

GET JAZZED FOR...

ROARING PUMPKINS AND ALL THAT JAZZ FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS 1.0

- 1. Is there going to be the 54th Festival this year?**

The Morton Chamber of Commerce Pumpkin Festival Advisory Committee has announced their plans to host 2020 Roaring Pumpkins and All That Jazz. While the traditional Morton Pumpkin Festival will not be possible due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the Restore Illinois plan restrictions for festivals in our current Phase 4, the Committee is jazzed to offer modified events and virtual opportunities this year. (Plan as of July 7, 2020)
- 2. When will it be held?**

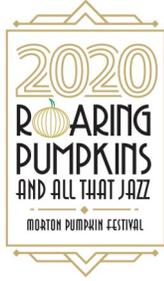
The official dates for Roaring Pumpkins and All That Jazz are Wednesday, September 16 - Saturday, September 19. Modified events and programs will begin in early August launching with the **Great Pumpkin Pin Search** on August 7 and ending with our new **Closing Ceremony** on the evening of Saturday, September 19.
- 3. What safety precautions are being taken?**

Our events have been reimagined using the Restore Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity guidelines and with the input of the Tazewell County Health Department, Village of Morton, and Morton Police Department. This is a continually evolving situation, and we are following local, state, and federal guidelines to ensure the safety of our community and guests. We ask that you be respectful of other individuals and families and follow the guidelines that are listed for the event to make a fun and safe experience for everyone involved.
- 4. Will there be a carnival?**

The following message was received from the Department of Labor, Amusements Division: "The Department is not inspecting Amusement Attractions due to the Governor's guidelines for essential travel only. Currently, under Phase 3 and 4, no carnivals will be allowed to operate." However, just because there's no carnival doesn't mean we won't have options for family fun. Look for more information regarding a contest involving our mascot, Libby, and other opportunities to join our virtual **Opening Ceremony** from your own front yard or storefront.
- 5. Will I still be able to get Pumpkin Ice Cream or Pumpkin Pancakes?**

Yes, our Pumpkin Drive-Thru on Detroit St. is being expanded to be the destination for your favorite pumpkin foods Thursday, September 17 - Saturday, September 19. Pick up your Pumpkin Pancake Breakfast at Jefferson School on Saturday morning. We are working with the Tazewell County Health Department and DCEO to confirm our plans and ensure we are meeting the Phase 4 Dining Guidelines. Certain items will again be provided by our local businesses, and we will be working with our businesses to provide even more "dine local" opportunities.

(more on other side)



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- 6. When should I put my lawn chair out for the Parade?**
Good news - this year your parade seat will be from your own vehicle when you visit the Morton VFW to drive by our float displays and wave at 2020 Parade Marshal Doug Shull from 10:30 AM - 2:30 PM on Saturday, September 19.
- 7. Where can I find pumpkin stuff, “Roaring Pumpkins” themed items, and giveaways?**
Activities and events traditionally hosted on Festival grounds will instead be relocated to various local Chamber member businesses and partners. Our **Business-In-Place Expo** will encourage businesses to set up displays at their locations. The new **Talk of the Town** experiences will offer specialty themed foods, retail, and events hosted by Chamber member businesses. The Chamber’s **Pumpkin Store** is now open online and will be open at the Chamber office through September 19 during regular business hours. These programs will follow the Phase 4 Retail Guidelines.
- 8. Can I still run or walk in the Pumpkin Classic?**
To promote social distancing, this year's Pumpkin Classic 10K and 2-mile will be hosted as a virtual event in accordance with the Youth and Recreational Sports Phase 4 Guidelines. Register to receive a unique Classic tech shirt. Registration is open!
- 9. My child’s been practicing for Pumpkin Idol and I've been baking up a storm for the Recipe Challenge - has all this work been in vain?**
Idol Jr., the **Recipe Challenge**, and other competitions will be hosted safely by limiting large gatherings. Other events such as our **Pin Search** and **Pumpkin Decorating** will continue with some fun updates. Sporting events will follow the current guidelines of Phase 4 Youth and Recreational Sports Guidelines. Check www.mortonpumpkinfestival.org often as new event registrations will be added.
- 10. What does “Roaring Pumpkins” mean?**
The theme evokes a celebration of Morton’s history with a special focus on the important events that occurred in the 1920s. New events, as well as new public art displays, will highlight this history and encourage the creation of new memories.
- 11. Where do I go if I have questions?**
The Morton Pumpkin Festival website, mortonpumpkinfestival.org, is updated with details about each event. For other questions, call the Morton Chamber at (309) 263-2491. The Morton Chamber Office, 415 W. Jefferson St., will be open in July Monday - Thursday from 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM and by appointment on Fridays.

For details on events as they are released, visit our website
at www.mortonpumpkinfestival.org.

Official Guidebooks will be available in late summer.

