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Fall into fun with pumpkin weekends at Blackberry Farm

AURORA, Illinois (June 13, 2006) – Blackberry Farm will celebrate the fall season throughout the month of October with its popular Pumpkin Weekends beginning next Saturday, Oct. 3.

Carousel rides, hay rides and tours on the “Pumpkin Train” are also part of each weekend’s festivities. Guests will enjoy discounted rates as well, with \$3 admission for residents and \$5 for non-residents.

For four weekends in October, Blackberry Farm will be festively decorated in the spirit of pumpkin season. A picnic area will feature an assortment of pumpkins for purchase, and a decorating station with painting supplies is provided.

“We used to do a Fall Festival in October each year, and it was so popular and well-received that we decided to expand it to every weekend,” said Sandy Smith, facility supervisor at Blackberry Farm. “In the last few years, Pumpkin Weekends have become a favorite event for young families.”

Each weekend will feature a different series of activities:

Pumpkin Games (Oct. 3): From noon to 3 p.m., visitors can decorate Halloween masks, make pinecone bird feeders, play pumpkin Bozo buckets and pumpkin ring toss and other activities.

Scarecrow Display (Columbus Day Weekend; Oct. 10, 11 and 12): A scarecrow decorating class will be held Oct. 10; those scarecrows will then be put on display for the entire weekend. The families who decorated the scarecrows will then take them home. The assorted scarecrows on display will showcase the creativity of local Scout troops, school groups and individuals. Hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Trick-or-Treat Walk (Oct. 17 and 24): From 10 to 11 a.m. – before the park officially opens – visitors can make their way around to nine stations, then stay after the park opens at 11 a.m. A costume contest will be held at 10:45 a.m. in front of the Huntoon House. Advanced registration required.

Decorated Pumpkin Display (Oct. 17-18 and 24-25): A crazy assortment of dazzling decorated and carved pumpkins will be on display, courtesy of the artistic talents of local Scout groups and individuals. Hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

“This is such a fun time of year,” said Smith, “so we want to make the season last just a little longer.”

ABOUT THE AACVB:

The Aurora Area Convention & Visitors Bureau serves as the tourism marketing and management organization for Aurora, Batavia, Hinckley, North Aurora, Montgomery, Plano, Sugar Grove and Yorkville. This not-for-profit organization provides numerous travel resources to visitors via the Web site at www.enjoyaurora.com and a toll-free number 1-800-477-4369