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CITY OF NEWNAN CHRISTMAS PARADE ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9th at 6 PM
“Christmas Around the World”
Applications are available on city website

The City of Newnan’s annual Christmas parade will be held Saturday, December 9th, beginning at 6:00 p.m. The parade begins at Lagrange Street to North Court Square and turns right and make another onto East Court Square and go south to Greenville Street to the Coweta County Justice Center. It’s “Christmas Around the World!” The parade will include floats, walking groups, decorated cars and trucks, and marching bands.

The high school bands will enter the parade at Powell Street. The restrooms will be open to the public at Historic Courthouse.

Grand Marshals this year are David and Rosalyn Boyd.

David and Rosalyn Boyd, who married in 1970, have been active in the artistic, education, and business communities for decades.

“This is the supreme honor of a lifetime,” Rosalyn Boyd said. “I wish my mama and daddy could be there.”

David, who recently suffered a serious illness, said, “I’m sure glad I didn’t die before I got the opportunity to ride through the streets of Newnan with the love of my life and Santa Claus!”

The former Rosalyn McKoy, a graduate of Newnan High School and the University of Georgia, grew up in Newnan and spent 28 years as a teacher, much of that time working

with kindergarteners at The Heritage School. An entire generation of students grew up under the watchful eye of “Miss Rosalyn.”

In 1994, she was selected to launch the Coweta and Fayette County chapters of the National League of Junior Cotillions. Through her successful Cotillion program – which continues to be very popular in both communities – Boyd has positively touched thousands of young lives, helping them “to act and learn to treat others with honor, dignity and respect” while also teaching the fine points of dance. Twice she has been honored by the NLJC for her commitment to excellence: In 2003, with the Director of the Year Award, presented to the most outstanding chapter director in the United States; and 2012 with the Anne Winters Award, presented to the local chapter organizer who most closely personifies the ideals of the organization’s late founder.

David Boyd, who moved to Newnan in 1965, grew up in Washington, Georgia, graduated from The Citadel, served in the U.S. Army, and worked as the executive director of the local chamber of commerce before following his true passion. In 1969, he walked away from the corporate world and began syndicating his political cartoons to small newspapers across the Southeast (including The Newnan Times-Herald), while also operating a local print shop. Eventually, Boyd’s conservative cartoons appeared in more than 200 papers, winning widespread acclaim, including a prestigious Green Eyeshade Award in 1982. He later gained an even bigger audience by illustrating a series of books, calendars, and t-shirts for good friends Lewis Grizzard and Jeff Foxworthy. Boyd’s commissioned caricatures can be found in homes and offices across Coweta and far beyond, and despite suffering a brain bleed that nearly cost him his life in 2016, he continues to recover and stretch himself as an artist at the recently opened Boyd Gallery, including a shift into oil paintings.

The family was deeply humbled by the honor.

“I have always known this was a special place,” Rosalyn said. “But when you have life challenges, and the community responds with the outpouring of love we have experienced...it’s just been so meaningful to us.”

“We are looking forward to the parade this year as we enjoy the downtown lights in Newnan. It’s always an anticipated activity for the city. Christmas is a very special time, and it is fun to help spread the Christmas cheer. To the delight of all the kids, Santa Claus is coming to town!” said Gina Snider, city of Newnan, public information officer.

Every year there is a float contest that goes along with the parade. This year each winner of the following categories will receive a monetary prize. The following categories are:

- Large Business
- Small Business
- School
- Church
- Civic/Non-Profit

People's Choice - This category is an after the parade award specifically designed to drive more people to the City's social media page. The float with the most unrepeated 'likes' / comments on the City's Facebook page wins. To be eligible for this award your float must have won in one of the five categories listed above on the night of the parade.

Free public parking is available along downtown streets, and in the City of Newnan's Public Parking Lots located at 13 Lagrange Street, 25 Lagrange Street, 22 Spring Street, 6 First Avenue, 50 East Broad Street, 65 East Broad Street, 41 East Washington Street, and 22 East Broad Street.

You can download a parade application at the city website www.cityofnewnan.org or pick one up at Newnan City Hall located at 25 LaGrange Street. The application deadline is November 29th. The entry fee is \$35.

Safety Parade video link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PFHLNgbdZGM&feature=youtu.be>

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