

Christmas on Common kicks off season in East Bridgewater

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Taylor Hathaway, a member of the East Bridgewater High School marching band, plays in the Christmas On The Common Parade in December in East Bridgewater.

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EAST BRIDGEWATER — The Christmas season kicks off this weekend with an annual event attended by thousands from around the region.

The 28th annual Christmas Parade and Christmas on the Common sponsored by the East Bridgewater Kiwanis Club will be held on Saturday.

With the only cost being food or crafts purchased, the tradition is a fun way for visitors to enjoy themselves without taking a hit to their wallets.

Festivities officially start at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday with singing Christmas carols and sampling apple crisp and apple cider – while the common is lit up for the first time, according to Beth Resendes, chairman of the event.

Several thousand people from East Bridgewater and surrounding communities will flock to the popular Christmas Parade on Saturday, but parade co-chairman Janet Packer reminds everyone there is a new start time – 10 a.m. this year.

As in the past, the parade will wind its way up Spring Street and down Central Street, ending at the town common.

Participants include dance schools, local bands, fire departments, sports teams, Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts. Packer said State Rep. Geoff Diehl and Sen. Scott Brown will also be marching.

“The Brockton Firefighters Pipe and Drum are back; everybody loves the bagpipes,” Packer said. “We’re hoping Dominick the Donkey is back, too.”

As always, Santa will make his arrival at the end of the parade on a fire truck instead of his sleigh.

After the parade, guests can continue the celebration at the Common with music and performances by different entertainers, including local dance schools performing inside the high school cafeteria, and a craft fair in the gymnasium.

There will be pony rides, train rides, food to purchase, a juggler, and even a wood carver carving a statue out of a tree stump to delight visitors. A hospitality tent will host many of the town’s non-profit organizations selling their goods for fundraising.

“This doesn’t get old. It doesn’t necessarily change much from year to year but that’s what’s nice,” Resendes said. “It’s an opportunity for people to

East Bridgewater holiday celebration

What: East Bridgewater's Christmas on the Common
When: Saturday about 3:30
Lighting of the Common: Thursday at 6:30 p.m.
Christmas Parade: Begins at 10 a.m. Saturday

It's illegal to steal a baby.



come home, to see their neighbors. Christmas on the Common is really our gift to the town."

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