

News

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**NATIONAL CITY ANNOUNCES \$500,000 COMMITMENT AND SPONSORSHIP
OF ST. LOUIS ZOO'S SEA LION SHOW AND ARENA**

National City Sea Lion Show and Arena take Zoo's popular attraction to new level

ST. LOUIS— The most popular paid attraction at the St. Louis Zoo has been reinvigorated, thanks to a commitment from National City.

The St. Louis Zoo has received a five year, \$500,000 commitment from National City for the Zoo's popular Sea Lion Show. As part of the sponsorship, the show will officially be named the National City Sea Lion Show, and the show's venue the National City Sea Lion Arena.

A dramatic transformation has taken place at the arena in the past few months. The arena has been turned into a San Francisco Bay fishing village, with a charming clapboard backdrop and a wharf of rope-bound piers. Vintage fishing nets, life preservers, kerosene lanterns, oars, skiff, and colorful floats of glass, cork and wood are part of the scene.

"National City is pleased and honored to be a part of what promises to be an even more popular attraction at the St. Louis Zoo," said Shaun Hayes, president and CEO of Missouri Banking for National City. "I find this to be a great opportunity to work with the world-renowned Zoo in a fun, creative way."

In addition to the new stage setting, extensive renovations are taking place outside the arena building. A new entrance and pathway, gift kiosk, shade arbor, landscaping, banners and signage will soon be completed.

"We are really delighted that the gift from National City made possible these significant improvements to the Zoo's most popular paid attraction," added Dr. Jeffrey P. Bonner, president and CEO of the Zoo. "This will truly enhance the experience for our many Zoo visitors. Not only will the National City Sea Lion Show be an entertaining part of a day at the Zoo, but it also helps us communicate a message about the importance of conserving our oceanic wildlife."

National City Sea Lion Show add one

Sea Lion Show Manager Kyle Ulmer and Sea Lion Trainer Angela Hamberg are getting ready for the show season to begin. Sea lion superstars Alex, Roby and Bennie, along with Elaine and Rosie, will show off their natural abilities with hurdle jumps, front flipper walks, balancing acts, Frisbee throws and lots of splashing!

The National City Sea Lion Show will open to the public on weekends in May beginning May 12 and every day this summer, beginning May 26. Shows take place at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Admission is \$3.00.

National City Sea Lion Coloring Contest

To celebrate the sponsorship, children are invited to enter the National City Sea Lion Coloring Contest. Participating children will be eligible to win a St. Louis Zoo Family Membership and \$50 in a National City Students Savers Account. The coloring pictures are available at any Greater St. Louis National City location or at NationalCity.com/StLouis.

Participants can complete a sea lion coloring page and drop it off at any National City branch by June 16, 2007. Local judges will choose two winners in each age category – age five and under, age 6 - 9, and age 10 - 12. Each winner will be notified by phone the week of June 18.

In addition, any child opening a National City Student Savers account between May 12 and July 31 will receive two complimentary tickets to the Zoo's National City Sea Lion Show.

National City Corporation (NYSE: NCC), headquartered in Cleveland, Ohio, is one of the nation's largest financial holding companies. The company operates through an extensive banking network primarily in Ohio, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri and Pennsylvania, and also serves customers in selected markets nationally. Its core businesses include commercial and retail banking, mortgage financing and servicing, consumer finance and asset management. For more information about National City, visit the company's Web site at www.nationalcity.com.

The St. Louis Zoo has been named America's #1 Zoo by Zagat Survey and Parenting Magazine. Admission to the Zoo is free. The Zoo is open every day from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. During summer months beginning May 25, the Zoo is open from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. It will close at 2 p.m. on June 15, 5 p.m. on July 25 and August 22. For more information about the Zoo, visit www.stlzoo.org.

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