



News From

Maggie Brooks

Monroe County Executive

For Immediate Release

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BROOKS AND ZOO OFFICIALS BREAK GROUND FOR CONSTRUCTION OF BABOON EXHIBIT

Community and Donors Acknowledged for Their Support

Monroe County Executive **Maggie Brooks** today joined Seneca Park Zoo officials to break ground for the Baboon Exhibit, the second phase of *A Step into Africa*, the Ngorongoro Crater Exhibit.

“This is an exciting day for all of us, and for our community, as we officially break ground on the Baboon Exhibit, which we are able to build thanks to the support of so many in our community,” said **Brooks**. *“The exhibit will be an exciting addition to our Zoo, while also giving visitors an up close and personal view of our baboons.”*

The Baboon Exhibit will provide a natural habitat for the primates while also providing zoo visitors with a spectacular view of the Baboons from the viewing shelter.

“The Seneca Park Zoo Society is excited about the next phase of completing the Ngorongoro Crater Exhibit,” said **Rachel Baker August**, Seneca Park Zoo Society Executive Director. *“We applaud our County Executive’s leadership in this effort and look forward to working together to complete Phase Two of the Ngorongoro Crater campaign.”*

About the Ngorongo Crater Exhibit

The first phase of the *A Step into Africa* campaign was the \$4.4 million elephant exhibit, which opened to the public on April 27, 2006. The Elephant Exhibit is located north of the Rocky Coasts exhibit. The exhibit includes a 10,000 square foot barn and a 22,000 square foot yard, five times the size of the old yard. Landscaping around the new yard was completed in the summer of 2006 and vegetation was added next to the adjoining walking trail. The 1,000 square foot glass-enclosed Time Warner Cable Elephant Atrium was completed in September 2006.

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Baboon Exhibit

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The Elephant Splash Pool, which is currently under construction, will hold 50,000 gallons of water and approximate the natural water holes the elephants would encounter in the wild.

The overall project has provided more than 60 construction jobs. The local firms which are involved in the Baboon Exhibit project: CLRdesign Inc., The Pike Company, Inc., Crosby-Brownlie, Inc., Manning Squires Henning Co., Inc., Monroe Piping & Sheet Metal, LLC, O'Connell Electric Company, Inc., APD Engineering, LDK Engineering, Picard Engineering.

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