

FALL 2023

Zoo Review

VIRGINIAZOO.ORG

BABY BOOM!

Welcome the new VA
Zoo babies

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ZOO GIFT GUIDE

Shop for everyone on your
list this holiday season

PAGE 6

PARTY WITH US ALL 2024

Our event line up for the
new year

PAGE 15



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FROM THE DIRECTOR

GREG IN TURTLE OASIS



Dear Zoo Members,

2023 has been a busy year here at the Virginia Zoo and has included exciting improvements to the grounds as well as additions to our animal collection. Replacing the boardwalk in our **Asia: Trail of the Tiger** area took the better part of four months, and while we were at it, we renovated the red panda exhibit, replaced the bird aviary's mesh to enhance viewing and began work on a habitat to accommodate our soon-to-come clouded leopards. **The Virginia Zoo Express**, the Zoo's new electric train, also made its debut in August and has been a big hit with guests.

We have been fortunate to welcome a number of babies in the past year, both big and small. **Henry**, the Masai giraffe, is already over 8 ft tall, and a baby Southern white rhino brought our 'crash' up to five. **Lovejoy**, the baby siamang, is brachiating with great speed, emperor scorpions are busy rearing their 'nymphs' and crested guinea fowl 'keets' born in July are now as big as their parents.

We've completed phase one of the **Turtle Oasis** - a rescue, rehabilitation, and research habitat for turtles confiscated by the United State Department of Fish & Wildlife. Our crews worked feverishly during the summer and into the fall to install pools, streams and a dock for you to enjoy turtle viewing and a bit of zen. We released the turtles just in time before they entered brumation, a period of inactivity similar to hibernation, and the new exhibit area is set to have its grand opening in spring of 2024 when the turtles become active again.

Our goal in each of these projects has been to improve both guest and animal experience at our zoo. These initiatives are part of a larger campaign to transform the Zoo! If you would like to support the campaign or learn more, contact us directly at extension 226.

Happy holidays from the Virginia Zoo to you!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg Bockheim".

Executive Director, Virginia Zoo



NEED GIFT IDEAS?

Be sure to check out page 6 to see our gift guide for the 2023 holiday season and get something for everyone on your list!

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.

NEW AT THE ZOO

A

Two **Kenya crested guineafowl** hatched in July. Meadow and Leaf are the first crested guineafowl born at the Virginia Zoo and their parents can be seen in our Zoo Farm.



E



One of our board members, **Lynn Cobb**, received the 'Outstanding Fundraising Volunteer' award from the Association of Fundraising Professionals Virginia for National Philanthropy Day.

B

The inaugural **Roar & Pour** beer tasting event took place in September in partnership with The Coastal Virginia Brewery Alliance.



F

Our four orangutans, **Dara, Solaris, Schnitz, and Pepper**, received a thorough veterinary exam. Learn more on page 12.



C

Our Malayan tapirs, **Sariah and Sinar**, were introduced on exhibit. These two are a recommended breeding pair via the Malayan tapir Species Survival Plan.



G

All aboard **The Virginia Zoo Express!** Our new electric train is operating daily (weather permitting) with a \$3 fee per rider.



H

Turtles have officially been placed in the new **Turtle Oasis** exhibit. These turtles will go into brumation during the winter and may not be visible. Scan the QR code below to learn more about turtle brumation.



D

A new female **rhinoceros viper** has slithered her way to our World of Reptiles.



The Virginia Zoo Baby Boom

2023 has included several animal births and triumphs of our juveniles.

Lovejoy

Our young siamang, **Lovejoy**, experienced some challenges in his first year of life. In April, Lovejoy's care team noticed some possible developmental delays and the decision was made to hand-rear him to closely monitor his health. Since then, he has made tremendous progress and is now back with his family.



Henry

Henry was born August 24th and is the 3rd baby to his mom, **Noelle**, and 10th baby to his late dad, **Billy**. He has already become a beloved member of our Masai giraffe herd, and he has developed quite the personality! Henry's keepers say that he is very curious and loves exploring the giraffe yard. We can't wait to see him continue to grow!

Snake-Necked Turtle

Our **World of Reptiles** welcomed a new little one in August 2022 and he is doing swimmingly. McCord's snake-necked turtles in the wild are exclusively found on the island of Rote in Indonesia, and they live in freshwater lakes and wetlands. Our baby snake-necked turtle can be seen in the World of Reptiles nursery.



Dahlia at 4 days ▶



◀ Dahlia at 31 days

Buffalo Weaver

On August 31st, the Zoo's first white-headed buffalo weaver baby hatched. **Dahlia** is the first hatchling of our breeding pair, **Todd & Margo**, who live on our Africa Trail. Since this species is a part of an AZA Species Survival Plan, Dahlia will soon be matched with a mate and sent to another zoo to continue the growth of the white-headed buffalo weaver population.

We're on baby watch!

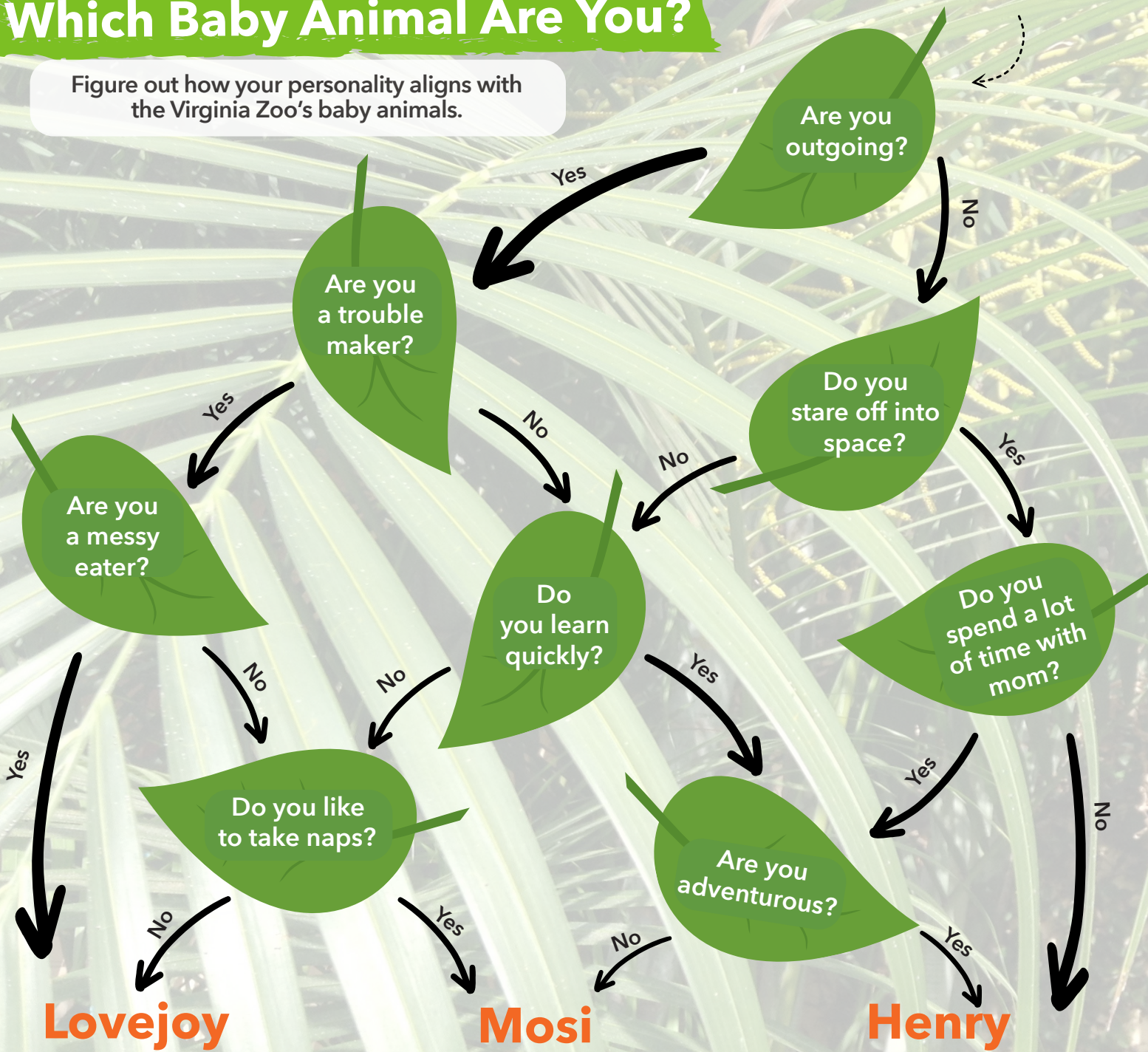
One of our female Southern white rhinos, Zina, is due to have her second baby this fall. This will be the second rhino calf born at the Virginia Zoo to parents Zina and Sbindi. This newcomer is especially exciting since both parents are a breeding pair from outside of the U.S. which means their offspring are particularly important to conserving the Southern white rhino population. We are excited to welcome this little one to our crash! Follow the Virginia Zoo on social media to see all the new baby cuteness!




Which Baby Animal Are You?

Figure out how your personality aligns with the Virginia Zoo's baby animals.


Start



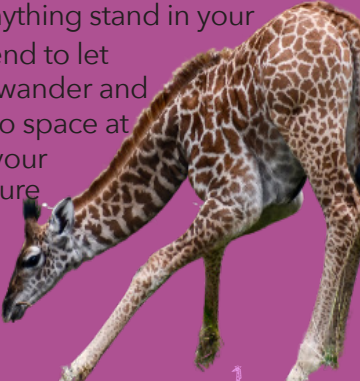
If you got **Lovejoy**, you are feisty and love to have a good time. You can be a bit of a troublemaker, but you are just curious about the world and sometimes let your playful side get the best of you. You can be easily distracted but ultimately, you love to learn and explore the world around you!



If you got **Mosi**, you are a character for sure! You can fit into a group, but you also love to be the center of attention - so when the opportunity for special treatment comes, you take it! You act brave in the face of danger but, truth be told, you are a bit of a scaredy-cat. You can be very stubborn and try to get your way, but you are also a fast learner.



If you got **Henry**, you are independent and love to stand out from the crowd. You are fearless and won't let anything stand in your way! You tend to let your mind wander and stare off into space at times, but your curious nature means you're always up for a good adventure.



Shop for everyone on your list

The Virginia Zoo Guide Guide

VIRGINIA ZOO MEMBERSHIP



Make the fun last all year with a Virginia Zoo Membership! Receive free admission year-round, plus special discounts, invitations to exclusive events, and much more. Visit virginiazoo.org to sign up or gift a membership today! \$79+

2024 ZOO CALENDAR

Every day can be a wild one with a Zoo Calendar! Plan your days while learning facts about our animals using this wall calendar, complete with fan photos and over \$20 worth of coupons. Available at a discount to all Zoo members & for purchase at the Gift Shop. \$10



ZOO OPTIONS

The gift that gives back! Symbolically adopt a loved one's favorite animal at the Zoo for them on our website or at the Membership Office! Every animal and garden are available for adoption and proceeds go back to animal conservation. \$25+



TRAIN TICKETS

Gift the experience of The Virginia Zoo Express! Purchase your train ride punch card for 5 or 10 rides in our Gift Shop today! \$12+

BEHIND THE SCENES TOURS

Share the experience of a lifetime with our behind-the-scenes tours. From mammals to birds to reptiles, we have a behind-the-scenes tour for everyone on your list! Learn more at virginiazoo.org. \$50+





CORKCICLE CUPS

Keep every drink the perfect temperature with these triple insulated cups. Explore a variety of new zoo inspired brand in our Gift Shop. \$40

ROARIN' ROAST COFFEE

Shop local by sharing the Virginia Zoo's signature Roarin' Roast coffee blend available in the Gift Shop. \$15+



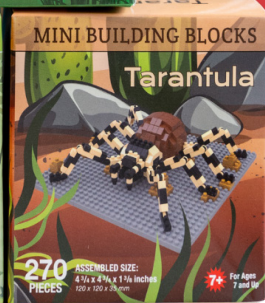
PLUSH ANIMALS

Cuddle up with one of our many stuffies available in the Gift Shop. These are sure to delight anyone on your list! \$8+



MINI BUILDING BLOCKS

These mini building blocks are the purrrfect gift for the handy person in your life! You can find a variety of animal options in the Gift Shop! \$13



GIFTCARDS

Can't decide what to get? Purchase a Zoo Gift Card on our website or in our Gift Shop! Gift cards are redeemable at the Gift Shop, restaurants, or for a membership.



Behind-the-Scenes Tours

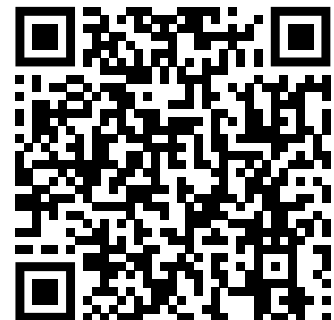
The Virginia Zoo's behind-the-scenes tours allow you to get up close and personal with a variety of our animals and learn about them directly from their keepers. Our list of tour options includes some of your favorite animals like our Masai giraffes or our scaly World of Reptiles friends.

Behind-the-scenes tours are offered year-round and are the perfect gift for any occasion. Whether you're celebrating a birthday, popping the question, or just looking for a unique outing, our behind-the-scenes tours provide the experience of a lifetime, allowing you to learn all about animal care, behavior, and conservation in an intimate and memorable setting.

A portion of the proceeds from these tours goes to caring for our animals. In addition to the unforgettable memories, you will leave knowing that you made a difference in protecting the world's wildlife.



Visit our website or scan the QR code below to book your behind-the-scenes tour today!



Summer Camp by the Numbers

The Zoo was buzzing with excited campers this summer. Our educators and camp counselors were busy with different camps every week that explored a variety of topics. **Virginia Zoo Safari Camps** provide students with the opportunity to dive into nature in a safe, hands-on, and age-appropriate setting. Campers of all abilities and learning styles can enjoy a fun, action-packed week where they encounter animals up close, express their creativity, and explore the entire Zoo. With behind-the-scenes adventures and games galore, Safari Camp is a new way to discover the natural world.

Educators held
18
different camps

saw **383** total campers
and created **8** unique
themes



20 stories came to life
for our **Furry Tails**
campers.

Bio Buddies had a busy summer
and earned **400** badges.

The **Zoo Detectives** never
missed a clue and solved
TEN cases.



Our **Zooperheroes** were always
there to save us and they

defeated **2** Supervillians.

The elusive *Zoosquatch* was

spotted **TWO** times by our
Myths and Monsters campers.

Our **Jr. Zookeepers** created
45 enrichment items for
moon bear, Chai.

Traveling **3.5 billion**
years was no problem for the Time
Voyagers in **Epoch Adventures**.

Science and art came together for
the **Eco Engineers** to complete

33 STEM challenges.

Spend your break at the zoo!

Save
the date

November 27: Spring Break Camp opens to members
December 4: Spring Break Camp opens to non-members
January 16: Summer Camp opens to members
January 23: Summer Camp opens to non-members



RETICULATED PYTHON

Malayopython reticulatus

STORY BY KIRSTIN PENDLETON

Reticulated pythons are one of the longest snake species in the world. Native to southern Asia, these snakes can reach over 16 feet long and weigh up to 300 pounds!

Reticulated pythons generally have a relaxed demeanor when living in human care. These snakes use lie-and-wait tactics when hunting for food, relying on their keen senses to locate prey using body heat and then deciding the best plan of attack. They even have infrared-sensitive pit organs on their lips! Since the reticulated python is a constricting snake, they will coil around their prey and squeeze tightly in order to immobilize them. They can then utilize their unfused lower jawbones with stretchy ligaments to swallow their prey whole. They are carnivores and will eat anything available, from various mammals to bird species.

Our female reticulated python, **Bella**, can be seen on exhibit in our **World of Reptiles** building. Bella was born in 2012 and arrived at the Virginia Zoo weighing 42 pounds. Her most recent weight is 96 pounds, and she is just shy of 17 feet long! Snakes do not have to eat as frequently as other animals, and their appetite is dependent on their activity level. It takes snakes a lot of energy to eat and digest their food, so they don't need to eat as frequently as, say a mammal would. Last year, Bella ate 5 meals total that consisted of a 10 pound rabbit each feeding.

Bella will soon be joined on exhibit by a male reticulated python, so slither in ssoon to visit these giant snakes!

FAN PHOTOS



@JANET_BERCKMUELLER



@Z_CROOK



@CAMMY_HUSTON



@KKREBSDICK



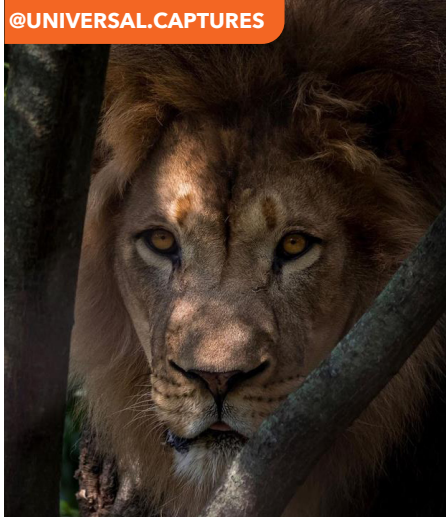
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LET'S CONNECT!

TAG US IN YOUR ZOO PHOTOS
for a chance to be featured!

@virginiazoo

Receiving the APE-solute Best Care

The journey to understanding cardiovascular disease

STORY BY SYDNEY FORDICE

The Virginia Zoo first welcomed orangutans in 2010 and officially became home to one of the most unique species of great ape, about which we still have a lot to learn. Today, we are proud to have four adult orangutans - **Schnitz** (41), **Pepper** (43), **Solaris** (20), and **Dara** (24) - whose intriguing personalities have made them beloved residents of the Zoo by both guests and our animal care team.



▲Pepper during exam

All three species of orangutan - Bornean, Sumatran and Tapanuli - are listed as critically endangered in the wild by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), making their representation in zoos an increasingly important part of education and conservation. Unfortunately, cardiovascular disease has been identified as a major cause of morbidity and mortality in orangutans, gorillas, and other great apes living in human care. Diseases like this threaten conservation efforts to increase the orangutan population, and because little is known about cardiovascular disease in orangutans, the race is on to determine the cause.

The Great Ape Heart Project (GAHP) was founded in 2010 with the goal of collecting and analyzing cardiac data to investigate and understand heart disease in great apes amongst the zoo community. As a part of the Virginia Zoo's routine anesthetized health evaluations, we are excited to have the opportunity to partner with the GAHP for a complete cardiac work-up of our orangutans. We will also be hosting board-certified zoo specialists from the Columbus Zoo and a local veterinary internal medicine specialist. Along with our on-site veterinary team, these great-ape specialists will perform advanced imaging on our orangutans, including radiographs, echocardiograms, and abdominal ultrasounds.

When it comes to evaluating heart health, the echocardiogram is especially important. Also known as an ultrasound of the heart, an echocardiogram takes a multi-dimensional picture of the heart muscle in action, allowing cardiologists to examine its function and evaluate for cardiac conditions. This imaging, along with all of the data collected during these exams, will help further the GAHP's mission of understanding how heart disease can evolve throughout a great ape's life. Regardless of the results, ultimately all data collected will help further the understanding of the health and longevity of orangutans across the world.



Solaris ►



▲Schnitz & Pepper

We need your support!

Our Animal Wellness team is in dire need of updated medical equipment. Your donation will directly impact the high level of care our animals receive. Give the gift of continuing care today.

Visit virginiazoo.org/animal-wellness to make your donation!

Our veterinary team will take full advantage of this opportunity to gather additional data recommended by the orangutan Species Survival Plan (SSP). They will monitor blood oxygen levels, blood pressure, heart rate, and respiratory rate. Additionally, blood, urine, and saliva samples will be collected during the physical exams to check for any abnormalities. The team will also perform abdominal ultrasounds to check the intestines, liver and kidneys, and take x-rays of the chest, abdomen, arms and legs. All of these examinations will be performed while the animals are under anesthesia, which allows our care team to perform thorough health evaluations in a controlled environment.

Procedures like this one can take a small village to ensure things run smoothly and safely. Our Asia keeper team spends a great deal of time training our orangutans through positive reinforcement to participate voluntarily in wellness checks – receiving vaccines, presenting body parts to be examined, and allowing blood pressure and heart rate to be monitored – so that in the future, we will be able to more regularly monitor their health status while they're awake, creating a less frequent need for anesthetized examinations, which have inherent risks.

Find out how our orangutan examinations went, what we learned about them and what data we were able to contribute to the GAHP's ongoing research by checking the blog on our website for updates!



At the time of writing this article, our orangutan exams are ongoing. Scan the QR code to learn more and see how they went!

▼Full veterinary team for Schnitz's exam



What's Growing On?

STORY BY ALI KELSO

Dear garden strollers, plant gawkers, and winter meanderers,

If you find yourself strolling through our gardens this winter, you may find our aesthetic a little bit “shaggy”. You’ll notice seed heads in our pollinator bed, nestled under blankets of dry leaf litter. In our ornamental beds you may notice our grasses still waiting for haircuts and shrubs that look like clusters of dead twigs. All of these rough edges are completely intentional, and I invite you to join us in your own gardens by putting off your winter garden cleanup chores.... for the environment. Go ahead and fight the urge to prune your native perennials and pollinator plants of all their seed heads - the dry leftover seeds will feed local birds and wildlife all winter long. You can put off raking all the leaf litter that is accumulating until late spring or early summer after all the larval insects whose eggs will be laid under that protective layer have emerged, or alternatively, you can “leaf” that litter all year long as carbon rich (and free) mulch. The messy grasses with their shagcut ‘dos will give native species habitats to rest, and the dead hollow twigs and stems will be the best nesting spot for many of our native bees to lay their eggs. So, please pardon our mess as we skip our chores for the winter -- we are protecting local pollinators and resting for ecosystems.



Thank you,
Ali Kelso
 Curator of Horticulture

Cool Season Highlights

Chinese Paperbush

This is a unique winter bloomer in our collection at the Virginia Zoo. It is native to Southeastern China, and you would find it in mountainous valleys along stream beds, forest edges and slopes, and in sandy semi-arid soil conditions. Here, you can enjoy its highly fragrant clusters of flowers along our Australia trail. After this plant sheds its foliage throughout fall, its three branched limbs retain its adorable fuzzy silvers buds. Then come January, wander in to smell these perfumed blooms and hear the first bees of the season buzzing for their winter forage.



Witch Hazel

This is an all-time favorite of the cool season with delightful, alien-looking blooms! Common Witch Hazel is an important native species and is a key understory plant to our Eastern forests. The timing of their pollination is puzzling, with blooms starting in mid to late November when not many pollinators are active. Research has shown it’s likely they are pollinated by swarms of fungus gnats, or perhaps the nocturnal Eupsilia moths that can thermoregulate! Our specimen here at the Zoo is an artificial hybrid bred for aesthetic qualities. It can be seen across where our train track crosses the path to Nature Play.





COMING SOON

CLOUDED LEOPARDS

STORY BY EMILY SMICKER

If you've visited the Zoo recently, you've probably noticed on our **Asia: Trail of the Tiger** there are some new signs showing exciting things to come in the former sun bear habitat. Well, the news is true - we are working hard towards bringing a brand new habitat to that area and with it, a hope of introducing new species to the Virginia Zoo - **clouded leopards!**

There is a lot that goes into preparing for a new animal to come to the Zoo - especially when it also involves building a brand new habitat. Currently, we are still early in the process.

We have gone through the species selection process and are working with Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) and the Species Survival Plan (SSP) on securing animals to transfer to our zoo when the time is right. In the meantime, we have a lot of work to do.

Right now, we are in the phase of engineering and designing the future habitat to ensure it will fit all the species' wellbeing needs. Once these plans are completed, they will have to be reviewed by the SSP and the animals' home zoo. Then comes the demolition, permitting, and construction process. Finally, after everything is inspected and ready to go - the animal transfer process begins and that is a beast of its own (pun intended)!

We anticipate that we will begin the construction sometime in the spring or summer of 2024. As we work through the process this next year, we will plan to keep you posted and share a lot of the fun, nitty, gritty details through our social media platforms, blog, Zoo Review, and website! Follow along at www.virginiazoo.org

They have the largest canine teeth, relative to their body size, of any cat species. It has even been speculated that they could be closely related to saber-toothed tigers!

The clouded leopard is one of only 2 cat species that can climb headfirst down trees.

Did you know we have criteria that help us determine if our Zoo is a good fit for each specific animal?



EVENTS

2024 LINEUP

JOURNEY THROUGH THE EVENTS

Visit virginiazoo.org/events to learn more.



Kiss & Tail
February 10



Breakfast with the Animals
March 16

Adult Night (21+)
April 13 & July 13



Bike Night
May 3



Party for the Planet
May 18

ZooGrooves
May 31 & September 13

Member Nights
June 27, July 18
August 22



Pride Night
June 15



Roar & Pour
August 31



Zoovies
September 27 & October 4



ZooBoo
October 19 & 20



Adult Night: ZooBoo Edition (21+)
October 25



Noon Year's Eve
December 31

Adult Night Series

The Zoo isn't just for kids anymore! Unleash your wild side and get ready for a 21+ only Zoo party with our 2024 Adult Night series. Each date will have themed entertainment, vendors, activities, and a variety of food and beverage options. So, grab your friends and change it up with a night out at the Zoo!



ZooGrooves

Rock n' roar with us as we bring back our musical summer series, ZooGrooves. This family-friendly outdoor concert series features local music, refreshments, and a chance to explore the Zoo without the hassle of crowds. It's the purrrfect summer evening!



Roar & Pour

Raise a glass to a ROARING good time! The Virginia Zoo's second annual Roar & Pour event will take place on August 31st. This family-friendly event features local beer tastings, live music, and extended exhibit hours.



Zoovies

The big screen is ready for another year of Zoovies! Grab your lawn chairs or blankets and enjoy your favorite family-friendly movies under the stars.



Make your
next birthday
Wild!

CELEBRATE
AT THE VIRGINIA ZOO.

Bookings for 2024 parties
and events are now open!



THANK YOU!

Join today, virginiazoo.org/leadership

LEADERSHIP SOCIETY (AS OF SEPTEMBER 2023) 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.

Kay Abiouness
 Caroline & Chad Ballard
 Vern & Nancy Barham
 Truman & Jacquelyn Baxter
 Mrs. Carolyn Betz
 Richard & Anna Boykin
 Alan & Deborah Budlong
 Lawlor-Caron Family
 Nicole Carry & Kim Keene
 Ms. Lynn Cobb & Mr. Warren Richard
 Maria & David Cundiff
 George Doumar
 Karen Dzupinka CPA, CGMA

Kelly & Tim Faulkner
 Christina Goode
 Martha Goode
 Susan & David Goode
 Andrew & Victoria Gorczyk
 Dick & Jane Gresham
 Peter & Laura Griffin
 Ameet Habib
 Henry & Eleanor Harris
 CPO William E. Higgins, Ret.
 Vicky & William Kernazitskas
 Mrs. Jacqueline Limerick
 Gregory & Mary Beth Marshall

Jason Martens
 Mr. & Mrs. W Sheppard Miller III
 Dr. Scott & Annie Miller
 Maria & Michael O'Hearn
 Brian Pennell
 Glenda & Gary Philbin
 Burt & Sandi Prestridge
 Mrs. Juanita Raisor
 Ms. Susan M. Roady
 Ms. Pamela Shields
 Conrad Shumadine
 Jim & Elizabeth Shumadine
 Susan & Robert Smallwood

Kedron Springer
 The St. Remy Family
 Bernard & Sharon Strohmeier
 Dr. Kurt F. Strosahl
 Mrs. Margo Taylor
 Janet Thompson
 Goody Tyler III
 Bob & Angie VanDyke
 Scott & Debbi Waitzer
 Elise Walthall
 Christina & Lee Westnedge
 Mrs. Judith Williams
 Dr. Ann Marie Woyma & LCDR Timothy Woyma

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. Visit our website for more information.

BALD EAGLE
 Courtney Leigh Britt Worrall

Eva Harris
 Stephen Clark
 Tim Waidelich

BOG TURTLE
 Bradley Nichols

RED PANDA
 Eva Harris
 Brandon Hall
 Emerald May
 Meghan Root

CHINCHILLA
 Eva Harris

RHINO
 Krystal Swink
 Olivia Cathell
 Tabitha Carl

GIBBON
 Evan Kastetter
 Matthew Malone

SIAMESE CROCODILE
 Levi Cooley

GIRAFFE
 Evelyn Luther
 Toby Kurtzner
 Allen & Caitlin Bergendahl

TAPIR
 Kela Harrison

HENRY MOMMY & ME GIRAFFE
 Madilyn Kittleson
 John Balderston
 Erika Hunter
 Donna LaSorsa
 Camilla Callihan
 Quinn Cooper
 Verity Pendleton-Estep
 Daniel & Jenna Green

TIGER
 Grayson Fevrier

LION
 Kali Gifford

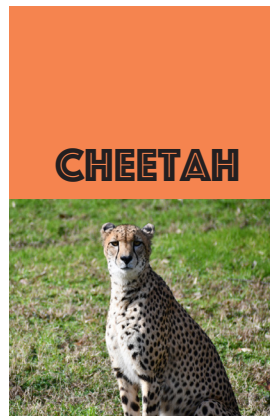
MEERKAT
 Virginia Rainer-Johnson

OTTER
 Scarlet Cooley
 Samantha Fansler

GIVING ZOODAY

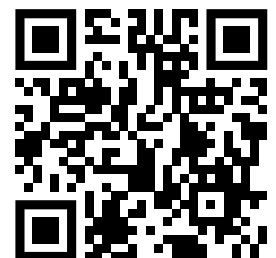
November 28th

You play a crucial role in helping save wildlife as member of the Virginia Zoo.



Our three animal ambassadors represent our work towards wildlife conservation. Every donation makes an impact. Funds raised will be used towards animal enrichment as mental stimulation is a vital part in keeping our animals happy and healthy.

SCAN TO MAKE YOUR DONATION TODAY!



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

THE ZOO GENERATION



NAME: Melissa Ramsey

TITLE: Director of
Community Relations

COMPANY: Rivers Casino
Portsmouth

GENZOO PRESIDENT



NAME: Hunter Meredith

TITLE: Vice President,
Corporate Operations

COMPANY: Compo
Construction Company

GENZOO VICE PRESIDENT



NAME: Taryn Gisbert

TITLE: Community
Volunteer

GENZOO SECRETARY



NAME: DeAndre Coke

TITLE: Founder & CEO

COMPANY: Truicity Wealth
Management

GENZOO BOARD MEMBER

Fundraising Highlight

Designed for networking and philanthropy for young professionals, GenZoo gears up with an introduction of their Executive Board. This group will dedicate their time, talents, and resources to support the Virginia Zoo's mission in wildlife conservation. We will be hosting our kick off event in January 2024 to build committees that collectively work towards a better tomorrow. If you are interested in joining or need more information regarding GenZoo, please reach out to Cbelle at christabelle.fernandez@norfolk.gov or 757.441.2374 ext 226.



**Give us your feedback on this
Zoo Review!**

Scan the QR code to leave your
comments.



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Norfolk, VA 23504

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