



## GRAND ILLUMINATION PARADE - Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup>

- SPONSORS:** *Holidays in the City* and the Grand Illumination Parade are presented by **Farm Fresh** and supported by The Market at Harbor Heights in association with the Cities of Norfolk and Portsmouth, The Virginian-Pilot and WVEC Channel 13.
- WHEN:** 7:00 pm, Saturday, November 21, 2009
- WHERE:** Downtown Norfolk
- PARADE ROUTE:** The parade begins at the corner of St. Paul's Boulevard and Waterside Drive, continues down Waterside Drive and turns right onto Plume Street, left onto Granby Street, continues down Granby Street, crosses Brambleton Avenue and ends at the Harrison Opera House.
- EVENT DESCRIPTION:** The Grand Illumination Parade begins with a synchronized community countdown, which signals the illumination of more than 12 miles of lights outlining the downtown Norfolk and Olde Towne Portsmouth skylines. The illumination signals the start of the parade. Captain Richard Phillips, Master of the M/V Maersk Alabama will serve as Grand Marshal for the Parade. The Parade includes a variety of festive, lighted floats, marching bands, giant helium balloons, equestrian units, dancers and of course, Santa Claus as the grand finale!
- ADMISSION:** Free and open to the public.
- 2009 THEME:** "It's Silver"
- ATTENDANCE:** 100,000 spectators are expected to line the streets of downtown Norfolk. Spectators are encouraged to bring blankets and lawn chairs.
- PARKING:** **Early Bird Parking:** From 3 to 5pm, patrons can park for \$1 upon entry at most city-owned, attendant-operated parking facilities in downtown. At 5pm, Special Event Rates (\$5 collect-on-entry) will be in effect. Regular weekend rates (\$1 before 6pm and \$2 after 6pm will be collected upon entry at both of the MacArthur Center garages.)
- STREET CLOSURES:** At approximately 6:00 pm, streets will begin closing along the Parade Route.
- PRE-PARADE ACTIVITIES:** WVEC Kindervision will take place from 3 – 6 pm at The Market at Harbor Heights. From 6 - 7pm carolers, clowns and other strolling performers will provide pre-parade entertainment along the parade route and vendors will be on hand serving tasty treats.
- PARADE BROADCAST:** If you can't make it downtown on Grand Illumination Parade Day, enjoy the live broadcast with David Alan and Regina Mobley on WVEC-TV 13 at 7:00 pm, Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup>. The parade will also be rebroadcast on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 26 at 9am and Christmas Day at noon.
- MORE INFO:** Visit the Downtown Norfolk Council website at [www.DowntownNorfolk.org](http://www.DowntownNorfolk.org) or call the office at 757-623-1757.