



## 'Tis The Season

**Come celebrate the Christmas season in Laurinburg, NC as the community presents "Tis The Season" -- a month-long Christmas Festival featuring live music, ice skating, tree lightings, live nativity scenes, singing Christmas trees, food vendors, and a downtown beautifully illuminated for the holiday season. The festival runs every weekend from November 18th through New Year's Eve with a special "kick-off" tree lighting and concert featuring Jim Quick and Coastline on Sunday, November 25th.**

A true community event, 'Tis The Season is the inspiration of a group of citizens, not an organization or civic group. "We began talking about how we used to celebrate Christmas and decided we wanted to bring back that nostalgic feeling of Christmas past," said the group's secretary, Cynthia Womble.

Terry Parker, director of the effort says the vision for the event is to do more than just transform downtown Laurinburg into a venue that rekindles the memories of bygone times. "The festival isn't simply about Christmas, it is also about community. From choirs, to ice skating, to video messages and skydiving with local soldiers deployed away from home, the event will combine southern hospitality with the spirit of a Hallmark movie or card," says Parker, who says a key hope is to unite and rebuild a sense of community in Laurinburg and beyond.



Co-director Carol Coughenour concurs, "It truly is a heartfelt thing. I've lived here all my life. My hope is that our community can work and come together for the good of us all. It's really just about being together and people loving Christmas."



## 'Tis The Season (Continued)



Early indications are this hope is being realized. "There's already so many people involved in the project. We have over 700 volunteers wanting to be a part of it," Parker said. "Everyone loves the holiday season and I think everyone is ready to transform into Laurinburg into North Carolina's Christmas town."

The transformation begins with visually turning Main Street Laurinburg into a visual from a Jimmy Stewart Movie. "Downtown will have new lighting and refreshed Christmas wreaths and business fronts decorated with fresh greenery and lights. The plan is to have the windows of our downtown businesses display beautiful Christmas scenes" said Janice Creed, co-director.

The group is taking orders for 7-foot Christmas trees that will be placed along both sides of Main Street in the downtown area. "We are going to a tree farm just outside West Jefferson to pick up 100 trees," Creed said. A total of 76 trees will be placed in the downtown, and the group is confident each one will get adopted by someone. 'Tis the Season will put lights on each tree — but it will be up to whomever purchases the



## 'Tis The Season (Continued)

tree to decorate it. As part of the effort there will be a community tree-decorating contest on the festival's Facebook page to determine the winning tree.

In addition, the Laurinburg Art Park will include a 20-foot Christmas tree with a truly special ceremony for the lighting and concert to formally kick-off the festival on Sunday, November 25.



The centerpiece of the festival (figuratively and literally) will be a 30-by-60-foot skating rink. To accommodate the Carolina weather, the rink will not be water-based ice, but rather a polymer rink used by many professional hockey teams. The surface is easier to maintain, and easier to navigate as a skater, thus ideal for beginners and those that are "skating challenged". The rink area will also be home of many of the food trucks and "alpine" vendors.

Beyond the decorative elements for the eyes will be events and programs for the soul. Local soldiers deployed across the country and the globe are being contacted to try to organize "skype" nights. Residence are recording their fondest Christmas memories to be played on a big screen in the art park. Additionally, weekly events will include live nativity scenes, a signing Christmas tree with over 100 vocalists and 7 directors, parades, and a New Year's celebration.

Don't miss this month-long celebration as Laurinburg combines southern hospitality with the spirit of Hallmark to present Tis The Season – A Christmas Celebration.

For more information visit [Laurinburg-tis-theseason.com](http://Laurinburg-tis-theseason.com) or call **910-280-1874**



## Laurinburg Welcomes Our Visitors

The City of Laurinburg and Scotland County look forward to welcoming you to our community and showing our Southern hospitality. For more information on where to stay, please visit the **Scotland County Tourism Web site** at [www.visitnc-soul.com](http://www.visitnc-soul.com)

### Hotels

<b>Comfort Inn</b>	910-277-7788	<b>Pine Acres Lodge</b>	910-276-1531
<b>Hampton Inn</b>	910-277-1516	<b>Scotland Inn</b>	910-276-0632
<b>Holiday Inn Express</b>	910-291-3300	<b>Oasis RV Park</b>	910-266-8372
<b>Quality Inn</b>	910-277-0080		

### Casual Dining

<b>215 on Main</b>	910-361-4474
<b>Captain Larry's Seafood House</b>	910-276-1880
<b>Mi Casita Restaurante Mexicano</b>	910-276-0032
<b>The Main Table</b>	910-361-4273
<b>Wooly McDuff's Neighborhood Grille</b>	910-276-6632

### Quick Serve Dining

<b>General McArthur's</b>	910-276-1498	<b>Great Wall Chinese Food</b>	910-276-9199
<b>Golden Corral</b>	910-277-1620	<b>Jin Jin Chinese Food</b>	910-277-1616
<b>Greek Village</b>	910-277-7700	<b>Little Fuji Grill</b>	910-277-9922
<b>Jerry's Deli and Grill</b>	910-266-9020	<b>Miyako</b>	910-506-4081
<b>Huddle House</b>	910-610-4100	<b>Taki Japanese Restaurant</b>	910-291-9908
<b>Smithfield's Bar-B-Q</b>	910-266-8700	<b>Jesse's Pizza &amp; Hot Sub</b>	910-277-8538
<b>Waffle House</b>	910-277-9259	<b>Pizza Hut</b>	910-276-1770
<b>China Garden</b>	910-266-8885	<b>Pizza Inn</b>	910-276-6565
<b>Golden Run</b>	910-277-7734		