BACK IN FULL SWING

Featured Article:
John Stegall - Kern County’s Earliest Mammal Haven

Upcoming Events:
04/21
Ever Wonder How Much Plastic is in Your Seafood? with Dr. Rae McNeish
05/19
Urban Carnivores with Dr. Lucas Hall

Every Last Saturday April-August:
Science Saturdays!

SUMMER SCIENCE CAMP IS BACK!!
Dear Friends of the Museum,

Wow! The time has flown by! It was a year ago that we were opening our doors to the public for the first time in over a year. Today, things feel like they are finally getting back to a "new normal." During these past two years, we have learned and evolved to meet the needs of our community. We adapted our educational programs, creating a more diverse direction through online sources such as YouTube and our website. Currently, there are over 40 educational videos posted to our website. You can view tours of the museum, science experiments and our monthly "Meet the Expert." These Meet the Expert sessions are interactive Zoom gatherings with topic experts, CSUB professors and scientists. If you miss the live Meet the Expert, no problem! The sessions are recorded and are available as part of our online video collection.

As you know, the museum places a high priority on education for children in grades K-12. This year, we are starting a new program called "Science Saturday." These fun-filled Saturdays will be held on the last Saturday of each month from April through August (please see our event calendar on pg. 4 for more details). On Science Saturday, the museum will be open regular hours and will have additional hands-on displays, experiments and science demonstrations from 11am-2pm. Our aim is to make science educational and fun, adding more exciting resources to create interest in STEM and science related careers. The museum is collaborating with other scientists, science organizations and clubs to provide interactive, wild and wacky science experiments and lots of fun science interaction for the children and parents. Our goal is to have an awesome day with extra activities all the while providing parents additional resources for their children's STEM educational needs.

Additionally, Summer Science Camp is back! Kids will enjoy learning through hands-on science activities. There will be 4 weeks of camp in the month of June. Class size is limited, so reserve early. Many other in-person programs will be returning soon. I look forward to seeing our many museum members, friends and visitors at these upcoming events!

Sincerely,

Koral Hancharick

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The mission of the Buena Vista Museum is to educate, engage and inspire our community to explore the wonders of science through enrichment activities, exhibits, and special programs.

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**Board of Directors**
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**Meet the Expert Session**

**BVM volunteers and staff showing off their holiday spirit**

**BVM educators and students at the Panorama Preserve Science Camp**

**Instructor Tim Elam with Junior Docent in training Griffin Kichen**
SUMMER SCIENCE CAMP IS BACK!

Camps will be held for Grades 1-3 and Grades 4-6. Topic schedule will be announced soon. Check our website.

Sessions held Monday-Thursday. More details coming soon. Registration required.

Find out more at:
BuenaVistaMuseum.org/science-camps
"OH" ZONE DISCOVERY CENTER NOW OPEN!

When we say hands-on, we mean it! The "Oh" Zone is a highly tactile environment where visitors are encouraged to touch everything!

Whether you are uncovering buried fossils at our excavation table or getting an up close view of specimens at the magnification station, visitors of all ages can explore science and learn through sensory engagement and play.

The "Oh" Zone, our hands-on, interactive science discovery center, is located on BVM's lower level.
Science Saturdays
LAST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH
APRIL-AUGUST
Come and learn about science with hands-on science demonstrations from Kern County’s very own community science groups, organizations and vendors.
Interested in being an exhibitor or sponsor?
Please call (661) 324-6350

Meet The Expert:
Dr. Rae McNeish
Biology
Ever Wonder how Much Plastic is in Your Seafood?
APRIL 21, 5:30PM-6:30PM
-Virtual Online Event-
Discover how human activities play a critical role in the interactions between terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems, as well as the effects of plastic pollution on rivers and animals.

Meet The Expert:
Dr. Lucas Hall
Urban Carnivores
MAY 19, 5:30PM-6:30PM
-Virtual Online Event-
Using data gathered from remote cameras, Dr. Hall will present information about "urban carnivores" such as the kit fox that coexist with us here in California's central valley.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
INDEPENDENCE DAY
FIREWORKS FUNDRAISER
JULY 1ST - 4TH
Support Buena Vista Museum by purchasing your fireworks this year from our fireworks booth located in the East Hills Target parking lot on Mall View Road.

April
■ 4/9-4/10 - ROCK & MINERAL SALE
Sat 9am-4pm, Sun 11am-4pm
■ 4/16 - MUSEUM CLOSING AT 2PM
■ 4/16 - MUSEUM CLOSED
■ 4/21 - MEET THE EXPERT: DR. MCNEISH
5:30pm-6:30pm (Virtual Event)
■ 4/30 - SCIENCE SATURDAY
11am-2pm, Hands-on science demonstrations
■ 4/30 - TIM ELAM: PRESENTATION
3pm, Tar Pits

May
■ 5/7 - VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER
■ 5/14 - TIM ELAM: PRESENTATION, TBA
■ 5/19 - MEET THE EXPERT: DR. HALL
5:30pm-6:30pm (Virtual Event)
■ 5/28 - SCIENCE SATURDAY
11am-2pm, Hands-on science demonstrations

June
■ 6/6-6/9 - SUMMER SCIENCE CAMP
8am-12pm, Grades 1-3 & 4-6.
■ 6/13-6/16 - SUMMER SCIENCE CAMP
8am-12pm, Grades 1-3 & 4-6.
■ 6/20-6/23 - SUMMER SCIENCE CAMP
8am-12pm, Grades 1-3 & 4-6.
■ 6/23 - MEET THE EXPERT: DR. O'SULLIVAN
5:30pm-6:30pm (Virtual Event)
■ 6/25 - SCIENCE SATURDAY
11am-2pm, Hands-on science demonstrations
■ 6/27-6/30 - SUMMER SCIENCE CAMP
8am-12pm, Grades 1-3 & 4-6.

July
■ 7/1-7/4 - FIREWORKS BOOTH
Target parking lot, Mall View Road.
■ 7/30 - SCIENCE SATURDAY
11am-2pm, Hands-on science demonstrations

August
■ 8/27 - SCIENCE SATURDAY
11am-2pm, Hands-on science demonstrations
KERN COUNTY'S EARLIEST MAMMAL HAVEN

By John Stegall

In the wake of the K-T Extinction, 66 million years ago, new life sprung up from the ashes of the old Mesozoic world.

In today's northeast Kern County's El Paso Mountains, south of Ridgecrest, is now a dried landscape on the northwest edge of California's Mojave Desert, but about 60 million years ago it was a different landscape and a wetter environment. The Tiffanian Age of the Paleocene (early Tertiary Period) in northeast Kern County represents an important time when mammals start to become a dominant group in the ecosystem. The Goler Formation ecosystem supported a vast variety of vertebrate animals of that era. The wet swamp-like environment of the Paleocene landscape was similar to the Everglades in Florida and the Mississippi delta in Louisiana which indicates that the ancient environment has both swamps and an estuary. This ecosystem supported species of fishes, reptiles, a bird, and a larger variety of mammal species, most of which no longer exist in the modern world.

Fish:
Rays (Hypolophodon)
Bony Fishes

Reptiles:
Alligators, Turtles including a new species (Goleremys mckennai, Lizards and Snakes

Birds:
Lithornis sp. (an ancient genus of near-shore bird)

Mammals:
Marsupials (Peradectes and Golodelphys stocki ¹
cimolesta Mammal (Bessoecetor septentrioinalis), Viverravid Carnivores (Protictis paralus and Protictis cf. P. agastor), a Stylinodontid Mammal, Paromomyid Primates (Paromomyx depressiens and Ignacius frugivorus), a Plesiadapid Primate (Nannodectes Iynasi ², and Oxycalenid Mammal (Thryptacodon), Arctocyonid Mammals (Mimotricentes telfordi ³ and Lambertocyon cf. L. gingerichi), Hyposondontid Mammals (Protoselene ashtoni ² and Promioclaenus walshi ²)
Phenacodontid Mammals (Phenacodus cf. P. bisonensis, Phenacodus cf. P. matthewi, Phenacodus cf. P. grangeri, and Phenacodus cf. P. vortmanii), a Periptychid Mammal (Goleroconus alfi ⁴, and a Mesonychid Mammal (Dissacus)

¹William & Lofgren, 2014; ²Lofgren et al, 2014; ³McKenna, 2003; ⁴McKenna, Honey & Lofgren, 2008
Volunteer Spotlight

Buena Vista Museum strives to provide a wonderful and educational experience for our visitors, and we know that starts with our volunteers. Our volunteers are what keep us going, and we would like to take this opportunity to show our appreciation.

Caroline began volunteering with Buena Vista Museum in October of 2021. She is dedicated and is always willing to step in wherever needed. Caroline has assisted the museum with everything from fundraising auctions to inventories, to the front desk and in our reference library. She is also on her way to becoming one of our newest docents.

Caroline is an artist, writer, and educator, and she loves tabletop gaming. Her creativity stems from her passion for natural and cultural history. When asked why she likes volunteering with BVM, she replied “I love volunteering for Buena Vista Museum because it allows me to play an active role in bringing the infinite wonders of our world into public understanding.”

We are so appreciative of Caroline’s generosity with her time and skills. BVM volunteers are important to the museum’s operation. Volunteers come from diverse backgrounds and every age from 12 years old to 90 years young. Volunteers bring our exhibits to life as docents. They engage with our visitors during camps and special programs like “Just for Kids,” and they provide essential behind the scenes help. BVM also offers a junior volunteer program. Junior volunteers work alongside museum staff and other volunteers where they will learn valuable skills while having fun and supporting the community! If you are interested in helping the museum further its mission through the contribution of your time and skills, please visit: buenavistamuseum.org/volunteer

Volunteers are key to the museum’s success. If you are interested in supporting the museum’s mission with your time and skills, please consider applying at buenavistamuseum.org/volunteer

Caroline Hammonds

Museum volunteers help in many different areas of the museum. Here, Caroline Hammonds assists with the documentation of museum collection objects.
MEMBERSHIP

JOIN US
Our members are kind of a big deal!
Members help support the mission of BVM to educate, engage, and inspire our community to explore the wonders of science through enrichment activities, exhibits, and special programs.
Join now at buenavistamuseum.org/memberships

- **Free** admission to BVM as long as you are a member
- **Free or discounted** admission to 12 other reciprocal and local museums and zoos including Bakersfield Museum of Art, Kern County Museum and CALM
- **Discounts** on other museum events and a 10% discount in our museum store.

Scan with your camera app to join

Have you heard? Your Membership now includes access to **over 600 museums and science centers world wide!**

Here are a few close to you!

Bay Area Discovery Museum
557 McReynolds Rd, Sausalito, CA, 94965
California Science Center
700 Exposition Park Drive, Los Angeles, CA, 90037
Chabot Space & Science Center
10000 Skyline Blvd, Oakland, CA, 94619
Children’s Museum at La Habra
301 S Euclid Street, La Habra, CA, 90631
Columbia Memorial Space Center
12400 Columbia Way, Downey, CA, 90242
CuriOdyssey
1651 Coyote Point Dr, San Mateo, CA, 94401
Discovery Cube
2500 N Main St, Santa Ana, CA, 92705
Exploratorium
Pier 15, San Francisco, CA, 94111
Explorit Science Center
3141 5th St, Davis, CA, 95618
Fleet Science Center
1875 El Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA, 92101
Gateway Science Museum
400 W 1st St, California State University Chico, Chico, CA 95929
Humboldt State University Natural History Museum
1242 G Street, Arcata, CA, 95521
Kidspace Children's Museum
480 N Arroyo Blvd, Pasadena, CA, 91103
The Lawrence Hall of Science
1 Centennial Dr, Berkeley, CA, 94720

Lick Observatory
29955 Mount Hamilton Rd, Mt Hamilton, CA, 95140
Lindsay Wildlife Experience
1931 1st Ave, Walnut Creek, CA, 94597
Maturango Museum of the Indian Wells Valley
100 E Las Flores Ave, Ridgecrest, CA, 93555
MOXI The Wolf Museum of Exploration + Innovation
125 State St, Santa Barbara, CA, 93101
Natural History Museums of Los Angeles County
900 Exposition Blvd, Los Angeles, CA, 90007
Placer Nature Center
3700 Christian Valley Rd, Auburn, CA, 95602
San Diego Natural History Museum
1788 El Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA, 92101
Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History
2559 Puesta Del Sol, Santa Barbara, CA, 93105
Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History
1305 E Cliff Dr, Santa Cruz, CA, 95062
SMUD Museum of Science and Curiosity (MOSAC)
3615 Auburn Boulevard, Sacramento, CA, 95821
The Tech Interactive
201 S Market St, San Jose, CA, 95113 (408) 294-8324
Turtle Bay Exploration Park
844 Sundial Bridge Dr, Redding, CA, 96001
Western Science Center
2345 Searl Pkwy, Hemet, CA, 92543
World of Wonders Science Museum
2 North Sacramento Street, Lodi, CA, 95240
VISIT BVM'S ONLINE MUSEUM STORE

Shop our exclusive fossil guides, books, apparel, rocks and minerals, STEM kits and more!

Shop now at: buenavistamuseum.org/museumstore

BVM provides discounted admission for those currently receiving SNAP food assistance benefits. Simply present your valid EBT card and photo ID at the front desk for $2 admission each for up to 4 individuals per EBT card.

BVM is a Blue Star Museum which means we offer free admission to the nation's active duty military personnel including National Guard and Reserve and their families.

You shop. Amazon gives.

Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase to the charitable organization of your choice.

Support Buena Vista Museum by selecting us at smile.amazon.com

TOGETHER WE CAN DO SO MUCH

Your gift of any amount helps to support BVM’s mission.

Thank you for your generosity!

Donate Now

buenavistamuseum.org/donate
CONSIDER A DONATION

BVM is looking ahead to exciting goals and growth we have planned, and we want you to be a part of our future! Current goals include returning to a rich menu of in-house programming to offer visitors during regular museum hours. We are also currently seeking sponsorships for new, kid-friendly, high-tech exhibits! In addition, a donation directly to BVM’s new endowment fund will insure the sustainability of the museum long into the future.

BVM’s **average year operating expenses are about $270,000 per year, or about $22,500 a month, or approximately $740 per day**. No donation is too small; in the end it all adds up! Your continued support is what enables the museum to serve our community by offering such a rich variety of educational programs for children and people of all ages.

******************cut and detach******************

Name________________________________________ E-mail________________________________________
Address________________________________________ City____________________ State___ Zip ________
Phone:______________________________________ Cell:______________________________________

____Enclosed is my donation for the **General Operations** in the amount of $ _______

____Enclosed is my donation to Sponsor **A Day at the Museum** for $750

____Enclosed is my donation to Sponsor **Science Saturday** for $2500

Date: ___________________ or In memory of: __________________________

____Enclosed is my donation directly into **BVM’s Endowment Fund** $_________

____Enclosed is my donation in support of many **Educational programs** $_________

____Enclosed is my donation in support of **Exhibit Acquisitions and improvements** $____

____I would like to pledge on a monthly basis $_________

____I would like to receive pre-addressed monthly pledge envelopes.

____Please charge the above amount to my credit card # _________________________

Name on Card ___________________________________________________________ Expiration date _______

Signature______________________________________________________________

Please contact me at Ph #__________________ Best time to call_______

____I would like to be a volunteer. Please send me an application and more information.

Please mail to **BVM, 2018 Chester Ave, Bakersfield, CA. 93301 USA**

You can also call **661-324-6350** or donate online at the link below.

**Donate Online**

buenavistamuseum.org/donate
MUSEUM HOURS
THURSDAY - SATURDAY
10:00am - 4:00pm
SUNDAY
12:00pm - 4:00pm
www.buenavistamuseum.org

WE'RE OPEN!
2018 CHESTER AVENUE
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301

EMAIL: INFO@BUENAVIDSTMUSEUM.ORG
PHONE: 661-324-6350

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