

Having experienced three successive years of Independence Day celebrations that drew record-breaking crowds for the children's morning program, the afternoon parade and after-dark fireworks, the sponsoring Greater Glenside Patriotic Association (GGPA) has begun serious planning for the local marking of America's next birthday, the country's 236th, with another tri-tiered spectacular scheduled for July 4 (a Wednesday) in 2012.

Advance work for our community's largest, one-day family entertainment event of the year started when the non-profit patriotic association resumed monthly meetings Oct. 18 and Nov. 15 at the Weldon Fire Company in Glenside. Open to the public and those interested in helping conduct the annual celebration, 7:30 p.m. meetings are scheduled into next June on the second Tuesday of each month at Weldon.

Compliments and tax-deductible contributions, the latter being solicited year-round, continue being accepted by the patriotic association from those who enjoyed and appreciated this year's family friendly celebration. All monetary or in-kind contribution, be they large, medium or less, are vital to and valued by the patriotic association, whose total cost of locally celebrating America's 235th birthday last July 4 nearly reached \$60,000! Contributions to the patriotic association are accepted by The Abington Bank, P.O. Box 9009, Jenkintown, PA, 19046.

Here were major financial contributors to this year's celebration in Abington and Cheltenham Townships' areas of Montgomery County: Abington Bank, Abington Township, Abington/Rockledge Democratic Committee, Abington Township/Rockledge Republican Organization (ATRO), Donna Adelsberger & Associates P.C., Robert Adshead, Esq., All-State Insurance Foundation, Aqua America, Arcadia University, Associated Paving Contractors, Inc. (Adam S. Reiff), David Berd, Abington Township Treasurer and Mrs. Jay W. Blumenthal, Bond Cleaners-Glenside, Comcast Financial Agency Corp., Friends of State Rep. Larry Curry (D-154th district), Daryl's Pastries-Glenside, law firm of Joseph Dougherty, Esq., and Bruce Eckel, Esq., Elliott DuRietz, Edge Hill Fire Co., Fitzgerald's Tire & Auto Center, Jon D. Fox, Esq., Freed Funeral Home and Full Circle Integrated Martial Arts Academy.

Also, Abington Township Glenside Ward 13 Commissioner Carol Gillespie, Glasgow, Inc., Glenside Legion Home Association, The Glenside Pub, Glenside Rotary, Goodman Properties, Stewart Greenleaf, Esq., Gretz Beverage, Bill Hall Entertainment And Events, Al & Kathleen Herrmann, Jack & Jill (Mokhtar Lehata), Donald Lawrence, CPA, Leary's Home Town Tavern, Mr. & Mrs. McKinley Lennox, Carol Mallen of RE/MAX Services, Inc., Joseph Massino Beverage & Paving, William R. May Funeral Home, Montgomery County Commissioners, Jim Moore's Auto Repair, Mike Nelson, John & Patricia Newby, North Penn Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 676, Marguerite Nowicki, John & Barbara Nye, Shawn O'Malley, O'Neill's Food Market, Penny's Flowers, Prudential Foundation, Republic Bank, Burton T.

Ritchie State Farm Insurance, Riviera Pizza/Restaurant-Roslyn and Roslyn Supply Company.

Also, Jeff Schaffer, Esq., Cheltenham Township Commissioner Drew Sharkey, Ralph Siani Barber-Glenside, Sphar-Evans Printers-North Hills, John Spiegelman, Alexander Stanku, Sussman Automotive, TD Bank, Ultralites, U-Save Auto Sales & Rentals-Glenside (Tom Mellett), Vahey Family Insurance All-State, Weldon (Glenside) Fire Co. and Wells Fargo Bank.

Continuing their years of valued support to the July 4 celebration, via key logistical services, were participating personnel of Abington and Cheltenham Townships' police departments, fire prevention/protection and maintenance specialists, and Abington's Emergency Management Services' staffers. Cooperating, too, were Abington School district administrators, who again approved public access to high and middle school grounds for thousands of fireworks' attendees on the evening of July 4.

As before, the patriotic association is continuing to seek sponsors for all or portions of the Grand, Glorious, Patriotic Parade, a \$35,000 production, and its America the Beautiful Aerial Fireworks Spectacular, a \$16,000 staging.

Information is available through the GGPA web site --
www.glensidejuly4thevent.com.

William B. Hall, III

Media/Public Relations Director

Greater Glenside Patriotic Association

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Thank you!