

MONTROSE PA JULY 4TH CELEBRATION

JULY 4, 2025 - PATRIOTIC PARADE

“A GRAND OLD FLAG 4TH”

FLOAT JUDGING CONTEST

The Montrose Kiwanis and Lions Community Service Clubs are pleased and proud to announce that they will be sponsoring the annual MONTROSE, PA JULY 4TH CELEBRATION again this year. 2025 will mark the 48th consecutive year that both clubs have presented this festive event.

The most universally recognizable symbol of America is the American Flag. The American Flag is a living piece of history and a source of pride and unity for all Americans. Based on the importance of Our Flag, it is an honor and privilege for the Montrose PA July 4th Celebration to adopt our theme for 2025 – **“A GRAND OLD FLAG 4TH”**.

The THEME comes from a special song written by George M. Cohan in 1906 for a stage musical, ‘George Washington, Jr.’ He was inspired to write the song after encountering a Civil War veteran who fought at Gettysburg. The veteran had a tattered flag that he cherished with passion. The song’s title was “You’re a Grand Old Flag”.

The lyrics of the song express respect and admiration for the American Flag, and is a tribute to the flag as a cherished symbol of the United States.

Some of the song’s lyrics include:

- “You’re a grand old flag, You’re a high-flying flag, and forever in peace may you wave”
- “You’re the emblem of the land I love, the home of the free and the brave”

Other names for our flag include the ‘Stars and Stripes’, ‘Old Glory’, and the ‘Star-Spangled Banner’. The Pledge of Allegiance and the holiday Flag Day are dedicated to it.

One of the highlights of the day’s events is the Patriotic Parade. An integral part of the Parade are the Floats that participate. Those floats that want to be in the parade and enter the FLOAT JUDGING CONTEST should focus on the THEME – “A GRAND OLD FLAG 4TH”. Subjects for the Floats should integrate the symbolism of ‘Old Glory’ in terms of values, traditions, and aspirations that bind us together as a nation.

Other ideas for floats include the following:

1. The colors of the flag signify the qualities of the human spirit we Americans cherish – red for courage and readiness to sacrifice, white for pure intentions and high ideals, and blue for vigilance and justice.
2. The flag is a declaration of the USA's independence, and the struggles we went through to achieve that independence.
3. The many symbols that the flag represents – Patriotism, Service, History, Sacrifice, helping our neighbors – all dedicated to the Freedom and Liberty Americans cherish.

Cash prizes will be awarded to the top 6 floats that register for the **PATRIOTIC PARADE FLOAT CONTEST** and are then selected by our panel of judges. The prize payout is as follows: 1st place - \$200, 2nd place - \$150, 3rd place - \$100, 4th thru 6th places - \$75 each.

In order to be eligible for prizes each float MUST be pre-registered!! Register on-line at:

www.montrosepajuly4th.com

The guidelines for judging each float will consider the following criteria:

1. Does the float clearly identify itself and its "A GRAND OLD FLAG 4TH" theme with writing and other forms of communications? Consider the write-up on Page 1 to help.
2. Do the decorations and the people on the float enhance and support the theme depicted?
3. Is the float appealing to the eye and does it have a high degree of artistry and forethought in its design and the execution of that design?
4. Is the float entertaining – are people performing or just sitting, does it make you smile or create some degree of thoughtfulness that pertains to the 2024 theme?

Items 1 and 2 above provide up to 30 points max. for "Depiction of Theme."

Item 3 provides up to 20 points max. for "Eye Appeal and Artistry."

Item 4 provides up to 10 points max. for the "Entertaining" aspect of the float.

THE MAXIMUM SCORE IS 60 POINTS