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## **CITY OF TYBEE ISLAND**

PRESS RELEASE:  
For immediate release

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### **Lights On for Tybee**

Tybee Island, Ga. – (December 3, 2009) Tybee Island continues its holiday celebrations with the annual “Lights On for Tybee” celebration this Friday. Events will continue through the weekend as the island prepares for visits from St. Nick throughout the coming weeks. Parking continues to be free all month long, island-wide, to make it easy to enjoy the opportunity to come see the island in its best holiday finery.

The Lights On celebration begins at 6:30 PM Friday evening, December 4<sup>th</sup>, as Mayor Jason Buelterman lights the tree at the Tybrisa / Strand round-about on the east end of Historic Tybrisa Street. Special awards will be presented by Tybee Beautification Association for the best decorated businesses and by St. Michael’s for winners of the Children’s “What Christmas Means” Illustration Contest. Following, the St. Michael’s School Choir will sing from the porch of historic Carbo House on Tybrisa. Students from the Gretchen Greene Dance Studio will dance in two performances during the evening. Gloria Padgett will be singing with festive flare again this year, and The Clauses are scheduled to make an appearance for the delight of all ages.

Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, between 11AM and 8PM, Tybee businesses are hosting a Shop’n’Stroll. Shoppers can obtain a Shop’n’Stroll card from participating marked locations in order to receive special offers and discounts. Shoppers who visit at least five participating merchants on the island during the day will be eligible to win prizes at a drawing later in the day. The more shops visited, the bigger the prize! Starting at 1:00 PM, shoppers can help benefit St. Michael’s School scholarship fund by stopping at Doyle Landscaping on Highway 80 for a campfire, s’mores, and hot dogs.

On Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, between 3 and 6 PM, island realtors have lined up a series of open houses, all decorated in island style for the holidays. Participants will also get a tour of the historic Tybee Post Theater, having just completed its entrance remodeling – indoor work proceeds alongside the latest “Burn the Mortgage” campaign to complete restoration of this Tybee Treasure. Ride along to see how Tybee homes are decorated on the inside. To find which homes are included on the tour, check out [tybeefortheholidays.com](http://tybeefortheholidays.com).

Other weekend celebrations include Friday, Saturday, and Sunday performances of “Nonsense”, a musical comedy, by members of the Tybee Arts Associations’ Performing Society and the Savannah Community Theater at the Firehouse Arts Center on Cedarwood Ave. Ticket holders can enjoy a special meal at the Sundae Café as

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part of their experience. Advance ticket purchases and reservations are required to take advantage of the Sundae Café offer, so visit [www.tybeearts.org](http://www.tybeearts.org) for ticket information and schedule details.

Santa will be returning to Tybee the following weekend to participate in a "Campground Christmas," "Deck the Paws" and in the Tybee Christmas Parade.

Come tune in and slow down for some Tybee Time because this holiday season, it's Tybee for the Holidays! Check out all the events and specials at [www.tybeefortheholidays.com](http://www.tybeefortheholidays.com).

*About Tybee Island, GA.: The City of Tybee Island, Georgia is on the outermost barrier island off the Savannah area coast. With a wild bird sanctuary, over three miles of ocean beaches and salt marshes on the back river, outdoor recreation activities abound for visitors to the island. As a key defense point to the important Savannah port, Tybee's Fort Screven, Tybee Fort Theater, Fort Pulaski, and the Tybee Island and Cockspur Lighthouses combine with the unique architectures of the island's raised cottages to form a rich backdrop for history buffs. Attracting a strong artistic community, there are several local supporting art galleries. Keeping the island interesting year round are several arts festivals, the Annual Pirate Fest, the Beach Bum Parade, St Patrick's Day celebrations, the Hot Rod Run, the Beach Bash, and the Christmas Parade, as well as fireworks displays on Independence and New Year's Days off the Parker Pier and Pavilion. The Marine Science Center cooperates with Georgia's DNR to protect threatened sea turtle species by searching for nests, protecting their eggs, and making sure hatchlings make it to sea. For visitor information, stop by <http://www.tybeevisit.com/>, and to find more about the City of Tybee Island, visit our web site at <http://www.cityoftybee.org/>.*

*About Tybee Island's Better Hometown Initiative: Tybee's Better Hometown initiative follows a comprehensive revitalization process that improves all aspects of a commercial district. Better Hometown is a self help approach to economic development for downtown areas designed to grow business and improve a community's quality of life. With broad based community support, it integrates a practical management strategy with the physical improvements of buildings and public spaces, promotion and image building, and economic development in the area. For more information, visit <http://www.cityoftybee.org/BetterHometownProgram.aspx>. "Tybee for the Holidays" is a joint project between the City's Better Hometown Initiative and the Tybee Island Tourism Council. Information about this program is provided at <http://www.tybeefortheholidays.com>.*

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