

# Wild Things



## Animals Star in New Plays

### Kohl's Wild Theater at the Zoo

May 28-Sept. 5; free shows five times daily

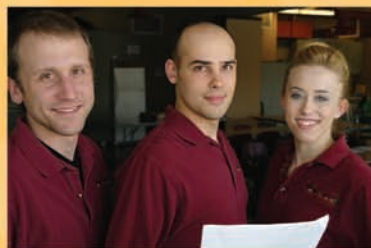
### Kohl's Wild Theater outreach

Free outreach programs for schools, libraries and other groups begin October 2011; book now at [wildtheater.org](http://wildtheater.org). Programs performed within a one-hour radius of the Milwaukee County Zoo.




There's something funny going on at the Milwaukee County Zoo this summer. Professional actors will be playing bees, bears and butterflies. An orangutan will sing and rhyme. And a trumpeter swan will help a polar bear avoid singing his swan song. These characters are each part of three professionally written plays commissioned by the Zoological Society for Kohl's Wild Theater. The family-friendly plays will rotate through five free performances every day at the Zoo, starting May 28. Kohl's Wild Theater is made possible by a partnership with Kohl's Department Stores through Kohl's Cares.

It takes quality actors to pull off roles that mix humor, audience interaction, songs and conservation themes in ways that are engaging and also compelling. Dave McLellan, the coordinator of Kohl's Wild Theater, selected nine actors who will take on the rigorous, seven-day-a-week schedule for Kohl's Wild Theater. Not only will they do five daily shows on the Kohl's Wild Theater stage (located in the Northwestern Mutual Family Farm), but they also will do impromptu skits at animal exhibits and short pathway performances. "This is a demanding job, requiring the utmost in professional talent and skill," says McLellan. How did he choose the actors? "First and foremost, I looked for acting ability," he says. "All of the actors went through an extensive audition process involving acting, singing and improvisation. I also looked for significant professional experience and training."

Samantha Sostarich, one of the first few actors to be hired, is excited about the energy the plays will bring to the Zoo. Full of energy herself, Sostarich, of South Milwaukee, says she has been a big fan of the Zoo since she attended Rawson Elementary School, which emphasized conservation. While at Rawson, she was involved in Zoological Society of Milwaukee (ZSM) education programs such as an animal-quilt project. Now, as an adult professional actor, she is delighted that the ZSM's Kohl's Wild Theater will be bringing outreach programs into schools, libraries and other venues starting in October. **Top image:** Sketch of the plans for an orangutan puppet by puppet-maker Brandon Kirkham. **Middle photo:** Dave McLellan reviews actor resumes and photos. **Bottom photo:** Actors Dylan Marks (left), Michael Black and Samantha Sostarich. For interviews with each, go to [wildtheater.org](http://wildtheater.org). Bottom photo by Paula Brookmire.



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**Photo:** Amy McKnight of Franklin and her 3-year-old daughter, Anna, danced together at last year's event.

You will also get half-price admission to the Zoo's special summer exhibit: Butterflies! In Living Color, sponsored by Sendik's Food Markets. This admission price starts at 3 p.m. every day of the event (ZSM members must present their Zoo Pass card and photo ID for reduced admission).

Live entertainment includes a kid-friendly dance party led by DJ Tim Sledge on the Flamingo Patio Gazebo stage, sponsored by American Family Insurance. Lisa Edgar & RAZMATAZZ (Dixieland strolling band) and Wild Willy, the strolling juggler, will make their rounds on the grounds, bringing the entertainment to you! The eco-themed band The Chickadees will jam on the Ralph Evinrude Landing Stage, sponsored by GG Golden Guernsey Dairy® (free milk

# Eat, Play

## Kids' Nights

Sponsored by WaterStone Bank  
**July 12, 14, OR 15, 5:15-9 p.m.**

Free admission with Zoological Society Zoo Pass card & ID. Reduced Milwaukee County parking fee: \$10 from 5:15 to 8:30 p.m. Zoo Pass Plus members receive free parking.

**Your invitation will be mailed in June.**

What do kids love? Eating, playing and making joyful noise. They'll get plenty of chances to do all three at the Zoological Society of Milwaukee's (ZSM's) members-only, kid-themed nights at the Zoo. So bring the family during one of the three nights and enjoy the Milwaukee County Zoo at night when it's still light outside. You can expect music, food aplenty, and all sorts of fun entertainment. Plus, the entire Zoo and all animal buildings will be open after hours.

## Memberanda

### WILD THINGS

Issue No. 94, June 2011

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**For Zoo Pass benefits and other details, please see [zoosociety.org/memberinfo](http://zoosociety.org/memberinfo).**

**Zoological Society office hours: Through May 27, 2011:** Weekdays, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Weekends, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. **May 28-Sept. 5:** Weekdays, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.; Weekends, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

**Zoo hours: Through May 27:** Daily, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. **May 28-Sept. 5:** Daily, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. **Please note that the Zoo's admission gates close 45 minutes before the posted Zoo closing hours. Zoo animal buildings close 30 minutes before posted Zoo closing times.**

**School field trips & Company Picnics:** Zoo Pass free-admission benefits do not apply when a child visits the Zoo as part of an organized class field trip or when members attend an employer's company picnic held at the Zoo. Due to the many busloads of school groups visiting the Zoo, gate staff is not able to board each bus to verify Zoo Pass memberships without causing potentially dangerous traffic backups onto Blue Mound Road. The discounted fees paid for educational outings and company picnics include additional Zoo-visit benefits.

**Help us get new members!** In spring we mail out our membership acquisition materials. Sometimes, if addresses or names don't match exactly with the names on magazine lists we rent, a member may receive our mailing. If that should happen, please pass it along to a friend, with your encouragement to join the Zoological Society. We get many new members this way. Thanks!

**Who can use member cards?** The person(s) named on the Zoo Pass is the owner of the card. Your Zoo Pass cannot be given to someone else to use. Please have your identification ready to present along with your Zoo Pass as you enter the Zoo. The ZSM and the Zoo retain the right to invalidate any Zoo Pass being used inappropriately.

# Play, Loud

Members only

## Special offer!

Visit any WaterStone Bank, show your Zoo Pass card, and get one ticket good for a free ride on the Penzeys Spices Carousel during Kids' Nights. Tickets available at all bank branches starting June 10, 2011. Visit [www.WSBonline.com](http://www.WSBonline.com) for branch locations.

samples will be distributed!). And if you still crave more music, students (ages 8-14) of Mike Murphy—guitar instructor and owner of the Rock Shop music store in Mukwonago—will perform rock music on the Zoo Terrace stage.

What's to eat? Purchase pizza and other treats from booths of area restaurants, including Noodles & Company, Palermo's® Pizza, Saz's Catering, and more. All will be open until 8:45 p.m., as will the Zoo's restaurants. Finish your meal with a sweet dessert from Gourmet Cheesecake and More or from Niemann's Homemade Candies. You also can scoop up a root beer float at the Butterfly Oasis near Macaque Island, where you can buy a float to help support the ZSM's Sponsor an Animal program.

You can buy our new butterfly T-shirts (see page 11), plush-toy animals and other fun, animal-related items at the ever-popular Extravanzoo Sale in the U.S. Bank Gathering Place entrance atrium. In the Peck Welcome Center, kids can get "inked" with animal and butterfly-themed temporary tattoos and enjoy kid-friendly craft activities. While you stroll the Peck, students from Karate America will show off their skills and dancers from The Dance Academy, Ltd., will perform various styles of dance throughout the evenings (karate and dance performances will alternate).

The Penzeys Spices Carousel and the North Shore Bank Safari Train will run till dusk (weather permitting) at regular prices. To accommodate traffic flow at the Zoo, the PNC Bank Zoomobile will not operate. You are invited to the event on the night specified on your invitation, which will arrive in June; however, if that date is inconvenient, you may attend on one of the other evenings. The event will be held rain or shine. All activities (except reduced butterfly exhibit admission, which begins at 3 p.m.) start after 5:15 p.m., when parking is \$10. Parking during the day is the regular price of \$11. The Zoo's admission gates will close for the day by 4:15 p.m. and re-open for this members-only event at 5:15 p.m.; however, members may stay in the Zoo during this time. The aviary will close at dusk.

**Photo:** Clara Roepke, 4, and Charlie Elliot, 4 (right), both of Milwaukee, pet a Cochin chicken last year.



## The Zoological Society's Annual Appeal: Belle of the Barn

Help dress up Belle the Cow in the Milwaukee County Zoo's dairy barn. Belle, the fiberglass Holstein cow that sits across the way from live cows being milked, helped teach a generation of kids how milk is made. In 2011, the Zoological Society is giving Belle an interactive makeover as part of our annual appeal. Updates include a display that young children can touch and learn from, new movies about cows in the Dairy Complex theater, fun dairy facts and more. The appeal also raises money for additional Zoo support. Donate \$2,500 or more, for a special limited-time offer, and receive individualized recognition on a bench to be placed in or around the Dairy Complex. Donors of \$75-\$249 will have their names listed on a sign; donors of \$250-\$499 will receive larger recognition on a sign; donors of \$500-\$999 will receive individualized recognition and a plush-toy cow; and donors of \$1,000 or more will receive individualized recognition, sponsor one of our cows for one year, and receive a plush-toy cow and a photo.

To give a gift, please see [zoosociety.org/appeal](http://zoosociety.org/appeal) or call us at (414) 258-2333.



# DAD, MEET ZOO DADS

## Father's Day at the Zoo

Sponsored by Chinet® and Pick 'n Save

June 19, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Dads get free Zoo admission (parking not included), no coupon necessary

Zoo gates close 45 minutes before Zoo closes.

Free Zoo admission for Zoological Society members with photo ID. Milwaukee County parking fee: \$11.

For information, call (414) 771-3040.

Some dads in the animal kingdom work harder for their offspring than others. Take, for example, the male gentoo penguin. A gentoo dad takes turns with its mate incubating the egg and then feeding the hatched chick. So treat your hard-working dad to a trip to the Milwaukee County Zoo

on Father's Day, June 19. Introduce your dad to the Zoo's newest animal dads, like our two doting gentoo penguins Felix and Oscar, cotton-top tamarin Cosmo, impala Riccolini and bonobo Viaje. Kids can make No. 1 Dad "medals" with Chinet® paper plates in the Northwestern Mutual Family Farm. While at the farm, be sure to see one of the new, free Kohl's Wild Theater shows. Also for free, you can pet animals such as chickens, turtles and bunnies—plus you won't want to miss the Birds of Prey Shows! Remember to visit a world of fluttering color at the Zoo's special summer exhibit, Butterflies! In Living Color, sponsored by Sendik's Food Markets (see page 11). **Photo:** Scott Assenheimer of Wauwatosa and his 3-year-old son, Quinn, admire a golden eagle.

**Special Offer:** Get one free ride on the Penzeys Spices Carousel on Father's Day, June 19, 2011, with a Pick 'n Save receipt showing the purchase of any Chinet® product. Show your receipt to the attendant at the carousel ticket booth. Limit one free admission per register receipt.

# Mamas, Mammals and Marsupials

## Mother's Day at the Zoo

Sponsored by westbury bank

May 8, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Moms get free Zoo admission (parking not included),

no coupon necessary. Zoo gates close 45 minutes before Zoo closes.

Free Zoo admission for Zoological Society members with photo ID.

Milwaukee County parking fee: \$11. For information, call (414) 771-3040.

Bonobos are about 98 percent genetically identical to humans, making them (and chimpanzees) our closest relatives in the animal kingdom. So it's not surprising that people and bonobos have a lot in common, particularly the bond between mothers and their offspring. Young bonobos stay with their moms for several years. So celebrate Mother's Day at the Zoo by saying "Hi" to the mother bonobos in the Stearns Family Apes of Africa building. Admission on Mother's Day, May 8, is free for all moms, thanks to westbury bank (Zoo parking fee still applies). Meet 1-year-old bonobo baby Kitoko and her mom, Zomi. Kitoko loves to be swung in her mother's arms. She loves it so much she giggles. From an outdoor deck, you can check out the new outdoor bonobo exhibit, which bonobos will occupy later in spring, when temperatures are above 60 degrees. Another great ape you can visit is 4-year-old Mahal the orangutan and his surrogate mom, M.J.



Just like human toddlers, Mahal loves to make silly faces. In the Australia Building look for three recently born joeys, ranging in age from 3 to 6 months. Watch how they are cared for by their mothers, Gidget, Ellie-May and Annie. **Photo:** Melissa A. Beck of Pewaukee views camels with her daughters, Julia (left), 7, and Victoria, 4, at last year's event. Photo by Rick Heinlein.

**Special Offer:** Visit any westbury bank and get one ticket good for a free ride on the Penzeys Spices Carousel during Mother's Day. Tickets available at all bank branches. Valid May 8 only. Visit westburybank.com for branch locations.

# The Twilight Zoo

## Sunset Zoofaris

Sponsored by Tri City National Bank  
June 29, July 6, 13, 20, 27, and  
Aug. 3, 6-9 p.m.

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



Whether it's hot or cool, what better place is there to unwind on a summer evening than at the Zoo? The park is open late on six Wednesday evenings this summer. A different live band will play each week, and the entire Zoo will be open for strolling. Say hello to your favorite warm-weather animals such as the elephants and hippos, and peek into the animal buildings, which will be open until 8:45 p.m. (the aviary closes at dusk). The special summer exhibit, Butterflies! In Living Color, sponsored by Sendik's Food Markets, will be open (exhibit admission is \$2.00 per person; see page 11). Purchase dinner from the Zoo's Flamingo Café and Lakeview Place restaurants, or bring a picnic and dine al fresco. The Zoo closes at its regular weekday time of 5 p.m., and then re-opens at 6 p.m. for these events. The first Wednesday's (June 29) musical entertainment is the 1980s cover band 2nd Wave. On July 6, 3D, an acoustic pop/rock band, will take the stage. The bands play between 6:15 p.m. and 8:45 p.m. If it rains, they'll be in the U.S. Bank Gathering Place. Remaining bands are TBA. **Photo:** Chance Leoni, 8, of Kenosha, gets an up-close look at the Zoo's caribou at one of last year's Sunset Zoofaris. Photo by Katie Derksen.

Tri City National Bank customers: Get a free ride on the Penzeys Spices Carousel. Stop in to any branch after June 1 and get a free-ride ticket while supplies last. (Valid June 29, July 6, 13, 20, 27 and Aug. 3, 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.



## Golf Outing

### Birdies & Eagles Golf Tournament

Sponsored by MillerCoors

July 25 at the Ozaukee Country Club in Mequon;  
\$300 per person; registration begins at 10:30 a.m.;  
shot-gun starts at noon.

Register at [zoosociety.org/Golf](http://zoosociety.org/Golf)  
or call (414) 258-2333 by June 24.

The Zoological Society's 22nd annual golf tournament is gearing up to be another great day on the links. Think course events and hole-in-one opportunities, plus networking with metro-Milwaukee business leaders. The outing also includes a buffet lunch, gourmet dinner, a raffle and a silent auction. Proceeds help support the non-profit Zoological Society of Milwaukee; last year's event raised more than \$106,700. **Photo:** Representatives of American Airlines pause by their golf carts at last year's outing. From left are Troy Morgan, Bob Chaiken, Wayne Fell and Ivan Imana.

### On the Web:

See photos from a previous golf event at [zoosociety.org/golfpix](http://zoosociety.org/golfpix).

# Fun & Interactive Learning Programs

## Hop in the Zoo like a Kangaroo

Can you hop as far as a kangaroo? Find out in the Zoological Society of Milwaukee's (ZSM's) **Kangaroos: Life in a Pouch** summer camp at the Milwaukee County Zoo. This half-day camp for 4- and 5-year-olds will teach your child all about the different kinds of kangaroos, the colors of kangaroos, and which types live in trees. With paint and a brush, craft your own kangaroo creation to take home. From legs for hopping to a pouch for carrying young ones, identify a kangaroo's body parts and find out how kangaroos use them. You can even eat like these Australian mammals with a tasty kangaroo treat! Then go see the Zoo's very own kangaroos at the Australia Building. It will be a hopping good time! Camp sessions are available both for children accompanied by an adult and for children only. The camp is held during July and August 2011 and costs \$27 for ZSM members and \$37 for non-members (not including parking). For more information and registration, check out the 2011 ZSM summer camps brochure or visit [zoosociety.org/Education/SummerCamps.php](http://zoosociety.org/Education/SummerCamps.php).

### Praise from a grandmother

"My granddaughter has been attending summer camps for the past three years. She looks forward to the experience all year long. She tells her class in school how much fun she has. We sit and compose a book on the PC each year, writing what she remembers. She loves all her instructors and will continue to come to camps as long as she can. Hopefully she will aid the teachers in the camps as she gets older. Thank you." – *Marge Rivera, Milwaukee*



**Photo:** Mikaela Russel, 4, of Menomonee Falls showed Mom Michelle how to stick a leaf to a picture depicting a tree-kangaroo habitat at the Zoological Society's kangaroo summer camp in 2010.

## Summer Camps Still Open

You can still register for the Zoological Society's fun and fascinating summer day camps, sponsored by Noodles & Company, held June 1–Aug. 12 at the Milwaukee County Zoo. Just a few of the camps are listed below; to check on availability, dates, times and prices, please see [zoosociety.org/Education/Summer](http://zoosociety.org/Education/Summer).

- **Age 2 (accompanied by an adult)** Open your ears to the music of the Zoo, sing silly songs and join the musical parade to see noisy animals in **Zoo Music**.

# Day for Animal Sponsors

## Animal Safari

Sponsored by Welch's & Pick 'n Save

**Aug. 27, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; behind-the-scenes tours run 10 a.m.-3 p.m.**

Call (414) 258-2333 to become an animal sponsor or see [zoosociety.org/SponsorAnimal](http://zoosociety.org/SponsorAnimal)

What kind of a treat does an elephant like to eat? You can find out at this behind-the-scenes event if you participate in the Zoological Society's Sponsor an Animal program. If you are not an animal sponsor, you can still enjoy special talks in front of selected animal exhibits, but you can't go behind the scenes. Animal sponsors get to visit areas of the Milwaukee County Zoo that are usually off-limits to the public. All zoogoers, however, can participate in all other activities, such as temporary tattoos, a scavenger hunt (with a chance to win an animal sponsorship!), and more.

For the second year in a row we will host a Kids' Green Art Contest, open to members of the Kids Conservation Club and youth who are animal sponsors. Create art projects using only discarded material (tape, glue, and other fasteners are okay). Drop off your project at the Zoological Society office between Aug. 22 and Aug. 26; it will be displayed at the event.

**Log on!**

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

- **Age 3 (accompanied by an adult)**  
In **Fin-Tastic Fish**, kids decorate a fish costume, pretend-swim through some “water” and eat a wiggly snack.
- **Ages 4 & 5:** Enter our life-size “garden” classroom and use a magnifying glass to get an up-close look at insects, go on a bug hunt and dig in the dirt at the Zoo in the **Amazing Ants, Busy Bees & Wiggly Worms** camp.
- **Ages 6 & 7:** Feed your curiosity as you learn what and how animals eat in **What’s For Lunch?** Find your creative side as you experiment with cool art supplies in **Oodles of Art**.
- **Ages 8 & 9:** What would you do if you ran into a bear in the wild? Join us in **Bear Country** to find out.

### Programs for Schools

In fall and spring, the Zoological Society publishes a brochure listing our broad variety of education programs, which are offered either at the Zoo or as outreach to schools. The school brochure also can be found at [zoosociety.org/Education/SchoolPrograms](http://zoosociety.org/Education/SchoolPrograms). Registration for the 2011-2012 school year began on April 26.



### Scouting Programs

Scouts & Scout Leaders - Earn a scout badge at the Zoo with our Badge in a Day Girl Scout and Boy Scout programs. We are currently offering the Animals Try-it for Brownies and the Sharing Your World With Wildlife Achievement for Bear Cubs and the Naturalist Activity Badge for Webelos. Program dates are limited to some weekends, “kids days off” from school, and early release dates. For a schedule of available dates and times, please contact Christopher Uitz at (414) 258-5058, ext. 428, or e-mail [chrisu@zoosociety.org](mailto:chrisu@zoosociety.org)

### UWM Course at the Zoo for Teachers

Study of the World’s Endangered Species, a two-day course on June 18 and 19, explores factors contributing to the decline of some wild-life species and the efforts of zoos to conserve species. Teachers of third grade to high school can receive undergraduate or graduate credit from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee by taking this course. Call UWM Outreach, (414) 229-5255, for fees and to register.

### Fall-Winter Class Signup

Watch for the September-December 2011 Education Adventures at the Zoo brochure featuring classes for ages 2-13. The fall brochure will be mailed with your July-August *Wild Things*. Registration is online and Zoological Society members are given priority when registration begins.

**Photo at left:** On the trail of a Zoo mystery, these 6- and 7-year-olds learned to use their sense of smell in a Zoological Society 2010 summer camp called Zoo’s Clues. They were at the Zoo’s caribou-reindeer yard.

To participate in the Kids’ Green Art Contest, go online at [zoosociety.org/SponsorAnimal/](http://zoosociety.org/SponsorAnimal/) and fill out an entry form. Remember—you can still sponsor an animal or join the Kids Conservation Club by Aug. 27 or at the event and get your pass to go on the tours. Our featured summer animals for sponsorship are Daisy the fennec fox and monarch butterflies. **Photo right:** Jeremie Ott of Glendale checks out capelin fish fed to seals with sons Benjamin, 4 (center), and Braeden, 6, at last year’s event.



# IT'S EASY BEING GREEN

## Party for the Planet

Sponsored by American Transmission Company  
May 14 & 15, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.,  
at the Milwaukee County Zoo

Free activities. Free Zoo admission for  
Zoological Society members with photo ID.  
Milwaukee County Parking Fee: \$11.  
For more information, call (414) 771-3040.



Despite what Kermit the Frog once sang, it is easy being green. And being green is the theme at the Zoo's annual eco-fest celebrating Earth Day and International Migratory Bird Day. There'll be fun and educational activities for everyone. Kids can "fly" through the Zoo as one of four species of birds that migrate to Wisconsin from Central and South America. They will learn about dangers that migrating birds face, as well as things we can do in our own yards to help birds on their journey. Everyone can learn how small changes in our daily lives can help animals and preserve the environment -- from recycling to collecting rainwater to planting native Wisconsin plants. The weekend includes kid-friendly music, sponsored by Coleman Repellents; butterfly garden tips from University of Wisconsin Extension master gardeners; woodcarving demonstrations by the Greater Milwaukee Wildfowl Carvers; and bird banding by zookeepers behind the Small Mammals Building, 9:00 a.m. to noon on Saturday only.

**Photo:** Brian Hayes, of Milwaukee, and his son Brian Jonathan Hayes, 3, stroll through the Zoo's butterfly garden during last year's event.

On the Web:  
[zoosociety.org/  
greeningthezoo](http://zoosociety.org/greeningthezoo)

# Dreaming With the Animals

## Snooze at the Zoo

Sponsored by Old Orchard Brands & Sentry Foods

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday or Saturday, August 10, 11, 12, or 13, starting at 5 p.m.

Members: \$135 for family of four; non-members, \$160. Go online for individual rates  
& discount details. Register online only: [zoosociety.org/Snooze](http://zoosociety.org/Snooze).

Member registration begins May 9 at 8 a.m.; for non-members, May 10 at 8 a.m.

For details, call Special Events at (414) 258-2333

You don't have to go to Yellowstone National Park to camp near wild grizzlies and elk. Just sign up for the Zoological Society of Milwaukee's (ZSM's) annual overnight family campout at the Milwaukee County Zoo. You can choose one of four nights to camp: Aug. 10 through Aug. 13. Each night features the same activities, including s'mores around a group campfire, a buffet dinner and kid-friendly entertainment. The next morning, enjoy breakfast and a day at the Zoo plus discounted admission to the special summer butterflies exhibit (see page 11). This ZSM fund-raiser is a fun, safe camping experience, especially for first-time campers. It's the only time each year when the general public can camp at the Zoo.



This popular event fills quickly, and we encourage you to register early. Registration is held online on a first-come-first-served basis at [zoosociety.org/snooze](http://zoosociety.org/snooze). (See start times above.) You will be registered as soon as you submit your payment information. Get \$10 off a family registration or \$3 off an individual rate: Mail in a Sentry Foods cash-register receipt showing the purchase of four 64-ounce Old Orchard juices or blends (see details online when you register). If you or a member of your party has special needs or a disability, please let us know in the comments area online. **Photo:** Michael Phillips of Wauwatosa brought daughters Sophia (at left), 7, and Nadia, 5, to last year's campout. Here they test out lights.





# SUMMER COMES EARLY TO THE ZOO

Summer doesn't officially begin until June 21, but as far as the Milwaukee County Zoo is concerned, it starts on Memorial Day weekend. The Milwaukee County Zoo's Safari Train, sponsored by North Shore Bank, will begin leaving the station. The Penzeys Spices Carousel will begin its rotations. If you want to get close to animals and touch them, come to the Northwestern Mutual Family Farm and pet goats in the Goat Yard. Or attend presentations in the Stackner Animal Encounter and pet animals such as bunnies, Cochon chickens, cats, turtles and snakes (see the farm for times). Remember to visit the horses and mules and guinea hog siblings Petunia and Peony-oink, oink! Be sure to see the Kohl's Wild Theater shows, which start May 28 in the farm's theater.

This summer's featured animals for sponsorship are monarch butterflies (see page 10) and Daisy the fennec fox. As the days get progressively warmer, keep your eyes peeled for popular animals such as big cats in their outdoor yards, including lions, cheetahs and jaguars. It will be hard to miss large animals like Patti, Puddles and Happy the hippos; or elephants Brittany and Ruth. Then there are the tallest of the bunch, Malinde, Bahatika, and Rahna, the giraffes. Even primates will be out to enjoy the fresh air. For the first time, the bonobos have an outdoor exhibit, which you can observe from a deck next to the gorilla outdoor yard. If you feel like heading away from dry land, catch the MillerCoors Oceans of Fun Seal/Sea Lion Show.

Enjoy live music after hours at Wednesday Sunset Zoofaris, sponsored by Tri City National Bank, and at the August Milwaukee Journal Sentinel a la Carte. Please see the back cover for dates and a complete list of events. Remember, Zoological Society members get advance registration in our popular education camps and family campout at the Zoo. The ZSM also has several of its own events this summer (see back cover for a full list), including:

- **July 12, 14 or 15** – Kids' Nights, sponsored by WaterStone Bank, is a family-friendly, members-only event at the Zoo in the evenings. See page 2.
- **Aug. 10-13** – This year, choose from four nights to camp at Snooze at the Zoo, sponsored by Old Orchard Brands and Sentry Foods. Registration details on page 8.
- **Aug. 27** – Animal sponsors can go behind the scenes at the Zoo at Animal Safari, sponsored by Welch's and Pick 'n Save. Sponsor an animal to get an invitation (see page 6).
- **Sept. 18** – Choose from three routes and bike through the Zoo at Ride on the Wild Side Family Bike Ride, a Zoological Society fund-raiser sponsored by The Wisconsin Heart Hospital & Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare-St. Joseph.

**Photo above:** And they're off! Cyclists breeze through the 27-mile route starting line at the Zoological Society of Milwaukee's bike ride last year.



**Photo:** The female trio the Chickadees sang children's songs at last year's kids' event.



## Sponsor a Monarch Butterfly

Give a butterfly sponsorship to that special student emerging into a new life and get a plush-toy monarch plus a seed packet filled with a mix of butterfly garden plants. Or take your child to the Milwaukee County Zoo's summer butterfly exhibit (see page 11), and then give him or her this butterfly sponsorship. The sponsorship package is \$25 and includes:

- An invitation to an August behind-the-scenes event for animal sponsors at the Zoo
- A fun animal fact sheet plus a certificate of sponsorship and a Sponsor an Animal decal
- Sponsor recognition on our "All in the Family" donor board for a year

## SPONSOR a Monarch

I would like to sponsor a monarch.     I would like to give a monarch sponsorship as a gift.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(No punctuation. Please print.)

Memorial Designation \_\_\_\_\_ Date to appear on certificate \_\_\_\_\_

Gift Recipient\*

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (Day) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (Eve) \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Gift Card Message \_\_\_\_\_

Gift Giver

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Office Use Only  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ C \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ D \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (Day) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (Eve) \_\_\_\_\_ R \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_ ID \_\_\_\_\_

I would like \_\_\_\_\_ package(s) at \$25 each.

**Add \$5 per package for shipping & handling:** \_\_\_\_\_

I would like \_\_\_\_\_ additional plush-toy monarch(s) at \$5 each.

I would like \_\_\_\_\_ additional seed packet(s) at \$2 each.

I would like \_\_\_\_\_ additional decals for \$1 each.

(Plush toys & decals include 5.6% WI sales tax and are not tax-deductible.)

This sponsorship is offered through the Zoological Society of Milwaukee's (ZSM's) Sponsor an Animal program, which helps support all the animals at the Milwaukee County Zoo. In accordance with WI Statute 440.455, a financial statement of the Zoological Society will be provided upon request.

**Send gift package to:**  Recipient  Gift Giver

**Package must arrive by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Total amount \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**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** . . . . . Enclosed is my check, payable to the **Zoological Society**, for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this order form and payment to:  
**Monarch**, Zoological Society, 10005 W. Blue Mound Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53226

**Online.** . . . . . Go to [zoosociety.org](http://zoosociety.org) and click on the plush-toy monarch butterfly picture to order or call (414) 258-2333.

Monarch offer good through Aug. 31, 2011. The tax-deductible portion of your gift is \$17. Plush-toy and seed packet offers good while supplies last.





# Pupa in Progress

## Butterflies! In Living Color

Sponsored by Sendik's Food Markets

May 28-Sept. 25 daily

\$2 per person exhibit admission

Free admission for

Zoological Society members on

June 7, 8 & 9 from 3 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

with Zoo Pass card & photo ID

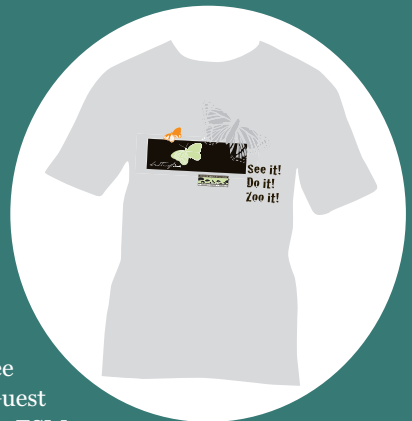
While all the bright colors of this summer's special exhibit are sure to delight and mesmerize, you'll be able to see more than just butterflies. Be sure to swing by the pupa display for a personal peek at pupae in progress. The pupa, also known as the chrysalis, is the transformation stage when a caterpillar develops into a butterfly. But how does a pupa form? Let's rewind to the beginning. Like many insects, a butterfly starts life as an itty-bitsy egg. It hatches into the larva (the caterpillar). During this stage, the worm-like caterpillar feeds on plants and sheds its skin at least four times as it grows. Next comes the pupa (chrysalis). "During the pupa stage in between the caterpillar and butterfly, all the cells mix up and re-sort themselves into a different



animal," says Craig Berg, the Zoo's aquarium and reptile curator (including insects). The chrysalis is often green or brown as a means of camouflage. Finally, the butterfly emerges from the chrysalis as an adult. The butterfly stage involves mating and reproduction. Adds Berg: "It's so fascinating how these creatures start as one kind of animal and turn into another." For pictures of each stage, visit [www.kidsbutterfly.org/life-cycle](http://www.kidsbutterfly.org/life-cycle). **Photo:** Butterfly expert Jan Meerman holds up a group of pupae during the Zoo's last butterfly exhibit. The Julia butterfly is bright orange. Photo by Jan Meerman

# Butterfly T-Shirts

Show your respect for butterflies with a butterfly T-shirt designed for men and women. These attractive shirts are silver-gray and feature artistic depictions of butterflies. They read "See it! Do it! Zoo it!" and include the Zoological Society of Milwaukee (ZSM) logo. Shirts come in youth sizes (2-4, 6-8, 10-12 and 14-16) for \$5. Adult small, medium, large and XL are \$6; and adult sizes 2X and 3X are \$7. To purchase T-shirts, go to the ZSM's Guest Services desk at the Milwaukee County Zoo anytime from May through September. Stop by Guest Services if you come to the Zoo on June 7, 8 and 9—days when ZSM members get free admission to the butterfly exhibit (see above). Or stop during Kids' Nights – July 12, 14 and 15—when ZSM members get a reduced admission to the exhibit for \$1.00.



# 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/)

## A Toast to Belle

What do you get when you fuse the finest of wines with the most flavorful of beers and add a feast of food? It's the Zoological Society of Milwaukee's (ZSM's) **Wines and Beers of the World** fund-raiser! In its seventh year, this event was held on March 24 and raised more than \$26,300 to help restore Belle, the fiberglass Dairy Cow, and other parts of the Milwaukee County Zoo's Dairy Complex. More than 520 guests attended, and ZSM members could even purchase VIP tickets to gain early admission and enter a drawing for a behind-the-scenes Zoo tour. **Downer Avenue Wine & Spirits** and **Purple Feet Wines, LLC**, were major contributors to the event. Downer Avenue Wine & Spirits took online orders for wine in the days before and after the event through April 1, donating a portion of the proceeds to the Society. Other key contributors included **MillerCoors** and **Palermo's® Pizza**. Gourmet selections were provided by **Alterra Coffee Roasters**, **Carrabba's Italian Grill**, **The Cheesecake Store**, **Cold Spoons Gelato**, **Firefly Urban Bar & Grill**, **Frank's Gourmet Chips**, **Gourmet Cheesecake Shop & More**, **Jimmy John's**, **La Luna Foods**, **Larry's Market**, **Niemann's Homemade Candies**, **OILERIE® BROOKFIELD**, **PepsiAmericas®**, **Saz's Catering & Special Events, Inc.**, and **Usinger's Famous Sausage**. **Photo:** Five friends met at the event to sample wines (from left): Kristina Allen, India Duncan-Reed, Jessica Triggs, Laresha Harris and Darlene Rose, all of Milwaukee.



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## A VIP View of the Zoo

They say the early bird gets the worm, but some birds prefer fish and other insects. More than 4,300 zoogoers had a special opportunity to examine exotic bird food in the Herb & Nada Mahler Family Aviary kitchen during the Milwaukee County Zoo's annual Behind the Scenes Weekend. Sponsored by **Tri City National Bank**, the March 12 and 13 event also featured tours led by Zoo Pride volunteers throughout other backstage areas. Visitors could get an



insider peek at the Zoo's Library, the camel barn, Winter Quarters (where warm-weather animals stay during winter) and even the Commissary where animal food is stored. In the Zoo's train shop, visitors could view the Zoo's popular child-size trains up close and even talk with an engineer. **Photo: All aboard!** Jace Cretens, 2, of Germantown, sits in a train engine at this year's event.

## Grants Received

- The Zoological Society of Milwaukee (ZSM) recently received a grant from the **A.O. Smith Foundation** to support science-based programs for school classes (either at the Zoo or in the school) for the 2010-2011 school year. Serving nearly 130,000 students each year, ZSM programs for school classes are tied directly to state science standards and connect facts learned in school to the real-world laboratory of the Milwaukee County Zoo. Students investigate animal diversity, life in the wild, our ecosystem and animal conservation. Funding for this program through the A.O. Smith Foundation and other grantors allows the ZSM to keep the participation cost to schools at a minimum.

# Gifts Enrich Animals' Lives



Harmonica for the elephants. Mealworms for the bears. Calvin Klein's Obsession for Men scent for the felines. Laser pen for the otters. These are just four of the more than 120 items Milwaukee County Zoo visitors purchased as holiday presents for their favorite animals. In the last two Decembers, the Zoo has featured an Enrichment Giving Tree in the U.S. Bank Gathering Place to encourage the public to purchase gifts for the animals. Zookeepers drew up a wish list of veterinarian-approved animal gifts. Most items were less than \$50. Zoo patrons donated more than \$2,500 in toys, treats and gift cards to animals in all areas of the Zoo. "I am blown away by people's generosity," says Trish Khan, primate area supervisor and head of the enrichment committee.

Enrichment is the term used in the zoo world for anything that increases an animal's physical and mental health. Enrichment encourages exercise, allows an animal to make choices, and reduces stress and aggression. Enrichment is an essential element of caring for wild animals in captivity because it encourages an animal to use its brain and muscles as it would in the wild.

You can see several types of enrichment at the Zoo. Physical enrichment includes manipulative toys as well as climbing and digging opportunities. Examples are firehose ropes in the bonobo exhibit, plastic "icebergs" for the polar bear, a harmonica for the elephants. Wait...a harmonica? Yes. Ruth the elephant is especially excited about the harmonica, says Erin Dowgwillo, pachyderm keeper. "She picks it up with her trunk, waves it around, blows into it and makes sound." It's a mental stimulant. So are the mealworms for the grizzly bears. In the wild, bears spend much of their day foraging for food. Zookeepers in the North America area hide mealworms in the exhibit's dirt, straw, and logs to stimulate the bears' natural foraging.

A second type of enrichment uses sounds, smells, and visuals to encourage the animal's interaction with its environment. Conservation researchers studying jaguars in Guatemala discovered Calvin Klein's Obsession for Men was an effective lure, bringing jaguars to motion cameras. Feline zookeepers occasionally spray Obsession in the cats' exhibits to break up their routine. "They spend time exploring it; they rub it on their cheeks. It has a strong allure for every cat in the building," says Neil Dretzka, feline area supervisor.

A third form of enrichment involves training programs. Keepers train animals to help in their own healthcare and to move from one place to another voluntarily. In conditioning animals, keepers use a "target," an object the animal touches or hears after it has done the requested task. It turns out that for otters Buddy and Oscar, the best target is the light from a laser pen. Zookeepers in the Small Mammals Building, where you'll find the otter exhibit, point the laser to various parts of the exhibit and the otters swim to it. They have fun and get exercise. Overall these holiday gifts, says Trish Khan, "give animal staff flexibility, especially the gift cards. Keepers can go out and buy an approved toy or food item to meet an immediate need." **Photos:** Polar bears with enrichment toys.

*By Mary Kazmierczak*

## On the Web!

For more on animal gifts and enrichment, see [zoosociety.org/animalgifts](http://zoosociety.org/animalgifts).

# Insider Tips



## Jamaican Iguanas are Back, Mon

It's strange to think that a dog probably saved the Jamaican rock iguana, but that's what happened one day in 1990 when a pig hunter's dog captured one. The dog couldn't have understood the importance of its find; nor did the iguana. Luckily the dog's owner realized there was something special about the lizard, and so he showed it to an expert from a university on the Caribbean island of Jamaica. And that's how the Jamaican iguana—believed to be extinct for nearly a half-century—was rediscovered.



These days Jamaican iguanas are making a comeback, thanks to the efforts of researchers like Dawn Fleuchaus, an area supervisor at the Milwaukee County Zoo. Fleuchaus volunteers with the Jamaican Iguana Project, which receives funding from the Zoological Society of Milwaukee. She's traveled to the rugged forests of Hellshire Hills in southeast Jamaica every summer since June 2002 to study Jamaican iguanas, also called rock iguanas. "We mainly monitor the nesting sites and collect physiological data and blood samples during the nesting season," she said during a recent lecture at the Zoo. Researchers return after 95 days, when the young hatch, to mark each individual and attach transponders. A small percentage of the young iguanas are taken to Hope Zoo in Kingston, Jamaica's capital. There they are part of a head-start program to care for iguanas until they are large enough to fend for themselves when later released. About 138 of these young have been released into the wild since 2000, says Fleuchaus.

The biggest threats facing iguanas are Indian mongooses, feral cats and pigs, crabs, and wood burned to create charcoal, which denudes the forest. The Iguana Project team captures predators in the core area where iguanas live. Saving iguanas benefits the entire Jamaican ecosystem because iguanas eat fruit and plants and then travel a wide area and distribute the seeds that pass through their digestive system. The result is healthier vegetation. **Photos:** The adult Jamaican iguana is red because it has been digging in red earth. The baby iguana was captured, measured and tagged, then released. Photos provided by Dawn Fleuchaus.

## Watch Your Step!

It can be a bumpy road on the way to conservation. You'll want to watch your step when parading past the Milwaukee County Zoo's new rain gardens. The gardens are next to special pavements known as "permeable pavers," similar to brick walkways. These pavers absorb water from rainstorms, filter it and release it back into the ground. If excess water gathers from a particularly heavy rainstorm, the pavers allow water to drain into a neighboring rain garden. Not all permeable pavers at the Zoo have an adjacent rain garden, but all pavers function to conserve water. While walking across them, however, pay careful attention. The pavers are aligned so that a slight crevice sits between each one. This crevice ensures that rainwater is able to drain efficiently. Yet it also poses a potential problem for shoes with narrow heels and stroller wheels, which might get caught. A sleeping baby might find the pavers give the stroller a bit of a rocky ride. At least one area of pavers, next to the Stearns Family Apes of Africa building, will have small stones and a special sand and polymer mixture placed in the crevices to make traversing the pavers a bit easier. You'll come across bricklike permeable pavers in four popular walkways: 1) around the aviary pond, near the Apes of Africa Pavilion, 2) east of the MillerCoors Giraffe Experience 3) Zoo Terrace, and 4) between the Alaskan brown bear exhibit and the Australian Outback picnic pavilion. For the full story on the Zoo's rain gardens, read Setting a "Green" Example in the April 2011 issue of *Alive* or visit [zoosociety.org/greeningthetoo](http://zoosociety.org/greeningthetoo).

# BIG OR SMALL, SHE LOVES THEM ALL



Zookeeper Joan Pappas works with some of the largest land animals at the Milwaukee County Zoo (MCZ). Although she loves lumbering giants such as elephants, she also appreciates the smaller things in life—like tarantulas. “I’ve always liked bugs,” says Pappas, who has worked at the MCZ for 5 ½ years. “When I was a kid I was always catching insects and spiders.” In college she developed a particular interest in tarantulas. Unfortunately, spiders have an undeserved bad reputation, says Pappas. So she makes it a point to tell people about the important role that tarantulas and other spiders play in the ecosystem. “Tarantulas are a crucial component of the food cycle, both as predators and as prey. Quite a few mammals and reptiles eat tarantulas. And tarantulas and spiders eat a lot of insects.”

Pappas is fascinated by the wide variety of tarantulas. “There are literally hundreds of species of tarantulas, and every species has different behavioral and physical characteristics,” she says. “It’s neat to watch them grow. They start as one color and change as they get bigger.”

Pappas graduated from Millikin University in Illinois with a degree in biology. There, a professor piqued her interest in tarantulas, but she has never worked with them in zoos. The first zoo where she worked specialized in livestock and animals native to Illinois. She has worked with large animals ever since, but she has a small group of tarantulas at home.

Tarantulas can make fine pets, provided you know what you’re getting into, she says. Tarantulas bite only when they feel threatened—and the bite is not deadly. The bite of the much smaller brown recluse spider is much more to be feared. “A lot of people tell me they’d love to pet an elephant, but most would never want to handle a tarantula. But elephants are far more dangerous than any tarantula.” Pappas attributes arachnophobia (fear of spiders) and entomophobia (fear of insects) to how people are socialized. “Animals that are not cute and cuddly are usually feared. I think people are taught that by their parents.”

Obviously, a tarantula is not the type of pet you’ll want to snuggle with on the couch while watching television. Tarantulas require an enclosed terrarium. But if you are interested in one as a pet, Pappas recommends New World tarantulas. They are docile and generally easy to handle, although they do have urticating hairs, which are tiny barbed hairs that can cause irritation. “Brazilian black

tarantulas are sturdy, calm and totally ‘handle-able’; so are pink zebra beauty tarantulas.” But Old World tarantulas, she says, are more aggressive, and not the best pets.

Pappas’ husband, Chad Pappas, has no problem with her love of tarantulas. The couple met at the Racine Zoo, where they both worked for a time, and Chad isn’t a stranger to crawling creatures. “He works with reptiles at the Milwaukee County Zoo,” she says, “mostly with snakes and turtles.” Chad helps raise wild ornate box turtles at the Zoo until they are big enough to survive in the wild; then they are released. Joan and Chad’s advocacy for the “little guys” in the animal kingdom provides a common thread in their work and personal life. **Photo:** Joan Pappas holds one of the Zoo’s tarantulas.



By Zak Mazur

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Milwaukee, WI 53226  
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Butterflies  
at the Zoo.  
See page 11.



Photo by Julie Chung

## What's Happening

Details Inside

### May 8

Mother's Day, sponsored by westbury bank\*

### May 9

Members online registration begins for Snooze at the Zoo, sponsored by Old Orchard Brands and Sentry Foods; go to [zoosociety.org](http://zoosociety.org)

### May 14 & 15

Party for the Planet at the Zoo, sponsored by American Transmission Company\*

### May 28 - Sept. 25

The Zoo's special summer exhibit: Butterflies! In Living Color, sponsored by Sendik's Food Markets, \$2 per person entry fee

### May 28 - Sept. 5

Kohl's Wild Theater, offering five free shows daily in the Zoo+

### June 1 - Aug. 12

ZSM Summer Camps at the Zoo, sponsored by Noodles & Company

### June 4 & 5

Scouting Weekend at the Zoo; call (414) 771-3040

### June 7, 8 & 9

Free admission for ZSM members to the special summer exhibit Butterflies! In Living Color, sponsored by Sendik's Food Markets, 3-8:30 p.m.

### June 19

Father's Day, sponsored by Chinet® and Pick 'n Save\*

### June 25

Zoo Ball 2011, sponsored by American Airlines

### June 29, July 6, 13, 20, 27 & Aug. 3

Sunset Zoofaris, sponsored by Tri City National Bank\*

### July 12, 14 & 15

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

### July 25

Birdies & Eagles Golf Tournament, sponsored by MillerCoors

### Aug. 10, 11, 12, or 13

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

### Aug. 18, 19, 20 & 21

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel a la Carte, with major support from MillerCoors\*+

### Aug. 27

Animal Safari, sponsored by Welch's & Pick 'n Save

### Sept. 2

Senior Celebration, sponsored by Wheaton Franciscan Senior Health+

### Sept. 10 & 11

Family Farm Weekend, sponsored in part by Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board\*+

### Sept. 17

Elephant Appreciation Day

### Sept. 18

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

\* ZSM members get free Zoo admission with their Zoo Pass card and photo ID. The special butterfly exhibit admission is extra, except for ZSM members June 7-9, 3-8:30 p.m. (free) and during Kids' Nights, July 12, 14 and 15 (50% off), starting at 3 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 also get free parking.

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