

WEDNESDAY MORNING
December 13, 2017
VOLUME 1, ISSUE 7

From the desk of V. Marie Martin
Foundation Director

We are proud to announce the establishment of the Bruce & Leslie Snead Endowed Fund at the Flint Hills Discovery Foundation. Bruce is known as one of the “architects” of the Discovery Center concept. As a city commissioner, he was engaged throughout the development of the project. He and Leslie were very proud when the community made the Center the gateway to the south entrance into Manhattan. Since the Discovery Center’s opening, significant new development has occurred south of Poyntz Avenue. “To know more than 80,000 children and adults are participating in Center programs each year is incredibly satisfying,” said Bruce. “Manhattan is a special place. We are proud to establish this fund to provide long-term support for the Center.” The **Foundation** extends its **heartfelt thanks and appreciation to Bruce and Leslie** for making the Discovery Center a focus of their philanthropy!

The Foundation works with individuals, businesses and foundations to provide new resources in support of the Discovery Center. Endowed funds are a priority for the Foundation which also establishes funds for current giving, and cash-in and cash-out to support Discovery Center programs and activities. The Foundation also seeks funding for capital projects and technology and equipment needs on behalf of the Discovery Center. The Flint Hills Discovery Center is a community keystone and a nationally known and respected agent in recording and telling the story of the Kansas Flint Hills.



Manhattan and the surrounding area honored active and retired military personnel at the annual **Veteran’s Day Parade**. The Flint Hills Discovery Center prepared a float to recognize FHDC and FHDCF volunteers who have served in the military. Board member and former Army Captain, **Dr. Roger Reitz, M.D. (left)**, rode on the float as well as FHDC volunteers, spouses and guests which included **John and Marilyn Walters, Michael and Carol Warden, and Chelsea Cogan**. The float was escorted by four Fort Riley servicemen dressed in World War I Army Doughboy uniforms. FHDC staff members walked in the parade ahead of the float.

The FHDC provided free admission to active and retired service members and their immediate families who came to visit the Discovery Center on Veteran’s Day. The free coffee bar was also a popular attraction for people wishing to warm up after the parade. The **Foundation** provided the funding to cover a portion of the admission costs for the military guests and their families, and has done so since 2013.

National Geographic photographer, Jim Richardson, presented a free lecture to over 150 people on November 6 at FHDC. The lecture was provided through a partnership with the Kansas Science Communication Initiative, Sunset Zoo at Manhattan and FHDC. Jim gave a lively presentation about the skills needed to communicate the importance of science and technology to the public. Many of those in attendance recognized Jim's voice as that of one of the narrators in the *Tides of Time* film which is shown in the **Horizon Ranch Immersive Experience Theater** at the FHDC. Jim lives in Lindsborg, Kan., and travels the world to combine the power of photography with compelling stories of science, technology and engineering. In addition to Jim's global photographs, his work has captured the Flint Hills in their most glorious state!

The current exhibit, **Duty First—100 Years of the Big Red One**, in the FHDC Tallgrass Gallery closes on Sunday, January 14, 2018. You still have time to visit this informative exhibit over the holidays.

Flint Hills Discovery Center memberships make great gifts, and can be used year round. Perks include free FHDC visits after the initial purchase, and a 10% discount in the gift shop. For membership, go online, print off an application and mail it in; or pick up a membership form at the FHDC admissions desk. Visit: <http://www.flinthillsdiscovery.org/352/Purchasing-Renewing> for more details.

The FHDC Gift Shop has Flint Hills items for your gift-giving needs including Dave Kendall's documentary, *Tallgrass Prairie Preserve: A Flint Hills Love Story*; Laura Mead jewelry and scarves; Gayle Dowell and Dorothy Farrand jewelry; natural soaps from Waving Wheat Soap Co.; Carolyn's Natural Soap; Koelzer Bee Farm & Lavender Farms; adult and children's books by Kansas authors; Kansas pottery; Kansas wood cuts by Warren Prawl; CDs by Annie Wilson and Kelley Hunt; educational toys and puzzles; and stuffed animals that all need homes by Christmas! The *Flint Hills Educational Map*, display which can be seen at the entrance to the FHDC Tallgrass Gallery and in the classroom, can be purchased by ordering online at <http://www.flinthillsdiscovery.org/388/How-to-Purchase>.

Use your holiday time to **enjoy a scenic drive through the Flint Hills** and stop at the many fine locations along the way, including historic Council Grove, the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve, Cottonwood Falls' decorated Main Street or Historic Courthouse, or have lunch or dinner at the Grand Central Hotel in Cottonwood Falls. The proprietor is Suzan Barnes, a Foundation Board member, so be sure to tell her *hello*. Take another route to Alma and the Volland Store, or continue down the Scenic Byway on Highway 99 to Emporia. Remember to explore all the southern counties of the Flint Hills and take a drive into the Osage Hills of Oklahoma which are also a part of the Flint Hills region!

The Foundation wishes to thank everyone for their tremendous support of the Flint Hills Discovery Center in 2017, through their monetary contributions, sponsorships, volunteer time at special events and activities, attendance at lectures, membership purchases, visits and board participation.

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

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.