

Thank You from the Friends of the Fourth!

On behalf of the Friends of the Fourth, we hope that you all enjoyed the activities that were part of Natick's 4th of July celebration. The rain on the 4th didn't dampen the spirits, smiles and waves from the participants and the spectators. As you can imagine the amount of work that goes into the preparation of the festivities is tremendous. We relied on many others in and around town to assist us in many ways. Our committee could not have done it alone.

The committee would like to thank those who help and support made the celebration possible, including the following: The Board of Selectmen, Chief Dennis Mannix and the Natick Police Department, Chief James Sheridan and the Natick Fire Department; Charles Sisitsky, Thomas Collins, Tom Hladick and the rest of the crew at the Department of Public Works; Dick Cugini, Jon Marshall and the rest of the staff at the Recreation and Parks Department; John MacGillivray at the Department of Veterans Services, Natick Pegasus; Building 19, the Natick 9 & 27 Shopping Center; Peter Mundy; Peter Thompson; Marlene Custodio, Randy Brewer; The EP Clark American Legion Post #107, the Rainbow Girls, Beth Cugini and the cooking crew and the many volunteers from TEAM MSB also known as Middlesex Savings Bank as well as all those who participated in the parade including the many entertainers, the flatbed drivers the banner carriers, unit marshals, collectors as well as the many volunteers that worked the different events.

We would also like to congratulate the Natick Community Organic Farm for their selection as Grand Marshals of this year's parade: Red, White & Blue goes Green and to the Senior Man and Women of the Year, Doug Shepard & Judy D'Antonio.

To all the men and women from the local area serving in the armed forces we offer our heartfelt thanks from the people of Natick for their service to our nation and for their unselfish acts of bravery.

Finally, we would like to recognize and thank the entire committee whose hard work and dedication over the past year has made my job as chairman a much easier task. A special thanks to Maureen Kelley, Tim Foley, Edna Glass, Marlene Custodio, Jo-Ann Becker, Tracy Walker and Mew-Ling Spurr and Linda Kim for chairing the different events and to Rose Huling at the Morse Institute Library for being a great webmaster.

A special thanks also goes to Maureen Sullivan, Committee Member and author of Sullivan's Travels in the Natick Bulletin and Tab for the great media coverage that we received this year.

Our celebration would not have been possible without the financial support of the many individual and corporate sponsors and we thank them for their continued support and generosity. Our RED sponsors made a contribution of \$1,500 or more included: Boston Scientific Corporation, Cognex, Comcast, Eastern Bank/Eastern Insurance, John Everett & Sons Funeral Home, Lexus of Northborough, Middlesex Savings Bank and Roche Bros. Our WHITE sponsors made a contribution of \$1,000 or more included: Citizens Bank and Herb Chambers-Foreign Motors West BMW. Our BLUE sponsors made a contribution of \$500.00 or more included:

Crosspoint Associates, Inc., Debsans-The Decorating Store, Exceptional Auto Body, Fair & Yeager Insurance Agency Inc., Fitness Together-Natick, Five Crows, Natick Federal Savings Bank, The Rousseau Family of Framingham, Staples Business Advantage, Sovereign Bank of New England, Stop & Shop of Natick, Tilly & Salvy's Bacon Street Farm, Venture Sales Group of New England, Whitney Place Assisted Living of Natick. Other sponsors have supported the Friends of the 4th by discounting goods or services, donating materials or services, donating gift certificates or tickets, providing a contribution, hosting a donation jug or providing flatbeds included: Agostino's Restaurant, Alltype Signs and Banners, Antonio's Salon Paradiso, Barbers, Bob Bell, Belkin Family Lookout Farm, Brandt Jewelers, Brigham-Gill Motorcars of Natick, Charles River Coffee House, Coach & Carriage, Corrados Subs, Crazy Jayne's, Dolphin Seafood Too, The Frame Shop & Gallery, George's Pizza, Roxanne Fancourt, Fannon's Liquor Store, Edward & Lillian Fassino, Peter J. Hall & Sons, Bob & Debby Heavey, Hometown Paint & Hardware, In loving memory of Herbert Haswell, Java Jim's, Jones Drug Inc., Joan & Ed's Deli, Kiwanis Club of Natick, Liberty Ice Cream, Lola's Italian Harvest, Mabardy's Gulf, Morse Institute Library, Natick Appliance Inc., Natick Emblem Club #9, Natick Recycling Committee, Natick Recreation & Parks Department, John Regan Septic, Paradise Photo & Video, Radio Solutions, Inc, Sel de la Terre at the Natick Collection, Sheraton Framingham Hotel, Stucchi Jewelers, the Center for Arts in Natick (TCAN) , the English Garden and Waste Management of Greater Massachusetts.

The Friends of the Fourth is organized as an all-volunteer nonprofit organization whose mission is to organize and plan the annual July 4th events for the town. The group receives no financial support from the town, and relies on donations from both the corporate and private sectors to fund the many events, including: Family Night on the Common, the 4th of July parade and the Flea Market. If you would like to support the work of the committee please send your donations to: The Friends of the Fourth, P O Box 27, Natick, MA 10760. Remember: Every dollar counts.

We are always looking for new committee members with new ideas and energy to help direct and organize the many fund-raising events that we participate in throughout the year as well as the actual week of the 4th activities.

Before ending my thanks I would like to take a minute to recognize Herbert Haswell, past chairman of the Friends of the 4th, who passed away on June 5th. Our thoughts and prayers are with his late family and we hope that this years July 4th activities carried on a tradition that Herbert cared deeply about and we would like to thank the many people that have made contributions to us in his memory.

If you would like to volunteer or would like further information, please call Bruce Weisberg at 508-599-5565 or via email at: bruce.weisberg@middlesexbank.com.

Bruce S. Weisberg
Chairman, Friends of the Fourth
www.natick4th.org