

November 4, 2008

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Santa Claus is clearing his calendar on Dec. 6 to spend the day in Burleson.

Santa is stopping in Burleson for breakfast, then he'll ride in the Burleson Rotary Club parade, light the City's official Christmas tree, and listen to the wishes of children, all on Saturday, Dec. 6. He'll even watch a fireworks show.

Santa's Breakfast kicks off the day-long festivities with pancakes, sausage, juice and coffee served by Santa's elves from 7 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The big event is being hosted by the parks and recreation department at the Burleson Community Center located at the corner of Hidden Creek Parkway and Chisenhall Park Lane.

Children can eat breakfast, talk to Santa and create crafts in Santa's workshop. Parents are encouraged to bring their cameras. Tickets for the breakfast are \$3 for children and \$4 for adults (in advance) or \$5 for children and \$7 for adults at the door.

The jolly granter of wishes will rest for a few hours then jump on the last float in the Christmas parade, which steps off at 6 p.m. from Kerr Middle School (line-up begins at 4:30 p.m.). The parade's theme is "Christmas Around The World."

Back again this year is the annual children's coloring contest. Children in the 3rd grade will compete for an opportunity to ride in the parade with Santa. Contest sheets are available at the Burleson Public Library and Burleson Community Center. The contest sheets must be returned by Friday, Nov. 21, to be eligible.

Following the parade, Santa will flip the switch on the 10,000 lights of the 25-foot tall Christmas tree at the corner of Johnson Avenue and Ellison street. Then, children can rush to Santa's sleigh in front of the Christmas tree and tell Santa their holiday wishes.

But the night isn't over yet. Once the tree is lighted, Atlas Enterprises, under the watchful eye of the City's fire marshal's office, will light off a Christmas-themed fireworks extravaganza to choreographed holiday music.

For information about the breakfast, tree lighting and fireworks, call the City's parks and recreation department at 817-295-8168. For information about the parade call Lisa Keese at 817-447-7300. For more information about this release, call the public information office at 817-447-5400, ext. 286.