

# SPECIAL EDITION

## SUMMER IS OVER - IT'S LABOR DAY!



### Town Prepares for Record Numbers

Everytown, USA - For many students and their families, Labor Day is the official end of summer. It is the last vacation day before they begin a new school year. Many Americans will celebrate by visiting family or going to the park.

Based on last year's numbers. AAA estimates that more than 80 million people will travel by car. The Highway Patrol is preparing for traffic jams at peak times. They will have extra officers, tow trucks, and emergency medical teams standing by.

The National Park Service expects more than 150,000,000 Americans will attend a Labor Day cookout. Locally, the Parks and Recreation Department expects 20,000 people in the



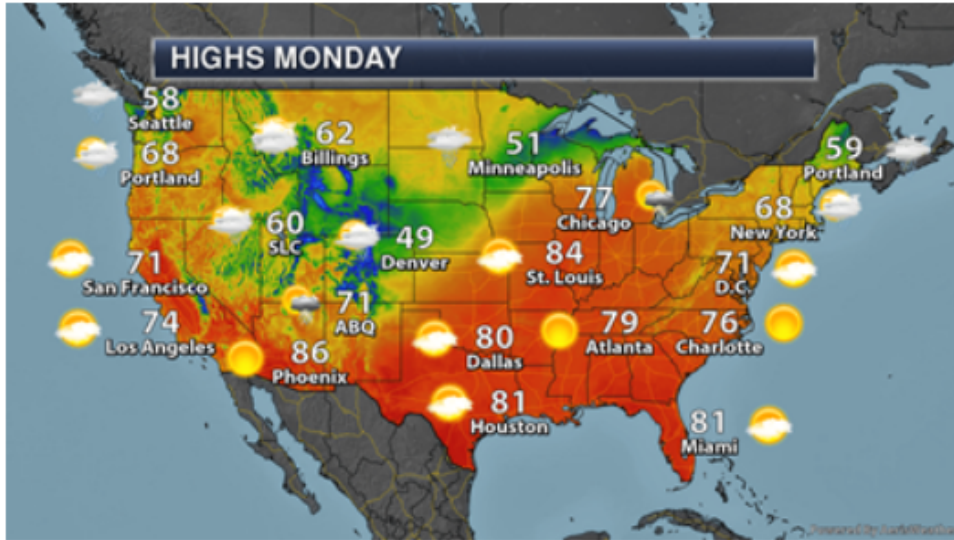
city's parks - a record number. Mayor Ivanna Laff says the town is ready.

Generic Sports Supplies, the city's largest employer, has teamed up with the mayor to reduce traffic. They will give a free beach ball to everyone who takes the bus instead of a car to the park. Look for buses with "Thank you workers!" signs.

Park staff have put up extra restrooms, barbeque grills, and garbage cans. Parks Director, Les Ludgate, recommends that

people bring lots of water to drink and to put out their fires. "It is going to be hot, and we want everyone safe."

Supermarkets have also been preparing. Mac N. Cheisy, manager of the Corner Food Store, said they still have plenty of cookout essentials, like charcoal, lemonade, and marshmallows. She added, "According to recent surveys, potato salad is America's favorite picnic food, and ours is ready to buy in convenient 'to go' containers."



## From the Editors ...

Labor Day doesn't get as much attention as some other holidays, but it should.

Think of all the things we would not have without workers: clean water to drink, fire fighters to keep us safe, garbage collectors who keep our town clean, medical professionals who take care of us when we are sick or hurt, electricity and wi-fi, restaurants, schools, roads, bridges - everything we

take for granted as part of modern life. So, this Labor Day, let's remember the people that the holiday honors.

Enjoy the day off. Spend it with family and friends. Go to the park. And while you are there, pause for a moment to thank all the workers in your community. The park you are in would not exist without American workers.

## DON'T FORGET THE SUNSCREEN

If you are going outside this holiday, don't forget the sunscreen. Just one sunburn increases the chances of wrinkles and skin cancer. Even people with dark skin need sunscreen. Some sunscreens contain chemicals that hurt marine life. Be sure that yours says "reef safe."



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## LABOR DAY TRIVIA

**What is the youngest age that kids can get a job?**

**Who was Frances Perkins?**

**What is the current minimum wage?**

## LABOR DAY HISTORY

Since 1894, the first Monday of September has been an American holiday. Activists pushed the government to show that workers did a lot to help the United States prosper. Leaders created Labor Day as a way to honor the workers' efforts. The holiday gave workers a rare day off.

In the early years, most workers belonged to unions. These unions organized larger Labor Day parades. Nearly every type of worker marched, showing off the tools of their trades. People gathered to cheer them on. After the parade, each union held a picnic for workers and their families.

Today, some unions still hold picnics. Even though most workers do not belong to a union, Americans still think that workers are important. They look forward to celebrating the day off with their families and friends.