



News From

Maggie Brooks

Monroe County Executive

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BROOKS, ZOO OFFICIALS WELCOME MEXICAN WOLVES TO ZOO

Mexican trio of gray wolf brothers from Julian, California take the stage at the Seneca Park Zoo

County Executive Maggie Brooks today was joined by officials from the Seneca Park Zoo to announce the newest addition to the Zoo's wonderful showcase of animals. A trio of Mexican gray wolves were born in April 2007 and arrived at the Zoo last Friday from the California Wolf Center in Julian, California.

*"We are very fortunate for this wonderful addition to the Seneca Park Zoo," said **Brooks**. "These endangered species will ultimately provide visitors with a memorable experience and will continue to highlight the unique exhibits that the Zoo already showcases."*

Monroe County residents will have a unique opportunity to properly welcome the Mexican wolves to our community. The Zoo will be holding a naming contest for all three wolves. Names can be submitted to wolves@senecazoo.org and more details about the naming contest can be found at www.senecaparkzoo.org as well as on the Zoo's Facebook page.

As a way of enhancing the experience for visitors to the Seneca Park Zoo, and as a way of welcoming the new wolf brothers, "Wolf Day" is being celebrated all day at the Zoo. Students from Rochester City School District's World of Inquiry School #58 were in attendance to celebrate the day and to tell Zoo patrons more about the life of these interesting creatures.

"The students at World of Inquiry learn through the Expeditionary Learning Process, an inquiry-based education system that promotes learning by doing," said Bart Roselli, Director of Education and Interpretation for the Seneca Park Zoo Society. "The students have created education stations that will be on display all day here at the Zoo. The stations focus on everything from wolf social interactions and communication to wolf myths and facts and the role zoo's play in the lives of wolves."

After thirty-three years of protection under the Endangered Species Act, less than fifty Mexican gray wolves remain in the wild today.

"In the short-term, it's not our plan to breed these animals, but we are committed to telling the community their story," said Larry Sorel, County Zoo Director. "These specific wolves haven't spent much time in the public so they might be shy in the beginning, but our zoo keepers will work hard to make them feel at home."

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