



P.O. Box 457
Storm Lake, IA 50588

News Release: Solis to Lead Star Spangled Spectacular Patriotic Ceremony July 3

Storm Lake, Iowa (June 19, 2024) – Sergeant Liliana Solis, recruiter for the Iowa Army National Guard, will serve as speaker for the 2024 Storm Lake Star Spangled Spectacular Patriotic Ceremony at 5:30 p.m. on Wed., July 3 in Sunset Park.

In her speech, Solis plans to share how the military has impacted her life and “demonstrate the level of appreciation we should have for all those that wear the uniform,” she says. “Active soldiers, veterans, and those who did not return home.”

Solis enlisted into the Iowa Army National Guard in July 2020 as an Alta-Aurelia High School senior. After completing her initial entry training, she was assigned to Fox Company 334th Brigade Support Battalion in Storm Lake as a 92G (cook) and recruiter for the Iowa Army National guard.

“To me, the 2024 theme ‘Light up the Sky on the Fourth of July’ means being able to share time with your loved ones, celebrate the freedom of our great nation, and to be able to appreciate how truly grateful we are as Americans to be blessed with such freedom.”

One of her favorite Fourth of July memories was spent in basic combat training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. “Although I wasn’t with my family in 2021, spending this day with my brothers and sisters in service gave me a greater appreciation and sense of pride for why we celebrate.”

Solis’ military career has also inspired her to pursue a path of health and fitness as a certified personal trainer and nutritionist.

2024 marks the first year the Patriotic Ceremony will be taking place the evening of July 3 rather than following the Big Parade on July 4. Organizers hope the move will allow for more attendance and provide an enhanced patriotic atmosphere before the Municipal Band’s evening concert. The Band will also begin the Patriotic Ceremony with the National Anthem, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Solis’ address, before performing for the crowd from 5:45-6:30 p.m.

Food and beverages will be available for purchase in Sunset Park on July 3 beginning at 5 p.m. during the Kiddie Parade, Classic Car Show, Patriotic Ceremony, and a variety of children’s entertainment such as custom airbrush tattoos, inflatables, balloon art, and more. DJ Nick will open for The Pork Tornadoes at 6:45 p.m. that evening as well.



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About the Star Spangled Spectacular

A favorite Northwest Iowa tradition, Storm Lake's annual Star Spangled Spectacular celebrates Independence Day along the City's beautiful shores. The family-friendly event is held July 3-4 and welcomes fresh entertainment and returning favorites such as The Big Parade, food and shopping vendors, a classic Car Cruise, the Ride-Run, fireworks, a Patriotic Ceremony, a Kiddie Parade, and more. Visit www.starspangledspectacular.net.

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