



News From

Maggie Brooks

Monroe County Executive

For Immediate Release

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PRESTIGIOUS ELEPHANT CONFERENCE TO BE HELD AT MONROE COUNTY'S SENECA PARK ZOO

*Elephant professionals from around the globe to attend annual Elephant
Manager's Association 4-day Conference*

Monroe County Executive Maggie Brooks today announced that the Seneca Park Zoo is honored to host the 2011 Elephant Manager's Association (EMA) Conference. The conference will be held through Sunday and will be attended by elephant handlers, veterinarians, field researchers from Africa and Asia, as well as elephant enthusiasts from across the globe.

"We are delighted to host this group of knowledgeable and talented professionals and incredibly proud to be leading the discussion about the importance of elephant care in our very own Zoo and across the world," said **Brooks**. *"Genny C and Lilac, the Zoo's two African elephants, are beloved members of our community and we are thrilled to showcase them, our facility and our wonderful staff during this unique conference."*

The EMA is an international non-profit organization of elephant professionals and is dedicated to the welfare of the world's elephants through improved conservation, husbandry, research, education and communication. The EMA was formed in 1988 and has held annual conferences since its inception.

"Seneca Park Zoo is honored to host this international conference," said Larry Sorel, County Zoo Director. *"The one thing everyone at this conference has in common is that we love elephants. Each institution has slightly different styles when it comes to elephant management. This conference gives us the opportunity to show off our small, but great, Zoo, and the magnificent elephants in our care."*

The conference unofficially kicked-off today with a pre-trip to African Lion Safari in Ontario, Canada. The conference officially begins tomorrow, October 6th. On Friday, professionals will give presentations in the morning and will travel to the Seneca Park Zoo by mid-afternoon, where they will tour *A Step Into Africa* construction site. More specifically, the group will visit the state-of-the-art elephant barn where the Zoo's two African elephants, Genny C. and Lilac, reside. Saturday, October 8th is reserved for a full day of presentations and Sunday, October 9th the group will travel to Rosamond Gifford Zoo in Syracuse before a formal banquet which will conclude the conference in Downtown Rochester.

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