**For Immediate Release**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: James Schuelke
805-378-1499

Fax: 805-378-4013

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Press Release

**AMERICA’S TEACHING ZOO AT MOORPARK COLLEGE WELCOMES MILITARY, VETERANS, AND FIRST RESPONDERS**

MOORPARK, CA (July 02, 2019) – Moorpark College invites veterans, active-duty military members, and first responders to experience America’s Teaching Zoo, free of charge on Saturday, July 6th. Guests and their families will experience wild animal encounters and presentations as well as big cat feedings and animal training demonstrations. Visitors will also enjoy Tiger Splash, a live-action presentation where the Zoo’s tigers will engage in natural behaviors while romping and splashing in an outdoor pool. These demonstrations provide unique opportunities to witness operant conditioning and the student/animal bond.

America’s Teaching Zoo is also home to an important program that trains the next generation of animal stewards. The Exotic Aminal Training and Management program (EATM) provides students with high-quality instruction in exotic animal care and training, giving them hands-on experience while caring for nearly 200 animals at the Zoo.

Refreshments and entertainment will be available for guests, including vendors such as Mister Softee ice cream and children’s author, Noel Colby, who will read from her book, “The Zoo Vet and the Otter.”

*-More-*

Zoo Welcomes Military, Veterans, and First Responders

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“We want our community to know that we appreciate our fine servicemen and women. What better way to do that than invite them and their families to visit our Zoo for free?” says Mara Rodriguez, a spokesperson for America’s Teaching Zoo. “Since the 2003 Simi Fire, America’s Teaching Zoo has maintained a close working relationship with local fire, police, and sheriff departments who have helped evacuate our Zoo’s animals from threatening fires.”

Zoo operation hours and animal presentations:

Public Hours: 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Wild animal encounters and presentations: 12:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m.

Tiger Splash presentation: 3:30 p.m.

For more information, please call (805) 378-1441 or visit www.moorparkcollege.edu/zoo. Moorpark College and its America’s Teaching Zoo are located at 7075 Campus Road Moorpark, California.

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