

Issue 80

NOVEMBER 2014



NEW ZOO & ADVENTURE PARK

# The WildTimes

## From the Editor: Changing Seasons

As another Zoo Boo season ends and our Winter Hours begin once again, I like to remind myself to look back on all that has been accomplished so far. Thanks to the help of our Seasonal Zoo Educator, Dustin, so far this year (as of October 1<sup>st</sup>) we've hosted about 170 "formal" programs, including classes, tours, Zoomobiles, Snoozes, and more. Our current revenue from these formal programs sits at about \$22,000, compared to around \$16,000 for the entire 2013 year. (These numbers do not take into consideration ALL our Education Department programs and revenues, but they are a snapshot of the most common programs we offer that I track in an excel sheet.)

It's been wonderful to see our program offerings grow, and to see so many people enjoying the time they spend learning at the NEW Zoo & Adventure Park. I know we would not be able to accommodate so many groups and individuals were it not for the Zoo Educator's help.

Unfortunately, Dustin's time with us has come to an end. I wanted to take a

moment to offer him my sincerest gratitude for his help over the past year and a half. He's been a great asset to the Education Department, and while I am very sorry to see him go, I also wish him the best of luck as he moves forward to a new position in Saint Louis, Missouri. Dustin's final day with the NEW Zoo & Adventure Park was October 25<sup>th</sup>.

Due to a variety of reasons, we won't be hiring another Educator until late next spring. The Zoo Educator position will be filled from April 1<sup>st</sup> through October 31<sup>st</sup> next year – and I look forward to having a new person's help and assistance with teaching our busy class schedule in the spring and summer! In the meantime, I will be covering the programs schedule myself, but also seeking some volunteer assistance with certain opportunities. There are several Badge in a Day programs scheduled for Scout groups through the end of the year, so, volunteers, keep your eyes on your inboxes! I'll be email-

ing out some details on that very soon. :-)

As for the rest of you, you can continue to support our Education Department by participating in the many programs that we offer, and by attending our Special Events, of course. Holiday Fest in December will be here before we know it, after all! I'll look forward to seeing you here. As always, thanks for your support of the NEW Zoo & Adventure Park, and have WILD day!

~Angela Kowski-Kroening~



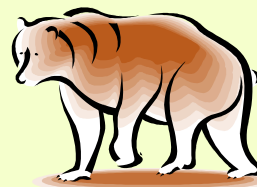
Dustin visited the Scandanavia Public Library over the summer with Buttercup the porcupine

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### The November 2014 Paws & Claws Gift Shop Special is:

*10% off all BEAR items*



## Animal Collection Report, by Carmen Murach

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Laughing Kookaburra Pip, who was hatched here last year, was transferred to the Santa Barbara Zoo on 9-25-14. Her sister Rex is scheduled to travel to Zoo Boise soon to join a young male and produce chicks of her own in the coming years.

Longtime volunteer Michelle Eckert donated 15 young captive bred Firemouth Cichlids for the aquarium in the Mayan restaurant at the zoo. Our collection plan called for the addition of individuals of this species and Michelle happens to breed them at her home. The young fish can be seen in a mixed school with Convict cichlids of a similar age.

29 year old African Penguin Bart died on 10-11-14. He had been having age related health problems over the past several years and was under close veterinary observation. It appears that he died peacefully in his sleep.

15 year old fallow deer Snow was euthanized on 10-15-14. She had exhibited signs of neurological debilitation of her spine. She was losing the ability to control her rear legs. Although the condition does not involve pain, Snow's quality of life was beginning to decline. She was having trouble getting to her feet and had begun to stumble while walking and was becoming less active. Staff and Veterinarian made the difficult decision to spare her any further decline. Necropsy revealed several tumors – it is likely that cancer

was the cause of her neurological damage.

The female Red Panda on loan from the Calgary Zoo died on 10-20-14. She suffered from sudden onset bloat. Although the veterinarian was able to relieve the buildup of gas in the animal's digestive tract, Ketu went into shock and died during treatment. Necropsy results are pending.

The annual report of NEW Zoo participation in the Frog-WatchUSA Citizen Science Conservation Program was submitted in October. The program educates and trains volunteers to gather important population data for frogs and toads. Because amphibians are considered "indicator species", information about their population trends serves to highlight problems in the environment.

Roebuck, the 1 and a half year old White-tailed buck, below, decided to join the costume party on the final weekend of Zoo Boo. Keepers have been supplying lots of opportunities for both the bull elk and the white-tailed deer buck to use their antlers during the rutting season when they love to "fight" with inanimate objects. Roebuck managed to get a water bottle stuck in his antlers on Zoo Boo Friday. If he had seemed distressed about the situation, we would have taken steps to remove the bottle but he showed no signs that he was disturbed by his new look. In fact, he seemed to be making an effort to show off to the does who share the exhibit. He carried the bottle throughout Zoo Boo festivities on Friday and Saturday and removed it without assistance once the party was over!



## Conservation Connection: 10 Ways Climate Change Affects Us All

**Drought:** In the coming decades climate change will unleash megadroughts lasting 10 years or more, according to a new report by scholars at Cornell University, the University of Arizona and the U.S. Geological Survey. We're seeing hints of this already in many arid parts of the world and even in California, which has been rationing water amid record drought.

**Wildfires:** There's not a direct link between climate change and wildfires, exactly. But many scientists believe the increase in wildfires in the Western United States is partly the result of tinder-dry forests parched by warming temperatures.

**Coral reefs:** Scientists say the oceans' temperatures have risen by more than 1 degree Fahrenheit over the last century. It doesn't sound like much, but it's been enough to affect the fragile ecosystems of coral reefs, which have been bleaching and dying off in recent decades.

**Food prices:** A U.N. panel found in March that climate change -- mostly drought -- is already affecting the global agricultural supply and will likely drive up food prices. Global food experts have warned that climate change could double grain prices by 2050.

**Pollen allergies:** Are you sneezing more often these days? Climate change may be to blame for that, too. Recent studies show that rising temperatures and carbon dioxide levels promote the growth of weedy plant species that produce allergenic pollen. The worst place in the United States for spring allergies in 2014, according to the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America? Louisville, Kentucky.

**Deforestation:** Climate change has not been kind to the world's forests. Invasive species such as the bark beetle, which thrive in warmer temperatures, have attacked trees across the North American west, from Mexico to the Yukon. University of Colorado researchers have found that some populations of mountain pine beetles now produce two generations per year, dramatically boosting the bugs' threat to lodgepole and ponderosa pines.

**Mountain glaciers:** The snows capping majestic Mount Kilimanjaro, Africa's highest peak, once inspired Ernest Hemingway. Now they're in danger of melting away altogether. Studies suggest that if the mountain's snowcap continues to evaporate at its current rate, it could be gone in 15 years.

**Endangered species:** Polar bears may be the poster child for climate change's effect on animals. But scientists say climate change is wreaking havoc on many other species -- including birds and reptiles -- that are sensitive to fluctuations in temperatures. One, the golden toad of Costa Rica and other Central American countries, has already gone extinct.

**Animal migration:** It's not your imagination: Some animals -- mostly birds -- are migrating earlier and earlier every year because of warming global temperatures. Scholars from the University of East Anglia found that Icelandic black-tailed godwits have advanced their migration by two weeks over the past two decades. Researchers also have found that many species are migrating to higher elevations as temperatures climb.

**Extreme weather:** The planet could see as many as 20 more hurricanes and tropical storms each year by the end of the century because of climate change, according to a 2013 study published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

*Adapted from slideshow on CNN.com, sourced:*

<http://www.cnn.com/2014/11/02/world/ipcc-climate-change-report/index.html>

## So What Can YOU do about Climate Change??

*In the next issue of the WildTimes, we will feature a Conservation Connection article dedicated to what YOU can do at home to mitigate Climate Change. Believe it or not, there are simple changes that you can make in your every day life that CAN make a difference. Stay tuned!*





## From the Director: Changing Seasons, by Neil Anderson



As October passes and we begin November, a few things change as we prepare for our winter season (you might realize I didn't say "off-season"). Although a few animals are moved indoors for the winter months, the vast majority of our animal collection is on exhibit and enjoying the season. Each season is not only different for the visitors but also different for the animals. And I should also note it

is different for the staff, especially the zookeepers, who must attend to their animals everyday, no matter what the weather conditions are. The North Shore Zoo Boo was a huge success, with crowds surpassing the last few years and a total attendance this year over the six nights of 17,107! In 2013, the event drew 14,307 and in 2012 we saw 15,974.

Even as a Zoo Director, it is easy to think that this is our "off season" and visitations to the Zoo drop off; however, the Zoo is

really a great place to visit during all seasons, especially the fall and winter. You would be surprised by the different experiences you will enjoy during the changing of the seasons. Many of our animals are very active during those seasons and in some cases, thanks to the change in exhibits from trees being now bare, having dropped their leaves, visibility of the animals is in some cases even better than during spring and summer.

Sometimes it is easy to associate the Zoo as a place to visit only during the spring and summer - but you would be missing a major part of the Zoo and the annual cycle of life of our animal collection. So next time you are thinking about doing something outside in the coming months, remember that you Zoo is always open every day. So come on out and you will be quite surprised how much fun a visit to the Zoo can be any time of the year! And don't forget: our Veteran's Day and Holiday Fest events are just around the corner.



*Clockwise, starting left:  
Most of our animals are unfazed by a little snow  
and winter weather! African Lions, Shambe and  
Ajia; Wattled Crane, Harry Birdini; American  
Bison, Big Cow.*

*Thanks to Zoo Volunteer Garth for the photos!*

## N.E.W. Zoological Society News

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The Society members are very thankful for the many wonderful gifts we receive from generous individuals, businesses, and foundations. We would not be able to continue building new exhibits and buildings & renovating the old without the support that we receive.

*Happy Thanksgiving to You and Your Family*

### CORNERSTONE ANIMAL HOSPITAL UPDATES



Construction of our new Cornerstone Animal Hospital is on schedule. Thank you Cornerstone Fdn., for pledging \$250,000.00 for this project. Thank you Wisconsin Public Service Foundation for pledging \$50,000.00. This news came in last week. Thank you Jack & Engrid Meng for pledging \$50,000.00. Thank you to the following for their generous gifts for this project: Ben Schenkelberg, Daniel & Martha Gray, Kathy Hanson, Dr. Samuel Vainisi & Dr. Gretchen Schmidt, Mau & Associates, Associated Bank, Terry & Kris Fulwiler, Karen McDiarmid & Jim Montgomery, Jeff Sahaida, Schneider Community Credit Union, New Covenant, LaForce Inc., Maggie & Jim Ford, Diana Rockhill, Fleet Farm, James Voeks, Red Lewis (PDQ), Drs. Cheryl Skeletski & Margaret Eastman (Bay East Animal Hospital), Dr. Tracey Gilbert, Gentle Vet Animal Hospital, Michael & Leanne Haddad Fdn., Pivot Rock Fund, NE WI Building Trades Council, Scenic View, Jean Heintz Memorial Fund, BayTeck Games, and Heart Design Foundation. Please help us raise the funds to finish this project! Call the Society at 920-434-6814 to make a donation or go to the website link below to make a donation to the Animal Hospital on-line. <http://newzoo.org/zoological-society/>

**Thank you for your support!**

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**Here are some ideas to consider when making out your Christmas Shopping List!!**

**An 8x8 laser-engraved Brick might do, or one of our new Basalt Rock or Granite Garden Benches, a Plaque on the “Coming Soon” NEW Wall of Honor, a Memorial Marker in our Pet Memorial Garden, or a Donation, in the name of that Special Someone, to the Society, for our new Cornerstone Animal Hospital. It’s all about the Animals!**

**Shop by phone @ 434-6814**



**NEW ZOO & ADVENTURE PARK**

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## Upcoming Events & Things to Remember

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November 11th

- **VETERAN'S DAY.** 9am to 4pm. Free admission for vets.

November 27th

- **THANKSGIVING.** 9am to 4pm. The zoo will be open for regular hours.

December 12th & 13th

- **HOLIDAY FEST.** Details will be available soon!

December 13th

- **BREAKFAST WITH SANTA.** 8am to 12pm. Additional details will be available soon!

December 24th & 25th

- **CHRISTMAS EVE AND CHRISTMAS DAY.** 9am to 4pm. The zoo will be open for regular hours.

December 31st & January 1st

- **NEW YEAR'S.** 9am to 4pm. The zoo will be open for regular hours.