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Fall into the New Issue of *Illinois Now!*

Free seasonal magazine helps travelers plan unforgettable autumn weekends

CHICAGO (August 27, 2002) – Fall is a great time for a weekend getaway, and *Illinois Now!* magazine is the perfect place to find “7 Weekends to Fall For.” Travelers can learn how to make brooms from corn husks at Arcola’s Broom Corn Festival; view limestone bluffs at the Garden of the Gods in Southern Illinois; enjoy autumn scenery along the Knox County Scenic Drive in Western Illinois; navigate the Illinois Stagecoach Trail which winds through Apple Creek Canyon State Park to Galena; or check out the blockbuster exhibit, “Pearls,” at Chicago’s Field Museum. These ideas are just a few autumn activities featured in the latest issue of *Illinois Now!* magazine.

Available now, the free 48-page publication also offers readers the chance to win a one-night stay for two at the new Sofitel Chicago Water Tower Hotel, including dinner at the hotel’s new Euro-bistro, Café des Architectes, and a Sony Cyber-shot camera, valued at \$300.

Illinois Now! makes traveling the state easier than ever. The Events section offers a lineup of seasonal fairs and festivals from September to November in a user-friendly regional listing. This section also highlights unique harvest happenings around the state, including a directory of fun places to pick the perfect pumpkin.

A frightening feature, “Haunted Illinois,” takes a spook-tacular look at reportedly haunted sites and prepares the entire family for spine-tingling and ghostly experiences. For a more historical

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view of the state, readers can learn about the “Top 10 Lincoln Sites.” Tracing his legendary steps throughout the “Prairie State” is a great way to celebrate Lincoln’s past before the grand opening of the new Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield this November.

Get the real dish on Chicago dining and discover essential eateries that have stood the test of time, as well as a guide to the trendiest spots for chic eats. The mouth-watering special feature, “Classic Chicago Dining,” recommends several local dining establishments for truly unique Chicago cuisine, including “cheezborgers” at the Billy Goat Tavern and traditional holiday fare at Marshall Field’s Walnut Room.

To obtain a free copy of *Illinois Now!* or for more information about traveling throughout Illinois this fall, call an Illinois Travel Counselor at 800-2CONNECT or visit www.enjoyillinois.com. Copies of the seasonal magazine are also available at tourism information centers, convention and visitors bureaus, regional tourism development offices and state park lodges throughout Illinois.

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EDITOR’S NOTE: Cover art is available electronically or in slide format. For artwork, contact Rebecca Olchawa at 312/729-1710.

*The Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs (DCCA),
Bureau of Tourism manages industry efforts that result in sustainable and significant
economic and quality of life benefits for Illinois residents.*