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Modoc's to mark famous escape

*By the Plain Dealer staff*

Modoc's Market is celebrating the 63rd anniversary of its namesakes daring escape this weekend.

Store officials will mark the anniversary of Modoc's escape with daylong activities at the store, 205 S. Miami St. The celebration is planned from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Nov. 12.

In November 1942, Modoc visited Wabash with the Great American Circus to stage a fund-raiser for Wabash High School.

When dogs barked at the elephants, Modoc, Judy and Empress broke loose from their tethers.

Modoc proceeded downtown to the Bradley Brothers Drug Store, where she smelled a peanut roaster operating. The drug store is at the current location of Modoc's Market.

Modoc crashed through the front door, knocked over the roaster and grabbed the peanuts. She then escaped and held a five-day rampage through Wabash and Huntington counties.

A posse made up of circus officials, Wabash police, the sheriff's departments from Wabash and Huntington counties and even Gov. Henry F. Shricker tried to capture Modoc as she rambled through the countryside.

The news prompted such intrigue that headlines of Modoc's antics crisscrossed major city newspapers throughout the United States.

Modoc's Market is a throwback to the small store era of yesteryear. The store features over one hundred specialty drinks and an espresso coffee bar, freshly made cookies, handmade candies, daily made soups and sandwiches, grocery and convenience items. All coffee drinks are made from coffee beans imported to Wabash from around the world and roasted daily right on premises by Old Canal Coffee Roast.

Specialty drinks will be on sale all day at the sensational 1942 price of 63 cents each in celebration of the anniversary.

Old Canal Coffee Roast can be viewed roasting beans at 11 a.m., 1 and 3 p.m.

The Harness Family Band will be playing from 6 to 7:30 p.m., and rumors have it that even Modoc may be back in Wabash for a more serene visit! Bring your own camera for a picture with Modoc!