



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

VISIT THE 39TH ANNUAL BOB EVANS FARM FESTIVAL

Annual Celebration of the harvest Oct. 9, 10 and 11

RIO GRANDE, OHIO – October 1, 2009 – If you’ve never been “Down on the Farm” – now is your chance! Bob Evans Farms is serving up three days of entertainment, traditional crafts, children’s activities and unique attractions at the 39th annual Bob Evans Farm Festival, Oct. 9, 10 and 11. The annual celebration of the harvest season includes square-dancing tractors, chainsaw carvers, a timber show and farm demonstrations and contests. More than 100 artisans demonstrate and sell their wares, many made with tools and techniques of yesteryear. And of course, there will be delicious food!

The festival is held at the historic Bob Evans Farm in Rio Grande, Ohio, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for children ages six to 18, and free for children age five and under. A complete schedule of activities, entertainment and demonstrations is available at www.bobevans.com/farmfestival.

Headlining the musical entertainment on the Homestead stage this year are Dailey & Vincent, winners of the International Bluegrass Music Association’s “2008 Entertainers of the Year Award.” Throughout the weekend, festival visitors can also catch bluegrass, country and gospel groups Union Valley, The Hart Brothers, For His Glory, Lonesome Meadow Band, the Davisson Brothers Band, The Joe Freeman Band, New Jerusalem, The Shaffers and Johnny Staats’ Project. Dailey & Vincent are scheduled to perform Sunday.

Award-winning equestrian drill team, the “Ohio Top Hands Rodeo Drill Team,” will also perform. The group won the U.S. Equestrian Drill Championships this summer in Texas. Rounded up in 1998 by Ginger Ryals, who serves as the team captain and choreographer, the team’s riders hail from across Ohio. The horses are privately owned and are trained by their riders, most of whom are high school students. “Parents and friends support the young team by transporting the riders and horses, and managing the contracts, costumes and hotels that have kept the Ohio Top Hands in the spotlight for a decade,” says Ryals.

More than 700 cloggers and line dancers also perform continuously on the Clogging stage throughout the weekend. The University of Rio Grande’s Grande Chorale will appear on stage and as roving minstrels throughout the event.

The Ohio Proud mobile kitchen will also be on-site all weekend, where Bob Evans’ Chef Brian Murphy will demonstrate how to make delicious meals featuring a variety of Bob Evans and Ohio-grown ingredients. In addition, visitors can purchase a variety of locally produced, special-edition Bob Evans Farms sausage, including Original Bratwurst, Cheddar Smoked Sausage, Kielbasa, Jalapeno Hotz Smoked Sausage or macaroni and cheese at the Sausage Shop on the festival grounds.

Craft demonstrations include blacksmithing, folk toy making, leatherworking, quilting, soap making, weaving and many more, according to McKinniss. “Favorites like the world-renowned Reno Family Horseshoe Pitchers, border collie herding demonstrations, sheep shearing, horseshoeing and other old-time farm demonstrations like sorghum making will be back this year,” he says. “New features, including a milking demonstration from Gallia County’s new organic dairy, the Laurel Valley Creamery, are also on the schedule.”

Of course, there is plenty of fun for the kids, too! Children’s activities include an interactive barnyard, splatter painting, lead horseback rides, a hay bale maze, wagon rides, straw castle, corn pile, kiddie train rides, a game tent and face painting. Registration begins each day at 9 a.m. for contests including a children’s pedal tractor pull; and corn shelling, “cow chip” tossing, hula hoop

contest, hay bale throwing contest, pie eating contest, feed sack races and egg toss for those of all ages.

Traditional foods offered at the Bob Evans Farm Festival include bean soup, corn bread, kettle corn, pies, apple dumplings, ice cream and Ohio-made cheeses and trail bologna, as well as the Bob Evans Restaurant and food tent on site.

Primitive tent and RV camping for the weekend is available at the farm. For additional information about camping or the festival, visitors may call (800) 994-3276.

The Bob Evans Farm in southeastern Ohio was home to Bob Evans, founder of Bob Evans Farms Inc., and his wife Jewell for nearly 20 years. They raised their six children in the large, brick farmhouse known as the Homestead. The Homestead, once a stagecoach stop and an inn, is now a company museum and historical center. It is open daily during the festival and admission is free.

www.bobevans.com/farmfestival

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