

The Circleville Pumpkin Show — running now through Saturday — has been the talk of this region of Ohio for many years. This far-famed and unique agricultural exhibit and street fair had its humble origin in October 1903, when George R. Haswell, then mayor of Circleville, and superintendent of the water works, conceived the idea of holding a small exhibit in front of his place on West Main Street.

Corn fodder and pumpkins (many of them cut into jack-o-lanterns) formed the principal decorations, and were responsible for it being dubbed the Pumpkin Show.

The following year Haswell was joined by some enterprising neighborhood merchants and the exhibition grew steadily in its scope, interest and attendance. The first merry-go-round was set up at the corner of Main and Scioto streets for the 1905 show.

Later, a permanent organization of which the mayor is always president in honor of the founder, made up entirely of volunteers, resolved to hold an annual Pumpkin Show on the streets of Circleville for the purpose of maintaining and promoting a more friendly relationship with the guests and visitors of the community. The show also aims to promote and extend agricultural pursuits and to award premiums for the display of grain, fruits and vegetables, school displays, and such other displays that are best calculated to promote the best interests of Circleville and Pickaway County.

The community's efforts to keep the Pumpkin Show fair, clean and above reproach in every respect has contributed largely to its becoming the sixth largest festival in the United States with an annual four-day attendance of more than 300,000 persons. The show claims to be the "Greatest Free Show on Earth." There are now admission fees.

On Aug. 8, 1946, a nonprofit corporation, the Circleville Pumpkin Show Inc., was formed for the operation of the Pumpkin Show, and any profits to be derived from the Show were to be used for the betterment of the citizens. Several thousands of dollars have been turned over to the City of Circleville for community projects.


The Circleville Pumpkin Show receives no subsidy or support and must operate on income and donations and is entirely self-supporting, even to the point of reimbursing the City of Circleville for the additional expense of extra police duty and all extra duty help employed by the city for the purpose of conducting the Circleville Pumpkin Show.

Several entertainment acts are used during the festival. The following list shows the area planned for each activity.

TODAY
 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Baby Judging, Mill St. Gym
 1 - 4:30 p.m. Craft Demonstrations at Home Arts & Crafts, E. Franklin
 1:30 - 2:45 p.m. The Kingston Kickers, E. Franklin
 1:30 - 3 p.m. Big Wheel Race, Pickaway
 2 - 2:45 p.m. Tom Beaman and the Dream Team, W. Main
 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. Baby Parade
 4:30 Baby Parade Veterans, E. Franklin
 4:30 - 5:45 p.m. Egg Toss Competition, W. Main
 5 - 5:45 p.m. Mark Wood Fun Show, Pickaway
 6 - 6:45 p.m. Boot Hill Variety, W. Main
 6:15 - 6:45 p.m. Band Concert - Logan Elm H.S., E. Franklin
 6:15 - 6:45 p.m. Band Concert - Benchoff H.S., Pickaway
 7 - 7:30 p.m. Band Concert - Graham H.S., E. Franklin
 7 - 7:30 p.m. Band Concert - Marion Franklin H.S., Pickaway
 8 - 9:15 p.m. Parade of Bands
 9:15 - 10:30 p.m. WNCI Morning Zoo & Zool Surv., W. Main

FRIDAY
 11 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Craft Demonstrations at Home Arts & Crafts, E. Franklin
 12:30 - 1:15 p.m. Kay & Molly, W. Main
 1:15 - 2 p.m. Bill Dutcher, Pickaway
 1:30 - 2:15 p.m. Ann & Phil Case, W. Main
 2:15 - 3 p.m. Bill Foley, Pickaway
 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. John Schwab, W. Main
 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. Pet Parade
 4:30 p.m. Pet Judging, E. Franklin
 4:30 - 5:45 p.m. Andre Keller's "Sound of Dixie", W. Main
 5 - 6 p.m. Pumpkin Toss Competition, N. Scioto
 5 - 5:45 p.m. Fifty Percent, W. Main
 6:15 - 7 p.m. Pumpkin Show Band, W. Main
 7:15 - 8 p.m. Sean Carney and the Nite Owlz, W. Main
 8 - 9:15 p.m. Parade of Fraternal & Civic Organizations
 9:15 - 10:30 p.m. 13 O'Clock, W. Main

SATURDAY
 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Craft Demonstrations at Home Arts & Crafts, E. Franklin
 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. Pumpkin Pie Eating Contest, W. Main
 1 - 2 p.m. Foundation, E. Franklin
 1 - 1:45 p.m. Cheryl Stockwell, Pickaway
 2 - 2:45 p.m. Mood Blenders, W. Main
 2 - 2:45 p.m. The Bill Brothers, Pickaway
 3 - 3:45 p.m. Country Line, W. Main
 3 - 3:45 p.m. Lou Wagner, Pickaway
 4 - 4:45 p.m. Pickaway Brass, Pickaway
 4 - 5:15 p.m. Steve Fries, W. Main
 5:30 - 6:45 p.m. Hog Calling Contest, W. Main
 6:15 - 6:45 p.m. Band Concert - Adelphi Community Band, E. Franklin
 6:15 - 6:45 p.m. Band Concert - Dynamic Mention, Pickaway
 7 - 7:30 p.m. Band Concert - Ridgedale H.S., E. Franklin
 7 - 7:30 p.m. Band Concert - Ballyhoo, Pickaway
 7 - 8 p.m. New Basics Brass Band, W. Main
 8 - 9:15 p.m. Queens Parade
 9:15 - 10:30 p.m. The David Verry Band with Tony Ehl, W. Main



will parade down today night.

Clipped By:



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