

# Alive



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- Abdim's Stork: The Beauty of Birds
- 2014 Calendar and Animal Photos
- Fun Fundraisers to Support the Zoo
- Field Notes From the Congo
- A Year of Zoo Classes & More



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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Alive is published in January, April and October by the Zoological Society of Milwaukee County, 10005 W. Bluemound Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53226-4383. Subscription is by membership only. Call (414) 258-2333 for information. www.zoosociety.org

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Dr. Robert Davis answers questions on big cats from second graders in the Zoological Society's Animal Ambassador science-education program.

Last year the Zoological Society of Milwaukee (ZSM) published its first calendar issue of *Alive* magazine. We were pleased with the positive feedback we received from our members; so we decided to do it again. Like last year, this 2014 calendar lists dates of ZSM and Milwaukee County Zoo events to help you plan your visits to the Zoo. We also know you love animals, which is why we've again included high-quality, engaging animal photos from veteran photographer Richard Brodzeller (see back

cover). We've tried to present a variety of animals that live at the Zoo, from fish to felines. The Zoo's birds, with their colorful, striking patterns, make spectacular photos. That's why we've featured four species of birds in the calendar: the Abdim's stork on the cover, cape thick-knees on the back cover, the waldrapp ibis in February (a smaller photo) and a pair of black-naped fruit doves in June. Every issue of *Alive*, including this one, features stories that highlight each of the ZSM's three missions: conservation, education and support of the Zoo.

- **Conservation:** Dr. Gay Reinartz, the ZSM's conservation coordinator and head of our Bonobo & Congo Biodiversity Initiative, will once again take you on a "field trip" in Africa's Salonga National Park, which is four times the size of Yellowstone and far more remote in the heart of the Democratic Republic of Congo (page 4). You'll get a taste of what life is like on a day-to-day basis as Reinartz and her colleagues conduct bonobo research in a sticky-hot, insect-filled and often dangerous environment.
- **Education:** I have always been passionate about education. Before I came to the ZSM, I was the vice president of education at the Lincoln Park Zoo in Chicago and director of education and external affairs at Zoo Atlanta. I am pleased in this issue that we are showing the variety and breadth of education programs that the ZSM offers (page 6). We've done it in a calendar-type format showing that we have different education offerings every month of the year.
- **Support:** Fundraising events are one of many ways the ZSM fulfills its obligation to support the Zoo financially (page 3). Learn how our talented special events staff coordinates a wide variety of fundraising events to appeal to different niches, such as children and families, beer and wine lovers, and folks who like glitz and gourmet dinners.

We hope you will enjoy the 2014 calendar.

Dr. Robert (Bert) Davis  
 Chief Executive Officer

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**ON THE COVER**

An Abdim's stork at the Milwaukee County Zoo



# Pick Your Event

It's a beautiful, sunny July day at the Ozaukee County Country Club. Everybody is in a jovial mood. Laura Knollenberg and Monique Hughes banter and joke with participants as they check in people for the Zoological Society of Milwaukee's (ZSM's) annual golfing fundraiser. The 2013 event goes off without a hitch. That's not always how it works. One year at the ZSM's camping-at-the-Zoo event a big storm rolled in. "We evacuated half of the campers into the Lakeview Place Restaurant," says Knollenberg, ZSM special events manager. "Weather can make or break an event." Luckily the storm ended quickly. Campers returned to their tents and enjoyed the rest of the evening. Both events were successful fundraisers and represent an important way that the ZSM helps support the Milwaukee County Zoo.

Fundraising events require a lot of staff time, volunteer help, and problem-solving to deal with obstacles such as inclement weather. Yet the ZSM holds such an event almost every month of the year, more than most non-profit groups. "Fundraising events help the Zoological Society meet its bottom line for Zoo support," says Robin Higgins, vice president of communications, marketing and membership. The variety of events allows the ZSM to appeal to different niches, such as children and families, beer and wine lovers, and folks who like glitz and gourmet dinners, she adds. "This way, people from all income levels can feel good about philanthropy." Also, all Zoological Society events incorporate a message about conservation and wildlife. For example, children at the August campout enjoyed a conservation-themed theater performance, and people at the October beer-tasting fundraiser learned about endangered species from Zoo Pride volunteers showing animal pelts and horns.

All of these events – from January's Puttin' on the Ritz to April's family night at the Zoo – are planned and executed by the ZSM's three special events personnel. And not just anybody can be successful at event planning. Experience is necessary. For example, before starting at the ZSM in 1997, Knollenberg worked in event planning for 6½ years at the American Cancer Society. Melissa Rankin, special events coordinator, helped prepare her parish's annual festival for 13 years. "That sparked my interest in special events," she says. In summer 2008 Rankin interned for the Special Events department and then was hired by the ZSM. Monique Hughes, special events associate, also was a ZSM intern who was hired full time. Her previous event-planning experience included running her own public relations firm when she was attending college in Madison. "I worked with several Madison-area businesses and organizations," she says.

The only way to successfully execute an event is by planning far in advance, says Knollenberg. For example, Zoo Ball, the ZSM's largest fundraiser, requires one year of planning. Other events take about six months. Several events have fundraising auctions, which take a lot of time and skill in recruiting donations. "There are so many other organizations in the area holding fundraisers," says Knollenberg. "People can only give so much." Hughes says event coordinators also need to be friendly and personable. "Being able to work with volunteers and guests is the most essential skill. After all, our events wouldn't be successful without volunteers and happy guests." Like any job, event planning has its challenges. But the rewards are worth it. Says Knollenberg: "It's fun watching people enjoy themselves at a great venue like the Zoo and raising money for a great organization like the Society."

*By Zak Mazur*



Hughes talks with a family at their tent during the Zoo campout.



Melissa Rankin



Monique Hughes (left) and Laura Knollenberg check a guest list at the annual golf fundraiser.



# From the Congo

*Let us take you on a “field trip” into Africa’s Salonga National Park – a park four times the size of Yellowstone in the heart of the Democratic Republic of Congo. Here the Zoological Society of Milwaukee (ZSM) has established a research station/park patrol post called Etate. From this station, the ZSM runs its Bonobo and Congo Biodiversity Initiative (BCBI), a program to survey and protect endangered bonobos and other wildlife, to train park guards, and to support anti-poaching efforts in the park. In these field notes from Dr. Gay Reinartz, BCBI director and the ZSM’s conservation coordinator, you’ll learn about an injured eagle that recovered at Etate, a new guard patrol post on the Yenge River, and proposed new research and guard buildings at Etate.*

**March 28.** We arrive at Etate at 11:28 p.m. with just enough energy to throw our tents in place. While the guards help unload the pirogue [a long canoe], Bunda, Etate chief guard, as always takes me around camp in the pitch dark to show me the new features. Repairs to houses, new plantings, a refurbished bath house for me. We fall into bed.

**March 29.** Etate is beautiful, but it feels less interesting since we released the eagle, Micheline. We kept her perches and her green basin so if she came back, which she did about three times in December, it would still look familiar to her. No one has seen her in a long time.

**March 30.** Patrick (Guislain) and I truck out to an area where we will try to install a prefabricated wooden house. There is a small area set apart from the rest of Etate that we have reserved for a true research “wing” and also have visitors stay. With the help of Bunda, we measure out the dimensions

and tie flagging tape to the corner sticks so we can better visualize its size. We are both struck by how small it will be.



Injured eagle Micheline at Etate Research Station.

**March 31.** We live by different formulas. So the sand won’t wash away, Patrick and I want the men to construct a three-sided barrier of wooden sticks first and then pile the sand in, and they want to pile the sand first and then build a barrier around the pile. We don’t want them to clear the entire area of vegetation because we don’t like looking at bare dirt. They, on the other hand, want to clear everything. If they had their way, there would not be a tree or blade standing. The esthetic value of trees is for those of us who don’t have that many in our native land. They do it their way: sand down first and then build the wall around the pile.

On this Easter Sunday, we are preparing the spot where the elevated wooden house will go. We gather sand and gravel from the river banks that when mixed with cement will form footings for the pilings. The men have filled a pirogue with sand. It waits at the port to be unloaded at the construction site. The men haul sand with two Chinese-made wheelbarrows built so shoddily that they last only seven trips between our crude depot and the port, maybe 50 feet, before a wheel falls off. We call it a day. Bobo [the cook] prepares dried fish and eggplant and serves it over fufu [a paté of manioc and water] for a filling supper. Later that night, Patrick shows a movie to the guards. The men arrange their chairs in front of his laptop computer to watch a 1989 action movie. Everyone smells of soap and pomade.

**April 1.** It’s hot. Our first day of sun. We can finally dry the clothes that we washed three days ago. Redo and Mboss take the good parts off one wheelbarrow and screw them onto another so we will have at least one working wheelbarrow. Mboss wears brown knee socks against the insects. The gnats – *marangue* – love the heat and humidity. Ewaula, Chef de Secteur de Watsi Kengo, will come up today. We will plan the next steps for our surveys and long-distance, anti-poaching patrols.

I reapply insect repellent to my elbows while I listen to Mungamuni’s report. Munga is a retired guard whom I met many years ago, and we have hired him to help with the management of Lotulo, the new patrol post on the Yenge River. ICCN (the Congolese park authority) agreed to our plan to hire him since they have too few guards. On balance, the events at Lotulo seem to be in order.

Thus far no fishermen or poachers have entered the Yenge. We have been informed, however, that more than half of the 39 poachers arrested during Operation Bonobo have been released.

The men work at the building site and drag in more sand. A sudden storm blows in. Torrents of rain fall, and the men scramble to unload the canoe full of sand before it sinks. Empty, they paddle back to camp soaking wet and take a soapy bath in the pouring rain by the edge of the river, singing and joking. We get a full rain gauge: 35 mm (1.38 inches) in 20 minutes.

Patrick and I continue to puzzle over the new GPS data-transfer process. I look up and Bunda is at the door. "Madame, I simply want to signal you that the eagle is here." We jump from our chairs. What? Micheline is back? We're stunned. There she is high in the tree behind our house watching our camp. Instant jubilation and disbelief. I grab the camera. It's getting dark and still drizzling. I try to steady myself enough to take night shots, and Patrick grabs Micheline's green basin to show her something familiar. But we have no fish. I can't believe that she is here just as we have arrived! Bunda says that whenever she returns, she sits in the same tree and then circles the camp. She does exactly that this time, but she then heads across the Salonga River out of sight. Will she be back in the morning? We might have a fresh fish ready if we can find any, Micheline.

**April 25:** The training is going pretty well – exhausting, though. Intensive and SLOW. Yet the 12 students are learning fast enough, and it is not easy for them since most have never used a GPS or a telephone and not a single one knew how to use the compass. We have built a temporary school from sticks driven into the soil, two blue tarps on top and palm fronds against the sides. The guards built benches, and we have the blackboard from our adult literacy class. In a sense, this is an historic occasion – park guards from four stations will receive training AND 12 GPS units so they can begin to use them (like the Etate guards) on their patrols. They are learning how to find a position on the map, calculate its coordinates, enter this into the GPS, and then make calculations for how to go to that point. Not many people in the U.S. can do this.

Hugues (the technical coordinator for the Central African Protected Areas Network, RAPAC) is performing a miracle here with his engineering know-how – you should see what he can build with sticks from the forest and planks from broken pirogues. He has everyone working. The sounds of handsaws and nailing and Hugues rallying the guys make an interesting contrast to the classroom 50 feet away. As for these wooden elevated houses at Etate, it's now or never because we will NEVER again have Hugues' type of expertise. He brought Frederick, who is a specialist in building bridges. They will put the footings in tomorrow, and then come back during our next mission and build the houses.

We have a white cattle egret hanging around camp. She, Skinny Minnie, zooms around the yard like she owns the place. Only one, which is unusual. She must have gotten separated from her flock somehow. The black chicken hatched three chicks, and the duck in Bobo's kitchen, which he calls his secretary, has been sitting on a nest, a huge mound of fluffy feathers, for the past three weeks.

All is well, if not downright picturesque. Micheline the eagle has not come back.

**Right:** Dr. Gay Reinartz teaches park guards how to operate a GPS unit. **Below:** Children from nearby schools pose with a new Etate sign made by Zoological Society artists in Milwaukee.



With supervision from construction experts, guards begin the foundation for an elevated house at Etate.



# A Zoo Year of Classes & More

It might not feel like learning, but there's plenty of it going on when you're in a Zoological Society of Milwaukee (ZSM) class, camp or other educational program. The ZSM's Conservation Education Department creates programs to engage children who learn in a variety of ways: by seeing, hearing, moving, singing, etc. Using the Milwaukee County Zoo as an extended classroom, ZSM instructors include Zoo tours in a varied curriculum that may employ art, theater, animal science, games, songs or scavenger hunts. With everything from individual Zoo classes for ages 2-14 to outreach theater shows, from programs for schoolchildren to teacher-education courses, ZSM classes and camps bring people from throughout the community together to learn about conservation, wildlife and the environment. Every month of the year offers something new, and these pages show just a sampling of ZSM programs. For more details, go to [www.zoosociety.org/education](http://www.zoosociety.org/education).

April



January



February



March



**January | Animal Ambassador programs:** As animal ambassadors, second, third and fourth graders from schools serving disadvantaged neighborhoods learn about wildlife conservation at the Zoo and in class in this semester-long program. The children “graduate” and become ambassadors who can teach friends and family about animals and conservation.

**February | Kohl's Wild Theater Outreach:** Song, puppetry and drama make Kohl's Wild Theater's conservation-themed performances entertaining for all ages. The outreach program that encourages audiences to care for our world travels to schools, community events and festivals within a one-hour radius of the Milwaukee County Zoo free of charge.

**March | School programs:** From rainforests to endangered species, the ZSM offers over 30 different programs, many of which can be presented either at the Zoo or at schools. Programs range from K3 to grade 12. From November through March, Milwaukee County school students on educational field trips receive free admission to the Zoo if they pre-register and use ZSM curriculum.

**April | Teacher education:** Through a ZSM partnership with the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, teachers can take a one-credit undergraduate or graduate course at the Zoo in spring, summer or fall. In April 2014, Animal Habitats & Adaptations addresses how animals survive in a variety of habitats.

**May | Family Zoo classes:** Whether they're tracking animals in a detective class or watching sea lions perform in a marine mammals camp, the whole family can get involved in ZSM family classes and camps. Families with children ages 4-14 can register for spring, summer or fall offerings.

**June | Zoo camps:** Nearly 12,000 people participate annually in ZSM summer camps at the Zoo. Popular with ages 12-14 are Careers Camps, where they can learn what it takes to run a zoo. In four separate camps, children meet zoo workers, design animal exhibits, make animal enrichment toys and find out why zookeepers sometimes travel the world. In the June photo on page 7, Jan Rafert, a zoo curator, talks with campers about macaque monkeys.

September

November

July



October



June



May



August



**July | Zoo camps:** Going to camp is something every child should get to do. So, with support from a variety of funders, the ZSM brings kids from seven Milwaukee-area neighborhood and community centers to summer day camps at the Zoo, like this one on bats.

**August | zoo camps:** Each year, children ages 6-9 can take a camp that focuses on the Zoo's special summer exhibit. In 2014 that exhibit features a saltwater pool filled with sting rays and sharks. ZSM campers will learn about marine life and ecosystems, and then get to touch sting rays and sharks.

**September | Zoo classes for toddlers with an adult:** Age 2 at the Zoo! Yes, the ZSM has a variety of classes year-round for 2-year-olds (with an adult). For example, in Zoo Train class (offered every September), 2-year-olds explore shapes, make a train costume and ride a train at the Zoo. Zoo classes for 3-year-olds (with an adult) are also available year-round. At ages 4 and 5, children can attend class with or without a parent.



December

**October | scout programs:** Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts complete badge and achievement requirements at the Zoo. The ZSM's fun programs are designed by an instructor who's an Eagle Scout. You can take a Zoo tour, see live animals in the classroom, and touch real animal fur and bones - all while meeting scout requirements.

**November | zoo art classes:** The three-Saturday Art Club classes let kids ages 8-10 explore the work of famous artists and create animal-themed art. Gallery Day (in November and April) has children show off their artwork to friends and family. Spring Art Club in 2014 runs February, March and April. Additional art classes are available in fall and spring for ages 6-10.

**December | zoo animal classes:** In the popular Reindeer Adventures class (held every December), children ages 4 and 5 make their own antlers that shed and learn how caribou swim and stay warm. Then they "migrate" to the reindeer barn for an up-close look at these arctic animals. (Animal-science classes are offered for ages 2-14 year-round.)

By Dana Christen






# January 2014

Although a warm-weather species, the Milwaukee County Zoo's two African elephants, Brittany and Ruth, enjoy frolicking in the snow. Pictured here is Brittany.



Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

	<p>A record-breaking 2,200 participants endured single-digit temperatures in last year's 33rd annual Samson Stomp &amp; Romp to raise funds for the Milwaukee County Zoo.</p> <p>Richard Taylor photo</p>	<p><b>1</b> New Year's Day</p>	<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>4</b> Family Free Day at the Zoo**</p>
<p><b>5</b></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>12</b></p>	<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>14</b></p>	<p><b>15</b></p>	<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>17</b></p>
<p><b>19</b> Samson Stomp &amp; Romp at the Zoo**</p>	<p><b>20</b> Martin Luther King Jr. Day</p>	<p><b>21</b></p>	<p><b>22</b></p>	<p><b>23</b> Puttin' on the Ritz,* Potawatomi Bingo Casino, evening event</p>	<p><b>24</b></p>
<p><b>26</b></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> Chinese New Year</p>

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

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



# February 2014



In Australia, February is a summer month. But these two red kangaroos are blissfully unaware the seasons are flipped. Snow at the Milwaukee County Zoo is a nice change from the searing deserts of their native outback.

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday



**Left:** One of the world's most critically endangered bird species, the waldtrapp ibis uses its long, curved beak to pluck bugs out of the soil.

**Right:** Five friends enjoy a night at the Zoological Society Wines and Beers of the World fundraiser at the Milwaukee County Zoo. The event includes appetizers and desserts, and helps fund improvements at the Zoo.

2

Groundhog Day celebration at the Zoo\*\*

3

Presidents' Day

9

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Valentine's Day

15

ZSM members' trip to Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry\*

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6

Wines and Beers of the World,\* evening event

7

1

Family Free Day at the Zoo\*\*

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

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



# March 2014



Male snow leopard Genghis surveys his territory. In the wild, snow leopards live in the mountains of Central Asia. They are an endangered species.

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday



**Left:** A family enjoys a day at the Zoo's African Waterhole Exhibit during one of six Family Free Days held on the first Saturday of each month, November through April. **Right:** A girl gets nose to nose with a mounted otter at the Milwaukee County Zoo during Behind the Scenes Weekend, where Zoogoers get VIP access to areas usually off-limits to the public.

**1**  
Family Free Day  
at the Zoo\*\*

2

9

Behind the Scenes  
Weekend at the Zoo\*\*  
Daylight Savings Time  
begins

3

10

17

St. Patrick's Day

4

11

18

5  
Ash Wednesday

12

19

6

13

20  
First day of spring

7

14

21

8

Behind the Scenes  
Weekend at the Zoo\*\*

15

Zoological Society  
members-only field trip\*  
Purim begins  
at sundown

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23

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31

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

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



# April 2014



The iridescent colors of these African cichlids give them a ghostly look. You can view the Milwaukee County Zoo's many species of cichlids in the Aquatic & Reptile Center.

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

	<p>Zoogoers march along with the Easter Bunny in a parade during the Milwaukee County Zoo's Egg Day, the day before Easter.</p>	<p><b>1</b> All Fools Day (April Fools Day)</p>	<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>5</b> Family Free Day at the Zoo**</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> Breakfast &amp; Lunch with the Bunny**  ZSM members' field trip to Galena, Ill.*</p>
<p><b>13</b> Lunch with the Bunny**  Palm Sunday</p>	<p><b>14</b> Passover begins at sundown</p>	<p><b>15</b></p>	<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b> Good Friday</p>	<p><b>19</b> Egg Day at the Zoo**</p>
<p><b>20</b> Easter</p>	<p><b>21</b></p>	<p><b>22</b> Earth Day</p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b> Zootastic,* evening event</p>	<p><b>26</b></p>
<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p>	<p><b>29</b></p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	<p>The Zoological Society's Zootastic fundraiser offers Friday night fun, food and music for the whole family. Here a girl designs a paper animal mask.</p>		

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

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





# May 2014

Tommy, the Milwaukee County Zoo's male orangutan, sports impressive cheek pads. He is shy yet inquisitive and enjoys a TV show on how to create paintings.



Sunday



**Left:** A mother lifts her son from an elephant sculpture on Mother's Day at the Milwaukee County Zoo, when moms receive free admission. **Right:** Zoogoers visit one of the Zoo's butterfly gardens, which promote native plant growth, during the eco-themed Party for the Planet.

Tuesday



Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4	5 Cinco de Mayo	6	7	8	9	10
11 Mother's Day at the Zoo**	12	13	14	15	16	17 Party for the Planet at the Zoo**
18 Party for the Planet at the Zoo**	19	20	21	22	23	24 The Zoo's official summer season opens, including its special summer exhibit on sting rays and Kohl's Wild Theater Zoo performances.
25	26 Memorial Day	27	28	29	30	31



# June 2014



A pair of black-naped fruit doves perch on a vine. Females are almost entirely green. Males have pale-gray heads, a black nape, yellow throats, and golden-yellow and pink colors on their undertail coverts.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
1	2	3 Zoological Society free admission to the Zoo's special summer exhibit, evening event*	4 Zoological Society free admission to the Zoo's special summer exhibit, evening event*	5	6	7	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
15 Father's Day at the Zoo**	16	17	18	19	20	21 First day of summer	
22	23	24	25 Sunset Zoofari at the Zoo**	26	27	28 Zoo Ball,* evening event	
29 Ramadan begins (in the United States)	30						
		<p><b>Left:</b> Zoogoers view auction items at Zoo Ball, the Zoological Society's largest annual fundraiser. The black-tie event features fine dining, live music and dancing.</p> <p><b>Right:</b> A daughter shows dad how great he is with a "No. 1 Dad" medal on Father's Day at the Milwaukee County Zoo, when dads receive free admission.</p>					

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

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





# July 2014



Water droplets spray into the air as two Alaskan brown bears play in their pool.

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

	<p>Kids' Nights at the Milwaukee County Zoo feature music, food, root-beer floats and plenty of fun for Zoological Society members only.</p> <p><small>Richard Taylor photo</small></p>	<p><b>1</b></p>	<p><b>2</b> Sunset Zoofari at the Zoo**</p>	<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>4</b> Fourth of July holiday</p>	<p><b>5</b></p>
<p><b>6</b> Military Family Day at the Zoo**</p>	<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b>8</b> Kids' Nights at the Zoo*</p>	<p><b>9</b> Sunset Zoofari at the Zoo**</p>	<p><b>10</b> Kids' Nights at the Zoo*</p>	<p><b>11</b> Kids' Nights at the Zoo*</p>	<p><b>12</b></p>
<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>14</b></p>	<p><b>15</b></p>	<p><b>16</b> Sunset Zoofari at the Zoo**</p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b></p>	<p><b>19</b></p>
<p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>21</b></p>	<p><b>22</b></p>	<p><b>23</b> Sunset Zoofari at the Zoo**</p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p>	<p><b>26</b></p>
<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b> Birdies &amp; Eagles Golf Tournament,* off Zoo grounds</p>	<p><b>29</b></p>	<p><b>30</b> Sunset Zoofari at the Zoo**</p>	<p><b>31</b></p>	<p>The Birdies &amp; Eagles Golf Tournament is a major fundraiser for the Zoological Society.</p>	

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

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



# August 2014



Bahatika enjoys a warm summer afternoon. Milwaukee County Zoo guests can sign up to hand-feed giraffes from atop a deck in their yard.

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

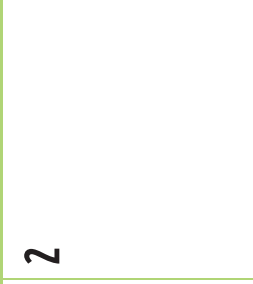
Saturday



The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel a la Carte offers more than 25 dining options and live entertainment on six stages.



Senior Celebration is a free day at the Zoo for ages 55 and older. Dance to live entertainment, play games, and enjoy treats.



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A la Carte at the Zoo\*\*

Animal Safari at the Zoo\*

A la Carte at the Zoo\*\*

Animal Safari at the Zoo\*

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Senior Celebration at the Zoo\*\*

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

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





# September 2014



An African spurred tortoise at the Milwaukee County Zoo basks in the sunlight. These tortoises can live up to 70 years and are the third largest species of tortoise in the world.

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday



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Labor Day

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Family Farm Weekend at the Zoo\*\*

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Family Farm Weekend at the Zoo\*\*

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Elephant Appreciation Day\*\*

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Ride on the Wild Side Bike Ride starting at the Zoo\*

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First day of autumn

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Rosh Hashana begins at sundown

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**Top:** Family Farm Weekend at the Milwaukee County Zoo shows you how to make peanut butter, milk cows and weave baskets. This girl sighs after giving it her all in the kids' mini-tractor pull.  
**Right:** Ride on the Wild Side has cyclists of all abilities cruising by big cats and pedaling past primates. The Zoological Society fundraiser offers riders three routes.





# October 2014



The African black-footed cat is the smallest species of cat in Africa and looks like a domestic tabby, but it's truly wild. These felines can take on prey heavier than themselves.

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday



Even the elephants get treats at Halloween. The Milwaukee County Zoo offers two week-ends of Halloween activities, including a costume parade and pumpkin gazing (below).

Photo at bottom by Richard Taylor.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 Columbus Day observed	14	15	16	17 Boo at the Zoo evening event**	18 Boo at the Zoo evening event** Wolf Awareness Day at the Zoo**
19	20	21	22	23 Zoo Brew evening event**	24 Halloween Spooktacular evening event at the Zoo with trick-or-treating**	25 Halloween Spooktacular at the Zoo with trick-or-treating, 9 a.m.-9 p.m. **
26	27	28	29	30	31 Halloween (traditional)	

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

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



# November 2014



One of the Milwaukee County Zoo's North American timber wolves (also called gray wolves) stealthily walks through the Wolf Woods exhibit. Wisconsin's gray wolves have rebounded dramatically.

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday



2

Daylight Savings Time ends

If it's a warm November day, even the African rhinos may be out as this family discovers during a Family Free Day at the Milwaukee County Zoo. Thanks to sponsors, zoogoers get six free-admission days on the first Saturday of November, December, January, February, March and April. Zoo walkways are clear, and there are plenty of animals to visit indoors if it gets cold.



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Family Free Day at the Zoo\*\*

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Veterans Day

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Zoological Society members-only holiday field trip to Chicago\*

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Thanksgiving

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

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



# December 2014



Polar bear Snow Lilly is perfectly at home during a snowy Wisconsin winter at the Milwaukee County Zoo.

Sunday

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Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

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Saturday



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Lunch with Santa at the Zoo\*\*

Lunch with Santa at the Zoo\*\*

Lunch with Santa at the Zoo\*\*  
First day of winter

Family Free Day at the Zoo\*\*  
Fantastic Forest at the Zoo (through Dec. 31)\*  
Breakfast & Lunch with Santa at the Zoo\*\*

Breakfast & Lunch with Santa at the Zoo\*\*

Breakfast & Lunch with Santa at the Zoo\*\*

Kwanzaa begins

Christmas

31  
New Year's Eve



**Top:** Holiday kringle is a treat during the Milwaukee County Zoo's popular Breakfast and Lunch with Santa on three December weekends. **Left:** The Zoological Society's Fantastic Forest features more than 60 trees with hand-crafted ornaments by Milwaukee-area youth groups. The display is indoors at the Zoo.

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

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

**2014 Events Calendar**  
 Zoological Society of Milwaukee and  
 Milwaukee County Zoo



January



February



March



April



May



June



July



August



September



October



November



December

Cape thickknees at the  
 Milwaukee County Zoo

**About the photographer**

Colorful and engaging animal photos taken at the Milwaukee County Zoo are the specialty of Richard "Rick" Brodzeller. You'll find a variety of his animal photos in this calendar. A freelance photographer from Mequon, he has been taking photos at the Milwaukee County Zoo for about 40 years, half of that time as the main photographer for the Zoological Society of Milwaukee. For Brodzeller's tips on photographing animals at the Zoo, go to [www.zoosociety.org/animalpix](http://www.zoosociety.org/animalpix). There you'll also find a link to a past *Alive* magazine story on this photographer who's known as one of the best in the Milwaukee area.