

## Another Big Success for *A Child's World* and TCM

A message from  
**Interim Director  
Don Peterson**



I am so pleased to be serving as the Interim Director of The Children's Museum! It is a joy to witness our purpose of providing fun, hands-on science and nature education come alive in the faces of children, their parents, and teachers on a day-to-day basis.

I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to the more than 225 people who joined in the fun on April 30 at our 15th Annual Gala, *A Child's World*, held at the Tumble Brook Country Club. It was an extraordinary evening and set yet another revenue record for the Museum. All proceeds support the extensive science and nature education programming at our museum on Trout Brook Drive in West Hartford and at the Roaring Brook Nature Center in Canton, and in classrooms across the state.

We were delighted to have Governor Dannel P. Malloy join us for the event as well as former Museum President and CEO Kevin Sullivan. Their support of the Museum is deeply appreciated.



The Board of Trustees honored Kevin Sullivan for his years of service to the Museum. Governor Dannel P. Malloy (right) joined Board Chair Dr. Rick Liftig, Kevin, and immediate past Board Chair Elaine B. McDonald to bestow the honor and a crystal whale.

I am especially grateful to everyone who made the evening such a great success:

- Our sponsors and advertisers, in particular our Pioneer, Voyager, and Explorer sponsors: Farmington Bank, LAZ Parking, Bob and Frankie Goldfarb, Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, Travelers, Bank of America, Ellen M. Brown, Citizens Bank, CL&P and Yankee Gas – Northeast Utilities Companies, Goodwin College, Hamilton Sundstrand, Hartford Courant, Hartford Hospital, Landmark Partners, Robinson & Cole LLP, Shipman & Goodwin LLP, Stanley Black & Decker, and The UPS Foundation;
- Our Honorary Gala Committee Chair, Alan Lazowski, and our Event Committee;
- Our Board of Trustees chaired by Dr. Rick Liftig and its Development Committee chaired by Dr. Rolf Knoll;
- Our co-hosts Laurie Perez and Jim Altman from Fox CT, who provided the energy to make our live auction the best ever, and special guest Renee Dinino from The River 105.9;
- Our Museum staff and volunteers who organized everything so beautifully and made sure the event ran smoothly.



Amy Mackinnon (left) and Stacie Aubrey of West Hartford enjoyed both the face paint and their encounter with Betsy the rainbow boa constrictor.



Honorary Gala Committee Chair Alan Lazowski, president of LAZ Parking, flew back from the West Coast just in time to enjoy the Gala with his wife, Marcia. Photos by Eric Wallis

That this event was so successful is a testament to the importance of The Children's Museum to the communities we serve. It helps us move ever forward in continuing our mission to spark a lifelong interest in science and nature, improve science achievement, and increase public awareness of science and nature in our lives. My sincere thanks to all who made *A Child's World* such a smashing success.

## A Great Year of Family Science

A year of Family Science Sundays drew to a close with Engineering Sunday on May 15. Sponsored by The Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc., this series of monthly programs brought special science activities for the whole family to over 6,000 visitors. FSS attendees met live birds, a teacher-in-space, and high school robotics teams. They built model rockets, dissected flowers, saw combustion demonstrations, and much more. FSS provided free admission to 18 different community groups to make science accessible to underserved audiences. Thank you to The Hartford and all who attended. See more photos of FSS on the Museum's Facebook page.



Family Science Sunday programs included Mark Twain Sunday (left) and Chemistry Sunday (right).

# Calendar of Events

## Science Sizzles in Summer 2011

To register for the programs you see here (unless otherwise noted), call **860.231.2830 x44** or e-mail **Events@TheChildrensMuseumCT.org**.

Online registration is also available for many of our events and programs. Visit our website at **www.TheChildrensMuseumCT.org**.

Member prices are for The Children's Museum/Roaring Brook Nature Center members. All prices are per person.

# the children's museum

## Summer Science Camp

**Full Day: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm    Half Day: 9:00 am to 12:30 pm**

Explore, experience, investigate, discover during nine week-long sessions of science and nature fun. Enjoy hands-on experiments, planetarium shows, crafts, games, animal encounters, Museum exploration and special themed weeks. Visit our website for fees and detailed information.

**Weeks of June 27 and July 25**

### Junior Secret Agents

Explore the tricks of the spy trade as you work the cases and crack the codes.

**Weeks of July 5 and August 1**

### ChemKids

Get creative with chemistry and prepare to be WOWED!

**Weeks of July 11 and August 8**

### Critter Keepers

Get the inside scoop on our Wildlife Sanctuary residents. This is a must for animal lovers.

**Weeks of July 18 and August 15**

### Survivor TCM

Put your survival skills to the test as you learn tricks animals and humans use to endure the wilderness.

**Week of August 22**

### Assembly Required

Break out the blueprints for a week of engineering investigations.



## Hours of Admission

The Children's Museum's summer schedule begins on June 27.

**Monday to Saturday**    9:00 am to 4:00 pm

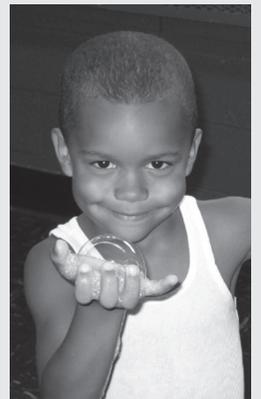
**Sunday**    11:00 am to 4:00 pm

The Museum is **closed** on Independence Day, Monday, July 4 and Labor Day, Monday, September 5.

## Thursday Science All Summer Long

Each Thursday this summer, The Children's Museum will have special bonus activities, free with museum admission. There will be experiments, exciting demonstrations and a few surprise guests. Each week will have a different theme. See our Facebook page and website for more details.

<b>June 30</b>	<b>Dissection Day</b>
<b>July 7</b>	<b>Animal Day</b>
<b>July 14</b>	<b>Wizard Day</b>
<b>July 21</b>	<b>Dry Ice Day</b>
<b>July 28</b>	<b>Egg Drop Day</b>
<b>August 4</b>	<b>Space Day</b>
<b>August 11</b>	<b>Family Engineering Day</b>
<b>August 18</b>	<b>Bubble Day</b>
<b>August 25</b>	<b>Art Day</b>



## Open Houses Continue Through Summer

Invite your friends to our monthly community Mars evenings. There's free admission for everyone from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm. Each month, we'll have different space-related activities and planetarium programs to complement our Mars exhibits. The whole Museum will be open for exploration. No pre-registration needed.

**Wednesday June 29 • Wednesday July 27 • Wednesday August 24**

## Larry, Cat in Space Blasts Off

Our newest planetarium show, *Larry, Cat in Space*, opens June 27. Larry loves the Moon and his best friend, Diana. When she takes a job on the Moon, he wants to come along. Will he make it to outer space? Watch and find out. See our website for show schedules and more information.

## Preschool Summer Exploration Play-ce

**9:00 am to 12:30 pm**

This hands-on, half-day summer program is complete with lots of outdoor fun, classroom activities and visits to the Museum. To register, call 860.523.7449 or register online.

\$140/members Monday to Thursday, \$160/non-members

\$160/members Monday to Friday, \$180/non-members

**June 27 to July 1**

**Magic Wings**

**July 5 to 8 (Tues. to Fri.)**

**Junior Dinosaur Explorers**

**July 11 to 15**

**Make It, Bake It, Take It**

**July 18 to 22**

**Jungle Fever**

**July 25 to 29**

**Animal Antics**

**August 1 to 5**

**The Amazing Race**

**August 8 to 12**

**Pirates and Princesses**

**August 15 to 19**

**Whales and Fish Tales**

# The Children's Museum Cup 2nd Annual Miniature Golf Tournament Saturday September 10

9:00 am  
Blue Fox Walk Miniature Golf  
1603 Hopmeadow Street, Route 10 • Simsbury

Join our co-hosts, meteorologist **Geoff Fox** of Fox CT and **Renee Dinino** of The River 105.9, for a day full of fun and excitement – all to support the Museum's education programs.

Tickets are \$20 each or \$80 per foursome and include 18 holes of mini-golf, science demonstrations, live animals, a raffle, lunch and ice cream. Lunch and Fun tickets (no golf but all other benefits) are \$10. Call Robin DeBerry at 860.231.2830 x23 for tickets or more information.

Presenting Sponsor: **ConnectiCare**  
*You know us by*



## ROARING BROOK NATURE CENTER



70 Gracey Road Canton, CT 06019 860.693.0263  
[www.roaringbrook.org](http://www.roaringbrook.org)

### Nature Center Hours

Tuesday through Saturday: 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.  
Sunday: 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm.  
Open Mondays in July and August: 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.  
Closed on July 4. Trails through Werner's Woods open daily from dawn to dusk.  
**All costs are per person unless stated otherwise.**

### 18th Annual Farmington Valley Butterfly Count

Saturday, July 23

1:30 pm to 3:00 pm

Dress for warm, summer conditions and bring water. This program is not geared for very young children. \$4/members, \$6/non-members. Call 860.693.0263 to register.

### Wednesday Evening Nature Walks

July 20, August 3 and 17

7:40 pm to 8:45 pm

This program is for all ages. Bring a flashlight, long sleeves and insect repellent. \$4/members, \$6/non-members, children: \$2/members, \$3/non-members.

### Wednesday Afternoon Animal Demonstrations

July 6 **Animal Babies**

July 20 **Connecticut Amphibians**

August 3 **Living Dragons**

August 17 **Snakes Alive!**

2:00 pm to 2:45 pm

Animal demonstrations are held rain or shine in the Nature Center auditorium. \$2/members, \$3/non-members. Pre-registration is not required.

### Summer Program Information

There are spaces available in several programs. Visit our website at [www.roaringbrook.org](http://www.roaringbrook.org) or for additional information or call the Nature Center at 860.693.0263.

### Guided Walks for Groups

During July and August, group nature walks may be scheduled by individuals, families or by organized groups on selected weekday afternoons. Walks may be general or may focus on a specific topic of interest. Call the Nature Center for additional information.

### Summer Birthday Party Opportunities

During July and August, the Nature Center offers birthday parties on selected weekday afternoons from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Parties include a live animal demonstration, nature walk, and use of our auditorium for the party. Cost of a party is \$125 for members, \$150 for non-members. Please note that birthday party availability is subject to the Nature Center's summer program schedule of classes and public events.

## Homeschool Happenings

Tuesday  
September 27

9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Experience a science-packed day of educational programs tailored to homeschool students ages 5 to 13. Participate in hands-on workshops. Witness dynamic demonstrations. Soar to new heights with amazing planetarium shows. It's a great opportunity to supplement your science curriculum and network with other homeschool families.

Visit our website for fees, detailed information, and additional fall homeschool programs.



## Calling all birthday boys and girls!

Enjoy the warm weather, big cats, Dino Golf and the excitement of having your party outdoors under the big top. Schedule a party under the tent in our courtyard this summer. This party option includes all the features of our regular party packages, replacing private classroom time with reserved courtyard space that includes use of our picnic area under the tent. Space is limited, so book soon and enjoy the warm summer weather.

Call 860.231.2830 x44 or e-mail [Events@TheChildrensMuseumCT.org](mailto:Events@TheChildrensMuseumCT.org) for more information.





## Volunteer Spotlight

**Danny Gluck** has been volunteering with the Education and Guest Relations Departments for almost a year and is currently a counselor in our Vacation Science program. A former Vacation Science camper himself, he says working with children and knowing he is helping them and making a difference is what he enjoys most. He says, "Volunteering is not only a good thing to do for the community, but it is a great feeling knowing you're helping people out."

If you are interested in volunteering, call Jennifer Parker at 860.231.2830 x38.

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## Hands-On Science

### Mini Hovercraft

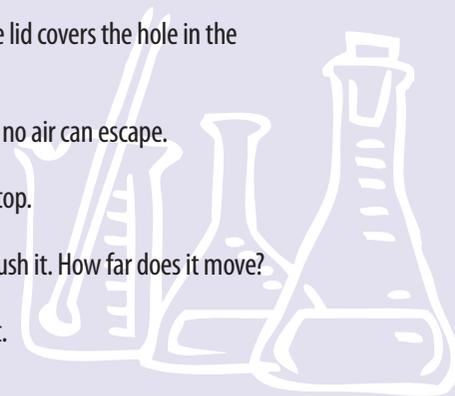
You may have seen the Museum's AirMaster3000 at Engineering Sunday. Here's how to make a mini version of a disc that floats on an even layer of air. Thanks to our friends down under at Qwestacon!

#### What You'll Need

- old CD or DVD that no one wants
- pop-top lid from a drink bottle
- craft glue
- balloon

#### Instructions

1. Close the pop-top lid and glue the base so the lid covers the hole in the center of the CD. Let it dry.
2. Blow up a balloon and pinch the neck so that no air can escape.
3. Stretch the neck of the balloon over the pop-top.
4. Place the CD hovercraft on a bench top and push it. How far does it move?
5. Open the pop-top lid and push the hovercraft. How far does it move this time?



## Where Science and Nature Are Fun



Visit us online at [www.TheChildrensMuseumCT.org](http://www.TheChildrensMuseumCT.org) to register for programs, find us on Facebook, see our event and show schedule, learn about our animals, and more.