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Jungle Jog 5K Run & Walk set for Sunday, July 15

29th annual fundraiser supports the Zoo Society and giraffe conservation

June 18, 2018 - The Seneca Park Zoo Society will host its popular Jungle Jog 5K Run & Walk on **Sunday, July 15**. Now in its 29th year, the race follows a picturesque course through the Zoo and adjacent Seneca Park. Jungle Jog is a great event for people of all ages and abilities, including competitive and casual runners, walkers, and families. Over the last decade, nearly 10,000 people have participated in the event.

Supporters who cannot make it on July 15 but still want to help can participate as Virtual Runners. A free Kids' Fun Run 50-yard dash for younger children will also be held following the 5K.

Jungle Jog supports the Zoo Society's education and conservation programs, as well as giraffe conservation in anticipation of the arrival of giraffes at Seneca Park Zoo this summer. Over the past three decades, giraffe numbers have declined by about 40% to fewer than 100,000 individuals. The major threats to their survival include habitat loss, illegal hunting, and human encroachment.

The Zoo Society is raising additional funds for giraffe conservation on donate.ly, and participants are encouraged to start their own teams to raise even more awareness of this vulnerable species.

"My family and I have made it a tradition to run Jungle Jog every summer," said **Kelly Zunner Daniels**, a Jungle Jog participant since 2012. "It's a beautiful course that we enjoy running every year, especially because we know we're supporting a great cause."

Participants will be able to see the progress on the Zoo's 4.5-acre expansion dedicated to Animals of the African Savanna, the future home to over a dozen new

species including Masai giraffe, plains zebra, and ostrich, as they make their way through the course. Jungle Jog registration is \$25 and includes a cotton t-shirt and Zoo admission the day of the event. A special corporate discount is available for groups of 10 or more.

For more details and to register, visit senecaparkzoo.org/junglejog

Internationally, and in our own backyard, Seneca Park Zoo plays a key role in species survival. Chartered as an educational institution in 1957 by New York State, the Seneca Park Zoo Society plays an integral role in supporting Monroe County, the owners and operators of the Zoo. Together, we are working to bring animals back from the brink of extinction.