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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**EXOTIC ANIMALS, BIKING, HIKING AND OTHER FAMILY-FUN
AWAITS YOU IN MERCER COUNTY**
--Escape to the County's Great Outdoors in July --

Mercer County, Pa.-- June, 2009-- As Western Pennsylvania's seasonal weather welcomes travelers to the area, there is no better place to visit than Mercer County for a variety of outdoor recreation and nature activities for the whole family to enjoy.

Plan your family visit at **Pymatuning Deer Park** located on 804 East Jamestown Road in Jamestown, Pa. Visitors will have the chance to interact with over 250 animals from all over the world including exotic and domestic animals such as Siberian Tigers, African Lions, Black Bears and several species of deer. The children's pony ride is a popular tourist attraction along with the scenic train ride on the "Deer Park Express." A picnic area and gift shop is available to guests and admission is \$6.50 for ages 16 and up and \$5.50 for seniors and children ages two through 15.

Experience the beautiful 12 mile hiking and biking trail at **Maurice K. Goddard State Park** in Sandy Lake Pa. The park is 2,856 acres, with a 1,860 acre lake that attract thousands of anglers annually. Visitors will enjoy a variety of wildlife that are drawn to the lake, abundant wetlands, old fields and mature forests.

The **Shenango River Lake** provides an array of outdoor activities including picnicking, camping, fishing, boating and canoeing. Located within the suburban Shenango Valley,

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the lake is part of the flood control system operated by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers. The Shenango River Lake is perfect for family adventures and is open throughout the year.

Travelers that seek a thrill may find interest in **Skydive Pennsylvania**, a U.S. Parachute Association affiliate and full-time commercial skydiving school. The equipment is modern and well-maintained, with experienced professional instructors who train guests before jumping at an elevation of 4,500 feet. Skydive Pennsylvania is located on Old Ash Road in Mercer County and is open Wednesday through Monday from 9 a.m. to dusk.

For more information about summer events in Mercer County, log onto www.VisitMercerCountyPA.com or call 724-346-3771.

About Mercer County:

Located in Northwestern Pennsylvania, along the Ohio border, Mercer County is home to name-brand outlets, boutiques and unique specialty stores for shoppers. The area is also known for its more than 25 challenging golf courses of inspired design. Golf Digest ranked Mercer County as one of its top golf destinations. Visitors can dine on mouthwatering cuisine in Mercer County's array of fine restaurants and then stay overnight in a well-appointed hotel, a luxurious bed and breakfast or a cozy country inn. Close to Pittsburgh, Erie, Cleveland and other major markets, Mercer County is easily accessible via I-80 and I-79. The County offers the perfect escape. For more information, visit www.VisitMercerCountyPa.com

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