

August 09. 2013 1:15AM

# Old Home Day Parade returns in Belmont after one year off

BELMONT — After a down year because of construction downtown, the Old Home Day Parade returns on Saturday, and this year will feature local Girl Scouts in old-fashioned Scout outfits.

Last summer, the downtown's revitalization project tied up the downtown streets along the traditional parade route, and the usually well-attended parade was reduced to a small event at Belmont High School, said Judy Hayes, one of the leaders of Girl Scout Troop 21532.

This year, the main streets are open and freshly resurfaced, and the downtown parade will return.

Local Girl Scouts, meanwhile, have received a donation from the Belmont Heritage Commission and artifacts from the Belmont Historical Society to display on their yearly parade float, and have found some Girl Scout uniforms from decades past, Hayes said. They aren't sure what year the uniforms are from, she said.

The Scouts learned a lot about their organization's history during the 2012 centennial anniversary of the founding of Girl Scouts, she said. The project provided imaginative lessons in good citizenship, collaboration, creativity and local history.

But the Scouts' float will be a mixture of Girl Scout history and town history, Hayes said.

"We've been rummaging through all kinds of historical stuff, and we've found some real old uniforms," she said. "But mostly the girls will be wearing colonial dress to fit in with the 'Belmont Pride' theme of the parade."

Among the historical pieces is a vintage mannequin, a loaned artifact from the Belmont Historical Society, said Linda Frawley of the Belmont Heritage Commission.

The Old Home Day parade begins on Main Street at 1 p.m.

The day offers a full schedule of traditional activities from morning through afternoon in and near the village, with a 9:30 p.m. fireworks finale at Bryant Field.

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