

# Wild Things Zoom THROUGH THE ZOO



Damon K., 4, of Milwaukee, rides with his toys.

## Ride on the Wild Side Bike Ride

Sponsored by Wheaton Franciscan—Midwest Spine & Orthopedic Hospital/Wisconsin Heart Hospital and St. Joseph campuses

Media sponsors: FM 106.1, News Talk 1130, The Big 920, Oldies 95.7 and 97-3 RadioNOW

**Sunday, Sept. 14, 7 a.m.-1 p.m.**

Register online at [zoosociety.org/bike](http://zoosociety.org/bike) or with form on page 3 by Sept. 10 or call (414) 258-2333 for a brochure. Day-of-event registrations accepted. Costs 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.

Olympic speed cyclists can cruise up to 46 miles per hour. Lions, not the fastest of the big cats, can reach 50 miles per hour. Therefore, you can't out-pedal a healthy lion. But at the Zoological Society of Milwaukee's annual bike ride fundraiser, you don't have to. Instead, you'll ride **past** lions and other animals. Kids can cruise in the Critter Caravan, a special 2.5-mile kids' route through the Milwaukee County Zoo. Their favorite plush-toy animal friends can tag along in a bike basket or backpack. Seasoned riders with a passion for pedaling can choose one of the distance rides (a new 10-mile ride, 17- and 27-mile rides) 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, sponsored by Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren, S.C. After the ride, all participants 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!*

Contributing sponsors: *Be Spectacled, Burke Periodontics & Implant Dentistry, Edge Advisors, LLC, Lake Country Health Center, Stephanie Murphy, DDS and Southport Engineered Systems.*

*Tammy Phifer, of Greendale, feeds daughter Odelia, 22 months, before riding.*

## Connect With Us:

-  [facebook.com/ZooPass](https://www.facebook.com/ZooPass)
-  [twitter.com/ZooSocietyMKE](https://twitter.com/ZooSocietyMKE)
-  [youtube.com/MilwaukeeCountyZoo](https://www.youtube.com/MilwaukeeCountyZoo)
-  Milwaukee Zoo Pass App

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# Sweet Summer Serenades



*Lincoln K., 3, of New Berlin, danced with Grandma Leigh Ann Treichel, of Milwaukee, at last year's event.*

## Sunset Zoofaris

Sponsored by Tri City National Bank

July 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30, 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) 256-5466.

Unwind at the Milwaukee County Zoo with music, animals and a pleasant stroll. On Wednesday evenings the Zoo stays open late and a different live band plays each week through July 30. 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, Sting Ray & Shark Bay, sponsored by Sendik's Food Markets, will be open at regular prices (see page 8). Purchase dinner from the Zoo's Flamingo Café and Lakeview Place restaurants, or have a picnic. The Zoo closes at its regular weekday time of 5 p.m., and then re-opens at 6 p.m. for musical entertainment. The bands, which play between 6:15 p.m. and 8:45 p.m. at the Flamingo Patio Gazebo stage are Pat McCurdy (July 2), Downtown Harrison (July 9), Blue Light Scene (July 16), 5 Card Studs (July 23), and 52nd Street Band (July 30).

**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 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30, 2014, only during evening Sunset Zoofaris. Does not include Zoo admission or parking. One ticket per person per bank visit.) Visit [tcnb.com](http://tcnb.com) for bank locations.



## Memberanda

We value your relationship with the Zoological Society of Milwaukee (ZSM). The ZSM 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 Sept. 1: Weekdays 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., weekends 9 a.m.-5 p.m.  
**Zoo hours** through Sept. 1: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. **Please note that the Zoo's admission gates close 45 minutes before the posted Zoo closing hours. The 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 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 choose not to 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 to get current information. In a few cases, we have opted not to reciprocate with institutions that are close to our Zoo. You can review the updated list by going online at [zoopass.com](http://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. **Your Zoo Pass membership does not cover children for whom you provide babysitting or day-care services.** The ZSM and the Zoo retain the right to invalidate any membership being used inappropriately.

**myAccount Feature:** Check out our website, [zoopass.com](http://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 much more. Just having a Zoo Pass does not automatically mean you have a myAccount. You need to create your myAccount and enter a personal password for the feature. 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 email or home address, and easily complete transactions like sponsoring an animal or renewing your Zoo Pass.

### WILD THINGS

Issue No. 113, July-August 2014

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

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Web: [zoosociety.org](http://zoosociety.org)

# Zoo Pass App

The Milwaukee County Zoo is a big place. Thanks to the launch of the Milwaukee Zoo Pass mobile app, however, the Zoo just got smaller, or at least easier to navigate. "With the touch of a finger, Zoo Pass members and non-members can learn about some of the animals they're visiting, receive updates, and use GPS to locate restaurants, restrooms and attractions," says Robin Higgins, vice president of communications, marketing and membership for the Zoological Society of Milwaukee. Anybody with an iPhone or Android that has wireless connections can download and use the app for free. It's easy. A dropdown menu on the upper-left-hand side of your phone provides Zoo information and hours, directions, contact information, and access to your MyAccount profile. At the bottom of your phone, you can click on icons for animals, your planner, and a Zoo map. Locate your favorite animal exhibits with the animal icon. It divides the Zoo's animal collection into groups: amphibians, aquatics and reptiles, apes and primates, big cats, birds, farm animals, large mammals, and small mammals. To exit any section of the app, go to the upper-right-hand side of your phone and tap on the house image, which takes you back to the home page. Make your next visits to the Zoo "app-solutely" fun.



## RIDE ON THE WILD SIDE, Sunday, Sept. 14, 2014 *See story on page 1.*

Name & age \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name & age \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: Day (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Eve (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Zoological Society Membership No. (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_

### 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		\$ _____
			<b>Sub-total</b>	\$ _____
			<b>Total Amount Enclosed</b>	\$ _____

### Please choose route:

- 27-mile ride
- 17-mile ride
- 10-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-sleeve 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. 7. 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](http://zoosociety.org/bike)

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

**Bike Ride**, Zoological Society, 10005 W. Bluemound Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53226-4383

# Zoo Classes & Camps

All Zoo Classes and camps are run by the Zoological Society of Milwaukee (ZSM).



*R. Jay H., of Milwaukee, examined camel hair under a microscope in the What's Up, Doc? camp.*

## Getting a head start for school

ZSM Summer Camps, sponsored by Penzeys Spices, are a great way to give your child hands-on learning experiences among live animals. Those camp experiences also help prepare children for school in fall. "Often children lose academic skills and knowledge over the course of summer vacation," says MaryLynn Conter Strack, the ZSM's enrichment program coordinator. "Our Summer Camps keep children's minds active." Zoo camp activities, projects and information are designed to meet the developmental needs of participating children. This may include large and fine motor skills, social skills, language skills, and problem-solving skills. "By practicing these skills at Zoo camps, children avoid the 'summer slide' in skills needed for school," says Conter Strack.

## Zoo Camps—Sign up Now

Summer Camps, sponsored by Penzeys Spices, are offered for ages 2-14 and for families. For camps that are still available, go to our website, where you also can register.

***"Our daughter has attended camps since she was 2 years old. It's become part of the summer we never miss. Until this year we lived in the Rockford, Ill., area, but we didn't mind traveling to the Zoo for camps. Our daughter has been able to apply things she learned at Zoo camp in science classes at school. Thanks for all of the wonderful memories!"***

**Beth & Brian S., (Janesville, Wis.)**

# Insider Event

## Animal Safari

*Sponsored by Welch's and Pick 'n Save*

**Aug. 23, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; behind-the-scenes tours run 10 a.m.-3 p.m.**

Animal Sponsors: Present your invitation at the gate for free admittance and reduced parking (\$11). Call (414) 258-2333 to become an animal sponsor or visit [zoosociety.org/sponsoranimal](http://zoosociety.org/sponsoranimal).

How thick are the steel bars that contain a 5,000-pound hippo? See for yourself if you participate in the Zoological Society of Milwaukee's Sponsor an Animal program. Animal sponsors can go on behind-the-scenes tours on Aug. 23 and check out areas of the Zoo normally off-limits: the flamingo quarters, Camel Barn, Elk Barn, hippos and more. Not an animal sponsor? No problem—you can sponsor an animal at the event and join the tours. Even if you are not an animal sponsor, you can still enjoy special talks in front of selected animal exhibits on animal diets and ways the Zoo enriches their lives. Plus, kids can get temporary tattoos and play Safari Bingo (with a chance to win an animal sponsorship). From 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., animal sponsors get half off the regular admission price for the Zoo's special summer sting-ray-and-shark exhibit (page 8). **(Please note:** tours are subject to change.)

## On the Web:

Sponsor an animal at  
[zoosociety.org/sponsoranimal](http://zoosociety.org/sponsoranimal)



Children ages 6-7 reach out to touch a leopard shark in the Sharks & Rays camp.

## Zoo Classes for Fall

The same types of hands-on activities and Zoo tours that kids love in summer are waiting for them this fall. ZSM fall classes range from bears to elephants, and from flamingos to trains. Packaged with this *Wild Things* you'll find the September-December 2014 Zoo Classes brochure featuring classes for ages 2-14. Note the new Stroller Safari programs for parents with children under age 2. Registration is online and member registration begins Aug. 7, 2014, at 5 p.m.

## Zoo to You School programs

Teachers, bring the Zoo to you! Education programs are available at the Zoo or as outreach to schools. Register now for Sept. 2014-May 2015 programs.

***“As an elementary school teacher, I continue to be impressed by the quality educational camps that our Zoo provides. The knowledgeable staff and age-appropriate activities give our children memorable experiences.”***

**Kimberly A. (Oak Creek, Wis.)**

Kids, if you're an animal sponsor or a member of the Kids Conservation Club, make some artwork for our Kids' Green Art Contest. The theme this year is: Saving Endangered Species. Create art projects of an endangered animal using only discarded material that would typically be recycled (tape, glue and other fasteners are okay). Artwork must fit in a 2-foot-square section of a table and be light enough to be carried by one person. Art will be displayed in the U.S. Bank Gathering Place. Drop off your project at the Zoological Society office between Aug. 16 and Aug. 22; it will be displayed at the event. This is a great summer project!



Photo by Mary Michare

Jack P., 6, of Wauwatosa, touches an ostrich egg at last year's event.

To participate in the contest, fill out an entry form by **Aug. 8, 2014**, at [zoosociety.org/sponsoranimal/greenart](http://zoosociety.org/sponsoranimal/greenart).

# Trip to Warrens Cranberry Festival

**Saturday, Sept. 27, 2014**

**Cost:** \$55 per person.

Register online at [zoosociety.org](http://zoosociety.org) or with form below or call (414) 258-2333.

If you like cranberries, join the Zoological Society on our fall field trip to Warrens, Wis., for the 42<sup>nd</sup> annual Cranberry Festival. It's one of the best fall festivals in the country, according to *National Geographic*, *FoxNews.com*, and *U.S. News & World Report*. This is also the largest cranberry celebration in the world. There are 850 arts and crafts booths, 350 flea market booths, and 100 farmer's market booths and food courts. One even sells deep-fried cranberries! Learn how cranberries are harvested on guided tours of a cranberry marsh and enjoy entertainment such as a marching band parade. Tours are an additional \$6 fee per person. You can sign up for tours at the Municipal Building near the fair entrance. Tours start at 8 a.m. and run until 3:30 p.m. **Please note:** the festival does not currently rent wheelchairs or scooters; however our buses can accommodate both if you use a wheelchair or scooter.



*Farmers' market booths, like this one at the Zoo in fall, will be found at the cranberry festival.*

Registration starts at 6:15 a.m. at the Milwaukee County Zoo with a boxed continental breakfast in the Flamingo Café. Buses leave at 7 a.m. We will depart Warrens at 4:30 p.m. and return to the Zoo at about 8:30 p.m. Cost includes transportation on restroom-equipped motor coaches and a snack bag on the return trip. Beverages are donated by PepsiAmericas®. (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. Register now because space is limited.

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## TRIP TO WARRENS CRANBERRY FESTIVAL, Saturday, Sept. 27, 2014

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 on the same motor coach with a person who is sending in a separate reservation, please indicate the name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Special Traveling needs \_\_\_\_\_

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ spaces at \$55 per person

Total amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \*

**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](http://zoosociety.org/travel)

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

**2014 Warrens Cranberry Festival**, Zoological Society, 10005 W. Bluemound Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53226-4383



\*Trip cost is not tax-deductible. Space is limited. Cancellations prior to Sept. 12, 2014, are refundable, less a \$10 per person cancellation fee. Cancellations after Sept. 12, 2014, are not refundable. Call (414) 258-2333 for more information. To comply with WI Statute Section 440.455, a financial statement of the Zoological Society will be provided upon request.

# BROWSE 'ROUND & CHOW DOWN

## Milwaukee Journal Sentinel a la Carte at the Zoo

*With major support from Beer Capitol*

**August 14-17. Hours: 9 a.m.-10 p.m. except Sunday, Aug. 17, 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. 17 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: milwaukeezoo.org.

Summertime in Milwaukee is all about festivals. Your typical festival offers food, beer, wine and music. One Milwaukee festival, however, bumps it up a notch. The Milwaukee County Zoo's food-and music festival features a huge collection of animals for guests to admire as they browse more than 25 Milwaukee-area restaurant booths. There are also national musical acts every night at the Lakeview Stage, sponsored by Habush Habush & Rottier S.C.®

The entire park and all animal buildings will be open at night (the Herb & Nada Mahler Family Aviary closes at dusk). Remember to check out the special summer exhibit, Sting Ray & Shark Bay, sponsored by Sendik's Food Markets. Admission is \$2 per person. Food vendors include Jake's Deli, Trinity Three Irish Pubs, Water Street Brewery, Aladdin, Charcoal Grill, Alioto's, Wong's Wok, Applebees, Saz's, Café Hollander, Espana Tapas House, and Rock Bottom Brewery. New this year are Three Lions Pub, Joey Gerard's-A Bartolotta Supper Club, Bartolotta's Lake Park Bistro and many more.



*Morgan Ledermann, of Milwaukee, and Christopher Brand, of Wauwatosa, use a brochure as their guide at last year's event.*

# Seniority Counts

## Senior Celebration

*Sponsored by Wheaton Franciscan Senior Health*

**Friday, Aug. 29.** Free Zoo admission 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

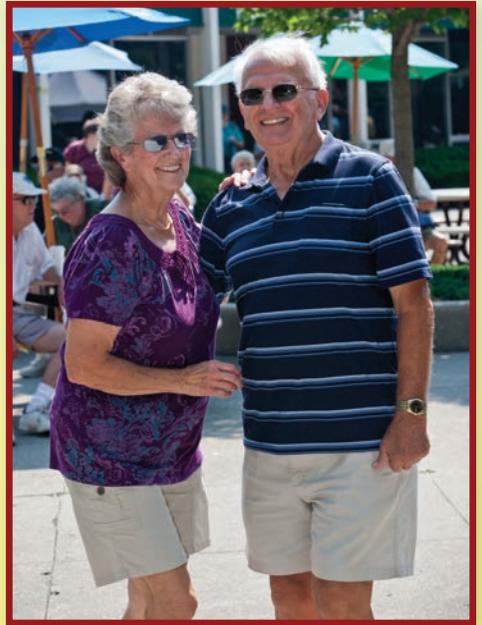
for seniors ages 55 and older with an ID.

Milwaukee County parking fee: \$12

(Zoo Pass Plus members receive free parking).

For details, call the Zoo at (414) 256-5466.

Waltz to polka, snap your fingers to jazz rhythms, and groove to the sounds of tiki-inspired music at this annual event at the Milwaukee County Zoo. Get a free tote bag and then check out more than 30 exhibitors at a senior-themed health and wellness fair in the Peck Welcome Center. Take a break to enjoy a few games of bingo, with gift-card prizes. Head outdoors and watch for imposing animals such as elephants, giraffes and bears as you join the Wisconsin Senior Olympics for a 1-mile walk through the Zoo. Dance to music at the Flamingo Patio and the Briggs & Stratton Zoo Terrace Stage, sponsored by San Camillo. There you'll hear the Jeff Winard Band, Jimmy Madritsch & Friends, and The Revomatics play favorites from yesteryear. Those looking for a little more action can partake in pickleball demos on the hour, courtesy of YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee. Hungry? Be among the first 2,000 Zoo visitors and get complimentary cookies and ice cream. Box lunches will be available for \$6.75.



*Anita and Joe Stefan, of Franklin, dance to polka music at a previous event.*

# On the Road With Rays

## Sting Ray & Shark Bay

Sponsored by Sendik's Food Markets

May 24-Sept. 1.

Otto Borchert Family Special Exhibits Building  
\$2 per person admission. \$1 for food to feed the sting rays.

As you watch sting rays and sharks glide by your hands this summer, consider: How did tropical and subtropical fish get to the Milwaukee County Zoo from Panama City Beach, Fla.? And how will they return? Obviously swimming was impossible. Airfare, too expensive. It had to be the road. The marine animals travel via a 55-foot semi-trailer, says Erin Mayall, manager of client and visitor services for Living Exhibits, Inc., the company that runs the Zoo's special summer exhibit. The trailer for these touring animals includes oxygen tanks, air pumps, and lab supplies to measure and adjust the pH, oxygen, and ammonia levels of the water.

For the animals' safety, the fish do not eat for two to three days prior to transport and during the 16-hour trip. "This is so we can keep the water as clear as possible during the trip," says Michelle Komarek, transport aquarist. "We don't want any waste in the water." Every two hours the crew pulls over to the side of the road to check on the animals' well-being and to run water-chemistry tests. If there is an emergency, Living Exhibits, Inc., has a number of emergency stop points plotted out for each trip. Luckily, in all their years of operation there has never been an emergency. Upon arrival, the hungry fish are fed and then unloaded from the trailer into the new exhibit that awaits them. "By the end of the trip I am exhausted, but it's all worth it when we finally arrive safe and sound," says Komarek.



Erin Mayall



A southern sting ray



Photo by Richard Taylor

Make sure you touch and feed the rays in their pool at the Zoo before the animals make their return journey. And remember to check out the sharks and horseshoe crabs in the exhibit. The last day the exhibit is open is Sept. 1, Labor Day.

Ethan Thomas, 9,  
of Milwaukee,  
touched a sting ray.

# Your Passport, Please

## Kohl's Wild Theater is back:

Four free performances a day, seven days a week, at the Kohl's Wild Theater stage at the Milwaukee County Zoo through Sept. 1.

"Would you like to see a magic trick?" asks a penguin at the Humboldt penguin exhibit. Of course, real penguins can't talk. Rather, the question is posed by a penguin puppet operated by an actor from Kohl's Wild Theater (KWT), the Zoological Society of Milwaukee's (ZSM's) live theater program. Before you leave the performance, though, make sure you get your KWT passport stamped by an actor. "We are excited to offer Kohl's Wild Theater Passports this summer," says Dave McLellan, KWT theater program coordinator. "Actors will travel to three different exhibits every day to perform short interactive skits with zoogoers. There will still be four different shows on the KWT stage. Now when families see all seven performances, they'll be able to record their progress."

Kohl's Wild Theater is made possible by a partnership between Kohl's Cares® and the ZSM. Zoogoers can enjoy four 15-minute-long shows on the KWT main stage located in the farm area. Conservation-themed skits are also performed at various exhibits. There, actors engage children with puppets, magic tricks and games. Passports are available at the main stage or Guest Services in the U.S. Bank Gathering Place. Attend each of the seven performances and make sure to get your passport stamped. Once all seven stamps are collected, turn in your passport at the Education Station or Guest Services and you'll win a fun prize! The seven stamps can be collected in one day or during multiple Zoo visits.



*Angela M., 3, of Wauwatosa, interacts with a penguin puppet operated by KWT actor Marcus Beyer during an At-Exhibit performance.*



*Kohl's Wild Theater actor James Carrington operates a leopard shark puppet.*

"It's great to see kids get excited about the puppets at the exhibits," says Marcus Beyer, a KWT actor. "You can see their smiles from 50 yards away. It's always fun to perform for families at exhibits because it's different every time."

At-exhibit performances take place at the Florence Mila Borchert Big Cat Country from 11 to 11:30 a.m. and 2:30 to 3 p.m., the Taylor Family Humboldt Penguin Exhibit from 11 to 11:30 a.m. and near the Otto Borchert Family Special Exhibits Building from 2:30 to 3 p.m. Main stage performances take place at 10:15 a.m., noon, 1:45 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. *By Zak Mazur*

## 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 Julie B. at the Zoological Society of Milwaukee, (414) 258-2333, or [KWT@zoosociety.org](mailto:KWT@zoosociety.org) for available dates. For more information, go to [wildtheater.org](http://wildtheater.org).

# Volunteering

## See Food, Maybe Eat It

Fish fries are a Milwaukee tradition. Was the fish you enjoyed at your last fish fry raised and harvested in a sustainable manner? Was it something you even thought about? Wauwatosa resident Jennifer Herbert and her 16-year-old son, Makinon, are on a mission to get people to think about that. The Herberts are members of Zoo Pride, the Zoological Society's volunteer auxiliary, and they decided to head up a Seafood Watch committee. "We were inspired by Billie Harrison, who is so passionate about sustainable seafood," says Jennifer. Harrison is the area supervisor for the Aquatic & Reptile Center (ARC). Mother and son already had an interest in seafood and the health of aquatic ecosystems. "Makinon is a certified scuba diver," says Jennifer. "We also have family properties on Lake Superior and Long Lake. We strongly support catch-and-release fishing and believe in conservation." The Seafood Watch committee of 17 staffs a cart that has samples of sustainable seafood products and explanations of by-catch (animals, like dolphins, that are inadvertently caught by fisherman seeking commercial fish). There are also informational cards supplied by the Seafood Watch Project based at the Monterey Bay (California) Aquarium. The Seafood Watch cart and volunteers will be in front of the ARC entrance during summer on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.



*Jennifer and Makinon Herbert at the Seafood Watch cart.*

The Herberts became Zoo Pride members about a year ago. "We love the Zoo and visited so often that we decided it was time to volunteer," says Jennifer. Both are summer and winter guides. They are also active on the giraffe feeding, primates, birds, and Walk on the Wild Side tour committees. The Seafood Watch message is reaching zoogoers, says Jennifer. "So far, guests say they'll seek information about seafood at restaurants and at grocery stores. We also hope they will spread the word." Go online to learn more about Seafood Watch: [seafoodwatch.org](http://seafoodwatch.org).

*By Zak Mazur*

## Join Zoo Pride

Fall Zoo Pride training is cancelled due to the national conference of the Association of Zoo and Aquarium Docents and Volunteers in Milwaukee Oct. 7-11. To learn more, go online to [zoosociety.org/AZADV2014](http://zoosociety.org/AZADV2014). Zoo Pride training will resume in spring. Contact the Zoo Pride office for more information at (414) 258-5667.

## Take a Walk on the Wild Side

If you enjoy leisurely strolls through the Zoo and have always wanted to learn more about the animals you see, consider one of our Zoo Pride walking tours. Tours usually last 2½ hours but can be tailored to meet your needs. (Specific programs tailored to school groups are available through the Zoological Society's Conservation Education Department, and requests from schools will be referred to that department.) Cost is \$10 per guide, not including Milwaukee County Zoo admission and parking fees, with up to 10 people per guide. Call the Zoo Pride office at (414) 258-5667 for more information.

# 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](http://zoosociety.org/support).

## Cool Coats

Wow—look at that animal's neat-looking coat! Does it keep the animal warm, dry, or act as camouflage? Kids got to learn about the important functions that animal coats serve in the wild at Zootastic!, sponsored by **Grow Hope @ SaintA**. The April 25 evening Zoological Society of Milwaukee fundraiser drew 578 people to the Milwaukee County Zoo. Many animal exhibits remained open after hours until 9 p.m. and kids could ask zookeepers questions about animals. This family-friendly event featured a kid-friendly dance party, cheesy **Palermo's® Pizza** and tasty **Noodles & Company** "mac and cheese." For dessert guests could make their own ice cream sundaes and enjoy a Zootastic cake celebrating the event's fifth birthday. The fundraiser brought in more than \$18,195.



Photo by Richard Taylor

*Isaac F., 2, from Milwaukee, and Mom Crystal enjoy making a giraffe craft.*

## Eggs, Bunnies & Fun

Not one but two events celebrated spring and the Easter season at the Milwaukee County Zoo. On April 12 and 13 pre-registered families enjoyed a meal at Breakfast and Lunch with the Bunny, sponsored by **Racine Danish Krinkles**. Lunch was held both days and breakfast was featured only on April 12. The pre-holiday event, which included Zoo admission, featured children's music, meals and kringle, a gift for each child, and the chance to get photos taken with Mrs. Easter Bunny. The meals drew 763 guests. On the day before Easter, April 19, Egg Day, sponsored by **Welch's** and **Pick 'n Save**, offered plenty of egg-related fun at the Zoo for the day's 8,764 zoogoers. Attendees got to see animals such as elephants and orangutans receive giant egg-shaped enrichment treats. Kids participated in the Hop-to-it Bunny Scavenger Hunt, made bunny ears and Easter baskets, and got face-painted bunny noses and whiskers. Many zoogoers marched in a parade led by costumed bunnies and a jazz band.



*Lily P., of Oak Creek, enjoys kringle.*

## A Treat for Moms

A warm, sunny day on May 11 brought giraffes, rhinos and elephants outdoors to welcome mothers to the Milwaukee County Zoo for Mother's Day. Sponsored by **Lifeway Foods**, which offered free samples of its frozen kefir treats, the event gave moms and their families opportunities to take photos with the animals, pet and feed the farm's goats, take a ride above the crowd or on a merry-go-round, or admire the colorful peacocks strolling freely along Zoo pathways. Mothers also got free Zoo admission. The perfect spring day drew 11,960 visitors to the Zoo.

*Billiejo Rehberg and her 1-year-old daughter, Audree, enjoy frozen kefir.*



# Helping Hands continued

## Loving Those Rays

As the red ribbon was cut, the VIP crowd streamed into the Milwaukee County Zoo's special summer exhibit of Sting Ray & Shark Bay, sponsored by Sendik's Food Markets. Sendik's owners Ted Balisteri and Margaret Harris skillfully handled the giant scissors with their children. At the pool inside the Otto Borchert Family Special Exhibits Building, children were captivated as they reached to pet and feed the slippery southern and cownose sting rays. Some children were brave enough to touch a wiggling horse-shoe crab while guided by a staff member. White-spotted bamboo sharks effortlessly swerved between hands and slipped into pipes serving as caves. It was all part of the VIP premiere experience on May 22, hosted by the Zoological Society of Milwaukee (ZSM) for more than 480 guests. Receiving an invitation to the annual VIP premiere is just one of the perks of being a member of the Platypus Circle, the ZSM's major donor group. The exhibit opened to the public May 24 and will run through Sept. 1 (see page 8).



Photo by Richard Taylor

*At the ribbon cutting are (from left) Theo and Josie Balistreri with their dad, Ted, and his sister, Margaret Harris, with her daughter Nicole.*



*Author and plant expert Melinda Myers (right) hands out plant information to Ben and Jennifer Hawley and their 5-year-old son, Scott, during the Zoo's conservation weekend.*

## Party Theme: Preservation

You could get a seedling to plant a tree at home, get free seed packets, view a conservation-themed play, or measure your arm span against the wingspans of birds of prey. These activities plus recycling ideas, bird-migration facts and even duck-stamp paintings reflected the variety offered on May 17 and 18 at the Milwaukee County Zoo's Party for the Planet, sponsored by American Transmission Co. Preserving the Earth's variety of wildlife was the event theme. The company handed out seed packets and provided plenty of conservation tips. A relatively mild spring weekend drew 15,062 people to the Zoo for a chance to learn more about protecting animals and their environments.

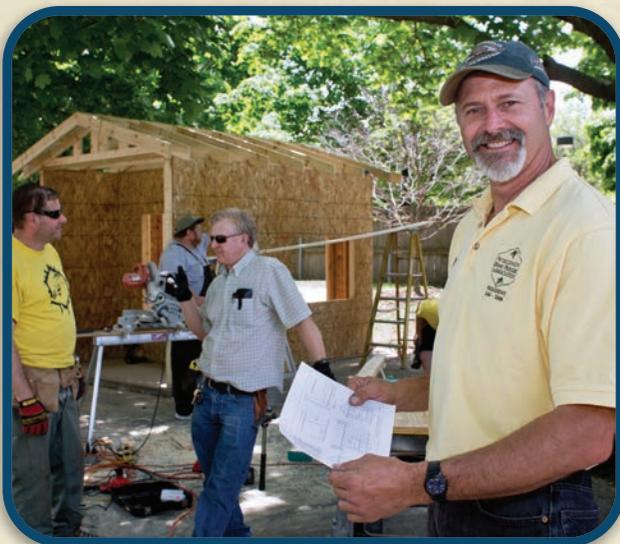
## Keep on (Food) Truckin'

Thank you to the more than 11,000 members who attended the Zoological Society of Milwaukee's first Food Truck Safari. The attendance was greater than we expected, and the event raised more than \$5,351 for the Sponsor an Animal program. We encountered a few bumps along the way and we're grateful for the feedback. The first thing we learned is that food truck offerings are made to order; so it takes more time to prepare food than when it's pre-made and sitting under warmers. We also learned that at events such as ours, food trucks should offer more simplistic dishes to reduce wait times. Finally, we understand the need to space out the trucks a bit more to avoid line congestion, as well as to consider a wider variety of trucks to handle the capacity of our event. We look forward to our second annual Food Truck Safari. We appreciate your support and hope to see you next year.

# Insider Tips

## Better Beehive Building

What animal helps create beautiful flowers at the Milwaukee County Zoo? Thank the humble honey bee. This summer the bees have a new Zoo home. Visit the newly constructed beehive building in the Northwestern Mutual Family Farm. “Bees from a hive fly about two to five miles to pollinate,” says bee expert Andy Hemken. Bees from the new hive will play a role in pollinating the Zoo’s flora, says Hemken, owner of the Hemken Honey Company in Big Bend, Wis. Hemken designed the new beehive exhibit, which is better both for bees and visitors. “Bees can better thermo-regulate their bodies in this building,” says Hemken, because it has a vent at top. “The old building didn’t have proper ventilation, and in summer some of the bees overheated and died.” The new, 8-foot-tall by 8-foot-deep building allows visitors to see the bees more easily. People can step into the enclosure in the front of the structure and get a good look at the bees through a large window. At least six of the 30 frames—the tray-like structures where worker bees build honeycombs—are visible. There’s a window on two sides of the building to view beekeeping artifacts (such as a beekeeper outfit and a frame grabber), and honey and other honeybee-related products. The previous building, built in 1999, had benches in front, making it harder to see into the small viewing windows. By the end of summer, Hemken expects the building to house 30,000 to 40,000 bees.



*Andy Hemken (right) examines blueprints for the new beehive building during its construction in May.*

*By Zak Mazur*



*Pheasant pigeon*

## Bird-Breeding Success

Captive birds in zoological institutions can be fickle about breeding. At the Milwaukee County Zoo, however, keepers are having remarkable success at breeding green-naped pheasant pigeons. Since 1993, the Zoo has hatched 21 of these birds, which have been sent to zoos across North America. “Currently there are about 70 pheasant pigeons in 30 Association of Zoos and Aquariums institutions,” says Bird Curator Alex Waier. Many of those birds are offspring of the Zoo’s 21 successful hatches. Why is the Zoo so good at breeding these birds? “There’s something about the exhibit’s design and area where the birds nest,” says Waier. The nesting area is located in an indentation in the rock wall about 4 feet above the exhibit’s floor and partially obscured by a shrub. The male collects nesting material, but the female builds the nest; both parents raise the chick (pheasant pigeons lay one egg at a time). Waier thinks the birds find the topography of the exhibit appealing because it’s similar to their natural habitat: the tropical rainforests of New Guinea, which is north of Australia. The floor is filled with tufts of grass and shrubs. Tall tropical trees tower over the exhibit, and plants sprout from the rock wall at the back. A terrestrial bird, the pheasant pigeon eats fallen seeds, fruits and insects off the forest floor. Waier says the birds are “gorgeous” and make “really cool” vocalizations that sound like a semi-truck downshifting. The birds have pleasant personalities. “They’re relatively calm, and their beaks don’t have crushing power, which is a plus when you’re handling an animal.” Another interesting adaptation is they can release feathers to escape the clutches of a predator. To see the pheasant pigeons, look for their picture in front of the Tropic 6 exhibit in the aviary.

*By Zak Mazur*

## Refer a Friend

When people are excited about something—a movie, a book, an organization—they usually want their friends and loved ones to know about it, too. We know members of the Zoological Society of Milwaukee (ZSM) love the many perks they receive from their Zoo Passes, such as free admission to the Milwaukee County Zoo for a full year (Zoo Pass Plus members enjoy free parking for one vehicle per day), invitations to members-only events, our publications (like the one you're reading now), discounts on ZSM education classes and camps, and so much more. "When you recruit a new Zoo Pass member, we would like to thank you by extending your Zoo Pass for one month the next time you renew," says Robin Higgins, vice president of communications, marketing and membership. "If you recruit three new Zoo Pass members, we'll add on three months to your Zoo Pass when you renew. That gives you more time to do all of the fun things the Zoo has to offer." When you talk up your Zoo Pass to friends, remind them to include your name on our online form in the "Referring Zoo Pass Member" area so we can track your referrals. This offer is valid for new Zoo Pass members and only available at the time of joining—we can't make a referral retroactive. Have your friends visit us on the Web at [zoosociety.org/referafriend](http://zoosociety.org/referafriend) or call (414) 258-2333 to become a member.

## Bouncing Baby Bush Baby

At birth, a human baby's eyes are about 70 percent of their adult size. This makes their eyes look big, and, to us, makes babies look cute. The Moholi bush baby, a tiny nocturnal primate, has huge eyes in relation to its head, giving it a cute baby-face look. Its call also sounds like a crying human baby. It's no wonder these animals are nicknamed bush babies. On April 30 at the Milwaukee County Zoo, a baby bush baby emerged from its nesting box two weeks after being born to parents Neville and J.J. Their offspring is—literally—a bouncing baby. "Bush babies remind me of rubbery bouncing balls when they leap around their exhibit," says Rhonda Crenshaw, area supervisor of the Small Mammals Building. The unsexed and unnamed baby has been doing great, thanks in part to J.J.'s attentive care. "If the baby falls, J.J. quickly retrieves it," says Crenshaw. "When the baby walks on branches, J.J. follows it closely."

Bush babies are found in forests in sub-Saharan Africa. Their large orange-brown eyes give them keen nocturnal vision. This is critical for locating food such as beetles, scorpions, small reptiles, and moths. At the Zoo they eat prepared primate diet, veggies, fruit and bugs. "They love wax worms, meal worms and crickets," says Crenshaw. Adult bush babies are 7 to 8 inches long and weigh about 5 to 10 ounces. Crenshaw says the baby bush baby will be full size—but still cute—in July. You can find the family in the nocturnal side of the Small Mammals Building to the left of the springhaas exhibit.

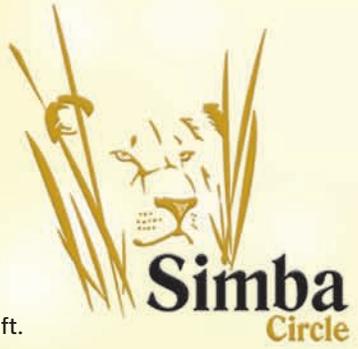
*By Zak Mazur*

*The baby bush baby (right) with Dad Neville.*



# Make a Lasting Impact

You can have a lasting impact on the animals at the Milwaukee County Zoo, on conservation or on the education of future generations. Just make a planned gift to the Zoological Society of Milwaukee County for your specific area of interest. Learn how to plan for tomorrow by visiting our gift planning website today at [zoosociety.org/simba](http://zoosociety.org/simba). This is one of the most complete resources for estate and charitable planning on the Web.



- Explore several options to use assets to fund your planned gift.
- Answer a few simple questions, and you can select giving options that align with your goals.
- Use the Gift Illustrator to determine possible benefits for various giving options.
- See how a will can be worded to safeguard your wishes regarding where your assets go.

If you've already included the Zoological Society of Milwaukee County in your giving plans, please let us know. We would like to thank you for your generosity and kindness. When you establish a planned gift to benefit the Zoological Society, you become eligible to join the Simba Circle, the ZSM legacy society.

## Simba Circle members enjoy:

- Invitations to the annual Simba Circle Recognition Dinner and VIP Premiere of a special exhibit.
- Recognition on Zoo signage and in Society materials.
- Peace of mind, knowing that the ZSM and Zoo will continue to enrich future generations.

For more information about designating a gift to a specific area or program at the Zoo or Zoological Society, please contact Kim Peterson in the Development Department at (414) 258-2333, ext. 310, or email [simba@zoosociety.org](mailto:simba@zoosociety.org).

## Annual Appeal

### Gorilla Yard Renovation

When you watch the gorillas at the Milwaukee County Zoo relax and play in their outdoor exhibit, it's obvious they're enjoying the greenery and fresh air. We'd like to make their outdoor experience even more enjoyable, which is why the Zoological Society's 2014 Annual Appeal plans to build special features in the existing outdoor gorilla habitat. The plans include:

- A water feature for splashing and drinking
- Berms to provide protection from the wind and elements
- Resting platforms to allow basking in the sun and "people-watching"
- New landscape vegetation to provide browse treats in summer
- "Enrichment" items (toys and activities) that stimulate the gorillas' natural curiosity

*Gorilla Naku sits in the outdoor gorilla yard.*



## PLEASE DONATE

To give to the Zoological Society's 2014 Annual Appeal, go online to [ForTheApes.com](http://ForTheApes.com), or call (414) 258-2333. All donations are tax-deductible.

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## What's Happening

Details Inside

### Now through Aug. 13

Zoological Society Summer Camps at the Zoo, sponsored by Penzeys Spices.

### Now through Sept. 1

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

### Now through Sept. 1

The Zoo's special summer exhibit: Sting Ray & Shark Bay, sponsored by Sendik's Food Markets; \$2 entry fee (opens 9:30 a.m. daily).

### July 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30

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

### July 8, 10 & 11

Members-only Kids' Nights, sponsored by WaterStone Bank.\*

### July 28

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

### Aug. 6-9

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

### Aug. 14-17

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel a la Carte with major support from Beer Capitol.\*

### Aug. 23

Animal Safari, sponsored by Welch's and Pick 'n Save (free entry to animal sponsors and \$11 reduced parking).\*

### Aug. 29

Senior Celebration, sponsored by Wheaton Franciscan Senior Health.\*

### Sept. 6 & 7

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

### Sept. 9

Dr. Stan Temple lecture on 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the extinction of the passenger pigeon, in the Zoofari Conference Center.\*

### Sept. 13

Elephant Appreciation Day at the Zoo.\*\*

### Sept. 14

Ride on the Wild Side, sponsored by Wheaton Franciscan—Midwest Spine & Orthopedic Hospital/Wisconsin Heart Hospital and St. Joseph campuses.\*

### Sept. 27

ZSM members' field Trip to Warrens Cranberry Festival.\*\*

### Oct. 17 & 18

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

### Oct. 18

Wolf Awareness Day.\*\*

### Oct. 23

Zoo Brew.\*\*+

### Oct. 24 & 25

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

### Nov. 1

Family Free Day, sponsored by North Shore Bank.

\*ZSM members get free Zoo admission with their Zoo Pass card and photo ID. The special sting-ray-and-shark exhibit admission is extra, except for ZSM members during Kids' Nights, July 8, 10 and 11 (50% off), starting at 5:15 p.m. each day. Members must show their Zoo Pass and photo ID at the exhibit ticket booth for free or reduced admission. Those with Zoo Pass Plus cards also get free parking.

\*\*Pre-register for this event.

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

