8 THINGS TO LOVE ABOUT THE NEW MODS

By Brian Chandler

There are many fun and innovative aspects of the new 34,000-square-foot EcoDiscovery Center opening this weekend and nearly doubling the size of Fort Lauderdale's Museum of Discovery and Science, but here are four из favorite things about it.

River otters

Jug's smallest of the four, yes, and a few week old, will very much probably be his habit to swim. But you can hold him—-he's behind a trebuchet of glass in a beautifully restored crepe-creation of a cypress-created, up to the Fort Lauderdale river. Watch these precious creatures even provide happy hour reaction on their Twitter and Instagram and try to come up with names. The museum will soon announce a retirement contest.

Hurricane Wind Capsule

Every experienced 15 mph winds? Now you can. Step into the chamber and push out of air on the button to produce winds ranging from tropical depression (10 mph) to tropical storm (30 mph) to Category 1 Hurricane (75 mph). Let it rip, and can still be felt whip- ping around—and don't break back. One museum employee said that during testing they crushed it up to Category 5, 156 mph. "You could feel your skin move," she said.

Science Park

Located at Park, this is a huge project that is now under home to a shady patch of native live oak and water plants and a quiet stream of fresh just and (where you are for kids to make merry. I've also been a place for adults to relax. But this space (potentially designated) will

8 Things to love about the new and improved Museum of Discovery and Science.

Opening weekend

The EcoDiscovery Center will offer a variety of activities through Sunday. Admission is $15, ages 3-12, $10 ages 65 and older, and $10 in 2012, members free. IMAX show extras.

20-person simulator will lead guests on a flight path of a tiger, camel and gorilla. Passengers are able to call and control the animals.

Using a 360-degree panoramic tour at SunSentinel.com/panoromm

Magical

10,000 square-foot botanical exhibition offers the "Himalayan" exhibit to entice young and into the Prehistoric Florida. Yes, they can check out the museum for a photo op. This area has many interactive ways to learn how changes have affected different species, including evidence of human existence now covered by the Gulf of Mexico.

The Bacon

This second-story glass enclosure is forward facing toward the building and is covered with a colored LED light, at night will bring a glowing presence from a noodle of Seattled's sunny side up. It's a bright, bold design flourish that will quickly become a defining downtown landmark.

WSVN Weather studio

Who hasn't wanted to make believe they're "Jill on the scene" for a day? Now you can step in front of the green screen and deliver your weather forecast while friends watch on TV. Just read that all firsts point and join in the not unorthodoxizing while Category 5 hurricane is looming down on us in any way.

A perfect place

If you are looking for a place to hide, Java, Java, Java is always a good choice. You will find a bunch of coffee shops and cafes. It's not the up-scale, personal experience that the kids will really enjoy, but it offers a more relaxed atmosphere with green space on both sides of the street. If you find the right one, it can be the perfect spot to enjoy your feeds or iPad.
Local attractions provide hospitalized children with Summer Savings Passes

Examiner.com

Local attractions provide hospitalized children with Summer Savings Passes (Photos)

LOCAL GETAWAYS | JUNE 14, 2013 | BY: ADAM SINCLAIR |

5 photos
View the full slideshow »

GET YOUR TICKET TO A FUN-FILLED SUMMER!

SUMMER SAVINGS PASS
2013
May 5 - September 8

On Monday, May 13, four local attractions brought some sunshine to the families of seriously ill children in Palm Beach County by visiting Quantum House, a caring and supportive home that lessens the burden for families whose children are receiving treatment for serious medical conditions. The ten-suite hospital hospitality house provides lodging, meals, care and compassion to more than 500 family members each year. For almost 12 years, Quantum House has been the only facility of its kind between Ft. Lauderdale and Orlando.

View slideshow: Summer Savings Pass
(http://www.examiner.com/slideshows/summer-savings-pass)

During a special meet and greet with costumed characters from each attraction (Lion Country Safari’s Rory the lion, Zoo Miami’s Zoo Squad, Flipper from the Miami Seaquarium, and Museum of Discovery and Science’s Joey the Otter), each patient received a complimentary Summer Savings Pass (http://www.summersavingspass.com) good for admission to the four parks. The kids were also treated to other goodies like pencils, toys, and stickers.

The Summer Savings Pass (http://www.summersavingspass.com) is available for purchase at each of the participating attractions, and is valid for admission to each of the attractions until September 30, 2013. At $55 plus tax, per adult and $45 plus tax, per child (3-12) this pass grants unlimited admission to Lion Country Safari (http://www.examiner.com/topic/lion-country-safari), Miami Seaquarium, Museum of Discovery and Science and Zoo Miami. Existing annual pass holders and members of these attractions are eligible to purchase this pass for only $30 plus tax, per adult and $20 plus tax, per child (3-12).

These organizations are committed to helping to make our community here in South Florida a better place to live, and they deserve our support. If you’re looking for a good way to while away your summer break, consider purchasing the Summer Savings Pass and assist in providing hospita...
Remembering the oceans

BY ERIKA PESANTES
Staff writer

FORT LAUDERDALE — A wave of excitement washed over 10-year-old Samantha Anolick, who raved about the ocean's wonders and even wore blue from head to toe Saturday to celebrate World Oceans Day.

The annual event was celebrated globally Saturday, and also locally at the Museum of Discovery and Science and AutoNation IMAX 3D Theater.

The event's sea-themed activities included stringing together shark teeth necklaces, identifying sea specimens under microscopes and hanging with a playful group of pirates and mermaids. The Broward Shell Club brought a collection of about 50 shells gathered locally and worldwide.

Samantha, of Sunrise, likened littering to an oil spill in the ocean because plastic is made out of petroleum.

"If that happens, the plants under water will get polluted, the animals will die," she said. "We need the ocean."

She was on a play date with her grandfather, Jay Almis, who also wore matching blue shorts and a blue shirt for the festivities.

"The plants under water will get polluted, the animals will die. We need the ocean."

Samantha Anolick, 10, of Sunrise.

Preservation of the deep blue is especially important in South Florida, where the ocean is a way of life, said Jesse Zito, the museum's school and public programs manager.

"If people really appreciate the ocean, they're going to want to take care of it," he said.

A way to reel in a new generation of ocean lovers who will stand for its preservation by introducing them to sports such as surfing, said Kali "da Big Kahuna" Montero. Montero, who offers free surf lessons Saturdays in Deerfield Beach, gave children at the museum quick pointers at his makeshift Big Kahuna Surf School.

Two longboards were laid out on the floor, where kids learned how to paddle, stand and turn. Emily Erickson, 2, ran over to the surfboards and stood on each one before sprawling herself on them. Her grandfather, Dave Mazoff, snapped photos on his phone.

Although the toddler may not yet understand, Mazoff wants his granddaughter to gain respect for the ocean and be conscious of its conservation so that her own children may also delight in it one day.

"It's important for her to learn an appreciation of the environment, especially anything related to the oceans, the sea," he said. "We live by the ocean, and I want her to enjoy it."

Children also participated in a sea turtle talk, magic show and screenings of "Sharks 3D" and "Under the Sea 3D". For a more hands-on approach, they were also able to collectively create a Worlds Oceans Day mural and test the buoyancy of tinfoil boats with pennies in a bucket of water.

"We are looking forward to having fun. That's what every kid and adult wants," said Samantha Anolick.

World Oceans Day activities will continue from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday at the museum, 401 SW Second St. epesantes@tribune.com or 954-356-4543 or Twitter @epesantes
5 MUST DO MUSEUMS THAT AREN'T MAUSOLEUMS

Some are big, some are tiny, none are boring

Be honest. When you hear someone say, “Let’s go to a museum,” you’re probably not thinking, “That’s the most exciting entertainment option I’ve heard today!”

But Broward County has museums that are good for more than just field trips for the kids. And even the children’s museums have enough verve to keep parents interested. Here are our Top 5...

01. MUSEUM OF ART FORT LAUDERDALE

How has the Internet changed art museums? They’re no longer just for standing in front of two-dimension paintings. Inside this venerable downtown Fort Lauderdale edifice, you can attend wine and food events (our favorite title: “Homage to Fromage”) and sign the kids up for intensive two-week summer arts programs. And you can see art that isn’t what you might expect. Recent exhibits have included works from Andy Warhol and some scary-looking sculptures from New Guinea and Peru. One of the most popular past exhibits featured Princess Diana’s dresses. www.mofafl.org

02. MUSEUM OF DISCOVERY & SCIENCE

Good children’s museums are like good children’s movies: There’s something thrown in for the adults, even if the target audience doesn’t get it. If you’ve ever attended any of the live animal shows or science presentations, you know what we mean. Also fascinating for the older folks: the playful otters and the creepy spiders. Then, of course, there’s the 3D IMAX theater, which shows major-release hits like Man of Steel as well as documentaries about oceans and butterflies. www.mods.org

03. YOUNG AT ART

Any honest parent will tell you they’ve also learned a few things venturing through this 55,000-square-foot flying wedge of a building. (You’ve got to see it to understand that.) The museum is cleverly split into four “scape” sections, from Greenscapes to Culturescapes. All are interactive. For instance, Artscapes allows you to paint on a cave wall and draw your own Victorian-era self-portrait. www.youngatartmuseum.org

04. CORAL SPRINGS MUSEUM OF ART

The problem with Broward museums is their location. Most are east. This one is only a teenager – 16 years old – but it’s literally carved out a niche for itself. The sculpture garden is the big draw here, from Zimbabwe black granite to colorful metal by Romero Britto. www.csmart.org

05. ART & CULTURE CENTER OF HOLLYWOOD

The smallest museum on this list is also the most eccentric. Located in a former funeral home – the main gallery is where the chapel was – the center has featured everything from a Lego sculpture exhibit to shadow-puppet shows. This is a museum you can feel comfortable visiting in jeans and a T-shirt. www.artandculturecenter.org
May 31, 2013

Museum of Science and Discovery
401 S.W. 2nd Street
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33312

Dear Ms. Cavendish,

On behalf of the Innovative Program Department, I would like to thank you and the entire staff at the Museum of Science and Discovery for the outstanding educational program that supported the Magnet middle schools in the development of STEM teaching and learning. This program provided the students with inquiry-based learning opportunities that aligned with both math and science benchmarks to support student achievement. The focus of the presentation enhanced the classroom learning for all students and the “behind the scenes” and interactive lab activities provided the students with the opportunity to see the connection through real-world applications and bring relevance to the teaching and learning process for everyone.

We look forward to continuing and expanding our partnership with the Museum of Science and Discovery for Magnet students across the District. The incredibly talented museum educators were amazing in guiding and teaching the students while creating a high-level of interest for all topics presented. The students have been immersed in the world of STEM through our Growing STEM project and the presentations truly supported this exciting initiative.

Attached you will find the feedback from the teachers at the Growing STEM Middle Magnet Schools. They only have rave reviews for the Museum of Science and Discovery.

Again, we thank you for this outstanding opportunity and the support to enriching and enhancing teaching and learning of students throughout Broward County Public Schools.

Sincerely,
Leona Miracola

Leona Miracola
Director of Innovative Programs
(Magnet Programs)

*Educating Today’s Students For Tomorrow’s World*
Broward County Public Schools Is An Equal Opportunity/Equal Access Employer