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## **Dinosaur exhibit closes this weekend with event on Sunday**

The four local paleontologists whose personal collections are showcased in the ***DINO-mite Discoveries: Draco & Friends*** exhibition will help mark the closing of the popular exhibit at the Sioux City Public Museum on Sunday, March 22 from 2 to 3 p.m. Brian Buckmeier, Darren Maurer, Patrick Saulsbury and Steve Saulsbury will be available to answer questions about the exhibit and autograph exhibit souvenirs.

The Sioux Cityans discovered *Dracorex hogwartsia*, a 66-million-year-old, first-of-its-kind, dragon-like dinosaur in northwestern South Dakota in 2003. Darren Maurer and Steve Saulsbury created three original graphite pencil drawings based on the dinosaur. Lithograph prints made from these drawings will be available for \$10.00. “Draco” t-shirts will be sold for \$15.00.

“Due to overwhelming interest in this exhibit with people of all ages, we wanted to have one last event where visitors could meet the men who made this phenomenal discovery,” says Theresa Weaver-Basye, curator of education. “If you enjoyed learning about Draco and would like to purchase a souvenir or simply haven’t had a chance to visit the exhibit yet, this is your last chance.”

On display since mid-January, ***DINO-mite Discoveries: Draco & Friends*** features the fossilized remains of numerous dinosaurs and early mammals. Despite their impressive discoveries, the four paleontologists are technically “amateurs” who lead professional lives in Sioux City. Buckmeier is an attorney, Maurer is an artist, Patrick Saulsbury is a veterinarian and Steve Saulsbury is a radiologist. Spring, summer and fall are spent in the field searching for more discoveries and the winter months are spent doing lectures as well as the time-consuming work of fossil preparation.

The Sioux City Public Museum is housed in the historic John Peirce Mansion at 2901 Jackson Street in Sioux City. Regular hours are Tuesday through Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 1 to 5 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, call 712-279-6174 or visit [www.siouxcitymuseum.org](http://www.siouxcitymuseum.org).

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