

# BIRTHS & HATCHINGS

## FOUR WARTHOG PIGLETS BORN AT JACKSONVILLE ZOO AND GARDENS

Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens' female warthog, named Tale, gave birth to her first litter of four piglets on 5 April 2011. Tale was born in April 2007 and came to the Jacksonville Zoo in October 2008. The infants' one-year-old father, named Lenny, was born in April 2009 and arrived in Jacksonville in August 2010. The Association of Zoos and Aquariums' Species Survival Plan® (SSP) recommended the warthogs for breeding. These four births bring the total number of warthogs born at Jacksonville Zoo to 15. The mother and her piglets are doing very well and are now officially on exhibit in the *Plains of East Africa* at the Zoo.

Although warthogs look fierce, they are actually herbivores who prefer to flee rather than fight. Members of the same

family as the domestic pig, warthogs present a much different appearance. They have large, flat heads covered with "warts," which are actually protective bumps, and four sharp tusks. They eat grasses and plants and use their snouts to dig or "root" for roots or bulbs. When startled or threatened, warthogs can run surprisingly fast at speeds of up to 30 miles an hour.

## WHITE RHINO BIRTH AT LION COUNTRY SAFARI

Lion Country Safari's newest addition, a fifty pound female Southern white rhinoceros calf, is now on display in the rhino maternity area of the drive-through safari.

The baby, named Laini (meaning fragile/endangered in Swahili), was born on 28 April to mom Bloom after a 16-month gestation. Mom and baby will remain in the rhino calving pen for approximately three months, to give them plenty of bond-

ing time and to protect them from other animals. After that, they will roam freely in Lion Country Safari's *Hwange National Park* with the other white rhinos, including dad Ronnie.

The endangered Southern white rhinoceros is the third largest land animal after African and Asian elephants. Lion Country Safari is home to 13 White Rhinos – three males and ten females. Since 1979, Lion Country Safari has had 32 rhino offspring.

## TIGER TRIPLETS BORN AT ROSAMOND GIFFORD ZOO

The Rosamond Gifford Zoo announced the birth of three Amur tiger cubs. Parents, Tatiana and Toma, welcomed the trio – two boys and a girl – in the afternoon hours on 7 May, the day before Mother's Day.

Mother Tatiana (11) and father Toma (10) were introduced to each other this past

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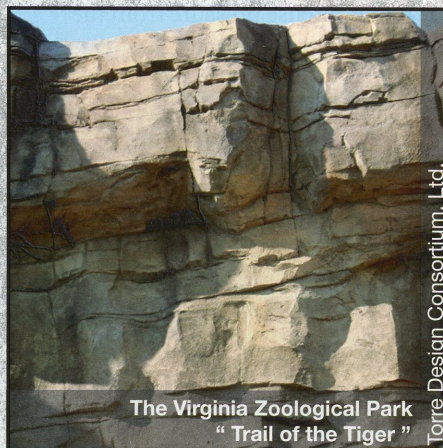
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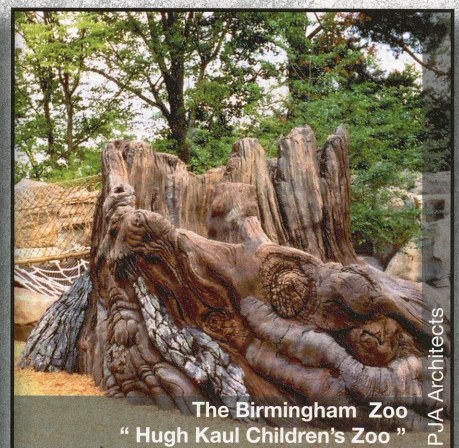
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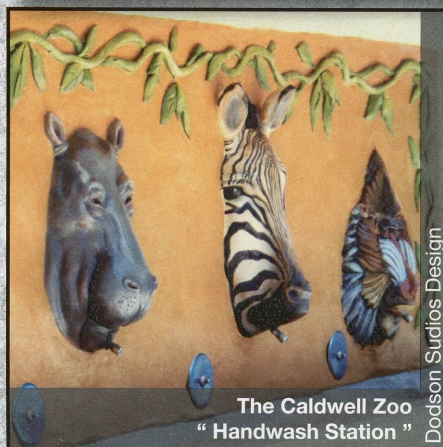
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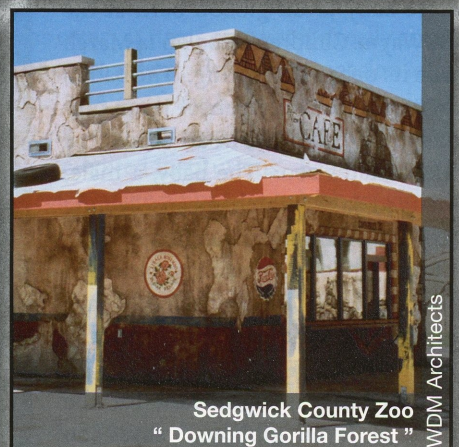
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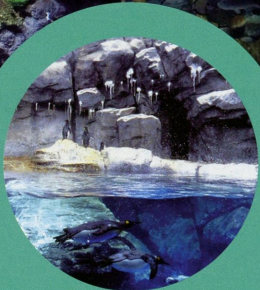


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