Children urged to submit names for baby giraffe

Florida parishes bureau

FOLSOM — Global Wildlife Center officials are asking children ages 5 through 12 to “Name the Baby Giraffe.”

The grand prize winner will receive the honor of having the center’s newest infant named his or her choice.

The 6-foot female was born to center resident “Daisy” on June 13 and has gained 25 pounds in the past month, center officials said.

Contest rules are very informal. The only requirement is that a child must draw, sculpt or paint the entry in an artistic form.

Judges will pick the winner by Sept. 1 based on the name choice and manner in which the entry is artistically portrayed.

Deadline for entries is Aug. 15.

“We have no official entry form,” center publicist Paula Finley said. “We’re trying to allow as many children as possible to enter.”

Entries may be mailed to the center at 26389 La. 40, Folsom, La. 70437, or taken to any branch of the East Baton Rouge Parish Library. Each entry should contain the child’s name, address, telephone number and birth date.

The center is located on La. 40 west of Folsom.

All participants will receive a $1 coupon on a wagon ride at the center, which features about 700 wild animals.

The five top winners in each age category will receive four free wagon rides and a free admission to the Louisiana Children’s Museum in New Orleans.

Winners in each age group receive year-long family memberships to the center. Winning entries will be displayed at the museum.

The center already has received about 50 entries from throughout south Louisiana.

More information about the contest may be obtained by calling the center at (504) 624-WILD.