

## Press Release

Date: June 2, 2009

### For immediate release

Subject: Independence Day Parade GRAND MARSHALS ANNOUNCED

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The Fairfield Downtown Association's Parade Committee is very proud to announce Doctor Gaylord P. Whitlock and Dr. Richard Zimmerman as Grand Marshals for the annual Independence Day Parade.

Dr. Whitlock was born in Illinois in 1917, and after working his way through college he earned a PhD in Biochemistry. He served in the Navy during World War II as a Weatherman and was shipwrecked off the Alaskan coast.

Dr. Whitlock contributed to all our lives when he served on the team that discovered the last known vitamin, Vitamin B12. His specialty became nutrition education, and he brought that expertise and passion to his many local pursuits, including the Senior Olympics.

He enjoyed a varied professional career and settled in Solano County in 1971. He has been very active in a host of community activities through the years, serving on the Fairfield Community Services Foundation, the Solano County Grand Jury and the Fairfield Senior Center to name just a few.

Dr. Whitlock is an accomplished musician and an acclaimed public speaker, proudly stating that he has spoken in all 50 states and most provinces of Canada.

Dr. Whitlock will celebrate his 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday on July 7<sup>th</sup>- please join us in a rousing HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Dr. Richard Zimmerman is a Northern California native who graduated from the University of Southern California Medical School in 1948. He served as a Navy Reserve officer then came to Solano County in 1951 to practice Internal Medicine. He was recalled to active duty for the Korean War, and returned to Fairfield upon discharge, and went into practice in 1954.

Dr. Zimmerman and his colleagues Dr. Smith and Dr. Gauder were instrumental in raising funds and founding Intercommunity Hospital which eventually grew into NorthBay Healthcare Foundation. Dr. Zimmerman was the leader in bringing new specialists to the community and for laying the groundwork for the multi-specialty group practice model that exists today.

Dr. Zimmerman has practiced medicine locally now for more than fifty years, and, even though he's officially "retired," he continues to make house calls and provides home care for his homebound patients.

In 2008, he was honored with the Frederick K. M. Plessner "Rural Physician of the Year" Memorial Award, one of the highest tributes bestowed by the California Medical Society.

The annual Independence Day Celebration in Downtown Fairfield begins at 7:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 4<sup>th</sup>, with a Pancake Breakfast served up by the Order of Eastern Star. The Breakfast will take place at the Masonic Temple- 412 Travis Blvd, and will be served until 10:00 a.m. Tickets cost \$5 for adults, \$3.50 for children from six to twelve years old, and Free for children under six! The menu includes pancakes, sausage, juice and coffee.

The theme of this year's celebration is **"Let's Celebrate: It's a Star Spangled- Red, White and Blue Birthday."** The entry fee is only \$35. Cash or ribbons are awarded for first, second and third places in each category. There's a special sweepstakes award for the entry using the theme most creatively, and an even bigger cash award and a huge trophy for the entry that the judges deem the Grand Sweepstakes winner! Every entry is awarded a certificate of participation and everyone is invited to the annual awards presentation at PepperBelly's Comedy Theater on July 8<sup>th</sup>.

Come on! Decorate the family car or your bicycles and show your love of country and community. Pull together your neighbors and enter a float from your court. March through the parade with your kids' soccer team or the baseball squad.

Assembly will begin at 7:00 a.m. along Webster Street between Kentucky Street and Travis Blvd, with entry check-in located on Civic Center Drive. Kim Cipro, California State Horseman's Association official will judge the equestrian entries at 8:30 a.m.

The Parade will start at 10:00 a.m. sharp, stepping off from the corner of Webster Street and Kentucky Street and will move along Kentucky Street until it turns south on Taylor

Street. It runs east along Texas Street before turning north on Washington Street and ending on Kentucky Street where it began.

All downtown streets will be impacted by the parade. Streets that are inside the parade route will be closed off to through traffic from approximately 8 a.m. until approximately 1:00 p.m. when the Fairfield Police Department and Fairfield Public Works Department clear the area for participant and spectator safety.

Entry forms are available at the Fairfield Downtown Association office at 1000 Texas Street, Suite D in downtown Fairfield or on the Fairfield Downtown Association website: [www.fairfielddowntown.com](http://www.fairfielddowntown.com).

Sponsors for the Independence Day Parade include the Fairfield Downtown Association, the Fairfield Redevelopment Agency, KUIC 95.3 fm, American Legion, National Association of Uniformed Services, Veterans of Foreign Wars and Purple Heart Veterans.

The Fairfield Downtown Association is a non-profit organization operated through funding through the Fairfield Redevelopment Agency, sponsorships and donations. Tax deductible donations help the organization cover the cost of the trophies and awards. For more information about sponsorships or donations, please contact the Fairfield Downtown Association office at 707-422-0103.

Volunteers to serve as parade monitors are needed. Please contact Emily Low- 707-428-7468- [emlow@ci.fairfield.ca.us](mailto:emlow@ci.fairfield.ca.us)- if you are interested in helping with this very popular community event.

Additional contacts:

Dr. Gaylord Whitlock: 707-864-0484

Pam Nicholson (Dr. Whitlock's daughter): 707-425-6891- home, 707-673-6796- cell

Dr. Richard Zimmerman: 707-425-8512