

WILD THINGS

JULY-AUG
2022



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Meet &
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Reality**



JULY
12, 14, 15

MEMBERS- ONLY EVENT!



Kids Nights

Sponsored by WaterStone Bank

5-8 p.m.

Use your Zoo Pass or Platypus Circle card to enjoy an evening at the Zoo. This members-only event is a great way to enjoy the fun of summer while getting the most out of your membership. Kids Nights includes music, dancing, crafts, food trucks and, of course, animals at night!

Members are invited to one of three nights. Enjoy a Kohl's Wild Theater performance; entertainment by Main Street Song and Dance Troupe, sponsored by eAchieve Academy; and Kip's Fun Show, sponsored by Great Clips. Purchase dinner from local food trucks and a sweet tent. Participating vendors will donate 15% of their sales each night to the Zoological Society's Sponsor an Animal program. Food can also be purchased at the Zoo's concession stands and food trucks. Head over to Ocean Connections to get a personal seal and sea lion encounter when you buy fish to feed the flipped friends.



SPECIAL OFFER

Visit any WaterStone Bank branch by July 5, 2022, show your Zoo Pass card, and get one ticket good for a free ride on the Penzeys Carousel during Kids Nights (while supplies last).

Cover Photos:

Carousel by Kevin McIntosh;
Gorilla photo courtesy of Immotion Group



Printed on
recycled paper.



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:

9 a.m.-5 p.m. through Sept. 5.

Zoo hours:

9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. through Sept. 5.

Note: The following areas close before the posted Zoo closing time: drive-in admission gate (45 minutes prior), walk-in gate (one hour prior) and animal buildings (15 minutes prior).

Company picnics: For members visiting the Zoo with a company picnic, Zoo Pass members' admission and 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. Zoo Pass admission is valid for regular daytime Zoo hours and many events.

Visiting other zoos and aquariums: We have agreed to participate in the Association of Zoos & 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 some institutions that are in close proximity to our Zoo. Members are encouraged to review the updated list 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 for children: 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.



WILD THINGS

Issue No. 158, July-August 2022

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

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Photos taken by Garrett Hopkins unless otherwise noted.

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

Contact the Milwaukee County Zoo at:

10001 W. Bluemound Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53226
Phone: 414-256-5412 **Web:** milwaukeezoo.org

AUG

11, 12, 13

SLEEP AMONG THE WILD THINGS

In the Zoo, the mighty Zoo, the lion (and thousands of other animals) sleeps tonight.

Snooze at the Zoo

Sponsored by Post Consumer Brands & Sentry Foods

5 p.m. start

Sleep next to the animals' turf during Snooze at the Zoo – back for the first time since 2019! At this once-a-year event, bring your family to the Zoo for a camping adventure. Campsites are located near the seals, bears, elk and caribou.

Snooze at the Zoo is a low-maintenance trip for families. Bring a tent and sleeping bag, and we handle the rest. There is a picnic dinner and s'mores later that night. Entertainment includes an outdoor movie, face painting, bubbles and chalk drawings. When you wake up in the morning, breakfast is served. After you tear down your campsite, enjoy the rest of the day at the Zoo.

Registration is now open! Zoo Pass members do receive discounted prices. Be sure to log into your account on zoosociety.org before registering to take full advantage of your benefits.

Activities sponsored by Educators Credit Union.

S'mores sponsored by Dave & Buster's.

Food donors: Campfire Marshmallows, Lifeway Foods, Prairie Farms Dairy and Racine Danish Kringsles.

Snooze FOR the Zoo

Not a fan of camping but still want the T-shirt? Consider our Snooze FOR the Zoo option. Back by popular demand, we will provide a bag you can take home or on your own camping trip. Inside will be a commemorative T-shirt, snacks and activities.

Register at
zoosociety.org/snooze.



Photo by Bob Wickland

ZOO PASS **DEALS**

Unlock new adventures with your Zoo Pass. A Zoo Pass allows you to get into the Zoo for free during regular Zoo hours. But there is also so much more you can do.

Check out these additional benefits that make this the best deal in town.

Get 10-15% off



ZOO EXPEDITIONS

sponsored by Meijer

Choose from two different expeditions.

The signature zoomobile ride is a 25-minute tour around the Zoo or choose the Home Away From Home tour that lasts 1 hour and stops three times for a more in-depth look and talk.

SKY ADVENTURE ROPES COURSES & ZIP LINE

sponsored by Tri City National Bank

Thrill-seekers can reach new heights by balancing their way through rope obstacles or flying across a 500-foot zip line.



Photo by Paul Ruffolo

ATTRACTION COUPONS

Zoo Pass members receive coupons electronically loaded to their card. Each coupon can be used for one free admission ticket for the North Shore Bank Safari Train, the Penzeys Carousel or the special summer exhibit – Dino Don's Dragon Kingdom, sponsored by Sendik's Food Market.

Coupons are valid up to your Zoo Pass expiration date.



with your Zoo Pass
at these locations.

GIFT SHOP

Show your Zoo Pass to the cashier inside the gift shops and get an immediate 10% discount on non-clearance items.



SKY SAFARI

sponsored by
Mathnasium: The Math Learning Center

Soak in a whole new view of the Zoo from up in the air. Glide above the trees and see the elephants, camels, yaks and more.



VIRTUAL REALITY

The Zoo's newest attraction includes a virtual reality experience. Show your Zoo Pass for a discount to this adventure. (Page 10)

Photo courtesy of Immotion Group



*Train and carousel by
Kevin McIntosh, Dragon
courtesy Dino Dan Inc.*

ANIMAL ART

What do you get when you combine an egg carton, a plastic bottle and an empty chip bag? We don't know, but we hope your child will create an amazing piece of art with it! The Kids Green Art Contest is all about making animal art out of items that would otherwise be thrown away or recycled. It's also an opportunity to learn something about animals and their habitats.



This year's theme is animals from the North and South Poles. Some examples of animals that live in either location include polar bears, reindeer, Gentoo penguins, seals and different species of whales. Kids of all ages are invited to participate. Winners from each age category will win a prize.

Dates to remember:

- Register by Aug. 12
- Deliver art project Aug. 20-26
- Projects will be publicly displayed at the Zoo on Aug. 27.

Guests can see the amazing creations designed by local children. We will also post all art projects on our website.

Go to zoosociety.org/greenart to register.

AUG
27

ANIMAL SPONSOR PERK

Animal Safari

Animal sponsors have shared their love by sponsoring, and now we want to return the love by inviting them to a special event. Animal Safari is for animal sponsors and those who have purchased a sponsorship as a gift since Aug. 25, 2019. Due to the pandemic, we had to cancel Animal Safari for the past few years and we want to make sure all sponsors are rewarded with this event.

Animal Safari will include behind-the-scenes tours, animal talks, examples of animal enrichment, animal-themed crafts and more. Tours are not necessarily in the area of your specific sponsored animal.

Not an animal sponsor yet? You can sponsor an animal the day of the event and still take part in the tours. Or, you can sponsor an animal today through zoosociety.org/SponsorAnAnimal.





EXPERIENCE THE OCEAN

Inside the Zoo, you can “seal” your love of animals with a kiss, a fish and a splash. Ocean Connections is a nonprofit organization that operates inside the Zoo. In their time at the Zoo they have welcomed 10 rescued seals and sea lions who would not be able to survive in the wild. From behind-the-scenes tours to family programs to their seal and sea lion feedings, Ocean Connections has a wide variety of interactive programs that are sure to inspire you and create a lifetime of memories!

Daily Programs

New this summer, check out the Superhero Spectacular: Seal & Sea Lion Show! Ocean Connections’ high-energy display highlights the superpowers marine mammals possess. Learn how they survive in the wild, how we can all be conservation heroes, and more during this 15- to 20-minute presentation. Shows are at noon and 1:30 p.m. each day.

Feeding and Photo Opportunity

Support ocean conservation, toss a fish to a seal or sea lion, chat with the animal care team, and bring the whole family poolside to experience the magic of marine mammals up close! Add on a personalized family photo to capture a picture-perfect portrait of you and your family with a flipped friend. Feedings are offered four times a day.

Family Programs

Bring the whole family to the Flipped Friends & Family program. In this program you will visit off-exhibit areas, learn from our animal care specialists, and come poolside for a private training session with the seals or sea lions. This interactive opportunity is fun for all ages!

Support Conservation

There are many other ways you can help this nonprofit: buy a seal or sea lion painting, attend their gala on Aug. 6, book your child for a camp or donate today. **For a look at all Ocean Connections has to offer go to oceanconnections.org. Or, if you have any questions email education@oceanconnections.org.**

Photos courtesy of Ocean Connections



UNFOR-**GOAT**-ABLE GIFT



If you can't 'goat' enough of the goats at the Zoo, you're not alone. This summer you can sponsor Saffron, a Nigerian dwarf goat, and take home an adorable plush-toy goat. Zookeepers say Saffron loves meeting people and is often seen jumping over her goat friends to get into the hay feeder. She's smaller for her age but very spunky.

Saffron was one of the triplets born at the Zoo in 2020. Zookeepers went with a "spicy" theme while naming her and her siblings. Saffron's sister is Sage and her brother is Chili. Saffron is a light brown/gray with a white patch on top of her head. She also has a darker brown stripe down her back and darker brown legs and tail.



When you sponsor Saffron at \$50, you will receive:

- A plush-toy goat
- A sticker of Saffron
- A certificate of sponsorship
- A colorful fact sheet about goats
- An invitation to a special event for animal sponsors
- And more!

More goat babies! In the spring, the Zoo welcomed 11 goat babies born to five moms. There are six bucklings and five does. The farm zookeepers went with a musician/band theme for names. Examples of some of the names are Santana, Bowie, Cher, Axl Rose and Shakira. The kids will be too little to be part of the public goat feedings this summer. But, the dozens of more mature goats like Saffron are ready to meet you this summer.

To sponsor Saffron or another animal, go to zoosociety.org/SponsorAnimal.

The Zoological
Society of
Milwaukee's



FALL
ZOO
CLASSES



2022

We know you're excited about our classes, and we want to make your child's educational experience rewarding. Please read and familiarize yourself with important information, such as our health and safety precautions and general classroom policies on the last page.

STROLLER SAFARI

Age infant–2 with one adult | \$20 Zoo Pass members
\$30 non-members

Stroll through the Zoo on these guided tours designed specifically for one-on-one learning time for you and your child! Programs feature songs, puppets, stories and more. We recommend wearing close-toed shoes, warm clothing and bringing your stroller along. All classes begin in the atrium of the Conservation Education building. Tours take place outside rain or shine.

HORNS, HOOVES & HUMPS

Let's stroll through the Zoo to find animals with horns, hooves and humps! Practice stomping your zebra hooves, pretend to "ride" the humps of the Bactrian camel and play "peek-a-boo" as you look for the bongos' horns.

8:45–9:45 a.m.

Sept. 14, 16, 17, 18, 23, 29, 30
Oct. 2, 6

10:15–11:15 a.m.

Sept. 16, 17, 18, 23, 29, 30
Oct. 2, 6

BUMPY, SLIMY, SCALY

See bumpy alligators, slimy fish and scaly snakes as we venture through the Aquatic & Reptile Center. Explore the topic of textures with your little one as we learn songs, rhymes and sign language for these animals that you can practice at home.

8:45–9:45 a.m.

Nov. 11, 13, 18, 19, 30
Dec. 1, 4, 8, 10, 16

10:15–11:15 a.m.

Nov. 13, 18, 19
Dec. 1, 4, 10, 16

HANDS, FEET & SOMETIMES TAILS

Join us as we swing over to see the gorillas, orangutans and spider monkeys. Let's find out how these primates use their hands, feet, fingers and toes (and sometimes tails!) to eat, move and play. Sing a song to practice body part identification with your primate baby.

8:45–9:45 a.m.

Oct. 13, 14, 15, 21, 22, 26, 28, 30
Nov. 3, 4

10:15–11:15 a.m.

Oct. 14, 15, 22, 26, 28, 30
Nov. 4

"We love the Zoo. We love the staff.
The Zoo teachers are awesome!"
– Class Participant

AGE 2

Back By
Popular Demand!

with one adult

\$27 Zoo Pass members
\$37 non-members

ZOO TRAIN!

Join us in our backyard classroom under the tent to learn about trains. We'll practice our shapes as we build a train costume. We'll practice our train sounds as we read a train book. Then, we'll chug on over to ride the North Shore Bank Safari Train around the Zoo. All aboard! Choo! Choo! *Class takes place rain or shine, so please dress for the weather.*

8:45-9:45 a.m.

Sept. 7, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16,
17, 18, 23, 24

10:15-11:15 a.m.

Sept. 8, 9, 10, 15, 16,
17, 18, 23, 24

12:30-1:30 p.m.

Sept. 10, 17, 24



AGE 3

with one adult

\$32 Zoo Pass members
\$42 non-members

FIN-TASTIC FISH

Here, fishy, fishy! Come to our underwater classroom to learn about our finned friends. Decorate a fish costume and pretend to swim through "water." We'll dart as a school of fish over to the Zoo's Aquatic & Reptile Center to see some fishy friends up close. It will be a swimmingly good time!

9-10:30 a.m.

Sept. 9, 10, 16, 18, 22, 25, 29
Oct. 2, 5

11a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Sept. 10, 16, 18, 22
Oct. 2, 5

12:30-2 p.m.

Sept. 25

HANGIN' OUT WITH BATS

Swoop into our nighttime classroom to learn about bats. Use a flashlight to explore the bat cave, practice sleeping "upside-down" and make a bat costume complete with wings. Fly to the Small Mammals Building to watch these nocturnal mammals in action.

9-10:30 a.m.

Oct. 13, 14, 20, 22, 23, 27, 29, 30
Nov. 2, 4,

11a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Oct. 14, 22, 29, 30
Nov. 4

12:30-2 p.m.

Oct. 23

APES & MONKEYS

Spy monkeys and Apes among the tall trees in our rainforest classroom. Knuckle-walk like an ape or swing like a monkey in search of food. Make your own binoculars and use them to discover the difference between a monkey and an ape as we trek through the Primates of the World Building.

9-10:30 a.m.

Nov. 11, 12, 16, 20
Dec. 1, 2, 9, 10, 11, 17

11a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Nov. 12, 20
Dec. 2, 11, 17

12:30-2 p.m.

Dec. 10

AGES 4&5

child only or with one adult

\$39 Zoo Pass members
\$49 non-members

Sign up your child for a **child-only** class or attend with your child in a **with adult** class.

ZEBRA STRIPES

Did you know that each zebra has its own pattern of stripes? Explore our savanna classroom to discover how a baby zebra finds its mother in a sea of stripes. Use a marble to paint a unique stripe pattern on your very own zebra. Create a zany zebra costume and gallop over to the Zoo's watering hole to meet these amazing African animals.

Child Only

9:15-11:30 a.m.

Oct. 7, 8

1-3:15 p.m.

Oct. 7, 8

Child & Adult

9:15-11:30 a.m.

Sept. 22, 24, 25, 30

Oct. 5, 14, 15, 16

1-3:15 p.m.

Sept. 24, 25, 30

Oct. 14, 15, 16

ROCKIN' REPTILES

Awesome alligators, super snakes and terrific turtles! Meet a rockin' reptile in the classroom and find out what makes these animals special. Turn into an alligator, create your own snake that "sheds" and build an alligator nest. Then, slither over to the Aquatic & Reptile Center to see these creatures in action.

Child Only

9:15-11:30 a.m.

Nov. 2, 3, 6

Child & Adult

9:15-11:30 a.m.

Oct. 21, 22, 23, 28, 29

Nov. 11, 12, 13

1-3:15 p.m.

Nov. 3, 6

1-3:15 p.m.

Oct. 22, 23, 28, 29

Nov. 11, 12, 13

CARIBOU TREK

How are caribou and reindeer the same and different? Explore our classroom tundra to learn about antlers that shed and hooves that click. Then join the herd as we migrate into the Zoo for an up-close look at these fascinating animals. Parent or Guardian note: *Shhhh... We'll have a special surprise visit from Santa or Mrs. Claus.*

Child Only

9:15-11:30 a.m.

Dec. 8, 9, 10, 11

1-3:15 p.m.

Dec. 8, 9, 10, 11

Child & Adult

9:15-11:30 a.m.

Nov. 18, 19, 20, 30

Dec. 2, 4, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18

1-3:15 p.m.

Nov. 19, 20, 30

Dec. 2, 4, 15, 16, 17, 18

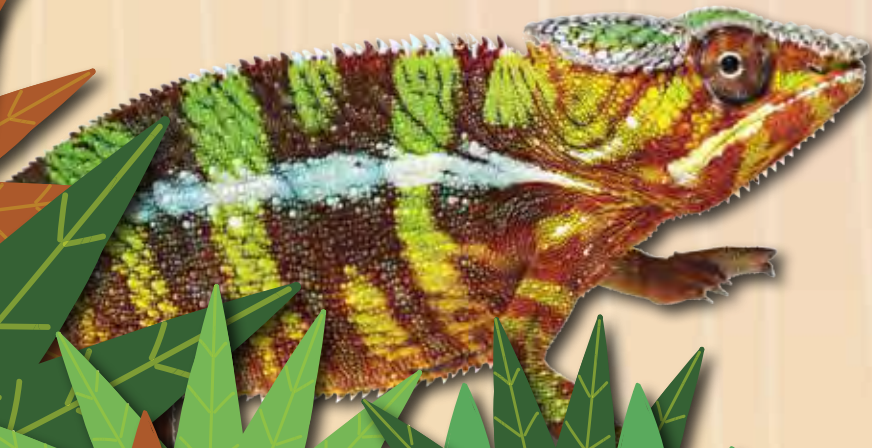




Photo by Garrett Hopkins

AGES 6-9

child only

\$39 Zoo Pass members
\$49 non-members

Sign up your child for a **child-only** class or attend with your child in a **with adult** class.

WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST

Motion-sensing cameras, GPS tracking devices and night vision equipment. What do these three things have in common? They're all tools a wildlife biologist uses! Learn the tips and tricks of being a real animal scientist. Hike into the Zoo's woods for a "creature count" and record your scientific discoveries. Don't miss out on this exciting, hands-on adventure!

Ages 6 & 7

9:15-11:45 a.m.

Sept. 17, 25

1-3:30 p.m.

Sept. 17
Oct. 8

Ages 8 & 9

9:15-11:45 a.m.

Oct. 8

1-3:30 p.m.

Sept. 25

ANIMALS ON THE MOVE

Why do some animals pick up and leave once a year? Where do they go and how do they find their way back? Discover why some animals such as birds, butterflies, caribou and whales make this amazing journey. Travel around the world "side by side" with migrating animals as you visit the Zoo's magnificent migrators and make your own migration creation to take home.

Ages 6 & 7

9:15-11:45 a.m.

Oct. 22, 29

1-3:30 p.m.

Oct. 22

Ages 8 & 9

9:15-11:45 a.m.

Nov. 6

1-3:30 p.m.

Oct. 29
Nov. 6

ZOOKEEPER: ARC

How do you clean a piranha tank or feed a venomous snake? Discover the exciting job responsibilities of zookeepers in the Aquatic & Reptile Center. Find out how keepers care for the slimiest and scaliest cold-blooded creatures in the Zoo!

Ages 6 & 7

9:15-11:45 a.m.

Nov. 12
Dec. 11, 17

1-3:30 p.m.

Nov. 12, 13

Ages 8 & 9

9:15-11:45 a.m.

Nov. 13

1-3:30 p.m.

Dec. 11, 17



NEW! Day off School Programs

AGES 8-11

child only | \$75 Zoo Pass members
\$85 non-members



GETTING DRAMATIC FOR WILDLIFE: CONSERVATION ACTORS IN TRAINING

Has anyone ever told you you're dramatic? Do you love animals? Are you a storyteller? If you answered yes to any of these, join us for a day off school to become a conservation actor in training! Learn the basics of becoming an actor, while exploring ways to tell others about the importance of wildlife and conservation.

9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Oct. 21
Nov. 8

AGE 10 & 11

child only | \$39 Zoo Pass members
\$49 non-members

THE SCIENCE OF FLIGHT

Birds are not the only animals that take to the skies to fly! Amphibians, fish, insects, mammals, reptiles and more can fly or glide through the air. Find out how these animals move and build your own kites and gliders to learn about the science of flight!

9:15-11:45 a.m.

Sept. 17
Dec. 4

1-3:30 p.m.

Nov. 12



AGE 12-14

child only

\$39 Zoo Pass members

\$49 non-members

ANIMAL TRAINING AND ENRICHMENT

Show me your foot, turn around, stand on one leg, stick out your tongue. Did you know many Zoo animals can follow these directions when asked by zookeepers? These are not tricks to entertain; these are techniques to keep animals healthy and to enrich their lives. Learn the inside story about how zookeepers train the animals and what they do to keep them happy!

9:15-11:45 a.m.

Nov. 12

1-3:30 p.m.

Sept. 17

Dec. 4

FAMILY CLASS

all ages

\$17 Zoo Pass members

\$27 non-members

Back By
Popular Demand!

While we welcome family members of all ages, the content of this class is intended for children ages 3-12. Minimum of two registrants required and must include one adult (18 years or older) and one child. Children under the age of 1 are free to attend and do not need to be registered.

BEWILDERING BATS

Have you ever wondered why bats are important creatures for us to protect on our Earth? Come learn about these fascinating flying mammals by observing them in the Small Mammals Building, spotting ideal bat habitats throughout the Zoo and creating a project that will help protect endangered bats in Wisconsin.

9:15-11:30 a.m.

Oct. 15, 16

1-3:15 p.m.

Oct. 15, 16

FAMILY MATTERS

A family can be a whole group of animals working together, it can be two males raising an adopted chick, it can be different species who are bonded together. Learn how animal families of all kinds support each other. Meet an animal family at the Zoo and learn how family structures support our conservation work at the Zoo.

9:15-11:30 a.m.

Nov. 19, 20

Dec. 18

1-3:15 p.m.

Nov. 19, 20

Dec. 18

Photo by Garrett Hopkins



Register Online For Priority

[Zoosociety.org/fall](https://zoosociety.org/fall)

Member online registration begins July 13 at 9 a.m.

Non-member registration begins July 20 at 9 a.m.

PLEASE READ!

COVID-19 HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICIES

We are continually assessing community indicators to inform us of our status, and we are designing Zoo Classes to ensure an engaging and safe experience for all. Classes that were offered in prior years may have modifications due to health and safety precautions. All classes will adhere to Milwaukee County health and safety requirements. Our health and safety policies and best practices can be found online at zoosociety.org/fall prior to our registration date.

GENERAL CLASS POLICIES

Participants must be the appropriate age for a given class and no unregistered children may attend (including siblings). Exceptions on age are only made for children with special needs (please call Education prior to registration). Please only register for one date per class topic. If your child is attending a child-only class, an adult (18 years or older) must check the child in and provide the following information: emergency phone number, allergies/medications and names of adults authorized for pickup (only authorized adults with valid identification may pick up children). In addition, please do not meet or follow your child's group into the Zoo, as this is a distraction to the educational experience.

MEDICAL, COGNITIVE, BEHAVIORAL AND PHYSICAL INFORMATION

When registering, please thoroughly complete the "participant information" form with any medical and/or cognitive, behavioral or physical information. We strive to provide an inclusive environment for all, and your information will help us make the class successful for your child! You can also call our staff with updates at **414-258-5058**.

ANTICIPATE ENTRANCE GATE LINES

The time required to enter the Zoo can vary depending on weather, road construction, school groups and events. Please plan to arrive early. You may check your confirmation email or call the Conservation Education Department in advance of your registered education program for the most up to date entry information. When arriving prior to the Zoo's opening time, please use the leftmost lane along with your class confirmation. Thank you for your patience and understanding!

CANCELLATIONS & REIMBURSEMENT

You Cancel – If you're unable to attend class, call at least 3 days before the class date and we will try to reschedule your child for another available date this year. We do not issue refunds; however, you can offer your child's class to a friend of the same age.

We Cancel – The Conservation Education Department reserves the right to cancel classes. We will attempt to reschedule, accommodate your child in another class, or process a reimbursement. For weather-related cancellations, refer to local news stations or call 414-258-5058.

ANIMAL ENCOUNTERS

If you want to learn something neat, get on your feet for this amazing meet and greet! Animal Encounters is back at the Northwestern Mutual Family Farm. Four times a day, zookeepers will bring out three animals the crowd can meet and learn more about. Two of the three animals can be touched.

The animals rotate for their own health and safety but also so guests can come to more than one encounter and meet different animals. Assistant Curator Lisa Guglielmi says zookeepers come up with different themes for their encounters. Themes include animals from Wisconsin, diets or body coverings. Take the porcupine for example. Guests will learn his name is Stitch, his relatives can be found in Wisconsin and he likes to eat sweet potatoes. "It might circle around to myths about the animal, like porcupines don't shoot their quills," says Guglielmi. Disproving myths can also give people a better understanding of an animal

and instill empathy. When guests say they don't like snakes, the zookeeper at the time will ask why. "We ask them why instead of trying to convince them to like them," says Guglielmi. "Because usually if you ask the question, you find out what it is that is scaring them. Some people say it's because snakes are slimy, but then we can explain they aren't." The idea that snakes are slimy is a myth, and people may think that because they are shiny. Guglielmi says 99% of the people who say they won't touch something will end up touching it after a zookeeper talks to them.

Other animals you can meet and learn about include a groundhog, rabbit, salamander, opossum, whip scorpion, Brazilian black tarantula, guinea pig, chinchilla, fruit bat and more.



Animal Encounter Times:

10:30 a.m.

11:30 a.m.

2 p.m.

3 p.m.



Photo by Paul Ruffolo





VIRTUAL REALITY: GORILLA TREK

Experience the jungle and live among mountain gorillas in this new virtual reality experience. Starting in late July, the Zoo has transformed the Otto Borchert Family Special Exhibits Building near Macaque Island and Ocean Connections into a wild experience.

Hold on to your seats.

Special virtual reality goggles will give you a full 360-degree view of the jungle. Just move your head to see more of your surroundings. Then, you may move your head back as a gorilla family comes to meet you. The gorillas are so close you can see the tiniest details of their hair to the point you can almost feel it. But don't worry; you're safe behind the glasses. To top it off, the seats may vibrate or rumble, giving you a fully-immersive and dynamic experience.

The story

The video you watch revolves around a mountain gorilla family. Adult males and females along with young ones. Witness the family dynamics and what happens when one male gorilla thinks he should be the leader of the group. Can there be two leaders?

Will the head of the family give up his role?

This experience is in part thanks to world-renowned primatologists of the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund.

**Tickets are \$7 for general public
and \$6 for Zoo Pass members.**





CHARACTER INTERACTIONS

This summer, you and your children may come across a talking elephant or a superhero. On top of that, kids may play a game of Simon Says, play Red Light Green Light, learn to play in an animal orchestra or witness a magic trick. It's all part of Kohl's Wild Theater summer interactions.

When they aren't on the stage inside the Northwestern Mutual Family Farm, the actors will be out in the Zoo creating fun, relatable and teachable moments. "We have come up with a sandwich format, which encourages actors to start with a hook, followed by either an activity or discussion question and then a positive send-off – a call to action," says Jordyn Stewart, the Zoological Society's empathy programs education specialist.

Unlike the stage performances, these interactions involve a little more improv by the actors. They have several different activities and messages ready to go but will alter them depending on the ages of the crowd and how responsive they are. For example, if the actors notice a much younger crowd by Adventure Africa they may use the Hokey Pokey song and dance to teach them about how zookeepers care for the elephants. "You put your big trunk in, you put your big trunk out. You put your

big trunk in and let the keeper check you out! You learn to help them help you, as they check for cuts and scrapes, to make sure you're doing great," Stewart sings to the melody of Hokey Pokey. This activity helps children relate to the message and understand how zookeepers train animals to help in their own healthcare.

Another game for groups of all ages – but may be geared toward older children – is a game show-like activity called "Two Poops and a Lie." "They will give the audience different uses for elephant poop, and they have to guess which one is the lie," says Stewart. You may be surprised when you get the full scoop. The activities and messages will relate to things you do and see inside the Zoo and at a Kohl's Wild Theater show. It's a perfect way to connect messages and help people develop a better understanding about animals and the environment.

Kohl's Wild Theater stage shows and interactions around the Zoo are free to Zoo guests and are available through Labor Day (closed on Tuesdays). This experience is made possible by a partnership between Kohl's, the Milwaukee County Zoo, and the Zoological Society of Milwaukee.



Photo by Paul Ruffolo

A **VIP** LOOK INSIDE

On May 25, The Zoological Society invited members of the Platypus Circle, Simba Circle and Serengeti Circle, along with other special guests, to an event previewing Dino Don's Dragon Kingdom, sponsored by Sendik's Food Market. These VIPs were among the first to see the exhibit at the Milwaukee County Zoo before it opened to the general public.



Joe Wood, chief marketing officer for Sendik's Food Market, cuts the ribbon to officially open the dragon exhibit alongside Zoological Society President and CEO Jodi Gibson and Zoo Director Amos Morris.



Guests were in awe of the giant animatronic dragons. Each dragon has a back story and similarities to real animals.



County Executive David Crowley speaks to the crowd during dinner about the importance of the Zoo and the Zoological Society.



Small mammals supervisor Rhonda Crenshaw gives VIPs the inside scoop about the new otter pups born this year.

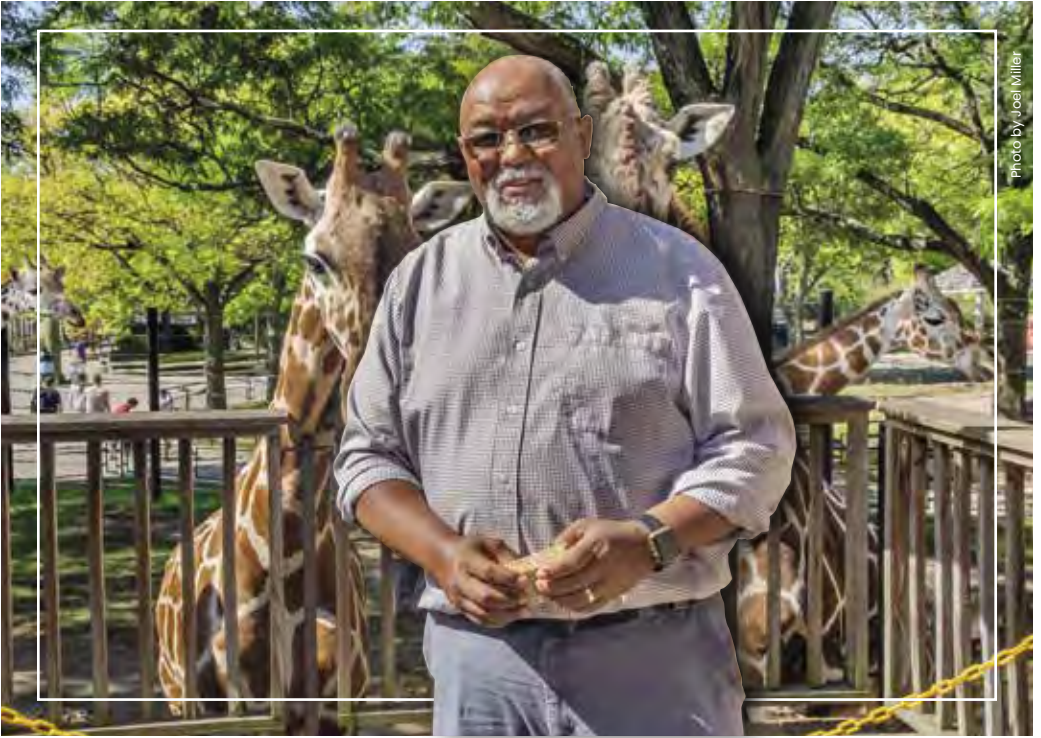
We would like to thank the following people and businesses that decided to support the Zoological Society by joining the Platypus Circle. These new members joined between Oct. 1, 2021, and June 1, 2022.

Anonymous (2)
 Matt & Pat Andrews
 Melissa Baus
 Linda Berez & Marcia Marino
 The Berkoff Family
 The Berndt Family
 Marjorie Borchardt
 Brown Deer Public Library
 Jack & Michelle Buck
 Theresa Cain
 Cornerstone Development of SE WI
 Cudahy Family Library
 Christa & Dave Danes
 David Alan's Smokehouse & Saloon

Downtown Veterinary Clinic
 Dwight Foster Public Library
 Friends of the Greendale Public Library
 Friends of the Waukesha Public Library
 Nancy & Jack Gaspar
 Greendale Public Library
 H. O. Bostrom Company
 Barb Hartling
 Sarah Haskins
 Doug & Angie Heding
 The Home Depot - Milwaukee MDO
 Doug & Norrine Janzen
 Kesslers Diamonds
 Lannon Stone Products, Inc.
 Douglas Marx & Kassy Neiman-Marx

John & Bonnie Meerschaert
 Suzanne & Dennis Miller
 Milwaukee Tool - West Bend
 Myklebust, Horne & Fies Financial Group
 Thomas & Yuiko O'Reilly
 Kate Ostruszka
 Jean Parulski
 Pamela Penzey
 The Plank Family
 Precision Plus
 Michael & Tracy Proulx
 Rae of Hope
 Shorewood Public Library
 Tony Staniak
 Kevin & Linda Steiner
 Jeff & Carolyn Woodcock
 Audra & Matthew Yentz

A LOVE OF NATURE



Walking around the Zoo, guests may not ever think about the people behind the scenes – specifically the ones behind the desks who make the decisions. It makes sense; why would you when there are fascinating animals to observe? But if you talk to the Zoo’s Zoo Director, you’ll quickly learn he’s thinking about you and your experience at the Milwaukee County Zoo. Amos Morris has held the position of Zoo director for nearly one year. “I want the community to be proud of the Zoo. I’d like the community and the team to feel like this is the best place they’ve ever been or worked,” says Morris.

Morris worked at seven other zoos during his career. He worked with elephants, hoofstock and primates and held positions such as zookeeper, curator, deputy director and director. His career took him across the country, and before Milwaukee he and his family were in California. Transitioning to the Midwest was not as shocking as some may think. “The green and lushness of Wisconsin is incredible,” Morris said while describing his impression of the area. “I’m looking forward to the summer getting on the rivers, being on the lakes, going to the state parks, really getting out in Wisconsin.” Morris loves the outdoors and being in nature. You may also spot him walking

through the Zoo. He not only likes to get out and see the animals and the guests, but he also takes walks to certain areas of the Zoo to talk to zookeepers. “Communication is two way, and I don’t expect everyone to come to me. Being out there to answer the questions – or at least hear the questions – is hugely important.”

Morris is using that open line of communication to help with his top priorities of creating a new strategic plan and tweaking the Master Plan for the Zoo. According to Morris, he wants his team to feel empowered and help lead the way by giving their insight on what direction to take the Zoo. “There are some things in it I will insist on, but there are some things in it that I hope are organic and grow from the institution.” Through teamwork and planning, Morris is evaluating the habitats that need to be updated and empty animal homes that need to be filled.

At the end of the day, Morris wants to make sure the Zoo is a place to help people connect with nature and show how diverse our planet truly is. “I hope their takeaway is a sense of empathy for the living beings on our planet. That we’re stewards of the planet, and these are animals that share it with us.”

JULY
WEDNESDAYS

LET THE MUSIC **PLAY!**



Sunset Zoofari

Sponsored by Tri City National Bank

Wednesdays in July
6-9 p.m.

Get into the groove on Wednesday nights in July. Sunset Zoofari is back with four different local bands ready to jam out. Guests can come in starting at 6 p.m. and walk around the Zoo or take in the summer night with some music.

THE LINEUP

July 6: Mission Accomplished **July 20: Downtown Harrison**
July 13: Wait for Morning **July 27: Dirty Boogie**

On July 27, join the Zoo for Wizing Night at Sunset Zoofari. A special evening of magical merriment! Win spellbinding prizes in the costume contest, try your wand-hand at Harry Potter trivia, and other fun and fantasy! These activities are included in Sunset Zoofari admission, which is free for Zoo Pass and Platypus Circle members.

With a VIP Wizard ticket (additional fee), stay after dark for an outdoor screening of Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire, receive a commemorative Zoo Wizing mug, and a spellbinding sweet treat.

Zoo Pass members get free admission to Sunset Zoofari. Tickets to see the movie on July 27 will cost extra.

AUG
18-21

THE TASTE OF **SUMMER**

Milwaukee a la Carte at the Zoo

Presented by Meijer

A Milwaukee tradition is back with some new twists. A la Carte at the Zoo is a four-day event featuring restaurants from around Southeastern Wisconsin. It's the perfect time to get your favorite meals or try something new. The Zoo will have a variety of cuisines like BBQ, wood-fired pizza, Mexican and Puerto Rican options, empanadas and more. Take a break between your sweet or savory samplings and listen to one of the numerous bands around the Zoo grounds.

New This Year

Instead of using multiple paper tickets to buy a food item, the restaurants and vendors are only accepting credit cards. No cash at this event.

HEADLINERS

Aug. 18: Bella Cain

Aug. 19: Spin Doctors

Aug. 20: Plain White T's

Aug. 21: De La Buena



Photo by Rich Taylor

Change in Zoo Hours:

During a la Carte, the Zoo will open at 11 a.m. instead of 9:30 a.m.

Hours are extended to 9 p.m.

Aug. 18-20 and 8 p.m. on Aug. 21.

** Zoo Pass and Platypus Circle members receive free admission to a la Carte.*

AUG
31

OLDER, WISER & **FREE**



Senior Celebration

Sponsored by St. Camillus Life Plan Community

The Zoo isn't just for kids. Senior Celebration invites guests 55 years of age and older to enjoy free admission to the Milwaukee County Zoo. Once you're inside, enjoy live music and maybe a little dancing thanks to entertainment sponsor Network Health. Then, test your luck and try to win prizes during one of the BINGO sessions. Wrap up your visit with a sweet treat from Festival Foods.

For those interested in taking Senior Celebration a step further, we recommend visiting some of the Zoo's most senior animals, such as Onassis the South American river turtle who is believed to be more than 100 years old. Onassis can be seen gracefully gliding around her tank in the Flooded Forest Habitat in the Aquatic & Reptile Center.

Parking not included.

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Milwaukee, WI
Permit No. 4073



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

DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY

QUICK FACT:

Goats have rectangular pupils giving them panoramic vision.

Sponsor Saffron the goat, page 8.



WHAT'S HAPPENING

Now-Sept. 5

Special summer exhibit, Dino Don's Dragon Kingdom, sponsored by Sendik's Food Market

Now-Sept. 5

Kohl's Wild Theater's summer season at the Zoo with free shows every day except Tuesdays*

July 3

Military & Veterans Family Day at the Zoo*

July 4

\$4 on the Fourth*

July 6, 13, 20, & 27

Sunset Zoofari, sponsored by Tri City National Bank*

July 12, 14 & 15

Kids Nights, sponsored by WaterStone Bank*

July 25

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

Aug. 11, 12 & 13

Snooze at the Zoo, sponsored by Post Consumer Brands & Sentry Foods (pre-register)

Aug. 12

Registration deadline for Kids Green Art Contest

Aug. 18-21

Milwaukee a la Carte, presented by Meijer*
Zoo opens at 11 a.m. daily

Aug. 27

Animal Safari, behind-the-scenes tours for animal sponsors & Kids Green Art Contest Display

Sept. 11

Ride on the Wild Side Bike Ride, sponsored by Annex Wealth Management (pre-register)




*Camp at the Zoo or buy a kit to camp at home or elsewhere.
Page 3.*

Photo by Bob Wickland

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

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



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