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OC ZOO MOUNTAIN LION CUBS' WINNING NAMES ANNOUNCED

(ORANGE, Calif.) – A pair of young, orphaned mountain lions at the OC Zoo has new names, thanks to OC Parks' Facebook fans.

OC Zoo staff selected the winning names Modjeska, for the female, and Santiago, for the male.

The cubs are now named for two local canyons – not far from the zoo – where mountain lions can be found in the wild. OC Parks also operates Arden, the Helena Modjeska Historic House and Gardens, the former estate of the famous 19th-century actress.

The cubs came to the OC Zoo after they were found malnourished and orphaned in Oregon when they were just two months old, too young to survive on their own. The brother and sister, now 9 months old, went on display March 31, when Orange County Supervisor Bill Campbell, Third District, introduced them and a special contest to name the young cats.

OC Parks' Facebook fans submitted more than 100 suggested name pairs for the cougars. After the submission period ended, the public had one week to vote for their favorite names. OC Zoo staff chose the winning games from the top 10 vote-getters.

The nine runners-up were: Tia and Tango, Butch and Betty, Bonnie and Clyde, Freddie and Zoe, Max and Lola, Matilija and Cholla, Makenna and Monty, Kimi and Takoda, and Rusty and Maxine.

The winner will receive a 2012 OC Parks annual pass and behind-the-scenes tour of the OC Zoo.

The OC Zoo is inside Irvine Regional Park in Orange. It's open weekdays 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and weekends 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Zoo entry is \$2 per person ages 3 and over; ages 2 and under enter free. Irvine Regional Park parking fee applies.

For more information on the OC Zoo, call (714) 973-6847 or go to www.ocparks.com/oczoo.

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***OC Parks** manages nearly 60,000 acres of parks, historical and coastal facilities and open space for the County of Orange as part of OC Community Resources. <http://www.ocparks.com>*



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