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News for Darien

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July 4 Push-n-Pull Parade Steps Off at New Location: Darien High School, at 10:30 AM

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Categories : [Holidays](#)

Tagged as : [Darien Push-n-Pull Parade](#), [Darien VFW Post 6933 2021](#), [Push-n-Pull Parade 2021](#)

Date : July 3, 2021

The annual “Push-n-Pull Parade” will be held at a new location in town on Sunday, July 4, 2021. The parade will start at 10:30 a.m. at Darien High School, go down Noroton Avenue and end up at the Darien VFW Post 6933 at 205 Noroton Ave..

— *This article combines information from a Darien police announcement, which was sent to [Darienite.com](mailto:darienite.com), and a Darien VFW announcement, which wasn't (we snagged it from elsewhere). They, and anyone else, can send announcements to dave@darienite.com.*

The parade location has changed for 2021. It will step off from the Darien High School at 10:30 AM sharp, proceed south on Noroton Avenue, ending at the VFW located at 205 Noroton Ave.

To the delight of many local children — and after the long pandemic, to the delight of many parents — the

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Darien VFW Post 6933 is proud to host the sixteenth annual July 4th Push-n-Pull Parade.

Drivers are advised to avoid Noroton Avenue north of West Avenue during the parade. Middlesex Road between Edgerton Street. and Libby Lane. will be detoured for a period of time. Police officers will be present ensuring traffic is re-routed which may cause delays. Please seek alternate routes.

In keeping with what has now become an annual tradition for Darien, the patriotic parade will comprise children riding bikes, scooters, wagons and non-motorized vehicles.

Given the pandemic and timing for approvals, the route of the parade has changed — we will step off from Darien High School with a start time of 10:30 a.m. sharp.

Families are encouraged to arrive at Darien High School from 9:45 to 10 a.m. The parade will end at the VFW Post 6933, located at 205 Noroton Ave. (in the parking lot adjacent to the Noroton Heights Fire Department and McGuane Field).

The Post's Color Guard will lead the parade, which drew close to 3,000 residents in 2019. As in prior years, there will be a contest in which participants will have a chance to win honors in multiple categories, including a "best decorated" category for a vehicle with wheels (e.g., a tricycle, bicycle, scooter or wagon), a "best decorated" category for a float, and a "most patriotic" dressed family category.

All vehicles must be non-motorized. Winners of the contest will be announced at 10:20 a.m., and they will lead the parade as Honorary Grand Marshals.

The parade will travel down Noroton Avenue to our Post, where there will be food vendors and live entertainment, including Rockin' Rhythms with Mr. Ray. There will also be a number of children's activities taking place there, including face painting and a selection of removable children's tattoos.

This event is free and open to the public, with a suggested donation of \$20 per family payable at the VFW to support the Post and its headquarters, the former Chapel of Fitch's Home for Soldiers and their Orphans (the first veterans' home in the U.S. that was established right here in Darien just after the Civil War). We encourage you to stop by the Post on the day of the parade so we can show you around.

The VFW is pleased to have the support of our gracious corporate sponsors, including the Rucci Law Group, LLC; Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP; and Day Pitney LLP.

In addition, the VFW would like to thank the Noroton Heights Fire Department, the Police Department of the Town of Darien, the Fire Departments of Darien and Noroton and the Town of Darien for their assistance.