



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date:** Thursday, May 5, 2016

**Source:** Kristi Northcutt, Anthem Community Council, 623-742-6065, knorthcutt@anthemcouncil.com

**News tips/Keywords:** Anthem, 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Independence Day, celebration, community, fireworks, family

**Media Kit:** [OnlineAtAnthem.com/media-kits](http://OnlineAtAnthem.com/media-kits)

## **ANTHEM'S ANNUAL INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION RETURNS FOR 17<sup>th</sup> YEAR**

**Anthem, Ariz.** – Anthem celebrates its 17<sup>th</sup> annual Independence Day Celebration July 3 in Community Park from 6-10 p.m. The popular event includes wet and dry rides/inflatables, food vendors, DJ/dancing, fireworks and more.

Dry rides/inflatables will be on Softball Field #1; water rides will be located on Softball Fields #2 and #3. Each individual is required to have a wristband to ride the slides or use the inflatables. They are available for an early-bird price of \$12 during June at the Anthem Community Center, 41130 N. Freedom Way. Wristbands will also be available for purchase at the event for \$15 each. Wristbands are non-refundable and non-replaceable.

The event will conclude with the National Anthem and the fireworks finale at 9:30 p.m., weather permitting. Auditions to select the National Anthem performer will take place June 11, 9 a.m. at the Anthem Civic Building. Audition details are online at [OnlineAtAnthem.com/independence-day](http://OnlineAtAnthem.com/independence-day); deadline to enter is May 27.

More than 20,000 people descend on Anthem for the Independence Day Celebration, which requires additional planning, specifically in the traffic department. "We work with Maricopa County Department of Transportation and the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office to create a plan that aids in the safety of our residents and guests, and allows for efficiency in and out of the community and the Park," said Michele DeMichele, director of special events for the Anthem Community Council.

The traffic control plan will take effect mid-afternoon on the day of the event. Review the plan and other "know-before-you-go" tips to maximize fun and safety at [OnlineAtAnthem.com/news/independence-day-tips](http://OnlineAtAnthem.com/news/independence-day-tips).

Residents should also note that certain amenities will close early to allow for event preparation. The walking bridge between the Community Center and Community Park will close at 2 p.m. The Skate Park and Roller Hockey Rink at Community Park close at 3 p.m. The Community Center aquatics park closes at 3:30 p.m., while the entire facility closes at 4 p.m. Vehicles must be removed from the parking lot by 4:30 p.m. because that area is part of the fireworks fallout zone.

Residents and guests are welcome to bring food and non-alcoholic beverages to enjoy picnic-style in the park. Outside food and beverages are not permitted within the fenced field areas. Attendees are encouraged to visit the Food Court and Rotary Beer Garden on Softball Field #4.

As a reminder, attendees are not allowed to bring or launch personal fireworks at ACC Community Park; however, lawn chairs or blankets to watch the fireworks in the open areas of the park are recommended (no seating will be permitted inside fenced field areas).

ACC Community Park is located at 41703 N. Gavilan Peak Parkway in Anthem, Arizona. For more information about the event, contact Michele DeMichele at [mdemichele@anthemcouncil.com](mailto:mdemichele@anthemcouncil.com) or 623-742-6050 or visit [OnlineAtAnthem.com/independence-day](http://OnlineAtAnthem.com/independence-day).

###