



**CITY OF EVANSVILLE**  
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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
JONATHAN WEINZAPFEL

**July 16, 2009**  
**For Immediate Release**

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### **Renovated Nocturnal Exhibit to Open at Zoo**

(EVANSVILLE, IN) – Mayor Jonathan Weinzapfel will help unveil the newly renovated nocturnal exhibit at Mesker Park Zoo & Botanic Garden on Friday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 a.m. in the Kley Building. The exhibit has been completely updated with new flooring, updated exhibit areas and new lighting. It also features digital signs which alternate information about each animal and nocturnal trivia. The renovation work began in December 2008.

“The renovation of the nocturnal exhibit is just the latest in a series of changes that are helping enhance the visitor experience and level of care for the animals at Mesker Park Zoo. There is also the new main entry plaza and, of course, AMAZONIA,” said Mayor Jonathan Weinzapfel.

A sand cat will be among the animals in the nocturnal exhibit for the first time in Zoo history. Sand cats are one of the smallest of all the wild cat species. Their bodies are about the size of a small domestic cat. Sand cats are commonly found in sandy desert areas of northern Africa, Arabia, parts of Central Asia and Pakistan. Other animals in the nocturnal exhibit include sugar gliders, rousette bats, pygmy loris, eastern screech owls, alligator snapping turtles, porcupines, and owl monkeys.

Mesker Park Zoo & Botanic Garden is open 365 days a year from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; the entry gate closes at 4:00 p.m. Admission for adults is \$8.50 and \$7.50 for children ages 3-12. Children under 3 are free. In recognition of their support, Vanderburgh County residents receive a \$1 discount. Please visit [www.meskerparkzoo.com](http://www.meskerparkzoo.com) for information regarding yearly memberships or other Zoo services.

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