



# Bristol Phoenix.

166th Year, No. 27 Bristol, R.I. Wednesday, July 3, 2002 www.eastbayri.com 75¢

## The big day is 24 hours away

Rain or shine, the nation's oldest Fourth of July parade will kick off Thursday at 10:30 a.m.

**By Brian Conforti**  
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 It's only a day away.  
 The red, white and blue stripes running down the center of High and Hope streets have been repositioned, the bunting has been hung and Old Glory waves in the air high and proud from flagpoles all over town.  
 At 10:30 a.m. tomorrow, Bristol's biggest event of the year, the 27th annual Military, Civil and Firemen's Parade, kicks off at the corner of Chestnut and Hope streets and the climax of Bristol's Fourth of July celebration will be realized.  
 The festivities actually begin at 8:30 a.m. with the Parade Exercises on the steps of the Calk School in front of the school if it is raining on Hope Street. David Fuchs, the commander of the Rhode Island Veterans Home, will be the keynote speaker.  
 The nation's oldest Fourth of July parade follows a 2.6-mile route south down Hope Street to High Street, where it turns north. The reviewing stand will be in front of the Reynolds School just north of State Street and will mark the end of the procession.  
 Police and fire cars lead the



Check out from top: Parade float of Bristol waves has flag and stars of parade. (L) Southwest Bristol, Rhode Island, and Bristol, Rhode Island, July 3, 2002. (R) Southwest Bristol, Rhode Island, July 3, 2002.

### Quick Quotes

- Founded in 1837
- Published by East Bay Newspapers
- Serving Bristol, RI
- Median Family Income is \$54,656
- Median Age is 38
- 66% are Home Owners

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