

# Lincoln Park Zoo

A close-up photograph of a pink flamingo standing in a field of tall grass. The flamingo's long neck is curved downwards, and its head is tilted back. Its black beak is prominent. In the background, other flamingos are visible, some standing and some with their heads down. The background is slightly blurred, emphasizing the flamingo in the foreground.

For Members of Lincoln Park Zoo · A Magazine of Conservation and Education · Summer 2016

## Close Up on Care

Exploring Our Commitment  
to Animal Well-Being

# Lincoln Park Zoo

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Visit [lpzoo.org](http://lpzoo.org) for Lincoln Park Zoo photos, videos and up-to-date info on events and animals. You can also find us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram!

#### We'd Like to Hear from You!

Send your feedback on this issue of Lincoln Park Zoo magazine to [magazine@lpzoo.org](mailto:magazine@lpzoo.org).

Cover: Expert care helped the Chilean flamingo flock welcome its first chicks.

Above: A dwarf crocodile.

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#### QUESTIONS?

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# perspective

A Letter from President and CEO Kevin J. Bell

## A Fresh Focus on Welfare



As a Lincoln Park Zoo member, you have likely read a lot—on our website, on social media and within the pages of this magazine—about our commitment to conservation and science, to education and to animal care. Now we're emphasizing a new and equally important component of our mission: welfare.

Closely connected and often thought to be synonymous, animal care and animal welfare are actually significantly different.

At the most basic level, caring for animals involves providing good nutrition, safe living environments and quality medical care. It also means striving to ensure the highest possible quality of life through stimulating environments and activities that encourage natural behaviors and enrich an animal's life.


Animal welfare, on the other hand, reflects an animal's internal state. We're always looking to foster positive animal welfare, but the results aren't easy to gauge. Wild animals can't readily share this vital information.

That's why we've invested so heavily in the science of welfare. Our experts employ a variety of high-tech tools, from monitoring to measurement, to gain insights into animals' internal workings. A longtime leader in this effort is Rachel Santymire, Ph.D., an endocrinologist and director of the Davee

Center for Epidemiology and Endocrinology. Rachel non-invasively monitors and analyzes stress levels among a wide variety of species, both here and in the wild, then passes the baton to our animal experts, who find innovative ways to reduce stress, if necessary, and encourage positive behaviors.

Though technically new to our mission, the subject of welfare is not new to the zoo and its staff. We have always prioritized providing the best-possible lives for our animals. Every expert on our staff—as well as some from outside the zoo—work hand-in-glove on new zoo exhibits to ensure we are creating habitats that will help foster natural behaviors and enrich the lives of those in our care. As you will read in this year's Annual Report letter from me and Lincoln Park Zoo Chairman of the Board of Trustees John Ettelson, we are unveiling a plan that will feature our state-of-the-art habitats for polar bears and penguins—and enable us to transform the Kovler Lion House.

Enhancing animal welfare is an ongoing effort—we will always have new work ahead of us as knowledge, needs and individuals change. But I am confident that our dedication and expertise, coupled with your continued commitment and support, will help us pave the way for a better future for wildlife—at the zoo and around the globe.



Kevin J. Bell  
President and CEO

*Monitoring animal welfare is a team effort, as shown by Assistant Manager to Volunteer Services Jeremy Gill, Welfare Monitoring Post-Doctoral Fellow Jason Wark, Ph.D., and Behavioral Husbandry and Enrichment Manager Allison Kao. The crowned lemurs enjoy some flowery enrichment.*



# Setting the Standard

BY CRAIG KELLER

The biggest shift in animal care at Lincoln Park Zoo in recent decades may also be one that's largely unnoticed by the general public. Scientific research—from hormone analysis in high-tech labs to app-aided behavioral monitoring—is providing a wealth of discoveries that caregivers can apply to improve daily animal management.

## Hormones and Health

This year, for instance, marks the 10th anniversary of the endocrinology lab at the zoo's Davee Center for Epidemiology and Endocrinology. With generous support from the Davee Foundation, Davee Center researchers work with zookeepers to collect non-invasive, biological samples from which to extract hormones associated with stress and reproduction. Feces are the most common—hence the 13 freezers around the zoo that store thousands of samples from dozens of species. But researchers have also

used urine, blood drawn during routine medical exams, skin swabs, hair and saliva. Feathers, toenail clippings and horn scrapings may even be added to the mix in the future.

The endocrinology lab processes the samples to map out hormonal patterns over weeks and months, comparing the results with animal behaviors observed by caregivers. The combined information can help them determine the most optimal time to bring males and females together to breed, whether seasonal changes are elevating stress levels, leading to aggressive interactions, and many other underlying factors that help guide animal management decisions.

“Animal Care staff know when something isn't working—such as a group arrangement that requires separating animals—but we can give them the finer data,” says Davee Center Director Rachel Santymire, Ph.D. “Maybe a particular circumstance was stressful but not visibly apparent. When female gorilla Bana first moved here and was separated from Kwan's group during her routine quarantine, her stress levels were higher but then calmed down after she was introduced to the group.”

Observations related to stress are often reached retrospectively, particularly because animals often naturally hide signs of stress so as not to appear vulnerable to rivals or predators. Santymire's team has also been analyzing 18 months of data gathered during the formation of the zoo's gorilla bachelor troop—and discovering that dominant male Azizi's stress levels barely changed while Umande, who'd been hand-raised as an infant, showed the most fluctuation. These discoveries inform future animal care decisions when similar circumstances arise. “For instance, keepers might give them more enrichment during periods when stress is likely to rise,” says Santymire.

Santymire's team also worked closely with keepers to bring about the birth of male black rhino King in 2013. Keepers collected daily fecal samples from female Kapuki and male Maku. Progesterone and testosterone were extracted from these







samples and closely monitored to detect when levels peaked at the same time—signaling the precise moment when the normally solitary adults should be introduced. Santymire also gave them a simple checklist of behaviors to record that might signal breeding receptivity—including some behaviors known from horses, the closest living relative of rhinos.

“By overlaying those observations with the hormonal data, we determined which behaviors indicated when they were ready to be introduced for breeding,” says Santymire. “We can get to that level of analysis to help animal care.”

### A Behavioral Backlog

When it comes to collecting data on animals, the Lester E. Fisher Center for the Study and Conservation of Apes at Regenstein Center for African Apes is at the pinnacle among zoos worldwide. Over the past decade, scientists and interns have collected tens of thousands of hours of behavioral and space-use observations on the zoo’s western lowland gorillas and chimpanzees. Intended to broaden humanity’s understanding of our closest relatives on the evolutionary family tree, this epic, ongoing work has also provided tremendous benefits for animal care at the zoo.

“We always intended this to also be a tool for keepers and curators to help their already expert approach to managing the animals,” says Fisher Center Director Steve Ross, Ph.D. “Maybe that wasn’t the case for the first five years, but it definitely has been for the last five.”

Data collected using complex ethogram apps—including one called iPrim8—measure every aspect of the apes’ lives, from methods of locomotion to individuals’ proximity within

a group. By looking back at behavioral and space-use patterns over time, researchers can often help caregivers figure out why an individual or group is behaving or using the exhibit in a particular way.

For example, during the first year of the gorilla bachelor troop’s formation, Curator of Primates Maureen Leahy came to Fisher Center scientists with a question about Mosi, the troop’s youngest member. “Mosi was the most subordinate male then and didn’t always feel comfortable foraging for his fair share of food in that social setting,” says Leahy. To help Mosi meet his age-appropriate weight-gain milestones, keepers hand-fed him high-calorie veggies during operant-conditioning training sessions. “As his social confidence within the troop developed, we turned to the behavioral data to see if his foraging times—on his own amidst the other males—were increasing as well. And they were! That information, combined with Mosi’s increasing weight, supported our decision to discontinue hand-feeding him all these extras. It was no longer necessary.”

That collaborative approach was also applied to Regenstein Macaque Forest when the new building opened in 2015. Data collection there is helping Fisher Center scientists understand how snow monkey behavior and space use change based on season, weather, visitor crowd size and other variables. Such

*Scientific tools optimize care for species ranging from pygmy hippopotamuses to western lowland gorillas. Feces offer a non-invasive means for Rachel Santymire, Ph.D., director of the Davee Center for Epidemiology and Endocrinology, to measure sex and stress hormones. Rigorous behavioral monitoring from the Lester E. Fisher Center for the Study and Conservation of Apes is another avenue for improving well-being.*



information helps caregivers plan everything from exhibit access to distribution of food for foraging.

“We’ve been looking at how the snow monkeys use the exhibit based on temperature—for instance, when they spend more time in the cave or on the heated rocks near the viewing window,” says Research Scientist Katherine Cronin, Ph.D., who oversees the behavioral monitoring and computer touch-screen cognition studies at the 1-year-old exhibit. “After looking over seven months of data, we were able to answer a question from Animal Care about whether the monkeys are using heated rocks. We could use our data to demonstrate that it’s worth their time and effort to turn on those rocks because the macaques do spend more time there when it’s colder.” Space-use data also showed the monkeys were occupying areas of the exhibit with fans hidden behind rocks when summer temperatures exceeded 85 degrees Fahrenheit.

Cronin says the data revealed the monkeys spend more time, not less, near the viewing windows when visitor crowds are larger. “That was surprising,” she says. “The next piece of the puzzle is finding out what they’re doing there and why.”

During cognition sessions, Cronin is always joined by a zookeeper in the research booth. “That’s because we want to constantly be exchanging information to make sure we are providing the best environment for the monkeys. Someone might notice, ‘Ono seems a little slow today’ or ‘It looks like Izumi is about to give birth.’ We can then decide to shorten a touch-screen session or give them additional space. We’re cycling ideas all the time.”

### **Adding an App**

The Fisher Center’s behavioral-monitoring system is the prototype for an expansion of such monitoring efforts across the entire zoo. Under the guidance of Senior Vice President Megan Ross, Ph.D., the zoo developed ZooMonitor—an ethogram-

oriented app similar to the Fisher Center’s iPrim8 app—that can be programmed for various levels of users, from volunteers to zookeepers to scientists.

Jason Wark, Ph.D., the zoo’s welfare monitoring post-doctoral fellow, supervises this rapidly expanding program and also collaborates with Santymire in the Davee Center to analyze hormone data related to animals being monitored. The goal is to build an easy-to-use system fully integrated into animal-care management at every animal house and exhibit—and, ultimately, available to other zoos as well.

“We currently have 14 partners in the zoo and aquarium community testing out this app with us,” says Wark. Cronin brought ZooMonitor to Chimfunshi, a chimpanzee sanctuary in Zambia, where they use it for basic monitoring. And Bethany Hansen, Ph.D., a Fisher Center research fellow, is using it at Chimp Haven, the national chimpanzee sanctuary in Louisiana.

Wark has monitored many species at the zoo to measure stress levels and reproductive cycles. To do so, he oversees a collaborative team that includes Animal Care staff, scientists and a growing number of dedicated volunteers recruited from the public and other zoo departments. Together, they’ve studied social tensions among the African painted dogs during winter when the pack spent more time in close quarters in their den, analyzed whether nearby exhibit construction raised stress levels for the giraffes and monitored the pygmy hippo breeding pair for signs of interest between the two. This summer, Wark is leading an ambitious pilot project that monitors most of the species at Regenstein African Journey.

“Getting results for animal-care management is the goal,” says Wark. “The challenge now is how to get from the massive amount of data I’m drowning in to providing useful, specific info on a more frequent basis.” One outside-the-box solution that Wark is working on: generating dashboard-style reports and modules by applying business intelligence software to the data.





"It's no different than what we're doing—taking tons of data and trying to turn it into info for people to make decisions that benefit the animals in our care," says Wark.

*Left: The Fisher Center's behavioral monitoring and voluntary touch-screen studies were built into the state-of-the-art Regenstein Macaque Forest when the habitat opened last year. Center, right: Volunteer Evelyn Bray and Welfare Monitoring Post-Doctoral Fellow Jason Wark, Ph.D., consult on animal observations. The zoo-designed ZooMonitor app offers a standardized way to collect behavioral observations—and tie them to care.*



#### Life in the Lab

See Davee Center Director Rachel Santymire, Ph.D., talk rhino matchmaking and collecting hippo drool at [lpzoo.org/magazine](http://lpzoo.org/magazine).

## Working on Well-Being

Lincoln Park Zoo's emphasis on care also applies to mentoring the next generation of scientists and animal caregivers. We asked two recent interns to comment on their experiences:

**Kate Suor**

*Lester E. Fisher Center for the Study and Conservation of Apes*

"I worked on behavioral monitoring twice a week for eight months at Regenstein Center for African Apes. Using the iPrim8 app, I did 10-minute focal studies where you record the chimpanzees' and gorillas' behaviors and social proximity to each other in 30-second segments. It's a complex ethogram, and I used a fair amount of it.

The hardest part was learning to ID all the apes quickly. Especially when you're recording social proximity—in contact, far away—and have to remember where everyone was the second the buzzer goes off. It takes a while to get your rhythm.

I'm applying to veterinary school this year. Even though this is a different field, I think it's important for vets to study not only physiology but behavioral aspects as well to get a more comprehensive view."

**Katie Van Singel**

*ZooMonitor*

"I helped Jason Wark with ZooMonitor projects four days a week last fall. I started by overseeing volunteers and monitoring black bears, rhinos, kingfishers and Guam rails.

I worked a lot on the black-and-white colobus monkeys after the new baby was born. We were watching for potential conflict with the Allen's swamp monkeys who share the exhibit, but it was mostly just display behavior. Jason also had me look up scientific papers, including a dissertation comparing red pandas' behavior in the wild and at zoos.

My goal is to become a zookeeper, and I currently have a seasonal job at Topeka Zoo where I help care for river hippos, giraffes and birds. This was a really unique opportunity to gain an in-depth understanding of animals I hope to one day manage full time."





# Fun and Fit

BY CRAIG KELLER

Spend enough time around animal care staff at the zoo and you're bound to hear the term "enrichment" a lot. You might assume it refers only to objects or food placed in exhibits to boost animal activity: boomer balls for big cats to claw, leafy browse for Sichuan takin to graze on, puzzle feeders that support chimpanzees' problem-solving skills. And, yes, that is enrichment. But it's only one facet of daily caregiving that's more complex and nuanced than meets the eye.

"Broadly speaking, enrichment is anything we can provide or change in an animal's environment to encourage natural behaviors," says Allison Kao, the zoo's behavioral husbandry and enrichment manager. "It could be as simple as moving branches around for an animal that likes to climb or providing nesting materials for birds."

Applying scientific rigor to the enrichment zookeepers provide animals on a daily basis is a relatively new discipline in the zoo community. Kao's position was created in November 2014 to manage and grow the process within a structured framework. She started with an organizational method called SPIDER, first developed at Disney's Animal Kingdom, that's been adopted by many zoos within the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. The acronym stands for Setting Goals, Planning, Implementing, Documenting, Evaluating and Re-Adjusting.

"Institutions are all looking for better ways to evaluate enrichment," says Kao. "Currently, many zoos focus on the effectiveness of individual enrichment items rather than comprehensively evaluating enrichment that targets multiple behavioral goals."

To help keepers set goals for animals, Kao draws on behavioral studies done in the wild and at zoos. Unfortunately, such research is lacking for many species.

"We make a lot of educated guesses," says Kao. Fortunately, the zoo has developed a mobile ethogram app—ZooMonitor—that helps Animal Care staff and volunteers record and assess a wide range of animal behaviors. Kao is working closely with Welfare Monitoring Post-Doctoral Fellow Jason Wark, Ph.D., who oversees the ZooMonitor program, to integrate that data-collection process into the enrichment program. She also has a wealth of behavioral-monitoring data on chimpanzees, gorillas and Japanese macaques from the Lester E. Fisher Center for the Study and Conservation of Apes.

"We're using our research and knowledge about different species to develop ranged goals for broad activity categories and specific behaviors," says Kao. "We then use ZooMonitor to see if we're reaching those goals with a particular enrichment strategy. Eventually, we hope to develop a framework other zoos can use as well."

In addition to offering enrichment, the zoo's keepers are also



adept at operant conditioning—using positive reinforcement to encourage animals to become active, voluntary participants in their daily care.

“Giving animals more choice makes them more motivated to participate in their own care and interact with keepers,” says Kao. “Some animals are easier than others, though, and you have to be creative in the way you reward them. It doesn’t always have to be food. Snakes, for instance, like heated areas and scents. So you can use that to your advantage and alter their living space accordingly if you want them to come to a certain area.”

The Kovler Seal Pool’s recent revamp offers one such opportunity. “We’d like to make things more exciting underwater with artificial kelp,” says Kao. “And the larger deck space also gives keepers more options during training sessions.”

Inspiring excitement for the animals is also the mission of the Volunteer Enrichment Group, the creative crafters behind the edible piñatas distributed to animals on special occasions. “We’d like to grow that program,” says Kao. “Make different types of enrichment other than just piñatas—like balls made from fire hose that encourage prey-manipulation behavior in big cats.”

Such items call for creative repurposing and supply sourcing. “We have a volunteer at Regenstein Center for African Apes who used to be a firefighter, so he usually helps us out,” says Kao. Donated, untreated conifers from nurseries or botanical gardens are also coveted for their versatility. “Some bird species love to use the needles for nesting materials,” says Kao. “And big cats and rhinos love to rub against them because of their smell and texture.” (Zoo supporters can purchase enrichment for the animals at [lpzoo.org/wish-list](http://lpzoo.org/wish-list).)

Enrichment items, however, are simply tools that will help the zoo continue to elevate its exemplary animal care standards.

“I’m just really excited to be part of growing this program,” says Kao. “The keepers are the key component, pushing the boundaries of our standard of care for our animals. I’m just here to support them and provide the tools they need to be successful—just as they do for the animals every day.”

*Opposite: Behavioral Husbandry and Enrichment Manager Allison Kao observes an operant-condition session led by Assistant Lead Keeper Jill Tade. Right: Developing enrichment items to encourage natural behaviors is a team effort, including keepers such as Michal Kisielinski (top) and Annette Van der Griend (bottom) plus the creative members of the Volunteer Enrichment Group, represented here by Liz Gast.*



# Fresh Feathers

BY JAMES SEIDLER

As species go, flamingos carry some very specific associations. Tropical. Beach-loving. Pink. These dynamic birds are often reduced to a kind of Caribbean commercial, as sweet and simple as a mixed drink on a cruise ship.

As always, reality is more complicated. Take the Chilean flamingos at Lincoln Park Zoo's Waterfowl Lagoon, for instance. This cold-hardy species ranges up to 14,000 feet in the Andes, meaning they're tough enough to thrive in Chicago's winters. They do favor waterside living, skimming out algae and plankton meals with their specially adapted beaks. But they aren't always pink, as we saw last September with the arrival of Lincoln Park Zoo's first-ever flamingo chicks, who came out of the shell with gray feathers.

## Nurturing Nesting

Before we meet those five flamingo chicks, though, it's only appropriate to share the long road leading to their arrival. Lincoln Park Zoo's bird experts had spent decades trying to encourage breeding among the Chilean flamingo flock, which includes more than 40 birds.

"We made a lot of changes trying to find the optimal conditions for this

group," says Hope B. McCormick Curator of Birds Sunny Nelson. Knowing that the species naturally favors dense living conditions—flamingos can live in flocks of up to 10,000 birds in the wild—Animal Care staff worked with experts in the zoo's Horticulture department to reshape the landscape around the flamingos' beach, using shrubs and other exhibit features to convey the tight living quarters they prefer.

Similarly, caregivers tried a number of approaches to spur the birds to build their distinctive, pillar-like mud nests. They saturated the ground to make it more amenable to building. They built sample nests with the hope of encouraging the birds to do likewise. Despite all that work, they saw flamingo eggs only once—a non-viable set in 2008.

Rather than be discouraged, though, Animal Care staff kept trying to provide the right conditions for breeding. Last year they changed the soil-turning procedures to make sure the soil was the best consistency for building nests. They also waited until they saw courtship behaviors to deploy the species' special breeding diet. Those tweaks—along with the refinements





preceding them—were followed with a set of fresh eggs last fall. “We were so excited to see the eggs in those nests,” says Nelson. “After I heard the news, I screamed with joy for about a minute.”

### Flirting in Formation

For flamingos, breeding is very much a communal affair. The process seems to be fueled by numbers, as whole flocks of the birds perform elaborate, synchronized displays to jumpstart mating.

What behaviors can observers see, both at the zoo and in the wild? There’s the head flag, where the birds swivel their heads from side to side, calling loudly. A twist preen has the flamingos stretch their heads back to the rears of their bodies. And wing salutes and inverted wing salutes see the flamingos spread their richly patterned feathers, occasionally flapping their wings forward in one big rush.

The intricate interactions serve a practical purpose: by courting together, flamingos ensure they lay their eggs at the

same time. This helps the next generation of chicks to all hatch and mature together at the same rate—an important consideration for a big flock on the move.

### Happy Hatches

With all that biology behind us, it’s finally time to focus on Lincoln Park Zoo’s first-ever flamingo chicks. Five of them hatched in September 2015 thanks to a breeding recommendation from the Chilean Flamingo Species Survival Plan®. And they came out of their shells looking completely different from the adults in the flock.

Juvenile flamingos almost look like little gulls, with fine, fuzzy gray feathers and straight, orange beaks. They change as they age: around the 2.5-month mark, the beaks begin to curve, trending toward the downward trajectory of adult flamingos. The down of youth is replaced with full-grown feathers around the 4–6-month mark. But even these new feathers remain gray. It’s only with time—and a steady diet rich in natural pigments called carotenoids—that the growing flamingos take on the spectacular pink plumage we associate with the species.

“They start off looking completely different from how they mature,” says Nelson.



*From incubation to debut, close care accompanied every stage of the development of the zoo's first-ever flamingo chicks.*



Lincoln Park Zoo's Animal Care staff had an intimate vantage point for watching the chicks grow. They were caring for the little flamingos personally, as our experts had made the decision to incubate the eggs and hand-rear these first hatchlings. "This was obviously a first for the flock, and we felt that hand-rearing them was the best option for ensuring healthy chicks," says Nelson.

The choice ensured some long hours for caregivers. Baby birds are a famously hungry bunch, and the bird department staff was committed to ensuring that the little flamingos received all the nutrients they needed to thrive.

Flamingo chicks feed on "crop milk," a nutritious substance produced within the crop, a pouch-like portion of the digestive system found in both male and female flamingos. Animal Care staff offered the chicks a specially crafted substitute, ensuring the little ones' crops were full with feedings every two hours from 7:30 a.m.–10:30 p.m. "We had keepers and managers putting in late shifts for a couple months, but after around two months we felt comfortable enough with their weights to transition to the adult diet," says Zoological Manager of Birds Andy van Laan.

After that, it was mostly a matter of waiting for the chicks to mature enough to be introduced to the rest of the flock—and to make their outdoor debut. The first part was relatively easy; the chicks did most of their growing in full sight (and sound) of the rest of the flock. When it was time for the birds to meet, the process went off without a hitch. "It was a really easy introduction—we put them together, and everyone was fine," says van Laan.

Heading outdoors took a little more time. While adults are accustomed to Chicago winters, caregivers didn't want to expose the chicks to February frost without careful acclimation. They also wanted to ensure the chicks were big enough to manage life on the pond—and life away from caregivers—without issues. A few "field trips" on nice days to a sunny pen outside the flamingo building eased the chicks into outdoor life under the watchful eyes of keepers. Then, on March 7, they made their debut with the full flock outdoors, and they've been together ever since.

### Back to Breeding Season

The Chilean flamingo flock still has a breeding recommendation from the Species Survival Plan, and Animal Care staff hope for a repeat of last summer's success. Even as the growing chicks have added a dash of youthful energy to the flock, the grown-ups have returned to the very adult business of attempting to woo one another with wing salutes and other elaborate displays. Whether more eggs will result isn't a sure thing, but Animal Care staff are motivated to offer the best conditions for breeding.

"Welcoming our first chicks was great," says Nelson. "We're going to try the same thing this year and hope for another successful season."



*As the adult Chilean flamingos return to nest building and breeding displays at the Waterfowl Lagoon, care staff led by Hope B. McCormick Curator of Birds Sunny Nelson hope for a repeat of last year's success.*



# Flamingopalooza

BY KELLY MCGRATH



As part of the zoo's commitment to preventive medical care for the animals, every year Lincoln Park Zoo's Dr. Lester E. Fisher Director of Veterinary Medicine Kathryn Gamble, D.V.M., and a team from the bird department gathers up our flock of flamingos for their annual physicals.

Dr. K, as she is known around here, calls it Flamingopalooza.

"Obviously we try to be as gentle as possible when collecting the birds to move them into the dome for their check-ups," says Gamble. "But there is still a certain amount of ruffled feathers and a good display of pink plumage."

To optimize health among the zoo's residents, the veterinary staff spends 60–70 percent of their time on preventive care. For this flock, the procedure includes a good look at eyes, ears, mouths, legs and feet; a good listen to hearts and lungs; and, in the case of flamingos and some other outdoor bird species, vaccination against West Nile virus, a mosquito-borne disease that is common among birds and peaks in the summer in Chicago.

"Because the flamingos spend so much time outside, and they are particularly susceptible to West Nile virus, it's important we conduct the physicals before mosquito season—and before breeding season, so we are not handling them during egg laying," says Gamble. The vaccination is also beneficial for the chicks, as their mothers can transfer antibodies against the virus through the egg white.

Any given year, the preventive medicine schedule includes 350–400 patients—about half the zoo's population—young and old, large and small, feathered, furry and fanged. Procedures range from dental exams to ultrasounds to blood tests.

"A lot of species instinctively hide symptoms of illness, which in the wild are signs of weakness, therefore making sick animals more vulnerable to predators," says Gamble. "Annual exams provide the closer look we need as well as the opportunity

to really get to know the animals. Both aspects shed further light on potential health issues."

Another important element of animal health is nutrition, to which Gamble brings an added and unique expertise. A graduate of the Cordon Bleu cooking school, she frequently shares her culinary skills with friends and family. However, in her own kitchen last year, she used those same skills to help foster the growth and well-being of the zoo's five newly hatched Chilean flamingo chicks, who last spring were being carefully hand-reared by Bird Department staff (see previous feature).

"The main challenge was that the necessary consistency of the formula—made with hard-boiled eggs—could clog the feeding tubes," says Gamble. "So, in advance of the hatching, I suggested an alternative from molecular cuisine!"

The dual expert offered her own restaurant-grade, stainless-steel food processor that operates on food frozen to -80 degrees Fahrenheit. The result is essentially hard-boiled egg "snow" that melted the contents into an entirely liquefied meal. It was so successful that veterinarians and animal care staff had to decrease the volume to ensure the chicks didn't gain too much weight.

"It's hard to describe the excitement among our entire team when we discovered how well—perfectly, really—the feeding system worked," says Gamble. "We were...well, tickled pink."

*Eyes, feet and wings are all checked in the full-flock Chilean flamingo exam led by Dr. Lester E. Fisher Director of Veterinary Medicine Kathryn Gamble, D.V.M.*







# Meet the New Arrivals

## Multiple Macaques

Regenstein Macaque Forest welcomed three new arrivals this spring, bringing the resident snow monkey troop to 12 members. Izumi gave birth to a girl, Iwaki, on March 18. Ono gave birth to a girl, Otaru, on April 13. And Nara gave birth to a girl, Nagoya, on April 26.

That each kid shares a first letter with mom is no coincidence. Each baby in the troop is named after a Japanese city with the same first letter as mom's name. The naming system makes it easy to track descent in a species known for enduring female lineages.

That doesn't mean each new arrival was named in the same manner, though. Izumi picked her little one's name with a special touch-screen session arranged by scientists at the Lester E. Fisher Center for the Study and Conservation of Apes. Otaru was chosen by fans of the zoo in a special poll. And Nagoya was determined in a collaboration between Animal Care staff and some of the zoo's dedicated donors.

## New Zoo Royalty

Tiny is the head that carries a crown...if you're referring to the little crowned lemur born at the Helen Brach Primate House on April 17. Beyond joining a family group composed of mom Tucker, dad Sokkwi and sisters Sava and Volana, the new arrival also boosts a species that's endangered in the wild. Native to Madagascar, these active primates forage through the forest canopy for fruits and leaves.

## A Cute Camel

The baby Bactrian camel born at the Antelope & Zebra Area on May 9 entered the world in a public manner, with mom Nasan giving birth in the species' outdoor yard. The new arrival spent some formative days inside afterward building a bond with mom but was soon exploring outdoors—and showing off the species' size!

## Substitute Stork

For the second year in a row, the European white stork breeding pair at Regenstein Birds of Prey Exhibit fostered an egg from a nest at another zoo. This year's chick, which hatched May 5, came to Chicago from Detroit Zoo. These careful cross-zoo moves are intended to take advantage of the proven parenting skills of Lincoln Park Zoo's stork pair.

*Nearly every new arrival at the zoo comes about thanks to a breeding recommendation from a Species Survival Plan®, a shared management effort by institutions throughout the Association of Zoos and Aquariums.*



### A New Way to Name

See snow monkey Izumi choose her daughter's name on one of the touch-screens at Regenstein Macaque Forest at [lpzoo.org/magazine](http://lpzoo.org/magazine).





*Snow monkeys Iwaki, Nagoya and Otaru were born this spring at Regenstein Macaque Forest. The zoo also welcomed a European stork chick, Bactrian camel calf and little crowned lemur.*



# Coming Together for Chimpanzees

BY JAMES SEIDLER

Chimpanzees can do some pretty amazing things. At Lincoln Park Zoo alone, this complex species has shown a faculty for using tools, navigating fluid social hierarchies, sequencing objects on touch-screen computers and even trading tokens for treats (and seeking the optimal return on their investment). It's no surprise that many feel that when humanity looks in the mirror, this fellow ape comes closest to peering back.

That's not to say chimpanzees don't need our help. The species is endangered in the wild, and recognition of that status has only belatedly been extended to chimpanzees in the United States, thanks in part to lobbying by the Lester E. Fisher Center for the Study and Conservation of Apes. Many chimpanzees in this country have experienced challenging personal histories—as pets and performers—and late arrivals to sound, sustainable homes.

Lincoln Park Zoo has long led the way in finding suitable homes for chimpanzees through our Project ChimpCARE. Our peers at the national chimpanzee sanctuary, Chimp Haven, have in turn provided a refuge for hundreds of chimpanzees retired from service in labs. It's only natural that the two institutions would team up to benefit the species they love. And yet, the partnership they launched last fall is unprecedented.

## Linking Leaders

"This is the first major partnership between an accredited zoo and a chimpanzee sanctuary in this country," says Fisher Center Director Steve Ross, Ph.D. "We're excited to be setting the standard here. Lincoln Park Zoo and Chimp Haven are both leaders in their fields, and with this collaboration, we'll be able to share resources to improve care at both institutions and beyond."

Located near Shreveport, Louisiana, Chimp Haven was founded in 1995 to advance the long-term housing and care of chimpanzees. When Congress passed the CHIMP Act in 2000, establishing a national sanctuary, Chimp Haven was chosen to create and manage it. Their facility was built on 200 acres of land donated by northwest Louisiana's Caddo Parish Commission, with the first chimpanzees arriving in 2005. Those early arrivals have since been joined by additional retirees, with nearly 200 chimpanzees making their home at the sanctuary today.

Chimp Haven and Lincoln Park Zoo have long shared a collegial partnership, as evidenced by Ross serving as chair of the sanctuary's board of directors. Still, the official partnership—funded by a generous grant from the Arcus Foundation in fall 2015—established formal ties spurring the two organizations to work together to advance chimpanzee welfare.

The teamup is best embodied in one person: Fisher Center Research Fellow Bethany Hansen, Ph.D. Hansen is a Lincoln Park Zoo employee...based full time at Chimp Haven. She came to the zoo in fall 2015 after earning her doctoral degree studying the Ngogo community of wild chimpanzees in Uganda's Kibale National Park. Moving from Uganda to Louisiana was a big transition, but her fundamental work—observing chimpanzees—remains the same.

"Much of my day is devoted to monitoring the chimpanzees," says Hansen. "I use the same setup that Lincoln Park Zoo has employed for more than a decade, non-invasively recording details on space use, social interaction and other behaviors."

Fisher Center scientists have collected thousands of hours of behavioral observations at Regenstien Center for African Apes, a massive dataset that has spurred invaluable findings about chimpanzee preferences. Extending the program to Chimp Haven, though, moves the number of chimpanzees under observation from roughly a dozen to more than 200. As you'd expect, the possibilities with the larger group have the scientists salivating.

"We already know from Lincoln Park Zoo that access to outdoor habitats increases daily travel distances for chimpanzees," says Ross. "What will you see at Chimp Haven, where some chimpanzees have 6 acres of forested land available? How can we use those insights to improve care everywhere?"

Observing the chimpanzees in each setting is at the heart of the partnership, but the ties between Lincoln Park Zoo and Chimp Haven will run deeper than that. Educating the public about chimpanzees and their conservation needs is also a priority at both institutions. Chimp Haven hosts monthly Discovery Days to share their mission with guests, even as Lincoln Park Zoo is host to 3.5 million annual visitors. Sharing insights from educational programs at each institution offers a great way to grow. The same open spirit applies to fields as diverse as animal care, infrastructure and even communications.

"We both want to share what we know to make life better for chimpanzees," says Ross. "That's a great measure for success."





*Research Fellow Bethany Hansen, Ph.D., conducts behavioral observations at Chimp Haven as part of the unprecedented partnership between Lincoln Park Zoo and the national chimpanzee sanctuary. The 200-acre site is home to nearly 200 chimpanzees (and periodic family-day visitors). By working together, Lincoln Park Zoo and Chimp Haven can evaluate care at both institutions and beyond.*



### **Collaborating for Chimpanzees**

See how Lincoln Park Zoo and Chimp Haven are teaming up to advance chimpanzee welfare in a special video at [lpzoo.org/magazine](http://lpzoo.org/magazine).





# Nurturing a New Natural Landscape

BY CRAIG KELLER

Nature Boardwalk at Lincoln Park Zoo teems with thousands of prairie plants, at least 130 bird species, three turtle species, butterflies, dragonflies, bluegill, largemouth bass and pumpkinseed fish. This designed ecosystem is bursting with life and seems as complete as can be. Yet its centerpiece—the small island in the South Pond—remains a work in progress. Blame it on the birds.



The zoo halted restoration of the island in 2011 after black-crowned night herons, an endangered migratory species in Illinois, began nesting on the half-acre habitat. Over the past few years, though, that island colony dispersed as the herons began favoring other nesting sites—including the tree canopy above the red wolf exhibit at the Pritzker Family Children's Zoo. It is a perfect time to transform the island's landscape, an effort generously funded by longtime zoo supporters Ginny and Peter Foreman.

This past March, the zoo's horticulturists began clearing unwanted trees. They cut down nonnatives such as mulberry and willow to make way for native plantings. They removed box elders that were growing sideways and blocking sunlight from shrubs and ground cover below. Logs were left stacked to degrade and enrich the soil with organic matter. Some attrac-

tive, healthy trees that had been planted earlier in 2010—birch, swamp white oak, serviceberry—were left standing.

Even with the herons gone, however, there were soon other birds to consider.

"Canada geese have now basically taken over the island," says Curator of Horticulture Mike Davenport. "The challenge now is how do we plant this without the geese trampling everything?"

The solution for new plantings on higher ground is protective caging, which also keeps nibbling rabbits at bay. (Rabbits, in case you're wondering, reach the island when ice forms on the pond during winter.) More vulnerable are aquatic plants, like giant bur-reed and soft rush, that gardeners will plant along the shoreline. Custom fencing designed by the zoo's Facilities department to blend in with the perennial marsh plants should lessen the impact of the geese while still providing gaps through which ducks and other waterfowl can access the island.

Songbirds and butterflies will join the geese as flowering and fruiting trees such as prairie crabapple, wild black cherry and winterberry mature over the next few years. Zoo gardeners are also planting conifers, including juniper and arborvitae, that will provide additional cover for songbirds as well as evergreen winter interest. Bald cypress, a deciduous conifer, and blackgum will also thrive in this watery home. Viburnum, hydrangeas and summer-blooming perennials such as anise hyssop and swamp mallow will provide additional splashes of color and fragrance.

"We're leaning toward plants that will be happy out here, rabbit-proof and tough enough to handle geese but also that will provide good fall color," says Davenport. "Butterfly-host





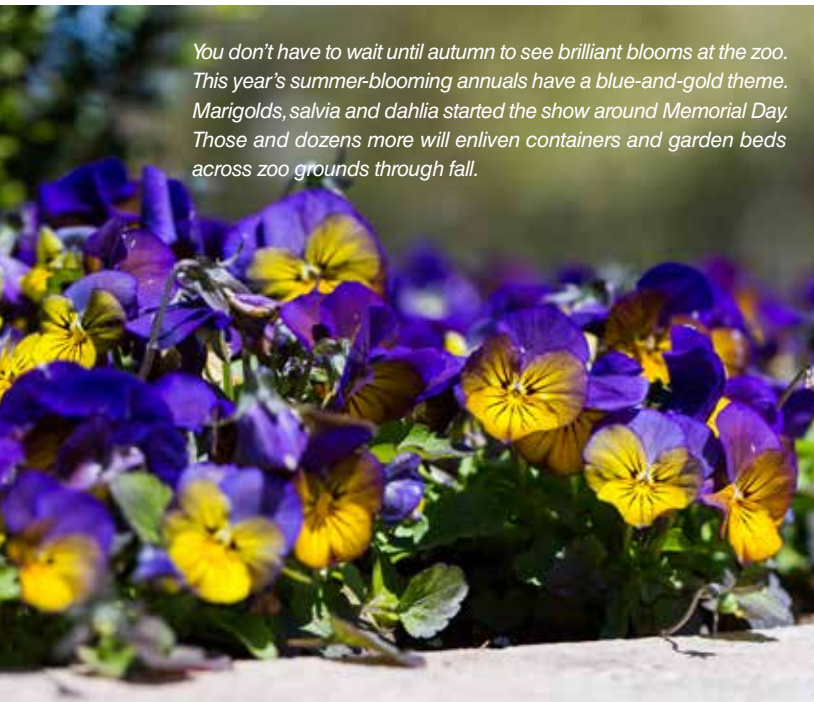
*Photo by Joel Pond*

plants like milkweed look great, but no one will be able to see them from far away, and we already have loads of milkweed in the prairie.”

That picture-postcard aesthetic has been carefully considered. “Everything south of Nature Boardwalk is dull yellow in autumn, so this will provide a big pop against that background,” says Davenport. “The Lester E. Fisher Bridge will be a great place to see it from. We also want to keep things low so you can still see the John Hancock Center behind the island while standing on the north shore of the pond.”

How long will it take for that leafy vista to take shape? “I can only make the trees grow so fast,” cautions Davenport. “But some of these might be supercharged. Once that bald cypress gets its feet in the water it will catch up to the bigger trees pretty quickly.”

*You don't have to wait until autumn to see brilliant blooms at the zoo. This year's summer-blooming annuals have a blue-and-gold theme. Marigolds, salvia and dahlia started the show around Memorial Day. Those and dozens more will enliven containers and garden beds across zoo grounds through fall.*



## Nature in Focus

Following the success of 2015's Nature in Motion: Sculpture at Lincoln Park Zoo, we're launching another outdoor event to celebrate Chicago's artists and the zoo's gardens.

Nature in Focus: Photography at Lincoln Park Zoo will showcase 20 large-format photos of “Chicago-area nature in public spaces” from July 1–September 5. The winning images were handpicked by an esteemed committee from submissions in a contest open to the public. Look for the exhibition on the zoo's Main Mall and learn more at [lpzoo.org/nature-in-focus](http://lpzoo.org/nature-in-focus).





# news of the zoo

## Grand Openings Ahead

At the north end of the zoo, the upcoming Robert and Mayari Pritzker Penguin Cove and Walter Family Arctic Tundra are taking shape as expansive homes for African penguins and polar bears. The contours of the penguins' pool are clearly visible, along with the beach where the cozy colony will chatter and chase. Similarly, the sturdy training wall where polar bears will display Arctic adaptations stands tall, even as sunken pools and an ice cave await cooling retreats.

After finishing touches are applied and new animals have arrived, the two new habitats will celebrate their grand openings this fall. The Robert and Mayari Pritzker Penguin Cove will be unveiled in October, and the Walter Family Arctic Tundra will debut in November. Keep an eye on [lpzoo.org](http://lpzoo.org) for the final dates—and don't miss our exclusive member sneak peeks beforehand (see "Membership Matters," page 20).

## Spring Swabs for Native Amphibians

Zoo scientists have again taken to the field to study local wildlife—and threats impacting native species. Beginning in April, Reintroduction Biologist Allison Sacerdote-Velat, Ph.D., and Wildlife Disease Ecologist Mary Beth Manjerovic, Ph.D., led a surveying team to "swab" amphibians to study their health in Lake, Kane and DuPage Counties.

The catch-and-release program tests species from spring peepers to bullfrogs for the potentially devastating chytrid fungus, which the zoo scientists discovered in the Chicago area for the first time last year. When the amphibians are in hand, they're

also given a quick skin swab to gather hormones to evaluate amphibian stress levels in partnership with the Davee Center for Epidemiology and Endocrinology. "This is an exciting new method we developed to non-invasively gather data on amphibian health," says Davee Center Director Rachel Santymire, Ph.D.

## A Teen-Led Nature Event

On Saturday, May 7, the zoo's Conservation Ambassadors Board offered families and kids a hands-on introduction to Urban Wildlife in the Urban Daylight. The teen-led group, organized by the Hurvis Center for Learning Innovation and Collaboration, used Nature Boardwalk at Lincoln Park Zoo as their special setting to highlight the local work

of Lincoln Park Zoo's Urban Wildlife Institute (UWI). Participants in the bilingual event built nature crafts, planted miniature gardens and IDed photos of Chicago species taken on remote-triggered cameras installed by UWI scientists. The most dedicated attendees received bracelets highlighting their commitment to protect wildlife, and a committed few took home prizes after spinning the Sustainable Swag Wheel.

## Brightening Up the Barn

The Main Barn at the Farm-in-the-Zoo received a lively refresh this spring, with colorful paint and active play stations engaging young visitors learning about life on the Farm. A puppet theater, kid-sized chicken coop and sorting tables are among the new additions for the space, joining the chick hatchery, giant tractor and biweekly Sing Along with Electric Neil performances in offering big fun for little ones. "The Farm-in-the-Zoo has become a space where kids make their first connections with nature, so we wanted to make it as welcoming as possible," says Manager of Guest Engagement Amanda Berlinski.

## Spectacular Spring Events

The Auxiliary Board of Lincoln Park Zoo hosted their annual fundraiser, Zoo-ologie, on May 14. This year's bash took guests on an Urban Zoo-Fari, combining gala elegance with safari excitement. Dancing, delicious food and drinks and a silent auction all enlivened the event, which raised funds to support special projects at Lincoln Park Zoo.

Participants in the zoo's Young Researchers Collaborative showed off their animal-themed research projects with our 12th Annual Science Celebration at Café Brauer on May 18. Hosted by the Women's Board of Lincoln Park Zoo, this special event encouraged more than 100 students from eight Chicago-area schools to display their love of learning.

Finally, friends of the zoo offered a moving show of support with United Run for the Zoo on Sunday, June 5. This wild race offered 10k and 5k courses through the zoo, with proceeds helping to keep Lincoln Park Zoo free, open and amazing. It's possible a few participants even cooled down afterward with Yoga at the Zoo Presented by Walgreens. The stretchy summer event continues until September 18.

*Scientists are swabbing Chicago-area amphibians to study stress and look for the potentially devastating chytrid fungus. A Main Barn renovation and an outdoor nature event from the teen-led Conservation Ambassadors Board extended fun learning opportunities to young visitors.*





# wild file

## A Look Back at Macaque

Regenstein Macaque Forest, the zoo's state-of-the-art home for Japanese snow monkeys, celebrated its first anniversary this past spring. Its first year was a momentous one. The troop grew from eight to 12 members (see "Meet the New Arrivals," page 12), and the monkeys were quick to take part in voluntary touch-screen sessions overseen by Research Scientist Katherine Cronin, Ph.D., with the Lester E. Fisher Center for the Study and Conservation of Apes.

"In recent months we've been giving the macaques a new challenge in the touch-screen booths: sequencing colored dots," says Cronin. "We already know from past research that monkeys can do this task. But we wanted to offer it to our snow monkeys to give them a chance to learn that the touch-screens are a way for us to teach them things and that the touch-screens can 'ask' them questions that have right and wrong answers."

## Little Turtles on the Prairie

A collaborative effort to restore a population of ornate box turtles in western Illinois reached a happy milestone with the June 22 release of turtles hatched and head started at Lincoln Park Zoo and Brookfield Zoo.

The project—a partnership initiated in 2011 with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service—achieved its goal of building a population of 100 ornate box turtles at Lost Mound Sand Prairie in Savanna, Illinois. The species, once found in sand prairie habitat across Illinois and five other Midwestern states, is now threatened due to habitat loss.

The zoo's 17 hatchlings received expert care in climate-controlled enclosures behind the scenes at the Kovler Lion House, which helped them enjoy a healthy head start without the risk of predation or disease. They came from eggs collected from a source population at Thomson Sand Prairie, another protected habitat located near Lost Mound.

"Half the turtles we've head started were released to Thomson, half to Lost Mound," says Curator Diane Mulkerin. "They're released into 17-acre areas that are enclosed to keep predators out. We hope they'll continue to contribute to the species' recovery as they become sexually mature over the next 10–12 years."

## Uncommon Cat

This past April the zoo welcomed a very special arrival—an Amur leopard—to the Kovler Lion House. The 1-year-old female, named Kazho, was among a litter of three cubs born in 2015 at Potawatomi Zoo in South Bend, Indiana. Currently 60 pounds, she will likely weigh between 90–100 pounds when fully mature.

Amur leopards, native to the temperate forests of southeastern Russia, are the world's most critically endangered big-cat species. Fewer than 200 individuals are estimated to survive in the wild and at zoos. Lincoln Park Zoo participates in the Amur Leopard Species Survival Plan®, a shared management effort by institutions throughout the Association of Zoos and Aquariums.



*Ornate box turtles have reestablished a healthy population in western Illinois with help from a Lincoln Park Zoo recovery program. The Kovler Lion House welcomed an Amur leopard, Kazho, in April.*

## Hornbills Abroad

The breeding pair of Blyth's hornbills said farewell to the McCormick Bird House in April, traveling to Weltvogelpark Walsrode, a well-regarded bird park in northwestern Germany that's home to more than 4,000 birds representing nearly 700 species. The international move reflected changing trends in population management and more collaboration with institutions accredited by the European Association of Zoos and Aquaria.

In recent years the pair hatched two chicks that also made international moves. One was sent to Attica Zoological Park in Athens, Greece; the other went to Jurong Bird Park in Singapore. "In the wild, when hornbill parents start to nest, the previous year's offspring naturally seeks out new territory, often joining flocks with other juvenile birds," says Hope B. McCormick Curator of Birds Sunny Nelson. "These are large birds and require lots of space to breed every year. Weltvogelpark was looking to add birds to its healthy population, and we expect they'll continue to be successful there."

The zoo plans to house various bird species that can be found in lowland forest habitats. Ground-dwelling Cracids, such as blue-billed curassows, and mid-canopy residents, such as blue-crowned motmots and others, will soon make the former hornbill habitat their new home.



### Shelled Success

See ornate box turtles return to the wild after a successful zoo head start at [lpzoo.org/magazine](http://lpzoo.org/magazine).

# membership matters

## Member Previews for New Zoo Buildings

One benefit of being a Lincoln Park Zoo member is getting a first look at amazing new habitats for animals. You can take advantage of that perk twice this fall as we host special sneak peeks for the Robert and Mayari Pritzker Penguin Cove and Walter Family Arctic Tundra!

Better yet, we're planning two sneak peeks for each habitat, so you can choose the time that's most convenient for you. Members can enjoy an early introduction to the Penguin Cove on Friday, September 30 (9–11 a.m.) or Saturday, October 1 (8–10 a.m.). Join us at the north end of the zoo to learn more about the cozy colony of African penguins that will debut this fall. Our experts will also share how institutions in the Association of Zoos and Aquariums are working together via the SAFE program to help save this endangered species from extinction.

Soon after, members and their guests can take an exclusive prowl past the Walter Family Arctic Tundra. This expansive home for the Arctic's top predators—polar bears—will host a members-only preview on Friday, November 11 (9–11 a.m.) and Saturday, November 12 (8–10 a.m.). Check out the tundra's dual pools, peek into the ice cave and see the massive training wall.

After your sneak peek, take a bit of the new zoo habitats home with you! Members who join and renew this fall will receive a Walter Family Arctic Tundra or Robert and Mayari Pritzker Penguin Cove tote as your official thank-you gift.

## Looking Back at Members-Only Fun

On Saturday, April 23, Lincoln Park Zoo members and their guests enjoyed exclusive access to the south end of the zoo for our spring Members-Only Morning celebrating Earth Day. Attendees built their own primates, fed the Bactrian camels leafy browse and decorated the window for the chimpanzees at Regenstein Center for African Apes.

Fun was also the focus of our members-only SuperZooPicnic Presented By Kalahari Resorts on June 10. Zoo supporters joined us for an after-hours Flamingo Fiesta, complete with free rides, carnival games and animal activities. Thanks to all who came—and to every member for supporting Chicago's free zoo.

## Breakfast at the Zoo

Adult Donor Club members at the Curators' Circle level and above are invited to a special Breakfast at the Zoo on Saturday, July 30. Join Dr. Lester E. Fisher Director of Veterinary Medicine Kathryn Gamble, D.V.M., from 8–9:30 a.m. to learn more about the expert care provided to Lincoln Park Zoo's diverse species.

Keep an eye on your mailbox: invitations will be mailed to eligible Donor Club members several weeks before the event. For more information, or to join the Donor Club today, please call 312-742-2171.



## Embark on a Zoo Safari Tour

Want an inside view of the zoo you love? Safari-level members and above are invited to join us this summer for our latest series of free, expert-led Zoo Safari Tours

- Saturday, July 23, 10 a.m., Zoo Detectives (family friendly)
- Sunday, July 24, 10 a.m., Step into Africa (adults only)
- Saturday, August 27, 10 a.m., 21st Century Zoos (adults only)
- Sunday, August 28, 10 a.m., Step into Africa (family friendly)

Space is limited, so register today at [lpzoo.org/memberevents](http://lpzoo.org/memberevents).

## Don't Miss a Zoo Minute



Want the latest updates on what's new at Lincoln Park Zoo, from zoo babies to upcoming events? Follow along on your favorite platform—and let us know how we're doing.



# calendar



*The summer fun includes our Adults Night Out series and the elegance of Bites, Blooms and Bordeaux.*

Seeing amazing animals is incentive enough to visit Lincoln Park Zoo 365 days a year. But summer offers even more reasons to schedule a trip to take in fun events throughout the season.

Shutterbugs can find inspiration for their own zoo photos at **Nature in Focus: Photography at Lincoln Park Zoo**. This special art exhibition—featuring large-format photographs of Chicago-area nature in public places—is on display on the Main Mall from July 1–September 5.

There will be plenty of photo ops for guests attending **Adults Night Out** on July 21 and September 8. These after-hours evenings give grownups exclusive access to the zoo, with cash bars, animal chats and live entertainment throughout the grounds.

Elegantly attired guests will flock to **Zoo Ball** on July 15. In anticipation of the fall opening of the Robert and Mayari Pritzker Penguin Cove, “Penguins in Paradise” is the theme of the Women’s Board of Lincoln Park Zoo’s signature fundraiser. Rarely have tuxedos made so much sartorial sense at a black-tie benefit.

Guests will also gather in the zoo’s gardens July 29 for **Bites, Blooms and Bordeaux**, an elegant summer evening of gourmet bites and paired wines. Strolling attendees will also enjoy live music and informal talks by zoo horticulturists and animal experts.

Culinary sophistication is also the focus of **Gather: A Farm-to-Table Dinner**, which takes place after hours August 12. This new event will highlight organic ingredients from regional farms in family-style feasts prepared by local chefs.

**Locally Sourced** is the name and agenda for the zoo’s Wednesday-night program on tap weekly from June–August at the Patio at Café Brauer. Take in the view of Nature Boardwalk at Lincoln Park Zoo while enjoying live music provided by the Old Town School of Folk Music. This refreshing outdoor event is sponsored by Half Acre Beer Company.

## Upcoming Events

### July 1–September 5

Nature in Focus: Photography at Lincoln Park Zoo

### July 9, 16 and 30, August 13 and 27

Campout at the Zoo (Sold out!)

### July 15

Zoo Ball: Penguins in Paradise

### July 21

Adults Night Out

### July 29

Bites, Blooms and Bordeaux

### August 12

Gather: A Farm-to-Table Dinner

### September 8

Adults Night Out

**Learn more and register at [lpzoo.org/calendar](http://lpzoo.org/calendar)**



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Your membership supports everything  
we do, from animal care to publishing  
Lincoln Park Zoo magazine.

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### Take Home the Pride of Chicago

Lincoln Park Zoo is launching a new campaign to update the historic heart of the zoo. Show your support for “The Pride of Chicago”—and take home a lovable, huggable plush—by ADOPTing an African lion today. ADOPT packages are available at [lpzoo.org/ADOPT](http://lpzoo.org/ADOPT), Gateway Pavilion or Wild Things! gift shop.

### Fuel the Fun on the Farm

From feeding the cows to greeting the goats, the Farm-in-the-Zoo lets guests of all ages see care up close. Support the Farm and its animals by purchasing items from our latest Wish List at [lpzoo.org/wishlist](http://lpzoo.org/wishlist).

### Don't Miss a New Arrival

We love sharing what's new at the zoo—and you can follow along on your favorite platform! Join us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or [lpzoo.org](http://lpzoo.org).

