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WHOOO'S GOT YOUR VOTE?

Zoo touts animal prez candidates

By MATT INGERSOLL

"PreZOOdential" Election Week kicks off Monday at Franklin Park Zoo, where children can vote for the commander in chief of the animal kingdom.

"Kids are going to get the opportunity to get out and vote during February vacation," said John Linehan, president and CEO of Zoo New England, who joined Boston Herald Radio in studio yesterday, accompanied by a screech owl and a chinchilla.

"Part of the idea behind it is getting kids active in politics and the idea that they can help control things by being involved."

Candidates include Humphrey the Andean condor, Dinari the African lion, Anala the tiger, Rumba the cow, Kiki the gorilla, and Maxine the sloth.

Voting will take place 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day in the Tropical Forest. The winner will be announced at the Presidential Inauguration Party Feb. 20.



FUR BABY: Nermal the chinchilla is held by John Linehan, president and CEO of Zoo New England, who dropped by to announce an animal presidential election just for kids.



STAFF PHOTOS BY ARTHUR POLLOCK

WINGING IT: Widget the screech owl winks at the camera, above, and stretches his wings, right, while visiting the Herald Radio studio yesterday when Zoo New England announced an animal election for kids.