

# DISCOVER

## Welcome...

Great news to report this month, as the County launches the renovation of the Playland Bathhouses...We've also

added a new section, *Volunteer Center*, featuring opportunities to give your time, enthusiasm and skills to the Museum Campaign.

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## Museum News

**Breaking News: Westchester County Board of Legislators approves \$8.8 million expenditure to restore the Bathhouses at Playland.** The appropriation of these funds is a highly significant step towards transforming the buildings into the future home of the Westchester Children's Museum. County work on the site will begin this summer and should be completed by 2009, at which time the Museum will begin building out the interior. The Museum must raise the necessary funds to be prepared to take over the Bathhouses in 2009.

**We welcome Marvin N. Campbell of New Rochelle to the Board of Directors.** Marvin is Vice President and Senior Counsel of GE Money-Americas. Marvin has a long history with the Westchester Children's Museum. His wife, Dr. Mary Grantham-Campbell, was a founding board member and a visionary behind the creation of the organization's mission. Mary passed away in 2005 and Marvin is raising their three sons: Frederick Douglas Campbell, Malcolm Xavier Campbell and Paul Robeson Campbell.



### Come inside our magical learning laboratory!

*(Editor's note: Each month we feature a different exhibition content area planned for the Museum.)* A haven for the imagination awaits in the **Imagination Landscape / Creative Exploration**

**Experience**, an interactive theater where children can use lights, sounds, shadows, and puppets to explore creativity and culture. A treehouse climbing structure enables physical navigation of the building's extraordinary ceiling heights.

## In This Issue

### Museum News

### Campaign News

**"Museum without Walls": a family activity**

**Did You Know?: fun facts about children's museums**

### Featured Events

### Events Schedule

### Volunteer Center

## Featured Events

**Families, there's still time to register for Explore-A-Thon 2008**, a family-friendly walk-a-thon featuring interactive "Exploration Stations" modeled after the museum's future educational programs. The event takes place on June 1 from 9am-noon on the Boardwalk at Rye Playland. **To register, visit the [WCM website](#) or call the WCM office at 914-421-5050.**

See "Volunteer Center" below for last-minute Explore-A-Thon

## Campaign News



### Explore-A-Thon 2008 is this Sunday, June 1!

[Register now](#) to join more than 100 families from all over the county for a morning of learning, walking and fun on the Boardwalk at Rye Playland from 9am to noon. This year's event is even bigger, with 7 Exploration Stations and 3 musical acts to entertain and energize the explorers! Each Explorer family of 1 adult/1 child is encouraged to raise or donate \$200 to participate. If you can't make it, be an Explorer Buddy and [sponsor a child](#) from the Port Chester Carver Center, the Westhab Shelter in White Plains, or the Elm Street Community Center in Yonkers to participate. Some volunteer positions are still open -- to pitch in, see the "Volunteer Center" section below.

**Time is running out to enter the *Westchester Family Magazine* cover raffle!** *Westchester Family Magazine*, the monthly magazine about Westchester parenting, is offering an unprecedented chance for your child/children to grace the cover of an upcoming edition. Raffle tickets are \$10 each, 6 for \$50. **Tickets can be purchased at Explore-A-Thon, or by calling the Museum office at 914-421-5050. Drawing will be held on June 1.** *Westchester Family* is a media sponsor of Explore-A-Thon 2008; to learn more about the magazine visit [www.westchesterfamily.com](http://www.westchesterfamily.com).

### Westchester Children's Museum is beneficiary of *Westchester Magazine's* annual "Best of Westchester" Party in July.

*Westchester Magazine* celebrates the BEST IN WESTCHESTER in its July issue and at the 2008 Best of Westchester Party on Wednesday, July 16. As the non-profit beneficiary, the Westchester Children's Museum receives all proceeds from the event's Chinese Raffle. The Best of Westchester Party is a way to sample the very BEST in Westchester County -- from food to spa treatments, to products and services. Party tickets are on sale NOW for \$75.00 and must be purchased online at [www.bestofwestchester.com](http://www.bestofwestchester.com). The party takes place from 5:30pm-9pm at the Glen Island Harbour Club, New Rochelle, NY.

## Museum without Walls



*A fun educational activity for families*

### "Bubbleology: the Science of Bubbles!"

Materials:

*Bubble solution (1 quart water/ 8 tbsps dish soap)*

*Wand (pipe cleaners, drinking straw, paper towel tube)*

*Shallow tray*

Bubbles are simple, inexpensive and lots of fun. They connote whimsy,

volunteer opportunities.

## Events Schedule

### June

Sun, June 1

**Second Annual Explore-A-Thon family fundraiser.**

9:00am-12:00pm.

On the Boardwalk at Rye Playland.

Thurs, June 12

**Greenwich Community Ambassadors cocktail reception.**

Zorya Fine Art Gallery.

Tues, June 17

**Tap House reception.**

Tap House, Eastchester.

Hosted by Carolyn and Jim Spencer, Mary Anne and Donald Carey, and Kristina Gabelli.

7:30-9:30pm.

**For more info or to RSVP, please contact the WCM office at 914-421-5050.**

## Volunteer Center

### Play with Bubbles!

Be part of Explore-A-Thon 2008 on Sunday, June 1 from 9am-noon on the Boardwalk at Rye Playland. **We need volunteers to help out at the Bubble Station -- and the Wind,**

frivolity and merriment. Can they really be educational?? The next time you bring out the bubbles, try these experiments and learn about surface tension, geometry and buoyancy!

### Explore bubbles:

- Pour some bubble solution in a tray and begin to experiment using different types of wands. Blow bubbles of different sizes.
- Which wands work best? Why? Is it easier to blow a bubble using a long wide tube, like a paper towel tube, or a short narrow tube, like a straw?
- Use a pipe cleaner to make a rectangular or triangular shape. What shape is the bubble?

### Explore surface tension with bubbles:

- Use a wand to blow a bubble. Can you put your finger through the bubble?
- Touch a bubble with a wet finger and then a dry one. What happens when you use the dry finger? Try again using a wet and dry straw.

(You will find that dry objects make a bubble break. Soap films are very thin, so when a dry object touches a bubble, the soap film tends to stick to that object, putting a strain on the surface tension, and the bubble bursts.)

### Explore geometry with bubbles:

- Make a Hemisphere - Dip one end of the straw in a shallow tray of bubble solution to get it wet. Hold the straw slightly above the surface and blow gently (this isn't easy; we're also learning perseverance.)
- Once you've blown a good-sized bubble, try to withdraw the straw gently, leaving a bubble behind. What shape is the bubble?
- Can you make a bubble inside a bubble? Can you attach several bubbles? What type of building is this?
- This article is adapted from the "Learn By Doing" column by the Westchester Children's Museum found monthly in *Westchester Family Magazine*, a media sponsor of the Museum's Explore-A-Thon 2008.

## Did You Know...?

In 1975, there were about 38 children's museums in the US. Today, there are more than 248, with another 80 in the planning stages.

- Nearly 30 million people visited children's museums annually since 2006.
- 75 children's museums are flagships in revitalization projects. The Westchester Children's Museum has the potential to create a vibrant new hub for families and schools in Playland Park.

Source: The Association of Children's Museums, [www.childrensmuseums.org](http://www.childrensmuseums.org)

**Water, Light and Construction Stations too!** Shifts are 9-10:30am or 10:30-noon. Send an e-mail to Nan Beyer at [nanbeyer@optonline.net](mailto:nanbeyer@optonline.net) if you can pitch in.

### Quick Links

[More on the WCM](#)

[The Association of Children's Museums](#)

### Donate Now

The Westchester Children's Museum is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. All donations are tax deductible. Thank you for your support.

