

Circleville Pumpkin Show  
**Circleville's annual  
Pumpkin Festival  
returns with full  
activities schedule**

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With organizers expecting as many as 300,000 visitors during the four-and-a-half day run of the Circleville Pumpkin Festival, it has cemented its place as a top destination every autumn for regional residents looking to capture a last taste of outdoor festival fun before winter weather arrives.

The annual event that takes over a portion of Circleville's downtown returned Tuesday evening and runs through Saturday with all of the food, midway rides, pumpkin show judging, live entertainment and parades the show has become known for.

After a preview night Tuesday, the show hit full stride with a full day of activities Wednesday. Throughout the festival's run, live entertainment will be on display at a Main Street Stage, the Circleville-Pickaway Visitors Pavilion and the Pickaway-Franklin Street Stage. Craft demonstrations also will be offered throughout the festival at 159 E. Franklin St.

Among some of the remaining daily highlights are:

■ **Today** — A baby parade at 3:30 p.m. and parade of bands at 8 p.m.; Irish dancing at 2 p.m.; high school band concerts from 6 to 8 p.m.; country performances by Ashley Everts at 5:45 p.m. and Simba Jordan at 7 p.m.; and the classic rock of Mother Hubbard at 9 p.m.

■ **Friday** — A pet parade at 3:30 p.m. and parade of fraternal and civic organizations at 8 p.m.; Our Ohio cooking demonstrations with Marliou Suszko at 4:30 p.m.; a Pumpkin Show Band concert at 6 p.m.; the classic rock of Rewind at 7 p.m.; and country live performers at 9 p.m.

■ **Saturday** — The Circleville Pumpkin Show Classic five-mile run at 9 a.m.; the Kingston Kickers at 11 a.m.; open mic karaoke at 5 and 9 p.m.; gospel quartet Side by Side at 7 p.m.; the Adelpi Community Band at 7 p.m.; a queen's parade at 8 p.m.; and the country sound of Jacked Up at 9 p.m.

According to the show's Web site, the show's origins go back to 1903, when Circleville Mayor George Haswell decided to host a small exhibit in front of his West Main Street home. Since pumpkins made up one of the primary decorations for the exhibit, it became known as "the pumpkin show."

More involvement from area

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mathew5554

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