

Amherst, N.H. Fourth of July, Monday, July 4, 2016

Directions for Parade Participants

Parade participants should gather at Wilkins School, 80 Boston Post Road, by 9:15 to 9:30 am. The parade will start at 10:00 a.m.; Boston Post Road is closed at that time. The political section of the parade will form on Jones Road where there will be signs designating the line-up.

All parade participants, including political marchers, should park their cars at Wilkins School. Parking is limited to behind the school so as to avoid interfering with the organization of the parade. There are stairs leading from the parking area to Jones Road for access to the political section. Bathrooms are available in the school. If it is hot, it is recommended that participants bring water.

The parade route will return to the traditional route this year. It will begin at Wilkins School, proceed up Boston Post Road to Foundry Street, down Foundry Street to Davis Lane, Davis Lane to Main Street, and down Main Street past the Reviewing Stand to the Town Hall at the end of the village green. Now that the bridge on Manchester Road is open, parade vehicles may exit the parade route by continuing down Manchester Road and bearing right to access Route 101 or bearing left to get back to Wilkins School (take the first left onto Jones Road and then left again at the end of Jones Road onto New Boston Road. Wilkins School will be on the left). The parade route is approximately one mile long. The parade goes rain or shine; cancellation will only happen if there is thunder/lightning.

State and local dignitaries and Citizens of the Year who have been invited to march in the parade gather at the front corner of the entrance driveway under the trees near the school sign. The order of the parade is usually a police car, the fire department color guard, fire engines, antique automobiles, Parade Marshall, past Citizens of the Year, Band, NH Dignitaries (in order—Governor, US Senators, US Congresswoman, Executive Councilor, County Commissioner, State Senator, State Legislators), and then Town Officials. As the fire engines move out, dignitaries are asked to line up in the driveway facing the road. Parade events will follow in the order in which they are lined up. Each parade group will follow the group in front of them along the school entrance road until they reach Boston Post Road where they will wait to be motioned into line. There will be committee members to assist if there is any confusion.

Non-campaigning floats and mini entries are assigned spots in the front parking lot between the grassy areas or the side of the exit and entrance driveways. Spots will be designated by signs with group names on them. Marching groups, including bands and special attractions, also have assigned spots which they can find with the help of the volunteers wearing orange vests and/or committee badges. Judging of floats and mini entries will be at 9:30 a.m. Jim Janson is Float Chair.

Fire engines will line up opposite Wilkins School on Boston Post Road. Antique cars will line up along New Boston Road and move up to the right side of Boston Post Road opposite the Wilkins School front lawn, six at a time, as the group in front of them moves out. Once there, they should wait to be motioned into the parade.

Insurance rules prohibit the throwing of anything, including candy, during the parade.

ALL PARADE GROUPS ARE ASKED TO KEEP 20 FEET BETWEEN THE FRONT OF THEIR GROUP AND THE BACK OF THE GROUP IN FRONT OF THEM AT ALL TIMES INCLUDING STOPS. PLEASE DO NOT HOLD UP THE PARADE BY MAKING UNNECESSARY STOPS AND PLEASE, AVOID BIG GAPS! THANKS!