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KIDS AND PLUSH ANIMALS RECEIVE FREE ZOO ADMISSION AND CHECK-UPS AT JACKSONVILLE ZOO AND GARDENS' 26th ANNUAL TEDDY BEAR AFFAIR

Saturday, November 5, 2016

Sponsored by Nemours Children's Specialty Care, Jacksonville



Children's Specialty Care

October 17, 2016 – Jacksonville, FL – The Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens (JZG) is pairing with Nemours Children's Specialty Care (Nemours) to host the 26th annual Teddy Bear Affair this Saturday, November 5, 2016 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. This year's event will be held at Range of the Jaguar, the Zoo's two-time national award-winning South American exhibit. Children ages 3-12 who bring their teddy bear or other plush animal will receive free admission to the Zoo the day of the event.

"The Teddy Bear Affair is a Nemours tradition in Jacksonville, and is something we look forward to every year," said Ray Hejmanowski, Practice Administrator for Nemours Children's Specialty Care."

'Injured' plush animals will receive special treatment from the pediatric medical experts at Nemours Children's Specialty Care, Jacksonville. This fun event gives children the opportunity to see how they would be taken care of, in the unfortunate event they would need to receive medical care. The teddy bears can receive eye exams, check-ups, casts and even surgery to repair the holes from receiving plenty of love from their owners. There will be animal encounters, prize drawings, and more.

I love partnerships," said Tony Vecchio, Executive Director of JZG. "There is such a synergy when two very different organizations work together with the common mission of making our community a better place by making a child's world

better, brighter and happier. Nemours and the Zoo are a perfect combination to team up and bring such a unique event to the children of Jacksonville.”

2016 marks the 11th year Nemours has sponsored the Teddy Bear Affair event.

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About Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens

For over 100 years, the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens has aimed to inspire the discovery and appreciation of wildlife through innovative experiences in a caring environment. Starting in 1914 with an animal collection of one red deer fawn, the Zoo now has more than 2,000 rare and exotic animals and 1,000 species of plants, boasting the largest botanical garden in Northeast Florida. **The Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens is a nonprofit organization and a portion of every ticket sold goes to the over 45 conservation initiatives Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens supports around the world, and here in NE Florida.** JZG is proud to be an accredited member of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. For more information, visit jacksonvillezoo.org.

About Nemours Children’s Specialty Care

Nemours (NAH-mors) is an internationally recognized children’s health system that owns and operates Alfred I. DuPont Hospital for Children in Wilmington, Delaware and the Nemours Children’s Hospital in Orlando, Florida along with other major pediatric specialty clinics in Delaware, Florida, Pennsylvania and New Jersey

Established as The Nemours Foundation through the legacy and philanthropy of Alfred I. DuPont, Nemours offers pediatric clinical care, research, education, advocacy and prevention programs to all families in the communities it serves. For more information, visit www.nemours.org/jacksonville.