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THE MARYLAND ZOO WELCOMES NEW KIDS TO THE BLOCK

Twin African pygmy goats born in the Farmyard

BALTIMORE, MD – The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore is happy to announce the birth of two African pygmy goat kids. The kids, one male and one female, were born on Monday, April 15 around 10:30 pm to the Zoo's African pygmy goat pair Lex and Lois. "Last year Lois gave birth to our first goat kid, Lana, who is now a favorite in the KidZone area," stated Carey Ricciardone, mammal collection and conservation manager at The Maryland Zoo. "We are happy to see these two kids bonding with Mom, nursing and getting used to their home here at the Zoo."

The twins, which have not yet been named, currently weigh four pounds each. "They are actively exploring their environment, napping and nursing from Mom," continued Ricciardone. "As always, our staff will continue to monitor them closely to ensure that they are doing well."

Zoo visitors can see Lois and her kids in the Zoo's Farmyard area next to the sheep. "Because they are pygmy goats, they are quite small and they do seek shady cool places to hang out sometimes," concluded Ricciardone. "Certainly, as they grow, they will become very active and will be jumping all over the place."

Stay up to date on Zoo events and information. For more information, please visit <u>www.marylandzoo.org</u> or become a Maryland Zoo fan on Facebook <u>www.facebook.com/marylandzoo</u> and follow us on Twitter @MarylandZoo.

About The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore

Founded in 1876, The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore is the third oldest zoo in the United States and is internationally known for its contributions in conservation and research. More than 1,500 animals are represented in the Zoo's varied natural habitat exhibits in areas such as Polar Bear Watch, the Maryland Wilderness, African Journey and the award-winning Children's Zoo. Situated in Druid Hill Park near downtown Baltimore, the Zoo is accredited by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums. For more information, visit <u>www.marylandzoo.org</u>.

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