

WILD

THINGS

MAY-JUNE
2021



06 **Babies & Companions**



14 **Summer Exhibit**



03 **Snooze FOR the Zoo**



TAKE A ZOO EXPEDITION



New this summer, the Zoo's classic Zoomobile will be just one way visitors can experience the Zoo. Starting Memorial Day weekend, Zoo Expeditions, sponsored by Meijer, offers guided walking or riding tours through the Zoo.

The Signature Expedition ride (\$5 per person) leaves every 20 minutes starting at the top of the hour. This journey takes guests through the Zoo and gives an overview of the different areas.

Or go on a themed riding or walking tour (\$12 per person). These tours, at 45 to 60 minutes, offer a more in-depth journey about specific animals or a conservation theme. Zoo Pass members will receive a discount on all Zoo Expedition tours.

The Meijer Zoo Expeditions headquarters will be outside between the Humboldt penguins and flamingos.



Photos by Paul Ruffolo

MEMBERANDA

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

Zoological Society office hours:
8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

Zoo hours until further notice: 9:30 a.m.–3 p.m.

Note: The Zoo's admission gates close at 2 p.m. The animal buildings close 15 minutes prior to Zoo closing times. Some animal areas may be closed for the safety of the animals and guests. For up-to-date information go to milwaukeezoo.org.

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

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Cover photos

LEGO® photo provided by Imagine Exhibitions, bear photo by Robert Noble, cotton-top tamarin stock photo

COMING
IN JUNE

SNOOZE FOR THE ZOO

Photo by Garrett Hopkins



Snooze FOR the Zoo

Sponsored by Post Consumer Brands & Sentry Foods

There is no wrong way to go camping. You can travel to a site, pitch a tent in your backyard or even set up a blanket tent in your home. This year, due to safety restrictions related to COVID, the Society is putting a twist on the annual Snooze at the Zoo fundraiser. Instead, we want you to take a piece of the Zoo with you on your camping trip and Snooze FOR the Zoo.

Our Snooze FOR the Zoo fundraiser will include a Snooze bag of goodies. For \$15 a person or \$50 for a family of four, each person will get a bag that includes a special Snooze T-shirt; S'more Pops courtesy of Campfire Marshmallows; Post cereal snacks; Racine Danish Kringle; animal-themed activities sponsored by Educators Credit Union; and many more goodies to make your camping trip one to remember. Bag pick-up will be in June, but feel free to use it for your camping trip anytime this summer.

Final details for this fundraiser are in the works. Stay up to date on Facebook.com/ZooPass and our website, zoosociety.org/Events, as we release more information on how you can Snooze FOR the Zoo.

JULY
26

SWING FOR A CAUSE

Birdies & Eagles Golf Tournament

Sponsored by GRAEF

Monday, July 26, 2021 at the Ozaukee Country Club in Mequon, Wisconsin

Reserve your spot for one of the most popular charity golf tournaments in town. Green Bay Packers Hall of Famer LeRoy Butler will spend the day with golfers as they drive, putt and support the Zoological Society of Milwaukee.

Registration includes:

- Lunch
- Course refreshments
- A round of golf with a cart
- Post-golf cocktails
- Contests
- Dinner and more!

Register at zoosociety.org/Golf or call 414-258-2333. Cost starts at \$350 per golfer.

Please note that CDC guidelines will be followed for a safe event.



Photo by Peter Zuzga

RETURN OF IN-PERSON CAMPS

If your child (or you for that matter) is bursting with excitement to get outside and be with other people, you're not alone. We are happy to bring in-person camps and classes back to the Zoo. Zoo Camps and Classes are available for children from infant to 14 years old. To make this possible, we made some changes to keep everyone safe.

First, classes and camps will involve more time outside in the Zoo. The Zoo not only offers plenty of space but also has a special

area not open to the public called Nature Play. This is a perfect spot for kids to enjoy the outdoors and learn about animals and the environment.

Class sizes will be smaller compared to past years. This will make physical distancing easier for everyone. Small class sizes mean camps and classes are selling out faster. For the most up-to-date information on what is still available, go to zoosociety.org/education.



An educator points out an insect to a student in the Nature Play site inside the Zoo.

Photo by Bob Wickland

Kids ages 10 and 11 in "Versus" camp will learn about animal adaptations and what would happen if a lion and a tiger challenged each other in the wild.

Photo by Garrett Hopkins



May
09

CHERISHING MOM

Photo by Garrett Hopkins



Mother's Day

Sponsored by Noodles & Company

Sunday, May 9

Moms deserve the world. Since that's not available on Amazon, show her parts of the world by bringing her to the Zoo to marvel at animals from Asia, Africa, South America and beyond. This Mother's Day, all moms get free admission. (Parking fees still apply with the exception of Zoo Pass Plus and Platypus Circle members who get free parking.) From new moms to grandmas, the Zoo wants to celebrate with you.

For health and safety reasons, the Zoo monitors the number of guests coming in and leaving and may need to close the entrance gate periodically.

GIFT IDEAS

Looking for a Mother's Day gift? Consider sponsoring one of the Zoo's top moms, Patty Sharptooth. This lioness came to the Zoo in 2020 along with her two daughters. For \$50 you can sponsor Patty and receive a plush-toy lioness, a certificate of sponsorship, yearlong name recognition in the Peck Welcome Center and more. To sponsor Patty for your mom, check out the Sponsor an Animal tab on our website zoosociety.org.



JUNE
20

FUN FOR FATHERS

Photo by Paul Ruffolo



Father's Day

Sponsored by Prairie Farms Dairy

Sunday, June 20

If your Pop is the best, then pop into the Zoo this Father's Day. To celebrate dads and all they do, the Zoo is offering free admission for all fathers – parking fees still apply unless you are a Zoo Pass Plus or Platypus Circle member. Take Dad on a train ride, challenge him to the ropes course or just enjoy a walk around the Zoo. Whether you're a new father or an experienced grandfather, the Zoo wants to show their appreciation for all the dads out there.

For health and safety reasons, the Zoo monitors the number of guests coming in and leaving and may need to close the entrance gate periodically.

INSIDE SMALL MAM MALS



A lot can change in a year, and for the Small Mammals Building, something has changed in almost every habitat. Many of the species living in the Small Mammals Building are susceptible to COVID-19. Because the building has one air vent system shared by the animals and humans, the building remains closed to the public to reduce the health risk to the animals. Here is some exciting news to enjoy until you can visit again.



BABIES!

While the Small Mammals Building was closed there were two babies born: a cotton-top tamarin and a Moholi bushbaby. In both instances, the mothers have had unsuccessful births in the past, but that changed at the end of 2020.

On Nov. 20, cotton-top tamarins Javi (mom) and Zi (dad) had their baby, Atticus. Being a good mother wasn't an immediate instinct. "At first, mom kept trying to pull the baby off. She didn't like the baby on her back," says area supervisor Rhonda Crenshaw. To help the family calm down and bond, Crenshaw put them in their shifting area, which is a smaller space connected to their exhibit. Zookeepers set up cameras to monitor what was happening and watched from afar with binoculars to make sure the baby was getting what it needed. The plan worked, the family bonded and both parents are doing a great job caring for the baby.

Just a few days later, on Nov. 27, a Moholi bushbaby was born. Similar to the cotton-top tamarin, this is the first successful birth for the parents. Mom was very attentive and protective, maybe even a little too much. "Babies are ready to come out of the nest after about two weeks, but mom was not ready for it to come out so she grabbed it and put it right back in the nest," Crenshaw explains laughingly. "Finally, after several days, she let it stay outside of the nest a little longer." Keepers named the baby Groggu – a Mandalorian reference.

Both cotton-top tamarins and bushbabies are critically endangered, making these births even more exciting. Now that both moms are experienced, Crenshaw is hopeful things will go smoother with future offspring.



Top: Cotton-top tamarin mom with baby

Bottom: Moholi bushbaby baby

Photos by Garrett Hopkins



Cotton-top tamarin
Stock photo

From top to bottom:
red ruffed lemur, golden lion tamarin,
prehensile-tailed porcupine and
Hoffmann's two-toed sloth



Photos by Garrett Hopkins

COMPANIONS

Some animals in the building have new companions. These pairings are not for breeding purposes but for socialization and friendship.

Penny, a red ruffed lemur, was brought in to be with male Sirius. It was not love at first sight for this pair, and they often make loud vocalizations to each other. They may not be a cuddly couple, but they do get a lot out of the interactions and groom each other occasionally.

When the last golden lion tamarin baby was sent to another zoo, the Milwaukee County Zoo brought in a new male, Pequeno, to keep female Levi company. Area supervisor Rhonda Crenshaw says she has never had an easier introduction with two animals in her 20-plus year career. Both of them had zero negative reaction to each other, and they acted as if they were living together for years.

BREEDING PAIRS

The Zoo is hoping for more babies from two different animals. During the building closure, keepers brought in a male prehensile-tailed porcupine to mate with Quinn. So far things look promising. An added bonus according to Crenshaw is male Seamus has calmed Quinn down. She is not as interested in the armadillos that share the habitat with them.

Sloth Fezzik has a female companion, Nentas. The pair is recommended to breed and keepers have seen some interactions between the two but not a lot – mostly because they are nocturnal animals and spend most of the day sleeping. Nentas is very sweet and was immediately comfortable with keepers.



GROWING UP AND MOVING OUT



The three cubs were born at the Zoo in 2002.

Photo by Richard Brodzeller

the altercations, it was decided that he would be the best one to remove from the group in hopes of keeping the other three together.”

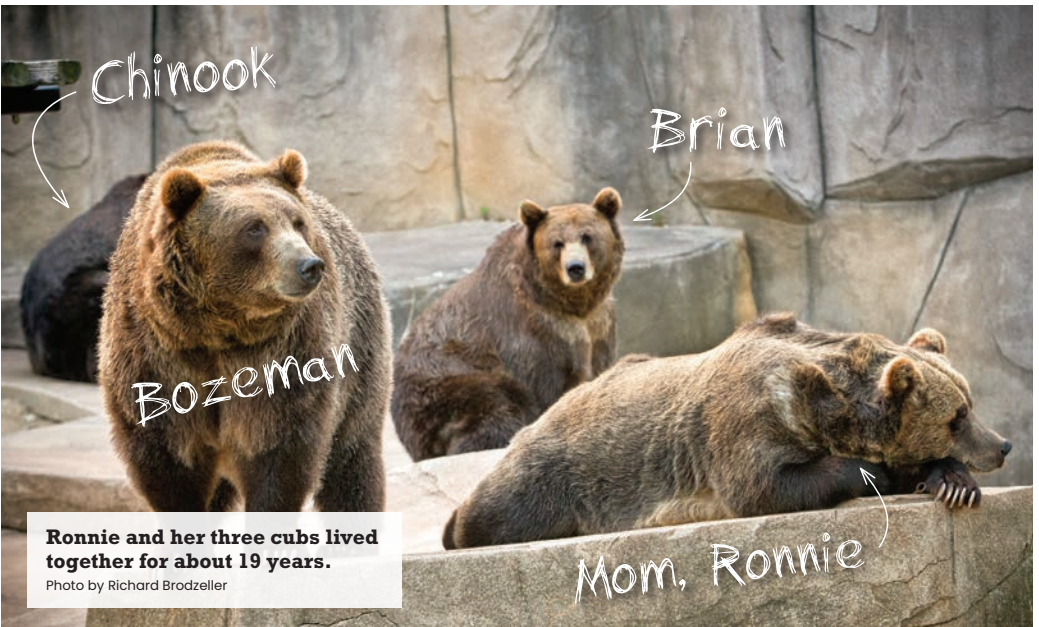
Bozeman is enjoying his new home down the path. He and Boris the brown bear share a habitat, but they can't be together and will take turns being visible to the public. While one bear may be seen outside, the other bear can enjoy the outdoor space that is behind the habitat.

Bozeman had only known one home, but when he got to his new spot he calmly explored every nook and cranny and seems to enjoy the new views and smells of the Zoo. Fleuchaus describes Bozeman as a more easy-going and confident bear. If you aren't sure which bear is outside, Bozeman has a shorter body length and is usually rounder and heavier-looking. Boris has a very big head and longer body. Boris also tends to be spooked by loud noises and is overall a pretty sensitive guy.

As for Bozeman's mom and brothers, Fleuchaus says the three are doing great. Ronnie is shifting once again with the boys, and there seems to be more peace.

One of the three grizzly bear brothers has moved out of his family home to a new den down the road. For the past 19 years, the grizzly bears have been a family of four. Mom, Ronnie, was a wild bear placed at the Milwaukee County Zoo. Keepers didn't know she was pregnant. But a few months later, three male cubs arrived. Ever since, guests have been drawn to Ronnie and her boys Bozeman, Brian and Chinook.

In spring of 2020, keepers separated one of the boys and gave him his own place. “We had been monitoring changes in behavior among the group for years,” says North American area supervisor, Dawn Fleuchaus. Some of that behavior included Ronnie avoiding the boys and refusing to go into holding areas with them. Fleuchaus also noticed an increase in minor spats between the brothers. “Since Bozeman was involved in most of



Ronnie and her three cubs lived together for about 19 years.

Photo by Richard Brodzeller



KOHL'S WILD THEATER



THE STAGE IS SET

Kohl's Wild Theater is excited to return to the stage this summer with a never-before-seen musical.

"Rear Hippo" is a parody of the Alfred Hitchcock classic, "Rear Window." In this version, Thorwald the hippo moves into a neighborhood, and two nearby nesting hamerkop birds are suspicious of this new animal. They observe what they think is odd behavior like muck spreading (spreading feces). However, they quickly learn that even the oddest hippo behaviors help the ecosystem, which makes it a better place to live.

One of the many unique features of this musical is the hippo puppet. This is the largest puppet Kohl's Wild Theater has ever used. Part of the set will look like a river, and an actor will glide the puppet around the stage making it appear that just the hippo's head is above the water.

In addition to "Rear Hippo," KWT will also perform "The Mysterious Case of the Disappearing Bee." The detective on the

case is trying to find out why pollinators are disappearing. Guests will learn why pollinators like bees are so important and what people can do at home to help.

Kohl's Wild Theater is expected to begin public shows at the Zoo beginning May 29 through Sept. 6. Stage performances are 10:15 a.m., 12 p.m., 1:45 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.



Happy Retirement!

**After 31-plus years of service,
Zoo Director Chuck Wikenhauser has retired.**

His leadership and passion made the Milwaukee County Zoo one of the top zoos in the country. While you may not know him, his work has directly impacted your experience at the Zoo. During his tenure, Chuck was part of capital expansion programs that renovated most of the Zoo. Those projects include the Northwestern Mutual Family Farm, the Karen Peck Katz Conservation Education Center, renovations to the giraffe exhibit, Primates of the World, new outdoor habitats for the gorillas and bonobos and most recently Adventure Africa.

**Thank you, Chuck, for your passion,
vision and love for animals.**



Chuck would often ride through the Zoo before and after hours to see the animals. That is one of the things he said he would miss the most.



Photos by Richard Brodzeller unless otherwise noted



Cutting the ribbon in 2006 to open the Zoo's new giraffe exhibit.



Chuck poses with Zoological Society President & CEO Jodi Gibson at the Society's biggest fundraiser of the year, Zoo Ball. Photo by Richard Taylor



Admiring the beauty of the Alaskan brown bear.

★ Jodi Gibson says the totality of Chuck's contributions to our Zoo and our community is immeasurable.

“He has been an extraordinary, steady leader who stayed committed to his vision and the mission of the Zoo.” ★



Photo provided by Chuck Wikenhauser

◆ Chuck has traveled to Africa more than 15 times visiting Kenya, Botswana, Zimbabwe and South Africa. This photo is from one of his latest safaris to Tanzania in 2019. He hosted the event along with Society President and CEO Jodi Gibson and about a dozen supporters.



2002 groundbreaking of the new Animal Health Center. Photo by Mike Nepper



Chuck waves to families riding the popular North Shore Bank Safari Train.

WHY JOIN THE PLATYPUS CIRCLE?



We asked the **Flanagan Family** what they love about their membership and why they are passionate about supporting the Zoological Society and the Zoo.

"We really admire the quality of care to the animals and strategic planning the Zoo displays. Adventure Africa is a great example of the Zoo's commitment to the animals' quality of life and their forward thinking to re-develop." The family has been a part of the Platypus Circle since 2017. They are also animal sponsors and daughter Eva has been a Zoo Class regular since she was in a stroller.



The Platypus Circle is filled with individuals, families, corporations, organizations and foundations who share a passion for the Society's mission to conserve wildlife and endangered species, educate people about the importance of wildlife and the environment, and support the Milwaukee County Zoo.



By joining the Platypus Circle you receive benefits such as:

- **Transferable membership cards**
- **Invitations to VIP events**
- **Behind-the-scenes tours**
- **Priority registration for Zoo Classes and Camps**

Membership starts at \$750 for individuals and \$1,000 for companies and organizations. If you would like to join, contact Dani Seavert at 414-918-6153 or danis@zoosociety.org.

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 March 16, 2020, and March 11, 2021.

Charles Auer
Susan Behrens & David Look
Brad & Heidi Bertler
Jutta Betley & Chrystal Gliniecki
Mary Fran Cahill & Herb Hentzen
Kimberly Conway
James Diliberti Family
Chris & Beth Eperjesy
Fischer Family
Julie & Tom Furman
Sam & Carol Gengo

Green Bay Packaging –
Baird Display Division
Patricia & George Haas
Makinon Herbert
Judie Hermann
Jeanne & Conrad Holling
Krier Foods, Inc.
Amihan Londo
Abby O'Dess
Sandy Oliver
Pine Haven Christian Home

Judith & George Rios
Charles & Connie Roedel
Jacqueline Steffes
Richard G. Strong
Waterford Public Library
Watertown Public Library
Erin & Jason Wermers
Melissa Will
Jerry & Judie Willie
Amy Wochos
Woodruff Financial Inc.

H₂O FOR ELEPHANTS

This year the Zoological Society is raising money to help the Zoo build a filtration system for the elephants' pool. Elephants love water and love to make mud to roll around in or throw on their bodies. Right now, keepers empty, clean and refill the pool weekly. It takes several people an entire day and that means the elephants have to stay inside.

Your donation can help...

**CONSERVE
WATER**

**ALLOW MORE
OUTDOOR TIME FOR
THE ELEPHANTS**

**SAVE
TIME**

**GIVE TODAY AND MILLER
BREWING COMPANY WILL
MATCH YOUR DONATION!**

To donate, call 414-258-2333, stop by Guest Services inside the Zoo or visit zoosociety.org/appeal.

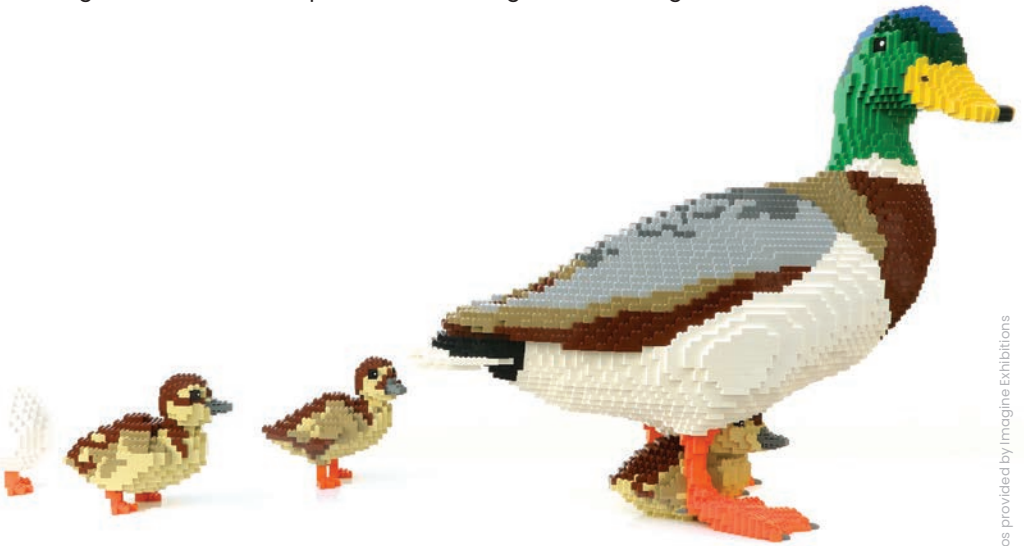
Donations of \$100 or more will be recognized on electronic signs in the Conservation Outpost within Adventure Africa. Signs will be updated quarterly.

SUMMER **SPECIAL EXHIBIT**



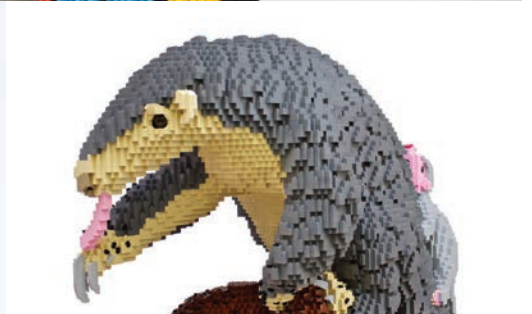
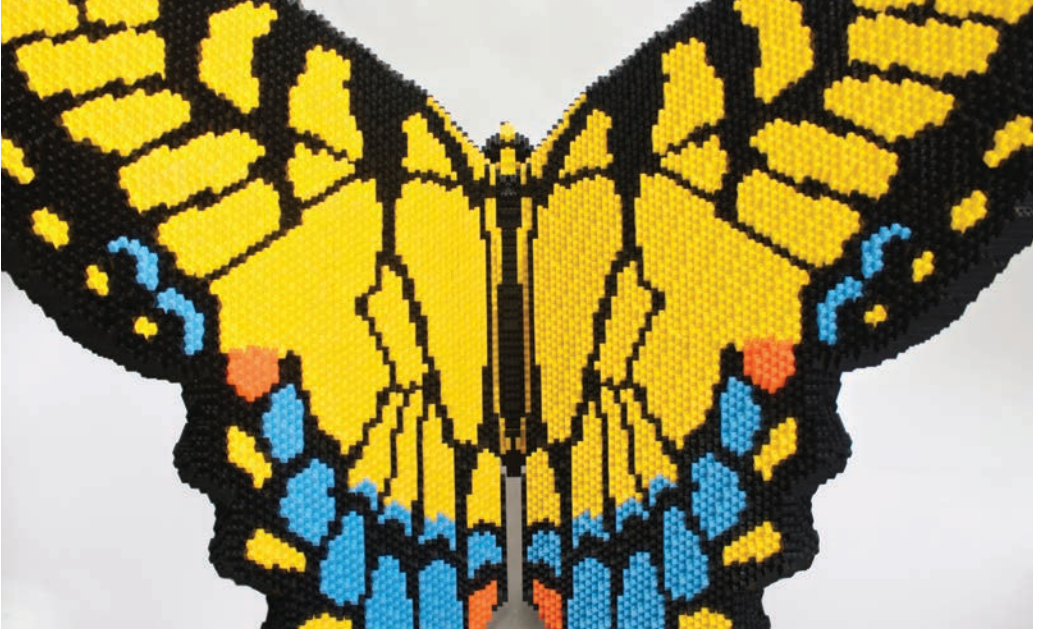
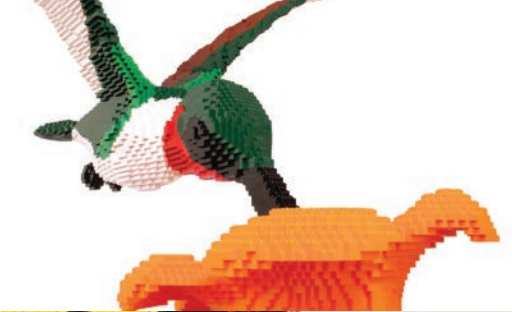
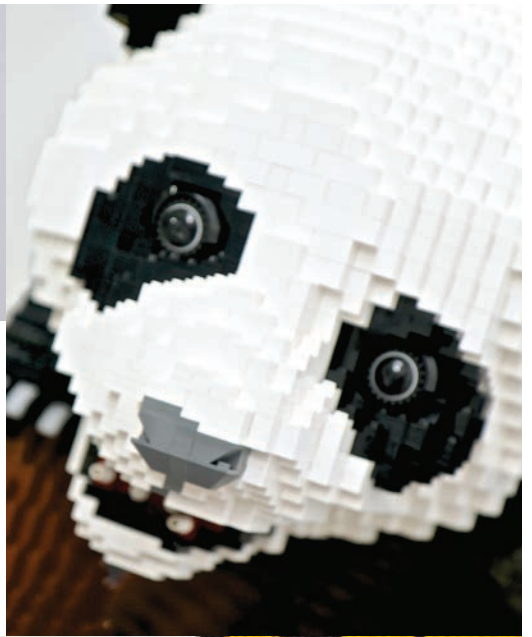
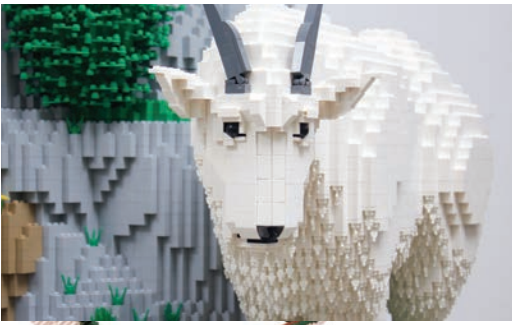
LEGO® bricks are snapping together to showcase the mind-blowing abilities of animals. This summer's special exhibit, Sean Kenney's Animal Super Powers made with LEGO® bricks, sponsored by Sendik's Food Market, gives a unique look at animals big and small. This exhibit is inside the Otto Borchert Family Special Exhibits Building across from Macaque Island.

Animals uniquely possess different super powers. From species with super strength to those with the ability to regenerate limbs, animals are incredible. Kenney's enormous, gravity-defying and astoundingly precise sculptures challenge visitors to view their world in new ways while delighting guests of all ages.



All photos provided by Imagine Exhibitions





The special exhibit will run from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day. Tickets are \$3 a person.

Zoo Pass members can use their electronic coupons for entry.

Nonprofit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Milwaukee, WI
Permit No. 4073



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

**DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY**



Photo by Garrett Hopkins

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Due to COVID-19 and health and safety guidelines, the Zoo and Zoological Society have had to make changes to events. For the most up-to-date information about these and other events, visit zoosociety.org/events.



Photo by Garrett Hopkins

May 9

Mother's Day at the Zoo, sponsored by Noodles & Company*

May 29-Sept. 6

Special summer exhibit, Sean Kenney's Animal Super Powers made with LEGO® bricks, sponsored by Sendik's Food Market

May 29-Sept. 6

Kohl's Wild Theater's summer season at the Zoo with free shows daily*

June 1

Zoo Summer Camps begin

June 20

Father's Day at the Zoo, presented by Prairie Farms Dairy*

July 13, 15 & 16

July Member Nights, a members-only evening event, sponsored by WaterStone Bank*

July 26

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

Aug. 14

Zoo Ball, presented by Robert Dohmen (pre-register)

Aug. 24-26

August Member Nights – Last Call Before Fall, a members-only evening event, sponsored by Milwaukee Montessori School

* 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.

CONNECT WITH US!

 facebook.com/ZooPass

 twitter.com/ZooSocietyMKE

 instagram.com/ZooSocietyMKE

 youtube.com/ZooSocietyMKE

 Milwaukee Zoo Pass App



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.