



P.O. Box 584
Storm Lake, IA 50588

Fundraising Campaign Kicks Off for 2026 Star Spangled Spectacular in Storm Lake

Storm Lake, Iowa (May 28, 2026) – Fundraising efforts for Storm Lake’s beloved Star Spangled Spectacular officially begin Monday, June 1, as volunteers launch the annual campaign to support one of Northwest Iowa’s most anticipated Independence Day celebrations.

Each year, thousands gather along the lakeshore to enjoy a full lineup of family-friendly events, live entertainment, and the community’s signature fireworks display. Organizers are now calling on businesses, families, and supporters to help ensure the tradition continues to grow in 2026.

Fundraising Co-Chairs Josh Newhouse and Matt Brostad will mail more than 700 donation letters to past contributors and new supporters in hopes of meeting — and surpassing — this year’s fundraising goal of \$50,000.

“This celebration belongs to the community,” said Brostad. “Every parade entry, concert, firework, and family activity is made possible because people continue to step up and support it year after year. We’re incredibly grateful for that generosity.”

This year’s celebration also recognizes America’s 250th anniversary, and organizers are encouraging supporters to participate in a special ‘**250 Club**’ campaign by making a commemorative \$250 donation in honor of the milestone year.

“We wanted to create a fun and meaningful way for people to celebrate this historic anniversary while supporting an event that brings so many people together,” said Newhouse. “Whether someone gives \$25, \$250, or more, every contribution helps make the weekend unforgettable.”

In addition to mailing a check, supporters can also donate through Venmo. Simply open the Venmo app, search *Star Spangled Spectacular* under businesses, and look for the official logo.

Mailed donations can be sent to:

Josh Newhouse, Fundraising Co-Chair

P.O. Box 457
Storm Lake, IA 50588



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Donor Recognition Levels

- **1776 Society:** \$1,000 and above
- **Liberty Bell Ringers:** \$500–\$999
- **Patriots:** \$350–\$499
- **250 Club:** \$250 commemorative giving level
- **Skyrockets:** \$200–\$349
- **Firecrackers:** \$100–\$199
- **Sparklers:** Up to \$99

The 2026 Star Spangled Spectacular will be held July 3–4 and will feature returning favorites and new experiences, including The Big Parade, food and shopping vendors, the Ride-Run, Patriotic Ceremony, Kiddie Parade, Classic Car Cruise, fireworks display, and live music — including The PetRock Band performing July 3 at 7 p.m.

The entire event is volunteer-led and community-funded, with donations supporting everything from entertainment and fireworks to insurance, golf cart rentals, T-shirts, postage, and more.

About the Star Spangled Spectacular

A favorite Northwest Iowa tradition, Storm Lake's annual Star Spangled Spectacular celebrates Independence Day along the city's beautiful shores. The family-friendly event is held July 3–4 and welcomes fresh entertainment and returning favorites including The Big Parade, food and shopping vendors, a Classic Car Cruise, the Ride-Run, fireworks, a Patriotic Ceremony, a Kiddie Parade, and more. Visit www.starspangledspectacular.net for more information.

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