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Sierra Madre, CA. June 22, 2009 -

Hometown Parade, Vintage Planes, Celebrities,

Food, Drinks, Games, Fun in Sierra Madre

You don't need fireworks to brighten Sierra Madre's Fourth of July Celebration. On The Fourth, festivities light up the sky with a flyover of vintage planes, parade, bands, games, food, drink and all-around fun as part of the traditional National Holiday in this foothill community. In fact, it's celebration time in Sierra Madre on both Friday and Saturday, July 3 and 4.

Festivities start in Memorial Park on July 3 at 6 p.m. with a concert by The Sheds, opening for the Aluminum Marshmallow, who come on-stage at about 6:30. Both great bands are well-known to Sierra Madreans.

The Beer Garden will also be open in Memorial Park starting at 5 pm July 3rd, manned by members of the Fourth of July Committee, Sierra Madre Friends of Little League and Sierra Madre Chamber of Commerce.

On July 4, Sierra Madre Woman's Club holds an open house and complimentary breakfast beginning at 8 a.m. at their headquarters, Essick House, on the corner of Sierra Madre Boulevard and Sunnyside, also the location of the beginning of the famous Fourth of July Parade.

At 10 a.m. vintage aircraft will roar over the parade route, signaling the start of the famous parade.

Area Girl Scouts will carry the lead banners and the local Veterans of Foreign Wars will provide the Flag Ceremony.

Parade Marshal Midge Morash precedes members of the Sierra Madre City Council who include Mayor MaryAnn MacGillivray, Mayor Pro Tem Don Watts and City Councilmen John Buchanan, Joe Mosca and Kurt Zimmerman.

Arcadia City Councilman Bob Harbicht will represent his City in Sierra Madre's Fourth of July Parade.

State Senator Robert Huff, State Assemblyman Anthony Adams and County Supervisor Michael Antonovich will ride down the parade route, along with Sierra Madre Rose Princesses Laurel Cipolla and Gail Gutierrez. Also in the parade are Sierra Madre Older American of the Year Ken Anhalt and his wife, Shirley.

A "water zone," at the end of the parade, beginning at Canon Avenue, has been designated as the location where the Sierra Madre Fire Department and local citizens can have their traditional water fight. The parade ends at Sierra Vista Park.

At about 11:30 a.m., Memorial Park festivities will begin with a variety of nonprofit food booths and the Beer Garden that will be open until 4 pm. There will also be games for children on the southeast corner of the park starting around 12 noon.

At noon, the Night Blooming Jazzmen open their four-hour traditional jazz concert on the east side of the park under the shade trees.

This year a commemorative acrylic glass will be for sale, giving residents a chance to start an annual collection of memories.

Matt Bosse is chairman of the all-volunteer Fourth of July Committee with Colleen McEvoy as co-chair. Other members include Hank Landsberg, past chair; Karma Bell, Susan Clifton, Chuck Dorsett, Yvonne Eberhard, Sue Levoe, Arlene and Jack Wolf and Jan Reed.

Sierra Madre Community Foundation will accept donations for the committee at P.O. Box 716, Sierra Madre 91025.

Sierra Madre Woman's Club and the Civic Club were generous donors for this year's celebration.

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