

Annual Giant Pumpkin Contest and Teal Pumpkin Project

SHANNON FERRELL
HARRISON COUNTY 4-H AGENT
SHANNON FARRELL EXTENSION AGENT

In just a couple of weeks, the Harrison County Extension team will be hosting the annual Giant Pumpkin Contest and Teal Pumpkin Project! The event will be held Friday, Oct. 23 at the Harrison County Courthouse. Activities are open to everyone and offer many ways to participate.

Those participating in the pumpkin contest can compete in one of five categories:

- Largest pumpkin (grown from seeds from the extension office)
- Largest pumpkin (grown from other seeds)
- Most unique pumpkin
- Smallest Pumpkin (fully developed)
- Best Teal Pumpkin (painted and decorated; judged by age groups)

These categories may be dropped off for weigh – in between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. that day or from 5-6 p.m. that evening. Winners of these categories will be announced at 6:30 p.m.

Trunk or Treat will take place from 5-6 p.m. in the parking lot beside the courthouse. All youth participants will receive bags to receive their



goodies with, plus great goodies. All trunks will be giving non-edible treats, such as stickers or toys, to accommodate kids with food allergies.

Anyone interested in having a trunk must sign up with Holly Laytart from the Extension Office in advance. Harrison County Beef Cattle will be set up doing hotdogs, chips, and drink – free for all kids and available to any adult.

New this year will be a pumpkin pie eating contest that will begin at 6 p.m. Signups will be taken at the event.

Also, there will be an opportunity to shop with vendors, including Chamber/4-H Young Entrepreneurs! Come down to join the fun!

Educational programs

of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, physical or mental disability or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Reasonable accommodation of disability may be available with prior notice. Program information may be available in languages other than English. University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating.



Ed Smith

Are you a fan of spine-tingling suspense? The Maskrafters, an acting troupe from Georgetown College, will perform "Macabre by Moonlight: Stories and Poems for the Halloween Season" in the Aeolian Hall at the Rohs Opera House on Thursday, Oct. 22, at 7 p.m.

Georgetown College Maskrafters bring 'Macabre' to Rohs Opera House

In keeping with the town's penchant for all things Halloween, on Thursday, Oct. 22, at 7 p.m., the Maskrafters, an acting troupe from Georgetown College, will perform "Macabre by Moonlight: Stories and Poems for the Halloween Season" in the Aeolian Hall at the Rohs Opera House.

The show's creator and director, Cynthiana resident Dr. Ed Smith, selected a mix of three stories and three poems and adapted them for performance by a group of eight current and former students.

Augmented by sound effects and candlelight, the stories play out on stage. Some of the works, including Edgar Allen Poe's "The Raven" and "The Monkey's Paw" will be very familiar.

"We want to take the audience back to a time of reading spooky stories late at night without resorting to jump scares or gore," said Smith, noting the show is appropriate for audiences age 10 and older.

"I couldn't be more grateful to the folks at the Rohs for allowing us to come in and share this performance. I really admire

their commitment to creating live, local art; the Maskrafters can't wait to greet our neighbors in Cynthiana and Harrison County," says Smith.

Tickets for Macabre By Moonlight are \$10 for adults; \$5 for all students and youth. If you'd like to purchase tickets ahead of time, go to <https://engage.georgetowncollege.edu/portal/maskrafters> and select Thursday, Oct. 22. For more information email ed_smith@georgetowncollege.edu.

Plant garlic, harvest sweet potatoes

BY JENEEN WICHE
IN MY GARDEN

There are two categories of garlic to consider:

Allium sativum, or softneck garlic and Allium ophioscordon, or hardneck garlic.

Softneck garlic is the easiest and most widely cultivated because the bulbs are large, and the cloves and skin are tight which prevent moisture loss and allows for longer storage. Through centuries of selection softneck garlic has lost the ability to flower so it doesn't expend energy on producing seed; instead, the energy goes towards developing bigger bulbs underground. Most garlic purchased in the grocery store and grown in Kentuckiana gardens are softneck.

While softneck is the recommendation for our climate I must admit that I prefer growing hardneck varieties. Hardneck garlic has the most intense flavor and is easier to peel; but the real bonus is that hardneck varieties produce a flower scape in June.

Once the scape begins to unfurl its flower head, I harvest them, so all the bulb's energy goes to the bulb ... and the scape is sautéed, turned into pesto or roasted with every meal. They are delicious!

It is most efficient to grow garlic from cloves if you are looking for size and yield. Don't use garlic purchased from the grocery store, instead purchase planting-varieties from a garden center or catalog.

Dormant garlic should be stored at about 40 degrees for several months before planting; grocery store garlic has been stored at higher temperatures and may have been treated with an anti-sprouting agent.

Consider, too, maintaining your own seed stock after you have grown garlic for the first time (save some of the largest cloves, refrigerate and replant in October or November.) In theory, your own seed stock will develop an affinity to your garden and thus improve each year.

Most garlic growers prefer a fall planting over a spring one because condi-

tions are drier. The most important cultural factor is a planting bed with well-drained soil rich in organic matter. Prepare your bed by adding manure or other composted material.

Plant the individual cloves two to five inches deep, depending on the size of the clove, and space them about six to eight inches apart. Once we have had several hard freezes you can mulch the garlic bed with mulch, such as straw, shredded leaves or pine needles, to provide some insulation and to prevent heaving from the freezing and thawing of the soil during the winter months.

In the spring add more composted material and a little corn gluten to manage weeds. I rarely have insect problems but on occasion experience some onion maggot problems: an easy solution here is to layer a little sand around the crown of the garlic to deter the adult fly from laying its eggs there; and harvesting as soon as the tops begin to die back.

The sweet potato, or Ipomoea batatas, is in the morning glory family and is native to South America

(like most potatoes) and should be harvested before a killing frost but not before a hoar frost! Our first fall frost will turn the foliage black so that will be how we know it is time to dig our sweet potatoes with a garden fork.

Let them dry in the sun for a couple of hours and then transfer them to a warm, shaded, well-ventilated area (we use the garage) and spread them out on some screens or newspaper. Let them cure for about two weeks, dirt and all, before you put them in storage. Prior to storage use your hands to rub off residual dirt, or rinse them with the hose, but it is not necessary to wash them.

You can harvest "baby bakers" as they grow but the sweetness of the potato is enhanced if you wait until after frost and several weeks of curing. Do not be surprised, or disappointed, if your freshly dug sweet potatoes taste like winter squash. Give them some more time to cure and sweeten up to maximize their rich flavor. The curing process after a frost allows the starches to turn to sugar.

HALLOWEEN

FROM PAGE A1

OCT 24 - TRUNK OR TREAT AND CRUISE-IN
Milford Christian Church from 11 a.m.–1 p.m.
Lunch available, free for cruise-in participants

OCT 24 - SADIEVILLE FALL FESTIVAL
Sadieville Christian Church, 245 Main St, Sadieville, KY from 4–8 p.m.
Live music, games, cotton candy, inflatables, free food, and fall photo booth

OCT 25 - HARVEST JUBILEE
Location: Indian Creek Pavilion, 51 Waits Rd, Cynthiana from 4–8 p.m.
Free event, chili/soup cook off, dessert cook off, cocoa and cider stations, fall crafts, hay rides, and bounce houses

OCT. 26 - TRUNK OR TREAT
Harrison Nursing and Rehab, 105 Rodgers Park Drive from 4–6 p.m.

OCT 28. - TRUNK OR TREAT
Robinson Christian Church
Theme is your favorite movie

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OCT. 29 - TRUNK OR TREAT
Harrison County High School from 5–7 p.m.

OCT 29 - TRUNK OR TREAT
Licking Valley Campus from 5–8 p.m.
Food trucks, treats, candy, and silent auction. CSTH will be there again this year with a cement mixer dispensing treats.

OCT. 29 - TRUNK OR TREAT AND CRUISE-IN
Location: Cedar Ridge Health Campus from 5–7 p.m.
Contests for best costume and best decorated car.

OCT. 30 - THAT BIG GUY'S BBQ TRUNK OR TREAT
Location: Maiden City Brewing Co., 272 Sea Biscuit Way, Cynthiana, at 6 p.m.

OCT. 30 - TRUNK OR TREAT
Harrison YMCA, 111 KY 32 West, Cynthiana, from 6–8 p.m.

OCT. 31 - TREATS ON MAIN
Courthouse, 111 South Main Street, Cynthiana
Local businesses, churches, organizations, and community groups will be set up around the Harrison County Courthouse handing out candy to trick-or-treaters of all ages.

OCT. 31 - TRICK OR TREAT
Church of the Advent Episcopal on 118 North Walnut Street, Cynthiana, from 6–8 p.m.

OCT. 31 - SIDEWALK TRICK OR TREAT
Elmarch United Methodist, 413 South Elmarch Avenue, Cynthiana
Candy and hot chocolate!

POSTED!

All persons are hereby notified not to trespass, fish or shoot upon the lands of the undersigned. Any person caught trespassing in violation of this notice will be reported to the sheriff and prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. It is necessary that we take this step to protect our property and wildlife.

No Trespassing on Fisher Farm or Fisher Estate property in Harrison Co., Berry KY. Owned by Gary & Patricia Earle without written permission from Patricia Earle agent.

Posted No Farm Trespassing at 13027 Ky Hwy 356 Sadieville Ky, Harrison Co

No Hunting or Trespassing on the property belonging to Billie Grob lots 1, 4, 5, 6 and 41 of Maric Lane.

List your posted property here!
\$42.95/year • (859)234-1035, Option 1

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Rachel Lewis
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LEGAL NOTICE

INVITATION TO BID

The Harrison County Fiscal Court will accept proposals for a CAD (Computer Aided Dispatch) system for the Cynthiana-Harrison County E-911 Center.

Separate sealed proposals will be received at the Harrison County Judge's Office, 111 S. Main St., Ste 201, Cynthiana, KY 41031 until 12:00 p.m. EST (11:00 a.m. CST), Tuesday, October 27, 2026. Proposals will be opened at the Harrison County Fiscal Court Meeting held the same day at 5:30 p.m. EST (4:30 p.m. CST) The proposals are for: 911 CAD System

Specifications for the proposals may be obtained from the Harrison County Judge's Office, 111 S. Main St., Ste 201, Cynthiana, KY 41031, by calling (859) 234-7136, or the County website: <http://www.harrisoncountyfiscalcourt.com/news.asp>. Separate sealed proposals for 911 CAD Systems can be mailed to 111 S. Main St., Ste 201, Cynthiana, KY 41031. Bidding information must be submitted in writing and received no later than Tuesday, October 27, 2026, by 12:00 PM EST (11:00 AM CST). The proposals shall be evaluated based on selection criteria identified in the RFP. Any communication not properly received may not be held as a valid condition or interpretation of the conditions contained herein. All questions and responses shall be in writing. Questions shall be received no later than 12:00 PM EST (11:00 AM CST), October 23rd, 2026, and responses or addendums shall be issued by 12:00 PM EST (11:00 AM CST), October 26, 2026.

Bid Package Questions:
Deegee Roe, E-911 Director
(859) 234-7164 d.roe@cynthianaky.com

The County reserves the right to reject any or all RFPs in their entirety. The County reserves the right to award the contract in any manner deemed in the best interest of its citizens. Evaluation of the proposal is listed in the RFP.

HARRISON COUNTY, KENTUCKY
Jason Marshall, Judge Executive