



march : april : may 2015

We believe a personal connection with nature is an essential part of life. Come connect at the Center!



HANA AND ARTHUR GINZBARG

# nature discovery center

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## DISCOVERY ROOM HOURS

NOON - 5:30 TUE - FRI  
10 - 5:30 SAT & SUN  
CLOSED MONDAYS

## ADMISSION FREE

Donations are appreciated.

Groups of six or more children by appointment.  
Cost is \$2/child.

## MISSION

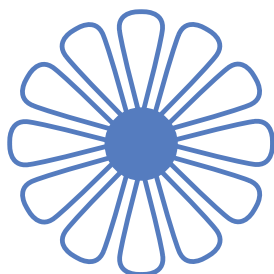
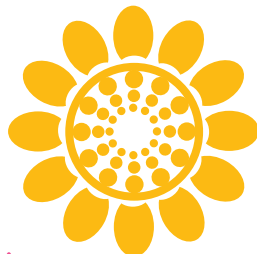
*To ignite lifelong curiosity, understanding, and respect for nature through education.*

[naturediscoverycenter.org](http://naturediscoverycenter.org)

**nature discovery center**

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BELLAIRE, TX 77401  
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DON'T MISS  
OUR SUMMER  
PROGRAM  
LISTINGS ON  
PAGES  
5 & 6



## Summer Science Programs Announced

**Summer Science Campers** (ages 5 - 10) will travel around the world exploring 5 Continents in 5 days, learn about pioneers on the Texas frontier, make fizzy, bubbly chemical reactions, and get to know different animal groups as they investigate Insects: Our Six Legged Friends, or Vertebrates: Animals with Bones. Our camps will actively engage kids in these immersive topics through hands-on investigation, group games, crafts, and more! *Camp details are listed on page 5.*

Preschoolers (ages 3.5 - 5) and their caregivers will **Sneak-a-Peek** at a variety of science and nature topics in weekly sessions that will excite them about the natural world, give them hands-on exposure to specimens and live animals, allow them to experiment, and more! *See page 6 for details.*

## Save the Dates!

### Spring Break Day Camps

March 16 - 19 from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm  
After care is available until 5:30 pm for added fee. (pg 4)

### Spring Migration Birding Field Trip

April 24 from 7:30 am - 7:30 pm (pg 7)

### Lunch with the Birds Walks Begin

February 25 at noon (pg 7)

### Monday Morning Gardening

March 2, April 6, & May 4 at 9:30 am (pg 8)

### Tree ID Walks

March 7, April 4, & May 2 at 10 am (pg 3)

### Walk on the Wild Side

March 15 & April 11 at 10 am (pg 3)

### Meet the Animals

April 11 & May 17 at 10 am (pg 3)

### Park After Dark

May 9 at 7:30 pm & May 29 at 8:00 pm (pg 3)



**Henry Owen**  
Director

## Staff

Mary Ann Beauchemin  
Maura Denman  
Eric Duran  
Anne Eisner  
Ronnie Renick

## Board of Directors

### Executive Committee

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*Vice President*  
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*Treasurer*  
Chris Copeland  
*Secretary*  
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## From the Director's Desk:

I am writing this letter after my first two weeks at the Nature Discovery Center. I'd like to introduce myself and I look forward to getting to know you.

I grew up in San Antonio, TX and fell in love with nature at summer camp, going on family camping trips, and playing in my backyard. For the last 7 years my wife, Emily, and I have lived in Charlotte, NC where I started a non profit project that grows food for meals-on-wheels and partnered with many local organizations to make a difference in areas of education and access to fresh and healthy food. My wife served as a pastor at a Presbyterian Church and is exploring the possibility of hospital chaplaincy here in Houston. We have two boys (ages 4 and 1) who already love visiting the Nature Discovery Center. It will be fun to watch them grow up at NDC.

The Nature Discovery Center has a strong history of giving people the space and opportunity to build a personal relationship with nature. So many different people and groups have grown to love the center. I am excited about our work together.

We have an amazing staff! I believe children learn best through creative, hands-on activities and the staff puts this into action every day. They are a dedicated, gifted group who believe in the mission of NDC.

People need positive experiences in nature before they can be expected to respect and protect the natural world. The Nature Discovery Center has always helped to provide those positive experiences. The Gateway Project capital improvements will make the Center more visible and more accessible, increasing the number of people we impact.

I am proud of our past, encouraged by our present, and excited about our future. I invite you to stop by the Center so we can meet in person. The 3rd Thursday of each month at 8:30am I will be giving short tours of the center. This is an opportunity for old friends of the Center to visit and hear updates, for current members to say hello, and for brand new visitors to learn more about how they can get involved. Kids are welcome. I hope to see you soon.

## Excitement Builds as Gateway Project Moves Forward

The Gateway Project is a series of long lasting capital improvements that will make the Nature Discovery Center more visible and more accessible, increasing the number of people we impact, and creating a more welcome entrance into nature.

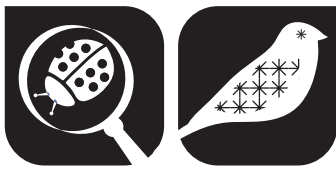
If you haven't visited the center recently to see the phase one improvements to the interior of the Henshaw House (completed in 2014), we hope you will make it a point to do so!

Plans for the second phase of Gateway continue to progress as excitement builds for what is to come during 2015. The front lawn and the one-acre area around the Henshaw House will have a new look with the addition of a new walkway and native plants. The Pavilion area will be improved with new smooth surfaces and planters for the sensory garden along with a new outdoor restroom and handwashing stations. The outdoor animals are looking forward to new habitat enclosures and an adjoining program space. No modifications are planned within the heart of Russ Pitman Park.

The Center engaged SWA as landscape architects in 2014 to design and oversee the construction of the outside Gateway Project improvements. \$500,000 in City of Bellaire bonds issued in August 2014 and privately raised funds will be used to cover the cost of the capital improvements. There is still time to contribute financially to our capital improvement efforts. Please visit [www.naturediscoverycenter.org](http://www.naturediscoverycenter.org) to donate online, or call (713.667.6550) or come by the Center (7112 Newcastle) to make a donation.

Schematic designs are nearing completion and next comes construction documents, bidding, permitting, and contractor selection. Right now expect for construction to begin around May 1st and last around six months. The Center staff is busy planning great spring and summer programming that will be conducted inside the house or in other areas of the park. Our Summer Camps will be filled with fun and exciting times and the Discovery Rooms inside the Henshaw House will remain open on their regular schedule.





# walks & talks

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## Monthly Tours with Henry



**March 19, April 16,  
& May 21 at 8:30 am**

On the 3rd Thursday of each month, join Executive Director, Henry Owen, for a cup of coffee and a tour of the Center.

Who should come:

- Old Center friends to visit and hear updates
- Current members to say Hi
- Brand new visitors to learn more about how they can get involved
- Representatives from other organizations hoping to partner with us

Kids are always welcome.  
No need to RSVP.

## Bellaire Book Club Needs New Members



Join a book club started by staff and volunteers. Meetings are on the third Wednesday of the month from 7:30 - 9 pm.

Email Anne Eisner at [aeisner@naturediscoverycenter.org](mailto:aeisner@naturediscoverycenter.org) for more information about the books selected each month.

## Walk on the Wild Side!

*with Mary Ann Beauchemin*



Come explore and learn more about the wild side of nature in the city with our fun, family friendly nature walks in Russ Pitman Park. Join us while we sneak up on lizards, peer through a spotting scope for close up looks at honey bees or birds, discover the latest blooms and their pollinators in our Pocket Prairie, spy on the secret life of animals that hide under logs, and investigate more seasonal nature surprises! Learn some tips to explore nature with your family in your own backyard or on your travels.

These hour long walks will leave from the Nature Discovery Center's front porch.

**Sunday, March 15 at 10 am**

**Saturday, April 11 at 10 am**

**Cost:** members - free; nonmembers - \$5/family suggested donation

This is a drop-in program. Registration is not required. As a courtesy, please call Mary Ann at 713.667.6550 if you plan to come with a group of 6 or more.

## Tree ID Walks



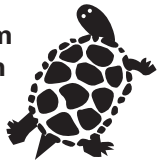
**March 7, April 4, and/or May 2  
from 10 am to 11 am**

Spring is a great time to learn more about trees! Jim McKee, a Master Naturalist, tree lover, and bird watcher will be leading more Saturday morning walks in the park this spring to teach us how to identify the trees that live here in Russ Pitman Park. Jim shares lots of interesting historical and biological facts about the many species of trees we have in Russ Pitman Park as well as how to identify them. You are welcome to come to one or all!

**Where:** Meet us on the front porch.

## Meet the Animals

**April 11 Slinky Snakes at 10 am  
May 17 Terrific Turtles at 10 am**



Spend a Saturday morning at the Center getting to know our animals with up close and personal animal encounters! Each family friendly Meet The Animals session will include: hands-on exposure to live animals and/or specimens, an informal discussion about the animal's basic biology and behavior, and a Q/A period with one of our Staff Naturalists.

**Cost:** \$5/person

This is a drop-in program. Advanced registration is not required. As a courtesy, please call us at 713.667.6550 if you plan to come with a group of 6 or more.

## Park After Dark Family Friendly Night Hikes



**Join us for an  
Owl Prowl!**



Come learn about the animals that are out and about in Russ Pitman Park once the sun goes down. Bring your family for a guided night walk through the park. These night "hikes" are perfect for adults and children ages 4 and up.

**Our night walks begin at the Nature Discovery Center.** Programs include an introduction to the animals we are likely to find and the best ways to find them, followed by a guided exploration through the park. **Reservations required.** Visit [www.naturediscoverycenter.org/night-hike](http://www.naturediscoverycenter.org/night-hike) to sign up.

**Cost:** \$5/person

**Bring:** Mosquito repellent & flashlight (for adult use only).

**Spring Dates/Times:**

**May 8 at 7:30 pm**

**May 29 at 8:00 pm**

Photo credit  
Keith Kingdon





# children's programs

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## Spring Break Day Camps

### Ages 5 - 10

One day camps meet from 9:30 - 3:30 each day. Kids bring a lunch and we provide snacks and water.

**Register online.** *Members - login as yourself or as the child who will be in camp.*

**Cost/day:** \$45 member / \$55 nonmember

**After Care** is available until 5:30 pm for \$15/day.

### Mon, March 16 Birds in Spring



Learn about birds and what they are so busy with in the spring! Some are nesting, laying eggs & raising young, while others are migrating north to do the same things up there!

### Tue, March 17 Animals, Animals, Animals

There is a wide variety of animals on planet Earth. Join us as we discover the amazing complexity of animal groups and their differences. This is the perfect learning experience for the budding zoologist!

### Wed, March 18 Magical Butterfly



From caterpillar to butterfly is an interesting journey. Find out about the different life stages a developing butterfly goes through. Learn what they eat along the way and where they go.

### Thu, March 19 Nature Artists

Come discover the ways that artists think and see, out in the glory of nature. We'll learn about the techniques and works of modern and contemporary artists, and have a lot of fun while exploring the park.

## Spring Children's Classes with Mr. Eric

Sign-up for individual classes that meet your hectic schedules, for topics that inspire your children! *To become a Member before registering, visit [www.naturediscoverycenter.org/join](http://www.naturediscoverycenter.org/join). To register for classes, visit [www.naturediscoverycenter.org/classes-camps](http://www.naturediscoverycenter.org/classes-camps).*

## Curious Kids

### Ages: 3.5 - 5 years old

Preschoolers and their parents or adult caregivers will learn basic science concepts in hands-on classes that encourage and celebrate natural curiosity! Curious Kids lessons may incorporate live animals, plants, natural objects, crafts, puppets, stories, songs, and nature walks.

### Cost per Class:

\$12 Member OR \$20 Non-member

### Tuesdays - 10 am - 11:15 am OR Tuesdays - 4 pm - 5:15 pm

### Dates & Topics:

03/03 – Animals without Bones  
03/10 – Insects  
03/24 – Ocean Animals  
03/31 – Fish  
04/07 – Life in a Log  
04/14 – Springtime: Flowers  
04/21 – Springtime: Bugs  
04/28 – Springtime: Birds  
05/05 – Reptiles  
05/12 – Snakes  
05/19 – Turtles



**If you have a group of 5+ kids (5-10 yrs old), you can request a class, or a series of classes on most nature/science topics. Call Staff Naturalist, Eric Duran at 713.667.6550 for more info.**

## Junior Scientists

### Ages: 6 - 10 years old

Our Junior Scientists explore the natural world and examine a variety of science themes through hands-on investigations and experiments, and in lessons enriched with crafts, games, and more!



### Cost per Class:

\$12 Member OR \$20 Non-member

### Thursdays - 4 pm - 5:30 pm

### Dates & Topics:

03/05 – Invertebrates  
03/12 – Insects  
03/26 – The World's Oceans  
04/02 – The Fishes  
04/09 – Life in a Log  
04/16 – Springtime: Wildflowers  
04/23 – Springtime: Insects  
04/30 – Springtime: Bird Migration  
05/07 – Reptiles  
05/14 – Snakes  
05/21 – Turtles

## Scout Programs

Bring your Cub Scout or Girl Scout group to the Nature Discovery Center for a fun field trip that will help them achieve their scouting badge and/or patch requirements! See our website for complete Scout Program offerings.

Our scout programs are by appointment only. Dates fill quickly - call soon for availability. **Advance reservations are required.**

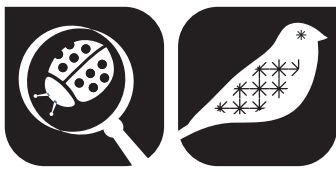
## Nature Story Time

Stories, puppets, specimens, songs and more for preschoolers and their caregivers.

### Every Wednesday at 4:00 pm

This is a free, drop-in program. As a courtesy, please call the Center to let us know if you are coming with a group of 6 or more so that we can be sure to have enough materials on hand for everyone.





## Camp Details

### Ages:

5 to 10 year olds

### Days & Times:

Monday - Friday from  
9:30 am to 3:30 pm

### Cost:

\$230/wk Members or  
\$290/wk Nonmembers

## After Care (optional)

### Days & Times:

Monday - Friday from  
3:30 pm to 5:30 pm

### Cost:

\$60/week

### What to bring:

Kids bring lunches  
(we provide snacks/water)

## Registration

**Advance registration is required. Register online at:**

[naturediscoverycenter.org](http://naturediscoverycenter.org)

**IMPORTANT  
REGISTRATION  
UPDATE for MEMBERS**

*Members, we are now registering kids for camp under your Member profiles. You no longer need to log in as each child to register them for camp!*

*Call us at 713.667.6550 if you need assistance with registration and we will be happy to help you!*

# Summer Science Camps

## 2015 Dates & Topics:

### 5 Continents, 5 Days: Habitats Around the World

**Jun 8 - 12 OR Jun 15 - 19**

Take a journey around the globe to investigate the unique habitats of 5 of the 7 continents. What makes life so different in Australia and Africa? What kinds of animals can be found on each continent and why are they there? Get ready for a globe-trotting adventure full of games, crafts, animals and more!



### Vertebrates: Animals with Bones

**Jun 22 - 26 OR Jun 29 - Jul 3**

Come explore the world of animals with backbones. We'll spend each day of camp with a different group of vertebrates from around the world: Fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals. We'll learn what makes each group of vertebrates unique and wonderful.



### Wild West in Texas

**Jul 6 - 10 OR Jul 13 - Jul 17**

Embrace the wild west as you learn about life on the frontier in this camp that will have you playing the part of a Texas pioneer. Discover the hardships pioneers faced as they lived off the land and relied on their knowledge of plants and animals to survive. How did they do it? Could you have survived the 1800's in Texas? Come find out during this wild week camp!



### Fizz, Bubble, Pop!

**Jul 20 - 24 OR Jul 27 - 31**

From baking powder and vinegar volcanoes to "magic" paper that can turn green or pink and back again, chemical reactions are fizzy, fun, and surprising! Sign up for a week of hands-on scientific discovery, interactive games, chemical inspired crafts, and more!



### Insects: Our Six Legged Friends

**Aug 3 - 7 OR Aug 10 - 14**

Join us for a fascinating week uncovering the most varied group of animals on Earth, the insects. Whether they creep and crawl under ground, fly through the air, or glide across the water, these animals have amazing life histories and survival stories! We'll learn all about them in the classroom and outside.



## Sneak-A-Peek Pre-K Classes

**Ages 3.5 - 5**

Sneak-a-Peek classes for 3.5 – 5 year olds (with adult) meet for a little over an hour each week. You can pick the days and times that best fit your summer schedule. Class topics this summer include a mixture of fun animal themes and hands-on, experiment based classes designed to ignite your preschooler's natural curiosity!

**Classes meet on Tuesdays,  
Wednesdays, OR Thursdays**

**10 am - 11:15 am**

**Cost/Class:** \$12 member  
or \$20 non-member



### 2015 Dates & Topics:

Jun 9, 10, 11	Flutterby Butterflies
Jun 16, 17, 18	Wonders of Water
Jun 23, 24, 25	Life Under Logs
Jun 30, Jul 1, 2	Sparkly Science
Jul 7, 8, 9	Ladybugs (& Other Beetles)
Jul 14, 15, 16	Life in the Ocean
July 21, 22, 23	Fun with Fossils
July 28, 29, 30	Soap Bubble Science
Aug 4, 5, 6	Busy Bees

**Advance registration strongly encouraged. Each class period is limited to just 10 students.**

Register at [www.naturediscoverycenter.org](http://www.naturediscoverycenter.org) or call the Center at 713.667.6550. Members you may now register under your own profile. Please email Mrs. Maura, a.k.a Ms. Mo, at [mmapple@naturediscoverycenter.org](mailto:mmapple@naturediscoverycenter.org) if you need assistance.



Sneak-a-Peek Kids 2013 & 2014



Attention families! Get ready for a new set of exciting nature challenges this summer. The goal of Texas Nature Challenge is to get families and kids outdoors by visiting as many participating parks and nature areas in Texas as they can. At each site, participants complete activities designed for family fun and nature exploration.

Participation prizes will be awarded at the closing ceremonies for the most sites visited, best scrapbook, best photo and more.

Register at <http://naturechallenge.tamu.edu/>

Visit us at the Center to learn more and to complete our special challenge, which will be revealed later this spring when the official Texas Nature Challenge begins.

## Family Nature Nights to Return

**Select Wednesdays, 6:30 to 8:00 pm**

We're thrilled that this summertime program has become so wildly popular over the last several summers, and we're looking forward to more family-friendly nature fun this year!

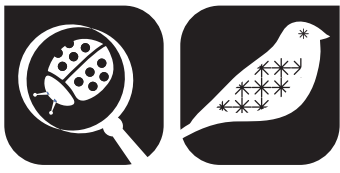
Family Nature Nights are packed with opportunities for experiential learning, creative expression, and exposure to the natural world through live animal interactions and nature walks.

Activities begin with themed crafts and fun snacks at 6:30 pm, followed by a brief nature walk before a 7:00 pm presentation by Staff Naturalist Eric Duran or a kid-friendly guest speaker. We wrap things up at 8:00 pm.

Mark your calendars for these Wednesdays:

**June 3, July 1, & August 5: Topics are TBA**





# birding activities

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## Lunch with the Birds



Interested in birdwatching? Whether you are a novice or an expert, join our free guided bird walks through Russ Pitman Park.

Warblers, vireos, thrushes, flycatchers, orioles and buntings are just a few of the types of spring migrants you may see. If you bring your lunch, plan to eat it before or after the walk.

**Dates:** Wednesdays,  
February 25 - May 13

**Times:** noon to about 1:15 pm

**Where:** Meet us on the front porch. Just drop in!

## Early Evening Birding

Our evening bird walks in the height of migration are a great way to leave work far behind!

**Dates:** Tuesdays,  
April 7 - May 5

**Times:** 6 pm to 7:15 pm

**Where:** Meet us on the front porch. Just drop in!

## Just ask!



We keep binoculars on hand at the Center for visitors to borrow while birding in Russ Pitman Park. Call ahead to check availability.

## Chimney Swift Counts



We will have Chimney Swift Counts in the park just after the Early Evening Birdwalks mentioned above. The swift counts will meet at the Chimney Swift tower just south of the Nature Discovery Center at dusk. You do not have to come to the birdwalk to attend the swift count.

## Spring Migration Field Trip for Senior Members

Our annual Spring Migration Field trip for senior members to **Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge** and **High Island** during the height of spring migration is set to go! We are lucky to have the Harris Co., Precinct 3 free bus for seniors for the trip! It is a great time to look for many species of warblers, vireos, buntings, orioles and other migrants.

**Friday, April 24, 2014**

**Time: 7:30 am to 7:30 pm**

### Age requirement:

Seniors only, any person 50 or over (Harris County policy)

### Membership required:

This trip is offered to NDC Members only. If you are not already a member, you can join online when you sign up for the trip.

### Advance registration required.

Online at [www.naturediscoverycenter.org/birding](http://www.naturediscoverycenter.org/birding). If you have any problems call 713-667-6550.

**Cost:** \$7/person for Audubon Sanctuary Day Pass OR free with Audubon Sanctuaries Season Pass (\$25). *You must pay this fee or bring/buy your Season's Pass the day of the trip.* Donations to the Nature Discovery Center for staff time to organize and lead this trip are also appreciated.

**Meeting / Parking Place:** The bus will depart at 7:30 am from Evergreen Pool parking lot, on Evergreen Street at Newcastle in Bellaire, across from Russ Pitman Park and return by 7:30 pm.

*When registering, please enter the name and number of your emergency contact person **who will not be on the trip** with us. This is a Harris Co. requirement!*

Our thanks to Steve Radack and Harris County, Precinct 3, for providing this bus service for seniors. The bus makes a great observation platform while birding Shoveler Pond and the roadside canals of Anahuac NWR. Although there is no bathroom on the county bus, we will make bathroom stops along the way.

The Nature Discovery Center will provide bottled water. Bring your own drinks, snacks, lunch, insect repellent, binoculars and field guides. (If you need to borrow a pair of binoculars please let us know when you register.) *Rain will bring down more birds for us to look at, so this trip will go regardless of the weather. Dress and be prepared accordingly.*



## Swifts Over Houston

Who doesn't love a bird that eats mosquitoes?! Come join a team of local volunteers counting Chimney Swifts as they enter local chimneys to roost for the night. Drop in one evening or return throughout the season!

### Tuesdays at dusk

**Dates:** early April - late October

**Where:** Join volunteers at either:

1. The SW corner of the Whole Foods Parking Lot, 4004 Bellaire Blvd
2. The parking lot on the north side of Pershing Middle School (off of Stella Link)



*Chimney swifts circle this chimney at Pershing Middle School at dusk.*



## Bellaire Garden Club Plant Sale

**Saturday, March 21  
from 8 am - 3 pm**

Mark your calendar for the Bellaire Garden Club's Spring Plant Sale in the pavilion area behind the Nature Discovery Center. This March date will give you plenty of time to get your new plants in the ground this spring! As always, neighborhood favorites and proven plants for our area will be available. Longtime Bellaire area gardeners will be available to answer your plant and garden questions. Come early for the best selections.

## Bellaire Garden Club Meetings

The Bellaire Garden Club holds monthly meetings at the Nature Discovery Center at 7 pm on the first Thursday of every month. Everyone is invited!



## Monday Morning Gardening



**Mondays, March 2, April 6, & May 4 from 9:30 am to Noon**

Interested in gardening? Want to learn more about native plant gardening, non-native invasive species and help us care for the park at the same time?

Join us on the first Monday of the month this spring for some light gardening and help us care for the park. We'll be removing some invasive species, growing out & planting natives, watering recently planted plants and more.

- No experience necessary. Experienced staff will work with you & guide you through the projects.
- Come dressed for the weather and prepared to get dirty.
- Bring your own gloves and gardening gear or use ours.

Please contact Mary Ann Beauchemin, our Park Steward, in advance if you are interested in coming or have any questions. Email [mbeauch@naturediscoverycenter.org](mailto:mbeauch@naturediscoverycenter.org) or call 713.667.6550.

If you are interested in volunteer gardening, but cannot make it on the 1st Monday morning of the month, contact Mary Ann. She can probably use your help on another day!

*Note: We will skip the hot summer months, and will pick up this program again in early October!*

## Little Nature Library Ready for Readers!

Eagle Scout candidate, **Ben Campbell**, built an outside Little Nature Library and installed it in the park for his Eagle Scout project. This mini library is located near a bench overlooking the pocket prairie.

The intent is for visitors to use it as reference library, stocked with books to help both adults and children identify some of the plants, insects and other animals that visit the park as well as a few nature related story books for children that will be changed out seasonally. We ask that all the books be returned to the outside library after you use them so that other folks can use them too.

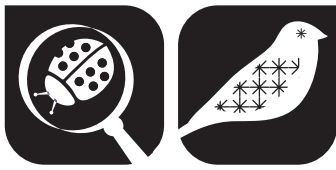
So come, sit and read a book to your child or try your hand at identifying some of the wildflowers, butterflies or other plants and animals in the park!



*Eagle Scout candidate Ben Campbell stands beside the Little Nature Library he built and installed in Russ Pitman Park. Center staff have since stocked it's shelves with books for you to enjoy! We hope you'll stop to take a peek at a field guide, or to sit on the nearby bench to read a nature story with your child.*







## Special Thanks to the Following

**Terrell Sword & Sword Plumbing** for continuing repairs and upkeep to pipes, leaky faucets and fountains in the park and house!

**Dr. Mark "Merriwether" Vorderbruggen** for teaching a fantastic workshop on edible plants of the Houston area.

**Dr. Cin-Ty Lee** for teaching a Sparrow Identification Workshop/Field Trip to benefit the Nature Discovery Center! Thanks also to **Stephan Lorenz, Mark Kulstad, & Tim Perkins** for helping out with the field trip.

**Larry Dybala** for cleaning & setting up our Purple Martin house again this year. Let's hope some move in soon!

**Brith Shalom Mitzvah Day group** for help with planting native shrubs in the park.

### Eagle Scout Projects

Removing bamboo & planting native plants  
Logan Jones

Building a Little Nature Library for our park  
Ben Campbell

**Summer Volunteer Applications are available online.**

**They are due by April 1st. Space is limited.**

## Teen or Adult Plant Watering Help Needed

Park Steward Mary Ann Beauchemin needs volunteers to water plants in the park during our hot summer. Schedule to be arranged.

## Winter Quarter Volunteers

### Animal Care

William He  
Hannah Radcliffe  
Jonathan Radcliffe  
Dana Shay  
Jaka Tanugraha  
Cate Urbani  
Henry Urbani  
Mary Grace Urbani  
Arthur Yong

### Aviary Care

Ellen Hastedt  
Karen Borovsky  
Dr. Dan Jordan

### Birdwalks, Field Trips, & Great Backyard Bird Count

Betsy Black  
Marcy Brown  
Dr. Cin-Ty Lee

### General Handymen

Gary Gray  
Sword Plumbing

### Hummingbird Feeders

Sherri Chilivets

### NAYD Field Trips

Betsy Black  
Debbie Lancaster

### Park & Plant Care

Don Verser  
John Willis

### Tree Walks in the Park

Jim McKee

### Monday Morning Gardeners

Betsy Black  
Mina Kahn  
Debbie Lancaster  
Jenni Malone  
Celeste Mead  
Shannon Morrison  
Belinda Rossiter  
Mary Ellen Taylor  
Don Verser  
Miao Wang

### Wednesday Willing Workers

Norma Barnes  
Fred Campbell  
Marcelle Daniel  
Beth Debenport  
Beth Murphy  
Jim Murphy  
Debbie Patton  
Michael Patton  
Pat Roberts  
Nora Wolff

## Calling All Volunteers

### Welcome Volunteers Needed

We are looking for friendly people who are passionate about the work we do at NDC to welcome individuals and groups as they arrive.

- The Welcome Volunteer will sit at the front door welcoming individuals and groups to the Center and directing them to the appropriate location, person, or information.
- We are looking for volunteers who can serve in the afternoons from noon to 5:30.

If you are interested in this volunteer role, please email Henry Owen at [howen@naturediscoverycenter.org](mailto:howen@naturediscoverycenter.org)

### Wanted: Teen Counselors!

We're always looking for quality counselors to help with our one day break out camps over **Spring Break** (March 16 - 19 this year), and with our week-long **Summer Science Camps**.

An ideal Nature Discovery Center counselor is at least 13 years old, is mature and responsible for his/her age, likes to work with kids, and can commit to being here from 9 am to 3 pm or 3 pm to 5:30 pm (one day for break out camps, at least two five-day weeks for summer science camps).

If you are interested in serving as a counselor for **Spring Break Camp**, please email Anne Eisner at [aeisner@naturediscoverycenter.org](mailto:aeisner@naturediscoverycenter.org) or call her at 713.667.6550.

If you are interested in being a **Summer Science Camp Counselor**, download our **Summer Teen Volunteer Application** and return it by April 1. Candidate interviews will be held in April.

### Summer Volunteer Docents Needed

Are you a natural leader with an outgoing personality? Would you enjoy helping groups of children learn about science and nature this summer? We need volunteer docents to help us by leading small, chaperoned school groups on nature tours of Russ Pitman Park and on visits to our Discovery Rooms.

**Volunteer Docents** work 9:00 am to 1:00 pm or 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm. We require a minimum commitment of two weeks to be scheduled in advance. Perfect for teens or adults!

If you are a teenager interested in serving as a **Volunteer Discovery Room Docent**, please download our **Summer Teen Volunteer Application** and return it by April 1. Candidate interviews will be held in April.

Adults interested in this position, download and fill out our general Volunteer Application form and return it to Anne Eisner.



# donors

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*The Hana and Arthur Ginzburg Nature Discovery Center is most grateful to the following corporations, foundations, and individuals for their generous support between February 15, 2014 and February 15, 2015:*

## Discovery Circle \$15,000 & up

The Cullen Foundation  
George & Mary Josephine Hamman Foundation  
Albert & Ethel Herzstein Charitable Foundation  
Houston Endowment Inc.  
Russ Pitman  
Steve Radack,  
Harris County Commissioner, Precinct 3  
Wortham Foundation, Inc.

## Investigator Circle \$10,000 - \$14,999

ACME Party & Tent Rental\*  
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R.D. Mullineaux  
The Powell Foundation  
Seay Foundation

## Explorer Circle \$5,000 - \$9,999

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## Wildlife Guardian \$500 - \$999

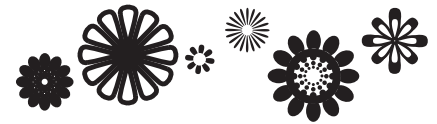
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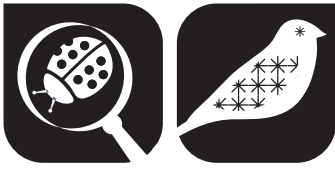
## In Memory Of...

**Gerald Zipper  
Evelyn & Robert Purcell**

*The Nature Discovery Center  
relies on contributions from the  
community in order to continue  
offering quality science and  
nature programs to children and  
families throughout the Houston  
area.*

*We thank you  
all for your  
support!*





# membership

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## New & Renewing Members

*The Nature Discovery Center is pleased to welcome the following new and renewing members for the Winter Quarter from November 15, 2014 to February 15, 2015.*

### Wildlife Supporter \$250

Elizabeth & Spencer Curry

### Wildlife Partner \$100

Cristina Bejarano  
Kate Bolen-Lourie & Adam Lourie  
Navdeep Boparai & Sukhpal Singh  
Christin & Jordan Faykus  
Johnnie P. & Winfred C. Frazier  
Aliza Geretz & Ben Mayer  
Kimberly Hinojosa & Christina Tornero  
Rosa Hwang & Wayne Hofstetter  
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Andrea & Douglas Molineu  
Geetika & David Moore  
Cindy & Raymond Moore  
Kimberley Olan  
Lisa & Edwin Ostrin  
Christina Parker  
Ana Santos & Nathan Bishop  
Theresa & Jason Tarn  
Misty Weihs & Tyson Weihs

### Family \$60

Christine & Ralph Adams  
Lucy Anderson & Jeff Shore  
Jody Butler  
Hillory & David Chung  
Meredith & James Clarage II  
Chris & James Copeland  
Debbie & Gerard del Junco  
Rosemary & Jason Gaswint  
Marci & Jeffrey Gilbert  
Kristina & Clare Hawkins  
Michelle & Ghazanfar Khan  
Jennifer & Matthew Kuhl  
Marjorie & George Leventon  
Rebecca & Clay Lilienstern  
Laura & Stephen Louis  
Stephanie & Bryan Magers  
Wendy & Jonathan Magid  
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Fiona McKone & Sarah Kaur  
Nora Michael & Beshoy Shatby  
Beth & Jim Murphy  
Linda Steen Norris & Lee Norris  
Diane & Bill Okerlund  
Jack Henry Owen

Jessica Rattliff  
Njeri & Will Rutledge  
Efrat Sasson  
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Barbara & Paul Stern  
Sabrina Tamm  
Hillary & Brian Taylor  
Tamara & Robert Townsend  
Irma Ugalde  
Naomi & Brian Wittlin  
Craig Wooten  
Peyton Wright

### Student/Senior/Individual \$35

Sherri Chilivets  
Cindy Douglass  
Michael Eckenfels  
Melissa Geis  
Julie Gold  
Jennifer Nelsen  
Lynda Pontecorvo  
Gloria Scheel  
Jim Winn  
Betsy Winn

## Member Benefits

### Family Members and higher

receive discounts on classes, camps, and field trips, and have early registration privileges.

### Wildlife Partners and higher

additionally have pavilion reservation privileges.



## Membership and Gift Form

(To become a member or renew online, visit [www.naturediscoverycenter.org/join](http://www.naturediscoverycenter.org/join))

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

☐ You may acknowledge my gift (of \$250 or more) in the Nature Discovery Center newsletter.

- ☐ Student/Senior/Individual \$ 35
- ☐ Family 60
- ☐ Wildlife Partner 100
- ☐ Wildlife Supporter 250
- ☐ Wildlife Guardian 500

- ☐ Wildlife Benefactor \$ 1,000
- ☐ Explorer Circle 5,000
- ☐ Investigator Circle 10,000
- ☐ Discovery Circle 15,000

Will your employer match your tax-deductible dues and gift?

☐ Enclosed is my matching gift form. My employer's name is: \_\_\_\_\_



HANA AND ARTHUR GINZBARG

## nature discovery center

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### Spring Classes

*page 4*

### Walks, Talks, & Spring Birding

*pages 3 & 7*



### Summer Science Camp & Sneak-a-Peek Information

*pages 5 & 6*

# Spring Activities



### Spring Break Camps

ages 5 to 10  
9:30 am to 3:30 pm

*see page 4*

### Park & Garden News



*see page 8*

