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For Immediate Release – West Springfield, Mass.

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## **The Big E Returns for Seventeen Fun-Filled Days! Sept. 15 - Oct. 1, 2023**

The Big E is back for another fun-filled event full of food, music and must-see attractions. You won't want to miss a thing! Here is the most up-to-date information on this year's Fair. **Please note:** All information is subject to change.

### **Entertainment:**

From major headliners with chart-topping hits, to up and coming artists performing original tracks, The Big E is bringing more than 80 live bands to three stages:

**The Big E Arena**, sponsored by *Truly Hard Seltzer*  
All shows 7:30pm - Doors open at 5:30pm.

<b>Sept. 15</b>	John Fogerty with special guest Hearty Har
<b>Sept. 16</b>	Jimmy Eat World with special guest Palehound
<b>Sept. 17</b>	Parker McCollum
<b>Sept. 22</b>	Bachman-Turner Overdrive
<b>Sept. 23</b>	Quinn XCII with Special Guest Alexander 23
<b>Sept. 24</b>	Chris Young
<b>Sept. 29</b>	Zedd
<b>Sept. 30</b>	Third Eye Blind
<b>Oct. 1</b>	I Love the 90s

Tickets are available at [TheBigE.com](http://TheBigE.com) and include Fair admission when purchased prior to the show date.

**Court of Honor Stage**, sponsored by *MattressFirm*  
All concerts are free with Fair admission.

**Sept.15-20:** Street Drum Corps, Noon & 5pm  
**Sept. 15-17:** Celtic Angels, 2pm  
**Sept. 15:** Molly Hatchet, 8pm  
**Sept. 16:** Gaelic Storm, 8pm  
**Sept. 17:** Vertical Horizon, 8pm  
**Sept. 18-19:** Humble Pie Legacy, 2pm  
**Sept. 18-19:** O-Town, 8pm  
**Sept. 20-21:** Robert Davi sings Sinatra, 2pm  
**Sept. 20:** Dokken, 8pm  
**Sept. 21-25:** Banachek's Mind Games Live, Noon & 5pm  
**Sept. 21:** Megan Moroney, 8pm  
**Sept. 22-24:** The Little Mermen: NYC's Premier Disney Cover Band, 2pm  
**Sept. 22:** The Verve Pipe, 8pm  
**Sept. 23:** Chubby Checker, 8pm  
**Sept. 24:** Mike DelGuidice, 8pm

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**Sept. 25-26:** Springfield Symphony Orchestra and the Springfield Chamber Players present: The Joy of Music, 2pm  
**Sept. 25-26:** Barry Goodreau's Engine Room (formerly of Boston), 8pm  
**Sept. 26-Oct. 1:** The Edge Effect, Noon & 5pm  
**Sept. 27-28:** José Feliciano, 2pm  
**Sept. 27:** Ginuwine, 8pm  
**Sept. 28:** Dire Straits Legacy, 8pm  
**Sept. 29-Oct. 1:** Motown & More, 2pm  
**Sept. 29:** TBD, 8pm  
**Sept. 30:** Nicky Youre, 8pm  
**Oct. 1:** Lonestar, 8pm

**NEW THIS YEAR!** Dolly's Honky Tonk, sponsored by *Boot Barn*, with World Champion Trick Roper Trevor Dreher daily at 2, 5 & 8pm, at Gate 7. Plus: regional Country bands, Stompin' Boots Line Dancing Fri.-Sun. at 3pm, and a mechanical bull!

**The E Stage**, sponsored by *Blue Chair Bay Rum*: Listen to talented emerging artists and original music. Check out **The Mighty Ploughboys**, Sept. 15; **New Leaf**, Sept. 16; **Workman Song**, Sept. 17; and so many more! Show times are Mon.-Thurs., 3 & 7pm; Fri.-Sun., 12:30, 4:30 & 8:30pm.

2023 attractions include: **The Big Parade**, sponsored by *MGM Springfield*, with Mardi Gras floats, marching bands and more every day at 6pm; **Commerford's Petting Zoo**; the **Sky-High Super Wheel** on the **North American Midway**; and much more!

## 2023 Fair Features

### Ireland's Dingle Peninsula Showcase

The Dingle Distillery Bar, authentic Dingle merchandise, and the Halfway to St. Patrick's Day celebration, Sept. 15-17! Celebration abounds with Irish-themed musical entertainment and dancing throughout the grounds. Four-time Emmy Award winner, Mickela Mallozzi, host of the PBS travel series "Bare Feet with Mickela Mallozzi," will make a special appearance Saturday, Sept. 16 for a series of dance and cultural presentations, and renowned Irish Dancer Jamie O'Flannura will perform frequently and also teach cúpla focail -- "a few words" -- in the Irish language. Dignitaries from across the pond will visit The Big E including Ireland's Minister of State Patrick O'Donovan; Councilor Robert Timothy O'Connell, Mayor of Castleisland -Corca Dhuibhne (Dingle Peninsula) and members of Ireland's Kerry County Council.

### The Front Porch

The Big E's district for local goods and gatherings, delectable foods, music and memorable moments! Located near Gate 5, outside the Better Living Center, The Front Porch features Adirondack chairs, cozy spaces and live performances from The E Stage. You won't want to miss what this neighborhood has to offer!

### Budweiser Clydesdales

Located at the Avenue ShowPlace, these gentle giants are a spectacular sight to see. Watch as they're groomed to step out in the The Big Parade daily at 6pm.

### Collector Car Live --Sept. 17, Court of Honor Lawn

New this year **Muscle Car Mania**—View one-of-a-kind hot rods and performance cars on display 8am-5pm and join us for a conversation with Mike Brewer, Wayne Carini and special guests, 12:30-2pm on the Court of Honor Stage, sponsored by *MattressFirm*.

### Eastern States Exposition History Museum

Learn about the history of The Big E!  
Hampden County Building • Daily, 10am – 10pm

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### **Circus Spectacular: Beyond Belief**

Under The Big Top • Daily, 1, 4, & 7pm

An international cast of performers. Limited Premium Ringside tickets at TheBigE.com.

### **Swiftly Swine Racing Pigs**, sponsored by *Leaf Filter Gutter Protection*

At the Mallary Rotunda • Daily, 11am, 1, 3, 5 & 7pm

Grab a front row seat at the “Pork Chop International Speedway” and see these nimble squealers in a dash for the Grand Prize -- an Oreo cookie! And don’t forget to have your “pigure” taken with Swiftly!

### **Fair Food**

The Big E is all about food! Dive into some of our signature treats such as **The Big E Cream Puff** in an exciting **new Maple** flavor, the **Big Éclair**, or experience the **Craz-E Burger**! Craving something different? There are hundreds of options to choose from across the grounds, including more than 65 new foods this year! Don’t forget to try some of this year’s debut vendors:

- Bacon Bomb
- Waffleicious
- La3Plata
- Top The Crust
- Luann’s Bakery
- Ferrindino Maple

And so much more with new bites such as the cannoli donut, Thanksgiving nachos, Hong Kong waffle, Mexican street corn pizza and apple bacon fritters. Visit TheBigE.com for more information on new Fair foods and traditional favorites.

### **EASTERN STATES FARMERS MARKET AND WINE BARN**

Home to some of New England’s finest wines, cheeses, ciders and more! Want a refreshing drink? Pick up a wine slushy and cheese plate, or a wine sundae in **The Wine Café** and relax in the courtyard.

Brimming with more than New England’s finest wines and cheeses, visit the Farmers Market for high quality home goods, clothing, bags, jewelry and more!

### **AGRICULTURE**

Known as the largest agricultural event on the eastern seaboard, The Big E offers an exceptional educational showcase and an up-close view of life on the farm.

### **Mallary Complex**

Meet and cheer on the amazing people and animals of the New England agricultural community at competitions, shows, and exhibits every day at The Big E! Come on down to see 4-H and FFA youth in action!

### **The Butter Sculpture**

Witness the food artistry team of Jim Victor and Marie Pelton’s masterpiece made from 600 pounds of AgriMark/Cabot Creamery Cooperative butter!

### **4-H Milk Booth & Apple Booth**

Indulge in an old-fashioned chocolate, vanilla or strawberry “Jetshake!” Stop by the 4-H Milk Booth located under the Mallary Rotunda. Or, if you feel like having a light, healthy snack, the 4-H Apple Booth in Farm-A-Rama is sure to hit the spot.

### **Farm-A-Rama**

Hallamre Clydesdales, Hatching Chicks, Goats, Pigs, Beekeepers and, new this year, The Power of Poop exhibit! Meet the American Beekeeping Federation Honey Princess, hosted by the Hampden County Beekeepers Association, Sept. 21-23.

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## COLISEUM

### Eastern States Exposition Horse Show

#### A USEF Heritage Competition

- Hunter Show and USHJA Zone 1 HOTY Finals: Sept. 13-17
- \$15,000 Hunter Classic: Sept. 15
- Saddlebreds, Hackneys, Morgans, Friesians & Open Opportunity Classes: Sept. 21-24
- The Big E Draft Horse Show – Sept. 28-Oct. 1
- 2023 North American Classic Cart Series Eastern Regional Finals: Oct. 1
- \$50,000 Six-Horse Hitch Showdown: Oct. 1
- Haflinger and Hitch Pony Championship Series Finals: Oct. 1

Horse Pulling: Sept. 18

Ox Pulling: Sept. 19

Jenny Vidbel's Liberty Equestrian Team: Sept. 27-Oct. 1

## New England Center

Step inside the New England Center, home of Creative Arts, 4-H Clubs, Food Contests and more! See what fun, family entertainment is happening on the New England Center Community Stage or watch creativity in the making at the Demonstration Corral.

### Creative Arts

If you have a passion for the arts, visit the New England Center to see the display of entries and winners from the Exposition's annual Creative Arts contest--from photography to quilting, sewing, beading, knitting and more. This year's New England Center contest lineup includes: **Make it with Clay Pottery Contest** on Sept. 19; **Recycled or Repurposed Crafts Contest** on Sept. 21; **Woodturning & Scroll Contest** on Sept. 27; and the **Puzzle Contest** on Sept. 30.

## STORROWTON VILLAGE

This reconstructed 19th century New England Village is an oasis of peace and tranquility. During the Fair, it will be buzzing with activity, such as demonstrations of broom making, tinsmithing and more. There will also be glass blowing demonstrations by Mobile Glass Studios, children's games on the green and tours of historic buildings.

### Entertainment in the Village

Swing by the Storrowton Gazebo, sponsored by *Good Health Sauna*, to see fun entertainers such as **FireGuy**, Sept. 15-20; **The Red Trouser Show: Acrobatics & Comedy**, Sept. 21-25; and **Scott's Crazy Comedy Magic Show**, Sept. 26-Oct. 1. Show times are 12:30, 3:30, & 6:30pm.

## AVENUE OF STATES

The only place in the nation where you can visit all six New England states without stepping foot outside of the fairgrounds! Each building offers unique products, crafts, foods, vacation information and more. Stick around for **Harvest New England Day** Friday, Sept. 29, to witness Avenue lawns brimming with native products and specialty vendors!

## SHOPPING

Treat yourself to something special, buy a few gifts and crafts for family and friends, or start (and finish) your holiday shopping at The Big E! Begin with the **Farmers Market**, just inside Gate 9A, and don't miss a corner of our 175 acre fairgrounds. The buildings and byways overflow with unique shops and vendors to satisfy all your shopping needs.

### Official Big E Merchandise

Stop by and pick up your Fairwear! T-shirts, sweats, hats and more! Stores are located inside Gate 5, Visitors Center East, and on Commonwealth Avenue.

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### **The Shops at Storowton**

The Christmas Shop, in Potter Mansion, features holiday decorations, collectibles and more. While there, visit the Halloween Shop nearby. You'll find an array of scented candles, candleholders, dinnerware and accessories in the Yankee Candle shop on the lower level of the Grange Building.

### **Crafts**

Discover one-of-a-kind jewelry, artwork, decorative items and more in Craft Common (on Storowton Village's back green), along Hampden Avenue, and in the Carriage House.

### **Outdoor Exhibits**

Searching for the perfect addition to your backyard? Find a new gazebo, garage, shed, hot tub, or tractor as you make your way around the fairgrounds.

### **Better Living Center**

Our 123,000 square foot shopping center has something for everyone! In the BLC, find everything from fine jewelry to the latest hair accessories, kitchen gadgets or unique items for your pet.

### **International Plaza in the Young Building**

Looking for unique products? Maybe some home décor or keepsakes? We have some great products from around the world featuring places such as Ireland, India, Ecuador, Greece, China, Thailand and more!

### **RELIGIOUS SERVICES:**

#### **Catholic Masses**

Every Sunday: 8am in the Storowton Meetinghouse; 10am in the Big Top Circus Tent  
Sept. 17, 8am – Mass celebrated by Bishop William Byrne

#### **Non-Denominational Services**

Storowton Village Meetinghouse  
Sept. 24 – 9am  
Oct. 1 – 9am

### **Buy Advance Discount Tickets & Save!**

Advance discount tickets are sold online, at The Big E Box Office, or through our new official presale ticket partner **Rocky's Ace Hardware** through Sept. 13. Advance tickets are \$16 for adults and \$10 for children ages 6-12. Visit [TheBigE.com](http://TheBigE.com) or Rocky's Ace Hardware to purchase. Visit [TheBigE.com](http://TheBigE.com) for a listing of participating Rocky's locations.

**Opening Day is Friday, Sept. 15**, and The Big E is offering many more ways to save on 9/15 only:

- Be a Kid for a Day – All ages \$12 (also sold online)
- Military Appreciation Day – ID Required for free admission for:
  - Active Duty and retired military personnel
  - Dependents of active duty military personnel
  - Veterans (no dependents)

### **Regular Gate Admission**

Tickets purchased at the gate are \$20 for adults, \$12 for children (6-12), and FREE for 5 & under.

### **Gate Discounts**

Eleven-After-Five - \$11 after 5pm Sunday-Thursday  
Senior Days – \$16 (60 & over) Sunday-Thursday

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**Value Passes**

17-Day Value Passes are \$70 for adults and \$35 for children (6-12), and are available for purchase at [TheBigE.com](http://TheBigE.com) in the Big E Box Office or at the gates.

**Big E Hours**

Gates open at 8am.

Buildings, exhibits and crafts - 10am to 10pm.

Storowton Village, the Yankee Candle Shop, Avenue of States and New England Center open until 9pm.

The Village Craft Area is open until 10pm.

The North American Midway is open Sun. – Thurs., 11am to 10pm; Friday & Saturday, 10am to 11pm.

The Big E is the fourth largest fair in North America, and runs for 17 days in West Springfield, Mass. Visit [TheBigE.com](http://TheBigE.com) and connect with us on social media or join our mailing list to be the first to get exclusive information about the Fair.

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