



## CHRISTMAS COMES TO RIVERTOWN



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*For Immediate Release*

The arrival of winter brings not only cooler winds to the City of Kenner but also winds of change to the Kenner Parks and Recreation Department and to a familiar holiday celebration, the City of Kenner's Christmas Village. Previously held at Veteran's Park near Kenner's City Hall, the 2011 Christmas Village is moving to historic Rivertown! The picturesque setting of Heritage Park and the surrounding Rivertown area is poised and ready to enhance the small town charm that has always characterized the village. Preparations have been underway since early June and visitors will no doubt notice improvements throughout the revamped and revitalized Christmas Village.

Nearly every building in Rivertown from the railroad to the river is adorned with Christmas lights and decorations! Stroll down the boulevard (Williams, that is!) but watch out for reindeers leaping from the light posts! Cross over the park's covered bridge amid hundreds of twinkle lights and cast out a Christmas wish across the glowing waters below! Visitors can even explore the parking lot outside Heritage Park, as it has been transformed into a virtual Christmas tree lot with strands of lights draped to and fro in a near circus tent design. Beneath the "big top," rows of the village's traditional huts housing the usual non-profit organizations will invite guests to indulge in some Christmas treats from hot cocoa and cotton candy to hamburgers and hot dogs. Scores of local dance groups, children's choirs, and other performers will also be on hand to delight audiences and help spread the Christmas cheer. And, of course, Santa himself will be available for visits and photos. He's all too eager to hear the wishes of Kenner's little ones and make Kenner's 2011 Christmas Village a magical and memorable event. You never know...it might even snow!

An added benefit to the new Rivertown location is the village's proximity to Kenner's Planetarium and Megadome Cinema. The theater's family favorite "Laser Holidays" show will be offered on Friday and Saturday evenings at 6 pm, 7 pm, and 8 pm at a reduced admission of \$2 per person. This show brings the excitement of Santa, Frosty, and Rudolph to a whole new level through a dazzling display of laser light animations and traditional holiday music.

Kenner's Christmas Village opens Friday, November 25 at 5:30 pm with the arrival of Santa Claus and the official lighting of the City's Christmas tree by Mayor Michael S. Yenni. Holiday characters will be on hand to greet visitors as well. The village will remain open through December 18 every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evening from 5:30 pm until 8:30 pm. Admission and parking are free. For more information, call 468-7231.