



Alive

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Cub Love: Tigers Draw Fans

Hello, Happy the Hippo

Zoo Animals in Winter

100 Years of Zoo Support



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

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Dr. Bert Davis (left) and Zoo Director Chuck Wikenhauser (right) accept a check from Bob Dohmen in October 2008 to build the Dohmen Family Foundation Hippo Home. (See page 4.)

This is a year for celebrations at the Zoological Society of Milwaukee. This is our 100th anniversary. It's the 35th anniversary of Zoo Pride, our volunteer auxiliary. And Alive magazine celebrates its 30th anniversary this year.

We'll be taking time out to mark our accomplishments throughout the year. We start with our Centennial Celebration Kickoff on Jan. 9 (see story on opposite page). This is your chance to come to the Zoo in winter (see page 6), enjoy the animals and have some warm indoor fun. We will be serving free warm beverages and birthday cake. At our events through 2010, we'll also highlight aspects of our last 100 years.

The April 2010 issue of Alive will look at the last 35 years of volunteering at the Zoo - although we have to emphasize that volunteering has been a critical part of the Zoological Society since the beginning. Nine influential volunteers started the Society when they signed articles of incorporation on Sept. 30, 1910. It was chartered as the Washington Park Zoological Society because the Zoo was in Milwaukee's Washington Park (and the Zoo was the Washington Park Zoo). All of our Board members throughout the years have been volunteers. In fact they pay us - actually, they give us a donation - for the privilege of volunteering. That shows how much people value animals and the Zoo as a destination for education and entertainment.

And let's not forget the important conservation mission of the Zoological Society. In our very first mission statement, two of our objectives were "to secure better protection of animal life by educational methods" and to "foster and encourage zoological research." Since its inception, the Zoological Society has spent millions of dollars on conservation - both for research and for direct animal protection. From birds to bonobos, from bats to sharks (see page 14), from turtles to tigers (see page 15), we have funded research to help conserve these animals.

You'll learn about some of our accomplishments in conservation, education and support of the Zoo in our historical highlights story (page 8). One of our most recent successes is the building of a new hippo holding facility, thanks to a \$1.75 million donation to the Zoological Society from the Dohmen Family Foundation. That allowed the Zoo to build an extension onto the pachyderm building and bring Happy, a 5,500-pound male hippo, to the Zoo last fall (see pages 4 and 12). Happy, by the way, celebrates his 29th birthday Jan. 4.

Finally, what's a centennial without a safari? We're offering three safaris to Kenya this August, in three price ranges (see the back cover). So help us celebrate. We look forward to seeing you Jan. 9 at the Zoo.

Robert Davis

Dr. Bert Davis
 Chief Executive Officer



100TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR
OF THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY



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Meet the Zoo's bigger-than-life new hippo called Happy, and explore the new Dohmen Family Foundation Hippo home.

ON THE WEB:

- Behind the scenes in designing a hippo home: www.zoosociety.org/hippohome

6 *Winter White*

Go on a wintry photo tour of tigers, moose and more.

8 *A Centennial Celebration*

The Zoological Society celebrates a century of Zoo support in 2010: highlights of our history plus vintage photos.

ON THE WEB:

- How we got those animals: zoosociety.org/buyinganimals
- Stories and photos of classes at the Zoo: zoosociety.org/educationmemories
- Memories of Samson the gorilla: zoosociety.org/Samson
- 1910-1947: Zoo and Zoological Society history: zoosociety.org/earlyhistory

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Tiger cubs and red-ruffed lemurs.

ON THE WEB:

- More new animals: trumpeter swans and blue-bellied rollers: zoosociety.org/gnu
- Tiger cubs in the spotlight: zoosociety.org/tigers

Kids Alive 12-13 Happy the hippo activities.

ON THE WEB:

- More hippo fun: www.zoosociety.org/kidsstuff

Contributors See the insert in this *Alive* that includes a list of Serengeti Circle members and Platypus Society members.

SUMMER CAMPS

The Zoological Society's Summer Camps brochure is packaged with this *Alive*. Please see directions for how to register.

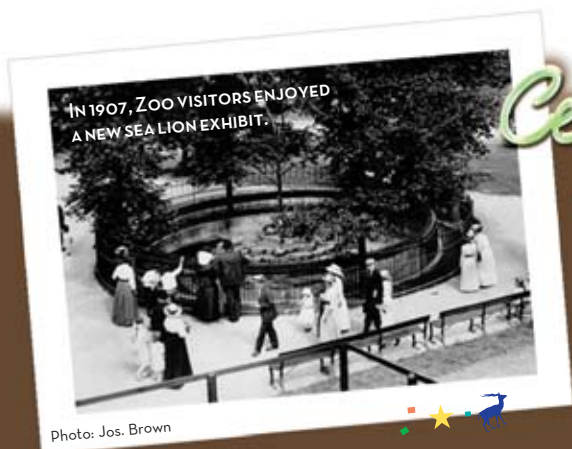


Photo: Jos. Brown

Centennial Birthday Bash!

THE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF MILWAUKEE CELEBRATES 100 YEARS OF ZOO SUPPORT!
COME TO OUR CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION KICKOFF, SPONSORED BY TRI CITY NATIONAL BANK

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 2010 - MILWAUKEE COUNTY ZOO
10 A.M.-3 P.M., FREE EVENT. FREE ZOO ADMISSION FOR ZOO PASS HOLDERS.
PARKING FEES APPLY. NON-MEMBERS PAY REGULAR ZOO ADMISSION.

It'll be cake and games and vintage fun at the Zoological Society's centennial birthday bash at the Zoo. This event features a cake-decorating contest with wild, animal-themed creations. Help choose a favorite design created by Milwaukee-area bakeries and enjoy free cake samples, plus complimentary coffee, popcorn and hot chocolate (while supplies last). You can also take in the sounds of a barbershop quartet and meet Old World Wisconsin historical interpreters dressed in 1910-era costumes. Kids can enjoy "retro" games and create crafts.

Centennial celebrations and events are on the docket throughout 2010! Do you have old Zoological Society photos or videos to share? How about memories of Zoological Society events or education programs? We would love to hear from you. Go to www.zoosociety.org/100years for details on sending us your pictures and videos (if you don't have Internet access, please contact Lisa B. at 414-258-2333.) Or, send us your story at publications@zoosociety.org. We may use these materials in print and Web stories about our centennial.

A Happy Hippo Home

Milwaukee welcomed its first hippo (Yacob) in 1913, and it has been a happy love affair with these African behemoths ever since. Now Happy the hippo, a 5,500-pound male, has arrived to continue the affair and perhaps start a few more. In time, zookeepers hope that love will bloom between Happy and one of the Milwaukee County Zoo's two female hippos, Patti and Puddles.

To make it possible to bring Happy here, the Zoo added on a modern, 1,500-foot extension to the north end of its pachyderm building. Construction was started in April 2009 and completed last September, in time for Happy's September 29 arrival from the National Zoo in Washington, D.C. The new facility was made possible by a \$1.75 million donation to the Zoological Society of Milwaukee from the Dohmen Family Foundation. Robert Dohmen and his mother, Mary Dohmen, attended a September 22, 2009, premiere of the Dohmen Family Foundation Hippo Home. This building extension is considered Phase 1 of what is hoped to be a two-phase project. Phase 2 would include an underwater viewing exhibit that could hold up to four hippos.

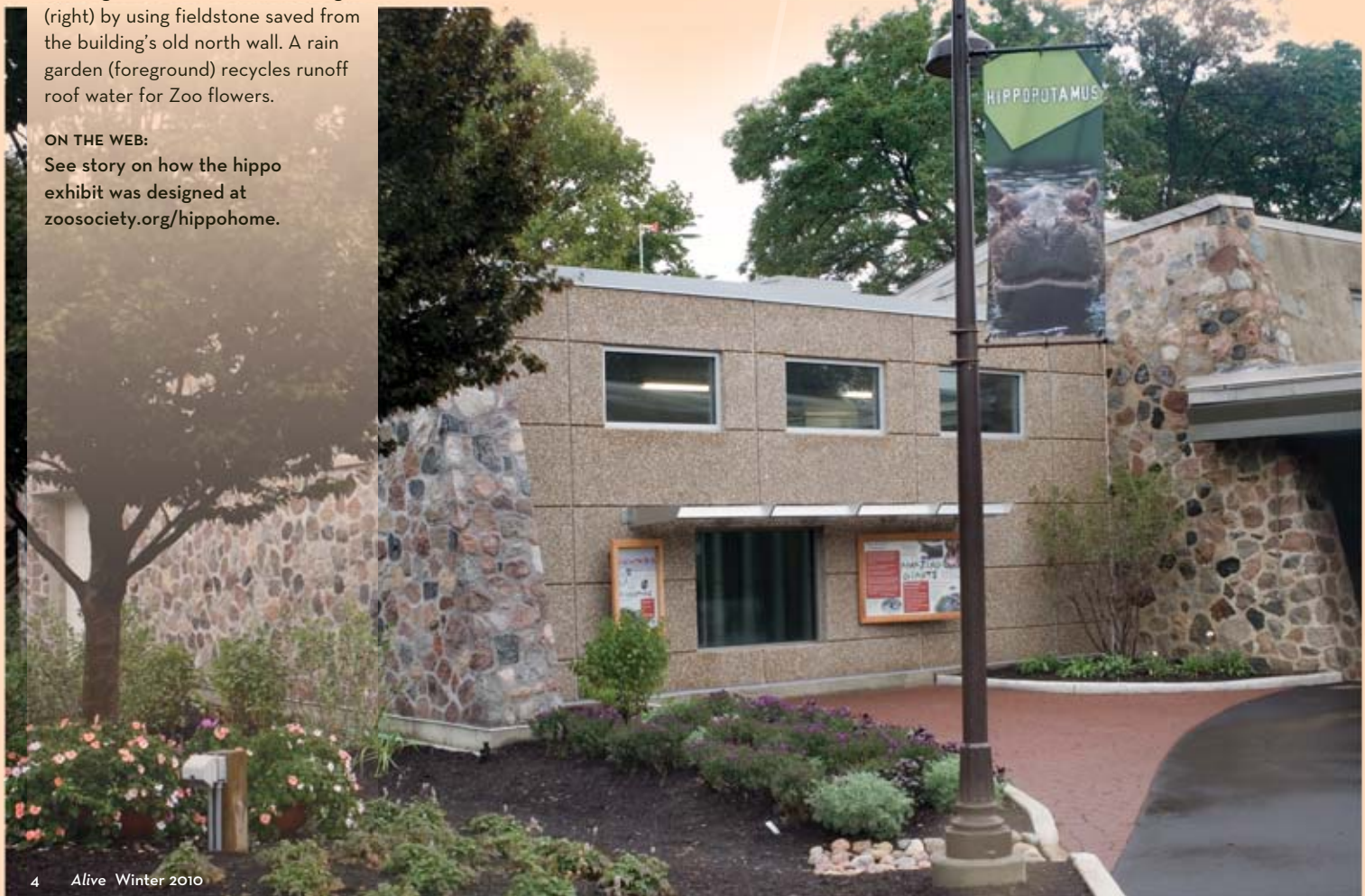
The new addition to the building includes:

- Versatile new living quarters for Happy with his own pool, shower and window (where Zoo visitors can view him, too). "The deepest part of the pool is about 4 feet. Hippos like shallow water," says Deputy Zoo Director Bruce Beehler, noting that hippos don't float. They walk on the bottom.
- Happy's area includes two stalls with a slotted wall and two doors between them. This way he can be safely introduced to one of the Zoo's female hippos (which are much smaller than Happy). "Hippos unfamiliar with each other can be quite aggressive toward each other," says Dr. Beehler.
- Happy also has a heated, resilient rubber floor. "Hippos lie down when they sleep," notes Dr. Beehler. "It's a little more comfortable for them lying on the floor. Typically in the wild they spend most of the day in water and then walk at night to feed on grass. They might walk several miles at night." The resilient floor material has been used successfully in the new giraffe stalls, in the rhino quarters, in the camel enclosures and in the hoofstock areas. It seems to be quite durable, Dr. Beehler says.

The new extension to the pachyderm building matches the older building (right) by using fieldstone saved from the building's old north wall. A rain garden (foreground) recycles runoff roof water for Zoo flowers.

ON THE WEB:

See story on how the hippo exhibit was designed at zoosociety.org/hippohome.



Robert Dohmen and his mother, Mary Dohmen, attended a premiere of the Dohmen Family Foundation Hippo Home at the Zoo in September 2009.



- While the older part of the building has solid walls facing the hallway, the new addition has open slotted walls with rectangular metal posts (bollards). “We’ve opened it all up,” says Dr. Beehler. “Now the keepers can interact safely with the hippos through the bollards. That includes doing exams, cutting their teeth (to keep them from becoming ingrown and causing sores), etc.”

- A multipurpose room can be used as a stall or for medical exams because there is a movable chute in the room that can be shortened in width or length (to hold a small hippo, for example, close to the posts for an exam).

The exterior of the new pachyderm building extension matches the fieldstone wall that is part of the older building (and of several Zoo buildings). This was possible because “we gathered fieldstone from the old walls that were torn down and combined it with some we had in storage,” says Dr. Beehler. The result is a unified-looking building that’s attractive. “A water garden at the north end of the building contains water plants and is a retention pond for water drained off from the roof,” he adds. Other green areas with flowers were added to the mall area between the feline and pachyderm buildings. Zoogoers in winter who exit the south end of the Florence Mila Borchert Big Cat Country will find it’s only a few steps outdoors to peek into Happy’s window. Then they can head back to “big cats” for warmth or venture a little farther south to the indoor giraffe enclosure.

By Paula Brookmire

Happy the Hippo will celebrate his 29th birthday on Jan. 4, 2010, in his new Milwaukee home.



It took five layers of sturdy glass sealed together to create the viewing window (background) into Happy the hippo’s quarters.



Pachyderm zookeeper Ray Hren shows how a heavy-duty, open-frame wall moves along a track to create a smaller space so veterinarians can get close to a hippo for a medical procedure. More hippo information on page 12.





Kajmak the tiger likes the snow.

Winter White

Photos by Richard Brodzeller

Text by Paula Brookmire

What a quiet place of beauty the Zoo is in winter. Until a peacock's call screams through the trees. Or an elephant slams down a log in her yard. Or a gaggle of Canada geese makes a honking fuss at the lake. Or a child yells in delight at seeing a reindeer calf. If you've never visited the Milwaukee County Zoo in winter, you've missed out on seeing tigers in the snow ... or African savanna zebras enjoying the cold ... or the majestic outline of a moose against a wall of white. The Zoo's pathways are usually clear of ice. So a winter stroll past the polar bears, seals, elk, moose and Asian black bear is a refreshing treat on a clear day. When you need to warm up, stop in Wolf Woods lodge or visit the giraffes indoors at the MillerCoors Giraffe Experience or smile at the bonobos in the Stearns Family Apes of Africa building. You won't find crowds in winter. So you can spend some quality time with the animals. To find a variety of Zoo tours, go to www.zoosociety.org/Visit/.

Above: A Greenfield family tours the Zoo in January 2009: Kyzee Bernhardt, 2, is carried by her grandma, Karen Capps, while Kyzee's mom, JoAnne, holds the hand of sister Skyla, 4 (opposite page).



Comanchee, the Zoo's male elk



The Zoo's peacocks stay outside even on the coldest days.



Isabella, one of the Zoo's trumpeter swans



Laurie, the Zoo's female elk, has a goose companion.



Gray wolves Nijiji (left, now deceased) and Nemat played in the snow last winter.



Zoo...ooming Through a Century



It has been a wild ride. An elephant here, a hippo there, a raging rhino, a renegade bear. When you're building a Zoo, it helps to have friends who can "drive" – drive the money to the projects and drive the direction of the future. Since 1910 the Zoological Society has been a driving force behind the Zoo, from the time it was the 38-acre Washington Park Zoo, through the move from Vliet Street to Blue Mound Road, to the current 209-acre Milwaukee County Zoo.

The Zoological Society has been more than a "Rah, rah, rhino!" cheerleading group. Its leaders have been visionaries, civic movers and shakers, members of the famous "beer baron" families, industrialists, scientists, writers, politicians. Think Uihlein, Pabst, Schlitz, Gettelmann, Kuehn, Cudahy, McGovern (as in former Gov. Francis E. McGovern), Froedtert, Ott and so many more families, some of them sending second and third generations to serve the Society. As we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Society throughout this year, we'll highlight people who made our Zoo famous (in 1974 *Esquire* magazine declared it "the best zoo in the U.S."). In this opening salvo, we feature successes in two parts of our mission: supporting the Zoo and educating people about animals and the environment. The conservation part of our mission will be covered in a future issue. In the April *Alive*, we'll celebrate the 35th anniversary of Zoo Pride, the Zoological Society's volunteer auxiliary.

In its first 50 years, the Society had three key roles: 1) bring in money to expand the Zoo, 2) build community support and understanding of wildlife, and 3) acquire animals. "From 1910 through 1947, the Zoological Society added more than \$500,000 of housing and equipment to the Zoo" and acquired ALL of the animals "through purchase, donation, exchange, and reproduction by Zoo specimens," note the authors of a Zoological Society history written in 1947. * "Not a dollar of tax money" was spent buying animals. Even in 2010 tax money is not used to buy animals, says Zoo Director Chuck Wikenhauser; instead, money from sales (such as train tickets and milk from the Zoo's dairy) go into trusts to use for animal purchases and transportation.

In its second half-century, the Zoological Society shifted from acquiring animals to improving the Zoo. In 1973 Congress enacted the Endangered Species Act, which restricted importation of many animals. As Walter Kroening, the volunteer executive director of the Society and editor of *Animal Talk* (the publication that preceded *Alive*), wrote in September 1973: "It is becoming more and more difficult, if not impossible, to import animals of all and any kinds. Because of the prevalence of various diseases (hoof and mouth, respiratory, etc.), rarity to the point of being wiped out, ecological problems, all of which are causes of dwindling supply, zoo directors

Photographer unknown



Photo: Jos. Brown



Photo: Jos. Brown

Clockwise:

- One of the Zoo's earliest animal stars was Yacob, the hippopotamus, who arrived from Germany in 1913 at age 3. When he died in 1943, Yacob weighed 6,000 pounds and was the largest hippo in captivity.
- Zoo visitors in the early part of the last century view the tigers. By 1920, the Zoo had grown to the fifth largest in the United States, with over 700 animals and annual attendance of about 600,000.
- Bears have been on exhibit at the Zoo since 1893. Today the Zoo has five bear exhibits: polar bears, grizzlies, Alaskan brown bears, Asian black bears and American black bears.

are hard-pressed to replace animals. It becomes mandatory for zoos to raise their own animals whenever possible or to trade surplus animals with other zoos. Sometimes either a male or female of a rare pair do not get along or one of them dies; in a few instances females have killed their husbands, more frequently than vice versa."

In the late '70s, the Society began developing its now-popular education programs and its pioneering conservation projects.

MISSION: ZOO ANIMALS

Getting the money for animals often was the easy part. Getting them to Milwaukee, more difficult. Consider Karonga the black rhinoceros. In a five-vehicle convoy, Karonga (his 2,470-pound crate carried by a truck), hippos Anthony and Cleopatra, and a wildebeest took a four-hour journey from the Brookfield Zoo in Illinois to Milwaukee in July 1943. In the car following Karonga were the Zoo director, two newspaper reporters and the head animal keeper, Charles Stanke, carrying an elephant gun (just in case Karonga broke free). According to the 1947 history: "Whenever the procession halted, Karonga became rampageous. His crate was



Photographer unknown



Photographer unknown

Above left: Young gorillas Samson (left) and Sambo arrived at the Zoo in 1950. Samson was one of the Zoo's most famous animals, thanks to many stories in *The Milwaukee Journal*. **Above:** In 1956, the Zoological Society launched a \$300,000 fund-raising campaign at the Pfister Hotel, complete with zebra, donkey (held by Zoo Director George Speidel), elephant and leopard.

one foot longer than he. At each stop he hit the front end of his crate with a succession of terrific wallops, his horned nose catapulted by his 2,500 pounds. ...Karonga hit the front end of his crate more than 100 times, and each time the [county truck drivers] wondered whether 2,500 pounds of rhino was about to crash in on them." Luckily, the crate held. Within days Karonga had settled into his new home.

Another rocky ride: A fund-raising campaign in 1940 allowed the Zoological Society to buy two giraffes. They were captured in Kenya (in the days when African animals still could be taken from the wild) and traveled about 600 miles to Mombasa, where they boarded a ship. They encountered a severe storm off the West Indies. The ship's steam engine broke down, and the giraffes almost died. But, after a 64-day voyage, they arrived in New York on Aug. 3, 1940, and went to Milwaukee later that month. The pair, Bomba and Momba, were the only reticulated giraffes on exhibit in a U.S. Zoo; they made history in 1946 when they had a son.

Actually, it's amazing the types of animals that Milwaukee displayed in the first two decades of the 1900s. From anteaters to aoudads, from alligators to zebras, from Bengal tigers to black leopards, we had more than just Wisconsin animals such as deer, elk, bears and wolves. There were always stars, however. The Zoological Society found star quality was a key to keeping the public engaged. In 1912 the Society bought four polar bear yearling cubs captured by a fishing fleet in Greenland. They were named Sultana, Borealis, Clown and Silver King. Sultana and Clown particularly made headlines. In 1920, Clown went renegade. The 1,700-pound polar bear climbed over a 9-foot-high steel fence and invaded a heavily populated west side area of Milwaukee. A posse of Zoo staff soon followed led by esteemed Zoo Director Edward Bean and head zookeeper Stanke. Several squads of police came. There were no tranquilizer guns back then. When Clown could not be captured, Detective John Neiderkorn shot him. (Our Zoo's exhibits today are better designed to prevent animal escapes.)

Sultana made more positive news: She and Silver King produced the first polar bear cub born in captivity, on Dec. 2, 1919. He was named Zero because it was 10 below zero that day. His namesake, today's Zero the polar bear, was born 70 years later, in December 1989, to mom Mishka. Sultana, who lived 35 years at the Zoo, gave birth to 12 cubs (11 survived), starting the Zoo's polar bear dynasty.

In 1913 came another star, the Zoo's first hippo. Purchased in Germany for \$2,000 by Otto L. Kuehn, the Zoological Society's first president, the 3-year-old hippo lived at the Zoo for 30 years, till he died in June 1943, weighing 6,000 pounds. The youngster was bought from Karl Hagenbach, who had the world's largest business trading in wild animals. Hagenbach visited Milwaukee not long after. Zookeepers, who couldn't get the hippo to come out of his pool, asked Hagenbach for help, and he promptly called out: "Yacob, komm, 'raus!" Responding to the name Yacob (also spelled Jacob), the hippo immediately exited the pool. Apparently he understood German better than English.

In 1943, the hippo stars were Cleo and Tony (donated by the Milwaukee Journal). In 2010 our hippo star is Happy, a 5,500-pound male who rode all night to arrive here Sept. 29, 2009, from the National Zoo in Washington, D.C. (see page 4). Ah, but there have been so many animal stars over the century. Most that came before 1960 were thanks to the Zoological Society. See a partial list above.

ANIMAL STARS

- **Gorillas:** Samson and Sambo, who arrived in 1950. Sambo lived 10 years but Samson was on exhibit 32 years. He thrilled zoogoers as he charged at them, cracking his exhibit window four times (Web: zoosociety.org/Samson). Terra and daughter Mandara, the lovable baby gorilla who won Milwaukee hearts and is now a mom at the National Zoo. Males Obsus and Joe Willy. Today's star: Cassius.
- **Siamangs:** Suzy and Unk had the first Siamang born in captivity, a female named Mark for her mark on history. (They're all in the 1972 book "The Siamang Gibbons: An Ape Family" by Alice Schick, sketches by Joel Schick); Suzy later made news by adopting a baby of a different species, a rejected spider monkey.
- **Monkey:** Old Joe the cantankerous, bell-ringing rhesus monkey who ruled Monkey Island for decades. He is buried under Macaque Island's bell, which came from Milwaukee's last steam freight locomotive.
- **Chimpanzee:** Mary Lou, who ate with a knife and fork.
- All the **elephants:** Countess Heine (personally purchased in 1907 by Henry "Heine" Bulder, one of the founding members of the Society), Venice (1923), and later: Koa, Lota, Tamara, Moolah, Annie, Babe, Lucy, and the current Brittany and Ruth.
- **Armadillos:** Zorro and Earth Mover (an *Alive* cover girl).
- **Boa:** Pandora, the first animal the ZSM offered for sponsorship (you could sponsor an inch of her)
- **Birds:** Connie the condor (lived more than 50 years at the Zoo); Little America, first Adelie penguin hatched in captivity; Hoppy the king vulture; Hornrietta the hornbill and her henpecked mate, Stanley; whooping cranes Torch and Tiki.
- **Lions:** Tommy the lion (1924); Amon Ra (mated with Sasha); sisters Sasha, Samantha and Ethel Louise; current pair Themba and Sanura.
- **Rhinos:** Karonga the black rhino; white rhinos Mtondo-Entondo, Masinda, Mahlusa; Mohinda and Rudra (Rudy), the first Indian rhinos born in captivity; and the current Brewster and Mimi.
- **Giraffes:** The pair Nigal and Nykai (1925), the pair Bomba and Momba (1940) and today's Malinde, Rahna and Bahatika (an *Alive* cover star).
- **Tigers:** Orville, Cobina & Teresa (1961); Chandar the white Bengal tiger (1984); Kajmak (page 6) and Amba with cubs Tula and Nuri (see page 15)
- **Jaguars:** Noche the black jaguar who sported a white spot on his shoulder where mate Valera bit him; the current Pat the Cat and Stella (an *Alive* cover girl).
- **Orangutans:** twins Trick and Treat; Dick, Saba and their son, Tommy; MJ and her adopted baby Mahal (see the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel book about him)
- All the **bonobos** (especially Maringa and Lody) who starred in the book "Bonobos: Encounters in Empathy" by Milwaukee Journal retiree Jo Sandin.
- **Bat:** Dingbat the long-lived flying fox.
- **Koalas:** Quilpie and Dajarra, brought by the ZSM in 1992 for the Zoo's 100th birthday.
- **Otters** Oscar and Buddy (*Alive* cover stars).
- Onassis the **Amazon river turtle** - the Zoo's oldest animal.
- **Harbor seal:** Ringo.
- **Zebra:** Zink (featured in a book: www.zinkthezebra.org).

Top left: In February 1954, Zoo Director Speidel (right) reviewed a model of the planned new Zoo with Otto R. Kuehn (left), chairman of the Zoological Society's New Zoo Committee; Walter Bender, president of the County Park Commission; and Commission secretary Jerome C. Dretzka (next to Speidel).



Top right: One of the five rubber-tired Zoomobiles delivered to the Zoo in May 1965 rides next to a Chevy. The Zoomobiles have provided sightseeing tours for 44 years, with four of the originals still operating as of 2009. In 2010, however, the Zoo plans to replace the Zoomobiles with fuel-efficient electric vehicles.



Right: Another Zoo star is Zero the polar bear, born in 1989 and shown here with Mother Mishka in March 1990. He was named after the first polar bear born in captivity – Zero, born to Sultana in 1919 in Milwaukee.



Far right: The adult Zero (in a 1998 photo) still likes to play.

WEB STORIES: See page 3.

Top three photos: Photographer unknown

Photo: Richard Brodzeller

MISSION: ZOO BUILDINGS & EXHIBITS

From the 1940s through the early '70s, the Society focused on building the new Zoo in its more spacious digs in western Milwaukee. That included erecting buildings, continuing to acquire animals and constructing a Children's Zoo (opened in 1971). In 1953 the Society changed its name to the Zoological Society of Milwaukee County (ZSM). Otto R. Kuehn, chairman of the ZSM's New Zoo Committee, was keenly involved in planning for the new grounds. In 1956, the ZSM launched a \$300,000 fundraising campaign for the new Zoo with an event called Milwaukee Goes on Safari, complete with a zebra, a leopard and a baby elephant at the Pfister Hotel (a plan to have the elephant ride the elevator to the seventh floor was abandoned due to logistics, and she remained in the lobby). The fund drive was so successful it exceeded its goal by \$200,000. Schlitz Brewery made an additional donation to allow the purchase of three white rhinos (see page 9), notable because the Zoo became the first public zoo in the country to exhibit the rare species.

The new Zoo didn't officially open until 1961, but its child-size train, donated by The Milwaukee Journal, was up and running in 1958. In 1959, the Primate Building (the first animal house), Monkey Island, Lake Evinrude and the Alaskan bear exhibit were ready. They were followed by the Feline House, Winter Quarters and Pachyderm Mall. As the 1960s progressed, other areas opened:

other bear exhibits, the giraffes, the antelope-deer barn, the Australia Building, the free-flight aviary, the Aquatic & Reptile Center, the Small Mammals Building and Sheep Mountain. In the 1970s the ZSM shifted from acquiring animals to expanding and improving exhibits.

Through two capital campaigns – the 1987-1998 \$26 million campaign and the 2001-2008 \$30.5 million campaign – the ZSM partnered with Milwaukee County to complete 15 projects ([Web: zoosociety.org/zoobuildings](http://Web:zoosociety.org/zoobuildings)). The Zoological Society put up a building in 1997 that was paid for entirely by the ZSM, thanks to a donation from the family foundation of the late Bill Borchert Larson, one of the ZSM's biggest donors. Called the Otto Borchert Family Special Exhibits Building, the facility allows the Zoo to bring in museum-quality exhibits. Larson's foundation also paid for the Idabel Wilmot Borchert Flamingo Exhibit in 2008 and was the major contributor to the Florence Mila Borchert Big Cat Country in 2005. Current Zoo Director Chuck Wikenhauser praises the ZSM for its century of Zoo support: "Without the financial and program assistance of the Zoological Society, the Zoo would not be the world-class facility that it is today. Working cooperatively, the two organizations continue to provide the resources needed to make the Zoo a leader in animal care, conservation, education, and family recreation."

MISSION: EDUCATION

Peek a few weeks or months into the future: The 2010 spring semester of classes at the Zoological Society's Conservation Education Department has begun. Children gather in the state-of-the-art Karen Peck Katz Conservation Education Center. They're here for a class. It could be Bunnies or Junior Vet or Zoo Art Club or Photo Safari. The kids head into the Zoo for an interactive animal-science tour. They're just some of the nearly 200,000 people who will be reached by the ZSM's education programs this year.

Now, let's rewind to 1910. Directors of the newly chartered Washington Park Zoological Society included education as part of their mission, with objectives such as increasing public interest in wild animals and improving animals' lives through educational methods. Despite these admirable goals, the old Washington Park Zoo had no formal education programs. Some forward-looking leaders such as Ernst Untermann, Zoo director in the 1930s, developed guided tours for school groups and visitors.

Fast forward to 1969. Our Zoo, like many zoos and aquariums nationwide, launches education programs. That year, directors from the Zoo and the ZSM teamed up with officials from the Milwaukee School System and Milwaukee County to hire a full-time educator for developing lesson plans and guidebooks for teachers and students to use during Zoo field trips. The topic would be animal adaptations. In May 1970, the ZSM Board of Directors also created its first education committee. In 1977, a formal Education Department began at the Zoo through the University of Wisconsin Extension and Milwaukee County, with program funding from the ZSM.

The department's first home was a small room in what is now a corner of the Zoo's Flamingo Gift Shop. Then the staff moved to a double-wide trailer in the former Children's Zoo. Despite the new department's small size (three educators), it still served about 10,000 children its first year. Educators got help teaching school programs and summer camps from Zoo Pride, the ZSM's volunteer auxiliary (many of whom were professional teachers). "The Department wouldn't have grown as much without volunteers," says Mary Thiry, education director from 1977 to 1999. It grew quickly, drawing about 167,430 children and adults by 1987.

In the days before online registration, camp sign-up was held at the Zoo. The registration line snaked from the Education Department's then-home on the Zoo's farm all the way to the Zoo's entrance, recalls Thiry. Volunteers sold hot chocolate and coffee to those in line. Endangered species were popular class topics, but educators also created new classes such as Lights, Camera, Action, where children produced videos. "If it was fun and educational, we did it," says Thiry. Educators also helped with events such as Egg Day until the Zoo formed a special events department.

In 1989, the ZSM began running the Education Department and launched year-round, six-days-a-week education programs,

Photographer unknown



Photo: Richard Brodzeller

Above left: Much to the delight of Milwaukee children, a child-size railroad was the first attraction at the new Zoo. The Zoo Line was a gift of The Journal Company and included four coaches pulled by a locomotive on a one-quarter-mile track. Later Irwin Maier of The Journal donated a steam engine. As of 2009, the Zoo had recorded 16.8 million riders!

Above right: Zoological Society education programs have grown by leaps and bounds, with about 12,000 summer camp participants in 2009. Here children in the 2009 Bear Country camp view a model of a bear track.

including early-childhood classes. The growth spurt created a problem: not enough space. The department worked out of three trailers in the back of the Zoo's aviary, then moved to the farm and had to use four trailers for summer camps. "Classrooms were a luxury that didn't exist," says longtime education volunteer Chris Leutner, a charter member of Zoo Pride.

Enter the Karen Peck Katz Conservation Education Center. Built in 2004 as part of the New Zoo II Capital Campaign, this eight-classroom building made it possible to open more programs to school kids in Milwaukee County, says Dawn St. George, education director from 2000 to 2006. Class curriculums were aligned to the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction standards. The conservation-themed Animal Ambassador program for fourth-graders attending schools in economically disadvantaged neighborhoods expanded to reach second and third grades. Thanks to an anonymous donor, children at Milwaukee-area neighborhood youth centers began attending summer camps in 2005 (in 2009, seven centers and nearly 500 kids participated). Today, ZSM programs serve kids ages 2 to 14 February-December.

What's next for the department? Reaching even more people to help them appreciate animals and nature, says James Mills, education director since 2006. That's not a stretch. In 2009, there were 500 sessions of summer camps covering 35 topics, and more than 600 sessions of spring and fall programs, covering 40 topics. Ultimately, says Mills, the goal isn't so different from 1910: to help children and adults to appreciate animals and conservation for the next century and beyond.

By Paula Brookmire & Julia Kolker

*You can view the early history of the ZSM through 1947 online at zoosociety.org/earlyhistory. The history is as told by Judge Walter Schinz and Henry C. Fuldner to Oliver E. Remy; copyright Charles I. Wesley, immediate past president of the Washington Park Zoological Society. Thanks to the following contributors to this history: *Zoo Pride* volunteers Bess Frank, the Zoo's retired large mammals curator and historian, and Mary Kazmierczak, the Zoo's librarian; Sam LaMalfa, the Zoo's retired supervisor of apes; *The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*; the *Milwaukee County Park Commission*. See page 3 for Web stories on Zoological Society history.

Kids Alive



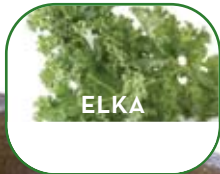
One Hip Hippo

WHAT MAKES YOU HAPPY? Say you're a hip hippo moving from the nation's capital city to Milwaukee.

Happiness could be two new friends. Happy the hippo came to the Milwaukee County Zoo Sept. 29. At the National Zoo in Washington, D.C., Happy (below) lived alone. He had no one to play with. Of course, not everyone can play with a huge hippo. At 5,500 pounds and 11 feet long, Happy weighs more than a truck and is longer than a basketball hoop is tall. The best playmates are other hippos. In Milwaukee, Happy has two new "girl" friends: Patti and Puddles.

And he has a great "pad." It's called the Dohmen Family Foundation Hippo Home.

This new home has a pool to play in, heated floors that are padded for his feet, and a hippo training area where he can get close to his keepers. (For more information on Happy and his home, see page 4.) Kids, if you are looking for something to make you happy, try the fun hippo activities on these pages. There are even more hippo crafts online at www.zoosociety.org/kidsstuff.



Food or Junk Food

Hippos eat about 88 pounds of food a day, mainly at night. In the wild they eat grass and sometimes shrubs. At the Zoo they're fed hay, high-fiber pellets, vegetables and fruit. Kids, unscramble the words listed inside the food pictures. Then figure out which objects around the hippo are food and which are junk food (not good for a hippo). Circle the junk food items and write the names of the healthful food items in the blank area below. Answers can be found online at www.zoosociety.org/kidsstuff.

HEALTHFUL FOOD:



Happy the hippo

Hot Cocoa and Hippos

You know what goes great with hot chocolate on a winter day? Marshmallow hippo treats. These easy-to-make fun snacks take less than a half-hour to create.



CREATING HIPPO TREATS:

HEAD & MOUTH: Cut halfway into end of 1 marshmallow; pull sliced portions open. Break off 2 half-inch pieces from 1 pretzel and press into sliced marshmallow for teeth.

EYES & EARS: Press 1 candy piece on each side of head past mouth slit. Tear 2 half-inch pieces from a new marshmallow, roll into balls and pinch between your fingers to create ears. Press each ear into back of hippo head.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- 4 pretzel sticks (each 3¼ inches long by ¼ inch thick)
- 5 large marshmallows (1 inch tall by 1 inch wide)
- 3-4 tablespoons white frosting
- 1-2 drops blue food coloring
- 1 full graham cracker
- Round candy pieces (⅛ to ¼ inch diameter)
- Scissors (safety or kids' scissors)

BODY: Break a pretzel stick in half. Press 1 marshmallow onto a half-pretzel stick about halfway in. Slide another marshmallow on the other side of the pretzel till it is snug with the first one. This is the body. To attach head, stick another half-pretzel end into back of head and other end into hippo body at a downward angle.

LEGS: Break 2 pretzel sticks in half, making four 1⅝-inch sticks. Insert 2 sticks into bottom of first marshmallow of the body and 2 into second marshmallow of the body.

RIVER: Drip 1-2 drops of blue food coloring into 3-4 tablespoons of white frosting; mix until frosting is evenly blue. Spread frosting about ¼ inch thick on a full graham cracker. Place hippo on frosting, leaving room for another hippo (in the water).

SWIMMING HIPPO (HEAD): Cut 1 marshmallow in half - from end to end; attach eyes and ears (see left). Press head into water (blue frosting). Enjoy. Eat within a day.



Help the Hippo

Even though hippos spend most of their time in water, hippos can't swim. They move in the water by pushing off the river bottom with their tiptoes. Help the hippo by using a pencil to draw a path across the river to its food.

Help real hippos at the Zoo by sponsoring Happy the hippo. Go to www.zoosociety.org/happy.

Start

End





Zookeeper Mike Frayer is studying bats in Milwaukee parks.

TRACKING BATS & SHARKS

Several animal keepers at the Milwaukee County Zoo volunteer to help scientists who are studying animals in the field. The Zoological Society funds many of these projects. Research done by zookeepers can help communities worldwide to conserve their wildlife. Below are stories about two keepers who've helped study animals ranging from Wisconsin bats to sharks in Southeast Asia.



Big brown bat.

Photo by Dawn Vezina

ON THE BAT TRAIL

On clear summer evenings, you might find Mike Frayer walking through a park in Milwaukee County in search of bats. While bats scare some people, Frayer, an aviary keeper at the Milwaukee County Zoo, is fond of these much-maligned animals. "Wisconsin's seven bat species all eat insects that damage forests and crops," he says. "In the tropics, bats help pollinate plants and disperse seeds." That's why Frayer joined a volunteer-powered research project that is tracking bats throughout the state. Last May through September, Frayer recorded bat calls with a special sound detector in parks and nature centers in and around Milwaukee, where bats are most plentiful in the summer. (During colder months bats migrate or hibernate.) The recording equipment, purchased with a grant from the conservation committee of Zoo Pride, the Zoological Society's volunteer auxiliary, records when, where and which species of bats were spotted. The goal is to discover which bat species are using the parks so we can get a better understanding of the state's bat ecology, says Frayer. The data are sent to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, which initiated this project and is compiling a map of the state's bats.

In spring and summer 2010, Frayer plans to recruit more volunteers to track bat sounds. In southeastern Wisconsin the study is coordinated by the Zoo, Milwaukee's Urban Ecology Center, and the Root River Environmental Education Community Center in Racine. "We hope to show that bats are using the parks and woodlands so these areas will be preserved," Frayer says. "A healthy bat population is a sign of a healthy ecosystem."

SWIMMING WITH SHARKS

Zookeeper Earl Conteh Morgan is a certified scuba diver. Last February and March, he went diving up to four times a day when he was on Malapascua Island in the Philippines. He wasn't on vacation. Rather, he volunteered to help study pelagic thresher sharks. Headed by a researcher from the University of Wales in the U.K., this project is tracking how the 10-foot sharks interact with species of fish called cleaner and moon wrasses. These fish remove parasites from the sharks' bodies. Project leaders suspect that sharks swim to the tops of seamounts (mountains rising from the ocean floor), where it's shallow, for cleaning. Here, the sharks are vulnerable to fishermen who hunt them for food and to scuba-diving tourists who destroy their coral reef habitats (the island is a popular vacation spot).

Conteh Morgan, who covers different Zoo areas as a roving zookeeper, has always liked marine science, he says. Several years ago he studied coral reefs in the Seychelles Islands in the Indian Ocean. On this trip, he collected and analyzed data on shark locations and got underwater video footage of the animals. The sharks are endangered because of habitat degradation, he says. "It takes just a few weeks for a good patch of coral reef to be destroyed" if scuba divers sit on it. In the future, researchers will share data with the Philippine government to help enact conservation laws. "The sharks are top predators here, and they keep the ecosystem in balance," says Conteh Morgan, who hopes to help with the project again.

By Julia Kolker



Earl Conteh Morgan provided this photo of him collecting data on a previous trip to the Seychelles Islands.



A pelagic thresher shark.



Amur Tiger Cubs

Born: July 8, 2009

Florence Mila Borchert Big Cat Country

Tiger cubs love to play. The Milwaukee County Zoo's two new female cubs are always looking for something to chase or touch, whether it's a log or Mom Amba's tail. "The movement of the mother's tail becomes a game after a while," says feline area supervisor Neil Dretzka. "Amba will try to pull it away from them. Sometimes she wins and sometimes they win." The cubs also like to wrestle, chase one another and avoid baths from Mom's tongue. As they get bigger – and they grow about 1½ pounds a week – it's easier to avoid Mom. At their first medical exam Aug. 5, the cubs weighed about 10 pounds each. By early December at 5 months old, they were estimated to weigh about 55 pounds each. That's only a fraction of the size of an adult

female tiger, which can weigh up to 370 pounds, or an adult male, which can weigh up to 600 pounds. (Dad is Bachuta, who weighs 410.) The cubs are so much fun to watch that the Zoo held a naming contest for

them, which ended Oct. 23. Their names are Tula and Nuri. Tula is smaller and enjoys sitting in the corner taking her time exploring the exhibit. Nuri is more playful and has a brighter orange coat. These cubs are an important part of a zoo breeding program to help the endangered tiger population grow. The population of Amur (Siberian) tigers in the wild is estimated at fewer than 400, according to the International Union for the Conservation of Nature. Poaching, demand for tiger parts such as skins, and habitat loss due to logging have decimated the tiger population. These tigers live in the bush-and-snow-covered forests and mountains of northern China, northern Korea and Siberia (in Russia). Tigers are solitary animals and their territories can cover up to 600 square miles. "Usually the cubs stay here for one or two years," Dretzka says. They will be sent to other zoos for breeding. In the meantime, you can see the cubs in their exhibit this January and February from about 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on weekdays and till 3:30 p.m. on weekends. For more stories, pictures and videos of Tula and Nuri, visit our Web site at www.zoosociety.org/tigers.



Red Ruffed Lemurs

Arrived: April 23 & 30, 2009

Small Mammals Building

What's red and brown and sports sideburns? It's a red ruffed lemur. The Milwaukee County Zoo's red ruffed lemurs, Oscar and Morombe, both have a red ruff of fur that surrounds their faces like sideburns. You can tell them apart by a white ring that Oscar has around his tail and by the white spots on the back of his feet, which Morombe does not have, says Rhonda

Crenshaw, area supervisor of the Small Mammals Building. Oscar is also outgoing, bouncy and can be seen hanging upside down by his hind legs in his exhibit. Morombe is more shy and reclusive. Oscar and Morombe get along well, and zookeepers hope they will breed. The boxes and balls in the lemurs' exhibit are enrichment "toys" to keep them active and entertained. The lemurs roll the balls and open boxes, which are filled with bananas, their favorite treat. "They can't really manipulate items like apes or monkeys," says Crenshaw. Red ruffed lemurs (as well as black-and-white ruffed lemurs) are the largest members of the family *Lemuridae*, which includes 24 species, says small mammals and primates curator Jan Rafert. In the wild, red ruffed lemurs live in the northeastern peninsula of Madagascar, an island southeast of Africa. Their diet consists of fruit, nectar and pollen. This species is critically endangered due to deforestation, hunting and capture for the illegal animal trade. The Small Mammals Building is split into a side for nocturnal animals and a side for animals active during the day. You can find these lemurs on the day side. **Web animal stories:** zoosociety.org/gnu

KENYA²⁰¹⁰

CENTENNIAL SAFARI SERIES



Photo courtesy Adventure Seekers

Spot animals ranging from hippos and elephants to baboons and crocodiles.

To celebrate its 100th anniversary, the Zoological Society is offering three safaris to Kenya in August 2010.

Pick from three different, adventure-filled itineraries. All trips will conclude on the same day in Kenya's Masai Mara National Reserve for a Gala Centennial Party.

There's something for all interests and price levels. Pick from:

- Adventurous tent & lodge safari
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Call (414) 258-2333 for a brochure or more information. Or go online at www.zoosociety.org/safaris.

Witness the great migration, when millions of wildebeest and zebras cross the Serengeti Plains of Tanzania into Kenya.

Travel with animal experts from the Milwaukee County Zoo and the Zoological Society.



Stock photo

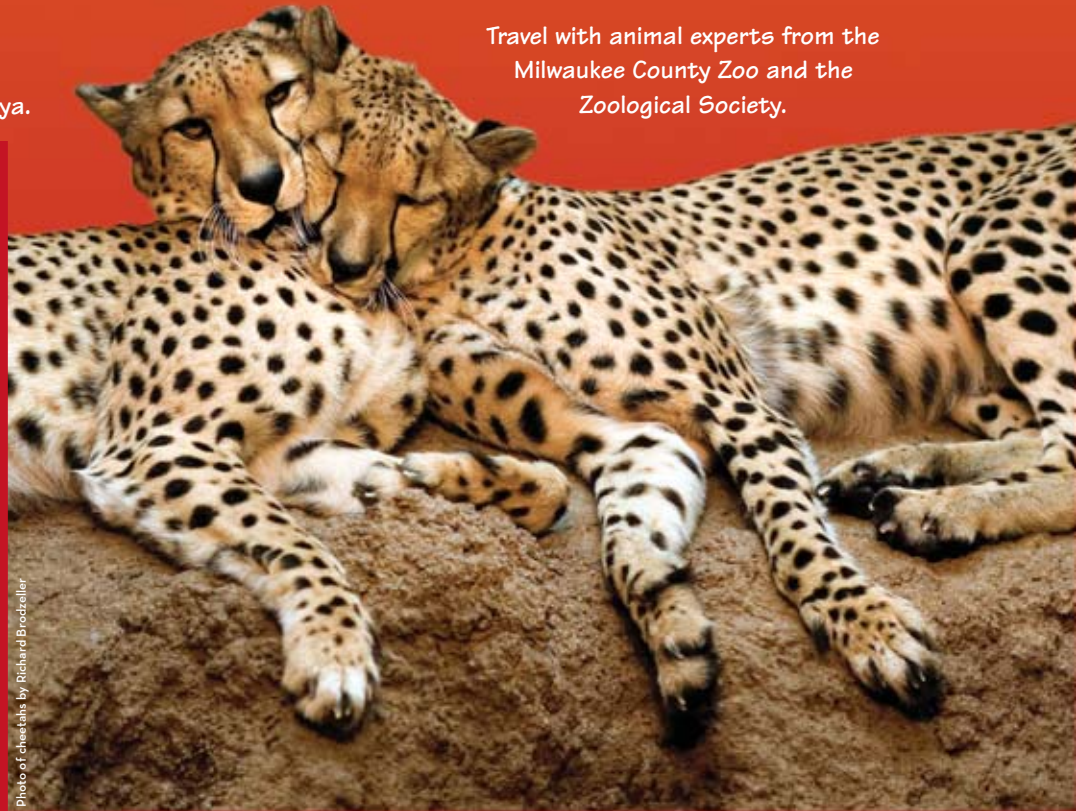


Photo of cheetahs by Richard Brodellier