

Carberry Newsletter

This is Volume 5, Number 1
The issue for November 2025

Two new faces!



Tamara Klippenstein has joined the administration in the Town Office as the Financial Administrator. She has an accounting degree from U of M and is a CPA. She comes to us from BDO in Brandon. She has lived in town for two years and loves it, so she jumped at the chance to work here.

Bill Syrik has accepted the post of Joint Services Manager. You'll find him down at the CPCC. He comes to us from the Yellowhead Centre in Neepawa where he was Director of Operations. He lives in Minnedosa, but is looking for somewhere closer. He has two grown children and a granddaughter. His passion is music; he has been involved with Indie music for more than 30 years, running an online radio station, producing an online tv series of indie music videos, and playing, writing, recording and promoting music all over. He has been the "official sound and lighting partner" for the MJHL Neepawa Titans since 2022, and as "Maestro Music" has provided sound, lighting, and music at venues all over Westman.

Book your tickets for the **Firefighters' Ball**

*at the Community Hall,
Saturday **December 6, 2025***

Live Band: The Ugly Strippers

- Dinner and Social: \$50
- Social only: \$20
- Cocktails 6:00 p.m.
- Dinner 7:00 p.m.
- Social 9:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.

Tickets: contact Clyde McCallum, 204-725 7699
— or any firefighter

Stride is coming to Carberry!

Brent Budz, CEO of Stride Credit Union, has proudly announced that he has taken over the BMO building, and plans to open a branch here in early summer. It's a long-term investment in Carberry's continued growth and prosperity. Renovation starts at once to house the credit union's branch and also a financial planning and wealth management service from Journey Wealth.



Stride Credit Union currently serves more than 20,000 members across Southern Manitoba with a strong focus on personalized service, community investment, and cooperative values. The Carberry location will mark Stride's sixth branch, complementing its existing footprint in Neepawa, Austin, MacGregor, Portage la Prairie, and Gladstone.

CARBERRY AND DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
invites you to the
COMMUNITY AWARDS GALA & AGM

January 7, 2026 — Carberry Legion

Doors open at 6:00 p.m., Supper at 6:30 p.m.

Awards Presentations at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets \$30.00

AGM to follow

This Month's Council News

September 2025 Joint Councils' Meeting

Chief McCallum and Deputy Chief Witherspoon of the CNCLFD appeared before the meeting with a report and a number of concerns. They have replaced bush truck #107 with a 1-ton with a box roomy enough for the skid-mounted snuffer they got from OFC. They will be sending #102 to Mid-Plains for service and acquiring new tires for #106. They will lead and follow the UofM Aggies' bed push through town on Sep. 26. McCallum proposes a Deployment Policy to avoid callouts not paid for by OFC, which covers all major fires. Payment for the work done defending Flin Flon is still forthcoming; the paperwork backlog has been considerable. CNCLFD is still owed quite a bit for the use of their pumper; it could be quite profitable. When it went north, not enough people knew. When it was seen there on Facebook some people were worried that this area was unprotected. In fact, there was equipment, firefighters and officers enough to properly protect the area. McCallum was encouraged to make sure both municipalities are promptly and fully informed of such deployments.

McCallum pointed out that in accordance with Fire Commission standards, the front-line pumper must be retired after ten years, and it is nine years old. He suggests that the present pumper and the rescue truck be traded in for a cab-over rescue pumper capable of transporting up to six firefighters at an estimated cost of (at least) \$900,000. The advantage of such a unit would be that the first unit deployed to a fire can hold enough firefighters to safely combat a fire. McCallum suggested that the councils budget a replacement fund with the mandated retirement in mind. McCallum also had a proposal to set up a revised pay scale. Austin pays all firefighters on a call the same OFC rate and pays indemnities for any additional duties such as paperwork. Neepawa pays its chief as an 0.4 FTE employee. He will do a cost comparison between the systems and provide it before budget time. Lastly, he had a suggestion that officers attending conferences and training out of town be given the same treatment that councilors and administrators get for accommodations, meals and mileage, and have a similar benefit for the use (or supply) of their cell phones. The meeting agreed and will adjust the relevant policies.

The next delegation was from Brad Wells and Melanie Lavich for the Museum Board. After a successful year, they are planning a new display shed to showcase the beginnings of the potato industry in Carberry. From the founding of a development corporation in 1959 to its sudden acquisition of the CATP airbase for \$62,000 that had to be gathered in a week, it's a marvelous story of resource and persistence, and it should be a proud memorial and a tourist magnet. The site is chosen and marked out, suppliers arranged, and grant funding applied for. Wells particularly wanted to give kudos to Board Co-Chair Marion Whitmore for her work to bring this project to life.

A meeting with the contractors, engineers, and reps from both councils determined that the campground project was close to initial cost estimates, and with sod on the open ground will be able to open next spring. There will still be need for a building to house office, washrooms, water treatment and a concession, which can be built after the facility opens. The added duties mean that another joint employee will be needed.

Because of recent changes to the administration and the Rec Board, Callie Sudak and Ray Muirhead were added as signing authorities for the CPCC account, and Grady Stephenson and Jamie Smart were removed.

The Archivist and Arts/Leisure Director have been sharing the printer in the Cypress Planning office. If the Planning Division secretary will continue to log the others' usage and charge them it will be more efficient than getting a printer for each office.

Cleaning at 122 Main is under a long unchanged contract. Councils agreed that the job should be tendered at regular intervals, perhaps three years, and the inevitable rise in price accepted. Each joint property will be separately tendered.

The floor in the planner's office is badly worn at the desk and will be costly and disruptive to repair. Councils agreed to fix it with a temporary protective mat and to budget for the repair next year.

The ice is in, the Zamboni's back, and the rink heating is being installed and inspected. The Hall's generator is still awaiting completion of the paperwork required. The water is being turned off at the ball diamonds and the museum and gingerbread house. A new door has been ordered for the Handivan shed.

The Director of Arts/Rec will restart 'Tots Time' on Oct. 20, and Senior Craft & Coffee in early October. A CPCC user group meeting discussed staffing, upgrades, LiveBarn, and rule changes. Spring Mass registration will likely be cancelled since most groups have online sign-ups. With friends and volunteers, she will try and offer a Halloween dance for youth. The Theatre for Young People's first PD Day was an impressive success. After School Arts restarts October 7. She has moved into the office at 122 Main Street but will continue to be available to CPCC users as she manages pool and booth.

The Manitoba Historical Society's plaques for the airfield and the Wop May House have arrived. An unveiling of the former is planned for October 7 at McCain's.

The Westman Regional Library has been drawing up their budget for 2026. The per capita fee will increase by 4.6%, which is lower than most libraries.

The cemetery is closing for the season and hoping to top up the flower beds at the graves where they have subsided into the ground.

The Daycare's site plan has been modified to allow for easier sewer service and save \$200,000. They may be approved as a site for students training for ECE certification.

October 2025 Town Council Meeting

Habitat for Humanity, represented by John Lavich and Marilyn Crewe (Neepawa's EDO) came to announce that their new branch of the charity, which is to serve Neepawa, Gladstone, Minnedosa and Carberry, is just completing their first build, and is hoping to make their next one in Carberry.

They explained that when Habitat builds, three quarters of the necessary funding must already be in place. All financial matters must pass through the Winnipeg office, including any fundraising, and in-kind contributions from contractors. The house becomes the property of the new owner, who assumes a low-interest mortgage which is paid to Habitat for Humanity. The mortgage payments of previous builds add to the funds available for new builds. The eventual owner contributes 500 hours of "sweat equity" as their down payment. A major cost is the acquisition of the site. The selection of the recipient of a build is more rigorous than the bank's vetting for a mortgage; even requiring training in financial literacy. Once chosen and built, the payment schedule is tailored to the individual recipient. It's a "leg-up" in today's restrictive financial and real estate environment. The house is built to the most exacting standards, well above code minimums.

Habitat's first Manitoba chapter in Winkler has completed over 500 builds since 1987. Crewe and Lavich suggested that a sub-board of local activists, administrators and contractors be formed to fundraise and to source a site and possible recipients. Training will be provided by the Winnipeg office. Local contractors can donate both time and materials for which recognition is offered as good advertising. All donations pass through the Winnipeg office.

Council agreed that low-cost home ownership is badly needed everywhere, and Habitat's formula is welcome and exciting. They asked if the principle could be extended to the renovation of existing housing stock. There are buildings in town which were built as low-income housing and have fallen into disrepair. Perhaps Manitoba Housing would transfer ownership of one to Habitat for restoration.

Crewe and Lavich were thanked for their presentation and wished well. In turn, they thanked Council for their time and offers of assistance.

The next delegation was from Tyson Boychuk, speaking for the 'Christmas in Carberry' Committee. He introduced himself as a recent arrival from Swan River, where he was introduced to volunteering by a community-minded father. On arrival here he promptly joined the Chamber of Commerce and volunteered for the 'Christmas in Carberry' promotion. The Chamber used to spread their promotion over the month, but his idea is to pack it into a single weekend, with a view to making it a "destination." This year it will centre on November 29. Starting on Friday the 28th there will be the 'Christmas Madness,' when Main Street shops and others will stay open until 8:00 p.m., the 'Flip the Switch' ceremony will showcase the Christmas lighting, and there will be the lighting of the CACF Memory Tree at Main and Second. Saturday there will be a "Parade of Lights" with floats from enterprises in the area (he has 20 signed up so far). The RCMP has been asked to lead, and the Fire Department to follow the parade. He plans a reception area for the parade at the head of Main Street — the CP park and the parking area south of the hotel — where there would be carol singing, a vote for best float, hot chocolate and hot dogs (laid on by McCain's and Callaghan's) and fire barrels overseen by the Fire Department, rather like the welcome for the CPKC Christmas Train last year.

Council suggested he request the closure of the street and parking lot for the duration of the event and offered him names of people with experience organizing and marshalling parades. They mentioned snow clearing being likely in late November and offered space on the Pixelboard to promote the event. He was thanked and assured of assistance.

Council accepted the 2024 Audited Financial Statements prepared by the Exchange Group. They gave a clean bill of fiscal health.

Following a brief Public Hearing at the start of the meeting, it was possible to amend the Zoning By-law to allow a Daycare to be built in the OS (open space) zone. An amendment to the Traffic By-law dealing with parking at Main and Third received first reading. A by-law being drafted to regulate outdoor lighting and control light pollution was defeated for lack of accepted standards and difficulties with enforcement. A by-law regulating the proceedings and conduct of Council was accepted, the major change of which was to move the time of the monthly meeting from 7:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Council authorized the Project Manager for the Lagoon Expansion Project, Stefanie Lynch, to make decisions on behalf of the Council pertaining to the lagoon project up to a maximum expenditure of \$10,000.

All Council and the CAO were approved to attend the AMM Fall Convention in Winnipeg, Nov. 25-27.

AMM recommends an alcohol policy for users of municipal buildings and properties. Council agreed and asked the CAO to present such a policy with the local details to the next meeting.

"Clothes make the man. Naked people have little or no influence on society." — Mark Twain

The dumpsters in town, particularly those at the Community Hall, have been dreadfully misused. They are overfilled with stuff that shouldn't be there, and Hall users sometimes have nowhere to put the waste they are there for. The answer may be lockable dumpsters, or even complete removal of the units.

Council approved Financial Administrator Tamara Klippenstein to attend the MMA's Boot Camp 1.0 October 29-31.

With mail service unsteady, courier delivery of cheques is prohibitively expensive. The CAO is setting up provision for EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer) to accept and receive funds digitally. She is starting a directory of community members' and businesses' email addresses. If you're not on the list, please call and give us contact information.

The lengthy process of getting crosswalk approved and installed across Wellwood Road is under way. The highway billboards that have been approved have been ordered.

125 yards of gravel have been placed in the back lanes with more to come before the weather prevents it.

Five firms attended the site visit at the lagoon to prepare for the issuing of the tender for the work there.

The Library's front steps and ramp need redesign and replacement. There is a possibility of a grant to help with the work, but it will not likely cover more than a portion of the cost.

The HAC realized about \$6,000 from their Rummage Sale. The leftovers were distributed to charitable organizations in Brandon and nearby.

Mayor Muirhead and CAO McConnell had a meeting with Minister Glen Simard, discussing details of the Code of Conduct, the process of amalgamation, giving new councilors more rigorous training, and adding to the number of councilors to ease the burdens on the present five.

Nowhere in the files does it explicitly say we need a new lagoon cell or specify a size. The last cell addition in 1992 was confused and ill-planned, so Muirhead will call a meeting with an environmental engineer from MB Environment and Climate Change, an Environment Officer from Environmental Compliance and Enforcement, the engineers, the Water Services Branch, and the Project Manager to get clarity on the specifications for the lagoon project.

October 2025 Joint Councils' Meeting

Kelly Marnoch of Guild Insurance came to report on his search for insurance at a better rate than given by AMM. As an example, he chose the CPCC because it is used by outside users and the public. For \$10 million per occurrence coverage, he could find insurance for \$53,775 where AMM charged \$106,500. Features were different, but AMM's excess liability coverage was better at \$50 million. The committee agreed that an excess liability figure of \$25 million was preferable but was enthusiastic about the savings possible. To change from their AMM insurance, they must have three offers to compare, but Marnoch warned that another offer might be hard to find. In that case, Councils would be justified in choosing the lesser quote of the two. AMM will be asked to present their program to the councils and Marnoch will be asked to prepare quotes for the whole package that AMM/Western Financial Group offers to municipalities.

Tyson Boychuk of the 'Christmas in Carberry' committee of the Chamber of Commerce brought a mockup of their Holiday Calendar and asked for Councils' support in the form of a \$50 ad in the publication, which both agreed to take. The "Parade of Lights" planned for November 29 will start at 7:00 p.m. and follow the usual route around the care home and up Main Street. At the top of the street they'll line up in the parking lot and the public will judge the floats, while enjoying bonfire barrels, hot chocolate and hot dogs. NCL intends to attend both this and Neepawa's parade, which coincide. Rather than distribute candy from the moving floats, it will be handed out at the party. Volunteers will be needed to man the booths and direct traffic. Boychuk formally asked for the parking lot to be closed to its usual purposes for the evening.

The third delegation was from the Prairie Harvest Festival Committee who have debriefed after their October event and decided to hold their next one in summer on August 22, 2026. They ask permission to take over the organizing of the Carberry Farmers' Market and undertake to ensure that proper food service licenses cover the event, and that there is liability insurance in place. They will share part of the funds raised with the Town and NCL. They want to run a transparent operation with a view to registering as a non-profit corporation. They already publish their finances on social media and would report to the municipalities on a quarterly basis. They were congratulated on their efforts and given best wishes on their new venture.

CAO McConnell had prepared an Excel spreadsheet of the Joint Financials at the nine-month mark. Budget and actual were compared in many categories. It appears that actual is close to budget, and that a profit of nearly \$10,000 will be there to share. McConnell was thanked for the rigorous presentation.

A couple have recently arrived from Flin Flon where they developed a campground and boosted its use and revenue several times over. They will be asked to come as a delegation to the next joint meeting.

A tender has been proposed for the cleaning of 122 Main Street. The Committee approved it. They also adopted a policy (JS 02-2025) to cover the Contract Cleaning of Joint Facilities. The cleaners need to know of any special events and have access to all bookings to know when to work.

Bill Syrik was hired to be Manager of Joint Services. During the absence of a MJS, Shane McCulloch took over the responsibilities. Councils authorized a bonus of \$2/hr. to be paid as compensation and thanks.

A spreadsheet of the Fire Department's third quarter callouts shows 50 going to the RM and 20 going to the Town. Four events were shared. A 2015 3500HD has been acquired to be the new #107 bush vehicle. They received a grant for a new PPE gear dryer. Their new wildland PPE purchased with fundraising money has been put to the test. Extensive training opportunities will be offered this winter. The Firefighters' Ball will take place on December 6.

The suite at the Lyons Estates is getting little use now that the EMTs have accommodation and the "White House" is getting used in preference. Cancelling the lease will involve the CACF, who share the cost.

Material passing through the Transfer Station is covered by different contracts for the Town and the RM. NCL would like to separate the Transfer Station from their new tender and have a separate third contract for joint garbage and recycling services at the Transfer Station. The Town's contract with TAC Ventures may need to be harmonized.

The Arts/Rec Director has asked that a volunteer Rec Board be reconstituted to give her some direction, act as a "sounding board," and furnish badly needed volunteers. It should avoid any fiscal responsibility and should represent the users of joint facilities. Picking a group of the right size and composition will need tact and skill. It is hoped that the new MJS and the Arts/Rec director can come before the January meeting with some ideas.

Councilor Olmstead has been organizing a Christmas Party for the NCL and the joint staff at the Legion on December 5. When she discovered that the Town is offering gift baskets instead of a party, she asked how many of the Town's joint employees would prefer the party. Town Council will get her the figures.

The Joint Utility Foreman reports the pool, Ball Park and rinks are ready for winter, with the outdoor rink awaiting colder weather to be flooded. The furnace filters of joint buildings have been changed for the heating season. The generator at the hall awaits a decision about its support switching to be tested and cleared for use. The new door for the Handivan shop should be installed and wired up soon.

The Arts/Rec Director is organizing a Halloween Dance and a Halloween Skate — in costume, to spooky music. Hall walking will restart in November at R.J. Waugh. She hopes to run a Women's Boxing program in the new year. The Kids' Corner at the rink is in steady use, Tots' Time restart has been delayed. The After School Arts is ongoing, and a Watercolour Workshop and the Handmade Market are coming up soon. There will be two Xmas Wreath workshops. She is in chronic need of volunteers to support her programs.

The HAC work for optimum health care services, and interact regularly with PMH and Shared Health, and fund several programs and projects. To raise funds they brought back the Rummage Sale that for years was a fixture on the area's calendar.

The library caters to all ages; they will be open late on Halloween to welcome young trick-or-treaters in costume. A "Casino Mystery Night" is planned for Nov. 21, Midnight Madness participation on Nov. 28, and Santa will read to the children on Nov. 29. Costly changes to their steps and ramp are necessary, and they would like an outdoor tap installed to water their front gardens.

The planner at Cypress Planning District is well on the way to receiving his BCQ [Building Code Qualified] certification within the year and has initiated the mentorship requirement for his CBCO [Certified Building Code Official] certification for Part 3 permits. He reports that he has been very busy, with 150 permits issued and more coming.

The small Handivan at 55,000 km has needed a repair to its lift and will need a new set of tires. Service for Seniors plans a session on Mature Driving and one on brain health from the Alzheimer Society.

The Cemetery has received a very generous gift from the Hardie family; a fund which will provide an annual grant to the Carberry Plains Cemetery, to be used for whatever is needed. The windmill is restored with a grant from the Harburn family. The North gate bricks are beginning to lean. Repairs are on the '26 maintenance plan.

The Daycare Cooperative's funding application is delayed by red tape. Opening is rescheduled to late spring/early summer. They are negotiating with Westoba and Stride to secure a mortgage.

The Splash Park Fundraising Committee will take over the very successful Hat Auction from the Future Rec Committee.

The meeting agreed that working with the new CAO has been an improvement; communication is easier and her interests are less divided.

Volunteers at the Rummage Sale suggested that the Hall kitchen be reorganized, inventoried, and deep cleaned. They ask only for the funding; they are pleased to do the work. The steps to the door are uneven and present a serious trip hazard.

— Continued overleaf

"It is impossible to defeat an ignorant man in argument." - William Gibbs McAdoo

Continued from page 3

November 2025 Town Council Meeting

James Cracknell appeared before the Council to discuss the parking on Third Avenue east from Main Street, where he has a laundromat and car wash. He agrees that parking should be available to anyone who wishes to visit any nearby business, but many of the spots that should be available are taken up by people who work in those businesses — or even in the Town Office. After a discussion of the of available parking on or near Main Street, Cracknell was thanked for his concern, and asked to “leave it with us.”

To accommodate the ‘Christmas in Carberry’ festivities, Council approved the closure of the parking lot at the end of Main Street from 8:00 a.m. on November 28 to 10 p.m. on November 29.

Council adopted the Alcohol Policy proposed by the AMM as GG 11-2025.

The Municipality of Souris-Glenwood has asked member municipalities of the Western Caucus to support them in a request to AMM to lobby for mandated secure designated municipal email accounts for all council communications. Council passed the resolution as requested for forwarding to the AMM.

MEC Sudak has prepared a detailed Emergency Response Plan for the municipality, which with some suggested revisions was adopted and the Exchange Group was appointed the Town’s auditor for the 2025 budget year.

The mayor reported that he has talked with Dr. Maharajh, who has taken space in Super Thrifty for his clinic. Renovations are underway. He hopes to open in later November or early December.

No harassment of Town employees will be tolerated, at the rink or at the office.

The mayor received a call from the CEO of Stride Credit Union to announce that they have bought the BMO building, and after full renovation will open in spring. His market studies point to Carberry as a growth area.

—30—

⇒⇒ You are invited to a free
Community Christmas Meal
at the Drop-In
December 25, 5:00 p.m.
if interested, please RSVP to
Debbie at 204-834-6613
or – servsen@wcgwave.ca

Donations gratefully received at the Town Office

Foot Care Nurse Visiting

at the Carberry Drop-In Centre

December 30, February 3

- Diabetic foot care
- Preventative screening
- Lower limb assessment
- Ingrown toenail
- Thick nails, Callus, Corns

for appointment call Chiara, LPN

Wheat City Foot Care: (204) 721-2022

\$55, billed direct to Blue Cross,
Veterans Affairs, RCMP

This Newsletter is brought to you by the

TOWN OF CARBERRY

SUBMISSIONS MAY BE MADE TO
admin@townofcarberry.ca

Service for Seniors

Christmas Noon Meal

will take place at the Drop-In on

Wednesday December 17

Cost: \$22. Please buy your ticket
before Dec, 12

Call Deb at (204) 834-6613

FREE Mature Driver Refresher Course

Free for drivers 55 & over,
in rural MB

Tuesday, December 9,
12:30 -3:30 p.m.

at the Drop-In Centre
register with Deb (204) 834-6613

- Learn updated laws and safety rules
- Brush up on defensive driving techniques
- Learn how to compensate for changes in hearing, vision, flexibility and reaction time

Offered by Safety Services Manitoba and M.P.I.

**Seniors! Don't forget you have
a date every Wednesday for**

Lunch at the Drop-In

Save the Date!

Friday November 28, 6:00 p.m.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

MEMORY TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

Names of those remembered will be read and the tree
will be lit in commemoration

Carberry Collegiate MPR
ft. United Church Choir w/Becky Nikolaisen
followed by

Tree lighting at Main & Second Ave.
ft. Acadia Colony Choir

Hot Chocolate & Cookies!

Transfer Station Hours

Year round

Monday – 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

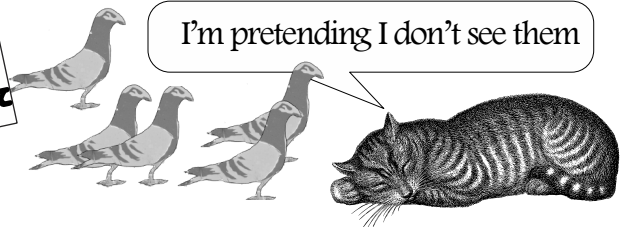
Wednesday – 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Friday – 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Saturday – 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Closed on Statutory Holidays

*Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year*



Holidays at the Library

Special Events

Christmas Madness, Friday
Nov. 28. Open until 8:00 pm.,
Craft vendors, book sale.

Stories with Santa Nov. 29,
4:00 - 5:00 pm.

Readers' Tea— Dec. 9
at 2:00 p.m. Enjoy conversation
with other readers, treats, tea,
and a story read aloud.

No registration necessary.
Everyone welcome.

Fibre Arts Night Thursday Dec. 11
Join us as we explore knitting,
crochet, sewing and more.

Share what you're working on,
learn a new skill, or just sit and
chat with other people who love
to make things. *All ages and skill
levels welcome.*

Christmas Book Crafts Saturday
December 13, noon - 2:00 pm.

Make ornaments for your own
or the library's Christmas Tree.

Are you 50+?

Join us at the Drop-In Centre!

Drop-In fee \$2 per visit

- Cards Mon Wed & Fri @ 1:00
- Coffee & Crafts Tue. @ 10:00
- Pool Tues. @ 9:00 & Thurs. @ 1:00
- Bring you own craft 1st & 3rd Thurs 10:00
- **Lunch** every Wednesday Noon, \$12

Everyone welcome!

Carberry and Area Chamber of Commerce's

Parade of Lights

followed by a Community

Christmas Kickoff Party

Saturday, November 29, 6 p.m.

at the south end of Main Street

- Special visit and delivery from Santa
- Vote for the **Float of the Year**
- Community bonfires
- Hot Chocolate
- Hot Dogs
- Caroling

"A splendid time is guaranteed for all"