

**Let
Freedom
BLING!**

*Woodsville, New Hampshire
and
Wells River, Vermont*

2024

4th of July Celebration

2024 Woodsville/Wells River
4th of July Celebration
Schedule of Events

11:00 AM Gigantic Parade

**12:00 PM Field Activities Open: Vertical Attractions,
Food Vendors, and Flea Market**

1:00-3:00 Back Shed String Band

1:00-7:00 Dunk Tank

2:00-6:00 Free Face Painting

2:00-9:00 BINGO Under the Tent

4:30-6:30 Donna Thunder

7:30 PM Parade & Window Display Winners Announced

8:00-10:00 The Sled Wrenches

9:00 PM Teddy Bear & Quilt Raffle Winners Announced

Money Raffle Winners Announced

9:00-10:00 50/50 Raffle Tickets Sold

Drawing at 10:00pm

10:00 PM Immense Fireworks Display!!!

***ABSOLUTELY NO PETS ALLOWED
ON THE COMMUNITY FIELD***



Thank You!

Grand Marshal

Most anyone who has lived, or played, in Newbury for any amount of time has probably heard of this year's Grand Marshall, Michael Thomas. For the last 45 years he has been well located on the banks of the Connecticut River just south of the mouth of the Wells River. During that time Mike has done much to provide entertainment as well as education for adults and children in the area.

Mike would say that most of that drive to help out the community comes from his parents, Jack and June Thomas, who were themselves always involved and encouraged the same of their children. Mike also notes that you did not grow up in Newbury during the 60-70's and not be involved with Marilyn Fuller and 4-H. Others who helped him grow and taught him about getting involved were Richard Swenson and Martin Smit working the old Newbury Ski Tow on Cuckaberry hill in Newbury Village.

Mike's accomplishments include being a member and chair of the Newbury Conservation Commission, Cross Vermont Trail Association founding member and Chair, Wells River Village Trustee, newly appointed Board Member of the Wells River Action Program-WRAP. He has served on the Newbury Planning Commission, Woodsville Wells River 4th of July Committee and helped start and continues to be the main force behind the Spring and Fall Paddle the Border events, Mike also coached Little League, and taught kids in the town of Newbury how to Cross Country Ski for free back when he had a Ski Touring Center in S. Newbury.

Mike loves a parade, but especially being in a parade watching the crowds go by. This year promises to be no exception as he is bound to bring even more BLING to, what he would call, the Weels River Woodsville Fourth of July Parade. Watch for Mike with his "People Powered" float (powered by people using bicycles) it is certain to be a crowd pleaser.

We congratulate Mike Thomas on a life of giving back to the community and putting a smile on his face and many, many others while doing so.



Parade Marshal



The honor of Parade Marshal for the 2024 Woodsville-Wells River Fourth of July Celebration is given to Alex Sutherland of Bath, New Hampshire.

Alex was born on November 11, 1927 and grew up in New Canaan, Connecticut, the son of a gardener for the estate on which they lived. He began working at the local Ford garage as a teenager, until he was drafted into the Army at age 18. He underwent basic training in Alabama, and thereafter served as a mechanic for the Army motor pool in Japan for two years until his honorable discharge. He then returned to New Canaan, Connecticut and worked as a mechanic for Ford and then self-employed. He and his late wife, Isabella Raymond Sutherland, purchased a vacation home on the River Road in Bath, New Hampshire and subsequently moved with their two sons to that location. He worked for H. G. Woods Lumber in Lisbon, New Hampshire (now Britton Lumber) and farmed into his 80's, raising and selling cattle, pigs, and eggs from as many as 300 chickens.

Alex is one of the three remaining World War Two veterans in our area, and deserves tremendous thanks for his service to this country. He is a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5245 and a member of Calvary Baptist Church in Woodsville.

It is with sincere gratitude and respect that Alex Sutherland has been chosen and recognized as the 2024 Grand Marshal. Alex, we thank you for your service to our country.



Book Dedication

It is with sadness and joy that the Woodsville and Wells River 4th of July Committee dedicates this year's Souvenir Booklet to the memory of Deborah Page.

Debbie was a member of Oxbow Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and you could see her most years walking in this very parade with them. Debbie demonstrated a profound sense of community service and faith. She was a volunteer at the Orford Senior Center for many years, the North Haverhill Fair, Pike Ladies Aid, as a coordinator for the DAV arranging rides for veterans, as well as many other groups and events throughout her life. She could always be counted on to lend a hand at local events; more often than not she would be behind the scene doing whatever was needed, including washing mountains of dishes.

Debbie graduated from Woodsville High School with the class of 1973 and went on to earn an associate degree in food service management from the University of New Hampshire in 1976. She worked her entire career at Littleton Regional Hospital in food services retiring in 2010. Debbie lived all of her life at the base of Blueberry Mountain in Pike.



She loved all things maple, sitting outdoors with a cup of coffee and watching the birds, including the turkeys. She enjoyed square dancing, band music, hot air balloon rides, cats, and all woodland creatures.

“Be Gentle and Love Each Other”

Flag Etiquette

STANDARDS of RESPECT

The Flag Code, which formalizes and unifies the traditional ways in which we give respect to the flag, also contains specific instructions on how the flag is not to be used. They are:

- The flag should never be dipped to any person or thing. It is flown upside down only as a distress signal.
- The flag should not be used as a drapery, or for covering a speakers desk, draping a platform, or for any decoration in general. Bunting of blue, white and red stripes is available for these purposes. The blue stripe of the bunting should be on the top.
- The flag should never be used for any advertising purpose. It should not be embroidered, printed or otherwise impressed on such articles as cushions, handkerchiefs, napkins, boxes, or anything intended to be discarded after temporary use. Advertising signs should not be attached to the staff or halyard
- The flag should not be used as part of a costume or athletic uniform, except that a flag patch may be used on the uniform of military personnel, fireman, policeman and members of patriotic organizations.
- The flag should never have placed on it, or attached to it, any mark, insignia, letter, word, number, figure, or drawing of any kind.
- The flag should never be used as a receptacle for receiving, holding, carrying, or delivering anything.

When the flag is lowered, no part of it should touch the ground or any other object; it should be received by waiting hands and arms. To store the flag it should be folded neatly and ceremoniously.

The flag should be cleaned and mended when necessary.

When a flag is so worn it is no longer fit to serve as a symbol of our country, it should be destroyed by burning in a dignified manner.

Displaying the Flag Outdoors

When the flag is displayed from a staff projecting from a window, balcony, or a building, the union should be at the peak of the staff unless the flag is at half staff.

When it is displayed from the same flagpole with another flag - of a state, community, society or Scout unit - the flag of the United States must always be at the top except that

the church pennant may be flown above the flag during church services for Navy personnel when conducted by a Naval chaplain on a ship at sea.

When the flag is displayed over a street, it should be hung vertically, with the union to the north or east. If the flag is suspended over a sidewalk, the flag's union should be farthest from the building.

When flown with flags of states, communities, or societies on separate flag poles which are of the same height and in a straight line, the flag of the United States is always placed in the position of honor - to its own right.

..The other flags may be smaller but none may be larger.

..No other flag ever should be placed above it.

..The flag of the United States is always the first flag raised and the last to be lowered.

When flown with the national banner of other countries, each flag must be displayed from a separate pole of the same height. Each flag should be the same size. They should be raised and lowered simultaneously. The flag of one nation may not be displayed above that of another nation.

Raising and Lowering the Flag

The flag should be raised briskly and lowered slowly and ceremoniously. Ordinarily it should be displayed only between sunrise and sunset. It should be illuminated if displayed at night.

The flag of the United States of America is saluted as it is hoisted and lowered. The salute is held until the flag is unsnapped from the halyard or through the last note of music, whichever is the longest.

Parading and Saluting the Flag

When carried in a procession, the flag should be to the right of the marchers. When other flags are carried, the flag of the United States may be centered in front of the others or carried to their right. When the flag passes in a procession, or when it is hoisted or lowered, all should face the flag and salute.

The Salute

To salute, all persons come to attention. Those in uniform give the appropriate formal salute. Citizens not in uniform salute by placing their right hand over the heart and men with head cover should remove it and hold it to left shoulder, hand over the heart. Members of organizations in formation salute upon command of the person in charge.

In Memory Of:

Don Waterman

Chuck + Patty Engle

Dick Fabrizio, our favorite 'apple man'

The original Meathead, Peter L Roy, for igniting a fire in us that cannot be put out



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Contributed Major Amounts Of Money
Or Services And Have Our Sincere Thanks.*

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Ross-Wood Post #20



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We extend our heartfelt thanks to these generous businesses and organizations, listed as Underwriters.



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Donations To Help Support The 4th Of July Activities:
Souvenir Booklet, Fireworks, Bands, Parade Prizes, Etc..
The Committee Can Not Thank These Generous Contributors Enough For
Their Continued Help.

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www.oldchurchtheater.org

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ryegatepower.com

TOWN OF RYEGATE Town offices at corner of South Bayley-Hazen and Witherspoon Roads in Ryegate Corner; Town clerk 802.584.3880

FRANCONIA

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TOWN OF MONROE PO Box 63
Town Clerk and Selectmen 603-638-2644

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HOUSEWRIGHT CONSTRUCTION, INC. 5365 Main Street; 802-866-5520; www.housewright.net

TOWN OF NEWBURY Route 5, Newbury Village
Town Clerk's Office 802-866-5521

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SHILOH'S RESTAURANT 202 Central St.; 603-747-2525; Open 7 am - 8:30
pm, Sundays 7 am - 2 pm, closed Tuesdays; shilohsrestaurant@live.com

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION SQUADRON #20

TIMBERWOLF RUBBISH REMOVAL 10 Holly Street; 603-747-3974;
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The Fourth of July Committee would also like to pass on a special thanks to these Municipalities for their foresight in contributing to this Annual Event:

TOWN OF BATH
TOWN OF BENTON
TOWN OF HAVERHILL
TOWN OF MONROE
TOWN OF NEWBURY
TOWN OF RYEGATE
VILLAGE OF WELLS RIVER
WOODSVILLE PRECINCT

THANK YOU TO
ALL WHO SERVE!



THANK YOU



THANK YOU

It has been my honor for many years now to write this thank you to the community for all the support our committee receives in presenting this annual 4th of July celebration. The celebration itself was first presented in 1981 and other than 2020 there has been a parade (actually a few people did walk/ride the parade route that year), field activities, and fireworks each year since. Many, many hours of planning by the committee members goes into the planning to make this day enjoyable for the thousands that show up to enjoy the sights, sounds and smells of the day.

One of the biggest efforts is actually raising the money to pay for all this entertainment. More than two-thirds of the money comes from businesses and communities that make donations and are listed in the annual souvenir booklet. The remaining 33% or so comes from raffle ticket sales and field activities. In total nearly \$30,000 is raised and spent each year for the celebration of our nation's birth. That may sound like a lot, but consider that about 40% of that cost is for fireworks, another \$3,500 or so to pay for entries in the parade, then add the cost for tents, toilets, field music, insurance, raffle winners and all those little things that add up. It is a daunting task, but as I have often said, "if we didn't enjoy doing it, then we wouldn't be doing it."

Of course our small committee would love to have new volunteers to help. We would also love to have more donations from businesses as well as local communities, and we can't forget individuals. If you would like to help please reach out to us via our website: www.wvr4th.org , check in with us on Facebook, or talk to us on July 4th (if you can find us when we are not running).

Happy 248th birthday to the USA.

Gary Scruton, President
Woodsville Wells River 4th of July Committee



Thank you to **Phil Rivera,**
Gale Gadwah, and **Alicia King** for
announcing our parade

The national anthem is presented by
Karli Blood

Visit us at wwr4th.org



Please join us at the Community
Field for more fun

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