

— PROGRAM —

Saturday, March 1, 2025

8:15 PM · Doors Open

10:00 PM · Games Close

& Prize Winners Drawn

11:00 PM · Event Ends



OFFICE OF THE ESSEX COUNTY EXECUTIVE



Dear Friends:

Welcome to Wild Card Casino Night to benefit the Zoological Society of NJ and Essex County Turtle Back Zoo!

With the Zoological Society as our partner, we have transformed Turtle Back Zoo into a regional destination where visitors of all ages can learn about nature and conservation while

enjoying the outdoors and witnessing animals from five continents. We continue to demonstrate our commitment to animal welfare and wellness with accreditations from the AZA and American Humane and through the current construction of our new Barry Ostrowsky Animal Wellness Center scheduled to open later this year.

We hope you enjoy your casino experience tonight. You can bet that your participation will contribute to the ongoing success of Turtle Back Zoo.

Working together we will continue *Putting Essex County and Turtle Back Zoo First*.

Sincerely,

Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr. Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr. Joseph County Executive

Message From the Zoological Society of New Jersey:

Adam J. Kerins, Executive Director



Dear Attendees:

Welcome to our 2nd Annual Wild Card Casino Night fundraiser at the Mall at Short Hills!

Thank you for joining us for an evening of fun and excitement. Your presence and support make a tremendous difference for Essex County Turtle Back Zoo and our global wildlife conservation efforts.

A heartfelt thank you to our generous sponsors, trustees, staff, and volunteers —your dedication is truly inspiring.

Tonight, as we enjoy the festivities, let's remember our ideals of conservation, education, and inspiration. Your contributions are vital to these efforts.

Thank you for being here and for your unwavering support.

Enjoy the evening.

With deepest appreciation,

Adam J. Kerins
Executive Director

Zoological Society of New Jersey

Message From Essex County Turtle Back Zoo

Jilian Fazio, Zoo Director



Welcome to a night of high stakes action, aces and animals! We are so grateful you are all in to support the Zoological Society of New Jersey. The funds raised tonight go directly to our in situ (in the field) and ex situ (at the zoo) conservation efforts. From snow leopards in Nepal to pollinator gardens in the South Mountain Reservation. We collaborate with the other 240 AZA accredited zoos and aquariums on Saving Animals From Extinction (SAFE) and Species Survival Programs (SSP) in

order to magnify our impact around the globe.

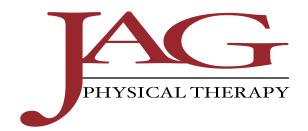
This year, we are looking forward to opening the Barry H. Ostrowsky Animal Wellness Center which brings state of the art equipment and space to care for our animal family right here at the Turtle Back Zoo, We welcome you this spring to take a front row seat into our Treatment room as you observe the health care of our animals first hand.

It is a sure thing that we are working diligently each and every day to sustain the biodiversity on Earth, because the one thing we know we cannot gamble with, is the future of our planet.

Thank you for joining us in preserving wildlife and wild spaces. We hope you have a WILD night!!

Sincerely,

Jilian Fazio, Ph.D.



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ANIMAL WELLNESS CENTER

at Essex County Turtle Back Zoo









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