

Wild THINGS

SPONSOR AN ANIMAL 15

NEW ELEPHANT RULES 8

MORE SUMMER CAMPS 11

ANIMAL WORKOUT 3

ON YOUR MARK ...

Samson Stomp & Romp

Sponsored by Amica Insurance

Sunday, Jan. 19

Check-in starts at 8 a.m.

Races start at 9:30 a.m.

Layer up, lace up and sign up for the annual Samson Stomp & Romp. This marks the 40th year for the race, making it one of the longest-running in the area. The run began as a way to honor the Zoo's late silverback gorilla Samson (1950-1981). Registration includes Zoo admission for the day, parking and a long-sleeved T-shirt.

Choose from any of these four races:

- 5k run (official chip-timed race)
- 2-mile
- 1-mile
- 1/4-mile romp for kids

Individual runners can pre-register for \$30 or start a team and pay \$25 a runner. Same-day registration is \$35. The children's romp is \$15 per child. Zoo Passes are not valid for this event.

To register, go to milwaukeezoo.org.



Photo by Olga Komarova



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 through May 22, 2020:

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

Zoo hours through Feb. 29, 2020: 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. weekdays,

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

Zoo hours March 1 through May 22, 2020: 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 hours.

For tax-time tips, Zoo Pass benefits and other details, please see zoosociety.org/Membership/Things2Know.php

Tax-deductible portions for the Zoo Pass categories are:

Individual (Basic: \$65, Plus: \$76); Individual + 1 (Basic: \$80, Plus: \$90); Couple (Basic: \$80, Plus: \$90); Individual + 2 (Basic: \$85, Plus: \$105); Family (Basic: \$85, Plus: \$105); Single Adult Family (Basic: \$85, Plus: \$105); Family + 1 (Basic: \$104, Plus: \$114); Family + 2 (Basic: \$111, Plus: \$123); Family + 3 (Basic: \$127, Plus: \$136); Affiliate (Basic: \$159, Plus: \$162); Benefactor (Basic: \$223, Plus: \$225). Or set up a MyAccount and view the tax-deductible portion of all your contributions for the tax year. 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, 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.

Problems renewing or transacting online: If you experience any difficulties transacting a Zoo Pass renewal or animal sponsorship online, please contact us at 414-258-2333 so we can assist with your transaction. Our staff is available seven days a week.

WILD THINGS

Issue No. 146, January-April 2020

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

Editor: Katie Krecklow

Designer: Scott DuChateau

Contributing writer: Stacy Vogel Davis

Contact the Zoological Society at:

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

Phone: 414-258-2333 **Web:** zoosociety.org

Contact the Milwaukee County Zoo at:

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

Phone: 414-256-5412 **Web:** milwaukeezoo.org



A SWIMMING GOOD TIME

Zootastic

Sponsored by Grow Hope @ SaintA
Friday, May 8, 5-9 p.m.

Dive into some fun when you sign up for this year's family fundraiser, Zootastic. In anticipation of the new hippo exhibit that will feature an underwater view of the hippos, this year's theme is all about animals who love water. Hippos spend 16 hours a day in water, fish can't live outside of water, the polar bear likes to cool off in her pool and the otters love to play, swim and dive in the water.

Zootastic is an after-hours fundraiser that offers special zookeeper talks and crafts at specific spots throughout the Zoo. Tickets include dinner and dessert followed by games and a dance party.



Zookeeper Rebecca answers questions about giraffes during Zootastic. Photo by Paul Ruffolo



Craft time is a special time during Zootastic.

Photo by Paul Ruffolo

Zoo Pass Member
Family of Four: \$80
Adult 13 & up: \$30
Child 12 & under: \$15

Non-members
Family of Four: \$90
Adult 13 & up: \$35
Child 12 & under: \$20

This event does sell out and you must pre-register. Go to zoosociety.org/Zootastic or call 414-258-2333 to buy your tickets.

Thanks to media sponsors: News/Talk 1130 WISN, FM106.1, 95.7 BIG FM, 97.3 The Game, V100.7, The Big 920.

Photo by Bob Wickland



ZOO ZOO ZUMBA!

Zumba® Fitness Party at the Zoo
Saturday, Feb. 29, 6-8 p.m.

Check-in starts at 5 p.m.

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

It's a day that only comes every four years so why not spend it "leaping" to music at the Zoological Society's Zumba® fundraiser. This leap day, shake it and dance for the animals at the Zoo during this special Zumba® event. All skill levels are welcome and encouraged. The routines are led by Zumba Jammer™ Rachel Beimel and other licensed instructors.

Money raised from this event goes to the Zoological Society's Sponsor an Animal program. Anyone 14 and up is welcome to sign up. **Pre-register at zoosociety.org/Zumba by Feb. 27.** The event has sold out in the past, so don't wait to get your ticket.

SEE THE UNSEEN

Behind the Scenes Weekend

Presented by Prairie Farms Dairy

March 14 & 15, tours 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

This two-day event is your time to see what goes on behind closed doors. Experience where the animals go when they aren't on exhibit, where the keepers prepare the animals' meals or where the train goes for the winter and for repairs. Multiple tours around the Zoo are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Tours are included with the price of admission. Zoo Pass members get free admission with their Zoo Pass and valid ID.



Eli, 9, and brother Evan, 7, have fun learning about the Zoo's trains during last year's Behind the Scenes Weekend.

Photo by Bob Wickland



Photo by Olga Kornienko

GET EGG-CITED

Egg Day

Sponsored by Nestlé Nesquik and Woodman's

Saturday, April 11

When you combine Easter with the Zoo, you can "egg-spect" a great time. Children can create their very own Easter basket to carry their goodies in, get their face painted like a bunny, then meet in the farm area to be part of the Easter parade. The Easter bunny will be hopping around the Zoo taking pictures with kids and families.

Check out the animals as they enjoy their egg surprises. Many of the animals get a papier-mâché egg filled with treats like veggies or meat.

Egg Day activities are included with admission. Zoo Pass members get free Zoo admission with their Zoo Pass and ID.

SPECIAL OFFER:

Get a free carousel ride during Egg Day when you bring a Woodman's receipt showing the purchase of any Nesquik product to the ticket booth.

ON THE TRAIL OF BIG CATS

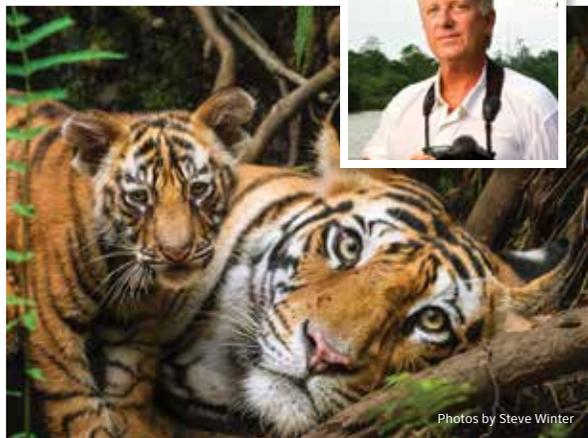
National Geographic Live with Steve Winter

Marcus Center for the Performing Arts

Thursday, April 23, 7:30 p.m.

Dedicated explorer and award-winning photographer Steve Winter will take you from Asian jungles where resilient tiger populations persist, to the Himalaya, home of the rare snow leopard. Go on a journey as Winter shares the beauty of big cats and his work to save them.

This show is suitable for adults and children 7 years old and up. Zoo Pass members can get a discount on their tickets. Go to zoosociety.org for instructions and information on how to get the discounted price.



Photos by Steve Winter

KNOCKOUT EVENING

Puttin' on the Ritz

Presented by Wintrust Commercial Banking at Town Bank
Thursday, Jan. 23 at Potawatomi Hotel & Casino
6 p.m. cocktails, 7:30 p.m. dinner

Cocktails, auctions, a gourmet meal and boxing. This fundraiser offers a unique night out that also helps the Zoological Society. Place a bid on sports memorabilia, alcohol or several other items. Enjoy dinner before amateur boxers from The Wisconsin Local Boxing Committee (LBC) come in to compete in three-round bouts.

The boxing is sponsored by HN Co., and the boxing ring is sponsored by Bridgewood Advisors.

Register at zoosociety.org/Ritz
or call 414-258-2333.

Cost: \$250 per person; \$2,500 for a table sponsorship; or \$3,500 for a ringside table sponsorship. Of the \$250 per-person cost, \$80 is tax deductible.



Eric Howayeck and Sarah Hillenbrand check out some of the auction items during Puttin' on the Ritz.

Photo by Stacy Kaat

ANIMAL DAYS

Groundhog Day

Sunday, Feb. 2

Free admission for Zoo Pass members

Will Gordy, the Zoo's resident groundhog, see his shadow? Come to the Zoo to see for yourself as Gordy does his best to predict an early spring or six more weeks of winter. Head to the Northwestern Mutual Family Farm on Feb. 2 around 10:30 a.m. for all the fun.



Photo by Joel Miller

World Penguin Day

Saturday, April 25

Free admission for Zoo Pass members

If you love penguins or want to learn more about our feathered friends, don't miss World Penguin Day. Learn how their black and white feathers protect them from predators and how blubber keeps them warm. Guests can buy a painting by one of the Humboldt penguins. You can also sponsor a penguin through the Zoological Society and receive a plush-toy penguin.



Photo by Olga Kornienko



Nikki Kulas demonstrates an early model of the river turtle puppet she is designing.



The Kohl's Wild Theater actors wait to perform their extemporaneous skits during a puppet workshop.

Who knew handling a puppet could be a core workout? The actors at Kohl's Wild Theater are learning that at a puppetry workshop as they practice a "v-sit," sitting on their tailbones with their arms and legs in the air to strengthen their abdominal muscles. Nikki Kulas, a props manager and puppet designer, tells the actors that their entire bodies are important to bringing the puppets to life. She leads them through stretches to strengthen their fingers, palms and wrists and reminds them to involve their facial expressions as they inhabit the puppets. "Everything you do as an actor is going through the puppet," she says.

Kulas has worked for years in props and puppets for various Milwaukee theater groups. She currently is the properties master at First Stage children's

theater, and this summer she started working with Kohl's Wild Theater (KWT). She is designing a new river turtle puppet for an upcoming KWT show, "Welcome to the Zoo!," in addition to rehabbing some existing puppets. "I like that there are so many different styles of puppetry so it never gets boring," she says.

Puppets are a natural tool for KWT because the characters are often animals, says Zach Woods, KWT manager of artistic direction. "Incorporating non-human characters into a live show can be tricky. No matter how brilliant a costume design is, the audience will still be able to tell there is a person under there somewhere. Puppets help sell the illusion that audience members are seeing a real animal on stage in a safe and fun way."



ADDED SUPPORT = ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

Do you wish you could let a family member or friend use your membership? Do you want a private, behind-the-scenes tour? Do you want to help keep the Milwaukee County Zoo a top destination for generations to come? If you answered yes to any of these questions, read more about why you should join the Platypus Circle.

What is the Platypus Circle?

It's a premium-level membership for individuals, families and corporations.

What's included in the Platypus Circle membership?

A Platypus Circle membership has all the same benefits of a Zoo Pass including free regular Zoo admission, attraction coupons and access to member-only events. But, as a special thank you for the additional support, Platypus Circle members also get a private behind-the-scenes tour, a sneak peek at the summer exhibit, VIP events and more! Plus, each transferable card allows free admission for up to eight people and free parking for one vehicle.

PUPPETS

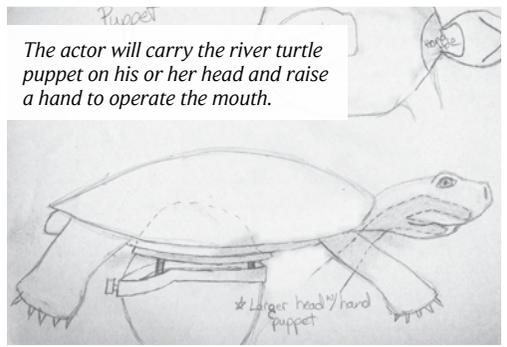
Building a puppet is a time-consuming process. First, Kulas thinks about what the puppet needs to do in the show and what mechanisms need to be included. Then she thinks about how the outside should look. She originally designed the river turtle as a hand puppet, but changed it to a puppet that sits on the actor's head after creating a mockup and receiving feedback from KWT staff. She also keeps in mind the characteristics of the animal and the comfort of the actor who may use the puppet multiple times a day. "There is a balance of realistic and abstract," Kulas says. "For example, Onassis, the Zoo's river turtle, doesn't have a pronounced tail, so the puppet will not have a large tail either. But the puppet head is a little bigger in proportion so the puppeteer's hand can fit inside to operate the mouth."

For Kulas, one of the best aspects of her craft is to see the actors use her work. "It's up to the puppeteer to bring the puppet to life. Sometimes I'll be watching a puppet on stage and it does something cool or evocative of the character and I think, 'Whoa, I never expected that.'"



Onassis

Photo by Howard Frank



The actor will carry the river turtle puppet on his or her head and raise a hand to operate the mouth.



Actors Brittany Curran (right) and Leann Vance practice a skit to learn more about their puppets' characters.

"Welcome to the Zoo!" is one of several traveling shows offered by Kohl's Wild Theater this season. KWT performs conservation-themed plays and musicals, free of charge, to schools, festivals and other venues within a one-hour radius of the Milwaukee County Zoo. KWT is made possible by a partnership between Kohl's, the Milwaukee County Zoo and the Zoological Society of Milwaukee. [Visit wildtheater.org](http://wildtheater.org) to learn more.

Photo by Stacy Kaat

Does a Platypus Circle membership make a difference?

Members share a passion for the Zoological Society's mission of supporting the Zoo, conserving endangered species and educating people about the importance of wildlife and the environment.

Thanks to Platypus Circle donors, the Society is able to offer summer camps for disadvantaged youth, contribute to conservation efforts around the globe and much more.

Individual Platypus Circle giving begins at \$500, and corporate giving begins at \$1,000. For more information, visit BeAPlaty.org or contact Dani Seavert at 414-918-6153.



THE FIRST 30 DAYS

Every animal that comes to the Zoo from another location has to be quarantined for health reasons. Most animals go to the Animal Health Center under the care of the veterinary staff. The 30-day quarantine is a process to make sure the animals don't spread any illness they may have in their system at arrival. Additionally, animals under stress can be more susceptible to different diseases, and moving can be stressful. When an animal that weighs 8,000 pounds comes to the Zoo, there aren't a lot of options for a quarantine. Thanks to the new Elephant Care Center that opened in 2019, there was space for the Zoo's newest addition, Belle.



Photo courtesy Riverbanks Zoo and Garden in South Carolina

Inside the Elephant Care Center there are six suites that can keep the elephants separate from each other. The rules of the quarantine are as follows: Wherever Belle goes, Ruth and Brittany can't go for 30 days. Meaning if Belle goes into the large recreation area that is most visible to guests, Ruth and Brittany can't go there for one month. This takes planning so keepers can move Belle without impacting where Ruth and Brittany can go. Next, Belle cannot have any trunk-to-trunk contact with another elephant. If each elephant were to extend its trunk it would equal 24 feet, so keepers need to make sure more than 24 feet always separates the elephants. Finally, Belle cannot go on dirt for 30 days because parasites can survive in dirt. However, parasites cannot survive in sand.

During the 30-day quarantine, keepers work on building a relationship with Belle. At her zoo in South Carolina, keepers used a clicker to communicate just as keepers in Milwaukee do. That means she doesn't have to learn a new sound. However, the verbal commands Belle knows are different than the ones used in Milwaukee. She knows what to do, she is just used to different words for those requests. So through training sessions, Belle will basically learn a new language.

Belle, Ruth and Brittany can be seen throughout the winter inside the Elephant Care Center. You will recognize Belle because she doesn't have any tusks. Many years ago she got a tooth infection and her tusks had to be removed.

SLITHERING SUCCESS

Eight baby snakes born at the Milwaukee County Zoo could be the beginning of major changes, not only in Milwaukee but in zoos around the globe. Those eight snakes are rhinoceros vipers, some of the first births of their species inside an Association of Zoos & Aquariums-accredited zoo. "There's just not a lot known about the husbandry of these animals. We maintain them but there's not a lot of research into the perimeters of breeding," says Shawn Miller, curator of the Aquatic & Reptile Center. But this past summer that all changed when one female rhinoceros viper had seven babies and the other female had one.

A factor in the successful breeding could be changes made to the rhino viper habitat. Zookeeper Chad Pappas lowered the temperature several degrees in February of 2018 after finding research suggesting rhino vipers prefer cooler temperatures. By controlling the sub-floor heating and adjusting the heat lamps with lower wattage bulbs, the temperature went down from mid to upper 80s to a range between 78 and 82 degrees. Pappas noticed some changes to their behavior. "We did find the snakes utilizing more of the exhibit. They ultimately decided to spend the majority of the time in the exhibit where the temperature

was between 80-82 F." Pappas also adjusted the moisture by changing how often the misters were activated. It went from running every day for 4-5 hours to three days a week for 1-2 hours.

Because there is such limited information about this species, Miller is excited about what these births mean to all zoos. "It's a quest to expand our knowledge about these animals. Anything we learn here is something we can share with other institutions." In addition to sharing knowledge, Miller hopes this will lead to a Species Survival Plan® (SSP) for the snakes. The SSP would manage the species in AZA-accredited zoos and make recommendations to move certain snakes to other zoos for breeding. SSPs are designed to maintain a healthy and genetically diverse population for animals living in human care for several generations.

Six of the eight babies will be – or have been – transferred to other zoos. Once the remaining two vipers grow to a bigger size, they will be moved into the habitat with mom and dad. Miller says the rhinoceros vipers are one of the prettier species of snakes. "You don't see a lot of blues, yellows, reds in snakes, and rhino vipers have all those colors and really beautiful patterns."



Photo by Joel Miller



Photo by Bob Wickland

Did you know?

- Rhino vipers are typically not aggressive, but can produce deadly venom.
- Rhino vipers are native to the tropical forests of Central and Western Africa.
- They get their name from the 2-3 pairs of horn-like projections off each nostril.

FROM THE BRINK OF EXTINCTION



Dawn Fleuchaus peers out from the mesh of a researchers' blind while monitoring Jamaican iguana egg-laying.

Photo provided by Dawn Fleuchaus



Joan Maurer, Zoo veterinary technician, assists with health screenings of a blue iguana.

Photo provided by Joan Maurer

The staff at the Zoological Society of Milwaukee and the Milwaukee County Zoo are dedicated to caring for animals at the Zoo and in the wild. That care helps animals thrive and even helps bring species back from the brink of extinction.

Zookeeper Dawn Fleuchaus is the area supervisor for the North America exhibits. But twice a year she travels to Jamaica to help the Jamaican rock iguana. This species of iguana was declared extinct until a few were discovered in the 1990s. Since then, scientists and other experts have worked to increase the population and help the iguanas thrive by protecting them from predators. Fleuchaus started going to Jamaica in 2002. She goes in May or June to observe the females nesting then goes back in the fall to process the hatchlings. After Fleuchaus weighs and records a hatchling, it is either released in the wild or sent to a head-start facility where it can grow larger before being re-released. There is no record of how many Jamaican iguanas are in the wild but according to Fleuchaus, 468 iguanas had been re-released from the program as of August. In September, the total hatchlings processed for the year was about 250.

Not too far away from Jamaica are the Cayman Islands. That is where zookeeper Stacy Whitaker and veterinary technician Joan Maurer travel to help the blue iguanas come back from near extinction. In 2001, there were as few as 10 to 25 blue iguanas remaining in the wild. The wild population is now believed to be about 1,000. When Whitaker goes to the Cayman Islands she helps feed and care for the iguanas in the captive breeding program and helps survey the wild population. Maurer assists with health exams and lab analysis. Like the Jamaican iguana, the blue iguana needs time to grow bigger so it can defend itself against predators. The blue iguana has now been upgraded from critically endangered to endangered. Because of the success, Whitaker says fewer iguanas will be released into the wild in the near future so they can determine if the population can sustain itself.

These are just two examples of conservation efforts the Zoological Society of Milwaukee helps fund. The Society needs your help to support the multiple conservation efforts in Milwaukee and around the world in addition to keeper research studies. **Donate today by visiting zoosociety.org or by calling 414-258-2333.**

MORE SUMMER CAMP OPTIONS



You asked, and we listened! Our education guests responded to a recent survey with great interest in weeklong summer camps. As a result, in summer 2020, we'll deliver several new and exciting weeklong offerings. Zoo Camps, sponsored by Penzeys Spices, are interactive, engaging and always fun. Depending on the age of the child, camps are available for a few hours, a full day, week or even an overnight stay. Learn more about our weeklong options below!

Weeklong, half-day camp for 4- and 5-year-olds

Nature Builders

Children will go into the Zoo to learn about their favorite animals and their habitats.

July 20-24 or July 27-31

Weeklong options for 6- and 7-year-olds

Zoo Explorers combines five camps into a weeklong camp. From dinosaurs and lions to giraffes and orangutans, each day campers will explore something new.

June 22-26, July 6-10 or July 27-31

Young Conservationists: Backyard and Beyond!

Kids will explore habitats found in Wisconsin and around the globe and learn how we can all take care of the natural world around us.

July 20-24 or Aug. 3-7

Weeklong camp for 8- and 9-year-olds

Zoo Adventurers combines five individual Zoo Camps to create a week of learning how zookeepers and veterinarians care for different animals at the Zoo.

July 6-10 or Aug. 3-7

Weeklong with overnight stay for 9- to 11-year-olds

Night Crawlers includes three day camps about nocturnal animals and then a Thursday night sleepover to witness those animals firsthand.

June 22-26 or July 20-24



Photos by Paul Ruffolo

See all camp offerings in the brochure enclosed with *Wild Things and Alive*. Registration for Zoo Pass members starts Feb. 12. Zoo Pass members also get a discounted price on all camps.

BY THE NUMBERS



1



Photo by Bob Wickland

4



Photo by Bob Wickland

5



Photo by Peter Zuzga

6



Photo by Paul Ruffolo

7



Photo by Olga Kornienko

2

Photo by Olga Kornienko

3

Photo by Stacy Kaat

1 ANIMAL SAFARI

A day designated for animal sponsors brought in **11,238 people**. The Aug. 24 event, sponsored by Lifeway Foods, gave animal sponsors a chance to take behind-the-scenes tours of areas such as the elk barn pictured here.

2 FAMILY FARM WEEKEND

Farm animals and farm living stole the show during Family Farm Weekend, presented by Prairie Farms Dairy. The two-day event on Sept. 7 and 8 brought in **14,058 guests**.

3 SENIOR CELEBRATION

Zoo guests 55 years and older were treated to free admission on Aug. 30 for Senior Celebration, sponsored by St. Camillus Life Plan Community. Bingo, line dancing and a health fair were just some of the activities for the **9,046 people** in attendance.

4 RIDE ON THE WILD SIDE

On Sunday, Sept. 8, **724 bike riders** rode through the Zoo for the Zoological Society's Ride on the Wild Side Bike Ride, sponsored by The Corners of Brookfield. The annual fundraiser raised **\$37,695**.

5 ZOO BREW

A sold-out crowd of **716 people** enjoyed a night of beer and food tasting during Zoo Brew, sponsored by Educators Credit Union. Guests helped the Zoological Society raise nearly **\$46,500**.

6 BOO AT THE ZOO

The Zoo sold **8,514 tickets** for Boo at the Zoo, presented by Prairie Farms Dairy. Families could walk through the haystack maze, enjoy caramel apples, ride the train and see the decorations light up the sky during this after-hours event on Oct. 18 and 19.

7 HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR

Dressing up and trick-or-treating inside the Zoo is just some of the fun of Halloween Spooktacular, presented by Prairie Farms Dairy. **More than 13,600 people** came during the two-day event on Oct. 25 and 26.

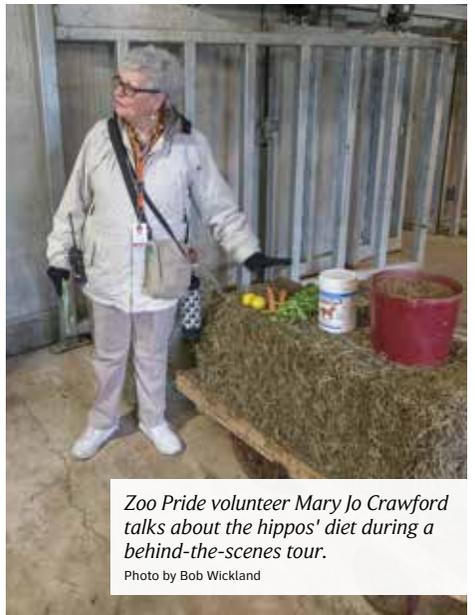
VOLUNTEER AT THE ZOO

Hundreds of volunteers help the Zoo and the Zoological Society function on a daily basis. On any given day a Zoo Pride volunteer helps answer questions for Zoo guests about animals, makes enrichment items for the animals, helps educators in the classroom or helps behind the scenes with clerical work.

The Zoological Society offers different opportunities to match the different skill sets, personalities and preferences of our volunteers. Volunteers range in age from 16 years old to retirees. If you would like to apply, call 414-258-5667 or visit zoosociety.org/ZooPride. Once you've completed your interview and are selected, training classes start in spring.



ZOO PRIDE



Zoo Pride volunteer Mary Jo Crawford talks about the hippos' diet during a behind-the-scenes tour.

Photo by Bob Wickland



Photo provided by Chicago Zoological Society

URBAN SAFARI TO THE BROOKFIELD ZOO

Members-only Field Trip Saturday, May 16

Embark on a new animal adventure by joining the Zoological Society on a field trip to the Brookfield Zoo. We will handle the hard part – getting your tickets, driving and parking. We will supply a continental breakfast for the ride to the zoo and a snack bag for the return.

Witness animals not found in Milwaukee such as the okapi, kangaroos and bison. The field trip is on May 16. Arrive at the Milwaukee County Zoo at 7 a.m. and expect to leave Chicago at 4:30 p.m. As part of the field trip package, you will also receive tickets to Dolphins in Action, Motor Safari and the carousel.

To register, call 414-258-2333 or go online at zoosociety.org/Travel.

Name(s) of Traveler(s) _____

Member Number(s) _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Phone (Day) (____) _____ Phone (Eve) (____) _____

Seats are assigned, so if you wish to travel with another person going on the trip, please indicate the name(s):

List any special needs, e.g. motion sickness _____

Please reserve the following _____ spaces.

Adults _____ (ages 12-64), \$60 per person Children _____ (3-11), \$60 per person

Seniors _____ (65+), \$60 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 Field Trip
Zoological Society of Milwaukee
10005 W. Bluemound Rd.
Milwaukee, WI 53226

Cancellations through April 30 are refundable, less a \$10 per-person cancellation fee. Cancellations after April 30, 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.

KIDS CONSERVATION CLUB



For \$20, kids can join the Kids Conservation Club (KCC). Join at any time and the membership lasts for one year. KCC members sponsor a different endangered animal at the Milwaukee County Zoo each year. That sponsorship comes with a certificate, a fact sheet about that animal, collector cards, an invitation to the free behind-the-scenes event for animal sponsors held in August, plus two free workshops a year.

Penguin Workshop

Saturday, March 21, 10 a.m.

Peck Welcome Center

The next workshop revolves around the best-dressed animal at the Zoo ... the penguin. This two-hour workshop includes crafts, activities and a keeper talk about penguins. KCC members and one adult are free but must pre-register. The deadline to sign up is March 11. To RSVP contact Becky Luft by phone at 414-258-2333 or email beckyl@zoosociety.org.

**Space is limited and not guaranteed. It's recommended you register early.*



Small Mammals area supervisor Rhonda Crenshaw talks to KCC members about lemurs during a previous workshop.

Photo by Bob Wickland

STUCK ON YOU

Do you have a special someone in your life that you just can't get enough of? Or is there someone that always sticks by your side for better or worse? This Valentine's Day, show that someone you are stuck on them by purchasing this special porcupine animal sponsorship – plush-toy included.

For a limited time you can sponsor Stitch the North American porcupine. As of January, Stitch is 8 months old, and he lives in the Stackner Animal Encounter inside the farm. He is described as active and curious but also very friendly and will even climb onto a zookeeper's lap behind the scenes.



Photo by Kevin McIntosh

This \$45 sponsorship includes:

- A plush-toy porcupine
- A solid chocolate heart
- A certificate of sponsorship
- A colorful fact sheet on North American porcupines
- An invitation to a behind-the-scenes event for animal sponsors held in August
- Recognition on our "All in the Family" donor board for one year
- A Sponsor an Animal decal

A \$75 level sponsorship is available and includes Zoo attraction tickets and a photo of Stitch. We must receive your order by Feb. 7 to guarantee delivery by Valentine's Day. Price includes shipping and handling. The tax-deductible portion of this sponsorship is \$33 (\$45 level) and \$58 (\$75 level).

Visit zoosociety.org/SponsorAnimal/Limited.php or call 414-258-2333 to order one today.



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

DATED MATERIAL
Please Deliver Promptly



**Zootastic,
page 3.**

Photo by Paul Ruffolo



Plastic mailing bag is 100% recyclable.
It can be recycled at local stores or at Guest Services inside the Zoo.



WHAT'S HAPPENING

Details Inside

Jan. 4

Family Free Day, sponsored by North Shore Bank (Parking fees still apply)*

Jan. 19

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

Jan. 23

Puttin' on the Ritz at Potawatomi Hotel & Casino, presented by Wintrust Commercial Banking at Town Bank (pre-register)

Feb. 1

Family Free Day, sponsored by North Shore Bank (Parking fees still apply)*

Feb. 1

Winter and Spring Zoo Classes begin

Feb. 2

Groundhog Day at the Zoo*

Feb. 12

Online registration begins for Zoo Summer Camps, sponsored by Penzeys Spices

Feb. 29

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

March 7

Family Free Day, sponsored by North Shore Bank (Parking fees still apply)*

March 14 & 15

Behind the Scenes Weekend, presented by Prairie Farms Dairy*

April 11

Egg Day, sponsored by Nestlé Nesquik and Woodman's*

April 23

National Geographic Live at the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts (pre-register)



*Behind the Scenes Weekend
March 14 & 15. Details on page 4.*

April 25

World Penguin Day*

May 8

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

May 10

Mother's Day at the Zoo*

May 16-Sept. 7

Special summer exhibit, Dinosaurs Unearthed, sponsored by Sendik's Food Markets

May 18

Zoo Pass member online registration for Snooze at the Zoo, sponsored by Post Consumer Brands and Sentry Foods, starts at 8 a.m.

* Zoo Pass members get free Zoo admission with their Zoo Pass and photo ID. 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.

CONNECT WITH US!

facebook.com/ZooPass

twitter.com/ZooSocietyMKE

instagram.com/ZooSocietyMKE

Snapchat: ZooSocietyMKE

Milwaukee Zoo Pass App



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



The Zoological Society of Milwaukee is recognized for our transparency with GuideStar's Gold Seal.