

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 24, 2009

PUMPKIN PANDEMONIUM FOR ZOO ANIMALS

FRESNO, Ca. – Halloween at the Zoo is for the animals, too! On Saturday, October 24, some of the animals will feast on pumpkins during the Fresno Chaffee Zoo’s Pumpkin Stomp ‘n’ Chomp. Throughout the day animal caretakers will give selected residents palate pleasing treats as part of the Zoo’s enrichment program which is designed to stimulate natural behaviors in the animals such as foraging and play. Elephants, orangutans, tigers and birds will be among the animals that will get a chance to pound, pulverize and partake of pumpkins. Zoo visitors can pick up a schedule of feedings as they enter the Zoo on October 24.

10:00	Orangutans and siamangs
10:30	Australian aviary birds
11:00	Prairie dogs and fennec foxes
11:30	Galapagos tortoises
12:00	Brown bear
12:30	Warthogs and peccaries
1:00	Red-ruffed lemurs
1:30	Elephants
2:00	Tigers
2:30	Birds of prey

The “gourd”geous treats, donated by Pumpkin King Pumpkin Patch located at the corner of Blackstone and Shaw, are part of the Zoo’s ongoing enrichment program to help enrich the lives of the Zoo’s animals, promote natural animal behavior, keep animals mentally stimulated and provide added enjoyment for visitors.

Fresno Chaffee Zoo is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m every day except Thanksgiving and Christmas Day. General admission during regular Zoo hours is \$7 for adults, \$3.50 for children 2-11 and seniors 62+, and children under 2 and Fresno Chaffee Zoo members are free. The mission of Fresno Chaffee Zoo is to provide a fun, unique and up-close experience that strengthens the bond between people and wildlife. The Zoo is accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA).

###