MARYLAND ZOO

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 16 July 2018

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MARYLAND ZOO WELCOMES TWO POLYNESIAN PIGS TO FARMYARD

BALTIMORE, MD – The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore is squealing with delight over two new additions to the Farmyard area – KuneKune pigs.

The pigs are both male, and are named Orville and Wilbur. They were born on February 23, 2018.

KuneKune (pronounced cooney cooney) pigs are native to New Zealand. The short-snouted and short-legged, hairy pigs are named for their build. "Kunekune" means"fat and round" in the Maori language. The breed can grow to be 200-300 pounds.

"Since they are a grazing pig breed, their outdoor yard includes both grass and a mud wallow," said Ryan Hejduk, Farmyard area manager.

The Farmyard also features sheep, alpacas, cows, chickens, and the Goat Corral, where visitors can meet, greet and brush goats.

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 the award-winning Penguin Coast, Polar Bear Watch, the Maryland Wilderness, African Journey and the 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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