

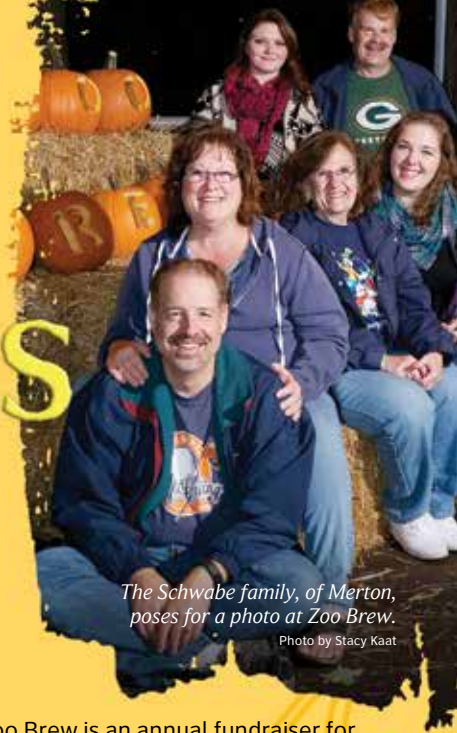
# Wild Things

## Brew Ha-Ha

### Zoo Brew

Sponsored by Sazama Design Build Remodel  
Thursday, Oct. 5, 7-10 p.m. (VIP admission at 6 p.m.)

Sip a lager near the lions or drink a pale ale with your pals. Zoo Brew is an annual fundraiser for the Zoological Society of Milwaukee and a chance for you to sample a wide variety of beers after Zoo hours. About 30 breweries will offer some of their brews in the big cat building, Peck Welcome Center and Flamingo Patio Beer Garden. You will get a complimentary tasting glass to use for your favorite beers or to try something new. Food vendors are also on hand to satisfy your hunger. VIP ticket holders get early admission to the event and are entered into a drawing to win a behind-the-scenes tour of the Zoo. You must be at least 21 years old to attend, and designated driver tickets are available. Proceeds benefit the Zoological Society's mission and support of the Zoo.



The Schwabe family, of Merton, poses for a photo at Zoo Brew.

Photo by Stacy Kaat



Registration Fees	Regular Ticket	VIP
Zoo Pass Member	\$50	\$60
Non-member	\$60	\$70
Designated Driver	\$20	\$30

For a list of breweries and food vendors and to register online, go to [zoosociety.org/brew](http://zoosociety.org/brew).

Online reservations will be accepted through Oct. 4. Walk-ins will be accepted unless the event fills prior to that date.

Cornelius Washington, of Milwaukee, laughs with representatives of Henry's Hard Soda at Zoo Brew.

Photo by Stacy Kaat

## In This Issue

**Page 10:** Don't "bee" surprised when you see the new members >> of the Zoo. Read about the Zoo's first Beepod and how zookeepers will care for the important insects.



Photo by Bob Wickland

<< The tiger cubs are turning 1 and acting like teenagers. Read on **page 11** how they have grown and changed through the year.



Photo by Joel Miller

What animal will be featured as this >> year's ornament? Find out on **page 7**.



Bike riders head under the train trestle during last year's event.

Photo by Bob Wickland

# Tires & Tigers

## Ride on the Wild Side Bike Ride

Sponsored by Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield

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

Sunday, Sept. 10, 7 a.m. check-in

On any given day, you can't bring your bike into the Zoo. But Sept. 10 is the exception to the rule. See the Zoo in a whole new way as you pedal past the tigers, bears and primates. No matter what your bike skills are, this annual fundraiser for the Zoological Society is an event for everyone. The 2.5-mile Kids 'n Critters Caravan stays in the Zoo. The 10-, 17- and 27-mile rides start and end in the Zoo but also go into the Menomonee River Parkway and the Oak Leaf Trail. The registration fee includes entry to the Zoo and parking, a continental breakfast, lunch and a long-sleeve T-shirt. Last year's event raised more than \$28,000 for the Zoological Society and its support of the Milwaukee County Zoo. Bike helmets are mandatory.

Register online at [zoosociety.org/Bike](http://zoosociety.org/Bike) by Sept. 7 or call 414-258-2333 for more information. Riders can also register the day of the ride, but shirt sizes are not guaranteed.



Aryan D., 4, of New Berlin, tackles the ride with a Spider-Man bike.

Photo by Bob Wickland

	Zoo Pass Member	Non-member	Day of Ride
Adult (14 & over)	\$35	\$40	\$45
Child (13 & under)	\$12	\$15	\$20
Family of 4	\$85	\$100	N/A

Our thanks to Bike Corral sponsor AAA Wisconsin; 27-mile route sponsor Mallery & Zimmerman, S.C.; Kids Zone sponsor Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren; lunch sponsor Meijer; and contributing sponsors Litho-Craft; R&R Insurance; Southport Engineered Systems; Stephanie Murphy, DDS; Super-Lube; Van Westen Orthodontics; and Wheel & Sprocket.



## Memberanda

Zoological Society office hours: 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. weekdays, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. weekends.

Zoo hours through Oct. 31: 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. daily.

November through February: 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. weekdays, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. weekends.

The Zoo's drive-in admission gates close 45 minutes prior to the posted Zoo closing time, and the walk-in gate closes one hour prior to the posted Zoo closing time. The animal buildings close 15 minutes before the posted Zoo closing time.

**School field trips/company outings:** For Zoo Pass members visiting the Zoo with an organized class field trip or company picnic, members' free-admission benefits do not apply. Due to the many busloads of school groups visiting the Zoo, gate staff is not able to board each bus to verify memberships without causing potentially dangerous traffic back-ups onto Bluemound Road. The fees paid for educational outings and company picnics typically include additional class materials or zoo-visit benefits.

**Zoo admission:** Please remember to have your Zoo Pass and identification ready when you arrive at the Zoo's admission gates. You will be asked to present both to the Zoo's gate attendant. If you've misplaced or lost your card, replacement cards may be purchased for \$5. Zoo Pass Plus members: Free parking is valid for one vehicle per membership per day.

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

### WILD THINGS

Issue No. 132, September-October 2017

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

Editor: Katie Krecklow

Designer: Scott DuChateau

#### Contact the Zoological Society at:

10005 W. Bluemound Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53226-4383

Phone: 414-258-2333 Web: [zoosociety.org](http://zoosociety.org)

#### Contact the Milwaukee County Zoo at:

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

Phone: 414-256-5412 Web: [milwaukeezoo.org](http://milwaukeezoo.org)



# FARMING IN THE CITY

## Family Farm Weekend

Sponsored by the Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board

Saturday & Sunday, Sept. 9 & 10

Free Zoo admission for Zoo Pass members with photo ID.

Experience farm life right in the city of Milwaukee when you come to the Zoo's Family Farm Weekend. During the two-day event, head to the Northwestern Mutual Family Farm and enjoy farm animals, food and friendly competition. You can see and even touch certain farm animals – like chickens and rabbits – during designated times at the Stackner Animal Encounter. Shop around the local farmers market filled with fresh fruits, vegetables, honey and other Wisconsin-made products. Learn what it's like to milk a cow, take a turn churning ice cream or sit in on a basket-weaving demonstration. Children age 10 and under, weighing 70 pounds or less, can test their muscle strength in the pedal tractor-pull contest, sponsored by CNH Industrial.

What would a farm weekend be without milk? Kids and adults can take part in a milk-chugging contest. Then go inside the barn to see the dairy cows and learn more about how they are milked. The Zoo has the only working dairy in the city of Milwaukee. The Zoo's cows can produce more than 200 pounds of milk a day, which will be turned into cheese by Clock Shadow Creamery, the city's only urban creamery. The partnership between Clock Shadow and the Zoo has been in place for almost two years. The milk, purchased and picked up twice a week, is mixed with milk from other dairy farms to create different kinds of cheese – including the popular "squeaky" cheese curds. Clock Shadow Creamery is located in Walker's Point.



*Ester W., 2, of Milwaukee, participates in the tractor pull.*



*Amber R. and son Nate, 2, of Glendale, pick out an acorn squash during Family Farm Weekend.*



*Rosy, 4, Cameron, 5, and Aiden, 6, compete in the milk-chugging contest.*

Photos by Olga Kornienko



# It Takes PRIDE



**T**he saying often goes, “it takes a village,” but at the Milwaukee County Zoo, “it takes a Pride.” Zoo Pride is a group of volunteers that help the Zoo and Zoological Society function. But they also help you, the zoogoer, have a great experience. You may see some Pride volunteers giving talks about the animals. Others may have a table of animal artifacts for you to see and touch. Then there are volunteers behind the scenes making animal enrichment items like bloodsicles for the big cats or pumpkins stuffed with treats for some of the bigger animals. Volunteers are also needed to help with classroom activities in the Education Department and dozens of other duties around the Zoo. Hundreds of Zoo Pride volunteers contribute more than 50,000 hours of service every year.

If you would like to join the Pride, interviews are taking place from now until Sept. 12. Once you’ve completed your interview and are selected, beginning training sessions take place Sept. 20 and 23. **For a look at other things volunteers do and how to apply for an interview, call 414-258-5667 or visit [zoosociety.org/ZooPride](http://zoosociety.org/ZooPride).**



*Zoo Pride volunteer Tom Wisniewski shows Javonte Briggs and Sophia C. an animal pelt.*

Photo by Richard Brodzeller



*Zoo Pride volunteer Diane Tyk gives a talk about elephants and their care.*

Photo by Bob Wickland

*Zoo Pride volunteer Georgia Janza leads a “lemur stink fight” during a Leapin’ Lemurs class for 4- and 5-year-olds.*

Photo by Bob Wickland





# UnBOOlievable Fun

## Boo at the Zoo

Sponsored by Prairie Farms Dairy

Friday & Saturday, Oct. 13 & 14, 6-9 p.m. • Free Zoo admission for Zoo Pass members with photo ID.

Celebrate fall and Halloween during two different weekends at the Milwaukee County Zoo. First, Boo at the Zoo offers a pumpkin patch with hundreds of jack-o'-lanterns carved by Zoo Pride volunteers. If they dare, families can go through the haystack maze or take a ghostly train ride. Anyone can dress up in costumes as they check out the Halloween displays during the fall night.

Say "Boo!" Harlow C., 5, and Mason C., 10, of Milwaukee, dress up as Pokémon characters at last year's Boo at the Zoo.

Photo by Olga Kornienko



## Halloween Spooktacular

Sponsored by Prairie Farms Dairy

Friday, Oct. 20 (trick-or-treating 6-9 p.m.) & Saturday, Oct. 21 (trick-or-treating 9 a.m.-9 p.m.)

Free Zoo admission for Zoo Pass members with photo ID.

Dress up and trick-or-treat around the Milwaukee County Zoo. Whether your children are dressed like a superhero or a cuddly animal, they can get treats from various locations. Anyone is welcome to march in the 2 p.m. parade Saturday. Families can watch some impressive artwork during the pumpkin-carving demonstration. Then, walk by the animals and see if you can find their Halloween enrichment items. Tackle the haystack maze and pose near some of the spirited displays.



Levi A., 2, of Waukesha, dresses in costume to trick-or-treat at the Zoo. Photo by Olga Kornienko



A giraffe digs into an enrichment item, a jack-o'-lantern with food inside. Photo by Stacy Kaat



Zach Woods performs in the summer musical "Captain Super Fantastic and the Coltan Conundrum."

Photo by Rich Taylor

# BEHIND THE CURTAIN

**O**n a sunny and busy day at the Zoo, dozens of families walked into the Kohl's Wild Theater inside the farm area.

The performance that afternoon was "The Time Traveler's Chicken." Zach Woods played the role of Clucky the Chicken and made the puppet come to life with his energy, voice and commitment to the role. Zach was so good, kids couldn't wait to meet Clucky after the performance. "The greatest reward at Kohl's Wild Theater comes when you feel like you've made an impression on someone," says Zach. The audience would have never guessed this was his fourth show of the day or the work he does for Kohl's Wild Theater behind the curtain.

Kohl's Wild Theater isn't just a summer event. Members of the crew like Zach are acting daily at the Zoo until Labor Day while getting ready for a new traveling show. Kohl's Wild Theater travels to schools and community events to perform longer-format plays and musicals. Right now Zach is directing a new musical that will debut in February. The show, "The Monarch: A Space Adventure," revolves around the crew of a spaceship in search of an alternate form of sustainable energy. "In the process, they have the opportunity to learn and teach about the various planets in our solar system and how planetary conditions affect the possibility for organic life," says Zach.

When you picture a director, you may think they just sit in the chair and yell "Action!" or "Cut!" But there is so much more on Zach's plate as a director. He works with the playwright and composer as they create a script for the show. "Based on ideas generated there, I work with the design team to create the look and feel of the show through costumes, set design and props," says Zach. Then he casts the show and works with the actors to bring the characters to life. Zach has directed shows

before, but this is the first time he is directing a musical for Kohl's Wild Theater.

On top of acting and directing, Zach is also an accomplished writer. He recently wrote "Aldo Leopold and the Ghost of Sand County." The 45-minute musical teaches children about Wisconsin's rich conservation history and the importance of preserving nature for future generations. Zach did a lot of research, reading several books on the history of Wisconsin conservation, visiting the Aldo Leopold Foundation in Baraboo and working with Leopold's youngest daughter, who eventually became a character in the show. The Aldo Leopold musical will return this fall and winter as a traveling performance.

Zach has been a company member of Kohl's Wild Theater since 2014. Through acting, directing and writing, Zach is making a big impact on Kohl's Wild Theater and its mission to provide conservation-themed theater performances using drama, songs and puppetry.



Zach Woods plays conservationist Aldo Leopold in the musical he wrote. Photo by Rich Taylor

Kohl's Wild Theater is made possible by a partnership between Kohl's Cares, the Milwaukee County Zoo and the Zoological Society of Milwaukee. KWT also performs year-round at schools, community events and festivals, free of charge, within a one-hour radius of the Zoo. Visit [wildtheater.org](http://wildtheater.org) for more information. **To book a show, call 414-258-2333 or email [KWT@zoosociety.org](mailto:KWT@zoosociety.org).**



# THE ANSWER IS ... IMPALA



**YOU "HERD" IT HERE FIRST.** This year's holiday ornament will showcase an impala family. The male stands tall with his impressive and unique long spiral horns. A female and baby are sculpted in front of the male. Impalas are graceful antelopes that use their speed and jumping ability to escape predators. While running they can jump 10 feet in the air and a distance of around 30 feet. Impalas are native to eastern and southern Africa. At the Milwaukee County Zoo, impalas are only outside on exhibit in the summer. So if you want to enjoy their beauty in the winter, purchase this unique ornament. The handcrafted, pewter ornament is created by local Wisconsin artist Andy Schumann. This is the Zoological Society's 26th ornament.

**ORDER THIS YEAR'S IMPALA OR AN ORNAMENT FROM THE PAST AT [ZOOSOCIETY.ORG/ORNAMENT](http://ZOOSOCIETY.ORG/ORNAMENT).**

The cost of each ornament is \$14, which includes postage, mailing materials and sales tax. Proceeds assist the Zoological Society in providing support to the Milwaukee County Zoo's animals.

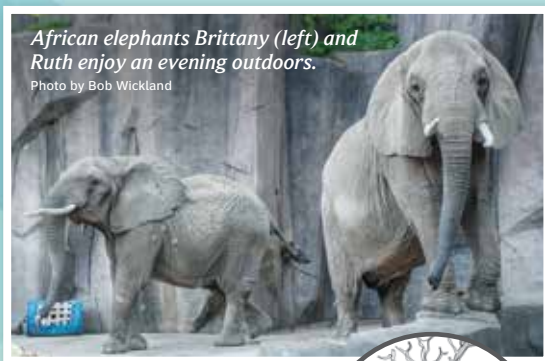
*Ornament designed and sculpted by Andy Schumann of Schumann Sculptures.*

## Annual Appeal

The Zoo's largest residents are getting ready for their new home. African elephants Ruth and Brittany are moving to a larger exhibit and barn in 2019. The Zoological Society wants to fill the new space with enrichment items that will allow the elephants to engage in natural behaviors and keep their minds and bodies healthy. With your help, we hope to buy the following items for Ruth and Brittany.

- A feeding wall with puzzles and compartments so the elephants can forage for treats
- An artificial baobab tree that will provide shade and activities
- A shower the elephants can control themselves
- Pulleys and cables where keepers can hang food and toys such as wind chimes and puzzle feeders. The system could even accommodate a popcorn feeder!

You can donate by visiting [zoosociety.org/ElephantAppeal](http://zoosociety.org/ElephantAppeal)



*African elephants Brittany (left) and Ruth enjoy an evening outdoors.*  
Photo by Bob Wickland



# SPONSOR AN ANIMAL



*Jozi emerges from the mud, fully covered.*

Photo by Bob Wickland

## The “Dirty” Details

Jozi emerges from a puddle of mud, happy as can be. Almost every inch of her body, from horn to tail, is covered. Jozi is the Zoo’s eastern black rhinoceros, a critically endangered animal. Like many rhinos, Jozi loves to play in the mud. It helps protect a rhino’s sensitive skin from sunburn and insect bites, plus it looks fun! Jozi turns 5 years old in September and has been in Milwaukee for almost one year. She came from the Pittsburgh Zoo where zookeepers gave her the name Jozi as a tribute to her parents at that zoo. They took “Jo” from her father, Jomo, and “zi” from her mother, Azizi.

**As a limited-time offer, you can sponsor Jozi. For \$30 you get a plush-toy rhino, a certificate of sponsorship, a fact sheet about black rhinos and a Sponsor an Animal decal. You can buy an extra plush for \$5. The offer is good through Nov. 30. The tax-deductible portion is \$24.**

## Kids Conservation Club Workshop

**Saturday, Sept. 30 • 10 a.m.-noon • Peck Welcome Center**

**Pre-register by Sept. 15**

Kids Conservation Club (KCC) is one of the ways to sponsor an animal at the Zoo. As a part of the club, kids can take part in a free workshop. The next class is Saturday, Sept. 30, called “Nature Adventure.” Kids will learn about our environment, make nature-themed crafts and set out to explore a part of the Zoo’s woods normally not open to the public. The workshop will be held rain or shine, so children should dress appropriately.

**Each year, Kids Conservation Club members sponsor an endangered animal at the Milwaukee County Zoo.**

**The cost is \$20 and includes:**

- A certificate of sponsorship
- An animal fact sheet on that year’s animal
- Collector cards with pictures of endangered animals and fun animal facts. Some of these animals can be seen at the Milwaukee County Zoo.
- Invitations to fun, educational workshops
- The child’s name on the Kids Conservation Club donor board in the Peck Welcome Center at the Zoo
- And more...



**The workshop is free to Kids Conservation Club members and one parent/guardian. KCC members must pre-register with Becky Luft by Sept. 15 by phone at 414-258-2333 or email at [beckyl@zoosociety.org](mailto:beckyl@zoosociety.org).**



# TEACHERS HELPING TEACHERS

The new school year is just around the corner. While parents are making sure their kids are prepared with supplies and clothes, teachers are working to get lesson plans in order. The Zoological Society can help get kids excited to learn and help teachers with their curriculum. Classes can go to the Zoo, or in many cases, the Zoo can come to the classroom. The Society offers programs for students in K3 through high school. Each class is carefully constructed to meet education standards in science, so teachers can pick what fits in with their curriculum.

One class teachers can bring to their school is "Zoo Veterinarian" for second- and third-graders. Students will learn how veterinarians keep the Zoo animals healthy by preventing and treating illness and injury. Students will look at X-rays and dental impressions and observe a live animal. Each school program through the Zoological Society is hands-on and interactive. Another example is "Animal Adaptations Lab" for students in third to seventh grade. This class is at the Zoo and allows students to examine teeth, antlers and animal skeletons. Zoological Society educators will show students how different animals adapt and survive.

**No matter what program teachers pick, a school science class has never been so fun. For a look at the school programs offered through the Zoological Society, go to [zoosociety.org/education](http://zoosociety.org/education)**



*Melissa H. of Wauwatosa STEM School examines a chicken with a magnifying glass for a class about zookeepers.*

Photo by Bob Wickland



*Instructor Ryanne Lee shows a sea star to kindergarteners and first-graders for the "Ocean Commotion" class.*

Photo by Bob Wickland

**"I love how the content adds to curriculum perfectly.  
Hands-on, interesting and fun!"**  
*-Fifth-grade Teacher*



# what's the BUZZ?

You may hear the buzz from the newest residents of the Milwaukee County Zoo even if you can't see them. They are tiny, but their impact is irreplaceable. Honeybees have a new home near the Small Mammals Building inside the Zoo. They are living and working hard in a wooden box called a Beepod. Bees are in danger, and bringing a Beepod to the Zoo is a great way to educate people about the problem, help conserve the population and allow the bees to pollinate local vegetation. Bees are crucial when it comes to pollination, and a lot of our fruits and vegetables depend on the insect.

The idea for a Beepod came from small mammals zookeeper Stephanie Harpt. "In my spare time, I like to take classes through the Milwaukee Recreation Department. There was a class about bees, and I thought it would be cool to learn more about them," says Harpt. What she wasn't expecting was to fall in love with the idea of a Beepod and turn it into a new passion. She presented the idea to Zoo representatives and came up with funding for the Zoo's first Beepod.

Beepods can help protect the bees better than a natural hive or other commercial boxes. One of the biggest advantages is temperature control. There are vents on the bottom of the Beepod that keep it cool in summer and warmer at night or in the winter. In wintertime, the

zookeepers will also wrap the hive to keep the warmth inside and to protect the bees against moisture and wind. The top of the pod is locked so wildlife can't get in and hurt the insects.

Zookeepers and volunteers check on the Beepod at least every other week. There is a lot to look at and record. Harpt explains, "Everything is very natural in a Beepod. The bees create the combs themselves, unlike other manmade hives that have artificial combs." Harpt will check on the queen, the size of the combs and the amount of nectar, honey and bee bread pollen in addition to how the eggs and larva are growing. Any honey the bees make this year will stay in the Beepod through the winter. The bees will use the honey as food through the cold months while staying in the pod. If they make more honey as time goes on, the sweet treat will go to other animals in the Zoo as an enrichment item.

You can help the honeybees at home, but Harpt doesn't expect everyone to buy a Beepod. "You can plant native wildflowers to give the bees food. Also, families can buy organic food because pesticides hurt the bee population," says Harpt. Zoogoers won't be able to get very close to the Beepod. However, you can see the

Zoo's other hive in the farm area. A window in their large home offers everyone the chance to see thousands of bees working to make honey.





# TIGER TEENS

There is one guarantee when you walk into the big cat building: Several people will gather around the tigers and say in disbelief, "I can't believe how big the cubs are!" or "Those can't be the cubs; they're so big!" Well, believe it. The three Amur tiger cubs turn 1 year old on Sept. 14. The male, Kashan – usually referred to as Kash – and his two sisters, Eloise and Bernadette, have grown into typical teenagers. "They play a little rougher, and they don't like to share food with each other," says Katie Kuhn, big cats area supervisor. While Kash weighs more, he and Bernadette are both short and stocky like their dad, Strannik. Eloise is like her mom, Amba, tall and slender.

When Kash was just a couple weeks old, he had to spend time at the Animal Health Center because he wasn't gaining weight and had an infection in his left rear leg. Because he was away from his mom, Amba, for too long, the decision was made that it was too risky to reunite the two. Instead, Kash was hand-raised, but was still put together with his sisters as often as possible. That interaction with Eloise and Bernadette is meant to help Kash learn how to be a tiger. After a year, Kuhn says Kash is doing all the tiger things they hoped for. Kash understands tiger body language, responds to cues from his sisters and respectfully plays with them. "We hope that moms can care for their young, but in a circumstance where that is not possible, it was quite an honor to be able to help Kash become the tiger he is today," says Kuhn. Keepers are hoping to give the three as much sibling time as possible until they hit breeding age, which is typically 2-3 years old. If you see two of the three cubs playing or roughhousing, it's probably Kash and Eloise. Bernadette will sometimes join in the fun, but she is particular about when and what they are playing.

Since the girls weren't hand-raised, it took them awhile to form a relationship with the zookeepers. They recently became more inquisitive with the keepers and are now eager to participate in training. Kash, on the other hand, is becoming less interested in the keepers, which Kuhn says is a good thing. One thing that has not changed with the tigers is their love of water. They constantly play in their pools and stand near the misters and hoses. Come visit the tigers daily at the Zoo and wish them a happy birthday on Sept. 14.



*Less than a month old, the tiger cubs weighed between 6 and 8 pounds.*

Photo courtesy of the Milwaukee County Zoo



*The 4-month-old cubs all share a blanket during nap time.*

Photo by Joel Miller



*Eloise and Kash play by the water outside.*

Photo by Joel Miller



*Bernadette watches zoogoers from inside her exhibit.*

# Learning About Bonobos



*Researcher Lindsay Mahovetz observes Brian, a bonobo, as he figures out how to use a tool to reach a piece of banana.*

Despite few instructions and a language barrier, Brian knew exactly what to do when he saw a thin white stick and a piece of banana on a table. He used the stick as a tool and swiped the banana closer so he could pick it up and eat it. While this may not seem impressive to you, researcher Lindsay Mahovetz was very proud of Brian. He is one of 21 bonobos living in the Milwaukee County Zoo. Throughout the year, Milwaukee hosts different researchers who hope to study and learn more about the endangered ape. In the case of Mahovetz, she was in Milwaukee for several months as part of a research project for her doctorate dissertation with Georgia State University.

Only seven accredited zoos in North America house these great apes, and the Milwaukee County Zoo has the largest group with 21. This makes Milwaukee a great place for students and researchers to learn. "I had never worked with bonobos in person, and they were smaller than I expected," says Mahovetz. The majority of her research was on the bonobos' ability to use tools and how they compare to their relatives, chimpanzees. Both animals share over 98% of their DNA with humans. One at a time, the bonobos, like Brian, were given a tool to reach a piece of food on the other side of the mesh. Later the food was put farther away, where the tool wouldn't be able to reach. "I'm looking to see at what distance and how long into a trial they stop trying to use the tool and attempt to solicit my help by using attention-getting signals," says Mahovetz.

After five months of research, Mahovetz is back in Georgia, putting together her findings and conclusions. In addition to earning her doctorate, Mahovetz says she hopes her research will help educate others and "give some insights into the evolution of tool use and what might explain the differences between bonobos and chimpanzees." Research like this is important since bonobos were just discovered in the 1920s and there is still much we don't know about them.

Bonobos are only found in the Democratic Republic of Congo and are endangered. They are often shot or caught for bush meat, and babies are sold as pets. It's a problem that the Zoological Society of Milwaukee is fighting to change. This year marks the 20th anniversary of the Bonobo & Congo Biodiversity Initiative (BCBI), the Society's program to research and protect the bonobo and other wildlife in the Congo. The award-winning program supports three patrol posts in the Salonga National Park, where thousands of bonobos live. BCBI brings in supplies and trains guards to stop poachers within the park, which is the second-largest rainforest park in the world. It also supports local schools and adult literacy programs in an effort to improve the lives of villagers near the park.

**To learn more about BCBI, visit [bonoboconservation.com](http://bonoboconservation.com).**

*Laura is the oldest bonobo in the group and turned 50 in August.*

Photo by Richard Brodzeller



## 20TH ANNIVERSARY BONOBO & CONGO



Photo by Olga Kornienko

In honor of the 20th anniversary of the Bonobo & Congo Biodiversity Initiative, the Zoological Society is offering a limited-time bonobo animal sponsorship. You can buy it for yourself or give it as a gift.

Your \$30 sponsorship includes:

- An adorable plush-toy bonobo
- A colorful bonobo fact sheet
- A certificate of sponsorship
- Sponsor recognition on our “All in the Family” donor board for a year
- A Sponsor an Animal decal

Offer ends Sept. 30, while supplies last. Proceeds from the Sponsor an Animal program help the Zoological Society in its mission to support the Milwaukee County Zoo. Price includes shipping, handling and sales tax. The tax-deductible portion of this sponsorship is \$19.



## New to the Zoo



New gazelles grazing in their exhibit.

Photo by Joel Miller

When you hear their names you probably think of the famous singing chipmunks. But at the Milwaukee County Zoo, Alvin, Simon and Theodore are actually Thompson gazelles. The Zoo has not displayed Tommies, as they are often called, in about 12 years. The three boys came from San Diego. They were all born last year but in different months. Alvin, Simon and Theodore are half-brothers – sharing the same father. The gazelles are medium-sized antelopes found in East Africa. The Thompson gazelle can reach speeds of 40 miles per hour. The gazelles share an exhibit with impalas, cinereous vultures and southern ground hornbills.

### It's a Girl!

It took a little time before zookeepers could confirm, but the new octopus at the Zoo is a girl. Her name is Harriet, and you can see her in the Aquatic & Reptile Center. Harriet is usually found crunched up in the lower corner of her exhibit. Octopuses don't have bones, so they can fit in tight areas.

*A giant Pacific octopus.*

Photo by Bob Wickland



# By the Numbers



## 1. Nights in June

A night just for Zoo Pass members, Nights in June brought in 10,855 people during the three-day event June 6-8. Food trucks donated part of their profits to the Sponsor an Animal program, raising \$9,966.

Photo by Bob Wickland

## 2. Father's Day

Brad C., of Elm Grove, and son Charlie feed a goat for Father's Day at the Zoo. Dads enjoyed free admission thanks to sponsor Prairie Farms Dairy. The special day brought in 8,001 people.

Photo by Olga Kornienko



## 3. Zoo Ball

The annual gala for the Zoological Society of Milwaukee brought in the highest attendance in 21 years, 838 guests, thanks to presenting sponsors Dr. William Stathas and Judy Holz Stathas. The black-tie affair raised more than \$700,000 for the Society.

Photo by Rich Taylor

## 4. Kids' Nights

Jayden, 3, of Milwaukee, high fives juggler Wild Willy during Kids' Nights. The event sponsored by WaterStone Bank drew 16,971 Zoo Pass members the evenings of July 11, 13 and 14.

Photo by Stacy Kaat





# Development

## Investing in the Future

To the Wucherer family, the Milwaukee County Zoo is much more than just animals; it's an experience, a place to make family memories and an opportunity to invest in the future. Before getting married, Hillary and J.R. would go to the Zoo for regular dates. Now, with two young boys, the Zoo is a family affair. In 2012, Hillary and J.R. joined the Platypus Circle, the premier annual giving program through the Zoological Society of Milwaukee. "We wanted to support the Society and its goals of conservation and education," says Hillary.

As a Platypus Circle member, the Wucherer family is invited to special events, a preview of the summer exhibit, an annual dinner and more. One of the perks that keep Hillary and J.R. coming back every year is the behind-the-

scenes tours. "As our boys, Ben and Jack, get older, the tours keep changing as they become more engaged and can be taken into different areas," says Hillary. Her favorite Zoo memory involves a tour given by former primate and Samson zookeeper Sam LaMalfa. "His knowledge and personal memories made it an unforgettable tour."

While the Wucherer family enjoys the perks of the Platypus Circle, Hillary says they feel proud knowing they are helping with conservation, education programs and supporting the Zoo's animals and staff. Hillary adds, "It's a great investment because children who grow up loving animals and valuing the environment will conserve and protect nature as adults."

*The Wucherer Family (from left to right): Ben, 8, Jack, 4, Hillary and J.R.*

Photo by Stacy Kaat



Support the Zoological Society by joining the Platypus and/or Simba Circles. Platypus Circle members give annually to the Society, while Simba Circle members have included the Society in a will or estate plan. Both contribute to 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.

Members receive benefits such as invitations to exhibit premieres and other VIP events.

For more information visit [zoosociety.org/Support](https://zoosociety.org/Support) or contact Candy Walton at 414-918-6151 or [candyw@zoosociety.org](mailto:candyw@zoosociety.org).

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Photo by Olga Kornienko

# What's Happening

Details Inside

## Sept. 1

Fall Zoo Classes, sponsored by Meijer, begin

## Sept. 1

Senior Celebration, sponsored by St. Camillus,  
A Life Plan Community\*

## Sept. 9 & 10

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

## Sept. 10

Ride on the Wild Side, sponsored by Anthem Blue Cross  
and Blue Shield; media sponsor: News/Talk 1130 WISN,  
FM 106.1, 95.7 BIG FM, 97-3 NOW and V100.7  
(pre-register)

## Sept. 30

Kids Conservation Club workshop (pre-register)

## Oct. 5

Zoo Brew, sponsored by Sazama Design Build Remodel  
(pre-register)

## Oct. 7

Family Free Day, sponsored by North Shore Bank;  
media sponsor: WITI FOX 6 (Parking fees still apply)\*

## Oct. 13 & 14

Boo at the Zoo, sponsored by Prairie Farms Dairy\*

## Oct. 20 & 21

Halloween Spooktacular,  
sponsored by Prairie Farms Dairy\*

## Nov. 2

Online registration begins for 2018 Spring Zoo Classes,  
sponsored by Meijer

## Nov. 4

Family Free Day, sponsored by North Shore Bank;  
media sponsor: WITI FOX 6 (Parking fees still apply)\*

## Dec. 1-29

Fantastic Forest, sponsored by Hawks Landscape\*

## Dec. 2

Family Free Day, sponsored by North Shore Bank;  
media sponsor: WITI FOX 6 (Parking fees still apply)\*

## Dec. 2, 3, 9, 10, 16 & 17

Breakfast & Lunch with Santa, sponsored by Racine  
Danish Kringles (pre-register)

\*Zoo Pass members get free Zoo admis-  
sion 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.

*Ride on the Wild Side*

Photo by Bob Wickland



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Milwaukee Zoo Pass App



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