

# Northeast Texas Children's Newsletter

Volume 5, Number 4

October-December 2014

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*Executive Director*

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Colette Young

## Ex officio Members

John Ballotti

Marc Clayton

Bonnie Hunter

David McKenna

Cari Sturch

## The Director's Corner

This is an exciting time to be a part of the Northeast Texas Children's Museum. At our recent Open House, I looked around the room to see so many who have been supporters of the Children's Museum. Some have been supporters for the twelve years the Museum has been open, and some became supporters for the first time this year. As I look around at our exhibits, I see the names of so many of our local businesses who now have exhibits here. A ribbon cutting for three sponsored exhibits was held at the Open House on September 18. This support has been so important as the Children's Museum has grown and expanded. As of September, visitors to the Museum this year have totaled 18,324. Our goal for the year is 20,000 visitors. Visit us soon and become our 20,000th visitor.



*Sharline Freeman,  
Executive Director*



## Great Grandchildren Are Special Visitors

During the summer, many grandparents visit with grandchildren. It is special to us when the great-grandparents come with their great-grandchildren. One of these special visitors was Dr. Ruth Ann White with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



*The mission of the Northeast Texas Children's Museum is to inspire imagination, enhance creativity, and build confidence in Children.*

## Mark Your Calendar

CALENDAR						
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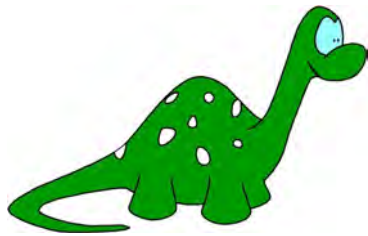
Brunch with Santa –  
December 6, 2014

Wellness U –  
January 17, 2015

Daddy Daughter Dance –  
February 7, 2015

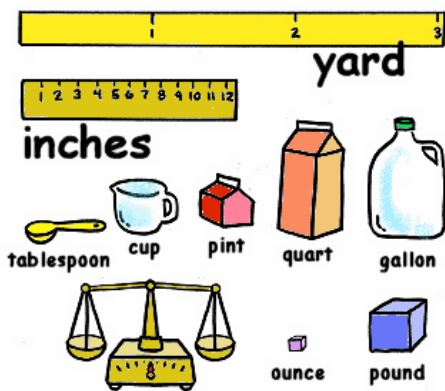
Mother-Son Pirate Night – February 28, 2015

## Oncor Sponsors Dino Math Measurement Program



Third grade students enjoy our hands-on math experience every year. This year the Dino Math Measurement

Program is sponsored by Oncor. Oncor's sponsorship allows us to hire all certified teachers to serve as instructors. Students rotate through workshops as they measure objects in grams and ounces with rocker balances. They measure ounces, cups, pints, quarts, and gallons. Students also get to measure objects in inches and centimeters. We are excited about the Oncor sponsorship and what it will make possible for the students.



## Northeast Texas Children's Museum Plane Comes Home

Northeast Texas Children's Museum Director Sharline Freeman (second from left) welcomed home the museum's "airplane" with a fresh paint job and interior upgrade of new carpet and controls thanks to L-3 Mission Integration. Freeman was joined by (from left to right) L-3 Community Relations Representative Troy Brakefield, NETXCM Board Member Wyman Williams, L-3 Senior Director for the C3 Programs Ted Reel, and L-3 Senior Manager Fred Hilbrand.



## Summer Attendance Increases

With visitors totaling 6,435 for June, July, and August, summer was a busy time. With camps, theme weeks such as Dino Week and Friends on Wheels, puppet shows, author Mary Casad, and a Turtle Race, each day was exciting for visitors and staff. The TAMUC athletes added a new dimension during Sports Week. This is our highest summer attendance on record.



## *The Great Outdoor Discovery Area*

The development of the Great Outdoor Discovery Area began by fencing the area. Then, a 50 foot bois d'arc log was moved by the city from the downtown area to our fenced outdoor discovery area. Phase I of the development will soon have a sand area, picnic tables, and a dry river bed. The Children's Museum will have a new dimension with the opening of this area.



*It didn't take the children long to discover how much fun a dead log could be!*

## *Turtles Race at the Museum*

One of the most popular activities of the summer was the Turtle Race. Sixteen turtles entered the event at the Children's Museum. With each turtle properly labeled and named, children were assigned a turtle and encouraged to yell for each one. Since the turtles had only raced on grass, no one was prepared for how quickly 16 turtles could move in 16 different directions. It then became a race for children to catch a turtle. Thanks to Morris White of



Pecan Gap for bringing this activity to the Children's Museum.



## *Volunteers Bring Exciting Events*

When Dennis Anderson brought his young grandson to the Children's Museum, he asked him how he had liked the Museum. The grandson replied, "I liked it, but the tractor was broken. It didn't make any noise."

Since then Dennis has worked to bring noise throughout the Children's Museum. He added a noise to the tractor. After that he added lights and a siren to the ambulance. Finally he even added a microphone with a recorded message to the airplane. Dennis had previously brought a scanner with a beep to the Brookshire's Grocery

area.

Dennis grew up in Cookeville, attending high school in Mt. Pleasant. He is the first in his family to gain a degree (in agriculture education), which he did at East Texas State University where he met his wife.



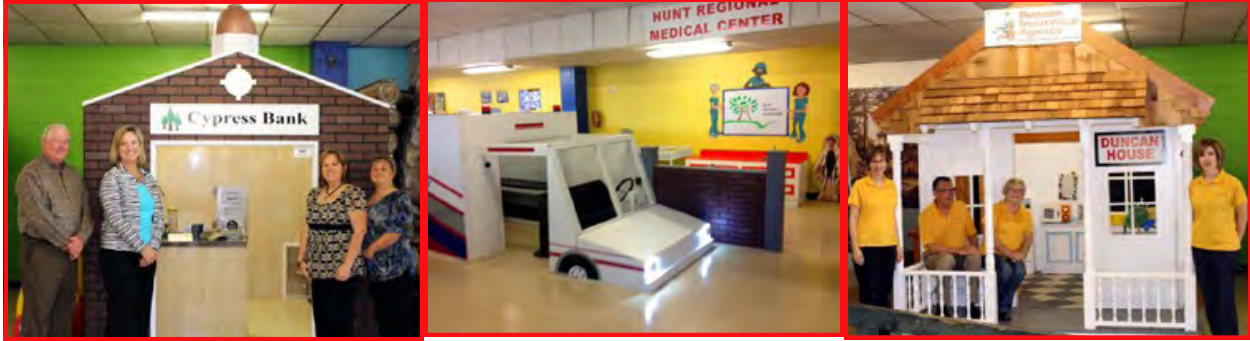
*Dennis Anderson*

He and his wife Judy have two grown children and one grandchild. Dennis is a member of the Commerce Masonic Lodge and the First Methodist Church. For 40 years he's been found at Kartridge Korner in Commerce.

Thank you, Dennis, for bringing so many innovative features to the Children's Museum!

## Summer Brings New Exhibits to the Children's Museum

"Every time we come to the Children's Museum, something has changed," said one of our visitors this summer. This was such a true statement as the Museum added walls to the shops and made many changes throughout the exhibits. The greatest changes have occurred in the Hunt Regional Healthcare area, the Cypress Bank area, and the Duncan Insurance House.



## Donating to the Museum

To give donors another option, donations to the Northeast Texas Children's Museum can now be made through PayPal by going to our web page at <http://netxcm.com/index.php> or you may come by the Museum to make a donation at any time. You may also mail the form below. Remember that every dollar helps keep our doors open!

### Donor Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Amount of Donation: \_\_\_\_\_

*If sponsoring a day, let us know the birthday, anniversary, or other date that you would like to sponsor.*

**Send to:** Northeast Texas Children's Museum  
P. O. Box 994  
NW Corner Culver and Highway 50  
Commerce, Texas 75428

Telephone: (903) 886-6055 or (903) 456-4789

Email: [director@netxcm.com](mailto:director@netxcm.com)

