

Get a head start on Thanksgiving at the Colours of Fall Concert

By Brock Weir

Pumpkin Spice season is already here, and Thanksgiving season is just around the corner, so, if you want to embrace both, consider coming out to Town Park next Thursday for the annual Colours of Fall Concert.

The Colours of Fall Concert will take place Thursday, October 4, from 6 ? 8 p.m., and will feature free pumpkin carving ? featuring complimentary pumpkins ? along with a free community corn roast, and live entertainment from A Tribute to The Travelling Wilburys, featuring the music of Bob Dylan, George Harrison, Jeff Lynn, Roy Orbison, and more.

All this will take place under a colourful canopy of fluttering leaves, courtesy of the trees that are the calling card of Town Park.

?Concerts in the Park are certainly a summer tradition, and every year towards the end of the concert series we hear that people wish there were more of them, but when it comes down to the summer ending and school starting, it doesn't seem to be feasible,? says Shelley Ware, Special Events Coordinator for the Town of Aurora. ?But when you look at the Thanksgiving weekend, it is such a time of drawing people together. The weather is usually still on our side, so I thought it might make sense to create one last outdoor concert on the Thursday of the long weekend as an additional opportunity for families to gather.

?The timing of the concert is different, as we operate from six to eight p.m., but to stay with the Thanksgiving holiday in mind, we do provide a limited number of pumpkins for families to carve that evening. We provide the carving supplies, the compost bags, all that stuff, so families can carve a pumpkin together and listen to a fantastic concert.

?Last year for Canada's 150, we offered a free corn roast, which we had not done before. Due to the overwhelming feedback, it was something that had to return this year. The corn is free, the pumpkin is free, the carving supplies are free, the experiences are free. Hopefully weather will be on our side, and it is one last chance to sit in Town Park, take in the ambiance while listening to a great feature band.?

Weather permitting, there will also be a baton twirling group to come on between acts, providing a nice change of pace. If weather does indeed cooperate, they will be trying their hand at a few popular fire baton routines.

If pumpkin carving is more your thing, it all takes place in a friendly, non-competitive atmosphere, and you can take the fruits of your labour home for a weekend Thanksgiving centrepiece.

If you're a novice pumpkin carver, Ms. Ware offers a pro-tip: ?Sometimes starting with a simple design turns into something beyond fantastic. Sometimes people put so much pressure to come out with perfection right from the get go that they get too frustrated trying achieve that. Starting with the simple concept usually it ends up being favourable and very rewarding.?

?This concert tends to be our smallest one, and I think that's because a lot of people might not know about it or know what it's about, but it is really an experience,? she adds. ?I strongly encourage people to come out, get connected with their neighbours or meet new friends in the community.?

For more information on the Colours of Fall Concert, visit www.aurora.ca/fallconcert.