

VISTAS



From the desk of V. Marie Martin
Foundation Director
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DEAR FRIENDS,

FHDC HORIZON RANCH IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE THEATER UPGRADE! The Flint Hills Discovery Center Foundation has secured funding for new projectors and additional technology upgrades that will allow more diverse films to be shown in the Horizon Ranch Theater. Marty Vanier presented a check for \$417,950 to Bruce Snead, FHDC Foundation President, on December 5, to facilitate the projector and technology upgrades.



The seminal “Tides of Time” film about the Flint Hills will always be part of our exhibition experience, but after the upgrades are completed, the FHDC will have the capability to show films in different formats that are compatible with current technology. The upgrade will allow the Discovery Center to show short films offered by the Smithsonian, National Geographic and such other educational sources.

Thanks to the generosity of Marty Vanier, these new technology upgrades and video stories are made possible. Marty and her late husband, Bob Krause, understood the power of the Theater to share the stories of the Flint Hills. The upgrades should be completed in the early part of 2019. *Thank you so much, Marty, for your commitment and long-term vision for the Flint Hills Discovery Center!*

“OUR FLINT HILLS, OUR FUTURE” year-end appeal is underway. Inaugurated in 2017, this year-end program serves to raise funds for the Discovery Center’s youth educational programs. Your year-end donation is tax deductible and will be used to engage more than 12,000 children in 2019. See the enclosed information about how you can donate. Or, you can just go online now and donate at www.flinthillsdiscovery.org/471/Give-Online. We are grateful for your support!

We extend our thanks to the “Prairie Women”, Jane Kroger; Cathy, Gwen & Josie Hoy; Farrell Hoy Jenab; Annie & Emily Wilson; Jill Haukos; Susan Rose; Patty Reece; Joyce Thierer; Alexa Dawson; and Laura Mead - for lending their support to this worthwhile cause. You will recall that these ladies were featured in Dave Kendall’s latest film, **“Prairie Women: Engaging Women of the Flint Hills”**.

Please join me in welcoming our 2019 Class to the Foundation Board of Directors. Each year the Foundation secures its next class of board members to serve a three-year term. I am honored to announce:

Joe Carpenter - well-known member of the Flint Hills ranching community. Joe, along with wife, Barb Downey, own and operate the Downey Ranch near Alma.

Roger Lanksbury - retired nuclear engineer who sat on the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for a number of years. A graduate of Kansas State University, Roger returned to the Manhattan area and is married to Kathleen Lanksbury.

Jack Lindquist - Director of the Flint Hills Regional Leadership Program. His commitment to the Flint Hills extends across decades. Jack is married to Lindy Lindquist.

Karen McCulloh - retired director of fundraising for the Hale Library-KSU, a former Manhattan City Commissioner and a former Mayor of Manhattan. Karen is married to John McCulloh.

Roger Reitz - lifelong resident of Manhattan and former Army Captain, Roger served on the Manhattan City Commission and as Manhattan City Mayor before his election to the Kansas State Legislature. Roger is married to Virginia Reitz.

When you see these individuals, please thank them and the others listed below for their service on our Foundation Board of Directors. The Class of 2019 joins current members **Suzan Barnes, Kent Glasscock, Carlin Murphy, Sharon Reagan, John Reese, Charles Rice, and Bruce Snead**. The Foundation exists to secure charitable support to enhance the physical assets and the educational programs of the Discovery Center.

A Membership to the Discovery Center is a great Christmas present! We encourage you to stop by the Discovery Center or go online at www.flinthillsdiscovery.org/194/Become-a-Member and secure your membership. Perks include free FHDC visits after the initial purchase, and a 10% discount in the gift shop.

Bring the family to the FHDC for a photo in front of the Christmas tree which is located in the atrium of the Discovery Center. The photo will make a great memory of all the wonderful things that occur at FHDC throughout the year. If you come on a Thursday night, when the Discovery Center is open until 8 pm, you can also enjoy the **Blue Earth Plaza Festival of Lights** which are just fantastic this year! Thank you to the supporting sponsors of Festival of Lights for brightening up our community at Christmastime.

Wishing You A Wonderful Flint Hills Holiday Season!

The Flint Hills Discovery Center Foundation

315 S. 3rd Street, Manhattan, KS 66502(785) 587-2726, fhdcfoundation1@gmail.com.

VISTAS, a monthly 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.

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.