

# Alive



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- Bonobo Anniversary
- Pat the Cat's Legacy
- Career Day at the Zoo
- Creature Calendar



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

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When you think of the Zoological Society of Milwaukee, I hope you think of the Milwaukee County Zoo. The animals we support at the Zoo are ambassadors for those in the wild, and we are as committed to the care and wellbeing of those animals in the wild as we are to those at the Zoo. For example, we operate an initiative in the Democratic Republic of Congo in Central Africa called the Bonobo & Congo Biodiversity Initiative (BCBI), celebrating its 20th anniversary this year. BCBI works in the Salonga National Park to study and protect the endangered bonobo, a species of great ape. We've come quite a long way in 20 years. When the initiative was founded, we weren't even sure bonobos lived in the park,

but we recently discovered possibly the largest unfragmented bonobo population thus far described for the species. Our conservation coordinator, Dr. Gay Reinartz, spends six months of the year in the Congo and oversees programs that support research and anti-poaching patrols. Over the years, we've expanded our mission to include forest elephants and other wildlife as well as educational support for local villagers. Turn to page 4 to see the highlights.

On the other side of the world, some Milwaukee County Zoo staff members were involved in conservation work of their own this year at The Belize Zoo in Central America (see page 6). Milwaukee is connected to that zoo through Pat, a jaguar who was rehabilitated at The Belize Zoo and eventually sent here. Pat touched the hearts of many visitors and staff in his nine years here. Now, Milwaukee zookeepers want to help the animals at The Belize Zoo and in the wild in Belize.

Maybe young people reading this magazine want to work with animals around the world. Or maybe they want to work with animals right here in Milwaukee. Either way, they might consider a career with the Milwaukee County Zoo or Zoological Society of Milwaukee. I had the pleasure of meeting local teens at two Career Days the Zoological Society and Zoo held this summer to introduce them to the wide range of jobs available here. Our summer intern, Emily Gamb, has more info on page 3.

Finally, make sure you hang onto this issue, because it includes our annual animal calendar. Our photographers have given us their best pictures of everything from an archerfish to a hyena to a Bactrian camel to help you keep track of Zoo and Society events in 2018. Enjoy!

*Jodi Gibson*

Jodi Gibson  
 President & CEO  
 Zoological Society of Milwaukee

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**ON THE COVER:** Faith the bonobo. Photo by Bob Wickland



Students from the Urban Ecology Center's Outdoor Leaders program line up to feed the giraffes during Career Day at the Zoo.  
Photo by Bob Wickland

# From Keeper to CEO: Teens Learn about Zoo & Society Jobs at Career Day

Students have big dreams for what they'll be when they grow up: doctors, actors, astronauts – the list is endless. Many children want to work with animals like the ones at the Milwaukee County Zoo. Students from Northcott Neighborhood House, PEARLS for Teen Girls and the Urban Ecology Center had the unique opportunity to explore the different employment opportunities at the Zoo and Society, from zookeeper to CEO and a host of other options, during two Career Days this summer.

The Zoological Society of Milwaukee has held Career Day annually since 2007, in cooperation with the Zoo's Diversity Committee. "Our simple aim is to expose kids to opportunities that they likely don't know exist, and along the way encourage them to do their best in school and definitely pursue a college degree," said James Mills, Zoological Society education director. Through tours and interactive discussions, students learned about what zookeepers, veterinarians, educators, CEOs and even Zoo Pride volunteers do here at the Zoo. Alongside Zoo staff, educators and volunteers, students were able to go behind the scenes in animal buildings, visit grizzly bears and feed giraffes.

Some students are unsure of what they'd like to pursue in their futures. "I don't know what I want to go to college for yet, but I learned so much at Career Day and it opened my eyes to many

different jobs the Zoo has," said Celie, 15. However, students like Justice, 16, think a job at the Zoo might be a good fit. "I would want to work with the giraffes. I loved feeding them and would hope to take care of a baby giraffe!" For the meantime, students learned they can

gain experience by volunteering at the Zoo starting at age 16. "I'm able to get volunteer hours and help smaller kids," said Laniya, a 10th-grader in the PEARLS for Teen Girls program.

This Career Day was the first for Jodi Gibson, the Zoological Society president and CEO, and exceeded her high hopes. "I wanted students to leave Career Day feeling inspired and to begin thinking about their futures. From their engagement and interest, I certainly think that was achieved." Gibson emphasized to students that there are many incredible employment opportunities at the Milwaukee County Zoo and in all of Milwaukee. During her meeting with students, Gibson said that beginning to think about your future and college can be stressful, but you don't have to have all of the answers right away. "Take your time, work hard and follow your heart," she told them. That's good advice, whether you want to be a doctor, astronaut or keeper at the Milwaukee County Zoo.

*By Emily Gamb*



Above: Zoological Society President and CEO Jodi Gibson talks to students during Career Day at the Zoo.  
Photo by Bob Wickland



Left: Members of PEARLS for Teen Girls feed the giraffes during Career Day at the Zoo.  
Photo courtesy of PEARLS for Teen Girls



# Celebrating Two Decades of Bonobo Conservation

It's been 20 years since the Zoological Society sent its first mission to Central Africa to launch the Bonobo & Congo Biodiversity Initiative (BCBI). The participants' task was to find out if bonobos – an endangered species of great ape and one of the closest relatives to humans – live in the Salonga National Park, Africa's largest rainforest park in the Democratic Republic of Congo. They found plenty of evidence of bonobos, and BCBI has been studying and protecting them ever since. Here are some highlights of the creation and accomplishments of BCBI to this point.



Dr. Gay Reinartz, Zoological Society conservation coordinator and director of the Bonobo & Congo Biodiversity Initiative, sits in front of the bonobo exhibit at the Milwaukee County Zoo.

Photo by Bob Wickland

Katu, a young bonobo at the Milwaukee County Zoo. The Zoo has the largest population of bonobos in North America.

Photo by Bob Wickland



**1986** The Milwaukee County Zoo becomes the fourth zoo in the nation to house bonobos when it receives seven bonobos from the Netherlands.

**1988** The Association of Zoos & Aquariums creates the Bonobo Species Survival Plan® to help keep the captive bonobo population genetically diverse and healthy. Dr. Gay Reinartz, Zoological Society conservation coordinator, manages the plan.

**1995** The Zoological Society, collaborating with international bonobo experts, publishes the first bonobo conservation action plan. It identifies the little-known Salonga National Park as a possible stronghold for bonobos with a recommendation to explore the northern sector of the park.

**1997** The Zoological Society develops BCBI with Reinartz as program director. The Society becomes an official partner of Congo's park authority, gaining authorization to work in the country. The first Salonga mission sets off in December.

**1998** BCBI conducts an initial exploratory survey in the northern sector of the Salonga to determine if bonobos reside in the park and immediately finds signs of bonobos. In August 1998, civil war erupts in the Congo, ravaging the country and halting conservation work in the Salonga until late 2000.

**2000** BCBI sets up a research base called Eteate in the northern sector of the Salonga. BCBI continues to conduct small surveys at key sites across the national park despite the ongoing war.

**2000-03** Working with the Salonga guards, BCBI's research team discovers five populations of bonobos in the Salonga. While the civil war continues, BCBI provides salary supplements and distributes emergency supplies to Salonga guards.

## 2003-05

BCBI increases anti-poaching support, builds Eteate into a year-round manned patrol post and sponsors the first formal paramilitary training for 60 Salonga guards. In 2005, Eteate guards confiscate 6,000 snares plus shotguns and spears. BCBI begins community outreach with villages bordering the park, providing supplies and teacher salaries for two primary schools.

**2006** The initiative implements a regional agricultural cooperative to teach villagers better farming methods, reduce local reliance on hunting and improve nutrition. It starts training park guards in navigation and data collection so they can collect information about wildlife on their patrols.

Dr. Gay Reinartz and Salonga National Park guards point to bonobo nests in trees. The guards are trained not only in anti-poaching techniques but also in data collection so they can gather information about bonobos and other wildlife.

Photo courtesy of BCBI





BCBI supports primary schools near Etate and helps teach adults to read. It also conducts annual field days to help local children learn more about the wildlife in their backyards. Photo by Hugo Warner

## 2007-08

BCBI starts literacy programs to train Etate guards and local villagers to read and write.

## 2009

The BCBI survey team temporarily relocates 120 miles away to survey a community-owned forest. It trains 20 villagers in wildlife monitoring and discovers a core bonobo population under severe hunting pressure.

## 2011

BCBI receives a prestigious grant from the Association of Zoos & Aquariums to support ongoing surveys and anti-poaching efforts in the Salonga and receives the organization's International Conservation Award.

The fight to save the bonobo is far from over, and BCBI - now the longest-running conservation program in the Salonga - will continue to play a major role in bonobo conservation. The initiative has helped conservationists gain a deeper understanding of where bonobos live, the habitat they prefer and the threats they face. The initiative also protects the highly endangered forest elephant and other species found in the Salonga. Zoological Society members and donors can be proud knowing they are helping support this endeavor.

## 2012

BCBI secures funds for the construction and establishment of Lotulo, a new strategic patrol post that will reduce large-scale elephant poaching on the Yenge River.

## 2013

BCBI launches an exploratory mission to the upper reaches of the Yenge River, an area in the park known as Dare Dare, and finds significant wildlife populations but also unchecked poaching. BCBI later receives a grant to support long-distance river patrols to Dare Dare.

## 2014

With BCBI support, groundbreaking patrols are conducted in January and February into the previously unpatrolled Dare Dare region in the heart of the Salonga. This vast, lawless no-man's-land is home to highly threatened elephant and bonobo communities. During their first year, long-distance patrols arrest 13 poachers, destroy 59 camps, confiscate five automatic guns, and seize eight elephant tails and two ivory tusks.

BCBI staff travel to Etate, its base in the Salonga National Park, by pirogue, a type of dug-out canoe. They bring fuel and other supplies to guards and researchers. Photo courtesy of BCBI



## 2014-15

BCBI constructs two elevated wooden houses at Etate, the first permanent structures at the post. One house serves as a headquarters for research activities, and the other provides lodging for park guards.

## 2016

BCBI completes a four-year intensive survey, covering 2,600 square miles of dense rainforest or one-fifth of the park. It documents possibly the largest unfragmented bonobo population thus far described for the species - about 4,100 bonobos - along with 300 forest elephants. At the same time, BCBI establishes its third strategic patrol post at Biondo Biondo, 125 miles upriver from Etate.

## 2017

BCBI completes another phase of survey work in a new sector of the Salonga, bringing its total research coverage to 35% of the park.

### What does BCBI do?

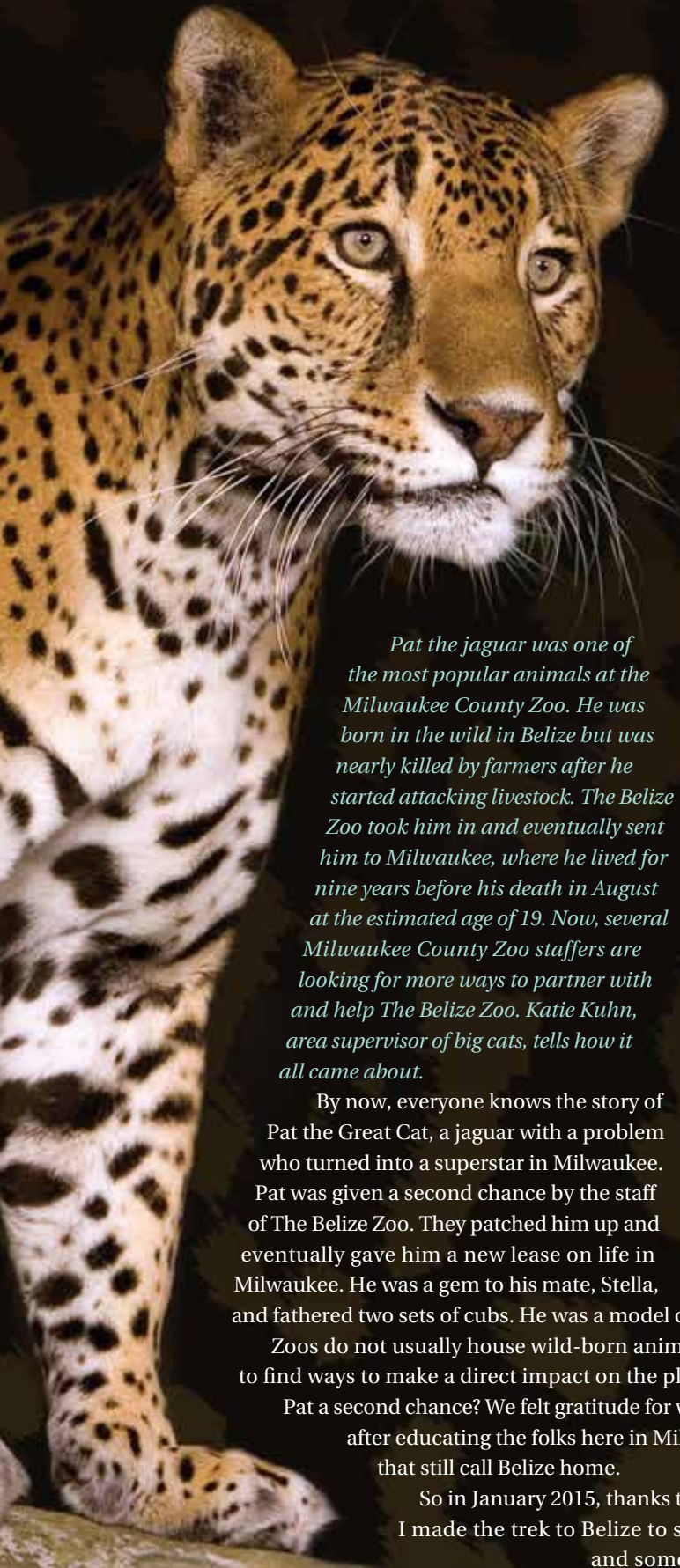
- **Surveys and research:** BCBI surveys provide crucial information about bonobo and forest elephant populations, pinpoint areas of poaching and assess the impact of human activities on bonobo survival. BCBI has helped identify the Salonga National Park as a critical bonobo conservation site.
- **Park support and guard training:** BCBI supports three patrol posts in the Salonga, providing professional training, supplies, rations, equipment and logistical support to park guards.
- **Community assistance:** BCBI offers literacy programs to local residents and supports village primary schools.

Visit [bonoboconservation.com](http://bonoboconservation.com) for more information about BCBI, bonobos and how you can help.

### BCBI wouldn't be possible without the support of many organizations and generous donors over the years, including:

- Anonymous
- Antonia Foundation
- Association of Zoos & Aquariums Ape TAG Conservation Initiative
- The Felburn Foundation
- Institut Congolais pour la Conservation de la Nature
- Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens
- Jones Family Fund
- Margot Marsh Biodiversity Foundation
- Milwaukee County Zoo
- U.S. Agency for International Development
- United Nations Foundation
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
- Wildlife Conservation Network
- World Wildlife Fund
- Fred Young Family
- Zoological Society of San Diego





# PAT THE CAT'S LEGACY LIVES ON

*Pat the jaguar was one of the most popular animals at the Milwaukee County Zoo. He was born in the wild in Belize but was nearly killed by farmers after he started attacking livestock. The Belize Zoo took him in and eventually sent him to Milwaukee, where he lived for nine years before his death in August at the estimated age of 19. Now, several Milwaukee County Zoo staffers are looking for more ways to partner with and help The Belize Zoo. Katie Kuhn, area supervisor of big cats, tells how it all came about.*

By now, everyone knows the story of Pat the Great Cat, a jaguar with a problem who turned into a superstar in Milwaukee. Pat was given a second chance by the staff of The Belize Zoo. They patched him up and eventually gave him a new lease on life in Milwaukee. He was a gem to his mate, Stella, and fathered two sets of cubs. He was a model citizen in Milwaukee, touching the hearts of everyone he met.

Zoos do not usually house wild-born animals anymore, so having Pat was a unique experience. It inspired us to find ways to make a direct impact on the place Pat came from. How could we give back to the people who gave Pat a second chance? We felt gratitude for what they did for him and a strong connection to the country of Belize after educating the folks here in Milwaukee about Pat's homeland. We also wanted to help the jaguars that still call Belize home.

So in January 2015, thanks to some very good friends of Pat the Cat, zookeeper Amanda Ista and I made the trek to Belize to see how we could get involved. We met the staff of The Belize Zoo and some board members of The Belize Zoo and Neotropical Conservancy (a nonprofit dedicated to The Belize Zoo and conservation research in Belize). We spent time with the zookeepers who take care of the jaguars and even some who took care of Pat. We shared stories, ideas and experiences. We even



Staff from the Milwaukee County Zoo traveled to Belize to help keepers there. Photo courtesy of Katie Kuhn

Pat was a favorite among keepers and visitors during his nine years in Milwaukee. Photo by Richard Brodzeller



assisted in some medical procedures. We visited Runaway Creek Wildlife Refuge and hiked through the many terrains of Belize. We saw jaguar prints, heard howler monkeys, walked right past a juvenile fer-de-lance (a very venomous snake), and saw tapir tracks and poop! We visited the coast and learned about reef ecology and how the reefs affect Belize.

We even visited the Mayan ruins of Xunantunich to learn about the history of Belize, which deepened our understanding of this beautiful country. But most importantly, we talked with the staff at the zoo and asked how we could help. We came up with A LOT of ideas, but then we had to decide what was possible and what took priority.

We came home and met with Zoo senior staff to share our experience and start the discussion. Eventually we decided to conduct workshops for the staff of The Belize Zoo and get our staff involved in conservation projects in Belize. In January 2016, seven zoo professionals headed to Belize to teach a basic zookeeper workshop for the animal staff. We had a team with a diverse background – Katie Kuhn, area supervisor of big cats; Danielle Faucett, area supervisor of Winter Quarters; Robert Korman, veterinary technician; Amanda Ista, big cat zookeeper; Beth Rich, deputy Zoo director of animal management and health; Matt Rich, retired zookeeper and fountain of knowledge; and Amy Schilz, animal manager of the African Rift Valley at Cheyenne Mountain Zoo in Colorado. This was the first part of “Pat the Cat Gives Back.”

The employees of The Belize Zoo have similar responsibilities to the keepers here in Milwaukee. They take care of a lot of animals, educate the public, do animal demos and encounters, and conduct tours. But they also wear a lot of other hats throughout the year, such as firefighter, maintenance worker and vet tech. They are a small zoo with a small staff, and everyone has to pitch in. They are the only zoo in their country, so educational or professional-development opportunities are limited. This workshop was designed to give them an overview of basic

zookeeper skills. We covered animal husbandry, safety, a veterinary overview and some hands-on topics such as training, enrichment, communication and teamwork. We spent six days from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. teaching, working, problem-solving and talking with the staff. It was an exhausting week for everyone!

We quickly learned how much they got out of it and that they wanted more. While we were there, they asked us about a few training challenges that we could help

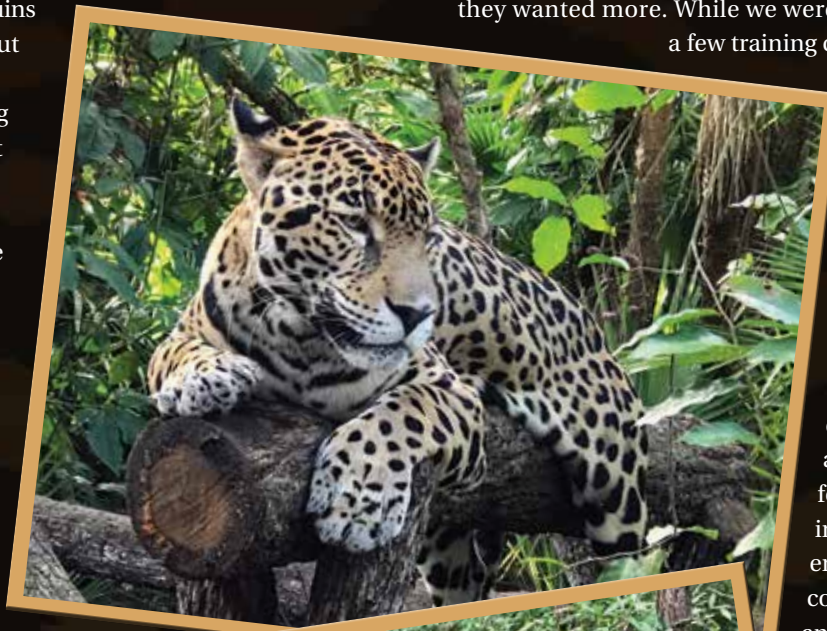
them work through. I am happy to report that each challenge was overcome. They even took what they learned and applied it to other animals and situations after we left. They were enthralled with the topics Bob Korman covered in the vet section. We had never seen them more engaged than when standing around a microscope looking for parasites! We did surveys for instructors and students at the end of the course to see what we could do better. The resounding answer from the students was they wanted us to stay longer and go into more details on some topics, particularly hands-on training and veterinary practices. It was an amazing week filled with keepers from very different situations coming together to learn from each other.

We also want to participate in conservation initiatives in Belize. The Milwaukee County Zoo does not have its own research department, but we have a lot of willing and able bodies. Currently we are talking to different organizations to see what might be the best fit. We are looking to combine the workshops and the conservation under one

umbrella project in Belize, hopefully for years to come.

This all started because one jaguar touched the hearts of every person who came to know him. Pat the Great Cat became a stellar ambassador for his species. Children in Belize and America read about him in his book, and Zoo visitors learn about him from our volunteers and keepers. Even after his death, he is inspiring conservation, education and professional-development initiatives among those who cared for him in Belize and Milwaukee. His legacy will live on for many years.

*By Katie Kuhn*



The Belize Zoo features jaguars, tapirs and other animals native to the country. Photos courtesy of Katie Kuhn







# January 2018



Tiger cubs Kashtan, Eloise and Bernadette were born Sept. 14, 2016, to mom Amba and dad Strannik. Here's Kashtan at about 6 months old.

Photo by Olga Kornienko

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5	6 Family Free Day**
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Samson Stomp & Romp**	15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 Puttin' on the Ritz,* Potawatomi Hotel & Casino, evening event	26	27
28	29	30	31	Left: The Samson Stomp & Romp has options for runners of all ages. Photo by Olga Kornienko Right: Puttin' on the Ritz features amateur boxing, drinks and fine dining. Photo by Stacy Kaat		



\*Zoological Society of Milwaukee event: [zoosociety.org](http://zoosociety.org)

\*\*Milwaukee County Zoo event: [milwaukeezoo.org](http://milwaukeezoo.org)







# February 2018



Bactrian camels are built for the deserts of Central and East Asia, where the temperature can range from -20 degrees to more than 100 degrees. The shaggy winter coats of Sanchi (left) and her daughter Addi Jean (also known as AJ) keep them nice and warm in Wisconsin winters.

Photo by Bob Wickland

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>The Zumba® Fitness Party at the Zoo raises money for the Zoological Society's Sponsor an Animal program. Photo by Bob Wickland</p>			<p>7 Online registration begins for Summer Camps*</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2 Groundhog Day celebration at the Zoo**</p>	<p>3 Spring Zoo Classes begin* Family Free Day**</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 Online registration begins for Summer Camps*</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>
<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 Ash Wednesday Valentine's Day</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>18</p>	<p>19 Presidents Day</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 Zumba® Fitness Party at the Zoo,* 6-8 p.m.</p>
<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 Purim begins at sundown</p>	<p>Kids can learn about animals, Zoo careers, art and other topics at Zoo Classes &amp; Camps. Photo by Bob Wickland</p>		

\*Zoological Society of Milwaukee event: [zoosociety.org](http://zoosociety.org)

\*\*Milwaukee County Zoo event: [milwaukeezoo.org](http://milwaukeezoo.org)





# March 2018



Violet turacos aren't the best flyers, but they easily navigate their forest habitat by running along branches. When caught by predators, they can release feathers to escape. Photo by Richard Brodzeller

Sunday

Families can tour the Zoo's greenhouses during Behind the Scenes Weekend.  
Photo by Olga Kornienko

Monday



Tuesday

Egg Day includes crafts, face-painting and an egg hunt.  
Photo by Stacy Kaat

Wednesday



Thursday

1

Saturday

3  
Family Free Day\*\*

4

5

6

7

8

9

10  
Behind the Scenes Weekend\*\*

11

Behind the Scenes Weekend\*\*  
Daylight Saving Time begins

12

13

14

15

16

17  
St. Patrick's Day

18

19

20

First day of spring

21

22

23

24

25

Palm Sunday

26

27

28

29

30  
Good Friday

31  
Egg Day\*\*

\*\*Zoological Society of Milwaukee event: [zoosociety.org](http://zoosociety.org)

\*\*Milwaukee County Zoo event: [milwaukeezoo.org](http://milwaukeezoo.org)





# April 2018



The archerfish has one of the coolest hunting methods in the animal kingdom. It shoots a powerful jet of water at insects in vegetation above the water, knocking them down so they can become prey. It can shoot water up to 5 feet in the air. Photo by Olga Kormienko

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Easter April Fools Day	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 World Penguin Day**
22 Earth Day	23	24	25	26	27 Zootastic, * 5-9 p.m.	28
29	30	29	30	Zootastic, a family fundraising night at the Zoo, includes crafts, a family photo and other fun activities. Photo by Bob Wickland		

\*Zoological Society of Milwaukee event: [zoosociety.org](http://zoosociety.org)

\*\*Milwaukee County Zoo event: [milwaukeezoo.org](http://milwaukeezoo.org)









# May 2018



Jozi loves a good romp in a mud puddle! The eastern black rhinoceros is 5 years old and came to the Zoo in late 2016. Rhinos wallow in the mud to cool off and protect their skin from the sun. Photo by Bob Wickland

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Enjoy a family day at the Zoo on Mother's Day. Mom's admission is free! Photo by Richard Taylor</p>		<p><b>1</b> May Day</p>	<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>5</b> Cinco de Mayo</p>
<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>12</b></p>
<p><b>13</b> Mother's Day at the Zoo**</p>	<p><b>14</b> Online registration begins for Snooze at the Zoo*</p>	<p><b>15</b> Ramadan begins at sundown</p>	<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b> Endangered Species Day**</p>	<p><b>19</b> Party for the Planet**</p>
<p><b>20</b> Party for the Planet**</p>	<p><b>21</b></p>	<p><b>22</b></p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p>	<p><b>26</b> Summer season begins at the Zoo, including the special dinosaur exhibit and four free Kohl's Wild Theater shows daily.</p>
<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b> Memorial Day</p>	<p><b>29</b></p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	<p><b>31</b></p>	<p>Kohl's Wild Theater offers four free shows daily at the Zoo starting Memorial Day weekend. Photo by Richard Taylor</p>	

\*Zoological Society of Milwaukee event: [zoosociety.org](http://zoosociety.org)

\*\*Milwaukee County Zoo event: [milwaukeezoo.org](http://milwaukeezoo.org)





# June 2018



Hornrietta, the Zoo's female Southern ground hornbill, shows off her latest treasure found in the Holz Family Impala Yard.  
Photo by Richard Brodzeller

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Nights in June is a members-only event that includes crafts, music and food trucks.  
Photo by Bob Wickland



Sunset Zoofaris offer live music on summer nights.  
Photo by Richard Brodzeller



1 Summer Camps begin\*

2 Scouting at the Zoo\*\*

3 Scouting at the Zoo\*\*

4

5 Nights in June for Zoo Pass members,\* 5-9 p.m.

6 Nights in June for Zoo Pass members,\* 5-9 p.m.

7 Nights in June for Zoo Pass members,\* 5-9 p.m.

8

9

10

11

12

13

14 Flag Day  
Eid al-Fitr begins at sundown

15

16

17 Father's Day at the Zoo\*\*

18

19

20

21 First day of summer

22

23 Zoo Ball,\* evening event

24

25

26

27 Sunset Zoofari,\*\* 6-9 p.m.

28

29

30

\*Zoological Society of Milwaukee event: [zoosociety.org](http://zoosociety.org)

\*\*Milwaukee County Zoo event: [milwaukeezoo.org](http://milwaukeezoo.org)







# July 2018



The grizzly bears playfully wrestle in the water on a warm summer day. The Milwaukee County Zoo has four grizzlies: mom Ronnie and her grown cubs Bozeman, Chinook and Brian. Photo by Bob Wickland

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 Independence Day	5 Sunset Zoofari, ** 6-9 p.m.	6	7
8	9	10 Kids' Nights for Zoo Pass members,* 5-9 p.m.	11 Sunset Zoofari, ** 6-9 p.m.	12 Kids' Nights for Zoo Pass members,* 5-9 p.m.	13 Kids' Nights for Zoo Pass members,* 5-9 p.m.	14
15	16	17	18 Sunset Zoofari, ** 6-9 p.m.	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Sunset Zoofari, ** 6-9 p.m.	26	27	28
29	30 Birdies & Eagles Golf Tournament,* off Zoo grounds	31	Become a rock star with U B the Band during Kids' Nights, an event for members. Photo by Stacy Kaat		Birdies & Eagles Golf Tournament is an annual fundraiser for the Zoological Society. Photo by Richard Taylor	

\*Zoological Society of Milwaukee event: [zoosociety.org](http://zoosociety.org)

\*\*Milwaukee County Zoo event: [milwaukeezoo.org](http://milwaukeezoo.org)











# September 2018



Red ruffed lemurs like the ones at the Zoo's Small Mammals Building are found in the wild only on the island of Madagascar, and they are critically endangered. They spend most of their time in the treetops and are highly social. Photo by Olga Kornienko

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

<p>Pedal through the Zoo and beyond at the Ride on the Wild Side Bike Ride fundraiser. Photo by Bob Wickland</p>				
<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>3</b> Labor Day</p>	<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>6</b></p>
<p><b>9</b> Family Farm Weekend** Ride on the Wild Side Bike Ride*</p>	<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>12</b></p>	<p><b>13</b></p>
<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b> Yom Kippur begins at sundown</p>	<p><b>19</b></p>	<p><b>20</b></p>
<p><b>23</b></p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p>	<p><b>26</b></p>	<p><b>27</b></p>
<p><b>30</b></p>				

<p><b>1</b> Fall Zoo Classes begin*</p>	<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b>14</b></p>	<p><b>21</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p>
<p><b>8</b> Family Farm Weekend** Rosh Hashana begins at sundown</p>	<p><b>15</b></p>	<p><b>22</b> First day of autumn</p>	<p><b>29</b></p>	



Photo by Olga Kornienko



Photo by Bob Wickland

\*Zoological Society of Milwaukee event: [zoosociety.org](http://zoosociety.org)

\*\*Milwaukee County Zoo event: [milwaukeezoo.org](http://milwaukeezoo.org)






# October 2018



Contrary to popular belief, spotted hyenas are more closely related to big cats than to canines. They scavenge leftover food from other predators but also hunt live prey. They make a laughing sound after catching prey to let other hyenas know to join in the feast. Photo by Bob Wickland

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Zoo Brew*	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Family Free Day**
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Columbus Day observed	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Boo at the Zoo,** 6-9 p.m.	<b>13</b> Boo at the Zoo,** 6-9 p.m.
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Halloween Spooktacular with trick-or-treating,** 6-9 p.m.	<b>20</b> Halloween Spooktacular with trick-or-treating,** 9 a.m.-9 p.m.
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Halloween	Enjoy Halloween activities such as costumes and pumpkin-carving at Boo at the Zoo and Halloween Spooktacular. <small>Photo by Olga Kornienko</small>		

\*Zoological Society of Milwaukee event: [zoosociety.org](http://zoosociety.org)

\*\*Milwaukee County Zoo event: [milwaukeezoo.org](http://milwaukeezoo.org)













# December 2018



Chameleons change color based on temperature, light and mood, not as camouflage. Male panther chameleons, like this one, are larger and more vibrantly colored than females. Photo by Bob Wickland

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

The 4- and 5-year-olds learn about reindeer and get a visit from a special guest in their December Zoo Class.  
Photo by Bob Wickland



Get into the holiday spirit at Breakfast & Lunch with Santa.  
Photo by Stacy Keat



**2**  
Breakfast & Lunch with Santa\*\*  
Hannukah begins at sundown

**3**

**4**

**5**

**6**

**7**

**9**  
Breakfast & Lunch with Santa\*\*

**10**

**11**

**12**

**13**

**14**

**16**  
Breakfast & Lunch with Santa\*\*

**17**

**18**

**19**

**20**

**21**  
First day of winter

**23**

**24**

**25**  
Christmas

**26**  
Kwanzaa begins

**27**

**28**

**30**

New Year's Eve **31**

**29**

**22**

**15**  
Breakfast & Lunch with Santa\*\*

**8**  
Breakfast & Lunch with Santa\*\*

**1**  
Fantastic Forest (through Dec. 28)\*  
Family Free Day\*\*  
Breakfast & Lunch with Santa\*\*

\*Zoological Society of Milwaukee event: [zoosociety.org](http://zoosociety.org)

\*\*Milwaukee County Zoo event: [milwaukeezoo.org](http://milwaukeezoo.org)



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A bonobo at the  
Milwaukee County Zoo.

Photo by Joel Miller

## 2018 Events Calendar

Zoological Society of Milwaukee and Milwaukee County Zoo



January



February



March



April



May



June



July



August



September



October



November



December

Event dates listed in the calendar are subject to change.

The Milwaukee County Zoo has the largest population of bonobos in North America at 21. Bonobos are the signature conservation focus of the Zoological Society of Milwaukee. The Society celebrated the 20th anniversary of its bonobo conservation program in 2017.

