

## City of Austin offering July 2 'Summer Fun' parade before fireworks

Written by Marty Randall

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“Summer Fun” will be the theme of the new parade that will be offered to the public on Friday, July 2, prior to the free fireworks show at the Austin High School/Middle School complex that evening.

In announcing the new parade event, Mayor Doug Campbell said any group or individual may enter the parade, which will step off from the staging area at Wilbur Avenue and U.S. Highway 31 North at 5 p.m.

“We want this to be a fun, family event that will draw more folks to enjoy the free fireworks behind the high school building,” the Mayor related.

People wanting more information about the new parade are urged to call the Mayor's Office at 794-6646 as soon as possible.

The parade route will be similar to one followed by the Christmas parade: Participants will march south on U.S. 31, ending in the front high school parking lot.

“We'd like to see everyone out enjoying the parade and then come join us at the high school for a great night of free musical entertainment, good food and the fireworks,” he said.

The fireworks show will be preceded by free entertainment provided by several local bands and individuals. Fish sandwiches and dinners will be served up by the Jennings Township Volunteer Fire Department. Ladies of the Beta Sigma Chapter, Psi Iota Xi Sorority, will offer their homemade ice cream, and the Austin Lions Club will grill hamburgers and hot dogs, so there's no need to pack a picnic supper.

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Fireworks will go off around 9:30 p.m.

Folks planning to attend should bring lawn chairs or blankets to enjoy the event in comfort.

Parking will be offered north of the high school/middle school around Rigel Gym and the elementary and upper elementary schools. Limited parking will be available at the high school.

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