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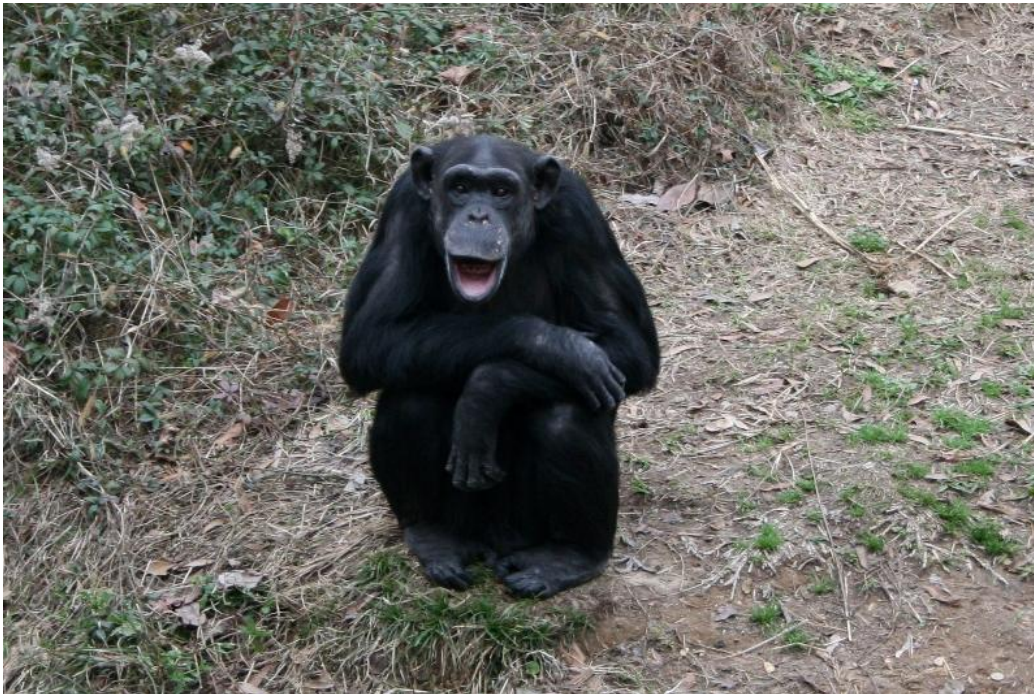
Jackson Zoo Mourns Loss of Chimpanzee ***One of the zoo's oldest female chimps passes away***

Jackson, MS -12/16/09 - It is a sad day at the Jackson Zoo as it mourns the loss of one of its oldest residents.

Jeanette, a forty year old female chimpanzee, was brought into captivity in 1969, and arrived at the Jackson Zoo in 1975. She was the mother to both Jackson and Missy and the grandmother of our newest chimp Mojo.

Keepers had observed irregular behavior and weight loss over the last few weeks and a veterinary exam was scheduled to determine the cause. During the exam earlier today, the veterinarian discovered an inoperable mass in her abdomen. The size and location of the mass left the veterinary staff with only one humane option- to euthanize the chimp.

A complete necropsy is pending.



Zoo admission is \$6.00 for adults, \$4.00 for children ages 2-12, and \$5.40 for senior citizens (65 and over). Children under the age of 2 and Friends of the Zoo members are admitted free of charge.

The Jackson Zoo is located at 2918 West Capitol Street in Jackson and is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visit www.jacksonzoo.org to check out exciting special events, animal updates, one-of-a-kind education programs, membership and adoption packages, and so much more. The Jackson Zoo is accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA). The AZA is America's leading accrediting organization that sets rigorous, professional standards for zoos and aquariums. The AZA is building North American's largest wildlife conservation movement by engaging and inspiring the 143 million annual visitors to its member institutions and their communities to care about and take action to help protect wildlife.

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