



Belvidere Hometown Christmas

Friday, December 2nd, 2022

Downtown Belvidere


Hometown Christmas is an annual holiday celebration in Belvidere. Hosted by the Belvidere Area Chamber of Commerce, the event takes place on the first Friday in December. Like the 12 days of Christmas, there are many ways to celebrate, but we bring them all to downtown Belvidere for one magical evening.


12

Ways to participate in Hometown Christmas

BELVIDERE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

www.BelvidereChamber.com | 815.544.4357





1 The Belvidere Park District brings us the "**Light up the Night Parade**" to enjoy in Downtown Belvidere.

2 There are many families in need in our community who will benefit from the beautiful **Hometown Christmas Tree Giving** brought to the community by Boone County 4-H Federation. The decorated trees will be on display in the Community Building

3 **Pictures with Santa and a Winter Carnival** are hosted at the Belvidere Family YMCA. You can register online for your timeslot

4 The annual **Hometown Christmas print** has been a tradition for many years. Buttons are sold in order to raise money for the wonderful events that take place throughout the evening.

5 The Belvidere Fire Department hosts **Free Hot Cocoa** Sponsored by Twin Towers and **Badges with Books** at the Fire Station.

6 Watch as the Mayor of Belvidere hosts a **Tree Lighting Ceremony** for the City of Belvidere Christmas Tree in Hub Plaza.

7 Enjoy **Outdoor Ice Skating** at the Riverside Ice Arena in Doty Park, and an **Elf Shop** in the back of Sips & SPinkles for children to purchase gifts.


8 Children can **make crafts** while listening to **story time** provided by the Ida Public Library in the Hidden Aerie.

9 Enjoy an **Outdoor Christmas Movie** with family and friends as you decide the next activity you want to join, sponsored by Redemption Church and Powered by the Ford F-150® Lightning™.

10 A **Horse Drawn Carriage ride** sponsored by the Boone County REALTORS® of the Northwest Illinois Association of REALTORS® in Downtown Belvidere is another magical part of the evening.

11 Just beneath the sparkling Christmas trees in the community building, is **Mrs. Claus's Market** where local vendors sell unique items that are perfect for the season.

12 Volunteers from the Immanuel Lutheran Church bring us a **Live Nativity Scene** to enjoy.





WINDOW PAINTING

A newer tradition to Hometown Christmas, window painting is a great way for you to show your holiday spirit. Community members come together to paint wintry Christmas themes on the windows of participating downtown businesses. This is a great way to get people in front of (and inside!) your storefront! We will provide the supplies and local volunteers will complete the designs and painting.

Want to join in the fun?
Register your business by emailing
info@BelvidereChamber.com. We need a contact
person, phone number, and email address
Techy type? Scan the QR code to register



Paint My
Windows

The painting will be completed Between November 11th -30th.
Please feel free to enjoy the holiday painting on your window. We
ask that cleaning be completed no later than Friday, January 15th.

If you have a group who is interested in painting windows, please let
us know the size of your group and the average age of your group
members.



We want to Paint!



HOMETOWN CHRISTMAS TREE GIVING

- Registration Fee of \$30.00 will be charged. This fee includes a live tree and a tree stand.
- If your organization feels safer using an artificial tree, please secure your own new or gently used artificial tree. However, the \$30.00 fee will still apply to reserve your spot.
- Your organization will provide **decorations, lights and a tree skirt** for the family. They can be homemade, or store bought. Tree decorations should be decorated tastefully in the spirit of Christmas. Please use your imagination and be creative. Hint: inexpensive blankets can make a nice tree skirt. **No spraying or flocking trees. No tinsel. Tinsel is messy and is difficult when transporting to the families. If you would like, you can send a package to the family for use at their home.**
- Families in-need will be secured through a partnership with the Salvation Army.
- Your organization may designate your own family instead of being assigned a family from our list; however, your organization must deliver the tree. 4-H Federation will only deliver trees from our list. Your organization must provide the name and address of your designated family on the sign-up form to avoid duplicate families.
- Your organization can donate gifts, gift certificates and/or non-perishable food items. Idea: Think of ways to support our local businesses. Please be sure to let us know if you do not wish to give gifts or gift cards/certificate. We will try our best to supplement a gift card if we can for the family.
- A sign will be displayed in front of your tree recognizing the name of your business, group, or organization. There are several events being planned for Friday evening and Saturday. Your tree will be on display for hundreds of people to see. (This is a great way to be visible in the community!)

Tree Decorating -- Wednesday, November 30, Boone County Community Building

- After registering and payment is received, you will receive an email to choose a time slot for decorating. We will have 1-hour decorating time slots starting at 12:00 p.m.
- To help with congestion during decorating, we will limit each group to 3 individuals at a tree at a time. All others need to wait in the bleachers. We recommend assigning a coordinator to rotate individuals giving each an opportunity to help decorate the tree.
- Volunteers will check you in upon arrival. Gift cards/certificates will be checked in and stored securely until delivery to the family.
- For groups providing and leaving gifts, we suggest you creatively box or bag your gifts together. All gifts should be clearly labeled with your assigned tree #. For example, I have 5 boxes wrapped with the tree # written on each package left under the tree in a laundry basket. Be creative. This helps keep items together and makes it easier for those delivering.

Tree Delivery – Sunday, December 4, starting at 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.

- The building will open at 9:00 a.m. (Please do not arrive prior to 9:00 a.m.)
- We encourage all sponsors to deliver their tree to the family. You will need a vehicle that can haul a full-size tree as well as manpower to help move it.
- For any reason your organization cannot deliver your tree, 4-H Federation will deliver the tree as long as it is a family that we have secured. Remember: if you secure your own family you will need to handle delivery.
- An address will be provided for you when you arrive on Sunday for delivery. This information will not be available ahead of time.

To register: <https://go.illinois.edu/BooneTreeGiving>

Payment (cash/check) should be mailed to

Boone Co. 4-H Federation, 205 Cadillac Ct. Ste 3, Belvidere, IL 61008

Deadline: November 7, 2022



For further information or questions regarding the Tree Giving, please call the
Boone County 4-H Federation at 544-3710.

If you need reasonable accommodations to participate in this program, please contact Boone
County 4-H Federation.





LIGHT UP THE NIGHT PARADE

PARADE ENTRY RULES

- LIGHTED FLOATS ENCOURAGED but all participation is welcome!
- Parade step-off is promptly at 5:30 PM. Line-up is from 4:30-5:15 PM beginning North of the Ida Public Library on State St. & surrounding streets.
- The parade starts at Madison St. and moves down State St. to end at the Community Building.
- The group contact person will be emailed a copy of the line-up and a map and will have the ability to inform other group members of line-up location.
- We request there be NO SANTAS or political groups in the parade. Santa & Mrs. Claus will already be riding in a carriage at the end of the parade.
- Candy may be distributed, but not thrown from vehicles.
- Any group with animals is responsible for their own waste pick-up.
- Please obey the barricades and walk your children to their line-up location. Do your part to keep everyone as safe as possible!
- Review the map with your participants prior to the parade, so parents know where the barricades are located.
- REMINDER- please turn down Garfield or Pearl St. to unload floats at the end of the parade to allow for Santa to continue to the Community Building.
- Keep in mind that snowfall will cover any ground displays or lights
- FOR ANY VEHICLE PARTICIPATING IN THE PARADE, PLEASE ATTACH PROOF OF INSURANCE

BELVIDERE PARK DISTRICT

www.BelviderePark.org | 815.547.5711





LIGHT UP THE NIGHT PARADE

PARADE REGISTRATION FORM:

ENTRY DEADLINE: Friday, November 25

MAIL, FAX, OR EMAIL FORM TO:

Address: Belvidere Park District

Attn: Katie Inman
1006 W. Lincoln Ave.
Belvidere, IL 61008

Phone: 815-547-5711 x17

Fax: 815- 544-4648

Email: kinman@belviderepark.org

Group Name: _____ **School:** _____

Contact Person: _____ **Phone Number:** _____

Email Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Parade Entry Includes (Select all that apply):

Lighted Float

Car/Truck

Music

Walking

Horses/Animals

Please note any special parade line-up requests: _____

Waiver and Release of All Claims & Assumption of Risk

Please read this language carefully and be aware that in signing up and participating in the Parade you will be expressly assuming the risk and legal liability and waiving and releasing all claims for injuries, damages, or loss which you or your minor child/ward might sustain as a result of participating in any and all activities connected with and associated with the Parade (including transportation when provided).

I recognize and acknowledge that there are certain risks of physical injury and damages to participants and I voluntarily agree to assume the full risks of any and all injuries, damages, or loss, regardless of severity, that my minor child/ward or I may sustain as a result of applying for and/or participating in the Parade. I further agree to waive and relinquish all claims I or my minor child/ward may have (or accrue to me or my child/ward) as a result of participation in the Parade against the Belvidere Park District, including its officials, agents, volunteers, and employees.

Contact Person's Signature: _____ **Date** _____

BELVIDERE PARK DISTRICT

www.BelviderePark.org | 815.547.5711



HOMETOWN CHRISTMAS PRINTS AND BUTTONS

The annual Hometown Christmas print has been a tradition for many years. Buttons are sold in order to raise money for the wonderful events that take place throughout the evening. This is a great way to showcase your business while helping support the ever-growing number of amazing family-focused events featured at Hometown Christmas.

Prints - \$15
Buttons \$3

2022 HOMETOWN CHRISTMAS BUTTONS AND PRINTS

Buttons are available for \$3 and can be purchased at the following locations in Belvidere and Poplar Grove:

Belvidere City Hall
Belvidere Family YMCA
Blackhawk Bank
Byron Bank
First National Bank of Omaha
Ida Public Library
Midland States Bank
Solutions Bank
Union Savings Bank



Buttons and Prints
are also available
between 8am-4pm
Monday through Friday
at 404 S State Street



For any questions, please call the Belvidere
Area Chamber of Commerce at 814-544-4357
or email at info@belviderechamber.com.



SPONSOR HOMETOWN CHRISTMAS

In 2021 the Hometown Christmas Celebration brought over 11,000 people to downtown Belvidere. We anticipate that this magical event will be even more well attended in 2022.

You can help us continue to bring these incredible events to our community by sponsoring Hometown Christmas. We have a few different sponsorship levels that help us to bring this event to our residents.



Scan this code to sponsor

For any questions, please call the Belvidere Area Chamber of Commerce at 814-544-4357 or email at info@belviderechamber.com.

