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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Children's Science Center to Celebrate Animals with Hands-On Family Event

"Creature Feature" includes a meet-and-greet of scaly and furry friends

Herndon, Va. – It's not every day our children get to see and touch exotic animals, but that's exactly what will happen at "Creature Feature" on Saturday, August 18. The program begins at 10 AM and runs until 12 Noon, in the Frying Pan Farm Park Visitor Center Auditorium located at 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon, Virginia. The Children's Science Center, a non-profit organization with plans to build a children's museum in Northern Virginia, is hosting this end-of-the summer celebration to spark children's interest in science and encourage exploration and active learning.

Creature Feature will begin with a presentation from Dr. Todd Rimkus, PhD, Chair, Department of Biology and Physical Sciences; Professor of Biology at Marymount University, about wild animals and how to inspect them while not upsetting them or their natural habitat. Dr. Cathy Jarrett, DVM and Dr. Meredith Davis, DVM, both from Caring Hands Hospital of Ashburn, will give a presentation about dogs, cats and exotic animals, and how to properly care for our furry, feathered or scaly friends. There will be 'hands-on' time for visitors to meet and greet the experts and animals.

Additionally, Ryan Buckle & Friends will combine music with amazing science experiments in his "science you can sing to" show. Visitors will also be able to enjoy tasty treats from Whole Foods Market.

The event will also honor children who participated in the Children's Science Center's "Super Summer Science Challenge," a series of activities and experiments designed for elementary school-aged children that could be done at home to keep their minds active over the summer. These activities are posted on the Children's Science Center's Facebook page (<http://www.facebook.com/ChildrensScienceCenter>).

The event is open to the general public, and does not preclude those who did not participate in the Super Summer Science Challenge – all are welcome. For more info or to RSVP, visit: <http://bit.ly/2012creature>

Children's Science Center Vision:

In an era when industry experts warn that the U.S. education system is failing to provide the math and science skills necessary for kids to compete in the 21st century workforce, Children's Science Center is committed to growing future scientists and engineers to ensure the continued prosperity of the high-tech industry not only in the Washington D.C. area but the entire nation.

With the Washington D.C. metropolitan area second only to the Silicon Valley in the concentration of information technology professionals, Children's Science Center will be playing a vital role in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) education in our region.

We envision a facility of over 40,000 square feet that will offer hands-on exhibits, activities and programs focusing on science, technology, engineering and math. We plan to create a community resource where families can explore, create and be inspired.

About the Children's Science Center:

The Children's Science Center is an interactive hands-on museum being planned for Northern Virginia. Today, our Museum Without Walls programs bring hands-on science activities to thousands of area children each year, allowing us to fulfill our mission even before our doors open: to inspire a love of learning and STEM literacy (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) in all children through meaningful creation, exploration and discovery. The Children's Science Center is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Learn more: www.TheChildrensScienceCenter.org.

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