



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA CONTACTS:

Kate Lipscomb, Marketing and PR Manager
205.601.9949 cell
klipscomb@birminghamzoo.com

Katrina Cade, VP of Marketing and Media
205.533.0254 cell
kcade@birminghamzoo.com

Visit the Zoo this Memorial Day Weekend!

The Birmingham Zoo invites families and friends to come out and join in all the fun the Zoo has to offer over the long Memorial Day weekend, including welcoming our newest animals and helping to welcome back a familiar friend. In honor of this holiday, all active and retired military and their dependents can take advantage of free admission to the Zoo on Monday, May 30th, with valid military identification.

The Zoo is pleased to announce the arrival of two new giraffes, Zuri and Keyara, to the Zoo. This puts the giraffe herd at a total of 5. Zuri came to us from the Niabi Zoo in Coal Valley, Illinois on April 18, 2011. She is 12 months old and can be easily recognized as our shortest giraffe. Keyara came to us from the Oklahoma City Zoo in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and arrived three days after Zuri. Keyara is 15 months old and has a fairly laid back attitude. Willow, our oldest female giraffe, is Keyara's aunt.

The Zoo was recently the birthplace of three healthy White Stork chicks. What makes these White Stork chicks so remarkable is that they were born to a pair of storks instead of the flock, where reproduction normally occurs. Visitors can watch the parents feed their chicks, all of whom are residing in plain view and will soon be old enough to leave the nest.

In addition to all of the exciting ongoing attractions and activities featured at the Zoo, visitors will also have the opportunity to welcome back Wally the Gator! He's back from his vacation in Florida and can be found in the newly renovated Swamp exhibit which now also features a variety of birds. Be sure to check the Zoo schedule upon your arrival for Wally's daily feeding times so that you too can be a part of making him feel right back at home!

Beginning Memorial Day weekend, the Birmingham Zoo will be open daily from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday and from 9:00 am until 7:00 pm for our extended summertime hours on Tuesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

For more information about the Birmingham Zoo please visit www.birminghamzoo.com.

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