

## GREENFIELD

# ‘A time to bring the community together’

Independence Day celebration to feature longtime staples, plus new vendors and performers

By **LUKE MACANNUCO**  
For the Recorder

**GREENFIELD** — In addition to beloved staples, the Recreation Department is introducing new vendors and musicians at this year's Independence Day celebration, slated for Saturday, July 5.

The festivities will start at 4 p.m. and continue until 10:30 p.m., concluding after Pyrotecnico Fireworks Inc. launches the fireworks from Poet's Seat Tower. Vendors will be stationed at both Beacon Field and Greenfield Middle School.

New vendors at Beacon Field include Local Burger, boba tea store Bubble Bee, Puerto Rican food truck Atravete a Probar, and Mohawk Falafel and Shawarma. Located at Greenfield Middle School for the first time will be soft-serve ice cream truck Crozie's Cones, and All Purpose Bakery and Grill, a Worcester-based food truck. The staples of the celebration — fried dough, French fries and novelty items — will be available at the two vending locations as well.

Recreation Director Christy Moore emphasized the importance of supporting the vendors, new and old.

"The vending fee all goes into the fireworks pool to cover the cost of the event," Moore said, "so we want people to purchase food and novelty items to help the city continue to host this event."

The evening's musical entertainment will begin at 5 p.m. with an hour of mixed music. Live performances will start at 6 p.m., with Well Suited, an alternative rock band based in Montague, the first on the schedule. This will be Well Suited's first appearance at the fireworks celebration.

Pioneer Valley blues group Janet Ryan and Straight Up will follow Well Suited's set at 7 p.m. Then, the Greenfield Community Band will play an assortment of patriotic tunes at 8:30 p.m. before Leila Bosman performs the national anthem at 9:30 p.m., ushering in the start of the fireworks show.

Each year, the Recreation Department organizes fundraising efforts to cover the roughly \$20,000 cost of the event. Since April, the department has put together three fundraisers: a miniature golf tournament in April, the fourth annual cornhole tournament in May and a trivia night in June. According to Moore, the three events raised about \$6,000 total.

"Our Recreation Department always makes special occasions even more memorable," Mayor Ginny Desorgher said in a statement. "We hope everyone can join us for this year's fireworks celebration and, if interested, consider donating to support our Recreation Department's fireworks fund."



STAFF FILE PHOTO/PAUL FRANZ

The 2024 fireworks display at Beacon Field in Greenfield. This year's event is set for Saturday, July 5.



STAFF FILE PHOTO/PAUL FRANZ

Food vendors line Beacon Field in Greenfield during the 2024 Independence Day celebration. This year's event is set for Saturday, July 5.

Outside of organized fundraising events, the celebration relies on its sponsors, vendors and individual donations made during and after Saturday's festivities.

"We just hope that everybody comes and enjoys each other's company," Moore said. "We really do put on this amazing fireworks cele-

bration. It's a time to bring the community together in celebration."

For more information or

to donate, visit [greenfield-recreation.com/fireworks.html](https://greenfield-recreation.com/fireworks.html). The rain date for the event is Sunday, July 6.