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2017 Fireworks Independence Day Celebration Biggest Yet

The City of Carlsbad's annual fireworks show will be bigger and better than ever.

Each year, Carlsbad's annual Fourth of July celebration draws tens of thousands of residents and guests to the beach area for a day-long celebration culminating in a fireworks display in front of an audience of up to 60,000.

A portion of the fireworks show is paid for by Carlsbad Lodger's Tax, but the event would not be possible without private donations. Carlsbad Fire Chief Rick Lopez said donations are accepted at the fire department to the "Carlsbad Fireworks Fund."

The annual Independence Day Parade will take place at 9 a.m. this year on Tuesday, July 4. This year, the parade will begin at the corner of Main and Stevens Street and head north to Church Street, where it will turn west and then head south on Canyon Street. The parade will conclude at the corner of Fox and Canyon Streets.

The Carlsbad Water Park will also be open on the 4th of July, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Entrance will be \$5 per person, with children under 4 and adults over 61 free. All park rules apply.

The fireworks will begin at dusk, at around 9 p.m., and last approximately 30 minutes. Again this year, the aerial display will be synchronized to music being broadcast over CD104.1 or through Carlsbad Radio's streaming app. G-Money Entertainment will provide DJ services beginning at 6 p.m.

The Carlsbad Fire Department and Carlsbad Police Department will have a command post set up in the field to the west of the main Carlsbad Beach parking lot. Anyone with questions or concerns is asked to either approach the command post or speak with officers and first responders who will be patrolling the entire park area.

There will be limited parking for handicapped individuals at the main beach parking area for those with proper ID. To assist everyone with parking, the City of Carlsbad will offer free transit rides between the Cascades parking lot and the beach parking lot near the Carlsbad Water Park between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m.

To ensure a safe holiday, the Carlsbad Fire Department and Carlsbad Police Department would like to remind the public of the following:

- Be cautious about where you set off fireworks.
- Wear sunscreen and stay hydrated.
- Alcohol is prohibited at the Carlsbad Beach and Lake Carlsbad Recreational Area.
- Dogs are not allowed.
- Please bring a flashlight if you are going to be there after dark, and keep a close eye on children.
- The Carlsbad Police Department does not allow camping or taping off areas to reserve a spot. Once the sun comes up, people can move their stuff in as long as someone stays with it. There is no reserving parking spots with lawn chairs or standing in the parking spot until a car returns.
- To avoid being towed, please refrain from double parking or parking in alleys.

Have a safe and fun Fourth of July celebration!