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*Media artwork and logos available [www.funfourthfestival.org/festival/media/php](http://www.funfourthfestival.org/festival/media/php)*

*Please note Parade and Street Festival held on Saturday, July 3. Fireworks on July 4.*

**PRESS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Fun Fourth Festival 2010 – June 26 – July 4**

**Greensboro, NC, June 17, 2010** - Enjoy a Freedom run & walk, Tony-award winning musical, block party, parade, street festival, fireworks and more during this year's Fun Fourth Festival.

The annual event, now in its 36<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, is a community celebration of Independence Day for Guilford County and the Piedmont Triad.

About 100,000 people are expected to attend Fun Fourth events this year in downtown Greensboro. Highlights include the Freedom Run & Walk, “1776” at the historic Carolina Theatre, Kickoff Block Party, Independence Day Parade & Street Festival, and the Pops Concert & Fireworks Spectacular finale.

More than 100 businesses and the City of Greensboro help sponsor the events. More than 12,000 volunteer hours of assistance are also donated.

Festivities actually begin the weekend before Independence Day on Saturday, June 26 at 8 a.m. with the Freedom Run in downtown Greensboro. It includes a 10K race, a 2-mile

fun run and walk, the Tot Trot and Kids ½ K. The scenic courses go through historic residential areas and Fisher Park. The event is open to all ages.

Headquarters, Start & Finish line and Award Ceremonies will be staged beside the Greensboro Marriott Downtown at 301 N. Greene Street. Applications are available to download at [www.funfourthfestival.org](http://www.funfourthfestival.org) or register that morning 6:30 a.m. – 7:30 a.m.

A new event this year for the festival is the Tony-award winning musical “1776”. Presented July 1, 8 p.m., July 2, 8 p.m., July 4, 3 p.m. at the historic Carolina Theatre.

The musical is a light-hearted retelling of the founding fathers’ efforts to write and ratify the Declaration of Independence in Philadelphia in 1776 and includes local celebrities in its cast including former mayor Keith Holliday, Judge A. Robinson Hassell and sportscaster Mike Hogewood. Tickets are \$18.50- \$23.50 and group pricing available: [www.carolinatheatre.com](http://www.carolinatheatre.com) or 336-333-2605.

The weekend comes into full swing with the Kickoff Block Party on Friday, July 2, 7p.m. – 11:00 p.m. featuring music by The Extraordinaires (classic beach) and Nantucket (80’s rock). Party will be held at the corner of Summit and Church Streets. Bring your lawn chairs. Parking is free. Admission is \$10 per person, free to children six and under.

This year’s Independence Day Parade at the Fun Fourth Festival will start at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, July 3. The Parade heralds a day full of free fun as it winds through downtown Greensboro, beginning at Greene and Lindsay Streets, traveling south on Greene, east on Market, north on Church and ending at the Greensboro Children’s Museum.

Fun Fourth is excited to feature an international touring band all the way from Ontario, Canada for this year’s parade! The Burlington Teen Touring Band has received international recognition and performed in the Rose Bowl, D-Day Remembrance in Normandy and will perform at the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Pearl Harbor next year. They will proudly fly the U.S. and Canadian flags during their performance.

The day-long Fun Fourth Street Festival begins immediately after the Parade in Center City Park and the downtown Greensboro cultural district.

Festivities include five stages of live music, food, arts, crafts, heritage and children's activities. The musical stages have something for everyone – rock, urban, gospel, bluegrass, family, marching band and will showcase local talent such as CTG’s Triad Idol and WFMY’s meteorologist Eric Chilton’s band “Eric and the Chill Tones”.

New activities include the Junk Jam Rhythm Circle at Stage 2 and the Art Can! Sculpture project where architects will build a huge American flag with cans of food. Festival attendees are encouraged to bring canned soup and food to help replenish the Greensboro Urban Ministry Food Bank. The cans will be the building blocks for the Art Can! Project.

The July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend has a grand finale on Sunday at Jamieson Stadium at Grimsley High School for **News & Record Pops Concert and Gate City Fireworks Spectacular.**

The gates open at 6:30 p.m. and fireworks begin at approximately 9:30 p.m. Follow cancellation and weather delays via Twitter @GrassrootsGSO.

For the safety and enjoyment of everyone, there are no pets, bicycles, skates, skateboards or coolers allowed at any Fun Fourth Festival event.

Full schedule of events and musical groups at [www.funfourthfestival.org](http://www.funfourthfestival.org).

### **Festival schedule at a glance:**

#### **Saturday, June 26**

**8:00 a.m.**

**Fun Fourth 10K Freedom Run and  
2-Mile Red, White & Blue Fun Run & Walk**

Pre-registration and fees online: [www.funfourthfestival.org](http://www.funfourthfestival.org)

**July 1, 8 p.m., July 2, 8 p.m., July 4, 3 p.m.**

**“1776” musical at historic Carolina Theatre**

[www.carolinatheatre.com](http://www.carolinatheatre.com)

#### **Friday, July 2**

**Kickoff Block Party**

**7 p.m. - 11 p.m.**

Corner Summit, Lindsay & Church Streets

Admission: \$10 at gate

#### **Saturday, July 3**

**Independence Day Parade at Fun Fourth Festival**

**9:30 a.m.**

*Parade route: Begins at Greene & Lindsay Street, travels south on Greene, east on Market, north on Church, ending at the Greensboro Children's Museum.*

#### **Saturday, July 3**

**Fun Fourth Street Festival**

**Downtown Greensboro Cultural District**

**9:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.**

Admission and parking free

#### **Sunday, July 4**

**7:30 p.m. - 10 p.m.**

**Gates open 6:30 p.m.**

**News & Record Pops Concert and Gate City Fireworks**

Jamieson Stadium at Grimsley High School

Admission and parking free

Rain date July 5

Follow cancellation and weather delays via Twitter @GrassrootsGSO

The Fun Fourth Festival is produced by Grassroots Productions Limited. This local non-profit organization focuses on charitable and educational activities which foster interest in local history and events in Guilford County. An advisory board of local business and civic leaders oversees the planning of each event.

The Fun Fourth Festival has been recognized as a Top 20 Event by the Southeast Tourism society and as an Outstanding Event by Celebration NC Foundation.

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