

NC Zoo offers chance to view exotic animals

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Editor

The North Carolina Zoo in Asheboro, N.C., offers a chance to view exotic wildlife in their natural habitat all year long.

The NC Zoo lets visitors of all ages get a close-up look at animals that are usually only seen in movies or on T.V. with exhibits that house animals from Africa to North America to other continents all around the world.

There are more than 1,100 animals at the NC Zoo and approximately

40,000 plants. All can be seen along the five miles of pathways throughout the zoo.

There are approximately 500 acres of natural habitat exhibits along with wooded trails at the NC Zoo.

Some zoo favorites can be seen all year round, including polar bears, puffins, sea lions, cougars, giraffes, bears, elephants, ostriches, bison, monkeys, exotic birds and lions to name a few.

According to the NC Zoo, while most of the animals are out all year, during the winter, some animals are put up when temperatures or wind chills reach 45 de-

grees. Any animals in indoor exhibits are open all year round.

There are several specialty exhibits located throughout the zoo which give visitors the chance to see unique animals that they may never get the chance to see anywhere else.

The NC Zoo opened its newest exhibit, Lemur Island, during the summer 2010. This exhibit gives a

glimpse into the energetic lives of the creatures native to Madagascar.

There's also a honeybee exhibit, which according to the NC Zoo, researchers have made for children and focuses on the feeding habits and the anatomy of honeybees.

Also offered is the opportunity to observe and feed giraffes at the Acacia Station Giraffe Deck. The

cost is \$2 and the feeding deck is open daily from April-October.

The NC Zoo is open all year except for Christmas Day and inclement weather days. From November-March, hours are 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and from March to October 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Parking is free and tickets are \$10 for adults, \$6 for children and \$8 for seniors.



Photo by Kayloni Wyatt
An ostrich enjoys the attention it is receiving from the crowd gathered around its exhibit.



Photo by Kayloni Wyatt
A California Sea Lion basks in the sunlight on a rock. Male sea lions usually lie upon rocks and take in the UV rays of the sunlight.



Photo by Hayley Burgess
An elephant roams around its habitat searching for food in the grasslands.



Photo by Hayley Burgess
Sea lions play around in their underwater exhibit.

Civil Rights leader visits local church

By Marlo Fulmore
Around the Town Editor

Voting has not always been afforded to everyone.

"One thing about a democracy is that we have a right to vote," said world renowned Civil Rights leader and former United Nations Ambassador Andrew Young.

He stopped by Mill Branch Baptist Church located in Fairmont, N.C., to encourage and remind congregation and community members how important it is to exercise this right.

Ambassador Young made his way to Robeson County before the close of campaigning for the Nov. 2

elections.

"I am asking you to get all of your friends and relatives to vote," Young said.

Young described his connections to the Civil Rights Movement and his connection to Martin Luther King Jr.

"I was in Selma with Martin Luther King Jr., during the marches. Martin would be alive today if he had just sat back and not tried to feed the hungry. Now there is so much going into politics. If you listen to TV, you hear lies on top of lies. What we call the Tea Party is just a way to go back to the way we used to be. To go forward in a democracy all you have to

do is to go into a voting booth," Young said.

Young was in town for an event hosted by the Robeson County chapter of the NAACP. He made a surprise visit to Mill Branch Baptist Church where Dr. Gentile Everett is the minister.

According to Dr. Everett, we as a church had an opportunity to experience Civil Rights history in our present day.

Mill Branch Baptist Church is located at 10310 NC Highway 130 By-pass Fairmont, NC 28340.

For more information on events and church news call (910) 628-9146.



Photo by Marlo Fulmore
Civil Rights leader Andrew Young, right, talks with Dr. Gentile Everett at Mill Branch Baptist Church in Fairmont, N.C.