



Downtown Development Authority

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PRESS RELEASE

Downtown Marquette and Third Street Village Holiday Events

“Winter Snow Fun” Holiday Parade and Tree Lighting

The Marquette Downtown Development Authority is sponsoring the inaugural holiday “Winter Snow Fun” parade on Thursday, December 1st. The parade will begin at 6PM at the intersection of Fair Avenue and Third Street and travel south on Third to the Marquette Commons where Santa will proceed over the annual tree lighting. Led by the Marquette City Fire and Police Department, over 30 different units will participate in the parade. The parade will have something to entertain kids of all ages with music, lights, performances, and more. According to DDA executive director Mona Lang, “we are excited with the response that we received from the community and are hoping that the parade becomes a long-standing holiday tradition in the City of Marquette.” The honorary Grand Marshall for the parade will be in memory of the late Ron Wattsson. The owner of Wattsson and Wattsson Jewellery, Wattsson was a long-time downtown business owner and a strong supporter of the downtown district. Representing their father will be Wattsson’s children Chris and Ruby Wattsson.

Letters to Santa: The Marquette Post Office staff will be helping Santa by collecting children’s letters to Santa during the December 1st Holiday Parade. If you would like your child to receive a response from Santa the letters must contain a legible return address and child’s name.

The annual Tree Lighting will be at 7PM. Follow the holiday parade Santa will arrive at the Marquette Commons and be joined by Mayor John Kivela **to light the holiday tree**. The Marquette Senior High School Redmen Chorale will perform from 6:30 until 7PM. Free photos with Santa until 8PM. Pony rides will be offered at a nominal fee.

Strolling Carolers and Extended Holiday Shopping Hours

The Downtown Development Authority is inviting groups, organizations, and strolling musicians to perform on Thursday evening in Downtown and along Third Street on December 8th from 5-8 PM. According to DDA Executive Director Mona Lang, “We are pleased to provide a backdrop for area residents and organizations to celebrate the season with their gift of music. “ Warm up locations offering complimentary warm beverages and treats for carolers until 8PM are Babycakes, Doncker’s, Togo’s, Everyday Wines, Schwalbachs, and ReBlossom . For more information or to schedule your group call 228-9475.

Horse Drawn Carriage Rides Sponsored by Downtown Eyecare

Shoppers in downtown will have the opportunity to experience the nostalgia of holidays past with Horse Drawn Carriage rides, Thursday, December 15th from 5-8PM (last ride begins at 7:45PM) The rides will start at the Marquette Commons then proceed down Washington Street to the 100 and 200 blocks of South Front Street turning onto Spring Street and back on Third. The free carriage rides are compliments of Downtown Eyecare located 131 W. Washington Street.

Extended Shopping Hours

Downtown and Third Street shops will offer extended shopping hours every Thursday evening in December until 8PM.

www.downtownmarquette.org

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