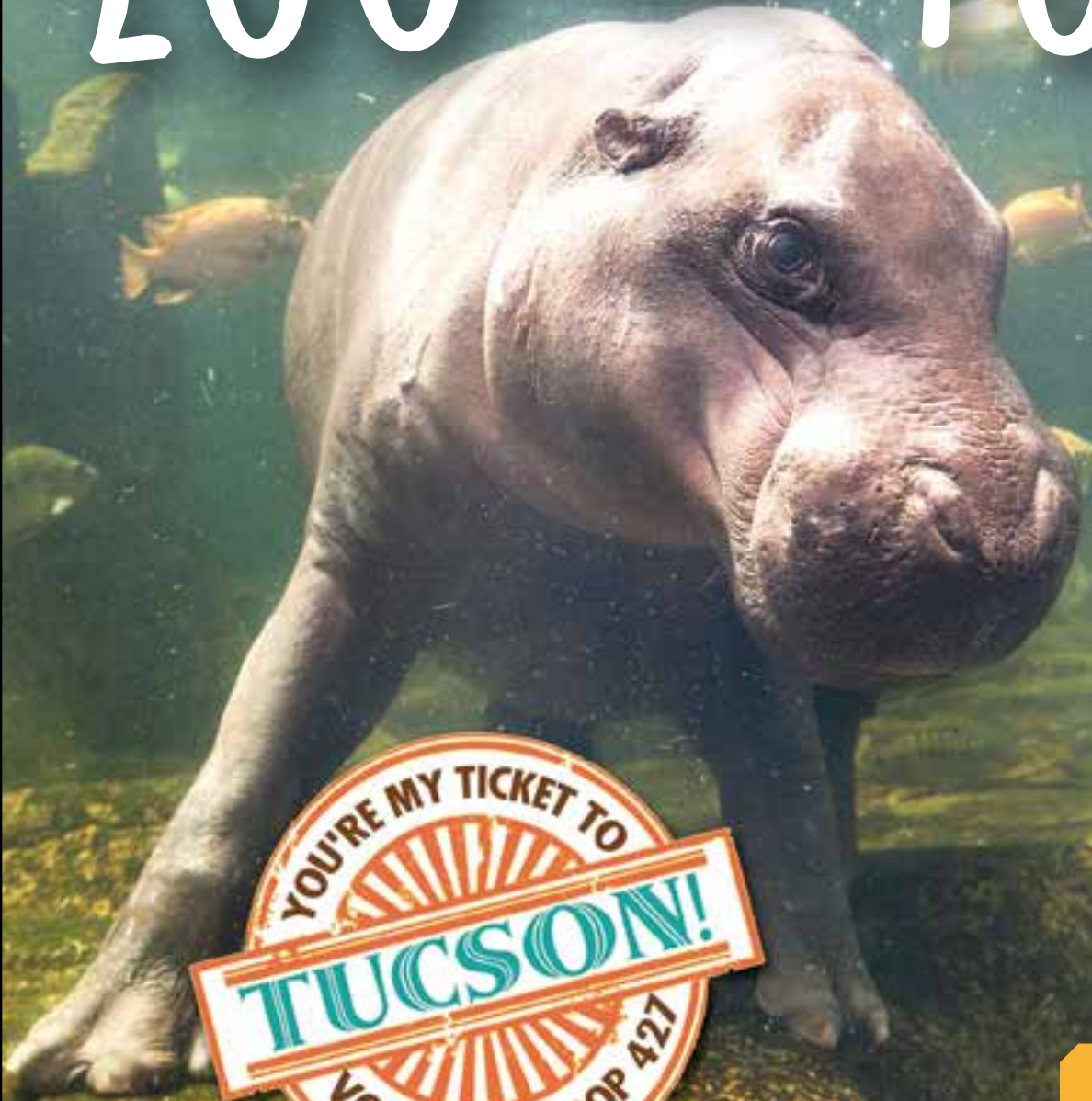


ZOO & YOU



Fall 2015 | Member Magazine
Reid Park Zoological Society

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR!

YOU CAN BRING HIPPOS TO REID PARK ZOO!

You will see that much of this quarter's issue is devoted to long-term future plans for Reid Park Zoo, especially the African Wetlands Exhibit and African Safari Lodge. We estimate these will be possible in the next 10 years. Why are we telling you about them now? Because if you are a Pima County resident, your vote this fall will make a difference!

Pima County is bringing a number of bond propositions to voters this fall. There are a number of great projects and Reid Park Zoo's project is listed under Proposition 427, Tourism Promotion. In this bond, Reid Park Zoo will receive \$8 million to fund this project once matching funds have been raised by Reid Park Zoological Society

But the only way this will happen is if YOU take action:

1. Make sure you are registered to vote; you can do this online at servicearizona.com.
2. Vote this fall by mail-in ballot in October or at the polls on November 3rd.
3. Tell your friends and family how important this bond is to southern Arizona and YOUR Zoo!

Our members, volunteers, and donors generated the funds and support for the Zoo to open Expedition Tanzania, home to Tucson's pride and joy: baby elephant Nandi. Help us continue to make Tucson's Zoo the best for our community! **Vote Yes on Pima County Bonds and on Proposition 427. Invest in ourselves. Bring hippos to Tucson.**



**Tawnya Tretschok, Chairman of the Board of Directors
Reid Park Zoological Society**

WORLD RHINO DAY

Now, more than ever, rhinos need our help! Killed for their horns, all five rhino species are facing possible extinction due to record rates of poaching. You can help by learning all you can about rhinos and sharing that information with your friends and family. By supporting Reid Park Zoo, you are also supporting the work being done by the International Rhino Foundation (IRF). We encourage you to follow IRF on social media to stay up to date about the latest ways that technology and education are being used to help conserve rhinos - it is amazing and inspiring work!



Fireball

World Rhino Day is September 22nd, but we are starting early. You can participate in THREE upcoming events to connect with rhinos like never before. Please visit our website for more details on the events: reidparkzoo.org.

September 10 - Fiesta with Fireball and Ybonga

Help kick off the World Rhino Day celebration at an exclusive after-hours reception with behind-the-scenes experiences.

September 13 - Bowling for Rhinos

This annual event will be hosted by the Tucson Chapter of the American Association of Zoo Keepers at Golden Pin Lanes. All proceeds go directly to support the work done in Kenya by the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy to protect rhinos.

September 20 - World Rhino Day

Wear grey and join Reid Park Zoo and #Teamrhino for this morning's event (9-11am). Staff members are preparing fun and educational activities - all to help you help rhinos. This morning's rhino-happenings are all FREE with paid admission to the Zoo.



ZooFriendZ is a very special circle of people who are invested in the future of Tucson's Reid Park Zoo.

Join ZooFriendZ Today!

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AQUARIUMS**



ReidParkZoo.org

Oct - May: 9 am to 4 pm

June - Sept: 8 am to 3 pm

Closed Thanksgiving & Christmas

Reid Park Zoological Society's Zoo & You prints quarterly

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT...



MEET OUR NEWEST ADDITION

Welcome Paulo, the baby tamandua (lesser anteater) who was born at the Zoo on May 28! Keepers describe him as the biggest, strongest baby tamandua they've worked with. Tamanduas are not on permanent exhibit at the Zoo, but you may have seen our adult tamanduas in presentations or walking Zoo grounds with a staff member. When Paulo is a little older, we hope he will become a part of our education program too!



NANDI UPDATE

Thank you for helping us celebrate Nandi's first birthday! She enjoyed presents, treats, play time with her brothers, and even an energetic chorus of "Happy Birthday" from Zoo guests. If you missed the party, don't worry -- you can catch highlights and view photos on the Zoo's website and Facebook page.



...YOUR ZOO

MEET WESLEY

- **Species:** Capybara
- Native to South America
- **Wildlife Status:** Listed as "least concern." Threats include hunting, deforestation and habitat destruction.
- **Wesley's Age:** Born April 2010
- **What Wesley eats:** Herbivore pellets, guinea pig pellets, pears, apple, yams, bananas, and lettuce.



Is it a beaver without a tail? A hairy pig without a snout? No, it's a capybara, the largest rodent in the world. Capybara were once believed to be a type of pig, but scientists now know they are rodents, related to guinea pigs. You will often find Wesley enjoying his pool, especially on warm summer days. Wesley's favorite food is lettuce. This helps with his training (though Keepers say he is so interested in training that he would probably do it without the enticement of food). Wesley is trained to stand on his hind legs and hold this position. This allows his Keepers to get a better look at his abdomen, which helps them monitor his health. Keepers also work with him on X-ray training for his teeth. Wesley enjoys his training so much that he sometimes stares down his keepers, letting them know he is ready to get started! As a side note, Wesley got his name from the movie "The Princess Bride." As you wish, Wesley.

To adopt Wesley or any of the other Zoo animals, visit our website at reidparkzoo.org or call Sara at 881-4753.

GOOD TIMES AT ZOO EVENTS

SUMMER AT THE ZOO

Nearly 2,000 people sampled craft beers from 30 of Arizona's breweries at the Zoo's 2015 Brew at the Zoo event. Thank you to Craft Tucson and Austin Santos of The Address at 1702 for their generous support in coordinating all the amazing brewery participants. Over \$48,000 was raised towards building the new Animal Health Center. Thank you to Fox 11, I Heart Media, FreedomSmokeUSA, Cox Communications, GC Services, Yelp, and Local First for their generous support.

A roaring good time was had by all at Summer Safari Friday Nights. We had record attendance for the 8 nights this summer and raised over \$38,000 for Zoo education programs, conservation efforts, and capital improvements. Special thanks to Title Sponsor Tucson Medical Center, and to Event Sponsors Cox Communications and Walmart.



A "YES" VOTE ON PROP 427 MEANS A "YES" VOTE FOR YOUR ZOO!

We are excited to announce plans for our African expansion project! This exciting project will feature a magnificent African Safari Lodge which will provide panoramic views of the Zoo's existing African species collection. In addition, the Lodge will provide a climate controlled space for guests to enjoy during their visit. With a grand staircase leading from the lodge down to the existing Event Garden, the lodge will also serve as a fantastic space for after-hours events.

This project will also include a state-of-the-art immersive African Wetlands habitat, both for animals already in the collection as well as some possible new species! Visitors will be able to get up close with endangered pygmy hippos, and perhaps otters, and Nile crocodiles. Visitors may even enjoy underwater viewing for all three of these fascinating species!

This extraordinary expansion plan will help YOUR Reid Park Zoo remain one of the best small zoos in America. Please support Proposition 427 by voting "YES" either through early mail-in balloting or at the polls on November 3, 2015. Be sure to tell your friends and family members living within Pima County about this important initiative.

Here are some important dates to keep in mind:

- First Day to Request an Early Ballot August 3, 2015
- Voter Registration Cut-Off for General Election October 5, 2015
- Early Ballots Mailed October 8, 2015
- Early Voting Begins October 8, 2015
- Last Day to Request Early Ballot (by 5:00 pm) October 23, 2015
- ELECTION DAY November 3, 2015

Request your early ballot online at recorder.pima.gov/earlyballot or call (520) 724-4330. **Vote "YES" on Prop 427!**



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

A RHINO FIESTA WITH FIREBALL AND YEBONGA

Date: Thursday, September 10th
Time: 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM

\$35 per adult | \$30 per Zoo Member

Celebrate World Rhino Day with Fireball and Ybonga, the Zoo's charismatic rhinos. At this exclusive, after-hours reception, you'll find out how the Zoo cares for these unique animals, and why rhinos in the wild really need our help! Enjoy appetizers and a glass of beer or wine while you chat with the Zoo's rhino keepers, and then meet a rhino up close. What do rhinos love more than any food treat? You'll find out at this event!

PHOTO SAFARI - AFRICAN ADVENTURE

Date: Saturday, October 3rd
Time: 8:30 AM to 11:00 AM

**Photo Safari for 16+
\$40 per person | \$35 per Zoo Member**

Do you love photography and wildlife? Join photographer Heather Bird at Reid Park Zoo for a morning of close encounters of the animal kind! The program will begin with a 30 minute tutorial on how to get the best photos of the animals at the Zoo. Then we will journey out into the Zoo and behind the scenes to practice your new skills. Zoo staff will make special arrangements for unique photo opportunities of our animal residents. Please bring your own camera for this program and we'll provide the rest.

ZOOCON

Date: Friday, October 16th
Time: 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM

\$120 per person | \$90 per Zoo Member

Purchase ticket prior to September 15th and take \$20 off ticket price.

Join us for a night of fun, food, entertainment and auctions at ZOOcon, presented by Casino Del Sol Resort. Dozens of Tucson's favorite restaurants will provide delectable tastings at stations throughout the Zoo. One-of-a-kind Zoo experiences will be featured in the auction as well as jewelry, art, home items and vacations. Tables of 8 and 4 are available for sponsorship. This is a 21 and older event.



HOWL-O-WEEN

Dates: Friday, Saturday & Sunday,
October 23rd, 24th & 25th
Time: 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

**\$9 per person | \$7 per Zoo Member
Line opens for Zoo Members at 5:30 PM**

Join us for Halloween fun, including costumed characters, trick-or-treating, and decorations galore. Minimal "BOO!" at the Zoo provides the entire family with an enjoyable, but not so frightening celebration. This event supports Reid Park Zoo's education programs. Animals will not be on display. Tickets available online beginning October 1, 2015.

EVENING SAFARI FOR ALL AGES

Date: Saturday, November 7th
Time: 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM

\$28 per person | \$25 per Zoo Member

Join us for a unique and memorable evening experience at the Zoo! What do the animals do when no one's around? You'll find out as we explore the Zoo by flashlight, search for clues on a scavenger hunt, and meet some animals close-up! The Zoo will provide flashlights and snacks—all you need to bring is your sense of adventure. Children under 14 MUST be accompanied by an adult. Children under 2 are free.

BEHIND THE SCENES TOUR FOR AGES 5 AND UP

Date: Saturday, November 21st
Time: 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM

\$18 per person | \$12 per Zoo Member

Journey behind the scenes at Reid Park Zoo and discover the rewards and challenges of caring for over 300 exotic animals every day. You'll visit the Zoo kitchen and an animal night house, and even get to meet an animal up close! This tour will give you a whole new perspective on what it takes to keep the Zoo's animal residents healthy and active on exhibit. After the tour, you're welcome to explore the Zoo on your own for as long as you wish. Children MUST be at least 5 years old to participate. All participants must register for the program.

ZOO LIGHTS

Date: Dec. 4th - 23rd, Dec. 26th-27th
Time: 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

**\$9 for adults, \$5 for children (2-14)
Zoo Member Pricing: \$7 for adults,
\$3 for children (2-14)**

Zoo Lights, presented by BMO Harris Bank, is guaranteed to put you in the winter spirit with jingle bells, twinkling lights, falling snow and Santa. Light displays, live entertainment, animal-theme light sculptures, and thousands of sparkling bulbs will help make Zoo Lights a part of your Tucson holiday tradition. Zoo animals will be off exhibit for this event. Free cookies and \$1 hot cocoa.

LITTLE CRITTERS PROGRAMS FOR PRESCHOOLERS

Bring your little one to the Zoo for an adventure to remember! Each one-hour session has a different theme and includes a walk through the Zoo, story, craft or other activity, and a live animal encounter. An adult chaperone is required for this program (at no charge). Visit reidparkzoo.org for upcoming dates and times.

YOUNG EXPLORERS PROGRAM FOR 6-12 YEAR-OLDS

These unique behind the scenes adventures are hands-on and action-packed! Learn about animal nutrition or be a Zoo Keeper in training. Prices vary according to program, length and material costs. Visit reidparkzoo.org for upcoming dates and times.

Reid Park Zoo's Education Department offers a variety of fun and educational programs for all ages!

Visit our website at ReidParkZoo.org and click on the "Education" tab to see what's coming up.

Our online system will list available program dates and times, and allow you to register immediately. As programs fill, we often add additional dates or times. If you do not have internet access, please call the Education Department at 837-8200. All programs require advance registration unless otherwise noted.

HOST YOUR HOLIDAY PARTY AT THE ZOO!

Looking for a holiday party that will entertain guests of all ages?

Have your party during our annual Zoo Lights event. The beautiful deck overlooking the Mill Pond or an inside option are available for a reception or dinner, fully catered by Taste of the Wild Catering. Guests may enjoy Zoo Lights from 6-8pm in December.

Reid Park Zoo is the perfect location for other events too, such as weddings, office barbecues, or elegant evenings under the stars. The Zoo offers wild one-of-a-kind experiences you and your guests are sure to enjoy. Book an appointment with one of our event specialists today. Call 520-881-4753 or email events@reidparkzoo.org.



Reid Park Zoological Society
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**ENDANGERED
SPECIES**

My Bag Is Packed! BRING ME TO TUCSON!

What could make Reid Park Zoo even more fun?

PYGMY HIPPOS! Vote **YES** on **PROP 427!**

Prop 427 will help fund the Reid Park Zoo African Safari Lodge and African Wetlands Habitat, which may include underwater viewing areas for pygmy hippos, and other possible species such as crocodiles and otters.

REQUEST YOUR EARLY BALLOT ONLINE:

recorder.pima.gov/earlyballot

Or call (520) 724-4330, or go

to your local polling place

Nov. 3, 2015 and Vote

YES on **PROP 427!**

