

# VG Readies for 2nd Annual Celebration cont'd from pg. 1

much the main gig. I also do consulting for state fairs. I do the Minnesota State Fair, the Wisconsin state fair and the Miami Dade County Fair.

What's your favorite part of the job?

I think it's being out there with the people. We've been doing some of these events for twenty years. We've seen the kids grow up and now they're working for us. That's what pretty neat, going from town to town. That's interesting, the different people.

What products do you sell?

We have four different types of shakeups. We have Lemon, strawberry, orange and lime. We have snow cones, and we have cotton candy.

You just focus on doing those three things better than anyone else?

Right. The thing about our shakeups is that we still do them the old-fashioned way. We do all the hand pounding to get that flavor out of the rind. You have a Big Al's shake up and then someone else's and you can tell the difference! It takes us longer to make it, but it's worth it. The quality is what it's all about.

Where do you get all those lemons?

The produce company! <laughs> We usually go through quite a few cases. It just depends on the event. When we're in Martinsville, they drink Orange Shakeups. We go some other places and you can hardly give away an orange shakeup! For the Strawberry shakeups, we use real strawberries that we puree' which is a lot of pre-work, but I tell you what. They're right up there with the lemon as far as sales. They're sweeter, not as much sour as the lemons. They're very popular.

Nothing says America and Independence Day like carnivals and lemon shake ups. Does it take on special meaning for you since this is celebrating our Independence

Day?

Definitely. Especially these one-day deals. I think in the next week and a half, we'll do 10 of them. We have three trailers, and we'll also be bringing a carnival game to the celebration. We'll have a kiddie high striker game and get a prize. We'll have light up swords for fireworks time. Here in the next week, we're doing Arthur fireworks, Arcola Fireworks, Stewardson's fireworks. We've got a softball tournament this weekend, Homer, Mattoon, Tuscola and now Villa Grove. It's neat to see the families come out together and enjoy the fireworks.

Jamie Morse and Elizabeth Hamilton are back for year two of the very popular Bicycle Parade, and they recently took a little time to share information about the event.

What was the impetus that made you decide to do the bicycle parade?

<JM> During the early stages of the planning for last year's celebration Jody (Eversole) and I were throwing ideas around together, and I noted that a bike parade would be fun, so we decided it would be something good for the kids here in Villa Grove. It kind of came together from there?

Had you seen this elsewhere?

Broadlands does one every year.

What can folks who are participating expect?

We think that they can expect a bigger crowd this year!

Will there be judging again this year?

No, the prizes will be awarded by random drawing. We'll have three age groups for the drawing of the grand prize Holiday World Tickets.

You're giving away Holiday World tickets?

Yes, we will be drawing for 3 sets of a family four pack of tickets to Holiday World.

Are you taking preregistra-



tion, or should folks just show up on the day of the event?

<EH> It's just show up on the day of the event with and put your name in the appropriate drawing.

<JM> People can go on our Facebook page from the Villa Grove News page and they can definitely mark that they're going on our page.

Any other changes to the

event?

It's still going to be at Richman Park, but it will be a different route this year. The smaller kids had trouble doing the big loop, so we're going to try to go straight through the park, where the crowd is. We're going to be a little bit earlier this year. We're doing it at 4 pm. Cassandra and I planned it

around all the other events and 4 seemed to be the best start time. Mr. Steve will be over around 3:45 so the kids will have about 15 minutes to register.

Is there anything you would like to add?

<JM> Lizzy and I will be choosing our favorite decorated bike for a pizza prize.

<JM> We have had a lot

of local businesses donate to the parade. The Scoop donated ice cream tokens, Monicals Pizza has donated pizza certificates and Loman Ray Insurance has donated water bottles, Villa Grove State Bank and the Hillard Agency has also chipped in with generous donations.

<EH> and everyone will be receiving a participation prize.

What are the age groups?

<JM> It's open to all ages, the drawing for the Holiday World tickets will be one winner in each of the following age groups: 0-7, 8-15 and 16-up.

Even a fat 54-year-old newspaper guy can participate?

<JM> We would love it if you came! It's all ages, for birth up to 120. <laughing>

Other events include a home run derby, which will kick off at 2 pm. Participants are asked to pre-register, and participants will be divided into groups based on age. 9/10, 11/12 and 13-15.

There will also be inflatables for the young and young at heart and a kiddie tractor pull will test the youngsters' meddle at 5 pm.

New this year, starting at 3 pm, our good friends at the Villa Grove Fire Department will be hosting a "touch a truck" event, where kids can take a guided tour of one of our fire trucks. I'm sure there will be plenty of experts on hand to share the knowledge of these intricate pieces of equipment.

From rock n roll to ice cream, from the bicycle parade to inflatables to baseball to Pork burgers to BBQ and shake ups, there should be something for everyone at this year's event, culminating in an awesome firework display from the award-winning Melrose Pyrotechnics company. It's time to celebrate freedom and honor our country.

## Combating Texting While Driving: New Law Takes Effect July 1

Secretary White's Legislation Combating Texting While Driving Takes Effect July 1

Classifies first-time offenses as moving violations which are recorded on driving record

Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White's legislative initiative strengthening the law on texting while driving takes effect July 1. The law cracks down on texting while driving by classifying first-time offenses as moving violations. Under the previous law, second and subsequent texting while driving offenses are treated as moving violations, while first offenses are

treated as nonmoving violations.

"With the increased use of technological devices, distracted driving has become a serious problem on the roads of our state and throughout the nation," said White. "This important law will make our roads safer. No driver should be texting while driving."

The penalty for a violation of this law results in a moving violation that will be recorded to the motorist's driving record, as well as fines and court costs which will be determined by a judge. A driver who is convicted of three moving violations in a 12-month period is subject to

a driver's license suspension.

Texting while driving is considered among the most deadly forms of distracted driving. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), a motorist traveling at 55 mph takes their eyes off the road on average for five seconds when sending or reading a text. This equates to driving blindly for the length of a football field.

Public Act 100-0858 was sponsored by state Rep. John D'Amico (D-Chicago) and state Sen. Cristina Castro (D-Elgin) and was signed into law by Gov. JB Pritzker.

## New Law Requires E-Cigarette Retailers and Distributors to Obtain Licensing Changes Coming July 1st

Retailers Currently Registered to Sell Cigarettes May Already Be Compliant

SPRINGFIELD - Effective July 1, 2019, electronic cigarette retailers will be required to register with the State of Illinois under a new law that Governor JB Pritzker is expected to sign within the next few days. The Illinois Department of Revenue (IDOR) is calling on retailers to apprise themselves of the new provisions to ensure compliance with the new registration requirement. Beginning July 1, 2019, electronic cigarette products will be regulated and taxed like other tobacco products in Illinois.

Retailers selling electronic cigarette products must obtain a Cigarette and Tobacco Products Retailer License for each of their retail locations

to continue selling electronic cigarette products on July 1st, 2019, and after. Licenses can be obtained through IDOR's MyTax Illinois web portal, available at mytax.illinois.gov. Retailers that currently have a valid Cigarette and Tobacco Products Retailer License are already in compliance.

"The new law's requirements are specific, and retailers and distributors need to ensure that they are properly registered with the state," said IDOR acting Director David Harris. "It is our goal at the Illinois Department of Revenue to keep all taxpayers informed about their obligations and make any interactions with our department as efficient and convenient as possible."

It is important to note that anyone who sells elec-

tronic cigarette products to retailers, or is a retailer buying electronic cigarette products from an unlicensed out-of-state distributor, must register with IDOR as a Tobacco Products Distributor. Tobacco distributors already licensed in Illinois are considered compliant. As with other tobacco products, the distributor is responsible for the tax and will be responsible for filing returns and remitting the tax.

To learn more about the licensing requirements for selling electronic cigarette or other tobacco products, please read IDOR's electronic cigarette Informational Bulletin and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) located on IDOR's website tax.illinois.gov.

## I Scream. You Scream. We All Scream for Ice Cream

I scream. You scream. We all scream for ice cream!

As the summer reaches peak temperatures in July, Americans look for a way to cool off. What better way to beat the heat than enjoying the nation's favorite frozen treat with friends and family and celebrating National Ice Cream Month!

The origin of ice cream dates back to the second century B.C., with Romans enjoying harvested ice and snow flavored with honey. Fast forward to 1744, when ice cream officially made its appearance in the United States. Ice cream began as an occasional special treat enjoyed mainly by the wealthy until 1943, when Nancy Johnson patented the hand-crank ice cream maker. Eight years later, Jacob Fussell built the first ice cream factory, and Americans have been savoring the frozen dessert ever since, causing President Ronald Reagan to declare July as National Ice Cream Month in 1984.

Since its debut, ice cream consumption has continued to grow. "Ten percent of the nation's milk supply goes to making ice cream," states Monica Nyman, Senior Nutrition Educator and Registered Dietitian with St. Louis District Dairy Council. The classic treat has different generations calling for their favorite flavors. Millennials are more likely to request cookies 'n cream and cookie dough flavors, while Generation X and Baby Boomers enjoy the ever popular and classic chocolate ice cream. As food trends emerge, ice cream continues to evolve, and new flavors follow suit with appearances in local ice cream shoppes as well as the frozen food aisle. From chocolate chili to candied bacon, there is no limit to ice cream's versatility as a dessert.

The ice cream case has also expanded to meet dietary concerns and needs.

Low carbohydrate, fat free, low calorie, gluten free, and lactose free options are available at many grocery stores. "No matter the type you choose," Nyman notes, "dairy desserts offer a dose of the nutrients found in milk, plus great taste." Self-proclaimed ice cream lovers may find it easy to finish an entire carton in one sitting. While ice cream contains calcium, high-quality protein, and other essential vitamins and minerals, Nyman notes, "these nutrients are less concentrated in ice cream than in milk, yogurt, and cheese. However when enjoyed in moderation, ice cream can be part of a healthy eating plan."

So no matter the type of ice cream you choose, you can relax and chill out this summer, knowing that scoop of your favorite flavor offers delicious taste and a dose of nutrition.

For more information on the health benefits of dairy or facts about ice cream visit [www.stldairyCouncil.org](http://www.stldairyCouncil.org) or contact Monica Nyman with St. Louis District Dairy Council: at (314)-835-9668, or e-mail [mnyman@stldairyCouncil.org](mailto:mnyman@stldairyCouncil.org). If you have a question about dairy foods or dairy farming, email us at [cowversations@stldairyCouncil.org](mailto:cowversations@stldairyCouncil.org). And for more delicious and nutritious recipes, check us out on Facebook or Instagram at [STLDairyCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/STLDairyCouncil).

Butterscotch and Chocolate Chip Ice Cream Bar

This ice cream sandwich is fun and easy to make with kids of all ages and a great summertime treat to cool you down!

Ingredients:  
 • 18 pieces of graham crackers  
 • 1 pint vanilla ice cream  
 • ¼ cup caramel sauce or chocolate sauce  
 • ½ cup nuts  
 • ¼ cup butterscotch chips  
 • ¼ cup chocolate chips  
 Directions:

• Line a square pan with parchment paper. Arrange a single layer of graham crackers at the bottom of the pan.

• Scoop vanilla ice cream on top of the graham crackers and spread evenly into a half-inch thick.

• Drizzle with caramel or chocolate sauce and spread to cover the surface. Sprinkle some nuts.

• Cover with another layer of graham crackers

• Scoop vanilla ice cream on top of the graham crackers and spread evenly into a half-inch thick.

• Sprinkle ice cream with butterscotch and chocolate chips.

• Top with a final layer of graham crackers

• Cover the pan and place in the freezer for 3 to 6 hours or until completely frozen.

• Once frozen, remove the ice cream sandwiches from the pan and cut into squares or rectangles to serve.

Nutrition Facts:  
 Calories: 355 Total fat: 18g Protein: 5 g Calcium: 8% daily value

Blender Raspberry Ice Cream

This ice cream takes minutes to make and uses Greek yogurt. It's a creamy and delicious year round treat!

Ingredients:

• 2 large frozen bananas  
 • 2 cups frozen raspberries

• ¼ cup milk

• 1 cup Greek yogurt

• 2 Tbsp honey

• 1 tsp vanilla extract

Directions:

• In a blender, add raspberries, bananas, and milk.

• Blend for about 3 to 5 minutes or until smooth

• Add in Greek yogurt, honey, and vanilla. Blend.

• Pour into a container and freeze for 3 to 5 hours before serving.

Nutrition Facts:  
 Calories: 305 Fat: 2 grams Protein: 5 grams Calcium: 32% daily values