

HEADLINES



August 15, 2005

RI Accepting Entries for "Tunes & 'Toons" Labor Day Parade

Calling all families, neighbors, churches, organizations, clubs and businesses! The 21st annual Rock Island Labor Day Parade is scheduled for **Monday, September 5, 2005**.

The first Labor Day Parade was held in 1984 as part of Rock Island's yearlong 150th Birthday or Sesquicentennial Celebration. Over the past 21 years the parade has grown to average 150 entries and has become a popular annual event that draws thousands of spectators!

Staging for the parade begins at **8:30** a.m. in the area around Washington Junior High School, located at 33rd Street and 18th Avenue. The **parade starts promptly at**

9:30 a.m. The route travels west along 18th Avenue and disbands into the Rock Island High School grounds at 25th Avenue and 17th Street. The route is two miles long, and takes about 90 minutes to march.

This year's parade theme is "**Tunes and 'Toons**." Parade organizers want to encourage more "sounds" in the parade and see more comical or cartoon entries. Participants could add music or sound by beating pots and pans, playing kazoos, singing or adding a boom box. An entry could be developed around a particular song or period of music – like the 1950's. Dressing up in costume as a favorite old cartoon or comic book character is another option. The possibilities are endless!

Entries that are not theme related are always welcome in the parade! Gather some friends, neighbors, church members, employees or organization members to join the march. The Labor Day Parade offers a unique opportunity to promote your organization, to announce a special sale or to call attention to an upcoming event. Please note candy and flyers must be handed out to the crowd and not thrown into the street during the parade.

All entries are judged with winners selected from five different categories. The categories are: Mayor's Choice, Marshal's Choice (favorite theme-related entry), Council's Choice, Parade Committee's Choice and Neighbor's Choice. The awards are presented to the winners at a September meeting of the Rock Island City Council.

To enter the 21st Annual Labor Day Parade please complete and return an [entry form](#) with the participation fee to the City of Rock Island by **Monday, August 22, 2005. Please contact Mary Chappell at 732-2923 or Art Milton at 788-6157 with any questions. Parade line-up information will be mailed in late August to the contact person on the entry form.**

The members of the Labor Day Parade Advisory Board thank you for your interest and support of the Rock Island Labor Day Parade. See you in September!

