

EAGAN'S JULY 4TH FUNFEST

TO BENEFIT OUR COMMUNITY THROUGH SPONSORSHIP, ORGANIZATION AND PROMOTION OF EAGAN'S JULY 4TH FUNFEST, AN ANNUAL COMMUNITY CELEBRATION



Children's Bike Parade, reflecting back on the Funfest early years...

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Funfest 50th Year Celebration

Eagan's July 4th Funfest welcomes newcomers and annual attendees to celebrate July 2nd, July 3rd and July 4th, 2016 as we host our 50th year!

What began, many moons ago, as children parading around the block while riding decorated bikes, has grown into one of the largest community events in Eagan. In earlier days, neighborhoods gathered for a parade, fireworks and a street dance supported by Eagan Lions Club members. In 2006 Eagan's July 4th Funfest Committee was established and residents from all walks of life joined together in the planning.

Eagan's July 4th Funfest Committee is an all-volunteer nonprofit organization responsible for scheduling entertainers, activities, facilities and vendors for the annual Independence Day festival.

Funfest provides for a variety of interests and ages featuring a grand parade, food & beverage vendors, carnival midway, sponsor tents, merchandise booths, car show, stage entertainment, children's bike parade, bingo, Texas Hold'em tournament, beer garden, fireworks and a youth Ambassador program. The Ambassador Coronation will be held July 11th, 2016.

Partner with Eagan Funfest by sponsoring the 50th annual celebration. Generous support by the Eagan Business Community through corporate sponsorships and business partnerships, along with individual donations, allows Eagan's July 4th Funfest to continue as a thriving event. Through these monetary gifts the Eagan community continues to benefit.

Share the vision, be a part of the excitement, build a community event worthy of attendance by thousands of local residents and neighboring communities.

EAGAN LION'S CLUB, THINK MUTUAL BANK, PRIMROSE SCHOOL,
GENISYS CREDIT UNION, TWIN CITIES PREMIUM OUTLETS,
EAGAN ROTARY CLUB, HOME FEDERAL BANK, EAGAN SAM'S CLUB

Thrivent Financial, CSM Properties, Cub Foods Eagan, Mik Mart Ice Cream, The Urgency Room, Fairview Clinic Eagan, Minnesota Energy, Affinity Plus Federal Credit Union, Superior Service Center, Ideal Credit Union, Dakota Electric Association, YMCA Eagan, TCF Bank, Red's Savoy Pizza, Bremer Bank, Xcel Energy, Wings Financial, Hagen Financial, Anchor Bank, Carbone's Pizzeria, State Farm John Curlee, Mark's Towing Inc, Gopher Resource Corporation, Orthodontics by Hipple



Honor Guard leads the Summer Sparkler Parade
Mark Esslinger, Photographer

In recognition of her community involvement, we honored **Mandi Simon**, founder of *Simon Says Give*, as the 2015 Parade Grand Marshal



Funfest Committee member and Sponsorship Coordinator, **Mike Ferber**, was selected as the *Dakota County Regional Chamber's Ambassador of the Year 2014*



"It is the mission of the Dakota County Regional Chamber of Commerce Ambassador Program that each Ambassador positively promotes the Chamber whenever possible, makes a commitment to build lasting relationships with Chamber Membership, encourages members to participate, support and invests in their Chamber, and aids in new member recruitment and retention efforts."

HONOR & AWARD PRESENTATIONS

Eagan's July 4th Funfest was honored as the *2015 Event of the Year* by the Eagan CVB Hospitality Heroes Program.

"In order to qualify for an Eagan Hospitality Heroes Award, candidates must exhibit service above and beyond their normal job description through outstanding qualities such as leadership and consistently adding to the general well-being of guests and patrons."

The 2014 Funfest Ambassadors received Congressman John Kline's *Congressional Star of the North* recognition during a ceremony. "Eagan's six Funfest Ambassadors range in age from 11-18 and have participated in more than 30 community events and activities, many of which were voluntary acts of service. One voluntary event involved partnering with the Eagan "Beyond the Yellow Ribbon" organization to purchase Christmas gifts for children of military families."

Presidential Volunteer Service awards were earned by each Ambassador for hours served throughout the community during their year of service 2014-2015, a total of over 1000 hours.

"The President's Volunteer Service Award (PVSA) is the premier volunteer awards program, encouraging citizens to live a life of service through presidential gratitude and national recognition."



Henry Sibley Marching Band
Mark Esslinger, photographer

ETV EAGAN TELEVISION, SUN THISWEEK, CITY OF EAGAN, EAGAN CONVENTION & VISITOR BUREAU, DAKOTA COUNTY REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, LOST SPUR GOLF & EVENTS CENTER, COMMONS ON MARICE, DICK'S SANITATION, FUNDRAISING SOLUTIONS, PROFORMA, R. F. MOELLER JEWELER, OFF THE WALL ENTERTAINMENT, PROSIGNS BRANDING SOLUTIONS, COPY RIGHT, MOUNT CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH, NOODLES & Co, DAKOTA VALLEY RECYCLING, MCALISTER MARKETING, DAKOTA AWARDS

"Giving back to the community ~ we commend you."



Mary Gilbert, Photographer

**2014-2015
COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| Margaret White | Cindy Snyder |
| Mike Ferber | Sandy Clark |
| Larry Hilden | Paul Watry |
| Paula Nowariak | Trudi Greaves |
| Brent Corey | Marie Merwin |
| Roger New | Elle Gilbert |
| Tom Ferber | Mike Clark |
| Joanna Foote | Doug Mizener |
| Dan Tocko | Hannah Eliason |
| Karen Dare | DeAnn Wilmes |
| Mary Gilbert | Lauren Graff |
| Chrissy Martinez | Jean Harwell |
| Meghan Harwell | Kathryn Field |

AMBASSADORS:

- Community Volunteerism
- Academic Scholarship
- Social Service Projects
- Young Men and Young Women
- Representation of Eagan’s July 4th Funfest



PHOTOGRAPHER LEGACY CREATIVE IMAGES

THE CANDIDATE EXPERIENCE

Candidates have the opportunity to meet adults, children and young adults while being involved in activities. Activities include a variety of events: potluck, volunteer projects and appearances during Funfest.

A panel of judges makes final Ambassador selections based on public presence and behind the scenes interaction. Social skills, communication, attitude and volunteerism all play a part in the judging process.

Coronation marks the end of the candidate experience; while only six selected individuals continue on as Ambassadors, every candidate leaves with a new found group of friends, memories of fun summer activities and experiences to carry forward to the coming year.

Funfest Ambassadors network with neighboring communities to strengthen community connections. They take pride in local community by serving as volunteers for many City of Eagan functions. Social service projects are common practice for the Ambassador team.

Interested youth and young adults are encouraged to become a candidate for the Funfest Ambassador Program.

Selected Ambassadors July 2014: Kari Giles, Reece Peters, Hanna Olson, Payton Greenlee, Mia Eisenberg and Avery Ward each fulfilled their commitment of Ambassador in July 2015. A scholarship was presented to each of our Ambassadors; thank you for your year of service.

**EAGAN’S JULY 4TH FUNFEST COMMITTEE WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS
PLANNING MEETING: FIRST THURSDAY MONTHLY 7:00 EAGAN COMMUNITY CENTER**

“Volunteerism begins with youth in our community.”

Eagan's July 4th Funfest

Eagan's July 4th Funfest Committee is an all-volunteer 501 (c) 3 nonprofit organization, which sponsors, organizes and promotes the Funfest.

The committee of volunteers and its support agencies are responsible for scheduling events, activities, facilities, vendors and entertainers for this annual community celebration held in Central Park at the Eagan Festival Grounds.

The committee is comprised of a Board of Directors and community members, assisted by City of Eagan, Park & Recreation and the Eagan Visitors and Convention Bureau staff.

We are preparing for the 50th Funfest event July 2nd ~ July 4th 2016. Our planning committee is seeking active individuals within our community to assist in the planning process.

www.eaganfunfest.org



2014 Eagan Funfest Ambassadors

Eagan's July 4th Funfest
P.O. Box 22503
Eagan, Minnesota 55122



“Celebrate our Independence Day!”