



## WILDEST SHOW IN THE WEST DEBUTS AT POINT DEFIANCE ZOO & AQUARIUM MAY 27-29

*Flying birds, leaping cats, and a dog in a hot air balloon highlight action-packed show*

TACOMA, Wash. – Sheruff Bones is his name, and recycling is his game.



helping the environment.

It takes place in the town of Triple R, where the watchwords are Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle. And there's a cast of more than a dozen animals along for the ride, from a king vulture to the Southern tamandua, a species of anteater.

Here's the show schedule:

### May 27-June 16

- **Weekdays:** Noon
- **Saturdays and Sundays:** Noon and 3:30 p.m.

### June 17-Sept. 4

- **Daily:** Noon and 3:30 p.m.

Herald the dog - also known as Sheruff Bones - is riding into town to promote fun in the great outdoors and teach people to take care of nature along the way.

The adventures of Herald and his zoo animal friends will entertain, amaze and inspire audiences all summer long in a brand-new live-animal show at Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium's Wild Wonders Outdoor Theater.

"The West is Wild" show, written and acted by staff biologists who work with an array of animals in the zoo's outreach program, incorporates important messages about caring for wildlife, experiencing wild places and

**Sept. 5-Sept. 24.**

- **Saturdays and Sundays:** Noon and 3:30 p.m.

Not every animal will appear in each show, but the cast of more than a dozen includes Clark the king vulture, whose role includes flying overhead; clouded leopards Orchid and Banyan, whose parts feature leaps across the stage; and tree-climbing tamandua Gonzo, who will extend his incredibly long tongue for a snack.

Keep an eye out, too, for Canada lynx Jasper; his paws are like small snowshoes. And there's a skunk that just might surprise everyone from its hiding place.

By show's end, when Sheruff Bones soars overhead in his custom-made hot-air balloon, visitors will have learned a few things about making sustainable choices, like choosing rechargeable batteries, drinking from reusable water bottles, carrying multiuse bags along on shopping trips, and packing lunches in reusable containers.

Every Wild Wonders show aims to inspire the audience to get outside and experience nature. This year, there's an added message: how to help preserve the natural world.

"We think visitors will leave with smiles on their faces, a new appreciation for animals and a renewed dedication to taking action to conserve the earth's resources," senior staff biologist Maureen O'Keefe said.

The show is presented with support from Mary Bridge Children's Hospital and Sound Credit Union.

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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).*

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