

Volume 4
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Keeping In Touch

What a beautiful time of year here at the David Traylor Zoo! The animals are active, the plants are vibrant and the flowers are blooming with outstanding color. When I look at it all, I see such a peaceful and relaxing place. If you haven't had a chance to visit yet this season don't wait. You won't want to miss it! I can't say "Thank You" enough to the zoo staff and the parks department for all they do to help create this special place for everyone to enjoy.

Be sure to check out the calendar of events coming up at the zoo. Stroll & Show and Open House in June are great events with plenty of activities for all age groups. If your children are looking for a great camp this summer I really encourage you to check out Zoo Camp! It has been a wonderful camp for several years that has left great memories for lots of kids, including my own children. Have a wonderful summer and have fun at the David Traylor Zoo.

– Janel Wiederholt, EFOZ President

Upcoming Events

Docent in the Zoo - June Sundays	1:00-2:30 pm
Stroll & Show - June 1	7:00 pm
EFOZ Annual Open House– June 24	11:00am-2:00 pm
Zoo Camp – July 9-13 (<i>pre-register & fee</i>)	9:00 am - Noon
Kidzooocation – August 11 (<i>pre-register & fee</i>)	10:00 – 11:00 am



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Director's Report

Hello Zoo Friends,

Summer is always such a great time to visit the Zoo and this year is no exception. The landscaping has been spruced up, the baskets hung and flowerbeds are looking fantastic. The tropical birds have made their way back into their summer habitats and the rest of the animals are enjoying longer days and warm sunshine. The prairie dog pups are growing quickly and are quite entertaining to watch as they scurry about their habitat testing out their ability to crawl, jump and yip as they try to imitate their parents.

June is National Zoo Month and I hope you can join us for one or all of our June events! Stroll & Show will be held on June 1 at 7pm with the movie Dolphin Tale, beginning at dusk. Docents will have several activities focusing on World Oceans Day for families to enjoy while waiting for the movie to begin. Event sponsors include U.S. Cellular, Flint Hills Optimist Club, Country Mart North, Cable One, Bluestem Farm & Ranch Supply and Dave's Pumping Service. We would not be able to offer events such as this one without the support of our community partners! Thank you for all you do!

On June 24th from 11am until 2pm, we will hold our Annual EFOZ Open House! This year we are partnering with Tour de Lyon County to offer a fun day of adventure within Soden's Grove Park! From train rides and free hotdogs in the park to free balloons, water and popcorn in the Zoo! It is also the only time you can visit our off-exhibit area, take a quick peak into our quarantine & veterinary facilities, and visit our kitchen, where diets are prepared for the animals that call the zoo home.

As many of you know, we completed a master plan for the Zoo in 2013. A master plan is a vision of the future zoo that guides its development and evolution over time. It describes the Zoo's vision and goals, the purpose, the budget and a timeline that will bring the future vision to reality. The plan gives us the opportunity to make changes that will not only improve the welfare for the animals here at the Zoo, but to also influence how animals are cared for around the globe. The main focus for our staff, Zoo, board, community members, veterinarian and architecture team was to make sure the species chosen for the Zoo would work well in our ever-changing Kansas climate and would be a valuable asset for the Zoo's education and conservation missions. We also wanted to make sure that we did not outgrow the City of Emporia's means to support the Zoo financially and received City Commission approval of the plan in October 2013. The Zoo's master plan calls for renovations of several areas and adding new habitats for North American River Otter, Laughing Kookaburra, American Black Bear, Red-necked Wallaby and more.

A good example of our most recent improvement that enhanced animal welfare is the Mission Madagascar habitat. It houses endangered species such as lemurs and spider tortoises that can only be found in the wild in Madagascar.

Our mission has been and always will be to provide an environment which inspires respect and stewardship for the natural world, improves the future for wildlife and provides a recreational opportunity for learning about nature and conservation.

Until next time.....

Lisa Keith, Director

*Donations have been received in Memory of....
(established since last newsletter)
2018*

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Encountering Education



Beekeepers Don & Gary Morey teach about their beehive at Party for the Planet

We taught 400 kids, at this year's Teddy Bear Clinic, what to do if they encountered an injured or baby animal. We partied for Earth Day; despite the rain we had many hearty join us to learn about pollinators, plant sunflowers, create a recycled bottle cap magnet and even do a little yoga in the rain.

Spring is finally here bringing with it much to do at the zoo. With some sunny days to enjoy you can come see our turtles out basking the lemurs and even our zoo staff relishing the sunshine. With the warmer weather comes much to do at the zoo our staff and docents are busy educating and preparing for our zoo events. Maybe you've seen one of our docents out in the community at your child's school, here on a field trip, in a care home or one of the many other events we've been busy with.



Making seed bombs at Party for the Planet



ESU Health Education Students,

squeezed stress balls; they made some healthy snacks our Lemurs would be jealous of. The classes worked to collect donation items before the event that will help provide enrichment to animals!

A big thanks to Emporia State University health education students who came to the zoo April 17th and taught nearly 100 1st -6th graders from Emporia Christian and Sacred Heart Schools. Students learned some healthy habits along with how our animals stay healthy. Activities included learning how Prairie Dogs hide when stressed and the kids



Students learn about hydration at ESU Health Fair

If you haven't had fun at the zoo or with one of our docents lately, here are some upcoming events to look forward to. Stroll & Show on Friday June 1st beginning at 7:00pm. This year's movie will be Dolphin Tale and activities will be ocean themed. Begin your evening strolling through the zoo enjoying our animals and engaging activities to help better understand our ocean system and how we can help protect it. See if you can talk like a whale or dolphin, learn about ocean habitats from the arctic to tropical coral reefs. Explore marine adaptations; how do seabirds stay dry and how far underwater can a humpback whale call travel?

Visit our Education Classroom to meet some of our ambassador animals, and if you haven't already, take our plastic reduction pledge and create a bottle cap magnet. Enjoy some music and silly dancing at 8:30 before the movie starts at dusk. Our annual Open house will be June 24th 11am-2pm. Come explore behind the scenes and learn how we care for our animals. You can also come chat with a docent, both in the zoo and our classroom every Sunday thru June 1:00-2:30pm (weather permitting). Our next Kidzooocation will be on August 11th 10-11am. Kids ages 4-7 will be learning about Kansas' Black Footed Ferrets through a story, snack and activity. Call ahead to register 620-341-4372 or send in your fee of \$5 per child / \$3 for EFOZ members and the form below.

Come enjoy your summer at the ZOO!

Michelle Sagers, Education Coordinator

REGISTRATION FORM for KIDZOOICATION

(please print)

Participant's Name _____ Age _____ Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____
 Parent/Guardian's Name _____ email _____

Waiver Statement

The undersigned, as parent or legal guardian of the registered participant states that he/she understands that the Emporia Friends of the Zoo, the City of Emporia, and the Emporia Zoo Docents are not and shall not be responsible or liable for any illness, injury to person or damage to property resulting from the Kidzooocation Activity, and the undersigned, on behalf of themselves, their heirs, executors and administrators, and the registered participant and their heirs, executors and administrators, do hereby remise, release and forever discharge the City of Emporia, Emporia Friends of the Zoo and the Emporia Zoo Docents from all claims, demands, actions or causes of action on account of any injury or illness to the participant or damage to property resulting from or during the Kidzooocation Activity and the attendance thereat, and does further waive any claim resulting from any photograph, photographic likeness or video tape taken of the participant while attending and participating in the Kidzooocation Activity and does further authorize the use of such photograph, photographic likeness or video tape by and as deemed appropriate by the Emporia Friends of the Zoo and the Emporia Zoo Docents.

Signature of Authorized Parent or Legal Guardian _____ Date _____



We still have a few openings for
ZOO CAMP 2018 - Endangered Species

July 9-13 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Stop by the office at 75 Soden Road to sign up today!

Fee per camper: \$45 / \$35 for EFOZ members

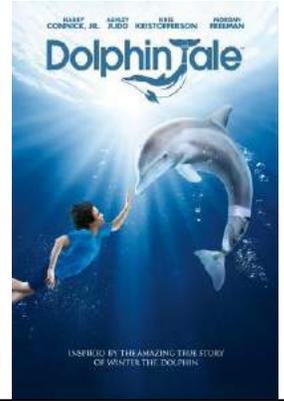
Camper must have completed either 3rd or 4th grade.

ZOO MONTH

Stroll & Show – Friday, June 1 @ 7pm

- ▶ Stroll through the Zoo
- ▶ Join in the activities
- ▶ Movie starts at dusk

Sponsored by: U.S. Cellular, Bluestem Farm & Ranch, Cable One, CountryMart, Dave's Pumping Service and Flint Hills Optimist Club



Open House – Sunday, June 24 11am-3pm (Zoo opens 11am)

- Face painting
- Test driving skills
- Summer fun
- Nature play



- Visit off-exhibit areas and ZEC classroom
- Staff & Docents answering questions
- Free popcorn & balloons (while they last)
- EFOZ memberships, beverages & animal-related merchandise available
- Enjoy Fire Department activities

