



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**LEHIGH VALLEY ZOO ANNOUNCES INAUGURAL  
5K RUN & 1-MILE FAMILY WALK ON AUGUST 30, 2009 AT THE ZOO**

**Proceeds from Both Events to Benefit Lehigh Valley Zoo**

**Lehigh Valley, PA, July 17, 2009** – Families are invited to RUN WILD at Lehigh Valley Zoo during the Zoo’s inaugural 5K Run & 1-Mile Family Walk on August 30, 2009. Proceeds from both events will benefit Lehigh Valley Zoo. The announcement was made today by Shirley Kline, Director of Marketing and Development for Lehigh Valley Zoo.

The hilly, challenging 5K Run will start at 7:30 a.m. inside the Zoo, meander through the 1,200-acre Trexler Nature Preserve and end back inside the Zoo. The 1-Mile Family Walk will begin at 9 a.m. and offer people of all ages an opportunity to support the Zoo by strolling twice around the half-mile loop inside the Zoo.

All participants in the 5K Run will receive a t-shirt and admission to the Zoo for the entire day. Participants in the 1-Mile Family Walk will receive a ribbon and Zoo admission. The 5K Run costs \$25 per runner and the 1-Mile Family Walk costs \$25 per family, up to six persons.

“We’ve combined the fun and excitement of striding past Lehigh Valley Zoo’s Kangaroos, African Penguins and Zebras with the scenic backdrop of the rolling hills of the Trexler Nature Preserve to give runners and walkers a one-of-a-kind opportunity to get their bodies moving, spend time with their families and support the Zoo,” said Kline.

“The 5K course has something for every runner,” added John Hofmann, Sr., race director and Zoo volunteer. “Runners will race along the Jordan Creek, around the Trexler Nature Preserve and through Lehigh Valley Zoo in a truly unique race.”

Event sponsors to-date are: Aardvark Sports Shop, Coca-Cola Bottling Company of the Lehigh Valley, Donna and Bill Murphy, Fitzpatrick Lentz & Bubba, P.C., Gilroy Family Chiropractic Center, J & J Limousine, *Runner’s World* and Xerox.

Visit [www.RunWildatLVZoo5K.com](http://www.RunWildatLVZoo5K.com) to learn more, register and explore sponsorship opportunities.

###

**About Lehigh Valley Zoo**

Lehigh Valley Zoo, located in Eastern Pennsylvania, is home to more than 200 animals representing 70 species—from African Penguins to Zebras. Accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, the zoo hosts family-friendly events, educational programs and camps. Additionally, each year more than 20,000 school-age children visit the zoo. In 2009, attendance at the zoo has increased more than 33 percent. The zoo is open year-round and is operated by the Lehigh Valley Zoological Society, a private nonprofit organization. For information on how to support the zoo, current operating hours, admission rates, Zoo Expedition (*Zoo Comes to You!*), and event details, visit [www.lvzoo.org](http://www.lvzoo.org), join our Facebook Page, or follow us on Twitter.

**Media Contact: Jeff Vaughan, VONCOM, [jv@voncom.com](mailto:jv@voncom.com) or 610-533-4264**