

Seneca Park Zoo, 2222 St. Paul St., Rochester

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Zoo announces death of female Arctic wolf

Rochester, NY – August 20, 2010 — Monroe County’s Seneca Park Zoo regrettably announces the passing of Luna, the 14-year-old female Arctic wolf. Luna was born on May 3, 1996, and came to the Zoo from Jungle Cat World in Ontario, Canada, on July 30, 1996.

Dr. Jeff Wyatt, Director of Animal Health & Conservation at the Seneca Park Zoo, said the provisional diagnosis is rapid onset kidney failure and degenerative joint disease related to her advanced age. Final necropsy results will be available in about six weeks.

Nikko, Luna’s brother, died last month at the age of 14 from progressive heart failure and pneumonia related to his advanced age.

“Since Nikko’s death, Luna has been receiving enhanced enrichment and extra attention from her keepers, which she truly enjoyed,” said Larry Sorel, County Zoo Director. “The care she received throughout her entire life here at the Zoo, especially this last month, is confirmation of how much she was loved and will be missed.”

Currently, no Arctic wolves live at the Seneca Park Zoo.

“We are committed to bringing wolves back to the Seneca Park Zoo,” Sorel said. “We know the community loves them and they are an important part of our conservation and educational messaging. We have been actively looking to acquire new wolves and will continue to do so.”

County Zoo Director Larry Sorel is available from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. today for additional information.

The Seneca Park Zoo Society is a not-for-profit organization which was chartered as an educational institution by New York State in 1957, and has since, provided education, fundraising, special events, public relations, marketing and new-exhibit design support to Monroe County’s Seneca Park Zoo. Over the past 16 years, the Seneca Park Zoo Society has raised money for, and helped design more than \$9 million worth of capital improvements to the Zoo, including the most recent addition of a Baboon Exhibit. The Society offers various levels of membership to the Seneca Park Zoo, which includes discounted and/or free admission to more than 170 zoos and aquariums across the country. For additional information, check us out on the Web at: www.senecaparkzoo.org.