

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Brevard Zoo Releasing 230+ Pound Loggerhead Sea Turtle**

MELBOURNE, Fla., August 29, 2025— June Cleaver, the 230-pound loggerhead named after the matriarch in “Leave It to Beaver,” will be released back into the ocean following a two-month rehabilitation at Brevard Zoo’s Sea Turtle Healing Center.

June Cleaver will be released on Wednesday, Sept. 3, at 4 p.m. from Howard E. Futch Memorial Park at Paradise Beach, 2301 Jimmy Buffett Memorial Highway in Melbourne. Flippers will be in the water at 4 p.m., so media are advised to arrive early. Sea turtle releases typically take place rain or shine – but they can be postponed if there is lightning in the area.

On June 27, June Cleaver was observed trying to lay eggs for about two hours in Melbourne Beach. The Sea Turtle Preservation Society transported her to the Healing Center. June was found to have a previous boat strike wound, making it necessary for her to have several CTs to ensure the injury to her carapace (top of the shell) wasn’t critical. The scans found that this wound wasn’t fatal, but it did need some extra care.

Rest, good nutrition and care had June feeling so well that she laid more than 113 eggs in her Healing Center pool. The eggs were given to biologists to bury on the beach, where they remain incubating.

June Cleaver will be remembered for many things by the Healing Center team, but especially for her “diva” food tastes. Crabs are typically enjoyed by loggerheads – but June Cleaver’s favorite food is squid. Volunteers had to stuff shrimp into the squid or else they would go uneaten.

This is sea turtle nesting season, and the public is asked to call the Sea Turtle Preservation Society’s hotline, 321-206-0646, if they find nesting sea turtles or hatchlings in distress on a Brevard County beach.

All media personnel are asked to RSVP to Senior Communications Manager Lauren Delgado before the release and check in with the Zoo's communications team upon arrival.

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Brevard Zoo is home to more than 800 animals representing 170 species from all over the world. As a not-for-profit organization, it is a leader in the fields of animal wellness, education and conservation. More information is available at [BrevardZoo.org](https://www.brevardzoo.org).