

PRESS RELEASE

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Event: Pumpkinfest 2018

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Contact: Cindy Daffron

816-279-5059

pxdirector@ponyexpress.net

The 22nd Annual 2018 PumpkinFest, a family focused festival sponsored by the Pony Express Museum in St. Joseph, MO opens at 5 PM Friday, Oct. 12th and runs through Sunday, Oct. 14th until 5 PM.

The highlight of the celebration takes place at 8 PM Friday, Oct. 12th 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. 13th.

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 The Hontz Family 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 Scotty Wiese "Master Magician" on Saturday at 4:00 and 5:00 PM in the gazebo. Come celebrate 22 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!!

PumpkinFest Talks: "100 Year of Cherry Mash" by Gary Westcott and "Joseph Robidoux and Early St. Joseph History" by Daniel Johnson of Robidoux Row Museum.

"Go For the Gold" will have children panning for gold sponsored by Pony Express Prospector Group on Saturday, Noon-8 PM and Sunday, Noon-4 PM.

Special appearance by country gospel singer, Kevin Rowe, Sat., 7:00-7:45 PM at Pumpkin Mountain (prior to the second lighting ceremony). Cowboy Church, Sun., 9:30-10:00 AM. 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 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 Sat., 11 AM. Registration 10:00 AM, Patee Hall, 9th & Olive. At 11:45 AM, by Pumpkin Mountain, prizes will be awarded for best costumes for each age group. Grand prize/family prizes donated by Hy-Vee of St. Joe, parade sponsor. Children's prizes sponsored by Midwest Central Outdoor.

Festivities start Friday, Oct. 12th, 5 PM – 10 PM; Saturday., Oct. 13th, 10 AM – 9 PM and Sunday, Oct. 14th, Noon – 5 PM. Go to www.ponyexpress.org for a complete 2018 schedule of the 22nd Annual PumpkinFest. Visit www.ponyexpresspumpkinfest.com or Facebook Pony Express National Museum.

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

Send e-mails to: pxdirector@ponyexpress.net

Pony Express Museum, 914 Penn Street, St. Joseph, MO 64503