

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Shocktober Enters its Fifth Year with Screaming Success!**

LEESBURG, Virginia – October 7, 2014 – **Shocktober**'s fifth annual event started off with a scream with more than 1,000 people touring the haunted house and other haunted attractions over its opening weekend. **Shocktober**'s doors open at 7pm every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evening during the month of October, including Halloween and November 1<sup>st</sup>, and the last tickets are sold at 10pm.

Paxton Manor is a source of mysterious local folklore, and many say paranormal activity. The 32-room mansion was built in 1872 above a massive underground lake and immense limestone caverns. It is the perfect location for a haunted house.

**Shocktober** has a new theme this year: formerly a haunted hotel, The Carvers have now taken over Paxton Manor. The legend says that over 100 years ago, The Carvers were banished from Leesburg and forced to move to the underground caverns beneath Paxton Manor. They have tired of living underground, have taken over the Manor, and are out for revenge. On this 17-acre property, guests can choose to tour four chilling and unique attractions including The Paxton Manor, The Haunted Well of Souls, The Last Ride, and The Fun Tunnel – all offering their own frightening twist during this five-weekend-long event.

Although known for its frightening PG-13 tours among thrill-seekers and locals, all proceeds from **Shocktober** benefit the Paxton Campus, an organization dedicated to serving people with disabilities and their families, as well as helping children of all abilities thrive in our community. With the funds from **Shocktober**, Paxton Campus has been able to start two new programs on campus: "A Life Like Yours" ALLY Advocacy Center, that fills the unmet needs of the community by providing free information, supports and services to people with disabilities and their families; as well as STEP Up, a job skills and training program for adults with disabilities.

Located in Leesburg, Virginia, the historic Paxton Campus has been serving children and families in need for 90 years. In 1967, a group of parents whose children had special needs formed The Arc of Loudoun, a 501(c)3 organization, to start a preschool for their children when no one else would. Since then, the Paxton Campus has grown into a full-service organization with multiple programs that together provide an integrated and innovative learning environment for children of all ages and abilities.

For more information, visit [www.shocktober.org](http://www.shocktober.org) or contact Rachel Roseberry, Communications Coordinator of Paxton Campus, at [roseberry@paxtoncampus.org](mailto:roseberry@paxtoncampus.org) or by phone at 703.777.1939.

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