

CITY OF IDAHO FALLS



FOR
IMMEDIATE
RELEASE

City Hall
380 Constitution Way
Idaho Falls, ID 83405

April 11, 2013

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact, Beth Rich, Zoo Superintendent
(208) 612-8401

Tautphaus Park Zoo Set to Open for the Season New "Backstage Pass" Introduced - Sloth Bear cubs will be on Exhibit

Idaho Falls, Idaho, April 10, 2013 – The lawns are raked, the sidewalks are clean and the animals are ready to see the guests again! The Tautphaus Park Zoo will open for the season on this Saturday, April 13th from 9:00a.m to 5:00 p.m.

What's new this year at the Zoo? Be sure to come by to see the baby sloth bears that were born last November. The public can help pick names for the cubs at the "Cub Naming Station" located at the Sloth Bear Exhibit. Guests can choose from three boy names and three girl names and use money to cast their "vote". The two names that collect the most money will win. The naming contest will run from opening day through May 24th. The winning names will be announced on May 25th during Bear Aware Day. All proceeds from the naming contest will be donated to Wildlife SOS which works in India to conserve sloth bears.

Also new this year is an updated behind the scenes tour called "The Backstage Pass". Participants can discover what it takes to feed the Zoo's 400 animals and visit two off-exhibit areas. The "Backstage Pass" costs \$25 for Zoological Society members and \$30 dollars for nonmembers. Preregistration is required by calling the Education Department at (208) 612-8418.

The very popular Penguin Interaction Program returns this year with more days to participate. The program costs \$20 for visitors 13 years and older and \$10 for children from 4-12 years old. The program will restart on May 23rd and run through the end of the season. Reservations are accepted by calling the Zoo Gift Shop at (208) 612-8422.

The Tautphaus Park Zoo, founded in 1935, is dedicated to preserving wildlife and educating and entertaining Zoo guests. Located in Tautphaus Park off South Blvd, the Zoo is home to over 400 animals of 100 plus different species exhibited in a variety of naturalistic displays. Admission is just \$6.00 for adults 13-61 years old, \$4.50 for seniors 62 and older, \$3.00 for children 4-12 years old, and children 3 and under are free. For more information visit the Zoo online at www.idahofallszoo.org.

For more information on our education programs or to register for classes, you can print the Zoo brochure with the registration form at www.idahofallszoo.org under Education Programs, contact the zoo Education Department at **612-8418** or zooeducation@idahofallszoo.org, or stop by the zoo gift shop daily from 9am-4pm.

###

For additional information regarding this release or for an interview, please contact Beth Rich, Zoo Superintendent directly at 208-612-8401.

About Idaho Falls:

Situated along the Snake River at the western edge of the world famous Rocky Mountains, Idaho Falls has all the features of big city living, but still embraces a small town charm. Our skyline consists of the majestic Teton Mountain Range, and in our backyard is the world's most famous park - Yellowstone.

As the regional center for healthcare, shopping, and entertainment, Idaho Falls is attractive to small and large businesses alike and consistently finds itself listed in the top ten rankings of many prestigious magazines, newspapers and professional community research publications.

About Tautphaus Park Zoo:

The Tautphaus Park Zoo, founded in 1935, is dedicated to preserving wildlife and educating and entertaining Zoo guests. Located in Tautphaus Park off South Blvd, the Zoo is home to over 400 animals of 100 plus different species exhibited in a variety of naturalistic displays. For more information, visit the Zoo online at www.idahofallszoo.org.



***For up to the minute information regarding the city of Idaho Falls,
Follow us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/IdahoFallsGov> & on Twitter at
<https://twitter.com/idahofallsgov>***