



## Village of Mount Prospect Press Release

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### PLANS UNDERWAY FOR MOUNT PROSPECT'S ANNUAL PARADE AND MEMORIAL SERVICE

**DATE:** April 6, 2017

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VFW Post 1337

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Mount Prospect's Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #1337 and American Legion Post #525 are gearing up for the "Centennial edition" of their annual Memorial Day parade and Lions Park memorial service for fallen service members on Monday, May 29, and they are seeking additional participants, particularly youth groups.

Each year, hundreds of local residents and families turn out to watch the Village's veterans march and ride, followed by the Prospect High School Band, members of the Mount Prospect Lions Club and scores of Scouts, Indian Guides and others.

"It is the VFW and American Legion who memorialize all of the service members who have fallen to keep our country free," explained John "Dutch" DeGroot, Service Officer for American Legion Post 525 and VFW Post 1337. "We are the educators for the many young people who come out to our ceremony and watch us parade the colors down Emerson Street. We veterans are the ones who make this more than a day off."

The parade will kick off at 9:45 a.m. from Village Hall at the intersection of Emerson Street and Busse Avenue. Marching units should assemble between 9 and 9:15 a.m. The parade will then proceed south on Emerson to Lincoln Avenue and then east to Lions Park.

Once they reach the Veterans Memorial Band Shell at Lions Park, there will be a stirring memorial service with a speaker and a ceremonial firing of guns.

"We welcome all civic groups to join us for the parade and memorial service, but especially young folks who can be educated on the meaning of this occasion," DeGroot said.

For more information about participating and helping to remind the community about our fallen service members' sacrifices, contact DeGroot at 847/814-2585.

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