

A publication of the Seneca Park Zoo Society

ZooNooz

Conservation in action for
African penguins

August/September 2019



Internationally, and in our
own backyard, we play a
key role in species survival.

Seneca Park Zoo inspires our community to **connect**, **care** for, and **conserve** wild life and wild places.

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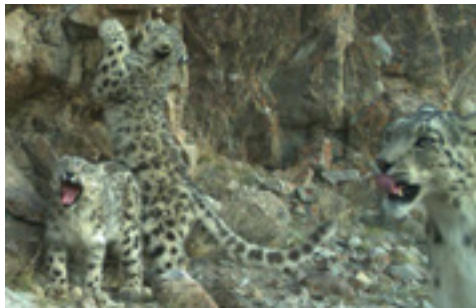
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Dr. Louis DiVincenti	Larry Staub
	Kellee Wolowitz

In this issue....

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2018 marked the fourth consecutive year where zero snow leopards have been killed in areas where Snow Leopard Trust operates. Learn more about how your support helps make this happen.



On My Mind: Membership Matters

Pamela Reed Sanchez | President and CEO | Seneca Park Zoo Society



If you’re reading these words, there’s a good chance you’re a member of the Seneca Park Zoo, as ZooNooz is a publication specifically created with our members in mind.

And, there’s a pretty good chance that you’re a NEW member of the Seneca Park Zoo, because our membership is growing – up more than 15% from one year ago.

But there’s also a good chance you’ve been a member consecutively for more than ten years and are considered part of the Head of the Herd – since nearly 1,000 of our member households have been loyal Zoo members – without lapsing - for ten years of more. (In fact, there’s scores of you out there that have been with us more than 25 years!)



Elesa Kim

Your membership helps support educational programs that meet NextGEN standards, like ZooScholars.



Dave Zimmerman

Each year we celebrate the Head of the Herd: People who have been members – without lapsing – for ten or more years.

As you already know, membership is much more than an “annual pass” to the Zoo. Research shows there are two primary reasons people choose to become members of a zoo or a museum that can be summarized with two words: Transactional and Meaningfulness. Transactional motivators include free admission and member discounts; Meaningfulness motivators include the sense of belonging to and being part of an organization that matters and is doing good work.

We know we have many members who view their membership as the best deal in town as an annual pass, and we love to see so many members visiting weekly or monthly (or more)! But we are also seeing an increasing number of members who are joining, renewing, and upgrading their memberships because they want to support the conservation and education mission of the Seneca Park Zoo. Our “upper level” memberships – Penguin Circle, Otter Circle, and Partners in Conservation – are at their highest numbers, and their renewal rates are 10% higher than other levels.

Your membership support is vital to the Seneca Park Zoo. Sixty-one percent of general membership income is remitted to Monroe County to support Zoo operations including animal care, animal health, and buildings and maintenance; the remaining thirty-nine percent stays with the Zoo Society, where it is used to support our education and conservation action programs as well as providing needed dollars to operate admissions, membership fulfillment, advertising and social media, and more.

Pamela Reed Sanchez

A New Nature Playground Inspired by our Planned Tropics Complex

Larry Staub | Director of Parks & Seneca Park Zoo | Monroe County



From idea to reality, the Monroe County Team who brought us the Tropics Adventure Zone: Joe Bernal; Mark Quinn; Chris Kirchmaier; Lisa Nicolay; Cheryl Dinolfo; Larry Staub; Madison White; Eric Zeller and Ben Scirek.

Last fall, we made way for further transformation, here at Seneca Park Zoo, with the demolition of our antiquated Main Zoo Building, which opened in 1931. Decommissioning and demolishing the Main Zoo Building was a condition of our most recent accreditation by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums in 2018. It also clears the way for the next phase of our Master Plan improvements, which calls for a state-of-the-art Tropics Complex to be constructed on this site, featuring animals from Borneo, Congo, and Madagascar, including orangutans, gorillas, and lemurs.

With two summers sandwiched between demolition of the Main Zoo Building, in the fall of 2018, and the planned ground breaking for the new Tropics Complex, in the fall of 2020, we had a decision to make. What were we going to do with a one acre-plus vacant lot, located right at the entrance of our Zoo?

We went back and forth with a number of ideas for the area, but none of them seemed to be quite the right fit. That’s when County Executive Cheryl Dinolfo suggested that we build a huge nature playground on the site. It was a genuine “AHA!” moment. As Cheryl knows very well, our two nature playgrounds in the Monroe County Park System, at Abraham Lincoln Park in Penfield and Highland Park in the City of Rochester, have received many accolades and are very popular family recreational destinations. A larger and more expansive nature playground, located here at the Zoo, was the perfect solution for this big empty space.

Under the leadership of Superintendent of Horticulture Mark Quinn, Assistant Director of Parks Chris Kirchmaier and Forestry Supervisor Joe Bernal, a very talented Monroe County Parks Department team worked two months on this ambitious in-house project. Together, they imagined, designed and built our new nature-based play area, from the ground up, on the space that will be occupied in just a few years by the new Tropics Complex.

Using several hundred logs and downed trees, mostly from ash trees that had succumbed to the Emerald Ash Borer, these skilled individuals built, carved, and assembled balance beams, bridges, forts, and play structures. They incorporated additional play opportunities by including cargo nets, swaying bridges, tightropes, ladders, and swings. A gazebo to feature daily ambassador animal experiences was added, as well. The site is rounded-out by three-hundred tons of boulders and dressed with thousands of yards of wood chips.



On June 27th, County Executive Dinolfo joined us to open the Tropics Adventure Zone, named with an eye toward the future. As such, many of the play stations and features are inspired by animals that will be coming to Seneca Park Zoo, when the Tropics Complex is completed in 2022. “Grip Like A Gorilla,” “Swing Like An Orangutan”, and “Leap Like A Lemur” are just a few examples of activities waiting for you and your family. Ever since we welcomed our first “adventurers,” our new nature playground has been wildly popular with members and guests, alike.

We hope your next visit to the Zoo will feature a stop at our new Tropics Adventure Zone nature playground, in addition to our outstanding animal habitats, including Cold Asia, Animals of the Savanna, and A Step Into Africa. Serving in the dual-capacity of Director of Parks and Seneca Park Zoo, I continue to be exceedingly proud of the broad-based talent displayed by our incredible team members, every day!

Larry Staub

Conservation update: Snow Leopards



Last year, through your generous donations at the admissions booth, we raised over \$12,000 in support of snow leopard conservation. This resulted in a grant to Snow Leopard Trust, one of the leading organizations focused on this species.

As with most of our conservation partners, Snow Leopard Trust takes a balanced approach that addresses the needs of local people and the environment. They have programs in five of the largest snow leopard range territories – China, Mongolia, Pakistan, India, and Kyrgyzstan.

Still Zero – Four Years in a Row.

With only 3,500-7,000 snow leopards alive in their natural range, the protection of every single animal is important. The close of 2018 marked four full years where zero snow leopards have been killed in communities that

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2018 marked four full years where
ZERO SNOW LEOPARDS
WERE KILLED
in communities that the Snow Leopard Trust
is active.

the Snow Leopard Trust is active. By comparison: one snow leopard is killed EVERY DAY in the areas where the Snow Leopard Trust isn’t working.

This very meaningful impact is made, in part, thanks to your support. Marissa Niranjana, Director of Zoo Programs - Snow Leopard Trust commented: “We are so grateful for the support from our zoo partners, including your very own Seneca Park Zoo. From improving technology and techniques to study the snow leopards themselves, to



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“Conservation starts with communities,
and we thank you and Seneca Park Zoo for
being a part of ours!”
Marissa Niranjana, Director of Zoo Programs-
Snow Leopard Trust



blocking the issuing of mining licenses in snow leopard habitat thus securing more landscapes, to helping sustain communities through income generation programs that mitigate the human/wildlife conflicts that arise when you have a predator in a pastoral setting, your generous donations stretch far in the field to sustain programs that protect this incredible species. Conservation starts with communities, and we thank you and Seneca Park Zoo for being a part of ours!”

Program Highlights

These results are attributable to an array of programs in the regions served by the Snow Leopard Trust. They include:

- Tost Nature Reserve now mining-free: Tost Mountains in Mongolia are some of the richest snow leopard habitat in the world. Ten years ago they were blanketed with mining licenses. Since 2016, Snow Leopard Trust has had a key hand in driving the declaration of the area to a nature reserve, and the elimination of all mining licenses.
- Tracking programs: Snow Leopard Trust has had a long-term ecological study of 30 snow leopards who have been collared and tracked via GPS since 2008. In 2018, they added the tracking of their prey as well to understand the movements and needs of both predators and prey.
- Teaching kids about snow leopards: Kids in the mountains of Kyrgyzstan often don’t know anything about the snow leopards that live in their midst. In 2018, Snow Leopard Trust partnered with others to launch eco-camps to educate kids about the species. In 2018, 1,400 kids were impacted.



Timila, Kaba, and now their cub help inspire members and guests to take action for snow leopards in their natural range.

Thank you

Thank you for making contributions at the Front Gate ZooShop, and other special events. We take great care to ensure your donations go to programs and partnerships where measurable impact – like zero snow leopards killed for four years running – can be demonstrated. You’re making a difference for these species – thank you.



Conservation in Action: African Penguin

Elesa Kim

The first four African penguins arrived at Seneca Park Zoo in November 1996. Today, the Zoo is home to colony of 34 penguins: 32 adults (16 males, 16 females), and two juveniles who were born in January. In just over two decades, the Zoo has established one of the most successful African penguin breeding programs in the country with 110 chicks hatched.



Nicole McEvily

Leeroy & Marbles were the 109th & 110th penguin chicks hatched at the Zoo. They hatched in January to parents Georgia and Phoenix

Strong breeding programs and a healthy, genetically diverse African penguin population amongst members of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) is crucial to securing a sustainable future for this endangered species. Scientific knowledge gained from these programs in zoos and aquariums is being used to help assist breeding programs in situ.

Major threats that currently prevent African penguin populations from thriving in their natural ranges include egg collecting, guano harvesting, commercial fishing, and catastrophic events like oil spills.

At the Zoo, we're involved in multiple AZA programs that seek to protect African penguins: SAFE for African Penguins (Saving Animals from Extinction) and the African Penguin Species Survival Plan (SSP). SAFE focuses on coordinated conservation action, leveraging of wildlife expertise, public education, and breeding of penguins through the SSP.

The Species Survival Plan

The mission of an AZA SSP Program is to oversee the population management of select species within member institutions and to enhance conservation of this species in natural range. Each SSP Program coordinates the individual activities of participating members through a variety of species conservation, research, husbandry, management, and educational initiatives. There are currently nearly 500 SSP Programs within AZA, and the African Penguin SSP is one of the foremost breeding programs in the world.

There are 22 SSP species at the Zoo, including the endangered African penguin. Right now, the genetic diversity of the African Penguin SSP is very high (>98%) and the program's priorities include modest increases in hatch rates and the maintenance and refining of the program as needed.

In June, Assistant Curator Kellee Wolowitz attended the AZA's African Penguin Breeding and Transfer Planning Meeting at Steinhart Aquarium in San Francisco, California.



In June, Assistant Curator Kellee Wolowitz attended the AZA African Penguin Breeding and Transfer Planning Meeting in San Francisco, CA.

The days-long meeting brought together representatives from multiple AZA-member institutions with African penguins to develop a comprehensive population studbook and a Breeding and Transfer Plan. These documents serve to identify population management goals and recommendations to ensure the sustainability of a healthy, genetically diverse, and demographically varied AZA African penguin population.

The meeting gave attendees an opportunity to share and discuss their African penguin breeding programs, mating abnormalities, medications, and more.

"The African Penguin SSP is a very tight knit group. We all work together to make sure that African penguin populations are monitored closely, and that we are growing at a rate that can be sustained in AZA institutions," said Wolowitz.

The program hopes to grow the population to over 1,200 African penguins in AZA institutions over the next three years. This year alone, there have already been over 100 transfers approved. Seneca Park Zoo has plans to move 10 penguins (6 females, 4 males) in 2019, and bring in two new females to pair with two of our males.

"It takes a lot of coordinating between institutions and the SSP to ensure the animals are managed in a way to achieve the most genetic diversity, while maintaining the highest level of animal care and welfare," said Wolowitz. "Everyone works well together - we communicate extremely well and of course, we all have a great love for African penguins."

Saving Animals from Extinction

The African Penguin SSP is one of eight SAFE projects that aim to protect this species. AZA SAFE works with African penguin conservation experts including representatives from the SSP, South African government agencies, conservation NGOs, and academic institutions to identify and prioritize conservation actions.

AZA SAFE for African Penguins is currently drafting a new, three-year conservation action plan that addresses the current needs of the species and includes projects that are aimed at achieving population sustainability. The program's primary objective with this new plan is to expand their reach into Namibia within the next three years, as SAFE is already well-established in South Africa and along the coast.



Walter Brooks

AZA SAFE African Penguin Projects:

- Disaster Response Project
- Health Monitoring and Rehabilitation Project
- Public Engagement Project
- Individual Identification Project
- Artificial Nest Development Project
- Marine Movement Project
- Marine Contaminant Monitoring Project
- African Penguin SSP Sustainability Project

Veterinary Technician, Robin English, is the current Project Coordinator for SAFE's Health Monitoring and Rehabilitation Project.

This specific SAFE project bolsters African penguin health monitoring and rehabilitation by enhancing surveillance and disease monitoring programs and providing medical equipment for rehabilitation facilities. Monitoring the health of African penguin breeding colonies is necessary to identify, treat and prevent disease, while rescue, rehabilitation, and chick/egg bolstering programs are needed to prevent significant population declines.



From top left, Robben Island Ranger Andile Mdluli, penguin colony in South Africa, guests enjoy Seneca Park Zoo's Penguin Day.

There are currently seven rangers employed at three different colonies through the cooperation of several South African conservation organizations to help improve the health monitoring and rehabilitation of African penguins. One of those rangers is Andile Mdluli, who is stationed at Robben Island. Andile began his work in August 2018 and is the first person to fill this role for the island. His work is directly funded through donations to the SAFE's Health Monitoring and Rehabilitation Project.

Andile monitors the African penguin colony on the island and responds to penguins in distress, assists groups with research and projects, organizes beach clean-ups, and is working on incorporating seabird education into island tours. The constant traffic on the island has posed a problem for the major penguin colony, so it's important to educate visitors on the native seabirds and the threats to their survival.

Looking ahead, SAFE would like to see an expansion of the Ranger Project into the Eastern Cape, which includes two islands that comprise 53% of the penguin population - Bird Island and St. Croix Island.

Today, Seneca Park Zoo is spear-heading an initiative that encourages AZA African Penguin SSP institutions to select a specific conservation project to support. Animal care staff have recognized the importance of picking a project that will engage the public, making the donations more impactful. The funds raised during the Zoo's Penguin Day event in April will directly support SAFE's Health Monitoring and Rehabilitation Project and Andile's role as a ranger on Robben Island.

"We believe it's important to make things personal. When we specify specific projects within the AZA SAFE program, it allows people to feel like they helped accomplish something," said Wolowitz "When guests know they are helping to fund a ranger, buy pit tags, or help make Invest in the Nest a huge success, they have a sense of accomplishment and are more likely to continue offering support."



How You Can Help

Purchase Sustainable Seafood – Become an educated consumer! Use the Monterey Bay Aquarium's Seafood Watch app on your phone or visit their website to find seafood that's fished or farmed in ways that have less impact on the environment.

Donate – Support specific AZA African Penguin SAFE projects to directly impact African penguin conservation initiatives. Visit aza.org/donate to learn more.

Reduce your carbon footprint - Avoid single use plastics, plant a garden, drive less and bike more, unplug your appliances and devices, and eat local!

Attend SAFE Day at the Zoo – On October 12, experience a Penguin Feeding or Keeper Chat to learn all about this endangered species and ways to help save them.



ZOOpicsROC Photo Contest

Details

- Theme: Spots and Stripes
- Timeframe: August 1 through August 31, 2019
- How to enter: Upload your photo using the form at senecaparkzoo.org/photocontest
- Share your photo on social media by tagging @SenecaParkZoo #senecaparkzoo

Prize

Submissions will be posted to an album on the Zoo's Facebook page the week after the contest closes for people to "like" their favorite photo. The photo with the most Facebook "likes" after one week will be the winning photograph will be announced on our social media channels and the winner will receive a one-month extension on their membership!

Contest Rules

For complete photo contest rules and details, visit senecaparkzoo.org/photocontest Our next photo contest theme will be announced in the next issue of ZooNooz.



Paula Zack, 'Roar' April/May contest winner



Sam Jones, 'Soaking up the Rays' June Contest Winner

In June, Monroe County Executive Cheryl Dinolfo joined Zoo officials in dedicating and "unveiling" a life-size giraffe sculpture, named "Genny the Giraffe." The 22-foot metal sculpture, which is installed in front of the Animals of the Savanna Building, was created by artist James "Jay" Seaman. The sculpture was commissioned by Gill and Gail Petri, retired educators and long-time members of Seneca Park Zoo.

Genny the Giraffe Statue Dedication



From left: Monroe County Executive Cheryl Dinolfo and artist Jay Seaman with the giraffe sculpture; donors Gill and Gail Petri with, Jay Seaman.



Elesa Kim

Love your Zoo? Consider investing in it!

With all the changes at the Zoo, from new habitats and animals to new camps and conservation programs, guests and members often say "I can't believe everything that's happening at the Zoo!" All these changes and expanded programs are made possible by a combination of many people and organizations investing in the Zoo, including Monroe County, corporations who sponsor events or programs, and hundreds of individuals who decide to invest in the Zoo, beyond the important first step of membership. There are many ways to get involved investing in the Zoo. They range in timeframe, investment level and what the resources fund. Here are a few options for consideration!

Partners in Conservation Membership



Partners in Conservation members Eric and Nicole Allen with their children

"As Partners in Conservation members, we love knowing that our donation is helping fund the Zoo Society's education and conservation programs. Plus with two young kids, we love all the membership benefits, especially the private behind-the-scenes tour."

Wilder Vision Capital Campaign



Jim and Linda McElheny at the Snow Leopard Overlook, which their donation helped fund.

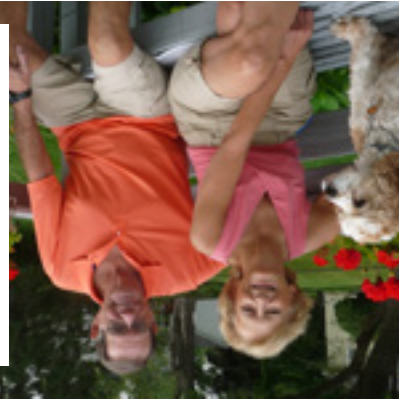
If you'd like to make your mark on the Zoo campus itself, consider a gift to the *Wilder Vision Capital Campaign*. This campaign will help fund the transformation of the Zoo outlined in the 2015 Master Plan (which you can find on our website). We have many exciting projects still to be funded including the creation of an indoor/outdoor restaurant, a Tropics Complex, and new guest services facilities. We've raised one-third of our goal, thanks to supporters like you. Donations of all sizes are welcome, and investments of \$10,000 or more include naming rights to specific areas of the Zoo. Learn more at senecaparkzoo.org/wilder.

Charitable IRA Rollover

A charitable IRA rollover is a gift option that enables donors 70 1/2 and older to transfer up to \$100,000 directly from the donor's IRA (or IRAs) per year to a qualified charity like the Seneca Park Zoo Society each year. The donor does not recognize the transfer as taxable income on his or her tax return. By the same token, this transfer may not be claimed as a charitable income tax deduction. This is a great way to invest in the Seneca Park Zoo's future. We encourage you to consult your legal and financial advisor(s) and accountant(s) to make the gift that best meets your needs.

Not sure what to do?

Give Director of Development, Chuck Levengood a call at 585.336.7205 or clevengood@senecazoo.org Thanks for considering investing in your Zoo.



Marcia and Dave Johnson are Forever Wild Society Members

"I have been involved with Seneca Park Zoo for over 30 years. First as a patron and then as a docent. In that time we've been extremely impressed with the conservation and education efforts at the Zoo. To help ensure this programming continues, we decided to include a bequest to the Seneca Park Zoo Society in our wills."

Forever Wild Society

Seneca Park Zoo Society. Partners in Conservation members are philanthropic supporters of the Zoo who become premier members to help fund the operating costs of conservation and education programs operated by the Zoo. With options starting at \$500, Partners in Conservation members receive all the traditional benefits of membership like unlimited visits and early entry for the members, their children and grandchildren, a caregiver, and two guests. Additionally these members receive a private behind-the-scenes tour, tickets to ZooBrew, Party Mad at the Zoo, Zoobilation, and special donor appreciation events. It's a great way to invest while getting an array of premium "insider" benefits. You can learn more at senecaparkzoo.org/membership/partners-in-conservation.

Calendar of events

Mark your calendars for what's next at your Zoo.



Elesa Kim

Seneca Park Zoo offers a wide variety of workshops and overnights for all levels of scout troops. Boy Scouts of America and Girl Scouts can fulfill merit badge requirements here at the Zoo. To learn about workshops where scouts can earn badges and patches, visit senecaparkzoo.org/scouts. For information on Bunk with Beasts overnights, visit senecaparkzoo.org/bunk-with-beasts.

Scout Programs



Laura Barrows

2019
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DEC



Dave Zimmerman

Bring your preschooler to a KinderZoo class this fall to play, discover, and learn in a fun and interactive way. Explore different animals and habitats through games, biofacts, and age-appropriate activities. Each class gets to meet an ambassador animal up-close and learn all about them.

Times

10:15 a.m. | 18 months – 3 years old
11:30 a.m. | 3-5 years old

Cost

\$5 for Zoo members
\$7 for non-members (plus Zoo admission)

Registration

To view the class schedule and register, visit senecaparkzoo.org/kinderzoo

Meet the ZooTeens



On your summer visits to the Zoo, be sure to stop and talk with any of the many ZooTeens you will encounter. These young volunteers are middle and high-school aged students who have undergone a rigorous recruiting and training program to help educate guests and members about how the Seneca Park Zoo and zoos worldwide help to save species from extinction and what guests can do to help. This year we have a troop of 108 ZooTeens and ZooTeen leaders. Stop and visit the many stations through the Zoo! To learn more about the ZooTeen program, or about any of our volunteer programs, visit senecaparkzoo.org/volunteer.



Ron Kalasinskas

2019
Aug-
OCT

The Artful Path with Broccolo Tree & Lawn Care

Seneca Park Zoo has teamed up with Broccolo Tree & Lawn Care and Visual Artist Magnus Apollo to offer classes at the Broccolo Garden Center that bring together art and local wildlife. Each two-hour class includes a tour of B-friendly Farm led by Magnus and Zoo Naturalist Dave Will, followed by a related talk and time to draw or journal in Broccolo's newly-restored Vintage Barn. Pre-registration is required.

Dates & Themes

August 7, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. | The Art of Flying Insects
August 21, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. | The Art of Monarchs & Milkweed
September 14, 1 – 3 p.m. | The Art of Migrating Birds
October 12, 1 – 3 p.m. | The Art of Autumn

Location

Broccolo Garden Center, 2755 Penfield Rd., Fairport, NY 14450

Tickets

\$20 and can be purchased at broccolotreeandlawn.com

Calendar of events

Mark your calendars for what's next at your Zoo.



Family Sleepover

Have you ever wondered what Seneca Park Zoo is like at night? Join us at one of our Family Sleepovers at the Zoo to find out! Families will go on a nighttime guided tour, meet education animals up close, and make a shelter-related craft. Pack your sleeping bags because you'll be staying inside Rocky Coasts Gallery next to the polar bear and sea lions. A pizza dinner, snack, and continental breakfast will be provided.

Dates

September 21 and December 28

Time

6:15 p.m. – 9 a.m.

Reservations

senecaparkzoo.org/sleepover

Cost

For Members:
\$60 per adult-child pair
\$30 per additional person
For Non-Members:
\$70 per adult-child pair
\$35 per additional person



Animal Art Expo

This year's annual AAZK Animal Art Expo returns to Seneca Park Zoo! Enjoy and purchase artwork made by one of the Zoo's animal artists! Bid on art, enter drawings to win art, or purchase specific paintings! Enjoy snacks and beverages as you browse and shop. Proceeds from this event go to the American Association of Zoo Keepers. *Must be 21+ to attend.*

Date

September 13

Time

6:30 – 9:30 p.m.

Cost

\$9 in advance | \$12 at the door.
Buy in advance and save 25%!

Tickets

Available at senecaparkzoo.org/artexpo



Have you fed the giraffes?

Are you ready to come face-to-face with the world's tallest land mammal? Giraffe feedings are now being offered at Seneca Park Zoo. Feedings take place at the giraffe feeding platform in the Animals of the Savanna area and provide guests with an unforgettable, up-close encounter with the Zoo's three Masai giraffes – Iggy, Kipenzi, and Parker.

Date

Feedings are available daily except Wednesday and Friday, at 11:45 and 2:30.

Whom:

For anyone! Each person on the feeding deck needs to have their own ticket, with the exception of children 2 and under in the arms of the “feeder”. The feeding deck is wheelchair accessible, but strollers aren't allowed on the deck.

Tickets

\$5 each and are available at the Savanna Outpost. Tickets are only sold the day of the feedings (no advance sales).

Feedings are subject to cancellation based on weather and giraffe cooperation. The Front Gate will have the status of the day's feedings posted.

Teacher Day

Thank you Teachers! Teacher Day is a day for teachers to visit the Zoo and learn about the variety of education programs that the Zoo offers. With inquiry-based programs for grades preschool through high school, teachers can find the right program for their students, subject, and curriculum needs. All Zoo Society-led programs meet New York State and NextGen Science Standards.

Teachers will...

- Meet ambassador animals up-close
- Converse with Zoo educators and naturalists about our programs
- Receive a free poster for their classroom
- Have the opportunity to win programs for their classroom

Date

September 14

Time

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Cost

County Executive Cheryl Dinolfo is making this event free of charge for teachers with valid school ID



14

SEPT

Calendar of events

Mark your calendars for what's next at your Zoo.

Don't miss summer experiences

Our 10 daily summer experiences will conclude on September 2nd. Check out the program schedule below and enjoy all your Zoo has to offer!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
9:30 a.m. Member Morning 10:30 a.m. Red Panda Experience Penguin Feeding 11:30 a.m. Sea Lion Experience Ambassador Animal Encounter 12:30 p.m. Rhino Experience 2:00 p.m. Polar Bear Enrichment 3:30 p.m. Elephant Experience Penguin Feeding Sea Lion Feeding 4:00 p.m. Red Panda Feeding	9:30 a.m. Member Morning 10:30 a.m. Tiger Experience Penguin Feeding 11:30 a.m. Reptile & Amphibian Experience 12:30 p.m. Ambassador Animal Encounter 1:30 p.m. Lion Experience 2:00 p.m. Polar Bear Enrichment 3:30 p.m. Rhino Experience Penguin Feeding Sea Lion Feeding 4:00 p.m. Red Panda Feeding	9:30 a.m. Member Morning 10:30 a.m. Snow Leopard Experience Penguin Feeding 11:30 a.m. Naked Mole Rat Experience 12:30 p.m. Ambassador Animal Encounter 1:30 p.m. Lion Experience 2:00 p.m. Polar Bear Enrichment 3:30 p.m. Rhino Experience Penguin Feeding Sea Lion Feeding 4:00 p.m. Red Panda Feeding	9:30 a.m. Member Morning 10:15 a.m. Animal Hospital Experience Penguin Feeding 11:30 a.m. Reptile & Amphibian Experience 12:30 p.m. Ambassador Animal Encounter 1:30 p.m. Lion Experience 2:00 p.m. Polar Bear Enrichment 3:30 p.m. Rhino Experience Penguin Feeding Sea Lion Feeding 4:00 p.m. Red Panda Feeding

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
9:30 a.m. Member Morning 10:30 a.m. Red Panda Experience Penguin Feeding 11:30 a.m. Sea Lion Experience Ambassador Animal Encounter 12:30 p.m. Rhino Experience 2:00 p.m. Polar Bear Enrichment 3:30 p.m. Elephant Experience Penguin Feeding Sea Lion Feeding 4:00 p.m. Red Panda Feeding	9:30 a.m. Member Morning 10:30 a.m. Snow Leopard Experience Penguin Feeding 11:30 a.m. Sea Lion Experience Ambassador Animal Encounter 12:30 p.m. Ambassador Animal Encounter 1:30 p.m. Naked Mole Rat Experience 2:00 p.m. Polar Bear Enrichment 3:30 p.m. Elephant Experience Penguin Feeding Sea Lion Feeding 4:00 p.m. Red Panda Feeding	9:30 a.m. Member Morning 10:30 a.m. Otter Experience Penguin Feeding 11:30 a.m. Sea Lion Experience Ambassador Animal Encounter 12:30 p.m. Ambassador Animal Encounter 1:30 p.m. Lion Experience 2:00 p.m. Polar Bear Enrichment 3:30 p.m. Baboon Experience Penguin Feeding Sea Lion Feeding 4:00 p.m. Red Panda Feeding

Member Morning: Members-only animal encounters at the Zoo's Front Gate.

All feedings, experiences and enrichments are at the specific animal's habitat.

Reptile & Amphibian Experience is at Creatures From the River's Edge.

Ambassador Animal Encounters are at the Tropics Adventure Zone Gazebo.

Schedule is subject to change without notice. For the welfare of the animals, all programs are subject to cancellation in extreme weather conditions.

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The ZooTram will run on weekends only beginning Labor Day, September 2nd, through October 31st. The Savanna Outpost hours will also change starting Labor Day and will be open weekends only until October 31st.

ZooTram & Savanna Outpost Updates



ZooBrew
Help save elephants from extinction by attending ZooBrew this summer. A portion of each ticket to this 21+ event goes to the International Elephant Foundation (IEF) to help protect elephants worldwide. Tickets include event admission, live music, and animal experiences. A variety of beer and wine will be available for purchase at several cash only locations throughout the Zoo. Add an elephant barn tour with a zoo keeper to your night for an additional \$25 donation to IEF. Must be 21+ to attend.

Date
August 9 | September 6

Time
5:30 - 9 p.m. | Gates close at 7:30 p.m.

Get tickets now
Get tickets at senecaparkzoo.org/zoobrew

Enjoy an extra-long day – and evening – at the Zoo! We'll be staying open late on this last Friday before Labor Day weekend. Enjoy animal experiences, food specials at Eagle's Landing Café and Crater Canteen, and more.

Date
August 30

Time
Zoo will be open until 9 p.m., with last entry at 8 p.m.

Cost
Members are free, regular admission rates apply for non-members.

Animal comings & goings

Snow Leopard Cub!

Our snow leopard cub is growing! He was born on Memorial Day, and as of press time had surpassed 5lbs! His teeth have come in, and he received his first set of vaccines! Timilia is a great mom and is allowing Animal Health staff to provide necessary supportive care to help make sure the cub continues doing well. Both mom and cub continue to den in the off-exhibit area of the Zoo's snow leopard habitat. If all continues to go well, we expect them to emerge into the outdoor habitat and be viewable to the public in late August or early September!



Seneca Park Zoo Society

Welcome New (and Returning) Trustees

At the Seneca Park Zoo Society Annual Meeting on May 18, 2019 three members were unanimously approved for the Seneca Park Zoo Society Board of Trustees.



Christine Osborne M.D.

Dr. Osborne is a physician with the University of Rochester. She is the course director of patient safety, quality, and interprofessional communication at the U. of R. Medical School. She has a lifetime interest in wildlife, and she and her husband Denis Jeffries are Partners in Conservation members of the Zoo. They have two children.



Jay Weaver

Jay Weaver is a Senior Project Manager at Christa Construction, ensuring projects are completed on time and budget. He has worked on projects throughout NY. He has previously served as a member of the Zoobilation committee, helping to secure sponsors for the gala.



Barbara Kelley

Barbara Kelley is returning to the Board after the required sabbatical year after serving three three-year terms. Mrs. Kelley previously served on numerous committees including the Board's Executive Committee. She and her husband Tom are active community volunteers and philanthropists. Before retirement, she was Vice President of Corporate Communications and Investor Relations at Bausch & Lomb.

Staff updates



Kimberly Cenzi

Special Events Manager

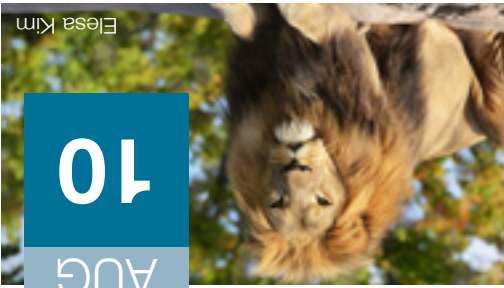
Seneca Park Zoo

Kimberly joined the Zoo Society in June as the Special Events Manager. In her role, she manages the Seneca Park Zoo Society signature events including Jungle Jog, Zoobilation, Cinco de Rhino, and the Environmental Innovation Awards and Symposium. A life-long love of animals inspired her to join the Zoo's development team, where she is excited to share her skills and talents to support the Zoo's mission to inspire the community to connect, care for, and conserve wildlife and wild places. A long-time Rochester resident, Kimberly earned her degree from Monroe Community College and has more than 18 years of professional fundraising and events experience. She resides in Spencerport with her husband and two dogs, and in her down time enjoys gardening and motorcycle road trips. She has four children and five grandchildren, who all love coming to the Zoo.

Calendar of events

Mark your calendars for what's next at your Zoo.

Animal Conservation Days



10

AUG

World Lion Day

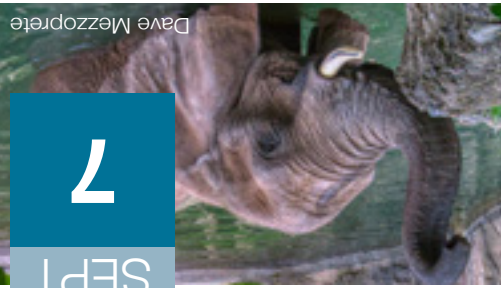
Elesa Kim



19

AUG

Ceci Menchetti



7

SEPT

World Orangutan Day World Elephant Day

Dave Mezzoprete



15

SEPT

Red Panda Day

Ron Kalasinskas



22

SEPT

World Rhino Day

Ron Kalasinskas

Explore the Tropics Adventure Zone!



Sarah Hanson



On June 27, the Tropics Adventure Zone opened! This immense natural play space is in the area that previously housed the Main Zoo Building and in the future, will house the tropics complex building. The Tropics Adventure Zone encourages play behaviors like those of the animals that will eventually be in the building, including lemurs, orangutans, and gorillas. Also featured is the Tropics Adventure Zone Gazebo, where daily animal experiences occur at 12:30 p.m. during the summer. Planning and design is just starting for the tropics complex building, so this great play space will be here for the year or so before construction begins.



CHERYL DINOLFO
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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Internationally, and in our own backyard, Seneca Park Zoo plays a key role in species survival. Chartered as an educational institution in 1957 by New York State, the Seneca Park Zoo Society plays an integral role in supporting Monroe County, the owners and operators of the Zoo. Together, we are working to bring animals back from the brink of extinction.

senecaparkzoo.org | 585.336.7200 | The Zoo is open 362 days a year.



Follow us socially. Visit senecaparkzoo.org

Chris Corlison Photography

ZOONOOZ

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