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SUMMER OF WONDER BEGINS THIS WEEKEND AT POINT DEFIANCE ZOO & AQUARIUM

Wild Wonders Outdoor Theater show “Indiana Bones and the Golden Treasure” opens for the season, Budgie Buddies are back and extended hours allow more time to enjoy the zoo each day

TACOMA, Wash. – See a dog fly! Feed a budgie! Touch a small animal! Ride a camel! And enjoy the antics of 7-month-old tiger triplets chasing one another around their exhibit.



A wild, exciting Summer of Wonder kicks off this weekend at Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium with the 2015 premiere of the Wild Wonders Outdoor Theater live-animal show “Indiana Bones and the Golden Treasure,” the return of Budgie Buddies and longer zoo hours.

Herald flies in to save the day during the Wild Wonders Outdoor Theater live-animal show “Indiana Bones and the Golden Treasure,” in which he plays Dr. Indiana Bones, Barkeologist.

Plus, the popular *In Touch with the Wild* program returns next week, giving visitors an opportunity to meet animal ambassadors up close each weekday afternoon at 2:30 p.m.

Just around the corner is Mother’s Day Weekend, with all moms receiving half-off general admission to the zoo on Saturday, May 9. Several of the zoo’s moms and their offspring will get special treats and enrichments that day, too.

And Jammin' with Jellies, a completely new, mesmerizing display of colorful jellyfish, opens May 29 in the North Pacific Aquarium.

So what can visitors expect? Here's a quick rundown:

Friday, May 1

Zoo hours are extended to 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

Saturday, May 2

"Indiana Bones and the Golden Treasure" makes its 2015 season premiere at Wild Wonders Outdoor Theater starring the always loveable Herald the dog as Dr. Bones, Jasper the Canada lynx, Hazel the beaver, Nigel the prehensile-tailed porcupine, Tilli the aardvark, Sheldon the serval and a large cast of other animals. Shows run at noon and 3:30 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays and noon weekdays. The show is presented with support from MultiCare Mary Bridge Children's Hospital & Health Center.



Saturday, May 2

Budgie Buddies, an open-air exhibit featuring more than 100 friendly, colorful Australian budgerigars (small parakeets), returns for the summer season. Visitors stand in awe as the flock flies around its aviary. Members of the public can purchase seed sticks (small popsicle sticks with bits of birdseed attached) to feed the budgies, which fly up, land on the stick and

begin snacking away.

Monday, May 4

In Touch with the Wild program begins its summer run. Two to three small animals will be out near the Zoo's Earth Aid station each week day at 2:30 p.m. Visitors will be able to touch at least one small animal each day. In *Touch with the Wild* runs through Sept. 27.

Saturday, May 9

Half-Price Mom's Day. All mothers will receive half off general admission. It's a great day to bring the whole family and see a



number of Zooperstar families, including Jaya and her 7-month-old tiger triplets. Meerkats, tigers, harbor seals and clouded leopards will receive special treats and enrichments in honor of Mother's Day Weekend.

May 29, 30, 31

Jammin' with Jellies. A completely new exhibit, featuring several species of colorful, mesmerizing jellyfish, opens in the North Pacific Aquarium. It will be accompanied by fantastic jellyfish artwork made from recycled objects, scene-setting music and activities so visitors can learn more about these interesting aquatic creatures that inhabit our oceans.



Camel rides are offered at Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium on weekends during the spring. The schedule will expand to a daily operation around the time school gets out.

Plus, camel rides are offered on weekends, and the antique carousel populated with intricately carved zoo animals is spinning any time the zoo is open.

It's a not-to-be missed Summer of Wonder at Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium.

Beginning Friday, May 1, the zoo is open from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

Zoo hours will be extended again on May 23, and the zoo will be open from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily through the summer.

For more information and details about visiting, go to www.pdza.org.

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Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium, the Northwest's only combined zoo and aquarium, promotes responsible stewardship of the world's resources through education, conservation, research and recreational opportunities. The zoo, a division of Metro Parks Tacoma, is accredited by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA) and the Alliance of Marine Mammal Parks and Aquariums (AMMPA).