

SPRING 2023

Zoo Review

VIRGINIAZOO.ORG

IT'S A BOY!

A timeline of
Baby Lovejoy's Firsts

PAGE 4

NEW YEAR, NEW SYSTEM

PAGE 6

CREATURE FEATURE

PAGE 12

ALSO INSIDE

2023 Events Lineup

Sanibel, the Zoos' newest
animal ambassador



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT Brian Pennell
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT Nicole Carry
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT Ameet Habib
TREASURER Dick Boykin
SECRETARY Debbi Waitzer

DIRECTORS
Nancy Bartee Lauren Kiger
Carolyn Betz Ben Miles
Robert "Butch" Bracknell Kevin O'Connor
Lynn Cobb Sue Roady
Erik Cooper Jim Shumadine
Karen Dzipinka Susan Smallwood
Blair Durham Peter Strauss
Elizabeth Fraim Stephen Taylor
Christina Goode Hans Vonkruger
Josh Howell Elise Walthall
Patrick Kelly Clay Winn

PUBLICATION STAFF

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS and PHOTOGRAPHERS
Ali Kelso Jill Strother
Alicia Luma Kate Reichert
Angela Benard Kirstin Pendleton
Bill Zazynski Kristin Cruise
Brittany Coolbaugh Lori Lampert
Crystal Matthews Mary Kate Fowler
David Totten Michelle Lewis
Dr. Tara Reilly Mikaela Sloan
Emily Spence Stephany Clark
Greg Bockheim Talia Rosche
Jalessa Manley Tara Baumgardner



NEW ARRIVALS AT THE GIFT SHOP

Stop in the gift shop to browse our new buildable kits for explorers of all ages. Assemble, create, or color your favorite animals!

3500 Granby Street, Norfolk, Virginia 23504
ZOO HOURS:
Open Daily 9:30 am – 4 pm
Closed New Year's Day, Thanksgiving Day,
Christmas Eve and Christmas Day
PHONE: 757.441.2374 • FAX: 757.441.5408
VIRGINIAZOO.ORG

Do you have any questions or ideas for the next issue of the Virginia Zoo Review? We'd love to hear from you. Email info@virginiazoo.org.

Newsletter is printed on recycled paper.

FROM THE DIRECTOR



GREG WITH TIA,
THE ZOO'S ANIMAL
AMBASSADOR
TOUCAN!

Spring At Last!

Dear Friends,

Spring has sprung and this season your visit to the Virginia Zoo includes enhanced guest and animal features. For starters, the entire boardwalk path through Asia - Trail of the Tiger is being replaced with a sustainable composite material and handrail that adds "polish" to the area and enhances viewing into animal habitats. Looking further into 2023, the new cinereous vulture aviary will give you an up-close experience with these large and curious birds. They are one of the world's heaviest flying birds with the biggest beak in its family. The new Turtle Oasis is our nationally recognized conservation project that will immerse you into a series of streams and pools occupied by North America's largest and smallest freshwater turtle species. The smallest weighs less than 5 ounces and is only 4 inches in length and the largest more than 24 inches long and weighing more than 50 pounds. We are very excited to share these new Zoo experiences with you.

Along with the new animal habitats are a few new animal residents. We were delighted by the birth of baby male siamang Lovejoy, affectionately known as Lojo by his Keepers. He will be venturing outside for the first time this spring with his parents. And, you will soon see our newest education animal ambassador, Sanibel, the bald eagle. She's still "wearing" her juvenile feathering, so we will all get to watch as she grows into her regal adult plumage which takes several years.

Thank you to all of you for being Zoo fans and sharing your Zoo experience photos with us. You inspire the entire Zoo team when we see you enjoying your outing at the Zoo learning about our animal residents, taking in the sprouting gardens, and sharing time with family and friends. We look forward to bringing you more "Zoo" this summer.

See you soon,

Greg Bockheim

Executive Director, Virginia Zoo

A

Three **African gold skinks** have been added to the uromastyx and pancake tortoise exhibit in World of Reptiles.



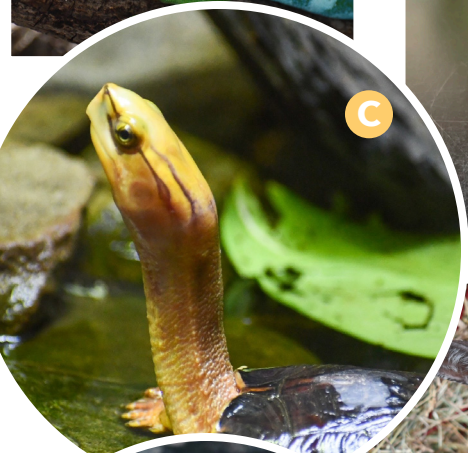
B

A new female **Fuji banded iguana** has joined our male in the World of Reptiles, recommended as a breeding pair by the Species Survival Plan program®.



C

Staff is working on a larger habitat for a new male and two female **McCord's box turtles** who have an SSP breeding recommendation.



D

Henley, a new female **white-cheeked gibbon**, has joined our male Dexter on the Trail of the Tiger.



E

Male **rock hyrax Onyx** has a very lively new roommate sharing his exhibit in Africa - a new female named Opal who arrived late in 2022.



F

Tiger oscars are growing up in the caiman lizard tank and can be seen moving as a group. They can grow up to 18 inches long.



G

Two **yellow-footed tortoises** hatched recently and can be viewed in the nursery in World of Reptiles.



H

Some of our **Nigerian dwarf goats** were impregnated using artificial insemination (AI). AI was chosen over natural breeding due the increased husbandry needs and limited goat yard space for a male goat. Goats usually have 1-2 kids per mom.



I

Mosi, the juvenile **Southern white rhino**, is back out with the whole herd and doing well after a recent injury to his horn in early January. Horn injuries like this are not uncommon, especially in juveniles, as their horns are still developing.



IT'S A BOY!

A TIMELINE OF BABY LOVEJOY'S FIRSTS

STORY BY MICHELLE LEWIS AND JILL STROTHER // PHOTOS BY ZOO STAFF AND KEEPERS

SIAMANG -SYMPHALANGUS SUNDACTYLUS



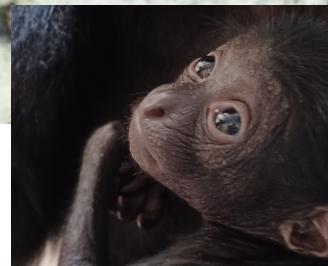
June 26, 2022

A bundle of (Love)joy! Born to mother, Malana, and father, Bali, baby was observed nursing, alert, and clinging to Malana's belly. Siamang gestation was approximately seven and a half months.



July-August 2022

Baby's first teeth! **Lovejoy's** incisors begin coming in on the top and bottom. He is observed trying to reach for food items, discovering his hands and fingers, and trying to sit up on his own.



September 2022

On the move! **Lovejoy** begins grabbing onto the climbing ropes and meshing to stand up or move around.



October 2022

Mama's boy! **Lovejoy** is observed climbing on top of Malana and sitting away from her, as well. Siamang pairs stick together and raise their offspring as a family unit. Infants like Lovejoy often cling to their mother's belly for the first several months before gradually becoming more independent.



November-December 2022

While still nursing, **Lovejoy** is observed eating some solid foods. He also tests boundaries by climbing up the mesh on his own but generally prefers to stay close to Malana. Unlike most other primate species, adult male siamangs will assist with raising offspring. Typically, the adult male takes on a larger role when the infant is a year or older.



January-February 2022

Gaining some independence! He is climbing more independently and observed moving further away from Malana. Keepers have also noticed his vocal sac trying to inflate while yawning. Siamangs communicate through vocalizations, including "barks" and "booms". They have inflatable throat sacs that aid in amplifying their calls.



More to Come:

In **Lovejoy's** future, he will begin to become more active, independently climbing away from mom and dad. He will interact with enrichment and his environment and begin play behavior with Bali. With the late spring re-opening of Asia: Trail of the Tiger, **Lovejoy**, Malana, and Bali will be back out on Siamang Island.

NEW YEAR, NEW SYSTEM

Top 10 perks of the Zoo's new ticketing & membership system

STORY BY BRITTANY COOLBAUGH // PHOTO BY STEPHANY CLARK

01 MEMBER LOGIN

Member's logging into the new system is easier! Members no longer need to remember their email and password. All you'll need to access your account is the primary member's last name and your member number. If you ever need help accessing your account, please reach out to the Membership Office at 757-441-2374 x257 to see what's on file.

02 MEMBERSHIP CARDS

Members will now immediately receive their membership card virtually to the email address used to purchase the membership. Show that QR code and your matching photo ID at the gate for entry. Members will have the opportunity to save their membership card in their Google or Apple wallet. Physical membership cards are still available for an additional cost.

03 LESS WASTE

The Virginia Zoo is committed to engaging our community in taking action to save the world's wildlife and their ecosystems. Eliminating physical cards for our members will eliminate over 25,000 pieces of waste each year. Most receipts can also be emailed, adding to the amount of waste we're eliminating from our environment.

04 TICKETS

Similarly, anyone purchasing general admission tickets, event tickets, or tickets for another Zoo program will continue to be emailed with a ticket instantly at the time of purchase and be able to add that ticket to their digital wallet. Purchasing tickets online is always recommended! This will give you a speedier entry and a guaranteed spot because you'll know your ticket is secured before we sell out.

05 EASIER TO RESCHEDULE

It is easier than ever to reschedule your visit. In your email confirmation, click "Reschedule" to pick a new date or time to arrive. Please note that some activities and events are not able to be rescheduled due to capacity restrictions. Contact Zoo staff if you have any questions.

06 SPRING BREAK RESERVATIONS

During high volume times, like Spring Break or during special events, advanced purchases and member reservations may be required. This helps us prepare with appropriate staffing maintain a manageable parking capacity to ensure the best possible guest experience for you. Spring Break 2023 will require advanced purchases from April 1 - April 16.

07 EARLY ACCESS

Members will have early access to the Zoo's most popular events and activities, including Summer Camp! As new events and activities first go on sale, members will receive exclusive, early access. To prepare for your reservation, make sure your membership is current on the day of the program.

08 IT'S THE FINAL COUNTDOWN!

As you're making a purchase your cart will be held for you. You will see a countdown when you're in your cart, this guarantees that while you're finishing your purchase your tickets will be held for you. It's also easier to finish a purchase because there is less information required.

09 MOBILE-FIRST DESIGN

Timed-Ticketing reservations, event tickets, and membership renewals are easier than ever with our new mobile-friendly, intuitive design. If the weather forecast changes and the rain clouds disappear, we can pull other Guest Services staff members to the entry gates to help with any lines that may form.

10 NEW SYSTEM, SAME STAFF

The entire Virginia Zoo team is excited about the new system and it's capabilities. We're also excited to share the system with you. We understand that it takes time to learn a new system. If you ever need assistance, please call the Zoo at 757-441-2374 x257 to get help making your purchase.



SPRING BREAK TICKETS

April 1-16 2023
Reservation Required

Reserve Your Tickets Today!



BEHIND THE SCENES

Learn about animal care, behavior and conservation on an up-close and personal behind the scenes tour! Be introduced to a Zoo Keeper who can share information about the animals they care for as only they know them.



Zoo Volunteers Utilize Community Science for Conservation Engagement.

STORY BY KATE REICHERT // PHOTO BY ZOO STAFF

The Virginia Zoo mission beats strong at the core of our volunteer programs: engaging our community in taking action to save the world's wildlife and their ecosystems. Conservation science, habitat protection and restoration, and sustainable solutions for everyday actions depend on whole communities of individuals coming together, and we are excited to facilitate this through volunteer opportunities. This year, our Zoo Crew, Conservation Youth Team (CYT), and Episodic volunteers can look forward to getting involved in a number of community science initiatives at the Zoo and beyond - and we're welcoming everybody to get on board!

This spring, Virginia Zoo volunteers will be assisting with the set-up and kick-off of our participation in two familiar community science projects: Frog Watch USA (a long-standing national survey of amphibians now organized by Akron Zoo) and Caterpillars Count! (a national project using arthropod surveys to study phenology led by researchers at University of North Carolina). Over the summer, volunteers of all ages will have the opportunity to join our staff for evening frog surveys at a variety of locations around Hampton Roads, and Zoo Crew and CYTs will be leading our on-site data collection of caterpillars and other insects. As fall approaches, butterfly fans can be on the lookout for Monarch Watch tagging opportunities on site, and new and experienced birders alike will be valuable assets as we work to add a few winter opportunities to our lineup.

Each community science project we participate in provides real, tangible ways for our volunteers to contribute to conservation science. If you're interested in getting involved, Zoo Crew applicants can look forward to intake in April and June to get involved this spring and summer, and Episodic volunteers can keep a lookout in your email for Frog Watch opportunities starting in March! Together, we have the power to save wildlife and their habitats. We hope you'll join us!



Asia: Trail of the Tiger Highlights

STORY + PHOTOS BY BILL ZAZYNSKI

In mid-November of 2022, the Virginia Zoo closed the Trail of the Tiger for demolition and reconstruction of the elevated walkway. The trail opened in April of 2011, had become deteriorated and needed a refresh.

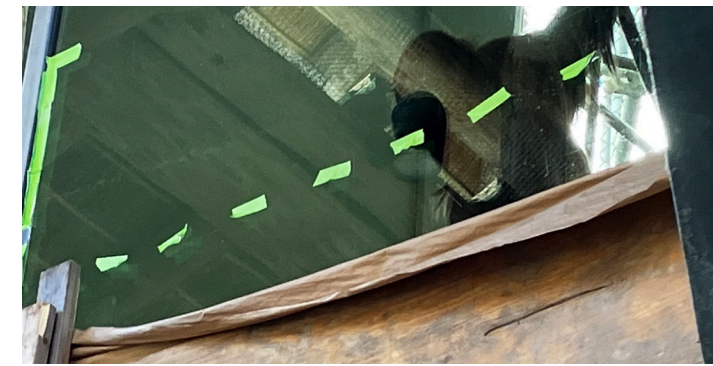
The \$2MM project is managed under the watchful eye of City of Norfolk Project & Construction Management Division and working closely with project General Contractors E.T. Gresham. The renovation consists of full demo of boardwalk planks, railings, and joists. An inspection of support pilings was completed, and 36 pilings are being replaced followed by complete replacement of wood preservative treated lumber joists and composite decking. The project will install AZEK TimberTek decking planks which have a lifespan of 20 years and are moisture resistant. They also resist heat better than wood materials. The new

decking is environmentally sustainable made from approximately 90% recycled material.

A second project happening simultaneously during this time frame is replacing roofing at the entrance to the Trail of the Tiger at the Orangutan outside observation area and on the suspended Trail near the Orangutan indoor exhibit.

Throughout the project, the welfare of the animal residents in the 5.5 acres of the Trail of the Tiger, has been our top priority. Prior to the start of construction, contractors were trained on welfare and safety expectations working around the exhibits. The Zoo also moved the red pandas, rhinoceros hornbill, sarus crane and birds housed in the Asia aviaries to temporary holding areas off the trail. The Asia Keeper team has been closely

ON GROUND



monitoring all animals on the trail for any signs of stress related to the construction and continue to update Zoo leadership and project leadership of any concerns so that adjustments can be made if necessary.

The Zoo kept some of our Asia animal residents on-exhibit during construction. These animals include tigers, orangutans, cassowary, moon bear, otters, and gibbons. However, many of these animals are tropical or sub-tropical species and typically have access to indoor, off-exhibit parts of their habitats during the colder winter months every year, so they may have chosen to be inside some. The project is expected to be completed by summer and the Virginia Zoo is looking forward to a grand opening celebration.

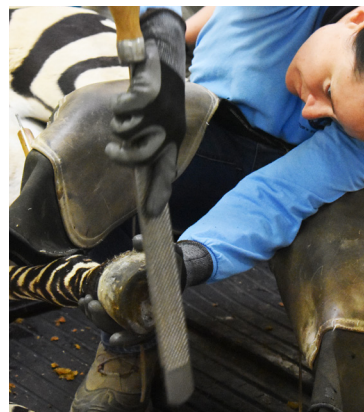
WELLNESS

ZEBRA

Equus quagga

FUN FACT:

Zebra strips are for camouflage, bug repellent and to keep them cool in the sun.



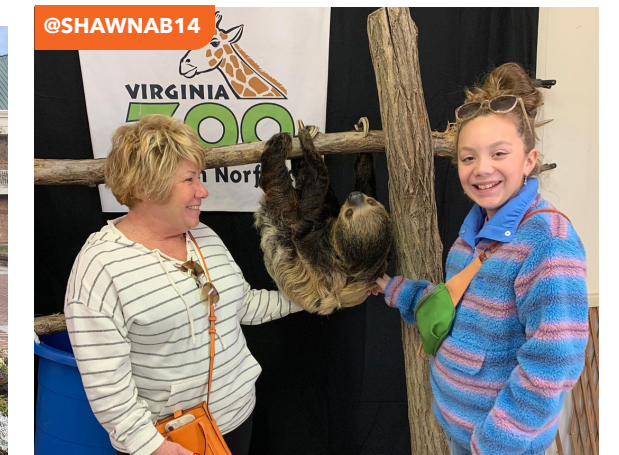
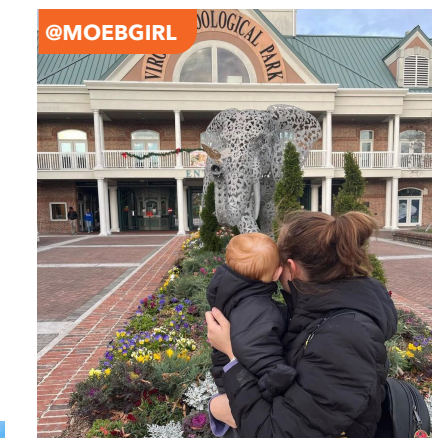
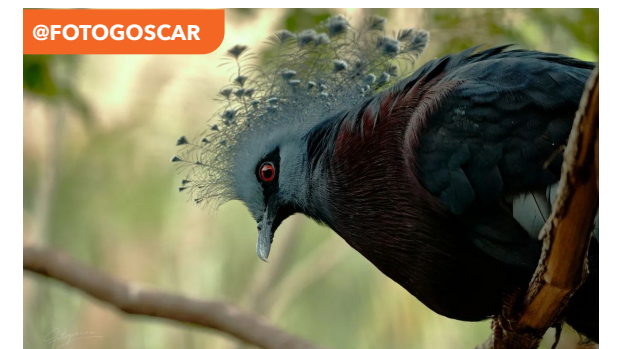
An up-close look at our extraordinary Zoo Vet team and Ruuxa, our Hartmann's mountain zebra

STORY BY TALIA ROSCHE // PHOTOS BY JALESSA MANLEY

Zebras need nail care, too! Zebra hooves are similar to a domestic horse's in that the hoof walls grow continuously, just like our human nails.

Ruuxa, our six-year-old Hartmann's mountain zebra, went in for a routine preventative health examination in December. The Zoo Vet Team called for assistance from Kim Burnop, a local farrier who has expertise in the trimming of horse hooves. Proper care of the hooves helps avoid hoof overgrowth, which can cause hoofstock to develop lameness or hoof infections. Since zebras are wild animals, this exam required Ruuxa to undergo general anesthesia so that our Vet Team could perform the procedure safely.

Since her last exam in May last year, Ruuxa's hooves showed great improvement. She also received routine wellness and preventative care such as a physical exam, blood work, dental care, and vaccines. Our Zoo Vet Team is dedicated to quality animal care and continue monitoring the health of our animals.



virginiazoo.org/events

BALD EAGLE

Haliaeetus leucocephalus

FUN FACT:

Sanibel is acclimating to her new home quickly. Her trainers say that she is smart and catches on to training with ease.



NEW AT THE ZOO

Learn about our new ambassador Bald Eagle, Sanibel.

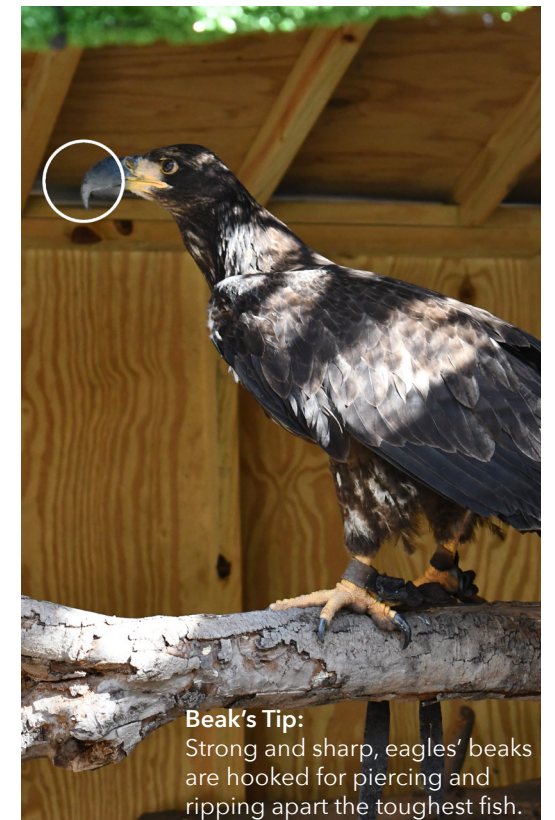
STORY BY MICHELLE LEWIS // PHOTOS BY ZOO STAFF AND KEEPERS

- ⊕ The national bird of the United States, bald eagles are found throughout North America. The Virginia Zoo is home to two of these magnificent birds, Abe (male) and Sanibel (female).
- ⊕ Bald eagles have an average lifespan of 20-30 years in the wild but can live 50 years or more in human care.
- ⊕ Juvenile bald eagles differ from adults in that they lack the distinctive snowy white head, neck, and tail. Instead, young bald eagles, like Sanibel, are a bottled brown with white blotches. Sanibel will be one year old in April but won't develop her adult coloration until around five years old. Abe is a mature adult believed to have hatched in 1990, making him approximately 33 years old.
- ⊕ Female bald eagles are typically larger than males, but individuals in the North tend to be larger than those from the South. Sanibel, named for the Florida island where she was rescued, weighs approximately 3.5 kilograms (7.7 lbs). She will likely remain around this size as she reaches adulthood.



DID YOU KNOW?

Like other raptors, bald eagles have sharp claws designed for piercing and holding onto prey.



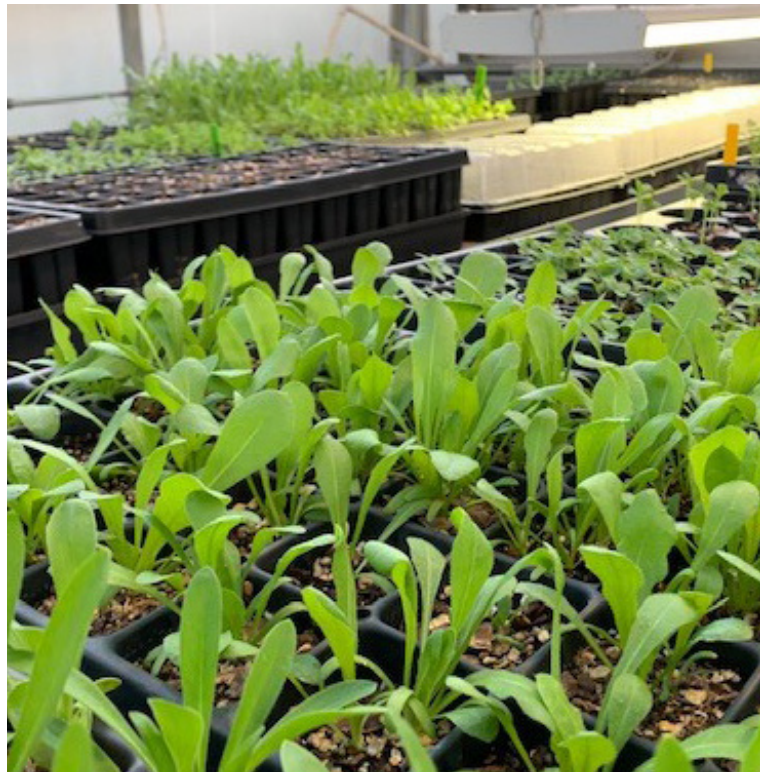
Beak's Tip:
Strong and sharp, eagles' beaks are hooked for piercing and ripping apart the toughest fish.

- ⊕ Both Abe and Sanibel came to the Virginia Zoo as rescued bald eagles who were deemed non-releasable. Abe has been at the zoo since 1992! Bald eagles are a federally protected species, but they are a great example of conservation success as their populations continue to rebound – almost quadrupling in the last decade alone!
- ⊕ The Virginia Zoo is pleased to provide a permanent home for both birds. Abe can be found along the North America trail. Sanibel currently lives behind-the-scenes with our other education ambassador animals. We hope she'll make her appearance during Education programs and Zoo-wide events later this spring!

Zoo Fund

By supporting the Zoo fund you help educate the next generations of scientists, researchers, and conservations through mission-based programming here at the Virginia Zoo.





What's Growing On?

STORY + PHOTOS BY ALI KELSO

Our horticultural technicians are hard at work cold stratifying and scouring seeds for our annual plant sale which will occur in conjunction with our **Party for the Planet** event, happening May 20th from 10am-2pm. In addition to crowd favorites like the Senna alata, or Candle bush, whose bright yellow inflorescences will fill our tropical beds come spring, this year the Horticulture department will also have a variety of Virginia natives and pollinator friendly plants available to take home and add to your garden ecosystem. Planting natives in your own garden helps us in our mission to build sustainable ecosystems in order to protect native wildlife. Come check out our sale and take the opportunity to talk to our team who will be available to give you care instructions and planting tips for your new plant additions!

Species to be featured in our plant sale:

- Grasses are often the overlooked hero of a garden ecosystem. Grasses provide shelter, and nesting material to many living things. Sporobolus heterolepis, a species of grass native to West Central Virginia, is often chosen for its neat ornamental characteristic. Also known as Prairie Dropseed this grass is an important shelter species to overwintering native bees and a larval host for the three subspecies of Leonard's skipper moths.
- Hibiscus laevis, is our native species of Hibiscus, also known as Rose mallow. Each flower bud opens and lasts for a single day and in that time attract a number of bees, including the solitary ground dwelling Rose Mallow bee. As a bonus, Rose mallow, and many other hibiscus species, are a great snack for our sloths!
- We will have numerous other species available for all of the pollinators in your life, zinnias, celosias cosmos, and so much more, we'll see you there!



Zoo Vet Reaches Milestones

STORY BY MICHELLE LEWIS // PHOTOS BY ZOO STAFF AND KEEPERS

On September 5, 2022, Dr. Lauren Novak joined the Virginia Zoo as our very first veterinary intern. Interns in the Zoo veterinary field have a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) degree and are provided a unique opportunity for clinical and professional growth within a supportive environment that focuses on high quality medical care, guest education, and herd health and wellness. This one-year training position focuses on improving clinical competency with zoological species and to prepare for a position in a zoological institution. There is no one path to becoming a zoo veterinarian, but an internship provides individuals with one route for entering the field and provides early career zoo veterinarians the opportunity to expand their clinical and taxonomic experience under the guidance of an experienced zoo veterinarian. Having Dr. Lauren on staff has allowed us to expand our preventive care practice as well as increase the number of procedures the vet team has been able to schedule in front of the public.

1 YEAR

internship at the Virginia Zoo.

OVER

700

animals who call the Virginia Zoo home and require daily care.

2

licensed veterinarians on staff

2 GRAMS

Dr. Lauren's smallest patient (a dwarf gecko)

8 YEARS

that Dr. Lauren was in school (4 years of undergraduate with a BA in Biology; 4 years of veterinary school for the DVM)

1400 KILOGRAMS

Dr. Lauren's largest patient (an adult giraffe)

25

procedures that have been performed in front of the guests since Dr. Lauren came to the Zoo

2

licensed veterinarian technicians on staff

5 YEARS

where Dr. Lauren worked in other veterinary practices prior to coming to the Virginia Zoo

1,461

guest interactions at veterinary procedures since Dr. Lauren came to the Zoo in September.

Event-full Year Ahead

We're excited to welcome everyone to the Zoo with a happening lineup that attracts new audiences and spreads the Zoo's mission. Check out the full lineup at virginiazoo.org/events.

ADULTS-ONLY

ADULT NIGHT

April 15 • 5 - 8 pm

Unleash your inner wild child during our adults-only evening at the Zoo! Trails and exhibits will be open late and there will be drinks, a DJ, and a Food Truck Round Up alongside yard games to play in our Event Field. Event is Ages 21+.

ADULT NIGHT: ZOOBOO EDITION

Oct 20 • 6 - 9 pm

Get a grown-up preview of our annual ZooBoo event with a bonus Adult Night during our special spooky season! The evening will be full of fa-BOO-lous fun, including fireside stories, tarot readings, costume contests, witchy wares and more. Event is Ages 21+.

EDU-TAINMENT

PARTY FOR THE PLANET

May 20 • 10 am - 2 pm

Taking environmental action has never been so much fun! Join us for an afternoon of activities including Keeper Chats and our second Annual Plant Sale, while our Educators and community partners show you new ways to support conservation and be good stewards of our home - the Earth! This event is free with your regular Zoo admission.



THRILL-SEEKER

BIKE NIGHT

May 25 • 5 - 8 pm

Don't miss your chance to tour the Zoo on two wheels. There will be bike-centric vendors, food trucks, a decoration station and more. Last year's event sold out quickly, so be sure to get your tickets early for this family-friendly event.



MUSIC & MOVIES

ZOOGROOVES

June 2 & September 22, 5:30 - 9 pm

ZOOVIES
September 29 & October 6, 6:30 - 9 pm

ZOOGROOVES and **ZOOVIES** are your chances to catch a rocking musical act or a fun family film under the stars. Food and beverages will be available for sale, and blankets or lawn chairs are encouraged.



FAMILY-FUN

PRIDE NIGHT

June 10 • 5 - 8 pm

We'll be adding hearts and rainbows to our stripes and spots and celebrating diversity in our community as well as the Animal Kingdom during our second annual Pride Night. Learn new facts about your favorite Animal Ambassadors, tour select exhibits which will be open late, grab a bite from our Restaurant, and shake your plumage to an eclectic set of tunes spun by a local DJ.

ZOOBOO

October 21-22 • 9 am - 5 pm

We only hand out treats at our annual Halloween celebration - no tricks allowed! ZooBoo is a safe and welcoming environment for everyone to enjoy the spirit of the season while showing off for our Costume Contests, encountering our Animal Ambassadors and watching select animals enjoy their pumpkin enrichments in their habitats throughout the day.

MEMBER NIGHTS

June 22, & August 3 • 5 - 8 pm

A special after-hours event, just for our Members! You'll have two FREE opportunities this summer to unwind after work or school by visiting your favorite animals and exhibits at dusk.

TEDDY BEAR CLINIC

August 12 • 10 - 2pm

Make an appointment to cure your little one of their back-to-school blues by bringing their favorite cuddly critter to the Zoo for a check-up! Our educators, volunteers and partners will help demystify the doctor's office and show the importance of regular medical care for people and animals. This event is free with your regular Zoo Admission.

BEER-LOVERS

ROAR & POUR

September 2 • 5 - 9 pm

This year, the Virginia Zoo and the Coastal Virginia Brewers Alliance are partnering to host an annual gathering of local brewers for an all-new event - Roar & Pour! Join us for beer tastings from the finest brews that Virginia has to offer, alongside extended exhibit hours, a Food Truck Rodeo, music, games, an expanded VIP section, and much more.



HOLI-DAZE

JUNGLE BELL ROCK WITH DJ SANTA

December 16 • 10 am - 2pm
Who knew that Santa Claus could spin records? We did, and so we've invited him back again this year to help us celebrate the holidays at the Zoo! Our Event Pavilion will be decked out in festive finery for this dance party, along with vendors, games, and gifts for purchase. The first hour will be a sensory-friendly story time with Santa, and attendance for this event is free with your regular Zoo admission.

NOON YEAR'S EVE

December 31 • 10 - 2 pm
Come and mark another spin around the sun by counting down to a new year with us! We'll be celebrating in style, but just a little early, with food trucks, a DJ, games and activities in our Event Pavilion. This event is free with your regular Zoo admission.



FOR MEMBERS ONLY

**JUNE 22
AUGUST 3 5PM-8PM**

A special after-hours event, just for our Members! You'll have two FREE opportunities this summer to unwind after work or school by visiting your favorite animals and exhibits at dusk. Additional perks and activities coming soon.

HOST YOUR OWN ZOO EVENT!

Celebrate in open spaces near your favorite animal or garden views. From weddings to small parties and corporate functions, the Zoo has the social event space you need. **Scan for more details!**



THANK YOU!

Add your name to the list, virginiazoo.org/support-the-zoo

CURRENT LEADERSHIP SOCIETY Leadership Society members support the Zoo's daily commitment to animal care, enrichment programming, wildlife conservation, education and research initiatives across our community and beyond.

Caroline & Chad Ballard
Vern & Nancy Barham
Truman & Jacquelyn Baxter
Angela & Emile Benard
Thomas F. Betz, Jr. * and Carolyn Betz
Dr. & Mrs. Richard Boykin
Alan & Deborah Budlong
Lawlor-Caron Family
Nicole Carry & Kim Keene
Ms. Lynn Cobb & Mr. Warren Richard
Maria & David Cundiff
George Doumar
Karen Dzipinka CPA, CGMA
Kelly & Tim Faulkner

Christina Goode
Martha Goode
Susan & David Goode
Andrew & Victoria Gorczyk
Dick & Jane Gresham
Peter & Laura Griffin
Mr. & Mrs. Henry U. Harris, III
CPO William E. Higgins, Ret.
Vicky & William Kernazitskas
Mrs. Jacqueline Limerick
Gregory & Mary Beth Marshall
Jason Martens
Richard & Shaune Meredith
Mr. & Mrs. W Sheppard Miller III

Scott & Annie Miller
CAPT Michael & Dr. Maria O'Hearn
Glenda & Gary Philbin
Burt & Sandi Prestridge
Ms. Susan M. Roady
Mr. & Mrs. John S. Shannon
Ms. Pamela Shields
Conrad Shumadine
Jim & Elizabeth Shumadine
Susan & Robert Smallwood
Holly & Samuel Smith
Kedron Springer
The St. Remy Family
Peter & Meghan Strauss

Bernard & Sharon Strohmeier
Mrs. Margo Taylor
Stephen & Katherine Taylor
Janet Thompson
Goody Tyler
Bob & Angie VanDyke
Scott & Debbi Waitzer
Elise Walthall
Christina & Lee Westnedge
Clay & Robin Winn
Dr. Ann Marie Woyma & LCDR Timothy Woyma

*Deceased

NEW ZOOPARENTS

Every animal at the Virginia Zoo is available for adoption, starting at \$25. Proceeds benefit various Zoo programs, including the Act For Wildlife Fund. See more at virginiazoo.org/zoodoptions.

ALDABRA TORTOISE
Leah Hallwith
Bruce Mixon
Matthew Kitzmiller

ASIATIC BLACK BEAR
Madelyn Neumann
Dixie Freasier

BALD EAGLE
Robby Parker
James Neilan

BINTURONG
Alec Geiger
Abby Kennedy
Karsyn Aukamp
Shara Lankford
Andrew, Lucy, Eva
Horton
Jacob Hyatt
Auri Clay
Stella Freasier
Pearl Doty

BISON
John Lawrence

CAPE PORCUPINE
Tim Hackman
John L'Heureux

CHEETAH
Gunner Kerns
Sheena & Michael
Obermark
Sam Mechiche-
Alami

EURASIAN EAGLE OWL
Addie Yohnke
Linda Schooley

GARDENS
Debbi Morrissey

GIRAFFE
Ciera Arrington
Julie Corey
Missy Hogg
Braxton Holden
Dawn Sharrock
Sue Foster
Faith Rodman
Averie O'Brien
Maria Doody
Robin Gilmore
Doug Mills
Randa Momb
Vada Owens
Reagan Nicholls
Nicholls Family

KING COBRA
Nolan O'Brien
Zachery North
Megan Forster
Oliver Wendt

REDF PANDA
Kendall Wozniak
Henry Harrison
Eliza Freeman
Artie Irizarry
Remington Beers
Katja Alexander
Andrew Hollomon
Madison Meier
John L'Heureux
Granger Campbell
Avery & Autumn
Kesner
Cheyenne Hyatt

LIION
Lila Parker
William Pearson
Michael Doucette
Logan Mixon
Granger Campbell
Avery & Autumn
Kesner
Cheyenne Hyatt

MACAW
Keagan Mercer
Melanie Gibbs

RHINO
Ben Maithes

RHINO VIPER
Nicholas Alvarado
Parker and Mary
Vaughn DeSoto
Finn Dowie
Julian Pearce

MEERKAT
Jessica & Grace
Cunningham
Meller's Chameleon
Nate Dye
Holley Graves
James Nichols

ORANGUTAN
Emsleigh Lindsey

OTTER
Monica Wozniak
Oliver & Beate Flues
Melissa Zimmerman
Maggie North
Harrison Luce
Libby Williams
Eli Mechiche-Alami
Ivan Castro

REDF PANDA
Kendall Wozniak
Henry Harrison
Eliza Freeman
Artie Irizarry
Remington Beers
Katja Alexander
Andrew Hollomon
Madison Meier
John L'Heureux
Granger Campbell
Avery & Autumn
Kesner
Cheyenne Hyatt

MACAW
Keagan Mercer
Melanie Gibbs

RHINO
Ben Maithes

RHINO VIPER
Nicholas Alvarado
Parker and Mary
Vaughn DeSoto
Finn Dowie
Julian Pearce

MEERKAT
Jessica & Grace
Cunningham
Meller's Chameleon
Nate Dye
Holley Graves
James Nichols

ORANGUTAN
Emsleigh Lindsey

OTTER
Monica Wozniak
Oliver & Beate Flues
Melissa Zimmerman
Maggie North
Harrison Luce
Libby Williams
Eli Mechiche-Alami
Ivan Castro

REDF PANDA
Kendall Wozniak
Henry Harrison
Eliza Freeman
Artie Irizarry
Remington Beers
Katja Alexander
Andrew Hollomon
Madison Meier
John L'Heureux
Granger Campbell
Avery & Autumn
Kesner
Cheyenne Hyatt

TENREC
Addison Schlegel

TIGER
Cleo Schulman
Laura Rockswold
Brightyn Parker
Evelyn Kois
Gage Campbell
Cameron Culley
Cordelia Wendt

TREE SHREW
Vincent Morton

ZEBRA
Brittany Kovacs
Victoria Pendleton

DONATIONS 10/01/22 - 1/31/23

\$100-\$499

AmazonSmile Foundation
Ameriprise Financial
Rob & Cheryl Beauchamp
Theresa Beeler
Cindy Blackburn
Greg & Ann Bockheim
Kevin Bowling
Nicole Carry & Kim Keene
Susan Cervantes
Lisa Chandler
Christopher Clark
Valerie Covarrubias
Rose Cummings
Catherine Dixon
James & Pamela Dolan
Susan B. Donn
Lindsay Dubbs
Mr. William Eley Jr.
Michael & Marilisa Elrod
Dan & Nancy Erb
Kelly & Tim Faulkner
Karen & Matthew Fine
Kenneth A. Finlay
Judy & Kenneth R. Fischer
Susan & Michael Fondrik-Austin
Sarah Ford
Suzanne Forster
Mr. David Fraim
Margaret & Robert Gomez
Rocco Grasso
Steven & Rebecca Hardt
Nancy Herod
Mary Margaret & Brett Hesse
Kristan Huddle
Mary Beth Hyatt
Lawrence Iverson
Edwin & Nancy Jacobson
Laura Jacobson
Cathy & Joseph James
Gail Kaniuka
Gerald & Connie Kevorkian
Lauren Kiger
Scott & Janet Kruger
Dan & Faye Lakeman
Karen Lamb
Joseph & Shirley Leafa

TIGER
Cleo Schulman
Laura Rockswold
Brightyn Parker
Evelyn Kois
Gage Campbell
Cameron Culley
Cordelia Wendt

TREE SHREW
Vincent Morton

ZEBRA
Brittany Kovacs
Victoria Pendleton

OTTER
Monica Wozniak
Oliver & Beate Flues
Melissa Zimmerman
Maggie North
Harrison Luce
Libby Williams
Eli Mechiche-Alami
Ivan Castro

REDF PANDA
Kendall Wozniak
Henry Harrison
Eliza Freeman
Artie Irizarry
Remington Beers
Katja Alexander
Andrew Hollomon
Madison Meier
John L'Heureux
Granger Campbell
Avery & Autumn
Kesner
Cheyenne Hyatt

LIION
Lila Parker
William Pearson
Michael Doucette
Logan Mixon
Granger Campbell
Avery & Autumn
Kesner
Cheyenne Hyatt

Julie Van Leunen
Juana & John Lombardi
Scott Macgregor
Jason Martens
Peter & Teri Mikulka
Dr. & Mrs. Julius Miller, M.D.
Michael Mize
Deborah Morrissey
Norfolk Master Gardener Association
Emanuel Nozzarella
Richard Okrasinski
Ruth Osorio
Barbara & John Peery
Dolores Pitts
William & Cameron Poynter
Ms. Mary F. Richardson
Dustin Rinehart
Carol & Alan Rosebrook
Nancy & Preston Salyer
Tania Gibbs & Dory Silfin
Stephanie Spingarn
David & Deborah Stearns
Lucy Stoll
Gregory Tozzi
Jill Thompson
Bob & Angie VanDyke
Theresa Wagoner
Elise Walthall
RS & Marilyn Warner
Jennifer Weber
Mr. Wheeler & Ms. King
Clay & Robin Winn
Mr. & Mrs. Edward W. Wolcott, Jr.
Ramon & Debbie Ybarra
Allyson Zahm

TIGER
Cleo Schulman
Laura Rockswold
Brightyn Parker
Evelyn Kois
Gage Campbell
Cameron Culley
Cordelia Wendt

TREE SHREW
Vincent Morton

ZEBRA
Brittany Kovacs
Victoria Pendleton

OTTER
Monica Wozniak
Oliver & Beate Flues
Melissa Zimmerman
Maggie North
Harrison Luce
Libby Williams
Eli Mechiche-Alami
Ivan Castro

REDF PANDA
Kendall Wozniak
Henry Harrison
Eliza Freeman
Artie Irizarry
Remington Beers
Katja Alexander
Andrew Hollomon
Madison Meier
John L'Heureux
Granger Campbell
Avery & Autumn
Kesner
Cheyenne Hyatt

LIION
Lila Parker
William Pearson
Michael Doucette
Logan Mixon
Granger Campbell
Avery & Autumn
Kesner
Cheyenne Hyatt

Rick & Karen Lombart
Sadie Lowe
James McAloon
Ricardo Moscoso, MD & Jacqueline Salcedo, MD
Emily & Jack Peltz
Christopher Post
Red Orange Studio
The Richard S. Glasser Family Foundation
Judy & Buddy Sparrow

\$1,000+
Ms. Kay Abiouness
Truman & Jacquelyn Baxter
Dr. & Mrs. Richard Boykin
Derby Brackett
Brenda J. Rhea Irrevocable Trust
Joan Brock
Alan & Deborah Budlong
Capital Group
Ms. Lynn Cobb & Mr. Warren Richard
Heidi M. Crofts
Maria & David Cundiff
David R. Goode Charitable Lead
George Doumar
Karen Dzipinka CPA, CGMA
ET Gresham Company Inc
Fidelity Charitable
The Honorable & Mrs. Paul Fraim
Green Clean Express Auto Wash
Dick & Jane Gresham
Hampton Roads Community Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. Henry U. Harris, III
CPO William E. Higgins, Ret.
Peter & Nancy Huber
Lawlor-Caron Family
Mrs. Jacqueline Limerick
McGuireWoods, LLP
Richard & Shaune Meredith
MileOne Cares Hall Toyota Virginia Beach
Mr. & Mrs. W. Sheppard Miller III
Linda & Bob Patton
Glenda & Gary Philbin
Sheanwater Foundation, Inc.

\$1,000+
Ms. Kay Abiouness
Truman & Jacquelyn Baxter
Dr. & Mrs. Richard Boykin
Derby Brackett
Brenda J. Rhea Irrevocable Trust
Joan Brock
Alan & Deborah Budlong
Capital Group
Ms. Lynn Cobb & Mr. Warren Richard
Heidi M. Crofts
Maria & David Cundiff
David R. Goode Charitable Lead
George Doumar
Karen Dzipinka CPA, CGMA
ET Gresham Company Inc
Fidelity Charitable
The Honorable & Mrs. Paul Fraim
Green Clean Express Auto Wash
Dick & Jane Gresham
Hampton Roads Community Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. Henry U. Harris, III
CPO William E. Higgins, Ret.
Peter & Nancy Huber
Lawlor-Caron Family
Mrs. Jacqueline Limerick
McGuireWoods, LLP
Richard & Shaune Meredith
MileOne Cares Hall Toyota Virginia Beach
Mr. & Mrs. W. Sheppard Miller III
Linda & Bob Patton
Glenda & Gary Philbin
Sheanwater Foundation, Inc.

\$500-\$999
Bank of America
Nancy Bartee
Angela & Emile Benard
Patrick & Ann Brogan
Kate & Lee Cross IV
Mr. Guy Friddell III
Jane Hagaman
Dr. Joshua & Erica Howell
Kelly Consulting Services
Caroline S. Lambirth

\$500-\$999
Bank of America
Nancy Bartee
Angela & Emile Benard
Patrick & Ann Brogan
Kate & Lee Cross IV
Mr. Guy Friddell III
Jane Hagaman
Dr. Joshua & Erica Howell
Kelly Consulting Services
Caroline S. Lambirth

\$500-\$999
Bank of America
Nancy Bartee
Angela & Emile Benard
Patrick & Ann Brogan
Kate & Lee Cross IV
Mr. Guy Friddell III
Jane Hagaman
Dr. Joshua & Erica Howell
Kelly Consulting Services
Caroline S. Lambirth

\$500-\$999
Bank of America
Nancy Bartee
Angela & Emile Benard
Patrick & Ann Brogan
Kate & Lee Cross IV
Mr. Guy Friddell III
Jane Hagaman
Dr. Joshua & Erica Howell
Kelly Consulting Services
Caroline S. Lambirth

CORPORATE PARTNERS



Become a Corporate Partner and reach the Zoo's members, visitors and tourists in a way traditional advertising cannot: by incorporating your message into their lifestyle. For more information, visit virginiazoo.org/become-corporate-partner

GIVING ZOOSDAY

SUCCESS IS BEST WHEN IT'S SHARED



Giving Zooday 2023

STORY BY MARY KATE FOWLER // PHOTOS BY KRISTIN CRUISE AND TARA BAUMGARDNER

Since 2012, the Tuesday after Thanksgiving has been known as Giving Tuesday, a day following a string of "spending" days that encourages people to embrace philanthropy during the holiday season. In zoo and aquarium communities, we celebrate this as Giving ZooDay. Each year, this 24-hour, crowdfunded giving day serves as a chance for us to share our mission and raise money in a fun fashion. This past November, we embraced a new team-based

model to encourage friendly competition and turned to our Animal Services team to choose representatives. Our Zookeepers decided on Red Panda, Tiger, and Eagle, respectively, to represent each team and then made Wishlist's of enrichment items for each animal. The lists included everything from bubble machines and DVD players to Kong toys, decoys, and specialty made bobbins balls to crates, scales, and so much more. From there, volunteers spread the word far and wide,

challenging friends and family to join the competition. In one day, we raised a fantastic \$6,530 from 86 donors, many giving to the Zoo for the first time! Team Eagle came out on top but more importantly, we fulfilled each and every item on all three Keeper Wishlist's with funds left over to donate to Act for Wildlife. From the top of our manes to the tips of our tails, thank you to everyone who participated, and be on the lookout for our next giving day, Give Local 757, on April 25.

SCAN BELOW FOR MORE ON GIVELOCAL 757!





3500 Granby Street
Norfolk, VA 23504

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Norfolk, VA
PERMIT No. 334



Have you made your ZOO Year's Resolution yet?

It's not too late! Join us in taking action to help save the world's wildlife and their ecosystems.

Step 1:

Choose Your Goal(s): Want to ditch single use plastics, pick up trash in your neighborhood, or cut your carbon footprint? We've got some ideas, but you can start as big or as small as you want!

Step 2:

Register with us. Check out our website for more information and to register: <https://virginiazoo.org/zyr>

Step 3:

Report your progress at Zoo events throughout the year to earn points.

Step 4:

Discover the Difference: Top point earners throughout the year will have the opportunity to win prizes. Everyone can see what a difference a year can make for wildlife and the environment!

