

The Algonquin Founders' Days Committee  
Proudly Presents The  
64th Annual Algonquin Founders' Days Festival & Parade

Saturday, July 27, 2024

Theme: "Founders' Goes to the Movies!"

Sign up to Volunteer at [www.afdays.com](http://www.afdays.com)



Dear Potential Parade Participant:

We are so grateful to be celebrating our 64th year! July 27<sup>th</sup> will be here before we know it and we are making plans for a very special parade with new and exciting entries. But we also hope to welcome back the regulars that are the heart of our community. **The theme this year is "Founders' Goes to the Movies!"**. I bet you will come up with innovative and entertaining floats. As usual, the Parade Line-up starts at 9:00 am at the corner of Eastgate and Route 62 (Algonquin Road), kick off is at 11am and hopefully the last entry will reach the end by 1:00pm. The parade route will again run West along Route 62 from Eastgate - turning South on Main Street (Route 31) terminating at Madison Street. Please remember when arriving for line up your participants can enter the staging area from Longwood or Hubbard Streets. This helps avoid traffic congestion at the corner of Eastgate and Route 62.

When your entry passes before the dignitary stand our MC will read a public statement about your group which will also be filmed by Comcast Cable Network. Take this opportunity to write something interesting about your group or market your company. Email your dialogue of **no more than 50 words** to [alankirk@me.com](mailto:alankirk@me.com) by July 10, 2024. Please do not waste your time by making fancy fonts or paragraph breaks because I copy & paste all dialogues to one blocked paragraph at 12 pt Roman font with no bolding, underlining or centering. **For-Profit Businesses who are not Founders' Sponsors, and not building a float, are required to pay a \$200 entry donation. If you show up on parade day without a float, the entry donation will rise to \$250, so please pay it early. Political Party Floats pay a \$500 donation for their first float and \$200 per vehicle thereafter, either way.** Please mail a check payable to the Algonquin Founders' Days Committee, 619 N Harrison St, Algonquin, IL 60102 with your entry form. This donation helps us defray the cost of the parade and is also an incentive to build a float. Floats are more entertaining to parade watchers than just a vehicle with your company name on it. In order to keep the parade under two hours long we can only accept so many applications, so please get yours in early. Floats are not very difficult to build but you can also rent them inexpensively as well. Typically, when you rent a float it will come with a tow vehicle and driver.

**Your parade packet, line up number, map, and other info will be emailed out one week before the parade. Paid participants please note that you are not confirmed unless you hear back from us.**

On parade day we must keep the parade moving so here are some rules. You and your entry participants hold harmless the Algonquin Founders' Days Festival Committee, all Founders' Volunteers, Village of Algonquin including Public Works, Police, Fire Department and all other city officials. No Squirt Guns or propellants allowed. Routines/Displays in front of the dignitary stand should be no longer than 30 seconds. Never stop the parade to do a routine. Do them when the parade is already stopped. Once you pass the dignitary stand, do not race away and leave a huge gap. Slow down and let the participant behind you catch up. Maybe just stop and do a routine a little further down. When you reach Madison Street please turn left and keep moving so you do not block floats behind you. If you are road worthy, and the police approve that you are, your entry can continue past Madison to Route 31 and go North or South. Plan in advance how you will exit the parade and where your transportation will meet you, etc. This year with your help we will have another safe and successful parade. Thank you in advance for your hard work in putting together your entry and for your participation in our historic town parade! One of the two longest running festivals in Illinois!

*Sincerely:*

*Aaron Griffith Kirk*

Algonquin Founders' Days Parade Chair

Phone: (847) 815-4895 Email: [alankirk@me.com](mailto:alankirk@me.com)

*Parade Awards will be in*

***Spella Park 3:30pm***

*Saturday afternoon!*

Sign up for the Founders' Run & Walk taking place on Sunday morning, July 28th. Tons of prizes to the winners. The race starts at Algonquin Middle School, 520 Longwood Drive. Fun for all ages with Age Group Awards, T-Shirts & Goodie Bags, Postrace Refreshments! Sign up at [www.afdays.com](http://www.afdays.com)

# VOLUNTEERS MAKE THE WORLD GO AROUND

I grew up following my mom and dad around while they volunteered for many noble causes, such as running the Algonquin Founders' Days Parade. As I grew older, I took over more responsibilities with the parade. Eventually my volunteerism led to me being honored with a Lifetime Volunteer Award from the Village of Algonquin. Later, in high-school I received more volunteer & citizenship awards. All those efforts built a strong resume with great letters of recommendation that recently helped me get into the university of my choice and their pre-med program.

Volunteerism has brought great joy to my life. And there couldn't be a better place to volunteer than our community festival. I hope you and your family will consider giving a few hours of your time to make our festival a success.

Please feel free to reach out to me anytime with questions.....  
and of course, I can really use help with the parade!

Sign up for volunteer slots at [www.afdays.com](http://www.afdays.com)

## OPPORTUNITIES

STAGE HELP – SECURITY – SOCIAL GARDEN – TOKEN SALES – ENTERTAINMENT

FEST SET UP AND TAKE DOWN – CARDBOARD BOAT REGATTA – BUSINESS EXPO

BOUNCIN' ALL AROUND – COMMITTEE WORK – MARKETING/PROMOTION