

YOUNG BOBCAT JOINS ZOO FAMILY

A young and exuberant male bobcat went on exhibit in January this year and will serve an important role in educating zoo visitors about California's native wildlife and local conservation issues.

Because the bobcat is currently without a public name, the Micke Grove Zoological Society is hosting a bobcat naming contest on the zoo website, www.mgzoo.com, in an effort to involve the community in the cat's new life at Micke Grove Zoo. The contest is open until March 31 and prizes include a bobcat plush puppet and a private dinner for five in front of the bobcat's enclosure.

"A winning entry will follow the rules posted on the contest page, be creative, and suit the cat's natural history, personality, or cultural value and connections. Having said that, contest participants are encouraged to come spend time watching the bobcat and ask staff questions for some inspiration," suggested Allison



Photo by Dan Evans/Lodi News Sentinel

The young male bobcat went on exhibit in January.

Meador, Director of Conservation Education for the Micke Grove Zoological Society.

The bobcat, whose size will not exceed to be twice that of an average house cat, had been living at the Southwest Wildlife Conservation Center (SWCC) in Scottsdale, AZ after being rescued as a kitten by a private wildlife rehabilitator. Having initially been housed in close prox-

imity to humans, the young bobcat is too habituated to people to be returned to the wild, a condition that could pose a risk both to him and to the humans he would encounter.

"The Micke Grove Zoo actively supports wildlife rescue centers by providing a new home for rescued wildlife with permanent injuries or behavioral changes that cannot be rehabilitated," describes Avanti Mallapur, curator for the collection of animals at the Zoo. "We use the opportunity to involve them in our conservation education program to discuss conservation strategies and animal welfare issues with the visiting public."

"I am excited that Micke Grove Zoo is once again housing a native predator," stated Carrie McMorris, the Animal Care Specialist that serves as the bobcat's primary keeper. "A bobcat makes a wonderful addition to our animal family and he will represent his wild cousins that play a very important role in the local ecosystem."

Name the Bobcat at mgzoo.com



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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Zoo Members and Friends,

Since being given to the people of San Joaquin County in 1957 by local philanthropist William G. Micke, the Micke Grove Zoo has been inspiring millions of visitors. Over the decades, the Zoo has become a leading resource in science education, a partner in worldwide animal conservation efforts, and a premier destination for families in our community.

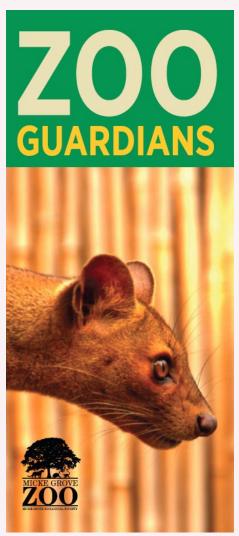
While the Micke Grove Zoological Society continues to negotiate the opportunity to manage the Zoo, we have begun by running new, exceptional education programs that have

served over five times more participants in less than one year compared to 2012. We continue to run the expanded gift shop and assumed management of the snack bar that we renamed *Wild Bites*. In addition, we joined the County in working with a designer to produce plans for new exhibits for the fossa, snow leopards, and gibbons.

As we continue efforts to renew your zoo, we have created a new opportunity for you to support our work by becoming a **Zoo Guardian**. Micke Grove Zoo Guardians are donors whose annual contributions to the Zoological Society are at least \$1,000 per year. These are community-minded philanthropists that invest in Micke Grove Zoo because they recognize it as an important educational and recreational resource for the families of the San Joaquin Valley and beyond.

Please visit our website, mgzoo.com, to learn about this new opportunity to help. In addition to receiving all the advantages of a Zoo Friends membership, there are many exclusive VIP benefits. If you would like more information about this program or other ways to help rebuild your zoo, email us at mgzs@mgzoo.com or call us at 331-2010.







"Roses are red. Violets are blue. Name a roach for your Valentine and support Micke Grove Zoo!"

That is the slogan for the Micke Grove Zoological Society's newest fundraising program, which aims to provide love bugs of all shapes and sizes the chance to give something very unique this Valentine's Day: a name to one of the Zoo's dozens of Madagascar hissing cockroaches in honor of their sweetheart.

Madagascar hissing cockroaches cannot fly away, they do not bite, are not aggressive, stay close to each other, and are believed to withstand high amounts of radiation. So what better statement can you make to your Valentine than to name one of the Zoo's hissing roaches after them?

The program is operating off of the Zoo's website, www.mgzoo.com, and runs through 4PM on February 14. Each roach costs \$10 to name and recipients receive a personalized digital certificate and recognition in the zoo over Valentine's Day weekend. The deal is made even sweeter when participants learn that their tax-deductible donation actually benefits the Micke Grove Zoo – and ultimately, wildlife all over the world. That is a gift everybody can love.

For folks that aren't convinced that their sweetheart will appreciate a hissing roach being named in their honor, they can always take the anonymous route and name a roach after an ex, an overbearing mother-in-law, or perhaps a long-time enemy. Regardless, zoo staff encourages participants to remain "family friendly" with their names and to pay their newly named cockroaches a visit at the zoo!

Available at www.mgzoo.com



EDZOOGATION NEWS

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT USES GRANTS TO BENEFIT UNDERSERVED CHILDREN

In less than three weeks, the Micke Grove Zoo Education Department received 100 applications from kindergarten through fifth grade teachers at Title I schools throughout San Joaquin County with the hopes that their classrooms would receive a free "Zoo to You Outreach" program. The program, which involves live animal encounters and life science lessons, is the Education Department's initiative to connect students attending underresourced schools with nature as well as to improve science literacy countywide.

"We believe that every child should have the opportunity to discover and be engaged with the wonders of the natural world," described Allison Meador, Director of Conservation Education for the Micke Grove Zoological Society (MGZS). "Many local schools cannot afford to send their students on field trips to the Zoo, so we are truly happy to bring the 'Zoo' to the students."

Education Impact in 2013

School Programs: 8,500 students

Chaperones: 3,000 adults

Family Programs: 350 children and adults

Zoo Camp: 435 children

Senior Programs: 225 adults

Birthday Parties: 1,625 children and adults

In the Zoo: 15,000 children and adults

Fairs and Festivals: 7,265 children and adults

TOTAL: 36,400 people

(5.5 times more people than 2012)



Education Specialist Kristy Benner presents the Education Department's African leopard tortoise to kindergarteners.

The Zoo to You Outreach Program is currently funded by grants the Education Department received in late 2013, including part of a \$10,000 award from the General Mills Foundation, \$5,000 from the C.A. Webster Foundation, \$2,500 from CB Merchant Services and \$1,000 from the Kinder Morgan Foundation. Meador and the MGZS' Program and Grant Developer, Helena Fitch-Snyder, continue to explore additional funding opportunities for the Department's scholarship program.

In the 2012-2013 school year, the Education Department provided 16 free programs to Title I classrooms courtesy of a \$500 donation from the Rotary Club of Lodi and multiple \$100 donations from Meador and the board members of the MGZS.

"Community support is essential to the success of any of our programs. Every dollar helps off-set our costs and opens up opportunities for schools all across San Joaquin County, including communities as far as Tracy and Manteca," explained Meador. "Nothing brings us more joy than to see the excitement on the children's faces as they meet some of our animal ambassadors and learn more about what they can do to help protect the natural world."



MICKE GROVE ZOO'S

EDZOOCATION

PROGRAMS...

ENGAGE

visitors in fun and memorable learning experiences

CONNECT

visitors to animals and their environment

PROMOTE

conservation and the importance of protecting species and their habitats



Contact us to learn more: Telephone: (209) 331-2138 E-mail: mgzs@mgzoo.com

Micke Grove Zoological Society

Benefitting Micke Grove Zoo through financial support, educational opportunities, and community involvement.

SUPPORT EDUCATION BY SUPPORTING EDZOCATION!



Education is an essential part of Micke Grove Zoo and its managing non-profit, the Micke Grove Zoological Society. Responsible for creating enjoyable learning experiences that connect people with the natural world, the Micke Grove Zoo Education Department inspires audiences toward a stronger conservation ethic and fosters a respect for wildlife by providing highly engaging programs.

Serving over 12,000 students annually, the six Education Department staff provide curriculum-based programs to schools throughout San Joaquin County and beyond. They also provide program services to seniors, individuals with special needs,

and the general public. Some of their most popular programs include ZOOfari Camp, Zoo After Dark, and the annual Halloween event, HalloWILD.

But the Education Department's role doesn't stop there. The education staff also hosts birthday parties for children turning ages 4-10, run the education volunteer program, provide community outreach and marketing services, help organize and launch fundraisers, keep up on the Zoo's social media such as Facebook and Twitter, and provide care for the many Animal Ambassadors in the education animal collection.

By supporting the Micke Grove

Zoo Education Department, you are supporting a group of extraordinary individuals that are passionate about Micke Grove Zoo and the community it serves.

Your donation is important to the success of the Education Department. From salaries to supplies, any support received will be used to provide the children and families of the San Joaquin County community and beyond an extraordinary experience at Micke Grove Zoo.

For questions about the Education Department, please contact Allison Meador, Director of Conservation Education using the information on this form.

Please **print this page** and tear or cut at the line below.

	Method of Payment		VISA
	☐ Cash		MASTERCARD
MICKE GROVE ZOO MICKE GROVE DOGLARGAL INCERTY	Check # Please make checks out to MGZS		DISCOVER
			AMEX
Name			
Address (REQUIRED—include ZIP code)			
E-mail			
Phone		•	
Credit Card #	CVV Code		Exp. date
Signature			

	\$10.00			
	\$25.00			
	\$50.00			
Other	Amount \$			
Please check the box below to				
indicate that you do not wish to				
have MGZS publish your name in				
acknowledgement of your contri-				
bution in its publication materials,				

including the quarterly

newsletter, website, or annual report.

DONATION AMOUNT

Please complete and mail to:

Micke Grove Zoological Society

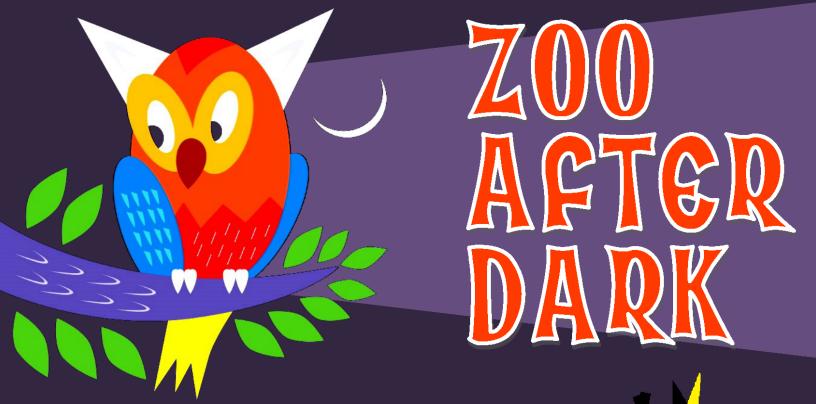
11793 N. Micke Grove Rd

Lodi, CA 95240

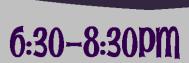
Phone: (209) 331-2010 Fax: (209) 331-7271 E-mail: mgzs@mgzoo.com

Thank you from the Education Department!

The Micke Grove Zoological Society presents



GAMES, CRAFTS, CAMPFIRE SNACKS, STORYTELLING, AND A NIGHT TOUR OF THE ZOO!



March 15 April 19 7:30-9:30PM

May 17 June 14 8:00-10:00PM

July 12 August 9

AGES 5 AND UP ONLY. \$10/non-member \$8/member REGISTER AT WWW.MGZOO.COM



SEASON OF LOYE

Now do a choir of chirping minstrels bring, in triumph to the world, the youthful spring.

- The Spring by Thomas Carew (1640)

Poets have long extolled spring as a season of new life and love. Many plants send up flowers before the spreading leaves and growing grass become competition for sunlight. Bees buzz along collecting pollen from the new blossoms. Animals begin courting each other. Birdsong fills the air as birds flit about and build their nests. Soon nests are filled with chicks and new life begins.

Why are so many animals born in spring? The answer is simple. Most places in the world have seasons of plenty and seasons of scarcity. In these regions, babies need to be born with enough time to build up the strength and physical resources they need to survive the winter. Of course, animals living in moist tropical climates with year-round resources may have babies at any time of year.

But before the babies are born there must be a breeding season. For birds, before eggs are laid, spring is a busy

season of courtship and nest building.

Bird courtships are fun to watch and you can see them simply by looking out your window. Some species have very sweet courtships. Males and females may rub beaks, and the male may offer choice bits of food to the female. In many species, the male builds a nest and then tries to attract a female through songs, dance, or both. These same species that can be so sweet to each other can be very aggressive toward competitors. You may see birds chasing interlopers away from bird feeders and nest sites. Some, like blackbirds, will even chase after hawks to protect their nest site.

This spring, as you enjoy the warmer weather and longer days, consider taking some time and watch how nature celebrates this lovely season.

- Contributed by Wild Guide Vanessa Roderick



The Love Life of the Waldrapp Ibis

You can watch the critically endangered **Waldrapp ibises** display some of their mating behaviors in the Gardner Mediterranean Aviary located at the east end of the Zoo (top photo). These animals are part of a conservation breeding program at the Micke Grove Zoo.

As the days get longer and the weather warms, the males begin building nests in their specially designed boxes made to resemble the rocky crevices they would use in the wild (bottom photo).

Once the nests are built, the females choose their mate by entering his nest. The new pair may be seen sitting together in the nest or rubbing their beaks nearby. Males may engage in "beak fencing" to ward each other competitors from their nests.

Pairs usually mate for life, and females will choose the same male every season. Last year, we received a third mature female. Within 15 minutes of her release into the aviary, she joined our last bachelor male in his nest, giving us three breeding pairs—and after a short time, a chick!

- Contributed by Wild Guide Vanessa Roderick



ARIMAL MARIAGEMERT REWS

SNOW LEOPARD ADJUSTING TO LIFE AT ZOO, TEMPORARY EXHIBIT NEARLY COMPLETE

Micke Grove Zoo (MGZ) was delighted to receive a recommendation from the Snow Leopard Species Survival Plan (SSP) coordinator to acquire a snow leopard cub from the Albuquerque BioPark located in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The now nearly nine month old cub arrived at the Micke Grove Zoo on January I and has since completed her 30-day quarantine period. She was moved to the *Paseo Pantera* building on February 4 and will be on display by early Spring 2014.

Zoo Curator Avanti Mallapur and Animal Care Specialist Carrie McMorris have contributed blogs about the cat's journey to California and early experiences at Micke Grove Zoo at http://mgzoo-snowleopard.blogspot.com.

The snow leopard is one of the smallest members of the big cat family. It is well adapted to live in the cool, rocky, and uneven mountain terrains of Central Asia, occupying alpine and subalpine areas. Habitat loss, poaching, and low prey numbers are some of the biggest threats to existing snow leopard populations.

Micke Grove Zoo has housed snow leopards in past years and has supported the snow leopard SSP by successfully breeding the species: thanks to efforts at the zoo, nine cubs were added to the North American captive population.

Micke Grove Zoo has a large hexagonal enclosed outdoor exhibit space of approximately 1,650 square feet that has housed snow leopards in the past. The outdoor enclosure is surrounded by heavily landscaped shrubbery, plants and trees. The rockwork and shrubbery was included to provide a captive cat with a natural environment to live in. An elevated platform provided at the rear end of the outdoor exhibit has proved to be very popular with the cats as they use them to rest and survey their surroundings.

The snow leopard exhibit will also provide some stimulating and innovative education opportunities for the local and surrounding communities. One of Micke Grove Zoo's goals is to conduct conservation research, especially in the fields of animal behavior, behavioral ecology, animal health and welfare, and education.

- Contributed by Zoo Curator, Avanti Mallapur



The female snow leopard cub at age 5-6 months, courtesy of the Albuquerque BioPark.



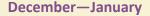
The eight month old cub being weighed for her first physical at Micke Grove Zoo. She weighed in at 16 kilograms, about 35 pounds!



Paseo Pantera is under construction to house the new cat. The rock wall in the background contains shelves the cat can lay on.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



New Zoo Parents!

By becoming a Zoo Parent of a Micke Grove Zoo animal you benefit the Zoological Society, receive an adoption certificate and special information about your animal, and are recognized in the Zoo for one year.

Learn more or download your application at **www.mgzoo.com** and click "Support the Zoo"!



FOSSA
Erin Lenser
Genesis Ramirez



BOBCAT
Noah Ramirez
Jaxon Diede



Give the gift of "Animal Adoption" for Valentine's Day!



COTTON TOP TAMARIN

Matthew Boyer



SNOW LEOPARDLinda Sunday Hansen



SPIDER MONKEYNureddine Family



GOLDEN LION TAMARIN
Jacob Diede



PREVOST'S SQUIRREL

Tyke Sanguinetti

New Zoo Guardian Members

Zoo Guardians are elite club members that receive a Zoo Friends membership and special VIP privileges. These members help ensure the longevity and success of the Society.

Ms. Wendy Moore Ms. Diane DeBruno Mr. J. Douglas Van Sant Mr. and Mrs. Terry Clark Mr. Robert McKeown
Dr. Richard Tenaza
Mrs. Barbara Moore
Mrs. Lynne Davis

You can become a Zoo Guardian, too!
Visit www.mgzoo.com and click "Support the Zoo".



ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW ZOO MEMBERS IN DECEMBER 2013 & JANUARY 2014

Society members receive free admission to Micke Grove Regional Park and Micke Grove Zoo, discounts on programs, snack bar and gift shop merchandise, and receive invitations to members-only events. This program has many affordable levels and makes a great gift!

<u>Individual</u>

Jillian Decoteau Steve Schlesinger

Grandparent

John Campbell & Nancy Campbell
Sue Kennedy & Ron Kennedy
Alicia Steward & Matthew Kievernagel
Jon Reek & Robin Reek
Roberta Acuna & Charlotte Acuna

Family

Jeremy Lenser & Erin Lenser
Tamera Dickison & Tim Dickison
Christina Harrison & Cameron Harrison
Mathew Billingslea & Meghan Gatti
Eddie Menzel & Monnie Stewart
Jeff Gillaspy & Jenah Gillaspy
Robert Bell & Alaina Bell
Janet Godina & Albert Godina
Jack Leguria & Gina Leguria
Kacie Pastor & Scott Brown
Moises Valdez & Sandra Valdez
Casondra Burgos & Robert Burgos
Shannon McCarroll
Renee Eshoo & David Eshoo
Maggie Clingman & Wes Clingman

Taeko Colbert & Carlos Porras
Keith Smith & Anne Smith
Wendy Quiroz & Sherry McCurry
Alice Graves & Angela Graves
Lynette Elia & Mike Elia
Jim Hernandez & Asika Lai-Hernandez
Theresa Woodhouse &
Steve Woodhouse
Darick Webster & Sarah Webster
Alaina Johnson & Brandon Stohlman

Zoo Friend

Andrea Sanchez & Cristian Figueroa Cynthia Ito & Douglas Ito Robert Smolke & Alicia Smolke Laura Respicio & Errol Respicio Cynthia Johannes & Andrea Corrie Brandi Van Gorkum & John Van Gorkum Derek Deg & Jen Deg Kaitlin Bents & Troy Bents Peggy Walters & Don Walters Selia Gutierrez & Manuel Lomeli Susan Burkhardt & Bob Burkhardt Dennis Nuss & Sandra Nuss Donna Stuhmer & Keith Stuhmer Michelle Pacheco & Anthony Pacheco Nathan Porter & Kerri Porter Adam Thomas & Becca Thomas

Caven Catolico & Casey Catolico Monique Montion & Davina Escalante Margarita Garcia & Jesse Santana Matthew Lima & Ashley Lima Dana Buck & Jennifer Buck Chelsea Heathman & Pamela Linford Tara Todd & Anthony Todd Daniel Anderson & Malia Anderson Daniella Esbit-Ayala & Armando Ayala Lisa Islas & Rudy Guzman Dan Tachella & Mallori Tachella Emily Brienza-Larsen & George Brienza-Larsen Marian Wattel & Marshall Wattel Sam Roller & Kristen Roller Ryan Luiz & Brittany Luiz Christine Hartman & Anthony Hartman Craig Hokanson & Jennie Hokanson Chris Pappas & Jessica Pappas April Radford & Nicole Davidson George Chang & Tanh Chang Scott Baughman & Melinda Baughman Joe Sanguinetti & Talia Sanguinetti Mitchell Henderson & Tipring Henderson

Zoo Protector

Mark Nureddine & Barbara Nureddine

Zoo Wish List

Micke Grove Zoo relies on the generosity of the community it serves to support zoo operations, improve animal welfare, and enhance educational opportunities. Items on this wish list can be mailed to or dropped off at Micke Grove Zoo. You can also search for the Zoo's wish list at Amazon.com and have items directly shipped to the Zoo.

Animal Care & Enrichment

- Portable digital x-ray machine (contact the zoo for full details)
- Trail cameras with recording device
- Tempera paint (any color)
- Paint rollers and paint pans
- Paint canvases (any size)

Education

- Digital scale (please contact)
- Costco, gas, and Dollar Tree gift cards
- 2 laptops with Wi-Fi capability
- 3 tablet PCs
- Worm compost bin
- Double rabbit hutch (please contact)

- Faux greenery (please contact)
- Ultrasonic fog machines (for animals)
- Door mats (please contact)

Administrative (All Departments)

- 8.5 x 11 copy paper
- 8.5 x 11, 8.5 x 14, and 11 x 17 lamination paper



we invite you to party with the animals of

Micke Grove Zoo

Our award winning birthday parties for children ages 4-10 include:

- Zoo admission and exclusive use of a private party room complete with tables and chairs and zoo admission for 20 children and 25 adults
- Birthday party host and assistants
- Decorations and earth-friendly tableware
- Up-close animal encounters
- Zoo-themed goodie bags
- · Hands-on projects
- 20 single-day Micke Grove Park entrance and parking passes



Available Saturdays and Sundays from 1:30-3:30 PM

BOOK TODAY!

Discount for Zoo Members

Visit www.mgzoo.com to reserve your party today!



Early Spring 2014

Micke Grove Zoo Staff

Animal Care Specialists

Lynette Elia, Amy Ellwein, Brittany Findley, Jim Hernandez, Shannon McCarroll, Carrie McMorris, Colleen Mullikin, and Julie Rosenthal

Avanti Mallapur, Zoo Curator Kelly Morris, Office Manager

Micke Grove Zoological Society Staff

Education

Kristy Benner, Education Specialist; Natalie DeJong, Education Assistant; Jessica Larsen, Education Specialist; Allison Meador, Director of Conservation Education

Gift Shop (Zootique)

Linda Slusher, Retail Coordinator; Aracely Benavides, Clerk; Aaron Roderick, Clerk

Wild Bites (snack bar)

Kora Thiphanep, Food Services Manager; David Dunnigan, Food Services Associate

Tyson Esenwein, Office & Administrative Support Worker Helena Fitch-Snyder, Grant & Program Developer Lisa Judson, Book Keeper

Board of Directors

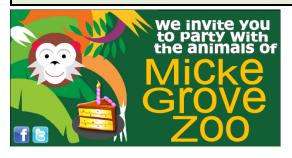
Diane DeBruno, President; Dave Wellenbrock, 1st Vice President; Lita Wallach, 2nd VP; Linda Jimenez, Secretary; Barbara Moore, Treasuer; Judith Buethe, Fidel Cabuena II, Catey Campora, Wayne Craig, Wayne Diede, Ruth Kessel, Paul Kozlow, Wendy Moore, Dr. Richard Tenaza, Doug Van Sant

Micke Grove Zoo is located within the beautiful Micke Grove Regional Park near the Japanese Garden and Fun Town.

Open daily from 10:00AM-5:00PM. The zoo admission gate closes at 4:30PM. Micke Grove Zoo is closed annually on December 25. Times may vary for events. Check www.mgzoo.com for updates and information on the **Wild Bites Snack Bar** and the **Gift Shop.**

Zoo Admission: Adults (14+) is \$5.00, Children (3-13) is \$3.00, and free for children ages 2 and under and members of the Micke Grove Zoological Society. Parking fees are separate.

Visit www.mgzoo.com for updates on schedules, programs, and services. **Visit www.sjparks.com** for updates on Micke Grove Park, including parking fees.



Learn more about birthday parties at www.mgzoo.com.

Micke Grove Zoological Society Micke Grove Zoo 11793 N. Micke Grove Road Lodi, CA 95240