

Family fun to glow on July Fourth in Port

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Port Washington will celebrate the Fourth Of July in spectacular fashion with a day full of activities for children and adults alike.

“Our goal is to make it a very family-friendly day that will bring people to the bandshell (in Veterans Memorial Park) and keep them there until the fireworks,” said Patti Lemkuil, chairman of the organizing committee. “We’re really excited about this year’s event.”

Independence Day will be kicked off with a parade through downtown at 11 a.m. The parade, which features a lineup of bicycles decorated and ridden by area children, will begin on South Milwaukee Street, then head east on Grand Avenue, north on Franklin Street, east on Jackson Street and end at Veterans Memorial Park.

Supplies for decorating bikes may be picked up at no charge at Port Washington State Bank in downtown Port.

Immediately after the parade, there will be a salute to veterans at the bandshell.

Youngsters will then continue their parade of bikes, with a panel of judges reviewing them as they head up a ramp onto the bandshell, where they will be announced by Mayor Tom Mlada.

Trophies and ribbons will be awarded to youngsters.

A watermelon-seed spitting contest, bounce house and other activities for children will be held throughout the afternoon.

Food, beer, wine, soda and desserts will be available.

Interfaith Caregivers will also hold its annual ice cream social at the park during the afternoon.

During the event, those attending may drop off old DVDs and music CDs to be sent to the troops. Hard candy is also being collected for the troops. People are asked not to drop off chocolates, because they will melt in transit.

Live music will entertain the crowd. Throughout the afternoon, local musicians Will Pfrang, Louie Schurrer and Laura Hagen will perform.

In the evening, Port Washington’s own Vinyl Groove and Familiar Looking Strangers, a popular band from Liverpool, England, will perform until the fireworks, which will be shot off from the coal dock.

The Fourth of July activities are sponsored by the Port Washington Parks and Recreation Department, Port Washington State Bank and Ozaukee Press.

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Other sponsors include the Port Washington Yacht Club, Drews True Value and One Step Environmental.