

Musings

Quarterly News from The Children's Museum - February 2008

We hope you enjoy this issue of *Musings*, the quarterly newsletter from the Children's Museum in Edwardsville, IL. The newsletter was created to bring you up to date on museum happenings and keep you informed about exhibits, camps and new membership and sponsorship opportunities. We welcome your input at info@childrens-museum.net.

Star City Market Opens

The Children's Museum is proud to announce the opening of its newest exhibit, the Star City Market.

The market is the latest in a new series of educational exhibits created late last year. Star City, as it is known, is a community within the confines of the museum.

Existing components include the Medical Center, Airline and Studio. In late September 2007, the Police and Fire Departments were added.

The market was made possible with the help of the Edwardsville/Glen Carbon Junior Service Club, Lowe's of Glen Carbon, and Patricia Fazzino, DNSc, MPH, RN, Professor and Department Chair, SIUE School of Nursing, and Robert Wood Johnson Executive Nurse Fellow. Children can "shop" in the market for healthy food or "work" in the market shelving the food or checking out customers.

Plans are underway and construction will be soon begin on the Star City Library.

With the assistance of a grant from the Glen Carbon Centennial Library and Illinois State Library, children will be able to play librarian.

Children and parents will also be able to read and browse the collection of books while visiting the museum.

As funding becomes available, at least three more community exhibits will be added. Existing community exhibits will also receive facelifts.

The goal of Star City is to make children aware of the interdependence on one another in our communities. While role playing within the community, visitors are exposed to language, math, science, social science and health.

Special Spotlight on Donors

A big thank you to all who recently gave to The Children's Museum! We could not continue to provide quality, educational fun without your support.

Here are a few examples of how you helped make children smile:

- We recently had two girls and their mother visit while in town for a funeral. They were very excited to spend a few hours away from the situation. They enjoyed dressing up in the many costumes and putting on a show in front of the studio camera.
- For our 5th birthday celebration, we had more than 140 people visit during our free admission day. Many were here for the first time. Several guests told us as they were leaving, that they would be back. Some signed up for upcoming programs and one even scheduled a birthday party.
- Francesca, our ball python, came out of her habitat to the delight of one boy. He was quite fascinated. Most children enjoy seeing her out of her home, learning about what she eats and touching her smooth skin. Those who do not, view her from the safety of the hallway or parents' arms.

Thank you again for your support!

Upcoming Events

February 23	Black History: Runaway Slaves
March 3	Open 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for Pulaski Day
March 15	Plants & Animals: Spring Babies
April 4	Family Fun 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Summer Camp schedule available
April 19	Budding Artists: Spring Art
May 10	Free Admission for Moms and Grandmothers Grossology
June 14	Free Admission for Dads and Grandfathers

Children's Museum Wish List

Thank you to all who responded to the previous list! We received a number of items that will be put to good use. But, we still have some needs.

Remember, your donations are appreciated and tax deductible!

- * Clean formal dresses, all sizes
- * Clean high heel shoes
- * Working flat screen monitor
- * Working computer with
CD capabilities
- * Ziploc bags, all sizes
- * Clear storage tubs, larger sizes
- * Broken telephones or radios