

Wild Things

A Zoo-pendous Time



Elise Krause, of Greenfield, eats a sundae at last year's event.

Zootastic (A Fun Family Fundraiser)

April 26, 2013, 5-9 p.m., Milwaukee County Zoo

\$75 per family of four. Individual fees: \$15 children 12 and under, \$25 ages 13+.

Your fee, less \$10 per person, is tax-deductible.

Register online at zoosociety.org/zootastic or call (414) 258-2333 by April 13.

You must pre-register; fees are not refundable.

When most new animals arrive at the Milwaukee County Zoo, they go on an intra-Zoo journey. First stop is the Animal Health Center for a month. Then it's on to their Zoo exhibit. You can take this journey during Zootastic, the Zoological Society's fun family evening. First visit the Animal Health Center's education area, called the Holz Family Foundation Learning Zone. Here you can hear animal heartbeats, learn what veterinarians do and discover which animals are due for exams. Then you can visit animal homes in the Aquatic & Reptile Center, the Florence Mila Borchert Big Cat Country and more. Register now for this year's family fundraiser and get insider information and animal facts from Zoo staff and volunteers. Show off your creative side while making animal-themed crafts. Fill your tummy with cheesy Palermo's® Pizza and Noodles & Company "mac and cheese." For dessert, make your own sundae at an ice cream bar. Then shake, shimmy and twirl your way across the dance floor to a kid-friendly DJ. All guests under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

ZZZZZS AT THE ZOO

Snooze at the Zoo

Sponsored by Old Orchard Brands & Sentry Foods

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday or Saturday, August 7, 8, 9 or 10, starting at 5 p.m. Milwaukee County Zoo.

Members: \$135 for family of four; non-members, \$160.

For individual rates & discount details, go online:

zoosociety.org/snooze.

Registration is online only and begins May 20 at 8 a.m.

(Zoological Society members); May 21 at 8 a.m.

(non-members).

For details, call Special Events, (414) 258-2333.

If the growl of a bear wakes you from your slumber, you're probably in trouble—unless you're sleeping at the Milwaukee County Zoo. At the Zoo, bears are kept safely in their exhibits. Yet they're close enough to campsites that you could hear them. Lots of creatures

Continued on page 2



Jim Dennert, of Mukwonago, helps his daughter Ava, 4, secure their tent to a stake at last year's event.

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ZZZZS AT THE ZOO

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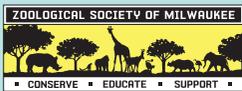
stir in the night during the Zoological Society's popular campout. Families can choose one of four nights to camp. Each night features s'mores, sponsored by the Sleep Wellness Institute, around a group campfire, a buffet dinner and kid-friendly entertainment. The next morning, enjoy breakfast and a day at the Zoo plus discounted admission to the special summer exhibit, Sting Ray & Shark Bay, sponsored by Sendik's Food Markets (page 3). This ZSM fundraiser is a fun, safe camping experience (especially for first-time campers) for families and youth groups such as Girl and Boy Scouts. It's the only time each year when the general public can camp at the Zoo.

This popular event fills quickly, and we encourage you to register early. Registration is held online on a first-come-first-served basis (see start times on previous page). You will be registered as soon as you submit your payment information. If you or a member of your party has special needs, please let us know in the comments area online.

Get \$10 off a family registration or \$3 off an individual rate if you mail in a Sentry Foods cash-register receipt showing the purchase of two 64-ounce Old Orchard juices or blends (details online).



Ike Williams, 3, of Appleton, looks through an activity book with Mom Mary at last year's event.



memberanda

Zoological Society office hours: Through May 24, 2013: Weekdays, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Milwaukee County Zoo hours: Daily, 9 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. through May 24, 2013. **Please note that the Zoo's admission gates close 45 minutes before the posted Zoo closing hours. Zoo animal buildings close 30 minutes before posted Zoo closing time.**

Payment Information at Zoo Admission Gates: The Milwaukee County Zoo staff does not accept checks for Zoo Pass purchases or renewal payments at the Zoo's admission gates.

Zoo Pass Rate Increase: As of Feb. 1, 2013, rates for Zoo Pass memberships increased. Your Zoo Pass remains a great entertainment value—it will continue to pay for itself in just over two visits to the Zoo—even with the rate increase. The Milwaukee County Zoo has asked the Zoological Society for an additional \$500,000 of support in 2013. The rate increase will assist us in meeting this request and will directly benefit the Zoo and its animals.

For tax-time tips, Zoo Pass benefits and other details, please see Tax Tips at: www.zoosociety.org/memberinfo.

WILD THINGS

Issue No. 105, April 2013

Wild Things is a membership newsletter published by the Zoological Society of Milwaukee six times a year: in January-March, April-May, June, July-August, September-October, November-December.

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Web: zoosociety.org

DIP IN YOUR HAND

Sting Ray & Shark Bay

Sponsored by Sendik's Food Markets
May 25-Sept. 2

Otto Borchert Family Special Exhibits
Building (the blue building behind
Macaque Island).

\$2 per person exhibit admission.

Free admission for Zoological Society
members June 3-5 from 5 to 9 p.m.
with Zoo Pass card & photo ID.

Don't be shy. Trail your hand in the water as sting rays and sharks swirl by. The Milwaukee County Zoo's summer special exhibit offers guests a safe and fun way to get close to two fascinating and closely related fish (even though they don't look related). It takes patience and calm to entice a shark or sting ray to come to your hand. Often, food can help. You can buy a cup of food to feed the animals. The best way to touch one is by keeping your hand still and letting the animal come to you. Because the sting rays' barbs are trimmed and the sharks aren't aggressive, visitors can freely touch the fish. Among the animals swimming in a large pool will be a cownose sting ray, a southern sting ray, and bonnethead and bamboo sharks. Look also for horseshoe crabs in the exhibit. These crustaceans contrast sharply with the fish. Visitors will be asked to wash their hands before and after dipping their hands in the pool. This way the pool won't get contaminated with sunscreen or insect spray, which is harmful to these animals.



Deauvia S. Wilder, 9, pets a sting ray at a previous sting-ray exhibit.

Green is Great!

Party for the Planet

Sponsored by American Transmission Company

May 18 & 19, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at the Milwaukee County Zoo

Free activities. Free Zoo admission for Zoological Society
members with ID.

Milwaukee County Parking Fee: \$12. For more information,
call (414) 771-3040.

Celebrate the return of migratory birds at this year's Party for the Planet, the Zoo's annual commemoration of Earth Day and International Migratory Bird Day. You can play follow the leader, bird-style! Get banded like a real bird and follow a simulated migration path through the Zoo. You'll face the same risks as migrating birds, but you can also learn how to help. Remember, small changes in our everyday routine can have a big impact on the planet. Learn planet-saving skills from composting to recycling to decreasing invasive species. Zoo activities include:

- A sale of plants native to Wisconsin
- Tree planting to support polar bear conservation
- Nature crafts
- Conservation education outreach booths
- Bird banding: Watch zookeepers net, band, and release birds behind the Small Mammals Building; 9 a.m. to noon on **Saturday only**.



Thomas Kopydlowski, of Milwaukee, and his daughter, Cassidy, 4, plant a tree sapling at last year's event. People can plant trees at the Zoo this year, too.

fun, hands-on education programs

April & May Classes Still Open

The following Zoological Society of Milwaukee (ZSM) classes still had openings when we went to press. For availability of all education classes at the Zoo and to register online, check our website at zoosociety.org/Spring.

- **Age 2 (accompanied by an adult):** Create a bird costume and pretend you're hatching from an egg in a giant nest during the April class, **Watch the Birdie**. In May, practice learning your colors and find hidden animals during **Color Zoo**.
- **Age 3 (accompanied by an adult):** In the April class, **Elephants**, you'll have tons of fun learning about the Zoo's African elephants. Create your own sea lion costume and hunt for fish in a kelp forest in the May class, **Seals and Sea Lions**.
- **Ages 4 & 5 (child-only classes OR for a child with an adult):** Practice lemur skills, dig like an aye-aye, and leap like a sifaka in **Lemurs**. In May you can journey through the jungle, dig in the desert and climb through the mountains during **Globetrotting**.



Grace Hansen, 5, of Milwaukee, smiles at a live chick during a Zoological Society class.

2013 Summer Offerings at the Zoo

Gentle giants, wiggly worms, and deep-sea creatures are themes of several ZSM Summer Camps, sponsored by Penzeys Spices. Kids can spend the summer with us and eat leaf-a-licious snacks, dig in the dirt on a bug hunt and discover the mysteries of the deep seas and more when you sign them up for one of the many fun camps offered. Check the website for available dates, times and prices at zoosociety.org/Summer.

- **Age 3 (accompanied by an adult):** In **Gentle Giants** create a giraffe, complete with long neck, dark tongue and lots of spots; then gallop through the Zoo to see these long-legged creatures!
- **Age 4 & 5 (child only or accompanied by an adult):** During **Amazing Ants, Busy Bees & Wiggly Worms** children enter our life-size "garden" classroom, create an ant costume and dig in the dirt looking for bugs.



Mario Stanesco (left), 5, of Milwaukee, gently pets a live chick held by instructor Kristin Ziarnik during a Zoological Society class.

- **Age 12-14 (child only):** Come face to face with sharks and other sea creatures during the **Blue Planet** camp.

July 13 Workshop for Early-Childhood Teachers

From kangaroos to koalas, learn about animals of the outback in a 2½-hour Saturday workshop called **Australian Animals**. Early-childhood teachers can learn fun ways to present an animal unit to their students during this July 13 class. The workshop includes animal information, classroom station ideas, project samples and a Zoo tour. To register, call (414) 258-5058 or download a registration form from zoosociety.org/teacheredu. Fee: \$20 (includes parking and Zoo admission). Another workshop is planned for September.

Programs for School Classes at the Zoo

In fall and spring, the Zoological Society publishes a brochure listing numerous education programs offered either at the Zoo or as outreach to schools. The school brochure also can be found at www.zoosociety.org/School. Registration for September 2013-May 2014 programs begins April 23.

UWM Course at the Zoo for Teachers

Endangered Species, a two-day University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee course for teachers of grades 3 through high school, will be held June 15 and 16 at the Zoo. The course explores both animal survival in the wild and how modern zoos help animals. It runs 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily. Included are tours, discussions and activities to help teachers develop study units. This one-credit course can be taken for graduate or undergraduate credit. Call UWM Outreach, (414) 229-5255, for fees and to register.



Red ruffed lemur

New Instructors: Zoo Is Great Teaching Tool



Elia Wilson (left), of Burlington, discusses lesson plans with Amanda Daws, of Milwaukee.

Elia Wilson and Amanda Daws are the two newest instructors in the Zoological Society of Milwaukee's (ZSM) Conservation Education Department. Although both have different teaching backgrounds, they agree that having the Milwaukee County Zoo at their disposal makes teaching here special. "What's great about teaching at the Zoo is children can actually see the animals they learn about in class," says Daws. "This helps them connect to the animals." Wilson says she loves bringing smaller animals such as hedgehogs and bunnies into the classroom to provide an extra dimension of learning. "We can experience the entire Zoo."

Wilson and Daws started teaching here in September 2012. Wilson—education specialist and assistant volunteer liaison—has degrees in early childhood education, special education, English as a second language and music. She taught English in Japan and has worked as a substitute teacher. The crossover into the ZSM's science-based classes came naturally. "My dad was a science teacher, and I've always really been interested in that," she says. Daws—an education specialist—has a degree in environmental science and biology. She spent the previous four years teaching outdoor education and says her passion for the environment is why she loves teaching here. "I thought I wanted to do research after college, and by chance I fell into teaching—but I'm glad I did!"

By Zak Mazur

Sponsor the jaguar Cubs

Since giving birth to two male cubs on Nov. 13, 2012, Stella—the Zoo’s female jaguar—has been a stellar mom. Thanks to her, we’ve spotted the perfect gift for Mom this Mother’s Day (May 12): sponsorship of Stella’s cubs, B’alam and Zean. Like a doting human mom, Stella vigilantly watches over her offspring. When the cubs were a few months old, she’d gently pick them up with her teeth and carry them away from perceived danger. Since the cubs went on exhibit on Feb. 13, Stella has remained watchful over her two rambunctious boys. As a gift for your mother, grandmother or favorite female, the \$50 cubs sponsorship package includes:

- Two plush-toy jaguars
- A colorful fact sheet on jaguars
- A 4-by-6-inch photo of the jaguar cubs
- A certificate of sponsorship
- An invitation to a behind-the-scenes event in August for animal sponsors at the Zoo
- Recognition on our “All in the Family” donor board for a year
- A Sponsor an Animal decal



SPONSOR THE JAGUAR CUBS

We must receive your gift form by May 3 to guarantee delivery in time for Mother’s Day.

I would like to sponsor the jaguar cubs. I would like to give the jaguar cubs sponsorship as a gift.

Gift Recipient: Name _____
Address _____
City, State, ZIP _____
Phone: Day (_____) _____ Eve (_____) _____
E-mail address _____
Gift card message: _____

Gift Giver: Name _____
Address _____
City, State, ZIP _____
Phone: Day (_____) _____ Eve (_____) _____
E-mail address _____

Send packet to: Recipient Gift Giver **Send renewal notice to:** Recipient Gift Giver

Package must arrive by: _____

I would like _____ package(s) at \$50 each. **Add \$5 per package for shipping & handling** ..\$ _____
I would like _____ additional plush-toy jaguars at \$8 each\$ _____
I would like _____ additional photos at \$5 each\$ _____
I would like _____ additional decal(s) at \$1 each\$ _____
I would like to make an additional donation for the jaguar cubs’ wish list**\$ _____

(Plush toys & decals include 5.6% WI sales tax and are not tax-deductible.) **A wish list of behavioral enrichment items is available at Amazon.com.

Total amount \$ _____

Online: Go to zoosociety.org and click on the plush-toy jaguars picture to order or call (414) 258-2333.

Credit Card: Please charge my: Visa MasterCard

Acct. No. _____

Exp. Date _____ Security Code _____ (Last 3 digits in signature area on back of credit card)

Signature _____ Print Name _____
as it appears on credit card

Check: Make payable to **ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY** and mail this order form with payment to:
Jaguar, Zoological Society, 10005 W. Blue Mound Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53226

Jaguar offer good through Aug. 31, 2013. The tax-deductible portion of your gift is \$28. Merchandise included in the package is not tax-deductible and includes 5.6% WI sales tax. **Plush-toy, photo, and decal offers good while supplies last.**

This sponsorship is offered through the Zoological Society of Milwaukee’s (ZSM’s) Sponsor an Animal program, which helps support all the animals at the Milwaukee County Zoo. In accordance with WI Statute 440.455, a financial statement of the Zoological Society will be provided upon request.

ANNUAL APPEAL

Jumping Jaguars

The little jaguar cub prances up the hill toward a hollowed-out tree trunk in the Milwaukee County Zoo's indoor Jaguar Exhibit. He jumps up on the rim, puts a paw into a hidden water trough and splashes a spike of water into the air. What fun! When you're only a few months old, everything is new and exciting. That's why you will love having a chance to watch the exhibit on the Web by tuning into the "cub cam." And we hope you'll help the Zoological Society pay for and install more of these cameras in 2013. You can help by donating to our 2013 Annual Appeal.



Jaguar cubs

The Web cams we plan to install this year, with your support, will show:

- Jaguars' outdoor exhibit
- Polar bears Snow Lilly and Willhelm
- Elephants Ruth and Brittany
- North American black bears Cinnamon and Dakota

Donors giving \$100 or more can access this year's Web cams as they become available, before they are released for public viewing. **To get information about Web cams already available or to donate:** Please go online to zoosociety.org/appeal or call (414) 258-2333. All donations are tax-deductible. For a story on the jaguar cubs, see page 15 in the *Alive* magazine packaged with this issue of *Wild Things*.

Naming the Cubs

We're happy to announce the names of the jaguar cubs. But first, a little background. Pat—the Zoo's male jaguar and father of the cubs—was captured by Belizean ranchers. They turned him over to the Belize Zoo. Thanks to cooperation between private individuals in Wisconsin, the Zoological Society and the two zoos, Pat was later flown here. Because Pat came from Belize, Belizean schoolchildren were asked to come up with a name for one of the cubs. Americans were asked to name the other cub. And so a Name-the-Jaguar-Cub Contest—sponsored by Jenkins Jaguar and Wisconsin Jaguars Ltd. auto club—was held. On March 13 the names were released. The general public in the U.S. named one jaguar B'alam, which is Mayan for "great and powerful king." For the other cub, Belizean schoolchildren chose Zean (Zee-ahn), the last four letters of "Belizean," representing the cub's link to Belize. Come to the Zoo and meet B'alam and Zean!



TOUR THE WORLD

You've won a trip around the world! Just come to the Milwaukee County Zoo and visit the Herb & Nada Mahler Family Aviary. Your journey begins as you approach the aviary. To the left and right you'll notice ponds where mallard ducks, geese and trumpeter swans stay year-round—birds native to Wisconsin. Now, enter the aviary. Along the walls are wooden transport crates emblazoned with Spanish words and even a sign for *pasaportes*—passports. You feel like you're embarking on an international journey. ¡*Vamos!*—let's go! The building's birds will be your guides. First stop: the bottom of the world.



Black-naped fruit doves

Antarctica/Falkland Islands

Since the 1960s the Antarctic penguin exhibit has been a hit. Now home to gentoo and rockhopper penguins, this exhibit uses two powerful chillers (and backups for safety) to keep the air and water at 40-45 degrees—brrr.

- Penguins look comical as they awkwardly wobble and hop their way around the dry parts of the exhibit.
- Giggles turn to “wows” when they fly through the water. Their torpedo-like speed and agility are amazing.

Wetlands

After the chilly penguin exhibit, the warmth and humidity of the free-flight aviary will have you unzipping your coat. This giant wetlands exhibit is flooded with light from 30-foot-high skylights, with trees and rock-wall cliffs almost as high. Bring binoculars! What to watch for:

- Look down. Ducks waddling on the ground have the right of way. Male Mandarin ducks are brightly colored—but only during breeding season (which is winter through early spring at the Zoo). By summer the males molt and look more like females.



WITH THE BIRDS

- Look up. Use your binoculars to spot scarlet ibises, iridescent-feathered Waldrapp ibises, golden-breasted starlings, and more.
- Breathe. Relax to the sounds of the waterfall and the trickling streams as hooded mergansers and other ducks gently float on ponds.
- Watch. Enjoy the thrill of an Inca tern swooping high over your head.

Rainforests

Next stop: the rainforest. Most bird species in the world live in rainforests; so it's not surprising that the aviary boasts eight rainforest displays, each with multiple birds.

- Without the sound of rushing water, it's easier to hear bird calls, from whistles to tweets, warbles, chirps and more.
- To spot the many well-camouflaged birds, scan carefully from the back of the exhibit to the front, on the ground and in the trees. Rustling branches or a bird's song may give it away.



Rhinoceros hornbills

Savanna

Tropical dark green gives way to airy, light brown hues as you reach the two savanna exhibits.

- In the Kopje Exhibit you'll find red-billed hornbills swooping and landing constantly (see page 13 for a story about the red-billed hornbill family).
- In the Termite Exhibit, if you're lucky, one of the cape thick-knees might run toward you, stop, and then stare you in the eye with one of its large nocturnal eyes.

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Hooded Merganser (left inset). Two Mandarin ducks roost in the free-flight wetlands exhibit.



TOUR THE WORLD WITH THE BIRDS

(Continued from page 9)

Shores & Coasts

This museum-quality, diorama-like Shorebird Exhibit brings visitors to the coasts of North America. No mesh or wires separate birds from the public.

- The black-necked stilt's long legs are perfectly adapted for foraging in shallow water.
- An ocean-and-forest mural, a broken boat and shanty provide a seashore atmosphere.
- The birds are content to amble and splash around; they don't fly away.

Islands

Now you reach the Islands section.

- In the first exhibit is the Zoo's bachelor Guam (Micronesian) kingfisher, usually perched on a vine. The Zoo has successfully hatched these critically endangered birds in captivity.

Black-necked stilts



Crested wood partridge

- On the right side near the back exit live two large rhinoceros hornbills, which often hop from limb to limb assisted by their powerful wings. The fluttering sound is easy to hear.
- Across from the hornbills live two tawny frog-mouths, native to Australia.

North America

As you exit the building, take a right and visit Torch and Tiki in their outdoor exhibit. They are endangered whooping cranes native to Wisconsin. Now you've returned home from a trip around the world. ¡Adiós! By Zak Mazur

Shorebird Exhibit



See Seals & Sea Lions

Sea Lion Splash: \$85 Zoological Society Members, \$100 non-members.

Aquatic Adventures: \$150 members, \$165 non-members.

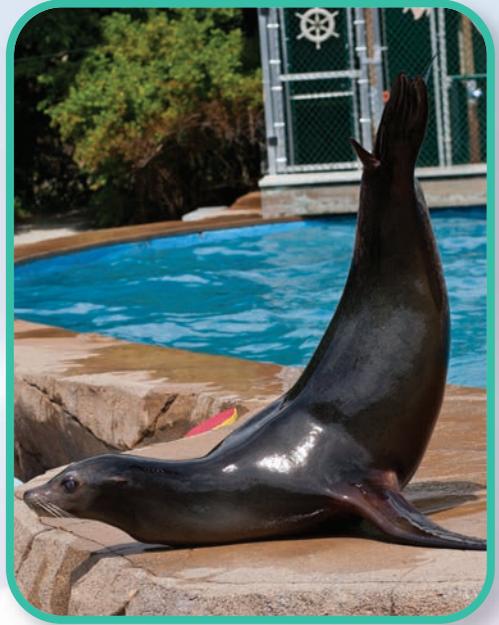
Underwater Journey: Specialty camps for one, two, three or five days; \$130 to \$375 members, \$140 to \$390 non-members.

Job Shadowing: \$240 members, \$250 non-members.

Dates, times and registration: www.oceansoffun.org or by phone at (414) 453-5527, ext. 1.

Colby, the newest addition to the Oceans of Fun family is excited to meet you this summer! He was born on June 20, 2012, to Makaia the sea lion. His formal training is just beginning, and you'll enjoy his playful antics during one of the Milwaukee County Zoo's Oceans of Fun Seal and Sea Lion Shows, sponsored by Supercuts. For more in-depth experiences with the marine mammals, check the interactive programs and camps below.

- **Sea Lion Splash:** Children ages 5-10 prepare food for the animals, help with training and participate in a sea lion show. This workshop is offered weekends starting March 30 through May 26, as well as Thursday and Saturday afternoons June through August.
- **Aquatic Adventure:** Kids and adults can enter the sea lions' environment on a waist-deep dock. They'll learn how to feed, touch and work alongside trainers and animals (a paying, participating adult must accompany children ages 6-12).
- **Underwater Journey** offers new specialty summer camps. Children ages 10-12 can participate in the new Ocean Stewards Camp (two days) or Pinniped Practice Camp (one day). Or, they can try returning camps: Marine Mammal Camp (five days) and Animal Training Camp (two days). Children ages 7-9 can be a part of the new Ocean Ambassadors Camp (two days). Or, they can join the returning Marine Mammal Camp (five days) or Animal Behavior Camp (three days).
- **Job Shadowing** allows students ages 13 and up to shadow an animal trainer for a day and explore careers in this field. Private sessions for one to two students will be held March through mid-June.



A California sea lion arches for the audience at a past performance.

A "Stella" Mother's Day

Mother's Day at the Zoo

May 12, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Free Zoo admission for Zoological Society members with ID.

Moms get free admission (parking not included), no coupon necessary.

Milwaukee County parking fee: \$12.

For information, call (414) 771-3040.

Make Mother's Day extra special this year by bringing Mom to the Milwaukee County Zoo. Introduce her to one of the Zoo's most famous new moms: Stella the jaguar. On Nov. 13, 2012, Stella gave birth to two male cubs. The cubs' dad is Pat, a wild-caught jaguar who brings fresh genes to the world of zoo genetics—making the cubs very special. When the cubs get too rowdy, which is often, she uses a certain vocalization that zookeepers believe roughly translates to "Settle down!"—and they do. Other moms to visit include Amba, an Amur tiger, and her two offspring, as well as Kiama, a Matschie's tree-kangaroo, and her joey. So be good, listen to your mom and bring her to the Zoo on Mother's Day to show how much you care.



Thomas Hernandez, 2, got a kiss from Mom Jessica while riding the Penzeys Spices Carousel at last year's event.

insider tips

I've Got Eyes for You

What's the "cool"est inhabitant of the Small Mammals Building? The douroucouli, of course! This cool monkey with an auburn "vest" and a face that looks like it's made up for a night out is definitely a night animal. And it likes the swinging high life. Found in the canopy of the Amazon rainforest in Peru, Brazil, and Colombia, the douroucouli is a skilled leaper. It can jump up to 12 feet between branches. This night monkey (also known as an owl monkey) gets most active at dusk and again at dawn. The Milwaukee County Zoo welcomed



Paisa, the douroucouli.

Paisa, a female black-headed douroucouli, Oct. 2, 2012. At 18, she's on the elderly end of the douroucouli life span, but she's still spry. She came to Milwaukee to be a companion to Jim How, a 21-year-old male grey-bellied douroucouli. They got along fine, shared food and even kept warm in a nest box together. Then, last January, the elderly Jim died. "Paisa was by his side the whole time he was sick," says Rhonda Crenshaw, Small Mammals area supervisor. "He leaned on her when he was shaky and they would also have their tails intertwined. It was very sweet." Paisa is still adjusting to his absence, says Crenshaw. "But she is very sweet and has a great appetite." You'll find big-eyed Paisa on the night side of this day-night building.

By Mary Kazmierczak

A Curious Kookaburra

Recently zookeepers in the Herb & Nada Mahler Family Aviary did something they don't normally do. They sent one of the birds to Australia—the Australia Building, that is. The bird in question is Dundee, the Zoo's male kookaburra. Dundee was hatched at Busch Gardens in Tampa, Fla., in February 2000. He came to the Milwaukee County Zoo in July 2004. "Dundee has been off exhibit for about two years," says zookeeper Heather Neldner, to make room for other birds. It made sense to send him to the Australia Building Dec. 28 since space was available and kookaburras are native to Australia (as well as Tasmania and New Guinea). Dundee adjusted quickly. "He did a lot of calling right away and spent a lot of time on high perches," says Dawn Fleuchaus, area supervisor for the Zoo's Australia and North America areas. The kookaburra's most distinctive and delightful trait is its call, which sounds like raucous human laughter. For the kookaburra's prey, the call is no laughing matter. Almost the size of a human head, kookaburras are the largest of the kingfisher family and can easily eat small reptiles, snakes, mice and insects.



His laughing call also can be social. "He's quite interested in his keepers," says Fleuchaus. "He often makes his laughing call when we talk to him." Neldner adds that "he always seemed happy to see us every day." You can see Dundee perched in his exhibit between the red kangaroo and Matschie's tree-kangaroo exhibits in the Australia Building.

By Zak Mazur

A kookaburra at the Milwaukee County Zoo.



(Above) The red-billed hornbill family, minus one, last February. (Right) Snack time: a red-billed hornbill eats a cricket.



Only the Best Nest Will do

Birds have strong opinions when it comes to interior design. Just ask aviary zookeeper Bryan Kwiatkowski. He has experience helping birds build nests, to give them the best chance at rearing young. He used his skills when the Milwaukee County Zoo's newest pair of red-billed hornbills were courting and ready to go on exhibit in June 2012. "I lined the nest with paper pulp, rosemary and mud," he says. "But they pulled it out and relined it themselves." As the pair gathered materials, the female nixed some of her mate's choices. "He was using some food items, but she threw them out and preferred to line the nest with plant material," adds Kwiatkowski. Her actions make sense considering how red-billed hornbills incubate eggs and care for hatchlings. The female seals herself behind a solid wall made of mud, food remains and droppings. A small hole is left through which the male feeds her. She remains there for about eight weeks. So it's not surprising she wanted the nest to meet her preferences. The Zoo's pair sealed the nest on Sept. 12, 2012. By the time the female broke out of the nest, the chicks were not only hatched, but half-grown. The pair then rebuilt the wall and continued feeding the chicks through the small hole.

Nesting in this manner requires devotion and trust. "The male has to be strongly attached to the female to stick around and keep feeding her and the chicks," says Kwiatkowski. "And the female needs to feel secure that he will feed her." Zookeepers were excited to hear chicks, but, he says, "You don't really know how many are in there until they start to fledge." The first chick emerged and fledged (flew) on Nov. 26. Over the next few days three more appeared, totaling two males and two females. Zookeepers were elated. "This red-billed hornbill family is the first clutch for this pair," says Carol Kagy, aviary area supervisor. "This pair was together at the Blank Park Zoo in Des Moines, Iowa, without breeding; so this is quite a success story." You can see all six birds together at the Kopje Exhibit in the Herb & Nada Mahler Family Aviary.

By Zak Mazur

HELPING HANDS

A Windy, Wine-filled Night

Neither snow nor wind, not even the cold of a February night, will stop a true wine lover. And so it was on Feb. 7 when about 450 people came to the Milwaukee County Zoo for the Zoological Society of Milwaukee's (ZSM's) Wines and Beers of the World fundraiser. The evening event included enticing gourmet appetizers and desserts from Milwaukee-area vendors, as well as primate viewing in the Stearns Family Apes of Africa and Primates of the World buildings. The event raised more than \$28,493 for the installation of Web cams in animal areas, part of the ZSM's 2012-'13 annual appeal project (see page 7). The cameras will allow people to view some of the more active animals from their smartphone, tablet, or home computer. Kensington Liquor was a main contributor to the event and partnered with the ZSM to take online orders for wine through Feb. 15. A percentage of sales benefitted the ZSM. Other major support came from GreatBrewers.com—featuring Belukus Marketing, Inc., and St. Killian Imports, Horny Goat Brewing Co., MillerCoors and Sprecher Brewing Company. Other supporters were A Bianchini Experience, Café Manna, The Cheesecake Store and More, Clock Shadow Creamery, East Shore Specialty Foods, Gigi's Cupcakes, Gourmet Cheesecake Shop & More, Larry's Market, Palermo's® Pizza, PepsiAmericas®, Potawatomi Casino Hotel, Racine Danish Kringsles, Sassy Cow Creamery, Usinger's Famous Sausage, and Zilli Hospitality Group.



Photo by Richard Taylor

Kim Knippel, of Waukesha, and her mother, Denise Karolek, of New Berlin, sipped wine by the gorilla exhibit.

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Chilly Courses Conquered

The Wisconsin winter chill was no match for participants in the Milwaukee County Zoo's Jan. 20 Samson Stomp & Romp, sponsored by Amica Insurance. Despite single-digit temperatures and wind gusts, a record-setting 2,200 people ran or walked courses that began and ended near the Zoo's Humboldt penguins. Entrants could do either a 5K Run or a 2K Run/Walk, and children had a separate course to run either 1 mile or one-quarter of a mile. The race is named after Samson the gorilla, a Zoo celebrity for 32 years. This was the 33rd annual run/walk, which raised money to support animals at the Zoo.



Photo by Richard Taylor

Braving the cold: runners pass underneath a giant blow-up Samson sitting atop a Zoo train trestle.

Classy and Ritzzy Evening

A record-setting attendance of 380 guests made the 18th annual Puttin' on the Ritz an unforgettable evening. The Zoological Society of Milwaukee (ZSM) black-tie fundraiser, sponsored by **The Frieda and William Hunt Memorial Trust**, raised more than \$120,575. The **Potawatomi Casino** in downtown Milwaukee was the site of the Jan. 24 event for the third year in a row. Mark Zimmerman from the ZSM Associate Board chaired the stylish affair, which included a gourmet dinner and four rounds of amateur boxing by the **Al Moreland Boxing Club**. Guests could bid on auction items such as Packers tickets and a VIP Suite night at the Bradley Center. Event contributors included: cigars by **Lake Country Cigars** and **Alec Bradley**, dinner wine by **General Beverage**, bar stock donors by **Badger Liquor**, **General Beverage** and **MillerCoors**. Sound, video and lighting was by **Majic Enterprises**.



Puttin' on the Ritz is always a glitzy affair.

Zoo-per Bowlers Raise Funds for Animals

Families and friends had a ball at the Zoological Society of Milwaukee's Beastly Bowl-a-Thon, held Feb. 2 at Wauwatosa's AMF Bowlero. The event, which was celebrating its 20th anniversary, attracted 390 bowlers for either a morning or afternoon session that included three games of bowling and snacks, including **Palermo's® Pizza**. Bowlers who pledged \$100 or more were eligible for prize drawings, with the top pledger receiving a special prize. The event raised more than \$12,280 for the ZSM's Sponsor an Animal program, which supports all the Zoo's animals.

Vahsenna Soukkasern, 6, of Milwaukee, hopes for a strike.



Planned Giving—Simba Circle

The Simba Circle was formed by the Zoological Society of Milwaukee to recognize individuals who have included the Society as a beneficiary of a planned gift through their will, charitable trust, retirement plan, or life insurance policy. When you make this type of gift, you create a legacy of support that ensures the Zoological Society can continue to carry out its mission to support the Milwaukee County Zoo, educate the public and conserve wildlife for generations to come. Gifts, once received, become a permanent asset of the Society's endowment fund. Each year, the earnings from your gift and other contributions to the fund strengthen the Society's capacity to fulfill its mission. As a member, you will receive recognition on signage at the Zoo and in Society publications, invitations to VIP premieres, the annual Simba Circle Dinner as well as a Simba Circle lapel pin.



If you've already included the Zoological Society in your giving plans, we thank you! If you'd like information to help determine which kind of planned gift meets your needs, please call Kim Peterson in the Development office at (414) 258-2333, ext.310, or visit our website at zoosociety.org/Simba.



Zoological Society of Milwaukee County
 10005 W. Blue Mound Rd.
 Milwaukee, WI 53226
 (414) 258-2333

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Have a
Zootastic
 time at
 the Zoo.
 See Cover.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Details Inside

Now-May 24

Zoological Society of Milwaukee education classes for children ages 2-14 and families.

April 6

Family Free Day at the Zoo, sponsored by North Shore Bank and FOX 6.

April 20

Filled: Zoological Society members' day trip to Packers Hall of Fame & Lambeau Field.

April 26

Zootastic! A Fun Family Fundraiser.

May 12

Mother's Day at the Zoo; all moms get in free (parking not included).*

May 18 & 19

Party for the Planet, sponsored by American Transmission Company.*

May 20

Members' online registration begins for Snooze at the Zoo, sponsored by Old Orchard Brands and Sentry Foods; go to zoosociety.org/snooze.

May 25-Sept. 2

Kohl's Wild Theater, offering four free shows daily in the Zoo.†

May 25-Sept. 2

The Zoo's special summer exhibit: Sting Ray & Shark Bay, sponsored by Sendik's Food Markets, \$2 per person entry fee.†

May 29 and June 1

Two sessions of Zoo Pride volunteer training, level I. Call (414) 258-5667 for details.



Kohl's Wild Theater

June 1-Aug. 14

Zoological Society of Milwaukee Summer Camps, sponsored by Penzeys Spices, for children ages 2-14 and families. Registration now open.

June 3, 4 and 5

Members-only preview of Sting Ray & Shark Bay, sponsored by Sendik's Food Markets, 5-9 p.m.

June 5, 8, 12 and 15

Four sessions of Zoo Pride volunteer training, level II. Call (414) 258-5667 for details.

June 16

Father's Day, sponsored Chinet® & Pick 'n Save; all dads get in free (parking not included).*†

June 22

Zoo Ball 2013, presented by U.S. Bank, Wells Fargo & Wisconsin Energy Foundation.†

June 26, July 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31

Sunset Zoofari (evening concerts), sponsored by Tri City National Bank.*†

July 9, 11 and 12

Kids' Nights, sponsored by WaterStone Bank.*†

July 29

Birdies & Eagles Golf Tournament, sponsored by Fiduciary Management, Inc. Call Special Events at (414) 258-2333.†

Aug. 7-10

Snooze at the Zoo, sponsored by Old Orchard Brands & Sentry Foods.†

*ZSM members get free Zoo admission with their Zoo Pass card and photo ID. The sting-ray special exhibit admission is extra, except for ZSM members June 3-5 from 5:00 to 8:30 p.m. Members must show their Zoo Pass and photo ID at the exhibit ticket booth for free exhibit admission on these dates. Those with Zoo Pass Plus also get free parking.

†More information on these events will appear in future issues of *Wild Things*.