



EMBARGOED RELEASE Date/Time
March 3, 2014 at 8:05a.m. CST

The David Traylor Zoo of Emporia received over 700 name suggestions for the male mountain lion cub that arrived from the state of Washington several weeks ago. The young orphaned mountain lion cub was rescued by Washington Fish & Wildlife in late January as he sat by his deceased mother that had been shot illegally. The cub came from the Tucannon drainage, just outside Dayton in the Blue Mountains.

The Zoo staff worked hard to narrow the field of over 700 names to 5 final nominations. A short summary is also included that accompanied the names selected.

BLUE

- To remind him of where he came from....the Blue Mountains of Washington. To keep him connected with his roots now that he's far from home.

FLINT

- Because of his new home in the beautiful Flint Hills of Kansas!
- It is a name from nature used to denote strength, endurance and determination which are qualities of a mountain lion.
- Because the lucky little guys new home is the front porch to the Flint Hills.

OLIVER

- Because he was an orphan, just like the movie Oliver.
- After the famous Charles Dickens Character that was orphaned and after seeing the adorable little guys picture, I think the name suits him well.

WALLY

- He was found not far from Walla Walla, Washington.
- The name was chosen to honor the native people of the area near where he was found.

WARRIOR

- This name brings to mind strength, character and pride. It could also be tied to the All Veterans Memorial due to the situation of the memorial to the Zoo. Emporia is also the founding City of Veterans Day.

The final five nominations will be displayed at stations in front of the mountain lion exhibit in the Zoo and at the Zoo Education Center. You can help choose the name by dropping coins or dollars into the appropriate slot for each name from March 3 through March 31 ending at 5p.m. The name that collects the largest amount of donations will be announced as our winning name on April 1.

You may also send donations by mail to:

Emporia Friends of the Zoo

P.O. Box 345

Emporia, Kansas 66801

(please note in the comments section the name you are voting for)

Please contact Lisa Keith with questions at lkeith@emporia-kansas.gov