

V I S T A S



ADDRESS

From the desk of V. Marie Martin
Foundation Director
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From Stars and Planets, to Dinosaurs and Cowboys, the Flint Hills Discovery Center had it all in July! **Free** astronomy viewing from the 3rd floor terrace on July 20 provided guests the opportunity to look through half a dozen telescopes and see the Moon, and planets Saturn, Venus, Jupiter and Mars. Special thank you to **Dr. Chris Sorensen** from **KSU**, and **NASA/JPL Solar System Ambassador Brenda Culbertson** and their astronomy-loving friends for providing the telescopes and the scientific information about the Flint Hills sky. Approximately 475 visitors from such states as Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas and Wisconsin, along with community and regional friends, came and went throughout the evening. **FHDC Education Staff, you make things shine for us!**

Bright and early Saturday morning July 21, at Washington Marlatt Memorial Park, **Dino Day** began for inquisitive folks who enjoy hiking and looking for pre-historic fossils. **Jordan Van Sickler, Asst. Preparator at the University of Kansas Vertebrate Paleontology Lab**, guided the tour and later in the day conducted **live fossil prep work on a real Mosasaur skull**. Also, during the day at FHDC, **paleontologist, Ian Trevethan** from **Fort Hays State Sternberg Museum** presented lectures about the Mosasaurs. Over 500 people had the opportunity to experience **Dino Day at FHDC**.

NATIONAL DAY OF THE COWBOY was celebrated for the 5th year at the Flint Hills Discovery Center on July 28. This is one of the **special community events** that FHDC hosts each year and over 800 guest enjoyed the event with us. Thank you to our great community sponsors - **Visit Manhattan, Kansas; Vanderbilt's; Wrangler; and Grass & Grain** who all partnered with FHDC to join in this family favorite celebration of the American Cowboy!



The last day to see the current **Be The Dinosaur Exhibit** will be on **Labor Day, Monday, September 3!** A big **Thank You** to our **Sponsors ESB Financial and the FHDC Foundation** for helping make this exhibit special. Also, **our thanks to all of our guests** who came to the Discovery Center with family and friends and helped make this a **great summer exhibit**. **We appreciate your continued support!**

There will be **another FREE Astronomy Night on Friday, August, 17, 9-11pm** on the FHDC third floor outdoor terrace. You are welcome to bring your own telescope!

In case you missed the three premiers – and the initial TV airing this past spring of **Dave Kendall's** second film – **Prairie Women**, you can see it again on KTWU educational TV Thursday, August 23, at 8:30 pm and on Saturday, August 25, at 11:30 am. **FHDC** has been showing the film in the **Voices area of the 1st floor permanent exhibits**. It's a nice area where you can sit down and take a break to watch one of the Prairie Women segments. Be sure and tell the Prairie Women you enjoyed the film when you see one of them!

Do you want to go RETRO? This will take some of you back! Friday, August 24, 7-10 pm, the FHDC Education Staff is teaming up with **Kansas State University College of Engineering, Dept. of Computer Science and Civic Plus** to create **RETRO GAMING NIGHT!** The **FHDC Education staff needs old TVs to play the games on because the newer TVs do not have the correct connections. If you have a TV that the Education Dept. could borrow for the evening, please contact Stephen Bridenstine at bridenstine@cityofmhk.com to discuss the details.** Admission to this event is \$4 for FHDC members and \$8 for non-members at the door. This will be a trip back through gaming history from Atari to Nintendo 64! We are thrilled to have the **K-State Computer Science Department and student clubs showcasing** all the fun things you can do with computer science. This event is for all ages! For more information go to <https://www.flinthillsdiscovery.org/508/Retro-Gaming-Night>.

FIRE Workshop & First-Ever FHDC Prescribed 80-Acre Burn. Thursday, September 6, from 6-8 pm, attend the FHDC for the fire workshop which is a requirement to participate in the prescribed burn event being held on Saturday, September 8, 8am-2pm (or an alternate Saturday if weather is uncooperative). A participation fee is required for the burn event. **K-State Research & Extension; Riley County Conservation District; Great Plains Fire Science Exchange & Joint Fire Science Program** are partnering with **FHDC** for this event. See more at <https://www.flinthillsdiscovery.org/514/Public-Fire-Workshop>

FHDC is once again hosting Community Day on Sunday, September 9, 12-5 pm. Admission is free to everyone. Sponsors for this event are **Westar Energy** and **VISIT Manhattan, Kansas**. **New this year is FHDC's Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) focus.** The Education staff has developed activities from Biology to Physics. KSU student clubs will also be contributing to the activities. Area Community Partners will have displays throughout the Discovery Center, and there will be fun, family-friendly activities for guests of all ages. You'll have the opportunity to learn from the community partners about all of the great things going on within the Flint Hills region!

The **Bison exhibit** opens in the Tallgrass Gallery on Saturday, September 15. **Wolves and Wildlands** also opens, and the **Konza Prairie Quilters Guild** will have many quilts on display. It's going to be a wild fall. Sponsors for these exhibits are **Kansas Farm Bureau; Kansas Dept. of Agricultural; FHDC Foundation; and Kansas Dept. of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism.**

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

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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.