

Wild Things

An elephant
at the Zoo.
Photo by
Stacy Kaat



Special Tours for Sponsors



Zoo Pride volunteer Mary Kazmierczak shows Christy C., of Menomonee Falls, and daughter Macy, 2, a hippo's diet of hay and pellets during last year's event. Photo by Stacy Kaat

Animal Safari

Saturday, Aug. 27, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

(Behind-the-scenes tours run 10 a.m.-3 p.m.)

Visit zoosociety.org/SponsorAnimal to become an animal sponsor.

Calling all animal sponsors: You're invited on a safari to the hidden spots at the Milwaukee County Zoo. During this event, animal sponsors can see behind the scenes at select spots such as Winter Quarters for warm-weather animals, the Elephant Barn and Lake Wisconsin in the Aquatic & Reptile Center. It's our way of thanking people who help support the Zoo's animals and exhibits. If you're not an animal sponsor yet, you can become one that day and join the tours.

Animal Safari Bingo, a scavenger hunt with the chance to win an animal sponsorship or Kids Conservation Club membership. Children age 17 and under can also enter the Kids' Green Art Contest. Create a project made of at least 90% recycled material using this year's theme, Creating Camouflage. Participants must fill out an entry form by Aug. 12. Visit zoosociety.org/GreenArt for a complete list of rules.

During Animal Safari, all children can play

A Family Tradition

Kids' Nights *FOR ZOO PASS MEMBERS*

Sponsored by WaterStone Bank

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday, July 12, 14 & 15, 5-9 p.m.

Free admission with Zoo Pass card and photo ID.

Mark your calendars for Kids' Nights! This is a special event just for Zoo Pass members when you can party the evening away at the Milwaukee County Zoo. Members are invited to come on one of three nights to view the animals, participate in fun activities and treat themselves to yummy food from a variety of food trucks and concession stands. Highlights include the Adventure Rock climbing wall, U B the Band, Mad Science shows, Karate America demonstrations, crafts, temporary tattoos and a whole lot more. Kids' Nights has become a summer tradition for many families. If you've never attended, why not start a new tradition this year? Our thanks to entertainment sponsors Great Clips, KinderCare Learning Centers, Lifeway Foods and Whole Foods Market.



Lauren S., 12, and her sister Abby, 8, of Waukesha, can't contain their giggles during a previous Kids' Night.

Photo by Richard Brodzeller

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Milwaukee Zoo Pass App

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Songs for a Summer Evening

Sunset Zoofaris

Sponsored by Tri City National Bank

Wednesdays, July 6, 13, 20, 27 and Aug. 3; 6-9 p.m.

Free admission for Zoo Pass members with photo ID.

Non-members: Adults, \$7; ages 3-12, \$5.50;

free for children 2 and under; or \$20 per carload (with a maximum of 10 people). No parking fee.

You have a few more weeks to catch an evening concert surrounded by the beauty of the Milwaukee County Zoo. Sunset Zoofaris continues Wednesday nights through Aug. 3. On these nights, the Zoo closes at its normal time of 5 p.m. and reopens at 6 p.m. for the concerts. Many animals remain outside, and the animal buildings stay open until 8:45 p.m. You can buy food at the Flamingo Café or Lakeview Restaurant or bring your own dinner. **Here are the remaining bands:**

- **July 6:** Party Anthem
- **July 13:** Dirty Boogie
- **July 20:** Downtown Harrison
- **July 27:** 3D
- **Aug. 3:** Generation Z



Conga! Aria D., 6, leads her brother Jaron, 4, and cousin Chase, 11, in a dance at one of last year's Sunset Zoofaris. Photo by Richard Brodzeller

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 6, 13, 20, 27 and Aug. 3, 2016, only during evening Sunset Zoofaris. Does not include Zoo admission or parking. One ticket per person per bank visit.) Visit tcnb.com for bank locations.



Memberanda

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

Zoological Society office hours: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. **Zoo hours:** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Please note that the Zoo's admission gates close 45 minutes before the posted Zoo closing time. The animal buildings close 15 minutes prior to Zoo closing time.

Company Picnics: For members visiting the Zoo with a company picnic, free-admission and free-parking benefits for Zoo Pass members 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 lost your card, replacement cards may be purchased for \$5.

Visiting other zoos and aquariums: We participate in the Association of Zoos and Aquariums' listing of reciprocal 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 in close proximity to our Zoo. Members are encouraged to review the updated list online at 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. We need to have the number

of minor children/grandchildren in your household reflected in your membership records for the Zoo's admission gates. Foster children are covered on your membership. **Day care providers:** Your Zoo Pass membership does not cover children for whom you provide baby-sitting or day care services. The Society and the Zoo retain the right to invalidate any membership being used inappropriately.

myAccount Feature: Check out our website, zoopass.com, for information on how to set up your personal myAccount. (The myAccount button is on the top of the page.) This feature will give you online access to your Zoo Pass membership information and much more. You need to create your myAccount and enter a personal password for the feature. Then you will be able to track your paperless attraction coupon use, determine the tax-deductible portion of your contributions, update your email or home address, and more easily complete transactions like sponsoring an animal or registering for an event.

WILD THINGS

Issue No. 125, July-August 2016

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

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

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BE A TEAM PLAYER

Ride on the Wild Side Bike Ride

Sponsored by Wheaton Franciscan

Media sponsors: News/Talk 1130, FM106.1, 95.7 BIG FM, 97-3 NOW, V100.7

Sunday, Sept. 11, 7 a.m.-1 p.m.

Zoo Pass members: \$35 for ages 14 and older, \$12 for ages 3-13, \$85 for a family of four. Non-members: \$40 for adults, \$15 for children, \$100 for a family of four. Day-of registration: \$45 for adults, \$20 for children. Visit zoosociety.org/Ride for more information and to register.

Once a year, the employees at Holz Motors trade in their cars, vans and trucks for a different set of wheels. A Holz team has been participating in Ride on the Wild Side, the Zoological Society's annual bike-ride fundraiser, for more than 10 years. "It boosts the morale of the employees," says Nina McCarthy, who organizes the Holz team. "A lot of families look forward to it every year. They ask me if we're participating before I even get my sign-up sheet."

Many teams that participate in Ride on the Wild Side are sponsored by companies like Holz. But you can also create a team with family or friends or participate as an individual. The annual event offers several ride options: a 2.5-mile Critter Caravan for kids and distance rides of 10-20+ miles that run through the Menomonee River Parkway and Oak Leaf Trail. The money raised — more than \$26,000 in 2015 — helps the Zoological Society in its support of the Milwaukee County Zoo.

The Holz team usually consists of 10-15 employees plus their families, McCarthy says. Many of the families choose the Critter Caravan, which stays on the Zoo grounds. "It's so fun riding through the Zoo," she says. "You're riding early in the morning, and the animals are kind of frisky." After the ride, the families enjoy the Kids 'n Critters Corral, featuring snacks, crafts and temporary tattoos.

All participants receive a Ride on the Wild Side long-sleeve T-shirt, and teams have the option to personalize their shirts with a logo. Participants also get entry to the Zoo, parking, a continental breakfast and lunch. Plus you get the satisfaction of being part of the Zoological Society's team helping the animals and exhibits at the Zoo. And that's a victory for everyone. Our thanks to Kids 'n Critters Corral sponsor Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren, S.C.; route sponsor Mallery & Zimmerman, S.C.; and these contributing sponsors: Be Spectacled; R&R Insurance; Southport Engineered Systems; Stephanie Murphy, DDS; Super-Lube; and Van Westen Orthodontics.

Bikers pedal through the Zoo at a previous Ride on the Wild Side. Photo by Richard Brodzeller



Micah W., 8, and his brother Mac, 9, of Milwaukee, line up for the start of last year's ride.

Photo by Olga Kornienko



Eat Your Way Through the Zoo

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel a la Carte

Presented by Meijer

Wednesday-Sunday, Aug. 18-21, 9 a.m.-10 p.m. except Sunday, when hours are 9 a.m.-8 p.m.

Free admission for Zoo Pass members with photo ID.

Regular Zoo admission prices for non-members. Multi-day tickets available in advance at Tri City National Bank for \$26 for adults and \$18 for children ages 3-12.

By late August, you've probably been eating your way through festivals across southeastern Wisconsin. That's good, because it's the perfect training for Milwaukee Journal Sentinel a la Carte, the hugely popular food and music festival at the Milwaukee County Zoo. Free admission to a la Carte is one of the many perks of being a Zoo Pass member. Indulge your taste buds with options from more than 30 restaurants and food vendors. Enjoy a glass of wine at the Wine Tent, sponsored by mueller QAAS. Dance to music at stages around the Zoo grounds, including the Lakeview Stage, sponsored by Habush Habush & Rottier S.C.® The Zoo is open late for this fun event, so enjoy seeing the animals at all times of the day. Visit milwaukeezoo.org/events to learn about food vendors and musical headliners.



(Top right) Laura S., of Milwaukee, dances with daughter Claire, 1, near the Wine Tent.

Suman Swain, Christopher Papke, and Kanaklata and Rabindra Kumar Swain, of India, sample food at last year's event. Photos by Olga Kornienko

A Day for Seniors



Senior Celebration

Sponsored by Wheaton Franciscan Senior Health
Friday, Sept. 2, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Seniors 55 and older get free admission with photo ID until 1 p.m. Milwaukee County parking fee of \$12 still applies, except for Zoo Pass Plus members.

Seniors, this is a day especially for you at the Milwaukee County Zoo. Those 55 and older get free admission until 1 p.m. Once you're here, you can enjoy music and entertainment throughout the day on two stages, sponsored by San Camillo. Check out a health and wellness fair in the Peck Welcome Center and stroll through the Zoo on a 1-mile walk during the Wisconsin Senior Olympics. The first 2,000 visitors will be able to enjoy complimentary cookies and ice cream. Box lunches will be available for \$6.75.

Dave and Lynne Mielke, of Waukesha, admire the flamingos during Senior Celebration.

Photo by Richard Taylor

Exciting Plans for the Primates

If you've been reading Wild Things lately, you know this year's Annual Appeal will help the Colobus monkeys go outside for the first time ever. But recent plans call for the appeal to benefit not just one, but three primate species at the Milwaukee County Zoo — the Colobus monkeys, siamangs and mandrills. "It's a great bang for our buck," says Trish Khan, Zoo curator of primates and small mammals. "This will really help these species."



Colobus monkey

The Zoo's three Colobus monkeys live in the Primates of the World building, completed in the 1950s. Their exhibit used to hold Samson, the famous gorilla who died in 1981. "It's desperately in need of an upgrade," Khan says. The Zoo will use funds raised by the Annual Appeal to create a corridor from the Colobus Exhibit to the outdoor exhibit next to the building. The exhibit

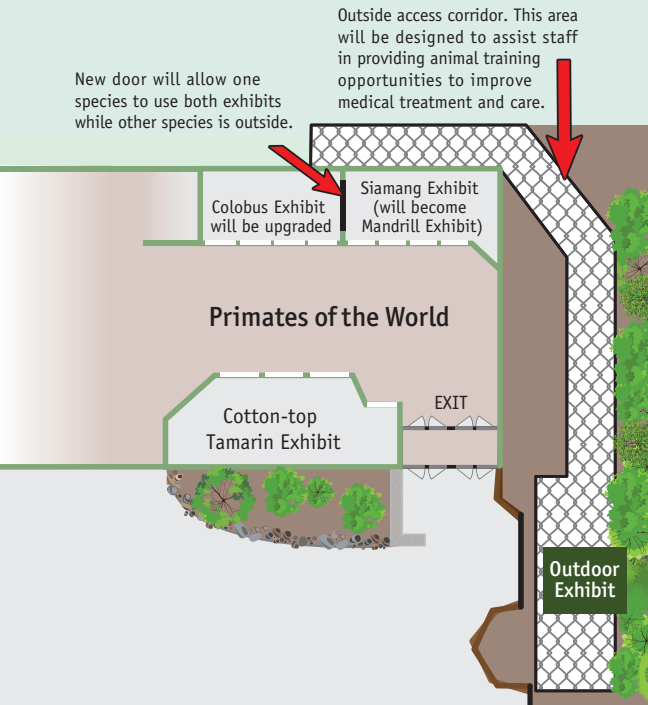
next to the Colobus currently holds siamangs, but they will switch places with the mandrills on the other side of the Primates of the World building. (In their new home, the siamangs will still have access to an outdoor habitat that isn't visible to the public.)

The Colobus monkeys and mandrills will take turns using the outdoor exhibit on the southwest side of the building. A door will be built between their indoor exhibits so that while one species is outside, the other can roam both indoor exhibits. "It gives us more flexibility," Khan says. Allowing the Colobus monkeys and mandrills to move between exhibits and take turns outside will stimulate them and keep them active. The renovations will also add enrichment opportunities for the animals, encouraging natural behaviors such as foraging. The access corridor will include a scale for weighing the monkeys and a device that allows medical staff to have protected contact with the monkeys to administer health exams and medications without the use of anesthesia.



Mandrill

While the renovations will benefit all three species, Khan is most excited to see the Colobus monkeys go outside for the first time. "I can't wait to get these monkeys outside," she says.



To give to the Zoological Society's 2015-16 Annual Appeal, visit zoosociety.org/Appeal or call 414-258-2333. All donations are tax-deductible.

- Donors of \$100 to \$249 will have their names listed on a sign.
- Donors of \$250 to \$499 will receive larger recognition on a sign.
- Donors of \$500 to \$999 will receive individualized recognition.
- Donors of \$1,000+ will receive larger individualized recognition.
- Limited-time offer: Donors of \$2,500+ will receive individualized recognition on a bench to be placed in the Zoo.

Primate photos by Richard Brodzeller

Volunteering

Volunteers Help Make Events Shine

If you've been to a Zoological Society or Milwaukee County Zoo event, you've probably seen Bill and Betsy Rezel somewhere in the background. The couple has been volunteering with Zoo Pride, the Zoological Society's volunteer auxiliary, since 2004, and they were longtime Zoo Pass members before that. After trying out several committees, they found that working with special events was the right fit for them. "We love helping people enjoy their time at the Zoo," says Betsy. Snooze at the Zoo, the Society's annual camping fundraiser, is the Rezels' favorite event. "It is such a great family event that gives people who haven't camped before an opportunity that is very accessible," Betsy says. Some other events the Rezels have worked at include Animal Safari, Kids' Nights, Behind the Scenes Weekend, Wines and Beers of the World, Halloween events, Zoo Ball, Zootastic, Ride on the Wild Side and Zoo Brew. "Working with other Zoo Priders and helping the Zoo patrons have fun and learn is the best part," Betsy says.



Zoo Pride volunteers Bill and Betsy Rezel prepare the silent auction at Zootastic, a spring fundraiser for the Zoological Society. The Rezels have volunteered at many Zoo and Zoological Society events over the last 12 years. Photo by Bob Wickland



ZOO PRIDE

Join Zoo Pride

You can become a Zoo Pride volunteer by attending a two-session introductory training. Additional training is available depending on your areas of interest. For more information, call 414-258-5667 or visit zoosociety.org/ZooPride.

Not only do the Rezels give their time, they are also members of the Platypus Circle, the group for high-end donors to the Society. "Bill and Betsy are a great example of what teamwork is all about. They are supporters of the Zoological Society on many levels," says Lynn Wilding, the volunteer coordinator for Zoo Pride. They love being zoo-goers, Zoo Pass members, Platypus Circle members and Zoo Pride volunteers, but the Rezels say by volunteering they "have been at the Zoo to see things they might have missed." They happened to be volunteering when a polar bear was getting a root canal. They got to be Santa and Mrs. Claus at Breakfast and Lunch with Santa and get to share their experiences with their grandchildren. "All of the events leave us with good memories," Betsy says.

Bill and Betsy suggest that people who are interested in volunteering try Zoo Pride. "There is the chance to make a difference and make new friends and the ability to fit volunteering into your schedule," Betsy says. "There is such a variety of opportunities in Zoo Pride. Try a number of committees to see what matches your schedule, interests and skills."

By Samantha Ball

NEW FACES AT KOHL'S WILD THEATER

Zoo-goers might notice some new faces on stage when they attend Kohl's Wild Theater (KWT) shows this summer. The troupe has several new actors this year playing everything from frogs to penguins to pirates during four free daily shows in the farm area of the Zoo. Read on to learn more about some of the newcomers.



RAE ELIZABETH PARE, 23

Hometown: Jackson, Wis.

Favorite previous roles: Chippy in "Dogfight," Zorah in "Day After Night," Reno Sweeney in "Anything Goes" and Muzzy in "Thoroughly Modern Millie"

Favorite animal(s): Her Rottweiler, Olive; Adelie penguins; gray wolves

Why did you want to join Kohl's Wild Theater? "I wanted to meet new people and share the fun of theater."



AMI MAJESKIE, 21

Hometown: Genesee, Wis.

Favorite previous roles: Little Sally in "Urinetown" and Gingy in "Shrek"

Favorite animal(s): Elephant

Why did you want to join Kohl's Wild Theater? "I want to put a smile on people's faces and teach them a little something along the way."



ROC BAUMAN, 23

Hometown: Grafton, Wis.

Favorite previous roles: John Proctor in "The Crucible," Tyler in "Laughing Stock" and himself in "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare Abridged"

Favorite animal(s): Lion, owl, bear

Why did you want to join Kohl's Wild Theater? "In addition to acting, I love animals. Learning more about the animals is amazing, and then performing fun shows to pass on the knowledge about these animals is incredible."



LEANN VANCE, 22

Hometown: Milwaukee, Wis.

Favorite previous roles: Bev/Kathy in "Clybourne Park" and Lady Capulet in "Romeo and Juliet"

Favorite animal(s): All cats, domestic and wild

Why did you want to join Kohl's Wild Theater? "Children's theater and conservation are two things that I have been passionate about since deciding to study and pursue a career in the arts. Kohl's Wild Theater has given me the opportunity to share my love of animals and our planet with the next generation, and I couldn't ask for much more than that."

KOHL'S WILD THEATER

is made possible by a partnership among Kohl's Cares, the Zoological Society of Milwaukee and the Milwaukee County Zoo. It performs four free 15-minute shows daily through Labor Day at its stage in the farm area, along with daily skits at the Humboldt penguin, gorilla and bug exhibits. It also performs shows throughout the year, free of charge, at schools, festivals and community events within a one-hour radius of the Milwaukee County Zoo. For more information, visit wildtheater.org. To book a show, contact Julie B. at **414-258-2333** or KWT@zoosociety.org.



Roc Bauman (left) and Rae Pare play a couple of frogs in the Kohl's Wild Theater play "The Wonderful Lizard of ooZ." Photo by Richard Taylor

SNEAK PEEK AT THE BUGS

On May 26, the Zoological Society invited members of the Platypus Circle, Simba Circle and Serengeti Circle to a special event previewing BUGS! Larger than Life, the special summer exhibit sponsored by Sendik's Food Markets. These VIPs were the first to see the 13 giant animatronic insects and arachnids. Members of the Platypus Circle, the Society's group for high-end donors, and the Simba Circle, the group for people who have named the Society in a will or estate plan, enjoy benefits throughout the year. Photos by Stacy Kaat



Representatives from Milwaukee County and sponsor Sendik's Food Markets cut the ribbon on the summer exhibit. Gathered from left are Nicholas Bandoch, of Sendik's, with son Quentin, 1; County Executive Chris Abele; Margaret Harris, of Sendik's; Zoo Director Chuck Wikenhauser; and Penny Gutekunst, of the Zoological Society.



Tami Garrison, of MillerCoors, and husband Mathew visit a caterpillar with sons Brady, 3, and Jack, 6.



Zia H., 6, and brother Kal-El, 7, pose in front of the Madagascan sunset moth.



Zoo Director Chuck Wikenhauser, left, and County Executive Chris Abele pose in front of a Say's firefly.

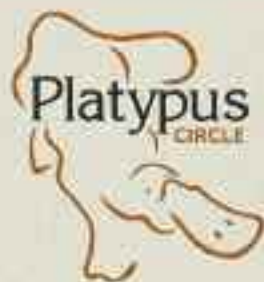
BUGS!
Larger than Life,
sponsored by
Sendik's Food Markets,
runs through Labor Day
behind the Small Mammals
Building. Admission is
\$2.50 per person.



Margaret Harris and Nicholas Bandoch, of Sendik's Food Markets, share a laugh in front of a red-tailed bumblebee.

Become a Platypus Circle Member

Join this extraordinary group of leaders, corporations and foundations who share the Zoological Society's passion for conserving wildlife and endangered species, educating people about the importance of wildlife and the environment, and supporting the Milwaukee County Zoo. Members give generously to protect and promote one of our community's premier resources. They also receive benefits such as invitations to exhibit premieres and other VIP events. For more information about the Platypus Circle, visit zoosociety.org/Platy or contact Candy Walton at 414-918-6151 or candyw@zoosociety.org.



Meet the Terracotta Warriors

Trip to Chicago's Field Museum

For Zoo Pass members and their guests

Sept. 17, 2016, 6:15 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

Cost: \$70 per adult (age 18-64), \$65 per child or senior
Register with form below, online at zoosociety.org/Travel
or by calling 414-258-2333.

More than 2,000 years ago, China's first emperor, Qin Shi Huang, built a burial complex guarded by a large army made of terracotta, a type of clay earthenware, to protect him in the afterlife. The terracotta army was one of the greatest archeological finds of the 20th century. Some of those warriors have made the journey to Chicago's Field Museum for its latest exhibition, "China's First Emperor and His Terracotta Warriors." The exhibit features more than 170 objects, including stunning bronze artifacts, weaponry and 10 of the famed terracotta figures. Your Discovery Pass also comes with admission to the Field Museum's general admission exhibits, including Sue the T. rex, Inside Ancient Egypt, Grainger Hall of Gems, The Tsavo Lions and much more. You can purchase lunch at The Field Museum's Field Bistro or Explorer Café.

Registration starts at 6:15 a.m. at the Milwaukee County Zoo with a continental breakfast. Buses depart at 7:30 a.m. and arrive at The Field Museum around 9:30 a.m. Your tour includes general admission and the Terracotta Warriors exhibit, transportation on restroom-equipped motor coaches, beverages donated by PepsiAmericas® and a snack bag on the return trip. (Note to those with allergies: Snacks may include dairy and peanut byproducts.) We depart The Field Museum at 4:30 p.m. and return to the Zoo at about 6:30 p.m. An itinerary will be mailed prior to the trip. For questions or additional information, please call the Zoological Society at 414-258-2333.



The Chinese used many different colors of paint on the Terracotta Army figures. However, many of these pigments deteriorated over the years. Conservators work to preserve the remaining colors on these figures to prevent them from further decaying.

© Shaanxi Cultural Heritage Promotion Center and Emperor Qin Shi Huang's Mausoleum Site Museum

FIELD MUSEUM TRIP, Saturday, Sept. 17, 2016

Name(s) of Adult Traveler(s) _____

Name(s) & Age(s) of Child Traveler(s) _____

Zoo Pass Membership No. _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone: Day (_____) _____ Eve (_____) _____

If you wish to travel with another person or group sending in a separate reservation, please indicate his/her name: _____

Please reserve _____ spaces for adults (18-64) (\$70)

Please reserve _____ spaces for kids or seniors (\$65)

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 _____

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

Field Museum Trip, Zoological Society, 10005 W. Bluemound Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53226-4383

Space is limited. Cancellations prior to Sept. 2, 2016, are refundable, less a \$10 per person cancellation fee. Cancellations after Sept. 2, 2016, 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.

Zoo Classes and Camps

Zoo Classes and Camps are presented by the Zoological Society of Milwaukee.

zoosociety.org/Education



Azariah completes a work sheet during a 2015 camp. Photo by Richard Taylor

children were younger, Jackie attended some classes with them. "It is great one-on-one time with the child, and the kids definitely look forward to taking Mom or Dad to Zoo Class."

The Zoo can be a busy place in summer, but Zoo Camp volunteers and interns are trained to keep the children safe and together when on tour. "The supervision provided for our kids while they are in the Zoo Classes and Camps is wonderful, and we are confident that our kids are not only learning and having fun, but also are very well looked after."

Zoo Summer Camps

Sponsored by Penzeys Spices

It's not too late to sign up for Summer Camps! Your 6- or 7-year-old can check out fun topics like "Zoooper Heroes," "Lions" and "Oodles of Art." Camps are offered for infants, children ages 2-14 and families. Registration for July-August 2016 is open now at zoosociety.org/Summer.

Fall Zoo Classes

Sponsored by Meijer

Registration starts Aug. 4 for September-December Zoo Classes. Try a Stroller Safari program with your infant or sign your 8- to 10-year-old up for "Get Off My Turf" to learn how animals mark and protect their territories. There are even photography classes for adults. Visit zoosociety.org/Education to learn more.

"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 October 2016-May 2017 programs by calling **414-258-5058** or visiting zoosociety.org/SchoolPrograms.

Workshops for Early-Childhood Educators

"Bugs" is a three-hour workshop on Saturday, July 23, 2016, for early-childhood educators. Learn how to incorporate a unit about bugs into your own classroom. Workshop includes animal background information, classroom station ideas, project samples and a guided tour at the Zoo. Workshop content is mainly for educators of ages 2-5. To register, call **414-258-5058** or visit zoosociety.org/TeacherEdu.

Five Kids in Zoo Classes

Jackie Fitch is an experienced Zoo Class mom. All five of her children have attended Zoo Classes and Camps over the years. Her youngest will be attending the 4- and 5-year-old "Animal Champions" camp this summer. "We have three boys and two girls, and they have each always been able to find something that interested them with the variety of classes offered. They've built confidence as they've attended classes over the years, both in their animal knowledge and also in heading off to attend classes on their own. They are quick to talk to the other kids, instructors and volunteers in their classes and are always so excited to tell us what they learned when we pick them up. Some of our kids have aged out of Zoo Camps, but they still talk about the different classes they've attended, especially when we visit the Zoo as a family." When her

When I start the day by saying, "You are going to a Zoo Class today," neither of my children, ages 5 and 8, are able to contain their excitement. They have loved every Zoo Class they have attended!

**Michael & Karolyn M.,
Wauwatosa**

Insider Tips

New Red Panda Attracts Attention

Dash the red panda is smitten with his new exhibit mate, Dr. Erin Curry. It's hard to blame him — she's an impressive creature, even though she doesn't actually have a medical degree. The new panda arrived at the Milwaukee County Zoo in spring, and Dash quickly took to following her around the exhibit. She was born at the Cincinnati Zoo, where she was named after a reproductive physiologist who tracked her mother's pregnancy.

Dr. Erin Curry hasn't reciprocated Dash's interest yet. "She does her own thing, and he follows her," says Katie Kuhn, area supervisor of big cats. (The red pandas, while not big cats, are located adjacent to the Florence & Mila Borchert Big Cat Country building.) That could be because she's getting used to her new exhibit, examining the different paths, enrichment items and even sticks in the yard. It also could be because at just barely a year old, she's not mature yet. She won't be ready to breed until she's at least 18 months old. After that, keepers hope she and Dash will have babies. "We've never had red panda babies at this Zoo," Kuhn says.

The new female seems bolder than Dash, who can be rather timid, Kuhn says. "If you open the door, she comes running in, while Dash will linger behind." She's also darker and smaller than Dash, making them easy to tell apart. Dr. Erin Curry's chest and back are a deep mahogany color, while Dash's fur is rust-colored.

In the wild, red pandas live in the forested mountains of Nepal, Myanmar, central China, India and Tibet. They spend much of their time in trees and use their bushy tails like blankets to keep themselves warm in the high altitudes. They primarily eat bamboo, and the Zoo has been increasing the amount of bamboo in its red pandas' diets, Kuhn says. They are endangered in the wild because of deforestation and poaching. Some people even capture baby red pandas to keep as pets.

It's an exciting time for the Zoo's red pandas. Not only are they getting to know one another, but their home is getting a makeover, thanks to donors to the Zoological Society's 2014-15 Annual Appeal. Early this summer, workers will renovate the exhibit so that it's covered, preventing raccoons and other animals from getting in. They also will add more resting platforms, allowing the pandas to climb higher, and new enrichment activities. The remodeled exhibit will better protect the pandas from heat and rain, encouraging them to spend more time outside in summer. The end result will be an exhibit that's better for the pandas and the visitors. The donor recognition sign from the appeal has been installed near the exhibit. *By Stacy Vogel Davis*

Dr. Erin Curry.

Photo by Joel Miller



Little Sister Joins Giraffe Herd

Baby giraffe Zola was 5 feet 7 inches tall and 157 pounds at birth, yet she still looks tiny compared with her mother, father and half-brother. Milwaukee County Zoo fans were thrilled to learn that giraffe Marlee had given birth April 26 to a girl, the second giraffe calf born in less than a year at the Zoo. Her name, of South African origin meaning “to love,” was chosen by the public through online voting.

Everything has worked out according to the Zoo’s hopes when it brought Marlee and Ziggy here in 2013 through an endowment established by the Bernie Ziegler family in memory of his wife, Elizabeth Ziegler. Zoo officials hoped the young females would breed with male giraffe Bahatika. Ziggy was the first to give birth on Sept. 16 to a male named Tafari. The keepers suspected Marlee was pregnant in late winter when they noticed her round belly, and they had her feces tested for pregnancy hormones to confirm it. They thought she might give birth in summer. “We were a little surprised the baby arrived so soon,” says zookeeper Katie Gut. It was the opposite with Tafari — keepers thought Ziggy would give birth in mid-summer, but the calf wasn’t born until September. (Giraffes are pregnant for 14 to 15 months, so it can be hard to predict a due date.)

Marlee has been a good mom, which comes as no surprise because she was very nurturing with Tafari. “I think that helped, having him around,” Gut says. Tafari, who now stands at nearly 9 feet tall, has shown a lot of interest in his half-sister. “It’s just like a human toddler with a baby,” Gut says. “He’s very curious and wants to play, but she’s a little stand-offish.” Despite that, Gut says Zola has shown herself to be even bolder and more curious than Tafari was at her age. Like Tafari, Zola is growing very quickly, Gut says. “So if you want to see a little baby giraffe, you have to do it soon.”



Giraffe calf Zola. Photo by Bob Wickland



Scottish Highland calf Keira. Photo by Olga Kornienko

Playful Calf Keeps Visitors Smiling

In summer, every young creature — whether it be kid or calf — likes to kick up its heels and frolic in the sunshine. It’s no different for Keira, the Milwaukee County Zoo’s Scottish Highland calf. Keira, born on exhibit March 12 to mom Trinity, has been endearing herself to Zoo visitors with her playful antics and fuzzy features. “All calves behave the same, whether they’re dairy cows or beef cattle,” says Lisa Guglielmi, supervisor of the Zoo’s farm area. “They want to play and run, and they can be feisty.”

Trinity came to the Zoo in August. Keepers knew she could be pregnant when she arrived, and a blood test confirmed it. The calf was named Keira, meaning “little dark-haired girl,” fitting for her chocolate-brown color. Her mother is cream-colored, but the bull that sired her is dark red, Guglielmi says. She was 65 pounds at birth and is probably gaining 1 to 3 pounds a week. When full-grown, she could weigh up to 1,100 pounds.

Scottish Highland cattle are one of the oldest cattle breeds in the world. They boast long horns and thick, shaggy hair that helps them thrive in the harsh winters of the Scottish Highlands (and Wisconsin). “Scottish Highland cattle are probably the most docile of the beef breeds,” Guglielmi says. “This makes them a great animal for a Zoo setting and for people that raise them.” You can find Keira in the Northwestern Mutual Family Farm with her mother and Upstart, a belted Galloway cow. But come visit soon — the exhibit doesn’t have room for three full-grown cows, so Keira probably will leave in fall, Guglielmi says.

By Stacy Vogel Davis

Insider Tips (continued)

Saving Snakes in Wisconsin

Billie Harrison, area supervisor of the Aquatic & Reptile Center at the Milwaukee County Zoo, knows she'll never get everyone to love snakes as much as she does. But she does want people to appreciate what snakes do for the ecosystem, including right here in Wisconsin. That's why she's excited that the Zoo has two new snakes — a timber rattlesnake and an Eastern massasauga rattlesnake — that are native to Wisconsin. "They are such important animals to have on display here, because they're such important species to Wisconsin," she says.



Timber rattlesnake. Photo by Bob Wickland

The snakes, both male, arrived recently at the Zoo. The massasauga was born at the Toronto Zoo and will alternate on exhibit with the Zoo's two other massasaugas. He is less than a year old and isn't full grown yet. The timber rattlesnake is about 16. He's the only timber rattlesnake at the Zoo, although the Zoo previously displayed his siblings.

Contrary to popular depiction, many snakes, including massasaugas and timber rattlesnakes, are shy and prefer to avoid humans, Harrison says. "These are some of the most laidback animals you can imagine," she says. While the snakes rarely bite humans, they do consume rodents and pests that can carry diseases. For example, snakes eat rodents that carry ticks, which can spread Lyme disease. One timber rattlesnake can eat as many as 4,500 ticks a year, Harrison says. "We don't think enough about how much these animals benefit us," she says. "We really need them to keep our ecosystems in check."

Unfortunately, both species have seen their ranges greatly diminished in Wisconsin. Massasaugas are struggling so much here that the locations of the remaining populations aren't revealed, Harrison says. The timber rattlesnake is doing a little better in the Mississippi River Valley in western Wisconsin. Harrison is doing her part to help the animals in the wild. She recently returned from field work with a Michigan population of massasaugas. The population has been monitored for eight years as part of their Species Survival Program® (SSP) through the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. Harrison helped survey the snakes and collected demographic data such as growth rates and reproductive status. She also serves as the SSP's outreach coordinator and helps produce pamphlets about massasaugas to hand out at conservation events. "I like being able to show people how they actually behave, as opposed to how they're sensationalized in the media," she says. "They're phenomenal animals." You can learn more about the SSP's efforts for the massasauga at emrssp.org or on the Eastern Massasauga SSP's Facebook page.

By Stacy Vogel Davis

Eastern massasauga rattlesnake.

Photo by Bob Wickland



By the Numbers

1. Zootastic

A Zoo Pride volunteer helps Brylee M., 8, of Waterford, make kangaroo ears at Zootastic, a family fundraiser for the Zoological Society sponsored by **Grow Hope @ SaintA**. This year's event attracted 501 participants April 29.

Photo by Bob Wickland



2. Mother's Day at the Zoo

Haytham and Hiba A., of Oak Creek, and their four children (left to right) Sujood, 5; Layth, 2; Affaf, 6; and Yousef, 8, pose in front of the Rhino Exhibit during Mother's Day at the Zoo. Mothers received free admission thanks to sponsor **Lifeway Foods**. The event drew 12,672 people.

Photo by Olga Kornienko



3. Party for the Planet

Manda L., of Oconomowoc, plants flowers with daughter Elsie, 5, and gardening expert Melinda Myers during Party for the Planet, sponsored by **American Transmission Co.** Despite unseasonably cold weather, 9,600 people visited May 14 and 15 to learn about conservation efforts at the Zoo and around the world. A Boy Scout troop planted more than 50 trees and shrubs near Lake Evinrude thanks to a grant from ATC.

Photo by Bob Wickland

4. Nights in June

Andy Pike, of Theresa, and Melanie Bader, of Fond du Lac, order food from **Hard Wood Cafe Catering Co.** during Nights in June. Zoo Pass members got free admission to the summer bug exhibit June 7-9 and also enjoyed entertainment and food trucks. A total of 12,479 attended during the three evenings.

Photo by Bob Wickland



5. Animal Enrichment Day

Olesia C., 5, and mom Elizabeth, of Milwaukee, "forage" for treats like an ape at Animal Enrichment Day on June 11. The event, sponsored by **Whole Foods Market**, drew 4,526 people.

Photo by Stacy Kaat



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Photo by Olga Kornienko

What's Happening

Details Inside

July 6, 13, 20, 27 & Aug. 3

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

July 3

Military/Veterans Family Day

July 12, 14 & 15

Kids' Nights, sponsored by WaterStone Bank*

July 25

Birdies & Eagles Golf Tournament, sponsored by GRAEF (pre-register)

Aug. 4

Registration begins for Fall Zoo Classes, sponsored by Meijer

Aug. 10-14

Snooze at the Zoo, sponsored by Kellogg's & Sentry Foods (pre-register)

Aug. 18-21

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel a la Carte, presented by Meijer*

Aug. 27

Animal Safari

Sept. 1

Fall Zoo Classes, sponsored by Meijer, begin

Sept. 2

Senior Celebration, sponsored by Wheaton Franciscan Senior Health*

Sept. 10 & 11

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

Sept. 11

Ride on the Wild Side, sponsored by Wheaton Franciscan – Midwest Spine & Orthopedic Hospital/Wisconsin Heart Hospital

Sept. 17

Zoo Pass members-only field trip to Chicago's Field Museum

Sept. 17

Elephant Appreciation Day*

Sept. 29

Zoo Brew+

Oct. 8

Family Free Day, sponsored by North Shore Bank; media sponsor: WITI FOX 6

Oct. 14 & 15

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

Oct. 15

Wolf Awareness Day*

Oct. 21 & 22

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

Nov. 3

Registration begins for 2017 Spring Zoo Classes, sponsored by Meijer+

Nov. 5

Family Free Day, sponsored by North Shore Bank; media sponsor: WITI FOX 6

*Zoo Pass members get free Zoo admission with their Zoo Pass card and photo ID. Admission to the bug exhibit is an extra \$2.50 per person. Those with Zoo Pass Plus also get free parking for one vehicle per membership per day.

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



Photo by Richard Brodzeller

Family Farm Weekend

The
 Zoological
 Society is now
 on *Snapchat!*

Add us:
 ZooSocietyMKE.