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ZOO

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December 12-13 & 19-20, 2015 10 a.m., Noon & 2 p.m.

Special Ticket Required.

Santa is making a special stop by the Louisville Zoo and he's bringing some of his North Pole friends along too. Enjoy a visit and photo with Santa plus meet Mrs. Claus and Frosty the Snowman. Includes yummy refreshments, a fun holiday craft, special animal encounter stations, festive sing-alongs and more. Bring your cameras!

Be sure to purchase tickets early. This event sells out!

Purchase tickets at LouisvilleZoo.org/santa





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The Louisville Zoo, a nonprofit organization and the state zoo of Kentucky, is dedicated to bettering the bond between people and our planet by providing excellent care for animals, a great experience for visitors, and leadership in scientific research and conservation education. The Zoo is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums (AAM) and by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA).







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Telephone:

Administrative Offices: 502-459-2181 FAX: 502-459-2196 Education: 502-238-5358 Membership Office: 502-459-2287

Website with Online Store:

louisvillezoo.org

Zoo Hours:

Sept. 28 to March 11, 2016 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. *(stay until 5 p.m.)*

March 12 to Sept. 30, 2016 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. (stay until 6 p.m.)

Admission

Visit the website for seasonal pricing. Children (under 3) receive free regular admission.

Groups (15 or more), please call 502-238-5348 at least 72 hours in advance or purchase online at louisvillezoo.org/plan/shop.



The Louisville Zoo is an agency of Louisville Metro, Greg Fischer, Mayor

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Official soft drink of the Louisville Zoo





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For the most up-to-the-minute news, become a Louisville Zoo Fan on Facebook or follow us on Twitter and Instagram







MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP

FROM THE MAYOR

ust a few

GREG FISCHER
METRO MAYOR

months ago, the new school year started. For many of our children, this was the first time they rode a bus or entered a classroom.

As parents on that first day of school, we send our kids on their way, anxious and excited, with hope-filled thoughts about their future. Yet, the pathway to success starts well before our kids walk into their first classroom. Research shows us that preparing young people for learning is the key to academic achievement and a successful life. Our

children need a solid foundation to build

upon, one that begins before the school age years.

Too many kids — half in Louisville — arrive for their first day of kindergarten already behind. That's nearly 24,500 students who entered kindergarten in 2015 unprepared. Unfortunately, they rarely catch up. We are making significant improvements, but more work needs to occur.

Creating a culture of lifelong learning is one of my top priorities for our city. We need to ensure our young citizens have every opportunity to succeed in life and that starts with being prepared for school.

In order to accomplish this, we must come together to create additional non-school-based learning opportunities for our children. How can you contribute to your child's growing mind? What can you do to prepare for your child's future?

The Louisville Zoo has been

engaging and inspiring young minds with its award-winning education programming for over 40 years. In recent years, even more exceptional and innovative camps and classes have been added for pre-kindergarten aged children. These programs, set in remote classrooms and with interactive hands-on lessons, provide the compelling experiences necessary to encourage a thirst for knowledge.

The Louisville Zoo also provides the perfect environment to supplement non-school-based learning while you spend quality time with your child, engaging them in an educational setting, allowing them to ask questions, exercising their critical-thinking skills and sparking an interest in the natural world.

Education is the foundation to a thriving and vibrant city. So let's ensure the brightest future possible today by investing in our leaders of tomorrow.

FROM THE DIRECTOR

JOHN WALCZAK LOUISVILLE ZOO DIRECTOR

s we reach the end of 2015, I'm reminded of all the wonderful events and changes we've had at the Zoo this year. We had an amazing new traveling exhibit in the spring, Nature Connects®: LEGO® Brick Sculptures presented by Ford Motor Company. We have nearly completed the creation of a fun and innovative new exhibit that opens in 2016 — Penguin Cove and we're making an old favorite even better with the new Elephant Encounter, also opening in 2016. We had lots animal births too: litters of meerkats. black-footed ferret kits, a zebra foal and even a babirusa piglet.

Especially wonderful for our com-

munity this year, we changed up our award-winning educational programming to make it more accessible than ever before.

Conveniences like curbside drop off, extended program hours, and camp options for every child, every week, ensured that our busy parents have every opportunity to expand their child's out-of-school education.

These notable happenings would never have been possible without the unwavering support of our donors, friends, our dedicated and resourceful Zoo staff, and loyal Zoo members like yourself and your family. Your support enables us to continue being a beacon of community enrichment — engaging guests to care about wildlife through wonderful nose-to-nose animal encounters, cultivating a culture of excellence and innovation, all while inspiring action and creating lifelong memories.

It's been wonderful playing a part in empowering improvement within our community. Through immersive and interactive education programming for all ages, a brighter future has been unlocked for our youngest visitors and their families, who have come together to learn about nature, science and wildlife conservation.

Next year, we plan to go even further with our educational programming. We have some exciting new things in the wings we just can't wait to unveil. From all new specialty topics for camps and classes, plans for amazing exhibits and educational facilities, and even some upcoming attractions you'll have to see to believe — it's sure to be a brilliant new year!

From our family to yours, thank you for supporting the Zoo, experiencing the wonders of nature and wildlife with us and allowing us to be a part of your most precious memories. We look forward to providing many more experiences for you to have, things to learn, and memories to be made here at the Louisville Zoo!



Enrich Their Lives & Yours

Show how much you care. Involve the kids, family members, students and friends in selecting and donating items to enrich the lives of these precious animals. Build some new long lasting bonds this holiday season.

The Louisville Zoo Enrichment Tree, sponsored by the Louisville Chapter of the American Association of Zoo Keepers (AAZK), is similar to the Angel Trees seen inside malls. The difference is that these donations go to help your favorite Zoo animals get fun and exciting new enrichment toys!

Starting in December, guests will see a tree on the Zoo's front plaza decorated with paw print tags. Each tag lists an animal and an enrichment item keepers think they would enjoy. The tree will be up the entire month of December.

It's easy to help. Simply remove a tag, purchase an enrichment item or include a gift card toward its purchase and return it to the Zoo receptionist desk during normal business hours by Dec.31! Gift cards are also used to purchase materials to build many different enrichment items like puzzle feeders and beds. Items donated can be large or small, so everyone can participate!

A master list of all gift tags is available online at





Thanks for Your Support

It's the end of year and it's the perfect time to thank you, our members, for your unwavering support this year. Your continued patronage, whether through train rides, gift shop purchases, attending events or enjoying our new camps and classes, supports the Zoo's expert animal care and conservation education programs plus it enables us to provide safe and enjoyable experiences for you to share with your loved ones.

Join in the Fun — All Year!

Wintertime offers some great opportunities for Zoo members to create memories with family. And springtime will bring an enhanced elephant exhibit, the NEW Penguin Cove, camel rides and more! Be sure to renew your membership so you can take part in all the fun.

It may be cold out, but don't forget — We don't hibernate!

Your Zoo is open daily year-round, so come out and enjoy a fun winter trek! Use your special member discount for a warm hat and a cup of hot chocolate or Starbucks® coffee to enjoy while watching your favorite cold weather friends frolic and play. When you're finished, you can warm up in some of the Zoo's indoor exhibits like the HerpAquarium, Islands, Glacier Run and Gorilla Forest!



Norton Walking Club Returns This Spring

The Norton Get Healthy Walking Club will resume on March 1, 2016, 8 to 9:15 am. Enter through the administration office and sign in with your Norton Healthcare Get Healthy I.D. or a valid Zoo membership.

Webstore

We want to thank our members for making "The World's Largest Halloween Party!" presented by Meijer so successful. We entertained nearly 76,000 Party guests for our largest annual fundraiser. Additionally, we want to thank all of you for bearing with us as we transitioned to our new webstore for Halloween. We are working hard to make our webstore more user-friendly.

Why Email?

Please be sure we have your current email. It is necessary to purchase online tickets, activate the virtual membership app and to receive updates. Manage your profile at LouisvilleZoo.org/member-benefits.

A Perfect Gift Caring. Sharing. Connecting.

Share adventures with your loved ones. Connect with them and nature. Provide a special gift to those people in your life you care most about. A Zoo Membership provides year-round opportunities to share lots of Fun — A Frequent Fun Pass — and it lets you partner with us to protect and care for wildlife. Get \$5.00 off when you purchase a Gift Membership before Dec. 31, 2015. Plus, the first 1,300 recipients will receive a voucher for a FREE sea lion plush toy. Visit Louisvillezoo.org/hol15

for details or call us at 502-459-CATS(2287) for details. Be sure to use Promo Code **HOL15** at checkout. Order by Dec. 15 for holiday delivery.

Renew Now!

Membership prices will go up on January 2016! Hurry and renew now!



"Once she started walking, we joined."

Member Spotlight: The Mangeot Family

ouisville natives Hank and Courtney Mangeot have long been fans of the Louisville Zoo. Courtney remembers visiting the Zoo as a child on school field trips and attending "The World's Largest Halloween Party!" as a teenager. She's quick to admit with a grin that "I was perhaps a little older than I should have been to be trick-or-treating." Hank has fond memories of coming to the Zoo when it was still new in our community, and he especially remembers coming to summer Roarchestra concerts. Hank even has a particularly unique connection to the Zoo — his brother was the UPS pilot who flew Qannik, the polar bear rescued from Alaska, to her new home in Louisville in 2011.

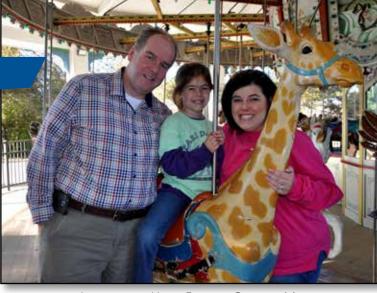
But it's their daughter, Ella, who brought the couple back to the Zoo as members. "Once she started walking, we joined."

Becoming members was an easy decision for the family. "It's hard to keep a child engaged," Courtney explains. "Belonging to the Zoo allows us to always have something to do."

They enjoy all of the animals at the Zoo, but no trip is complete without visiting their favorites: bald eagles, snow leopards and woolly monkeys. Ella, now age 7, also insists on riding the Conservation

Carousel. "We've never had her on the carousel less than once during each visit," Courtney says. "It takes at least two or three go-arounds to satisfy her appetite."

Like many parents, Hank and Courtney had their hands full this past summer trying to balance Ella's school vacation time, their work schedules, family vacations and visiting relatives. They decided to register Ella for the MetaZoo Sproutz class, a summer camp discounted for Zoo members. "It was such a hot summer, but she LOVED it," Hank says. "She was thrilled to be there and excited by everything she had done and seen. I would come to pick her up and, if



LEFT TO RIGHT: HANK, ELLA AND COURTNEY MANGEOT

there was time, she wanted to take me back into the Zoo to show me everything she'd learned that day." Ella casually started using terms like herbivore and carnivore, and Hank had to remind himself that this was still his first-grade daughter. "I figured she knew the basic ideas of these, but she knew the actual terminology and acted so... cosmopolitan." Ella still proudly wears her Zoo camp T-shirt.

The Mangeots expect to renew their membership. "It's a nobrainer. The Zoo is a vital piece of our community and the staff is fantastic. We've been to Zoos in other cities our size and even bigger and we still prefer the Louisville Zoo."

ZOOBUCKS

The Louisville Zoo is pleased to offer members quarterly coupons for guest admission and activities.

We hope you enjoy the following limitedtime promotional offers.

Please check the expiration dates and restrictions on the coupons.



ZOO NEWS

Round and Round

We're very excited to announce that four brand new animals were added to our antique conservation carousel! Visitors to the Zoo can now choose to ride a new carousel horse, an eagle, a pygmy hippo and a penguin!

The historical carousel was built in 1919, renovated in 1998 and installed at the Louisville Zoo in 2000. After 15 years and millions of visitors, many of the wild animals and horses represented on the carousel need to be replaced. The Zoo is seeking donors interested in investing in conservation efforts by commissioning a hand-carved wood animal on the Carousel. You will work with the Zoo to select the animal you wish to have represented on the carousel and a handmade ceramic plaque permanently recognizing your gift will be placed on the carousel pavilion. For details, visit

Louisvillezoo.org/support/tributes-memorials.







New Baby Piglet

The Zoo welcomed a new bouncing baby babirusa on Sept. 25, 2015! The 6-year-old babirusas, Patrice and Albus, were the parents of a female piglet. Keeper Jane Anne Franklin says the tiny piglet is very precocious. At the time of this article, the piglet's favorite activities consist of scratching her belly on the edge of her food tub and rolling around in mom's food. She's making great progress and Keepers are currently introducing her to solid foods.

Babirusas are listed as vulnerable according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species. The population has declined largely due to habitat loss as well as hunting.



Expect to see our delightful new babirusa on rotation in the Islands this spring. Learn more about this species at **louisvillezoo.org/animalsandplants/babirusa.**

Come Celebrate Qannik turning 5!

Saturday, January 9, 2016 Celebration

Visit the Louisville Zoo as we gather round to celebrate polar bear Qannik's 5th birthday! The party will take place at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 9, 2016 with a cake just for Qannik and special birthday enrichment toys. Families will get to sign Qannik's bear-sized birthday card and sing Happy Birthday. Qannik was rescued from the wild and is a great ambassador for her species and arctic conservation. Her exact

birthdate is unknown but officials from the USFWS assigned Jan. 10 as her birthday. Each year the Zoo celebrates on the Saturday closest to that date. For more event information, visit

Louisvillezoo.org/event/gannik.

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YOUR CONSERVATION

Did you know just by visiting the Zoo or becoming a member, you play an important part in helping vital conservation efforts around the world. Here's a bit of information about our blackfooted ferret program.

Sakes Alive, We're 25!

he Louisville Zoo is full of excitement as the Blackfooted Ferret Recovery Program is set to celebrate its 25th year in 2016!

Black-footed Ferrets (BFFs) were long considered one of North America's most endangered animals before finally being declared extinct in 1979. A remnant population was discovered in Wyoming, but they were dwindling to only 18 animals by 1987. Faced with almost insurmountable odds, BFFs bounced back from the brink of extinction through the efforts of a multi-institutional recovery program.

The Louisville Zoo joined the recovery effort in 1991 and became a proud participant in the reestablishment of the black-footed ferret into its native Great Plains habitat. The Zoo's Conservation Center has, to date, produced over 1,030 kits and provided over 700 ferrets for reintroduction. Our Zoo's Conservation Center has assisted greatly in the national program's momentum. Not only have we played a role in developing the protocols that all institutions use, but we have also been the most consistent producer of kits (babies) each year.

The Conservation Center's success is due, in no small part, to the dedication of keeper Guy Graves, who has been with our program from the beginning. Guy's long-term involvement has allowed him to gain a keen insight into the habits and behaviors of the ferrets under his care, and with this knowledge, Guy has made numerous contributions to the program. Other facilities often rely

on Guy to share his expertise as well as help them solve new issues or problems that develop.

Some incredible program milestones that occurred due to the Louisville Zoo's participation:



Prior to our involvement in the program, all pairings were done in the evening because the Black-footed ferrets are nocturnal. We discovered that the ferrets will breed during the day which made the pairing process much easier.

- Discovered the importance of temperature in kit survival The Louisville Zoo Conservation Center discovered that if a mother gets too warm, she will abandon her kits.
- Initiated feeding changes
 Pioneered feeding whole
 carcass (rats) to growing kits
 rather than the previously used
 gruel. This improved the ferrets
 dental health!
- Hand raising kits
 We were the first institution to hand raise a litter of ferret kits.

Recently, Keeper Guy Graves and Zoo Director John Walczak traveled



GUY GRAVES AND AN INQUISITIVE BLACK-FOOTED FERRET

to Holly, Colorado for a black-footed ferret release at Cathcart Ranch. It was a moving experience for both and they were gratified to see more people made aware of the importance of black-footed ferret conservation.

"I look forward to the day when we no longer need to supply captive raised animals for re-introduction," said Keeper Guy Graves. "But, that is many years in the future as ferrets in the wild still face many challenges."

You can read more about their trip at **louisvillezoo.org/BFFblog**.

For more information on BFF Recovery, check out conservation stories on the Zoo's website at louisvillezoo.org or visit blackfootedferret.org.



Top: Early Construction Rendering of the African Area.

Middle: Elephant Training Wall in Summer Progress.

Bottom: Elephant Training Wall in Fall

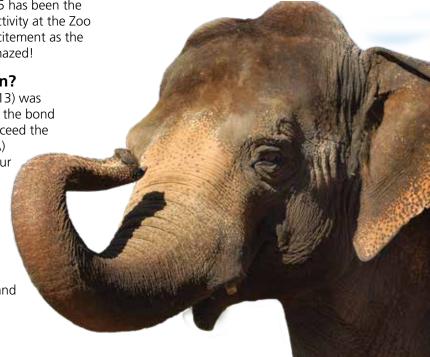
PAVING THE PATH TO AN AMAZING AND ENGAGING NEW YEAR

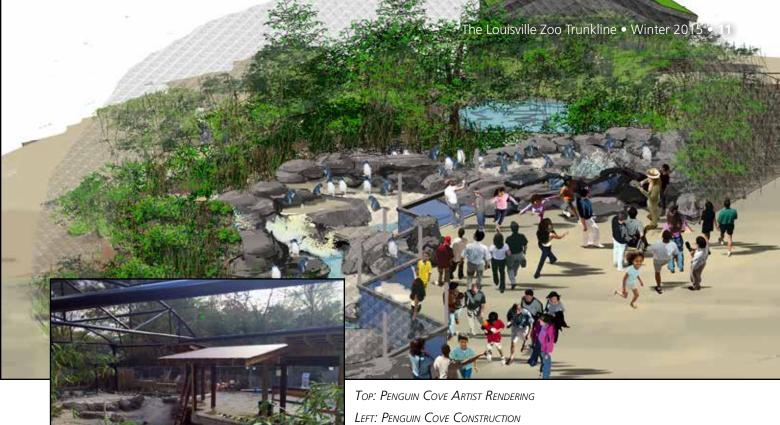
n case you've missed it, we've been busy as bees at the Zoo this year with all kinds of amazing renovations. 2015 has been the year of the Leadership Capital Campaign and activity at the Zoo is hopping! We're looking forward to lots of excitement as the Campaign leads into next year. Be prepared to be Amazed!

What is Included in the Capital Campaign?

The Leadership Capital Campaign (approved in 2013) was established to further the Zoo's mission of "bettering the bond between people and our planet" and to meet and exceed the most recent Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) standards for accreditation. We wanted to build on our distinguished legacy within the community: inspiring awareness for wildlife conservation, encouraging education of the natural world, and enriching the lives of our guests through innovative and captivating experiences. It was important to build the kind of engaging exhibits that would create longlasting memories while inspiring action. It's through amazing interactive moments that the spark of care and concern for wildlife occurs.







The Louisville Zoo's \$10,400,000 Leadership Campaign includes four major points:

- Renovation of the elephant exhibit
- Creation of Penguin Cove exhibit
- Creation of Outpost on the Edge Restaurant with renovation of existing monkey exhibit
- Construction of a new (Snow) Leopard Leap exhibit

In 2016, we will complete two of those major projects: The renovation of the elephant exhibit and the creation of Penguin Cove.

The construction for the new Elephant Encounter began ramping up in mid-February. The update of the exhibit was well-timed for elephant ambassadors like Mikki and Punch. Bringing awareness to the plight of presentday elephants — that 96 elephants are killed

daily due to ivory poaching — and the staggering effects of their habitat loss, is crucially important now more than ever before. An estimated 35,000 elephants are killed each year. Animal ambassadors bring these issues to the forefront in communities that will never experience these issues firsthand but where citizens can become well-informed and participate in elephant mitigation advocacy.

There were some notable changes to the existing Louisville Zoo elephant exhibit, which had elements dating to the Zoo's opening in 1969. The elephant barn was remodeled. This enabled keepers to have more space and greater maneuvering of the elephants in their bedrooms, as well as allowing staff to prepare for the newest AZA standards on elephant

MORE

INFO

management.

New fiber-reinforced rubber flooring was added to the existing flooring in the exhibit for the added comfort and well-being of the elephants. The roof was repaired and extra skylights were added for better climate control.

On the outside of the exhibit, the elephant yard was more than doubled to 24,000 square feet. Elephants will now have access to trees and a large

CARING ABOUT ELEPHANTS

Did you know? Zoos are a driving force in the conservation of endangered species. The Louisville Zoo partners with International Elephant Foundation and 96 Elephants to support elephant conservation. For more information about our conservation partners, visit louisvillezoo.org/wildlifepartners

pile of clay for enrichment activity. If you've seen Mikki digging and rolling around next to the elephant pool — you know how much elephants like clay! This big pile of clay will provide lots of extra enrichment for our playful pair. Additionally, a new elephant training wall comes equipped with "elephant showers." Mikki and Punch have the choice of pressing two buttons on the wall... and their decision may determine whether they or YOU get a shower!

Many changes are in place now with some of the fun new additions ready to roll in Spring of 2016!

Along with the new Elephant Encounter, the Louisville Zoo will formally open the brand new Penguin Cove exhibit to the public. The new Penguin Cove habitat mimics the beachy terrain of Australia and will feature some of the Zoo's cutest new inhabitants — fairy penguins or "little penguins." We don't want to give away too much, but there are lots of surprises in store from this smallest species of penguin.

If you think that's exciting, just wait until you hear about our plans for the next few years. We have plans for a NEW African Primate exhibit and a beautiful sculpture garden including several sculptures of a lion pride and their cubs. Both of these projects will be located next to "Outpost on the Edge," an upcoming Outpost renovation featuring expanded deck seating and amenities.

FAIRY PENGUIN, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS LITTLE PENGUIN.

leopards and an early childhood learning space called "The Den." The early learning space will connect young people to animals, habitats, cultures and group activities in a stimulating environment. Students will participate in fun educational programs that enhance their observation, critical thinking and creative problem-solving skills. There will be lots more information about our planned exhibits in the next issue of Trunkline.

It's been an amazing year at the Zoo, and we're looking forward to a shining New Year! Compelling experiences await you at the Louisville Zoo. Won't you come out and join us on our next adventure?



Stay in the know with all our Zoo updates!

Visit Louisvillezoo.org/ leadershipcampaign/

To learn more about the Leadership Capital Campaign.
Be sure to click the **Buiding Blocks Blog** to follow our construction progress!

MORE

renovation teaturing expanded deck seating and amenities.

We're also planning A NEW Leopards' Leap Exhibit featuring upclose encounters with beautiful snow

Leopard Leap

Our Leopard Leap project is still unfunded!

If you'd like to contribute, please contact our Development Director Kelly Grether at (502)238-5615 or Kelly Grether@louisvilleky.gov.



Raising Funds to Preserve a Legacy

Friends of the Zoo would like to thank all who participated in Brew at the Zoo 2015! The event was a huge success because of your support. Special thanks to:

















Craft Breweries

405 North Brewing Company **Abita Brewing Company** Against The Grain Alltech

Anchor Brewing Company Anderson Valley Brewing Company

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Sixpoint Brewery

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Woodchuck Cider Wyder's Cider

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Boombozz Pizza & Taphouse –

Highlands

Buckhead Mountain Grill

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Comfy Cow

Drake's St. Matthews

Eat A Pita

Eiderdown

Fire Fresh BBQ

Flanagan's Ale House

The Irish Rover

Kern's Kitchen/ Derby Pie®

Khalil's

Mark's Feed Store

The Monkey Wrench

Mrs. Grissom's Salads

Papa John's Pizza

Roosters

Tumbleweed

ValuMarket- Highlands

Wick's Pizza

Za's Pizza

Zaxby's

Food Trucks

Black Rock Grill Hi Five Doughnuts

Hole Mole Taco Truck

Other Beverages Heine Brothers' Coffee

Pepsi

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Special Thanks!

Chris Joyce Photography HomeFit Personal Training

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Pinot's Palette – St. Matthews

accessories. Every stage in the making of these beautiful pieces involved human hands.

All your Zoo purchases bring with them the extra bonus of supporting important conservation and education programs.

Zoo Membership: All About Connections

Connect with each other and with wildlife. Give a Gift Membership and you'll provide a full year of shared adventures for your loved ones. As a bonus, you support meaningful education and conservation activities. Fire up their imaginations with a promise of new experiences in 2016: new Elephant Encounter, Penguin Cove, camel rides, amazing new education programs and more fun surprises to be announced soon. Visit page 6 for a special holiday offer.



Extra, Extra Special Gifts

We all have very special people in our lives who deserve an extra special gift of recognition. Make your gift fun and meaningful!

- Treat them to a **Behind-the-Scenes VIP Tour**
- Honor or celebrate a friend, family member or a special customer or client with their names engraved on the Zoo's **Tree of Life** or on a **bench in the lovely Etscorn Garden**.

Let Them Play Too

Join forces — family members, scouts, and coworkers — to help enrich the lives of our precious animals by providing them with items that engage them in stimulating activities. The local chapter of the American Association of Zoo Keepers (AAZK) has created an Animal Enrichment Tree. just grab a wish item from the tree to fulfill. Read more on Page 5.

Adopt an Animal

A.D.O.P.T.S. - Animals Depend on People To Survive. Share your joy of animals and help nurture future animal-lovers animals out there, all the while supporting the Louisville Zoo's excellent animal care programs. Adoptions include a fun Certificate of Adoption, photo button and plush animal. Special holiday offer too!

Let Them Decide

Let them choose their own adventure with a Louisville Zoo gift card, available at the Zoo cashier windows in

amounts from \$5 to \$150 and valid for 24 months after activation. Great for admission, rides and attractions, gift shop purchases or even a Zoo Membership!







Gorilla Goes Viral

YouTube Video exceeds 6.7 million views.

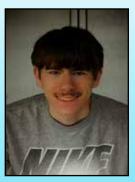
t's an average day in early September. A large, hairy hand taps the window in Gorilla Forest and a collective, "Awwww" sweeps through the crowd of 20 or more people gathered. The onlookers point and whisper to one another while snapping photos. One person in particular, Paul Ross, a professional videographer, was on his first visit to the Zoo with his one year old, Emma. Ross sees a golden opportunity and records video — and ta da, a star is born. The star, Louisville Zoo's 18 year-old Gorilla Jelani, is tapping the window encouraging 19-year-old Dylan Mehringer to scroll to the next gorilla photo on his smartphone. The crowd grows and Ross asks Dylan if he can post the video to YouTube. Dylan obliges and shortly afterward the video posted on Reddit and YouTube goes viral, receiving millions of views

Viral videos are like lightning in a bottle. Studies estimate over 72 hours of video is uploaded every minute and over 4 billion hours of video already exists. It is truly amazing when anything is noticed. Dylan's mother Vicky described the experience as "magical" and added, "We knew something special was happening. We've been to zoos all over and never had such a thing happen." The moment that wowed those at the Louisville Zoo that day, wowed a nation through the magic of video sharing. Dylan enjoyed his notoriety but was quick to tell us that, "Out of the whole experience, the best part was spending time with Jelani." In fact, a dwindling phone battery was the only thing that pulled Dylan away — who said he's looking forward to his next visit with Jelani.

Interaction and connection are like precious gems to us at the Zoo. We love and covet the moments when families get to build memories with our animal ambassadors like Jelani. For a guest to have a magical moment with any of our animals is crucial to our mission of bettering the bond between people and our planet. Special moments like these will stay with our guests for a lifetime and encourage them to be ambassadors for our planet and its wildlife.

The Zoo's PR office has taken calls

A Star is Born



Jelani isn't he only star to emerge from this viral video. 19-year-old Dylan has become a little bit of a celebrity in his small town of Jasper, Indiana. Dylan's mother describes him as "shy" and tells us this experience has helped him come of his shell.

He gets recognized now and plans to make plenty of trips back to Louisville to visit his co-star Jelani.



from all over the country from people gathering more information about the photo-loving gorilla who resides in Louisville's award-winning Gorilla Forest. Jelani was seen on NBC's TODAYshow, ABC's Good Morning America, Daily Mail.com, Time.com, Inside Edition and nearly 25 other blog sites including international websites in Pakistan, Australia, Africa and the United Kingdom.

Through this moment, we were able to further tell the story of western lowland gorillas and engage people in conversations about Jelani's wild counterparts, primate conservation and the important part zoos play in conservation advocacy. Zookeepers in Gorilla Forest have used this opportunity as a seque to discuss gorillas in the remnant wild with guests. Lead Keeper in Gorilla Forest, Michelle Wise said, "The conversation generally starts with, 'Is this Jelani who loves photos?' and then we are able to move into facts about Jelani and ultimately tell the

story of western lowland gorillas in wild places."

Presently, there are two species of gorillas (each with two subspecies), inhabiting four small separate regions in Africa. Western gorillas, including western lowland, are found in West-Central Africa, between the Congo and Niger rivers. All four subspecies of gorilla are endangered and are facing an extremely high risk of extinction due to various causes including loss of habitat, poaching, and viruses. Recent data shows the number of Western lowland gorillas to be about 100,000.

Jelani can be seen daily in rotation with the other nine gorillas in Gorilla Forest. The bachelor group includes Cecil, Kicho, Bengati and Jelani. Mshindi's group includes Mia, Paki and Kweli. Helen and Demba round out Gorilla Forest in what we affectionately call our old lady group or geriatric group.

To learn more about gorillas in the remnant wild and how you can be an informed ambassador, visit our website at Louisvillezoo. org/animalsandplants/gorilla.

Did you know that 25 cents from every Louisville Zoo general admission ticket and \$1 from every membership starting Jan. 1, 2016 goes to conservation?

Just by visiting the Zoo or becoming a member, you play an important part in helping vital conservation efforts around the world. Our wildlife partners include the Pan African Sanctuary Alliance, that works to protect primates throughout Africa, as well as the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International.

The very thing that made Jelani famous can also be used to help his wild cousins — your cell phone!

If you recently upgraded to a shiny new phone, e-cycle your old one with the Zoo! According to the EPA, more than 130 million cell phones will go out of use this year. Recycling your phone reduces the need for coltan, the metal used in smartphone circuit boards. Coltan mining in the Democratic Republic of Congo has contributed to a 90% reduction in gorilla populations within the last five years. In exchange for electronic items collected at the Zoo, our program partner, Eco-Cell, will donate funds to the Zoo to support. Items we can accept include: Cell phones, Smart phones, accessories, iPods, iPads, etc. Learn more about Eco-Cell at **louisvillezoo.org/ecocell**





VOLUNTEER NEWS



(LEFT TO RIGHT) DIANE TAYLOR, KUN LIN,

AWARDS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Louisville Zoo's Annual Volunteer Appreciation and Recognition Dinner was held on August 2, giving thanks to all of our volunteers who selflessly give their time and energy to help the Zoo. It was a wonderful evening with over 600 volunteers, family and friends in attendance. During the dinner, awards were given for each area, thanking our volunteers who go above and beyond.

Jonathon Michael Heaton Award

This award is given in memory of an outstanding youth volunteer named Jonathon Michael Heaton who gave over 3,000 volunteer hours to our Zoo. In 1999, Jonathon died of a heart attack from a congenital heart condition. His dedication and memory are kept alive through this award.

This year's award recipient was Kun Lin!

Kun is a fantastic example of what a teen volunteer should be. He is punctual, energetic and hard-working. Kun started volunteering in the Giraffe Area in late summer of 2014. The Giraffe Area can pose some difficulties to new volunteers because of the quantity of animals to care for and the number of routines. Kun hit the ground running and picked up his tasks very quickly. He often stayed well past his scheduled time to help the keeper staff finish projects.

We've seen him trudge through the mud of the bongo yard on a rainy day and clean out countless hay barns to prepare for the next day's delivery. He has been spotted covered in dust from the bedding in the giraffe barn; no job is too difficult for Kun and he never complains.

Kun graduated from New Albany High School and will be attending Purdue University in the fall. While the Giraffe Area will miss Kun, they know that his abilities and positive attitude will translate into a great future for him in college and beyond.

Diane Taylor Spirit Award

The 2015 recipient of the Diane Taylor spirit award was Dr. Keith B. Watson.

Keith is a dentist who retired in December, 2012. He is a very dedicated volunteer who does a variety of tasks for us such as greenhouse plant care, mulching, weeding, pruning, planting and leaf removal. Keith reports multiple days a week, rain or shine—even when it's 2 degrees outside. He will tackle any task given to him and is always eager to be here working with the Horticulture crew. Keith truly is a fantastic asset to our department and we love seeing him every week.



(Left to right) John Walczak, Diane Taylor & Dr. Keith Watson)

"THERE'S JOY IN CARING"



Louisville Zoo Youth Board

Louisville Zoo Youth Board Officers have been selected for the 2015/16 term. This year's president is John Parker Lyons (Christian Academy of Louisville), Vice president, Caleb O'Meara (Butler Traditional) and Secretary Jameelah Lockhart, (Moore High School).

Halloween 2015

Many thanks to all those individuals, groups and organizations who volunteered their precious gift of time during the Zoo's "World's Largest Halloween Party!" presented by Meijer. Over 1,500 volunteers contributed 9,432 hours making it possible to accommodate over 75,000 pirates and princesses!

A special thanks to UPS who assisted with setup and breakdown as well as providing 461 volunteers over four evenings. All of our volunteers saved us a total of \$75,456. The Louisville Zoo Volunteer Department would like to thank you for your continued support! You're the BEST!!

To learn about volunteer opportunities, visit LouisvilleZoo.org/volunteer





(LEFT TO RIGHT) JOHN PARKER LYONS, CALEB O'MEARA, JAMEELAH LOCKHART





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EDUCATION

WINTER AND SPRING SAFARI DAY CAMPS

Hours:

Drop Off: 8 – 9 a.m. Camp: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Pick Up: 4 – 5 p.m.

Pricing

Full Day Programs:

\$215 Members / \$245 Non-Members

Per Day Programs:

\$43 per day Members / \$49 Non-Members (Spring break programs may be purchased by day or week)

Spend your school breaks at the wildest camp in town! All camps include Zoo walks, large animal presentations, attraction rides, and upclose encounters with live Zoo ambassadors. Plus, extended hours for parents continue through the winter and spring! Choose an option below based on your child's grade level. Parents should provide a lunch and snack for their child each day.

WINTER CAMPS

December 21 & 22, 2015 Tickets NOW on Sale

Pre K- K: Winter Wonders Explore the wonders of winter as we investigate the sights and sounds of the season.

K - Grade 3:

Arctic Hares & Polar Bears Explore the lives, habitats and amazing cold weather adaptations of some of the "coolest" critters on Earth.

Grade 4 – 6: Life on Ice
Learn about the challenges of arctic exploration, channel your inner survivalist, and discover if you have what it takes to plan an expedition to one of the coldest and most remote destinations in the World.

SPRING BREAK CAMP

April 4 – 8, 2016 Tickets on sale Jan 1, 2016.

Pre K - K: Growing Up WildDiscover the world in your backyard as we investigate the life cycles of insects, plants and animals!

Grade 1 – 3: Lego WondersBack by popular demand! Campers will explore the art of LEGO brick building while creating their own LEGO brick sculptures, and discover that nature has some builders of its own!

Grade 4 – 6: Spring into Action
The Louisville Zoo promotes
conservation initiatives for animals
from around the World. Students
will have an opportunity to utilize
conservation skills and learn about
the importance of saving these
critical species.

SUMMER CAMPS 2016

FULL DAY WEEKLY CAMPS & NEW SPECIALTY CAMPS (TICKETS ON SALE JAN 1, 2016)

Regular Prices: \$215 Members/\$245 Non-Members Specialty Prices: \$265 Members/\$295 Non-Members

Summer camp is back and it's better than ever! Campers can enjoy a wide range of exciting camp topics for every grade level, our weekly Teen Tuesdays program (now featuring "TeensConnect" conservation action projects) and NEW specialty camps! This year, we're excited to continue our extended hours and convenient carpool pick-up service for parents.

Campers can attend camp for the grade they have completed OR the grade they will be entering in the fall. All programs are weeklong; parents should provide a lunch and snack for their child each day.

Special
Sneak Peek
Enroll by
April 30, 2016
and enter the word
EARLYBIRD
to save on your
registration!

	NEW S						
	PreK-K (Full Day)	K-1	1-2	2-3	4-6	6-7 (Specialty Camps)	7-8 (Tuesdays Only)
June 6–10	Motion Commotion	Animal Superheroes	Monkey Business	Animal Grossology	Into the Jungle		TeensConnect: Elephants
June 13–17	Diggin' Dinos	Where the Wild Things Are	Colossal Creatures	Underwater Adventures	Vet Camp!	Zoo Backstage Pass	TeensConnect: Polar Bears
June 20–24	Hungry Hungry Hippos	Backyard Biologist	Whale of a Tale	Believe it or Not	Zoodunnit!?		TeensConnect: Great Apes
June 27–July 1	Sun & Shadows	Hide & Seek	Herp, Herp, Hooray!	Zootopia	Wild Survival		TeensConnect: Big Cats
July 5–8*	Motion Commotion	Animal Superheroes	Monkey Business	Animal Grossology	Into the Jungle		TeensConnect: Elephants
July 11–15	Diggin' Dinos	Where the Wild Things Are	Colossal Creatures	Underwater Adventures	Vet Camp!	Zoovie	TeensConnect: Polar Bears
July 18–22	Hungry Hungry Hippos	Backyard Biologist	Whale of a Tale	Believe it or Not	Zoodunnit!?		TeensConnect: Great Apes
July 25–29	Sun & Shadows	Hide & Seek	Herp, Herp, Hooray!	Zootopia	Wild Survival	MORE	TeensConnect: Big Cats

INFO

PROGRAMS FOR LITTLE LEARNERS

CURIOUS KIDS

2 – 5 years old with adult

Hours:

9 – 10:30 a.m.

Pricing:

Members: \$5 adult/ \$15 child Non Member: \$10 adult/ \$20 child

Join us for this special program specifically designed for young minds! Each month, we'll explore a new topic and participate in activity-based learning to discover how little learners can make a big impact on our world! Each program will include circle time, a live animal presentation and a short walk. Participants must register for this program in advance.

Winter Animals, Dec. 5, 2015

Explore some of our favorite cold weather animals and discover the special things that make these animals perfect for living in cold climates.



We Don't Hibernate, Jan. 9, 2016

It's a winter wonderland at the Louisville Zoo! Join us as we explore our winter inhabitants and discover how our living classroom provides plenty of learning, even when it's cold outside!

We Love Animals, Feb. 6, 2016

We're showing our love for our favorite valentines — the animals who call the Louisville Zoo home!



ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS

GIRL SCOUT DAYS AT THE LOUISVILLE ZOO

Jan. 23, 2016

Hours:

Check in: 9:30 – 10 a.m. Program: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Pricing:

\$15 Girl Scouts & Tagalongs / \$7 Adults

Calling all Girls Scouts! The Louisville Zoo would like to welcome Girl Scouts of all ages to the Zoo on our Girl Scout Days! Take advantage of special pricing for your troop and visit various learning stations as you tour the Zoo. The learning stations will offer a variety of activities that relate to the "It's Your Planet – Love It!" Journey series. Activities will vary by date so families can take advantage of both programs! Girl Scouts of all ages can enjoy the Zoo while exploring ways to help protect our planet. All Girl Scouts will receive a participation patch!

FAMILY PROGRAMS

Feb. 20: Breakfast with the Orangutans

Hours:

8:30 – 10 a.m.

Pricing:

\$15 members / \$30 non-members Escape the winter blues with this delightful and delicious program. Families will be able to explore the world of orangutans through a dynamic keeper presentation while dining side-by-side with these magnificent creatures.

Don't miss this opportunity to discover more about these unforgettable rainforest animals. A light continental breakfast will be served; children must be accompanied by an adult.





KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS

Give to the Zoo without any cost!

The Louisville Zoo is now available as a choice in the Kroger Community Rewards program. Kroger aims to give back to the charities, schools, and other nonprofit organizations that matter to you most by letting you choose who they donate to. Simply enroll at Krogercommunityrewards.com. Choose the Louisville Zoo. Then, each time you swipe your Kroger Plus Card, Kroger will donate money to your

For more in-depth instructions, please visit our website at louisvillezoo.org/support/kroger

choice. Please renew if you haven't already.





KIDS FOR CONSERVATION

Vanquishing Energy Vampires

THINK ENERGY! Hey Kids! We know you've heard a lot of grownups talking about "conserving energy." But what does this really mean? We all use energy each day, at home, at school and in lots of other places. In order to make the energy that we all use, we need natural resources, such as coal, oil and gas. These are things that nature provides, but they are limited and won't last forever! Once they are gone, they can't be replaced. If we "conserve" something, we are saving or using less of it.

LIFE WITHOUT ELECTRICITY?

Grab your family members, and talk for a few minutes about all the ways you use electricity and what your lives would be like without it! Some things to think about: How would you heat and cool your home? Light your living spaces? How would you keep your food cold? Wash and dry your clothes? Could you watch TV? WOW! We truly rely on electricity don't we?

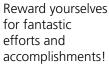
DO YOU HAVE VAMPIRES IN YOUR HOME? Bet you do! Make a list. Remember to include those things in your home that constantly suck energy (not blood). These are called "energy vampires!" They are things that you have plugged into the outlets, such as cellphone chargers, toasters and even lamps. These vampires draw power from electrical outlets, even when appliances or devices are not in use! Pretty scary, huh?

FOLLOW THE LEADER! You've all played this game, right? Well, we have a new twist on this old favorite. This time, kids are the leaders, and the adults have to follow. Challenge your parents, grandparents, teachers and other grown-ups to follow the

suggestions that you show them, in order to save energy at home and at school! Let them know that saving energy also saves money, cuts down on pollution, and helps people, plants and animals have a much healthier planet on which to live.

ON YOUR MARK, GET SET, GO!

It's easy! Set some goals for your family to reach. Make a simple chart that lists a few ways for your family to save energy each day of the week. Maybe it's turning off lights each time you leave a room, taking shorter showers, or opening the curtains in winter to let the sun in. There are tons of things you can do and little changes add up to making a BIG difference! Remember to take the lead, be creative, set good examples and mark your chart! At the end of each week, see if your family reached the goals you set.



MORE

INFO

MORE





SPONSORSHIP THANKS

Every day, the Louisville Zoo welcomes visitors, supports conservation projects, creates once in a lifetime memories and cares for endangered wildlife. Just like our animals, corporate partnerships with the Zoo come in many shapes and sizes. Your business or organization can partner with the Zoo through many different opportunities including event or program sponsorships, group events and more! With attendance of over 820,000 this past year, your brand has the potential to reach a significant number of families in the region.

Special thanks to our generous sponsors for these programs:

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GARDEN TALK

TWO TO GROW, ONE TO SHOW

all landscaping is a great opportunity to start preparing for spring! So, if you've been thinking of planting a tree but are not quite sure what to get, look no further than the Autumn Brilliance Serviceberry or the Aurora Dogwood, both of which you can scope out here at the Zoo!

Autumn Brilliance Serviceberry (Amelanchier x grandiflora), is an excellent, small tree choice for your yard. It can be grown as a tree with a single stem or as a large multi-stem shrub. The bark is smooth and light gray. Its name correctly describes the tree's outstanding red leaf color in the fall — but equally beautiful is the burst of white flowers presented in springtime. This springtime flowering is followed by the development of small, dark-colored berries that are edible for wildlife. Serviceberry trees reach approximately 20 to 25 feet tall and wide at maturity. They are tolerant of a wide range of soil types, but do best in a well-drained site with full to partial sunny areas. You can find this tree at the Zoo near the Jaguar exhibit.

The Aurora Dogwood (Cornus rutban) is a hybrid variety of dogwood that was propagated to be resilient to attacks by insect borers and the widespread fungal disease, Anthracnose, which is affecting dogwoods across the eastern U.S. This is a medium to fast growing deciduous tree that has a pyramidal shape and attains a size of 25 feet tall and 20 feet wide when mature. This tree bears copious amounts of large white flowers in mid-spring. The Aurora dogwood does best in moist, well drained soils, with 6-8 hours of sun and ideally some shade during the summer mid-day hours. You can view this tree at the Zoo in the grassy

area across from the ropes course! Just look for the sign.

Though it may be tempting, if you've been considering increasing the privacy at your home with a plant instead of a fence, a plant to avoid using for this purpose is Yellow **Groove bamboo** Phyllostachys aureosulcata. This plant is highly invasive, will spread and

becomes firmly established very quickly. It is native to Asia and a very hardy species that is drought tolerant, pollution tolerant, and can cope with our worst winter weather. You can see this species of bamboo at the Louisville Zoo growing in Gorilla Forest and on the path to Islands. It definitely creates the feeling of being in a tropical ecosystem! However, the Louisville Zoo has a professional horticulture staff that is capable of managing the growth habits of this species. A good choice for a natural fence would be to plant Columnar Norway Spruce. You can see an example of this beautiful evergreen tree near Tiger Tundra!





(TOP) AUTUMN BRILLIANCE SERVICEBERRY

(MIDDLE) THE AURORA DOGWOOD

(BOTTOM) YELLOW GROOVE BAMBOO

Read about these spectacular botanical specimens at LouisvilleZoo.org/animalsandplants



SUPPORT YOUR ZOO!

"Finding her Happy Place"

Deb Dillon: Louisville Zoo Supporter & Advocate

The Louisville Zoo is grateful to the thousands of families, individuals, companies and foundations that choose to make a gift in support of our work to "better the bond between people and the planet."

Zoo member, donor and conservation advocate Deb Dillon tells us more about why she feels it's important to invest in her Zoo.

What draws you to the Zoo the most?

The Zoo is a place I go when I need to escape and regroup. The fresh air, beautiful surroundings, incredible animals, laughing families and fun atmosphere at the Zoo makes it a great place to spend time when you feel overwhelmed by the challenges and frustrations of life. It's a great place to lose yourself and leave your problems behind. The Zoo is my "happy place!"

Is there a happy moment that sticks out in your mind?

My favorite memory at the Zoo (so far) happened during a behind-the-scenes experience my husband and I shared. A baby giraffe had recently been born at the Zoo. Upon our arrival to his habitat, the giraffe baby immediately trotted up to me and started rubbing his nose against the side of my face. He had the softest nose and the sweetest disposition — it was a magical moment I'll never forget!

What do you think the Zoo brings to our community and region?

It provides a safe and fun activity, a place to learn and grow and is a great way to get

exercise as you walk from exhibit to exhibit! It helps to define Louisville as a progressive and desirable place to live, work and visit. The Zoo also brings the world to our backyard — not only in terms of the animals it houses, but also in terms making us aware that what happens in one part of the world affects all of us. Each species, no matter how small, has an important role to play in maintaining a healthy ecosystem that is necessary for the continued survival of the human race.

"I also want to leave something concrete behind that gives evidence to who I was and what mattered to me."

— Deb Dillion



DEB DILLION AND SOME OF HER FRIENDS AT LORIKEET LANDING

Why do you think it's important for people to visit the Zoo?

Most of us begin to develop our ideas about what's important in the world when we are younger. The awe and excitement experienced by children when seeing and learning about extraordinary animals encourages an emotional bond that promotes a willingness to learn about the importance of protecting the world's fragile ecosystem. The earlier young people become emotionally invested in these important issues, the more likely they are to become adults who are committed to conservation.

Why would you encourage other people to support the Zoo?

There are so many reasons. The Zoo gets only a small percentage of its funds to operate from governmental sources, so it's imperative for us to support the Zoo financially if it's to survive and prosper.

The Zoo also belongs to local, state, national and international programs that are at the forefront of promoting conservation of all natural resources, including habitat and endangered species preservation around the world.

DONOR THANKS

Gifts received July 1 through Sept. 30, 2015

(All gifts of \$100 or more are listed in this publication)

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\$25,000 -\$ 49,999

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Ms. Vicky Williams

A special thank you to those who supported us during Give Local Louisville on October 1. Your generosity collectively raised over \$80,000 to support the Zoo's ongoing care and enrichment of all of our animals, as well as our very important species conservation efforts.

\$100-\$199

Eco-Cell Dr. and Mrs. Lawrence H. Boram Mr. and Mrs. Paul R. Callahan Mr. and Mrs. Michael A. Del Negro Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Goodman Ms. Kristen Augspurger and Mr. Jason Loehr Ms. Sandra Lee J. Haile Mr. Edward L. Horne Ms. Tory Joyce Mr. and Mrs. Charles J. Lavelle Mr. and Mrs. Robert D. Locke Mr. and Mrs. George D. McNair Mr. John L. Mettille, Jr. Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Noltemeyer* Mr. Johnny Perry Ms. Judith N. Petty Ms. Barbara A. Sego Mr. and Mrs. George C. Street Ms. Debbie Timmel

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*Leadership Capital Campaign Donors

Describe your experience as a donor. How do you know your gift is making a difference?

All I have to do is to visit the Zoo to see how the funds are being used to great advantage. We are so lucky in Louisville to have such a well-run organization that continuously receives national and international awards for exhibits like Gorilla Forest and Glacier Run as well as for endangered species preservation, education and so many other endeavors.

You've made the decision to include the Zoo in your estate plans. Why was this important to you?

Like most people, I want to believe that my time on this earth mattered and that the world is a better place for me having been part of it. I also want to leave something concrete behind that gives evidence of who I was and what mattered to me. Giving money to the Zoo reflects my care for animals, the ecosystem, preservation of natural resources, providing both education and joy for children, and

wanting there to be a "happy place" for others in the future where they too can find happiness and peace of mind even if only for a few hours.

Everyone has a Zoo story. We're thankful to Deb for sharing hers with us. If you would like to learn more about making a gift in support of your Zoo or about including the Louisville Zoo in your estate plans, please contact Kelly Grether, Director of Development, at kelly.grether@louisvilleky.gov or by calling 502-238-5615.

SHARE. CARE. CONNECT.



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Change Service Requested

We wish you Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year!

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