

The Pony Express is returning to Atchison

150th Year Re-ride of Pony Express Trail to Arrive at Final Home of the Pony Express Friday, June 25th - free hotdogs, music by Blaine Oswald, free Pony Express souvenir to first 150 people, all on the Riverfront 5:30-7:30

The National Pony Express Association has been on the trail, with a mochila full of mail since June 6th when they left San Francisco heading east over the 1,966 mile route. Friday, June 25th they will arrive in the city that was the final home to the Pony Express, Atchison, Kansas. To greet the dedicated riders come out to the Atchison Riverfront starting at 5:30 p.m.

Riders will complete the final leg of the Kansas section of the Pony Express Trail and arrive in Atchison around 6:30 p.m. Friday.

The riders will be meet in Atchison by an escort of local riders as they arrive in the "wicked town of Atchison.". The route will come from Kennekuk via Lancaster and into the city of Atchison along old 73 highway. Once in Atchison the Pony Express and their local escort will come down Main Street to the site of the old Massasoit Hotel, the final home station of the Pony Express, on the corner of Main and Second Streets. From there they will come to the Riverfront to finish their route and take part in local activities.

The Atchison County Historical Society is working with the Kansas Pony Express Association to bring attention to the 150th Anniversary event. A formal greeting for the Pony Express on this Sesquicentennial ride will include the mounted escort, a special commemorative postcard to the first 150 visitors to the Riverfront on the 25th, musical entertainment with traditional music played by Atchison County musician Blaine Oswald, and free hotdogs & chips courtesy of the Pony Express and the Historical Society – all starting at 5:30 p.m.

A formal welcome will occur after the mochila handoff at the Riverfront with the Presentation of the Colors by local Pony Express Council Boy Scouts and a proclamation by Mayor Andrew Werring declaring the day "Pony Express Day" in Atchison.

Schedule - 5:30-7:30 pm on the Riverfront

Pony Express Riders and support crew coming into Atchison at approx 6:30 pm (coming from Kennekuk, via Lancaster then into Atchison on old 73). Will be met by local riders on Main Street at Sale Barn area and escort the National and Kansas Pony Express into Atchison. (6-10 local riders)

Will proceed down Main Street to the site of the old Massasoit Hotel (the final home of the Pony Express) at the corner of Main and 2nd Street - there they will exchange the mocila (mail pouch) and then come down to the Riverfront.

On Riverfront –

pick up commemorative Post Card of event (free to first 150 people)

free hot dogs, chips for people

An Honor Guard by the Boy Scouts

Traditional music by Blaine Oswald

Station to meet the Pony Express and learn about horse culture etc (after they arrive)

Greeting by Historical Society, people in period outfits

Proclamation by Mayor

Wrap up by around 7:30 when Pony Express hits the trail to final stop on the 150th year re-ride event.

Please forward this email to others you think might wish to attend or know about this fun event this Friday.

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