



For Immediate Release

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## ***Magical Entertainment at 2009 State Fair!***

***A magician, a balloon stunt artist, extreme bike riders and mighty lumberjacks to headline new thrill shows***

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DOSWELL, VA (August 20, 2009) – With new shows featuring magic, balloon stunts, lumberjacks, Western bull riding and many returning favorites, the 2009 State Fair of Virginia will offer 11 days of the best entertainment in Central Virginia!

When the Fair opens on September 24, Fairgoers will enjoy many new attractions at the State Fair's new home – The Meadow Event Park in Caroline County. Located 20 miles north of Richmond and 30 miles south of Fredericksburg in Doswell, Virginia, The Meadow can be accessed from Interstate 95 at exit 98 next to Kings Dominion.

Several new shows promise much entertainment and *unbelievable* stunts! **The Magic of Lance Gifford**, a fast-paced and highly entertaining magical illusion show, features a world-class team of professional entertainers performing the world's most modern and intriguing illusions – at the **Theatre Stage**. More wonder awaits with the **World Record Balloon Stunt Show**. Here, comedian and stunt artist James Johnson will invite some brave audience volunteers to step inside a giant 6-foot latex balloon, in an attempt to break his world record of 18 adults! If you still need more thrills, fairgoers can visit the **Thrill Pit** area for the **FMX Freestyle Moto-X** – September 29 through October 1 – a high-flying show of dirt bikes and the best in extreme entertainment!

Young fairgoers can learn what it takes to become a real firefighter, at the new **Fire Safety Show**, teaching them to practice life saving skills used by real firefighters.

Audiences of all ages will delight in the new **Lumberjack Show**, where champion lumberjacks demonstrate the unique skills of log rolling, chopping, sawing, axe throwing, dragster chainsaw and tree climbing. The lumberjacks join a returning Fair favorite – **Masters of the Chainsaw** sponsored by Mid-Atlantic STIHL. These chainsaw wizards can turn a tree trunk into a collectible piece of art – in under an hour!

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These new State Fair sights and sounds can be found throughout The Meadow Event Park – SFVA’s new home – along with all the same traditions and returning Fair favorites! Animal shows – including the **Racing Pigs** and the **Extreme Canines Stunt Dog Show** – will once again entertain audiences all day, every day.

The State Fair’s **Equine Area** comes alive with Western competitions including a new event – **Tundra Tough Trucks Bull Riding** on September 29 & 30 – with the cowboys facing the bulls in one of America’s fastest growing extreme spectator sports. During the **One Arm Bandit Halftime Show** both nights, John Payne will thrill audiences by rounding up buffalo onto the top of a trailer! This must-see act is the only one like it in the world!

Other Western favorites return on September 27 & 28: **Cowboy Mounted Shooting**, where cowboy-clad riders compete at shooting at balloon targets; and **Mutton Bustin’**, where kids under 60 pounds can sign up and compete at riding sheep. On October 3 & 4, the **Tundra Tough Trucks High School Rodeo** returns with youth competing at bronco riding, steer wrestling, calf and team roping, bull riding and barrel racing. For a complete schedule of all Equine events, please visit [www.statefairva.org](http://www.statefairva.org).

On both weekends of the State Fair, the new **Thrill Pit** area will feature the returning **Tractor Pulls** on September 25-27, followed by the **State Fair of Virginia Demolition Derby Championships** on October 2-4.

So spend time at the 2009 State Fair of Virginia, to be held at SFVA’s new home at The Meadow Event Park starting Thursday, September 24 through Sunday, October 4. Enjoy hours of entertainment, exhibits, animals, food, music concerts, competitions and more – a longstanding Virginia tradition in a new rural setting!

Complete entertainment, ticket information and schedules can be obtained at [www.statefairva.org](http://www.statefairva.org) or by calling 1-800-LUV-FAIR (1-800-588-3247) or (804) 994-2900. The State Fair is handicap accessible. No pets permitted.

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*The State Fair of Virginia event is presented each Fall by SFVA (State Fair of Virginia, Inc.)*

*SFVA is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization not affiliated with state government. In a world where Virginia’s open land and traditions that shaped our culture are rapidly vanishing, SFVA’s goal is to keep cherished ideals and experiences alive in the Commonwealth.*