

49th Annual South County 4th of July Parade

“Wings of Liberty: Celebrating the Bald Eagle”

Community Celebrity Parade Judges

Lieutenant General Steven Hummer



Born on 1 July 1952 in Pennsylvania as the son of a US Marine World War II veteran, Lieutenant General Hummer retired from the US Marine Corps on 1 Aug 2015 after 41 years of active service. After enlisting in the Marine Corps in 1970, and an honorable discharge as a sergeant in 1973, Lieutenant General Hummer was commissioned following graduation from Albright College, PA, in 1977 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Psycho-Biology.



His assignments in the operating forces included: Rifle Platoon Commander, Company Commander, Battalion Commander and Regimental Commander within 1st Marine Division; Chief of Staff, Joint Special Operations Command; Director of Operations, US Forces-Iraq; and Deputy to the Commander for Military Operations, US Africa Command. Lieutenant General Hummer participated in combat operations in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

Supporting establishment duties included: Ceremonial Company Commander, Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C; Commanding General, Marine Corps Base Hawaii; Deputy Commander, Marine Forces Pacific; Chief of Staff, US Special Operations Command; and Commander, Marine Corps Forces Reserve and Marine Corps Forces North.

Lieutenant General Hummer is a graduate of several schools within the Marine Corps University; and earned a master's degree in International Security Studies from the Air War College.

His decorations include Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit with Combat "V", Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal, and other personal awards and decorations.

Lieutenant General Hummer currently volunteers to support veteran service organizations and mentors veterans. He recently completed seminary achieving a master's degree in Chaplaincy. He currently provides chaplain services to the Montgomery County District Attorney's Office and to the Conservatory, an independent living facility in Alden Bridge, The Woodlands. He and his wife, Sheri, support fund raisers in support of veterans and their families. They both love to share the message of Jesus!

Lieutenant General Hummer and Sheri reside in The Woodlands, Texas. Lieutenant General Hummer and his wife, Sheri, have a son, David, daughter-in-law, Stephanie, grandson Jaxson, and granddaughter, Isla.



The Honorable Mayor John Escoto
City of Shenandoah

John Escoto is in his second term as Mayor of Shenandoah. Mayor Escoto is an 11-year resident of Shenandoah and served on the Planning & Zoning Commission before being elected to Council. He is a veteran who served 26 years on active duty and as a reserve and is a retired career law enforcement official having served in local, state and federal law enforcement. He continued his career in multiple roles with the Department of Homeland Security.



Lisa Lovell, Director of Physician Recruitment Operations
Houston Methodist The Woodlands Hospital

Lisa has been a resident of The Woodlands for 28 years, where she has enjoyed raising a family and working in our healthcare community. She is System Director of Physician Recruitment Operations for Houston Methodist Hospital and prior to that spent eight years as Director of Business Development and Community Outreach for Houston Methodist The Woodlands Hospital. She is an original executive team member for Houston Methodist The Woodlands Hospital and over the years has been involved with multiple non-profit organizations, making our community the best place to live, work, play, and pray. She currently serves on the Community Assistance Center board and is 2024 graduate of Leadership Montgomery County.

Jeff Young, President & CEO
Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion



Jeff Young is President and CEO of The Cynthia Woods Mitchell Pavilion, a nationally acclaimed nonprofit outdoor amphitheater. A resident of The Woodlands since 1985, Jeff began his journey with The Pavilion in 1990 and has since held numerous leadership roles, guiding major initiatives—including the extensive rebuild after Hurricane Ike. With over 2,000 performances to his name, he has collaborated with world-renowned artists and orchestras, helping establish The Pavilion as a premier destination for live entertainment and the performing arts. Appointed CEO in 2024, Jeff leads with a clear mission: to deliver exceptional experiences while removing barriers to the arts by offering all performing arts events free of charge. He and his team are proudly "Turning Up the Volume" on arts accessibility. Jeff lives in The Woodlands with his wife, Melissa, and their two sons.

Bruce Tough, Principal, Tough Law Firm



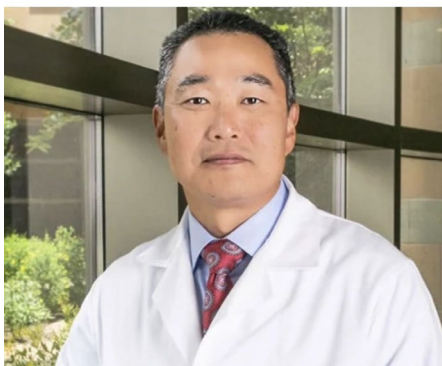
Bruce Tough is proud and honored to participate as a celebrity Judge for the Fourth of July Parade. Bruce earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Houston, BS and was selected as a top ten student. He also received his Doctor of Jurisprudence from the University of Houston Law Center. Bruce Tough is the founder of Tough Law Firm, PLLC, voted as the 2010 Small Business of the Year Award by the Lone Star College System, Montgomery College, located in The Woodlands area. Bruce has been honored as a Hometown Hero in 2004 and Citizen of the Year in 2006. Bruce has served his community in numerous elected offices including Chairman of The Montgomery Central Appraisal District, Chairman of The Woodlands Township and Trustee of the Conroe Independent School District. Bruce Tough resides with his wife, Diana, and four daughters, Madison, Tara, Abby, and Sydney, in The Woodlands, Texas.

LeaAnn Petersen, Director of Communications The Woodlands Township



LeaAnn Petersen is the Director of Communications for The Woodlands Township, where she oversees media relations, crisis communications, digital content, branding and public outreach. She holds a BA in Communication from UT Permian Basin and an MS in Interactive Communication from Quinnipiac University. LeaAnn is a Certified Public Communicator and Certified Public Manager with over 19 years of experience in government communications. Her work has earned multiple state and national awards.

Dr. Yong Choi, Vice President Medical Operations St. Luke's Health The Woodlands Hospital Associate Professor of Surgery, Baylor College of Medicine



Dr. Yong Choi grew up in Houston, TX and graduated from North Shore High School. He then attended the United States Military Academy at West Point. Upon graduation from West Point, he was admitted to the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences in Bethesda, MD where he obtained his medical degree. Subsequently, he served as an Army Surgeon for 25 years. He retired from the Army as a Colonel and moved to The Woodlands, TX. He joined Baylor St. Luke's Medical Group and is now the Chief Medical Officer for St. Luke's the Woodlands, Lakeside, and SpringWoods Village Hospital. He continues to remain clinically active in Bariatric and Reflux Surgery.

Erik Secrest, President
The Woodlands Professional Fire Fighters Association



Erik Secrest is a 16-year firefighter/paramedic with The Woodlands Fire Department. Prior to coming to work for The Woodlands Fire Department he served with the City of Kerrville Fire/EMS for 8 years. He currently serves as the President of The Woodlands Professional Fire Fighters Association, Chairman of the Montgomery County First Responders Foundation (a 501c3 non-profit that benefits all First Responders serving in The Woodlands and throughout Montgomery County and their families), Chairman of The United Firefighters of The Woodlands PAC, and co-chair of the Montgomery County Behavioral Health and Suicide Prevention Task Force for First Responders. He is married to his beautiful wife Amber, has 2 sons Nicklaus and Anthony and a Great Dane named Jasper. Erik and Amber are residents of the Village of Alden Bridge since 2008.

Christin Allphin, Executive Vice President
Woodforest National Bank



Christin Allphin leads the Healthcare Commercial Banking Group and the Business Banking Team for Woodforest, with more than 20 years in the banking industry of which 17 have been at Woodforest National Bank. She is responsible for leading teams of relationship managers in working with existing healthcare and business banking clients within Montgomery and surrounding counties and building new client relationships. She works with strategic partners and the banking teams to help understand the unique demands and challenges of the healthcare and business industries, offering tailored products and services to meet the needs of today's business.

Christin is an active participant in various charitable and civic organizations to include being Past Chairman and Current Board Member for The Woodlands Area Economic Development Partnership, Board Member for The Woodlands Chamber of Commerce, Board Member and Chairman for Montgomery County Community Foundation, Member of National Charity League of The Woodlands, Past Chairman of the Board for Texas New Community Alliance (New Danville), Past Chairman of the Board of The American Heart Association Gulf Coast, Past Board VP of Finance for the Junior League of The Woodlands, Past Treasurer of Executive Women's Alliance, and a member of The Woodlands United Methodist Church. She is also a 2015 graduate of Leadership Montgomery County. She is a graduate of Auburn University with a Bachelor of Business Administration

Christin and her husband, Matthew, have been married for over 20 years and have a daughter, Mackenzie, who is a rising Junior at The Woodlands Christian Academy.