

# Wild Things

SHAKE, SWEAT,  
DANCE, SUPPORT



*There is no shortage of fun at Zumba.®*

Photo by Richard Taylor



*Rasheedah and James Posey of Milwaukee get in the Zumba® groove. Photo by Bob Wickland*

## Zumba® Fitness Party at the Zoo

Feb. 24, 6-8 p.m. Check-in at 5 p.m.

Cost: \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door  
(unless event is full)

When in doubt, dance it out! Zumba® is a popular exercise in the form of dancing. It has been known to reduce stress, increase energy and strengthen your heart. When you join the Zoological Society's Zumba® Fitness Party, all those benefits still apply, but there is an added bonus of helping the Society in its mission to support the Zoo. Money from this event goes to the Sponsor an Animal program. The fun will commence inside the Peck Welcome Center. The routines are led by Zumba Jammer™ Rachel Beimel and other licensed instructors. If you've been too nervous or self-conscious to try it yourself, this event is perfect for you. No matter your skill level or experience, anyone 14 and up is welcome to sign up. If you find out you like it, check out some of the Zumba® apparel for sale at the event.

Pre-register at [zoosociety.org/Zumba](http://zoosociety.org/Zumba) by Feb. 23.

## IN THIS ISSUE

**Page 3:** Read how a 7-year-old raised more than >>  
\$1,000 for the Zoo's zebra, Zink.



Photo by Bob Wickland

<< **Page 8:** From evergreen trees to snow, find out how zookeepers enrich the lives of the animals in the wintertime.



**Page 13:** Change up your winter >>  
visit to the Zoo by trying out our scavenger hunt.



# MARK YOUR CALENDARS

## Jan. 14 Samson Stomp & Romp

Four races are offered at this event sponsored by **Amica Insurance**: a competitive 5k, two-mile run, one-mile romp and quarter-mile romp for kids. Runners and walkers can pre-register for \$25 or pay \$30 on the day of the event. Register online at [milwaukeezoo.org](http://milwaukeezoo.org).



## March 31 Egg Day

Kids can hunt for eggs at the Lake Evinrude deck, meet the Easter Bunny and get their faces painted like a bunny at Egg Day. The event runs from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Everyone is invited to the parade at 2 p.m. starting at the Northwestern Mutual Family Farm.



## MEMBERANDA

We value your relationship with the Zoological Society of Milwaukee. The Society does not sell member/donor information to third parties, but may share limited information with the Milwaukee County Zoo for the purpose of confirming membership status.

### Zoological Society office hours:

8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. weekdays, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. weekends.

### Zoo hours through Feb. 28, 2018:

9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. weekdays, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. weekends.

### Zoo hours March 1-May 26, 2018:

9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. weekdays and weekends.

**Note:** The Zoo's admission gates close 45 minutes before the posted Zoo closing time. The Zoo's walk-in gate closes one hour prior to the posted Zoo closing time. The animal buildings close 15 minutes before Zoo closing time.

**For tax-time tips, Zoo Pass benefits and other details, please see [zoosociety.org/Membership/Things2Know.php](http://zoosociety.org/Membership/Things2Know.php)**

**Tax-deductible portions for the Zoo Pass categories are:** Individual (Basic: \$60, Plus: \$71), Individual +1 or Couple (Basic: \$70, Plus: \$80), Individual + 2, Family and Single Adult Family (Basic: \$75, Plus: \$95), Family +1 (Basic \$94, Plus: \$104), Family +2 (Basic: \$101, Plus: \$113), Family +3 (Basic: \$117, Plus: \$126), Affiliate (Basic: \$154, Plus: \$157), Benefactor (Basic: \$218, Plus: \$220). Or set up a MyAccount and view the tax-deductible portion of all your contributions for the tax year. [zoosociety.org/MyAccount](http://zoosociety.org/MyAccount)

**Reciprocal zoos and aquariums:** We update our list of zoos and aquariums that offer reduced or free admission to our members with the Association of Zoos & Aquariums in spring each year. We only

reciprocate with AZA-accredited facilities and reserve the right to not reciprocate with zoos and aquariums located within close proximity of the Milwaukee County Zoo. Please be sure to contact our offices prior to your travels at 414-258-2333, or visit [zoosociety.org/Membership/Reciprocal.php](http://zoosociety.org/Membership/Reciprocal.php) if you have any questions.

**Moving?** Please call us when you change your address or name. The call saves us money because when the post office returns your mail with a forwarding address, we pay twice for mailing: to the old address and the new. If you've changed your address on your identification, replacement cards may be purchased with the new information for \$5.

**New computer system:** In late January 2018, the Society will upgrade its computer system to a new program. While we plan on the transition going smoothly, please let us know if there seems to be something amiss about your account. Feel free to contact us at 414-258-2333.

### WILD THINGS

Issue No. 134, January-March 2018

Wild Things is a membership newsletter published by the Zoological Society of Milwaukee six times a year.

Editor: Katie Krecklow

Contributing Writer: Stacy Vogel Davis

Designer: Scott DuChateau

Contact the Zoological Society at:

10005 W. Bluemound Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53226-4383

Phone: 414-258-2333 Web: [zoosociety.org](http://zoosociety.org)

Contact the Milwaukee County Zoo at:

10001 W. Bluemound Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53226-4383

Phone: 414-256-5412 Web: [milwaukeezoo.org](http://milwaukeezoo.org)

# RUMMAGE FOR ZEBRAS

It's no secret that 7-year-old Maya Christ loves zebras. From head to toe, she shows off her passion with her zebra earrings, shirt, jacket and socks. When asked why she loves that specific animal, Maya has a simple and to-the-point answer, "I like their stripes." Maya came to the Zoo in November with a special purpose. She raised \$1,101.31 and wanted to use that money to sponsor Zink, the Zoo's zebra. While handing over the check in one hand, she clutched her favorite and oldest plush-toy zebra in the other hand. Maya picked that stuffed animal from the Zoo's gift shop when she was 2 years old. That's when her love for those black and white stripes began.

With the help of her mom and dad, Maya put together a rummage sale last year. They called it "Rummage for Zebras." The Christ family lives in rural Mayville, which means they had to work a little harder to spread the word. They made and handed out fliers, advertised in the paper and put up signs. Maya sold toys she is too old for, clothes she outgrew and baked goods like brownies and cookies. The response was a surprise. "Some people came out just to donate money," says Maya's mom, Tricia. While it may take some time to build up a supply of more rummage items, Maya says she can't wait to do it all over again.



▲ Maya and her plush-toy zebra, Cubbie, outside the zebra exhibit.

Photo by Bob Wickland

▼ Maya raised \$1,101.31 at her "Rummage for Zebras" in Mayville.

Photo provided by family



## I PAWSITIVELY LOVE YOU

If you're love sick, Dr. Erin Curry has the cure. The Zoo's female red panda is available for sponsorship this Valentine's Day. It's a perfect gift for this holiday because she melts so many hearts.



Photo by Joel Miller

### The \$35 package includes:

- Plush-toy red panda
- Solid chocolate paw print
- Certificate of sponsorship
- Colorful fact sheet about red pandas
- Invitation to a behind-the-scenes event for animal sponsors held in August
- Recognition on our "All in the Family" donor board for a year
- Animal Sponsor decal

You can upgrade the sponsorship to \$75 and receive a photo of Dr. Erin Curry and two Zoo attraction tickets. Prices include shipping to anywhere in the continental United States. We must receive your order by Feb. 7, 2018, to guarantee delivery for Valentine's Day.

The tax-deductible portion of the \$35 package is \$26, and \$61 for the \$75 package. Sales tax is included. Plush-toy and chocolate offer are good while supplies last.



Courtesy Chicago Zoological Society

## Field Trip to Chicago's Brookfield Zoo

**Saturday, May 5, 2018**

**Cost: \$60 per person ages 12-64; \$55, seniors & ages 3-11; \$27, ages 2 & under**

We all think the Milwaukee County Zoo is the best Zoo around, but it's still fun to see what other city zoos have to offer. Join the Zoological Society of Milwaukee for our spring field trip to the Brookfield Zoo in Illinois. It's a great opportunity to conveniently take a trip and see animals that don't live in Milwaukee. Check out the okapi, a relative of the giraffe with legs that are striped like a zebra. There are also Amur leopards, bison, kangaroos and a caracal.

The Brookfield Zoo and the Milwaukee County Zoo don't reciprocate free admission with the Zoo Pass, making this deal even better. Your ticket will also include attraction tickets to Dolphins in Action, Motor Safari and the carousel. Sit back and enjoy the bus ride to and from the Zoo along with a continental breakfast, beverages and a snack bag on the return trip. (Note to those with allergies: Snacks may include dairy and peanut byproducts.) Registration ends April 13. You can register online at [zoosociety.org/fieldtrip](http://zoosociety.org/fieldtrip), by phone at 414-258-2333, or by filling out the form below and mailing it in. Check-in starts at 7 a.m. on May 5. Buses will depart Chicago at 4:30 p.m. An itinerary will be mailed prior to the trip.

Name(s) of Traveler(s)

---

Member Number(s)

---

Address

---

City, State, ZIP

---

Phone (Day) (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Eve) (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

If you wish to travel with another person or group sending in a separate reservation, please indicate the name(s):

---

Please reserve the following \_\_\_\_\_ spaces.

Adults \_\_\_\_\_ (ages 12-64), \$60 per person

Seniors \_\_\_\_\_ (65+), \$55 per person

Children \_\_\_\_\_ (3-11), \$55 per person

Children \_\_\_\_\_ (2 and under), \$27 per child

Total amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Trip cost is not tax-deductible)

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 card

---

Check ... Make check payable to Zoological Society.

**Please mail this form and payment to:**

Brookfield Zoo trip  
Zoological Society  
10005 W. Bluemound Rd.  
Milwaukee, WI 53226

Space is limited. Cancellations through April 13, 2018, are refundable, less a \$10 per person cancellation fee. Cancellations after April 13, 2018, are not refundable. Trip cost is not tax-deductible. To comply with WI Statute Section 440.455, a financial statement of the Zoological Society will be provided upon request.

# ZOO ADVENTURE

# AND IN THIS CORNER...

Amateur boxers duke it out in the ring at Puttin' on the Ritz.  
Photo by Stacy Kaat

## Puttin' on the Ritz

Sponsored by Husch Blackwell  
Jan. 25 at Potawatomi Hotel & Casino

"Float like a butterfly, sting like a bee!" While that is a famous quote from boxer Muhammad Ali, it fits in well with this fundraiser related to animals. Puttin' on the Ritz is a formal event held at Potawatomi Hotel & Casino. The evening includes a social start with cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and games. Get ready to bid on items during the live and silent auctions, enjoy dinner and then the main event – amateur boxing. Athletes from the Future Olympian Boxing Association compete in three-round bouts. The boxing is sponsored by Master Z's, and the boxing ring is sponsored by Bridgewood Advisors. Last year's event raised more than \$180,000 for the Zoological Society and its support of the Milwaukee County Zoo.

**Cost:** \$200 per person, \$2,000 for a corporate table sponsorship, \$3,000 for a corporate ringside table sponsorship, or \$5,000 for the new VIP Man Cave Experience featuring lounge seating and tableside bar service. Of the \$200 per-person cost, \$80 is tax-deductible.

Register at [zoosociety.org/Ritz](http://zoosociety.org/Ritz) or call 414-258-2333 to request a paper invitation.



Tim Sullivan, of Milwaukee, plays shuffleboard at Puttin' on the Ritz.  
Photo by Stacy Kaat



## JOIN THE CLUB

**Kids Conservation Club Workshop**  
Saturday, Feb. 10, 10 a.m.-noon  
Pre-register by Jan. 31

Did you know snow leopards can jump as far as 50 feet? Or that snow leopards can kill animals three times their weight? There is so much to learn about these beautiful big cats. Members of the Kids Conservation Club (KCC) will do just that during the next workshop. Members will make snow leopard crafts and meet with a zookeeper on Feb. 10.

Kids Conservation Club is one of the ways to sponsor an animal at the Zoo. Each year, KCC members sponsor an endangered animal at the Milwaukee County Zoo. The cost is \$20 and includes: a certificate of sponsorship, an animal fact sheet on that year's animal, an invitation to workshops, collector cards with pictures of endangered animals, the child's name on the KCC donor board in the Peck Welcome Center and an invitation to behind-the-scenes tours during Animal Safari.

**Already a Kids Conservation Club member? The workshop is free, but you have to pre-register by Jan. 31. Call Becky Luft at 414-258-2333 to register.**



Participants learn about lemurs in the February 2017 KCC workshop.

Photo by Bob Wickland



*"Aldo Leopold and the Ghost of Sand County".*  
Photo by Richard Taylor

# A STEM IMPACT

**When you think of STEM – science, technology, engineering, math – do you think about beakers and chemicals? Or do you think of a student making a robot?**

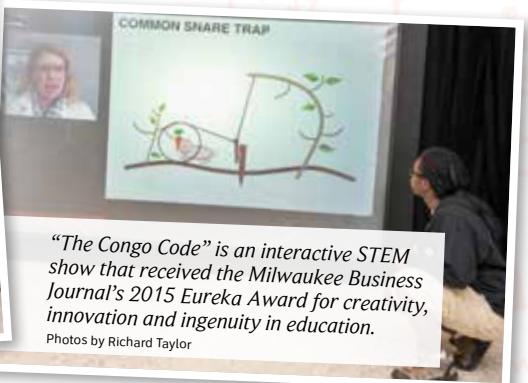
No matter how you think about it, you probably never considered a play or a musical to be in a STEM category. But thanks to Kohl's Wild Theater, art and science join forces on stage.

According to the U.S. Department of Education, few American students have access to quality STEM learning opportunities, and not enough students are pursuing careers in STEM fields. Many schools are now focusing on younger students and looking for ways to make STEM fun. That's where Kohl's Wild Theater comes in. The program selects topics in science and conservation that are timely and important for audiences to know. All of the shows at the Zoo and traveling shows address life science topics that relate to state and national science education standards.

In November, Kohl's Wild Theater was invited to perform at two STEM-based festivals: the Wisconsin Science Festival and Discovery

World's Girls and STEM. "To be successful in science, one has to be able to think outside the box. Kohl's Wild Theater aims to foster both imagination and curiosity in our audiences," says Dave McLellan, Kohl's Wild Theater coordinator. McLellan doesn't aim to teach everything in a show. His hope is to teach the audience something they may not have known before and motivate them to go home and learn more about the subject.

This February Kohl's Wild Theater will debut its new musical, "The Monarch: A Space Adventure." It's a chance for the audience to see our planet differently. McLellan says it's a great musical to learn about what it will take to keep our planet healthy. "STEM teaches all citizens to be critical thinkers. We should all be curious about how the world works." Kohl's Wild Theater is always working on new shows and new ways to give STEM topics a dose of theatrical imagination.



*"The Congo Code" is an interactive STEM show that received the Milwaukee Business Journal's 2015 Eureka Award for creativity, innovation and genuinity in education.*  
Photos by Richard Taylor

*Kohl's Wild Theater is made possible by a partnership with Kohl's Cares, the Zoological Society of Milwaukee and the Milwaukee County Zoo. It performs shows throughout the year free of charge at schools, festivals and community events within a one-hour radius of the Zoo.*

**For more information and to book a show, visit [wildtheater.org](http://wildtheater.org).**



## WATCH HER “BLOSSOM”

The Zoo’s baby gorilla can be hard to see since mom holds onto her pretty tight. You can usually see the top of her head, and if you’re lucky, she may turn her neck and you can see her adorable face. Zahra, meaning blossom in Swahili, was born Sept. 9 to mom, Naku, and father, Cassius. Gorilla babies don’t grow as quickly as other babies at the Zoo. For example, they don’t walk within an hour of birth like a giraffe. For the first several months Naku will carry Zahra 24/7. The next milestone will be Zahra clinging to mom’s back, arm or leg but still not walking on her own. At about 6-9 months old, Zahra will attempt to sit up on her own and eventually try to crawl. On average, infant gorillas gain about 1 pound per month. By January, Zahra is expected to weigh about 8 pounds.

It’s also fun to watch Naku blossom into a wonderful mother, and many zoogoers are entertained by 3-year-old Sulaiman’s curiosity. His behavior is not surprising, but it is closely watched. Zookeepers say he likes to pick on Naku, which disturbs the baby, and he occasionally pulls Zahra’s hair. Zahra is not hurt and Naku usually will tolerate Sulaiman or gently push him away. Everyone is curious and excited to see how the two half-siblings will interact and play with each other. However, that probably won’t happen until Zahra is closer to 1 year old. Until then, don’t miss out on seeing Zahra blossom and grow.

Zahra photo by Joel Miller



*One of the Zoo’s two American avocets.*

Photo by Bob Wickland

## COLOR CHANGING BIRDS

There is a lot to like about the birds in the Herb & Nada Mahler Family Aviary. You may like the colors of some birds, the different sizes or a unique beak. The Zoo’s newest pair of birds, American avocets, will not disappoint. The Milwaukee County Zoo has never had an American avocet before. The two females are in the shorebird exhibit. They are easy to spot with their thin, long and upturned beaks. What may be truly unique about these birds is their color. Right now they are grayish, white and black. However, when breeding season comes around in spring, their heads and necks turn a cinnamon color. Zookeepers expect the coloring to start around April and last through September. However, since the Zoo’s two avocets are under a year, they may not change color right away. Both males and females undergo the color change.

The shorebirds like small fish such as silversides and capelin. The Zoo also feeds them waxworms, mealworms and crickets. In the wild, they sweep their bills back and forth in the water with the curved tip sticking out to catch their food. They live in the western United States, from Montana down to parts of New Mexico, over to the California coast. They often spend winters in Mexico. Avocets are rare in zoos, so don’t miss out on seeing these unique birds in Milwaukee.



*An avocet during breeding season.*

Stock photo



▲ *Top: Male elk, Comanche, spars with a tree.*

*Middle: Brittany enjoys the snow as a snack.*

*Bottom: Kashtan experiments with the snow during his first winter.*

Photos by Joel Miller

# ENRICHED LIVES

Evergreen trees and snowmen are two common items found at many homes this time of year. You will also find them in the exhibits of many animals. Zookeepers use enrichment for the animals every day, but each season brings its own unique opportunities. Enrichment is anything that offers animals choices and encourages them to behave as they would in the wild. Here are a few examples of winter enrichment.

Evergreens are used as enrichment for dozens of animals around the Zoo. For the big cats, it's a sensory item for them to smell and feel. It's also considered a manipulative enrichment item they can move and tear apart. Trees are great for the Zoo's male elk, Comanche. He doesn't have another male to compete with, so he spars with the trees. He lowers his rack, hits the tree and throws it around.

Ruth and Brittany are African elephants. In the wild, their environment is warmer, so they spend more time inside during the cold months. Zookeepers keep them busy. One enrichment item that can only be used inside is music or nature sounds. This is considered a novel, sensory enrichment item that stimulates both Ruth and Brittany.

When the snow really starts to come down, zookeepers use it in different ways. The primates like to dig through snow piles. They also will get access outside to play in the fresh snow if they choose and can come right back inside if they get cold. Some of the hoofstock and big cats enjoy a snowman. It's a unique item they can see, shred apart and feel. Many animals like to have a taste and will snack on the snow.

Winter is also a great time for zookeepers to spend more time training the animals. Training is considered social and behavioral enrichment. It builds trust between the zookeeper and animal and will eventually help the animal's health care. If the animal voluntarily helps with examinations, that means it doesn't have to be anesthetized.

To read more about winter changes in the Zoo, check out the current issue of *Alive*. Read what it takes to get the bears ready for hibernation, find out which animal gains up to 100 pounds to stay warm in winter and how the animals in Winter Quarters stay active when they aren't on exhibit.

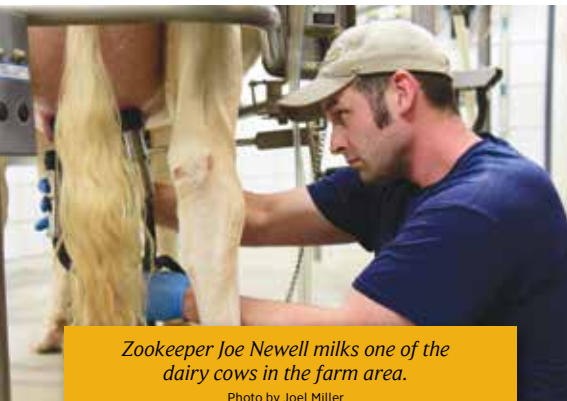


◀◀ *A Japanese macaque digs through the snow.*

Photo by Richard Brodzeller



# A CHEESY RELATIONSHIP



Zookeeper Joe Newell milks one of the dairy cows in the farm area.

Photo by Joel Miller



A Clock Shadow Creamery employee makes cheese curds, the company's most popular seller.

Photo provided by Clock Shadow Creamery

**IT** seems like kids never tire of watching zookeepers milk the cows on the Milwaukee County Zoo's farm. But how many of them know that the milk only goes a few miles away, and could turn up the very next day as cheese curds in local grocery stores? For the past three years, the Milwaukee County Zoo, home to the only working dairy farm in the city of Milwaukee, has had a relationship with Clock Shadow Creamery, the only cheese factory in the city of Milwaukee. "There are people who go to the Zoo, see the cows getting milked and then come to the cheese factory and learn what we're doing with it," says Bob Wills, Clock Shadow owner. "That's always been kind of my goal. It helps to complete the food circle and helps people understand how the food is connected to the animals."

The Milwaukee County Zoo has had a milking herd at the Northwestern Mutual Family Farm since 1987. In spring 2015, the Zoo was looking for a new milk purchaser. Larger companies weren't interested because of the Zoo's relatively small output, but it was a perfect opportunity for Clock Shadow, which opened in Milwaukee's Walker's Point neighborhood in 2012. The cheesemaker already was picking up milk from the western suburbs of Milwaukee and Cedar Grove Cheese in Sauk County, which Wills also owns. "The milk truck was already running down the Interstate not far from the Zoo," he says.

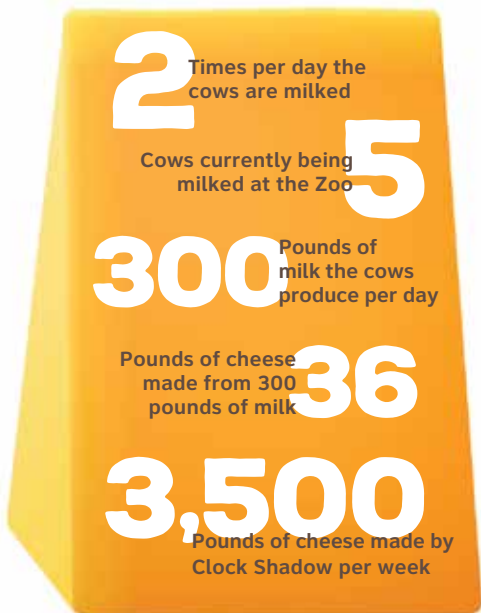
While the Zoo's milk volume isn't high – about 300 pounds a day right now, according to Lisa Guglielmi, farm area supervisor – the quality is. "The milk quality is unbelievable," Wills says. "These are pampered animals, and Lisa does a beautiful job of taking care of them. Everything is always clean, and the animals are always healthy. For us it's the ideal milk supply from a quality perspective."

The milk is stored in a refrigerated bulk tank in the dairy barn and picked up by Clock Shadow twice a week. The Zoo's milk has a high yield, equating to about 36 pounds of cheese per day or 13,000 pounds per year, Wills says.

The milk is typically mixed with milk from other sources to make the cheese, but every once in a while, the company makes a cheese using only Zoo milk. Clock Shadow's biggest sellers are curds, cheddar and quark, a spreadable cheese similar to cream cheese. The company runs its production lines overnight, starting around midnight, so it will have fresh, squeaky curds ready for retailers and customers at 7 the next morning.

Besides educating consumers, Wills believes the relationship between the Zoo and Clock Shadow is inspiring future artisans. He has employees at the plant who never would have considered cheesemaking if they hadn't seen the cows at the Zoo as children. "It's really rewarding to think that not only are we educating people in a food sense, but we are also giving them an opportunity to think about different career options."

## BY THE NUMBERS



# BENEFITS OF SUPPORT

Ernie Wunsch, owner of Skyline Catering, recently joined the Corporate Platypus Circle – the Zoological Society’s most esteemed contributor group. Here is how Wunsch relates to the Society’s top five reasons to join.

## 1. Provides tremendous corporate visibility.

The name of your business will be displayed in the U.S. Bank Gathering Place at the Zoo, along with print recognition. **“In the corporate sector, name recognition is important, so it is a nice gesture on the Society’s part to include us in some of their printed materials,”** says Wunsch.

## 2. Affords a new, exciting fringe benefit to your employees and key clients.

Members receive transferable cards allowing up to eight people and one vehicle to come to the Zoo for free. For Wunsch, the passes are always available to staff. **“What a great benefit for them to have the freedom to go to the Zoo, with their family, as a company perk, as often as they want!”** In addition to the unlimited admission to the Zoo, Wunsch’s other favorite perk is the private behind-the-scenes tours.



Photo by Stacy Kaat

**“Everything the Zoo has given us is priceless, so we thought that we would give back in a small way and become Platypus members,”**

*– Ernie Wunsch, owner of Skyline Catering*

## 3. Contribute to our local jewel – the Milwaukee County Zoo.

**“Skyline Catering believes in the greater good that the Zoo gives to our community,”** says Wunsch. The Zoo provides an estimated \$155 million of economic impact to the greater Milwaukee area including about 1,900 jobs.

## 4. Support a dynamic educational experience for children and adults.

The Zoological Society’s Education Department reaches more than 300,000 children a year, including more than 8,000 disadvantaged youth. **“With so many negative temptations for kids right now, what an absolutely positive, fun and educational experience the Zoological Society offers with their award-winning, science-based education camps and classes.”**

## 5. Preserve a piece of Milwaukee’s history.

By becoming a member, you help support the Zoological Society of Milwaukee’s mission of conserving wildlife and endangered species, educating the public about wildlife and the environment, and supporting the Milwaukee County Zoo. Wunsch says his family and business look forward to being members for many years to come. **“From my childhood, I have nothing but warm, exciting and pleasant memories. We have made sure to make the Zoo a regular stop for our children and grandchildren to create even more memories.”**

**We welcome new members to the Platypus Circle who joined June 1 through Nov. 30.**

Deborah & Robert Amorde  
Cordstrap USA, Inc  
Judith Dietz  
Rainer Gedeit, M.D.  
Carol Howe  
Kathy Hust  
Emory & Barbara Ireland  
Sam & Jim Kreiser  
Diane & Gene Kuemmerlein

PFlow Industries Inc.  
New Berlin Public Library  
Oscar Grady Public Library  
Kathleen J. Redmond  
Sensient Technologies  
Pamm & Phil Steffen  
Laurence Toro  
Wintrust Wealth Services  
Anonymous (1)



**For more information about the Platypus Circle and how to get involved, visit [zoosociety.org/Platy](https://zoosociety.org/Platy) or contact Dani Seavert at 414-918-6153 or [danis@zoosociety.org](mailto:danis@zoosociety.org).**

# BY THE NUMBERS

1



## 1. Sunset Zoofari

Guests enjoy dinner, summer weather and a live band during one of six Sunset Zoofari events. The evening concert series, sponsored by Tri City National Bank, brought a total of 7,641 people.

Photo by Olga Kornienko

## 2. Family Farm Weekend

Ari B., 4, of Wauwatosa, churns ice cream during Family Farm Weekend, sponsored by the Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board. The two-day event, Sept. 9-10, attracted 11,883 people.

Photo by Olga Kornienko

2



## 3. Zoo Brew

Deb, Becky, Kristin and Katherine, of Brookfield, enjoy an evening of beer tasting during Zoo Brew, sponsored by Sazama Design Build Remodel. The event on Oct. 5 brought in just under 600 guests, raising more than \$39,000 for the Zoological Society.

Photo by Stacy Kaat

3



## 4. Boo at the Zoo

Michaela, 4, Mason, 6, and Kylie, 6, dressed in costumes for Boo at the Zoo, sponsored by Prairie Farms Dairy. More than 3,500 kids and adults came to the Halloween event Oct. 13-14.

Photo by Olga Kornienko

4



5



## 5. Halloween Spooktacular

Nearly 25,000 had a spooky good time during Halloween Spooktacular, Oct. 20-21, sponsored by Prairie Farms Dairy. Cousins Gabriella, 3, and Madeline, 1, enjoyed the holiday decorations and trick-or-treat.

Photo by Olga Kornienko

# HELPING FUTURE TEACHERS



*Intern Mandi Ayala assists Olivia C, of Wauwatosa, with her art project. Photo by Bob Wickland*

Zoo Camps are a great opportunity for kids to continue learning in the summer. They are fun, interactive and always educational. Those camps are also a great place for future teachers to come and learn valuable skills. The Zoological Society's Education Department is currently accepting applications for college internships this summer. Interns are directly mentored and trained by Education staff and develop child management techniques along with interactive teaching strategies.

"What surprised me the most about my experience was how much it helped me grow as an educator and as a person. I felt I learned more in my two summers at the Zoological Society than I have in my four years in college," says former intern Mandi Ayala. With an endorsement like that, it's no surprise the

Education Department receives more than 100 applications for 20 positions.

Ayala was excited to apply for the internship because of her love of animals and nature, making the Zoological Society a perfect fit. Another intern picked the Society for a different reason. "I grew up and attend college in a very rural area, so I thought it would be beneficial for me to try a more urban setting and help me become a more well-rounded teacher and person," says former intern Paula Pittz.

The day and life of an intern revolves around preparation, communication and respect. Interns help set up the classroom and work with the educator to go over the lesson plan for each class. "The biggest thing that I took away was classroom management. They taught us so many different strategies, and if something didn't work, we always had someone we could ask for help," says Pittz. Interns lead students through the Zoo to see firsthand the material they learned in the classroom. Often interns lead the students in songs or more information from the lesson plan. At the end of the day, interns regroup with the educator to discuss what went well or not so well and come up with a plan for the next day. Interns who come back for a second summer gain more responsibility and more opportunities to teach.

Ayala recently graduated from Carroll University and is pursuing a career in either general education or within an organization similar to the Zoological Society. Pittz will be applying for a second-year internship with the Society. She feels another internship will better prepare her for her upcoming semester of student teaching.

*Intern Paula Pittz leads a class on a Zoo tour.*

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
ON HOW TO APPLY FOR AN INTERNSHIP GO TO  
[ZOOSOCIETY.ORG/ABOUT/EMPLOYMENT.PHP](http://ZOOSOCIETY.ORG/ABOUT/EMPLOYMENT.PHP)

# SEE THE UNSEEN

## Behind the Scenes Weekend

Sponsored by *Prairie Farms Dairy*

March 10-11, tours 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Get the inside look and be in the room where it happens. This is your chance to get a behind-the-scenes view of the Milwaukee County Zoo. On March 10 and 11, you'll see what is usually unseen by visitors. One stop includes Winter Quarters where the warm-weather animals stay during the winter months. Another popular stop is the train shop. When the train isn't giving kids and adults a trip around the Zoo, it's stationed in a building where you can get a better glimpse. Other areas will be open for tours including the Aquatic & Reptile Center and greenhouse. You'll never see the Zoo the same way. Tours are included with admission.

Go to [milwaukeezoo.org](http://milwaukeezoo.org) for more information.



*Joshua B., 5, of West Allis, explores the Zoo's train engines during a past Behind-the-Scenes Weekend.*

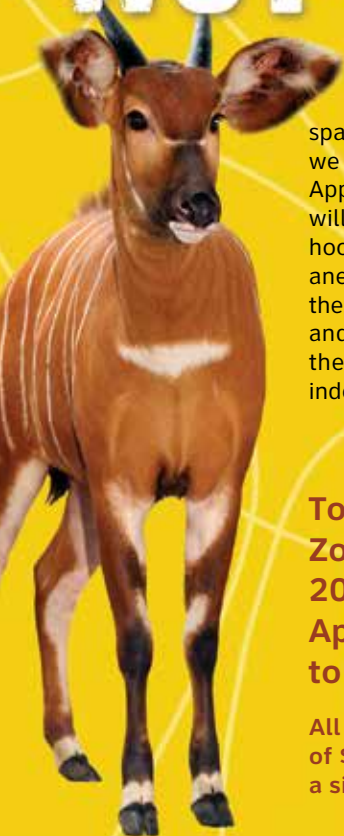
Photo by Richard Taylor

# Winter Scavenger Hunt

It can be hard to find things to do in the winter. If you come to the Zoo for a day or an hour, here is a fun game you can play.

- Find 2 of the peacock warming stations. Hint: Look for bales of straw piled up to block the wind.
- Find 3 enrichment items in any of the exhibits. You can refer to page 8 for some ideas on what an enrichment item can be.
  1. \_\_\_\_\_
  2. \_\_\_\_\_
  3. \_\_\_\_\_
- Go to the giraffe exhibit and find Marlee. If you need help, there are signs on the outside and inside of the exhibit explaining how you can tell all of the giraffes apart.
- Look for the species in the Aquatic & Reptile Center that is thought to be so old, dinosaurs ate them.
- Find the fake alligator in the Herb & Nada Mahler Family Aviary.
- Discover the animal in the Small Mammals Building with a "sweet" name. Here's a hint: The first part of the name is the main ingredient in candy.

# We're Hoofin' it!



The African hoofstock are getting ready for a new home. Animals like the bongos, impala and yellow-backed duiker will have a larger space adjacent to the new elephant exhibit. But before the move happens, we need to make sure they have a safe and cozy home. This year's Annual Appeal is focused on the hoofstock and their hooves. The money raised will help purchase a hoofstock examination chute to allow for routine hoof exams, health monitoring and dispensing medications without using anesthesia. We also want to purchase new tools needed to take care of the animals' hooves and install a special flooring that is soft, easy to clean and gentle on the legs of the animals. The special flooring is similar to the indoor giraffe exhibit floor. Money raised will also help construct an indoor area for African crowned cranes, which will be new to the group.

To give to the Zoological Society's 2017-18 Annual Appeal, please go to [zoosociety.org](http://zoosociety.org).

All donations are tax-deductible. Donors of \$100 and greater will be recognized on a sign installed in the Zoo by mid-2019.



## VOLUNTEER AT THE ZOO

Hundreds of volunteers help the Zoo and the Zoological Society function on a daily basis. The volunteer program, Zoo Pride, has more than 600 members who dedicate more than 50,000 hours a year. There are different types of jobs to match different skills and personalities of the volunteers. They observe animals, lead tours, help the Society's Education Department with classes, help with administrative tasks and so much more. Volunteers range from teens to retirees. If you would like to apply to become a member of Zoo Pride, call 414-258-5667 or visit [zoosociety.org/ZooPride](http://zoosociety.org/ZooPride). Once you've completed your interview and are selected, training classes start in March.

### Level I training: March 21 and March 24.

Volunteers who complete the basic orientation can join some of Zoo Pride's 40 committees by completing the next level of training. Committees include making enrichment items for the animals, informing guests about animals or helping with special events at the Zoo.

### Level II training: April 4, 7, 11 and 14.



Zoo Pride volunteer Robin Newton shows enrichment items during a behind-the-scenes tour.

Photo by Stacy Kaat

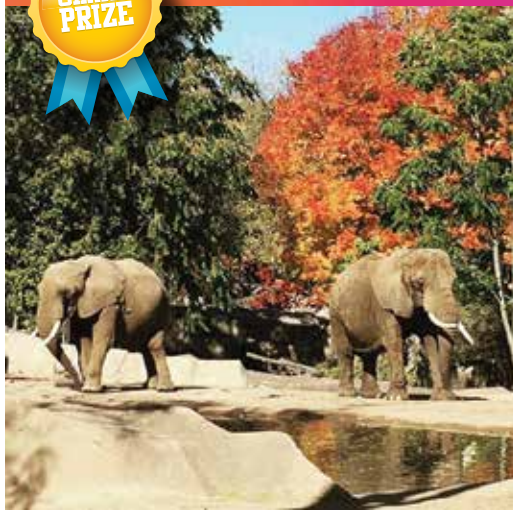
# SHARE THE JOY

If you like winter and the Zoo, then share your passions with the rest of us. We want to see your best pictures of the Zoo in wintertime. Pictures don't have to include snow but should highlight what winter at the Zoo means to you (photos can be indoors). Anyone with an Instagram account can join our contest for the month of February. **Submit photos using the hashtag #WildWinterMKEZoo and be entered to win prizes.** The weekly winner will receive a gift certificate and the grand-prize winner will receive a one-year family Zoo Pass. For your photo to be eligible to win, it must be visible to the public (no private Instagram accounts). Every Friday beginning Feb. 9, Zoological Society staff will look through the photos from the week and choose a winner to be announced that day.

**For contest rules and other information, go to [zoosociety.org](http://zoosociety.org).**



@jen\_esch\_5



## #FallingForMkeZoo CONTEST WINNERS

If you're looking for some inspiration, here are the winners of the fall Instagram contest. Each winner received an animal sponsorship with a plush toy.

**The grand-prize winner received a one-year family Zoo Pass.**



@kellyrotruck\_1



@jennykomassa5



@chiefintern\_9



FOLLOW THE SOCIETY'S INSTAGRAM FEED AT [ZOOSOCIETYMKE](https://www.instagram.com/zoosocietymke). THE WINTER CONTEST STARTS IN FEBRUARY.

# TECHNOLOGY CHANGE

To better serve you in the future, the Zoological Society is upgrading its computer system to a new program. You will notice the change if you purchase a Zoo Pass or animal sponsorship or sign up for Zoo Classes online. While it may appear different, we expect this to be a smooth transition and a positive experience for you. Even though we don't expect any issues, we want to know if you see something that doesn't look quite accurate with your account.

**We will be making the transition in late January. Feel free to call 414-258-2333 and speak with someone if you suspect an error. Thank you for your understanding and patience.**



Zoological Society of Milwaukee County  
10005 W. Bluemound Rd.  
Milwaukee, WI 53226-4383

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**DATED MATERIAL**  
Please Deliver Promptly



Photo by Olga Kornienko

## SAMSON STOMP & ROMP

PAGE 2

# WHAT'S HAPPENING

Details Inside

**Jan. 6**

Family Free Day, sponsored by North Shore Bank;  
media sponsor: WITI FOX 6 (Parking fees still apply)\*

**Jan. 14**

Samson Stomp & Romp, sponsored by Amica Insurance  
(pre-register)

**Jan. 25**

Puttin' on the Ritz at Potawatomi Hotel & Casino,  
sponsored by Husch Blackwell (pre-register)

**Feb. 3**

Spring Zoo Classes, sponsored by Meijer, begin

**Feb. 3**

Family Free Day, sponsored by North Shore Bank;  
media sponsor: WITI FOX 6 (Parking fees still apply)\*

**Feb. 7**

Online registration begins for Zoological Society  
Summer Camps, sponsored by Penzeys Spices

**Feb. 10**

Kids Conservation Club workshop, 10 a.m.-noon  
(pre-register)

**Feb. 24**

Zumba® Fitness Party at the Zoo (pre-register)

**March 3**

Family Free Day, sponsored by North Shore Bank;  
media sponsor: WITI FOX 6 (Parking fees still apply)\*

**March 10 & 11**

Behind the Scenes Weekend, sponsored by  
Prairie Farms Dairy\*

**March 31**

Egg Day\*

**April 13**

Deadline to register for May 5 members-only field trip  
to the Brookfield Zoo. Register online at [zoosociety.org](http://zoosociety.org)  
or call 414-258-2333.

**April 27**

Zootastic, sponsored by Grow Hope @ SaintA (pre-register)

**May 5**

Members-only field trip to the Brookfield Zoo (pre-register)

\* Zoo Pass members get free Zoo admission with their Zoo Pass.

Those with Zoo Pass Plus also get free parking for one vehicle per  
membership per day. Platypus Circle members receive free admission  
and parking with their card.

Zumba® Fitness  
Party at the Zoo

Photo by  
Bob Wickland



## CONNECT WITH US!

 [facebook.com/ZooPass](https://www.facebook.com/ZooPass)

 [twitter.com/ZooSocietyMKE](https://twitter.com/ZooSocietyMKE)

 [instagram.com/ZooSocietyMKE](https://www.instagram.com/ZooSocietyMKE)

 [pinterest.com/ZooSocietyMKE](https://www.pinterest.com/ZooSocietyMKE)

 Snapchat: ZooSocietyMKE

 Milwaukee Zoo Pass App



The Zoological Society is proud  
to bear Charity Navigator's  
highest rating of four stars.