Twitter page has nearly 2,500 followers.

The History Center is constantly updating its social networking pages with slideshows of the latest History Center events and exhibition openings, links to the latest videos and articles from local media partners, special event invitations, membership promotions, and fun gift-giving ideas.

The History Center’s social networking pages allow visitors to get the inside scoop on upcoming exhibits and events before the general public, while creating a community of history fans eager to share personal stories about their connection to Western Pennsylvania history.

Come join the fun!
History Center social networking sites:

- www.facebook.com/senatorjohnheinzhistorycenter
- www.twitter.com/historycenter
- www.flickr.com/heinz_history_center
- www.youtube.com/heinzhistorycenter
- www.senatorjohnheinzhistorycenter.blogspot.com

New And Improved Fort Pitt Museum Joins History Center Website

The History Center recently launched a new section on the www.heinzhistorycenter.org website dedicated to the Fort Pitt Museum, which includes:

- Details on how to plan your trip to Fort Pitt Museum, including a downloadable parking guide, directions, and admission prices;
- Museum highlights, including photo galleries of must-see artifacts and life-like figures;
- Information on scheduling educational field trips; and
- Facility rental details to plan your next business luncheon, family reunion, or wedding reception in the museum’s unique downtown location.

Throughout the year, the History Center will continue to add content to the new Fort Pitt Museum web pages, including a virtual exhibition tour, historical video and audio files, and much more.

Stay Connected!
Interested in learning more about upcoming History Center and Smithsonian exhibits, events, and membership? Then join our E-newsletter mailing list!
Visit www.heinzhistorycenter.org and click Organization -> E-newsletter. Sign-up is fast, easy, and free!
Rock Out at Meadowcroft This Summer

On the heels of last year’s successful 40th anniversary, Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village kicked off its 2010 summer season with improvements and additions to enhance the visitor experience.

Upon arriving at Meadowcroft, visitors will notice a new-and-improved Visitors Center with a new admissions area and museum shop, along with new public restrooms, courtesy of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the Washington County Local Share Account, and various private funders.

The updated Visitors Center also features a new, interactive kiosk that tells the story of the peopling of America — from the small bands of prehistoric people 16,000 years ago to the 300 million people of 21st century America. An interactive timeline provides images and information about key discoveries and innovations, while brief videos illustrate some of the major population-affecting events in America.

Visitors to the Rockshelter, a National Historic Landmark, will now enjoy a new audio-visual experience to learn about the oldest site of human habitation in North America. An introductory video, airing on two large, mounted monitors inside the Rockshelter, will coordinate with the lighting system to better provide information about specific areas inside the excavation. The video also features footage from the original excavation in the 1970s and interviews with the site’s principal archaeologist, Dr. James Adovasio.

Just an hour’s drive from Pittsburgh, Meadowcroft is the ideal trip for families to experience the outdoors and step back in time to enjoy 16,000 years of history in one day.

Meadowcroft: New Name, Same Great Place

To help kick off the summer season, the site has officially changed its name to Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village. The site was formerly known as Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Museum of Rural Life, but after a series of visitor surveys, the new name was determined to better reflect all of Meadowcroft’s offerings, including the 16,000 year-old Rockshelter, 19th century rural village, and 16th century Indian village.

Meadowcroft Events

19th Century Independence Day
Sun., July 4 – 12 to 5 p.m.
Experience old-world American traditions and celebrate Independence Day in classic 19th century style. Enjoy open hearth cooking demonstrations, take your turn at a pie-eating contest, and play old-fashioned summer games like “graces” or “cup and ball.”

Insider Tours of the Rockshelter
Sat., Sept. 11 • Sat., Oct. 9 • Sat., Nov. 13
Experience the oldest and deepest parts of Meadowcroft Rockshelter with lead archaeologist James Adovasio, Ph.D. Dr. Adovasio will share his experiences and explain what life was like for our region’s earliest inhabitants more than 16,000 years ago. Advanced registration is required. To register, or for more information, please call 724-587-3412.

39th Annual Washington & Greene Counties Covered Bridge Festival
Sat., Sept. 18 – 12 to 5 p.m. • Sun., Sept. 19 – 1 to 5 p.m.
Meadowcroft’s Pine Bank Bridge, the oldest surviving covered bridge in the region, is featured as part of this signature, two-county event. Stroll across the 1871 bridge to enter Meadowcroft’s recreated 19th century village, complete with a one-room school, log houses, and a working blacksmith shop.

Native Heritage Weekend
Sat. Sept. 25 • Sun., Sept. 26
Celebrate Western Pennsylvania’s rich Native American heritage at Meadowcroft. Visitors exploring Meadowcroft’s recreated Monongahela Indian Village will encounter native artisans dressed like their 16th century ancestors. Explore the interior of a wigwam, inspect carefully recreated prehistoric artifacts, learn about Native American agriculture, and try the atlatl, an ancient spear thrower.

For more information on these events, visit the Meadowcroft tab at www.heinzhistorycenter.org or call 724-587-3412.

Andy Masich Recognized with Keystone Society Induction

Governor Ed Rendell recently honored History Center President & CEO Andy Masich for his induction into the Keystone Society of Tourism. Masich was recognized with the prestigious leadership award, the highest honor Pennsylvania can confer to a leader in the tourism industry, presented to an individual “whose career exemplifies inspiration, ceaseless innovation, entrepreneurial vision, and remarkable enterprise.” Tourism is the second largest industry in the commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Masich was nominated by Neighbors in the Strip for his involvement in a variety of high-profile programs, including the Pittsburgh 250 celebration, the G-20 Summit, and his representation of Pittsburgh as part of an international delegation to its sister city in Wuhan, China. Masich and the History Center have also collaborated with VisitPittsburgh, the Allegheny Conference on Community Development, and the Pa. Department of Community and Economic Development on a wide variety of projects that have generated positive impact for statewide, national, and international tourism.
Behind the Scenes at FSN Pittsburgh In connection with the opening of the Beat 'Em Buces exhibit (see page 2 for details), 10 lucky History Center members will be chosen at random for a special behind-the-scenes tour of FSN Pittsburgh's North Shore studios this August. Selected members will be contacted later this summer.

Pittsburgh's Hidden Treasures Antiques Appraisal Event — On Sun., Aug. 29, History Center members are invited to the annual "Pittsburgh's Hidden Treasures" antiques appraisal event in partnership with KDKA-TV. Bring your family heirlooms and collectibles for professional appraisal and beat the lines in the Members-Only fast-track line. This event is free to members. (See page 5 for details.)

Tuesday Teas — The History Center's Library & Archives is pleased to welcome members to an ongoing series of in-depth discussions related to our collection.

This summer's lineup of Tuesday Teas includes:• Tues., July 6 — Western Pennsylvania Jewish Cemetery Project & Pittsburgh Jewish Newspaper Website• Tues., Aug. 3 — First Unitarian Church of Pittsburgh through the records

Tuesday Teas take place from 3-4:00 p.m. and are free to History Center members.

Museum Accessions

NATIONAL HISTORY CENTER

Senior division exhibits category.
Goldsmith Awards for "Best Local History first, second, and third place winners and excellence in History provided cash prizes for advanced to the state competition.

The History Center was proud to present Carol Caanachen of New Castle with this official framed Stanley Cup on Ice trophy: Impact and Change." First, second, and third place winners during future promotions.
Congratulations Carol! We look forward to crowning more winners during the Stanley Cup weekend were eligible for this special prize.

Thanks to passionate Penguins fans, the History Center experienced an historic surge of new members during the Stanley Cup’s four-day stay in April.

Now with more than 5,000 members, the History Center looks forward to offering its new and current members one-of-a-kind benefits throughout the summer, including the following exclusive events:

For more information on any of these programs, or to register, please contact Megan Koniansky at 412-454-6436 or membership@heinzhistorycenter.org.

National History Day Pittsburgh Inspires Local Students

Sponsored by Bayer Material Science LLC

History came alive for more than 400 students who packed the History Center during this spring's annual National History Day Pittsburgh competition presented by Bayer Material Science LLC.

The students, ranging from sixth through 12th grades, prepared historical projects related to the theme of "Innovation in History: Impact and Change." First, second, and third place winners at the regional level advanced to the state competition.

This year, King Family Awards for Excellence in History provided cash prizes for first, second, and third place winners and their teachers in the Historical Papers category and to all first place winners and their teachers in the Junior and Senior divisions.

The Western Pennsylvania Council for the Social Studies presented the Albert Goldsmith Award for "Best Local History Exhibit" to first place winners in the Junior and Senior division exhibits categories.

Congratulations to all participants, teachers, and families!

Jerry McCleary of Bayer Material Science LLC with the first place senior group performances winners Michael Conelly, David Fiarrante, Joseph Staniszewski, and Connie Lynch of St. Joseph High School in Natrona Heights.

that belonged to Josiah Davenport, Ben Franklin's nephew and a local fur trader authorized to receive American Indian captives returned to Fort Pitt at the end of the French & Indian War; and • The recently conserved 16-foot diorama showing Pittsburgh and Fort Pitt in 1765 that has been restored to its original grandeur.

The Fort Pitt Museum is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Regular admission is: $5 for adults, $4 for seniors over 62, $3 for students with ID and children ages 4-17, and free for children under 3. History Center members also receive free admission.

For more information, including slideshows, artifact highlights, and much more, please visit the Fort Pitt Museum section of the History Center's website at www.heinzhistorycenter.org.
Calendar of Events

As part of the History Center’s newest exhibition, Discover the Real George Washington: New Views from Mount Vernon, visitors are invited to savor tea and refreshments during an event that highlights Washington’s book, “Rules of Civility.” As part of the History Center’s newest exhibition, Discover the Real George Washington: New Views from Mount Vernon (through July 18), visitors are invited to savor tea and enjoy hands-on activities with a special military review by the first Commander-in-Chief himself, George Washington.

More than 30 professional appraisers will be on hand to provide a verbal assessment of your items’ potential monetary value. Experts from the History Center and Smithsonian Institution will also be on-site to provide visitors with the best ways to preserve their family heirlooms. (See page 5 for details.)

Help Wanted! Volunteer at the History Center

Make your contribution to history by becoming a volunteer at the History Center, Fort Pitt Museum, or the Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village in Avella, Pa.

Volunteers are needed to:
- Serve as greeters and tour guides for adult and school groups, as well as special events
- Provide customer service as ticket takers and information guides at the Admissions Desk and as retail assistance in the Museum Shop
- Assist with seasonal indoor and outdoor activities at Meadowcroft and Fort Pitt Museum
- Catalog and research objects in our museum collections
- Research and organize photographs and papers in the Library & Archives
- Provide library reference assistance
- Help with clerical and other office activities

The History Center offers many benefits to volunteers including discounts on membership and in the museum shop, seasonal gatherings, and free parking while volunteering.

To apply to become a History Center volunteer, visit www.heinzhistorycenter.org to fill out an online application.

For more information, please contact volunteer program director Sandra Baker at 412-454-6412 or sbaker@heinzhistorycenter.org.