

**Park Rapids Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce Announces Friday November 25, 2011 The Annual Park Rapids Community Christmas Tree Lighting Celebration.**

The Annual Park Rapids Community Light Up A Life for Hospice Christmas Tree Lighting Celebration, Yuletide Sampler and a Live Nativity are scheduled for Friday, November 25, 2011 on Main Street in Downtown Park Rapids. This celebration is made possible through the dedication of many volunteers, merchants, Chamber Board & Ambassadors, Chamber Staff and their families, and even Santa, who is making time for a special visit from the North Pole during this busy season.

This year's tree was donated by Steve & Robin Walsh, of Walsh Forest Products. Thank you to Steve & Robin Walsh for their generous help with getting the tree cut and placed on Main Street.

Brothers Steve and Robin Walsh of Walsh Forest Products have donated their time and equipment for many years to make the Annual Park Rapids Community Christmas Tree the holiday centerpiece we all anticipate and treasure. We thank Minnesota Power, Chamber Board Member Peter Young of Y Steak House, Paul Utke, Police Chief Terry Eilers, Scott Burlingame and the City of Park Rapids for generously giving time and talent to cutting, delivering, lighting and decorating the tree.

Park Rapids Downtown Merchants and area businesses have worked diligently to provide a delicious Yuletide Sampler Event from 5pm to 8pm. We thank them for their support of the delightful Christmas tree lighting festivities and Santa House for our community.

The Annual Park Rapids Downtown Yuletide Sampler Event will begin at 5:00 pm on Friday, November 25 with refreshments at Downtown Retailers. The Christmas Tree Lighting Event will begin at 6:00 pm. It will be a magical evening filled with caroling, food, shopping and good cheer.

The Park Rapids Areal Home School Group will present 2 performances of a Live Nativity complete with stable and live animals at Pioneer Park. Performances will be at 5pm and 5:30pm.

Beth Funk, St. Joseph's Home Care & Hospice Director, will emcee the event. The Family of Norma Henke will light the Community Christmas Tree on behalf of hospice.

Deane Johnson will conduct the Community Choir and lead the audience in carols. Sound will be provided by Matt Winscowski. We thank them for filling the evening with music!

Santa invites kids to share their Christmas wish lists when he visits and brings reindeer corn treats to The Good Life Café on Main this holiday season. He'll be there after the tree lighting ceremony Friday, November 25 and return from 3 to 5 p.m. Saturdays, November 26, December 3, 10 and 17 and Friday, December 23. **Remember to bring your camera!**

Our Community Tree Lighting is done in partnership with

**St. Joseph's Hospice "Light Up a Life" Program.**

Our Community Tree will be lit by bulbs honoring the memory of a friend, loved one or for someone living you wish to honor.

Your gift of \$5.00 will symbolically light up a light on the Community Christmas Tree through New Years.

**To Sponsor a Bulb Contact: St. Joseph's Hospice at [218-732-4552](tel:218-732-4552)**

## **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**St Joseph's Hospice Community Tree Lighting Ceremony**

**& Yuletide Sampler**

**Friday, November 25, 2011**

**Main Street, Park Rapids**

**Yuletide Sampler at participating**

**Downtown Businesses**

**5pm to 8pm**

**Live Nativity**

**Presented by the Park Rapids Area Home School Group**

**Pioneer Park**

**Performances at 5pm and 5:30pm**

**St Joseph's Hospice Tree Lighting Program**

**Christmas Carols**

**Park Rapids Community Choir**

**6pm**

**Santa Arrives ~ 6:30 pm**

**St. Joseph's Hospice**

**Tree Lighting**

**6:35 pm**

To participate in **Light Up A Life**

Contact St. Joseph's Hospice at

**[\(218\)732-4552](tel:(218)732-4552)**

**Santa's House Hours Located at Good Life Cafe:**

Santa invites kids to share their Christmas wish lists when he visits and brings reindeer corn treats to The Good Life Café on Main this holiday season.

Santa will be there after the tree lighting ceremony Friday, November 25 and from 3 to 5 p.m. Saturdays, November 26, December 3, 10 and 17 and Friday, December 23.

**Remember to bring your camera**

**Park Theater will present**

**Free Saturday Matinees beginning**

**November 26 at 11am and 1pm**

**sponsored by local businesses. Visit**

<http://www.prmovietheatre.com>

for movie information

**For More Information Contact:**

**Park Rapids Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce**

**[218-732-4111](tel:218-732-4111) or [800-247-0054](tel:800-247-0054)**