

RoughDraft atlanta

Dunwoody 4th of July Parade: Friday, July 4

A SPECIAL SECTION | JULY 2025 #DUNWOODY4THOFJULYPARADE

Red, White & Dunwoody



Photo by Paul Ward

**Presenting
sponsors:
Dunwoody
Homeowners
Association
and Rough
Draft**



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PARADE SCHEDULE & VIEWING

Parade Route

The parade route is approximately 2.7 miles and steps off from the intersection of Mount Vernon Road and Jett Ferry Road at 9 a.m., proceeds west on Mt. Vernon to Dunwoody Village, turns right onto Dunwoody Village Parkway, circles around the Parkway, and left into Dunwoody Village at Starbucks.

Viewing Information

Parade spectators are encouraged to set up chairs along Mt. Vernon and circle around the Dunwoody Village Parkway into Dunwoody Village. Viewing will start on the west side of Jett Ferry on Mt. Vernon. Mt. Vernon Road, between Jett Ferry Road and Dunwoody Village, will be closed from approximately 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Parade Festival

After the parade ends at Dunwoody Village, stick around for the family festival! Enjoy music performed by Dunwoody High School Band, a kids zone, and an opportunity to meet local businesses and politicians. Scout Troop 266 will be selling McDaniel's QN2 barbecue as a fundraiser (pre-order at troop266.us) and the Rotary Club will be selling hot dogs to raise money for the organization. Kona Ice will sell sweet treats to keep you cool!

PARADE & FESTIVAL PARTICIPANTS



Photo courtesy of Spirit of Atlanta

Marching bands

Big band energy will be the soundtrack for this year's parade, as four of the area's top marching bands return to the lineup. Bringing iconic rhythms and patriotic tunes, these talented musicians are sure to get crowds on their feet for some flag-waving fun.

116th United States Army Band

The 116th has one of the busiest schedules of any unit in the Georgia National Guard, and is a fixture of ceremonies throughout Georgia. Look for them marching near the front of the parade.



Photo by Paul Ward

Spirit of Atlanta Drum and Bugle Corps

Spirit has become one of the most revered drum and bugle corps, while remaining true to their Southern heritage and continually striving to push the boundaries of artistic innovation.

Dunwoody High School Band

We've got that Wildcat Pride! The Dunwoody High School Marching Band will once again bring its community spirit to the parade, with alumni joining current students this year.

Atlanta CV Drum and Bugle Corps

Atlanta CV's diverse membership spans ages 16 to 54 and includes students, educators, engineers, military personnel, and professionals from a broad range of industries. While based in Atlanta, the corps attracts members from across the Southeast and beyond – reflecting a reputation for excellence, community, and inclusivity.

Other entrants Atlanta Falcons

Look for Freddie Falcon and the Atlanta Falcons cheerleaders as they return to the parade this year!

Oscar Mayer Wienermobile

The hot dog hype is real in Dunwoody! One of the parade's most popular entries, the Oscar Mayer Wienermobile will return this year to serve up smiles and frank-ly fun memories.

Dinowooddy

Combining family fun and a serious love of dinosaurs, expect another imaginative and memorable entry from the Torres family.

Discover Dunwoody

The city's destination marketing organization will be riding in the Discover Dunwoody trolley and handing out their signature "DUN" stickers and mini dinosaurs.

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Roswell, Alpharetta, Dunwoody,
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Photo by Paul Ward

2025 GRAND MARSHAL

Coach Mike Nash

By Cathy Cobbs

The Dunwoody Homeowners Association has recognized outgoing Dunwoody High School football coach and athletic director Mike Nash with one of its highest honors – naming him this year's Dunwoody Fourth of July Parade marshal.

After surprising Nash with the honor, the coach mentioned that for many years, he and the Dunwoody football team carried a flag down the route, but this year, “I get to ride in a truck.”

At its March 23 meeting where the announcement was made, the DHA heard from an emotional Nash, who said he “wasn’t going to a better place, but a different place.”

“There’s no better place in the world than Dunwoody,” he said. “I hope you all realize what a special place this is. You took us in and you loved us.”

Nash had announced his resignation on social media Feb. 25, with the news that he had accepted the head coaching position at Chattahoochee County High School in Cusseta, GA.

Nash spent the last 10 seasons leading the Dunwoody football program, achieving a 33-64 record with back-to-back playoff appearances in 2023 and 2024.

When Nash took over the head coaching job, the Dunwoody High School Wildcats football team hadn't made post season play since 2009.

He started with just 17 players that season, and built a team that grew in talent and stature over his tenure. Under Nash, the Wildcats had their best season in 2024, with an 8-3 record and a playoff appearance.

Audra Anders, whose sons Troy and Walt played football at DHS, said Nash was much more than a football coach.

“He means so much to me and our family,” Anders said.

“He has continued to be an amazing mentor to both my sons beyond high school and college. I am so thankful for him and am thrilled he is the grand marshal of the parade.”



Big Play Entertainment: Platinum sponsor is a game changer

Opening this summer in Dunwoody, Big Play Entertainment will offer state-of-the-art bowling, immersive arcade games, VR, laser tag, glow golf, a high-energy sports bar, and event spaces. Big Play Entertainment is the Dunwoody 4th of July Parade's Platinum Sponsor and has also generously allowed the use of their parking lot for parade assembly.

“Big Play Entertainment came in as our only Platinum Sponsor, and what a real game-changer it is for this year’s parade,” said parade co-chairman Matt Weber. “Their support gave us the extra boost we needed to lock in marching bands, costumed characters, and make the festival extra special.”

Make sure to visit the Big Play tent at the Family Festival in Dunwoody Village!



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DONATIONS

Atlanta Lions Club

Eyeglasses Collection: Bring your used eyeglasses to the parade for recycling at the Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation. The Lions International Youth Ambassadors and their host families will march with the Atlanta Lions Club and the Lighthouse Eye Clinic van. Look for the colorful flags of the world that the students will be carrying with their eyeglass collection boxes.


Community Assistance Center

The Community Assistance Center and National Charity League Dunwoody Chapter will partner to collect food donations along the parade route.



ELECTED OFFICIALS / DIGNITARIES

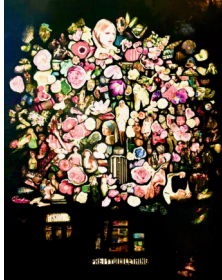
DeKalb CEO Lorraine Cochran-Johnson, Dunwoody Mayor Lynn Deutsch, DeKalb County District 1 Commissioner Robert Patrick, DeKalb Board of Education District 1 Representative Andrew Ziffer, DeKalb County government officials, and Sarv Dharavane from Austin Elementary, who came in third in the Scripps National Spelling Bee in May.



**DUNWOODY
GALLERY**

5496 Chamblee Dunwoody Rd
Dunwoody Village
www.dunwoodygallery.com

live an artful life.



DUNWOODY

4th of July Parade

Friday, July 4, 2025

Theme: Red, White, and Dunwoody!
Grand Marshal: Coach Nash, Dunwoody High School Athletic Director & Football Coach (Ret.)

Presented By



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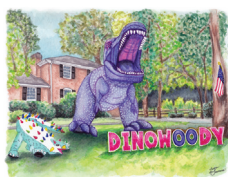
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**For parade information and registration,
please visit www.dunwoodyga.org**

**For more information about
sponsorships, please contact
Leah Economos at
leah@eepevents.com**

