

PRESS RELEASE

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Event: Pumpkinfest 2017

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The 21st Annual 2017 Pumpkinfest, a family focused festival sponsored by the Pony Express Museum in St. Joseph, MO opens at 5 PM Friday, Oct. 13th and runs through Sunday, Oct. 15th until 5 PM.

The highlight of the celebration takes place at 8 PM Friday, Oct. 13th when over 800 hand-carved pumpkins will be electrically lit on "Pumpkin Mountain" in front of the museum. A special lighting will also occur at 8 PM Saturday, Oct. 14th.

Almost continuous entertainment for adults and children taking place both on stage and on the grounds of Patee Park across from the museum during the 3-day family event. Food will also be available in the park. Children's activities include crafts and games, wandering magician, balloon man, storytelling, and much more. Come see Under the Big Oak Tree on Friday evening, Knobtown Skiffle Band on Saturday evening and Steve Fuller Dixie Union Band, the Hontz Family and Stephanie Gummelt on Sunday afternoon. Back by popular demand is The Baker Family (listen as the children play bluegrass and country music). New entertainment will be Dino O'dell, Casey's Creatures and Stan Rippey with Pony Express stories. Come celebrate 21 years with Pumpkinfest as they offer free admission to the Children's Tent provided by special sponsors. Don't forget our craft & food vendors in Patee Park!!

Special appearance by Kevin Rowe (country gospel singer) Saturday evening 7:00-7:45 PM, at the Pumpkin Mountain prior to the second lighting of Great Pumpkin Mountain. Sunday morning 9:30-10:00 AM will be Cowboy Church. Come join in the fun!

Once again, we will have the Diaper/Courtesy Station that is sponsored by Patee Park Baptist Church.

Families can enjoy the carnival rides (arm bands available at specific times), pony rides and a petting zoo. Families and children are invited to participate in the Costume Parade on Saturday morning at 11 AM. Registration starts at 10:00 AM at Patee Hall, 9th and Olive. At 11:45 AM, by Pumpkin Mountain, prizes will be awarded for the best costumes for each age group. There is a grand prize that is being donated by Hy-Vee of St. Joseph, the parade sponsor.

Festivities start Friday, October 13th, 5 PM – 10 PM; Saturday, October 14th, 10 AM – 9 PM and Sunday, October 15th, Noon – 5 PM. Log on to our website at www.ponyexpress.org for a complete 2017 schedule of the 21st Annual Pumpkinfest.

Contact Cindy Daffron at the Pony Express Museum, 816-279-5059 or 1-800-530-5930.

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