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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Community Tree Lighting kicks off the holiday season in Mechanicsburg

Mechanicsburg, PA — November 23, 2026 — Mechanicsburg will kick-off the holiday season with its annual Community Tree Lighting on Friday, November 27 in the town square park in downtown Mechanicsburg. The event, presented annually by the Mechanicsburg Chamber of Commerce, is scheduled for 5:30 PM. with entertainment beginning at 5:15 PM. In addition to traditional holiday music and the ceremonial tree lighting, a host of other activities, including refreshments, visiting with Santa and a model train exhibit, will be offered throughout the evening.

The event begins with seasonal music by the tree supplied by Kirk Wise at 5:15 PM. Kirk Wise will provide the sounds of the season to get the crowd into that holiday festive mood and build up to the much-anticipated lighting of the tree around 5:30 PM. Afterwards, all are invited to Buhrig's Gathering Place, 25 E. Main St., where the free festivities will continue. The program includes visiting with Santa Claus and some holiday refreshments. Also, visit the Mechanicsburg Museum Association's Freight Station for the current exhibit "Let It Snow, Let It Snow, to the North Pole We Go" and the popular and ever-expanding model train exhibit. Free parking is available at the municipal lots via East and West Strawberry Avenues.

In addition to the festivities, several downtown businesses will host holiday shopping specials and offer free refreshments.

Additional events on Friday evening include:

- Boy Scout Troop 80 will be serving hot cocoa at the tree lighting
- Extended hours, holiday shopping specials and refreshments at downtown merchants
- Toys for Tots Collection Site; Mechanicsburg Chamber of Commerce is collecting new, unwrapped toys through December 15 for the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program. The toys will be distributed as Christmas gifts to less fortunate children in the

Mechanicsburg area. Donations can be dropped off at the Chamber office located at 6 West Strawberry Avenue, Mechanicsburg, PA.

The Annual Community Tree Lighting on Friday evening kicks off the holiday season in Mechanicsburg. 'Small Business Saturday' is also on **November 28th**, which encourages shoppers to support their local small businesses for their holiday shopping and throughout the year. Many merchants in the community will be offering special events and promotions. On **Friday and Saturday, December 4th and 5th**, the Mechanicsburg Museum Association will host Candlelight Walking Tours. The two-hour tours will visit several historic buildings, all of which will be decorated for the season. There are several tours each night starting at 4:30PM. Tickets are $30. Tickets are required and available by calling 717-697-6088 or visiting the Museum. Also, at the Museum, the popular model train exhibit is back. Their Christmas Exhibit – Let It Snow, Let It Snow, to the North Pole We Go - is on display now through January 9. **Wednesday, December 9th**, Silver Spring Parks & Rec will host 'Winter's Night' with the New Kingstown Fire Co. starting at 6 PM. Seasonal music, horse drawn wagon rides, holiday lights, and food trucks are some of the events to happen that evening along with a visit and photos with Santa. **Saturday, December 12th**, the Mechanicsburg Museum Association hosts Mrs. Claus for a storytime and craft event at 12 PM. **Friday, December 18th**, the New Kingstown Fire Company will host Santa Storytime with the Simpson Library and Silver Spring Parks & Rec. Starting at 10:30 AM, children can read a story, visit with Santa, see the fire trucks, and create a craft. At 5:30 PM **Friday, December 18th**, the Borough of Mechanicsburg will offer A Holly Jolly Drive In at Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Park featuring the 1966 version of How the Grinch Stole Christmas followed by a screening of The Polar Express. **Saturday, December 19th**, Silver Spring Fire Company & Silver Spring Parks & Rec will offer Whoville Holiday Hangout at the Silver Spring Fire Company for children ages 6-12. Festive fun of games, crafts, pizza, a holiday movie, and a visit from the Grinch highlight this new holiday event that starts at 11 AM. Registration is required and can be done through the Township website or contact the office at 717-766-0178.

The Community Tree Lighting event is presented by the Mechanicsburg Chamber of Commerce, and is sponsored in part by the Borough of Mechanicsburg, Buchanan & Erb Fuel Oil, Buhrig's Gathering Place, and Kirk Wise. For more information, contact the Mechanicsburg Chamber of Commerce, 6 West Strawberry Avenue, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055; telephone (717) 796-0811; e-mail info@mechanicsburgchamber.org.

About Mechanicsburg Chamber of Commerce

The Mechanicsburg Chamber of Commerce supports a variety of community, business and economic development programs throughout the year. It has over 400 business and residential members throughout South Central Pennsylvania; and focuses on the Mechanicsburg Borough, Hampden, Lower Allen, Monroe, Silver Spring and Upper Allen Townships.

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