

Wild Things

Many Menus & Much Music

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel a la Carte at the Zoo

With major support from MillerCoors

August 16-19. Hours: 9 a.m.-10 p.m. except Sunday, Aug. 19, when hours are 9 a.m.-8 p.m.

Free Zoo admission for Zoological Society members with ID. For others: adults, \$14.25; ages 3-12, \$11.25; ages 2 & under, free; ages 60 and older, \$13.25. Value (multi-day) tickets (\$26 adults; \$18 children) available for purchase through Aug. 19 at Tri City National Bank locations. Milwaukee County parking fee: \$12 (Zoo Pass Plus members receive free parking). For details, call (414) 256-5466 or go to: www.milwaukeezoo.org



a la Carte



Friends joke in between dinner bites at last year's event.

Eat an appetizer near alpacas, have a main course close to a horse, or eat dessert near Dall sheep. At this popular Milwaukee County Zoo festival, you can purchase food from a variety of Milwaukee-area restaurants and food vendors. And because it's the Zoo, you can visit your favorite animals while you eat! There's also music! A musical highlight, among the many bands on six stages, is the national act Los Lonely Boys on Aug. 17 at 8 p.m. at the Caribou Stage, sponsored by MillerCoors. The entire park and all animal buildings will be open at night (the Mahler Family Aviary closes at dusk). Food vendors include Café El Sol, Whole Foods Market, Robert's Frozen Custard, Trinity Three Irish Pubs, and more. Remember to cast your vote for your favorite restaurant through U.S. Cellular®'s Fan Favorite Text Vote (must be at least 18 to vote).

Pedal the Zoo Path

Ride on the Wild Side Family Bike Ride

Sponsored by Wheaton Franciscan—St. Joseph and the Wisconsin Heart Hospital campuses

Media sponsors: FM 106.1 and AM 920 The Wolf

Sunday, Sept. 16, 7 a.m.-1 p.m.

Register online at zoosociety.org/bike by Sept. 5 or call (414) 258-2333 for a brochure. Day-of-event registrations accepted. For Zoological Society members: adults (ages 14 and over), \$35; children (ages 3-13), \$12; family of four, \$85. Non-members: adults, \$40; children, \$15; family of four, \$100. Day of: adults, \$45; children, \$20.

View the Milwaukee County Zoo from atop two wheels! Glide past elephants, bears and giraffes on this family bike ride that starts and ends at the Zoo. Kids and their toy animal friends can ride in the Critter Caravan, a special 2.5-mile kids' route through the Zoo. The toy critters can tag along in a bike basket or backpack. Older riders with a passion for pedaling can choose either of the ZSM fundraiser's distance rides (17 and 27 miles) that start at the Zoo and continue north along Menomonee River Parkway and the Oak Leaf bike trail. Kids and their plush pals can enjoy a post-ride snack, make some crafts and get a temporary tattoo in the Kids n' Critters Corral. After the ride, all riders can enjoy a picnic lunch. Rides start at 8 and 8:15 a.m. The registration fee includes entry to the Zoo and parking, a continental breakfast, lunch and a long-sleeve T-shirt. Remember to bring your bike helmet!

Julia Fliss, 5, of Burlington, and her plush-toy giraffe line up at the start of last year's ride.



Connect With Us:

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

twitter.com/ZooSocietyMKE

[youtube.com/MilwaukeeCountyZoo](https://www.youtube.com/MilwaukeeCountyZoo)

Fall kids' classes at the Zoo, zoosociety.org/Education/fall

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Special Tours for Sponsors



Tyler Karpinski, of Neenah, seems unafraid of a tarantula so close to his face at previous event.

animal through the Zoological Society of Milwaukee's Sponsor an Animal program, including our summer dino sponsorships for *Tyrannosaurus rex* or *Chasmosaurus*. Or, sponsor the event's featured animals—the Zoo's adorable prairie dogs, starting July 10, for \$20. Sponsors can visit Zoo areas that are usually off-limits to the public, such as Winter Quarters for warm-weather animals and Wolf Woods. Sponsors also can participate in a scavenger hunt. Every zoogoer, however, is invited to participate in other special Aug. 25 activities, including animal talks in front of exhibits, crafts, temporary tattoos and more. See our summer dinosaur exhibit before it's extinct; animal sponsors receive half-off exhibit admission 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (see page 10). Registered attendees can fill out a form for entry into a drawing to win a same-day private tour led by a zookeeper at the polar bear and harbor seal exhibits. The tour is at 2:30 p.m. on Aug. 25 and can include up to four people.

*Kids Conservation Club features endangered animal collectors' cards, workshops with crafts and a sponsorship of an endangered animal at the Zoo. Annual membership costs \$20 per child; to join, see zoosociety.org/kidsclub or call (414) 258-2333.

Kids' 'Green' Art Contest—Register Now

Reduce, reuse and recycle—for art's sake! Let your imagination repurpose discarded materials into recyclable art for the Zoological Society of Milwaukee's Kid's Green Art Contest. Register by Aug. 10 and submit projects between Aug. 18 and Aug. 24. For more details, visit zoosociety.org/artcontest or call Becky at (414) 258-2333.



MEMBERANDA

Zoological Society office hours through Sept 3: 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. **Zoo hours:** 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. **Please note that the Zoo's admission gates close 45 minutes before the posted Zoo closing hours. Animal buildings close at posted Zoo closing times.**

Company Picnics: For members visiting the Zoo with a company picnic, Zoo Pass members' free-admission or free parking benefits do not apply. The fees paid for company picnics include admission and parking and usually include additional Zoo-visit benefits.

Zoo admission: Please remember to have your Society Zoo Pass and identification ready when you arrive at the Zoo's admission gates. If you've misplaced or lost your card, replacement cards may be purchased for \$5.00.

Visiting other zoos and aquariums: We participate in the Association of Zoos and Aquariums' listing of accredited institutions. Some accredited zoos and aquariums don't participate in this program and therefore do not appear on our list. Most facilities honor free or discounted admission for two adults and two minor children. Members should call ahead to the facilities they plan to visit for current information. In a few cases, we've opted not to reciprocate with some institutions that are in close proximity to our Zoo. Members are encouraged to review the updated list by going online to zoopass.com.

Who can use member cards? The person(s) named on the Zoo Pass is the owner of the card and benefits are not transferable to anyone else. The number of members' minor children/grandchildren in your household must be reflected in your membership records for the Zoo's admission gates. Foster children are covered on your membership. **Day-care**

Animal Safari

Sponsored by Welch's & Pick 'n Save

Aug. 25, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; behind-the-scenes tours run 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Call (414) 258-2333 to become an animal sponsor or see www.zoosociety.org/SponsorAnimal

Where do the flamingos go at night? They go into a building not open to zoogoers. If you are an animal sponsor, however, you can tour that building and other areas behind the scenes at the Zoo on Aug. 25. Become an animal sponsor or Kids Conservation Club member* by Aug. 25. Sponsor your favorite

providers for children: *Your Zoo Pass membership does not cover children for whom you provide baby-sitting or day-care services.* The ZSM and the Zoo retain the right to invalidate any membership used inappropriately.

myAccount Feature: Check our Web site, zoopass.com, for information on setting up your personal ZSM myAccount. (The myAccount button is on the top of the page.) This feature gives you online access to your Zoo Pass membership information and more. Having a Zoo Pass does not automatically mean you have a myAccount. You must create your myAccount and enter a personal password. Then you can view the number of attraction coupons you have with your Zoo Pass, track your paperless attraction coupon use, determine the tax-deductible portion of your contributions, update your contact information and more easily complete transactions like sponsoring an animal or renewing your Zoo Pass.

WILD THINGS

Issue No. 101, July-August 2012

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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or e-mail publications@zoosociety.org.

Web site: www.zoosociety.org

Meet Senior Animals & More

Senior Celebration

Sponsored by Wheaton Franciscan Senior Health
Friday, Aug. 31. Free Zoo admission 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
for seniors ages 55 and older with an ID.

County Zoo parking fee: \$12 (Zoo Pass Plus members receive free parking).

When does “old” seem young? At the Milwaukee County Zoo you may find that some of the senior residents seem young in human years. Bob the turkey is well into his turkey golden years, but he is only age 12. There’s also Meru, a 21-year-old bongo. She’s a wise elder in the bongo world, where captive animals live much longer than bongos in the wild. For you grandparents, consider a 12-year-old Goeldi’s monkey named Friday who’s also a grandparent. She lives in the Small Mammals Building. At this event for human seniors, when you’re not visiting animals, you can learn useful health tips and participate in some of the Wisconsin Senior Olympics athletic events, like a 1-mile walk throughout the Zoo park. If you still have energy, get ready to dance and sway to live music from yesteryear. Other fun includes bingo, complimentary cookies, tips from master gardeners and entertainment on two stages, both sponsored by Humana. San Camillo will provide free ice cream on a first-come-first-served basis. For details, call the Zoo at (414) 256-5466.



John Molchany (left), of Menomonee Falls, and Michael Loring Wood, of Germantown, compete in a friendly game of pickleball.

SUNDOWN SERENADES

Sunset Zoofaris

Sponsored by Tri City National Bank
July 5, 11, 18, 25, and Aug. 1, 6-9 p.m.
Flamingo Patio Gazebo stage

Free Zoo admission for Zoological Society members with photo ID.
Non-members: Adults, \$6.50; ages 3-12, \$5.50; or \$20 per carload
(with a maximum of 10 people).
No parking fee. For details, call (414) 771-3040.

If you like music, animals and gentle summer evenings, then this event is for you. You can hang around hippos, buddy up with bonobos, gather near gorillas and meet moose and other animals during the remaining music-filled weekday evenings at the Milwaukee County Zoo. A different live band will play each night, 6:15-8:45 p.m. Many animals will be outside and the animal buildings will be open until 8:45 p.m. (the aviary closes at dusk). The special summer exhibit, Adventure Dinosaur!, sponsored by Sendik’s Food Markets, will also be open (exhibit admission is \$2.50 per person; see page 10). Purchase dinner from the Zoo’s Flamingo Café and Lakeview Place restaurants, or bring a picnic and dine alfresco. The Zoo closes at its regular weekday time of 5 p.m., and then re-opens at 6 p.m. for these concerts. The band lineup is: July 5, Dirty Boogie (pop and rock covers); July 11, Audio Veil (hip hop and top 40 hits); July 18, Rebel Grace (country music covers); July 25, rock and roll trio Pinstripe; and Aug. 1, 5 Card Studs (‘60s and ‘70s covers). Bands will perform at the Flamingo Gazebo or, if it rains, in the U.S. Bank Gathering Place.



Matthew LaWall-Shane, of Wauwatosa, dips his 4-year-old daughter, Emerson, during last year’s event.

Tri City National Bank customers: Get a free ride on the Penzeys Spices Carousel. Stop in at any branch and get a free-ride ticket while supplies last. (Valid July 5, 11, 18, 25 and Aug. 1, 2012, only during evening concerts. Does not include Zoo admission or parking. One ticket per person per bank visit.) Visit tcnb.com for bank locations.

DOOR COUNTY FIELD TRIP REGISTRATION, Saturday, Oct. 6, 2012

Zoological Society of Milwaukee Member No. _____
 Name(s) of traveler(s) _____
 Your Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
 Phone: Day (_____) _____ Eve (_____) _____

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

Please reserve _____ spaces at \$75 per person

Special Traveling needs _____

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 credit card _____

Online zoosociety.org/travel

Check Make payable to Zoological Society and send with form to:

Door County Trip, Zoological Society, 10005 W. Blue Mound Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53226

Register now

*Space is limited. Cancellations prior to Sept. 17, 2012, are refundable, less a \$10 per person cancellation fee. Cancellations after Sept. 17, 2012, are not refundable. Call (414) 258-2333 for more information. 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.

RIDE ON THE WILD SIDE, Sunday, Sept. 16, 2012 See story on page 1.

Name & age _____
 Name & age _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
 Phone: Day (_____) _____ Eve (_____) _____
 Zoological Society Membership No. (if applicable): _____
 E-mail _____

Entry Fees Enclosed* (Circle which apply and fill in fees):

	Zoo Society Member	Non-Member	Day of Ride	
Adult (14 & over)	\$35	\$40	\$45	\$ _____
Child (2-13)	\$12	\$15	\$20	\$ _____
Family of 4**	\$85	\$100		\$ _____
			Sub-total	\$ _____
			Total Amount Enclosed	\$ _____

Please choose route:

27-mile ride
 17-mile ride
 2.5-mile ride

Entry fee is not tax-deductible. Sales tax included. To comply with WI statute section 440.455, a financial statement of the Zoological Society will be provided upon request.

*Entry fee includes entry into the Zoo, parking, continental breakfast and picnic lunch, and long-sleeved T-shirt.
 **A family of four is defined as 2 adults & 2 children.

Circle T-shirt size wanted and state quantity:

Adult: _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____ XXL **Child:** _____ 6-8 _____ 10-12 _____ 14-16

Due to printing deadlines, only limited sizes of shirts will be available for participants whose registrations are received after Sept. 5. T-shirts not guaranteed for day-of-ride registrants. Children under age 2 may ride free in a bike seat or be pulled in "carriers." They must wear a helmet. Shirts are not available for kids age 2 and under.

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 _____

Online zoosociety.org/bike

Check Make payable to Zoological Society and send with form to:

Bike Ride, Zoological Society, 10005 W. Blue Mound Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53226

Historical Tour of Door County

Saturday, Oct. 6, 2012, 6 a.m.-8 p.m.

Cost: \$75 per person

Register with form at left, online at zoosociety.org or by calling (414) 258-2333.

Experience beautiful Door County in all its colorful fall glory with the Zoological Society! We'll explore the shipyards in Sturgeon Bay and visit the quaint villages of Jacksonport and Baileys Harbor along the shore of Lake Michigan. Buses will be staffed by a tour guide from Washington Island Group Tour Services. We'll stop at Bjorklunden to visit the Norwegian Chapel on the scenic grounds of Lawrence University. Then, we'll continue with a breathtaking drive through Peninsula State Park, the largest state park in Wisconsin. There, we'll stop at the Eagle Bluff Lighthouse for a guided tour. After that, we'll journey along the picturesque bluffs and shoreline of the Niagara Escarpment. We'll also travel the back roads of Door County and learn about the history of one of Wisconsin's most scenic counties. The trip also includes lunch at the English Inn and a stop at the Door County Winery. Space is limited; so register now.

Registration starts at 6 a.m. at the Milwaukee County Zoo with a continental breakfast, including pastries, bagels, juices, milk and coffee. Buses leave at 7 a.m. and return about 8 p.m. Tour includes transportation on restroom-equipped motor coaches, beverages donated by PepsiAmericas®, lunch (including gratuity), and a snack on the return trip. (Note to those with allergies: Snacks may include dairy and peanut byproducts.) This excursion is open only to Zoological Society members and their guests. An itinerary will be mailed prior to the trip. Call (414) 258-2333 for questions.

stock photo



ANNUAL APPEAL

Personal Zoo on Your Personal Computer

Do you own a PC with Internet access? If so, then you can have your own PZ, or personal zoo. Imagine tuning in to Lake Wisconsin as assorted fish float across your computer screen. Feel like hanging out with the orangutans? You can—just click on the Web cams aimed at their exhibits and see where the action's happening. Other animals that will be covered by Web cams are lions and cheetahs and the gentoo and rockhopper penguins. Funds raised will also help buy food for the Zoo's animals. For a limited-time offer, donors of \$100 or more get access to the Web cams as they're phased in and before they're available to the public in December. Donors of \$2,500 receive individualized recognition on a bench to be placed in the Zoo. Donors of \$75-\$249 have their names listed on a sign; donors of \$250-\$499 receive larger recognition on a sign; donors of \$500-\$999 receive individualized recognition; and donors of \$1,000 or more receive larger individualized recognition.

Keepin' it cool: gentoo and rockhopper penguins.



Donate here!

To give to the ZSM annual appeal, please go online to zoosociety.org/appeal or call (414) 258-2333. All donations are tax-deductible.

Acting as an Animal

Kohl's Wild Theater is back: Four free performances a day, seven days a week, at the Milwaukee County Zoo. To learn about daily play times and outreach plays at festivals, schools and community events, go to wildtheater.org.

Kelly Doherty is a lucky actor. She doesn't have to work a day job to allow her to act at night. Her day job is an acting job! Doherty is a performer for Kohl's Wild Theater (KWT), the Zoological Society of Milwaukee's live theater program at the Zoo, made possible by a partnership with Kohl's Cares. "It's a fast-paced job and you have to be flexible," says Doherty. "You have to be able to perform every role, which changes daily." Some of the roles are animals. The 15-minute shows are performed four times daily, seven days a week at the KWT stage in the farm area. Doherty also has performed in the KWT outreach shows in the community. The schedule is demanding, but very rewarding. "The order of shows and roles are assigned every morning," says Doherty. "We set up the stage. Then we do the first show of the day; then we break down the set. After that, two actors travel through the Zoo with a puppet and interact with zoogoers. Another two actors do skits in the U.S. Bank Gathering Place. This is repeated throughout the day. It's a very physical job."

Doherty, who earned a BFA from the University of Wisconsin—Whitewater in 2006, has performed with KWT since its inception in May 2011. Her experiences with KWT have helped her grow as an actor and tweak her performances to cater to audiences of different ages. "You



Kelly Doherty and fellow actor Johnathan Koller sing sailing songs while performing in "The Treasure of the Sea."

Remembering Samson



Sam La Malfa holds a painting he did of Samson the gorilla, surrounded by other pictures of Samson.

The memory of famous Zoo gorilla Samson, who first endeared himself to Milwaukeeans as a toddler and then as a huge, window-thumping adult, lives on decades after his death. The new book "I Remember Samson" by Darlene Winter compiles a brief history of the Zoo with the story of Samson's life. Winter has been a member of the Zoological Society of Milwaukee's volunteer auxiliary, Zoo Pride, for 12 years. She collaborated with Samson's longtime keeper and friend Sam La Malfa to tell Samson's tale. It begins with his arrival at the Washington Park Zoo in 1950 with fellow gorilla Sambo. It continues with their move to the new Milwaukee County Zoo in 1959 to Samson's death from heart disease in 1981 to modern gorilla care. La Malfa's anecdotes showcase the crowd-pleasing personality Samson's fans adored and offer insight into the gorilla's friendship with his keeper. "I Remember Samson" is available at the Flamingo Gift Shop and at Amazon.com for \$10.99. All proceeds go to The Great Ape Heart Project at the Zoo, which supports research on cardiovascular disease in great apes.

By Liz Mauritz

!? It's 'Awesome'

have to change your delivery when talking to 5-year-olds as opposed to 12-year-olds," she says. Dave McLellan, the ZSM's theater program coordinator for KWT, says, "From the moment Kelly auditioned, I knew she was a great match for this program. She has fantastic comedic timing and knows how to make diverse acting choices so that no two characters are the same."

One of the most rewarding things about KWT plays is getting to interact with children, says Doherty, especially when using puppets. "Kids get this amazing look of wonder in their eyes when they see lifelike puppets." Doherty has taught thousands of children about animals and conservation; but she's learned a lot, too.

"I learned from the play 'Treasure of the Sea' that penguins live only in the Southern hemisphere, and sometimes in warm climates," she says. "I learned from 'The Great Wisconsin Zoo-per Bowl' that wolves disappeared from Wisconsin in the 1950s, but then returned from northern Minnesota and are no longer endangered here. It's awesome that this is my job!"



Kelly Doherty plays a wolf in "The Great Wisconsin Zoo-per Bowl." The football-style play is one of two plays in a KWT program called Wild Wisconsin!

Bring Kohl's Wild Theater to You

Kohl's Wild Theater will travel to festivals, schools, and community events within a one-hour radius of the Zoo, free of charge. Performances are booked on a first-come-first-served basis. Please contact Lisa B. at the Zoological Society of Milwaukee, (414) 258-2333, or KWT@zoosociety.org for available dates. For more information, go to wildtheater.org.

LIGHTS, CAMERA—ANIMAL ACTION!

When you come to the Zoo, make sure to bring a digital recording device so that you can participate in the Zoological Society of Milwaukee's new Zoo View video contest. If you win, we'll post your Zoo videos on our YouTube channel. The contest is on now and runs through Jan. 15, 2013. Two winners—one in the 7-12 category and one aged 13 or older—will be announced in February 2013. The older winner will receive a Basic Zoo Pass for \$71 (apply to your own renewal or give as a gift). The child winner will receive an animal sponsorship valued at \$70. Videos will be displayed on the Zoo's entrance atrium's largest video screen—credited to you; videos may also be used in a public service announcement that ends up on TV! Videos must be 30 OR 60 seconds long and must include our tagline, "Something Different Every Day at the Zoo," either in text, audio or both. Go to www.zooviewMKE for rules and regulations and to register. Questions? Call Zak M. at (414) 258-2333.



fun, hands-ON Learning Programs

2012 Summer Camps, sponsored by Wells Fargo

From little piggies and giant giraffes to mysteries and dinosaurs, summer camp at the Zoo is full of adventure and fun! The following camps still had openings when we went to press. Check online for available dates, times and prices, at zoosociety.org/summer.

- **Age 2 (with one adult):** Kids make a pig costume and roll in a “mud puddle” for a squealin’ good time at **This Little Piggy** camp.
- **Age 3 (with one adult):** In **Gentle Giants**, kids create a giraffe with a long neck and lots of spots before eating a leaf-a-licious snack and galloping through the Zoo to see these long-legged creatures.
- **Age 4 & 5 (child only):** Find out what dinosaurs ate and how big they were. Become a dino expert and turn yourself in to a *Stegosaurus* in **Dinos: Terribly Terrific**.
- **Ages 6 & 7:** Uncover clues, decode messages and make some mysterious projects in **Zoo’s Clues**.
- **Ages 8 & 9:** In **Dawn of Dinosaurs**, separate fact from fiction and join us on a visit to the Zoo’s special summer exhibit, **Adventure Dinosaur!**, sponsored by Sendik’s Food Markets.

Photo by Julie Cheng



Children in summer camps get to visit animals they study, such as giraffes.

Fall-Winter Class Signup

The September-December 2012 Zoo classes brochure, mailed with this issue of *Wild Things*, lists Zoological Society classes for children ages 2-14 and families. Registration is online and members are given priority when registration begins.

Programs for Schools

In fall and spring, the Zoological Society publishes a brochure listing our broad variety of education programs offered to schools, either at the Zoo or as outreach to schools. The school brochure also can be found at www.zoosociety.org/school. Registration for the 2012-2013 school year is under way.

Teacher Workshop on Wisconsin Animals: Saturday, Sept. 22

From skunks and squirrels to bears and badgers, learn all about animals that live in Wisconsin. In this Saturday workshop Sept. 22, teachers will discover fun and engaging ways to present a Wisconsin animals unit to children from preschool to second grade. The workshop includes animal information, project and station ideas, craft samples, and a Zoo tour. (Completion certificates provided). To register, call (414) 258-5058 or download registration form from zoosociety.org/teacheredu. The \$20 fee includes parking and Zoo admission.

Thanks for the Joy

“Our 6-year-old daughter has been taking Zoo classes since she was 2. The classes have really allowed her to blossom and grow. She’s always loved animals and is always excited to...learn something new. Our 2-year-old son recently started taking Zoo classes, and it’s been a wonderful opportunity...to start the journey all over again. Thank you for bringing such joy to our children!”

Maria W., Wauwatosa

Teachers + Animals = Zoo Classes



Macy Lamberton, 6, of Milwaukee, views a fishing-bat craft with Ryanne Lee in a May 2012 class.

Caruso says that many children rarely if ever get the chance to see or touch live animals in a classroom. “For many kids, seeing live animals is an incredible experience,” she says. Animals bring lessons to life. Adds Lee: “Access to live animals is certainly a good motivator to keep a class focused.” Del Vecchio says that “when children are learning about animals, they’re naturally engaged.”

Conservation Education programs also let students use the Zoo as an extension of the classroom. It’s exciting for students and teachers. “I love going behind the scenes,” says Lee. Caruso agrees that getting close to animals—particularly big ones—is unforgettable. “We brought a class behind the scenes in the North America area,” she says; they were just a few feet from an Alaskan brown bear. “Seeing the bear from afar in his enclosure is one thing—but up close, do you realize how tall he is when he stands? It’s indescribable. I’ll never forget it and neither will the children.”



Judi Caruso



Molly Del Vecchio helps David Bernstein, 7, of River Hills, make an animal craft.

recognized for their work. “Unlike regular teachers, we don’t have a year to make an impression,” says Del Vecchio. “That’s why it’s special when returning students remember me or send thank-you notes!” Adds Caruso: “It’s inspiring to hear former participants say, “That’s my Zoo teacher, Miss Judi!”

Only small “education animals”—like chicks, chinchillas, hedgehogs, rabbits, fruit bats, snakes and small owls—are brought into the classroom. Still, it takes courage to handle some of them. “It’s one thing having glass separating you from a snake,” says Caruso. “It’s completely different having that snake in your hands, but I’m comfortable handling them. Showing children the animals makes their educational experience more tangible.”

Teachers often say the greatest reward is opening young minds. But teachers also like to be



By Zak Mazur

A chick in class

NEW VISIONS OF DINOS

Adventure Dinosaur!

Sponsored by Sendik's Food Markets

Now-Sept 3

West end of Zoo next to Small Mammals Building
\$2.50 per person exhibit admission.

Imagine being told that in the past humans had wings, or fish had fur. Can you picture it? What about dinosaurs? New archeological discoveries keep changing the picture that scientists have of dinosaurs. The 22 life-size robotic dinosaurs at the Milwaukee County Zoo's summer exhibit were created as life-like as possible based on scientific research. Yet in April the journal *Nature* published a new discovery that may change our image of the dinosaur *Tyrannosaurus rex*, one of the most popular models in the summer exhibit. When scientists first discovered that some smaller dinosaurs had feathers, instead of reptile-like skin, the filmmakers of "Jurassic Park III" decided to add crests of quill-like feathers to their *Velociraptors*. Now a new ancestor of *T. rex*, a 1½-ton specimen called *Yutyranus huali*, has been found in northeastern China with fossilized down feathers, making it the largest feathered dinosaur ever discovered. Could *T. rex* also have had feathers? Will that change the next models made of *T. rex*? This year, also, two professors at Philadelphia's



Photo by Lila Aryan

Danny Meylink, 6, of Wauwatosa holds a toy dinosaur in front of a Stegosaurus.

VOLUNTEERING

Let's Talk Camels

When you see the Zoo's four Bactrian camels outside in snow on a cold winter's day, don't feel bad for them—they can handle the cold just fine. "This is a common misunderstanding about the Zoo's camels," says Kathy McConville. "Not all camels live only in burning hot deserts. Bactrian camels—the kind we have at the Milwaukee County Zoo—come from Mongolia and other parts of Central Asia where temperatures fluctuate from sub-zero to very hot." McConville would know: she chairs the committee that organizes camel talks through Zoo Pride, the Zoological Society's volunteer auxiliary. She and other qualified Zoo Priders give camel talks while zookeepers lead camels through demonstrations of camel behaviors.

Camel demonstrations help the camels as much as they educate the public. "The regularly scheduled demonstrations keep our camels well-trained to do the maneuvers that help us care for them," explains Dawn Wicker, Zoo area supervisor for Winter Quarters, which houses the camels. "If we were to see one limping in the exhibit and ask to see its



Zoo Pride volunteer Kathy McConville stands in front of the camel exhibit.

Drexel University began constructing one-tenth-scale robotic dinosaurs to test dinosaur movements. They may find that some long-necked sauropods, like *Brontosaurus*, couldn't lift their heavy heads to browse from tree-tops. So when you're looking up at the Zoo's 15-foot-tall *T. rex* robot, imagine it covered in soft, fluffy feathers. Challenge your visions of all the dinosaurs in the Zoo's exhibit. Science doesn't stand still.

A *Chasmosaurus* is part of the exhibit.
Photo by Lila Aryan



SPONSOR A DINOSAUR

A plush-toy *T. rex*.



Most kids are fascinated with dinosaurs. Add to their interest with a sponsorship of a visiting robotic dino at the Zoo: a *T. rex* or *Chasmosaurus*. Sponsorship includes a plush-toy *T. rex* or *Chasmosaurus* (choose one), a colorful fact sheet about dinosaurs, one free admission ticket to Adventure Dinosaur!, sponsored by Sendik's Food Markets, an invitation to the Aug. 25 behind-the-scenes event for animal sponsors at the Zoo, sponsor recognition on our "All in the Family" donor board for a year and a Sponsor an Animal decal. Sponsorship is only \$20 plus \$5 for shipping and handling. Offer ends Sept. 3, 2012. Order online at zoosociety.org/LTO and click on the plush-toy dinosaur picture or call 414-258-2333.

foot, the camel would be much more ready to cooperate than if we haven't practiced the command in a long time." Camels are a domesticated species. Females are generally calm. Under controlled circumstances they can be brought out of their exhibit and into the camel demonstration area for these public talks. A zookeeper will command the camel to raise a foot for inspection or to "cush," which means to lie on its belly. "This is the position most frequently used for medical tests," says McConville, whose role is to narrate what the zookeepers are doing and why it's important. "From this position the zookeeper or veterinarian can easily inspect its mouth, teeth and body." Says Wicker: "Having knowledgeable Zoo Pride volunteers do the talking allows us to focus on the task at hand." McConville also answers audience questions and dispels myths. "The biggest myth of all is that camels carry water in their humps," she says. Camels' humps actually contain fat."

Camel Talk Time: 2:15 p.m. daily.
Where: Camel demonstrations and talks on Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays at bleachers area across from the South American Exhibit. Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays: Talks in front of camel yard but with no demonstrations.

Next Training for Volunteers

Call for an interview to start **Level I** fall training. The two required sessions give you Zoo basics and let you join Zoo Pride committees. Sessions run: Sept. 5 at 9 a.m. OR 6:30 p.m. and Sept. 8 at 8:30 a.m.

After that, complete four-day **Level II** training, held Sept. 12 at 9 a.m. OR 6:30 p.m., Sept. 15 at 8:30 a.m., Sept. 19 at 9 a.m. OR 6:30 p.m., and Sept. 22 at 9 a.m. Level II training includes Zoo tours and offers more opportunities for volunteering. Call (414) 258-5667 for details.

Walk on the Wild Side

Tour the Zoo with a Zoo Pride volunteer. Walks of 1½-2 hours focus on outside exhibits and feature animal facts and conservation efforts.

For more information, go to www.zoosociety.org/ZooPride or call (414) 258-5667.

HELPING HANDS

Want to give us a helping hand? Whether you're excited about our events, education programs or conservation efforts, you can help! Details on the Web: zoosociety.org/Support.

Zootastic Featured Animal Close-Ups

Meet-and-greets with Janet the tarantula and Apollo the bat, plates piled high with pizza and pasta, kids dipping and dancing under a burst of confetti—it wasn't just any party. It was Zootastic! On April 20, 430 guests zigzagged across the Milwaukee County Zoo from apes to small mammals for animal-themed fun at the Zoological Society of Milwaukee's Zootastic family event. The evening event featured crafts, an auction and raffle, family photos, and zookeeper talks with live animals. Some brave zoogoers even touched Janet the tarantula! Guests fueled their fun with **Palermo's® Pizza**, "Wisconsin mac and cheese" from **Noodles & Company**, and an ice-cream sundae bar. DJ Paul Kloiber kept the beat going all evening with a kid-friendly dance party. The fundraiser brought in more than \$12,000.



Glen Colwell, 6, of Milwaukee, touches a tarantula held by zookeeper Chris Fendos.

A Hip, Hopping Hit

Bunny fever took over the Zoo during Egg Day, sponsored by **Welch's** and **Pick 'n Save**. Kids clad in bunny ears and painted-on whiskers hopped through the Milwaukee County Zoo April 7 for a variety of day-before-Easter activities. Nearly 9,200 zoogoers joined in the festivities, coloring paper Easter eggs and baskets and watching Zoo animals receive their own egg-shaped treats. A "bubblologist" created squeaky-clean fun with giant soap bubbles. The Hop-to-it Bunny Scavenger Hunt was a hit, with kids age 8 and under collecting tokens to turn in for treats. A 2 p.m. parade had zoogoers shaking their bunny tails to Dixieland music in a group led by Mr. and Mrs. Easter Bunny.

Vonna Shill, 2, of Richfield, meets Mrs. Easter Bunny.

Photo by Lila Aryan

For the Greener Good

The plight of polar bears had zoogoers thinking white at the Milwaukee County Zoo's green-themed weekend called Party for the Planet, sponsored by the **American Transmission Company**.

This annual event, which celebrated Earth Day and International

Migratory Bird Day,

provided eco-friendly fun for more than 18,200 visitors over two days with unusually warm weather, May 19 and 20. Kids could play a polar-bear migration game to learn about the dangers polar bears face from warming temperatures that melt ice floes. Zoogoers could also plant a tree sapling behind Wolf Woods to create a Polar Bear Forest. Trees add oxygen to the air and reduce carbon dioxide, which warms the air and can harm polar bear habitat. The weekend also included conservation-themed plays, bird banding by zookeepers and a scrap-metal recycling drive.



Aleks Miskov, of Waukesha, watches as son Tyler, 3, pets polar bear fur.

Going Maternal at the Zoo

Moms of all shapes, sizes and species enjoyed Mother's Day with their families at the Milwaukee County Zoo on May 13. Sunny weather drew more than 12,310 visitors, and moms received free admission courtesy of **westbury bank**. Zoogoers could view one of the newest "babies"—a yet-to-be-named camel calf born May 4—happily frolic on wobbly legs while mom Sanchi rested nearby. Many human moms visited first-time lion mom Sanura, who has watched her triplets go from cubs to near-adult size in 10 months. Lions Njeri, Kiume and Hubert celebrate their first birthday this month. Orangutan mom M.J. and her adopted son, Mahal, now 5, learned together using an iPad, which zookeepers provide to enrich their lives. Booths in the Primates of the World building taught visitors about Project M.O.M. (Missing Orangutan Moms) and why the palm oil industry has hurt the orangutan population. Zoogoers could support orangutan conservation by purchasing artwork painted by M.J. and Mahal, palm-oil-free candy, and a book about Mahal's journey to M.J. and our Zoo.



Tyler Minnix, 18 months, enjoys time in front of the giraffes with Mom Tenille (left) and Grandmother Carol Dziewa (right).

Dino Debut

The guests of honor were huge. Some of the human guests trembled at the roars and growls. Even the crickets sounded gigantic. With a long-necked *Brachiosaurus* moving in the mist and 21 other robotic dinosaurs in outdoor settings, the premiere of the Zoo's special summer exhibit was a hit. Dignitaries at the Platypus/VIP May 24 premiere cut the ribbon, and tall wooden gates opened to Adventure Dinosaur!, sponsored by **Sendik's Food Markets**. Platypus Circle members and VIP guests got a private, twilight preview of the prehistoric-looking exhibit (see page 10) before it opened to the general public. The dinos will inhabit the Milwaukee County Zoo through Sept. 3. To join the Platypus Circle, a Zoological Society special donor group, and get invitations to special events such as this, please call (414) 258-2333. "Platy" members enjoy perks such as VIP Zoo tours, an annual family picnic, and a fall banquet.

Cutting the ribbon to open the dinosaur exhibit are members of the Balistreri family (who own Sendik's Food Markets) and other dignitaries.

Photo by Lila Aryan



insider tips

Program Sees Peeps of Progress

On a warm summer day, plump little birds on the northern coast of Lake Michigan scuttle across the sand, stopping to scan for prey while calling out, “peep-lo!” For zookeeper Heather Neldner, that “peep-lo” was the soundtrack to her recovery efforts for the endangered shorebird. This June was Neldner’s seventh year volunteering with the Great Lakes Piping Plover Rescue and Recovery Program in Pellston, Mich. The Milwaukee County Zoo, with Zoological Society funding, has been involved with plover conservation since 1996, helping both the Great Lakes piping plover and the Great Plains piping plover populations. Piping plovers once were abundant in the Northern Great Plains wetlands and on the shores of the Great Lakes and Atlantic Coast. But their populations dropped drastically due to predators lured by beach trash, nests trampled by beachgoers, and habitat loss from beach development. The Great Lakes plover population is highly endangered, with only 55 nesting pairs in 2011. Atlantic Coast and Northern Great Plains piping plovers are considered threatened. At “plover camp,” Neldner cares for abandoned plover eggs and raises chicks to release into the wild. The program is paying off; between 1996 and 2010, 172 captive-reared plovers were released, and 27 of those chicks had returned to breed. “It’s really cool when babies I helped raise survive and come back to nest,” says Neldner. Because piping plovers are an “umbrella species,” protecting their habitat helps protect other beach animals and plants. People are the biggest threat. You can help simply by picking up beach trash, obeying signs for closed beaches, and keeping dogs on leashes at the beach. Neldner is proud of her work: “Piping plovers are neat little birds. This program is making a difference, which is why I go.”



Photo provided by Heather Neldner

Heather Neldner helps a hatching chick unable to get out of its egg.

By Liz Mauritz

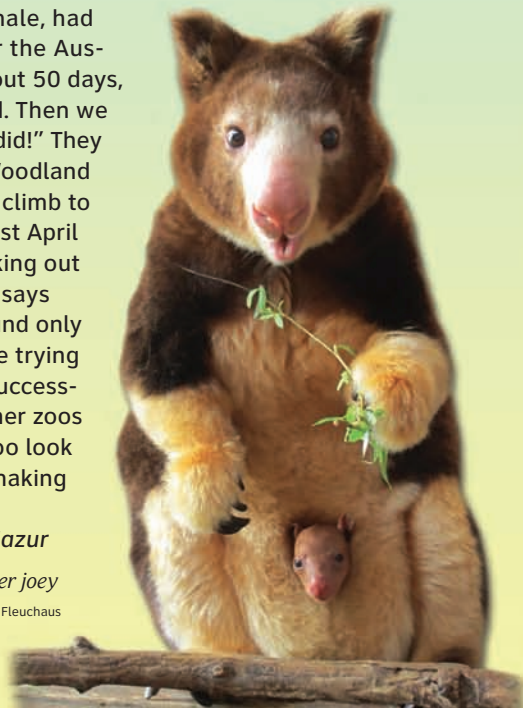
Oh Joy—a Joey!

It’s the size of a grape. Yet a Matschie’s tree-kangaroo baby makes a perilous journey. After birth, this tiny marsupial climbs up Mom’s fur to get into her pouch. This happened at the Milwaukee County Zoo around Nov. 1, 2011. “We knew Kiama, our female tree kangaroo, and Kokoda, the male, had bred,” says Dawn Fleuchaus, Zoo area supervisor for the Australia Building and North America. “So we waited about 50 days, about the length of tree kangaroo’s gestation period. Then we checked her pouch to see if the joey made it—and it did!” They don’t always make it. When Kiama was born at the Woodland Park Zoo in Seattle, she fell to the ground during her climb to the pouch. Luckily she was rescued by zookeepers. Last April Milwaukee zookeepers noticed limbs of the joey sticking out of Kiama’s pouch. “This is a real feather in our cap,” says Fleuchaus. “These kangaroos are endangered and found only on a remote peninsula in Papua New Guinea; so we’re trying to increase the captive population.” This is the fifth successful birth for Kiama. All previous joeys were sent to other zoos at about age 1 to 1½ years old. When you visit the Zoo look for the joey, either sticking out of Kiama’s pouch or making forays into the world.

By Zak Mazur

Kiama and her joey

Photo by Dawn Fleuchaus



Continuing a Tradition

"I remember packing the kids into the car, heading to the Zoo on a warm June night, bringing a picnic lunch and pulling the kids around in a little wagon at the Zoological Society picnic." That was more than 40 years ago. Yet Linda Grunau still speaks of it fondly. It's family memories like this that have made her an active supporter of the Zoological Society of Milwaukee (ZSM) for more than three decades and a ZSM member for 40-plus years. And it's why she became a Simba member years ago by designating a donation in her will to the ZSM. "It was easy," she says. "I just had to state an amount I wanted to leave in my will when I had it drawn up." Grunau was a longtime member of the ZSM's Board of Directors and is a past chair of the ZSM Associate Board. Grunau helped start the popular Snooze at the Zoo fundraiser, now in its 18th year. And she says she inspired the creation of Zoo Ball by putting on an earlier fundraiser in the Zoo's Flamingo Café that was lots of fun.



Linda Grunau with her son, John; daughter-in-law Adrienne; and grandchildren Wesley, 4, and infant Darcy.

The Simba Circle includes anyone who has designated the Zoological Society of Milwaukee County in his or her estate plan. "It makes for a wonderful gift," says Grunau. "I wanted to be sure that families in the future have the same opportunity to be part of the Zoo and Zoo family that I had. I wanted to make sure that their children could participate in Zoological Society educational programs and other programs at the Zoo. Too often people think about leaving gifts only to social-services agencies or arts groups. I think part of the quality of life in Milwaukee is the diversity of opportunities that we have. And, of course, one of the best opportunities for families is the Zoo. It's an economical way for families to explore the environment and our relationship with animals, and to be outside together in a natural setting. So it's really important to leave money to the Zoological Society."

Simba means lion, and the Simba Circle's logo is a lion. Linda Grunau relates to the symbol "because I'm a Leo." Her favorite animals are lions, and she's seen them on safari in Africa as well as at the Zoo. "I adopted the lion cubs last year [in a Zoological Society animal sponsorship] for my grandson, who's now 4, because he's also a Leo. He was very excited, too." Grunau remembers her own grandmother bringing her to the Zoo when it was in Washington Park. "I want to make sure the next generation can continue to see and be involved in this beautiful place."

Planned Giving—Simba Circle

The Simba Circle was formed by the Zoological Society of Milwaukee County (ZSM) to recognize and thank those special people who have created a planned or deferred gift for the ZSM. Such legacy gifts ensure that the ZSM can continue to carry out its mission to support the Milwaukee County Zoo, educate the public and conserve wildlife for generations to come. By informing us that you've named the ZSM as a beneficiary of your will or other legacy gift, you will become part of the Simba Circle. For more information, please call the Development Department at (414) 258-2333, ext.310, or e-mail simba@zoosociety.org.



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What's happening

Details Inside

Now through Aug. 15

Zoological Society Summer Camps at the Zoo, sponsored by Wells Fargo.

Now through Sept. 3

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

Now through Sept. 3

The Zoo's special summer exhibit: Adventure Dinosaur!, sponsored by Sendik's Food Markets; \$2.50 entry fee (opens 9:30 a.m. daily).

July 5, 11, 18, 25 and Aug. 1

Sunset Zoofari, sponsored by Tri City National Bank.*

July 10, 12 & 13

Kids' Nights, sponsored by WaterStone Bank, for ZSM members only, 5:15-9 p.m.*

July 23

Birdies & Eagles Golf Tournament, sponsored by MillerCoors; call (414) 258-2333 for details.

Aug. 8, 9, 10 and 11

Limited openings: Snooze at the Zoo, sponsored by Old Orchard Brands & Sentry Foods.

Aug. 16-19

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel a la Carte at the Zoo with major support from MillerCoors.*

Aug. 25

Animal Safari, sponsored by Welch's and Pick 'n Save.

Aug. 31

Senior Celebration, sponsored by Wheaton Franciscan Senior Health.

Sept. 5 & 8

Zoo Pride volunteer level I training.

Sept. 8 & 9

Family Farm Weekend, sponsored by the Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board.**

Sept. 15

Elephant Appreciation Day at the Zoo.**

Sept. 16

Ride on the Wild Side, sponsored by Wheaton Franciscan-St. Joseph and the Wisconsin Heart Hospital campuses.

Oct. 6

ZSM members' field trip to Door County.

Oct. 13

Wolf Awareness Day at the Zoo.**

Oct. 19 & 20

Boo at the Zoo, sponsored by Sendik's Food Markets.**

Oct. 25

Zoo Brew (Pre-register).*

Oct. 26 & 27

Halloween Spooktacular, sponsored by Sendik's Food Markets.**

Nov. 3

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



*ZSM members get free Zoo admission with their Zoo Pass card and photo ID. The special dinosaur exhibit admission is extra, except during Kids' Nights, July 10, 12, & 13 (50% off), starting at 5:15 p.m. Members must show their Zoo Pass and photo ID at the exhibit ticket booth for reduced admission. Those with Zoo Pass Plus also get free parking.

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