



# Alive

## **THE ELEPHANT ISSUE!**

Ruth & Brittany Enjoy New Home

Incorporating Elephants in Education

From Milwaukee to Belize (& Back)

Your 2020 Calendar

An insider magazine for Zoo Pass-members • Fall 2019



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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We have had elephants on our minds for a long time at the Zoological Society of Milwaukee. We're raising money for Adventure Africa, which will transform 25% of the developed footprint of the Zoo with new exhibits for elephants, hippos, rhinos and African hoofstock. The Society is a 50-50 partner with Milwaukee County on Adventure Africa through our Window to the Wild Capital Campaign.

In May, we saw the first fruits of our efforts with the opening of the elephant and hoofstock exhibits. The state-of-the-art elephant exhibit includes 1.6 acres of outdoor space, more than four times the

size of the previous elephant exhibit, and a 20,000-square-foot Elephant Care Center where Ruth and Brittany receive top-notch care from Zoo staff.

We know you are just as excited about the new exhibits as we are. That's why we dedicated much of this issue to the elephants, including articles about how Ruth and Brittany are adjusting to their new home and how our Education Department is incorporating the new exhibit into its programming. In this issue you will also find our 2020 calendar showing the Zoo's incredible animals through the lens of our talented photographers. The calendar will keep you up-to-date on Zoo and Zoological Society activities throughout the year.

We are not done yet. Construction started this summer on a new hippo exhibit that will include underwater viewing, expected to open in June 2020. Following that will be a new rhinoceros exhibit, allowing the Zoo to spotlight these critically endangered creatures. Please visit [hippos.Win2Wild.com](http://hippos.Win2Wild.com) to learn more about our capital campaign. We are so grateful to everyone who has donated so far. You are helping us help the Zoo offer the very best to its animals, staff and visitors. Thank you.

*Jodi Gibson*

Jodi Gibson, Zoological Society President & CEO

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**ON THE COVER:** African elephant Brittany approaches the watering hole in her new home. Photo by Kevin McIntosh

# AN EDUCATION IN ELEPHANTS



Photos clockwise from bottom left: • Participants in the “Exhibit Design” camp design and build models of zoo exhibits. • The Elephant Care Center includes displays that demonstrate the type of care the elephants receive at the Zoo. • The Education Department sometimes brings classes to the Northwestern Mutual Learning Loft, where they can learn about animals and work on projects while looking down at the elephants in their indoor facility. • Instructor Heather Thomack points out features of the outdoor elephant exhibit that benefit the public and the elephants. Photos by Bob Wickland

The Elephant Care Center, the indoor area of the brand-new elephant exhibit at the Milwaukee County Zoo, has seen a steady stream of visitors since it opened in May. But tucked upstairs is a special room where few people get to go. There, 12- to 14-year-olds are building their own clay models of zoo exhibits. Through the glass wall next to them, they can look down into the elephants' home. One camper pulls a chair up to the glass and watches in awe as Ruth throws sand on her back following a bath.

Chloe H., like many of the teens in this “Exhibit Design” camp, has chosen to design an elephant exhibit. “We’re in the elephants’ exhibit,” she explains. “Also elephants are my favorite animal.” She and the other campers are getting insight into the design of the exhibit along with special access to the Northwestern Mutual Learning Loft they’re now in.

The elephant exhibit was designed from the earliest stages with education in mind. Graphics in the outdoor exhibit teach visitors about elephants in the wild, while displays in the Elephant Care Center offer information about caring for elephants in zoos. “There are so many people who don’t know what we do and what elephants in the wild are doing,” says Erin Dowgwillo, elephant care coordinator. “It’s important to teach the public so they care.” Classes and camps offered by the Zoological Society’s Conservation Education Department take that learning even further with special access to the exhibit, learning loft and keepers.

Instructor Heather Thomack incorporated the elephant exhibit into her career-themed summer camps, including the exhibit design class she is leading today. Earlier in the day, she took the campers around the outdoor exhibit, explaining why certain features were included. “A lot of this was designed for the public,” she says. “Look at all the places where you can get up close to the elephants and learn more about them.” At the demonstration yard, Thomack explains that the keepers are now able to do more training with

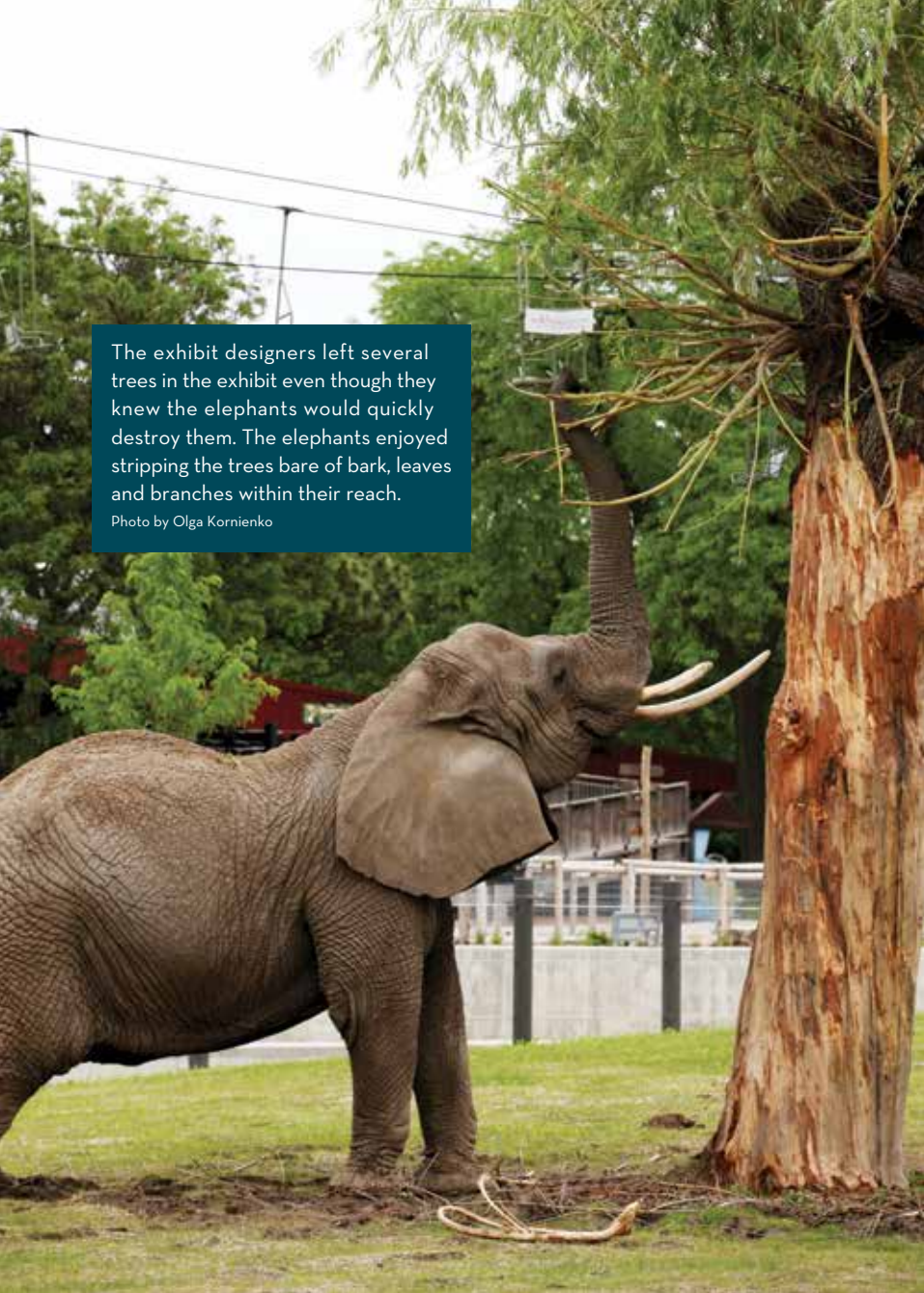
the elephants, allowing them to work on more advanced medical procedures. Inside the Elephant Care Center, she points out the sand on the floor that is better for the elephants’ feet and joints. “Between the natural substrate, the enrichment and all the training opportunities, this is a state-of-the-art exhibit.”

Visiting the learning loft is probably the biggest highlight for the kids, says Julia Petersen, the Zoological Society’s senior director of programs. “Most of the time when we see the elephants, we are looking up at them because of their enormous size. The learning loft gives the children a chance to see the elephants from a different perspective – from above. They can fully see the elephants’ behaviors and gain a greater appreciation for the intricacies of the building’s design.” The Education Department plans to incorporate the elephant exhibit into several upcoming classes, including an elephant zookeeper class for ages 6-10, a photography class for adults and teens, and classes for infants and 3-year-olds in the spring.

The result is a special experience for participants that helps them understand the magnificence of elephants, the importance of their conservation and the extraordinary care they receive at the Zoo. “It really shows what the zookeepers are providing for the animals,” says Andres P., a participant in the exhibit design class. The campers talk over each other as they excitedly describe hearing an elephant trumpet, watching the elephants choose where to go in the morning and learning about their needs. “It’s a once-in-a-lifetime experience,” Nathan W. says.

*By Stacy Vogel Davis*

**SPOTS STILL REMAIN FOR SOME FALL ZOO CLASSES – REGISTER NOW. REGISTRATION FOR WINTER & SPRING ZOO CLASSES STARTS NOV. 13. VISIT [ZOOSOCIETY.ORG/EDUCATION](http://ZOOSOCIETY.ORG/EDUCATION) TO LEARN MORE.**

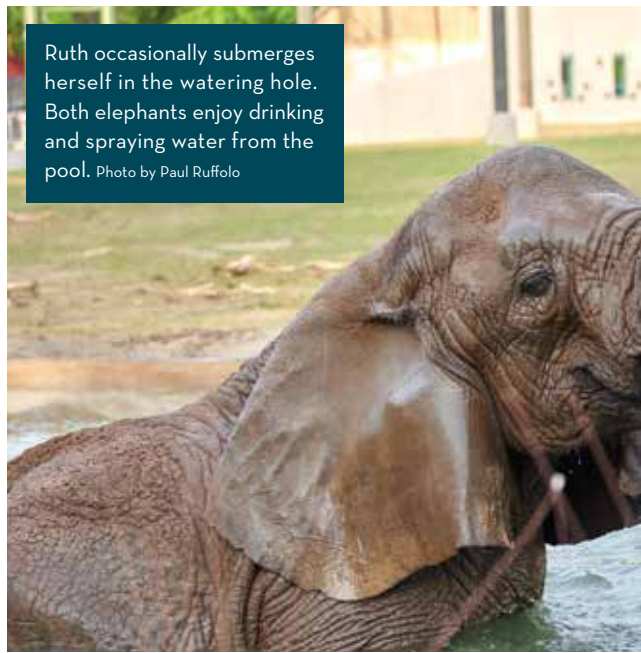


The exhibit designers left several trees in the exhibit even though they knew the elephants would quickly destroy them. The elephants enjoyed stripping the trees bare of bark, leaves and branches within their reach.

Photo by Olga Kornienko



Ruth occasionally submerges herself in the watering hole. Both elephants enjoy drinking and spraying water from the pool. Photo by Paul Ruffolo



## UNPACKING THEIR TRUNKS

When Ruth was finally allowed to roam the outdoor yard of the brand-new elephant exhibit, she didn't hesitate. She and her companion, Brittany, had moved to the indoor Elephant Care Center months before, but the majority of the outdoor exhibit wasn't ready for them until late spring 2019. "The first day we let them out, Ruth looked out the door, saw a willow tree and went directly to the tree," says Erin Dowgwillo, the Milwaukee County Zoo's elephant care coordinator. Brittany was a little more cautious, watching Ruth for a few minutes from the safety of their demonstration yard. Once she saw nothing bad had happened to Ruth, she happily joined her in stripping bark off the trees.

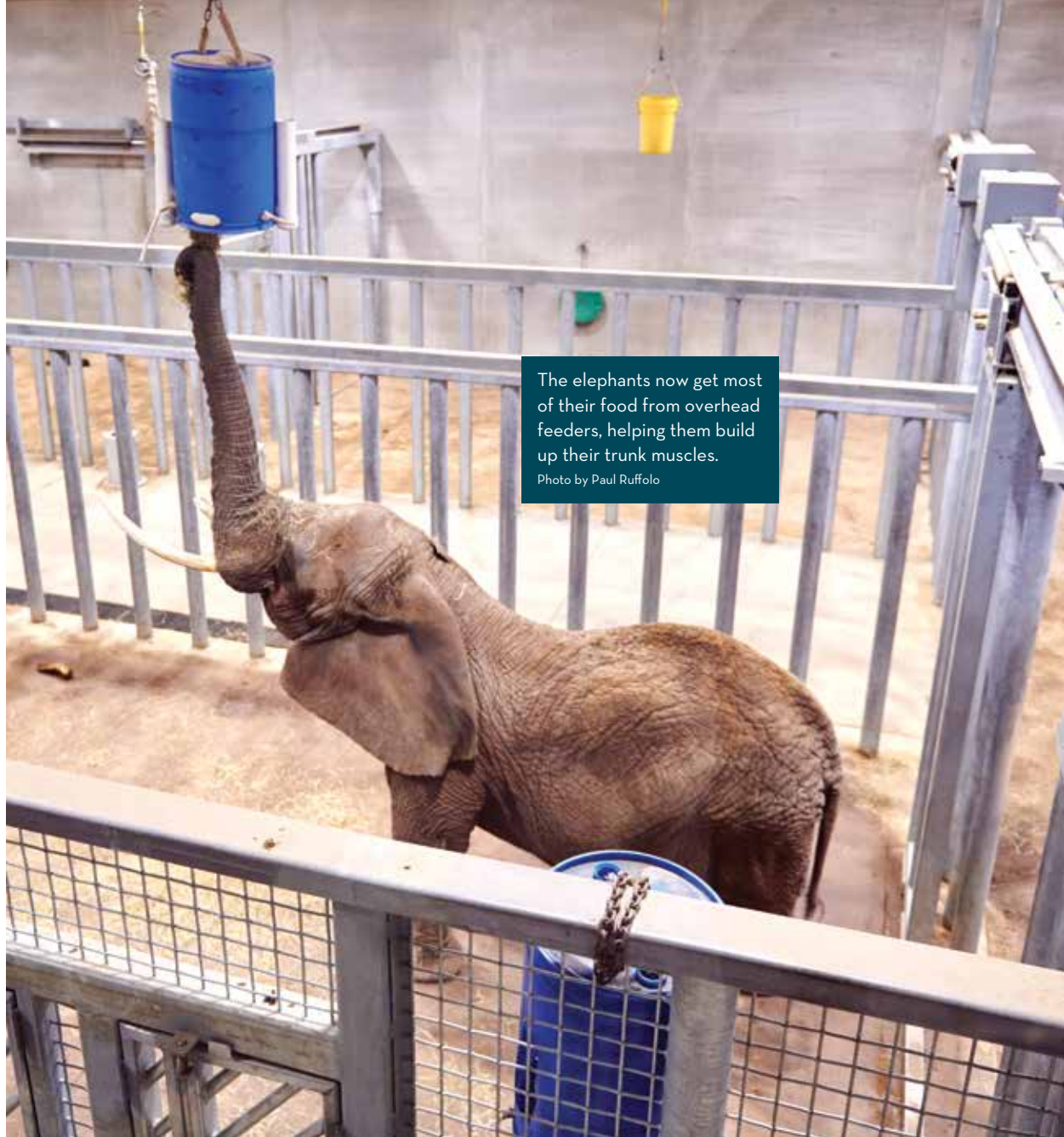
Within a few weeks, the trees were stripped bare, but there has been plenty more for Ruth and Brittany to do this summer. They learned early on to check the enrichment wall daily for treats. In July they discovered the outdoor shower, which is

motion activated. On hot days they turn it on, drink the water and then wallow in the mud the shower creates. Both of the elephants like to drink and spray water from the watering hole, and Ruth has submerged herself in it a few times, Dowgwillo says. Brittany enjoys lying down on the slopes of the hills because she prefers to lie on an angle instead of lying flat on the ground.

That's one of the most important aspects of the new exhibit—choice. Giving the elephants more choices stimulates their minds and more closely mimics the situation of elephants in the wild. "They seem to enjoy being able to go wherever they want to go," Dowgwillo says. Most of the time they have the option to go inside or outside, day or night. She notes that Ruth and Brittany often choose different activities. "At the old exhibit, they always had to do everything together. They like to be able to do their own thing."



The new exhibit encourages the elephants to engage in natural behaviors such as throwing dirt on their backs to keep cool.  
Photo by Paul Ruffolo



The elephants now get most of their food from overhead feeders, helping them build up their trunk muscles.  
Photo by Paul Ruffolo

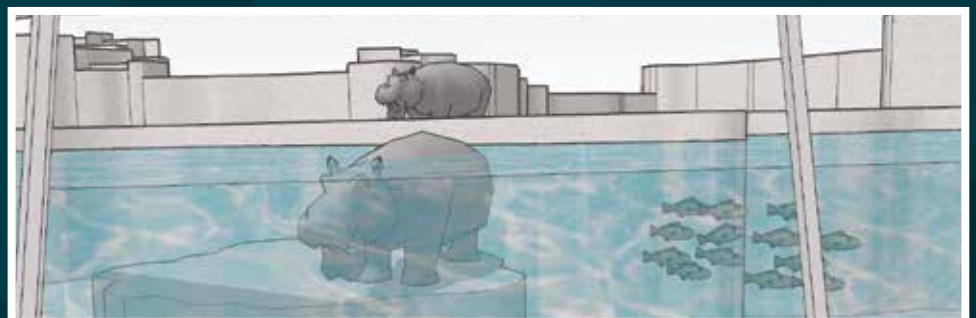
The exhibit also offers new feeding opportunities for Ruth and Brittany. Where they used to eat their food off the ground, they now get most of their food through overhead feeders. They have to lift their trunks to get the food, mimicking the way elephants in the wild grab browse from trees. At first, Brittany struggled to use the overhead feeders, but now she has built up the muscle strength necessary to do it, Dowgwillo says.

The new exhibit is more work for the keepers because they have a much larger area to clean and more enrichment activities to plan and maintain. But it's worth it to see the girls enjoying themselves, Dowgwillo says. "We see them getting more choices, doing things on their own, exhibiting natural behaviors, just being elephants. That makes all the work we do rewarding."

By Stacy Vogel Davis

**THE ELEPHANT EXHIBIT** opened in May as the first portion of Adventure Africa, which will transform 25% of the Milwaukee County Zoo. The Zoological Society of Milwaukee is working to raise \$25 million for Adventure Africa as a 50-50 partner with Milwaukee County on the new area.

Hippos Happy and Patti are next in line to get a new home. The Zoo broke ground in July on an exhibit that's more than twice the size of the current exhibit and includes underwater viewing of the hippos. Visit [hippos.Win2Wild.com](http://hippos.Win2Wild.com) to learn more and donate to the new exhibit.



Rendering courtesy of M.A. Mortenson Co.

# THE MILWAUKEE-BELIZE CONNECTION



Wilber Martinez, a field biologist at Runaway Creek, checks on the anesthetized tapir. Martinez is conducting doctoral research on tapir conservation. Photo courtesy of Dr. Taylor Yaw

*The Milwaukee County Zoo and Zoological Society of Milwaukee have a longstanding relationship with The Belize Zoo and conservation efforts in Belize. Recently, Zoo staff from Milwaukee went to Belize and a zookeeper from Belize visited Milwaukee.*

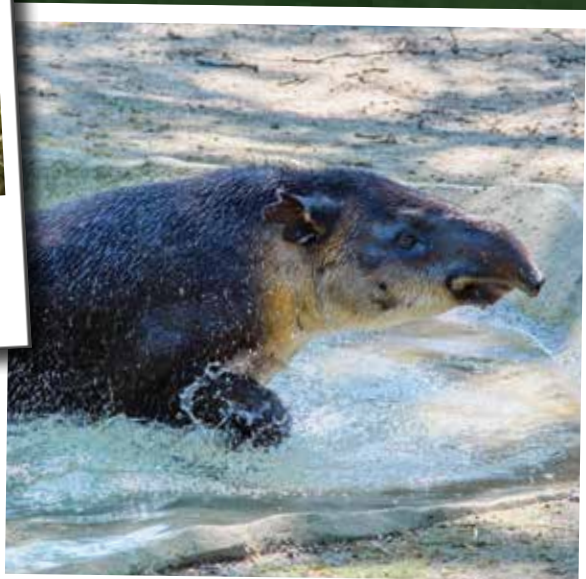
## MILWAUKEE TO BELIZE

It was 2 a.m. in the middle of the Belizean wilderness. Bob Korman, a Milwaukee County Zoo veterinary technician, was sitting in the bed of a Chevy Silverado pickup in the April heat. He noticed the endless stars lighting the sky and the intermittent bird calls piercing the stillness of the savanna.

Korman was in Belize with Dr. Taylor Yaw, the Zoo's veterinary resident, to assist a team of field biologists trying to learn more about the endangered Baird's tapir. The team had set out seven snares that could humanely trap tapirs at Runaway Creek, a 6,000-acre rainforest preserve. Every two hours, someone went into

the savanna with a radio antenna to see if any of the snares' transmitters had been tripped.

It was Korman's turn to check the antenna. This was the last night of his eight-day trip, and they hadn't trapped any tapirs yet. He checked transmissions from the first trap. Nothing. Same with the second, third and fourth traps. But the fifth transmitter was clicking like crazy. "I walked into the camp and said, 'Gentlemen, we need to wake up!'"



The Baird's tapir is the largest land mammal in Central America. Its range has shrunk significantly due to habitat loss. Photo by Bob Wickland

Korman recalls. The team grabbed their supplies, hopped into the truck and drove into the jungle. "We got close to the trap and there's this huge tapir under a tree, almost as if she's hiding from us, totally calm."

It was an exciting moment. The staff at Runaway Creek is just four people, including Wilber Martinez, who is doing doctoral research on tapir conservation. Since they don't have a veterinarian on staff, they only attempt to collar tapirs with the help of visiting veterinary professionals. This was just the second tapir they had trapped and the first female.

The team managed to dart the tapir, but she was so large — at least 400 pounds, Korman estimates — that Yaw also had to hand-inject her with anesthetic. They put a collar on her that transmits GPS data on her location every six hours before returning her to the wild as the anesthetic wore off. "It was totally exhilarating," Korman says.

The GPS data is critical to seeing where the tapirs roam. The Baird's tapir was once abundant from southeast Mexico to the northern tip of South America, but the population has dropped below 5,000 due to threats such as hunting and commercial development. Deforestation for large agricultural plantations has also destroyed habitat in the Maya Forest Corridor where the tapirs and many other species live in Belize.

Korman is worried the tapirs could face increasing threats in Belize. A gravel highway running through the corridor is scheduled to be paved next year. "That's going to bring a lot more traffic and a lot more roadkill," he says. But he's encouraged that the Belizean government recently announced plans to protect the corridor, recognizing it as an area of "natural significance."

Yaw came away impressed with the Runaway Creek staff, particularly their knowledge of the native wildlife. "I felt like I learned so much from them," he says. "These guys are extremely professional."

Since Korman and Yaw's trip, the Runaway Creek staff has collared a third tapir with the help of a Mexican veterinarian. Yaw recently completed his residency in Milwaukee and started work at the Texas State Aquarium. He hopes to return to Belize to work in manatee and sea turtle conservation. Korman also hopes to return, even though he recently started a new job at the Minnesota Zoo. "The place is magical," he says.



## BELIZE TO MILWAUKEE

It has been a whirlwind couple of weeks for Emmanuel Peck. “First time traveling, first time flying, first time giving a presentation,” he ticks off on his fingers. The 29-year-old zookeeper from The Belize Zoo and Tropical Education Center is in Milwaukee to learn from and observe staff at the Milwaukee County Zoo. His visit, the first from a Belize keeper to the Milwaukee County Zoo, is the latest step in the “Pat Gives Back” initiative.

Pat was a jaguar born in the wild of Belize. He was nearly killed by farmers because he was attacking livestock, but instead he was brought to The Belize Zoo and rehabilitated. He then came to the Milwaukee County Zoo, where he lived for nine years and fathered two sets of cubs before he died in 2017.

Pat was a special animal to Zoo staff, so they wanted to find a way to give back to the zoo that rehabilitated him. Zoo employees have visited The Belize Zoo several times to give

workshops on training, enrichment, safety and other issues. The time had now come for a Belize keeper to visit Milwaukee. Peck arrived in August for a two-week visit. “It’s a different experience than attending a workshop in Belize,” says Katie Kuhn, big cats supervisor. “Some things are easier to learn hands on. Being up here, Peck gets more one-on-one time and experiences.”

Milwaukee is very different from The Belize Zoo, which has about 210 animals, all of them native to Belize, Peck says. Milwaukee has more indoor exhibits and animals from all over the world. He has learned new skills such as handling snakes, drawing blood and practicing animal-escape drills.



Emmanuel Peck, a keeper from The Belize Zoo, feeds Inca terns in the Milwaukee County Zoo’s bird building.

One of his favorite experiences was weighing a red panda cub, an animal he’d never seen before.

The Pat Gives Back initiative, which is made possible through funding from a special donor, has changed Peck’s life, he says. Before he met the Milwaukee keepers three years ago, he thought of being a zookeeper as just another job. “Now I see it as a career.” His coworkers have encouraged him, and he feels a responsibility to share with them what he has learned in Milwaukee. “Not everybody has this experience, so I’m going to take it and not let it go to waste.”

He certainly has not, Kuhn says. More than one person said they wished he could stay on as a zookeeper here. The teams from Milwaukee and Belize will evaluate the visit and Peck’s feedback to plan future exchanges. Next year Milwaukee staff will offer more workshops in Belize focused on record-keeping and animal nutrition, Kuhn says. They hope

to participate in future conservation projects with Runaway Creek and the Ya’axché Conservation Trust in Belize.

Although the partnership started with a jaguar, it’s the people who make it so strong, Kuhn says. “We have found a great group of folks on both ends who mutually respect each other, value each other’s experiences and knowledge, and are excited to share that with each other.”

*By Stacy Vogel Davis*



Belize Zoo keeper Emmanuel Peck says his favorite experience was weighing the red panda cub. Photo by Joel Miller

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SUPPORTING THE *PAT GIVES BACK* INITIATIVE, CONTACT OUR DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT AT 414-918-6150.**





# January 2020



The giant Pacific octopus is the largest octopus species and is highly intelligent, able to open jays and solve puzzles. The Zoo's octopus, Egg McMuffin, came to the Zoo missing a limb but has begun to regenerate it. Photo by Bob Wickland

Sunday

Puttin' on the Ritz is a swanky boxing and dining fundraiser for the Zoological Society.  
Photo by Stacy Kaat

Monday



Tuesday

Wednesday

1  
New Year's Day

Thursday

2

Friday

3

Saturday

4  
Family Free Day\*\*

5

7

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10

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Samson Stomp & Romp\*\*

21

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

22

23

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

24

25

26

28

29

30

31

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

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



# February 2020



Some wear their hearts on their sleeves, but the Luzon bleeding-heart dove wears it right on its chest. Actually, the "heart" is just a patch of deep red feathers, but concerned Zoo guests often ask if the bird is injured. Photo by Joel Miller

Sunday

Enjoy a winter's day at the Zoo during Family Free Day.  
Photo by Bob Wickland

Monday



Tuesday

3

4

Wednesday

Show off your moves at the Zumba® Fitness Party at the Zoo to raise money for Sponsor an Animal.  
Photo by Bob Wickland

5

Thursday



6

Friday

7

Saturday

1

Spring Zoo Classes begin\*  
Family Free Day\*\*

8

9

Groundhog Day celebration at the Zoo\*\*

11

10

12 Online registration begins for Zoo Summer Camps\*

13

14

Valentine's Day

15

16

17 Presidents Day

18

19

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21

22

23

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25

26

Ash Wednesday

27

28

29

Zumba® Fitness Party at the Zoo,\* 6-8 p.m.

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

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



# March 2020



The dwarf mongoose is Africa's smallest carnivore, weighing a pound or less. In the wild it mostly eats insects but has also been known to eat eggs, mice, fruit and even scorpions. Photo by Joel Miller

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 Family Free Day**
8 Daylight Saving Time begins	9 Purim begins at sundown	10	11	12	13	14 Behind the Scenes Weekend**
15 Behind the Scenes Weekend**	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19 First day of spring	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				



The train shop and greenhouses are popular stops during Behind the Scenes Weekend.  
Photos by Bob Wickland



# April 2020



A dozen Nigerian dwarf goats – six bucklings (males) and six does (females) – were born at the Zoo in spring 2019. They were too little to go in the goat yard last summer but will join the herd at the feedings this year. Photo by Kevin Mehtosh

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Get your nose painted like a bunny, make your own ears, hunt for eggs and meet the Easter Bunny at Egg Day. Photo by Peter Zuraga



1 April Fools Day	2	3	4
8	9	10 Good Friday	11 Egg Day**
15	16	17	18
22 Earth Day	23 Ramadan begins at sundown	24	25 World Penguin Day**
29	30		

5 Palm Sunday	6	7	
12 Easter Sunday	13	14	
19	20	21	
26	27	28	29

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

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





# May 2020



African elephant Ruth takes a dip in the watering hole in her new exhibit. The new elephant exhibit, the first phase of Adventure Africa, opened to the public in May 2019. Photo by Paul Ruffolo

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

<p>3</p> <p>Zootastic, a family fundraising night at the Zoo, includes dinner, a dance party, zookeeper chats and more. Photo by Paul Ruffolo</p>	<p>4</p>		<p>5</p> <p>Cinco de Mayo</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Mothers get free admission to the Zoo on Mother's Day. Photo by Olga Kornienko</p>		<p>7</p>
<p>10</p> <p>Mother's Day at the Zoo**</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Zoo Pass members-only field trip* Special summer exhibit opens**</p>
<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Kohl's Wild Theater begins free daily performances at the Zoo* Eid al-Fitr begins at sundown</p>
<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Memorial Day</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Scouting at the Zoo**</p>
<p>31</p> <p>Scouting at the Zoo**</p>						

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

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





# June 2020

Jethro, a Bactrian camel calf, was born June 7, 2019, to mother A.J. and father Stan. He was underweight at birth and struggled to nurse but eventually started catching up thanks to the excellent care of his keepers and veterinary staff.

Photo by Joel Miller



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> Zoo Summer Camps begin*	<b>2</b> Nights in June for Zoo Pass members,* 5-9 p.m.	<b>3</b> Nights in June for Zoo Pass members,* 5-9 p.m.	<b>4</b> Nights in June for Zoo Pass members,* 5-9 p.m.	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> Flag Day	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> First day of summer
<b>21</b> Father's Day at the Zoo**	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Sunset Zoofari**	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Zoo Ball,* evening event
<b>28</b> Military & Veterans Family Day**	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	Nights in June includes a preview of the Zoo's summer exhibit. A portion of the food sales benefits the Sponsor an Animal program. Photo by Paul Ruffolo		The Zoo gets fancy during Zoo Ball, the Zoological Society's annual gala. Photo by Stacy Kaat	

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

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



# July 2020



Caribbean flamingos get their pink color from the carotenoid found in the algae, larvae and shrimp they eat. Carotenoid is also what gives carrots their orange color. Photo by Peter Zuzga

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Kids Nights is a member event that offers crafts, entertainment, food and more.  
Photo by Bob Wickland



5	6	7 Kids Nights for Zoo Pass members,* 5-9 p.m.	8 Sunset Zoofari**	9 Kids Nights for Zoo Pass members,* 5-9 p.m.	10 Kids Nights for Zoo Pass members,* 5-9 p.m.	11
12	13	14	15 Sunset Zoofari**	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 Sunset Zoofari** Online registration begins for Fall Zoo Classes*	23	24	25
26	27 Birdies & Eagles Golf Tournament,* off Zoo grounds	28	29 Sunset Zoofari**	30	31	

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

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



# August 2020



The black-handed spider monkey has elongated fingers that act like hooks when moving through the trees. It also has a prehensile tail, meaning it can use its tail as an extra limb. Photo by Joel Miller

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

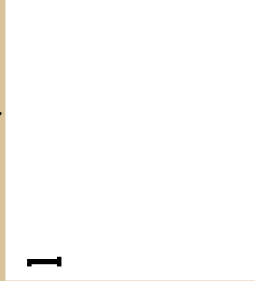
Friday

Saturday

See the Zoo in a whole new light – literally – when you camp out for Snooze at the Zoo.  
Photo by Bob Wickland



Eat your way through the Zoo while enjoying live music at Milwaukee a la Carte.  
Photo by Bob Wickland



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29

A la Carte\*\*

30

31

Snooze at the Zoo\*

Snooze at the Zoo\*

Snooze at the Zoo\*

Snooze at the Zoo\*

A la Carte\*\*

A la Carte\*\*

A la Carte\*\*

A la Carte\*\*

A la Carte\*\*

A la Carte\*\*

A la Carte\*\*

World Elephant Day\*\*

Animal Safari for animal sponsors\*

Animal Safari for animal sponsors\*

Animal Safari for animal sponsors\*

Animal Safari for animal sponsors\*

Animal Safari for animal sponsors\*

Animal Safari for animal sponsors\*

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

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





# September 2020



Francisco the jaguar was born in 2014. You can tell him apart from his mother, Stella, by his bright blue eyes. Stella has green eyes and a smaller nose. Photo by Joel Miller

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

<p>Ride on the Wild Side is your only opportunity to ride your bike inside the Milwaukee County Zoo. Photo by Bob Wickland</p>		<p><b>1</b> Fall Zoo Classes begin*</p>	<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>4</b> Senior Celebration**</p>	<p><b>5</b></p>
<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b> Labor Day</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> Family Farm Weekend**</p>
<p><b>13</b> Family Farm Weekend** Ride on the Wild Side Bike Ride*</p>	<p><b>14</b></p>	<p><b>15</b></p>	<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b> Rosh Hashana begins at sundown</p>	<p><b>19</b></p>
<p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>21</b></p>	<p><b>22</b> First day of autumn</p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p>	<p><b>26</b> Zoo Pass members-only field trip*</p>
<p><b>27</b> Yom Kippur begins at sundown</p>	<p><b>28</b></p>	<p><b>29</b></p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	<p>Family Farm Weekend includes a tractor-pull exhibition, milk-chugging contest, farmers market and more. Photo by Paul Ruffolo</p>		

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

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



# October 2020



Pumpkins are a fun enrichment item for many of the Zoo's animals, including the red pandas. Dr. Lily Parkinson, seen here, was the first red panda cub born at the Milwaukee County Zoo. A second cub was born in summer 2019. Photo by Joel Miller

Sunday

Cheers! Zoo Brew offers samples of beers and food in an adults-only fundraiser for the Zoological Society.  
Photo by Stacy Kaat

Monday



Tuesday

Have a spooky good time at Boo at the Zoo or Halloween Spooktacular.  
Photo by Olga Komienko

Wednesday



Thursday

1

Friday

2

Saturday

3  
Family Free Day\*\*

4

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Zoo Brew\*

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12

Columbus Day observed

13

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15

16

Boo at the Zoo\*\*  
6-9 p.m.

17

Boo at the Zoo,\*\*  
6-9 p.m.

18

19

20

21

22

23

Halloween Spooktacular with trick-or-treating,\*\*  
6-9 p.m.

24

Halloween Spooktacular with trick-or-treating,\*\*  
9 a.m.-9 p.m.

25

26

27

28

29

30

31  
Halloween

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

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



# November 2020



Did you know a couple of wild turkeys roam the Zoo? They can often be spotted under the boardwalk leading to the Peck Welcome Center or near the bird building. Photo by Bob Wickland

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

1 Daylight Saving Time ends	2	3	4	5	6	7 Family Free Day**
8	9	10	11 Veterans Day Online registration begins for 2021 Spring Zoo Classes*	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Thanksgiving	27	28
29	30					



Zoo Classes are for kids of all ages and make a great gift.  
Photos by Bob Wickland



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

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



# December 2020



Happy holidays from the alpacas! These domesticated animals, native to South America, are very social and adaptable to many types of climates. Photo by Joel Miller

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

<p>Enjoy trees decorated by local youth groups with handmade ornaments in the Zoological Society's Fantastic Forest. Photo by Bob Wickland</p>		<p><b>1</b></p>	<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>4</b> Fantastic Forest (through Dec. 29)*</p>	<p><b>5</b> Family Free Day** Breakfast &amp; Lunch with Santa**</p>
<p><b>6</b> Breakfast &amp; Lunch with Santa**</p>	<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>10</b> Hanukkah begins at sundown</p>	<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>12</b> Breakfast &amp; Lunch with Santa**</p>
<p><b>13</b> Breakfast &amp; Lunch with Santa**</p>	<p><b>14</b></p>	<p><b>15</b></p>	<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b></p>	<p><b>19</b> Breakfast &amp; Lunch with Santa**</p>
<p><b>20</b> Breakfast &amp; Lunch with Santa**</p>	<p><b>21</b> First day of winter</p>	<p><b>22</b></p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b> Christmas</p>	<p><b>26</b> Kwanzaa begins</p>
<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p>	<p><b>29</b></p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	<p><b>31</b> New Year's Eve</p>	<p>Enjoy a visit with the big guy at Breakfast &amp; Lunch with Santa. Photo by Stacy Kaat</p>	

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

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

**Alive**



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# 2020 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 Zoo's first yellow-backed duiker, Aria, arrived in late 2016. She lives in the African forest exhibit in Adventure Africa with the bongos and guinea fowl.

Photo by Bob Wickland