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NOTE: Tomorrow, Wednesday, June 22 from 10:30 am to 11:30 am,
Dr. Anne Baker, Toledo Zoo Executive Director, will be available for
interviews. Please RSVP to the Marketing & PR Department.

Toledo Zoo Announces Tribute to Nicholas Allore

Toledo, Ohio — The Toledo Zoo announces plans for a memorial bench that will serve as a tribute to Nicholas Allore, who recently died after visiting the Zoo. The wrought iron bench will be inscribed with a commemorative plaque and will be located in Phase 2 of the new elephant facility which is scheduled to open in late spring, 2012.

Early ideas for a tribute included the possibility of naming the new African elephant calf after Nicholas, but the boy's parents preferred the option of a commemorative bench. "His parents told us they can envision coming to the Zoo and resting on Nicholas' bench while watching the elephants and remembering their son," said Dr. Anne Baker, Toledo Zoo Executive Director. "While this tribute could not come under sadder circumstances, we hope to provide a special place where Nicholas' family and loved ones can share happy memories of a young boy who was taken much too soon."

The Zoo is touched by the outpouring of support for Nicholas and his family and remains grateful for the community's interest in forming a tribute to him. "We continue to keep the Allore family in our thoughts during this difficult time," Dr. Baker said.

The Toledo Zoo is open daily from 10 am to 5 pm and is located on the Anthony Wayne Trail (US 25), four miles south of downtown Toledo. For more information, please visit www.toledo zoo.org or call (419) 385-4040. Lucas County residents are admitted free of charge each Monday from 10 am to noon. ID showing proof of residency is required.

The Toledo Zoo is committed to inspiring others to join in caring for animals and conserving the natural world. As part of that mission, the Toledo Zoo is accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA), a leader in global wildlife conservation. AZA member institutions are dedicated to providing excellent care for animals, a great experience for visitors and a better future for all living things.

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