
From the desk of Bruce Snead
President, FHDC Foundation Board of Directors
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V. Marie Martin departs as Foundation Director

It is with a **GREAT THANKS** that we say goodbye to **V. Marie Martin** who retired on March 31 from her role as Director of the FHDC Foundation. Marie first served the Foundation as a board member in 2012 and moved to the position of Foundation Development Manager before becoming Foundation Director.

Marie played an essential and pivotal role in the life of the Foundation. As a new 501c3 nonprofit organization, the Foundation required structure, policies and procedures, and of course the Foundation needed to raise charitable gifts in support of the Flint Hills Discovery Center. More than \$4 million was raised during her time at the Foundation. Marie's work and her passion as development manager kept the Foundation moving forward. In 2018 her effort and that of the Board and Campaign Leadership Committee culminated in the launch of our first ever comprehensive fundraising initiative, the **NEXT VISTAS CAMPAIGN**. The Foundation Board and those who support the Discovery Center owe Marie a hearty "Job well done!" She will be missed. We wish her well in her retirement! Thank you, Marie!



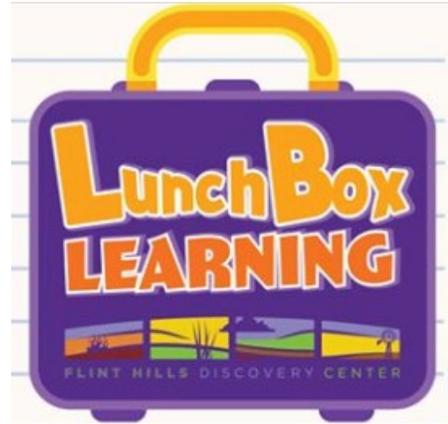
Celebration of Anne Wilson & Emily Connell, 2020 Friends of the Flint Hills, Postponed

Due to the closure of the Discovery Center amid Covid 19 concerns, the April 11 celebration of the Flint Hills Educational Map Program, and the two individuals who led the charge—Emily Connell and Anne Wilson—is postponed. A new date will be determined when the Discovery Center scheduling and availability can be determined. We thank all those who purchased tickets and, especially, to sponsors of the event. We will honor those commitments when we gather to recognize and celebrate this terrific project and Anne and Emily. During this unique period in time, I am comforted in knowing that the Flint Hills Discovery Center and the Foundation are supported by so many. When we gather for the 2020 Friends of the Flint Hills celebration it will be a gathering of friends.

Until we gather, you can find educational and other resources developed by this project on the Discovery Center's web site – <https://www.flinthillsdiscovery.org/233/Learning-Center>. There are a wealth of tools, topics and ways to engage stay at home students and their teachers in the unique history, science and culture of the Flint Hills!

Lunch Box Learning Hosted by the Flint Hills Discovery Center!

Take a lunch break and join the Flint Hills Discovery Center for a LIVE interactive lesson! Each Friday, explore a fun Flint Hills topic in-depth with us on Facebook Live. You can even submit your questions in the comment field to be answered during the Facebook Live! Lives will be hosted on the Flint Hills Discovery Center Facebook Page from 12:00-12:45 PM! <https://www.facebook.com/flinthillsdiscovery/>



Schedule & Topics:

Friday, May 1 – Live Animal Feeding

Friday, May 8 – The Geology Box

Follow-Along Worksheets: Download and print a new worksheet each week! Please complete the art portion and share online using #FHDC LunchBox. Available at: www.flinthillsdiscovery.org/612/Lunch-Box-Learning



Grow Green Match Day was a Virtual Event and Great Success!

The FHDC Youth Education Endowment was the wonderful beneficiary of \$ 5,915 in 44 gifts on April 22, which generated an additional \$2,957 in matching funds, for a grand total of **\$8,869!** Thank you for helping the Flint Hills Discovery Center continue to GROW its Educational programs!

The Cares Act passed by Congress at the end of March provides you with a “top of the line \$300 charitable donation.” That is IRS language to say that even if you don’t itemize and take the standard deduction for 2020, you can still donate up to \$300 and deduct it. You need your cancelled checks for donation of less than \$250 or a charitable receipt from the nonprofit for any gift of \$250 or more. In addition, larger donations can be deducted at a faster rate for 2020. I won’t go into all those details in this memo. You may want to visit with your accountant.

Open Air Classroom has been added to the Discovery Center!

In case you missed it, the Discovery Center has a new outdoor classroom! We extend our thanks to the Beach Family Foundation (Wichita) and the Caroline Peine Foundation (Manhattan) for funding this project. Koch Construction Specialties completed this beautiful, teaching venue. The staff is looking forward to using the space for educational programs and presentations! In the photo is the dedicated staff of the Discovery Center. We look forward to seeing all of them and you and your family when the Discovery Center reopens.



The Flint Hills Discovery Center Foundation

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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 www.flinthillsdiscovery.org/151/FHDC-Foundation.