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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**ESCAPE TO MERCER COUNTY FOR FAMILY-FUN ACTIVITIES THIS SUMMER**

*-- Visitors Can Take Advantage of Affordable Seasonal Entertainment Beginning in May--*

**Mercer County, Pa.-- April 14, 2009--** Are you looking for new ways to escape for your annual family summer vacation? From seasonal festivals to summer concerts, visitors to Mercer County can delight in a variety of affordable family-fun adventures starting May.

Plan your family getaway May 16-17 and visit the Pymatuning Deer Park Opening Weekend located on 804 East Jamestown Road in Jamestown, Pa. Visitors will have the chance to interact with over 250 animals and will experience pony and train rides, plus much more. The two day event begins at 10 a.m. through 5 p.m. Admission is \$6.50 for ages 16 and up and \$5.50 for seniors and children ages two through 15.

On May 25, at **Mercer's Historic Courthouse Square**, experience the Mercer Memorial Day 500. The all-day festivity will feature a 5K race, a veteran's reception, a patriotic program and parade and Memorial Day Salute featuring Vietnam Veterans. The event starts at 9 a.m. with the parade beginning at 11 a.m. Admission is free.

**The 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Strawberry Days Art and Music Festival** in Grove City Memorial Park on June 12-14 will give families the opportunity to see works of art from over 70 different crafters and artists, while enjoying delicious food and strawberry delights. During the day on Saturday there will be a car show and on Friday and Saturday evenings, visitors will be entertained with musical concerts. The festival is free and begins at noon to 9 p.m.

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**Concerts on the Courthouse Square** in the town of Mercer on June 26 will feature the Mercer Community Band. The evening kicks off with an ice cream social at 6 p.m. Warm up music begins with “Black Tie Optional,” followed by the main performance at 7:30 p.m. Guests are asked to bring a lawn chair or blanket. Rain location is Mercer High School Auditorium and admission is free.

On July 4, the **Greenville Area Heritage Day** in Greenville will feature activities at Riverside Park, the Waugh House and both the Greenville Railroad Park and Canal Museums beginning at 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The family-oriented all day events will offer hands-on historical demonstrations, a 5K race, theatrical music and entertainment, museum tours and other fun activities free of charge.

For more information about summer events in Mercer County, log onto [www.VisitMercerCountyPA.com](http://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](http://www.VisitMercerCountyPa.com)*

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