



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

July 8, 2019

THE SMITHSONIAN'S NATIONAL ZOO IS A METRO RIDE AWAY ☐

If the free price of admission and a prime location within a two-mile distance from the UCDC center weren't enough to warrant a visit, the Smithsonian's National Zoo also has a number of endangered species within the extensive and diverse range of animals it exhibits and cares for that might not be on view anywhere else in the U.S.

Red Panda – endangered species
Red pandas are skilled climbers: the zoo's two red pandas, Jackie and Asa, can often be spotted at great heights, climbing the trees in their enclosure.

Giant Panda – vulnerable species
Bei Bei, a giant panda cub at the zoo who was born in 2015, was named by former First Lady Michelle Obama and the First Lady of the People's Republic of China. The name translates to "precious treasure."

Asian Elephant – endangered species
Elephants are the largest living land animal, weighing in at somewhere between 6,000 and 12,000 pounds and consuming between 165 to 330 pounds of food in a day. The zoo has seven Asian Elephants – one, a male named Spike, weighs in at 13,000 pounds.



IN THIS ISSUE:

**ANIMALS AND EXHIBITS
AT THE ZOO**

FEATURED PLACES

**THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES
AND EVENTS**

Asian Small-clawed Otter – vulnerable species

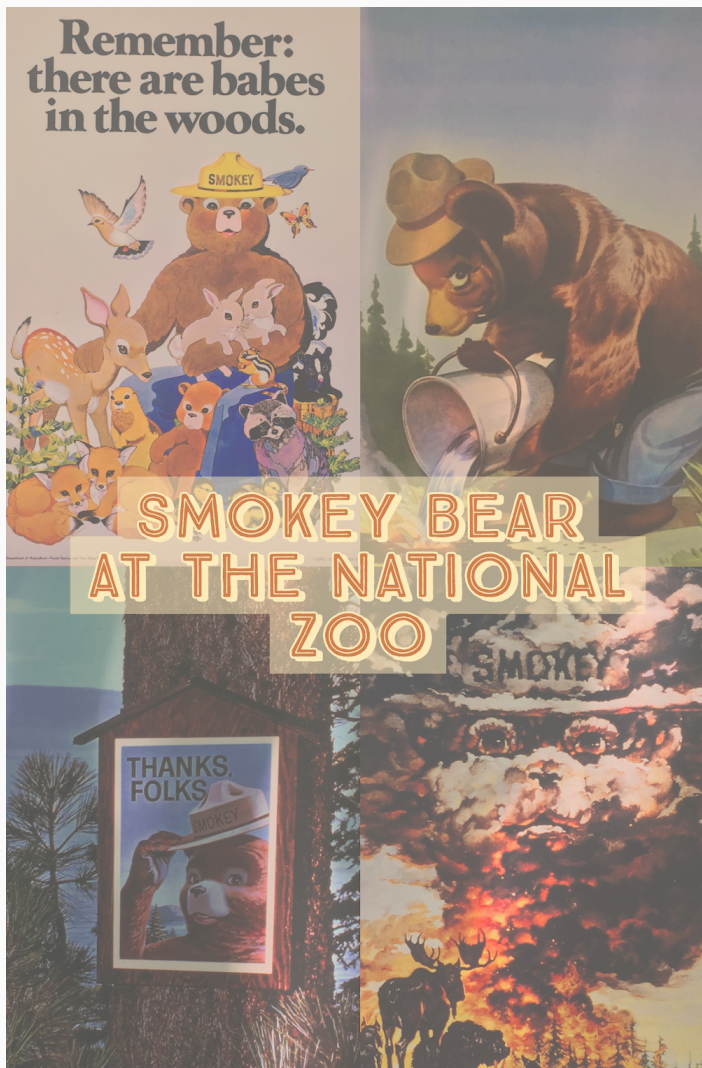
The otters at the zoo – Valerie, Chowder and Chowder’s offsprings, Rutabaga and Kevin – are fed cat food to ward off the growth of kidney stones.

Sloth Bear – vulnerable species

Sloth bears have long, shaggy coats and distinctively furry ears. The zoo’s two sloth bears, Niko and Remi, eat a mix of fruits and vegetables as well as mealworms, crickets, nuts, coconut and honey.

Spider Tortoise – critically endangered species

The Spider Tortoise will go extinct if population decline continues. Two national parks in Madagascar, however, offer the species protection and two spider tortoises were successfully hatched at the Smithsonian’s National Zoo in 2015.



Smokey Bear’s Former Place of Residence Celebrates 75 Years

A newly-opened outdoor exhibit highlighting 75 years of Smokey Bear’s campaign to reduce wildfires is currently on view at the Smithsonian’s National Zoo. The exhibit offers a timeline of the campaign, displaying artwork dating back to 1944 with photos of the real-life Smokey Bear located right in front of his former place of residence at the zoo.

In 1950, a three-month-old black bear cub was rescued after he was found “clinging to a tree” in New Mexico following a forest fire that destroyed 17,000 acres. After he was treated for wounds, the cub took up permanent residence at the Smithsonian’s National Zoo. He quickly became the most beloved and famous resident after he was officially named “Smokey Bear.”

Fan letters from children addressed to Smokey pledging support for his junior rangers program were so abundant – thousands of letters a month – that Smokey Bear was issued his own ZIP code.

FEATURED PLACES



milk

Milk Bar, the brainchild of celebrity chef Christina Tosi of "Masterchef" fame, serves up unique desserts, including blueberry & cream cookies, cereal milk-flavored softserve and an irresistible Milk Bar pie.

**NATIONAL
MUSEUM
OF WOMEN
IN THE ARTS**

The museum is located less than a mile from the UCDC building and offers a wide collection of art by female artists, like this painting by African American Expressionist Painter Alma Thomas.



THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

Keanu Reeves Film Series

Warner Bros. Theater

July 12-14

\$10 for admission

The Smithsonian has organized a film series dedicated to America's sweetheart, Keanu Reeves, with showings of movies including "Point Break," "John Wick" and "John Wick: Chapter 2."



"Hamlet" Free For All

Shakespeare Theatre Company

July 10-21

Free with ticket

For two weeks, the Shakespeare Theatre Company will put on performances of "Hamlet" for free. To attend, you must enter a ticket lottery, opening July 9, and secure a free ticket.



Chinatown Block Party

I Street NW

Fridays, starting July 12 until August 9, from 5-8 p.m.

Free

The first official Chinatown Block Party of the summer will offer a number of free events and activities, including live performances, graffiti art, double dutch, a dance workshop and drumming.

Outdoor showing of "I, Tonya"

1150 First Street NE

Wednesday, July 10 from 6:30-10:30 p.m.

Free

"I, Tonya" – a dramatic telling of the rise and fall of American figure skater Tonya Harding – will be shown starting around sunset as part of NoMa Summer Screen's "Who's Got Game?" outdoor film series. The food trucks "Basil Thyme" and "Swizzler" will be on-site, providing dinner or snacks to enjoy before or during the film.

Capital Fringe Festival

Various locations throughout D.C.

July 9-July 28

Tickets available online

The annual Capital Fringe Festival features 94 productions at 13 different stages performing everything from dance to comedy, drama and musical theater. Festival organizers hope to connect the independent arts community with the public