

Harrison Barnes named Grand Marshal for 4th of July Parade

Ames, IA – Ames native and starter for the Golden State Warriors, Harrison Barnes, will serve as the Grand Marshal for the annual 4th of July parade in downtown Ames.

“It truly is a privilege to participate in the Ames 4th of July Independence Day Parade,” Barnes said. “I am humbled and excited about the opportunity to serve the parade as a Grand Marshal. As an Ames native, I could not be more proud of my hometown.”



Barnes led his Ames High School team to two straight Iowa 4A state championships before being recruited to North Carolina, and then to the NBA as the number seven overall pick in 2013. The 23-year-old scored a career-high 10.1 points per game this season and is averaging 11.3 points per game in the playoffs. While his career is taking off, he will be the first to tell you that there's no place like home.

“Although my life in basketball has taken me away from my hometown, Ames will always be the place I remember most fondly,” he said. “Many cities are known and remembered for their history or their landmarks, but I remember Ames for the people, the relationships that I made and the community that make this city special.”

The parade, organized by the Main Street Cultural District, will begin at 11 a.m., on July 4, at Main and Burnett. The route will head east on Main and north on Douglas, before heading back west on 5th street. The parade route ends at City Hall at 5th and Clark.

“We celebrate this day in honor of the independence our forefathers fought for, which, among other things, gives us the freedom to pursue our dreams,” said Cindy Hicks, Executive Director for the Main Street Cultural District. “We couldn't have a better role model for a Grand Marshal than this hometown boy who was able to follow his dream all the way to the NBA.”

There is a need for more volunteers to work the morning of the parade. You can sign up by going to Amesdowntown.org, click on “Events,” then click on “4th of July.” You can also find the registration for parade entries at the same location.

4th of July Celebration Events:

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| • Fireworks | July 3 at dusk | Near Reiman Gardens |
| • Pancake Breakfast | July 4, 8:30 – 10 a.m. | City Hall, 515 Clark |
| • Bill Riley Talent Competition | July 4, 9 – 11 a.m. | Main and Burnett |
| • Parade | July 4, 11 a.m. | Downtown Ames |
| • Old Fashion Independence
Day Celebration | July 4, Noon – 4 p.m. | Farm House Museum
at ISU Campus |

The Main Street Cultural District was established on January 1, 2004. Its mission is to advance and promote downtown as the destination district in the heart of our community. To keep updated on MSCD happenings, become a fan of the Main Street Cultural District on Facebook, bookmark www.AmesDowntown.org, or contact our office at 515-233-3472. MSCD is an affiliate organization of the Ames Chamber of Commerce.