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Zoofari Market Offers Extended Hours for Holiday Shoppers

Nashville Zoo's *Zoofari Market* will offer extended hours from 5 – 8 p.m. on Dec. 12 to accommodate shoppers looking for unique gift items for the holidays. Nashville Zoo will close as normal at 4 p.m., but the Zoo's entrance gates will remain open for gift shop customers. There will be no Zoo admission fee to attend the Dec. 12 evening event.

"We realize that schedules get hectic around the holidays, and it's hard to find time to shop," said Jessica Marth, Retail Operations Manager for Service Systems Associates, Inc., the company that operates the Zoo's gift shops and concessions. "We wanted to offer these extended hours to help those that might not be able to get here during normal Zoo hours."

Homemade snacks and candies along with cider, hot chocolate and coffee will be available for shoppers to enjoy. A professional piano player will also be on-hand performing holiday favorites. Gift wrapping will also be available for a minimal fee.

"This is our way of showing appreciation to our zoo's supporters," said Marth. "We're offering a relaxed and inviting shopping experience away from the normal holiday hustle and bustle."

All are welcome to the event, but Nashville Zoo members receive a special 25% discount on all merchandise. This special member discount will also be offered on Dec. 15 at the Zoofari Market during normal Zoo hours of 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Nashville Zoo is accredited by the prestigious Association of Zoos and Aquariums, assuring the highest standards of animal care and husbandry. The Zoo is a non-profit organization located at 3777 Nolensville Road and is open every day except Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day. The mission of the Nashville Zoo is to inspire a culture of understanding and discovery of our natural world through conservation, innovation and leadership. For more information about Nashville Zoo, please call 833-1534, or visit our website at www.nashvillezoo.org.

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