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GENERAL OFFICE

Bunn Park
2500 South 11th Street
Springfield, IL 62703

springfieldparks.org

Phone | 217 544-1751

Fax | 217 544-1811

ADMINISTRATION

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& Administration

Lynn Saputo
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: July 29, 2019

Contact: Jeff Mitchell, General Curator

Phone: (217) 585-1821 ext. 1702

A New Exhibit is Opening at the Henson Robinson Zoo!

[Springfield, IL] - The Springfield Park District's Henson Robinson Zoo would cordially like to invite YOU to a special celebration, to welcome our new Red-Billed Hornbills into a new exhibit at the Henson Robinson Zoo.

Our new Red-Billed Hornbills, Kim and Sara, come to us from Seaworld in Orlando, Florida. These Red-Billed Hornbills are a part of the Species Survival Plan (SSP) which is managed by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. Within the SSP framework, Kim and Sara are in high priority to breed. The breeding process will begin this spring at the Henson Robinson Zoo.

"We are excited to add this amazing species to our collection. I think guests will love the chirping & barking noises these birds make. They are very charismatic & will make a great addition to the zoo," General Curator Jeff Mitchell proclaimed.

To welcome our newest additions, a new exhibit has been built at the Henson Robinson Zoo. The Springfield Park District avoided expensive installation costs by utilizing the skills and talents of in-house staff along with partnering with Langheim Concrete and Brad Stone, saving taxpayers over \$10,000. These savings will be reinvested back into the continued improvements at the Henson Robinson Zoo.

Please help us welcome Kim and Sara into their new home during our special grand opening of the Red-Billed Hornbills exhibit on Thursday, August 1st at 9:00am at the Henson Robinson Zoo. This special event is open for Zoo Members, Park District Employees, Board Members, Media and their families.

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For up-to-date information, see the Henson Robinson Zoo's Facebook and Instagram pages, or call the Henson Robinson Zoo at 217-585-1821 and ask for General Curator Jeff Mitchell. The Henson Robinson Zoo is located at 1100 E Lake Shore Drive in Springfield, IL and is open daily from 10:00am-5:00pm.

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Visit our website at www.springfieldparks.org for Park District news related items.