

Date: September 17, 2009
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Saint Louis Zoo Calendar of Events September-December 2009

September 2009

Through October 4, 2009

Stingrays at Caribbean Cove.

Admission is \$3.00 for general public and \$1.50 for Zoo Friends members. Children under two are free. Feeding is \$1.00. Admission is free the first hour the Zoo is open. Group rate for 15 or more is \$1.50 per person. For more information: 314/781-0900 or www.stlzoo.org.

Visitors can watch, touch and occasionally feed these gentle and fascinating ocean creatures as they glide through a tropical saltwater habitat. Designed for hands-on, safe family fun, the 17,000-gallon pool includes 20 cownose and three southern stingrays. Sponsored by UMB Bank and Mrs. T's Pierogies.

September 26-27, October 3-4, 10-11, 2009

Otttoberfest presented by Peoples National Bank. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free. More information: 314/781-0900 or www.stlzoo.org.

An Oktoberfest the whole family can enjoy! Saturdays and Sundays visitors can enjoy otter-related children's activities, biergarten food and drinks, live entertainment and more. Sponsored by Peoples National Bank and Barq's Root Beer with media support provided by 103.3 KLOU, Majic 104.9 and 93.7 The Bull.

September 26-27, 2009

Zoo Memory Days. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tent near Sea Lion Basin.

The Saint Louis Zoo is celebrating its centennial next year! At Zoo Memory Days, visitors are encouraged to bring in favorite photographs of family and friends enjoying their visits to the Zoo. Zoo staff will make scans of photos at a tent near the Sea Lion Basin, and they will appear in the Zootennial exhibit in 2010. To submit online, visit www.stlzoo.org/memories.

September 30, 2009

Zoo Travel Preview. 7 to 9 p.m. The Living world. For information and reservations, call (314) 646-4544 ext. 4.

Discover the wonders of Zoo Travel, featuring special wildlife viewing opportunities only available when you travel with the Saint Louis Zoo. Featured destinations include: Amazon Cruise, Tanzania Wildlife Safari, Alaska Adventure – Kenai and Denali, Polar Bears of Churchill, and Baja Whales (early in 2011).

October 2009

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October 7, 2009

Science Seminar Series: *Scent of a Male*. 7:30 to 9 p.m. The Living World. Free. For information, call (314) 646-4544, or visit www.stlzoo.org. Cheryl S. Asa, Ph.D. Fellow and 2009 Outstanding St. Louis Scientist Fellows Award recipient, Academy of Science – St. Louis; Director of Research, Saint Louis Zoo. How do animals, including humans, find the right mate? In most species females do the choosing. They look for males that are attractive, which can mean different things in different species; but females also look for males that are a good genetic match. Reproductive biologist, Dr. Cheryl Asa, talks about the nature and chemistry of pairing up. Sponsored by Saint Louis Zoo and Academy of Science St. Louis.

October 16-30, 2009

St. John's Mercy Children's Hospital Boo at the Zoo Nights. 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Admission charge at the door. For information, call (314) 781-0900, or visit www.stlzoo.org. Children under 2 are free. The Zoo's non-scary, kid friendly Halloween experience is filled with laughs and adventure. Sponsored by St. John's Mercy Children's Hospital, Laclede Gas, North Star Frozen Treats, Walmart, Coca-Cola, Y98 FM and Soft Rock 102.5 KEZK.

October 24, 2009

St. John's Mercy Children's Hospital Boo at the Zoo Spooky Saturday. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free. For information, call (314) 781-0900, or visit www.stlzoo.org. Mummies and daddies are invited to bring their little ghouls and goblins for safe and free trick-or-treating, entertainment, games and costume parade along the Pumpkin Trail. Children are encouraged to wear costumes. Sponsored by St. John's Mercy Children's Hospital, Y98 FM and Soft Rock 102.5 KEZK.

October 27, 2009

Conservation Conversations. *Drying Up: Extinction in the Sahara Desert*. Bill Houston, Assistant General Curator. 7:30 to 9 p.m. The Living World. Free. For information, call (314) 646-4544, or visit www.stlzoo.org.

The silent crisis of extinction underway in the Sahara is epitomized by the plight of the scimitar-horned oryx. This large antelope once roamed the Sahelo-Saharan zone in the tens of thousands, but vanished from the wild over 30 years ago with neither a whimper nor a whisper of international outcry. Following closely in the oryx's fading footprints is an entire suite of unique species exquisitely adapted to the desert including: addax antelope, dama gazelles, red-necked ostrich, desert cheetah; Sudan and Nubian bustards, striped hyena, sand cats, and desert foxes. Hear how the Saint Louis Zoo has assisted the people of the Sahara in their sincere efforts to conserve their wildlife through its support of Sahara Conservation Fund. Sponsored by Saint Louis Zoo and Academy of Science St. Louis.

November 2009

November 4, 2009

Science Seminar Series: *The Most Violent Places in the Universe (2009 International Year of Astronomy)*. 7:30 to 9 p.m. The Living World. Free. For information, call (314) 646-4544, or visit www.stlzoo.org. James H. Buckley, Ph.D., 2004 Outstanding St. Louis Scientist Innovation Award recipient, Academy of Science – St. Louis; Professor of Physics in Arts & Sciences, McDonnell Center Faculty Fellow, McDonnell Center for the Space Sciences, Washington University in St. Louis.

Astrophysicist and Washington University Physics Professor, Dr. James Buckley, presents highlights from "high energy astrophysics" – a field of astronomy that studies some of the most energetic processes in the universe and seeks to uncover some of the fundamental questions about the formation of galaxies and the makeup of the universe. It's an out-of-this-world talk you won't want to miss. Sponsored by Saint Louis Zoo and Academy of Science St. Louis.

November 12, 2009

Conservation Forum. *Sustainable Agriculture*. 6 to 9 p.m. Free. Advanced registration required by calling UMSL – World Ecology Center at (314) 516-5219.

November 12 – December 24, 2009

Holiday Zootique. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For information, call (314) 781-0900, or visit www.stlzoo.org. Shop Holiday Zootique in The Living World for unique gift ideas, ornaments and much more. Seasonal items will be available for purchase through December 24.

November 14, 2009

ZooQuest. 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. \$40 per team/Zoo Friends members; \$45 per team/general public. For information and registration, visit www.stlzoo.org/zooquest or call (314) 646-4544.

ZooQuest is a challenging quest-based program, taking place on Saint Louis Zoo grounds. Part trivia challenge and part scavenger-hunt, it guarantees your team will never look at the Saint Louis Zoo the same way again. You'll notice signs you usually walk right past, colors that aren't usually noticed, and details that make the Zoo unique.

November 17, 2009

Conservation Conversations. *Return of the Peregrine Falcon.* Jackie Fallon, Missouri Peregrine Falcon Recovery Program Coordinator. 7:30 to 9 p.m. The Living World. Free.

Known for its dramatic migration and amazing flight, the peregrine falcon has long fascinated people across the globe. Through the efforts of many conservation groups working in different states, over two hundred nesting pairs of falcons now reside in the Midwestern United States, where 40 years ago, there were none. Jackie Fallon, State Coordinator for peregrine falcons in Minnesota and North Dakota, and VP of Field Operations for the Midwest Peregrine Society, will present a program that will provide an understanding of the past, present and future of peregrine falcons. To demonstrate how peregrines can capture the attention of many, both young and old, she will bring a live peregrine. Sponsored by Saint Louis Zoo and Academy of Science St. Louis.

November 21, 2009

Zootini. 8 p.m. to 12 midnight. VIP pre-party at 7 p.m. Advance reservations: \$35/members and \$40/non-members. Advance VIP reservations: \$70/members and \$75/non-members. Admission at the door (space permitting): \$40/members and \$45 for non-members. VIP admission at the door: \$75/members and \$80/non-members. For information and reservations, call (314) 646-4771 or visit www.stlzoo.org.

The Young Zoo Friends' party in The Living World includes live music, "Zootini" cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and more. Proceeds from the fundraiser benefit the Zoo. Ages 21 and up only. Sponsored by Anheuser-Busch, Inc., Laclede Gas, Y98 FM and metromix.com.

November 27-29, December 4-6, 11-13, 18-23, 26-30, 2009

U.S. Bank Wild Lights. 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. \$4/Member; \$5/Non-member. Children under 2 are free. For information, call (314) 646-4771, or visit www.stlzoo.org.

Walk through the Zoo's holiday wonderland of spectacular light displays. Sponsored by U.S. Bank, North Star Frozen Treats, Soft Rock 102.5 KEZK and momslikeme.com.

November 26, 2009 (Thanksgiving Day)

Holiday Hours: Zoo open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

December 2009

November 27-29, December 4-6, 11-13, 18-23, 26-30, 2009

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December 2, 2009

Science Seminar Series: *How to Make Embryonic Stem Cells without Embryos.* 7:30 to 9 p.m. The Living World. Free. For information, call (314) 646-4544, or visit www.stlzoo.org. *R. Michael Roberts, Ph.D., Curators' Professor of Animal Science, Biochemistry, and Veterinary Pathobiology, University of Missouri – Columbia, Christopher S. Bond Life Sciences Center.* Sponsored by Saint Louis Zoo and Academy of Science St. Louis.

December 5-6, 12-13, 19-20, 2009

Breakfast with Santa. Seating at 9 and 11 a.m. as available. Member: \$20/adult, \$18/child (2-12); Non-member: \$22/adult, \$20/child (2-12). Children under 2 are free. For information, call (314) 646-4857, or visit www.stlzoo.org.

Festive holiday breakfast includes a family photo with Santa, goodie bags for kids, visits from costumed characters, free parking, and more. Pre-paid reservations are required, and seating is limited.

December 18-21, 2009

Dinner with Santa. Seating at 5 and 7 p.m. as available. Member: \$23/adult, \$21/child (2-12); Non-member: \$24/adult, \$22/child (2-12). Children under 2 are free. For information, call (314) 646-4857, or visit www.stlzoo.org.

Enjoy an Italian buffet dinner at Painted Giraffe Cafe while overlooking the colorful lights of Wild Lights. Evening includes dinner, admission to Wild Lights, visits from costumed characters Rudolf and Frosty, photo with Santa and free parking. Pre-paid reservations are required, and seating is limited.

December 24, 2009 (Christmas Eve)

Holiday Hours: Zoo open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

December 25, 2009 (Christmas Day)

Zoo closed.

December 27, 2009

Raja's Birthday. Saint Louis Zoo's popular Asian elephant turns 17. Admission is free. For information: (314) 781-0900 or www.stlzoo.org.

December 31, 2009 (New Year's Eve)

Holiday Hours: Zoo open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

December 31, 2009 – January 1, 2010

New Year's Eve Overnight: Zoo Celebration. 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 a.m. \$55/Members; \$65/Non-members. For information and reservations, call (314) 646-4544, or visit www.stlzoo.org/education. Ring in the New Year while celebrating the Zoo's 100th Anniversary. Sorry parents, this is a kids' only overnight! Ages 6-13 only.