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## **CITY OF TYBEE ISLAND**

**PRESS RELEASE:**  
For immediate release

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### **Welcome 2010 on Tybee Island**

Tybee Island, GA – (December 29, 2009) Tybee for the Holidays continues for the last weekend of 2009 and the first of 2010 starting with an 8PM dance at the American Legion. Reservations are required and can be made by calling 786-5356. Fireworks at midnight from the Walter J. Parker Pier and Pavilion at the end of Tybrisa Street will delight everyone as 2010 begins.

In the morning, late enough to let some of the New Year's fun subside, if you know what we mean, the Polar Bear Plunge will clear your head. Participants are encouraged to register beforehand for a t-shirt, as well as to make a donation to the nursing program at Armstrong Atlantic University. Register by calling Don Ernst at 912-224-6195. The event begins at 11AM, and there will be a distinguished panel of judges awarding the 2010 Gang of Goofs trophy to the group with the funniest costumes. While strange dress is not required, it is strongly encouraged! Show up at the Pier and Pavilion again, and look for the outlandish costumery!

Following the Plunge, music can be enjoyed on the Pavilion from 1 until 5 PM, with Randy "Hatman" Smith, followed by The Tams. A variety of restaurants will be offering specials to warm up the participants who braved the waters, as well as their supporters. Check out the Better Hometown Initiative's holiday site, [www.tybeefortheholidays.com](http://www.tybeefortheholidays.com) for more information.

*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 Day Eve and New Year's Eve 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>.*

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