



It's time to prepare for the 2026 Tip-Up Town USA Grand Parade!

The TUT 2026 Chairpersons & Committee is pleased to extend a special invitation to participate in the 76th annual Tip-Up Town USA Grand Parade. The theme for 2026 is “**Spirit of 76 – Everything Patriotic!**” Please join us for the Fun & Tomfoolery.

The parade will take place on **Saturday, January 24th at 11am SHARP!** Parade registration & lineup will begin from **9am to 10:45 am** at Artesia Youth Park (1800 S. Loxley Rd Houghton Lake, MI 48629)

Please report promptly at the check in desk inside Artesia Youth Park (1800 S. Loxley Rd.) to register & receive your line up number.

Free Coffee, hot chocolate & donuts available compliments of the Anchor Inn.

Parade Participation Ribbons provided by the Houghton Lake Chamber of Commerce

Once you have checked in, follow the directions given to you, & proceed to the lineup area at **Artesia Youth Park.** Please remain in your designated position and fill in any gaps. **You MUST check in to join the parade line up + route and receive your parade number!**

Judging of the floats/entries is done during line up. Arrive early to be considered. Judging ends at 10:15 am SHARP! Please follow directions to avoid confusion and delays.

Your support & cooperation in helping our parade run smoothly is greatly appreciated!

Attached you will find the parade information sheet, guidelines & parade entry application. Please complete and return the application by January 4, 2026 addressed to: **112 Spruce Street, Houghton Lake, MI 48629**

Please DO NOT return your application to the Chamber office.

Please feel free to contact us for assistance.

Sincerely,

Ronda & Jason Spears

TUT Grand Parade Chairpersons

112 Spruce Street, Houghton Lake, MI 48629

989-443-1130

Email: spears1969@charter.net

Tip-Up Town USA 2026

Saturday January 24, 2026 Parade starts **11:00am SHARP!** Line up begins at **9:00am – 10:45 am**, register at the Artesia Youth Park (1800 S. Loxley Rd).

ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST PROVIDE THEIR OWN PARADE TRANSPORTATION!

Entry Category: (circle one)

Number of Units:

Animals	_____
Animal w/carriage	_____
Band	_____
Bicycles	_____
Car/Truck	_____
Classic Auto	_____
Clowns	_____
Color Guard	_____
Emergency Vehicle (fire/ambulance/police)	_____
Equestrian	_____
Float w/vehicle	_____
High School Queen	_____
Marching Unit	_____
Pedestrian	_____
Military Equipment	_____
Military/Veterans	_____
ORV/ATV	_____
Queen w/Car or Float	_____
Snowmobile (new or vintage)	_____
Vehicle w/music	_____

CONTACT NAME: _____

Parade Entry Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION IS JANUARY 4, 2024

Please complete & return application to:

Ronda Spears 112 Spruce Street Houghton Lake, MI 48629

Email: spears1969@charter.net Phone: 989-443-1130

TUT USA 2026 GRAND PARADE FLOAT GUIDELINES!

Saturday, January 24, 2026 Parade starts at 11:00 am SHARP!

Line up begins at 9:00 – 10:45 am, Register at Artesia Youth Park at 1800 S. Loxley Rd.

ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST PROVIDE THEIR OWN TRANSPORTATION!

1. Float Entry should adhere to theme "Spirit of 76 – Anything Patriotic"
2. Float Entry should be attractive with the appropriate use of materials
3. Entries will be judged on neatness, clarity, originality, workmanship
4. Judging for floats will take place during parade LINE-UP
5. All Float entries are eligible for awards, except TUT Queens Float
6. Candy may ONLY be distributed by parade participants walking near the curbs – candy is not permitted to be thrown from floats or vehicles
7. Trophies will be awarded to winners & ribbons provide to participants NO CASH PRIZES
8. Winning Floats will be directed to the TUT site at the end of the parade route. Winners please drive onto the site & meet at the TUT stage. All other participants **DO NOT** park at the TUT site.

FLOAT AWARD CATEGORIES:

1. Queen's Choice
2. Best Overall entry
3. Most Humorous
4. Most Original
5. Best Use of Theme
6. Best Youth Entries 1st, 2nd, 3rd Plaques

All winners announced & Plaques presented at the Tip-Up Town site immediately following the parade. Winners must meet at the TUT stage in a prompt manner. Wait at stage for announcements & awards.