

September 1, 2017



Dear Community Member:

The Morrison Chamber of Commerce has scheduled the 2017 Parade and Christmas Walk for Saturday, December 2. This year's theme is "Polar Express." There are several ways you can participate in this year's holiday events.

1. **Become a Christmas Walk Sponsor** and make a donation toward our holiday efforts (your business will be recognized in pre-event advertising).
2. **Decorate your business' front windows to this year's theme of "Polar Express."** If you would like your window decorated but are not able to do so, please let us know and we can find another business or organization who will decorate it for you. Please have windows decorated by Friday, December 1.
3. **Host a Holiday Open House or other event** at your business all weekend long and stay open on December 2 so customers can visit your store after the parade. Please feel free to invite other organizations, churches, high school groups etc....to share your space, invite carolers in, pass out holiday coloring sheets to kids, have a costumed character on hand for kids to have their picture taken with etc.... Our hope is we will keep people downtown for this event and bring the streets alive on December 2!
4. **Participate in our Christmas parade** with a decorated and/or lighted vehicle or float. Judging of entries will take place during the parade and awards will be given based on the following categories:

** Elfin' Magic Award:* Given to the outstanding entry featuring children as the main part of the entry.

** Spectacular Sparkles Award:* Given to the entry that is the most entertaining and/or spirited.

** Christmas Vacation Award:* Given to the entry that presents an outstanding display of Christmas lights and/or other type of illumination.

** The Golden Ticket Award:* Given to the overall outstanding entry presenting & illustrating the parade theme of "Polar Express."

Please remember...NO LIVE SANTA's in windows or on parade entries. The "real" Santa will be provided transportation by the Morrison Chamber of Commerce during the parade and can be found in Santa's House following the parade.

5. **Enter a lantern in our Decorated Lantern Silent Auction** to be held at Wells Fargo Bank. Your participation will help brighten the holiday season in a special way for the Morrison community.

To register for one or all of the above events, please use the following registration form. In addition, please like the Morrison Chamber of Commerce Facebook page and share information with your Facebook followers on the holiday happenings as we share them.

For questions, call the Chamber at 815-772-3757 or email us at morrisonchamber@morrisonil.org.

Sincerely,
Morrison Christmas Walk Committee



Morrison Christmas Walk Participation Form

2017 Theme: "Polar Express" *(Please complete as many boxes as apply below)*

Business / Club / Organization: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Sponsorship

We would like to invite you to help make the 2017 Holiday Season great! We continue to provide the parade and other events free to the community, but we need your help!

Yes, I will help with the Morrison Christmas Walk and Parade by donating:

_____ \$10 _____ \$25

_____ \$50 _____ \$75

Other: \$ _____

_____ I'd like to volunteer my time, please contact me.

Parade Entry

Saturday, December 2 - 6 p.m.

The Parade steps off from Madison Street immediately following the Tree Lighting.

Entry Description (*Vehicles, walkers, music, etc.*):

- * If possible, please include Christmas lights as part of your entry and incorporate the theme.
- * Candy CANNOT be thrown from vehicles.
- * Line up information will be emailed in advance.

NO LIVE SANTA'S IN WINDOWS OR ON PARADE ENTRIES. The "real" Santa will be provided transportation by the Morrison Chamber of Commerce during the parade and can be found in Santa's House following the parade.

Window Decorating

We would like to ask our local businesses to decorate your window(s) to the theme of "Polar Express." Please have windows decorated by Friday, December 1.

Decorated Lantern Silent Auction

The Chamber will hold a silent auction of decorated lanterns leading up to and during the Christmas Walk at Wells Fargo Bank. The Silent Auction will be held Nov. 29 through Dec. 2 at 7:30 p.m.

Watch for more details coming soon if interested in participating.

Post-Parade Downtown Activity

Saturday, December 2

_____ Yes, my business will be open late.

_____ I would like to be a street vendor.

(ALL food vendors MUST obtain a free, one day food safety certification from the Whiteside County Health Department.)

Please specify any special activities/events:

_____ I am NOT open late, but plan to have a holiday event (ie. Open House, etc.)
On December 1, 2 and/or 3.

Please return completed form to the Morrison Chamber of Commerce, 221 W. Main Street, Morrison, IL 61270 no later than Thursday, November 9, 2017 OR email to morrisonchamber@morrisonil.org.