

## Pizarro: Band celebrates 30 years at Half Moon Bay pumpkin festival

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Jim Stevens & Friends, which includes Lee Kopp on harmonica and husband-and-wife team Mark and Debra Harville on guitar and bass, started playing on the Family Stage three decades ago. For the past 20-plus years, the band -- which plays a mix of folk, country and standards -- has opened every festival on the Main Stage on both Saturday and Sunday.

Stevens' history with the festival goes back even further. He started playing among the pumpkins as a solo act in 1982 and was joined by Joe Frazier, an Episcopal priest who played with the Chad Mitchell Trio, for a few years (and he continued to contribute to the band frequently until his death last year at age 77).

Others on the Main Stage this year include the California Cowboys, Stealin' Chicago, Caravanserai, Big Cat Tolefree and Fleetwood Mask. Add more groups at the Ritz Carlton South Stage and street performers, and you've got quite a tuneful weekend. All free, of course.

Check out the schedule at [www.pumpkinfest.miramarevents.com](http://www.pumpkinfest.miramarevents.com).

**MEMORABLE EVENING:** The Stroke Awareness Foundation put on a stunning show Saturday night to celebrate the centennial of Frank Sinatra's birth, with a concert featuring his son, Frank Sinatra Jr., and a huge after-party at the Marriott Hotel.

Bill Baron, chairman of the Sinatra Centennial committee, emceed the show and made sure everyone at the California Theatre was aware that the real purpose wasn't just to hear great music but to save lives. He touted the Stroke Awareness Foundation's free app, which provides info on signs of stroke, a link to emergency services and a listing of nearby stroke centers. It's available on your smartphone's app store by searching for "Stroke Awareness Foundation."

**VMC SUCCESS STORY:** Another big shindig with an emphasis on health Saturday night was the Valley Medical Center Foundation's annual gala, which lit up the Computer History Museum in Mountain View.

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