

Alive



Inside

- New Yard for Gorillas
- Teamwork Keeps Congo Station Running
 - Take Your Tot on a Stroller Safari
- Amazing Animals in the 2016 Calendar



The mission of the Zoological Society of Milwaukee is to participate in conserving endangered species, to educate people about the importance of wildlife and the environment, and to support the Milwaukee County Zoo.

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Regular readers of this magazine know that the Zoological Society of Milwaukee's mission is to conserve wildlife and endangered species, educate people about the importance of wildlife and the environment, and support the Milwaukee County Zoo. But we can't do it alone. The story on page 3 highlights the kind of partnership that makes our organization so effective. The Zoo wanted a more dynamic outdoor yard for its gorillas. The Zoological Society raised money for the project through its 2013-14 Annual Appeal, and we were thrilled to receive an additional \$100,000 donation from the Northwestern Mutual Foundation. The foundation focuses, among other things, on making Milwaukee a great destination, and we know the Zoo is an important part of that.

Photo by Olga Kornienko



Dr. Bert Davis (right) presents a gorilla handprint to John Kordsmeier of the Northwestern Mutual Foundation at the unveiling of the new Gorilla Yard.

The Zoological Society also works to protect primates, specifically bonobos, in the wild. The Society supports a research and patrol station in the Democratic Republic of Congo in an effort to conserve bonobos, forest elephants and other animals under the direction of our conservation coordinator, Dr. Gay Reinartz. As our work there has grown, so has our need for employees to cook, collect data, transport staff and perform other important functions. The story on page 4 introduces you to some of these Congolese staff members. Our partners at Etate include ICCN, a French acronym for the Congolese Institute for Nature Conservation; the World Wildlife Fund; and the U.S. Agency for International Development.

Other highlights in this issue include a story about Stroller Safari, a new program from our Education Department for children under age 2 and their parents or grandparents, as well as the beautiful animal photography in our fourth annual calendar. Hang the calendar on your wall in 2016 and you'll be in-the-know about Zoo and Zoological Society happenings throughout the year.

Robert Davis

Dr. Robert (Bert) Davis
 Chief Executive Officer

CONTENTS

Volume 35, Issue 3

Ape Enrichment: Gorillas enjoy new yard 3

Conservation Chronicles:
 Congolese staff key to bonobo conservation efforts 4

Stroller Safari:
 New education program for infants, toddlers 6

ON THE COVER: A panther chameleon looks as if he's waving to visitors. The Zoo recently acquired two male panther chameleons for the Madagascar Exhibit in the Aquatic & Reptile Center (ARC). You can find other ARC residents in the calendar in the months of February and November. Photo by Richard Brodzeller

New Yard, New Discoveries for Gorillas

It's a relaxing afternoon at the newly renovated Gorilla Yard at the Milwaukee County Zoo. Baby gorilla Sulaiman scampers around his mom, Shalia, and plays with a pile of wood wool used for nests in the shade of a wooden structure. Cassius, the troop leader and Sulaiman's father, wanders on the side of the yard, snacking on grass and plants he pulls from the ground. Femelle, the troop's elderly female, rests near the window of the apes building, while Naku, another female, observes the others from her perch on top of a climbing structure.

The family scene has drawn a crowd of visitors eager to see the new baby and the new yard. The renovation is an exciting improvement for the gorillas and Zoo visitors, says Trish Khan, Zoo curator of primates and small mammals. "It's definitely a much more enriching environment for the gorillas, especially for the family group." The visitors, meanwhile, get to see a more interesting landscape with gorillas engaging in natural behaviors, such as climbing and browsing.

The Northwestern Mutual Foundation donated \$100,000 toward the renovation. The rest of the funds came from the Zoological Society's 2013-14 Annual Appeal. Hawks Landscape did the construction work last winter and spring, and the yard was unveiled in June. "All winter, the primates staff eagerly watched as each new rock, hill or climbing structure was added," Khan says. "It was hard to tell who was more excited, the gorillas or their zookeepers."

The new yard has large wooden structures for climbing, shade and wind protection. Gorillas can lounge on large rocks that are warm during the morning chill and cool in

the afternoon sun, says Claire Richard, primary gorilla keeper. These features could encourage the gorillas to come out more in cooler weather. They have the option to go outside all winter long except during sub-zero weather. Keepers rotate the family group with the Zoo's bachelor gorillas, Hodari and Maji Maji, in the outdoor and indoor exhibits.

The yard also will encourage the gorillas to behave more as they would in the wild, Khan says. The structures create sight barriers, allowing the gorillas to spend time apart. For example, a low-ranking gorilla can hide if it finds a treat that it doesn't want to share with the rest of the group. The sight barriers also encourage vocalization and bonding as the gorillas have to make an effort to occasionally check in with each other, Khan says. Keepers will start planting native plants in the yard in fall and spring so the gorillas can browse for snacks as they do in the wild.

So far, the gorillas have been cautious about climbing the structures, Richard says. Naku and Hodari often climb the structures to collect food left there by the keepers, but the other gorillas prefer to stay on the ground for now. "They're naturally cautious animals," Richard says. "They need time to figure out if that's a safe place to be." This fall, the Zoo will launch a behavioral study to see how the gorillas use the yard, which will help the Zoo make improvements in the future. "The gorillas will come up with ways to use the yard that we hadn't even thought of," Khan says.

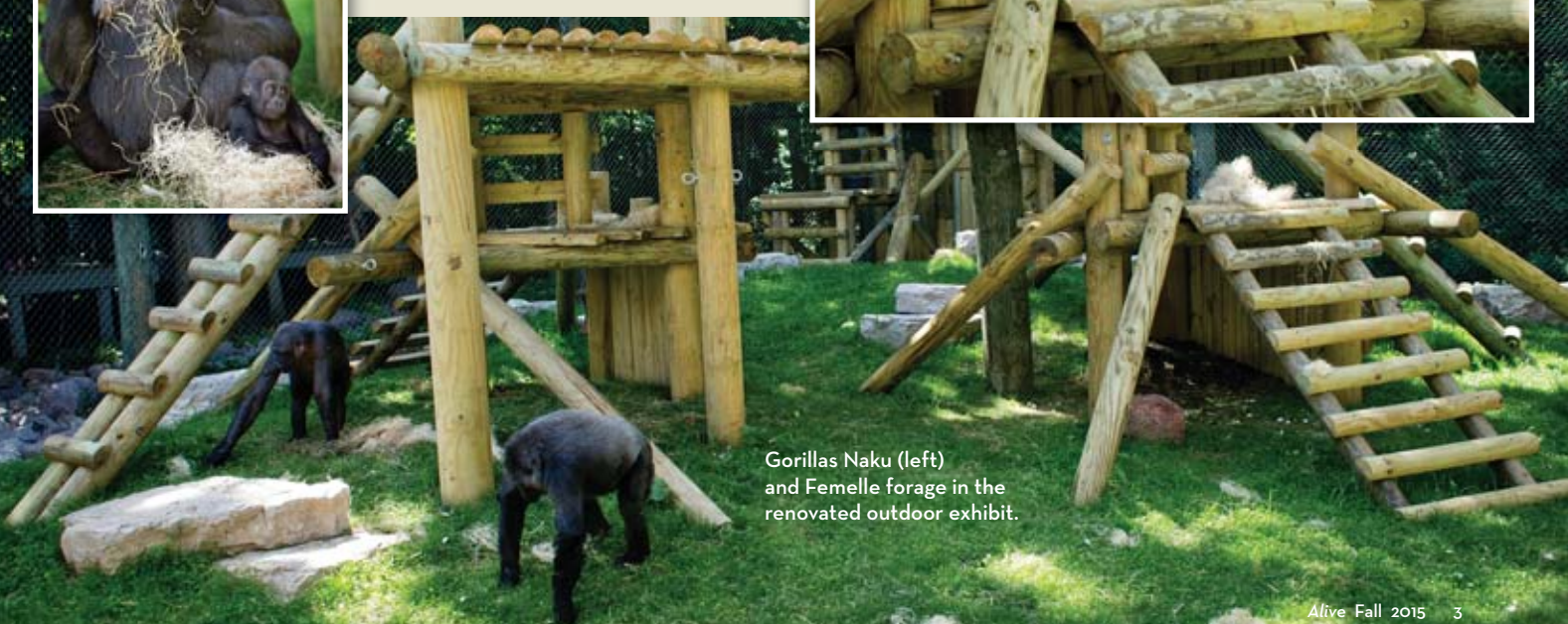
By Stacy Vogel Davis



Shalia and her baby, Sulaiman, enjoy some quiet time in the shade of a wooden climbing structure. Photos by Richard Brodzeller



Naku sits on a platform of the climbing structure.



Gorillas Naku (left) and Femelle forage in the renovated outdoor exhibit.



Congolese Staff Makes Bonobo Conservation Possible

Since 1997, the Zoological Society of Milwaukee has worked to study and protect wild bonobos and their habitat through its Bonobo & Congo Biodiversity Initiative (BCBI). Bonobos – the least-known great ape – are endangered and found only in the Democratic Republic of Congo in Central Africa. BCBI supports a research station and patrol post called Etate in the Salonga National Park, an immense rainforest ecosystem home to one of the country's largest bonobo populations.

BCBI, led by Zoological Society conservation coordinator Dr. Gay Reinartz, requires on-the-ground staff for logistical and administrative support. In a country where skilled workers are hard to find, BCBI has built up a staff of 10 dependable and dedicated employees. Four employees are highlighted here.



Ntutani Nkuansambu Etienne

Ntutani Nkuansambu Etienne Logistician/chauffeur

Ntutani is the most senior Congolese staffer with BCBI, having served 15 years as logistician and chauffeur for the office in Kinshasa. Kinshasa is the capital of the Democratic Republic of Congo and home to N'Djili International Airport. Ntutani organizes supply shipments, arranges logistics, handles project finances, and is an ace mechanic who pours his heart and soul into maintaining BCBI's aging 1997 Mitsubishi Lancer. Ntutani, 56, studied mechanical engineering in secondary school (similar to American high school) and then began working as an auto mechanic. Later, he worked at N'Djili Airport for an American aviation group that supported the U.S. Embassy. Due to growing instability in the 1990s, aviation groups started to leave the country, and work dried up for Ntutani. In 2000, a mutual friend recommended Ntutani to Dr. Gay Reinartz – known to the Congolese staff as “Madame Gay” – as a dependable chauffeur. In a city of 10 million people, Ntutani knows every street and back alley and has the savvy to deliver cargo and BCBI staff anywhere they need to go.

Jean Marie “Bobo” Bongama Bongulebane Camp cook/office assistant

Bobo keeps the BCBI workers well-fed whether they are working in the office, traveling upriver or protecting bonobos in the forest. Bobo studied to be a teacher as a young man, but teaching jobs were scarce when he graduated, so he worked as a roofer and driver. In the late 1990s and early 2000s, the country went through a period of unrest and civil war. Times were hard, and Bobo was virtually unemployed for more than a decade. Then in 2005, Madame Gay met Bobo and gave him a job as the camp cook. Bobo can find himself cooking for up to 40 people at Etate. This means waking up at 4 a.m. and spending virtually every minute of his day hovering over an open camp fire. Because he controls the rations, Bobo, 62, is adored by everyone at Etate, and they fondly refer to him as “Mama Bobo.”



Jean Marie “Bobo” Bongama Bongulebane

Raymond “Redo” Munkoki Edzimisa Pirogue pilot

Etate, deep in the rainforest of the Democratic Republic of Congo, is inaccessible by road. BCBI staff must travel there in pirogues, or dugout canoes, on journeys of several days. Redo is one of two pirogue pilots who transport the staff and tons of supplies on trips of up to 1,000 miles, often piloting the boats day and night around dangerous obstacles like sandbars, whirlpools and submerged trees. He was born in Mbandaka, the closest city to Etate, in 1963. His grandfather came from humble beginnings as a fisherman, yet Redo's father became a famous doctor in the

Preparing a Perfect Package

When you receive an item in the mail, you probably don't give the packaging much thought. But designing packaging that can withstand the stresses of a journey across the country – or across the world – takes a lot of planning and skill. That's what seven students from Waukesha County Technical College (WCTC) learned when they created educational packets to teach children in the Democratic Republic of Congo about animals and conservation. The students competed in the Phoenix Challenge last spring in Nashville, Tenn., a competition that promotes the printing process for students in North America. The WCTC students "had to work with a local organization and design packaging for them," says Sam Boyles, a member of the team and recent graduate.

Robin Higgins, vice president of communications, marketing and membership for the Zoological Society of Milwaukee, suggested they design packaging for the Society's flagship conservation program, the Bonobo & Congo Biodiversity Initiative (BCBI). The students consulted with Brigham Whitman, BCBI project specialist, and decided to create packaging for craft materials for children who live near the Salonga National Park in the Democratic Republic of Congo, where BCBI supports a patrol post at Etate. "The children there are most familiar with wildlife as a food source," says Whitman. "We wanted to teach them about the value that wildlife holds for the ecosystem of the Salonga."

The journey to Etate is long and arduous. It can take three to four days and nights of travel along three rivers. Additionally, the tropical rainforest is incredibly humid and there are regular downpours. "We needed to find materials that were waterproof but could be printed on," says Courtney Reed, a recent WCTC

graduate. The team produced an impressive package containing crayons, animal stickers and a coloring book of animals that live in the Salonga. Although the team didn't win first place, their project was a triumph. "The packages were a big success," says Whitman. "The children loved them and learned about animals they'd never seen before."

By Zak Mazur



The package included a coloring book, crayons and wildlife stickers in a waterproof envelope.
Photo by Zak Mazur

Top: Courtney Reed (top) and Sam Boyles work on a printing machine. Photo by Zak Mazur

Congolese students use the educational materials to learn about wildlife in the Salonga National Park. Photo by Brigham Whitman



Raymond "Redo" Munkoki Edzimisa

to falter in the 1980s, he ended up spending much of his life farming. In 2006, Michel's schooling paid off. He was selected to work with the African Wildlife Foundation in his community's forest to help assess and monitor wildlife and bonobos. This early training qualified him to join the BCBI research team in 2009 when it undertook a bonobo survey in the Lomako Forest. He now surveys bonobos in the Salonga National Park, recording observations of wildlife and poaching activity. Since 2011, Michel and the BCBI survey team have walked a total of 786 miles, the equivalent of walking from Milwaukee to Washington, D.C.

region and worked at the medical school in Mbandaka. Redo studied construction and engineering in secondary school. When he graduated he could not find work in his field, so he followed in his grandfather's footsteps and became a pirogue pilot. In 2004 he began working for BCBI as the chief pilot and mechanic. He quickly proved himself to be an expert conductor, driving BCBI's motorized pirogue into some of the most remote and unexplored rivers in Salonga.

Michel Basele Field research assistant

Michel was born in 1973 in Equateur Province, an area known for its once-abundant populations of bonobos. He graduated from secondary school, but as the country's economy began



Michel Basele

Tots and Tigers

Stroller Safaris Offer Fun for Youngest Zoogoers



The toddler is fascinated by the plush-toy lion in front of him. The little boy – appropriately named Leo – grabs the lion, hugs it and looks into its face. It’s something he could never do with the real lions a few feet away, but the toy’s soft fur and feline features help him connect with the real thing. He smiles as he pets its mane.

This spring morning, Leo is one of six toddlers and infants visiting the Milwaukee County Zoo with parents or grandparents for a new program called Stroller Safari. Today’s “Stripes, Spots or Solids?” program focuses on big cats.

The Zoological Society of Milwaukee’s Education Department, which runs Zoo Classes and Camps, created Stroller Safari because it saw a void in educational opportunities for infants, says MaryLynn Conter Strack, enrichment program coordinator. The department bases the programs on concepts that coincide with developmental milestones, such as body parts, colors, movements, patterns and numbers. “We use Zoo animals to help teach these concepts in a fun, interactive way,” Conter Strack says. The programs launched in fall 2014, and sessions sold out quickly. This year, the department has added more sessions and extended the programming into summer.

Julie Pfeil, of Mukwonago, has been taking her 21-month-old son, Will, to classes since the beginning. “I work during the day, so this is my chance to interact one-on-one with him,” she says. She enjoys learning the songs and sign language for different animals with Will, and says he even does the signs after they get home. “I’m surprised at how much he takes from it, being as young as he is,” she says. “It’s definitely a learning event for him and a bonding experience for us.”

The “Stripes, Spots or Solids?” program starts, like all Stroller Safaris, in the lobby of the education building, where adults help themselves to coffee donated by Valentine Coffee Co. Instructor Molly Del Vecchio starts by teaching the group the sign for “cat,” using her thumb and forefinger to stroke an imaginary whisker near her face. “When you’re signing with children, you want to be extra dramatic,” she says. The adults push the children in their strollers to the Florence Mila Borchert Big Cat Country building. They stop



Sign up for Zoo Class!

Some spots remain for Fall Zoo Classes. Registration for February-May classes starts Nov. 6. Visit zoosociety.org/education for class listings and more information.

Instructor Molly Del Vecchio reads a story to the children, parents and grandparents to close out the Stroller Safari class “Stripes, Spots or Solids?”



Leo Z., age 15 months, of Mequon, has a personal encounter with Tula the Amur tiger.

Previous page:

Top: Natty, age 15 months, feels the soft texture of faux cheetah fur with his mom, Jess Phelps, of Pewaukee.

Bottom: Leo Z. waves a tiger “peek-a-boo stick” he received at the Stroller Safari class “Stripes, Spots, or Solids?”



in the building entrance to look at the cheetahs as Del Vecchio sings a song: “One little, two little, three little cheetahs. Four little, five little, six little cheetahs ...”

“Let’s count how many cheetahs we have,” she says. “One, two.” The children touch squares of faux cheetah fur, feeling the soft texture and noting the spots. Del Vecchio explains the difference between cheetah, jaguar and leopard spots, something that the children probably don’t understand but is interesting to the adults.

The program is all about individual attention. Near the Lion Exhibit, Del Vecchio passes around pictures of lions and the toy lion, stopping at each stroller to point out the lion’s tail and paws. The kids, ranging in age from under 1 to almost 2, are at different developmental stages and react to the activities and animals differently. Some merely watch the instructor, while others

actively engage, laughing and interacting with the items they’re shown. But they all pay attention.

The big cats don’t disappoint. Tula, an Amur tiger, sniffs at the window when the group approaches and lays down against the glass, to the awe of adults and children alike. Not to be outdone, Themba the lion starts roaring loudly from his exhibit. “Let’s use this as a learning opportunity,” Del Vecchio says enthusiastically. “Let’s go see the lion roar.”

“It’s neat to see the animals early in the morning when they’re so active,” says Mike Borkoski, of Muskego. He’s attending the class with his 23-month-old daughter, Catherine. His 10-year-old son also has attended Zoo Class. He says he enjoys getting to experience Stroller Safari with his young daughter. “It’s a chance to get her out and spend some extra time with her.”

By Stacy Vogel Davis



January 2016



Themba, the Milwaukee County Zoo's male lion, and his mate, Sanura, enjoy warm sun rays on a cool winter's day.
Photo by Richard Brodzeller

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday



Right: Ducks and geese on Lake Evinrude.
Photo by Richard Brodzeller
Left: The Samson Stomp & Romp commemorates Samson, the Milwaukee County Zoo's famous gorilla.
Photo by Olga Kornienko



1
New Year's Day
Zoo open
9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

2
Family Free Day**

3

4

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Samson Stomp & Romp**

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Martin Luther King Jr. Day

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27

28

Puttin' on the Ritz,*
Potawatomi
Hotel & Casino,
evening event

29

30

31

*Zoological Society of Milwaukee event/program: zoosociety.org

**Milwaukee County Zoo event: milwaukeezoo.org



February 2016



Poison frogs are among the world's most toxic animals. They metabolize toxins found in the insects they eat in the wild. However, the Zoo's poison frogs — like this dyeing poison frog in the Aquatic & Reptile Center — are not toxic because their Zoo diet doesn't contain toxins. Photo by Bob Wickland

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Groundhog Day celebration at the Zoo**	3 Spring Zoo Classes begin* Online registration begins for Summer Camps*	4	5	6 Family Free Day**
7	8	9	10 Ash Wednesday	11	12	13
14 Valentine's Day	15 Presidents Day	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27 Zumba® Fitness Party at the Zoo,* 6-8 p.m.
28	29		Every year the Milwaukee County Zoo celebrates Groundhog Day. <small>Photo by Richard Brodzeller</small> Participants sweat for the animals at the Zoological Society's Zumba® Fitness Party at the Zoo. <small>Photos by Bob Wickland</small>			

*Zoological Society of Milwaukee event/program: zoosociety.org

**Milwaukee County Zoo event: milwaukeezoo.org



March 2016



In the wild, nimble golden-breasted starlings can catch insects in midflight. These iridescently colored birds live in the Kopje Exhibit in the Herb & Nada Mahler Family Aviary at the Milwaukee County Zoo. Photo by Richard Brodzeller

Sunday **Monday** **Tuesday** **Wednesday** **Thursday** **Friday** **Saturday**

<p>6</p> <p>Friends enjoy fine wine during the Zoological Society's Wines and Beers of the World fundraiser. Photo by Richard Taylor</p>		<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Wines and Beers of the World,* evening event</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Family Free Day**</p>
<p>13</p> <p>Behind the Scenes Weekend** Daylight Saving Time begins</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Behind the Scenes Weekend**</p>
<p>20</p> <p>Lunch with the Bunny** First day of spring Palm Sunday</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>St. Patrick's Day</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Zoo Pass members-only field trip* Breakfast & Lunch with the Bunny**</p>
<p>27</p> <p>Easter</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Purim begins at sundown</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Good Friday</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Egg Day**</p>
<p>31</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>		<p>A girl shows off the Easter basket she decorated at the Milwaukee County Zoo's Egg Day celebration. Photo by Richard Taylor</p>

*Zoological Society of Milwaukee event/program: zoosociety.org

**Milwaukee County Zoo event: milwaukeezoo.org




April 2016



Robin the moose wanders through the tall grass in her exhibit. Robin was found orphaned in an Alaskan backyard and sent to the Milwaukee County Zoo. Photo by Bob Wickland

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

<p>3</p> <p>Cheesy goodness: A young girl enjoys a bowl of mac and cheese at Zootastic, a Zoological Society fundraiser featuring animals, food and family-friendly fun. Photo by Richard Taylor</p> <p>Far right: Humboldt penguin Jack swims in his exhibit. Visit him on World Penguin Day on April 23. Photo by Olga Kornienko</p>			<p>1</p> <p>April Fools Day</p>	<p>2</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>
<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
			<p>22</p> <p>Earth Day</p> <p>Passover begins at sundown</p>	<p>23</p> <p>World Penguin Day**</p>
			<p>29</p> <p>Zootastic,* 5-9 p.m.</p>	<p>30</p>

*Zoological Society of Milwaukee event/program: zoosociety.org

**Milwaukee County Zoo event: milwaukeezoo.org



May 2016



Two of the Milwaukee County Zoo's impala take in their surroundings in the Holz Family Impala Country exhibit. Impala are prey for all of Africa's big cats, as well as hyenas, but they are hard to catch. Impala can leap distances up to 33 feet and jump 10 feet into the air. Photo by Richard Brodzeller

Sunday

Monday


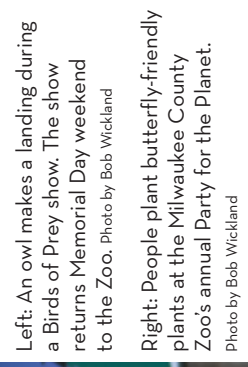
Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

1 May Day	2	3	4	5 Cinco de Mayo	6	7 Zoo Pass members-only field trip*
8 Mother's Day at the Zoo**	9	10	11	12	13	14 Party for the Planet**
15 Party for the Planet**	16 Online registration begins for Snooze at the Zoo*	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 The Zoo's official summer season opens, including its special summer exhibit and Kohl's Wild Theater Zoo performances.
29	30 Memorial Day	31			 <p>Left: An owl makes a landing during a Birds of Prey show. The show returns Memorial Day weekend to the Zoo. Photo by Bob Wickland</p> <p>Right: People plant butterfly-friendly plants at the Milwaukee County Zoo's annual Party for the Planet. Photo by Bob Wickland</p>	

*Zoological Society of Milwaukee event/program: zoosociety.org

**Milwaukee County Zoo event: milwaukeezoo.org



June 2016



Harbor seal pup Siku, born June 14, 2015, was able to swim within one hour after he was born. His zookeepers say he gets along swimmingly with his older brother, King Julian (KJ), who was born June 8, 2014. You can visit Siku, KJ and their parents — Ringo and Sydney — in the North America Area near the polar bear. Photo by Richard Brodzeller

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday



A father and his young son get their photo taken during Father's Day at the Zoo. All dads receive free admission (parking not included).
Photo by Richard Brodzeller

1 Summer Camps begin*

2

3

4

5

6

Ramadan begins at sundown

7

Free admission to the Zoo's special summer exhibit for Zoo Pass members,* 5-9 p.m.

8

Free admission to the Zoo's special summer exhibit for Zoo Pass members,* 5-9 p.m.

9

Free admission to the Zoo's special summer exhibit for Zoo Pass members,* 5-9 p.m.

10

11 Animal Enrichment Day**

12

13

14 Flag Day

15

16

17

18

19

Father's Day at the Zoo**

20

First day of summer

21

22

23

24

25

Zoo Ball,* evening event

26

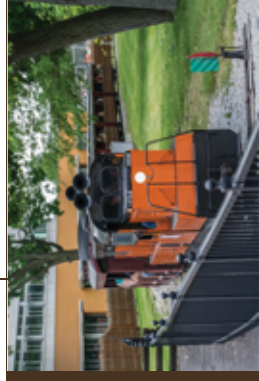
27

28

29 Sunset Zoofari**

30

The popular miniature train makes its rounds through the Milwaukee County Zoo.
Photo by Bob Wickland



*Zoological Society of Milwaukee event/program: zoosociety.org

**Milwaukee County Zoo event: milwaukeezoo.org



July 2016



Ring-tailed lemurs are instantly recognizable owing to their bushy black-and-white ringed tails. You can see the Zoo's two ring-tailed lemurs in the Small Mammals Building. Photo by Richard Brodzeller

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

	 <p>Left: The carousel is always a hit with children. Photo by Bob Wickland</p> <p>Right: Kids can be the band with UB the Band during the Zoological Society's members-only Kids' Nights at the Zoo. Photo by Richard Brodzeller</p>			
<p>3 Military Family Day**</p>	<p>4 Independence Day</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6 Sunset Zoofari** Eid al-Fitr begins at sundown</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12 Kids' Nights at the Zoo for Zoo Pass members,* 5-9 p.m.</p>	<p>13 Sunset Zoofari**</p>	<p>14 Kids' Nights at the Zoo for Zoo Pass members,* 5-9 p.m.</p>
<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20 Sunset Zoofari**</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>24</p>	<p>25 Birdies & Eagles Golf Tournament,* off Zoo grounds</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 Sunset Zoofari**</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>2</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>15 Kids' Nights at the Zoo for Zoo Pass members,* 5-9 p.m.</p>	<p>16</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>

*Zoological Society of Milwaukee event/program: zoosociety.org

**Milwaukee County Zoo event: milwaukeezoo.org



August 2016



At 15 to 28 pounds, cinereous vultures are the largest bird of prey in Africa, Asia and Europe. They can also fly amazingly high. Cinereous vultures have been spotted on Mt. Everest at 23,000 feet. You can see cinereous vultures in the Holz Family Impala Country exhibit. Photo by Richard Brodzeller

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 Sunset Zoofari**	4 Online registration begins for Fall Zoo Classes*	5	6
7	8	9	10 Snooze at the Zoo*	11 Snooze at the Zoo*	12 Snooze at the Zoo*	13 Snooze at the Zoo*
14	15	16	17	18 A la Carte**	19 A la Carte**	20 A la Carte**
21 A la Carte**	22	23	24	25	26	27 Animal Safari*
28	29	30	31	 <p>Two brothers play with flashlights at the Zoological Society's Snooze at the Zoo, the only time of year when the general public can camp at the Milwaukee County Zoo. <small>Photo by Richard Brodzeller</small></p>		

*Zoological Society of Milwaukee event/program: zoosociety.org

**Milwaukee County Zoo event: milwaukeezoo.org



September 2016



The Milwaukee County Zoo's two African elephants, Ruth and Brittany, are very popular among zoogoers. Here, Brittany gently touches Ruth with her trunk.

Photo by Richard Taylor

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday



Left: An elephant topiary at the Zoo. Elephant Appreciation Day is Sept. 17.
Photo by Bob Wickland

Right: There are beer samples galore and big cats to adore at the Zoological Society's Zoo Brew fundraiser.
Photo by Richard Brodzeller



1 Fall Zoo Classes begin*

2 Senior Celebration**

3

4

5 Labor Day

6

7

8

9

10 Family Farm Weekend**

11 Family Farm Weekend**
Ride on the Wild Side
Bike Ride*

12

13

14

15

16

17 Zoo Pass members-only field trip*
Elephant Appreciation Day**

18

19

20

21

22 First day of autumn

23

24

25

26

27

28

29 Zoo Brew,* evening event

30

*Zoological Society of Milwaukee event/program: zoosociety.org

**Milwaukee County Zoo event: milwaukeezoo.org






October 2016



These Japanese macaques at the Milwaukee County Zoo don't mind the cool fall temperatures. Japanese macaques — also called snow monkeys — live farther north than any non-human primate. You can see them at Macaque Island year-round. Photo by Bob Wickland

Sunday **Monday** **Tuesday** **Wednesday** **Thursday** **Friday** **Saturday**

	<p>3</p> <p>Rosh Hashana begins at sundown</p>	<p>4</p> <p>A giraffe investigates a pumpkin treat during Halloween Spooktacular. <small>Photo by Richard Brodzeller</small></p>			<p>1</p> <p>The Milwaukee County Zoo is bedecked with Halloween decorations for the Zoo's two Halloween events, Boo at the Zoo and Halloween Spooktacular. <small>Photo by Olga Kornienko</small></p>	<p>8</p> <p>Family Free Day**</p>
<p>2</p> <p>Rosh Hashana begins at sundown</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Rosh Hashana begins at sundown</p>	<p>4</p> <p>A giraffe investigates a pumpkin treat during Halloween Spooktacular. <small>Photo by Richard Brodzeller</small></p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Family Free Day**</p>
<p>9</p> <p>Columbus Day observed</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Columbus Day observed</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Yom Kippur begins at sundown</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Boo at the Zoo,** 6-9 p.m.</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Boo at the Zoo,** 6-9 p.m.</p> <p>Wolf Awareness Day**</p>
<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Halloween Spooktacular with trick-or-treating,** 6-9 p.m.</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Halloween Spooktacular with trick-or-treating,** 9 a.m.-9 p.m.</p>
<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Halloween 31</p>

*Zoological Society of Milwaukee event/program: zoosociety.org

**Milwaukee County Zoo event: milwaukeezoo.org



November 2016



Massasauga rattlesnakes are one of two venomous snakes found in Wisconsin (the other is the timber rattlesnake). Massasaugas used to range across the southern half of Wisconsin, but are now endangered due to habitat loss and a bounty on their tails that lasted from the late 1800s to 1975. You can see the Zoo's massasauga in the Aquatic & Reptile Center. Photo by Richard Brodzeller

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday



<p>6 Daylight Saving Time ends</p>	<p>7</p> <p>The Herb & Nada Mahler Family Aviary is a tropical delight on a cold day. Photo by Richard Brodzeller</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 Online registration begins for 2017 Spring Zoo Classes*</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 Family Free Day**</p>
<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 Thanksgiving Zoo open 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>		<p>11 Veterans Day</p>	<p>12 Zoo Pass members-only holiday field trip*</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Gobble-gobble: Every so often a wild turkey makes the Milwaukee County Zoo its home. Photo by Richard Brodzeller</p>

*Zoological Society of Milwaukee event/program: zoosociety.org

**Milwaukee County Zoo event: milwaukeezoo.org



December 2016



Charismatic Humboldt penguins often delight zoogoers with their playful antics. In the wild these birds are found in the coastal areas of Peru and Chile, so they easily tolerate warm and cold conditions. You can the visit the Zoo's Humboldt penguins at the outdoor Humboldt Penguin Exhibit year-round. Photo by Bob Wickland

Sunday

A lucky little girl sits on Santa's lap after eating a hearty breakfast.
Photo by Richard Brodzeller

Monday



Tuesday

A Girl Scout hangs an ornament she made during the Zoological Society's Trim-a-Tree event to decorate the Fantastic Forest.
Photo by Olga Kornienko

Wednesday



Thursday

1

Friday

2
Fantastic Forest
(through Dec. 31)*

Saturday

3
Family Free Day**
Breakfast & Lunch
with Santa**

4

Lunch with Santa**

6

7

8

9

10
Breakfast & Lunch
with Santa**

11

Lunch with Santa**

13

14

15

16

17
Breakfast & Lunch
with Santa**

18

Lunch with Santa**

20

21

First day of winter

22

23

24
Hannukah begins
at sundown

25

Christmas

27

Kwanzaa begins

28

29

30

31
New Year's Eve

*Zoological Society of Milwaukee event/program: zoosociety.org

**Milwaukee County Zoo event: milwaukeezoo.org

Fall Flourish

The Milwaukee County Zoo is one of the best places in the city to see fall color. Plan a trip to observe the changing leaves and see the animals too, of course!

