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STE GENEVIEVE TO HOST ‘CELEBRATE ON THE CENTERLINE’ FOR SOLAR ECLIPSE

STE. GENEVIEVE, MISSOURI -- Are you looking for a place to watch the solar eclipse with your family on August 21st? The historic community of Ste. Genevieve is located just 5 miles off Interstate 55 in southeast Missouri and it is directly on the center line for the total solar eclipse, which translates to maximum time in ‘totality’ – the time when the shadow of the moon will completely cover the face of the sun.

“Ste. Genevieve is fortunate to be located directly on the Centerline for this eclipse,” states Sandra Cabot, director of tourism for the state’s oldest settlement. “We have selected a beautiful eclipse venue high on a ridge overlooking the Mississippi River valley with 360 degree views of the rolling hills and wide open sky.” The duration of the solar eclipse at this location will be from 11:45 am to 2:45 pm with maximum totality of approximately two minutes 41 seconds occurring shortly after 1pm.

A Two Day Celebration

The Ste. Genevieve area eclipse program ‘Celebrate on the Centerline’ will include two days of eclipse activities. A pre-eclipse music festival and beer garden is set for Sunday August 20 from noon to 9pm in the historic downtown. Six bands will take the stage, ranging from classic rock, to acoustic, folk and a Garth Brooks tribute band.

The main event, the eclipse viewing festival, is set for 10 am to 3 pm on Monday August 21. Eclipse watchers can reserve a viewing space online and bring their own folding chairs or blankets. Eclipse announcements, food trucks and other refreshments, children’s playground, solar filtered telescopes, STEM activities, Kona Ice, eclipse merchandise and family friendly activities will be featured. Reserved parking with shuttles available. No coolers or alcohol allowed. All reservations are made online. Reservations required.

RV and Camping Sites Still Available

Although local lodging has been sold out for some time, the city has added new inventory of RV sites and basic tent camping for the event. “The addition of more RV sites and camping options near the event will mean peace of mind for eclipse watchers,” Cabot said. “We want people to be able to come early, get settled in and be able to explore Ste. Genevieve attractions and not have to worry about traffic on eclipse day.”

For a free Ste. Genevieve Visitor’s Guide, call 800.373.7007. To reserve eclipse viewing space or RV sites online or for more information on Ste. Genevieve’s attractions, dining, shopping and wineries visit www.VisitSteGen.com or on Facebook at Ste. Genevieve MO Solar Eclipse 2017.