

ZOO

# Baby, Baby

**LA Zoo welcomes several baby animals.**

*Story courtesy the LA Zoo; Photo by Tad Motoyama, LA Zoo*

Visitors to the Los Angeles Zoo have more reasons to smile with the welcome of several babies. Although it may be easy to argue which of the new Zoo additions is the cutest, a highlight is sure to be the Zoo's baby chimpanzee – the Zoo's first in 13 years. Visitors can look forward to seeing all of the new additions on exhibit.

Just as Zoo visitors can watch these youngsters grow up, parents can look forward to their own child's future with confidence with ScholarShare, California's official 529 college savings plan. When children are at a young age, parents must begin thinking about their children's future. The ScholarShare plan provides a simple and smart way for families to save for their children's education. Over the course of the next year, ScholarShare will provide opportunities for Zoo visitors to learn more about the 529 college savings plan and how they can begin to save for tomorrow.

### The Chimpanzee Baby

The Zoo's baby chimpanzee, born March 6, is the Zoo's first since 1999. Her mother, Gracie, has proven to be a wonderful and caring mother.

The Zoo is home to 15 chimpanzees – one of the largest troops in the nation. With such a large chimpanzee family, our primate staff is held in high regards for its care of chimpanzees and acts as a model for the Species Survival Plan for other zoos. Chimpanzees are on the endangered species list. Wild populations in the African forest have decreased because of foresting, hunting, commercial exportation, and collection for scientific research. Although chimpanzees are protected in 34 national parks and reserves, laws can be difficult to enforce in remote regions.

### Desert Bighorn Sheep Lambs

The Zoo delightfully welcomes bighorn sheep births annually. This spring, the Zoo has welcomed three lively additions – two females and one male, born April 4 and 26, and May 5. The three lambs join a family of five adult females, one adult male, and one male kid. The desert bighorn sheep has been listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act since 1998 due to loss of habitat, disease brought by introduced domestic sheep and cattle, and predation.

### Giant Otter Pups

Last year's pair of giant otter pups was a fan favorite. This time, visitors get three times the cuteness with the welcome of one female pup and two male pups, born March 21. The threesome is on display in the nursery at the Winnick Family Animal Care Center. Visitors can view various feedings scheduled throughout the day. The giant otter is classified as endangered by the International Union for



Chimpanzee Grace and her baby, born March 6.

Conservation of Nature (IUCN). Hunting otters for pelts is now illegal, but laws against poaching are difficult to enforce in their wild range within north-central South America. They are also threatened by chemical pollution in the water caused by runoff from farms, oil drilling and mining operations, and deforestation.

### Coquerel's Sifaka Baby

The newborn had keepers worried during his first few months (he was born Jan. 15) because he seemed to struggle with nursing from his mother. Keepers kept a close eye on him to make sure he received the proper nutrients. Today, the youngster is showing strong signs of good health. He's also receiving plenty of "oohs and ahhs." Sifakas are a large, long-legged lemur found in the dwindling forests of Madagascar and the Comoro Islands. They are listed as endangered by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

### Yarrow's Spiny Lizards

At the new LAIR (Living Amphibians, Invertebrates and Reptiles) exhibit that opened in March, a triplet of lizards was born March 7. Adult Yarrow's spiny lizards can reach nearly five inches long, but the newly hatched lizards measure a mere three inches long. Guests of the LAIR can catch a glimpse at these rock-dwelling lizards in the exhibit's *Arroyo Lagarto* habitat.

The presentation of the Zoo's babies is being sponsored by the ScholarShare College Savings Plan. The ScholarShare College Savings Plan provides a simple, smart way for families to save for their children's education. Over the course of the next year, ScholarShare will provide opportunities for Zoo visitors to learn more about how they can begin planning for their child's future with the ScholarShare 529 plan – with information available at selected Zoo events, informative articles in *Zooscape* magazine, and information online.

The Los Angeles Zoo and Botanical Gardens is in Griffith Park at the junction of the Ventura (134) and Golden State (5) freeways. Admission is \$16 for adults and \$11 for children ages 2 to 12. The Zoo is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. For information, call (323) 644-4200 or visit the L. A. Zoo Web site at [www.lazoo.org](http://www.lazoo.org).

**Get a Club discount!** The Club offers ticket discounts to the LA Zoo for Club Members. See the ticket page at the back of this issue for more information.

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## SEEN Around Town

By Jennifer Shackelford  
Club Application Coordinator

### Watching Movies Outside

In Southern California, we have lots of fun things to do outside, including watching a movie outside.

Two summer series – "Eat See Hear" and "Street Food Cinema" – combine the great outdoors with movies, music, and food. They're a total win in my book.

The evening starts off with live music from local bands, when you can wander over to sample some of the tasty treats from food trucks.

There are a variety of surfaces to sit upon. I like to bring a low folding chair (so the people behind me can see) and

a blanket or two for comfort. There are plenty of trucks to choose from, so I tend not to worry about food, although many people will bring a picnic.

"Eat See Hear" and "Street Food Cinema" are both Fido-friendly, and the dogs really seem to enjoy the movies, too! Go online to check out movie schedules and food truck lineups, and to buy tickets. Then grab some friends and head on out to enjoy the day and the night. This is what LA is all about!

[EatSeeHear.com](http://EatSeeHear.com)  
[StreetFoodCinema.com](http://StreetFoodCinema.com)



HARBOR

## Baker to Vegas Success!

**Port Police team celebrates its success in the annual Baker to Vegas challenge cup.**



Capt. Al Rosario, 27 years of city service, Club Member, and his wife, Lydia.

*Story and photos by Jackie Causillas, Club Counselor*

The Port Police Baker to Vegas footrace team finished the competition Sunday morning, April 22, and celebrated their victory that same night. They trained hard, and it was great seeing their accomplishments pay off.

This amazing foot race is an annual event for public safety organizations throughout the

world. The relay race is a 120-mile, 20-stage foot race between Baker, Calif., and Las Vegas and is considered the "Super Bowl" of law enforcement and the champions are the best, in terms of physical fitness and logistics the police world has to offer. The race was created by and is managed by the Los Angeles Police Rotary and Athletic Club, and the City Employees Club is grateful for their leadership. Congratulations on bringing the mug (trophy) home!



Officer Jose Alvarez, 5 years of City service, and his wife, Theresa.



From left: Amy and Officer Tyler Hellinga, 5 years of City service, Club Member; Sr. Lead Officer Aldo Morales, 11 years, Club Member; and Officer Victor Fernandez, 6 years, Club Member.



Barbara Carroll, guest, and Officer Stacey Creech, 5 years of City service, Club Member.



The winning team!