

PALM BEACH ZOO Bytes



Photo: Keith Lovett

Muntjac Fawn Born at the Zoo

Animal care staff was happy to discover a new Reeve's muntjac fawn on the morning of July 16, 2009. This shy fawn is being well cared for by its mother in their island exhibit. As is true for most deer species, the mother doe will hide her fawn in deep brush throughout the day, but return regularly for nursing. This fawn represents the tenth successful muntjac birth at the zoo in the last eight years. Reeve's muntjacs are small deer species native to central Asia. While females are smaller, males will typically grow to a height of 40 cm (16 inches) at the shoulder and weigh up to 35 pounds. Males will also develop antlers and long canine teeth that resemble tusks when they reach maturity at around nine months of age. The Palm Beach Zoo's muntjac collection resides in the island exhibit next to the Peggy Brown Pavilion and on the "Tiger Falls" pathway just across from the Malayan tiger exhibit.



Missy the Capybara on the Mend



Missy was tended by a team of zoo care-givers including, (left to right) Jessie Stevens, University of South Florida Intern Jessica Oakley, Megan Derosie, Dave Quavillon, and Sarah James.

Zoo keepers recently noticed that "Missy", one of the zoo's capybaras, had developed a "weepy" eye. They brought her to the new Zeitlin Animal Hospital for a full examination. The diagnosis was an eye ulcer that required surgery. When the surgery was completed, Dr. Miller sewed her eyelid shut so that the wound would be protected - acting like a Band-Aid for the eye. Missy was kept in the hospital where she seems content to swim in the hospital pool while she recovers. She is taking her medicine, which is placed inside chunks of cantaloupe - one of her favorite foods. Her eye is slowly healing and she is even gaining weight. Dr. Miller is very pleased with her progress.

Check One Item off Dr. Miller's Wish List!

Through the generosity of B.J. and Tim Parra of Tequesta, Dr. Michele Miller, our Chief Veterinary Officer and Director of Conservation Medicine, can check one item off her equipment "Wish List." They provided a new microwave for use in the Salvatore M. Zeitlin Animal Hospital. It will be used to warm fluids and food for her animal patients.

The entire zoo staff is grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Parra for this important piece of equipment.

You can also help equip the hospital by contributing money to purchase an item from Dr. Miller's Wish List. Here are a few suggestions:

- Fish tank system (with support equipment) for amphibian, turtle and other aquatic patients (90 gal) - \$2500
- pH meter - \$140
- Stainless steel surgical treatment tables (2) - \$500 each

Conserve Wildlife & Money

In an effort to save one of Earth's majestic big cats, the jaguar, Florida Crystals has teamed up with the Palm Beach Zoo. For every [coupon](#) redeemed for any variety of Florida Crystals® Natural and Organic sugar, Florida Crystals will donate an amount chosen by you to the Jaguar Conservation Fund at the Palm Beach Zoo.



Upcoming Zoo Events:

Labor Day Weekend Promotion
Saturday – Monday, September 5 – 7

To show our appreciation, all visitors showing a Military, Military Reserve,

- Lab stools - \$150 each
- Circulating water blanket to warm patients - \$750

Spooky Snooze Overnights

Coming in October... *Double, double toil and trouble; fire burn, and cauldron bubble!* Are you brave enough to spend a night at the zoo? If you are, then join us for a special Halloween-themed Spooky Snooze program! Don't worry, because we'll unmask the creatures of the night and show you that they're not so scary after all. Enjoy an evening of pumpkin painting, crafts, night time tours, a special spooky snack, and story time. Activities are geared for children age 6 and up: mummies and/or daddies must attend! [Click here for registration form.](#)

Home School Classes

The Palm Beach Zoo is proud to offer home school classes for students throughout Palm Beach, Martin, and Broward counties. Students will get wild when they explore a variety of topics through up-close animal investigation and interactive classroom activities. Choose from any of the following classes that are appropriate for your child's grade level. Prices include registration for one program and admission for the student and one adult only. Please, no younger or older siblings unless they are registered for the class as well.

- Cost per Participant: \$15 for Members \$20 for Non-Members
- (Fee includes admission to the zoo and class for 1 child and 1 adult only.)
- [Click here for Registration](#)

Kids' Dreams, Inc. Funds Zoo Camp Experience for 22 At-Risk Children



Zoo Board Member Patricia Lebow addresses Zoo Campers

This summer, 22 under-served and at-risk children were able to participate in the zoo's summer camp program because of the generous support of Kids' Dreams Inc. This non-profit charitable foundation was founded by our Zoological Society Board Member

Coast Guard, Police, Fire, or an EMT ID Card will receive free admission to the Palm Beach Zoo on Labor Day Weekend for themselves and a 50% discount for their guests (limit three per offer). A valid ID must be shown at time of entrance to receive offer.

Grandparent's Day Promotion

Sat. & Sun. - Sept. 12 & 13

To celebrate National Grandparents Day, the zoo is offering a special admission discount. Buy any regular priced admission and receive a 50% discount on Grandma or Grandpa's admission!

Become a Member:

Palm Beach Zoo membership is a wonderful way to make the natural world a priority in your family life. It's also a great way to save money. Your zoo membership card gives you unlimited free zoo admission all year round, discounted or free admission at 140 other zoos and aquariums across the country, discounts at zoo gift shops and restaurants, and discounts on special programs such as Summer Camp, Zoo Overnights, Home School Classes, and much more. Zoo membership is a great investment in your zoo, and a smart buy for your family budget. [To learn more about Zoo Membership, click here.](#)



Make a Donation

The Palm Beach Zoo relies on charitable contributions to close the gap between earned revenues and operational expenses. Your tax-deductible gift will help us to provide the very best facilities, health care, and nutrition for the over 1,600 animals entrusted to our care. You can also help provide excellent education programs for under-served children in our community.





and Secretary Mrs. Patricia Lebow and her late husband Mr. Alan Lebow. The mission of Kids' Dreams is to link underprivileged, at-risk youth with the cultural amenities of our community while also providing information to them on how to avoid gangs and drugs. While at the zoo, the Kids' Dreams scholarship recipients participated in animal encounters, zoo keeping, bird nest box building, animal training, craft activities, play time in the zoo's fountain, and a visit to the South Florida Science Museum. In addition, a Narcotic Overdose Prevention & Education (NOPE) Task Force presentation was given by Captain Jeffery Lindskoog of the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Department. This program focused on drug abuse and the growth of gangs in Palm Beach County, both issues that are dramatically affecting youth in our community. The participants also had the opportunity to bond with a Sheriff's deputy from Lake Worth, who was on site during much of the camp week in order to build relationships with these at-risk campers.

The Zoological Society of the Palm Beaches exists to protect wildlife and wildlife habitat, and to inspire others to value and conserve the natural world. We advance our conservation mission through programs in field research, endangered species propagation, education, health and wellness, and conservation medicine.

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