

For Immediate Release

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Gleaners Welcomes Help From Local Community

Blake's Orchard & Cider Mill Teams With Gleaners to Fight Hunger in southeastern Michigan

(Detroit, MI – September 11, 2013) ... **Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan (Gleaners)** and **Blake's Orchard & Cider Mill** invite the public to join them for a fall festival celebration on **September 14, 2013** from **8am – 6pm** with proceeds from sales of pick-your-own apple bushels and gallons of cider benefiting Gleaners and their fight against hunger in southeastern Michigan.

“As a farm we understand the hardships of limited fresh food access. We're rewarded by Mother Nature's surplus in good years and humbled in the rough years of light harvests. We understand the current issues of fresh food scarcity and seek to share our surplus this year with hungry families in Metro Detroit,” said Andrew Blake. “For three generations, we've experienced sharing our farm with so many wonderful families and want to extend our hand to the families that may not have experienced the goodness of fresh Michigan harvests.”

Currently in southeastern Michigan, one in five people struggle with hunger, a rate that's higher than the national average. September is “Hunger Action Month” and Gleaners is encouraging the community to help in their ongoing effort to end hunger. Blake Farms has had a positive relationship with Gleaners for over a decade and wanted to help because of their admiration for the non-profits efforts in increasing food access to struggling local communities.

Blake Farms is a family owned and operated orchard and cider mill in Armada, Michigan. Their historic farm was started in 1946 by Gerald and Elisabeth Blake and their 13 children and was one of the very first “pick your own” orchards in Michigan. Today Blake Farms has three separate locations with over 500 acres of orchard and farmland and employs 300 people to accommodate the crowd of roughly 300,000 they see each season. Blake Farms has evolved since its opening into a family entertainment farm featuring train, pony and hay rides, cornfield mazes, a haunted house and several animated attractions in addition to their orchards and cider mill.

Blake Farms
17985 Armada Center Rd. Armada MI 48005
586.784.5343
BlakesCider.com

Media Only: For more information, or to arrange an interview with a Gleaners or Blake Farms representative, contact C&B Scene at 248.336.8360 or <mailto:scene@candbscene.com>.

About Gleaners Community Food Bank of Southeastern Michigan

For more than 36 years, Gleaners Community Food Bank has been "feeding hungry people and nourishing our communities." Last year, Gleaners distributed more than 46 million pounds of emergency food to over 550 partner schools, soup kitchens, shelters and pantries in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Livingston and Monroe counties. Of every dollar donated, Gleaners uses 93 cents for food and food programs. **One dollar provides three meals for a hungry neighbor.** Learn more at www.gcfb.org