

31st Annual Nighttime Christmas Parade

"The History of Christmas"

Grand Marshalls: Jim & Lill Budzynski

Friday, December 2, 2011

Main Street in Historic Downtown Coopersville



Christmas is just around the corner and so is the 31st Annual Coopersville Nighttime Christmas Parade!

This year's theme is "The History of Christmas", and will be lead by our Grand Marshall's, Jim & Lill Budzynski, Curator and Director of the Coopersville Area Historical Society Museum and the Del Shannon Memorial. No one knows the history of Coopersville better than these two, and we cannot think of anyone more deserving to receive the honor of Grand Marshall!

Parade entry is free, but we are asking for a **\$10 voluntary donation** to help off-set expenses. We need to raise \$5000 per year to bring this parade and surrounding activities to our community including the Reindeer Petting Park and the fabulous Visit with Santa event after the parade at the Coopersville South Elementary School.

In case of severe weather, please check the Chamber Event Hotline at 616.997.5165, www.coopersville.com or watch your local TV stations for updates.

If we must postpone the parade – all **REGISTERED** parade entries will be contacted directly by staff.

Please do not call City Hall or the Chamber Office

Business/Organization Name: _____

Contact Person: _____ Daytime/Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Mailing Address (incl. City/Zip): _____

Alternate Contact Name/Phone: _____

Circle One: Float Decorated Vehicle Walking Entry

Yes, we would like to make a voluntary donation to the parade in the amount of _____!

Check Visa/MC Invoice (all invoices will be due December 1, 2011)

Name of Your Organization as you wish it to be read by parade Announcers: _____

Christmas Message (limited to 20 words): _____

Return this completed form and your check or other method of payment information to:
Coopersville Area Chamber of Commerce, 289 Danforth Street, Coopersville MI 49404
Phone: 616.997.5164 Fax: 616.997.6679

**31st Annual
Nighttime Christmas Parade
FAQ's**

**PLEASE READ & SHARE WITH YOUR VOLUNTEERS!
IMPORTANT PARADE ENTRY INFORMATION**

Thank you for participating with this wonderful parade! Please read over the following information regarding this year's event. Any questions may be directed to: 616.997.5165 or ctimmerman@cityofcoopersville.com.

- This year's theme: *"The History of Christmas"*. Your entry can be a float, decorated vehicle, costumed walking entry or anything creative that you can think of. Lights & music help make an entry stand out.
- Lineup anytime between 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. **Enter Main Street from 64th Avenue and head east.** If you wish to have your entry judged for a prize, you **MUST** be in line by 6:15 p.m.
- It is o.k. to hand out candy. IT IS NOT o.k. to throw it! **Participants may WALK and HAND OUT candy** – but we will **NOT allow it to be thrown from your parade entry this year.** PLAN ACCORDINGLY.
- Entries with sirens may not use them in the business district of the parade route. You may use them once you cross the intersection of Church & Main Streets.
- Drivers must use parking lights and drive cautiously. **WATCH FOR CHILDREN!**
- From the time you enter the Historic Downtown area until you reach the school, you should maintain a slow and constant speed. You will be spaced approximately 5 car lengths. **DO NOT CROWD** the entry ahead of you. **MAINTAIN** your 5 car lengths between entries. It's difficult, but please do so for the enjoyment of the crowds and so the announcers can properly acknowledge each entry.
- **DO NOT STOP** in front of the announcers stand.
- **All entries**, except emergency vehicles, **are REQUIRED to continue through the entire route of the parade to South Elementary.** At that location, drivers may choose to exit the parade via 48th Avenue or Grove Street exits only. **NO LEFT TURN** at East Street will be allowed.
- Children riding on floats may get off at South Elementary to meet Santa. Arrangements should be made ahead of time so everyone knows where to pick their children up at. Your float or vehicle may be parked east of South Elementary in the Bus Loop to leave ample parking at the school for others. **NO OVERNIGHT PARKING.**
- There will be **FREE** refreshments at South Elementary following the parade. The Coopersville & Marne Railway will be providing a shuttle service between East Street and the train depot at 311 Danforth Street every 15 minutes from 5:25 – 6:55 p.m.
- **YOU MAY NOT HAVE A SANTA ON YOUR ENTRY. THERE IS ONLY ONE SANTA IN THIS PARADE AND HE IS LOCATED IN THE VERY LAST ENTRY!**

Most importantly – have fun; get creative and thank you for making our parade one of the best in the entire state!