



FALL 2019

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HOW ABOUT A DATE?



Or some raisins or dried apricots? says Kay Leigh. All our monkeys enjoy dried fruit, as well as unsalted nuts, be it peanuts, walnuts or a mix - just so long as they're unsalted. Our staff mixes them up and puts them into boxes that are wrapped and sealed with tape to make "gifts" that the monkeys enjoy opening and eating. If you'd like to bring some of these items when you visit, or mail them in, we know

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Who's Zoo?

1. She was once used as an "education" animal, and when wearing her harness and leash, she would entertain school children. In the wild, her species lives only in Japan. Who is she?
2. This fellow is here because he was jealous of his owner's fiancée, and not afraid to show it! He is a very neat eater, and eats his food directly over his dish. Who could he be?
3. He weighs 320 pounds, and was once kept illegally in horrible conditions and very underweight. He has a special friendship with Popcorn Park General Manager, John Bergmann. Any ideas who he is?

Answers Page 3

Say Hello to Bonnie and Maryann



Maryann

Bonnie and Maryann are American black bears, who came to us from Xenia, Ohio in 2005. Bonnie was then 4 years old, Maryann, then 2, as was a third bear we accepted, Ginger. Their owner was a breeder, raising and selling bear cubs which he kept in poor conditions, taking back any that did not work out. He often had more than he could manage, and they would periodically escape from the flimsy cages he kept them in and wander into town. This concerned residents, especially as a day-care center was nearby. The Xenia sheriff had warned the breeder about improving conditions and safety for the bears.

Tom Sears, also from Xenia, ran a no-kill shelter and had a livestock hauling business for domestic and exotic animals. When the breeder failed to address the issues with the bears escaping, the sheriff directed Tom to confiscate them, and Tom began a search for a permanent home.

Tom reported that the young bears, when picked up, weighed less than 50% of what they should. Happily, he found Popcorn Park, and the threesome arrived in mid-June and began the best life they'd ever had. Ginger has since passed away, but Bonnie and Maryann spend many happy hours together in their spacious area.



Bonnie

These days, the two girls are soaking up the warming sun of the early fall days, even enjoying their refreshing "above-ground pools" (gigantic feed tubs). Although they've never lived in the wild, they do what their bear genes dictate -- collect pine needles and build beds inside their dens. They enjoy their diet of omnivore biscuits, and fresh fruits and vegetables (except sweet potatoes which Bonnie is allergic to.) And wait for the occasional popcorn treat that visitors toss their way. It's a good life.

SWAN SONG

Popcorn Park is home to a wide variety of animals and birds whose circumstances led them to a permanent life of good care with us. But Popcorn Park also rescues wildlife that needs our help and intervention and who can be released right back into the wild.

We had two such cases recently in Cherry Quay and Shore Acres in Bricktown, NJ. We are called upon any number of times all year 'round to assist swans who have become entangled in carelessly discarded fishing line and/or had hooks embedded in some part of their bodies.



Popcorn Park was alerted to the Cherry Quay swan by a concerned resident. We headed out and with the help of another resident and his boat, were able to search all the surrounding lagoons for him, but with no luck.

We finally located the swan in the marsh at Perch Creek, a male with his family. He had a fishhook embedded in his neck and line wrapping around his wings. He could eat and swim, but couldn't get around very well. He was not in immediate danger, but also was unwilling to come closer than 30' to the boat to eat the pellets we threw out.

We returned Monday, and with the local residents' help, we worked off their docks, enticing him to come closer, but he wasn't having it. Wednesday, we returned again, and with a little ingenuity, managed to have the male dive for some cracked corn, gathered him up, and worked quickly on removing the fish hook and line. He happily returned to his family who all waited about 25' away.



The Shore Acres swan was a bit more complicated. A young cygnet had fishing gear in her mouth which was interfering with her ability to eat. She was with her mom, dad, and sibling, and suspicious of coming close. It took us numerous trips and several days going back and forth to various lagoons and the marsh before we could outmaneuver the swan who continued to outmaneuver Popcorn Park staff and the residents.

We finally enticed her up a boat ramp where we could grab her easily, and took her to the van to remove both fishing and crabbing lines. Concerned that she may have swallowed lead sinkers or a hook, we brought her back to Popcorn Park for X-rays. She got the all-clear and we returned to the lagoon, where, with these wonderful residents' help, we searched for hours through the lagoon and marshes to find the cygnet's family. Once reunited, the swans swam away happily. Above right, she is with her sibling.

Read the swans' rescue stories and see many more photos on Facebook-Popcorn Park Animal Refuge. And support the Zoological Society which supports the residents of Popcorn Park and our many lifesaving efforts!

A Little Early Animal-Friendly Holiday Shopping for Kids



PHOTO COURTESY: FIZKES

Popcorn Park is all about being kind. Do you know a child who loves being kind to animals? Below are a handful of book and movie ideas that are inspiring, uplifting, and entertaining for kids. All have a positive message of kindness. Look into the appropriateness for the age and maturity level of the child you have in mind, and give a gift they'll cherish..

Movies/Videos



Extra Special mention -

Dumbo

Directed by Tim Burton, who knows that circuses are cruel to animals. No animals are used in this film - they are all computer generated - and Dumbo is given a happy ending.

Lion King (remake)

Director Jon Favreau decided to keep live animals off his set and use only the best technology to create his remarkably lifelike lions and other animals.

- ◆ Ferdinand
- ◆ Babe
- ◆ Charlotte's Web
- ◆ Finding Nemo & Finding Dory
- ◆ Free Willy
- ◆ Chicken Run
- ◆ Charlotte's Web
- ◆ Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who!
- ◆ Paddington



Picture Books

- ◆ Charlotte's Web - E.B. White
- ◆ Stellaluna - Janelle Cannon
- ◆ Kitten and the Night Watchman - John Sullivan
- ◆ How to Heal A Broken Wing -Bob Graham
- ◆ Goyangi Means Cat - Christine McDonnell
- ◆ V is for Vegan: the ABC's of Being Kind - Ruby Roth
- ◆ Jasper's Story: Saving Moon Bears - Jill Robinson (older children)
- ◆ Hannah and Sugar - Kate Berube
- ◆ The Kissing Hand - Audrey Penn

What's to Eat?



This watermelon is being enjoyed by one of our red foot tortoises.

the small amounts shared with them through/over fences by visitors, so it's a looked-forward-to treat by bears, the farm animals, and monkeys. For the tortoises, we give them a small amount to enjoy, and as you can see below, it's a hit!

Who else loves a special snack? All our monkeys and baboons! Take a look at Tess, lower right, and you can see she has something with wrapping paper and is eating some nuts. For treats, we fill small boxes with dried fruits and nuts, close it with clear tape, and then wrap the box like a present. The monkeys are so intelligent - this little diversion not only gives them something to do, but also a very healthy snack inside which is good for them. Would you like to help us make gift boxes for our monkeys and baboons? See Page One.



Both our leopard tortoise friends are happy with their popcorn snack.

All our animals get the very best diets, and that includes the occasional yummy snack. Take our tortoises, for example - they have wonderful balanced meals that always include fresh fruits, vegetables, and greens. But in summer? One of their big favorites is watermelon! And they eat it just like we would!

Surprisingly, the tortoises also enjoy the air-popped popcorn we sell at the ticket booth. It's healthy, free of butter and salt, and provides fiber. Any number of the Park's residents can eat it in

Why Are Your Pupils So Wide??



Charity, a Popcorn Park resident, shows you her eye with rectangular pupil.

You might ask this question of any number of grazing animals, who all have rectangular pupils. There is a variety of pupil shapes among animals, some round like a dog's pupil, some vertical like a cat's, which you see in bright light. But grazing animals have horizontal rectangles. You will also notice these animals have eyes positioned on the sides of their heads.

The eye position and pupil shape are to help these animals better detect and escape predators. Most grazing animals are prey animals, like sheep, goats, horses, etc. Eye position helps them see nearly all around them, while the pupil shape enhances the amount of light received in front of and behind them, and reduces light from above and below. This gives them something akin to panoramic vision at ground level. It helps them spot predators as early as possible, and gives them an enhanced view to assist their escape when running at high speeds.

Consider giving a membership to the Zoological Society as a holiday gift!

Join the Zoological Society & Save on Visits All Year Long

Yes! I want to help support Popcorn Park. Sign me up for the Zoological Society!

- Please sign me up as a new member at the membership* level below:
- Please renew my membership* at the level below:
- Enclosed is a donation of \$ _____ for Popcorn Park
- \$75 - Family \$60 - Single
- \$50 - Golden Opportunity \$90 - Sustaining
- \$150 - Donor \$500 - Patron \$1,000 - Sponsor

My Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

* NOTE - Membership prices are subject to change

You can also learn more/ join online - www.ahscare.org - go to Shop and select Zoological Society.

Answers to Who'sZoo?

1. Tess is a snow macaque, native only to Japan. It is not known how the owner originally obtained her, but she cared a great deal for Tess while she had her. When Tess reached maturity, she began to challenge the woman for dominance and was no longer safe to bring to classes, or to share a home. Tess is very affectionate to staff and loves human company.



2. Mickey the African grey loved his person, but not the man she intended to marry. He became aggressive to him, wanting the woman all to himself. (Not at all unusual for birds who bond closely with one person.) Mickey is happy here and has a very good life enjoying his time and attention with staff.

3. The largest tortoise at Popcorn Park, Max has a very large indoor and outdoor area all to himself, and a special friend in John. Once in terrible shape, he's now one big, happy boy!

p.s. All the animals in Who'sZoo can be sponsored in the Wildlife Club.

ZOONOOZ

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Health Danger in Popular Herbicide



PHOTO COURTESY: DAN WILLIS

In 2015, The World Health Organization concluded that glyphosate, the main ingredient in Roundup, was a “likely carcinogen”. A recent toxicology report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, part of the U.S. Health Dept. agrees. The widely used herbicide threatens the health of applicators and farm workers, and ends up in our food and water supplies. Despite this, the Trump Environmental Protection Agency has maintained it is not a carcinogen. In fact, the EPA has ignored the advice of its own science advisors who have rejected the agency’s no-cancer-risk classification. Monsanto, now owned by Bayer, has lost a string of multi-million dollar lawsuits brought by users of Roundup who’ve been diagnosed with non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma. It has also been linked to non-cancer related damage to the immune system, kidney, liver, reproductive system, and early development. It can potentially affect your children, your pets, and any other animals you may have that are exposed to it. Learn more at nrdc.org
With a little research online, you can find numerous safe, alternative, and/or home-made herbicides.

HOW ABOUT A DATE?

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know who’d love you so much -- all our monkeys!
Our staff will make up “gifts” with exactly the favorite mix that each monkey loves. Please do not make boxes up ahead of time on your own as staff would have to open each one and inspect it for safety, but bags or boxes of dried fruit and nuts are perfect! You can mail to Popcorn Park and say it’s for the monkeys. Toby (below) and all of us say THANK YOU!!



Mythbuster!

MYTH - Chameleons change color to blend into their surroundings.

Busted! This is a very common belief, but actually, totally untrue! Chameleons actually change their colors to communicate their mood, using specialized cells in their skin called chromatophores. Changes in color reflect a chameleons’ feelings of aggression/combativeness, love, or fear, all of which can further be influenced by temperature and light.

Thank you to Mother Nature Network

ZOONOOZ

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