

Gateway To Sedona 2009 Annual Calendar

Pecan, Wine and Antique Festival
February 13 - 15
www.cvaz.org

Phone: (928) 567-0535, Ext. 135

The Festival features over 30 antique booths from many collections from all over Arizona and the neighboring southwestern states. Features Arizona wineries including local Verde Valley Vineyards, pecan pies and pecan products made with pecans grown locally in Camp Verde.

Sedona Marathon 2008
February 7
www.sedonamarathon.com

Phone: (800) 775-7671

Run through the red rocks of Sedona and you'll never be the same again. Capture the inspiration of red rock spires, feel the draw of a Sedona Vortex and travel through mountains that are geologically ancient. Meet yourself in a new environment as you challenge yourself to run the marathon, 1/2 marathon or 5K.

Verde Canyon Railroad Chocolate Lovers' Festival
February 11-16
www.verdecanyonrr.com

Phone: (800) 293-7245

Combine your love of the outdoors with the romance of chocolate. The Verde Canyon Railroad's Chocolate Lovers' Festival offers lovers, friends and families the perfect opportunity to come together to see amazing wildlife and waterfowl while tantalizing their taste buds with sweet treats.

Sedona International Film Festival & Workshop
February 24 - March 1
www.sedonafilmfestival.com

Phone: (928) 282-1177

The five six-day festival features more than 125 films, including features, documentaries, shorts and animation. Filmmakers and audiences from around the world have heralded Sedona's festival as one of their favorites. The Frank Warner Workshop brings Academy Award-winning, industry professionals to Sedona to teach, inspire and share their expertise.

St. Patrick's Day Parade and Festival
March 14
www.sedonamainstreet.com

Phone: (928) 204-2390

Come and celebrate St. Patrick's Day in Uptown Sedona. Join the community of Sedona for the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade and activities, which include a Beer Garden and food booths sponsored by local restaurants, as well as family and children's activities.

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Verde Canyon Railroad Lucky Leprechaun Express
March 14-16

www.verdecanyonrr.com

Phone: (800) 293-7245

Traditional Irish fare, live music and a bit of good cheer. Everybody can enjoy the luck of the Irish on St. Patrick's Day aboard the Verde Canyon Railroad! Toast your luck with a green beer as you ride the rails through the pristine beauty of the Verde Canyon. A spring shower may well paint the sky with a rainbow, luring leprechauns to search for a pot of gold amidst the burgeoning springtime green that covers the canyon floor.

Journey to Jerusalem

April 10 - 12

www.pottershandproductions.com

Phone: (928) 300-3968

Travel back in time as crowds gather and the events of Easter weekend will come alive with 50 costumed actors and live animals for the presentation of Journey to Jerusalem, by Potter's Hand Productions. Admission is free. Location of the event to be announced.

Verde Canyon Railroad Easter Bunny Express

April 12

www.verdecanyonrr.com

Phone: (800) 293-7245

Hop aboard for candy and photos with the Easter bunny. The popular Easter Bunny Express bounds into town again this year, with a hippety, hoppety good time to be had at the Verde Canyon Railroad. Our friend, the Easter Bunny, and his basket of eggs and goodies will be rolling down the tracks.

Verde Valley Birding & Nature Festival

April 23 - 26

www.birdyverde.org

Phone: (928) 282-2202

Come bird the Verde! Whether you'd like to experience the majesty of a condor soaring over the Grand Canyon, observe bald eagles from a passenger car of the Verde Canyon Railroad, catch a glimpse of a kingfisher while canoeing down the Verde River, or take your kids for an exciting afternoon of nature and conservation activities, this Festival will have something to whet your appetite. Hosted by the Dead Horse Ranch State Park in Cottonwood.

Sedona Visual Artists' Coalition Open Studios Tour

May 2 - 3

www.sedonaartistscoalition.org

Phone: (928) 204-2963

The SVAC Open Studios Tour provides both local residents and tourists a chance to see into a workplace rarely available for public viewing. Artists will open their studios for a self guided driving tour around the beautiful Sedona and the Village of Oak Creek areas. Visitors can

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experience where the creative magic happens, see demonstrations, and taste light refreshments. All events are free to the public.

Verde Canyon Railroad Cinco de Mayo Celebration

May 2-4

www.verdecanyonrr.com

Phone: (800) 293-7245

Mariachi music, mouth-watering food and colorful decorations highlight the festivities on Monday May 4, 2009. The Verde Canyon Railroad will celebrate Arizona's Mexican heritage with a special Cinco de Mayo excursion train a day early!

Sedona Bluegrass Festival

May 3

www.ChamberMusicSedona.org

Phone: (928) 204-2415

Chamber Music Sedona finishes the season with the annual Sedona Bluegrass Festival held Creekside at Los Abrigados Resort & Spa. Tim O'Brien, the Grammy award winning mandolinist and singer/songwriter, The Burnett Family Bluegrass, winners of the 2004 Telluride Bluegrass Festival, and Crystal Ridge Bluegrass Band, finalists in the 2008 Telluride Bluegrass Festival will all be performing at this year's Sedona Bluegrass Festival.

Verde Canyon Railroad Throw Mama on the Train

May 10

www.verdecanyonrr.com

Phone: (800) 293-7245

Mom receives a complimentary gift on her special day! Tunnels, trestles, and other unexpected treats will create a lifetime of memories. The whole family will delight in this wall-to-wall wonderland.

Zuni Festival of Art and Culture

May 22 - 24

www.musnaz.org

Phone: (928) 774-5213

In partnership with the A:shiwí A:wán Museum and Heritage Center, a celebration of the Zuni way of life and Zuni expressions of creativity returns after a four year hiatus. The A:shiwí people will share Zuni language, lifeways, and traditional dances and flute playing. Prepare to be amazed and inspired by weavers, inlay jewelers, fetish carvers, and painters. See exotic stone, shell, and antler being carved into Zuni animal fetishes of the six directions. Learn about the shaping, forming, and painting of traditional Zuni pottery.

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Zaki Gordon Institute Shorts Film Festival

May 22 - 24

www.zaki.yc.edu

Phone: (928) 649-4279

The Zaki Gordon Institute Shorts Film Festival features graduates from the Zaki Gordon Institute for Independent Filmmaking (ZGI) and the premiere screening of their thesis films with friends, family, and complete strangers. The diverse program of shorts includes documentaries, comedies, computer graphic images, dramas, thrillers and art films.

Verde Valley Home & Business Expo

May 23

www.sedonachamber.com

Phone: 928-204-1123

Camp Verde, Cottonwood and Sedona Chambers of Commerce host the Verde Valley Home & Business Expo annually. Businesses from Camp Verde, Clarkdale, Cottonwood, Prescott and Sedona (and a few from outside the region) will all be at the Verde Valley Fairgrounds in Cottonwood, ready to show off their products and services. Admission will be free and there is always plenty of parking.

Verde Canyon Railroad Grape Train Escapes

June 5 & 19, July 10 & 24, August 7 & 28, September 4

www.verdecanyonrr.com

Phone: (800) 293-7245

The Grape Train Escape series takes the romantic appeal of the train to a whole new level. Wine enthusiasts have hopped on board each summer to sample wines from around the world, talk to winemakers, enjoy gourmet snacks and escape the real world for a few hours. There are six rides scheduled between June and September, each featuring wine from a different region.

Festival of Native American Culture

June 5 - 13

www.festivalofnativeamericanculture.org

Phone: 928-284-1228

Immerse yourself in Native American culture at the Festival of Native American Culture. The Festival of Native American Culture is a place where friends of the Native American culture come together to share their passion. Activities include a Native American Film Festival, art market, a celebration of music and dance, and the inaugural biennial Conference on Archaeoastronomy of the American Southwest

Verde Canyon Railroad Saturday Night Starlight & Tequila Sunset Trains

June 13 & 27, July 18, August 1 & 22, September 12

www.verdecanyonrr.com

Phone: (800) 293-7245

Escape the ordinary with an evening ride where canyon breezes cool the Arizona heat from June through September. Watch as the canyon comes alive with nocturnal beauty and wildlife. While urban areas sizzle in the Arizona summertime, passengers aboard Verde Canyon

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Railroad's evening trains may enjoy the fresh, high desert breezes as the train passes through a nocturnal wonderland. It's a great summer adventure.

Shakespeare Sedona
2009 SEASON CANCELLED
www.shakespeareseadona.com

Phone: (800) 768-9286

Northern Arizona's premier classical theater. Shakespeare Sedona returns to Northern Arizona annually, bringing the finest in professional classical theatre to Sedona. The festival is held in its original setting: outdoors and under the stars at the historic Tlaquepaque Arts & Crafts Village.

Sedona Taste
June 14
www.apositiveplace.org

Phone: (928) 282-0122

Relax by the creek taking in the fresh canyon breeze while enjoying some of the best food Sedona has to offer. The benefit auction features fine bottles of wine, dining experiences, art, jewelry, travel packages and much more. The evening's festivities feature fabulous cuisine from twenty of the areas finest restaurants, and exceptional wines, gourmet beers as well as non-alcoholic beverages. The Annual Sedona Taste, benefiting the Boys & Girls Clubs of Northern Arizona, takes place at Los Abrigados Resort & Spa.

Verde Canyon Railroad Throw Papa on the Train
June 21
www.verdecanyonrr.com

Phone: (800) 293-7245

Dad receives a complimentary gift on his special day! Tunnels, trestles, and other unexpected treats will create a lifetime of memories. The whole family will delight in this wall-to-wall wonderland.

Prescott Frontier Days®, Inc. World's Oldest Rodeo®.
June 29 - July 5
www.worldsoldestrodeo.com

Phone: (866)-407-6336

The thundering hooves, bucking broncs and tough-as-leather cowboys are sure to get your blood pumping during the daily performances of Prescott Frontier Days & The World's Oldest Rodeo. The Rodeo and a wide array of other special events take place in the cool pines of beautiful downtown Prescott.

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Verde Canyon Railroad Firecracker Express

July 4

www.verdecanyonrr.com

Phone: (800) 293-7245

The "Firecracker Express," rolls into the depot highlighting the Railroad's mid-summer season. Celebrate America with a picnic on the patio and good old-fashioned, patriotic music.

Verde Valley July 4th Events

Dates vary during the week of July 4th. Events are listed below by community. Fireworks are scheduled for Cottonwood only. Sedona does not offer a fireworks program for the community due to wild fire danger.

Camp Verde:

Activities include water games, watermelon and pie eating contests, and lots of good old-fashioned fun at Butler Park. For more information call (928) 567-0535, Ext. 135.

Cottonwood:

Activities include kids games, free hot dogs and hamburgers (while they last) beginning at 3:30 p.m. Fireworks start at 8:45 p.m. Bring chairs and/or blankets for seating. Kids Park at 12th Street and Cherry Street (in front of the Verde Valley Fair Grounds.) For more information call (928) 639-329900, Ext. 0.

Clarkdale:

Clarkdale's Annual Old Fashioned 4th of July Event in the Clarkdale Town Park. The annual Children's Parade beginning at the Clarkdale-Jerome School, with prizes in a variety of categories. Fourth of July events and activities take place in the Town Park including children's carnival games, fire engine rides, and ice cream social. For more information call (928) 639-2495.

Lake Montezuma:

Lake Montezuma: The tranquility of Sycamore Park is briefly disrupted during the 4th of July Kiwanis Duck Race. This annual event provides plenty of family fun and a chance to win a percentage of the proceeds. Tickets may be purchased at multiple locations throughout McGuireville, Rimrock, and Lake Montezuma. The event also includes a pancake breakfast, parade, and other activities throughout the day. Call Carol for more information (928) 567-0457.

Hopi Festival of Art and Culture/The Oldest Hopi Art Show in the World

July 3 -5

www.musnaz.org

Phone: (928) 774-5213

More than 55 booths brim with fine arts and crafts. Visitors gain insight from carvers, painters, jewelers, potters, quilters, and basket and textile weavers against a backdrop of cultural presentations, storytelling, music, and dancing. Take a taste of Hopi bread or piki baked in outside ovens. Watch Hopi pottery being shaped, painted and traditionally fired. Walk the Museum's Rio de Flag Nature Trail with a Hopi medicine woman. And take part in insightful discussions about the Hopi values of humility, cooperation, respect, balance, and earth stewardship.

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Prescott Indian Art Market

July 11 - 12

www.sharlot.org

Phone: (928) 445-3122

Join in celebrating the annual Prescott Indian Art Market (PIAM) to be held on the tree-shaded grounds of the Sharlot Hall Museum. The Museum's flower-lined walkways and commemorative rose garden provide an inviting backdrop for the impressive display of Indian art. The market features both traditional and contemporary works of art, including distinctive jewelry, exquisite ceramics, hand-woven baskets and blankets.

Camp Verde Corn Fest

July 18

www.cvaz.org

Phone: (928) 567-0535, Ext. 135

There will be games and fun for all ages and contests including 'The Corniest Corn Joke,' to be followed by the 'Corn Shucking Contest,' 'Corn Eating Contest,' and last but not the least, the 'Hog Calling Contest.' In addition to the exciting activities at the Community Center Grounds the 5th annual Cornfest Boxing Championships take place in the Gymnasium.

National Day of the American Cowboy

July 25

www.sedonamainstreet.com

Phone: (928) 204-2390

National Day of the American Cowboy, proclaimed by President Bush in 2005, is celebrated with a free community event along "Main Street" (Hwy. 89A) in Uptown Sedona. Come enjoy "a whole lot of cowboy goin's on" including non-stop live performances, demonstrations, and live entertainment. An American Cowboy Parade takes place on Jordan Road, so bring a chair to sit and enjoy the festivities.

Navajo Festival of Art and Culture

July 31 – August 2

www.musnaz.org

Phone: (928) 774-5213

A visit to the Navajo Festival is like traveling to the Navajo Nation. An authentic presentation of the Navajo "Beauty Way" philosophy of living in harmony is offered by more than 55 Navajo artists, storytellers, and cultural interpreters from many clans. Witness multi-generations of rug weavers working on traditional upright looms throughout the Museum of Northern Arizona. Diné Women's presentation of rug weaving takes the audience on a journey from sheep shearing to weaving techniques and the meanings behind intricate rug designs.

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Red Rocks Music Festival
August 29 – 30 and September 5 - 6
www.redrocksmusicfestival.com

Phone: 877-733-7257

This festival is for those who love red rock country and classical music with featured composers and world-class musicians. The 2009 festival celebrates Mendelssohn's birthday, presents Steinway artists, the Mack Sisters, in four-hand piano, and returns the popular Classical Meets Jazz, Part II.

Moonlight Madness with Main Street Sedona Program
September 5-7
www.sedonamainstreet.com

Phone: 928-204-2390

This street festival includes free music and entertainment, children's activities, and sidewalk sales in numerous locations along Hwy 89A and Hwy 179 in Uptown Sedona. Bring the entire family to Uptown Sedona for a special time of fun, food, music, and shopping! Sidewalk sales and some of the entertainment continue throughout the Labor Day weekend.

Fiesta del Tlaquepaque
September 12
www.tlaq.com

Phone: 928.282.4838

A celebration of Mexican Independence Day, continuing a long tradition of fabulous food, music, dance and entertainment for young and old. The flower-strewn streets of Tlaquepaque ring with the music of strolling mariachi and fiery flamenco dancers. Enjoy Ballet Folklorico and visit the variety of artists located throughout the Arts and Crafts Village representing shops and galleries. Admission is free with a free shuttle service from the Uptown Sedona parking lot.

Verde Canyon Railroad Grandparent's Day
September 13
www.verdecanyonrr.com

Phone: (800) 293-7245

Honor treasured relatives on a special Grandparents Day. Be sure to make time for a visit to the John Bell Train and Mining Museum. The museum has its own home, trackside, just outside the depot doors. A fully renovated 1940's Boxcar that was used to haul ammunition for the U.S. Army has been set up complete with track and wheel bed for effect.

Sedona Community Fair
September 19
www.sedonafair.com

Phone: 928-862-0210

The City of Sedona, Chamber of Commerce, and the Sedona Airport Authority come together to create a community festival at the Sedona Airport. The fair is an all-day fair with booths, food, children's activities, professional entertainment, aircraft on display, and a classic car

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competition. The event is a non-profit effort to create a 'small town' gathering as a community festival reminiscent of Sedona's past.

Slide Rock State Park Apple Festival, 4th Annual
September 19 - 20

www.arizonastateparksfoundation.org

Phone: (928) 282-3034

The Park for many years was a large orchard and today is still a working commercial apple ranch producing more than 1,200 boxes of apples a year. Apple Festival guests are encouraged to pick apples from the 13 varieties of trees in the Park and take them home. Apple recipes can be taken from the Apple Fest Cookbook featuring recipes from Arizona notables, local celebrities, and other Slide Rock friends. The Apple Festival activities include a bird walking tour, history walk, arts and crafts, food, music, games for kids, and a silent auction.

Sedona Jazz on the Rocks 28th Season
September 22 - 27

www.sedonajazz.com

Phone: (928) 282-1985

Founded in 1981, Sedona Jazz on the Rocks celebrates jazz as a living art form through education and performance programs. A not-for-profit organization dedicated to furthering the talents of young Arizona jazz musicians, Sedona Jazz on the Rocks brings the greatest names in jazz to one of the most beautiful places in America. Each festival showcases a diverse array of jazz performers from legendary to emerging, coming together for five days of incredible music.

State of the Art

September 25 and 26 – Tlaquepaque Arts & Crafts Village

www.tlaq.com

Phone: (928) 282-4838

A veritable banquet of sumptuous art will delight and amaze. Admission is free. Plan on being immersed in world-class arts and entertainment. Designed for the new art collector and the seasoned connoisseur, this end-of-summer banquet of sumptuous art will delight and amaze. Special event art shows, demonstrations and one-on-one time with national award-winning artists are exclusively available for State of the Art attendees.

Verde River Day At Dead Horse Ranch State Park
September 26 -27

www.azstateparks.com

Phone: (928) 634-5283

The activities during Verde River Days promote preservation and care of the environment by showcasing informative exhibits on the Verde's riparian habitat. The celebration brings together 40-plus nature-based exhibits, sandcastle building, a menagerie of live animals, non-stop activities including canoe rides, nature hikes, continuous entertainment and local food vendors.

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Verde Canyon Railroad Ales On Rails

Every Weekend in October / October 3, 4, 10, 11, 17, 18, 24, 25, 31

www.verdecanyonrr.com

Phone: (800) 293-7245

Enjoy specialty beers, brats, and other food and spirits along with a great view. See the deep blue skies, highlighted by the crimson-colored sandstone cliffs. The Verde Canyon is often called "Arizona's other Grand Canyon" with spectacular canyon scenery on a train trip that offers visual feasts including seasonal spring flowers, fall foliage, and hundred of migratory birds, including the majestic bald eagle.

Sedona Arts Festival

October 10 - 11

www.sedonaartsfestival.org

Phone: (928) 204-9456

The Sedona Arts Festival is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to promoting and funding the arts in Sedona. The Festival features over 130 of the nation's finest artists and crafts persons, continuous live entertainment, a raffle with great prizes, and an interactive KidZone. Barbara Antonsen Sedona Artist Invitational, named after the Festival's founder, offers fantastic exposure for regional artists.

Fort Verde Days

October 9 - 11

www.cvaz.org

Phone: (928) 567-0535, Ext. 35

This annual bash features a parade, horse events, cavalry drills, an art show with handmade crafts and quilts, loads of barbecue and opportunities for all ages to learn about the area's past as a military outpost. Fort Verde Days takes place at Fort Verde State Historic Park, one of the main visitor attractions of Camp Verde, and a must-see for military history enthusiasts, or those who just want a glimpse of Arizona pioneer life.

Sedona Arts Center 4th Annual Plein Air Festival (Presented by L'Auberge de Sedona.)

October 24 – November 1

www.sedonaartscenter.com

954-4442

Phone: (928) 282-3809 or toll free (888)

Sedona Plein Air Festival is a celebration of Sedona's extraordinary beauty as seen through the eyes of 30 of the finest plein air painters in the country. The weeklong festival features these painters all over town - on the streets, trailheads, creeks, and vistas - capturing the beauty of the Sedona area on canvas.

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Celebraciones de la Gente, 5th Annual

October 23 -25

www.musnaz.org

Phone: (928) 774-5213

The Museum comes to life for Dia de los Muertos or Day of the Dead, an ancient Meso-American holiday held throughout Mexico, Latin America, and the Southwestern United States. Transforming grief into celebration, this ritual pays homage to the lives of lost loved ones by inviting them back to enjoy their favorite music and foods, and to honor their contributions in life. More than a dozen Flagstaff families bring ofrendas (altars), from their homes to share in a courtyard exhibit.

Annual Safe And Fun Trick or Treat In Sedona

October 31

www.sedonamainstreet.com

Phone: (928) 204-2390

This community tradition began years ago when local children needed a safe and fun experience for Halloween night, instead of wandering the dark and eerie residential streets of Sedona. Uptown merchants decorate their windows with jack-o-lanterns, dress in their spook-tacular costumes, and hand out candy to children of all ages with their mummies and daddies.

Verde Canyon Railroad Haunted Halloween Express

October 31

www.verdecanyonrr.com

Phone: (800) 293-7245

It's never a spooky ride on the Verde Canyon Railroad where passengers are treated with pleasure – not tricked. Ghosts and goblins, witches and warlocks – pint-sized and full-grown – are invited to join in the Railroad's frightening good fun.

Festival of Wreaths at Sedona Public Library

November - December

www.sedonalibrary.org

Phone: (928)282-7714

An annual fundraiser presented by The Friends of the Sedona Library. wreaths, tabletop trees and centerpieces are donated by local businesses, artists, and crafty individuals, ranging from traditional to whimsical to just plain fabulous. A Pre-Sale Gala Reception is held for members. Sale of the wreaths to the general public is held during regular Library hours.

Spectacular Red Rock Fantasy at Los Abrigados Resort and Spa

Lights On November 19 – Lights Off January 2

www.redrockfantasy.com

Phone: (928) 282-1777

Nestled within the world-renowned red rocks of Sedona, the spectacular Red Rock Fantasy is a festival of more than a million lights providing a man-made marvel within the scenic beauty that has drawn visitors for the past one hundred years. The festival promises never-before-seen

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marvels of light that leave children in wonderment and move adult minds to enjoy the holidays as they did when they were young.

Verde Canyon Railroad Santa Claus Express

December 2, 5, 6, 9, 12, 13, 16, 19, 20, 23

www.verdecanyonrr.com

Phone: (800) 293-7245

The iconic vision of a train under the Christmas tree is never more authentic than at Verde Canyon Railroad. The Santa Claus Express is ready to roll!

Whether child-like or simply young-at-heart, all passengers will have the opportunity to spend quality time with Santa and Mrs. Claus on each journey in December.

Sedona Annual Tree Lighting and Santa Visit

December 4

www.sedonamainstreet.com

Phone: (928) 204-2390

Visits held in Uptown Sedona. Come to enjoy all the festivities, see the new holiday tree, and sing along with traditional carols. Munch on cookies and sip hot beverages. Santa will listen to the hopes and dreams of each child and will stay until all our children have had individual time for their wishes to be heard. Free Polaroid photos with Santa will be available.

Festival of Lights - The Lighting of 6000 Luminarias

December 12 Tlaquepaque Arts & Crafts Village

www.tlaq.com

Phone: (928) 282-4838

A cherished tradition that involves the lighting of six thousand luminarias in Tlaquepaque's courtyards and walkways. Dozens of entertaining events, including performances by carolers, musicians and dancers will be scheduled along with a living nativity with live animals. Specially designated luminarias honoring cancer survivors, victims can be purchased in advance.

Pilgrimage to Bethlehem

December 18 - 20

www.pottershandproductions.com

Phone: (928) 300-3968

The "Pilgrimage to Bethlehem," is a musical re-enactment of the first Christmas of Bethlehem of 2000 years ago. This free community event is a re-enactment of the Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem. The Bethlehem Market begins in the afternoon with a Christmas concert following. The location of the event to be announced.