

DOWNTOWN GARDEN CITY
SANTALAND

PARADE
Saturday, November 28 at 10am

PRESS RELEASE

**DOWNTOWN GARDEN CITY SANTALAND
PARADE COMING TOGETHER FOR 2009**

The countdown has begun for the 49th Annual Downtown Garden City Santaland Parade. The parade, which is Saturday, November 28 at 10am, includes a new route which begins at Garden City High School and ends at the Garden City Town Center with a big post parade event put on by the Garden City DDA which will include Santa receiving the key to the City and the opportunity for kids to visit with the jolly old elf after the parade. A map of the new route can be found at the new Downtown Santaland Parade website www.santalandparade.com.

Entries are beginning to come in for the annual holiday tradition. New this year participants in the parade can submit their entry form on-line from the Santaland website or print off a PDF copy that can be mailed in. Entry forms should be submitted by November 6. The theme for this year's parade is "A Child's Christmas." Cash prizes of \$300, \$200 and \$100 prizes will be awarded to the top three entries that utilize the parade's theme. For additional information participants can contact Pat Squires at pat.squires@madisonelectric.com or 734- 522-3441.

The parade has confirmed three bands for 2009 including Taylor Kennedy, Westland John Glenn and of course the host band Garden City. New for this year along with the snowman balloon that has become a staple in the Garden City parade is a colorful centipede balloon. One of the balloons will be carried by the GC Soccer Club.

Along with the \$7,000 contributed by the Garden City Downtown Development Authority for their title sponsorship, the Community Coalition has committed \$1,000. \$500 has been contributed by Santieu and Sons Funeral Home, Barsamian Family Dentistry, Fleming Financial, Garden City Medical Center and Jet's Pizza. Smaller contributions have also come in from Randy and Linda Walker, Save on Drugs and Hershey's Shoes.

The Santaland Parade has also join the realm of social networking. Fans of the Santaland Parade can find the parade on Facebook by either searching for the Garden City Santaland Parade on Facebook or click on the link at www.santalandparade.com.

The parade will also have a presence at the Downtown Garden City Chili Cook Off on Saturday, November 10 from 11am-6pm. The Santa float will be brought out- weather permitting- and visitors will have the opportunity to purchase T-Shirts and hoodies in support of the parade. The T-Shirts are only \$15 and the hoodies are only \$20.

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