

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ROTARY CLUB OF BANGOR TO HOST ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS PARADE DEC. 2

(BANGOR, ME) Nov. 20, 2017 – The Rotary Club of Bangor will host its 25th annual Festival of Lights Parade on Saturday, Dec. 2, 2017 beginning at 4:30 p.m. along Main Street in downtown Bangor.

The parade is made possible by event sponsor WABI TV5 and additional sponsors Emera Maine, Pulse Marketing Agency, and Print Bangor.

The 2017 parade theme is “Holiday Memories” and will feature many entries, including marching bands, small and large floats, performing groups, and more. The Rotary Club of Bangor is also celebrating its centennial year at this year’s parade. Groups participating in the parade will represent traditional themes celebrating Christmas, Hanukkah, Ramadan, New Years, Solstice, Kwanzaa, and more.

“Is there a better way to start the holiday season than with lights and smiles and music? Every year we look forward to seeing children’s expressions as they watch the parade. This year’s theme, Holiday Memories, gives us all a chance to reminisce on holidays past while also creating new, joyful memories,” Rotary Club of Bangor President Bev Uhlenhake said.

The parade will start at 4:30 p.m. from the intersection of State and Exchange Streets. From there, the route will follow Harlow Street to Central Street. It will turn left onto Central Street and proceed down to the intersection of Main, State, and Hammond Streets. It will then turn right onto Main Street and proceed through the intersection of Main and Union Streets. The parade will end in the area in front of Davenport Park next to Cedar Street. As one would expect, Santa Claus will be the main attraction; his appearance will formally usher in the 2017 holiday season.

Area businesses will also host various activities leading up to the parade. From 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., the University of Maine Museum of Art will have winter art making activities. Specialty Sweets will have candy crafting from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and locals will get the chance to meet Santa and decorate cookies at Bagel Central and Central Meeting House from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. The Bangor Arts Exchange Ballroom, a new addition this year, will host the Bangor Symphony Youth Orchestra Music-a-thon. In addition, warming stations and public restrooms can be found at the Charles Inn, Bangor Arts Exchange Ballroom, and the parking garage.

“If I were to summarize the reasons I enjoy this event as much as I do into a concise thought it would be that this event is where family, community, holidays, and fun come together for a few hours. I hope you take the time out of your busy schedule to come with your family and enjoy downtown Bangor and the Festival of Lights Parade,” Festival of Lights Parade Chair Roland Narofsky said.



Attendees are reminded to dress warmly and parents are asked to please keep children safe and away from passing floats and parade entries.

Following the parade, the City of Bangor will hold their annual tree lighting in West Market Square.

The Bangor Rotary Club is one of the largest and oldest community services organizations in Bangor. Each year, the Bangor Rotary Club makes substantial contributions to local and international charitable programs and organizations.

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