

Amphibian Conservation

Within the next few months, work will be completed on a new terrarium in the Zoo's Discovery Center. This state of the art terrarium will house endangered amphibian habitats, complete with thunderstorms, rain, and moon light. This truly amazing exhibit will be a self contained eco-system, as true to the amphibian's natural habitat as possible. This latest exhibit is yet another step in the Zoo's commitment to global amphibian conservation efforts. Henry



A White-spotted Chochran Frog, part of the Zoo's captive assurance colony

Vilas Zoo is one of a handful of zoos accredited by the AZA to maintain captive assurance colonies of endangered frogs to help safeguard against extinction of species. Thank you for helping us be good stewards of endangered species. Be sure to come have a look at these magnificent creatures.

The Arctic Passage

The land surveying has been completed on the Arctic Passage exhibit. Construction documents for

this new habitat for the polar bears, harbor seals, reindeer and snow owls are in progress. This wonderful new habitat will be located at the east end of the Zoo, closest to St. Mary's Hospital.

North American Prairie

As in nature, Bison, Prairie Dogs, Badgers and prairie grasses will co-exist in the new North American Prairie exhibit. It will give a better understanding of the prairie ecosystem and a powerful conservation message. Visitors will see animals in native habitat, and learn that Bison, which once were present in nearly all the states, were nearly extinct by the late 1900s. This is one of the first new exhib-

its in the Zoo Century vision and it set to open as soon as the final touches are put on the habitat and its residents can be transferred. Highlights will include a board-



The Zoo's Bison will soon enjoy a new mixed species habitat

walk through the heart of the habitat, offering unique and breathtaking views of Lake Wingra for the first time in recent years at Henry Vilas Zoo.

Conservation Carousel and Children's Zoo Taking Shape



The year-round building that will house the Carousel

Progress continues on the building that will house the Conservation Carousel in the new Children's Zoo. If all goes according to planned with construction and the weather cooperates this winter, the Carousel will begin spinning in the Spring. We will keep you posted regarding a grand opening celebration. There will also be an opportunity for companies interested in sponsoring the grand opening and securing free rides for the public on opening weekend. Many of the animals on the carousel are endangered or threatened in the wild, making this attraction a source of fun, but also an excellent educational opportunity. Only two sponsorships remain available on the carousel.

Funding Update

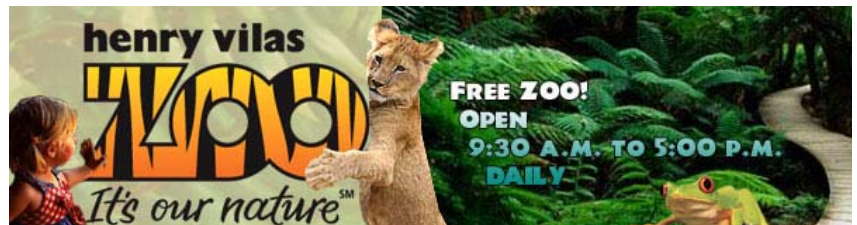
Fundraising for the Zoo Century projects continues to go very well and we anticipate many more generous gifts and pledges in the coming weeks and months. Thank you again for your support and please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or ideas about the campaign, we appreciate and welcome your support and input!

Fundraising on our first two major projects is progressing quite well. In the first nine months of the campaign nearly \$5 million has been raised from individuals and companies. This is not including Dane County's commitment of \$4.5 million and the City of Madison's commitment of \$.5 million to the Arctic Passage project. Thanks to this strong public/private partnership, the first year of the campaign will be a tremendous success!

In late November we will be sending an appeal to our Society membership to give them a chance to become involved in the Zoo Century campaign. Our membership has always been a source of significant support and we anticipate the same will be true for Zoo Century.

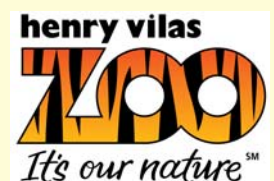
www.VilasZoo.org

The zoo's web site has been revamped with a new look and feel as well as plenty of Zoo Century related information. This is a great place to refer friends who are interested in learning more about the campaign or a resource in which to further view the plans for yourself.



The new look of www.vilaszoo.org

The Henry Vilas Park Zoological Society has been the Henry Vilas Zoo's member-supported fundraising organization since 1914. The Zoological Society promotes the Zoo's mission to conserve and protect the wonders of the living natural world, to build an understanding by people of animals by promoting conservation, and to provide high quality recreational and educational experiences to over 500,000 annual visitors.



Zoo Century in the Media

As you may have seen on various morning news shows in the past month, the Zoo Century campaign had quite a successful summer and early fall.

We hope you all saw Madison Magazine's cover story in August, which was a wonderful feature of the Zoo Century campaign. If you would like a copy of the article, please contact us. Madison Magazine the TV show also ran several Zoo Century features on Channel 3.



Charter Communications launched its "local on demand" programming in August by giving customers a chance to view our Zoo Century video for free through the Charter On Demand content.