



Coronation set to crown new ambassadors

By Mary Miller
Staff Writer

Although there will be no gala for this year's ambassadors, they are still guaranteed to be well-honored and celebrated during the annual patriotic event. Riley Fournier, one of the main organizers of this year's Fourth of July festivities (along with her husband, Alec Fournier) said the gala event is put on by the Annandale Ambassador Program. "It is meant to kick-off our Fourth of July Celebration by bringing the community together for a night of socializing, food, and fun," Fournier said. She said it is also an opportunity for the current Annandale Ambassadors and candidates to connect with the community during the celebration. Unfortunately, this year the gala had to be cancelled due to time, budget and supply constraints with the pandemic, but this will not

dampen the celebration of the ambassadors.

Coronation will take place at 5:30 p.m. Sunday, July 4, at the municipal park. Three candidates will be crowned at the event (one Miss Annandale and two Annandale Princesses). This year there are five candidates vying for these spots.

Since the coronation was cancelled last year, the two ambassadors, Miss Annandale Callie Broughton and Annandale Princess Makena Gunderson, have been reigning for two full years. Fournier said one of the Annandale Princesses that was crowned in 2019 was unfortunately unable to reign for the second year, so there are just two ambassadors this year.

Drive out to the Annandale Fire Station on Saturday, July 3, with your dusty car to have it washed by the ambassadors between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. This car wash event is a free will donation. Make the trip out to the



Photo by Steve Prinsen

Three generations of Annandale Ambassadors.

station and help support the Annandale Ambassador Program.

Turn to pages 6B and 7B to

learn more about the ambassador candidates and the outgoing ambassadors!

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This float photo from the 1898 Fourth of July Parade is from the late Colin McDonald’s collection. McDonald was a longtime president of Annandale State Bank, which is now Lake Central Bank.

Celebration for many years

Editor’s note: *Annandale’s Fourth of July celebration dates back to 1889 when the first celebration was held. Below are some excerpts of past celebrations from the Annandale Advocate.*

Reprinted from the December 18, 1913 Annandale Advocate

Annandale’s first Fourth of July celebration was held in 1889. The village council and citizens began to plan for a rousing celebration. Nearly all the citizens of the village were on some of the committees and pulled together to make Annandale’s first celebration the best in the county. It was proposed by some, and generally agreed to, that the funds remaining after the celebration were to be equally divided between the M. E. church and the Annandale school.

Sen. A.Y. Eaton of Buffalo, and Honorable C.M. King of Fair Haven, were secured as orators of the day. The Kimball brass band was employed to furnish music during the day. There was a general turnout by the surrounding country and neighboring villages. The Annandale celebration passed off as a great success in every respect, and was one of the biggest advertisements for the new, growing village at that time.

July 11, 1901

The rain did not dampen the ardor of the people and the 1,500 visitors that entered the village to assist Annandale in observing the national holiday.

On foot, in wagons, on bicycles, by passenger or freight trains they came, and it seemed that every hamlet and every farm of Wright County was represented.

The procession was formed and marched to the park where a most excellent address was delivered by Rev. Fr. Black, chancellor of the diocese of Portland, Oregon, who was here to lay the corner stone of St. Ignatius church in place of Archbishop Christie as had been announced. During the dinner-hour, rain began to fall and pleasure was at a standstill. When it finally cleared off at 4 o’clock, the grounds were too wet for either players or spectators, and it was decided to put the games and races over to Friday.

July 4, 1907

Today is the day we celebrate. This day Uncle Sam is just 131 years old and the biggest man of his age, or any age, in the world. So let us all have a good time within reason. Let us burn powder, fling the Stars and Stripes to the breeze, see that the kids have sufficiency of fireworks, and take in everything on the program from start to finish, keeping a watchful eye out for fire, and avoid any drinking between drinks. The program contains enough sports of all kinds to give us a glorious day, and let’s go into it and enjoy it to the limit, as good American citizens should.

If you enjoy dancing you can find plenty of it. Don’t let your patriotism lead you to

toast Uncle’s health too often, but just often enough. And don’t forget to root for the ball team.

July 5, 1923

Quite early in the day people came streaming into our fair village to witness the day’s program. By nine o’clock, the streets were lined on both sides by cars awaiting the start of the program, the parade.

The parade consisted of floats and decorated cars from several of the more progressive and ambitious business firms and citizens. The parade led to Pleasant Lake Park where a brief program was held. The band opened the program with several selections, which was followed by prayer by the Rev. H.C. Kishpaugh. Rev. W. Hurst read the Declaration of Independence.

The singing of “America” by the crowd followed, and then the speaker, Rev. Father O’Brien was introduced. He gave a very appropriate speech, paying a fitting tribute to the nation’s heroes. It was rather difficult to speak against the noise of firecrackers and other noises, but Rev. O’Brien was equal to the occasion and the crowd followed him closely.

July 3, 1952

Annandale, a veteran at celebrating the Fourth of July, is prepared this year to offer an anticipated throng of over 20,000 persons a happy time, with a two-day celebration. This event has been planned with an eye toward entertaining the kids as well as the grownups.

Individuals and organiza-

tions have been hard at work since the first of the week preparing floats, building stands, decorating cars, and hundreds of other chores that go into making the event a success.

July 12, 1973

Thousands attended the Fourth of July celebration in Annandale. The Fourth started out with probably the largest parade in the 84 years of a Fourth of July celebration in Annandale. Sen. Hubert Humphrey was the grand marshal as nearly 100 units participated and the crowd, estimated at 18,000, clapped in approval. People literally were watching from the rooftops on Main Street, and there were many oohs and ahs.

July 8 and 15, 1976

Annandale’s 1976 celebration set records. An estimated crowd of over 20,000 watched the big parade in Annandale on the Fourth of July.

History

Turn to page 9B

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FOURTH OF JULY EVENTS

Note: Except where listed, all events are at Annandale Municipal Park. This schedule is subject to change. In case of inclement weather, the ambassador coronation will be moved to the Annandale High School Auditorium. Besides the public events in this schedule, many businesses have special events and offerings.

Thursday, July 1

- Carnival opens at 4 p.m.
- KRWC Roadshow from 5:30 to 7 p.m.
- Annandale Jazz Band and Encore Choir performs on the portable stage in the park from 7 to 8 p.m. Sponsored by Country Chevrolet.
- Pie in the Park will take place at 7 p.m. near the portable stage. Hosted by the All-Night Grad Party.

Friday, July 2

- Carnival open at noon.
- Bingo will be held from noon to 3 p.m. Hosted by Annandale Boy Scout Troops 354.
- Jolly Ramblers will perform in the park from 6 to 9 p.m. Sponsored by Lundeen Brothers Ford.
- Cake by the Lake will take place at 6 p.m. Hosted by All-Night Grad Party.
- Softball Tournament from 6 to 10 p.m. Sponsored by Country Chevrolet, Malco Products and The Thayer.

Saturday, July 3

- Firecracker 5K and 1 Mile Sparkler Run/Walk will be held Saturday, July 3. The race starts at 8 a.m. and is presented by St. John’s Lutheran Church in Annandale.
- Softball Tournament from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sponsored by Country Chevrolet, Malco Products and The Thayer.
- Kiddie Parade at 10 a.m. Lineup at the Annandale Middle School parking lot before event. Sponsored by Little Learner’s.
- Annandale Ambassador Car Wash from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Fire Station.
- Carnival opens at noon.
- Bingo will be held from noon to 6 p.m. Hosted by Annandale Boy Scout Troops 354.
- Annandale Community Band will perform in the park from 7 to 8 p.m. Sponsored by Young and Brown.
- Brownies with the Band will take place at 7 p.m. Hosted by All-Night Grad Party.
- Boat Parade on Pleasant Lake from 7 to 8 p.m. Concluding at 8 pm at the city beach.

Sunday, July 4

- Carnival Opens at noon. (Closed during the parade.)
- Parade begins at 2 p.m. Sponsored by Country Chevrolet, Howard’s Plumbing, Lundeen Brothers Ford, Sand Profile and Truck Mate Toppers.
- Bingo will be held from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Hosted by Annandale Boy Scout Troops 354
- Annandale Ambassador Coronation at 5:30 p.m. Good luck candidates!
- The Fabulous Armadillos will be performing on the portable stage from 7 to 10 p.m. Sponsored by Country Chevrolet and Star Bank.
- Fireworks at dusk. Sponsored by Country Chevrolet and Lake Central Bank.

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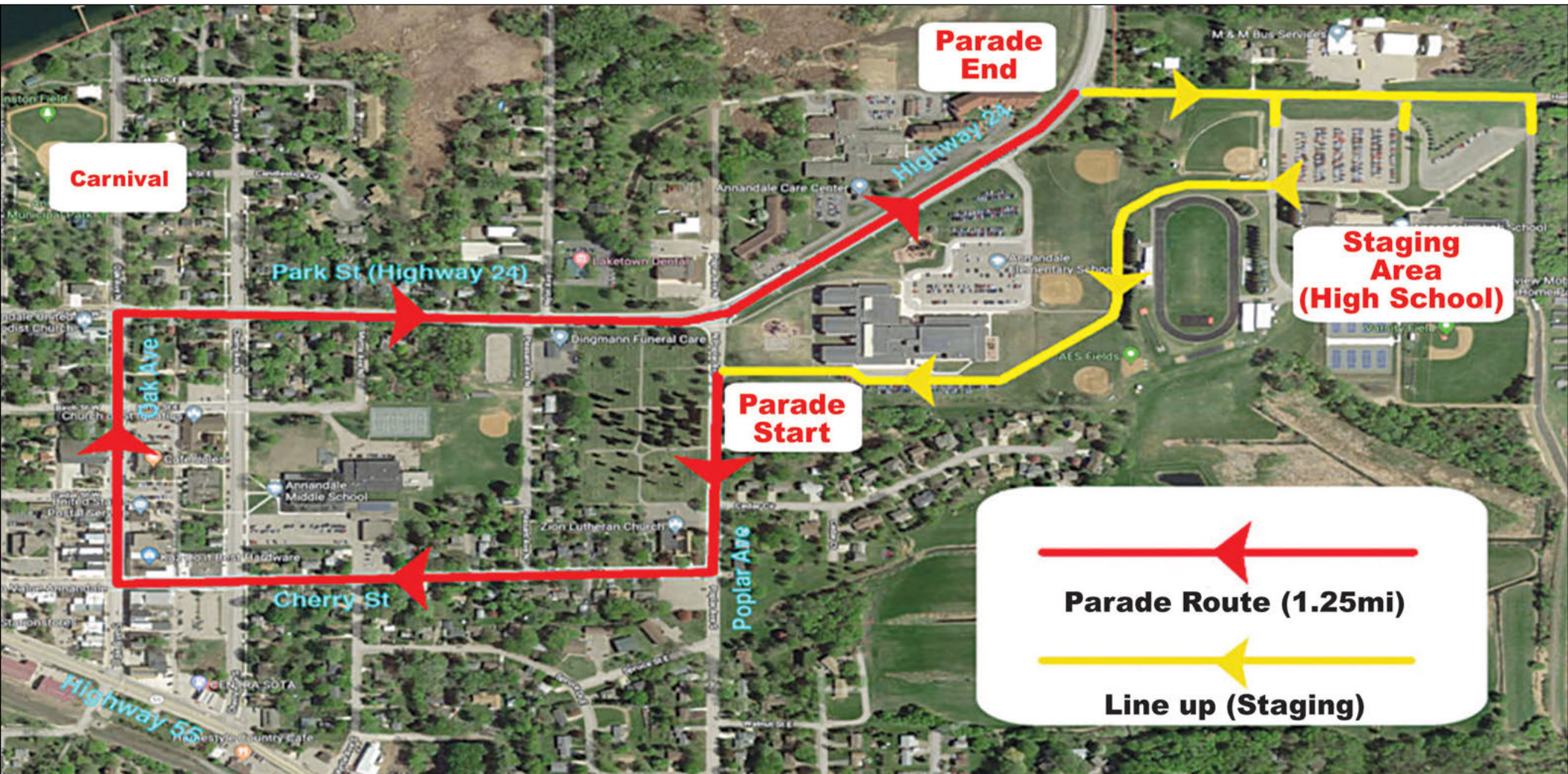
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Above, is the 2021 Fourth of July parade route. The parade will be at 2 p.m. Sunday, July 4. Approximately 75 floats will be in this year's parade which includes some bands and drumlines. Get out your favorite lawn chair and enjoy the parade and seeing people out in the community.

Glad to be parading on the Fourth of July

By Mary Miller
Staff Writer

The historic Fourth of July Parade will be celebrating its 132nd anniversary this year! It is scheduled for Sunday, July 4, with a start time of 2 p.m. The staging area will be located at Annandale High School. The 1.25 mile route will be the same as 2019, starting near the elementary school, heading south of Poplar Ave, traveling down Cherry St, up Oak Ave (Main Street), and then taking one last right onto Park Street before ending.

The parade will have approximately 75 units and is sponsored by Country Chevrolet, Howard's Plumbing, Heating and Air Conditioning, Lundeen Brothers Ford, Sand Profile and Truck Mate Toppers. The Annandale Chamber of Commerce organizes the event.

The parade is always a hit and some choose to mark their spot along the route the night before, as Main Street fills up quickly! Entertainment within the parade includes the Annandale High School Drumline, Maple Lake Marching Band, Wright County Clown Around, and St. Cloud Osman Go Karts. There will be a wide variety of floats, including ones with your 2021 Annandale Ambassador candidates!

Candy is allowed this year; however, it is required to be handed out at the curb.

Dig your chairs out of the garage, get the family together, and find your spot along the route for this year's parade!



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Get ready for fair food

By Mary Miller
Staff Writer

During this year's celebration, there will be plenty of opportunities and options to grab a bite or a cold beverage. Vendors will be located down in the Municipal Park and many of the food options come from local organizations.

Sponsored by the Annandale All-Night Grad Party, the infamous sweet treats will be offered once again during the nights of music. All three of these events are delicious fundraisers for the program and proceeds will help support their events. Baked goods that will be sold come from Annandale area local bakers.

On Thursday, July 1, Pie in the Park will happen during the performance by the Annandale Jazz Band and Encore Choir. Pie will begin to be served at the start of the music at 7 p.m. Grab a slice (or a whole pie to take home) and enjoy the music!

Anyone going to enjoy the music of the Jolly Ramblers, the newest addition to the celebration's lineup, can also enjoy a piece of cake during Cake by the Lake. This event will take place on Friday, July 2, at 6 p.m. A wide variety of cake flavors will be sold in the form of slices, cupcakes, and even whole cakes.

Lastly, the ever-so-popular Brownies with the Band will take place during the tunes played by the Annandale Community Band on Saturday, July 3, at 7 p.m.

Other food options will be available during the carnival throughout the celebration, with many local non-profits returning to run their annual



booths. There will also be numerous other vendors with a variety of your favorite fair foods.

The Annandale Lions will be back at the park, serving their juicy hamburgers and cheeseburgers. You may have to wait in a line, but it is worth the wait. Order your burger, top with your favorite fixings, and enjoy - all while supporting an important organization!

Generous slices of pizza will be sold once again by Annandale Boy Scout Troop 354. Proceeds will go to the program to support all of their future adventures.

Annandale's St. John's Lutheran Church will be back with their taco booth. Soft and/or hard shell tacos will be served. Many who come to the fair always make sure to stop by Annandale's Heartland

Evangelical Free Church's booth for a cold ice cream treat. Numerous ice cream options will be provided again this year, so you are sure to find one of your favorites. A wide variety of refreshments will also be sold by the St. Ignatius Youth Group. Also, the Annandale United Methodist Church will be selling hot dogs and brats before, during and after the parade at the church on Sunday. Make sure to find these booths and support the local churches.

Lastly, but definitely not least, the Annandale Hockey Boosters will make an appearance with their famous milkshake stand. In previous years, the group has sold over 3,000 shakes during the festivities, so a delicious and well-reviewed treat will be a guarantee.



At left, is the St. John's Lutheran Taco booth at the 2019 Fourth of July celebration. Above, is the Lion's Club burger stand and below is one of the delicious cakes to choose from during the Cake on the Lake event. All these food events will be back this year and more! You won't be disappointed!



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Groove to live music in the park during the Fourth

By Mary Miller
Staff Writer

Wanting to hear some live music? Grab a chair or blanket and make your way to the Annandale Municipal Park all four nights of the Fourth of July celebration! Four bands, some new and some old, will be playing on the main stage at the park over the course of the extended weekend. It doesn't cost a dime to come and watch the bands, so head on down to the park to support the local musicians.

The Annandale Jazz Band and Encore Choir will be kicking off the celebration at 7 p.m. on Thursday, July 1. The band and choir are sponsored by Country Chevrolet.

New to the lineup this year are the Jolly Ramblers, performing at 6 p.m. on Friday evening. The Ramblers are sponsored by Lundeen Brothers Ford and are expected to play for about three hours. The Jolly Ramblers are a family band who have been playing for countless decades. "With a combined total of more than 200 years in the music and dance band industry, Chuck Thiel and his Jolly Ramblers of Lester Prairie will please you with their genuine style of dance music that is pleasing to all old-time and modern dancers and listeners alike," states their website. The band performs a variety of music, including country-rock, swing, 50's, polka, and more.

On Saturday evening, the Annandale Community Band, sponsored by Young and Brown, will be performing at 7 p.m. The group has been playing together for almost 30 years and according to their website, "Our music consists of Americana, gospel, show tunes, pop, and rock and much more." They can be expected to play a number of standards and favorites.

The final act of the weekend, The Fabulous Armadillos, are a crowd favorite and have been performing at the Fourth of July celebration since 2014. They will play from 7 to 10 p.m. on Sunday, July 4, and are sponsored by Country Chevrolet and Star Bank. "The Fabu-



Above, are the Fabulous Armadillos playing on the portable stage in 2019. At right, are concert attendees dancing to the music.

lous Armadillos came out of their shell in 2006 and have since established a large and local following in Central Minnesota with their spot on recreations of songs from many genres of music from country to Motown to heavy metal to 70's soft rock and do them just like you remember," says the home page of their website.

The band has a full lineup, with Greg "Gary D." Armstrong on keys, Paul "Stretch" Diethelm on guitar, Chris Hawkey on vocals, Pamela Helmer McNeill on vocals, Mike Zeleny on bass, Jay O'Donnell on drums, Pat Thorn on trumpet, and Mike Krietzter on saxophone. "Come out of your shell and see what everybody has been talking about!"



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Annandale CORONATION

2019-21 Outgoing Ambassadors

Miss Annandale

Callie Broughton

Callie is the daughter of Steve and Cristin Broughton. This fall, she will be a sophomore at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities where she is studying Mass Communications and possibly Political Science. Callie graduated high school with honors where she participated in National Honor Society, as well as varsity tennis and softball. In her free time she enjoys hiking, camping, thrifting, reading, volunteering and getting coffee. She is employed by Crisp and Green in Minneapolis. Her future plans include earning her degree and possibly applying for law school while traveling to see more of the world. Callie was sponsored by Classic Hall.

Miss Annandale
Callie Broughton

Annandale Princess

Makena Gunderson

Makena is the daughter of Al and Val Gunderson. Makena is headed into her sophomore year at Bemidji State University where she is studying Environmental Science. This past fall she made the dean's list. In high school she was on Honor Roll for six years, was on Student Council, played softball, was on the St. John's Lutheran Church Council, and a member of Girl Scouts. In her free time she enjoys painting, four-wheeling and camping. She is employed at Kokato Lake RV Resort and Cenex. Her future plans include earning her degree and pursuing a job as a park ranger. Makena was sponsored by Spilled Grain Brewhouse.

Princess Makena Gunderson

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2021 -22 Ambassador Candidates



Madelyn Gunnarson

Madelyn is the daughter of Julie Gunnarson and Dewey and Becky Gunnarson. She recently completed her junior year of high school where she was on the A Honor Roll while participating in Cardinals United, Key Club, Equity Club, band, jazz band, drumline, choir, encore, fall play, speech, tennis and golf. In her free time she enjoys playing piano, going out to eat, and cuddling with her cats. She is currently employed by Annandale Care Center, Little Learner's Child Care and Savanna Prairie Assisted Living. In the future she plans to attend college to major in either the medical field or math. Madelyn is sponsored by Little Learner's Child Care.



Jillian Kulm

Jillian is the daughter of Bryan and Jennifer Kulm. She recently completed her junior year in high school, where she was involved in tennis, track, speech, drumline, concert band, one act, fall play, Cardinal Buddies, Cardinals United and Equity Club. She was also on the Honor Roll, the Vice President for Student Council and the President for Key Club. In her free time she enjoys playing tennis, organizing, and spending time with family and friends. She is employed by Annandale Care Center. Her future plans include attending college to become an OBGYN in hopes of one day becoming a fertility specialist. Jillian is sponsored by KG Realty.



Madigan Kuser

Madigan is the daughter of Creek and Ericka Kuser. She is headed into her senior year of high school where she will be the senior representative for Student Council and the President of Key Club. This past year she maintained a 4.0 GPA and was involved in cross country, alpine skiing, track, knowledge bowl, one act, fall play, Cardinal Buddies, Cardinals United, Equity Club and a church choir member. In her free time she enjoys all things outdoors including fishing, rollerblading, water skiing and more. She is currently employed by Lakeside Nutrition and Powder Ridge. Her future plans include getting her pilots license and attending college in hopes of becoming a real estate lawyer or landscape architect. Madigan is sponsored by State Farm Insurance.



Faith Mader

Faith is the daughter of Ed and Jenifer Mader. She recently completed her junior year of high school where she maintained a 4.0 GPA and was the Secretary of Key Club. She was also involved in Student Council, Equity Club, Cardinals United, track, downhill skiing, speech and cheerleading. In her free time she enjoys barefoot waterskiing, drinking coffee, running and traveling. She is currently employed by Annandale Family and Sports Chiropractic, Sweet Escape and Green Lotus Yoga and Healing Center. Her future plans include attending a four-year university and hopefully traveling lots after high school. Faith is sponsored by Annandale Family Sports and Chiropractic.



Noelle Scheer

Noelle is the daughter of Jon and Laura Scheer. She is headed into her senior year of high school where she will be the President of Student Council and Key Club. This past year she was the school board student representative, on the A Honor Roll, captain for cross country and speech, a Cardinals United leader, and involved in band, drumline, worship team, fall play, track, alpine skiing, and Equity Club. In her free time she enjoys shopping, being on the lake and downhill skiing. She is employed by Annandale Care Center, Savanna Prairie Assisted Living, Cardinal Kids Club, and Powder Ridge. In the future she plans to major in English, with a possible minor in Special Education, in hopes of becoming a teacher. Noelle is sponsored by Norgren Builders Inc.



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Kiddie parade to cruise down Main Street, Saturday, July 3

By Mary Miller
Staff Writer

The always-adored Annandale Kiddie Parade is possibly the cutest event among the Fourth of July festivities, as well as a perfect opportunity for community youth to show their patriotism. This year the kiddie parade is scheduled for Saturday, July 3.

Line-up will take place at the Annandale Middle School (West Entrance) at 9:30 a.m. prior to the 10 a.m. parade start. The group will be escorted by the Annandale Police Department on their route. They will depart from Annandale Middle School, take a right on Chestnut Street, another right onto Main, and then one last right onto Cherry Avenue to complete the block and end where they started.

This year's Annandale Ambassadors will accompany the kids while they travel the short route. Parents and grandparents are also encouraged to walk to include multiple generations in the event. All kids ages 13 and under are invited to decorate their bikes, scooters, wagons, or buggy cars, as well as themselves, and participate in the parade.

Participants will be given popcicles and Fourth of July gear, such as fans, glasses, and necklaces. A sheet of carnival tickets and a spot in this year's Annandale Fourth of July Parade will be given to the most festive group or individual (voted on by the public).

The Kiddie Parade will be sponsored by Little Learner's Child Care. Sarah Wiles, Little Learner's owner/director, said



Above, and at right are kiddie parade photos from the 2019 event.

she is looking forward to seeing all the festive decorations and costumes. Wiles is hoping to see a lot of kids come out, enjoy the holiday, and show independence spirit through their decorations and costumes.

For more information, contact Sarah Wiles at sarah-wiles460@gmail.com.



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