

Santa Arrives for North Pole Family Fun Day

Santa's arrival, crafts, stories and live animals are just a sampling of the festive activities for North Pole Family Fun Day. Part of Downtown Unwrapped, a series of holiday events in Paris, Tennessee, this community tradition kicks off at 10:00 a.m. the day after Thanksgiving and runs until 2:00 p.m.

"I can't wait to see all of the good little boys and girls in Henry County," said Santa in an exclusive satellite interview from the North Pole. "Rudolph and the elves I love our gingerbread house on the court square. We'll be visiting with the youngsters each Saturday and Sunday throughout the holiday season and Project Graduation will be on hand to take photos.

"There's plenty to do after children visit with me, including four, free craft booths, thanks to the 4H Honors Club. Little ones can hear *The Polar Express* read by the high school speech students inside a real train depot at Vicky Muzzall's Tax Service," said Santa. "Miss Vicky even gives away free train whistles to all of the youngsters.

"There's a trackless train for adults and children and First Christian Church has a fun toss game on the courthouse lawn. Also on the lawn is a petting zoo and pony rides," said Santa. "Speaking of riding, there's also trackless train and wagon rides.

"Kiddos can enjoy face painting inside Commercial Bank and Trust. On that same block, in front of Merle Norman Salon, the children can send jolly wishes to men and women in uniform by making Christmas cards for soldiers."

"For folks who need a Christmas tree, I've arranged for my Optimist Club friends to set up their live tree lot downtown that day," he said. "The proceeds help fund their youth activities, and that's near and dear to old Santa's heart."

The jolly old elf invites everyone to check out the schedule for Downtown Unwrapped, a series of exciting holiday events at www.VisitDowntownParis.com. Flyers are available from many downtown merchants.

The Downtown Paris Association is a non-profit organization whose mission is to promote prosperous business activity and community involvement while encouraging preservation of the downtown area. For more information, log on www.VisitDowntownParis.com.