



Downtown Norfolk dn Olde Towne Portsmouth



For Immediate Release:

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## **Parking Made Easier for 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Grand Illumination Parade**

Pre-planning and reasons to come downtown early makes the night even more enjoyable

**DOWNTOWN NORFOLK (November 18, 2013)** -- It may be a Jingle Bell Jungle out there, but there are few ways to ease parade-goer transit and parking to the 7 p.m., 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Grand Illumination Parade Saturday, Nov. 23.

As it will be a busy, but festive night in downtown Norfolk, expect traffic congestion beginning by 5 p.m. so please plan accordingly. Below are recommended suggestions to avoid the back-ups and reasons to get downtown early:

- Familiarize yourself with the 14 downtown Norfolk garage options available using the Downtown Norfolk Council's snap map: <http://www.downtonnorfolk.org/map>
- Early bird parking will be available for \$1 at all city parking facilities, including MacArthur Center, between 3–5 p.m. After 5 p.m., all city garages, including MacArthur Center, will begin collecting \$5 upon entry. Spectators are also encouraged to consider arriving at the parade by bus, ferry or by The Tide, Norfolk's light rail system which offers free parking at the park and ride lots at several of their stations. Please visit <http://holidaysinthecity.net/info/Traffic-2013> for all of the details.
- Besides the great variety of downtown Norfolk restaurants to grab a late lunch, snack or early supper before the 7 p.m. 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Grand Illumination Parade kick-off:

- ❖ Broadway at Chrysler Hall – “West Side Story” at 2 & 8 p.m.
- ❖ Norfolk Admirals Game at the Scope - 7:15 p.m. face-off
- ❖ Winter Carnival and MacArthur on Ice at MacArthur Center – Grand Opening, 10 a.m.
- ❖ Norfolk State University Football – 1 p.m. kick-off
- ❖ *Polar Express* film at TCC Roper Theater – Free 4 p.m. showing
- ❖ Old World Christmas Mart - Hunter House, Freemason Historic District, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- ❖ Pagoda Garden LightFEST – 5 p.m. – midnight
- ❖ Spirit of Norfolk Grand Illumination Cruises – 3 & 8:30 p.m., latter departs at 9:30 p.m.

**The Route:** The two mile parade route begins at the corner of St. Paul's Blvd and Main St. It travels along Main St. to Granby St., heading north. It then turns onto Freemason St. going west, turns onto Boush St. heading south and finishes on Waterside Dr. and Water St. in front of Sheraton Norfolk Waterside Hotel.

**MORE:** To learn more about the 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Grand Illumination Parade or for more information pertaining to the events that will be taking place during Holidays in the City, go online to [downtownnorfolk.org/ holidaysinthecity](http://downtownnorfolk.org/holidaysinthecity) or call (757) 623-1757.

*Holidays in the City is presented by WVEC ABC 13 in association with the Cities of Norfolk and Portsmouth and is produced and managed by the Downtown Norfolk Council. The Downtown Norfolk Council is a private, not-for-profit membership organization composed of businesses and individuals working toward a dynamic, attractive and prosperous downtown.*

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