

Pueblo Zoological Society



PuebloZOO ZooNews

The biannual newsletter for supporters of the Pueblo Zoo.



Getting into the role is important in educating the next generation! Kids learned why ostriches dance at summer camp with counselor Amanda.

Your support provides programs that nurture next generation of zoo leaders

Spending a lot of time around animals changes a person. Just ask Paige and Amanda. They've been coming to the Pueblo Zoo since before either can remember.

Amanda grew up coming to the zoo. Twice a summer (starting in preschool!) she'd visit. "Something that made a big impression on me was when [docents] brought animals in...they brought an opossum in, and let me touch its tail. That had a big impact on me...getting to meet the animals." Paige joined our first ever group of sixth grade ZooALIVE volunteers. "ZooALIVE helped me realize that this is what I wanted to do with my time and as my career...that I want to work with animals and build relationships with them."

As a ZooAliver, Paige developed relationships with our longtime educators. "Robin inspired me. She knew all this stuff about the animals, and let us get close and touch them. And she would always answer our questions...even ridiculous ones (we were kids!) like what their favorite colors were!"

Now, Paige and Amanda are giving back to the zoo that shaped them. "I lead a lot of kids camps. I love seeing kids improve their animal knowledge. It's rewarding and exciting to see them grow," says Paige. Amanda loves "to see their eyes light up...to hear their interest in learning and sharing their knowledge and love of animals."

Because of the Pueblo Zoo, these young women are making a positive difference for animals, children and the environment. We're excited to see where their journeys take them and the impact they'll make along the way. Be sure to say hi to them next time you see them at the zoo!



De Brazza's Monkey Exhibit opens as Mission: Monkeys concludes

In the last ZooNews, we introduced you to Ruby and Kanoa, two De Brazza's monkeys waiting to come to Pueblo. We asked for your help, and you gave generously to ensure they would have everything they needed to thrive. On July 18, Ruby and Kanoa came bounding out to their new exhibit for the very first time. They excitedly explored every inch, and they have been delighting crowds each day since.



Generous donations and volunteer labor built the new De Brazza's monkey exhibit. Construction began in late March and quickly progressed, opening July 18, just three and a half months later.



The Pueblo Zoo has been in City Park for nearly 100 years. Exhibits like this will usher in the next century of educating children and bringing joy to families. Thank you for your support! Photos this page: Left: Shawna Garcia / AllegreImages.com, Right: Ashley Bowen

Remembering loved ones through Pueblo Zoo mission

This year we said goodbye to several members of our extended zoo family. Whether former volunteers, staff, board members, donors or cherished family, their memories are being kept alive and their legacy being honored through donations from generous folks like you that loved and appreciated them.

In every corner of the zoo, these donations are supporting our education, animals, and guests. Thank you to all those who made donations remembering Gregory Rohr, Reg & Sue Landrum, Dr. Michael Dewey, Carl Edwards, George Williams, Ellie Crain, and Bill Farmer.



Photo: Allegre Images

SHANDY CLINIC
Speech · Occupational · Physical Therapy
presents

ZooBoo

OCTOBER 27, 11AM-2PM

- Treat stations
- Games & crafts
- Scavenger hunt
- Storytime
- Animal talks
- and more!

R Buck presents

BooBONUS

Special member treats
and early entry at 10am

Pricing & full info: pueblozoo.org





**A zoo baby
is born...
now what?**

An inside look at what it takes to raise a thriving zoo baby

Think about everything you do when you are welcoming a new baby into your family. You make sure mom has vitamins. You prepare a nursery. You may read a parenting book. Zoo keepers aren't very different.

When we learned that Akilah and Amara, two female African painted dogs, were joining our pack, we got to work. The addition of females meant the possibility of pups. The first project? Nest boxes. A student group helped make these custom boxes to give the dogs a safe respite and to allow staff to keep watch. They'll be using cameras funded by supporters like you. Next? We reached out to other zoos to develop a birthing plan and list of developmental milestones. When the time comes, we will be watching to see if they're nursing, if their eyes open at the right time, and if they're moving enough.

In a zoo, we are not always 100% sure that an animal is pregnant. We watch for signs and make sure each female has what she needs for a successful (potential) birth. As a guest, you may even see us doing some of this work! If she's eating more, we may increase her diet. If nesting, we give her more nesting materials. Does she need personal space? We'll

move the other animals from her exhibit until she's ready for them to join again. (Or in the case of our lioness, Mashavu, we moved her inside for the last two weeks before the cubs were born).

In most cases, new moms do the work of birthing and raising their kids themselves. But keepers are always ready. In June, when staff observed Ruby, a Nubian goat, struggling to deliver her first kid, a keeper reached in and pulled the baby out. Last summer, keepers noticed a meerkat baby was not gaining enough weight. For weeks, animal care staff took shifts feeding her every three hours until she was strong enough to eat on her own. When a baby is on the way, animal care staff become the doctor, nurse, midwife, and doula.

The animal care staff become the doctor, nurse, midwife, and doula. Your support makes it possible.

Each potential pregnancy (or egg!) brings with it a range of emotions for our entire staff. We have intense joy at seeing new life and worry if something isn't right. We do the extra research, spend the sleepless nights, and anything else that leads to a healthy animal. Your support makes this possible.





Thank you to everyone who took the leap of generosity at Zoofari! Your support makes the Pueblo Zoo thrive.

Thank you especially to our major sponsors: Mike & Tanya DeRose, Black Hills Energy, Marijane Spear, E.A., Income Tax Specialist, Big Bear Wine & Liquor, Cathy & Ken Danylchuk, Judith Krause, Larry's Electric & Refrigeration, The Lloyd Family, Park West Dental, Parkview Medical Center, Pueblo Bank & Trust, Doris Quinlan, Rocky Mountain Eye Center, Starbuds Pueblo & Pueblo West, US Bank, Colorado Lottery, Brian Corsi, Allstate, Fieldman Financial Services LLC, Hewitt, Heerschap, Couch, PC, The Rickman Pack, Studio Share, and Vidmar Motor Company. *Photo: Kayla Fisher*

VOLUNTEER PROFILE



Vicki & Bob: Docents, Donors

"Volunteering at a zoo has always been a dream of mine," says Vicki Riseling. "The first time we visited we were very impressed." Bob added. So, when they moved to Pueblo, they quickly signed up to become docents. It wasn't long before they each fell in love with our ambassador animals and began donating to support some of their special needs. Today, when Vicki and Bob visit a classroom, they do it with purpose. "I hope for future conservationists," Vicki explains. They hope to inspire children to protect the animals, just as past docents did for Amanda and Paige. Through the zoo, Vicki and Bob put their passion into action.

To read more interviews with the people making our zoo thrive, check out our 2017 annual report at Pueblozoo.org/about.

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Building on Legacies



From depression-era CCC workers who put their backs and spirit into building the zoo to the thousands of families that grew up going to the zoo, the Pueblo Zoo has a long, rich history of being a crucial thread in the Pueblo tapestry. Those of us that work and volunteer here now are privileged to build upon such a strong foundation and steward it into the future for generations to come.

In this issue you read stories of how the lives of two of our young leaders were influenced at an early age by the zoo and it's dedicated volunteers and educators. We also paused to recognize and remember those who have gone before us. It is deeply touching to fathom that the zoo played such a meaningful part in someone's life that they chose the zoo to honor their legacy.

The most recent tangible additions to our legacy are two new exhibits that will provide enjoyment, education and conservation inspiration for generations. As we ran through the finish line of Mission: Monkeys and Plant.Grow.Fly., I hope you had your eyes where mine were: the future. The zoo's path is long and will extend far into the future thanks to your support. I hope you will stay on this journey with us creating more memories and legacies along the way.

Abbie Krause
Executive Director



Photo: Ashley Bowen

PUEBLO ZOO MISSION

To empower people to engage in conservation of animals and their natural habitat

UPCOMING EVENTS (FULL INFO ONLINE)



Fridays September 7 - December 28

Special Friday scavenger hunts and activities (new each week!). Included with admission. Come explore! Details on our website.



Senior Week September 9-15

Senior Safari: September 12, 9am-2pm. Activities, food, & more!

Senior Week: September 9-15. Free admission for seniors 65+ all week

September 15: Red Panda Day

9am - 2pm. Join us for hands-on activities, demos, talks and more!

October 1: Change to Winter Hours

Mon-Sat 9am - 4pm, Sun 12pm - 4pm

October 4: Conservation talk series - Sustainability

12pm. Discover Conservation & Sustainability efforts at the zoo.

October 13: Enrichment Day

10am - 2pm. Enjoy a fun day that benefits the zoo's animal enrichment program! Booths will include crafts, keeper talks, obstacle course, demonstrations, and games.



October 27, 11:00am - 2:00pm

Dress up in your most creative costume and have a spooktacular time at the Pueblo Zoo. Enjoy treat stations, scavenger hunt, crafts & games, animal talks, explorer stations, and storytime.

BOO BONUS FOR MEMBERS ONLY: 10:00am - 12:00 pm

Members receive early admission and two hours of exclusive activities including crafts, animal talks, and treat bag while supplies last.

November 1: Conservation talk series - Sea Turtles

12pm. Pat Gardner talks about volunteer work at Sea Turtles, Inc.

November 10-11: Military Weekend

We're honoring military service people, their spouses and children with free admission to the zoo. (Must present valid military ID)

December 6: Conservation talk series - Zoo Insider

12pm. Get special updates from zoo curator Ashley Bowen

ElectriCrittters

Enjoy this award winning Pueblo tradition with hundreds of thousands of dazzling lights and one-of-a-kind installations!

Opening Night & Gingerbread House Contest

November 21, 5:30pm - 8:30pm. Kick off the season with a tree lighting ceremony, gingerbread house contest, and a stroll through ElectriCrittters! Details and contest registration online.

ElectriCrittters 2018 dates

5:30pm - 8:30pm, Nov 23-25, 30, Dec 1-2, 7-9, 14-23, 26-30

Santa at ElectriCrittters

5:30pm - 8:30pm, Fridays, November 26 - December 21

New for 2018, visit Santa inside our Islands of Life building, get a treat and a FREE digital photo (you can take your own, too).

Holiday Closures:

The Pueblo Zoo will be closed at noon on Christmas Eve, all day Christmas, noon on New Year's Eve, and all day New Year's Day