FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 13, 2011

Contact: Jon Kaplan, Navy Pier, 312-595-5327

NAVY PIER’S REALLY BIG HALLOWEEN PARTY OFFERS FAMILY
ATTRactions NEVER BEFORE SEEN AT THE PIER

*NEW* Event Features Animal Rides, Petting Zoo, and Houdini Escape Trick

CHICAGO - Navy Pier’s Really Big Halloween Party, a *new* event, will treat guests to fun, family-oriented entertainment and attractions, some of which have never been seen at the Midwest's top tourist and leisure destination. From animal rides and a petting zoo, to feats of magic and illusion, the Pier's Halloween party will offer something for all ages. The event runs Fridays through Sundays, October 14 - 31, plus Halloween Monday. Admission is free, but a Really Big Party Pass is required for some activities.

The featured attraction will be award-winning magician Dennis Watkins performing some of Harry Houdini's original and astounding feats of magic and escape. Each day, Dennis will attempt the greatest, most sensational and most dangerous of all Harry Houdini's escapes - the "Water Chamber Escape." Created and developed by Houdini for his touring shows, this escape required Houdini to be submerged upside-down in a small tank of water, in full view of the audience. The tank was locked from the outside with several padlocks. Once locked inside the un-gimmicked tank, Houdini had only as much time as he had air in his lungs to escape. The same holds true for Dennis Watkins.

“Navy Pier's Really Big Halloween Party' will be a fun event, with attractions and activities we are pleased to offer for the first time,” said Navy Pier President & General Manager, Marilynn Gardner. “Young children will love our animal rides and petting zoo in Gateway Park, while no one will want to miss Dennis Watkins perform ‘Harry Houdini's Dreaded Upside-Down Water Chamber Escape.' It's an amazing feat.”

The Really Big Halloween Party fun includes:

- All-Day Dance Party with live brass bands at Noon & DJ spinners after 4 p.m.;
- Street performers;
- Costume Contests for children, teens, and adults, with prizes;
- Fireworks every Saturday at 9 p.m.
- Trick-or-Treating for children 12 and under, in costume, on Oct. 28 - 31.

For prices and schedules, visit: http://www.navypier.com/halloween/halloween.html