

Choctaw plans Christmas in the Park

By Ryan Horton
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The City of Choctaw Parks and Recreation Department will be hosting the annual Christmas in the Park at Choctaw Creek Park, Dec. 10.

An afternoon of holiday fun is planned, 1 to 4 p.m.

Christmas at the Park is a free event for children ages 2 to 16.

Youngsters will have an opportunity to get photos with Santa and the Grinch.

The first city coordinated Christmas in Choctaw celebration was held in 2009, and the event has come along way and is

now calling Choctaw's largest park home.

Thanks to volunteers and donations from local groups like the Eastern Oklahoma County Rotary Club and many others joining with the parks department, the event is free and offers plenty of fun for all ages.

Gifts, drawings and prizes are to be expected at the annual celebration.

Youngsters can also go on a train ride through the city's premier green space, Choctaw Creek Park.

Vendors and food trucks will also be on site.

Choctaw Creek Park is located at 2001 N. Harper Road.



The City of Choctaw Parks and Recreation Department will be hosting the annual Christmas in the Park at Choctaw Creek Park, Dec. 10. PHOTO BY RYAN HORTON

Mustang's Festival of Trees returns

December 5, Mustang Town Center will be putting on annual Festival of Trees event

By Jacob Sturm
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The holidays are rapidly approaching, and with it a plan to make the season extra special is materializing for those in Mustang and surrounding communities.

On Dec. 5, the Mustang Town Center will be putting on its annual festival of trees event. Come out and see a variety of things happening at the event, including Santa being available in the front hall of the Town Center. Heather Huff, Mustang's

Program Coordinator, elaborated on the event setup.

"Santa letters will be available to be filled out," Huff said. "Every letter that has a return address does get a response from Santa as long as we have it in by Dec. 18."

There will also be a face-painter and a balloon artist as well as a couple of food trucks in attendance.

Train rides will also be going on the entire evening on the front lawn. Weather permitting, the event will likely have

Christmas Cartoons playing on the front lawn, too.

The primarily outdoor event will also have a giant snow globe for a good picture opportunity. People can get inside the snow globe for the picture.

"We will be lighting the large Christmas Tree on the front lawn," Huff said.

Usually, the event hosts about 500 people between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. The lighting of the tree will be at 6:15 p.m.

"Everyone come dress warm and kick off the holidays with Festival of the Trees," Huff said.



The Festival of Trees hosts about 500 people between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. The lighting of the tree will be at 6:15 p.m. FILE PHOTO