



TOLEDO  
ZOO<sup>®</sup>

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** April 15, 2009

## **Happy 6<sup>th</sup> Birthday Louie!**

Toledo, Ohio—It's hard to believe that The Toledo Zoo's biggest little guy, Louie the elephant, is already six years old! On Sunday, April 26, the Zoo will celebrate this momentous occasion with all sorts of birthday fun.

The party gets started at 10:15 a.m. as Louie gets ready for his big day with a morning bath. Come see a great example of the level of care that the Zoo's elephants receive each day. At 11:00 a.m. Louie will get to enjoy a special birthday cake made just for him. It's full of his favorite treats and is prepared by the Zoo's Catering Department. Then at 1:30 p.m. Louie will open his presents!

Louie might not be a baby anymore, but he's still a very special part of our Zoo family. His birth in 2003 was a huge occasion, and the Zoo is extremely glad that he'll be around for years to come. As he grows, he'll need a special habitat that's in keeping with the social structures that are part of elephants' lives in the wild. Thanks to the generosity of Lucas County voters, Louie's new facility is expected to be completed in the fall. It will enable his keepers to continue to care for him using protected contact, in which keepers work with the elephant without entering the elephant's enclosure.

The Toledo Zoo is open daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and is located on the Anthony Wayne Trail (US 25), four miles south of downtown Toledo. For more information, please visit [www.toledozoo.org](http://www.toledozoo.org) or call (419) 385-4040. Lucas County residents are admitted free of charge each Monday from 10 a.m. to noon. ID showing proof of residency is required.

*The Toledo Zoo is accredited by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA). Look for the AZA logo whenever you visit a zoo or aquarium as your assurance that you are supporting a facility dedicated to providing excellent care for animals, a great experience for you, and a better future for all living things. With its more than 200 accredited members, AZA is building North America's largest wildlife conservation movement.*

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