

For immediate release
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Butterfly Hello at the Danville Science Center

DANVILLE — Spring is in the air. The stage is set for butterflies. Bring your camera to snap some shots as this year's first butterflies are released into their new home. Watch those butterflies stretch their wings and sip nectar as you walk through a garden designed to meet these insects' every need. Arrive early to talk with herb experts and purchase herbs to plant in your own yard. Two butterfly events join forces to celebrate spring. **Butterfly Thyme** — the herb sale — and **Butterfly Hello** — the opening of the **Butterfly Station and Garden** at the Danville Science Center — are **Saturday, April 17. Butterfly Thyme is 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Butterfly Hello is 11 a.m.-3 p.m.**

“We have two butterfly releases at **Butterfly Hello**,” says Science Center Director Jeff Liverman. “Our sponsor — Centra Medical Group — is making it possible for us to do **butterfly releases** at **noon** and **2 p.m.** Folks can go green by picking up reusable bags from Centra. Check out our new nature photography exhibit **Birds of the Riverwalk**. It's the work of local amateur photographer David Hoffman. Come by early to learn about herbs at **Butterfly Thyme** herb sale underwritten by our neighbors Prudential Manasco Realty and Susan Stilwell. A portion of the proceeds benefit the Science Center's **Butterfly Station and Garden.**”

Butterfly Thyme features varieties of parsley, sage, rosemary and — of course — thyme. You can also find dill, lavender, marjoram, mint, tarragon and bee balm. Bring your questions about herb growing and chat with master gardeners to find out how

herbs would best thrive in your garden. This year Roanoke soap maker Lydia Webb offers her butterfly and herbal-inspired soap and other home products.

Hands-on activities let you combine art and science at **Butterfly Hello**. Build a paper caterpillar. Create a model butterfly egg. Play a match game to learn which caterpillar turns into which butterfly. Examine different butterfly colors and patterns. Make a chromatography butterfly to take home.

Discover the secrets of dinosaur eggs in the visiting exhibition **Hatching the Past**. Dig for dinosaur eggs like a real paleontologist. Touch a real dinosaur leg bone fossil. Examine a model dinosaur nest. Ever wonder what dinosaur families were like? Did little dinosaurs ever meet their parents? Find out what scientists are uncovering.

Butterfly Hello is sponsored by Centra Medical Group. **Butterfly Thyme** is sponsored by Prudential Manasco Realty and Susan Stilwell. **Hatching the Past** is owned by StoneCompany.com Inc. It is sponsored at the Science Center by the Kiwanis Club of Danville Foundation.

Butterfly Hello and **Butterfly Thyme** are free. Donations to the **Butterfly Station and Garden** are appreciated. **Hatching the Past** is included with Science Center admission. Tickets are \$5 for ages 4-12, 60+ and active military, and \$6 for adults.

The Butterfly Station and Garden is open for the season **Saturday, April 17-Saturday, Oct. 16**. Danville Science Center and **Butterfly Station and Garden** hours are Tuesday-Saturday, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. Summer hours are Monday-Saturday, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. For information call (434) 791-5160 or visit www.dsc.smv.org. The Danville Science Center is located at 677 Craghead Street.

The Science Center is a division of the Science Museum of Virginia.

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