

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chamber Members and Friends of the Chamber

FROM: Nancy LeVault and Kathy Goclan – Co-Chairpersons of the Children's Christmas Party

DATE: October 24th, 2011

SUBJECT: **ANNUAL CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY**



**It's that time of the year!
The Chamber of Commerce is preparing for the Annual
Children's Christmas Party.**

We are inviting everyone to be part of this fun and rewarding day. I guarantee that this is one of the best ways for you to get into the Christmas Spirit.

The party will be held on Saturday, December 17th, 2011 from 1:00 to 3:00 at the Township Hall in Granite City. Due to the economic issues Nancy & Kathy are having more request than ever.

To make this event possible we rely on the involvement and the generosity of our members and our community. This is a very special day, in some cases, the only special day this Christmas season, for about 145 children who would normally fall through the cracks.

These 145 children are not chosen at random. The name of each needy child comes from the social workers at area schools. The parents of each child will list 1 to 2 items the child is asking for from Santa. This insures that each child gets a gift he or she wants for Christmas. One way you can be involved, is to take a girl or boys name and purchase one of the items (about \$25) and wrap it; or we will wrap it for you, and deliver it to the Chamber so Santa can present it to the child at the party. (Watching the looks on the faces of the children as they open their gifts will bring a smile to your face, but watching the children who take their gifts home unopened, knowing this will be the only gift under the tree on Christmas morning, will bring a tear to your eye.)

At the party the children will have lunch consisting of pizza, drinks, cookies, ice cream etc., each child will have their picture taken receiving their gift from Santa and there will be live entertainment that the children can interact with, face painters and numerous other activities. And of course the finale of the party is when Santa draws the names for the bicycles and the helmets.

As they leave, each child will receive a goody bag (as large as some of the children.) The bags are filled with fruit, candy, personal hygiene items, gloves, hats, sweatshirts, toys, and all kinds of practical gifts and other goodies.

For the kids' sake, but more than that, for your sake, we urge you to be part of this heartwarming event. There are many ways that you can be part of this special day. We have enclosed a list of the items needed for the party, as you can see many of the items are already filled because by the first of November many of our members are calling and volunteering items and signing up to be part of the party.

If you would like to volunteer to work or to donate items for the party, or if you have any questions about the event, please call the Chamber office at 876-6400. If you wish to donate cash, the committee will do the shopping for you if you don't have the time.

Thank you from the Chamber of Commerce of Southwestern Madison County and the Christmas Party Committee for 2011



HERE COMES SANTA CLAUS, HERE COMES SANTA CLAUS!!!!!!