

For Immediate Release
September 8, 2009



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Nashville Zoo Announces Chairman-Elect and Board Members

Nashville Zoo and Zoo Board Chairman Renée Chevalier are pleased to announce a new chairman-elect and four new members to the board of directors.

Dick Ragsdale accepted the position of chairman-elect for the board and will be assuming chairman duties beginning January 2010. Mr. Ragsdale is an entrepreneur, healthcare executive and philanthropist who has launched more than 15 healthcare corporations during his career including Community Health Systems, one of the nation's leading operators of general acute-care hospitals. He is currently a board member of Maryville College, Currey Ingram Academy; and BreatheAmerica. He serves on the Advisory Boards of Harpeth Companies, Council Ventures and the Nashville Opera Association.

New members to the Zoo's board include the following: **Lee Beaman** is chairman and CEO of Beaman Automotive Group and is very involved with the Nashville community. He is a board member for The Nashville Symphony, Montgomery Bell Academy, Belmont University, Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt, the Nashville Chapter of the American Red Cross, Cheekwood Botanical Garden and Museum of Art and others.

Cammy Price has been involved with the Zoo for many years and previously was a member of the Friends of the Zoo board. She also volunteers for Assistance League of Nashville.

Chris Rayback is an attorney for Bone McAllester Norton PLLC focusing on commercial lending and real estate transactions. He is an associate member of the National Conference of State Liquor Administrators and a member of the Global Alliance of Hospitality Attorneys. Mr. Rayback sits on the University of Tennessee Legal Clinic Advisory Board and is a board member of the Nashville Area Habitat for Humanity and FiftyForward.

Dr. Phil Wenk is president and CEO of Delta Dental of Tennessee. He also serves on the board of the Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt, the Governor's Books from Birth Foundation, Monroe Harding, Civic Bank & Trust and Tennessee's Department of Economic and Community Development.

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 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, call 615-833-1534 or visit www.nashvillezoo.org.

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