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Raven Hill Discovery Center, incorporated in 1991,
is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt corporation.

Open year-round on weekends – noon to 4pm Saturdays and 2pm to 4pm Sundays.
Between Memorial Day and Labor Day, hours expand to include weekdays from
10am to 4pm. The Center is also open other times, including holidays, by appointment.

MISSION: to provide a place that enhances hands-on and lifelong
learning for all ages by connecting science, history and the arts.

WHERE **SCIENCE****HISTORY****AND****ART** CONNECT

To: Raven Hill friends
From: Cheri
Date: April 20, 2024
Re: *Volunteer Recognition Day*

Those who *volunteer* at Raven Hill span a variety of ages, each with their own skill sets and interests. They are all real-life superheroes, who work to make the Center a premier place for hands-on connections between science, history and the arts. They deserve our thanks and appreciation on a daily, weekly, monthly and yearly basis, but especially today, April 20, 2024, on *Volunteer Recognition Day*.

Raven Hill leverages *volunteer* skills in many ways to advance its mission of connecting science, history, and the arts. By harnessing *volunteers'* skills and their passion for these disciplines, the Center creates innovative and immersive experiences that foster a deeper understanding and appreciation of the interconnectedness of all knowledge. *Volunteerism* brings numerous benefits to the Center and to the *volunteers* themselves, including fostering a sense of community, personal growth, and skill development. At Raven Hill, *volunteers* play a vital role in maintaining the Center's campus & buildings, creating engaging exhibits and providing valuable support to ensure programs run smoothly. Additionally, *volunteering* at Raven Hill offers individuals the chance to connect with science, history and the arts, as they make a positive impact on visitors.



Many of us have heard the postal carriers' motto. "Neither rain, nor snow, nor sleet, nor hail shall keep the postmen from their appointed rounds." According to Wikipedia, the original saying was spoken about 2500 years ago by the Greek historian, Herodotus. Here at Raven Hill, neither rain nor wind nor cold shall keep Jackson Brooks from volunteering at his self-appointed task of revamping the Jurassic Park Walkway!



Yvonne Pentecost uses the "magnet" vacuum as she volunteers in the hands-on Discovery Room, supervising & timing magnet towers!

Just in the past ten days, *volunteerism* has run the gamut at Raven Hill. The Center's Board of Directors met for their monthly meeting to work on strategic and succession planning, ensuring the future of Raven Hill. Jean VanDam gave the Animal Room a good spring cleaning. John Lewis and Mary Zipp spent time outside brooming sidewalks and picking up all the branches & twigs that came down over the winter. Jackson Brooks has been working hard to add a brick border to the Jurassic Park Walkway. Dave Clapp has been instrumental in making the display cases mobile. Gayle Levensgood is restoring a number of the Jurassic

Park sculptures. *Volunteers* Gary & Kim Peters, John Clements, Lynne Goodwin and Jasmine Petrie helped with the East Jordan Middle School field trip. Finally, Rod Cortright is busy checking out the new telescope readying it for the "Night Skies" program he is scheduled to present at 7pm this Wednesday, April 24th. Interested in attending? Register by calling 231.536.3369 and dress for inside & out.

Thanks to all of you who have chosen to support Raven Hill with your time and expertise over the years. You are much appreciated. Herman Melville once said, “We cannot live only for ourselves. A thousand fibers connect us with our fellow men.” *Volunteering* at the Center connects us—a thousand helping hands connecting 33 years of *volunteering* to make Raven Hill what it is today. If you are interested in becoming a part of Raven Hill’s *volunteer* group, please check the website or email info@miravenhill.org and ask to connect with Nancy, our *volunteer* Coordinator.



Gayle Levensgood volunteers from home, where she is repainting several of the sculptures found in Raven Hill’s “Exploring Beyond Jurassic Park” Walkway. Over time, weather takes its toll and Gayle is restoring them to their former glory!



*Sometimes, it’s a team effort, as Jackson Brooks lends a hand to help Dave Clapp move the glass top of a display case. Dave never complains when asked to *volunteer*—his most recent task was to mobilize display cases with casters!*



Volunteer Jean VanDam works tirelessly every week “behind the scenes” at Raven Hill. Today, she pulled out and cleaned behind the cabinets in the Animal Room.



During a recent East Jordan Middle School field trip, fiber artist Lynne Goodwin volunteers by helping visitors better understand the concept of weaving.

year round. Call 231.536.3369 or 231.675.6025 for more information on the Center’s events, exhibits and programs or plan to check them out in person here at the Center. We invite you to visit us soon.

Cheri