Up Your Adventure!

Flutterby: Butterflies in Bloom returned for its FINAL SEASON on May 23 and will be open daily through Labor Day. Don’t miss this enchanting experience.

Camel rides opened in April and will run through Labor Day, offering your family a very memorable experience. To get there, follow the Wetland Trail to the end of the Hasbro’s Our Big Backyard.

Rock Spot’s Climbing wall will be back in the Wilderness Plaza during July and August, challenging little and big kids (like you!) to try your skill at reaching new heights.

A New Enclosure for our “Roos”

Thanks to our generous supporters like you, our two female Matschie’s tree kangaroos are enjoying their new enclosure in the Australasia building. The enclosure has two walls of floor to ceiling windows so you can better enjoy their behaviors as they feed and climb on their new “furniture.” Tree kangaroos are an endangered species native only to the Huon Peninsula in Papua New Guinea. They are here as part of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums’ Species Survival Program.

New Carousel Benefit for our Members!

Starting in mid-May, the Zoo took over the management of the Carousel Village in Roger Williams Park. We look forward to making a number of improvements, as well as expanding party and event options year-round. Carousel tickets are $2 per person and a packet of 12 is discounted to $20. RWP Zoo members will enjoy a reduction to only $15 for a packet of 12 rides, which gives you four free rides. The tickets can be used any time during the year. So, the next time you visit the Zoo, come take a spin on the flying horses!

Giraffe Feedings

This thrilling experience will be offered daily through October 31. They take place in the former giraffe viewing hut beside the outdoor enclosure. The $5 fee (in addition to Zoo admission) will provide a portion of food for you and your party to offer to one of our long-legged ungulates from 11am-noon and 2-3pm. These tickets will be available at the booth right next to the feeding hut. Tickets are not available online as there is no set capacity. Children must be 3 and older to participate. Details at rwpzoo.org/giraffe-feeding.

COMING THIS SUMMER: CHEETAHS!

We look forward to welcoming four sister cheetahs who are coming to us from Fossil Rim Wildlife Center in Texas. Watch for news of the exhibit opening in coming weeks.
In previous letters I have let you know about fantastic new exhibits, exciting births and our commitment to provide stellar customer service. I am so proud of all of these things that our guests enjoy every time they come to the Zoo. I am equally proud of something our guests do not typically see when they visit, our Zoo’s commitment to field conservation.

Last year we began partnering with the 96 Elephants initiative to put a stop to the international ivory trade, which if left unchecked, will contribute to the loss of this wonderful species in our children’s lifetime. Our Zoo is working hard with the other 96 Elephant partners around the nation to help save the lives of the 96 elephants that are killed every day in Africa for their ivory tusks. We have also renewed our commitment of support for the Tarangire Elephant project to fund anti-poaching guard positions to help protect these magnificent animals. These are among dozens of field projects around the globe and in our own backyard that your Zoo supports to help save animals in the wild.

As you stroll through the Zoo and pause to experience our elephants, snow leopards, rattlesnakes or tree kangaroos, remember that your Zoo is not only taking the best possible care of them, we are also working hard to protect their cousins in the wild and the habitats in which they live. With that knowledge, I hope your next trip to the Zoo is that much more special.

I hope to see you at the Zoo real soon!

Jeremy Goodman, DVM

We would like to thank the following donors who have become part of the Zookeepers’ Circle, an exclusive group of friends dedicated to maintaining the Zoo as an important cultural and educational asset for Rhode Island. These endowment gifts are crucial to the longevity of Roger Williams Park Zoo by providing a dependable, consistent source of funds for new exhibits, enhancements to existing exhibits, and capital improvements.

By Jeremy Goodman, DVM

Executive Director, RWP Zoo and RI Zoological Society
Gifts and Grants

With the continual development of new exhibits, animal care improvements and the ongoing delivery of education, research and conservation programming, Roger Williams Park Zoo relies on the generosity of individuals, foundations, trusts and corporations. The Rhode Island Zoological Society enjoys working one-on-one with such donors to match their interests with the needs of the Zoo.

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Zoo Guardians (continued)

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Liz Mauran has been a Zoo supporter for many years, serving on our Board of Trustees for a number of them, and helping to reenergize our Endowment Committee.

Liz expresses pride in RWP Zoo’s history as one of the oldest zoos in the nation, and in our track record of continual development. In particular, she has praised the Zoo’s incorporation of outdoor play and environmental education with the inclusion of Hasbro’s Our Big Backyard and Beyond the Fence nature playscapes. “I can see the benefit to hundreds of thousands of children as they not only have a place to run around in an immersive state of nature (away from the internet), but can also have their questions answered,” said Liz.

Liz also admires the Zoo’s “cutting-edge” innovation in the areas of animal care, with the improvements made to the elephant and giraffe pavilion in 2008, and our significant accomplishments in the area of conservation both locally and globally. A longtime resident of Providence, she says her favorite animal is the moose, which she hopes will be represented here at RWP Zoo one day. Well, there is a new master plan in the works, so don’t rule that out, Liz!

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**KEEPING AN EYE ON**

FrogWatch in RI

This citizen science initiative has engaged adults and school age children in monitoring local amphibian populations since 2008. Trained participants report their findings online and their collective data provides important baseline information about the populations of native species. This will help local biologists quickly recognize any decline in the face of the worldwide amphibian crisis. Since 2008, the Zoo has hosted 24 trainings with 786 citizen scientists certified. Together they have and continue to monitor over 70 sites across all five Rhode Island counties. Monitoring sessions last exactly three minutes, with temperature, wind and precipitation details noted in addition to the types of frog calls identified.

The Association of Zoos & Aquariums recognized our team for setting the national record for amount of data collected in 2014. Our volunteers collectively spent over 40 hours listening for frogs last year and submitted 899 data sheets, recording over 1,220 frog and toad observations. Way to go, team!

**DONOR PROFILE**

**LIZ MAURAN**

PASSION FOR OUTDOOR PLAY & ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Liz Mauran has been a Zoo supporter for many years, serving on our Board of Trustees for a number of them, and helping to reenergize our Endowment Committee.

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ANNUAL FUND

Donors to the Rhode Island Zoological Society help enhance the Zoo’s award-winning education programs, develop new exhibits and lend vital assistance to the Zoo’s critical conservation efforts to protect and save endangered species around the world and in our own backyard. The following individuals contributed $250 or more to the Annual Appeal.

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ALEX AND ANI FARMYARD
is Bigger and Better

The Alex and Ani Farmyard expanded in April with the opening of the new Farmhouse exhibits and play areas. The charming house features a front porch named the Bank RI Farmyard Stage. There, our dynamic theater troop, The Wild Bunch, performs several times each day. These high-energy shows feature stories, games, live animal presentations and lots of audience participation.

While you’re there, check out the new chicken and rabbit enclosures and then enjoy exploring the new garden play area. Your kids will harvest vegetables and “sell” them at the new Farm Stand, while learning about the important role farmers play in putting healthy food on our tables.

Of course, they’ll still be able to learn how to milk a cow at the Munroe Dairy milking station and fill a basket full of eggs at the Little Rhody Farm egg collection station. Additional hands-on activities suitable for a variety of ages will also be made available from time to time.

As always, you can feed our goats and sheep at our feeding station, then step inside the Contact Yard to pet and brush them. While you’re there, make sure to visit Willy the miniature donkey, the alpacas and the other animals at the farm.

ANNUAL FUND (continued)

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(continued)
Our animal collection in 2014 included over 478 individuals representing 126 species from around the world. Of these, 31 species comprise the Education collection, and 16 are part of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums Species Survival Plan (SSP).

The year brought great excitement with the addition of new species, in particular the influx of 36 animals for the new Alex and Ani Farmyard, and several births. And as always, a number of animals left us. Some were sent to new homes in order to make room for new breeding partners (usually for vulnerable or endangered species being managed through the SSP), or in cases where an exhibit was closed due to developments in our collection plan. As is to be expected in a living collection, there also were deaths, in most cases from issues related to old age and in some from illness or other causes.

2014 Births and Acquisitions
We brought in a total of 33 species, represented by 111 individual animals. *Italic* indicates an addition to the Education animal collection.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amphibians/Reptiles</th>
<th>Birds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Axolotl (4)</td>
<td>Elegant-crested tinamou (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green and black poison dart frog (6)</td>
<td>Domestic chicken, assorted breeds (15)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow-banded poison dart frog (7)</td>
<td>Common peafowl (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goldendulcean poison dart frog (6)</td>
<td>Manchurian (red-crowned)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amazon milky tree frog (4)</td>
<td>crane (1 hatch)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corn snake (1)</td>
<td>Jambu fruit dove (1)</td>
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<tr>
<th>Lorikeet (10)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Green-winged macaw (2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barn owl (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tawny frogmouth (2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Laughing kookaburra (2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bali mynah (2 hatched)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yellow-rumped cacique (2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Red wolf (1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Red panda (1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alpaca (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Masai giraffe (1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Domestic goat (1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shetland sheep (5)</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mammals</th>
<th>2014 Dispositions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Short-tailed opossum (2)</td>
<td>There were dispositions of 50 individual animals representing 32 species. Of these, 14 animals were sent to new facilities and 36 died.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red-necked (Bennett’s) wallaby (4 plus 1 birth)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Giant anteater (1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pygmy marmoset (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cotton-top tamarin (1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>North American porcupine (1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guinea pig (1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>African hedgehog (2)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Snow leopard (1)</td>
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</tbody>
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