

Flowood sets Christmas events

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FLOWOOD- Winner's Circle Park will host a number of Christmas events in Flowood beginning December 9.

That's the date of the Grand Lighting of the park, the Chili Cook-Off, train rides, concessions, musical performances, and the arrival of Santa Claus, who will be available for photos.

Flowood Mayor Gary Rhoads and city aldermen will light the park at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 9. Events that night will run until 8:30 p.m.

Members of the Chamber of Flowood will compete in the Chili Cook-Off. That event is sponsored by the Chamber, and Community Bank is serving as the corporate sponsor.

Tickets are \$10 for adults

and \$5 for kids 12 and under. Participants will receive a drink, a chili sample from each team, and a bowl of chili from their favorite team. Proceeds will go to the Flowood Chamber Scholarship Fund, which is awarded to a high school senior who attends a school in the city.

"Community Bank is happy to be the corporate sponsor for this year's Chamber of Flowood Chili Cook-Off," said Shane Dubois, who serves as president of the Chamber and is the senior vice-president of Community Bank. "We are excited to be a part of this fun, family friendly event that benefits the Chamber scholarship and supports the students in our local schools."

Also on December 9, music will be provided by DJ Aaron, the Northshore Elementary Choir, and the Word Alive Children's Choir. Hot cocoa, sponsored by KONA Ice, and hot apple cider, sponsored by

Liberty Baptist Church, will be free of charge.

This is the 23rd year that Winner's Circle, located on Flowood Drive adjacent to Flowood Elementary School, has hosted Christmas in the Park. This year's theme is "Celebrating the Miracle of Christmas."

Train rides through the park, which will be illuminated with hundreds of thousands of lights, will cost \$2 per person.

Officials say there are a few spaces left to enter the Chili Cook-Off. Chamber members can register by going online to flowoodchamber.com, or on the day of the event.

The park will be illuminated each night throughout the month of December, and Santa, train rides, and concessions will be at the facility from 5:30 until 8:30 on December 9-11, and December 16-18.



READY FOR SANTA- December 9 will mark the Grand Lighting of Winner's Circle Park in Flowood at 5:30 p.m. There will also be musical performances, train rides through the park, the annual Chili Cook-Off, free hot drinks sponsored by KONA Ice and Liberty Baptist Church, and visits and photos with Santa. Train rides, concessions and visits with Santa will also be offered from 5:30 until 8:30 p.m. on December 9-11, and December 16-18. Pictured here are (seated, first row, from left to

right), are Kendahl McCoy, E.J. Peterson, Bentley Smith, and Angelina Maggio. Seated behind them (l to r) are Ivan Reihle, Paisley Purviance, and Silas Reihle. Standing (l to r) are Flowood Alderman Kathy Smith, Parks and Recreation Director Chris Bowers, Administrative Assistant Susan Bolian, Chamber of Flowood Administrative Assistant Riley Stephens, Shane Dubois, senior vice-president of Community Bank, and Chamber of Flowood Executive Director Janet Reihle.