

A publication of the Seneca Park Zoo Society

ZooNooz

Geriatric care at your Zoo

October 2019

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

Kenny Krieger

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

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Hours:

April 1- October 31:

- 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- last entry at 4 p.m.

November 1 – March 31:

- 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- last entry at 3 p.m.

Members may always enter at 9:30 a.m.

Contact Us:

General information:

- 585.336.7200

Membership:

- 585.336.7212

Development:

- 585.336.7205

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- 585.295.7399

On My Mind: What’s Worth Saving, and Whose Responsibility Is It?

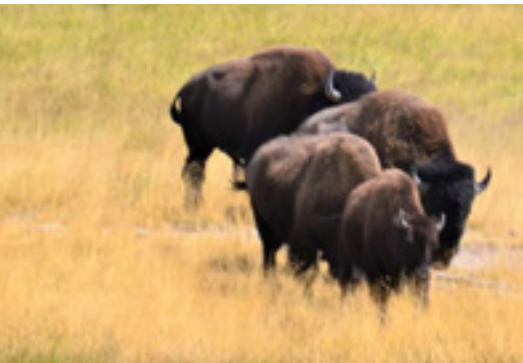
Pamela Reed Sanchez | President and CEO | Seneca Park Zoo Society



I returned recently from my first visit to Yellowstone and the Grand Tetons, extraordinary places of nature set aside with foresight for posterity as National Parks in 1872 and 1950, respectively. The sights are majestic. Impressive. Mind-expanding.

And: there are bison, again.

Some 30 million plains bison roamed the Great Plains a few centuries ago. Bison are essential to the ecosystem of the plains grasslands, with their range patterns creating varieties of habitats for hundreds of species, creating natural fire barriers, and serving as a food source for large predators. But by the late 19th century, there were fewer than 1000 bison remaining due to industrial-scale slaughter.



Bison are back at Yellowstone in large part due to the heroic work done at the Bronx Zoo beginning in 1905 to relocate

bison to the Zoo, breed them, and then reintroduce bison herds to their natural range. Today, there are approximately 20,000 plains bison that live in conservation herds. There are, in fact, more than 30 species that are in nature today due to the conservation work of accredited zoos.

While in Yellowstone, I saw a t-shirt that read “Endangered means there is still time to act.” That sentiment is lived every day by zoos accredited by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums: we are committed to saving animals from extinction. **We believe we have the responsibility to act.**

Regionally, your Zoo has been directly involved in reintroducing lake sturgeon and North American river otters to our region, where they were once locally extinct. The soon-to-be installed upgrades to our current ECO Center – Creatures from the River’s Edge – share these stories with our guests.

We also believe we have the responsibility to inspire our guests and our community to act. Sometimes that comes in the form of impactful outreach programs like our Urban Ecology Workforce Development Program, highlighted in this ZooNooz beginning on page 8. For youth growing up in the urban core, their access to green space and to nature in general is limited. To care about nature, one must first encounter it, and see value in it instead of fearing it. Only then will people be moved to want to make a difference for wildlife and wild places, whether in Yellowstone National Park or in the Genesee River.

So, what’s worth saving? I’d be hard pressed to point to a single species and say, “We can afford to lose this one.” We are all connected, and the loss of one species – be it insect, arachnid, amphibian, fish, bird or mammal – affects an entire ecosystem.

But that other question – Whose responsibility is it? That one is easy: it’s yours. And it’s mine. And ours. There is still time to act.

Pamela Reed Sanchez

A Special Name... our Top Priority... and a Salute to our Heroes!

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

A CUB, A NAME, AND A LEGACY...

There’s a new “cool cat” here at Seneca Park Zoo, and he has a name that inspires community pride! Looking back now, it’s rather fitting that my family and I were attending a Rochester Red Wings game on Memorial Day, May 27th, when I received a call from the Zoo that Timila, our three-year-old female snow leopard, had given birth. In the days that followed, our community cheered on this newborn cub and learned that it was a male. He received excellent nurturing and attention from his first-time mom, and was monitored closely by our Animal Care staff. Our Animal Health staff provided regular check-ups and vaccinations. Life was very good for this little guy! All he needed was a name.

On July 23rd, I was delighted to join County Executive Cheryl Dinolfo at Frontier Field for a special pre-game announcement. Our snow leopard cub would be named “Silver,” in honor of the Silver family, who have operated Rochester Community Baseball and the Rochester Red Wings since 1957.

As County Executive Dinolfo said during her announcement, “*From Morrie and Anna to Naomi, the Silver family name is synonymous with excellence, kindness, and community engagement. In short, the Silvers are as much a part of Rochester as the Red Wings themselves, and there is no question that our new cub will have big ‘paws’ to fill with such a meaningful name.*”

Naomi Silver, the team’s current leader, was on the field with us for the surprise announcement. A few weeks later, Naomi, her son Morrie, and daughter Desirée had the opportunity to participate in a veterinary exam of Silver at the Zoo’s Animal Hospital. We are so proud that our snow leopard cub has such wonderful namesakes, both past and present, with the Silver family.



Naomi and Cheryl participating in Silver’s veterinary examination.

ANIMAL WELFARE IS OUR TOP PRIORITY...

In this month’s issue of ZooNooz, you will learn more about the excellent care that each of the animals at Seneca Park Zoo receives, including our geriatric animals. Animal welfare is our top priority. We are fortunate to have an emerging leader in this field, working right here at our Zoo. In addition to serving as our full-time Veterinarian, Dr. Louis DiVincenti heads-up both our Animal Health and Animal Care teams, in his role as Assistant Zoo Director. Dr. Louis is one of only a handful of veterinarians, working at an Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA) accredited zoo, who are boarded in Animal Welfare.



Larry with Dr. Louis at the Zoo

SALUTING & HONORING OUR VETERANS...

County Executive Dinolfo has initiated a special admission offer for veterans and active-duty military, in honor of Veterans Week in November. From Friday, November 8 through Sunday, November 17, all active and veteran military personnel with valid military ID will receive FREE Seneca Park Zoo admission for themselves and a guest, regardless of age. We are all grateful for the service and sacrifice of these honorable men and women.

Enjoy the fall. I hope to see you at the Zoo!

Larry Staub



Geriatric Care at Seneca Park Zoo

As this issue of ZooNooz goes to print, spotted hyena Lou is approaching his 27th birthday. Lou is the oldest known spotted hyena in North America! In celebration of Lou, and the other senior animals at the Zoo, we're taking a deep dive into the care of some of our oldest residents at the Zoo.

Animals in zoos typically live longer than their wild counterparts, thanks to the diligence of the humans who care for them. The three core elements of animal care – at any age – are nutrition, veterinary care and enrichment. Every animal receives unique care, based on their own individual needs. Animal care professionals monitor animals as they age and their needs change, and their care is tailored accordingly.

This takes a team effort from everyone at the Zoo. Because wild animals intrinsically hide signs of pain or sickness and can't tell us when or where they hurt, the relationship that our zoo keepers have with the animals in their care is especially important in allowing them to detect the subtle changes in behavior that may be the only

indicators of a major health concern. Not eating as much, sleeping more frequently or in a different place, or walking more slowly or with a different posture may prompt animal care staff to report the concern to our veterinary team. Our behavior management program sometimes allows diagnostic testing without anesthesia: for example, the elephants are trained to allow blood sampling for frequent overall health assessments. Dr. Louis also performs an annual health assessment on every animal and conducts routine physical exams, sometimes under anesthesia, to detect problems early, sometimes before the animal even shows signs of being sick. These exams become especially important as animals age, but they also entail more risk as animals are more likely to have health problems that make anesthesia more difficult. Thus, every animal care plan requires consideration by our animal care and health teams to ensure the animals' overall welfare.

Here's a look into the care of some of your favorite older animals at the Zoo.



Lou, the spotted hyena

As the oldest known hyena in North America, Lou has experienced several age-related medical issues, including arthritis, dental disease, cancer, and cataracts.

As Lou has aged, he has developed osteoarthritis, like many older people and animals, and now takes a joint supplement, anti-inflammatory medication, and gabapentin to improve his mobility. Since Lou hasn't brushed his teeth over his almost 27 years of life, he also has developed dental disease that has resulted in the extraction of several teeth over the last few years. More recently, animal care staff identified a mass on Lou's back that turned out to be cancer. Due to early detection, the tumor was cured with surgery.

Over the last several years, Lou also developed cataracts that increasingly affected his vision. Two months ago, Lou underwent cataract removal and lens replacement



Lou's training with Zoologist Mary Ellen Ostrander prepared him for necessary shots.

in one eye in an unprecedented attempt to improve his vision and quality of life. A team of zoo keepers, veterinary staff, and local medical professionals provided intensive care following this procedure including administering drops in Lou's eye four times a day over a period of weeks. Unfortunately, the eye became infected and ultimately had to be removed. As a result, daily interaction with animal care staff has become especially important for Lou. Since Lou's illnesses are progressive, we will continue to provide the high level of care he requires, and zoo keepers and veterinary staff are closely monitoring him to ensure good quality of life.

Katya, the Amur tiger

At 14, Katya has reached the median life expectancy of female Amur tigers in human care. Although she does not show any signs of illness, Dr. Louis found indications of liver disease in Katya's bloodwork during a routine physical examination last year. At a follow-up exam, including an ultrasound and liver aspirate, he found that the liver disease had slightly worsened, but could not identify a cause. As a result, Katya receives a liver supplement and protectant to slow the progression of the disease.

Like Lou, Katya also lives with arthritis. In August, her habitat was renovated with the goal of improving her ability to perform natural behaviors. For instance, her pool, which she loves on hot days, was enlarged and buried, to make it easier to use. Additionally, since cats like high perches, an elevated platform with extra stumps for easier climbing was installed. All of these adjustments, coupled with daily gabapentin, are designed to help her live comfortably and continue to explore and be enriched.



Amur tiger Katya.

Chana, Moki, Genny C. and Lilac – The elephant herd

Sometimes dubbed “The Golden Girls”, the Zoo’s four African elephants – Chana, Moki, Genny C. and Lilac - are all at or beyond the median life expectancy for female African elephants. In addition to Vitamin E, they also receive the joint supplement glucosamine and omega fatty acids.



All the elephants receive baths daily, not only to provide necessary skin care, but as an opportunity for their keepers to get an up-close look at the elephants each day. Our elephant habitat gives guests the opportunity to observe this routine and see how our elephants participate in their own care through presenting body parts or changing



Foot care is an important part of the elephants’ healthcare.

positions when the keepers ask them. In addition to daily skin care, the keepers examine the elephants’ feet and trim the nails and pads as necessary to ensure good foot health.

Over the past few months, members and guests may have observed Chana wearing a special boot. For two years, Chana has had a chronic issue in one of her nails, and despite treatment from veterinary and animal care staff, the injury became infected. When this infection began to impact a bone in her foot, the Zoo team developed an innovative treatment plan.

Working with Dr. Valerie Johnson, a veterinarian at Colorado State University who is board certified in critical care and an expert in wound healing in exotic animals, Dr. Louis decided to use non-embryonic stem cells to reduce the infection and inflammation and promote healing by facilitating tissue regeneration. Although stem cell therapy has been used extensively for wound healing, this is the first time the treatment has ever been used to treat a foot condition in an elephant. The catch? It required that the nail be bandaged to protect the cells. Keeping a bandage clean and dry on an elephant’s foot is no small task, so Zoo staff also had to custom-build something to protect the bandage. In response, Assistant Zoo Director - Facilities Richard Mikiciuk created a sandal using rubber and seatbelt straps. When the team needed a way to attach the sandal around Chana’s leg, an elephant keeper offered up the belt she was wearing. Although the plan was to keep the bandage in place for three days while the cells were active, the initial results were impressive - new, healthy tissue growth was evident and the infection was reduced. Dr. Louis decided to keep the bandage in place, which also allowed daily flushing and cleaning of the wound. After three weeks, Zoologist Tina Fess (who is also an accomplished seamstress) fashioned a new sock and boot system that could be used long-term.

How do you make an elephant boot?.....

“Do you think you can make an elephant sandal?” Assistant Zoo Director – Facilities Richard Mikiciuk got the request and didn’t hesitate to take on the project. “In facilities, we often aren’t involved in projects that so directly impact the animals. Dr. Louis explained the importance of keeping Chana’s foot protected, so I got started right away,” he explained. “The goal was to keep the sandal on for three days. It lasted for over three weeks!”



The initial sandal was created by the Zoo facilities team under the leadership of Assistant Zoo Director Richard Mickiciuk, pictured here, fitting the sandal on Chana.

A lot was learned from the sandal that allowed Zoologist Tina Fess, a master seamstress, to develop the next phase. Tina started with a paper template of Chana’s foot, which is 18.5 inches wide at its widest point. She fashioned a sock out of t-shirt material using old, unusable volunteer t-shirts from the Zoo. Then, she sewed a boot. Her first iteration used cotton duck cloth canvas with nylon straps every nine inches. Then she improved on it, after finding remnants of sunbrella material, most of which was donated. She has made six of the boots, since each day the boot and sock are removed to clean the wound, so a new set is needed daily.

How does Chana like it? “She is amazing,” commented Fess. “I think she knows we’re trying to help her, so she is very accommodating with us. The other elephants are intrigued, but she protects her boot to keep them away.”

Fess is envisioning a special Halloween-colored boot for the upcoming season.



Zoologist Tina Fess, above, created the second generation boot for Chana.

Sara and Sailor, the otters

North American River otters Sailor (12) and Sara (16) have reached or exceeded their median life expectancy of 12 years. They both have dental disease, and Sara has arthritis and recurrent urinary tract infections (UTIs). She receives medications to reduce the arthritic pain and inflammation, and Dr. Louis treats her UTIs when necessary. Enrichment plays a key role in their lives, and Zoo Keeper Catina Wright engages each of them in training regularly that promotes physical and mental health. In addition, Zoologist Brian Sheets creates special enrichment items for them, including comfortable hammocks that are easy for them to climb in and out of.

This excellent care is possible as a result of Monroe County’s investment in a modern veterinary care program, the concern and attentiveness of our Animal Care staff, and the teamwork among animal care, animal health, and facilities staff. That teamwork fosters an environment in which animal welfare comes first, and innovative solutions emerge to keep our animals happy and healthy. Thank you for your support of the Zoo, our keepers, and the amazing animals in our care.



Hammocks created for the otters by Zoologist Brian Sheets.

The Urban Ecology Program: developing a strong, informed workforce



The Urban Ecologists at the Children's Garden on First Street during their urban agriculture tour of the Marketview Heights neighborhood. While there, they learned about the garden and helped them harvest. Pictured: Virginia Max-Dixon, Breckin Parsons, Nia Beckaroo and Glodie Mata.

Nationwide, few people from the urban core, regardless of their race, enter fields related to nature and conservation. As a result, the industry lacks diversity at nearly every level of employment. This is a topic of great concern, discussed regularly at Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA) conferences, but also quite evident at Seneca Park Zoo. In an attempt to begin creating a future talent pipeline, the Seneca Park Zoo Society partnered with the City of Rochester to launch the Urban Ecologists Workforce Development Program in the summer of 2018.

“The program recognizes the need for teens to earn wages, rather than volunteer, and in doing so signals that one can actually pursue a career in nature-based studies,” commented Seneca Park Zoo Society President and CEO Pamela Reed Sanchez. “You can earn a living in zoology or environmental science or any number of affiliated studies. Love for nature can be a vocation, not just a hobby.”

Urban Ecologists are juniors or seniors in the Rochester City School District (RCSD) hired for year-round employment. Last summer, four students were selected for a six-week pilot season, and in 2019, the program received funding to

run year-round and have up to 16 RCSD students participate. Two of the initial four hires, Naaman Jones and Kelvin Dailey, continued with the program this year, while the Zoo Society made nine new hires, including four females and two students from Africa.

The Urban Ecologists are:

- Trained in urban ecology to be naturalists for their neighborhoods and our region
- Familiarized with environmental literacy, environmental justice, and civic participation
- Given access to professional role models and resources at local colleges and universities
- Introduced to numerous opportunities for nature-based careers
- Trained to create and deliver programs, including activating parks and green spaces



Urban Ecologists had the opportunity to meet Buffalo Bills players Josh Allen and Zay Jones and discuss pursuing passions, overcoming odds, and persevering.



Urban Ecologists with Kawanza Humphrey, far left, Regional Corporate Responsibility Officer for KeyBank.

Program Manager Chris Widmaier helped arrange a diverse set of activities for the Urban Ecologists that prepared them for life beyond high school. Throughout the summer, the students were introduced to careers in environmental science and ecology, met with local academics and leaders that empowered them to be ambassadors for the environment, and developed relationships with young students at City of Rochester R-Centers.

“Realistically, not all of the Urban Ecologists will choose a nature-based career. But each one of them is being given the tools and the knowledge needed to understand the connections between the environment and public health, and can become advocates for a healthy environment,” said Reed Sanchez.

The Urban Ecologists were also introduced to our city’s natural spaces and participated in stewardship activities. They hiked and cleaned city parks, re-planted a butterfly garden at Salena’s Restaurant, and helped turn an overgrown courtyard into a usable outdoor space at 540 West Main in the Susan B. Anthony neighborhood. During these opportunities and more, the Urban Ecologists discovered the human connection to nature through the air we breathe and the water we drink, learning the signs of a healthy ecosystem.



Helping clean up Genesee Gateway Park in August.

Thank you to our Corporate and Foundation Supporters

We are incredibly grateful to our corporate and foundation partners for their support of Seneca Park Zoo Society. Without these dedicated partners, we couldn't create the programs and events you know and love. If you would like to learn more about partnership with the Zoo, please contact Lee Gray, Manager of Institutional Giving at 585.336.7215 or lgray@seneceazoo.org.

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10

Echoes of Silence

An original poem by Urban
Ecologist Nia Beckaroo

tall, brown and green

My Statue of liberty.

As time passes by,

Never ending peace,

the quiet comforts me,

by singing a song.

A where it seems

to go on forever.

A place where I

Never want to

Leave, Echos from

Afar dreaming

Of Neverland, until

it all comes to an end.

In addition to promoting a healthy, positive relationship with Rochester's natural areas, the program teaches students valuable writing and communications skills, helping them to successfully create and deliver programs to other urban core youth.

"We were very fortunate to work with this team of young people this summer. They were open-minded and willing to take risks as they were presented with experiences that challenged them to learn and grow," said Widmaier. "I think we are just beginning to see the positive impact that this program will have, and they are the leaders we need to build a model that will demonstrate what it looks like for young people to not only know about and care for the environment but to take action to protect and enhance it."

When asked why the work of the Urban Ecologists was important in the end-of-year survey, one student wrote:

"Because we have to help the world be a better place. One thing we can do is to help clean it. And we can inspire people to do the same."

Many thanks to the supporters of the 2019 program, which included the City of Rochester, Greater Rochester Health, KeyBank, The Kronenberger Family Gift Fund, and the McGowan Gin Rosica Family Foundation



Chris Widmaier

"This program gives participants a new appreciation for Rochester and its natural areas. We travelled to all four corners of the city, studying the ecosystems and teaching others what we have learned. All summer long I heard things like, 'I never knew this was even here but I'm glad I do now,'" shared Widmaier.



Chris Widmaier

Urban Ecologists learned about the value and history of the Rochester Public Market from Evan Lowenstein.

Calendar of events

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



2019
OCT
NOV
DEC

Day Off ZooCamp

When school is on break, there's no better time for a fun day of learning at Seneca Park Zoo! At Day Off ZooCamp, campers will spend the day exploring extreme animals and the adaptations that help them survive. This camp is for children ages 5 through 9.

Dates
October 14 (Columbus Day) | November 11 (Veterans Day)
December 27 (Holiday Break)

Time
9 a.m. – 4 p.m. *There is no half-day option available for this camp.*

Cost per day
\$40 for members | \$50 for non-members

Registration
senecaparkzoo.org/dayoff



DEC
28

Family Sleepover at the Zoo

Register for our Family Sleepover to find out what Seneca Park Zoo is like at night! Through a nighttime guided tour, you will investigate the animals' amazing adaptations and how they help them to survive. You will also do some crafting and meet some ambassador animals up-close before falling asleep next to the polar bear and sea lions. A pizza dinner, snack, and continental breakfast is provided.

Date
Saturday, December 28

Time
6:15 p.m. – 9 a.m.

Cost
Adult & child pair: \$60 for members | \$70 for non-members
One additional person: \$30 for members | \$35 for non-members

Registration

senecaparkzoo.org/sleepover

ZOOPIcsROC Photo Contest

Show your love of Seneca Park Zoo by entering our ZOOPIcsROC photo contest! During your next visit, capture an image of an animal or your loved ones enjoying the Zoo that you think fully expresses the theme '**Freaky Fall at the Zoo**' and submit it for a chance to win.

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 winner!

The winning photograph will be announced on our social media channels and the winner will receive a one-month extension on their membership!

Details

- Freaky Fall at the Zoo
- Timeframe: October 1, 2019 through October 30, 2019
- How to enter: Upload your photo using the form at senecaparkzoo.org/photocontest
- Share your photo on social media by tagging @SenecaParkZoo

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.

Give the gift of Seneca Park Zoo

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Shop now at senecaparkzoo.org/zoogift



Elisha Kim

Tina Fess



Buy a Zoo membership as a gift in November or December and receive a Zoo insulated lunch tote! Order by 12/17/19 to ensure delivery by the holidays. Offer valid through 12/31/19.

Calendar of events

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



2019
OCT-
DEC

The Zoo offers a variety of workshops for all levels of scout troops. Each workshop is designed to meet badge requirements and build teamwork skills. Scouts will go on a Zoo exploration, participate in animal-themed activities, and enjoy an animal presentation.

Cost
\$15 per scout
Two troop leaders included for free
Parents stay for an additional \$10 each

Register
To view our pre-scheduled workshops for girl scouts, cub scouts, and Scouts BSA, or to schedule your own, visit senecaparkzoo.org/scouts



2019
OCT-
DEC

Join us at a KinderZoo class this fall to learn about animals in a fun and interactive way! This program is designed for kids ages 18 months to 5 years and includes games, age-appropriate activities, and the opportunity to meet an ambassador animal up-close. Themes include Beneficial Bugs, Feasts of Beasts, Fabulous Frogs, and more.

Cost
\$5 per child for members
\$7 per child for non-members

Register
To view a complete class schedule and register, visit senecaparkzoo.org/kinderzoo



DEC
7, 8,
14 & 15

Celebrate the holiday season at Breakfast with Santa! Enjoy a delicious hot buffet breakfast amongst the polar bear and sea lions in the Rocky Coasts Gallery. Visit with Santa and receive this year's commemorative ornament. After breakfast, stop by Santa's Workshop in the Eagle's Landing Pavilion to make a craft and have more holiday fun. Breakfast with Santa at Seneca Park Zoo has become a family holiday tradition for many - this is a great year to make it one of yours!

Date
December 7, 8, 14, 15

Time
Timed tickets for 8:30, 10 or 11:30 a.m.

Cost for members
Adult (ages 12-62) \$17.50
Youth (ages 3-11) \$12.50
Children 2 and under \$5

Cost for non-members
Adult (ages 12-62) \$19.50
Youth (ages 3-11) \$14.50
Children 2 and under \$5

Tickets
Reserve now at senecaparkzoo.org/santa. This event will sell out.



DEC
6 & 7

Grab your hat and gloves and attend our winter version of ZooBrew. Tickets include Zoo admission, live music, delicious comfort foods, and animal experiences on our heated Eagle's Landing Pavilion. Each guest will receive one ticket for use at any 2020 Summer ZooBrew. Beer and wine will be available for purchase. A portion of each ticket sale supports the International Elephant Foundation. Must be 21 or over, with valid ID to attend.

Date
December 6 & 7

Time
5 - 8:30 p.m. Gates close at 7p.m.

Cost
Members \$30 | Non-members \$35

Tickets
Tickets must be purchased in advance at senecaparkzoo.org/zooBrew



Elesa Kim



Elesa Kim

Calendar of events

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



The tradition continues! Don your best Halloween costumes and celebrate with the whole family at Seneca Park Zoo. Enjoy a beautiful fall day strolling the Zoo and take part in unique, holiday-themed stations. Great fun for the whole family!

Dates
October 12, 13, 19, 20
Time
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Tickets
Get tickets now at senecaparkzoo.org/zooboo

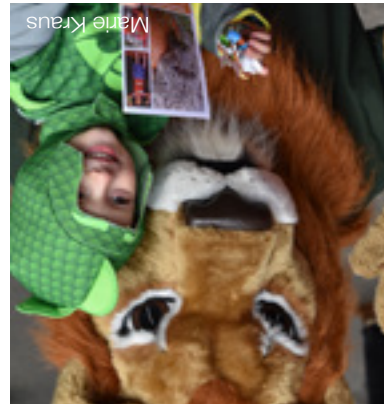
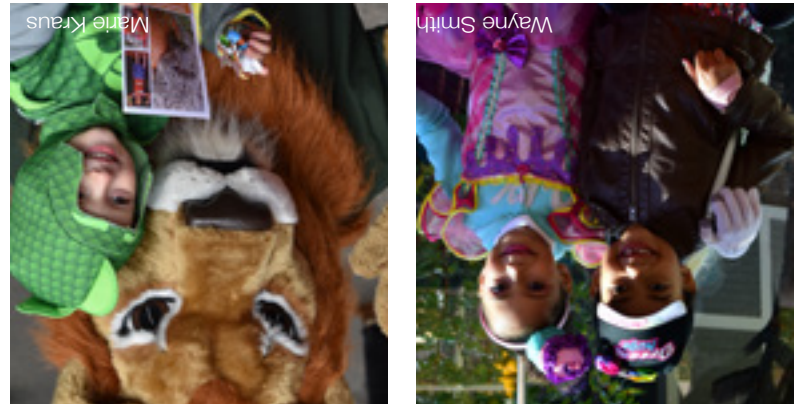
Cost
Advance tickets: \$6.50 for members | \$7.50 for non-members
As a member, Zoo admission is free. Non-members must pay Zoo admission



Think your kids have outgrown ZooBoo? Think again! New this year, an event for the spooky-seeking revelers! Take a guided be flashlight tour of the Zoo after dark, enjoy snacks, ghost stories and more! Costumes are welcomed. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

Dates
October 25, 26
Time
5:30 – 8:30 p.m. Timed tickets for tours at 5:45, 6:15, 6:45 or 7:30

Tickets
Advanced tickets required senecaparkzoo.org/zooboo. There will be no tickets sold on day of event.
Cost
\$15 for members | \$20 for non-members



There's still time to purchase tickets for the second-annual Environmental Innovation Awards & Symposium. This special event celebrates environmental-minded leaders and ambassadors working to achieve a greener tomorrow for our region. The breakfast award ceremony is followed by an inspiring Innovation Symposium led by environmental markets entrepreneur Brett Howell.

Date & Time
Wednesday, October 30, 2019 | 7:15 - 11 a.m.
Cost
\$40 – Breakfast & Awards only (7:15 – 9 a.m.)
\$60 – Breakfast, Awards & Symposium (7:15 – 11 a.m.)

Location
Joseph A. Floreano Rochester Riverside Convention Center
123 E. Main Street, Rochester, NY 14604

Tickets
To purchase your ticket, visit senecaparkzoo.org/innovation



Veterans Week

County Executive Cheryl Dinfo recently announced that from Friday, November 8 through Sunday, November 17, all active and veteran military personnel with valid military ID will receive free Zoo admission for themselves and one other person, regardless of age. Thank you for your service!

Dates
November 8-17
Time
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

For Who:
13-18 year olds
Dates:
Wednesdays, 6-8 p.m. for six weeks
November 6, 13, 20, December 4, 11 & 18
Cost:
\$45 per session for members, \$50 per session for non-members,
Register
Visit senecaparkzoo.org/crew

NEW THIS YEAR! Wildlife Action Crew is a new program designed for teenagers interested in animals and conservation. Teens will learn about and discuss a conservation issue, the wildlife affected, and what is being done to help. They will then choose an action that addresses the conservation issue and create a campaign to promote their message. This new, six-week program will be offered multiple times throughout the school year. The theme for the upcoming fall session is Polar Bears & Sea Ice.

Wildlife Action Crew

Animal comings & goings



Hello Silver!
On September 18, snow leopard Silver made his public debut! Silver was born in May. Stop by to see him at your next visit to the Zoo.



New snowy owl habitat
This summer and fall, the Monroe County Parks department has been building a new, expanded snowy owl habitat. Check it out on your next visit.



Red Panda Update
In September, we were sad to announce that male red panda Blaze died unexpectedly. Necropsy results indicated that the cause of death was a respiratory infection. Blaze came to Seneca Park Zoo in 2018 for the Zoo's Cold Asia habitat, which opened in June of that year.
The Zoo will work with the Association of Zoos & Aquariums Red Panda Species Survival Program to identify another red panda for our habitat to live with Starlight, the two-year-old female red panda.



Winter Hours
On November 1, **Zoo hours will change to winter hours.** We are open 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. with last entry at 3 p.m. As always, members can enter at 9:30 a.m.



The Savanna Outpost
The Savanna Outpost will be open weekends through October, then will be **closed until the spring.** The ZooShop is open all year long.



Zoo Tram
The Zoo Tram will be open weekends through October, then will be **closed until the spring.**



Giraffe feedings
Giraffe feedings will be **available Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, as well as holiday Mondays, through Veterans Day (11/11/19).**

Donald Crumb appointed to Board of Trustees.



County Executive Cheryl Dinolfo has appointed Donald Crumb as an Ex-Officio member of the Seneca Park Zoo Society Board of Trustees. Don is a Senior Deputy County Attorney in the Monroe County Law Department.

Prior to joining the County, he was a Municipal Attorney for the City of Rochester and an Associate with the Rochester Office of Phillips, Lytle, Hitchcock, Blaine & Huber LLP. Don received his law degree from Syracuse University College of Law and his Bachelor of Arts from LeMoyne College. He and his wife, Carol live in Penfield and have been members of the Seneca Park Zoo for over 25 years.

Calendar of events

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



Hyena Day
Spotted hyena Lou is the oldest known hyena in human care and on October 3 he turns 27 years old. Join us at the Zoo Saturday, October 5 as we celebrate Lou and his counterparts in nature. Learn about the different hyena species and what makes them unique and meet with the keepers to find out what it's like to care for Lou. This event is free with Zoo admission.



Snow Leopard Day
Join us for Snow Leopard Day to learn all about these cold-weather cats and their amazing adaptations. Get to know our resident snow leopards Kabba, Timila, and their cub Silver through enrichment demonstrations, keeper chats, biofacts, interactive stations, and more. Plus, find out what you can do to help protect their endangered counterparts in nature. All special programming is free with Zoo admission.



SAFE Day
Seneca Park Zoo participates in the Association of Zoos and Aquariums' (AZA) SAFE Program. SAFE, or Saving Animals from Extinction, seeks to save the most vulnerable wildlife species for future generations. SAFE species at the Zoo include African penguin, African lion, and Masai giraffe. Join us for SAFE Day to learn more about the program and how you can help.



Book & Beast
Our popular story time program, Book & Beast, returns this fall. Join us for a cuddly story followed by a meet-and-greet with one of our ambassador animals. This event is sponsored by Monroe Veterinary Associates.
Dates Wednesdays, October through March
Time 11 a.m. in the Conservation Learning Center
Cost Free with Zoo admission



CHERYL DINOLFO
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

ACCREDITED BY THE
**ASSOCIATION
OF ZOOS &
AQUARIUMS**

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When you're finished, please share it with a friend.

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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

Visit soon to see Silver!

October 2019

ZOONOOZ

A publication of the Seneca Park Zoo Society

Kellie Wolowitz