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Triton College

For immediate release: **Oct. 10, 2022**

Triton College's Fall Family Fun Fest Welcomed Family and Friends *Community Members Enjoyed Seasonal Festivities*

RIVER GROVE, Ill. – Sunny skies and beautiful, fall weather greeted over 1,000 guests at Triton College's Fall Family Fun Fest on Saturday, Oct. 1. Located in Triton's Botanical Gardens (east campus), the annual event was back in-person for the first time in three years.

Children and families were invited to decorate pumpkins, make masks, color and create necklaces, finger-paint, build with Lincoln Logs, learn about electronic cars and paint pots.

To add to the autumn ambiance, kids were invited to take a trip through a corn and hay bale maze and walk-through Triton's "pumpkin patch" to pick out a free pumpkin.

Triton College's Fire Science and EMT Program distributed 600 kid helmets to those in attendance, according to Bill Justiz, Triton's Fire Science and Emergency Service Program chairperson. Triton provided a fire hose exhibit for kids to "knock out" a pretend fire, take a tour of the safety trailer, learn facts about fire safety and try on real firefighter gear. Kids could take pictures inside the Triton College Fire Science Program fire engine.

Cook County Sheriff's Office invited kids to take a tour of their command communications van and take pictures in their squad car. The Cook County Sheriff's Office brought their therapy dog, a bloodhound and narcotics dog for families and children to meet.

The Culinary Department sold out of their brick-oven pizzas and over 200 homemade apple, cherry, blueberry and peach pies, according to Chef Manny Uribe, Triton's Hospitality Department chairman. The ingredients used for the pizza, such as tomatoes and basil, were fresh from Triton's on-campus horticulture garden.

“The Triton community looks forward to purchasing our delicious pizzas and pies,” noted Uribe.

Triton’s Fall Fest was canceled in 2019 due to rain. In 2020 it was canceled due to the pandemic, and in 2021 Triton hosted a drive-through event where community members could receive free pumpkins and other seasonal goodies.

“It’s wonderful to see the community come out for such a great event,” said Dr. Purva DeVol, Assistant Vice President and Chairperson of this year’s Fall Family Fun Fest Committee. “We love it when families are able to see everything that Triton has to offer. There is something here for everybody.”

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ABOUT TRITON COLLEGE

Triton College is a two-year college dedicated to helping members of the 25 Western Cook County communities in our district and beyond to achieve educational, professional and personal success. Located in River Grove, Ill., Triton offers more than 120 degree and certificate programs on its 110-acre campus, featuring a comfortable, friendly and diverse atmosphere. Triton also holds classes at satellite locations and offers online learning opportunities. Triton’s dedicated faculty and staff work to provide high quality, convenient and affordable educational opportunities to more than 14,000 students each year. Triton College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. Learn more at www.triton.edu.