

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE ORDERS

NUMBER 2023-1

May 29, 2023

Organizations participating in the West Hartford Memorial Day Parade **must agree** to the following rules as a condition to participate in the Parade.

1. The parade is not to be used as a venue for making any political statement that is inconsistent with the purpose of the Memorial Day or contrary to our stated national goals.
2. For safety reasons the throwing of candy or favors at or into the crowd of spectators is prohibited.
3. This is our one day a year to honor those who served on our behalf. Please use proper protocol when the flag is passing in the parade. All present should face it, stand at attention and salute. Uniformed persons render the military salute. Women and men without hats should place their right hands over their hearts. Men should remove their hats, holding them over their hearts with their right hands.

*** Adult leaders, please make sure your child participants are aware of the proper protocol.**

1. Appointments:

Parade Grand Marshal: Gerald “Jerry” Gorss

Jerry Gorss, a West Hartford native and Conard High School grad, attained the rank as Major during his military career, is a recipient of the Bronze Star Medal for leadership and excellence in a combat zone, earned two Meritorious Service Medals for leadership and two Air Medals for excellence in the performance of flight duties as a pilot in combat.

Honorary Assistant Parade Marshals:

Honorary Assistant Parade Marshals include the Lt. Governor, State Representatives and local officials from the West Hartford Town Council and Board of Education.

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2. Sequence of Events and Timetable:

All units and individuals participating in the parade shall assemble in their designated area (Street) by **9:30 a.m.** on Monday, **May 29, 2023**

The parade will commence **promptly at 10:00AM**

At the conclusion of the marching portion of the parade, the honor guards of the West Hartford Fire and Police Departments along with the Veterans organizations shall assemble at the Veterans Memorial at the corner of Farmington Avenue and North Main Street for the parade closing ceremonies.

3. Components and Order of Assembly:

The parade shall be divided into five divisions. The order of march is as follows:

DIVISION 1 (on Farmington Ave. west of Woodrow St.)

ESCORT: WHPD Cruiser or Motorcycle

Police Department Color Guard & Chiefs

Fire Department Color Guard & Chiefs

Fire truck and two UTVs

School Crossing Guards

Hall High School Marching Band

Grand Marshal: Jerry Gorss

Elected Officials: Town Council, Board of Education, State & Federal officials

DIVISION 2 (on Farmington Ave. west of Four Mile Rd)

Banner carriers: Eagle Scout Jacob Mooney and Senior Patrol Leader Zander Bos

American Legion Hayes-Velhage Post 96 Color Guard

American Legion Hayes-Velhage Post 96 members and veterans

American Legion Auxiliary and 2022 Little Miss Poppy

Parade of veterans in vehicles:

Dan Fine's 1977 Porsche 911 Targa. Passenger: Ben Cooper, WWII veteran

Bob Burnett's Corvette convertible. Passenger Jeff Cole

Paul Blanch's Corvette convertible. Passenger Barry Leghorn

Mustang convertible. Passengers Elaine Kotler & Marylou

Dan O'Connor's 1944 restored military Jeep

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Friends of Feeney float, BE A GOOD FRIEND, honoring Colonel Conrad Whitney
King Philip School Marching Band
Sarah Whitman Hooker Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution
Knights of Columbus of St. Brigid Council
Human Rights Commission
Brookdale Chatfield Senior Living

DIVISION 3 (on Farmington Ave. west of Newport Ave.)

Conard High School Marching Band

GIRL SCOUTS of CT

West Hartford Service Manager with Dancing Cookies

Bugbee

Duffy

Charter Oak

Smith

Aiken

St. Thomas the Apostle

Norfeldt

Morley

Whiting Lane

Braeburn

Wolcott

Webster Hill

Cadettes/Seniors/Ambassadors: Bristow/Sedgwick/King Philip middle schools

BOY SCOUTS of AMERICA

Cub Scout Pack 145 - Bugbee School

Cub Scout Pack 148 - Norfeldt & Aiken

Cub Scouts Pack 161 - Duffy School

Boy Scouts

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DIVISION 4 (on Woodrow St. south of Farmington Ave.)

Bristow Middle School Marching Band
Special Olympics West Hartford
West Hartford Little League
West Hartford Youth Baseball
Socceropolis, LLC
Hwang's Martial Arts

DIVISION 5 (on Four Mile Rd. south of Farmington Ave.)

Sedgwick Middle School Band
West Hartford Girls Softball League
West Hartford Youth Lacrosse League
West Hartford Girls Lacrosse
West Hartford Youth Football League
West Hartford Youth Soccer
West Hartford Girls Soccer League
RipChord, 102d Army Band of the Connecticut Army National Guard
TK Property Services (20-foot trailer with side rails) with RipChord
CERT, Community Emergency Response Team with UTV
END OF PARADE - Banner: 'Come to the Ceremony'
POLICE CRUISER

LINE OF MARCH: Assembly of parade units will take place at 9:30AM in designated areas west of Woodrow Street on Farmington Avenue. The parade begins on Farmington Avenue, at the intersection of Woodrow Street, and contingents will march east on Farmington Avenue and then shall turn south onto South Main Street, marching on the east side of the Unity Green. The parade shall turn left onto Burr Street, past the Town Hall entrance. Leaders: Dismiss participants in the Town Hall parking lot.

**PLEASE KEEP MOVING PAST THE TOWN HALL ENTRANCE ONTO BURR ST.
THEN DISPERSE IN THE PARKING LOT.**

REVIEW: The parade shall be reviewed by the local elected officials serving as parade officials from the showmobile located at the south end of Unity Green. Parade officials shall march to the end of the parade and then circle back to the review stand to watch the remainder of the parade.

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WEATHER CONTINGENCY: If weather appears to be a factor on the day of the parade, units will be informed by email as soon as possible or leaders may call Renée McCue at 860-913-5149 after 8:00AM to find out the status of the parade. **THERE IS NO RAIN DATE.**

MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY

Join us immediately following the parade for a brief ceremony at the Veterans Memorial, located at the corner of North Main Street and Farmington Avenue.

If the parade is canceled due to rain, the Memorial Day Ceremony will be held indoors at the Town Hall Auditorium at 11:00AM.