INSIDE THIS ISSUE!

LG&E presents Party for the Planet

Meet our Penguin Patron

All New Education Camps

Ford Motor Company presents NATURE CONNECTS LEGO® BRICK SCULPTURES
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.

It’s that simple! Your fuel points will never be affected, your shopping will be completed, and you can help support the Louisville Zoo by making your next Kroger shopping trip a Swipe Away with Kroger Community Rewards.

Everyone has to shop sometimes — but how many stores will give back to the causes that you care about most at no cost to you? 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.

All you have to do is go online to enroll at krogercommunityrewards.com. Choose the Louisville Zoo. Then, each time you swipe your Kroger Plus Card, Kroger will donate money to your choice.

It’s that simple! Your fuel points will never be affected, your shopping will be completed, and you donated to a great cause that you care about—all at the same time.

For more in-depth instructions: please visit our website at louisvillezoo.org/support/kroger
Message from Leadership

From the Mayor
Greg Fischer
Metropolitan Mayor

Educated young people create a successful and thriving city; that’s no secret. It’s one of the reasons we set a goal to increase education attainment by 55,000 post-secondary degrees by 2020. We quickly discovered our work needed to begin at an earlier level. At-risk kids show up to kindergarten three years behind their peers. Too many of our youngest citizens — half in Louisville — fall into this category and rarely catch up. So, we created a new Cradle to Career initiative to recognize that we cannot think of education for our youngest as something unrelated to high-quality training needed for those building a career.

One way we can achieve this is to increase non-school-based learning. The Louisville Zoo, often referred to as a “living classroom,” offers this kind of engaging educational experience in a fun place, encouraging children to interact with science and nature.

The Louisville Zoo has been inspiring young learners through its educational programming for over 40 years. Their award-winning School at the Zoo program has shown over and over that it can dial up enthusiasm for science and positively affect test scores. This year, they have added a new level of creativity to a variety of programs for toddlers and parents as well as K-12 students.

This season’s enhancements are designed to support and further engage parents and students. New parental conveniences like curbside drop-off services, extended program hours and camp options for every child, every week, will allow busy parents more opportunities to expand their child’s out-of-school education.

Zoo News

Wild Medicine

Each Sunday from March 15 through Sept. 6, the Louisville Zoo will host discussions with licensed Veterinary Technician Jamie Huber to share what happens behind-the-scenes at the Zoo and to answer some of your burning questions.

Come learn about Zoo animal vaccinations and why you should vaccinate your animals too. Look at real x-rays and ultrasounds of Zoo animals; see the equipment we use and hear why regular checkups are important. We’ll discuss the types of things our Zoo animals eat and the ways nutritional health affects their overall health. You’ll have the opportunity for open discussion about the things you want to know about most — from recent medical cases to questions about our animals.

Every week we will host a different discussion, so make sure you don’t miss out! For more in-depth information, check our website: louisvillezoo.org/events

Zoo Enhancements & Altered Pathway

From February through the beginning of May 2015, the Zoo will begin creating some new enhancements for our animals and visitors. Expect to see upgrades to the elephant exhibit plus improved viewing areas and amenities. During this early spring period, the pathway from the far side of the bongo/addax area to the African Outpost will be temporarily closed to allow crews to create their magic while keeping you safely away from construction.

You will be able to see most exhibit areas and access the petting zoo and restaurant from an alternate pathway (noted in red below). For this short time, the lion and camel exhibits and the giraffe feeding station will not be accessible. You may still have long-distance views of lions and camels across other exhibits. Signage will be on the pathway to help direct you.

Please bear with us and stay tuned for some nice improvements.

(ACA) — headed up by conservation-minded individuals like Patti Linn, Mark Wourms and Sally Newkirk — steer us toward a year focused on environment and sustainability. YES! Fest invites us all to take our unique disciplines, associate them with global sustainability efforts and help raise awareness about the critical issue of living in a better balance with the planet. It is a yearlong celebration of what we do right — and through the creative use of multimedia, science, visual arts, the filming arts and culture, an opportunity to learn how we can do better for our environment.

Sustainability cannot be an endgame; it must be a lifestyle and a culture. We all agree that a sustainable lifestyle leads to a sustainable planet — and by uniting our efforts, we can bring this incredibly important issue to the forefront.

I hope you will join your Zoo during April’s Earth Month and throughout the year to celebrate and inspire others to think more about our planet. How can you use your unique talents and passions to inspire others to live in better balance with the earth? We owe it to our planet to treat its gifts in a more sustainable fashion. How do our actions here impact the habitat of the polar bears 4000 miles to the north or the elephants in central Africa? These incredible environments and species are facing endangerment and possible extinction because of the choices we make in our everyday lives. I hope you are proud that your Zoo always aims to inspire and improve.

We continually search for better processes and new technology to make your Zoo more sustainable. Whether it’s adding green roofs to new exhibits or recycling cell phones, we’re not going to rest on what we’ve accomplished. We hope to improve, innovate and inspire as well as support and recognize your efforts to help make our Earth a healthier planet.

As a member of the ACA board of directors and a past chair, I look forward to the opportunities Earth Month and the entire year provide to collaborate with our partners and be a stage for other participants in YES! Fest. I invite you to come share ideas and be inspired to help our planet and I congratulate our ACA members and our community for pulling together to make this happen.

John Walczak
Louisville Zoo Director

John Walczak
Louisville Zoo Director

Zoo News

From February through the beginning of May 2015, the Zoo will begin creating some new enhancements for our animals and visitors. Expect to see upgrades to the elephant exhibit plus improved viewing areas and amenities. During this early spring period, the pathway from the far side of the bongo/addax area to the African Outpost will be temporarily closed to allow crews to create their magic while keeping you safely away from construction.

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Please bear with us and stay tuned for some nice improvements.

Sustainability is one of the deep drivers of your Zoo. I truly believe, and I’ve been here more than 30 years, that it is part of our DNA. While the heart of our mission has always been the privilege of providing a place for you to come relax, share life, and have fun with those closest to you — our soul is the feeling you experience seeing a polar bear nose-to-noise, the orangutans at play, or the flamingos resting. Your Zoo works to inspire that spark of connection: when we all realize there are other forms of life on our planet, and they have claims to their habitat and lives just as we do. But how do we accomplish a balance so all creatures thrive?

We are headed into a pivotal year for environmental awareness as Louisville’s Arts and Cultural Attractions Council
Members can enjoy all the new adventures of the Zoo this spring with UNLIMITED admission during regular hours. Members can also take advantage of discounts on camps, classes, gift shop purchases, rides and attractions.

Members receive the following benefits:

- **UNLIMITED FREE** admission for 12 full months from purchase date including Papa John's Splash Park (seasonal attraction) every time you visit during regular hours.
- **PARKING** during regular Zoo hours is included in all membership levels (excludes select after-hours special events).
- **SPECIAL discounts** on education classes and camps
- **DISCOUNTS** on regular general admission for extra guests, ride/attraction packages, and gift shop and concession purchases.
- **SPECIAL PRICING** to select events (visit louisvillezoo.org/members/activities)
- **E-NEWSLETTERS** with information and events plus **SPECIAL OFFERS**
- **MEMBERSHIPS** are **TAX-DEDUCTIBLE** to the extent provided by law
- **NEW Virtual Membership Card/ App**

**Important Membership Reminders**

- **DISCOUNT** admission to 125 reciprocal zoos and aquariums. See full list at louisvillezoo.org/reciprocal
- **SPECIAL OFFERS** to Newport Aquarium and other partner attractions (visit louisvillezoo.org/members/activities)
- **E-NEWSLETTERS** with information and events plus **SPECIAL OFFERS**
- **MEMBERSHIPS** are **TAX-DEDUCTIBLE** to the extent provided by law
- **NEW Virtual Membership Card/ App**

**Spring Break is Almost Here — Renew Early This Year!**

Spring break for students this year ranges from March 21 – April 12 with JCPS dates falling April 4 – 12. It’s just around the corner! Spring break is always an extremely busy time for Zoo membership staff which means slower response times to calls and longer lines at the Zoo. So get a jump on spring and renew now. There are three ways you can renew:

- Visit the Zoo and purchase in person.
- Order online at louisvillezoo.org
- Call the membership office at 502-459-CATS (2287) to charge by phone with Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express.

**More Renewing Hints!**

- **Renew early!** Your new membership becomes active once your current membership expires, so you DON’T lose any time by renewing early.
- **Until you have a photograph on file, you’ll need your current membership card and a photo ID.** For any adult members named on the card. All guests covered on your membership card must be accompanied by an adult named on the card.
- **Additional guests** accompanied by a member can purchase a discounted admission ticket at the cashier window.
- **Dependent children ages 3–18** are covered on your membership card. The number of children depends upon your membership level.
- **Children age 2 and under** receive free admission during regular hours.
- **Zoo memberships are not valid** for school group visits, corporate picnics or meetings.

**Hours**

- The Zoo will be open an hour later starting March 14:
  - **March 14 – March 31:** 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. (stay until 5 p.m.)
  - **April 1 – Sept. 27:** 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. (stay until 6 p.m.)
  - **Summer Twilight Hours:** Thursday – Saturdays in June & July: 10 a.m. – 7 p.m. (stay until 8 p.m.)

**New Virtual Membership App**

Our new app lets you store your Louisville Zoo membership card electronically on your iPhone or Android device. If you have a current membership, go to the Apple or App Store or Google Play Store and download the free Louisville Zoo membership app. On your next visit to the Zoo, check in at the Membership Office to receive your verification code. Once activated, we can scan the barcode on your mobile device to validate your membership. See more details at louisvillezoo.org/virtualapp.

**Members-Only Prowl & Play**

This April 26, June 14 and Aug. 2, the Education Department will be offering an exclusive program just for Louisville Zoo members. Enjoy hands-on experiences, walks and activities for children Pre K – 6th grade. Prices and more information on page 20.

**Get Healthy Walking Club**

Keep your New Year’s Resolution and walk your way to better health! March 1 kicks off the Norton Healthcare Get Healthy Walking Club at the Zoo! Members can walk the Zoo daily from March 1 – Oct. 31, from 8 to 9:30 a.m. and during Twilight hours in June and July from 6 to 8 p.m. (Excludes June 6 for our annual fundraiser, Zoofari!) Friendly reminder: animal exhibits open at 10 a.m. and members may enter until 7:30 p.m. during Twilight Hours with non-member tickets sold until 7 p.m.) To register, or for more information on Norton Healthcare Get Healthy Club activities, call 502-629-1234.
You likely have fond memories of building your own masterpieces with LEGO® bricks when you were a child. You may even have built a new masterpiece with your own skilled young builder during the recent holidays. LEGO bricks are everyone’s favorite toy — timeless and just as popular now as ever before!

We invite you to revisit childhood, challenge your master builder aspirations and find fresh connections with nature this spring. Come see the Zoo playfully decorated with whimsical LEGO brick sculptures inspired by nature and wildlife — created using over a quarter of a million LEGO® bricks. Thirty sculptures, set within over a dozen nature scenes, are part of the Nature LEGO® Brick Sculptures exhibit, designed and built by the first-ever certified LEGO artist in the world, Sean Kenney. “The toy immediately connects with so many people on such a personal level,” states Kenney in his artist statement. “Each sculpture touches people as both a reflection from their childhood and as a sculpture piece of art.”

In nature, all things connect to create life and intricate design. Nothing demonstrates the power of connection like a colorful 7-foot dragonfly, a stunning 6-foot hummingbird hovering over a trumpet flower or a pixelated life-size peacock — all made with thousands of LEGO bricks. Signage at each installation will help visitors learn more about the construction of the sculptures as well as the wildlife scenarios they depict. Most of these sculptures have never been seen before — be among the first to enjoy them!

Our Brick Sculptures
- Monarch butterfly on milkweed
- Hummingbird on trumpet flower
- Life-size gardener with grandchild
- Bonsai trees
- Deer family
- Corn spider on a wire
- Peacock
- Sea turtle with bird
- Life-size birdbath with birds, bees and a squirrel
- Roseate skimmer dragonfly
- Violet-colored pansy bloom
- Life-size wheelbarrow with garden tools
- Mosaic with two face cutouts so you can snap a family photo!

Presented by Ford Motor Company

LOUISVILLEZOO.ORG/LEGO

Can You Guess?
1. How many LEGO bricks do you think it takes to make a giant sea turtle sculpture that is 36” X 30” X 24”?
2. How many LEGO bricks do you think it takes to make a peacock sculpture that is 18” X 48” X 60”?

Answers Below
**PARTY FOR THE PLANET:**
A MONTH-LONG CELEBRATION OF THE EARTH

**The Louisville Zoo Trunkline • Spring 2015**

**A MONTH-LONG CELEBRATION OF THE EARTH PARTY FOR THE PLANET:** Monday, April 13, 20, and 27

Here is a look at Earth Month events:

- Easter Bunny, fun contests and more.
- Sales, special appearances by the ZooPoopyDoo compost and mulch help our planet. Plus, there will be cool displays by our Eco-Partners to learn how you can do your part to help our planet. During the month of April, enjoy weekend activities and special appearances by the Easter Bunny, fun contests and more. Here is a look at Earth Month events:

**Monday, April 13, 20, and 27**

**Fun Day Mondays**

Enjoy $5 general admission on Fun Day Mondays in April with special zoo keeper talks and appearances by LG&E and KU’s “Louie the Lightning Bug.”

**Saturday, April 11, 18 and 25**

**ZooPoopyDoo Compost and Mulch Sale**

7:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Get your garden ready for spring and quality care of all wildlife, and promote the need to protect it — so the Louisville Zoo is hosting a month-long party. During the month of April, enjoy weekend activities and cool displays by our Eco-Partners to learn how you can do your part to help our planet. Plus, there will be ZooPoopyDoo compost and mulch sales, special appearances by the Easter Bunny, fun contests and more. Here is a look at Earth Month events:

**Saturday, April 4**

**Eco-Partner: Bernheim Forest**

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Join our MetaZoo Education Department along with the Children at Play Initiative at Bernheim Forest as they offer a Free-Play Day with Zoo admission.

**Sunday, April 5**

**Eggstravaganza**

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

This is one EGGciting day! Come learn about the Zoo's wonderful egg-laying animals and then find some eggs of your own in the Zoo's Easter Egg Hunt. Remind your little chicks to bring their Easter baskets — eggs are redeemable for a prize following the hunt. The Easter Bunny will be hopping in so keep your camera handy!

**Saturday, April 11**

**Eco-Partner: KY Herp Society**

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Visit hands-on interactive stations where you can discover more about penguins and what you can do to preserve their wild habitats. Keep your camera nearby; the Zoo’s newest mascot will make his debut and have appearances throughout the day.

**Sunday, April 12**

**Arctic Ambassadors Day Featuring Tundra & Griswald**

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

We can “bearly” contain our excitement as Zoo mascots, Tundra and Griswald, return to make appearances throughout the day in Glacier Run. Staff members from the MetaZoo Education Department will share fun bear biofacts and information. Be sure to bring a camera!

**Saturday, April 18**

**Eco-Partner: Louisville Zoo Docents**

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Louisville Zoo educators will be on hand to help you learn how to do your part to help our planet.

**Sunday, April 19**

**Earth Day Celebration**

$8 Admission

10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

(Stay until 6 p.m.)

Eco-Partner Displays:

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Celebrate Earth Day featuring special zoo keeper talks, Trashformation student art contest winning displays and half price Zoo admission all day courtesy of Louisville Gas and Electric and Kentucky Utilities Company. Plus FREE parking!

**Sunday, April 26**

**World Penguin Day**

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Waddle in and learn all about the Zoo’s lively penguins. Visit hands-on interactive stations where you can discover more about penguins and what you can do to preserve their wild habitats. Keep your camera nearby; the Zoo’s newest mascot will make his debut and have appearances throughout the day.

**Additional information**

For more information on Earth Day Events, visit louisvillezoo.org/earth. Keep up to date by following us on FaceBook, Twitter and Instagram.

**Winners will be notified by April 16 and MUST be present at a press conference on April 19 for the Zoo’s Earth Day celebration! Remember, before you toss it, what could you create with a little imagination?**
MAY at the ZOO
presented by McDonald’s® Restaurants of Kentuckiana

May 9, 2015 at 8 a.m.
THROO THE ZOO 5K RUN/WALK
Dash on over to the Zoo to take part in Louisville’s only road race that doesn’t just go around the Zoo but actually “Throo” the Zoo. Enjoy an early morning adventure where you watch as the Zoo wakes up! All of the proceeds from the Throo the Zoo 5K help to fund Zoo operations.

Advance Registration: $30
Race fee includes a commemorative t-shirt, post-race refreshments, door prizes and FREE Zoo admission for the day.

Costume Contest
Let your imagination run wild and dress in your favorite animal costume! Runners with the most creative costume will receive a prize pack from our generous sponsors.

Team Registration
Gather all your friends, family and coworkers to compete as a team. Receive awards in various categories.

Online registration and additional details at LouisvilleZoo.org/throozoo

Sunday, May 10
MCDONALD’S® MOTHER’S DAY
Celebrate Mother’s Day with free Zoo admission for moms courtesy of McDonald’s® Restaurants of Kentuckiana. Enjoy zoo keeper talks featuring our animal moms, like Thelma, a reticulate python that is Mom as well as Dad! Find out what human and animal moms have in common and participate in a fun scavenger hunt.

Saturday, May 30 – 31
LEGO® BRICK BASH
Hours: 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Join us in our new temporary exhibit, Nature Connects: LEGO Brick Sculptures, to discover how art, design and the world around us inspire creativity! Learn about our favorite animal builders in the MetaZoo. Learn how LEGO bricks are used as the foundation for engineering practices with the science experts from the Kentucky Science Center. Music, games, LEGO contests and more make this the place to kick off Summer! This event is FREE with Zoo admission and perfect for families!

June at the ZOO
presented by McDonald’s® Restaurants of Kentuckiana

June 12
WAKY ROCK N’ ROLL REUNION CONCERT
Concerts begin at 1 p.m.
Take a trip back in time at the WAKY Rock N’ Roll Reunion concert. Enjoy the best of 60s and 70s local bands when they get together for one huge concert. The concert is FREE with Zoo admission or Louisville Zoo membership. Visit louisvillezoo.org/waky for details and concert lineup.

July 17
FORD’S FATHER’S DAY AT THE ZOO
Celebrate Father’s Day with free Zoo admission for dads courtesy of Ford. Check out zoo keeper talks featuring our pygmy hippo dad Maji and his daughter Jahari. (Animal activities subject to temperature requirements.)

For more information on all events, visit louisvilleZoo.org/events.
Keep up to date by following us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.
A Patron of Penguins: Dana Prior

Article and photos by Heather Dishon

When most people hear the word “island,” they think of a tropical paradise with palm trees and sandy beaches. However, travel past the shady walks of our bamboo garden and through the soothing balm of our award-winning Islands Exhibit and you’ll find a much frister part of the Islands — Penguin Coast — a wintry paradise for the Louisville Zoo’s 17 rockhopper penguins. These penguins hail from a different sort of island: the chilly and mountainous Falkland Islands located near the bottom tip of South America.

Dana Prior is the primary keeper of the Louisville Zoo’s penguins. Though she’s been in the position since 2003, her career with the Zoo began in 1998. Like most keepers, a love for animals blossomed into a career path. “I have always, always loved animals,” she says. “How many people in the world get to be penguin keepers?”

Her penguin charges range from 30 years of age (Pinky and Audrey) to only 4 years old (Clementine, hatched right here at the Zoo). Listed as one of the smallest penguin species, averaging about 20 inches in height, rockhoppers can be identified from other penguin species by their red eyes, pink feet and the spiky yellow feathers that adorn their heads. “Each and every one is an individual, from the proper elderly lady to the troublesome teen,” Prior says. “It’s a different soap opera every day. You see pair-bonding interactions and then aggressive “he stepped too close to me” pokes. They love to collect, whether it’s new rocks for nests or stealing lettuce out of the duck’s diet, and they like to take showers from the hose while we clean. Sometimes they do what’s called an “ecstatic display” but we call it the happy dance. It always makes me smile. My most memorable moment was seeing a penguin chase her own tail and catch it.”

It’s not all fun and games however. Caring for this bustling penguin colony makes for a full day of many tasks: thawing fish and adding vitamins, ensuring each individual penguin receives its “vitamin fish,” two feedings daily, monitoring the number of fish each bird consumes, observing individuals for health issues, detecting social issues, and lots and lots of cleaning. “My, they are messy, messy birds!” Prior says. “We hand feed our penguins which is a time investment for such a busy department but worth every minute. I can observe so much in that time.” It’s a labor of love for the longtime zoo keeper who doesn’t seem to mind the hard work. “Building relationships and trust with my animals is what I enjoy most,” she says earnestly. “I show up every day for them.”

The Louisville Zoo colony is one of only five colonies of rockhopper penguins that remain in American zoos today. Rockhopper penguin numbers are in rapid decline. The IUCN has placed them on the Red List of Threatened Species as “vulnerable” due to the loss of 30 percent of their population over the past 30 years. The Falkland Island colonies in particular have lost 90 percent of their numbers due to commercial fishing, pollution and other factors.

“There’s been a call for more marine-protected areas to keep habitats from being degraded and to properly manage marine resources,” Prior says. Even at the Louisville Zoo, upon entering the Penguin Coast, you can see a sign supporting Monterey Bay Aquarium Seafood Watch — a program that encourages people to consume fish only from sources that rely on responsible fishing practices. “Penguins need fish available in the areas where they nest,” Prior says. “They have to find fish and get back to swim too far out for food. It is a good idea to look for the Seafood Watch cards to individually support responsible fishing as a consumer.”

“More penguin species are listed as being in trouble than ever before,” Prior says. “If you look at the numbers it’s starting to see the decline in some species. Polar bears are the endangered cold-weather icons of the north but penguins are in just as much trouble to the south. We need to educate as many people as possible and get them to care about the status of these penguins.” Prior says some of her most rewarding moments are seeing people respond proactively to her keeper presentations — and knowing she was able to pass on her knowledge and passion about penguins. You can learn how to help penguins too! Be sure to visit the rockhopper penguins and learn about penguin conservation on your next visit to the Louisville Zoo.
Penguins like Clementine need us to protect the oceans for their food sources.

The oceans supply us with food, help regulate our climate and provide a livelihood for millions of people. But the bounty of our seas is not endless. Today, no part of the ocean remains unaffected by human activities. Through better practices, we can create healthy abundant oceans for all.

SEAFOODWATCH.ORG
Spring is in bloom and we’re gearing up for an exciting season in the MetaZoo with more amazing opportunities for children of all ages! We’re going wild with new hands-on experiences for families, more up-close encounters with our favorite animal ambassadors, an expanded Safari Day Camp program with new conveniences for caregivers and exciting new themes for your little ones. Whether your child enjoys learning about the planet’s most extreme animals, investigating what’s great about animal “grossology,” discovering how LEGO® brick building can help them “connect” to their natural world, or exploring the science of animal health & wellness — we have a program for you!

All MetaZoo programs are designed to develop awareness about the natural world, and are designed to enrich, engage and entertain. We hope to see you this spring and summer!

SPRING CLASSES

**Spring Break Camp 2015**

**Ages 6 – 12**

Register for individual days of Spring Break Camp or all five days. Every day brings a fun and educational program with a different theme. Each theme will include Zoo walks, close-up contact with educational animals, crafts and activities. Bring a sack lunch with a drink.

**Pricing — Individual day:** $45 Members; $55 Non-Members

**Pricing — Five Days:** $215 Members; $275 Non-Members

**Animal Senses**

Monday, April 6: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Zoo Careers

Tuesday, April 7: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

**Wild Water Wednesday**

Wednesday, April 8: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

**Animal Grossology**

Thursday, April 9: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

**Animal Conservation**

Friday, April 10: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

HOME SCHOOL PRIDE PROGRAMS

**Animal Puzzles**

Ages K – 5

The Louisville Zoo is offering education programs designed specifically to meet the needs of local families that are taking the responsibility for educating their children at home by using resources in the home and community. A series of science-based classes are being offered once a month with curriculum based on the new Next Generation Science Standards. Students will be encouraged to look at patterns and formulate answers to questions about the world around them. The “Animal Puzzles” series will make connections to different body parts and how these physical features help them survive.

**Pricing — one child & one adult:** $15 Members; $20 Non-Members

**Speed**

Tuesday, March 31: 2 – 4 p.m.

Beaks

Tuesday, April 28: 2 – 4 p.m.

FAMILY PROGRAMS

**MetaZoo-Ventures**

Every Saturday, June – August

**Audience:** General Public

**Hours:** 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

**Pricing:** FREE with Zoo Admission

Every Saturday this summer, we’re going wild in the MetaZoo! Stay for an hour or all afternoon for drop-in activities, animal presentations and up-close encounters with our favorite animal ambassadors.

**Family Night Safari**

June 5, 2015

**Audience:** Families

**Hours:** Friday, 6 p.m. – Saturday, 8 a.m.

**Pricing:** $35 per person

Have you ever wanted to wake up next to a Polar Bear? Join us for a family night like none other as we give you and your family a special behind-the-scenes look at what happens when the Zoo closes. Participate in animal encounters, take a night walk through the Zoo, and sleep in one of our most famed exhibits, Glacier Run.

Sponsored by

**REGISTER ONLINE AT LOUISVILLEZOO.ORG**

**TEEN TUESDAYS**

Weekly concurrent Tuesdays, beginning June 9

**Audience:** 7th – 8th Grade

**Hours:** Drop Off: 8 – 9 a.m.

**Program:** 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

**Pick Up:** 4 – 5 p.m.

**Pricing:** $43 Members / $55 Non-Members

**Veterinary Visions**

June 9 or July 7

Can tigers get an X-ray? How do you medicate a snake? A career in the field of veterinary medicine is always fascinating and challenging! From preventative care to dental exams to surgery, you will learn about caring for the health of endangered species at our Zoo and what it takes to become a Veterinarian or Vet Tech. Get a behind-the-scenes tour of our on-site animal hospital, meet one of our veterinary staff members, and touch some of our small education animals!

**CURIOS KIDS**

First Saturday of every month

**Audience:** 2 to 5-year-olds with adult

**Hours:** 9 – 10:30 a.m.

**Pricing:**

- **Adults:** $5 Members / $10 Non-Members
- **Children:** $15 Members / $20 Non-Members

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.

**Let’s Dig**

April 4

Bring your spade & bucket and wear your old clothes because we’ll be getting dirty exploring the wonders of dirt, the life that is connected to soil and what lives in it!

**Mothers & Babies**

May 9 (Second Saturday)

A special Mother’s Day edition! Join us as we investigate animal mothers and learn about the hard work of caring for little ones in the wild.

**Dedicated Dads**

June 6

We know some dads who can do it all! Join us as we explore our favorite animal dads and investigate how they care for their young.

**Wild Service Day**

June 16 or July 14

Here is your chance to participate in some hands-on projects that benefit your Zoo and give you some service learning hours as well! Possible projects include planting, making enrichment items for animals, cleaning, and becoming biofactual ambassadors to guests. We will also see some education animals up close, AND even include a behind-the-scenes tour to thank you for your hard work! Rain or shine, we will be busy. Please dress for dirt!

**Eco-Avengers**

June 23 or July 21

Can recycling help save gorillas and their forests? Could carpooling protect polar bears and the tundra? Find the answers to these and other questions and become a true superhero for the planet! Everyday actions big and small will help us all to save endangered species and their ecosystems. Let’s explore conservation together through activities, contact with education animals, and a behind-the-scenes tour. Get ready to go green!

**ANTS on a Picnic**

July 11 (Second Saturday)

Did you know that certain lizards squirt blood at their predators, and one species of goose can flap to heights higher than the Himalayas as they migrate? Join us to learn about some of the weird and wacky ways animals have to survive. You will also see that the Louisville Zoo plays a key role in assisting the survival of many rare, exotic species. We’ll include a couple of friendly team challenges, contact with a few education animals and a behind-the-scenes tour!
PAJAMA PARTIES
Last Saturday of every month
Audience: 2 to 5-year-olds with adult
Hours: 9 – 10 a.m.
Pricing: Adults: $5 Members / $10 Non-Members
Children: $15 Members / $20 Non-Members

Wear your jammies for an early morning stroll around the Zoo. See some of our animals as they’re rising for the day; then join us for activities, coffee and a light breakfast! Participants must register for this program in advance. Strollers welcome.

MEMBERS-ONLY PROGRAM
April 26, June 14 & Aug. 2
Audience: Pre K – 6th Grade
Drop Off: 12 – 1 p.m.
Program: 1 – 4 p.m.
Pick Up: 4 p.m.
Pricing: $25 Members

Prowl & Play
This special drop-off program is exclusive for Zoo members! Take the afternoon off while your children enjoy hands-on experiences, Zoo walks and activities in the care of Zoo educators. This program is for children in Pre K – 6th grade. Students will be grouped based on their age. Limit 30 students per program.

SAFARI DAY CAMPS
Weekly, beginning June 8

Sign up early and save! Enroll before March 30 and enter the Promo Code EARLYBIRD online to save $10 on your registration!

Safari Day Camps are back and we’re gearing up for an exciting summer! Join us as we explore the wild side of animals large & small, discover the big, wide world of our own backyards, and investigate the science & art of LEGO® bricks! All camps include Zoo walks, large animal presentations, attraction rides and up-close encounters with live Zoo ambassadors!

This year, we’re excited to offer extended hours for parents and a new convenient curbside drop-off service to take your Safari Day Camp experience to the next level!

Choose an option below based on what grade level your child will be entering in the fall or the last grade they completed. All programs are weeklong, parents should provide a lunch and snack for their child each day. Pre K – K programs are half day and can be combined to create a full-day option (programs must occur in the same week). Only a snack is needed for half day programs.

Want to know more? Join us for our Camp Showcase on Friday, March 13, from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. Meet our staff, try activities, and learn more about the program. This event is free for families. To sign up, email us at Danita.Robbins@louisvilleky.gov to receive your info card.

A.D.O.P.T.S.
Animals Depend On People To Survive
Winter is rapidly disappearing and warmer weather signals the coming of spring. We invite you to help us celebrate by adopting an animal at the Louisville Zoo.

When you participate in the ADOPTS program, you become a partner in the Zoo’s mission: “to better the bond between people and our planet.” Adopting animals for the special people in your life presents an opportunity for everyone to feel good knowing they are helping provide for the welfare of our special animal ambassadors throughout the coming year. The adoptive parent will receive a personalized gift packet and their name listed on our website.

Funds received through the ADOPTS program go directly toward feeding and caring for the animals here at the Zoo.

Check our website for special upcoming adoption offers!

To adopt an animal, visit us online at louisvillezoo.org/adopts or call 502-459-2287
PRE K – KINDERGARTEN CAMPS

Half day: programs may be combined (but must occur in same week.)

Once Upon A Zoo
June 8 – 12 & July 6 – 10 (A.M. ONLY)
Inspired by the beloved children’s author Eric Carle, this camp will highlight some of his most well-known stories and the animals featured in them.

Show & Tell
June 8 – 12 & July 6 – 10 (P.M. ONLY)
Discover the sounds and signs of animal behavior as we explore animal communication!

Backyard Biologist
June 15 – 19 & July 13 – 17 (A.M. ONLY)
Explore the biology of your own backyard! Get messy with soil investigations, water explorations and backyard bugs.

Farm to Feast
June 15 – 19 & July 13 – 17 (P.M. ONLY)
Where does food come from? It takes energy, time and some very special animals for food to grow. Learn about these processes and explore how food comes from the farm.

Whether it’s Weather
June 22 – 26 & July 20 – 24 (A.M. ONLY)
What makes the sky blue? Explore the science of shadows, wind, water and sunlight.

Wonder of it All
June 22 – 26 & July 20 – 24 (P.M. ONLY)
Channel your inner scientist and explore the WONDERful world of sunlight.

Animal Homes
June 29 – July 2 & July 27 – 31 (A.M. ONLY)
In trees or under the ground, animals (A.M. ONLY) June 29 – July 2 & July 27 – 31

Zoo Mazing Race
June 22 – 26 & July 20 – 24
Half day: programs may be combined (but must occur in same week.)

KINDERGARTEN – 2ND GRADE
FULL DAY

Dino-Mite June 8 – 12 & July 6 – 10
It’s a camp of Jurassic proportions! From fossils to footprints, explore the amazing creatures that once roamed our planet!

Nature Connects June 8 – 12 & July 6 – 10
We’ll “connect” you to nature in a whole new way! Explore our one-of-a-kind new exhibit, Nature Connects: LEGO Brick Sculptures. Campers will build their own LEGO brick sculptures and discover nature has some builders of its own!

Nature Connects June 15 – 19 & July 13 – 17
Discover the art of LEGO® brick building while experiencing our one-of-a-kind new exhibit, Nature Connects: LEGO Brick Sculptures. Campers will build their own LEGO brick sculptures and discover nature has some builders of its own!

That’s Gross! June 22 – 26 & July 20 – 24
Hold your nose and join us on an animal grossology adventure! Explore barfing frogs, stinking wolves and some of the most stomach-churning animals on the planet to learn how their seemingly bad habits are a way of life!

That’s Great! June 22 – 26 & July 20 – 24
It’s Preschool with a zoo twist; campers will explore the alphabet, counting and colors.

To the Extreme June 15 – 19 & July 13 – 17
Uncover the secrets of the animal kingdom’s most extreme habitats. Campers will explore some of the most unforgiving places on the planet — from the deep, deep sea to the hot, hot desert! How do animals survive in these habitats?

Animal Mythbusters June 22 – 26 & July 20 – 24
The animal world is full of myths, legends, and sayings that are often not true. Campers will be busting myths all week during this fun and interactive program!

Zoo Exhibit Design June 22 – 26 & July 20 – 24
Have you ever wondered how zoo exhibits are designed? During this program, campers will learn all that is required to create a new exhibit and design their own! They will meet staff that helped create the Louisville Zoo’s award winning exhibits like Islands, Gorilla Forest and Glacier Run. Special tours are planned so campers will understand the complexity of zoo design.

How to get involved!

REGISTRATION
REGISTER ONLINE AT LOUISVILLEZOO.ORG

Find us on Facebook and get involved at:

PNC recognizes that learning in a child’s early years is essential for their long-term success. That is why we are pleased to support the Louisville Zoo and the opportunities it presents for the region’s children and their families to experience the wonders of nature and the animal world. Whether at the zoo or in a neighborhood park, here are a few tips on how everyday moments become learning experiences for young children.

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Zoo: Use math words to play a game of “bigger or smaller.” Ask your child, “What animal do you see that is bigger than you? What do you see that is smaller?” Comparing words like “bigger or smaller” are math ideas, and you’ll be giving your child math practice by using them.

HOME: Ask your child to look out the window to find three red objects. Then ask for three objects that are other colors. It’s a fun way to help children learn colors and numbers.

HOME: Let your child see you write shopping lists, “to do” lists, phone messages and directions. It lists children know that writing is important in everyday life.

Through PNC Grow Up Great – a 10-year, $100 million initiative in early childhood education – PNC provides the leadership, advocacy, funding, tools, and volunteerism to help educate parents, caregivers, and communities on how to prepare young children for success in school and life. For more information, please visit pncgrowupgreat.com.
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 880,000 this past year, your brand has the potential to reach a significant number of families in the region.

**SPONSORSHIP THANKS**

Special thanks to our generous sponsors for these programs:

- **Official Soft Drink of the Louisville Zoo**
  - PEPSI_S1_NB_LARGE_4C (4” AND LARGER)
  - PEPSI_S1_NB_MEDIUM_4C (FOR USE 1.5” TO 4”)
  - PEPSI_S1_NB_SM_4C (FOR USE .25” TO 1.5”)

- **SPONSORSHIP THANKS**
  - **SANTA'S SAGA**
  - **Nature Connects**
  - **Night Safaris**
  - **Trunkline Magazine**
  - **Wild Winter Days**
  - **Food Drive**
  - **Party for the Planet: The Month Long Celebration of the Earth**

- **Additional Support**
  - **Trunkline Magazine & Backyard Action Guidebook printed by Publishters Printing Company**
  - **Wild Winter Days and Dare to Care**
  - **Walking Club**
  - **Kids For Conservation: Spring into Wildlife Preservation**

*By Kathleen Johnson and Karen Maynard, MetaZoo Educators*

Winter will soon be behind us and warm spring days are on the way! With the spring season comes new life and new opportunities to take better care of the wild creatures around us. Animals such as box turtles, snakes, frogs and chipmunks are all coming out of hibernation. Many songbirds are returning from their migration. Animals such as rabbits, gray squirrels and opossums are having babies and raising them.

Although we may enjoy seeing wildlife up close, there are ways to be helpful without being unintentionally harming our native friends. How can you turn your backyard into a more wildlife-friendly space? What do you do if you find baby animals? Should you keep wild animals as pets? It doesn’t take a lot of money or time to take care of the world around us. Here are some tips and fun family projects that you can try during this spring season:

- **Make your own birdfeeder.** Include an assortment of food items such as fruit, berries, nuts, seeds and suet to attract a variety of birds. Birdfeeders can easily be made from pinecones, 2-liter bottles and milk cartons.
- **Be creative!** Wildlife needs water. You can provide water year-round by installing a bird bath — just remember to change the water often to prevent the growth and reproduction of bacteria and mosquitoes!
- **Give the birds a hand by providing some nesting material.** Place materials that blow around in small baskets or mesh bags and hang them on a tree branch. Try small twigs, pieces of cloth or yarn, pet fur, moss, etc.
- **Provide shelter for some winged creatures by building a birdhouse or a bat box!**
- **Plant new flowers or shrubs this spring.** Try planting species that can be readily found in the yard and locally, such as rabbits, gray squirrels and opossums. Raising them.

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Expand Your Hamburger Horizons!

Enjoy a classic meal with a new upscale twist. Design your hamburger and watch it being created! The new Wild Burger has been renovated from the Walkabout Café to include an enclosed patio for ordering your meal, a whole new theme and a redesigned kitchen where you can see your food being prepared.

Pick your favorite protein including beef, bison or even turkey burger — and top it off with delicious options like Beer Cheese, Green Chili Avocado Spread, Onion Bacon Jam or Mushroom & Swiss. Follow it up with crispy golden tater tots. There’s something for everyone. Wild Burger will premiere at the Louisville Zoo before expanding to other zoos. Try it here first. Stop in during spring of 2015!

New Gift Shop and Toys

The Gorilla Forest Gift shop is undergoing a major renovation to become the new CONGO TRADING POST! Beginning Saturday, March 14, guests can expect to see some of our Wild Girl Collection in Pink and Purple featuring plush, apparel and accessories as well as our new “Wild Bunch” merchandise line in vibrant colors that include red, purple, green and blue. On the same day, the Glacier Run Gift Shop will be re-opening for those polar-themed souvenirs that are beloved by kids and parents alike.

The Main Gift Shop on the Zoo Plaza is open all Zoo hours and admission is not necessary if you are only shopping. This gift shop will feature a new merchandise line targeted to ladies called “Dream.” Louisville Zoo custom t-shirts and hats will be available in tranquil pastel/earth colors and other accessories. You can also find great new merchandise to celebrate your infant or toddler’s first visit to the Zoo with our “Leisure Zoo” merchandise line that will include apparel and accessories.

ZOOrific Group Events

Looking for a great place to have a fun company picnic, banquet, reception or business meeting? Choose from unique indoor and outdoor venues. Enjoy delicious meals prepared by our Executive Chef. Visit louisvillezoo.org/plan/group-adventures or call 502-238-5348 for details.

ZOOfari! 2015

The lush tropical islands are calling you to experience One Wild Night

Cocktails - Hors d’oeuvres - Exotic animal encounters - Silent auction
Music by Steel Away and This, That, & the Other

Saturday - June 6, 2015 - 7:30p.m.
Louisville Zoo - Tickets $75

Attire - Casual Island Chic

All proceeds benefit capital projects at the Zoo and the award-winning School at the Zoo Program.

To purchase tickets visit zoofari.eventbrite.com

For more information, call the Zoo’s Development Office 502-238-5615

Presented by:

BROWN-FORMAN

friends of the ZOO

Raising Funds to Preserve a Legacy

Supporting sponsor:

PAPA JOHNS

BEETTER INGREDIENTS. BETTER PIZZA.

Additional support from:

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ZOOGOODIES

ZOO GOODIES

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REMEMBERING JIM KING

As well as helping sponsor our numerous fundraisers for the Zoo through the recession and he hosted mechanisms to help the Zoo design innovative capital funding Council funding drive to renovate funding for the elephant encounter as well as providing $500,000 in million visitors annually had memories well-preserved, well-managed and working to ensure that the Zoo was to be one of the community’s crown Louisville Zoo, which he considered Jim was a tireless supporter of the District 10. In this role, as well as in leader Jim King. First Class Services, Inc
Economic Development Secretary City of Middletown Mrs. Christina Lee Brown Boys & Girls Clubs of Ketuckiana Dr. and Mrs. Joe F. Arterberry The Louisville Zoo Says Goodbye to Great Friend and Supporter Since 2003, Jim represented the Louisville Zoo’s Metro Council District, District 10. In this role, as well as in his role as Metro Council President, Jim was a tireless supporter of the Louisville Zoo, which he considered to be one of the community’s crown jewels. He was a regular fixture here, working to ensure that the Zoo was well-preserved, well-managed and maintained so that the nearly one million visitors annually had memories to last a lifetime.

Jim’s contributions to the Zoo are countless — he was instrumental in securing support for the Glacier Run Capital Campaign, funding the Trevilian Way boulevard redesign, as well as providing $500,000 in funding for the elephant encounter renovation, and leading a Metro Council funding drive to renovate several Zoo facilities. He helped design innovative capital funding mechanisms to help the Zoo through the recession and he hosted numerous fundraisers for the Zoo including Roarchestra and Zoofari, as well as helping sponsor our Halloween festivities. Support of the Zoo was a King family affair. His wife, Debbie, currently serves as a Zoo board member and recently completed her term as chair of the Louisville Zoo Foundation Board; and Jim was a strong advocate of Debbie’s leadership and support of the Zoo and our many programs and activities.

“Jim was an excellent public leader because he was able to balance the bigger vision for the entire community with the specific needs of his district, and he and his wife Debbie loved the Louisville Zoo and totally understood how valuable it is to the quality of place and economic development of the 10th District and all of Louisville,” said Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer.

Always a friend to the neighborhood, Jim worked closely with our neighbors and the parks department in an effort to bring us all together for the single purpose of providing an incredible experience for our visitors.

Jim saw the real value of a place where people could experience the beauty of nature and animals in their glory — guiding new generations of school children, families, and out of town visitors to establish new and memorable experiences here. Next time you visit the Louisville Zoo, be sure to remember Jim’s many contributions. We will be forever grateful to him.

The Louisville Zoo Says Goodbye to Great Friend and Supporter

The Louisville Zoo is incredibly honored and grateful to The King Family for including us as one of four organizations to which expressions of sympathy could have made memory of Council President King.

Mr. and Mrs. Jerry E. Abramson Dr. and Mrs. Joe F. Arterberry Boys & Girls Club of Kentucky Mrs. Christina Lee Brown Building Industry Association of Greater Louisville City of Middletown Community Trust Bank Economic Development Secretaries Larry M. Hayes and Dr. Melissa Leah First Class Services, Inc First Harrison Bank Dr. and Mr. Larry Florman Mr. and Mrs. William A. Gilpin Greater Louisville, Inc. Karyl Gothe Mr. and Mrs. Gordon B. Guess Hancock Bank & Trust Company I.B.E.W. LU #186 Jefferson Co. Circuit Court Judges Jefferson Co. Democratic Party Executive Committee Mr. Mary L. Jennings Jim and Rob Kaplan Mr. Jeff Kennedy Kentucky Derby Festival, Inc. Lady Finger’s Catering Mr. Thomas Lambert Louisville Convention and Visitors Bureau Mr. Bruce B. McCann and Ms. Kay Chambers Mercurio and Associates, Inc. Mr. Larry Terry Miller Mr. Robert K. Ogles One Stroke Inks Mr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Schultz Ms. Beth Stenberg Mr. and Mrs. Gary L. Stewart Mr. and Mrs. William A. Stone The Bankers’ Bank of Kentucky The Sacramento Deposit Bank Mr. and Mrs. Kevin S. Tucker Victory Community Bank John and Vicki Wallack Mr. Michael Webber Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Zegart

SPOTLIGHT ON YOUTH BOARD

by Heather Dishon, Communications Coordinator

This year marks the 22nd year that the Louisville Zoo Youth Board has been changing the lives of teens 13–18 years old. Founded in 1993, it began as a 30-member board to provide an opportunity for youth to develop leadership skills and to create a forum for youth to be actively involved with the Louisville Zoo.

Headed by Coordinator of Volunteers Diane Taylor since 1997, the Board currently has more than 50 members. The volunteers start at age 13 and depart after their senior year of high school. These dedicated individuals work long and demanding hours for the Zoo — fundraising with face painting and sand art while also aiding the Zoo with miscellaneous events and activities.

Having completed an astounding $20,000 pledge for Glacier Run early in 2012, the Youth Board has moved on to a new focus. This year, the Board voted to raise money for elephant exhibit enhancements. Board President Noah Barnes, an 18-year-old from Frankfort High School, expressed his enthusiasm about the endeavor. “It’s going to be awesome. I’ve seen all the sketches for it,” Barnes said.

Barnes has spent much of his time volunteering with the Louisville Zoo elephants — and he’s not the only one. Board Vice President Cassondra Perkins, a 17-year-old from Dunlop Manor High, has also volunteered in the elephant area. “I’ve volunteered with the elephants for the past three years,” she said. “I had a blast. Every time I walk by the exhibit, I stand there and talk to Mikki and Punch.”

96 Elephants (96elephants.org) — a conservation effort to stop elephant poaching and ivory trafficking — is near and dear to them. “When you hear that 96 elephants are killed every day for their tusks, you just want to stop in and stop it,” said Perkins. “I’ve seen how amazing these creatures are and how devastating poachers are to their native habitats,” Barnes said.

However, a love for animals isn’t the only thing drawing these young people to the Youth Board.

Board Secretary Emma Brown, an 18-year-old from Christian Academy of Louisville, said the reason she joined the Youth Board was that she enjoyed volunteering and wanted to make friends. “I was hesitant to join at first, but when I got there I felt so at home. Everyone was so welcoming,” she said.

“It changed my life,” Barnes said. “It was hard for me to make friends when I was younger. I came here and everyone was accepting of me. I made lifelong friendships here.”

“You never feel alone,” said Perkins. “I’ve busted out of my shyness shell completely. I would tell anyone thinking of joining to just do it. You’ll make some amazing friends and have great experiences. You’ll also know that you helped support all sorts of different exhibits.”

“We raise a lot of money and we do a lot of good,” Barnes said. “You realize your full potential and how much you can accomplish simply by going to a meeting once a month. It really is spectacular what we’ve accomplished.”

Volunteer News

To become a member of the Louisville Zoo Youth Board, you must be part of the summer teen program. Recruitment is Jan. 1 through March 1 each year. Must be 13 years of age by June 1 of the application year.

The Louisville Zoo Trunkline • Spring 2015 • 28
The Louisville Zoo Trunkline • Spring 2015 • 29

2014-15 Youth Board Officers (left to right): Emma Brown, Cassondra Perkins and Noah Barnes

“I feel like we’ve made a difference,” Brown said.

To date, the Louisville Zoo Youth Board has raised $100,000 for the Zoo. In 2011, they were awarded the Outstanding Youth in Philanthropy award by the Association of Fundraising Professionals, Greater Louisville Chapter.

“The Louisville Zoo has a fine group of volunteers, past and present, who have always been and always will be a part of the Zoo’s mission statement ‘To better the bond between people and our planet,’” said Diane Taylor. “They have proven themselves, and I think of them as the next generation of Zoo leaders.”
Thank you for being a donor, member, friend, advocate and all-around fan of our Zoo!

Your commitment to our mission helps maintain award-winning exhibits, sustain education programs and beautify walking paths—and in so doing provides a place for families to explore, learn and create lifelong memories. Your support also allows us to provide both the everyday and unforgettable experiences that live here—like the polar bears, birds and endangered animals such as the rockhopper penguin and polar bear.

We wish to express our gratitude by sharing a success story with you.

Many have fallen head over heels for our polar bear “Qannik” since she arrived at the Louisville Zoo four years ago. When she landed in Glacier Run, she was approximately six months old. When she was found underweight on one of her hind legs in June 2013, her medical treatment plan was necessary to determine the root cause of her problem. After careful examination, she was diagnosed with a systematic life-threatening fungal infection, blastomycosis. Curator of Mammals, Jane Anne Franklin, who had worked with Qannik closely from the moment of her arrival, was the only person from whom Qannik would take medication. For example, she preferred water from her mother and sibling. After several days of observation with hopes that she would reunite with her mother, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) decided to attempt a rescue operation. It’s extremely rare for animals to be removed from their native habitat like this, but the USFWS felt it was necessary to save the cub. After a brief stay at the Alaska Zoo, she headed to Louisville. The energetic and playful Qannik that you see swimming and playing toys in Glacier Run developed a lameness in one of her hind legs in June 2013. Despite two brief stays at the Alaska Zoo, she arrived at the Louisville Zoo four years ago.

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In the spring of 2015, we are going to begin working on enhancing some exhibits, adding some new friends, improving your views and making THE LOUISVILLE ZOO even better!