Boo at the Zoo
Join Us!
Oct. 1 - 30
HELLO!

I’M JOHN WALCZAK, DIRECTOR OF YOUR LOUISVILLE ZOO.

During these uncertain times, your Zoo is here for you and our community. We are dedicated to providing a safe environment to help you and your loved ones unplug and re-connect with the natural world. I’ll be your guide through this issue of Trunkline magazine, providing news on what’s happening at your Zoo, insights on the animals and information about your Zoo’s critical conservation efforts. We have lots of news to share including updates about your favorite animals, upcoming events and more. Below are a few of our featured stories:

- **SLOW DOWN WITH THE SLOTHS**
  Meet Sunni and Sebastian, the first sloths to live at the Louisville Zoo! They may be slow, but they’re quickly winning guests’ hearts.

- **THE ZOO RESPONDS**
  The Zoo has reopened after our closure earlier this year, read more about how our keepers have dealt with COVID-19 guidelines to keep our animals, staff and guests healthy.

- **800 AT THE ZOO!**
  The Zoo’s Halloween party has a new name and new benefits, but the same fun you’ve come to expect! Join us for trick-or-treating and socially distanced good times.

The care you count on

How do we all adapt to this new reality? At Norton Healthcare, care that’s safe and easily accessible has always been our #1 priority. Today, that promise is stronger than ever. From online visits via telehealth to streamlined in-person appointments, you can get the care you need as safely and conveniently as possible. Just like always.

Schedule now or learn more at NortonHealthcare.com.

The care you count on with Norton Healthcare.

We take our work home with us. PriceWeber is delighted to be part of the Louisville Zoo family.

#FillDrinkRepeat | #DrinkLocal

Look for the Louisville Water logo on your next visit.

Stay hydrated with Louisville Water Company.

Bring your reusable bottle, fill up and enjoy!
The Zoo Responds!

by Jennifer Kemnitz, Volunteer Writer

Taking care of elephants isn’t exactly something you can do from home.

When the Zoo closed to the public due to COVID-19, all of the 1,000+ animals that call the Zoo home still needed food, water, health care and enrichment. “What our staff does, it’s all essential for the well-being of the animals,” said Steve Taylor, Assistant Director of Conservation, Education and Collections. “And most of our staff were asked to do things in addition to what they normally do.”

In March, changes were swiftly put into place to protect both staff and animals from COVID-19. Keepers were split into two teams in each of the animal areas, working opposite shifts so that there was no overlap. Similarly, guest services, maintenance, horticulture, education and Animal Health Center staff were divided into teams. “That way, if anyone got sick and we had to quarantine a team, we wouldn’t lose all of our keepers in one area, or everyone in education, or both our vets,” Taylor explained. “We were being safe and careful while making sure the animals were fed, cleaned and managed. But it didn’t leave time for much else.”

No Telehealth for Orangutans

For Senior Staff Veterinarian Dr. Zoli Gyimesi, getting up to speed on how the coronavirus could potentially spread to animals was a new priority. Since primates are susceptible to other airborne human illnesses, special measures were taken immediately.

“Everyone who prepares food or medicine around primates has to be healthy, wear a mask and gloves,” Gyimesi said. Scientific research has also shown that COVID-19 may be transferable to bats, ferrets and cats, with several reported cases in New York City. “So we had to be cautious around these mammals, too. With reduced staff power, Gyimesi said. While animal Health Center staff focused on essential tasks and needs, holding off on certain elective procedures. For example, Teak, the 32-year old orangutan, has an ongoing respiratory issue and was due for a CT scan of his air sacs in May. This would have meant taking him off Zoo grounds to an imaging facility. Together with his keepers, the Health Center staff determined that this was an unnecessary risk at the present time.

“He’s doing well,” Gyimesi said. “But we’ll be ready to get back to our normal routine. Of course, we don’t know what that looks like yet.”

A New Zoo Normal

As staff adjusted to new procedures, they weren’t the only ones to notice a difference around the Zoo. “We all miss the guests,” said Director John Walczak. “And we’ve seen subtle changes in the ways the animals behave too.”

During the closure, every effort was made to maintain a sense of normalcy for the animals. Training, husbandry and enrichment took place every day as usual. But there was no way to recreate a vital part of the animals’ experience — the public. Many of the animals are used to seeing people regularly on the walkways. Now, for three months, the Zoo had been considerably quieter.

“I was walking by the Amur tigers one day, and our male tiger, Vikenti, saw me. He came right down the hill from the top of the yard, directly toward me,” said Walczak. “He was very focused. It reminded me that these animals — bears, orangutans, tigers, gorillas — these are all brilliant animals. Their observation skills are finely tuned.”

Steve Taylor refers to this behavior as hypervigilance. “There’s a primitive instinct that kicks in, that’s hardwired in both predator and prey,” he described. “With fewer distractions, they’ll pay more attention to that one person, especially the prey animals.”

Considering that the Zoo is ordinarily closed only three days of the year, it’s no surprise that the animals were aware that something was different. “We had to consider that as we were planning to re-open,” Taylor explained. “We needed to do it slowly, to recondition the animals to having people back in the park.”

New & Renewed Connections

Not every challenge at the Zoo posed by COVID-19 was a restraint. “The pandemic gave us a chance to amp up our efforts in social media, so we can stay better connected to the community,” Walczak said. The response has been hugely successful. “It’s great for everyone to have a chance to meet our keepers and educators up close. They’re walking encyclopedias, and they love sharing their knowledge with the public.”

Speaking of learning opportunities, Walczak also hopes that a new interest in science will increase our understanding of biology. “Maybe we should be teaching more epidemiology and pathology, and all the ways that diseases spread in our environments.” He added, “For me personally, it’s actually made me much more cognizant of my own health and hygiene.”

From a medical perspective, Dr. Gyimesi agrees there may at least be one positive outcome. “Not working when you’re sick is a wise policy, regardless of whether there’s a health crisis or not.”

The re-opening plan took the combined efforts of everyone at the Zoo, along with Mayor Greg Fischer and the Louisville Metro Department of Public Health and Wellness. Although some favorite events like summer camps, Zoo-fari! and the 5K Thru the Zoo Run had to be cancelled or postponed, Walczak is grateful for the community’s patience and understanding. “We’re lucky to have such tremendous support.”

The pandemic underscores another important connection for Walczak, one he’s made before. “We have a lot of dedicated people who are committed to our mission and ensuring that the animals are healthy,” he said. “It’s a privilege to be their director.”
The Louisville Zoo is proud to announce the release of its first children’s book, THE TRUTH ABOUT ZOOS, Annie’s Awesome Adventures.

The book introduces readers to Annie—a young detective, journalist, sleuth for the truth, and “uncoverer” of cover-ups—who puts the “gator” in investigator. Annie is suspicious by nature and prone to jumping to conclusions. This time she is searching for the truth about zoos and creates a plan to visit the Louisville Zoo to conduct her research. She sees herself as part spy and part avenger and takes very seriously her mission to discover what zoos are really like.

Annie and her friend Marcus explore the Zoo, ask questions of staff, and learn what the animals and their caregivers do every day. They learn about animal diets, passages, training, enrichment, and healthcare. They soon discover the truth about zoos: that they are excellent places where animals receive wonderful care and guests can connect with each other, nature, and animals.

THE TRUTH ABOUT ZOOS features illustrations of some of Louisville Zoo guests’ favorite exhibits such as Snow Leopard Pass, Islands, and Glacier Run. It is written by the Zoo’s Curator of Education, Kim Allgeier, illustrated by J.L.R. Harington, and published locally by Butler Books. This very special, one-of-a-kind book is available at the gift shop on the main plaza of the Zoo. Later this year, the Zoo will host a virtual event to celebrate the book and will at that time launch online sales, making the book available to Zoo fans in all 50 U.S. states. All books include a special “detective journal” so kids can do their own research on a future visit to the Zoo. All proceeds from the sale of THE TRUTH ABOUT ZOOS benefit the Louisville Zoo and all animals in their care.

CELEBRATING YOU – OUR HEROES
Thank you for believing the Zoo is a treasure to be supported and loved.

The Louisville Zoo began as a dream and wish of the community. Dating back to the early 1900s, there are stories and articles of Louisvillians who wanted a zoo in their hometown to offer families an outlet for learning and a fun place to spend time together. From a business standpoint, it was also viewed as a way to attract tourists and talent to Louisville as it would contribute to a higher quality of life by offering activities and education. The idea of a zoo gained traction in the mid-1960s and local leaders like James Graham Brown and Mayor Cowger, alongside school children and families, worked tirelessly to raise funds and support to make it a reality.

The Louisville Zoo opened 51 years ago in May 1969. So much has changed since that time, but the core of what so many fought for and believed would come true continues on. Parents, grandparents, teachers, students and those who love animals and the environment still believe a zoo is critical to the lifeblood and fabric of Louisville. It is a community asset and treasure to be supported and loved. As one donor recently shared with us, “families or people and the zoo go together like ice cream and cake.”

Philanthropic gifts provide for the daily needs of the animals, new innovative exhibits, programs and experiences to the community. Every gift, regardless of size, truly makes a difference. There are many ways you can help!

- Make a gift to the Louisville Zoo Fund
- Join the Louisville Zoo Sustainer Society
- Set-up a monthly / recurring gift to the Annual Fund
- Contribute appreciated stock (security account #78973274, DTC #0547)
- Direct your 401K or IRA Required Minimum Distributions (RMD) to the Zoo
- Add $5, $10, $25 or more to your upcoming membership renewal in support of the Louisville Zoo Fund
- Plan to upgrade to a Zoo license plate next time you renew your car tags
- Name the Zoo as a beneficiary in your estate plans

To learn more, contact Kelly Grether, Director of Development, at (502) 238-5615 or Kelly.Grether@Louisvilleky.gov.

In the better days ahead. If you would like to make a gift today, please visit LouisvilleZoo.org/Donate.

For those who are still reflecting on how to best support your Zoo, please contact Kelly Grether, Director of Development, at (502) 238-5660 or Kelly.Grether@Louisvilleky.gov to discuss the many ways to make an impact with your philanthropic support.

Thank you for believing the Zoo is a treasure to be supported and loved.
One Day Wasn’t Enough…

to celebrate the wonder of our planet and promote the need to protect it — so the Louisville Zoo hosted a month-long party! This year marked the Zoo’s 30th year celebrating the Earth since our first celebration in 1990. The original celebration, typically held in April, was moved to July as we welcomed guests back to the Zoo after a temporary closure due to COVID-19. In April, while we were closed and working to reschedule, we brought the Zoo to you with fun nature-themed activities to try at home like zebra migration game, animal charades and more!

Welcoming You to Earth Month

In July, we welcomed guests out of quarantine and into nature with discount Earth Month days including $5.25 Fun Day Mondays and $8.25 admission to our Earth Day Celebration, courtesy of our friends at LG&E and KU Foundation. Saturdays in July, we shared great ways to amp up your sustainability with virtual “Celebrate the Earth Saturdays” featuring eco-partners like Eco-Cell and Westrock Recycling. Though we may be socially distanced, July showed we could all still come together to show our care for our planet.

Our eighth annual Trashformation contest award ceremony was held on July 26, 2020! It was a different kind of culmination this year for your Zoo’s Party for the Planet: A Month-Long Celebration of the Earth. This year, Louisville Zoo Director John Walczak, and LG&E and KU’s Vice President of Corporate Responsibility and Community Affairs, Angie Evans, virtually announced awards for the talented students whose work showed the most creativity in re-purposing recyclable trash into art objects. Sculptor Ed Hamilton also checked in from his studio to inspire some of our future artists, share insights about art and congratulate our winners.

INDIVIDUAL

Pre K to Kindergarten
Elaina Terrell
Grades 1 to 2
Katherine McHugh
Grades 3 to 5
Kayleigh Harris (tie)
Kate Jarboe (tie)
Grades 6 to 8
Brianna Terrell
Grades 9 to 12
Miyasha Gurung (tie)
Kassi Price (tie)

GROUP

Pre K to Pre K
Parliament of Owls
Chance School
Grades 3 to 5
4th & 5th
Friends School
Grades 6 to 8
St. Michael: Ryan Blois, Parker Coleman, Matthew Cornell & Brent Reddington

MUSIC INDIVIDUAL

Pre K to Kindergarten
Layla Neel
Grades 1 to 2
Holly Neel
Grades 3 to 5
Blake Scott
Grades 6 to 8
Brady Dinsmore (tie)
Kehos Litvin (tie)
Grades 9 to 12
Mariela Segovia (tie)
Nicholas Reed (tie)

MUSIC GROUP

Grades 3 to 5
Bryson Howell and Harrison Schmidt
Grades 6 to 8
Louisville Homeschool
Harmonic Notes of Nature
By now, we’re sure you’ve “herd” about the Zoo’s African elephant calf Fitz. He was born on August 2, 2019 to elephant Mikki — and he has had many adventures this past year!

Like most young individuals, he continues to discover new things to do with himself and his surroundings. His favorite pastime right now seems to be enthusiastically playing in the rain, chasing geese and pushing around logs (as you can see in some of his recent videos on the Zoo’s social media.) He has also been investigating mom’s food, although he’s still nursing and will continue to do so for the next two years. Like any toddler, he has his likes and dislikes. He’ll pick up mom’s lettuce — but he quickly loses interest after a taste. He appears to prefer bananas and his keepers are incorporating this special reward into his daily training sessions. It’s a great incentive when they ask Fitz to perform actions that will become part of his regular routine and are important in facilitating his preventative health and veterinary care.

Fitz currently weighs 800 pounds: more than twice his first weigh-in of 275! He will continue to gain 1.5 pounds per day for the next three years. By this time next year, Fitz will weigh well over 1,000 pounds! As incredible as that is, Fitz still has a long way to go to match his mother Mikki, 8,300 pounds, and Asian elephant Punch, 10,500 pounds.

Introductions between Fitz and his “Aunt” Punch are moving slowly. Punch has been carefully watching and listening to Fitz’s progress from her designated area in the elephant barn. Fitz and his “aunt” have seen and smelled one another from adjacent areas, and have shared space under the watchful eyes of Steve Burton, Elephant Area Supervisor. As Fitz gets older and the three elephants share exhibit spaces, Punch will take on the role as the herd matriarch and disciplinarian, helping Fitz learn the “rules” of the herd. As with any new animal, the Zoo staff will observe the elephants’ behaviors closely for cues to determine when they are ready for each new step.

In August, we celebrated Fitz’s first birthday at the Zoo with a live streaming of his watermelon enrichment (that was thoroughly enjoyed by Mikki), staff and guests singing Happy Birthday as well as a question and answer session. Donations for elephant conservation were collected at the exhibit all week and guests were invited to take photos with a life-sized cut out of Fitz. We also shared fun elephant-themed activities on social media.

In the next few weeks, keepers will begin training with Fitz so that he can take advantage of the pool in the elephant exhibit. Fitz is finally big enough to enjoy it safely. So, you can look forward to seeing him splashing around in the near future.

Mikki and Fitz are on exhibit daily. As with any acclimation process, the daily exhibit times may vary and are subject to change based on the needs of the animals, weather conditions and other factors. Be sure to visit LouisvilleZoo.org/today for the latest updates. You can also see weekly Fitz updates on the Zoo’s social media channels!

The Association of Zoos and Aquariums’ (AZA) Elephant Species Survival Plan (SSP) is a cooperative program of all accredited zoos with elephants. The plan promotes the survival of elephant species into the future by ensuring a genetically sustainable population in accredited zoos and by providing links between zoo animal ambassadors and the conservation of their counterparts in the remnant wild.
SLOW DOWN WITH THE SLOTHS

Come hang out at our new sloth exhibit!

For the first time in Louisville Zoo history, two Linnaeus’s two-toed sloths have joined the Zoo family. The former snow leopard exhibit has been renovated and transformed into a South American hangout spot where visitors can watch these elusive arboreal (tree-dwelling) mammals maneuver throughout perching structures and see how they spend their day. Special thanks to The Friends of the Louisville Zoo and many generous donors for providing the funds for the new sloth exhibit for the 2020 season.

THE FIRST OF THEIR KIND

Sunni, a 2.5-year-old female, and Sebastian, a 2-year-old male, are the first sloths to live at the Louisville Zoo. Jane Anne Franklin, Mammal Curator at the time, drove up to Michigan and transported the duo back in wooden crates designed specifically for the sloths. The crates included dowel rods at the top to support the sloth’s natural need to hang upside down. There were also cushions and blankets in the bottom if the sloths chose to come down and snuggle in.

Franklin describes the sloths as having “opposite ends of personalities,” which was no surprise to her as this is generally the case across species with males and females. Female Sunni is outgoing with a lot of character, whereas male Sebastian is more laid back. The sloths are offered food throughout the day, with their main meal eaten overnight since they are nocturnal and are more active during the evening. Their diet is composed of foods that are high in fiber such as greens, carrots, sweet potatoes, squash and broccoli. Some fruit is included but it’s important to keep foods low in sugar for the sloths’ digestive systems. Their sharp canines help them cut through the thick skins of the fibrous foods they eat. Franklin said that she felt “privileged to work with the sloths and flattered to be given the responsibility to bring them to the Louisville Zoo.”

DID YOU KNOW?

Humans may struggle to hang upside down for more than a minute, but sloths spend their days hanging upside down! They eat, sleep, mate and even give birth in this position. Since sloths are nocturnal, they tend to be most active for about four hours during the day and even during their most active periods, they can be seen hanging upside down.

You might associate slow movements with sloths; however, sloths can move quite quickly. Sloths are cautious and deliberate in their movement. These “slow” movements that you see are an adaptation to help them avoid attention from natural predators such as jaguars, snakes and eagles.

All sloths have three toes on their back feet. However, of the six sloth species, there are two species that only have two toes on their front feet, including the Linnaeus’s sloths at your Zoo!

For all the latest updates on our new sloths, visit LouisvilleZoo.org/sloth.

Also, check out the sloths’ twitter @louzoozoothesloths for some additional fun.
We've Added an Addax

Our newest addition is a female addax born at the Zoo in May as part of our Species Survival Plan. Jira (JEE-RA), which translates to “anticipation” in Hausa, is an independent and curious young girl. Her name was chosen because we “anticipate” she will be an important ambassador for her species. She has been living up to her name since the day after she was born, when she ran out to the outdoor addax exhibit by herself, eager to see the world outside. She is the 60th addax born at the Zoo. Researchers estimate less than 100 addax remain in the remnant wild. Come meet this young girl and the rest of her family!

Go For a Spin, Again!

We’re excited to announce that the Zoo’s 100-year-old conservation carousel has REOPENED! It was closed temporarily during the Zoo’s initial reopening phase. So, if you’ve been missing your carousel rides, you can look forward to enjoying a leisurely whirl during the day AND even during special after-hours events like Boo at the Zoo. The carousel is being disinfected regularly and capacities will be limited to help ensure social distancing and safeguard the health of our guests. We look forward to welcoming you back for a spin!

Our Pride is Growing

Lionesses Amali and Sunny joined our Zoo pride in early 2020. Although born at different zoos in New York, these two have a lot in common. They were born only a day apart, both turning 7 years old in March. They were both hand-reared and then put together to bond like sisters at an early age, which is important for lions. Amali may outweigh Sunny by 50 pounds, but Sunny is more dominant and less shy.

Did you know that lions are the only big cat that is typically social and live in family groups? This August, after many months and much preparation from our keepers to help the lions get to know one another, our team was able to successfully introduce male lion Siyanda to our two new lionesses. We were able to record the initial introduction of the lions as well. You can learn more about introduction and the process behind it at facebook.com/louisvillezoo. Please be aware that while this footage could be alarming to some viewers, the behaviors exhibited by the lions were natural and expected, and our team was prepared to intervene if the situation became too aggressive.

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Kroger Community Rewards

The Louisville Zoo is 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 to whom you assign your donation. Simply enroll at krogercommunityrewards.com. Choose the Louisville Zoo. Then, each time you swipe your Kroger Plus Card, Kroger will donate money to support the Louisville Zoo. Enrollment is required yearly, so please renew if you haven’t already! For more in-depth instructions, please visit our website at LouisvilleZoo.org/support/kroger.

Zoo News

By Jena Fath & Rebecca Sizemore

Have You “Her’d”? The zebra herd received a new addition in late 2019 – 2-year-old female Athena. She is the younger sister of 4-year-old Azizi and she comes from the Virginia Zoo in Norfolk, Virginia, where she was born. She has joined the other female zebras in the yard and is acclimating well. Stallion Gibbs was introduced in May, after the females had a chance to bond. Athena is the smallest of the group.

Sasha-Ying into the Zoo... Also new to the Louisville Zoo in early 2020 is female Amur tiger Sasha. Born at the Peoria Zoo in Illinois, she will be 8 years old in June. Sasha will be on rotation with male Vikentii (turning age 11). Etta, our geriatric female tiger (age 17), has been retired to behind-the-scenes in the islands. “Sasha is a big, very beautiful female, larger than Etta,” Zoo Assistant Curator Michael Jones says. Sasha is doing well and continues to get more comfortable with her new surroundings and exhibit mates.
Thank You Members!

Since we have reopened to the public, all our staff, especially our membership and guest services teams, have been working hard to keep our members safe and healthy. Part of that has included asking you, our valued guests, to help keep our Zoo a healthy community space by observing some new precautions. To help keep our guests safe, we have:

- Limited capacity and require timed reservations for all guests and members
- Enforced social distancing requirements and erected helpful signs and posters as reminders
- Asked all guests to wear face masks when unable to social distance properly and added signs to indicate areas of concern
- Instituted intensive cleaning efforts, including sanitizing all shared surfaces as often as possible
- Temporarily closed our playgrounds and Splash Park
- Added step and pull or touchless access to all restrooms

We are so grateful for how our member community has come together to keep the Zoo a place where we can “Better the Bond Between People and Our Planet.” We will continue to monitor the COVID-19 situation and work with public health officials to abide by their safety regulations, guidelines and recommendations. Thank you for your cooperation in these difficult times and thank you for your membership!

How to Renew Your Membership

- Online at LouisvilleZoo.org/member
- Call (502) 459-2287

REMINDER: We do not mail membership cards. To limit contact between staff and guests, we are not currently printing membership cards.

Faster to the Fun

Members, follow these tips for easy entry into the Zoo.

Reserve your FREE timed and dated ticket online in advance. All members must reserve a ticket online to enter the Zoo. Mornings are our most popular time; try visiting in the afternoon for a quieter experience.

Download the FREE Membership Card App. The Zoo is not currently printing membership cards to reduce contact and prevent the spread of COVID-19. Please call (502) 459-2287 for your verification code.

Confirm your membership details online at LouisvilleZoo.org/member. Go to “manage profile” to verify your membership level, names, number of children (if applicable), address, phone number and email. Can’t make a change to your account or notice a major error? Call us at (502) 459-2287 or email ZooMembership@louisvilleky.gov.

Don’t forget to bring your mask! Masks are required for entry in high traffic areas of the Zoo where guests are not able to socially distance.

From the Director

During our initial reopening phases, the Zoo will be offering contactless membership renewal only. Hardcopy membership cards are not available but guests may use the temporary card emailed to them or try our FREE Membership Card App.

This free app stores your membership data and an image of your membership barcode on your iPhone/Android device. This app helps us stop potential risk of spreading COVID-19, makes your membership more “green” and eliminates another card from taking up space in your wallet. To get your verification code, please call the membership office at (502) 459-2287 or email ZooMembership@louisvilleky.gov.

For information and instructions, please visit LouisvilleZoo.org/app

ZOO CLOSED NOVEMBER 21.

Don’t forget! The Zoo will be closed on November 21, 2020 for our Thrive The Zoo 5k Run/Walk. Presented by Norton Audubon Hospital. More information about this great event on pg. 23.

LOUISVILLE ZOO WALKING CLUB

Presented by Norton Healthcare Prevention & Wellness

Through Oct. 31, 2020

Enter the Zoo Daily 8 – 9:15 a.m.
Exit the Zoo by 9:30 a.m.

Just a reminder to our dedicated Walking Club Members: walking hours will end for the season on October 31. Get your steps in while you can! Thanks to all who joined us this year. We look forward to welcoming you back in 2021!

By Adam Shaft, Membership Supervisor
Special ticket required.

A Louisville tradition for over 35 years, Halloween-time transforms your Zoo into a living storybook, complete with some of your favorite characters brought to life, fun music, and a safe place for trick-or-treating for kids 11 and under. This year, we’re celebrating with a new party experience designed to give you all the kooky you love with none of the spooky.

Your party price now includes ALL Boo at the Zoo rides and attractions!

Enjoy a spin on the Spooktacular Carousel. Get up close to REAL creepy crawlies at the walk-through, free-crawling “not-so-itsy-bitsy” Spider House. Hear the tale of the legendary Headless Horseman of Sleepy Hollow — all free with your party admission!

Our greatly reduced nightly capacity eliminates the scary traffic delays when arriving for the party. Parking is easy and convenient in the Zoo’s lot and FREE for party guests!

Safeguarding Your Health

Get your sweet treats with fewer stops along the way. To help provide social distancing and to reduce contact, there will be:

- A limited number of treat booths throughout the Zoo. This year, rather than receiving one treat per booth, kids 11 and under will receive a pre-packaged goodie bag with multiple treats at each station!
- Treats will be handed out by Zoo staff members. All staff members undergo a daily health screening and will be wearing masks.
- In an abundance of caution and to help prevent the spread of Covid-19, crowd size at Boo at the Zoo will be greatly reduced and all guests over the age of five must wear a mask.
- Tickets available ONLINE ONLY. Reserve your tickets today!

How to order member tickets!

To get your discounted member tickets, simply visit LouisvilleZoo.org/Halloween

1. Click buy tickets. Select your date and time.
2. Click “LOGIN WITH CARD NUMBER”
3. Enter your member number (located on your temporary membership ID card, beneath the barcode) and your last name. Verify with your zip code, phone number or email.
4. Choose ticket quantity and then confirm your details.

IMPORTANT: The email address listed is where your tickets will be sent.

4. HAVE FUN!

Boo at the Zoo is held rain or shine; no refunds or exchanges.

To help us manage our reduced capacity, all tickets must be purchased on the Zoo’s website in advance. Tickets will not be available through third party sellers. Make sure the email on your member profile is up-to-date so you are able to receive your tickets.

**ALL THE FUN FOR ONE GREAT PRICE**

New this year, your party ticket includes all of our fun rides and attractions!

**Ticket Options**

Admission tickets are required for all guests ages 3 and older.

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**New Party Name!**

Boo at the Zoo

**Thursdays – Sundays (October 1 – 30)**

Start the fun nightly at 5 p.m. (route closed at 10 p.m.)

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**Allergy-Friendly Night**

Thursday, Oct. 22

This special night will feature peanut-free treat booths and added non-food treats like stickers, pencils and more. Children with allergies can request a non-food treat bag at each of our booths.

**Members**

$6.00

**Non-members**

$12.50

**Parking**

FREE

Louisville Zoo Trunkline • Fall 2020 • 19
Be sure to check out these fun party activities included with your Boo at the Zoo admission! All attractions are subject to the cooperation of weather, animals and maintenance.

**Spooktacular Carousel**
Take a spin on the carousel before or after you trick-or-treat.

**“not-so itsy bitsy” Spider House**
Come view the intricate and beautiful webs these beneficial arachnids weave. This popular walk-through 1,000 sq. ft. spider house lets you stroll alongside REAL free-crawling spiders and their webs.

**Headless Horseman of Sleepy Hollow**
Journey back in time to the legendary Sleepy Hollow as you hear the famed tale of Ichabod Crane from one of the town’s guides. Don’t lose your head on this walk-through guided attraction as you spot the legendary Headless Horseman!

**Costume Dos and Don’ts**
- Do get creative; we love seeing your homemade costumes.
- Do include your strollers in your theme.
- Do include your protective face mask in your costume theme.
- Do get everyone in on the fun! Some of our favorite costumes include the whole family.
- While masks are required for this special party, adults should refrain from wearing masks that cover their full face. It can be scary for little ones!
- Don’t wear/bring balloons as part of your costume. One of your balloons could get away and end up with our animal ambassadors; that could be very dangerous for them. We know balloons can be fun, but they’re scary for our animal friends!
- This is a family-friendly party, adults should refrain from wearing “scary” costumes.

**Treats!**
Enjoy our Wild Donuts. Go wild and savor a Halloween Treat designed by you. Mix and match your favorite toppings to put on freshly made warm donuts. Available at Wild Burger location (additional fees apply).

Guests 21 and older can unwind with an ice cold beer or glass of wine. There will be several craft beers on tap to choose from and frozen sangrias available at Bomassa and Wild Burger (additional fees apply).

**Party Attractions**
This popular FUNdraiser provides critical support every year to the Zoo’s animal care programs, botanical garden, visitor experiences and conservation education. Many hands help create the magic of Boo at the Zoo! Our thanks to the entire “cast” and “crew” with special thanks to our partners and sponsors that help make it possible. And thank you too, of course, to our new party guests and those who return every year. There is no party without you!

**Party Attractions**
- Spooktacular Carousel
- “not-so itsy bitsy” Spider House
- Headless Horseman of Sleepy Hollow

**Viewing Animals**
While you may catch a glimpse of a few party animals, many of our animal residents will not typically be on exhibit in the evenings so they can rest. There are no promises, but you are most likely to see maned wolves, grizzly and polar bears, snow leopards, bongos and rhinos.

**Hot Tips**
- During Boo at the Zoo, the Zoo closes early to daytime guests. Gates close at 3 p.m. (visit until 4 p.m.)
- 5 – 6:30 p.m. is our most popular party time and tickets could sell out fast! Consider a later time. The Zoo comes to life after the sun sets with twinkling lights, hanging lanterns and carved pumpkins.
- Masks are required for all guests over age 5 during this special event. We asks that adults refrain from masks that cover the entire face.
- If you are looking for a safe place to trick-or-treat with kids with allergies, join our Allergy Friendly Night, Thursday, October 22.
- Wear comfy shoes. The trick-or-treat trail is approximately 1.3 miles long or around 3,330 steps!
- Trick-or-treating is for kids 11 and under. Be sure to bring your trick or treat bag. Reusable treat bags will be available for purchase at the Gift Shop for $1 (while supplies last).
- Boo at the Zoo is an outdoor event that is rain or shine; bring rain gear if the skies look gray!

**Treats!**
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**More Info?**
For all the details and a full list of FAQ — Visit LOUISVILLEZOO.ORG/HALLOWEEN
HONOR YOUR FAVORITE ANIMAL WITH A GIFT!

Celebrate these upcoming animal birthdays (or any of our animal ambassadors) with a gift that will directly support animal care and enrichment.

**MAGI**
(Pygmy Hippo)
27 years old on Sept. 16

**AMBER**
(Orangutan)
33 years old on Oct. 14

**ROMULUS**
(Komodo Dragon)
3 years old on Oct. 19

- In honor of Simba (Florcnescus) Stephen Dyerfeld
- In honor of Elephants Mr. & Mrs. Dick Hellman
- In honor of Fiona (African elephant) Beth Wakefield
- In honor of Monique (Sumantran tiger) Ms. Kelli Hopen
- In honor of Llamas Mr. & Mrs. Angela Mays
- In honor of Sebastian (Black-footed ferret) Deborah Fester
- In memory of Trapper (African lion) Dr. and Mrs. Lawrence Gettleman

Visit LouisvilleZoo.org/donate and check the tribute box.

Virtual Swags Sports Shoes Costume Contest
Let your imagination run wild and dress in your favorite animal costume! Runners with the most creative costume will receive a prize package from the Zoo and our sponsors. No advance registration is required for the costume contest. Judging will take place online after the race. Just visit the costume contest tent after the race to be entered.

Advance registration starts as low as $30
Register now before the price goes up!

Additional Support

LouisvilleZoo.org/throo

Virtual Run
Unable to make the race on Nov. 21? You can still support your Zoo and get your run in via our Virtual 5K. We’ll even ship you a bib and finisher’s medal to commemorate the occasion!
Friends of the Louisville Zoo is grateful for the commitment of so many donors who continued their support of Zoofari this year to offset the immediate needs of the Zoo during these times of adversity. Thank you!
ALL MEMBERS!
GET YOUR FREE EDITION
OF THE ZOO’S 50TH
HISTORY BOOK!

The Zoo is continuing its celebration of 50 years by offering our first ever history book: “Your Zoo and You: 50 years of Hope, Inspiration and Dedication”

To pick up your copy, simply stop by the Zoo ticket windows to ask for your FREE history book and enjoy!