



Holiday season to be celebrated on BC campus

by Jamie Michaels
Opinion Editor

While subtle hints of holiday hype have been creeping this way since mid-September, tomorrow's festivities will be the official kick-off of the holiday season for Brevard College.

Events begin at 9 a.m. when the Jingle Bell 5K run will be held.

Of course, one of the highlights of the holidays in Brevard is the annual Christmas Parade. As usual, this year's parade will begin at Brevard High School and continue down Broad Street to end in front of the Library on the Brevard College Campus.

The parade, which begins at 3 p.m., will include floats and participants from local civic clubs, churches, businesses, schools, scouting organizations, non-profits, fire engines, bands, and of course, Santa Claus. The Brevard College Athletics Department is participating as well.

This year's theme is "Melodies in the Mountains." The parade is a tradition at least 45 years old, and about 10,000 people are expected to turn out, says President of the Brevard College Chamber of Commerce (as well as BC alumna/parent) Beth Carden.

Following the parade, the streets of downtown will close from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. for a festival called the Twilight Tour. This

year's festival will include booths from local businesses, games and activities, horse-drawn carriage rides and even a portable ice-skating rink!

Carden says the Twilight Tour is really a chance for residents to shop locally and to truly discover what Brevard is about. She says her favorite part about celebrating Christmas here is "getting to see a lot of "home folks" come back," and seeing that "we've really gotten away from the materialist side and gone back to the family."

The Twilight Tour will culminate with the lighting of the Christmas Tree in front of the Courthouse around dusk.

At the college, festivities will begin at 7:30 p.m. The annual Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols will be held in the Porter Center. The Brevard College Choral program will lead music, with a pre-

lude by the student-led women's a cappella group, Sirenty.

"It will be an honor for Sirenty to participate in this tradition. It will integrate classic aspects of the college ceremony while incorporating a fun new approach to the original carols and songs," said Sirenty President Dorothea Berry.

Immediately following Lessons and Carols, the whole campus is invited to the tree lighting in the Residential Quad between Dunham Music building and the Library. This will be accompanied by carol singing, cider and cookies on the Jones Hall porch.

When asked what the best part about celebrating the holidays is, Karen George and Dwight Chiles responded, "Decorating!" while Lisa Laurene insisted on "caroling and cheer," and Steven Acker chimed in that it's the "warm fuzzy feeling I get deep inside."

Schedule of Events

9:00 a.m.: Jingle Bell 5k Run, Downtown Brevard

3:00 p.m.: Brevard Christmas Parade, Broad Street

4:00 p.m. – 9:00 pm: Twilight Tour, Downtown Brevard College

Dusk: Christmas Tree Lighting, Downtown Brevard

7:30 pm: Lessons and Carols, Brevard College Porter Center

Immediately following Lessons and Carols: Christmas Tree Lighting and Refreshments, Residential Quad



A Brevard home decorated for the holidays

Photo by John Billingsley

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