

Mayor Jason Buelterman

CITY COUNCIL

Wanda Doyle, Mayor Pro Tem
Charlie Brewer
Barry Brown
Eddie Crone
Dick Smith
Paul Wolff



City Manager
Diane Schleicher

Clerk of Council
Vivian Woods

City Attorney
Edward M. Hughes

CITY OF TYBEE ISLAND

PRESS RELEASE:
For immediate release

Contact: Chantel Morton
Better Hometown Initiative Coordinator
(912) 786-4573, x123

Tybee Time with Santa

Tybee Island, Ga. – (December 10, 2009) Santa will be making a series of public appearances on Tybee Island this weekend. Working closely with a variety of elves, on and off the island, he has arranged to spend much of his weekend visiting the island to make sure his lists are accurate and complete!

Arriving Friday evening first at the River's End Campground at the corner of Fort and Polk Streets, the kickoff event is dubbed "A Campground Christmas" and runs from 6 until 8pm. Kids can bring their families along to visit Santa and enjoy S'Mores around the campfire at the campground Pavilion.

Following Santa's celebration, visitors can choose to stay at the campground for a showing of "Home Alone" in the Pavilion, or, for more adult fare, the Tybee Arts Association's Performing Society is partnering with the Savannah Community Theater for the musical farce, *Nunsense*, by Dan Goggin. Both events start at 7:30 on Friday evening, and additional performances of *Nunsense* will be given at 7:30 on Saturday and at a 3pm matinee on Sunday, December 13th. For information on the River's End events, you can reach the campground at 786-5518. TAA's phone number is 786-5920, and tickets for *Nunsense* can be purchased in advance online at <http://www.tybeearts.org/performing-arts.php>.

Santa will start off Saturday again at the campground for "Deck the Paws", an event River's End is hosting with Coastal Pet Rescue. Families can bring their pets to let Santa know what they'd like to see under the tree, and to get a picture with Santa. Families thinking about a pet can check out some of the adoptions available from pets currently residing with the Coastal Pet Rescue folks. Santa knows the cats like to sleep in, so he'll be available for photo opps from 11am til 1pm.

From River's End, Santa will head to the parking lots on the island's south end to ride in Tybee's Annual Christmas Parade at 3pm. The parade will head out Tybrisa, the wrong way – celebrity has its privileges! – and up Butler Avenue to the Tybee Gymnasium. Along the route, some of Santa's elves will be collecting non-perishable food donations for the Second Harvest Food Bank. At the Gym, Santa will have more chances to consult with children on their status on his list, and everyone can enjoy the refreshments and Christmas party hosted by the Tybee Island YMCA.

P.O. Box 2749 – 403 Butler Avenue, Tybee Island, Georgia 31328-2749
(866) 786-4573 – FAX (866) 786-5737
www.cityoftybee.org

Everyone can relax on Sunday morning, but as the sun begins to set Sunday afternoon, you can bring more donations for Second Harvest to Chimney Creek as the First Annual Tybee Island Floating Christmas Parade wends its way down the Back River past the parade hosts at The Crab Shack, starting at 5:30pm.

Come tune in and slow down for some Tybee Time because this weekend, it's Tybee for the Holidays! Check out all the family festive events and specials at www.tybeefortheholidays.com or on the City Calendar at www.cityoftybee.org.

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>.

#