



“A Centennial Celebration: Women’s Right to Vote”
June 27 Kenosha Civic Veterans Parade presented by Snap-on

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KENOSHA – The Lutheran Vanguard marching band from Appleton will lead the June 27 Kenosha Civic Veterans Parade presented by Snap-on, stepping off at 1 p.m. with the theme “A Centennial Celebration: Women’s Right to Vote.” The parade is organized by the City of Kenosha. Continuing its community generosity, Snap-on is again the lead sponsor for the parade. Kenosha County joins the City of Kenosha in supporting the parade, along with division sponsors Kenosha Kingfish, Jockey International, Festival Foods and First American Bank.

Pamela Mundling, a retired Hospital Corpsman with the U.S. Navy/ Marine Corps will be honored by the city as the “2020 Hometown Hero of the Year.” Dennis Warren, a retired U.S. Navy Captain, will be honored as the “2019 Hometown Hero of the Year.” The Hometown Hero Commission takes nominations of veterans to honor through quarterly awards, and also chooses one veteran as the “Hometown Hero of the Year,” who is recognized at the Kenosha Civic Veterans Parade presented by Snap-on. Mundling is receiving the honor at this year’s parade, as the 2020 parade was canceled.

Mundling served for 21 years, retiring as Hospital Corpsman with the rank of Chief Petty Officer. Her assignments with the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps spanned the globe, from the

Naval Regional Medical Center at Camp Pendleton, CA to a Branch Clinic in Antigua, West Indies and aboard the USS Concord AFS-5 in Norfolk, VA. Warren commanded a Navy squadron, flew in various mission aircraft throughout the world, including on aircraft carriers in the Middle East and Mediterranean Sea. He currently lives in Houston Texas and flies for Southwest Airlines.

Other highlights of the parade – which includes 80-plus acts – include the local group: “Kenosha Women Marching for the Vote,” which focuses on this year’s parade theme of women’s suffrage. Organizers stated their entry recreates the Women’s Suffrage Parades that occurred regularly, leading up to the passage of the 19th Amendment. The Danish Sisterhood entry “Women and their Bicycles” also gives a nod to the parade theme. Their entry states: The symbol of the bicycle has long been a sign of equality among all people in Denmark, allowing women freedom and liberty to vote, travel and be themselves.

Eleven floats will compete for the honor of Best in Show, and also first, second and third place ribbons in categories including Artistic Excellence, Patriotism, Hometown Pride, Spirit/Energy and Best Use of Theme. This year’s float judges are Kevin Poirier and Clara-lin Tappa. Poirier is a local photographer and is vice president of the Kenosha Commission on the Arts, where he is in his second term. He has been a board member of the Kenosha Creative Space for three years. Tappa currently serves on the Arts Fund, a component fund of the Kenosha Community Foundation, which operates the Sculpture Walk-HarborPark. She serves on the Mayor’s Commission on the Arts, Kenosha Christmas Charities, Lakeside Players and is president of the Board of Women and Children’s Horizons. Floats will be judged prior to the parade in the staging area. Winners will be announced during the parade at the announcer’s booth in Navy Memorial Park, across from the reviewing stand area in Veterans Memorial Park outside City Hall, 625 52nd St.

The parade route takes a new path this year, beginning on Seventh Avenue at Washington Road, then heading south through Sixth Avenue downtown and ending on the west side of Library Park. The parade will travel only in the southbound lane on Seventh Avenue, and people are welcome to sit on the boulevard once the parade route is closed to traffic at noon.

The best areas for viewing the parade are along Seventh Avenue and Sixth Avenue before the parade reaches Library Park and prepares for disbanding.

How sweet it is: For the first time in recent memory, only participants in the Kenosha Civic Veterans Parade are allowed to hand out (not throw) candy to spectators. A change in City ordinance was adopted by the Common Council on June 21, allowing for the change in the long-standing parade rule to not allow candy. Due to the proximity to the parade date in making the change, it is not clear how many parade acts will opt to participate in the candy option this year.

All ages are welcome to participate in a community bike ride as part of the parade – but bicyclists must be able to ride two miles without stopping and keep up with the group. All participants in the bike parade must ride a bike; no walking or jogging with the group. Bike parade participants do not need to submit a parade application, but should plan to gather at Seventh Avenue and Washington Road between 12- 12:30 p.m., prior to the 1 p.m. start time.

For more parade information, please visit www.kenosha.org