

AN INSIDER MAGAZINE FOR ZOO PASS MEMBERS

FALL 2023

ALIVE



CALENDAR
ISSUE



2023

A YEAR IN REVIEW

The animals bring people to the Zoo and the events bring us together. In 2023, the Milwaukee County Zoo and Zoological Society of Milwaukee proudly hosted a bountiful selection of exciting events, attractions and educational programs. These experiences

EVENTS

① Family Free Days

JAN.-MARCH, OCT.-DEC.

Sponsored by Tri City National Bank and FOX6
A Zoo trip is more fun with family and friends! Six Family Free Days from October 2022 to March 2023 gave 39,841 people free admission to the Milwaukee County Zoo.



② Samson Stomp & Romp

JAN. 15

Presented by Prairie Farms Dairy

Some people stomped, some people romped. All 887 attendees of the 2023 Samson Stomp & Romp had a blast raising money and getting a wintertime workout.

Photo by Joel Miller



③ Puttin' on the Ritz

JAN. 26

Presented by Wintrust Commercial Banking at Town Bank

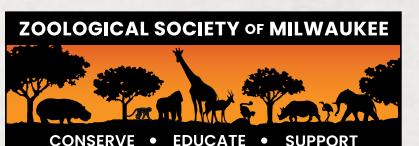
Back for the first time in three years, this glamorous black tie and boxing event was attended by 363 people and raised \$166,000.



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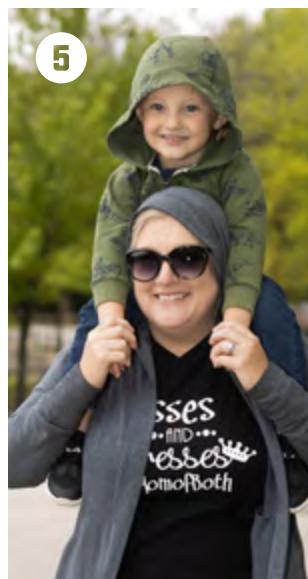
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All photos by Garrett Hopkins,
unless otherwise noted.

On the cover:
Boris the brown bear roars with force.

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④ Egg Day

APRIL 8

Sponsored by Racine Danish Kringles

Face painting, candy eating, parading and more! At Egg Day, the Zoo's annual Easter event, 11,015 people gathered during the first Zoo event of the spring.

⑤ Mother's Day

MAY 14

Sponsored by Peoples State Bank

The Zoo graciously opened its gates for free to all moms on Mother's Day. This special event was attended by 3,877 moms and other Zoo guests. Photo by Art Montes

⑥ Celebrate Diversity!

MAY 20

Sponsored by Meijer

All diversity is welcomed at the Milwaukee County Zoo. During Celebrate Diversity! 7,901 guests learned about the value of biodiversity in nature and diversity in society.

⑦ Dino Don's Journey to the Ice Age

MAY 20-OCT. 7

Sponsored by Sendik's Food Market

This special exhibit attracted 99,991 people. Dino Don's Journey to the Ice Age featured more than 15 life-like animatronic animals that walked the Earth during the Ice Age, including woolly mammoths, a saber-toothed tiger and an enormous ground sloth.

⑧ Nights in June

JUNE 6-8

Sponsored by Habush Habush & Rottier S.C.®

Our members help make our mission possible. In return, we try to make their summer vacations a little more fun by hosting members-only events at the Zoo. Nights in June drew 11,101 members.

⑨ Senior Safari

JUNE 12, 19 AND 26

Sponsored by St. Camillus Life Plan Community

The Zoo's annual celebration of seniors was expanded to three days in 2023, featuring fun entertainment and special activities. In total, 1,464 people ages 60+ were given free Zoo admission during Senior Safari.



10 Father's Day

JUNE 18

Presented by Prairie Farms Dairy

Father's Day is the one day of the year that all dads get free admission. In 2023, 8,148 people attended the Zoo on Father's Day. Photo by Art Montes

11 Zoo Ball

JUNE 24

Sponsored by Husch Blackwell and CG Schmidt

The 40th Zoo Ball was a grand success! On this beautiful summer evening, 574 guests turned out to help raise \$693,303 for the Zoo. This year's theme, Horizons, celebrated the accomplishments of decades gone by and the promise of success to come.

12 Kids Nights

JULY 11, 13-14

Sponsored by WaterStone Bank

Every day is a kids day at the Zoo, but Kids Nights only comes around once per year. This members-only event, which drew 14,014 guests, featured live music, food, animal demonstrations and more.

13 Birdies & Eagles Golf Tournament

JULY 24

Presented by GRAEF

On a perfect July day, 136 golfers teed off for a cause at the Zoological Society's annual golf outing. Birdies & Eagles raised \$120,618 for conservation, education and support of the Zoo. Photo by Art Montes

14 Snooze at the Zoo

AUG. 10-12

Sponsored by Educators Credit Union

Don't let the name fool you. This event was all but a snooze! More than 1,200 campers played games, snacked on s'mores and helped sell out all three nights of this beloved event.



15 Milwaukee A La Carte at the Zoo

AUG. 17-20

Presented by Meijer

We're not sure what was more impressive, the variety of food people got to enjoy or the number of guests who showed up. Milwaukee A La Carte brought 54,545 people to the Zoo over four beautiful days. Photo by Carolyn Lewis

16 Ride on the Wide Side

SEPT. 10

Sponsored by Annex Wealth Management

If a morning walk through the Zoo is magical, a morning bike ride through the Zoo is "wheely" magical! During this fun event, 610 participants helped raise \$35,000 from the seat of their bikes.

17 Boo at the Zoo

OCT. 19-22

Presented by Prairie Farms Dairy

Candy tastes better on Halloween, and Halloween is more fun at the Zoo! The Zoo's not-too-spooky event, which featured professional pumpkin carvers, trick-or-treating, eerie decorations and more, attracted thousands of guests over the course of four nights.

18 Fantastic Forest

DEC. 1-31

Sponsored by Hawks Landscape

Each year, dozens of Milwaukee-area youth groups gather at the Zoo to decorate evergreen trees with homemade, animal-themed ornaments. The 60+ trees donated by Hawks Landscape are on display at the Zoo throughout December.

19 Wild Lights

DEC. 1-3, 6-10, 13-23, 26-31

Powered by We Energies

Cheers! 21+ event sponsored by North Shore Bank

They twinkle, they sparkle, they flicker and glow. The millions of lights featured during Wild Lights illuminated the faces of 24,748 people during the Zoo's annual holiday lights event in 2022. Wild Lights will be back and brighter than ever in 2023.

20 Frosty Free Week

DEC. 26-30

Sponsored by Generac

To celebrate the giving season and thank guests for their support, the Zoo is offering free daytime admission to all during Frosty Free Week.

Regular concessions and attraction rates apply.

Photo by Bob Wickland



EDUCATION

21 Kohl's Wild Theater

In partnership with Kohl's

The Zoological Society's zoo-based theater program is the largest of its kind in the country, reaching more than 27,536 people at the Milwaukee County Zoo and 13,840 throughout the community in southeastern Wisconsin. Kohl's Wild Theater performs shows at the Zoo six days per week during the summer and is available for private bookings during most of the year.

22 Summer Zoo Camps

Sponsored by Penzeys

Passion for conservation can ignite in childhood. The Zoological Society offers Summer Zoo Camps and Classes for children aged 0-14, spanning topics from global species conservation to the protection of local biodiversity. Summer Zoo Camps run from May to August, while Classes are available in the fall and spring, all right here at the Zoo!



ATTRACTI0NS/ VISITOR SERVICES

23 Zoo Terrace

Sponsored by Generac

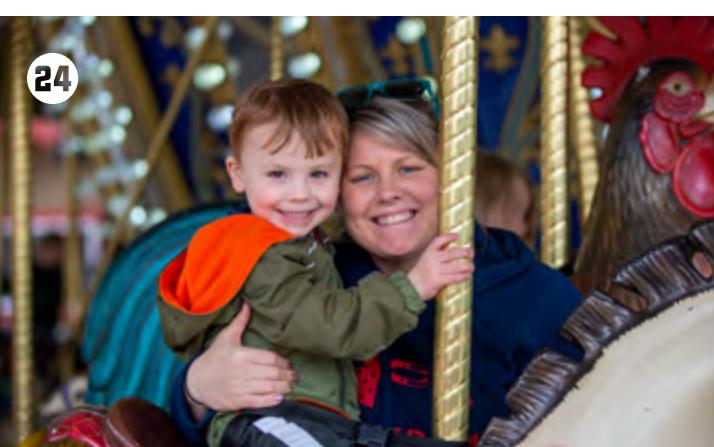
24 Carousel

Sponsored by Penzeys

Photo by Kevin McIntosh

25 Playground

Sponsored by UnitedHealthcare



26 Safari Train

Sponsored by North Shore Bank

27 Stroller & Wagon Rentals

Sponsored by Wilderness Resort

Photo by Carolyn Lewis



28 Lakeview Landing & Patio

Sponsored by Horicon Bank

29 Umbrellas at Flamingo Patio

Sponsored by Meijer

30 Zoo Expeditions

Sponsored by Meijer

Photo by Carolyn Lewis

31 Universal Changing Station

Sponsored by Variety - the Children's Charity of Wisconsin



Additional opportunities to sponsor other Zoo and Zoological Society events, attractions and programs are available.

Contact Patty Harrigan Mills at 414-918-6185 or pattyhm@zoosociety.org for more information.



SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY **THURSDAY** **FRIDAY**

of the smallest animals at the Zoo with a maximum length of just seven inches, it's also one of the most colorful thanks to its stunning pink skin. Photo by Joel Miller



1 New Year's Day / Zoo and Society closed	2	3	4	5	6 Family Free Day**
7	8	9	10	11	12
14 Samson Stomp & Romp**	15 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	16	17	18	19
21	22	23	24	25 Puttin' on the Ritz*	26
28	29	30	31		Through sunlight or snow, runners will lace up their shoes and race through the Zoo at Samson Stomp & Romp. ◀Photo by Joel Miller

**Zoological Society of Milwaukee event: visit zoosociety.org for updates.*



February 2024

Then again, very few animals are built like Amur tigers. These hardy and powerful big cats can survive in temperatures as low as -40°F.

July 2024

septembre



CONSERVE • EDUCATE • SUPPORT

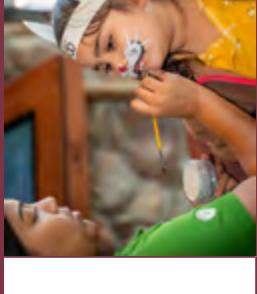
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	4 Zoo admission is free for everyone on Family Free Day! Family Free Days take place Jan.-March and Oct.-Dec.	5	6	7	8	9
	We heart animals! On Valentine's Day, animals around the Zoo enjoy heart-shaped treats lovingly prepared by their zookeepers.  Photo by Joel Miller	1				2 Groundhog Day**
				11	12	13
				14 Valentine's Day Ash Wednesday	15	16
					17	
					21	22
					23	24 Zumba® Fitness Party*
					27	28
					29	
						3 Family Free Day**



March 2024

Wisconsin is home to more than one million Holstein dairy cows. Photo by Joel Miller



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<p>At Egg Day, thousands of guests will hop through the Zoo to hunt for treats, get their faces painted, pose for pictures and celebrate spring with the Easter Bunny.</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>1</p>
		<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Daylight Saving Time begins Ramadan begins at sundown</p>	<p>11</p> <p>12</p> <p>13</p> <p>14</p> <p>15</p> <p>16</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Family Free Day**</p>
		<p>17</p> <p>St. Patrick's Day</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>Purim begins at sundown</p>
			<p>24</p> <p>Palm Sunday</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Holi</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>28</p> <p>29</p> <p>Good Friday</p> <p>Easter</p> <p>30</p> <p>Egg Day**</p>

*Zoological Society of Milwaukee event: visit zoosociety.org for updates.



April 2024



A pair of American white pelicans mingle with a pair of cinereous vultures at the pond in the African Savanna Yard. Watering holes are renowned for attracting numerous species at one time, a phenomenon equally true at the Milwaukee County Zoo.
Photo by Garrett Hopkins

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY of MILWAUKEE
CONSERVE • EDUCATE • SUPPORT

SATURDAY

FRIDAY

THURSDAY

WEDNESDAY

TUESDAY

MONDAY

SUNDAY

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1 April Fools' Day

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9 Eid al-Fitr begins at sundown

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16 Tax Day

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23 Passover begins at sundown

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24 Earth Day

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20 Party for the Planet**

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May 2024

Kopi, the Prevost's squirrel, has brightened the Small Mammals Building with his energetic presence since November 2022. These colorful squirrels are native to Southeast Asia, can live up to 15 years and are a species of least concern on the IUCN list of endangered species. Photo by Joel Miller



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <p>❖ At Celebrate Diversity, zoo guests will learn about the differences in nature and society that make our planet stronger.</p> <p>Moms get free admission to the Zoo on Mother's Day! ❖</p> <p>Photo by Art Montes</p>	1	2	3	4		
	6	7	8	9	10	11
	12	13	14	15	16	17
	19	20	21	22	23	25
	26	27	28	29	30	31

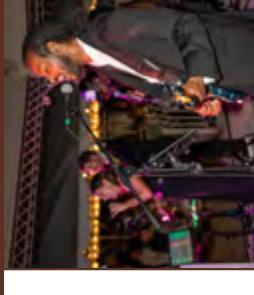
***Zoological Society of Milwaukee event:** visit zoosociety.org for updates.



June 2024

The Zoo's newest arrivals have been showing a surprising and unexpected way into our hearts since the day they arrived at the Zoo. Red river hogs are a species of wild pig native to Africa. Their habitat at the Zoo is next to the Dohmen Family Foundation Hippo Haven. Photo by Joel Miller

CONSERVE • EDUCATE • SUPPORT

 <p>1 Scouting at the Zoo**</p> <p>Zoo admission is free for all dads on Father's Day!  Photo by Art Montes</p>	 <p>2 Fundraising has never been so grand! At Zoo Ball, the Zoological Society's biggest fundraiser of the year, the party always goes late into the night.</p> <p>3 Nights in June* Zoo Camp Open House#</p> <p>4 Nights in June* Zoo Camp Open House#</p> <p>5 Nights in June*</p>	<p>6 Nights in June*</p> <p>7 Flag Day</p> <p>8 Zoo Camp Open House#</p>	<p>9 10 11 Senior Safari**</p> <p>12</p> <p>13</p> <p>14 Flag Day</p> <p>15</p>	<p>16 Father's Day**</p> <p>17 Eid al-Adha</p> <p>18 Senior Safari**</p> <p>19 Juneteenth</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22 Zoo Ball*</p>	<p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>25 Senior Safari**</p> <p>26</p> <p>27</p> <p>28</p> <p>29</p>	
 <p>30 Military & Veterans Family Day**</p>						



July 2024

❖ Nenitas the two-toed sloth contently clings to a branch during an afternoon nap.

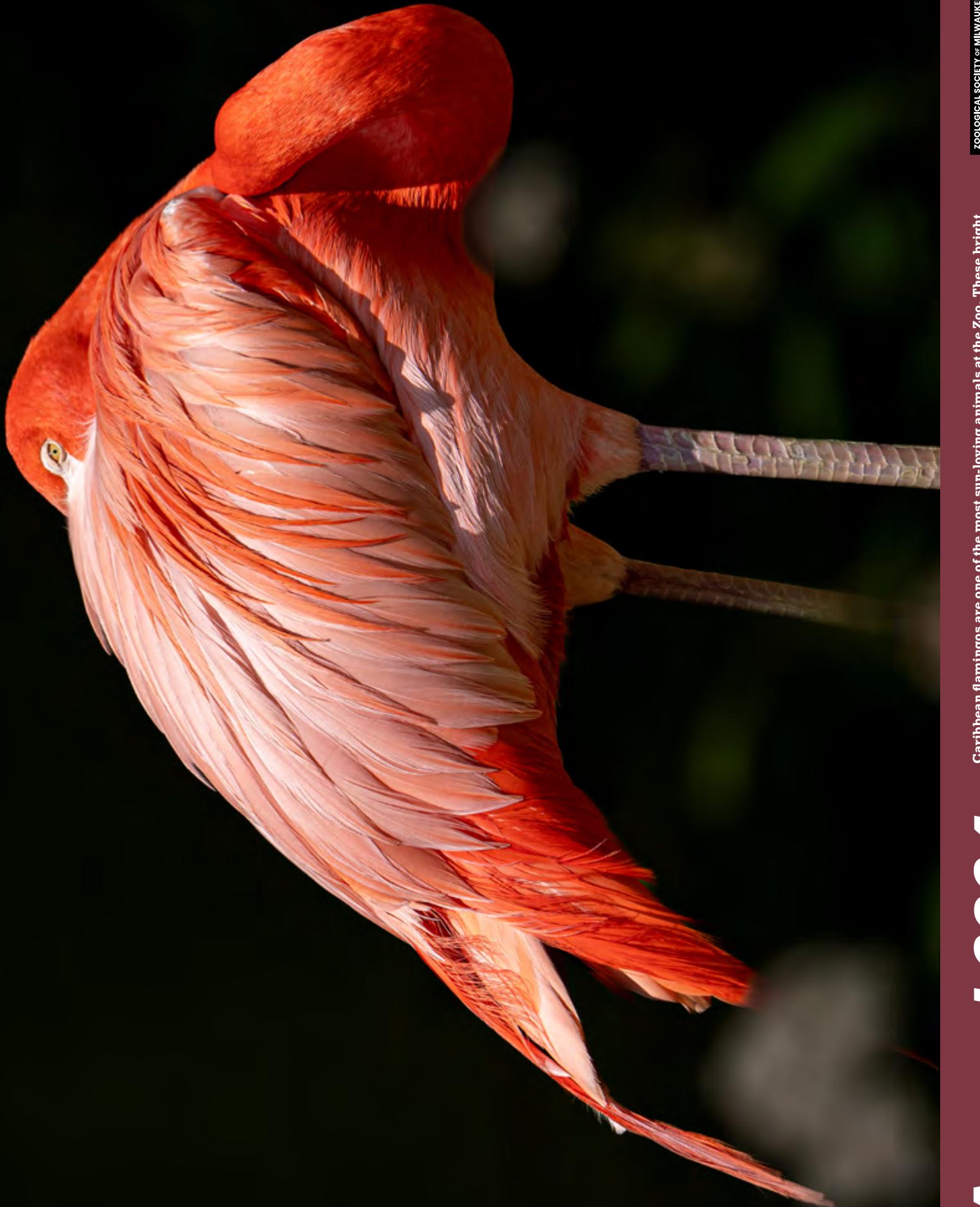
Sloths typically sleep for about 15 hours each day. Their slow metabolism causes them to move through life at a relaxed pace and is the primary reason for their nifty napping habits. Photo by Joel Miller



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4 Independence Day	5	6	
7	8 Kids Nights*	9 Kids Nights*	10 Kids Nights*	11 Kids Nights*	12	13
14	15	16	17 Fall Zoo Class registration for members begins*	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 Birdies & Eagles Golf Tournament*	30	31			Music, dancing, games and crafts. Celebrate summer at members-only Kids Nights! ➤

*Zoological Society of Milwaukee event: visit zoosociety.org for updates.

*Milwaukee County Zoo event: visit milwaukeezoo.org for updates.



T
MONDAY
SUNDAY

MONDAY	
TUESDAY	God, as a flamingo. Photo by Garrett Hopkins
WEDNESDAY	
THURSDAY	
FRIDAY	



1	 <p>❖ A festival at the Zoo? Say no more. Milwaukee A La Carte at the Zoo features live music, delicious food and fun activities for the whole family. Photo by Carolyn Lewis</p>	5	6	7	8	9
2	<p>❖ Come for the camping, stay for the s'mores. Snooze at the Zoo is your chance to sleep at the Zoo!</p>	4	5	6	7	Snooze at the Zoo*
3		11	12	13	14	15
		18	19	20	21	22
		25	26	27	28	29
					30	31



September 2024



Any day featuring an Oscar sighting is a lucky day indeed. Oscar the American badger is an elusive fellow, typically only making appearances during moments of quiet in the late summer afternoon.

If he's not outside, he's likely working on his elaborate tunnel system. Photo by Joel Miller

SATURDAY

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Labor Day

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Ride on the Wild Side*

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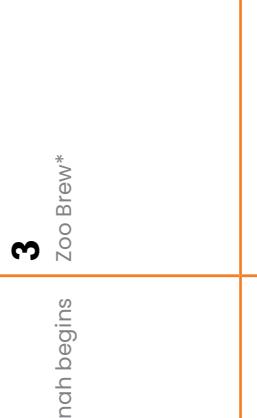
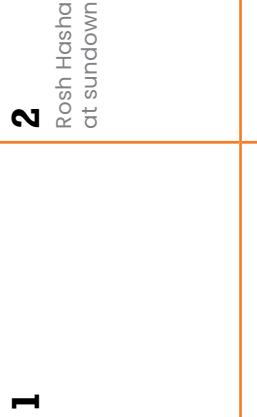
Cruise near the caribou, pedal past the peacocks and breeze by the bears. Ride on the Wild Side is your chance to bike through the Zoo.



October 2024

❖ Marlee the giraffe peers down through autumn leaves on a crisp October day. Giraffes, with a maximum height of 18 feet, are the only animal on Earth tall enough to stare downward at a person through the branches of a mature honey locust tree! Photo by Joel Miller



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	 <p>❖ Sample studs with your buds at Zoo Brew, the Zoological Society's beer-tasting event. Photo by Carolyn Lewis</p>	 <p>❖ Rosh Hashanah begins at sundown</p>	 <p>❖ Zoo Brew*</p>	 <p>❖</p>	 <p>❖ Yom Kippur begins at sundown</p>	 <p>❖ Family Free Day**</p>
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

*Zoological Society of Milwaukee event: visit zoosociety.org for updates.

**Milwaukee County Zoo event: visit milwaukeezoo.org for updates.



November 2024

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SUNDAY
MONDAY
TUESDAY
WEDNESDAY
THURSDAY
FRIDAY
SATURDAY

3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Daylight Saving Time ends		Election Day	Spring Zoo Class registration for members begins*			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Veterans Day						
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
				Thanksgiving / Zoo and Society closed		Wild Lights begins**

A trio of handsome Humboldt penguins poses for the camera. All Humboldt penguins have a very similar pattern of feathers, making them difficult to tell apart. Keepers have solved this problem by outfitting each one of the Zoo's Humboldt penguins with an identifying armband. Photo by Garrett Hopkins



December 2024



While all animals exhibit emotions to some extent, Japanese macaques stand out as frequent and expressive emotional communicators. The Zoo's macaques can frequently be observed cuddling, teasing, chasing and grooming one another. These behaviors serve both as displays of emotion and as a means of establishing and maintaining social hierarchies.

Photo by: Joel Miller

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SATURDAY

FRIDAY

THURSDAY

WEDNESDAY

TUESDAY

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THURSDAY

WEDNESDAY

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7 Family Free Day**

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Wild Lights, sure to brighten the faces and hearts of all who attend, returns for the fourth year in a row.



New Year's Eve Wild Lights and Fantastic Forest end

Wild Lights does not run every day. For a look at off days, special deals and more go to milwaukeezoo.org.

*Zoological Society of Milwaukee event: visit zoosociety.org for updates.

#Wild Lights event: visit milwaukeezoo.org for updates.

**Milwaukee County Zoo event: visit milwaukeezoo.org for updates.

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PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY



2024 CALENDAR



JAN.



FEB.



MARCH



APRIL



MAY



JUNE



JULY



AUG.



SEPT.



OCT.



NOV.



DEC.

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