

Triangle T.R.A.C.K.S.

Tools, Resources & Activities for Carolina Kids

www.triangletracks.com

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North Carolina Symphony Presents Pupperty Visuals in 'A World of Music' March 14

Led by Assistant Conductor Joan Landry, the North Carolina Symphony joins forces with Paperhand Puppet Intervention March 14 at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. to present a musical adventure that travels the globe. Experience an exploration of sonic traditions from all corners of the planet and enjoy large-scale puppetry visuals that will delight the entire family.

This performance is part of symphony's Young People's Series, which features concerts designed for children of all ages and engages them with meaningful classical music experiences in a fun, relaxed setting. Visit www.ncsymphony.org to learn more.



Photo: North Carolina Symphony Assistant Conductor Joan Landry. (Image provided by North Carolina Symphony.)

'Chitty Chitty Bang Bang' Broadway Musical Flies Into Raleigh March 31-April 5

Broadway's classic rendition of the musical "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang" flies into Raleigh's Memorial Auditorium March 31 through April 5. The classic performance features that familiar flying car, elaborate sets, awesome special effects and the original

Sherman Brothers score, including "Truly Scrumptious," "Hushabye Mountain," and the Oscar®-nominated title song. Relive the fun with the entire family. Visit www.broadwayseriesouth.com for ticket information.

Do You Have the Cutest Kid in America?

Pure Expressions Photography in Apex is participating in the National Charity Model Search through March 25 to select "America's Cutest Kid" and to raise funds for the company's favorite charity, Now I Lay Me Down to Sleep. Participating children must be 18 months to 14 years old.

Visit www.pureexpressionsphotography.com/blog/?p=3171 or call Pure Expressions Photography at (919) 362-9039 for information about the entrance fee and special fundraiser pricing.

The Museum of Life and Science Presents 'Beneath Your Feet,' 'Robot Rumble' and 'A Visit to Lilypad Pond' During March

The Museum of Life and Science in Durham kicks off an eventful month with "Beneath Your Feet" March 5 from 3:45 to 4:45 p.m. Kids age 4 to 6 years will enjoy digging into the world of rocks, sand and soil; investigating earthworms, panning for gems and exploring the museum's bat cave.

Get ready to rumble at the museum's "Robot Rumble" event March 14 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., where robots take center stage. This event will feature experts who will share their passion for robotics technology and machine intelligence. Participating Robot Rumble organizations include the Triangle Amateur Robotics Club, Lego and Dancing Robotics, N.C. State University's Underwater

Robotics and others.

And just in time for spring, the Museum of Life and Science will host "A Visit to Lilypad Pond" throughout March and April for two different age groups. Children ages 2! to 3 years old can attend this presentation March 27 or 28 at 10 a.m. Children ages 4 to 6 years old can attend March 19, March 26 or April 2 from 3:45 to 4:45 p.m.

Children will learn all about who lives in the pond, study a frog's life cycle and find out what other animals and plants rely on this important habitat. Learn more at www.lifeandscience.org.

Raleigh Little Theatre Presents 'Wiley and the Hairy Man' March 13-29

This performance, directed by Linda O'Day Young, is based on an African American tale that follows a young boy, Wiley, and his faithful hound dog on their adventure into the swamp. During this adventure, Wiley learns to rely on his own wit and conquers two villains: the Hairy Man and his own fear. The performance takes place in the RLT Gaddy-Goodwin Teaching Theatre. To order tickets, visit www.raleighlittletheatre.org.

Shop for Less at Five Local Children's Consignment Sales This Month

Consignment season is officially upon us. No less than five sales are taking place locally throughout March in various Triangle locations. **Upscale Resale's Spring/Summer Consignment Sale** is set for March 12-14 at the Cary Masonic Lodge. Drop off consigned items March 11-12 by appointment. The public sale begins March 13. For more information, visit www.upscalesale4kids.com. The **Just for Kids Consignment Sale** will be March 15-21 at Life Spring Community Church in

Fuquay-Varina. The public sale begins on March 17. For a full schedule, visit <http://just4kidsnc.googlepages.com>. The **Carolina Kids Consignment Spring/Summer Sale** is scheduled for March 16-23 at the Smithfield National Guard Armory. The public sale begins March 20. Visit www.carolinakidsconsignment.com for location and schedule details. The **Kids Everywear Consignment Sale** will be held March 21-27 at Morrisville Outlet Mall on Airport Boulevard. The public sale begins March 24. Learn more at www.kidseverywear.biz. **Triangle Mothers of Twins and Triplets Spring/Summer Clothing and Equipment Sale** is scheduled for March 28 from 7:30 to 2:30 p.m. at the N.C. State Fairgrounds Kerr Scott Building. Both members and nonmembers can shop all day, so come early for the best selection. Visit www.tcott.org to learn more.



March Linkzine

How to Talk Politics With Your Kids

Some parents avoid it; others plunge right in and explain their political beliefs to their children.

This month's Linkzine takes you to online articles offering advice on how and when to discuss politics with your children, as well as information about how to handle tricky topics and controversial issues.

Visit www.triangletracks.com March 1 to check it out.



N.C. Museum of Art Hosts Mix of Children's Activities in March

The N.C. Museum of Art will present two Family Fun Saturdays, two Preschool Playshop events and one special children's performances this month.

"Family Fun Saturday: Fluidity in Art" kicks things off March 7 at 10 a.m., and "Family Fun Saturday: From the Eiffel Tower to Ireland" will take place March 14 at 10 a.m. During Family Fun Saturdays, children and adults work together to create projects and learn about art together. Pre-registration is required. Call (919) 664-6828 to reserve your slot.

Preschool Playshop "Whoosh!" is scheduled for March 11 at 10 a.m., while "Exploring Cracks, Crevices and Chasms" will be held March 25 at 10 a.m. During Preschool Playshop, children and their caregivers discover new adventures "in the box" each week. These activities help stretch children's imagination and engage their interest in art. These events are free.

The museum will presents a special children's

performance March 28 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. "Sounds Crazy with Al Simmons" will be followed by Drop-In Crafts. Simmons, a Parents' Choice Award winner, will show the audience his wacky inventions that explore the science of music. Tickets cost \$3. Call (919) 715-5923 or visit www.ncartmuseum.org to order yours.



Photo provided by the N.C. Museum of Art

Movie Releases Include 'Mummies 3D: Secrets of the Pharaohs' and 'Monsters Vs. Aliens' This Month

Explore ancient Egypt beginning March 6, when "Mummies 3D: Secrets of the Pharaohs" debuts at the IMAX theater at Marbles Kids Museum in Raleigh. Rediscover the tombs of great pharaohs and learn all about the mummification process and its role in ancient Egyptian. The film also focuses on how modern scientists have tapped valuable information from ancient remains. Order tickets and check show times here: www.marbleskidsmuseum.org/imax.

You'll have to wait until March 27 to see "Monsters Vs. Aliens," which premieres in theaters nationwide and also in the IMAX Theater at Marbles Kids Museum. In this movie, California girl Susan Murphy is hit by a meteor filled with outer space gunk, which causes her to instantaneously grow to 49-foot-11-inches tall. The military takes action, and secretly whisks Susan away to a covert government compound. Learn more about the movie at <http://www.monstersvsaliens.com>. Visit www.triangletracks.com/notes/Movie_TRACKS to access local theaters and the latest showings.

Welcome Spring With Bouquets of Outdoor Events and Destinations

Here are seven ways your kids can enjoy the warm weather that (hopefully) arrives this month: Visit www.triangletracks.com/notes/Outdoor_TRACKS for links to all of these ideas.

1. Go out and play at one of hundreds of playground parks in the region.
2. Hike one of the 20-plus trails in the Triangle.
3. Take a trip to the North Carolina Zoo in Ashboro.
4. Experience one of our region's beautiful flower gardens.
5. Take a family bike ride at one of 17 different cycling trails in the area.
6. Visit a local farm or farmers market for fresh, locally grown produce.
7. Take up horseback riding lessons. There are plenty of horse farms nearby.

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!

The 27th annual Raleigh St. Patrick's Day Parade will begin at noon March 14 in downtown Raleigh. Marbles Kids Museum will participate, and there will be plenty of family-friendly activities. The parade will include 3,500-plus marchers including floats, pipe and drum bands, horses, dancers and mascots. A festival will follow in Moore Square. Visit www.raleighstpats.org to learn more.



The kids can get ready for St. Patrick's Day by creating some of the very cute crafts at these sites:

<http://crafts.kaboose.com/holidays/st-patricks-day/>

http://familycrafts.about.com/od/stpatricksday/St_Patricks_Day_Family_Projects.htm

www.kinderart.com/seasons/stpatricksday.shtml

www.amazingmoms.com/htm/holiday_pat.htm

www.familycorner.com/dir/Family/Holidays/St_Patricks_Day/Crafts

www.freekidcrafts.com/kid_st_patricks_day_craft_ideas.html

Twice Exceptionally Identified Children Parent Session Scheduled for March 18

Wake County Partners for the Advancement of Gifted Education (PAGE) will sponsor a parent session focusing on double-identified exceptional children.
Time: March 18, 7-9 p.m.

Location: TBD

Visit www.pagepage.org/?q=node/28 for updated information.

Museum of Life and Science Summer Camps Now Being Offered in Cary

Registration is currently underway for the Museum of Life and Science's new Cary-based summer camp program. Camps are also offered in Chapel Hill and Durham. Visit www.ncmls.org for more information.

About Triangle T.R.A.C.K.S.

Triangle TRACKS compiles sources across the region focused on the improvement of children's lives. It is also a product of parenthood—an accumulation of resources resulting from years of children's birthday parties, games, museum exhibits, parks, concerts, camps, clubs and of course, schools! Visit www.triangletracks.com today to take your Carolina kids down all their favorite TRACKS.

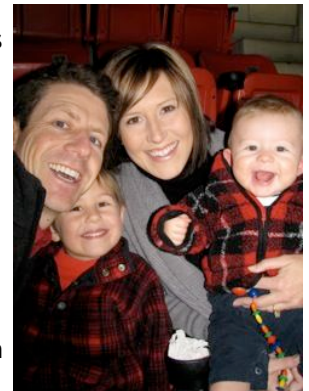
Elizabeth Shugg

Editor and Owner

Meet Our Travel TRACKer: Janice Jones

We've added a "Travel TRACKer" to the Triangle TRACKS blogger line-up.

Apex mom Janice Jones will blog about family-friendly vacation destinations and traveling tips on a regular basis for us. After nearly 15 years in the TV news business as a Chief Meteorologist, Jones now works at home as a freelance writer so she can spend more time with her two young boys.



Jones loves traveling and gladly accepts the role of family travel agent. "I constantly overwhelm myself thinking about all the great things there are to do and places to see," she says. "Life can be so enriching when you allow yourself to enjoy it."

Jones's debut blog focuses on a family trip to Washington, D.C. for Presidents Day and can be viewed on the Triangle TRACKS home page at www.triangletracks.com.

Learn more about all of our TRACKers at www.triangletracks.com/notes/Triangle_TRACKers. Also, feel free to send them any blog ideas you have via the Triangle TRACKS messaging system. (You have to have a login to use that, so consider joining the site if you haven't already done so.)