



FALL 2020

VOL. 29, NO 3

Get to know ... Simba the African Lion

Look at our handsome boy! When he first arrived in late August 2014, he was nine years old and severely underweight. We knew under the good care at Popcorn Park, he'd come around quickly, and he sure did.

We took in Simba, a lioness and two tigers from Alabama with the help of several big cat rescue groups. The cats lived in a facility where the owner became ill and could not care for the animals. Simba had been living alone since the death of his brother two years earlier at this facility. Other than his being underweight, Simba did not have the health issues that some of our other new arrivals did, though it was initially thought that he might have a heart murmur. Otherwise his initial exam went well and we placed him in his new compound, next to our lioness, Nyla.

Nyla has since passed away, as she was seventeen years old at the time, but provided an instant source of interest and comfort to Simba, helping him to adjust quickly to his new surroundings. A few months later, we had a heart specialist come to Popcorn Park to check both Simba's heart and that of the (continued page 3)



Simba couldn't be more elegant than he is today. He looks forward to your visit now that Popcorn Park is open again!

POPCORN PARK IS OPEN!!

Come visit! We are happy to announce that Popcorn Park re-opened on June 26th and we look forward to seeing you!

Please remember when visiting that masks as well as social distancing are required when entering the admissions booth, and at all times when in the park.

Gates close to new admissions at 4:15. Thank you. See you soon!

Who'sZoo?

1. She is one of several animals of her species who came to us as youngsters and had to stay with us because they would be unable to survive in the wild. She arrived in 2004 - who is she?
2. This handsome fella had set up his home at Exit 7 just off a major New Jersey highway. He could be spotted sleeping on the beams of the overpass and on the ground. Who could it be?
3. Children are not the only ones who can suffer from a divorce. This fella was 16 years old when neither of his separating "parents" could keep him. He came to Popcorn Park, and sings a happy tune. Who is he? *Answers Page 3*

FAMOUS COUPLES!



They may not walk the red carpet in Hollywood, but they deserve the spotlight in our opinion!

Popcorn Park is home to quite a few bonded pairs. We've featured two below - how many more can you name? Answers below - no peeking!



Although Toby and Dogo came to Popcorn Park at two different times, they originally suffered at the same research lab. They are the best companions ever to one another.



Callie the goat, left, and Peggy the potbellied pig make a perfect - if unlikely - couple, here given treats by zoo staffer Tom. Each came from very different circumstances but are deeply fond of each other.

Other bonded pairs: Buster and Kay Leigh, capuchins; Croc and Dile - calm; Eli and Jess, tigers; Cranberry and Blueberry, potbellied pigs; Victor and Curly, llamas; Tocho and Shilo, cougars; Rocky and Simba, bobcats; and Snowball and Ponz, squirrels.

Hope is faith holding out its hand in the dark.

~George Iles

From everyone here at Popcorn Park, we wish you good health, peace, and joy now and in all seasons.

GET THE KIDDOS INVOLVED! Help Wildlife Through The Winter!

Need some entertainment as the days get shorter and colder and we spend even more time inside? You and your kids can have some fun and help your local wildlife, enjoying the antics of birds, squirrels, and other animals through the winter. They need three things - food, water, and shelter. And the kids can help!



PHOTO COURTESY: CRAIG RICHMOND

Be aware that squirrels are very entertaining to watch but will love anything you put out for the birds, so research your feeder choices - some will prevent their monopolizing the feeder, and with others, they can share. However, you can feed squirrels nuts, set up corn cob stations, and find other ways to feed them, too.

Feeding tips:

- * Keep feeders at least 10' away from bushes, shrubs, and other places where cats may lie in wait.
- * Make sure the seed is kept dry in the feeders so mold doesn't grow.
- * Wash out the feeder every 2-3 weeks with a 2:1 mix of hot water and distilled white vinegar, rinse and dry thoroughly before refilling.
- * Seed choice - Do a little research online and see what kind of birds you have locally, and what they prefer.
- * The kids can also make peanut butter and seed pine cones - here's one easy recipe - <https://preschoolinspirations.com/pine-cone-bird-feeders/>

Water

- * When natural water sources freeze over in the winter, wildlife appreciate having fresh water to drink. It can be as simple as a pan placed on the ground or deck with water changed daily. It's easy and can be set in an area that gets a lot of sun.
- * Moving water is less likely to freeze, so you can look into an electric or solar powered fountain, or you could invest in an electric birdbath heater if temperatures are often below freezing.



PHOTO OF TUFTED TITMOUSE COURTESY: JOHN SIEBERT

Shelter

- * To help other wildlife through the winter, you can plant native plants and shrubs that bear berries and other food sources.
- * Leave piles of leaves and other natural yard debris in a corner of your yard to provide shelter for frogs, toads, box turtles and others to burrow under.
- * Build a rock pile in a corner for snakes, chipmunks and other small animals to find cover for winter.

Have fun and enjoy helping the animals!

** Do not feed or draw other animals to your home for your own safety (deer, bears, fox, etc.). Plus you don't want them dependent on you!

What's A Goffin?



Meet Patsy!

Patsy is a Goffin, otherwise known as a Goffin's Cockatoo, and is the smallest in the Cockatoo family, about 12" long. They are highly social birds and enjoy lots of interaction with people. They are very quick learners and quite mischievous by nature, so as quickly as you latch their cage? They will learn to unlatch it.

They are native to only 3 places on earth - the forests of 3 islands in the Tanimbar Islands archipelago in Indonesia. Patsy came to us over 16 years ago, and may easily live another 24 years. She's doing great with us and is wondering if you might like to support her through the Zoological Society or as a sponsor in the Wildlife Club!

Join the Zoological Society & save on visits all year long! You can also give a membership as a gift!

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:

- \$75 - Family \$60 - Single
- \$50 - Golden Opportunity \$90 - Sustaining
- \$150 - Donor \$500 - Patron \$1,000 - Sponsor

Zoological Society General Support - Enclosed is a donation of \$ _____. Please send me the ZoonooZ for one year!

My Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

You can also join online where you will receive the ZoonooZ digitally or you can request it by mail.
<https://www.ahscares.org/contentpage/4185>

Get to know ... Simba the African Lion (cont'd.)

lioness from the group. Simba's heart was fine, and while he was sedated, staff took the opportunity of giving him a much-needed bath.

He was so dirty when he came up from Alabama that red mud dripped off him each time it rained, and had a terrible odor about him. He looked like a different lion after his bath, about five shades lighter, and smelled terrific. Finally, we could see his true beauty.

Today, Simba has a much better life - in the morning he goes outside and plays with his boomer ball for a while. He stretches out in the sun, and waits for the refuge to open and his visitors to appear. He is somewhat nonchalant as people come by, but not overly engaged. He is, after all, the king of beasts!

Simba does have one unique hobby - he loves watching planes fly overhead. As there is a small airport nearby, he has an ongoing source of entertainment!

He loves attention from staff on and off during the day, and long naps in the sunshine. Typically, all male lions sleep 20 hours per day because in the wild, it's the lionesses who do all the work!

At the end of the day, Simba goes into his den for a meaty dinner. And sleeps. It's a tough life, but somebody oughta have it!



Simba being shampooed by our two Popcorn Park vets, Dr. Jonathan Bergmann and Dr. Bert Paluch. He later got a salon blow-dry from three of our Popcorn Park staff.



Answers to Who's Zoo?

1. Popcorn Park is home to several white-tailed deer that well-intentioned people took in, thinking they were abandoned.



Mom, however, is almost always nearby. The doe who came to us in 2004 is Little Girl (pictured left).

2. "Pike" was finally captured on October 3, 2014. He'd been living off the NJ Turnpike, but when he wandered down Rt. 206, Popcorn Park was called.

The State police stopped traffic, and with the help of Bordentown police, we were finally able to sedate the elusive fellow and bring him to safety ... for the rest of his life!

3. DooWop is a Catalina Macaw, and a true beauty with his feathers of turquoise, green and orange. He came to Popcorn Park in 2006, now 28 years old and could live, as these macaws do, to 50 or older. We suspect DooWop is a fan of 50's tunes and maybe just hums a few to himself and staff.

ZOONOOZ

Popcorn Park
P.O. Box 43
Forked River, NJ 08731-0043



Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
ASSOCIATED
HUMANE SOCIETIES

Time to come in now!!

As the temps start to turn chilly, we start to bring some of our animals indoors that have been enjoying the sunshine and fresh air. So here's a quick peek at our spacious outdoor bird environments, enjoyed by macaws Bonnie, Doo Wop and Skittles. Not only do they enjoy the warm weather, but being such social birds, they also enjoy the people watching!



ZOONOOZ

ZoonooZ is published by the Associated Humane Societies/Popcorn Park

ZoonooZ Jeanne Balsam
Popcorn Park Gen. Mgr. ... John Bergmann

Photographer
John Bergmann

Please address all correspondence to:

John Bergmann/ ZoonooZ
Popcorn Park
PO Box 43
Forked River, NJ 08731-0043

Or e-mail: NJHumane@ahsppz.org

www.ahscares.org

Information filed with the Attorney General concerning this charitable solicitation may be obtained from the Attorney General of the State of New Jersey by calling (973) 504-6215. Registration with the Attorney General does not imply endorsement. Charitable Registration #-CH012-6200, Tax Exempt # 221 487122.



Try A Lullaby

Perhaps your little one is having a tough time getting to sleep these days.

Maybe some sweet animals can help with a lullaby/video featuring animal friends yawning and nodding off. The entire - and short - (3 minute) production was put together virtually with singer and musicians in Italy, Washington D.C. and Virginia. View on the CarbonWorks channel of YouTube - the song is "Everything's All Right."

PHOTO COURTESY: ALFRED LEE

Mythbuster!

MYTH - the Tyrannosaurus rex was a very fast runner.



PHOTO COURTESY: M.A.M. TREJO

Busted! Paleontologists once believed that T. rex could run at speeds up to 35 m.p.h. But over time and the study of their bone structures, it is now believed that running faster than 12 miles per hour would have caused bone damage. Was that a problem for T. rex? Not at all, since most of the dinosaurs they hunted moved slower than them! Another T. rex fun fact - those "puny" arms of theirs? Could easily curl 430 pounds!

Thanks to mentalfloss.com