

# V I S T A S



From the desk of V. Marie Martin  
Foundation Director  
Wednesday Morning, November 14, 2018  
Volume 2, Issue 11



**The Terrace Interpretative Trail to be opening soon! The development of this outdoor trail was funded by a grant from the Caroline Peine Charitable Foundation/The Manhattan Fund, Bank of America, N.A. Trustee; other supporters are McCownGordon Construction; City of Manhattan, Manhattan Parks and Recreation and the Flint Hills Discovery Center Foundation.** The trail will be a permanent installation in free, accessible, outdoor, public

space, open year round. The trail route is from the third floor terrace area to ground level on the northeast side of the FHDC building. Guests can begin their visit at ground level or from the third floor terrace. They will be able to enjoy the view and learn about the history of Manhattan and the Flint Hills in addition to observing the beautiful prairie flora and fauna. Installation has begun and is anticipated to be completed before the new year if the weather cooperates. Thank you so much to the above organizations who made this project a reality! (Photograph by Scott Johnson)

**Lincoln, NE Parks and Recreation Department** sent their director and 14 staff members to visit the FHDC in late October. The FHDC leadership team conducted an informational walking tour throughout the facility and answered questions for the group. The Lincoln group was very impressed with the facility and the quality of the exhibits and educational opportunities that the FHDC offers for a community the size of Manhattan. You will recall that some members of The National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum staff in Oklahoma City also made a visit to FHDC in late September. Our neighboring states are hearing about the quality of our facility and FHDC's success in presenting a regional natural feature, the Flint Hills, for the public to enjoy and learn about. Manhattan offers a wonderful quality of life to the area!

**Year end Annual Fund Drive** letters are coming out and we encourage you to join others to support and help fund the Discovery Center's 2019 Youth Educational Programing. Your donations provide

opportunities for children of all ages and their families to become stewards of the Flint Hills. When younger generations learn to respect the land, value culture, learn from history, connect with heritage and mentor others the significance of the Flint Hills science and history is preserved. This year the Discovery Center provided educational programs to over 12,000 youth through on site, classroom and home-school educational programs.

The current **Bison, Quilts and Wolves of the Wild** exhibits are excellent examples of the interesting educational offering that the Discovery Center makes available to our guests. **Recently added to the Bison exhibit is "Ernie" the bi-sected bison.** Ernie resides in the permanent exhibits area of the 1<sup>st</sup> floor and it's worth a trip in just to see him! From one side he looks like a normal (very large) bison. Move around to the other side and you will see the skeletal structure that is his foundation. **Thank you to Dr. Don Warren, DVM of Laural, MT for sharing Ernie with the Discovery Center!**

**The Kansas Farm Bureau display** was recently installed on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor just outside the Tallgrass Gallery. It makes a big bold statement about Kansas agricultural as captured by the work of John Schlageck. Thank you Kansas Farm Bureau for sharing their display!

The **Breakfast with Santa event** sold out in six days after it was posted! But, there are still some spaces available for **Family New Year's Eve** (and the huge Balloon Drop)! Check out the website [www.flinthillsdiscovery.org/394/Family-New-Years-Eve](http://www.flinthillsdiscovery.org/394/Family-New-Years-Eve) and round up the kids for a family event that's great fun!

The **Festival of Lights** will go live on the Blue Earth Plaza the day after Thanksgiving on Friday, November 23, from 7-9:00pm. If you want to watch the activities from a warm place, the FHDC will be open at this time. You will be able to watch from the Atrium, the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> floor balconies and the Blue Earth room on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. The gift shop will be open for Christmas shopping and admission to these spaces is free. The exhibit areas of the FHDC will not be open.

Looking ahead to the new year the next traveling exhibit that will be in the Tallgrass Gallery is **"Framed: Step into Art"**. This exhibit opens January 26 and runs through May 12, 2019. You will have the opportunity to experience art like never before as paintings leap off the canvas and invite visitors inside the art experience. The Mezzanine will be home to **"Storyland"** for the same time period. For more information go to [www.flinthillsdiscovery.org/165/Future-Exhibits](http://www.flinthillsdiscovery.org/165/Future-Exhibits).

Complementing the traveling exhibit art theme will be a partnership with the **FHDC, Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art and Meadowlark Hills Retirement Community**. During a couple of weeks in February art from both organizations will be on display in the FHDC Atrium. The public may view these works for free during regular FHDC operating hours. Keep watching for more details regarding the exhibit dates.

**VISTAS Memo, now online at the FHDC website, [www.flinthillsdiscovery.org/414/Vistas-Memo](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. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Manhattan, KS 66502(785) 587-2729, ext. 211, [fhdcfoundation1@gmail.com](mailto: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.