



## Fall Offers COOL Student Programs

The Petroleum Museum's Education Department is gearing up for a fall season packed with science fun!

**Building Bots Robotics and Engineering Fun-labs** will kick off on September 6th. Building Bots classes help students in kindergarten through sixth grade develop skills in critical thinking, creativity, and problem solving while they complete engineering challenges, robotic design, and inventive projects. Classes for students in kindergarten through second grade utilize our *LEGO WeDo 2.0s*, *LEGO Spike Essential kits*, *Osmos*, and *Sphero* equipment. Classes for third through sixth grade feature *LEGO Mindstorm EV3s*, *Osmos*, *Spheros*, and *LEGO Spike Prime* robotics equipment. Building Bots classes meet on the first Tuesdays of September and October and the second Tuesday of November for students in kindergarten through second grade. Students in third through sixth

grade meet the third Tuesdays of September, October, and November. All classes are held from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Building Bots is generously sponsored by **Oxy**.



We also look forward to our fall **STEAM Sprouts** classes beginning on Monday, September 19th. This six-week session will feature hands-on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math)-based curriculum for children ages 4 to 5. Students will delve into age-appropriate STEAM curriculum as well as creative activities centered around the popular folklore of John Henry, Paul Bunyan, and Johnny Appleseed. Two identical time sessions are available: one from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. or 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Students will be registered for the entire six-week session. STEAM Sprouts is generously sponsored by **SM Energy**.



## STEAM Break To Feature Magical Science Camp

We will once again be hosting **STEAM Break: Magical Science Camp** October 31 – November 4. STEAM Break is designed to assist parents and engage students during MISD's fall intercessional break. It is also a great opportunity for homeschool students to enhance their STEAM curriculum. Parents have the option to register their young scientist for:

- **A.M. session** from 8 a.m. to 12 noon,
- **P.M. session** from 1:00 to 5 p.m. OR
- **All-Day session** from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The A.M. session will feature experiential learning through magical experiments, interactive activities, and science challenges. The P.M. session will feature hands-on investigations, collaborative engineering projects, and games all centered around a popular kids' movie. STEAM Break is open to students in first through sixth grade. Pre-registration is required. Early drop-off and late pick-up are available for an additional fee. STEAM Break is generously sponsored by **Ovintiv**.



*Students work on a project during a STEAM Break Camp.*

**Pre-register for these programs at [www.pbpetro.org](http://www.pbpetro.org) or contact the Museum at 432-683-4403.**



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## Volunteer

## Gaynor Grows Roots in Midland

**Brandon Gaynor** admits his background may seem unusual for someone to serve on the Petroleum Museum Board of Trustees. He grew up in Detroit, the center of automobile manufacturing. His father directed the Chrysler account for an advertising agency, which necessitated the family's move from Dallas, he explained.

Gaynor graduated high school in Detroit, then headed to Texas and Baylor University where his mother's family had deep roots. After graduating from Baylor, the Texas native then earned his J.D. at Indiana University.

"Through some interesting circumstances, I ended up working as a landman for Maner Shaw. In 2010, Concho Resources hired me, and I moved to Colgate Energy in 2016." That company recently merged and is now Permian Resources.

When Travis Counts approached Gaynor about serving on the Museum board, he jumped at the opportunity.

"Being a part of the oil and gas industry, I am excited to serve on a board that gives a positive image of what we do. It's something I want to be a part of," he said.

The STEAM Education Center opening this fall is enlarging the Museum's scope of education. "This STEAM building is an exciting addition. The Petroleum Museum continues to be a leader in putting out the truth for the industry and continues to be a state-of-the-art facility," Gaynor said.

From the early years of the industry, the Museum highlights "the industry's technological advances and how we do things in an environmentally responsible manner. We do it better here than anywhere else in the world," he added.

Gaynor plans to keep his family's roots growing in Midland and West Texas. His wife grew up in Amarillo and his two children were born in Midland. "We are going to be Midland lifers."



**Brandon Gaynor**

## STEAM Center Nearing Completion



Work is progressing at the Museum's new STEAM Education Center. Interior walls are taking shape, windows and doorways have been installed and wiring for projectors, phones and security is moving along. Site work is in progress for the climbing structure and the patio is taking shape. We look forward to each month as we move closer to our final product!

## Schedule Rentals Now to Beat Holiday Rush

Kids are back in school, which means Halloween is just around the corner, with Thanksgiving and Christmas close behind! If you haven't started planning your holiday parties yet, look no further than the Petroleum Museum. With several spaces to choose from, we offer the perfect venue for your event, whether you are hosting 20 or 200. Give us a call today or email [rentals@petroleummuseum.org](mailto:rentals@petroleummuseum.org) for more information.





# Events, Gifts Expand Museum's Public Education

## Lunch Speakers : Variety of Topics Scheduled

The fall season will bring a variety of speakers to the Museum's Brown Bag Lunch & Lecture (BBL) Series. Admission to these events is free. Bring a lunch and the Museum will furnish drinks and dessert. The BBLs are sponsored by **Norma J. McGrew & Hahl Proctor Charitable Trust, Bank of America, N.A. Trustee.**

**Tuesday, September 13, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

**Ken Durham** will discuss "Floyd Dodson, The Borderland's Indispensable Man of the 1930s." This is the untold story of Floyd C. Dodson, a premier geologist, landman, and promotor and his 20-year quest beginning in 1923, after the discovery of the Santa Rita field, to discover the Permian Basin's next big oil field.

**Tuesday, October 11, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

**DPS Sgt. Steven Blanco**, will convey how "It Starts with You." The Public Relations Officer will discuss the traffic challenges of the Permian Basin and the DPS's efforts to reduce traffic crashes and enhance overall safety on our roadways.

**Tuesday, November 8, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

**Cody Mobley** will highlight the Fort McKavett State Historic Site.

**Tuesday, December 13, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

**Voces Dei** will present a program of Christmas carols. Voces Dei is a group of singers who come together every year with the desire to bring the joy of Christmas to the Permian Basin.

### **BBL Dates**

11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Sept. 13

Speaker: Ken Durham

October 11

Speaker: DPS Sgt.

Steven Blanco

November 8

Speaker: Cody Mobley

December 13

Voces Dei

Christmas Carols

## Chaparral 2F: Celebrating Le Mans Anniversary

The Chaparral 2F traveled to the WeatherTech Raceway at Laguna Seca to mark the official start of a year-long celebration of the 100th anniversary of the 24 Hours of Le Mans. The event opened Wednesday, August 17, and continued through Saturday, August 20.

The original Laguna Seca Raceway was built in 1957 at a cost of \$1.5 million raised from local businesses and individuals on part of the US Army's Fort Ord (a maneuver area and field artillery target range) after the nearby Pebble Beach Road Races were abandoned for being too dangerous. In 1974, the property was deeded over to the Monterey County Parks Department. The entire facility is owned by Monterey County.

WeatherTech Raceway Laguna Seca is an 11-turn, 2.238-mile jewel of a road course on California's beautiful central coast. We enjoyed being a part of this special celebration of Le Mans.



*The Chaparral 2F  
featured at Laguna Seca  
in California.*

## Mineral Gallery: Two Exquisite Specimens Added

The Museum is the new home of two exquisite mineral specimens. **Cynthia and Mark Hoffman**, of Kerrville, donated a beautiful *Chinese green fluorite "plate"* to the Museum in May 2022. This fluorite came from the Xianghuapu Mine in the Hunan Province of China. In 1852, fluorite gave its name to the phenomenon known as fluorescence, meaning the mineral will glow a different color when exposed to ultraviolet light. Fluorite crystals occur in a variety of colors.

**Maria and Doug Fiske**, of Midland, donated a beautiful *stibnite* specimen from their collection to the Museum. Mined from the Herja Mine in Baia Mare District, Maramures County, Romania, this very old mine has been producing some of the world's finest well-crystallized stibnite specimens for over a century. Stibnite from this mine typically forms as balls of thick prisms with chisel terminations, radiating fine needles.

We are excited to have these two beautiful mineral specimens find a home in our Mineral Gallery. Thank you to Cynthia and Mark Hoffman and to Maria and Doug Fiske for their support of the Museum and their help in building our first-class Mineral Gallery.



**Hoffman Fluorite**



**Fiske Stibnite**

## Summer Excitement: Learning with a Fun Twist

From exploring the wonders of the earth to blasting off rockets to engineering LEGO structures to withstand the forces of nature, we had a lot of fun this summer! Check out some of the cool things we did. A special thank you to **Oxy** for making this summer fun possible!



## ASK Dr. Petro

## Explain Strategic Petroleum Reserve



**Question:** What is the Strategic Petroleum Reserve and why is it important?

**Dr. Petro:** In 1973, the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) imposed an oil embargo against the United States, triggering an energy crisis that sent the U.S. economy into a recession. To mitigate damage from any future shortages of oil, President Gerald Ford signed the Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1975, which established the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR).

The SPR is a tool used to alleviate the market impacts of both domestic and international disruptions to the energy market. These disruptions can be caused by weather, natural disasters, labor strikes, technical failures, political disputes or conflicts. U.S. leaders also have the option of filling the SPR during times of demand destruction (to minimize the shut-in of U.S. oil production) through the use of exchanges or an appropriation from Congress to purchase oil directly. The SPR fulfills the nation's obligations under the International Energy Program, which requires member nations hold the equivalent of 90 days of net imports of oil and petroleum products as a reserve stock.

With a storage capacity of up to 713.5 million barrels, as of March 31, 2022, the SPR currently holds just under 570 million barrels of crude oil. That amount of crude oil, refined into motor gasoline, could fill over 1.3 billion large sedans. The SPR is comprised of 60 salt caverns centrally located along the Gulf Coast. Each cavern is roughly cylindrical in shape with an average diameter of about 200 feet and a height of 2,550 feet. The SPR's oil can be distributed to nearly half of all U.S. oil refineries using interstate pipelines or

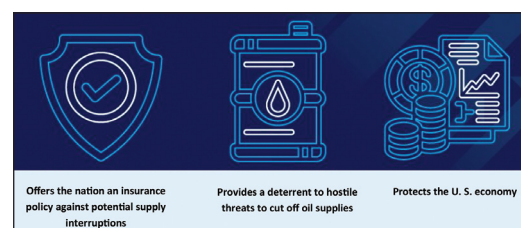
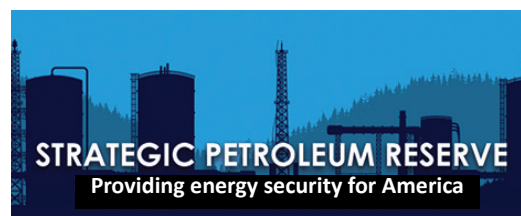
barges.

Decisions to withdraw crude oil in the event of an energy emergency are made by the President under the authority of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act and done through a competitive sale. The SPR is

always drawdown ready, which means it stands ready to release crude oil to the market within 13 days of Presidential direction; this is the time it takes to conduct the sales process, award contracts and to arrange the logistics for oil transportation.

In addition to the President's authority, the Secretary of Energy may also authorize limited releases in the form of a test sale of up to 5 million barrels. The Secretary may also conduct exchanges, or a crude oil loan, with non-governmental entities.

The SPR provides energy stability by giving the U.S. insurance against supply interruptions, therefore protecting the economy from energy collapse. It also alleviates external threats to cut off foreign supply of oil. The importance of maintaining the SPR is immeasurable due to these and other vital benefits of the reserves.





## Family Science Night

Thursday, October 27  
"Mad Science"  
6:30 to 8 p.m.

Join us if you DARE for a night of MAD Science on Thursday, October 27, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Museum Members have the added bonus of early admission from 6 to 6:30 p.m. Have a FRIGHTFULLY good time experimenting with fizzing eyeballs, exploding ghost rockets, conducting candy engineering, and much more! Wear your costume and channel your inner mad scientist at this FREE event. Thank you to **Chevron** for making this fun, free night possible!



## Education Notebook:

### Schedule Guided Tours at Museum or School

Calling all educators! Are you looking for ways to engage your students inside and outside the classroom? The Museum offers TEKS-aligned guided tours of the Museum that can be customized to fit your class needs, as well as Class & Tour packages. Options include Robotics, Animals, Geology, and Dinosaurs. Outreach programs, including all our class options as well as Astronomy and Virtual Reality, can also be brought to the school.

Call soon to schedule a tour or an outreach program. This is a great way to teach students who prefer to see and touch the subjects they are studying. Contact the **Education Department at 432-683-4403**.

### Lesson Plans with Supplies for STEAM

The Petroleum Museum's Education Department has created unique hands-on, cross-curricular STEAM teaching tools for students in the surrounding communities!

Petroleum Museum trunks are designed to educate students while building on fundamental disciplines like science, technology, engineering, math, art, social studies, and language arts. Each trunk contains lesson plans and activities that are aligned with the TEKS for K-12 students along with all the supplies needed for each lesson. Topics include life science, earth science, physical science, math and STEAM. Trunks are available on a weekly basis.



We welcome **Covia** as the Museum's newest partner in education. Covia's sponsorship of the Geology and Earth Science Traveling Trunks help the Museum offer these two trunks at no charge to area teachers to enhance their earth science and geology curriculum for the 2022-23 school year.

These trunks include all the supplies needed for a week's worth of geology and earth science activities. Students will learn about rock cycles, what makes volcanoes erupt, and how rocks and minerals are used in the world today.

Please contact the **Education Department, 432-683-4403**, for more information and availability of any of the Traveling Trunks.



## Critter Corner:

### Meet Betty & Ronnie

Join us in welcoming our newest additions to the Critter Corner: **Betty & Ronnie**, black-tailed prairie dogs. These charismatic rodents live on North America's prairies and open grasslands. Prairie dogs live in colonies in underground burrows with extensive tunnels and chambers marked by mounds of packed earth at the surface entrances. Burrows have defined nurseries, sleeping quarters, and even bathrooms. They also feature listening posts near exits so animals can safely keep tabs on movements of predators outside. Betty & Ronnie enhance the Museum's outreach program by providing a native example for animal classification, habitats, ecosystems, food chains and webs, and mammal specifications.

## Sign Up for NEED Fall Workshop at Museum

The Petroleum Museum is proud to host the NEED workshop for educators in Region 18 on Saturday, October 1. The National Energy Education Development (NEED) Project trains and assists teachers in harnessing the energy of the classroom – the energy of students. The interactive workshop will improve each educator's own energy knowledge as a consumer, while also providing hands-on lessons and activities to engage students in the classroom. Sponsored by **ConocoPhillips**, this



workshop is free for educators in surrounding communities. Breakfast and lunch will be provided.

## APPLAUSE, APPLAUSE

We give a round of applause to the following friends, companies and businesses. Their in-kind contributions of time, assistance or services are appreciated:

*ASCO Equipment, Inc.  
Warren CAT*

## Teach Children To Help Others

It's never too early to teach your children the value of volunteering and charitable giving. Children learn to be generous and charitable by example. The act of giving or having a generous nature will become second nature to them if they see others doing the same in their everyday lives.

In her foreword to *The Giving Family: Raising Our Children to Help Others*, Dorothy Ridings provides this advice for working with children:

- Be a role model – as a volunteer and a donor.
- Show kids the way – take them with you to volunteer and talk to them about your donations.
- Make giving a year-round project, not just something to do at holidays.

- Start now! The earlier you teach the habit of giving, the easier it will be to sustain.
  - Expect your children to serve and give.
  - Let children decide what projects they wish to support with their money and time.
  - Teach them how to manage money.
  - Praise them for their philanthropic actions.
- Here are some additional ideas:
- Consider giving your children a "giving allowance."
  - Create a special account for your children that they can draw from to make charitable gifts. Add to this special account each time they volunteer for a charity. Match any charitable gifts yourself.

## Membership Gives Perks All Year Long

No time like the present to join or renew your membership! Museum membership has many perks beginning with free admission, store discounts, and special invitations. To become a member, log on to our secure website at [www.pbpetro.org](http://www.pbpetro.org) or contact Luanne Thornton at 432-683-4403.

Welcome to our newest and renewed members from May 12 to August 22, 2022:

### Contributing Family

Brenda Aranda  
Megan & Jason Asmus  
Krystal Atwater  
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Becker  
Jim Brooks  
Mr. & Mrs. Weston Bruno  
Lea & JC Byrd  
Betsy Casselman-Porter  
Allison & Jesse Chando  
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Aleida Geitz  
Gerianne Green  
Cameron Griffin  
Laura Griffin  
Christina Howell  
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Brittany & Brandon Jones  
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Albert Karmels  
Carolyn King  
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Kisner  
Stephanie Kowacz  
Joe Kuhnert  
Erin Landers  
Amanda & Brandon Larson  
JoClare McCurdy  
Colleen & Mark McLane

Pat & Britt Meadows  
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Silvia Nef  
Mr. & Mrs. Emuobo Palmer-Ikuku  
Dan Pemberton  
Jennifer & Eric Pickett  
Rodolfo Ramirez  
Whitney & Justin Roland  
Jamie & Chad Ruehlen  
Sherrie & Raphael Santana  
Ronni & Louis Smith  
Anthony Valdivia  
Karen Vest  
Jane Wolf  
Kathleen & Bob Young

### Friend

Anita & Billy Cooper  
Sarah Mitchell  
Laci & John Stretcher

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Mr. & Mrs. Michael P. Brady  
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## Donnelly Confirms Founder's Vision

In July, the Museum was honored to enjoy a visit from **Dick Donnelly**, one of the Museum's original Board members. Donnelly served on the Museum's Board in its earliest years. His visit was a special treat as he has followed the Museum's progress for over 47 years. Knowing the vision that **George Abell** had for this Museum, Donnelly was instrumental in overseeing that the Museum moved forward, but always kept its original mission. A visit to the Oil Patch and a walk through the Museum certainly brought a smile to his face and confirmation that the Museum continues the mission that George Abell began in 1968.

## Memorials

Memorial contributions to the Petroleum Museum are deposited in the permanent endowment fund, unless donor advised, to provide ongoing tribute to the individuals recognized in bold. Donors are listed below the honoree. Contribu-

tors from May 5, 2022, to August 8 were:

### IN MEMORY OF...

#### Leo Carr

Cathy & Mike Oestmann

#### Arlen Edgar

Mr. & Mrs. Don Trott

#### Dr. Thomas Hyde

Anne B. Hyde

# Notable Dates

## SEPTEMBER

### SEPTEMBER 6

Building Bots: Robotics & Engineering FunLab  
5:30 to 7:30 p.m.; Grades K-2nd  
Pre-registration required. For more information or to register online, visit [www.pbpetro.org](http://www.pbpetro.org).  
Sponsor: **Oxy**

### SEPTEMBER 13

Brown Bag Lunch & Lecture Series  
Speaker: Ken S. Durham  
"Floyd Dodson – The Borderland's Indispensable Man of the 1930s"  
11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
Free admission. Drinks and dessert provided.  
Sponsors: **Norma J. McGrew & Hahl Proctor Charitable Trust, Bank of America, N.A. Trustee**

### SEPTEMBER 19 & 26

STEAM Sprouts: Fairytale STEAM  
9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. OR 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
Ages 4-5  
Mondays for 6 weeks  
Pre-registration required. For more information or to register online, visit [www.pbpetro.org](http://www.pbpetro.org)  
Sponsor: **SM Energy**

### SEPTEMBER 20

Building Bots: Robotics & Engineering FunLab  
5:30 to 7:30 p.m.; Grades 3rd-6th  
Pre-registration required. For more information or to register online, visit [www.pbpetro.org](http://www.pbpetro.org).  
Sponsor: **Oxy**

### SEPTEMBER 22

Follow the Science: 47th Birthday Celebration  
6:30 p.m.  
Leave your tiny lab assistants at home, let out your inner geek, put on your classiest attire with a scientific twist, and join us for an evening of gastronomical delights, spirited libations, and mind-boggling science experiments.  
Visit [pbpetro.org](http://pbpetro.org) for sponsorship opportunities and details, or contact [lthornton@petroleummuseum.org](mailto:lthornton@petroleummuseum.org).

## OCTOBER

### OCTOBER 3, 10, 17, 24

STEAM Sprouts: Fairytale STEAM  
9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. OR 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
Ages 4-5  
Mondays for 6 weeks  
Pre-registration required. For more information or to register online, visit [www.pbpetro.org](http://www.pbpetro.org)  
Sponsor: **SM Energy**

### OCTOBER 4

Building Bots: Robotics & Engineering FunLab  
5:30 to 7:30 p.m.; Grades K-2nd  
Pre-registration required. For more information or to register online, visit [www.pbpetro.org](http://www.pbpetro.org).  
Sponsor: **Oxy**

### OCTOBER 11

Brown Bag Lunch & Lecture Series  
Speaker: DPS Sgt. Steven Blanco  
"It Starts with You"  
11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
Free admission. Drinks and dessert provided.  
Sponsors: **Norma J. McGrew & Hahl Proctor Charitable Trust, Bank of America, N.A. Trustee**

## OCTOBER 18

Building Bots: Robotics & Engineering FunLab  
5:30 to 7:30 p.m.; Grades 3rd-6th  
Pre-registration required. For more information or to register online, visit [www.pbpetro.org](http://www.pbpetro.org).  
Sponsor: **Oxy**

## OCTOBER 27

Family Science Night: "Mad Science"  
6:30 to 8:30 p.m.  
6 p.m. Early Admission for MEMBERS ONLY.  
Hands-on Science Experiments & Activities  
Free admission.  
Sponsor: **Chevron**

## OCTOBER 31-NOVEMBER 4

STEAM Break  
"Magical Science"  
Half day or full day options  
Grades 1st – 6th  
Pre-registration required. For more information or to register online, visit [www.pbpetro.org](http://www.pbpetro.org).  
Sponsor: **Ovintiv**

## NOVEMBER

### NOVEMBER 8

Brown Bag Lunch & Lecture Series  
Speaker: Cody Mobley, Fort McKavett State Historic Site  
11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
Free admission. Drinks and dessert provided.  
Sponsors: **Norma J. McGrew & Hahl Proctor Charitable Trust, Bank of America, N.A. Trustee**

### NOVEMBER 8

Building Bots: Robotics & Engineering FunLab  
5:30 to 7:30 p.m.; Grades K-2nd  
Pre-registration required. For more information or to register online, visit [www.pbpetro.org](http://www.pbpetro.org).  
Sponsor: **Oxy**

### NOVEMBER 15

Building Bots: Robotics & Engineering FunLab  
5:30 to 7:30 p.m.; Grades 3rd-6th  
Pre-registration required. For more information or to register online, visit [www.pbpetro.org](http://www.pbpetro.org).  
Sponsor: **Oxy**

### NOVEMBER 24

Happy Thanksgiving!  
Museum will be closed Thanksgiving Day.

## DECEMBER

### DECEMBER 13

Brown Bag Lunch & Lecture Series  
Music by Voces Dei  
"Christmas Carols"  
11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
Free admission. Drinks and dessert provided.  
Sponsors: **Norma J. McGrew & Hahl Proctor Charitable Trust, Bank of America, N.A. Trustee**

### DECEMBER 24-25

Merry Christmas!  
Museum will be closed Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

*For more information about any of these programs or events,  
contact the Petroleum Museum at 432-683-4403 or [www.pbpetro.org](http://www.pbpetro.org).*

# PETROLEUM MUSEUM

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JAMIE RUEHLEN  
Museum Store Assistant  
HALEY TEMPLE  
Museum Store Assistant  
KEITH DOUCET  
Chaparral Specialist/IT  
STACIE HANNA  
Marketing Consultant  
LANA CUNNINGHAM  
Public Relations Consultant

## The Museum Store



**Museum Bit & Bytes is published quarterly by the Petroleum Museum. For more information call 432-683-4403 or visit the website at [pbpetro.org](http://pbpetro.org).**

9/22

FALL in love with one-of-a-kind items in the Museum Store as the kids head back to school! Plus, know that your purchase supports the Museum! Museum Members always receive **15 percent off** purchases. We are open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 2 to 5 p.m. on Sunday. Or, shop online at [pbpetro.org/shop](http://pbpetro.org/shop) anytime.

**Our Mission: We will share the petroleum and energy story and its impact on our lives.**