



Nation of Patriots Tour – May 19-20

Residents of the City of Fennimore are pleased to be the first day destination for the 110-day Nation of Patriot Tour passing thru 48 states.

The Patriots Tour departs Beaver Dam at 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 19. The Patriots Tour is anticipated to arrive in Fennimore sometime between 1:30 and 2 p.m. In anticipation of the Patriot Tour, the Chamber is sponsoring a patriotic decorating contest encouraging city businesses and residents to decorate the City in a Patriotic theme to serve as a warm welcome to all who visit Fennimore. Also in anticipation and in an effort to help children understand what a Patriot is, the Fennimore Optimist Club will host a Patriotic Story Book Walk on the grounds of the Fennimore Fire Station to help children understand Patriots and Veterans.

Upon arriving in Fennimore the Patriots Tour will parade through Lincoln Avenue (Main Street). Main Street will be lined with area residents cheering on the riders. The tour will turn east on 6th Street with final destination will be the Fennimore Fire Station, 1080 8th Street, where the community plans to hold an afternoon celebration. Jefferson Street east of the fire station will be closed from 7th to 8th Street from 1 to 6 p.m. offering convenient parking for the motorcycles.

At the Fennimore Fire Station the Fennimore EMT volunteers will be holding a brat sale and the members of the Fennimore Fire Department will offer several choices of beverages. Fennimore youth organizations will be on hand to assist the EMT's with food.

A special ceremony will begin at 2:30 p.m. at which time the official handoff of the Nation of Patriot flag will pass from the first day flag bearer to the second day flag bearer. This flag will fly just outside of the Fire Station until the time it is part of the Sunday morning program held at the Fennimore Veterans Memorial Park (corner of Lincoln Avenue and 8th Street).

As part of the Saturday afternoon ceremony, two local residents will give brief talks. The speakers will be Brigadier General Retired, Richard Lofthouse and 2018 Fennimore High School Student Council President, TJ Kenney. Patriotic music will be provided by Sydney Whitaker. Organizers of the Patriots Tour will give a brief overview of their tour and their mission, which offers financial assistance to disabled veterans and their families.

The Fennimore Area Chamber of Commerce will sponsor the Adam Bartels band to sing and play music throughout the afternoon for all to enjoy. The afternoon activities at the Fire Station are expected to go on until 6 p.m. The Chamber encourages riders and spectators to visit Fennimore area businesses following the afternoon activities.

Fennimore offers a variety of food establishments, convenience stores, bars and grills and a supper club. Live music will be offered in the evening at BD's Sports Bar and at The Cottonwood Supper Club.

We invite riders who plan to participate in the second day ride to stay over night at a variety of lodging options in Fennimore:

<http://www.fennimore.com/business-directory/cat/business-directory/accommodations-lodging/>

Other nearby Grant County lodging options available online:

<http://www.grantcounty.org/tourism/lodging/hotels-and-motels/>

Sunday, May 20 the Friends of the Fennimore Elementary School will host a pancake breakfast between 7 a.m. and 11 a.m. held at the Fennimore Memorial building, 860 Lincoln Avenue. Proceeds from the pancake breakfast will be matched by NCSF Hearts ad Hands Matching Funds sponsored by St. Mary's Court 1241 of Fennimore. Several other dining options for breakfast are also available.

On Sunday morning a small ceremony will be held at the Fennimore Veterans Memorial (corner of Lincoln Avenue and 8th Street) prior to the kick off for the second day ride starting at 10 a.m. Riders will then be organized for the second day travel. The Patriots Tour will depart Fennimore by 11 a.m. en route to Waukon Iowa. Members of the Fennimore American Legion Post #184 and Fennimore Fire Department will escort the riders out of town with their fire trucks.

There has been a recent change in the route to Waukon, IA. The correct route will have NOPT leaving Fennimore on Hwy 61, going North to Boscobel, crossing the Wisconsin River bridge to Hwy 60. The tour will take Hwy 60 west thru Wauzeka, on to Bridgeport where the tour will take Hwy 18 into Prairie du Chien using the by-pass eventually riding over the Mississippi on their way to their final destination of the Harley Davidson dealership in Waukon, IA.

Fennimore sends out a warm welcome and encourages riders and spectators to visit Fennimore and enjoy our friendly community. For additional information check online www.fennimore.com or call 800-822-1131.