



News

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HINESVILLE, GA. The Liberty County Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce the schedule for planned Christmas events for 2011. They will host the Annual Christmas in the Park Event on Monday, December 5th from 5:30-8:30pm in downtown Hinesville, Bradwell Park. This event culminates with the lighting of the community Christmas tree and is always fun and free for families to attend. Santa's reindeer will be on hand this year, as will jolly St. Nicholas himself to take photos with children. The same week the Chamber will host the 15th Annual Illuminated Christmas Parade through downtown Hinesville.

The theme for this year will be *A Storybook Christmas, Your Favorite Christmas Stories Come to Life*. After much debate by the committee and soliciting ideas on Facebook, the Chamber has decided upon this theme as it seemed to match what the majority of those who responded wished to see for this 15th annual event. The parade rolls out promptly at 6:30pm. The parade route typically brings the entrants down Memorial Drive to General Screven, up Hendry Street to Main Street. At this time there are no plans to change the route.

Businesses and individuals interested in participating are invited to the first organizational meeting on Monday, August 29th at 11:30am. The meeting will be held at Poole's Deli in the back conference room, which is located at 406 South Main Street. The meeting agenda will cover the initial steps of preparation for the parade festivities and organization of events.

For those interested in participating in the parade or park activities they should call the Chamber at 368.4445. Application forms are available now for parade entries, the early bird registration ends on October 14th, at which time prices will increase for entries. No entries will be accepted after November 30th. Entry forms are also available at www.libertycounty.org.

Also new to the parade this year, the Chamber is asking the public to help choose the Grand Marshall. Historically a decision made by the parade committee, this year the public is being asked to visit www.libertycounty.org and vote on one of five choices for grand marshal. The choices are: Trevor, the longest resident of the Liberty Humane Shelter; the Soldier of the Year; a Fireman, First Responder, EMC & Police Officer Group; Municipal Leaders and State Elected Officials. Voting closes on October 1st.

The committee has also named the commentators for this year's parade. These are the personalities that will officiate as the parade is televised. Agreeing to participate this year is: Rene Harwell, Director of Marketing for Liberty Regional Medical Center; Verdell Jones, Board Member for the Liberty County School System and Pastor Richard Hayes, President of the United Ministerial Alliance.

Established in 1976, the Liberty County Chamber of Commerce's mission is to support new and existing business, trade and industry within Liberty County, while increasing the cultural, civic, educational and overall quality of life of its citizens. The Chamber and its' 447 members are committed to enhancing the local business climate and maintaining a high quality of life in the community.