

October 27, 2008



ELI Weekly

History of the Jack-o-Lantern

People have been making jack-o-lanterns at Halloween for centuries. Carving pumpkins originated from an Irish myth about a man nicknamed "Stingy Jack." According to the story, Stingy Jack invited the Devil to have a drink with him. True to his name, Stingy Jack didn't want to pay for his drink, so he convinced the Devil to turn himself into a coin that Jack could use to buy their drinks. Once the Devil did so, Jack decided to keep the money and put it into his pocket next to a silver cross, which prevented the Devil from changing back into his original form. Jack eventually freed the Devil, under the condition that he would not bother Jack for one year and that, should Jack die, he would not claim his soul. The next year, Jack again tricked the Devil into climbing into a tree to pick a piece of fruit. While he was up in the tree, Jack carved a sign of the cross into the tree's bark so that the Devil could not come down until the Devil promised Jack not to bother him for ten more years.

Soon after, Jack died. As the legend goes, God would not allow such an unsavory figure into heaven. The Devil, upset by the trick Jack had played on him and keeping his word not to claim his soul, would not allow Jack into hell. He sent Jack off into the dark night with only a burning coal to light his way. Jack put the coal into a carved out turnip and has been roaming the Earth with it ever since. The Irish began to refer to this ghostly figure as "Jack of the Lantern," and then, simply "Jack O'Lantern."



In Ireland and Scotland, people began to make their own versions of Jack's lanterns by carving scary faces into turnips or potatoes and placing them into windows or near doors to frighten away Stingy Jack and other wandering evil spirits. In England, large beets are used. Immigrants from these countries brought the jack o'lantern tradition with them when they came to the United States. They soon found that pumpkins, a fruit native to America, make perfect jack o'lanterns.



Free Activities on Campus This Week

Community Band Concert

The Music Department presents a concert by the Missouri State University Community Band.

- **When:** Monday, October 27, 2008, 7:30 PM
- **Where:** Hammons Hall for the Performing Arts, Juanita K.

DVD Bingo

Come play Bingo for free and win DVDs !!! Popcorn provided .

- **When:** Thursday, October 30, 2008, 9:00 PM-12:00 AM
- **Where:** Plaster Student Union, Robert W. Food Court



For more events and activities, visit: <http://calendar.missouristate.edu/>

Also, ALWAYS check [the Student Activities Board](#) across from the 2nd floor Computer Lab!



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Announcements

- **Daylight Saving Time ends** @ 2am on Sunday. Do not forget to set your clocks back an hour before you go to bed on Saturday night !!!
- **EAT & GREET**
 - Tuesday, 10/28, 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm
 - Make native and international friends and get some FREE PIZZA !!!
- **Lost & Found Box** in the office - If you have found anything not belonging to you, please bring it to the office and put it into the box.
- Have a **Happy Halloween**



Downtown Halloween Pub Crawl

When : Friday, October 31, 2008 @ 8:00PM
Where: Downtown Springfield

Grab your friends, pull together a fabulously nice and funny costume and head downtown for the biggest Halloween event in Springfield !!!



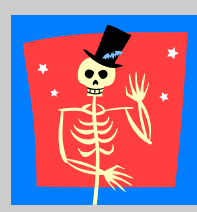
There will be costume contests, live music and local DJ's. Start planning the perfect Halloween costume today!

For more information, visit to: www.itsalldowntown.com



Academic Lecture

- **Levels:** 3AB, 4B, 5
- **Date:** Tuesday, 10 / 28
- **Time:** 1 pm– 1:50 pm
- **Room:** 401
- **Speaker:** Ben Miller
(Department: Red Cross)
- **Topic:** Volunteering / Red Cross



Halloween Fun Facts

- Halloween candy sales average about 2 billion dollars annually in the United States.
- Halloween is the 2nd most commercially successful holiday, with Christmas being the first.
- Chocolate candy bars top the list as the most popular candy for trick-or-treaters with Snickers #1.



Weather Forecast

Forecast for October. 27—November. 2

| | | Fahrenheit (High/Low) |
|------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| Monday: | Sunny | 48/30 |
| Tuesday: | Sunny | 54/32 |
| Wednesday: | Sunny | 59/38 |
| Thursday: | Mostly Sunny | 65/48 |
| Friday: | Shower | 66/49 |
| Saturday: | Shower | 66/50 |
| Sunday: | Shower | 62/49 |



Weather forecasts are **always** changing, so for the most up-to-date forecast, go to: www.weather.com, or watch the local news or the weather channel.