***A Charlie Brown Christmas in Chester***

Plans are underway for the 27th Annual Christmas on the River Celebration in Chester. The event will be held December 4, 5, and 6, 2015. This year’s theme is, ‘A Charlie Brown Christmas".

The Grand Illumination of the Community Christmas tree in Chester Square Gazebo will be Wednesday, December 2nd at 5:30 pm.

The Lighted Parade will be held on Friday, December 4th at 7 pm. The parade will start at the High School and make its way through town to the Courthouse. The only Santa you will see in the parade is the jolly ol’ fella with his Mrs. as they make their debut with the new Santa House!!

The ever popular Craft and Vendor Sale will be held at the Randolph County Courthouse and the American Legion. Hours for the sale will be: Friday, December 4th, 5 – 9 pm, Saturday, December 5th, 9 am – 5 pm and Sunday, December 6th, 11 am – 3 pm. The Legion will be open Friday night until 8 pm with not all vendors set up. There are still a few vendor spaces available.

Once again, the main road in Evergreen Cemetery will be lined with Signs of Remembrance. Many individuals and organizations during the past years have remembered someone who passed away. The names of those, so remembered, are place on a sign with a frame along the road inside the cemetery. The signs will be up from Thanksgiving through Christmas.

Those who have participated in previous years the renewal cost will be $10 per sign. If you need a new sign, the cost will be $20 per sign.

To place your Sign of Remembrance make your check payable to Christmas Cemetery Signs Committee and mail it to one to either Norma Baughman, 421 Opdyke Street, Chester, IL, 62233 or phone (618) 826-4461 or Linda Sympson, 10 Bridge By Pass Road, Chester, IL, 62233 (618) 826-2721.

Santa and Mrs. Claus will return to Chester Saturday, December 5th as they make their arrival at 10 am on the Mighty Mississippi. Visit with Santa at the Chester Boat Club building immediately after he arrives and until noon. Refreshments will be available for the kids. All made possible through the courtesy of the Chester Boat Club and the Chester Chamber of Commerce.

Cole Memorial Park will be the visiting place Saturday, December 5th. This year, Santa’s House in the park and children of all ages can visit. Date and time to be determined. There will be displays in the park as well. Some of these displays have been made possible through contributions and others will be placed by folks helping to ‘Light Up the Park’.

The Randolph County Museum will be open Saturday, December 5th, 9 am – 4 pm and Sunday, December 6th, 11 am – 2 pm. Visitors will have an opportunity to view the many exhibits.

St. John’s PTL will host its 43rd Annual Christmas Bazaar, Saturday, December 5th, 9 am – 5 pm in the Parish Hall.

St. Mary’s PTO will host their Annual Chicken and Dumpling Dinner in the school cafeteria, Friday, December 4th, 4 – 7 pm.

Buena Vista National Bank will host an Open House before the parade on Friday, December 4th. Beginning at 6 pm they will serve hot chocolate and cookies until the end of the parade.

Do you have an event or activity that you would like to have included in the itinerary for the Christmas Walk weekend? Do you need more information or have a question? Contact Patti at 826.1430 or at chesterskateland@hotmail.com.