

Celebrate Christmas in the Park

Yukon holiday festivities include Chill Your Cheeks 5K, Jingle Walk

By Van Mitchell
Staff Writer

Free family fun is in store as this year's City of Yukon holiday festivities include the grand opening of Yukon's holiday wonderland Christmas in the Park, the annual Chill Your Cheeks 5K Run and the Jingle Walk.

Christmas in the Park opens at 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 18, then runs from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. nightly through New Year's Eve, said Jenna Roberson, Yukon's public information officer. The tour includes Yukon City Park, Freedom Trail Playground and at Chisholm Trail Park.

"Christmas in the Park is Oklahoma's premiere Christmas lights tour," Roberson said. "Motorists drive along miles of illuminated fun to enjoy a beautiful presentation of light, movement, and music. Included are over 425 lighted displays and four million Christmas lights twinkling across 100 acres of three interconnecting city parks.

Roberson said at the Santa Express Train Station, young and old alike will be able to take photos in the Gingerbread Family Photo Cutouts, in the new airplane, on the toy train or by Czechers, the massive Polar Bear.

Rides on the Santa Express Train are available for \$2

See four million twinkling Christmas lights!

WHAT: Christmas in the Park

WHEN: Now through Dec. 31

WHERE: Yukon City Park

DETAILS: Enjoy a beautiful presentation of 425 lighted displays across 100 acres of three interconnecting city parks.

per person at Chisholm Trail Park from 6 to 10 p.m. every night through New Year's Eve, weather permitting. Children three and under ride for free. The train loops through the lights of Chisholm Trail Park.

"The Santa Express Train offers a fun way to view beautiful Christmas lights during Yukon's Christmas in the Park," she said. "And the City of Yukon added a new, bigger, train this year to accommodate the rising popularity of the ride."

There are also 2.2 miles of walking trails through the parks for those who enjoy viewing the lights on foot. Admission is free and donations that help support the annual event are accepted at the Chisholm Trail Park exit.

The Chill Your Cheeks 5K Run, presented by Academy Sports and Outdoors, begins at 5 p.m. at Chisholm Trail Park on Nov. 18. It is a certified course sanctioned by USATF Oklahoma.

"More than 500 runners are expected at the festive race this year," Roberson said. "Runners follow a



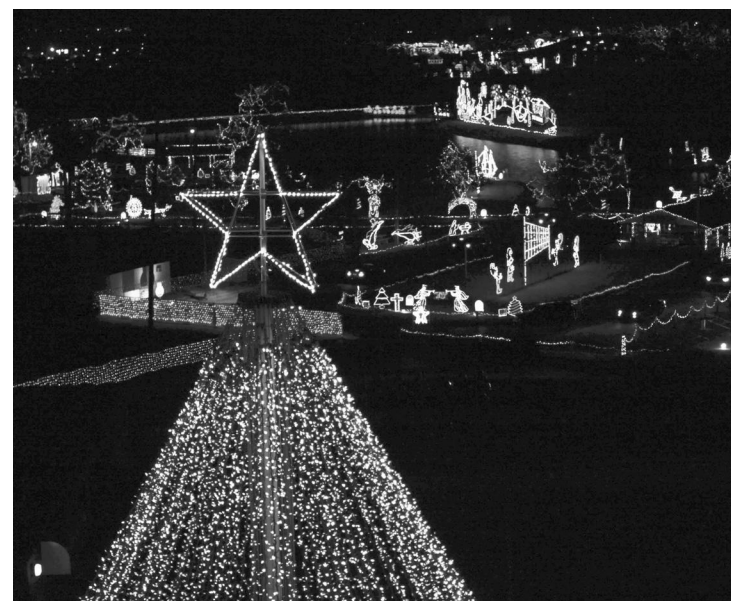
course that takes them along area streets and ultimately through the beautiful illuminated Christmas in the Park lights. They hear Christmas music played as they pass through City Park."

Registration is available online at www.raceentry.com or through Tim Rhodes at (405)-350-8920 or trhodes@yukonok.gov.

The Jingle Walk begins at 6 p.m. at the Boot Trail in Chisholm Trail Park.

"It is a half mile fun walk that travels through Chisholm Trail Park's millions of glowing Christmas lights," Roberson said.

On-site registration begins at 5:30 p.m., and the event is free. All participants in the Jingle Walk will receive a festive jingle bell necklace.



-Provided

Yukon's Christmas in the Park features thousands of lights and 425 light displays along a three-mile stretch of city parks.

For details, contact Dennis Warren at dwarren@yukonok.gov or (405) 350-8920.

For more information

about the City of Yukon's Christmas events, call (405)-354-8442, (405)-350-8937 or visit www.yukonok.gov.