

V I S T A S



From the desk of V. Marie Martin
Foundation Director

WEDNESDAY MORNING, June 13, 2018
VOLUME 2, ISSUE 6

Congratulations to the Flint Hills Discovery Center for a tremendous response they received to the April / May Membership Drive! **786** of our friends and neighbors became new members or renewed during this period. If you missed this opportunity you can still become a member by going online at www.flinthillsdiscovery.org/352/Purchasing-Renewing or by filling out an application form the next time you are at the Discovery Center.



The Discovery Center staff also deserves kudos for another great job of organizing this year's **Flint Hills Festival** which took place Saturday, May 19, on the Blue Earth Plaza and inside the Discovery Center. Thank you also to the **numerous community volunteers** and the **event sponsors: Visit Manhattan, Kansas, McGown Gordon Construction, Central National Bank and Parkwood Inn & Suites.**

These sponsors and volunteers help us ensure a fun and family-friendly event special! An early morning shower didn't deter over 2,700 guests from the festivities. Everyone had the opportunity to enjoy live entertainment, food trucks, children's activities, local craft vendors, beer & wine tastings, and ... roaming dinosaurs on the Blue Earth Plaza, **WHAT?!** That's right two **Tyrannosaurus Rexes** promoting the "**Be The Dinosaur**" exhibit were seen and photographed roaming the Festival site!

Dinosaurs will be here all summer, so get the kids and grandkids involved in some of the **Discovery Center education activities** occurring during June, July and August by going to the FHDC website at www.flinthillsdiscovery.org/101/Programs. Several new activities have been added in addition to Tallgrass Tales, Preschoolers in the Flint Hills and Adventure Camps. One of the new activities is **Splash of Science Fridays** offered **FREE** to all ages at the Blue Earth Plaza Splash Park, weather permitting. Enjoy a 5- to 10-minute science demonstration by a Discovery Center Educator while you take a break from your picnic lunch or splash fun!

Summer of Science starts in June so be sure and check out the Wolf Spider Night Walks, Science on the Terrace which is **free**, 8-Leg Adventures, Dino Day, Walk & Talk: Wonderful Wild Flowers and more!

When you need a break from the heat, come inside and visit the **“Be the Dinosaur”** temporary exhibit and thank **ESB Financial for being an exhibit sponsor!**

Summer Solstice occurs on Thursday, June 21. Enjoy the longest day of sunlight with **FREE Solstice Yoga** at 6 a.m. on the **FHDC 3rd floor terrace** (access is available from outside of the building). And, at 8 p.m. on the **Blue Earth Plaza**. These two sessions are open to the public and no pre-registration is required, just bring your own yoga mat. Presented by **Douglas Community Recreation Center** and the **Flint Hills Discovery Center**.

Mark your calendars now for several great July events in the Flint Hills region which are the **Wamego 4th of July parade and fireworks display**. Wamego has the number-one **fireworks attraction in Kansas!** Also, plan a trip to the **Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve** near Strong City. The Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve is the only **national park** in Kansas, so enjoy a day of history, special events, hiking and wildlife viewing.

The **Flint Hills Discovery Center** will again be recognizing the **National Day of the Cowboy** with indoor and outdoor activities on **Saturday, July 28**. Be sure and brush up your skills at roping, branding, tossing horseshoes, buffalo chip throwing, rope making and gold panning to name a few of the activities. You can also check out the cowboy tools of the trade such as saddles, blankets, chaps, gloves, spurs, hats and ropes. There will be lots of other family-friendly activities so watch for updates on the FHDC website.

Did you know that you can receive your **monthly VISTAS newsletter by email** and enjoy more photographs and have FHDC and Foundation information at your fingertips? Just send your name and email information to fhdcfoundation1@gmail.com and you will be added with the other three thousand plus readers who are already receiving our digital newsletter. The Flint Hills Discovery Center Foundation also has a Facebook page that you might want to visit to check out the photos from previous Friend of the Flint Hills events and other activities that the Foundation is involved with.

Visit www.flinthillsdiscovery.org/ and see the Flint Hills Discovery Center’s freshened up website which will help you keep up with all the activities at the Discovery Center this summer!

VISTAS Memo, now online at the FHDC website, <http://www.flinthillsdiscovery.org/414/Vistas-Memo>. The Foundation’s pages are located within the FHDC website, so be sure and take time to browse other sections of the FHDC website to keep up with all the activities happening at the Foundation and the Discovery Center.

The Flint Hills Discovery Center Foundation

315 S. 3rd Street, Manhattan, KS 66502(785) 587-2729, ext. 211

fhdcfoundation1@gmail.com

The VISTAS MEMO is provided to advance the cause of philanthropy in support of the Flint Hills Discovery Center. We thank and celebrate all those investing in the Center’s unique and dynamic mission.