

Port's July 4th festivities offer star-spangled fun

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A family-friendly Fourth of July is in store for Port Washington residents Thursday.

The city's annual Independence Day parade will kick off from South Milwaukee Street at Grand Avenue at 11 a.m., then head east to Franklin Street, north to Jackson Street, east to Lake Street and proceed to Veterans Memorial Park.

Children on decorated bicycles and in strollers and wagons are a special attraction in the parade.

Youngsters may obtain materials to decorate their bikes at Port Washington State Bank.

Following a welcome by Mayor Tom Mlada immediately following the parade, the bikes will be judged at the bandshell.

There will be five categories — strollers, wagons, and bikes decorated by children ages 7 and younger, ages 8 to 10 and ages 11 and older.

The winners of the contest will be announced and trophies and ribbons awarded about 12:30 p.m.

A variety of other activities will kick off in Veterans Memorial Park at about the same time, including a watermelon seed spitting contest, cake walk and bounce house.



Music by Laura Hagen will be presented at 12:45 p.m., with Will Pfrang of Port Washington taking over at 1:30 p.m.

Food, including brats and burgers, will be sold by Port Youth Baseball and an ice-cream social held by Interfaith Caregivers.

Free popcorn will be given out while supplies last.

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The afternoon's activities will wrap up about 3 p.m., but the holiday fun isn't over.

The city's Fourth of July fireworks will be shot off from the coal dock at dusk, putting an exclamation point on the holiday activities.