



## News Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **Columbian Park Zoo gears up for second annual Reindeer Rendezvous with the Zoo holiday event**

**LAFAYETTE, IN – October 30, 2024** – Columbian Park Zoo plans to host the second annual Reindeer Rendezvous with the Zoo event Saturday, December 7 from 9:30am - 3:30pm and Sunday, December 8 from 10:30am - 4:30pm. The fundraising event will take place at the Columbian Park carousel building and surrounding area in Columbian Park.

“We were blown away by the success of last year’s inaugural Reindeer Rendezvous,” said Zoo Director Neil Dale. “The event sold out very quickly. This year we have added a second day as well as more time each day to allow for more folks to attend. We’re so excited that Santa and his reindeer made some time for us during his busiest time of year!”

Attendees of the event will have the opportunity to visit with Santa and meet some of his reindeer (reindeer will be on site Saturday from 10:00am-2:00pm and Sunday from 12:00pm-4:00pm)! The event will feature a holiday craft station, special animal artifact presentations, and the opportunity to take photos with Santa before he heads back to the North Pole. The Columbian Park Polar Express train will be running, weather permitting. This year, registration includes a cookie for each attendee. Hot chocolate and other festive treats will be available for purchase.

**A Member Presale is now open through Friday, November 1 at 11:59am, granting Columbian Park Zoo Members exclusive early access to tickets. As of Friday, November 1 at noon, ticket sales will be open to the general public for \$8 each online at [www.columbianparkzoo.org](http://www.columbianparkzoo.org).** Those seeking to purchase a membership in order to take advantage of the presale event, may also do so at that link. Children ages two years and under are free. Tickets are non-refundable. Should space allow, tickets will be available for purchase at the gate for \$10.

“Proceeds from Reindeer Rendezvous directly support the zoo and help us continue offering education and conservation in a fun, family-friendly environment,” said Dale. “We appreciate the community’s support of Columbian Park Zoo.”

Reindeer Rendezvous with the Zoo is a fundraiser for the Lafayette Parks Foundation. All proceeds benefit the Columbian Park Zoo and are used to fund capital improvements, various Zoo projects, and educational programs. For more information about Reindeer Rendezvous with



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the Zoo, please call 765-807-1540 or visit [columbianparkzoo.org](http://columbianparkzoo.org). Stay up to date on Zoo happenings at [www.facebook.com/cpzoo](https://www.facebook.com/cpzoo) and [www.twitter.com/ColumbianPrkZoo!](https://www.twitter.com/ColumbianPrkZoo!)”

### **Columbian Park Zoo**

Founded in 1908, Columbian Park Zoo is the second oldest zoo in Indiana. It is approximately 6 acres in size and is located in historic Columbian Park. The Zoo features several “immersion” exhibits and the animal collection consists of nearly 200 animals representing approximately 90 species.

### **Lafayette Parks Foundation**

Since its formation in 1994, the Lafayette Parks Foundation serves to support the Lafayette Park Department through fund development, assistance with capital projects, special events and programs. The mission of the Foundation is to solicit and encourage donations to assist Lafayette Park capital improvements and programs. Most recent projects include the new Penguin Exhibit at the Columbian Park Zoo, and Crosser Sports Complex.

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