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# The Bronx



## Cable Cars Stuck At Bronx Zoo

DIAL UP BROAD BAND

July 09, 2008

A mechanical failure Wednesday evening brought 13 cable cars in the Bronx Zoo to a halt, forcing an ongoing evacuation of 37 passengers.

According to zoo officials, the cable car system broke down around 5:30 p.m., leaving 30 adults and seven children suspended in the air. Both police and firemen responded for the rescue operation. A crane was brought around 7 p.m. to reach the cable cars.

"We noticed a lot of emergency service units and police officers, helicopters up in the sky," said onlooker Shonda Prince. "We were trying to figure out what was going on. And then I said, 'Mommy, looks like someone's up there in the [cable cars], but the park is closed. Why is someone up there?' And then we realized they were stuck."

The rescue effort was completed after 10 p.m., according to zoo officials, enough time for the weather to turn stormy.

"I got really scared when it was windy and a thunderstorm hit. That's when I got really scared," said stranded passenger Olga Perez.

Police Commissioner Ray Kelly said the failure may have been caused by a gust of wind.

The "Skyfari" cable car ride allows visitors to have a bird's-eye view of the zoo. According to the zoo's website, the route passes over habitats housing baboons and other animals.

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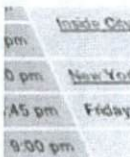
### Dean Meminger

Dean Meminger is NY1's Bronx Reporter. The Bronx native joined New York 1 in 1997.



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