thinkpink

Birds of a feather... flock together standing on one leg

Animal Enrichment Day
Animal Enrichment Day, Saturday, July 16, 10am - 2pm

Magical Creatures
Education program, Saturday, Sept 10, 10am - noon

Zoobilation
Welcome to Stingray Bay, Thursday, Sept 15, 6pm - 10pm

ZW Thank you

Zoo Animals: Bird friends
Zoo Education: Zoo Summer Camp
Summer at Zoo

Special zoo activities are listed on the Zoo’s website at montgomeryzoo.com and included in this issue of Jungle Drums. Please SAVE THE DATE for Zoobilation on September 15. In the all adult soiree, the Montgomery Area Zoological Society (MAZS) hosts a casual evening of great food, beverage of your choice, entertainment, and an exciting silent auction. All is donated by area businesses, restaurants, and food and beverage companies. You’ll see old friends and make new ones while supporting the Zoo’s next exhibit in progress, Stingray Bay.

In recognition of their leadership, time, and talent, please allow me to announce the 2016 Zoobilation Co-chairs, Jamie Hodges and Nan Barganier. They, along with Committee Chairs, and all the MAZS members are currently contacting businesses and individuals for sponsorship opportunities, food and beverage vendors, auction items donations, and ticket buyers for the Zoobilation event. Please help us make this evening a success by participating. It’s usually a lovely Fall evening enjoyed by all. Sometimes, we’re even graced with a full moon.

The success of Zoo Weekend was excellent. We welcomed many new memberships, and current members renewed their annual memberships. Those dollars contributed to our goal of building the new Stingray exhibit. The Bake Sale, hosted by Judy Lowry and Catherine Darby, was a huge success by making nearly $3,000. That’s lots cookies, brownies, and candy sales!! Thank Continued on page 3...

Who’s Who

The Honorable Todd Strange, Mayor of the City of Montgomery, Alabama.

Montgomery City Council Members
Fred Bell, Richard Bollinger, David Burkette, William A. Green, Charles Jinright, Tracy Larkin, Arch Lee, Brantley W. Lyons and Glen Pruitt, Jr.

Montgomery Area Zoological Society Board of Directors: President, Janey Whitten Sabel; 1st Vice President, Kenneth White; 2nd Vice President, Cassandra Crosby McCollough; Treasurer, John Mastin; Secretary, Krista Hawkins; Immediate Past President, Bill Hardin; Executive Board Member Emeritus, Joyce Hobbs

Members at large: Nan Barganier, Candy Cape, Jeanne Charbonneau, Jordan Colb, Jerry Cronier, Jennifer Crompton, Stephen Dees, Rachael Gallagher, Michael Gallyps, Dr. Mary Hampton, Dottie Hanan, Dawn Hathcock, Summerville Hill, Jamie Hodges, Tina Joly, Melody Jones, Dr. Joyce Loyd-Davis, Delbert Madison, Karen McCaa, Marianne McLeod, Rick Peters, Kam Sidhu, Amanda Spiers, John Curran Sullivan, III, Scarlette Tuley and Lisa Weil.

Ex-Officio: Scott Miller, Director of Leisure Services; Charles W. Smith, Council District 2 and Tracy Larkin, Council District 3

Zoo | Museum Senior Staff
Zoo Director, Doug Goode
Deputy Director, Marcia Woodard
Program Services Manager, Steven C. Pierce
Animal Care Manager, Ken Naugher
Assist. Animal Care Manager, Jason Bielen
Operations Manager, Jeremy Vinson
Marketing & PR Manager, Meaghan L. Weir
Education Curator, Jennifer Hutcheson
Admissions-Retail Manager, Susan Michener
Rides & Attractions Mgr, Nick Castanza
Zoo Vet, Dr. Hal Pate

Zoo and Mann Museum Hours
The Montgomery Zoo and Mann Museum are open from 9:00am-5:30pm every day with the exception of Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year’s Day. The last ticket is sold 4pm and animal exhibits begin closing at 4:30pm.

Combo rates (Zoo and Mann Museum)
Adults: $20, Children (3-12yrs old): $15, Seniors 65+: $18, 2yrs old and under: FREE.

Zoo Admission
Adults: $15, Children (3-12yrs old): $11, Seniors 65+: $13, 2yrs old and under: FREE.

Mann Museum Admission
Adults: $7, Children (3-12yrs old): $6, Seniors 65+: $6, 2yrs old and under: FREE.
Have you ever wondered where the Montgomery Zoo’s animals go after hours or how they are cared for on a daily basis?

In fall 2015, the Zoo introduced several new Behind the Scenes experiences that allow you to see your favorite animals up close and personal. Listen to zookeepers describe their routine for caring for each animal, maintaining the display and night quarters, and ensuring the animal’s safety. Observe training and enrichment activities that keep the animals engaged and entertained.

Since introducing the Behind the Scenes experiences, approximately 85 groups have taken part in these unique adventures which are available only on Saturdays. Guests of all ages delight in watching elephants and giraffes paint, experiencing the frenzy of hungry alligators, and observing curious tigers explore their exhibit. Priced at $65 per person for the elephant, tiger, and giraffe experiences and at $10 per person for the alligator experience, these encounters make excellent birthday, graduation, or anniversary gifts for the animal enthusiasts in your family.

**Elephant Experience** $65 per person + zoo admission (Zoo members do not have to pay admission). Offered Saturdays only at 10am and 1pm. This encounter is limited to 8 people and must have a minimum of 2.

**Tiger Experience** $65 per person + zoo admission (Zoo members do not have to pay admission). Offered Saturdays only at 9am. This encounter is limited to 6 people and must have a minimum of 2.

**Giraffe Experience** $65 per person + zoo admission (Zoo members do not have to pay admission). Offered Saturdays only at 11am and 2pm. This encounter is limited to 8 people and must have a minimum of 2.

**Alligator Feeding** $10 per person + zoo admission (Zoo members do not have to pay admission). Offered Saturdays only during the months of April-September at 12pm and 3pm. This encounter is limited to 10 people and must have a minimum of 2.

You can have a wild time this summer without leaving Montgomery. For all experiences: All participants must be over the age of 6. Children between the ages of 6-12 must be accompanied by a paying adult. All participants must wear closed toe shoes. Register online at montgomeryzoo.com or at the gate at least 30 minutes prior to the start time. For the tiger experience, all participants must register by 4pm CST on the Friday prior to the experience.

For complete details regarding each of these Behind the Scenes experience, please visit montgomeryzoo.com or give us a call at (334) 240-4900.
What started out as Zoo Day 40 years ago, Zoo Weekend has grown into an annual River Region event hosting thousands of friends and family. Some for the first time, but for most an annual pilgrimage to the Zoo.

The 40th Annual Zoo Weekend at the Montgomery Zoo, held Saturday and Sunday, March 12-13, was a huge success hosting 10,647 guests and raising $99,297. Also, during the week leading up to Zoo Weekend (March 7-13), guests had the opportunity to purchase discounted memberships. Memberships for the week totaled 402, raising a sum of $41,920.

Proceeds from Zoo Weekend will be contributed to the construction of the new touch-and-feel stingray exhibit. Plans are to begin construction on Stingray Bay by mid-2016. Stingray Bay will be comprised of multiple free-swimming stingrays. Guests will have the opportunity to touch and feed these gentle, gliding creatures in an open-water facility. This new exhibit will also house an educational facility hosting school groups from across the state. The new Stingray Exhibit will be located between the Chimp Exhibit and the Mann Museum.

Thank you to all our sponsors. Event sponsors include: McDonald’s, Cumulus Broadcasting (Mix 103.3, Fox 95.1, WLWI 92.3 and Y-102), WCOV FOX 20, Alabama News Network, Montgomery Advertiser, City of Montgomery and the Montgomery Area Zoological Society. Ride and game sponsors: Caddell Construction Company, Central Alabama Electric Cooperative, Coca-Cola, Costco Wholesale, Dixie Electric Cooperative, Dyna-lift Inc., G&K Services and I-TEC.

Thank you to all the entertainment, including Ronald McDonald, Surviving the Fall, Wyatt Edmondson Band, Above on High and Cuz’n Neil. Montgomery Melodies, The Bear Exploration Center Honors Choir, Lisa Dance Dimensions & Next Dimension Gymnastics, Steppers Choice, Leap of Faith, MPD and Montgomery County Sheriff’s Unit K-9 unit, The Youth Edifying Singers of Southside Church of Christ, Leap of Faith, MPD and Montgomery County Sheriff’s Unit K-9 unit, The Youth Edifying Singers of Southside Church of Christ, Redland Elementary School Choir, Yoshioka Karate, and Mt. Moriah Baptist Church #2. Special guests include the Mulder Puppet Team, Lisa’s Party Palace characters and Big Mo from the Montgomery Biscuits.

Zoo Weekend 2017 will be held March 4-5, 2017.
Thank you to all the volunteers that participated in Zoo Weekend and during school group season. You are the very best! Volunteers play a vital role in providing an exciting, educational experience for the more than 300,000 annual visitors to the Montgomery Zoo and Mann Wildlife Learning Museum. Volunteers donate their time and talents to interpret exhibits, lead educational programs, help maintain zoo grounds and exhibits, aid in the office, work special events at our various games, rides and attractions and assist with the care of the animals as well as administrative efforts. During the course of Zoo Weekend, the Zoo had over 400 volunteers work this annual two-day event giving their time and talents (see pics below). Zoo Weekend hosted over 10,000 guests, and without our volunteers, it would be impossible to successfully hold this annual fundraiser.

Also, during the spring time of the year, the Zoo experiences thousands of school children, teachers and parents coming to visit the Zoo. Thanks to our many volunteers working at the various rides, attractions and animal encounters, we are able to make their day at the Zoo a pleasant, wildlife adventure for all the kids, teachers and parents.

If you are interested in becoming a Zoo volunteer, please submit an online application at montgomeryzoo.com. We would love to have you as a part of this wonderful team and family.

If you are interested in volunteering at the Montgomery Zoo for special events or if you just want to become part of the team, please contact Meaghan Weir at (334) 240-4930, register online at montgomeryzoo.com, email mweir@montgomeryal.gov or just drop the completed enrollment form below in the mail. We’d love to have you join us!

Volunteer information

Name ____________________________
Address __________________________
City ____________________________ Zip __________
Phone ____________________________
Email ____________________________

Area(s) of interest ____________________________
Special event ____________________________
Best time(s) available ____________________________

Thank you for your support!
Please mail to: Meaghan L. Weir, Montgomery Zoo, 2301 Coliseum Parkway, Montgomery, AL 36110, (334) 240-4930 or mweir@montgomeryal.gov

ZW Volunteers | Thank you
Christy Wells, Acting Volunteer Coordinator

Volunteers make the Zoo beautiful

ZW Recap

SUMMER PROJECT TIME!

If you are interested in volunteering at the Montgomery Zoo for special events or if you just want to become part of the team, please contact Meaghan Weir at (334) 240-4930, register online at montgomeryzoo.com, email mweir@montgomeryal.gov or just drop the completed enrollment form below in the mail. We’d love to have you join us!

Volunteer information

Name ____________________________
Address __________________________
City ____________________________ Zip __________
Phone ____________________________
Email ____________________________

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Thank you for your support!
Please mail to: Meaghan L. Weir, Montgomery Zoo, 2301 Coliseum Parkway, Montgomery, AL 36110, (334) 240-4930 or mweir@montgomeryal.gov

ZW Volunteers | Thank you
Christy Wells, Acting Volunteer Coordinator

Volunteers make the Zoo beautiful
Humans are fascinated by birds because they come in all shapes, sizes, and colors. Here at the Montgomery Zoo, we have around 60 different species, and these birds can be found in each of our five world realms.

There are actually over 9,000 different species of birds, and these are found all over the world. Which many of them can be found right here at the Montgomery Zoo. Some may look a little different, stand on one leg while others display large plumes of feathers or put on a little dance just to catch a little attention.

Birds tend to be broken down into five different categories: The largest of the categories is the songbirds which incorporates robins, wrens, and swallows. Another category of birds is the parrots which includes parakeets and cockatoos. Eagles, owls, and hawks fall into a category of birds called birds of prey. These are hunting birds that capture their own food. You additionally have game birds which are turkeys, chickens, and quails. The last of the groups is the water fowl that comprise of geese, ducks, and swans. It makes it easy to identify birds by putting them into different classifications. The only problem is that this assortment does not include all birds. Some of the species left out are ostriches, penguins, cranes, kingfishers among many others. In reality there are over 50 different orders of birds.

The earliest known bird is the Archaeopteryx lithographica, which is said to have lived about 140 million years ago during the Jurassic period. We know about this bird from fossil records discovered in the southern region of Germany. The fossil records give the impression that this bird was about the size of what we know today as a pigeon.

Having some knowledge about the different types of birds can greatly enhance bird watching. Bird watching is a hobby enjoyed by people all over the world. It can be done with the naked eye or with visual enhancement devices such as binoculars or telescopes. Many wild birds are detected more by sound
than by sight, so it does involve an auditory component. Here at the zoo, our birds are easy to find and very enjoyable to watch. The zoo offers many shaded areas with benches, where you can sit for as long as you like to watch your favorite species. Furthermore, we offer a chance to get up close and personal with some of our birds, the parakeets, at Parakeet Cove. At this exhibit, you can not only watch the beautiful birds, but you can also interact with them by feeding them. It’s an amazing opportunity.

Also, we have some larger birds for you to enjoy too. The South American Andean flamingo and free-range peafowl are beautiful sights to behold with their brightly colored feathers. In Africa, you may catch a dance display between our two ostriches. Ostriches are unique birds standing approximately 9 feet in height; flightless but can run at up to about 43mph. They are the fastest land speed of any bird.

So whether you are an experienced birder or a newcomer just starting out, or if you are looking for small birds or big ones, the Montgomery Zoo is magnificent place to go for bird watching.

Special and unique, large and small. Birds add color and sass (male peacock top) to our lives while others bring out the oddity in all of us (ostrich above).

Kook, above, is one of our Education birds. He is a kookaburra, so you may have figured out where he got his name. The kookaburra is native to Australia and New Guinea and his loud call sounds like echoing human laughter. They are found in habitats ranging from humid forest to arid savanna, as well as in suburban areas with tall trees or near running water. Even though they belong to the larger group known as “kingfishers”, kookaburras are not closely associated with water.

Kookaburras are almost exclusively carnivorous, eating mice, snakes, insects, small reptiles, and the young of other birds. They have also been known to take goldfish from garden ponds. In zoos, they are usually fed food for birds of prey and a combination of the foods mentioned above.

They are extremely social birds will accept handouts and will take meat from barbecues. It is generally not advised to feed kookaburras ground beef or pet food as these do not include enough calcium and roughage.

They are territorial, which often live with their young from the previous season. They often sing as a chorus as a way to mark their territory.

If you would like to see Kook and the other Education birds, please arrange for a program at the Zoo or at your next event. For more info, call (334) 240-4909.
I am an Asian bear. I have a shaggy black coat, and some say a rather large snout. But I find it to come in handy when I am in search for food; especially juicy mangoes and grubs. My claws are sharp and curved, which means slicing and dicing a watermelon is easy peasy to me. What kind of bear am I?

The sloth bear (*Melursus ursinus*) is a nocturnal species that can be found living in the forests of India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka. Sloth bears are a threatened species and listed as Vulnerable. Their population numbers are low due to habitat loss and illegal poaching. Out of the eight worldwide bear species, they are the third smallest just ahead of panda and sun bears. Sloth bears can weigh anywhere between 125 to 350 lbs, with females being smaller than males. They average 2 to 3 feet high at the shoulder and are 5 to 6 ft long. They have very shaggy black coats, large snouts, and very distinctive curved claws.

Sloth bears primarily eat insects, but will supplement their diet with fruit, browse, and honey. Their enlarged muzzles and claws are well adapted for their specialized diet. Their claws can break through rock-hard termite mounds or quickly dig down in the dirt for grubs. Their enlarged muzzles will then act like a vacuum cleaner and suction out the insects.

Breeding season varies by location, but typically it’s in the hot months of June and July. After a gestation period of 210 days, a litter of 1-3 cubs is born. Sloth bears are the only bear species that will carry their young on their backs. Unlike other bears, male sloth bears will generally help care for their offspring. Cubs will stay with their mothers until they are 2 to 3 years old, and then they will venture out on their own.

**Sloth Bear Fun Facts**

> Sloth bears are excellent climbers and love to swim.
> Sloth bears were originally thought to be related to the South American sloths due to their shaggy coats and curved claws.
> Bhalu is the Hindi word for bear, which was the inspiration for Baloo the bear in Rudyard Kipling’s *The Jungle Book.*
> Sloth bears eat fruit; especially mangoes and figs. Their long claws are great tools to dig up beetles, ants and any other insect they may find.
> Sloth bears suck up ants and grubs with their long lips. They make a snuffling, vacuum sound when they are eating bugs.
> Sloth bears are mostly nocturnal. They sleep during the day and they look for food at night.
In honor of the Rio Summer Olympic Games, we are having our own Animal Olympics at the Montgomery Zoo. Time to make this summer a wildlife adventure for that special camper in your life, and create a lifetime of memories.

Make summer vacation a wildlife adventure that you will never forget. Join kids of similar ages and interests for a fun-packed, educational experience themed around the animals of our planet. See daily live animal presentations; get up close and personal with some of the Educational animals at the Montgomery Zoo; enjoy scavenger hunts; craft time; classroom time; playtime, splash time and games at our playground; train, pedal boat and sky lift rides; participate in animal encounters with the giraffes, river otters, deer and parakeets; see behind the scene tours and visits with our zookeepers and other staff members.

Camps are available for boys and girls, ages 5-12 years old; half-day and full-day camps are available.

-- June 6-10: 11-12 year olds, full day camp (8:00am - 5:00pm)
-- June 13-17: 9-10 year olds, half day camp (8:00am - Noon)
**-- CAMP IS FULL! June 20-24: 9-10 year olds, full day camp (8:00am - 5:00pm)**
-- June 27-July 1: 7-8 year olds, half day camp (8:00am - Noon)
**-- CAMP IS FULL! July 11-15: 7-8 year olds, full day camp (8:00am - 5:00pm)**
-- July 18-22: 5-6 year olds, half day camp (8:00am - Noon)
-- July 25-29: 5-6 year olds, half day camp (8:00am - Noon)

This year’s theme is Animal Olympics. Each day will present a different area of study, games, crafts and fun. Campers will learn about various animals at the Montgomery Zoo, and we might just throw in some competition of the Olympic Games for a little extra fun. It is sure to be a blast for everyone that attends.

**Tuition and fees:** Fees for Montgomery Zoo members: Full day camps: $162 for the week and half day camps: $126 for the week. Fees for Non-Montgomery Zoo members: Full day camps: $180 for the week and half day camps: $140 for the week. Tuition must be received with any registration form or online application. Any cancellations will result in a $25 processing fee. You may register online at montgomeryzoo.com or in person at the Zoo’s admission office. For more info, check out montgomeryzoo.com or give us a call at (334) 240-4900.
Mark your calendar for Saturday, July 16 for Animal Enrichment Day, *Beat the Heat* at the Montgomery Zoo. The event will begin at 10am and carry participants through 16 exhibits filled with strategically-placed and built enrichment items. Since the temperatures are traditionally a little warmer in July, a majority of the enrichment items, treats and rewards will have a *cooling* theme. The sloth bear may use his sharp, curved claws to quickly shred open a treat-filled, watermelon. This enrichment will highlight her long, powerful claws and keen sense of smell. The spider monkeys on monkey island may receive colorful, hung treat-filled boxes. The boxes will be lined with various sized holes allowing them the opportunity to figure out which hole is large enough for the treat to exit. And the treats could be a combination of cool fruits and juice ice cubes.

Enrichment Day is not all about animals figuring puzzles and mazes in order to get a cooling treat. Some of the exhibits will present training exercises and keeper talk sessions. For example our African lions will go through a series of target training exercises and then rewarded with cool ice bones and meat. The elephants will have an opportunity to go through a series of vocal commands. This great mental exercise for them, and helps their keepers work with them on a daily basis.

If you want to get a glimpse of Animal Enrichment Day, check out the pics from Winter 2016 on page 15.

**More info on Animal Enrichment.** Enrichment is the practice of adding various stimuli to one’s environment. It can be as simple as adding food, treats, scents, toys, puzzles... just anything new to the animal’s environment. Here at the Zoo our goal is to provide enrichment that will stimulate behavior in captivity that is typical of the species in the wild. It is also our goal to provide enrichment resources to our animal collection that will result in increased physical and mental exercise.

In order to choose an item to be used for enrichment we keep a database of tried enrichment items with results on specific animals. We also consult national animal enrichment databases developed by government agencies and other zoos.

When an item is evaluated for use as enrichment it must go through an approval process with certain requirements. First safety is our primary concern and the following conditions must be addressed before using any enrichment item.

> Can an animal be cut or otherwise injured by it?
> Can the enrichment fall on or injure an animal?
> Can the animal ingest the object or a piece of it?
> Is any part of it toxic, including paint or epoxy?
> Can it cause choking, asphyxiation or strangulation?
> Can it become lodged in the digestive tract?
> Has browse been determined to be non-toxic?
> Does the enrichment cause high stress levels?
> Can the animal get caught or become trapped by it?
> Can the enrichment item promote aggression or harmful competition?

And yes, it is safe to build or provide enrichments to your pets at home. Just keep in mind all these helpful hints when building or purchasing an enrichment item.

To see a gallery of various Animal Enrichment Day activities, please refer to page 15.

Next Animal Enrichment Day, Saturday, July 16, 10am - 2pm.
The Alabama wood duck (Aix sponsa) is a small multicolored duck. Their crested heads, broad wings, and large rectangular tails create an appearance unlike any other duck. Although their flight is only moderately swift, their broader wings enable them to thread through tree branches fairly easily. The male wood duck is brightly colored in iridescent greens, purples, and blues featuring a distinctive white chin patch and a long, red bill. Females are a mottled brown color with a white eye patch. Wood ducks make a loud woo-oo-eek during flight or when under distress. On the water, wood ducks sit higher and are more buoyant than other ducks causing their tails to be more visible.

Wood ducks are found in small streams, rivers, creeks, lakes, swamps, beaver ponds, and even drainage ditches. Flooded hardwood timber and beaver ponds are prime wood duck habitat. The shallow waters usually contain large numbers of invertebrates and acorns, which are crucial to the wood ducks’ diet. Wood ducks are dabbling ducks that feed in shallow waters by dipping their heads under the water and tilting their backsends up in the air. The young wood duck’s diet consists almost entirely of small invertebrates and other animal matter. As the ducklings mature, they change to mostly plant matter. Adult wood ducks feed almost entirely on plant matter.

Alabama Wood Duck, also referred as woodie, summer duck, acorn duck, swamp duck and squealer, are easily recognizable by brightly colored and patterned in iridescent greens, purples, and blues with a distinctive white chin patch and a long, red bill.
The Montgomery Zoo welcomed Meaghan Weir as the new Marketing and Public Relations Manager in May. A native of Prattville, AL, Weir has visited the Zoo as a guest many times throughout her life and is thrilled to take on the role of promoting the Zoo in an official capacity.

Weir has lived in Auburn, AL for the past 12 years attending school and working at Auburn University. She earned her Bachelor’s degree in Industrial Design from Auburn in 2008 where she initially had dreams of working for Kohler as a kitchen and bath faucet designer. However, the idea of living in cold Wisconsin did not appeal to the Alabama native and she elected to remain in the South to pursue advanced education. Through a graduate assistantship with the Auburn University Career Center, Weir discovered an interest in working with college students, and as a result, chose to earn her Master’s degree in Higher Education Administration.

In her role at Auburn University, Weir served as a Career Counselor in the Auburn Career Center helping students choose majors, explore career paths, and execute successful job searches. She also spent much of her time speaking to classes and student organizations on the importance of early career planning. “Teaching others new information and skills as well as seeing their personal and professional growth is very rewarding to me, and I loved working with the college student population who have such big ambitions,” said Weir of her time in higher education.

Falling back on her creative roots, she also took on marketing responsibilities for the Career Center to include designing print and digital media to promote services, programs, and career fairs, managing social media accounts, and communicating important information with campus partners. “I’ve always been very creative and have continually sought opportunities to incorporate creativity and design in any place I work,” said Weir.

She recently returned to Prattville with her husband, Kevin, and daughter, Georgia, and enjoys living closer to their families who also reside in Prattville. When not at work, you will find her spending time with her family, crocheting, and gardening.

Weir is excited to join the Montgomery Zoo and Mann Wildlife Learning Museum team and is eager to promote the zoo and its many fun and educational exhibits, programs, and events. “The Zoo is such an asset to Central Alabama and exposes residents to wildlife that they might never be able to experience up close,” said Weir. “Engaging the community in the Zoo’s conservation and education missions is very important to me as I take on this role.”

Short bio
Meaghan Weir has lived in Auburn, AL for the past 12 years attending school and working at Auburn University. She recently returned to Prattville with her husband and daughter and enjoys living closer to their families who also reside in Prattville. Meaghan earned her Bachelor’s degree in Industrial Design and Master’s degree in Higher Education Administration, both from Auburn University. She has 7 years of experience in career counseling and marketing higher education services and programming. Meaghan is excited to join the Montgomery Zoo and Mann Wildlife Learning Museum team and is eager to promote the zoo and its many fun and educational exhibits, programs, and events.

The Zoo welcomes Meaghan L. Weir, Marketing and Public Relations Manager

Zoo Weekend Bake Sale
THANK YOU TO EVERYONE.
To all the Zoo members and Zoo friends that donated their time and delicious baked goods and to those that donated money to the Montgomery Zoo’s annual bake sale. Because of your generosity we had a great bake sale and raised $2,937 for the stingray exhibit.
I headed the bake sale this year and had the great help and talents of Catherine Darby. I want to thank Betty Brislin for her many years of service doing the bake sale.
I also want to thank Catherine Darby, Kim Sanders, Betty Brislin, Janey Sabel, Rachel Gallagher, Karan McCaa, Nan Barganier, Becky and Terry Fetzer, Ted Lowry, Elizabeth Hill, Debbie Berry, and Sharon Klinkhammer for making the calls and working at the sale.
Many thanks to Winn Dixie on Vaughn Road, Doubletree by Hilton, Liger’s Bakery, Louisa’s Bakery, GiGi’s Cupcakes and Cupcakes by Tish for donating their delicious cookies and cupcakes.
We had a great bake sale team this year and I appreciate everyone that contributed to it.

Judy Lowry
MAZS Advisory board member
MAZS Bake Sale Chairperson
JULY 16: ANIMAL ENRICHMENT DAY
Beat the heat and enjoy Animal Enrichment Day at the Montgomery Zoo, Saturday, July 16, 10am - 2pm. Watch as the animals receive cool enrichment items, puzzles, treat boxes and various other cooling stimuli. The day is fun, and always a load of surprises. Saturday, July 16.

Color Me Shaggy fur and pink feathers

Why do flamingos stand on one foot so much?
Thermoregulation is the main reason for the flamingos unusual posture because it was known that legs and feet were a significant source of heat loss in birds, and keeping one leg up close to the body would conserve heat. So, I guess the answer is, flamingos don’t like having cold feet. Give it a try and see if it works for you.

With such a long snout, does that mean the sloth bear has a keen sense of smell?
The sloth bear will use its excellent sense of smell to locate food. It will return to well known feeding areas and work its way around to find insects, fruits, and other favorite foods. Often a fresh supply of bugs will replenish the ones that were sucked up during a previous raid. The sloth bear will return the next day or so to check for “second helpings”.

JULY 16: ANIMAL ENRICHMENT DAY
UPCOMING ZOO EVENTS

NEED MORE INFORMATION?
For more info on these events, please visit montgomeryzoo.com or call (334) 240-4900.

JUNE 6 - JULY 29, ZOO SUMMER CAMP. Campers, boys and girls, ages 5-12 years old, join us for the Animal Olympics. Learn about the various animals at the Zoo, go on behind the scenes tours, enjoy cool animal encounters, build keepsake arts and crafts, and make new friends. To get more info or to register, go to montgomeryzoo.com.

JUNE 16, MILITARY APPRECIATION DAY. All military personnel (active duty and retired) and their dependent families receive FREE admission to the Montgomery Zoo and Mann Wildlife Learning Museum. Food, drinks and refreshments are also provided. Thank you for proudly serving.

JUNE 19, FATHER’S DAY. Celebrate Father’s Day at the Montgomery Zoo. All dads receive FREE admission to the Montgomery Zoo and Mann Wildlife Learning Museum. Join us for Father’s Day, and bring dear ole dad with you.

JULY 16, ANIMAL ENRICHMENT DAY. From zoo animals to our pets at home and even including us, we all need enrichment. A chance to smell a new scent, taste a new flavor, play a new game or figure out a puzzle. Enrichment is an effort to tap into and stimulate our basic five senses: touch, sight, smell, taste, and hearing. The result is to stimulate behaviors resembling those for that species in the wild. It can be a lot of trial and error, but it is always fun.

AUGUST 6, ANNUAL DONORS and UPPER LEVEL MEMBERS BRUNCH. Donors and upper level members, join us for a special, buffet-style brunch and animal viewings at the Montgomery Zoo. Brunch will take place 10am - noon at the Mann Wildlife Learning Museum conference room. By invitation only, RSVPs required.

SEPT 10, MAGICAL CREATURES. Meet some of the magical animals that are featured in the Harry Potter and The Hobbit movies. You will get a chance to meet animals up close, learn about them in their habitats, and take home some special prizes. Geared for boys and girls, 4-10 years old, advanced reservations required. Sept 10, 10am - noon.

Assorted pics taken at Animal Enrichment Day, Feb 20, 2016. 1: Sloth bear. 2: Spider monkeys. 3: Animal Enrichment Day onlookers. 4: Flamingos. 5: Maned wolf. 6: Prehensile-tailed skink in Reptile House. 7: Jaguars. 8: Lion training. 9: Siamangs. 10: African elephants. If you missed this one, no worries, the next Animal Enrichment Day will be Saturday, July 16, 10am - 2pm.
Welcome to Stingray Bay
SAVE THE DATE

September 15, 2016  6pm at the Montgomery Zoo

tickets and more information: montgomeryzoo.com (334) 240-4900

Join us for a night of food, drinks, dancing and festivities.
$50 per person to raise funds for our Montgomery Zoo’s new interactive Stingray Bay Exhibit.
All guests must be at least 21 years of age to attend.

20th Anniversary ZOOBILATION