



**Pittsburgh  
Parks  
Conservancy**  
PittsburghParks.org

**Donor Newsletter**  
January-February 2018  
PittsburghParks.org

## Welcome Jayne Miller

### Your parks attract industry leader as CEO

**Y**our parks deserve nothing but the best. Jayne Miller brings years of success with her to Pittsburgh from Minneapolis Parks and Recreation.

**F**ounding President and CEO Meg Cheever feels confident Jayne is the right person for the job. "I am thrilled to know that Jayne Miller will succeed me as the next CEO of the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy. Her experience running the Minneapolis park system, rated number one in the country for the last five years by the Trust for Public Land, makes her eminently qualified to take the Conservancy to new heights."

**D**aniel Booker, Chairman of the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy Board of Directors adds "The bar for selecting our next president and CEO was very high, based on Meg Cheever's magnificent \$100-million park restoration and revitalization programs."



Jayne joins the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy after 7 years as Superintendent at the Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board

**J**ayne's 30-year successful track record with parks will continue Meg's legacy of excellence in Pittsburgh. One of her accomplishments includes a historic 20-year agreement with the City of Minneapolis. "For the first time in Minneapolis

*"I believe in strong communities, which are anchored by thriving park systems that enable emotional, intellectual and physical development."*  
- Jayne Miller

parks' 134-year history, we negotiated an agreement in 2016 for an additional \$11M a year for park maintenance, rehabilitation and capital investments." She also developed a data driven, criteria-based matrix system that prioritizes annual investments

based on racial and economic equity, a first for a U.S. park system.

**J**ayne and her family recently moved into their home in Highland Park. She looks forward to life in Pittsburgh. "I am particularly attracted to Pittsburgh because of the Conservancy's work to make Pittsburgh parks the envy of cities around the world," she says. 🌟



### ENGAGE

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Park champions like you

# A Plan for Allegheny Commons

## The Buhl Foundation and Highmark, Inc. invest in this historic park

**T**hanks to the generosity of The Buhl Foundation, Highmark, Inc., and Allegheny Commons Initiative, the Master Action Plan (MAP) for the full restoration of the northside's Allegheny Commons is

complete. With input from the residential, business and philanthropic communities, the MAP determines and prioritizes future projects based on the park's master plan. This feedback highlighted key focus areas

like improving health and wellbeing, increasing economic value, enriching environmental value, and enhancing play.

**J**oin us at the public meeting on March 8th: [PittsburghParks.org/park-events](http://PittsburghParks.org/park-events) 🌿



A conceptual rendering of the Southeast Commons



Programs you make possible

# Frick Environmental Center field trips

## You make learning fun for first graders

**Y**our support leads young minds to explore and discover the outdoors. Frick Environmental Center school programs introduce students of all ages to scientific principles. The program for first graders, called Habitat Explorers, teaches kids about plant and animal communities.

stream habitats unique. Through guided and independent exploration activities, students observe the organisms that live in these three unique habitats, and then get the opportunity to improve each habitat through group stewardship projects like seed bombing or eco art.

**H**abitat Explorers visit Frick Park three times throughout the school year to learn what makes meadow, woodland, and

**N**aturalist Educator Amber Stacey works with these first graders. She says, "It isn't uncommon for the students exploring



Students learn about fungus on a winter nature walk



Habitat Explorers make bagel birdfeeders

the meadow to express nervousness about bees when we first arrive. However, by the time they leave the meadow, they have calmly and closely watched the bees collecting pollen and will

encourage others around them to do the same while repeating to others what we have taught them."

**T**hese experiences are fun but educational for the students. Ethan shared his story about the field trip to Frick Park. "First we learned about communities and

*"The best day of my life was going on the field trip to Frick Park!"*  
- Ella, first grader

that a community for animals is called a habitat. Next we went back to the classroom to look at our bugs and plants under the magnifiers. I felt happy. Then we dumped out the samples. Finally, we made seed balls to help the meadow grow new plants. Going to Frick Park was my favorite field trip! 🌿



You transform our cherished spaces

# Mary Schenley Memorial Fountain

## You revived a beloved landmark

**D**edicated in 1918 to acknowledge Mary Schenley's gift of land to become Schenley Park, the Mary Schenley Memorial Fountain sculpture is entitled *A Song to Nature*. Sculptor Victor David Brenner is perhaps best known as the designer of the Lincoln penny. The fountain was Brenner's first large-scale public project. The earth god Pan is seen reclining on a rock as a nymph above serenades him with a lyre.

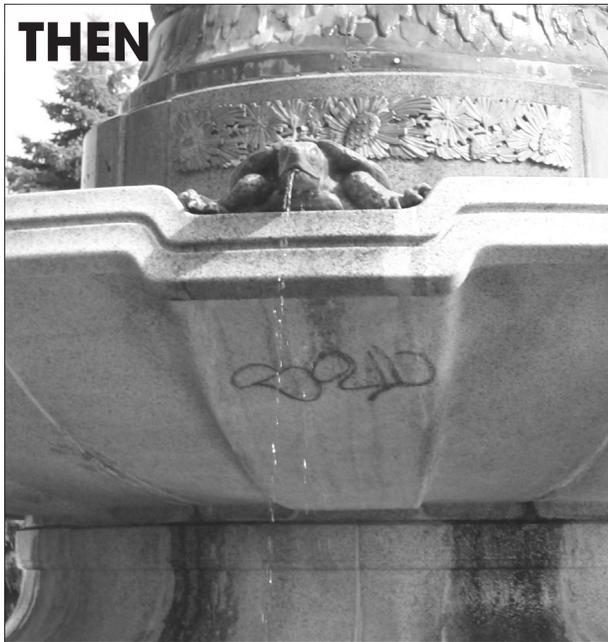


photo credit: Jeremy Marshall

Revived in 2008 in partnership with the City of Pittsburgh Planning Department's Division of Public Art, the Department of Public Works, and the University of Pittsburgh

**Y**our support enlarged green space around

the fountain and nighttime illumination set off the burnished bronze figures and granite basin, a

reduced amount of impervious pavement improves stormwater absorption, and aligned

paths improved ease of access in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. ♿



Outdoor Expeditions campers kayak

## Summer camp registration opens February 22nd

**P**ittsburgh Parks Conservancy's popular summer camps are unique, age-specific programs held in beautiful Frick Park. Led by Parks Conservancy educators, these five-day camps encourage children to learn, play, and grow in our city's biggest classrooms: parks!

Camps are for children three years old through youth who have completed 7th grade.

Thanks to generous donors like you, camperships are available for income-eligible families.

Visit [www.pittsburghparks.org/summer-camps](http://www.pittsburghparks.org/summer-camps) for more information.



Your parks, your stories

# Dedicated Park Neighbors

## Dell and Kathy Ziegler believe Highland Park is crucial to the neighborhood

**D**ell and Kathy Ziegler have been devoted park supporters well before the existence of the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy.

**T**he Zieglers have called Highland Park home for more than 40 years. They were part of the \$125,000 neighborhood effort 26 years ago to build the super playground and have been active within the Highland Park Community Council

with zoning, gardening, and other work.

**D**ell and Kathy were excited about the formation of the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy 22 years ago. Dell shares "The arrival of the Conservancy was a breath of fresh air, providing money, expertise, and specialized man/woman power that just did not exist. When the Conservancy announced plans to restore the old fountain at the entrance in Highland Park, then containing decorative shrubbery, and to create a type of piazza area, I had misgivings."

**B**ut, the Highland Park Entry Garden fountain restoration was a pleasant surprise. "It was a success from the get-go. The many benches encouraged people to meet, read, talk or just enjoy the view and activity. The large open



Dell and Kathy's English Springer Spaniel, Speckles, takes them for walks in the park every day, rain or snow, heat or frigid temperatures

space brought toddlers on bikes, roller skaters, dog walkers--a nice diverse swath of humanity."

**T**he Zieglers supported this project by dedicating a bench in the Conservancy's honor. Their donation benefits

the fountain and gardens. "When the opportunity came up to show our support with a thank you plaque to the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy on a bench near the fountain, we jumped at the chance." ❄️



"It is not a good place for me to catch up on reading. When I go there, too often I find someone I would rather talk with, sometimes an old friend, frequently a new acquaintance. I can live with that."

## 2018 PNC Carousel Pass

You and your family can ride the PNC carousel in Schenley Plaza without tokens all season with a Family Season Pass (valid for two adults and up to four children).

Save \$15 off regular price of \$60 through May 13th

**\$45**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

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e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please return with enclosed envelope or call 412.682.7275 for more information

Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy does not solicit contributions from persons or entities in states other than Pennsylvania, New York, or Florida.

