

ADDRESS

From the desk of V. Marie Martin
Foundation Director
Wednesday Morning, September 12, 2018
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YES, that is Amber Myers, Flint Hills Discovery Center Programs & Educational Animal Supervisor with



“Willie”! Amber is a graduate of KSU in Park Management & Conservation as well as Natural Resources & Environmental Science. Amber is handing Willie a **Western Hognose Snake**, named **Severus Snake**. Severus normally resides at FHDC in the children’s area on the 2nd floor, but Severus got to be part of the **FHDC’s Science in Vivo** (Science in real life) program. **FHDC is**

one of the first of 11 national recipients selected by competitive application to participate in the Science in Vivo grant **offered by the Science Festival Alliance through the National Science Foundation, the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, and the Simons Foundation – Science Sandbox.** This award will fund the project: **Creating a Flint Hills Fandom** as one of their “experimental sites.” This project brings science and Flint Hills heritage to an audience we do not normally reach. Prior to kickoff at the September home football games, the FHDC education staff will bring family - friendly tailgate activities with science themes **to KSU fans - GO CATS – young and old!**

Staff members from the Flint Hills Discovery Center and Foundation made a visit to the Lazy Heart D Bison Ranch, north of Wamego, KS, at the end of August. The group had the opportunity to tour the Bison herd owned by **Ed and Susan Dillinger**. The herd will be in the forthcoming **FHDC sponsored Bison tour on September 30.** If you want to be really close to a bison the FHDC fall Bison tours are the ones to be on. The second Bison tour will be on October 13, and will go to the Plumlee Buffalo Ranch, east of Manhattan. You can learn more about these tours and other **Bison Exhibit** related events at www.flinthillsdiscovery.org/517/Coming-Soon-Bison. *Fees and pre-registrations are required for the tours.*

The Bison tours are just some of the activities being held in conjunction with the BISON Exhibit opening at FHDC on Saturday, September 15. **Wolves and Wildlands** also opens, and the **Konza Prairie Quilters Guild** will have quilts on display. There will be something for everyone to see and learn about. We are grateful to our Business Partners who are serving as sponsors for these exhibits - **Nature Conservancy of Kansas; Kansas Farm Bureau; Kansas Dept. of Agriculture; Kansas Dept. of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism;** and the **FHDC Foundation.**

We extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to all those who joined the Flint Hills Discovery Center in 2018 as part of their new Annual Business Partnership Program!

The **FHDC Annual Exhibits Program and the Annual Events Program** were enhanced and made ever more valuable to attendees by the following businesses, organizations and associations who supported these programs through the Annual Business Partnership Program. We are proud to recognize the 2018 FHDC Business Partners.

Exhibit Partners

Underwriter - *Anonymous*
Sponsor - *ESB Financial*
Benefactor - *Capital Federal*
Kansas Farm Bureau
Kansas Dept. of Agriculture
Kansas Dept. of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism
Nature Conservancy of Kansas
Blueville Nursery

Event Partners

Underwriter - *Visit Manhattan, Kansas*
Sponsor - *Westar Energy Foundation*
Benefactor - *Bayer Construction*
Central National Bank
CivicPlus
HyVee Manhattan
McCowan Gordan
Grass & Grain
Vanderbilts
Greater Manhattan
Community Foundation

Our Exhibit Partners helped us present “Rain Forest Adventure,” “Be the Dinosaur,” and “Bison.” These traveling exhibits in addition to the following events will draw more than 80,000 visitors by the end of 2018.

Our Event Partners helped us present our four cornerstone events which were FLINT HILLS FESTIVAL, NATIONAL DAY of the COWBOY, COMMUNITY DAY and VETERANS APPRECIATION DAY. In 2018, nearly 7,000 visitors will have participated in these events which bring people together as part of our Flint Hills Community. If you know any of our partners, we encourage you to express your thanks and appreciation to them and patronize their businesses. The Flint Hills Discovery Center experience is made ever more dynamic and vibrant because of their support.

We are now securing Underwriters, Sponsors and Benefactors for 2019. Our exhibit season includes “Framed, Step into Art,” “Dream With DaVinci,” and “Zoo In You. The Human Mirco Biome.” Our event season includes our four cornerstone community events. More than 80,000 people will have visited and participated in Discovery Center activities in 2018, and 2019 promises to draw even more visitors. For information about being a 2019 FHDC Business Partner contact Katharine Hensler at katharine.hensler@cityofmhk.com.

Read 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.

