



THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE

Fireworks give Old Glory a patriotic burst in a previous July Fourth celebration. Two events this year will mix music with that tradition.

Patriotic pitch high in concerts

Events July 2 and July 4 will blend music with tributes to past, present military members

BY VANESSA FRANKO
THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE

Riverside will celebrate Independence Day with a bounty of patriotic music and celebrations to honor veterans, people in the community who have made a difference with armed services and others.

This year marks the first July 4th Patriots Concert at White

Park, put on by the Philharmonic Foundation, and the ninth year for the Concert for Heroes at the Riverside National Cemetery on July 2.

The idea of the Patriots Concert stemmed from the interest to revive the former concerts at the courthouse steps in Riverside, said retired Riverside County Superior Court Judge Victor Mi-

celi, who is helping to organize the event.

"This is going to be a knock-your-socks-off event," said Collette Lee, one of the concert's organizers.

There will be more than 80 musicians performing in the concert, said Manuel Aybar, artistic director of the Riverside Lyric Opera, performing "music that

celebrates America and celebrates our patriots."

The concert will feature the Riverside Lyric Opera Symphony, Riverside Master Chorale led by Music Director Karen Garrett, trumpeter Brian Martinez, UC Riverside's Highlander bagpipers and singer Karen Wilson. Some of the pieces that will be

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CONCERTS

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performed include a Duke Ellington medley, "The Carnival of Venice" and "The Battle Hymn of the Republic."

The event will also honor a local business, a local citizen and members of each branch of the armed forces as well as a member of the Naval Surface Warfare Center's Corona division.

G.W. Singletary Inc. will receive the Business of the Year for Outstanding Support of Our Military award for the support Singletary and his company have given over the years to personnel at March Air Reserve Base and to help bring the Riverside National Cemetery to its current location.

Jamil Dada, who is chairman of the March Field Air

JULY 4TH PATRIOTS CONCERT

WHEN: 7 p.m. July 4, 9 p.m. fireworks

WHERE: White Park in downtown Riverside, near 9th and Market streets.

ADMISSION: Free for the public. VIP tickets are \$25.
INFORMATION: 951-781-0251.

ON THE WEB:
www.thephilharmonic.org

Museum and is leading the effort to acquire a space shuttle for display, will be honored as Citizen of the Year for Outstanding Support of Our Military.

Other honorees include Chief Petty Officer Lee Rysdam from the Naval Surface Warfare Center's Corona division, Army 1st Sgt. Stephen A. Kreider and Marine

CONCERT FOR HEROES

WHEN: 6:40 p.m. July 2

WHERE: Amphitheater at Riverside National Cemetery, 22495 Van Buren Blvd., Riverside

ADMISSION: Free
INFORMATION: 951-787-0251

ON THE WEB:
www.thephilharmonic.org

Corps Capt. Edwin D. Nunez. The Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve units had not announced their honorees at press time. Also slated to be honored are the Tuskegee Airmen and Congressional Medal of Honor recipients from the area and their families.

Now going into its ninth year, the Concert For Heroes is a tribute to all veterans, said organizer Mike Gold-

ware, and to celebrate "our heroes and liberty."

The concert happens at the Riverside National Cemetery, and Goldware said the location's staff has been instrumental in making the event come together.

About 6,000 people are expected for the concert, and 2,700 will fit in the amphitheater. People are invited to bring lawn chairs but should be reminded that the cemetery is a place of rest and no alcohol is allowed.

The concert will feature performances by the Riverside County Philharmonic Orchestra and the bluegrass group The Brombies.

The program will include music from the ragtime era, swing tunes such as "In the Mood" and conclude with John Philip Sousa's "Stars and Stripes Forever."

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