

Town of Bernalillo
Office of the Mayor
P r e s s R e l e a s e

For More Information Contact:
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TOWN OF BERNALILLO KICKS OFF THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

Bernalillo, NM – Mayor Patricia A. Chávez invites the public to kickoff the holiday season with the annual Christmas Tree Lighting and 22nd Annual Nighttime Christmas Parade. Beginning at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, December 1, 2006 in front of Town Hall, the official town Christmas tree will be lit. The children’s voices of Carroll Elementary Chorus and candlelight will welcome people to the festivities. Biscochitos and hot cider will be served.

The festivities continue on Saturday, December 2, 2006 with the 22nd Annual Nighttime Christmas Parade. With over 20 entries anticipated, the crowds will be delighted with floats, marching bands, classic cars and yes, SANTA. The parade route will begin at Calle Escuela at 6:00 p.m. and head south on Main Street to Avenida Bernalillo heading west into Rotary Park where the public is invited to share warmth and refreshments at the annual bonfire.

The Town’s Christmas festivities culminate in Santa’s Annual visit to the children of Bernalillo on Christmas Day. Santa’s visit is a 30-year tradition hosted by the Town of Bernalillo Volunteer Fire Department. Santa and his helpers will give stockings filled with candy and goodies to all children who visit Santa from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Proceeds from parade entries and generous donations from area businesses and individuals allow the town to provide Santa’s visit and the distribution of toys by Santa Claus to area children. The Children’s Christmas fund was established in 1990 by the Town of Bernalillo to brighten the holidays for children in Bernalillo who might not otherwise receive gifts. The Town works with local service agencies, churches and schools to ensure that the holidays are brighter for all children living in Bernalillo. To contribute to the Children’s Christmas Fund please contact the office of Community Development at 771-7118. ---END