



CITY OF MUSCATINE PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 2, 2018

For more information contact:
Kevin Jenison, Communication Manager
Phone: (563) 264-1550
Fax: (563) 264-0750
E-Mail: kjenison@muscataineiowa.gov

ROLLING DOWN THE HILL – SOAPBOX DERBY TIME IN MUSCATINE

Independence Day in Muscatine to feature gravity fed race down 3rd Street hill

MUSCATINE, Iowa – The forecast is for some thrilling action down the 3rd Street hill this Independence Day as dozens of homemade Soapbox Derby cars driven by daredevils of all shapes and sizes compete in Downtown Muscatine.

The Soapbox Derby is one of many events throughout the community this Wednesday (July 4) as citizens across the United States celebrates the nation's independence.

Racers will begin arriving at 8 a.m. Wednesday (July 4) in the parking lot across from Muscatine City Hall which will serve as the pit area for the competition. Weigh-in and safety checks will be conducted in the pit area starting at 11 a.m. with the first of four heats picking up speed down the hill starting at 1 p.m. Four heats are scheduled with the finals taking place at 6:30 p.m. just after the Independence Day Parade makes its way through the downtown area.

There will also be plenty of fun and action between the heats as Soapbox Derby organizers plan to stage monster tricycle races for fans. Registration for the tricycle races will be held near the pit area with the races from Chestnut to Iowa.



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Also on hand for the fun will be the Muscatine High School Show Choir Booster Club who will have a lemonade shake-up stand again this year and Butcher's Vegetables who will have their trailer located on the Stanley Consultants patio at the intersection of Iowa and 3rd.

Volunteers are still needed and those interested can meet at 10 a.m. Wednesday in the pit area.

The fun begins at 8 a.m. with the Kids First Fund Pancake Breakfast at First National Bank. The Children's Parade will step off at 9 a.m. Wednesday in front of the Pearl Plaza and march down 2nd Street to the new home of the Musser Public Library & HNI Community Center. The "Red, White & Blue on the Mississippi" Independence Day Parade steps off at 5 p.m.

Down on the riverfront, the Honor Guard and reading of the Declaration of Independence will be held at 7:30 p.m. in front of Pearl City Station which is also where the Muscatine Symphony Orchestra presents a patriotic concert starting at 8 p.m. Fireworks over the Mighty Mississippi round out the day starting at dusk.

The weather is expected to be great so come on down to Downtown Muscatine and spend the day celebrating Independence Day.