8425 Peach Street Erie, PA 16509-4788 P: (814) 864-3001 F: (814) 864-4077 TF: 800-727-8854 www.wqln.org

For Immediate Release: January 8, 2007

Contact: Kate Cywinski, WQLN, 814-217-6046

Kirk Johnson, Friends of Allegheny Wilderness, 814-723-0620

WQLN & Friends of Allegheny Wilderness have teamed up to present

American Values: American Wilderness Christopher Reeve's

last on-camera documentary-film

Erie – Community members who appreciate the beauty of the wild outdoors are invited to view the 57-minute documentary *American Values, American Wilderness* on WQLN-TV-54 on Saturday, January 13th from 5:30-7:00 pm. The broadcast is to build awareness of our nation's wildlands, including those in nearby Allegheny National Forest, and to raise funding for public broadcasting station, WQLN.

The film was a labor of love for Christopher Reeve, of *Superman* fame, who narrates the documentary. The late actor donated his time and energy to *American Values*, *American Wilderness*—one of his last on-screen appearances before his death in October of 2004.

The guest host for the WQLN broadcast is Kirk Johnson of the Warren-based Friends of Allegheny Wilderness (www.pawild.org). The mission of Friends of Allegheny Wilderness is to foster an appreciation of wilderness values and benefits and to work with local communities to ensure that increased wilderness protection is a priority of the stewardship of the Allegheny National Forest. The Allegheny's long-term management plan is currently undergoing revision, providing an important opportunity to permanently protect additional Wilderness areas.

The 2005 documentary depicts a diverse group of Americans, including a teen-age daughter of Cambodian refugees, a children's book author, a cancer survivor, a tribal chairman from the Flathead Indian Reservation, inner-city children, and the late Christopher Reeve, among others, all sharing their values for wilderness.

The experiences and hopes of these Americans are interspersed with stunning images of some of the beautiful wild lands permanently protected as part of America's National Wilderness Preservation System that captured their hearts. These special places are protected as sanctuaries for animals and plants, a source of clean air and water, a place for physical challenge and spiritual renewal, and a legacy for future generations to use and enjoy.

###

