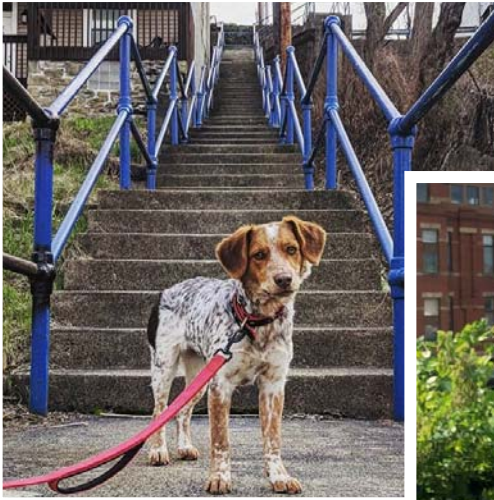


# SOUTH SIDE SLOPES QUARTERLY

## 2nd Quarter 2018

### Sights from the Slopes...



Mishka, Princess of the Slopes — Keeping them free of all cats. Courtesy of @finktravels on Instagram.



Loving the mosaic on the Oakley Way steps. Courtesy of @lynnrescigno on Instagram.



"Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?"  
Courtesy of @thepublicpgh on Instagram.



Going hard in the South Side Slopes. Courtesy of @pupp.van.rowan on Instagram



View towards Monongahela River from Shamokin Street and Southside Slopes. Courtesy of @reedshoots on Instagram.

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*"Neighbors working together to make the Slopes a more livable, beautiful and safe community."*

**SOUTH SIDE SLOPES NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

[www.southsideslopes.org](http://www.southsideslopes.org)

**You're invited to the South Side Slopes Neighborhood Association's**

# **2018 SUMMER PICNIC**

**Tuesday, July 10 at 6:30 p.m.  
Bandi Schaum Community Garden**

**Come and celebrate the SSSNA's 20th Anniversary!**

**Burgers (regular and veggie) and hot dogs will be provided. Everyone is encouraged to bring an appetizer, side dish, dessert or beverage.**

***Live music by Pete's Radio!***

## **Picking it up in the Slopes**



Neighbor-volunteers cleaning up under the Mission St. bridge.

*Submitted by Brian Oswald, Slopes resident and SSSNA board member*

**Summer is in the air**....birds are chirping, flowers are blooming and foliage has begun to cover up the eyesore trash in many areas of the neighborhood. Before the trash is totally undercover, I encourage all neighbors to help tidy up a bit. For me, just picking up the litter along my street helps me feel more pride in my community. The simple task of filling up

a small bag or bucket and adding it to your regular trash pick up can make a big difference — as much as it makes you feel proud, your neighbors will appreciate it too!

I also encourage you to maintain your trash in a secure bin with a lid to prevent spills from collecting on the street. It's all of our jobs to help keep our hillside clean. If you find areas where dumping is occurring, please contact 311 to report the incident. Join me in helping to keep our community free of litter — ultimately keeping the Slopes clean, green and safe for everyone to enjoy.

### **Pitch in: Join us at a clean-up this summer!**

On the 3rd Wednesday of every month, stop by and help tidy up the neighborhood a bit. We'll meet at the corner of 18th & Pius at 6 p.m. to cleanup for about an hour. Weather permitting.

To help organize a clean-up event in your part of the Slopes, email us at [info@southsideslopes.org](mailto:info@southsideslopes.org).



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## 2nd annual GoatFest happening on July 28 in South Side Park

If you didn't attend last year's super fun, goat-themed festival, have no fear, you can check out what all the buzz is about (and meet some real, live goats too!). The free event will take place on Saturday, July 28 from noon to 4 p.m in South Side Park. It is open to the public and will feature a goat meet-up, live music, food trucks and vendors.

For the second year in a row, Friends of South Side Park has hired the Allegheny GoatScape's herd to graze the park. See them hard at work as they eat their way through the invasive species in Jurassic Valley.

Explore the South Side Park Master Plan with the City of Pittsburgh's Department of City Planning and learn about the changes comes to South Side Park!

Stay informed about festival details as they unfold by following South Side Park on Facebook:

[facebook.com/SouthSideParkPGH](https://facebook.com/SouthSideParkPGH)



*Pictured: Allegheny Goatscape's hardworking herd during their visit in Summer 2017.*

### 2nd ANNUAL GOATFEST

**Saturday, July 28, noon to 4 p.m. in South Side Park**

#### *Parking options:*

1. Arlington Ball Field Parking Lot: Best for strollers.
2. Quarry Field: Hike the trails to the event.
3. Mission Street Parking Lot: Closest to Bandi Schaum Community Garden.
4. Sterling Street: Walk down the Sterling Street steps to Jurassic Valley to see the goats!

# South Side Slopes Neighborhood Association celebrates 20 years of serving the community

*Highlights and accomplishments from 1998 to 2018*



In May 1998, a fire on Holt Street destroyed three homes because fire crews couldn't access the location—neighbors rallied to get smaller fire trucks. Because of this incident, the SSSNA was created.

1998

The first StepTrek took place in 2000. The family oriented, fun-filled outdoor activity is a fundraising event that helps fund step maintenance and other neighborhood improvements.



2000

At the request of the SSSNA and residents, major renovations of the 10th St. (pictured L to R: Ed Jacobs, Steve Kasunich, District Magistrate Gene Riccardi, former Mayor Tom Murphy and former SSSNA board president Bev Begosi Boggio) and 15th St. footbridges were completed by the City and Norfolk Southern railroad in 2002, reconnecting pedestrian access between the Slopes and Flats.



2002



In 2000, two gardens on Josephine St. were built — one at Greeley St. and another at Barry St. (pictured: Residents Dennis and Deann Berry tilling the Barry St. garden).



On Arbor Day 2003, the SSSNA planted 50 shade trees on Josephine St.

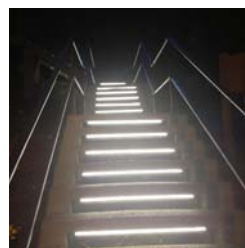
2003

In 2008, the garden and metal art installation at the corner of Monastery & Brosville Sts. was dedicated. The backlit Core ten steel scrim design features a cross section of the Slopes map.

2007

The All Wars Memorial garden on Pius St., near the 18th St. steps, was dedicated in 2007 is honored each year on Memorial Day,

2008



In 2012, more than 140 LED light bars, one attached under each stair tread, were installed at the 18th St. bend. Through a partnership with and funding from Duquesne Light, the stairs are now a beautiful, well-lit "gateway" to the Slopes.

2012



The South Side Community Garden at Bandi Schaum broke ground and opened in spring of 2012 with garden plots available for a nominal fee from the City of Pittsburgh. The garden is located in South Side Park, off Mission St. on the site of an old baseball field..

Through a crowdfunding campaign conducted primarily through social media, more than \$6,500 was raised for an artist to design and lead the mosaic tiling project on the Oakley Way steps. Dozens of community members tiled the 77 step risers in 2016.



2016

Working with the Hilltop Alliance, Allentown CDC and GTECH, in 2012 the SSSNA helped establish the Knoxville Incline Greenway on the site of the old Knoxville incline which operated from 1890 to 1960. The greenway is located off Brosville St.



2018

?

There is so much more we can do in 2018 and beyond to make the Slopes more awesome than it already is.....team up with us to make stuff happen!

Email us at [info@southsideslopes.org](mailto:info@southsideslopes.org).

Another unique steel sign was erected in 2016 on PJ McArdle Roadway at Windom St. Peter Kreuthmeier of Loysen + Kreuthmeier Architects led the project.



*The highlights above are just a sampling of the thousands of volunteer hours that our neighbors and friends spent cleaning, creating and improving the Slopes! Read more at [www.southsideslopes.org](http://www.southsideslopes.org).*

# Looking back: The origins of the SSSNA

*Submitted by Beverly Bagosi Boggio, founding board member 1998-2008, past president and past StepTrek chair*

**On Memorial Day weekend 1998**, a fire that started on Holt Street destroyed three homes in the time that it took the fire department to arrive and stage their equipment. Due to the challenging topography of the South Side Slopes— the narrow, hilly streets and tight corners—the fire was devastating. Because of this tragedy, a group of active Slopes neighbors became galvanized. Throughout the summer, many meetings were held and by October 1998 a Board of Directors was chosen and the South Side Slopes Neighborhood Association (SSSNA) was born. Within a year, the City had plans to order four smaller pumper trucks with a tighter turning radius and narrow wheel span to safely traverse all of the hilly City neighborhoods, including the Slopes. The momentum gained from this triumph kept us going.... our first slogan was “SOS/Save Our Slopes.”



Bev Bagosi Boggio

In those early days, the SSSNA board was a scrappy, committed crew — a spirit that carries on in today’s board. The ideas and projects were large, and the budget was shoestring. The then-monthly newsletter was funded by taking up a collection from the community. The first grant of \$250 made us feel like millionaires! One of our first partners was the former South Side Local Development Company (SSLDC). They helped us gain our footing as an organization, and through which we received an Elm Street designation for five years, folding into the Main Street designation that SSLDC had from the State. (Learn about Elm Street and Main Street designations here: <https://padowntown.org/programs/elm-street-program>.)

SSSNA also became a member organization of the South Side Planning Forum. We attended City zoning hearings and invited developers with plans to build/restore in the Slopes, share their plans and get our input from the community.

We began long-standing relationships with City, County and State agencies and officials, as well as the Pittsburgh police. Many of the City partnerships and projects involved public safety. In 2002, we worked to get two pedestrian footbridges over the railroad tracks at 10th and 15th Streets replaced with Core ten steel, adding safety lighting three years later. We also had safety lighting installed under the railroad underpasses on 18th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 26th and 27th Streets.

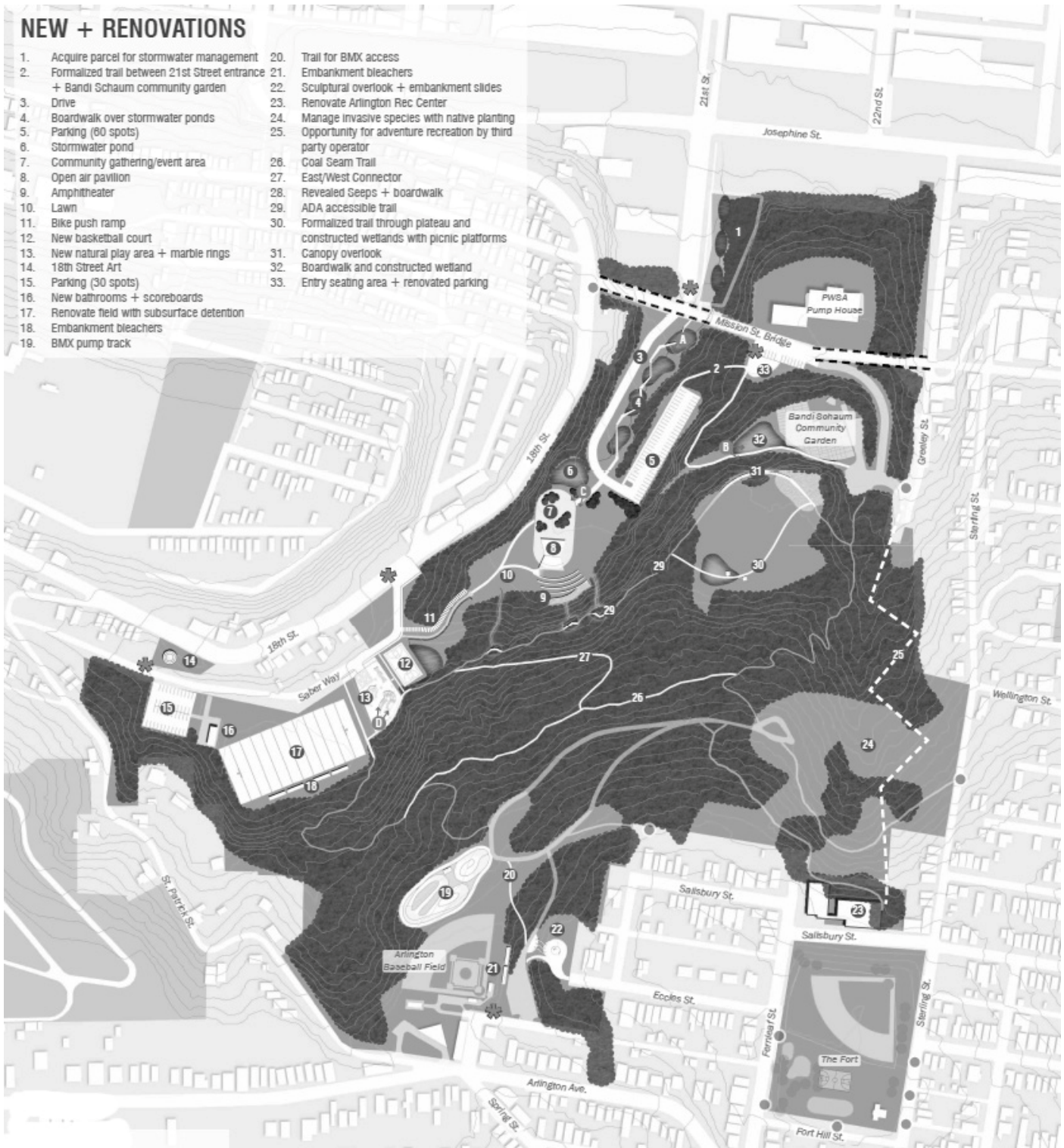
Another big focus was, and still is, on beautification of our green spaces. Partnering with the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy (WPC), we built gardens along Josephine Street at Greeley and Barry Streets in 2000, and then on 18th Street at the “Bend” and the “Triangle” at Josephine in 2003. More than 50 shade trees were planted along Josephine Street on Arbor Day in 2003. The All Wars Memorial on Pius Street was dedicated in 2007 (rededicated on Sept. 11, 2011). In 2008, the garden at Brosville and Monastery Streets was installed with a Core ten steel scrim signage with lights.

*Continued on p. 7*



# South Side Park: Master Plan Revealed

On May 15, the City, Friends of South Side Park advisory committee and consultants from Studio Bryan Hanes, unveiled the South Side Park Master Plan. After months of community input from neighbors and organizations with a vested interest in the park, the consultants revealed a final draft plan for South Side Park. The plan, which is broken into several phases of development, shows an ambitious yet thoughtful blueprint for future enhancements. The proposal introduces several storm water management solutions, public art installations, outdoor recreation space amenities, improved sports fields and facilities and more. To see the plans and more information, go to: <http://pittsburghpa.gov/dcp/projects/south-side-park/index.html>.



## Origins of the SSSNA *(Continued from p. 5)*

What was our most successful, hair-brained idea?

StepTrek. While other neighborhoods had home tours, we knew that the Slopes was unique and should be showcased differently. Author Bob Regan was writing a book (*The Steps of Pittsburgh: Portrait of a City*) about the public stairways throughout the City—so there was some buzz about the steps. Slopes residents Ed Jacob and Mike Milberger brought an idea to the board that the City steps should be celebrated. The fledgling board decided to give it a try, and StepTrek was a go. Hundreds of people paid money to walk miles of steps—for a good cause. In 2000, we held the first StepTrek. Now in its 18th year, StepTrek has enabled thousands of people to experience the amazing views that we get to see every day.

It has been an amazing journey. It is hard to imagine 20 years ago how much would be accomplished. The loss of the homes to fire in 1998 was terrible, but from that came a community that focused on more safety, advocacy and continuous improvement. Since the SSSNA board was founded, dozens of amazing neighbors have served and added to the energy and progress of the community. Thank you to all who served, partnered, volunteered, cleaned, photographed, documented, shared, trekked and donated. The success of SSSNA and the neighborhood is because of you! Cheers to the next 20 years!



Volunteers setting up tents at a StepTrek event.

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### Support the Slopes!

Please help to support the SSSNA and its mission of “neighbors working together to make the Slopes a more livable, beautiful, and safe community.”

Donations are accepted through our website: [southsideslopes.org](http://southsideslopes.org) (click on the PayPal link).

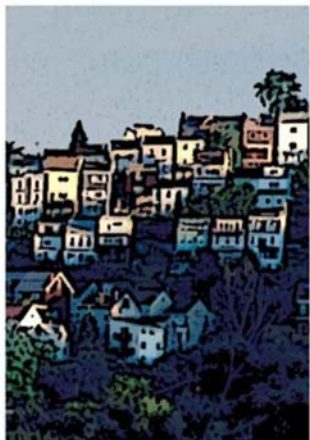
To donate with a check, please make it out to SSSNA, and mail it to: SSSNA, P.O. Box 4248, Pittsburgh, PA 15203.

Access our website with your smartphone using the QR code to the right.





South Side Slopes Neighborhood Association  
P.O. Box 4248  
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## UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Tuesday, July 10** — SSSNA Annual Picnic & 20th Anniversary Celebration at 6:30 p.m. (Bandi Schaum Community Garden)
- **Saturday, July 28** — GoatFest from noon to 4 p.m. (Bandi Schaum Community Garden)
- **Saturday, October 6** — Pittsburgh StepTrek from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. (21st & Josephine Streets)
- **Tuesday, October 9** — SSSNA General Meeting at 6:30 p.m. (Henry Kaufman House, 2201 Salisbury St., Pittsburgh, PA 15210)
- **Tuesday, December 11** — SSSNA Holiday Party at 6:30 p.m. (Location: TBD)

To stay informed of all upcoming events, please sign up to receive our eblast:

**[www.southsideslopes.org/contact](http://www.southsideslopes.org/contact)**

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