



**WHAT'S INSIDE:**



**Brownstown Melon Fest Offers Fun for the Whole Family**



**Festivals Welcome the Fall in Jackson County**

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# THE jackson county JAUNTS

## Calendar of Events

### SEPTEMBER

- 3 Grassy Fork Volunteer Fire Department Horse, Tractor and Truck Pull, Tampico. Horses begin at 6 p.m., followed by tractor and diesel trucks. Call Brian Tape at 812-358-5566.
- 10-11 Country Neighbors Open House, held at various home-based businesses. Call Denise at 812-834-5529 or email [mustardseedshop@hotmail.com](mailto:mustardseedshop@hotmail.com).
- 10-11 Brownstown MelonFest, held around the courthouse in Brownstown. Vendors, activities, a large parade and music. Call 812-358-2930.
- 11 Hornet Special at Brownstown Speedway, located at the Jackson County Fairgrounds. Call 812-358-5332 or visit [brownstownspeedway.com](http://brownstownspeedway.com).
- 11 Monthly fish fry to benefit Joe Jackson Hotel Restoration, held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Whistle Stop Café, Vallonia. Call Sally Waldkoetter at 812-358-5081.
- 11 Rockford Ridge Cruise In, held at Rockford Ridge, 2200 North Ewing Street, Seymour, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. No cost to enter. Call 812-522-5104.
- 17-19 Norman Station Conservation Club Camp Jamfest and Bluegrass Festival, held in Norman Station. Call 812-834-5184.
- 18 Racing at Brownstown Speedway, located at the Jackson County Fairgrounds. Call 812-358-5332 or visit [brownstownspeedway.com](http://brownstownspeedway.com).
- 23-25 31st Annual Jackson 100 Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series Weekend at Brownstown Speedway. Call 812-358-5332 or visit [www.brownstownspeedway.com](http://www.brownstownspeedway.com).
- 24-25 Chateau de Pique WineFest, held at the Chateau de Pique Winery, 6361 N. Co. Rd. 760 E., Seymour. Wine tasting, food, regional bands, fireworks. Call 812-522-9296.

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September/October 2010

## *Melonfest Features Family Fun and Special Guests*

The Brownstown Melonfest will be Friday and Saturday, September 10 and 11, on the Courthouse Square in Brownstown.

Quality craft and food vendors, an art show, games, an ongoing variety of stage entertainment, and children's and adult activities offer fun for the entire family.

A sample of activities includes a watermelon cook-off, steal, eating, seed-spitting and carving contests; Mr. Melonhead contest, cornhole tournament, inflatable fun park, 5K Run/Walk, waterball challenge and an art display by the Southern Indiana Center for the Arts.

The festival parade is Saturday at 12:30 p.m. and will feature 2009 Miss America Katie Stam as a special guest. She will present awards to parade winners and be available for autographs after the parade. 2010 Illiana Watermelon Queen Sylvia Crowder will also be on hand during the festival.

Friday's events include the Princess, baby and Mr. Melonhead contests; a watermelon crawl for toddlers, the watermelon eating contest and entertainment on two stages.

Saturday's events kick off with the 5K Run/Walk and cornhole and melon bowling tournaments. The History Center will offer a ham, beans and cornbread dinner and the bubblegum blowing contest will be held at 9:30 a.m. A variety of entertainment will be held on all stages, including Lonesome Highway, 4-Given and Alyan.

For more information and a complete schedule of events, call the chamber office at (812) 358-2930 or visit [www.brownstownchamber.org](http://www.brownstownchamber.org).

## SEPTEMBER

- 25 National Public Lands Day Cleanup at Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge, 12985 E. U.S. Highway 50, Seymour. For information, call 812-522-4352.
- 30-Oct. 2 Seymour Oktoberfest, held in downtown Seymour. Food, biergarten, large parade, vendors, entertainment. Call 812-522-4020.

## OCTOBER

- Sept. 30-2 Seymour Oktoberfest, held in downtown Seymour. Food, biergarten, large parade, vendors, entertainment. Call 812-522-4020.
- 9-17 National Wildlife Refuge Week, held at Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge, 12985 E. U.S. Highway 50, Seymour. For information, call 812-522-4352.
- 9 Houston Fall Festival, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Vendors, food, music and entertainment in a beautiful, country setting. Funds help restore the 100-year-old schoolhouse. For information, call 812-497-3874.
- 9 Freeman Field Flying Association Airport Awareness Day, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Airplane rides available, car show, refreshments, raffles, planes on display, Freeman Army Airfield Museum open throughout the day. For information, call 812-521-7400 or email lbothe@comcast.net.
- 9 Fun Fest Weekend at Brownstown Speedway, located on Highway 250 at the Jackson County Fairgrounds, one mile southeast of Brownstown. For information, call 812-358-5332 or visit [www.brownstownspeedway.com](http://www.brownstownspeedway.com).
- 9 Monthly fish fry to benefit Joe Jackson Hotel Restoration, held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Whistle Stop Café, Vallonia. For information, call Sally Waldkoetter at 812-358-5081.
- 9 Rockford Ridge Car Show, held at Rockford Ridge, 2200 North Ewing Street, Seymour. Registration from 9 a.m. to noon, awards at 3:30 p.m., \$15 registration fee. For information, call 812-522-5104.
- 16 Log Cabin Day Festival, held at Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge, 12985 E. U.S. Highway 50, Seymour. The day offers food, storytelling, crafts and a visit to the closed portion of Muscatatuck and a look at Myers Family cabin. For information, call 812-522-4352.
- 16-17 Fort Vallonia Days, Vallonia. This two day festival celebrates Vallonia's heritage with Indian lodges, muzzle loader shoots, pioneer crafts, parade, food and vendors. For information, call 812-358-3137.
- 17 Norman Station Conservation Club Bluegrass Jams, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., held at Norman Station Conservation Club, 12157 W. Co. Rd. 450N, Norman. For information, call 812-834-5184.
- 25 Downtown Trick or Treat, sponsored by Seymour Main Street Inc., 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Downtown businesses will be open to distribute treats to children in costume. For information, call 812-524-1914.
- 25 Seymour Evening Lions Halloween Parade, 6 p.m., begins at Seymour Post Office, proceeds to American Legion Parking Lot for best costume prizes.
- 30 Christmas Craft Bazaar, held at First United Methodist Church, Seymour, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For information, call 812-522-5264.

# Jackson County Festivals In Full Bloom

## Seymour Oktoberfest

The 38th Annual Oktoberfest will be held September 30 through October 2, in downtown Seymour.

The festival offers great food, entertainment, a crafts area, carnival rides, a large parade, a talent contest, baby contest, baking contest and a BierGarten.

For information and a complete schedule of events, call 812-522-4020, 812-523-1414, 812-524-1914, or go to [seymouroktoberfest.com](http://seymouroktoberfest.com).

## Houston Fall Festival

The Houston Festival celebrates the people and the past and helps to preserve an early 1900s school which closed its doors right after World War II. The festival will be held from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on October 9.

Visitors can enjoy fun, wagon rides, music, good country food, amusements and vendors. There is even a greased pig contest. Call David at 812-995-2315.

## National Wildlife Refuge Week

National Wildlife Refuge Week will be October 10-16. During that time, the Refuge "Closed Area" will be open to walk-in visitors.

**Art Day** - October 9. Artists can paint/draw art at the refuge. Prizes will be awarded for the best work back at the Visitor Center by 3 p.m. Jennings County High School Art Students will have a "plein air" workshop for kids from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the Muscatatuck Visitor Center.

## Bluegrass Music Will Fill the Air at Norman Station

The Norman Station Conservation Club will hold their Fall Bluegrass Festival September 17 through September 19.

This twice-yearly festival includes great bluegrass bands, food, fishing and camping. Shaded camping is available for a nominal fee on the club's beautiful 3½ acre lake. A church service will be held at 11 a.m. on Sunday with David Fisher.

A partial list of entertainers includes: Shirley and Fridays; Leatherwood Valley; Pete and Jesse; Evening Light Gospel; James White and Deer Creek; Not Too Bad Bluegrass Band; Circle of Friends; Green Pastures; New Terrain; Sounds of Bluegrass; Sure

**Big Sit Bird Count** - October 10 - Held all day and participants are encouraged to sit in one place and count birds. Check in at the Visitor Center for exact location.

**Photo contest** - Entries delivered by Thursday, October 7. Photos must have been taken at the Refuge and entry form must be attached. Contact refuge for form and rules.

**The Log Cabin Day Festival** - October 16, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free ham and bean dinner at Myers Cabin, old time crafts, music, wildlife exhibits, a blacksmith, and horse-drawn wagon rides.

For information, call 812-522-4352 or [Muscatatuck@fws.gov](mailto:Muscatatuck@fws.gov).

## Fort Vallonia Days

Another festival celebrating Jackson County's heritage is Fort Vallonia Days, which will be held October 16 and October 17, in downtown Vallonia.

Indian lodges dot the property and a tomahawk throw, muzzleloader shooting contest, bow shoot and authentic blacksmith shop will entertain visitors, as will a parade, exhibits, food booths and a flea market area.

The Fort Vallonia Museum will be open during the festival and houses memorabilia from Vallonia's past.

Call Jennifer Johnson at 812-523-3197 or visit [fortvalloniadays.com](http://fortvalloniadays.com).

Shot Turkey Dusters; Jake Brown and Blue Line; Dillard Creek; Kenny's Happy Valley Band; Summer Rain and Lost River Risin'.

The Conservation Club is located in Norman Station. Directions: From Bedford or Brownstown, stay on U.S. Highway 50 until the Leesville exit, turn north on 1250W and go 4.5 miles to County Road 450N, turn right and go 1/10 mile.

The Spring Bluegrass Festival is held each May and monthly jamborees are held the third Sunday of each month.

For information about the Club, call Fred Norman at 812-834-5184.

## Winners of Visitor Center Fair Baskets Named

The Jackson County Visitor Center has named the winners of the three gift baskets given away after the Jackson County Fair. The Visitor Center booth was located in Exhibit Building 2 and offered the three gift baskets, as well as a \$50 gas card and \$25 Wal-Mart gift card giveaway each day.



Cliff Sierp

Winners of the baskets are: Carrie Butcher, Seymour, Girl's Day Out; Carolyn Peters, Vallonia, Guys Day Out and Cliff Sierp, Seymour, It's Child's Play.



Carrie Butcher

The gift baskets included items donated and purchased from businesses within Jackson County.



Carolyn Peters

More than 2,000 people signed up for the gift baskets during the fair with visitors from 10 states, 78 Indiana towns and Canada.

Nearly 1,000 people were added to the Jackson County Jaunts newsletter mailing list.

Participating businesses and individuals included: 31 Bags, Tammy Davis Consultant, Avon, Kathy Mead, Brooklyn Pizza Company, Brownstown Frozen Food Lockers,

Brownstown Hardware, Burton's Maplewood Farm, Café at Batar, Cakes Created, Chateau de Pique Winery, Christy Hoeverer, All In One Hair Care, Construction Zone, Cortland Diner, Darlage Custom Meats, Deer Country, Family Video, Favorite Things, Hampton Inn, Happy Hearts Cake Shop, Hearts Desire, Hendrix Pool, Home Depot, Jackson County Bank, Jackson County Banner, Jackson County Community Theatre, Jackson-Jennings Farm and Pet, Jacobi Sales, Kensington Tea Room, Kidz & Co., Klaes Clinic, Marion-Kay Spices, Mary Kay, Sandy Hackman, McDonald's, Michie's Hot Dogs and Deli, Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge, Orscheln, Perry's Pool Shop, Pizza Palace, Seymour Manufacturing, Southern Indiana Center for the Arts, Starlite Bowl, Starve Hollow State Recreation Area, The Tribune, Tiemeyer's Farm Market, Tonto Rim Trading Co., Townhouse Army Surplus, Tractor Supply, Tupperware, Brenda Sessions, Union Hardware, Wal-Mart Distribution Center.

Winners of the daily gift cards were: Robert Goble, Erin Moore, Leslie Allen, Michelle Hopkins, Heather Ruddick, Geraldine Otte, Phillip Stidham, Blake Huddleston, Judy Alcorn, Brad Canada, Robin Matthews, Cindy Hudman and Virginia Fields.

Anyone interested in being added to the bi-monthly Jackson County Jaunts mailing list should email [jane@jacksoncountyin.com](mailto:jane@jacksoncountyin.com) or call 888-524-1914.

## Fall Brings Christmas Bazaars and Open Houses

### First United Methodist Christmas Bazaar

Seymour First United Methodist Women will hold their annual Christmas bazaar from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, October 30, at the church on the corner of Third and Ewing Streets in Seymour.

Door prizes will be given and lunch and refreshments will be served.

All proceeds will be given to mission work. For information, call Nancy Erp at 812-522-5264.

### Country Neighbors Open House

The Country Neighbors will host their "Reap the Harvest" fall open house from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. September 10-11.

Door prizes are available throughout the day.

The Country Neighbors own and operate various home-based businesses in the Norman, Brownstown, Freetown and Bedford areas.

For information, call Denise at 812-834-5529 or email [mustardseedshop@hotmail.com](mailto:mustardseedshop@hotmail.com).

### Vendors Needed

Vendors are needed for the St. Ambrose Arts and Crafts Show, to be held November 13, in the St. Ambrose Catholic School gymnasium.

For information, call 812-523-1915 or 812-522-7645.



## around jackson county

### Airport Awareness Day Offered at Freeman Field

Freeman Field Airport Awareness Day will be held Saturday, October 9, at the airport.

Admission is free and breakfast and lunch will be served. Airplane rides will be offered for \$15 per person. Antique and warbird aircraft will be on display, as well as vintage cars and street rods.

The Freeman Army Airfield Museum will be open all day and admission is free. The museum features memorabilia from the field when it was used for training during World War II.

For information, call Larry at 812-521-7400 or email [lbothe@comcast.net](mailto:lbothe@comcast.net).

### Visitor Center Assists Book Drive

International Literacy Awareness Week is September 6-10. In support of this important week, READ Jackson County Coalition on Literacy is covering the communities in books.

The first annual county-wide book drive will be held September 7. Red totes will be placed throughout Jackson County so that readers may donate gently used books. A red tote will be in the lobby of the Jackson County Visitor Center so visitors can donate their books to the cause.

For information about READ Jackson County, contact 812-523-8688.

## Jackson 100

The 31st Annual Jackson 100 will be held September 23 through September 25, at Brownstown Speedway.

Gates will open at 5 p.m. on September 22 for campers and the grandstand will also be open then to reserve seats. September 23 is open practice for drivers and free grandstand admission. September 24 is Lucas Oil Late Model qualifying and a full event for the UMP Bombers and Purestocks. Admission for that event is \$15. Gates open at noon on Saturday, September 25 for the Jackson 100, featuring Lucas Oil Late Models, UMP Superstocks and UMP Modifieds. Admission is \$30.

For information, call 812-569-1982, or visit [brownstownspeedway.com](http://brownstownspeedway.com). The Speedway is located on Highway 250, one mile southeast of Brownstown.

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Jackson County Visitor Center is the official tourism destination marketing and management organization for Jackson County, Indiana. As a strong advocate of sustainable tourism and economic development, the Jackson County Visitor Center markets the county's natural and developed environmental, historical, cultural and industrial attractions to vacation travelers and meeting groups.

## Jackson County Lodging Properties:

**Allstate Inn**, 2603 Outlet Boulevard, Seymour, 812-522-2666

**Berry Branch Cottages**, 10402 North County Road 800 West, Norman, 812-497-2304

**Days Inn**, 302 Commerce Drive, Seymour, 812-522-3678

**Econo Lodge**, 220 Commerce Drive, Seymour, 812-522-8000

**Fairfield Inn**, 327 North Sandy Creek Drive, Seymour, 812-524-3800

**Hampton Inn**, 247 North Sandy Creek Drive, Seymour, 812-523-2409

**Holiday Inn Express**, 249 North Sandy Creek Drive, Seymour, 812-522-1200

**Knights Inn**, 207 North Sandy Creek Drive, Seymour, 812-522-3523

**Motel 6**, 365 Tanger Boulevard, Seymour, 812-524-7443

**Super 8**, 401 Outlet Boulevard, Seymour, 812-524-2000

**Travelodge**, 306 South Commerce Drive, Seymour, 812-519-2578

## How to reach us:

Call 1-888-524-1914 or  
fax us at 812-524-1915.

Email [jane@jacksoncountyin.com](mailto:jane@jacksoncountyin.com)  
or visit us at [jacksoncountyin.com](http://jacksoncountyin.com)

To unsubscribe to the Jackson  
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## Staff:

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