

PRESS RELEASE

FROM: BETHEL PERFORMING ARTS PROJECT c/o Rosabelle Tifft, 824-2053

RE: PERFORMING ARTS FEATURE OF BETHEL'S BLOCK PARTY

12/1/08

Bethel shoppers will be treated to an array of local talent when the "Local Holiday Shop-Around" event takes place in the form of a "moving block party" on Friday, December 12, from 4-8pm. Look for most of the Main Street businesses to be open until 8pm and many will showcase local performing artists every half-hour until 8pm, when a community dance will be held until 10pm. The event is sponsored by the Bethel Area Chamber of Commerce with help from the Bethel Performing Arts Project (BPAP).

The Bethel Area Chamber's Downtown Task Force initiated the Local Holiday Shop-Around project in their efforts to come up with ways to revitalize downtown shopping. Ross Timberlake, Chamber board member, said the idea of a "block party" presented an opportunity for BPAP to partner with various businesses. BPAP co-organizers Timberlake and Lynn Arizzi are enthused with the great variety of local talent, from actors to musicians, who volunteered to participate and support the "Buy Local" campaign.

The schedule of performers is as follows:

4 pm - Jade's Salon: Jewel Clark and Donny Katlin, musicians; Sassafras Market: Wendy Green, solo musician; True North Adventureware: Ross Timberlake, solo musician.

4:30 pm - Café DiCocoa: Cookiemaking for Kids, and the Bethel Community Players with skits.

5:00 pm - Linda Clifford Scottish & Irish Merchant: Connie St. Pierre, celtic harp

5:30 pm – Sudbury Inn: The Senior Players read "A Child's Christmas in Wales" by Dylan Thomas.

6:00 pm – DiCocoa's Marketplace: Amy and Wendy Green, musicians.

6:30 pm – The Victoria Inn: Lynn Arizzi, pianist with a Christmas carole sing-a-long.

7:00 pm - Brooks Bros.: Jewel Clark, Donny Katlin and Ross Timberlake with a musical potpourri.

7:30 pm – S. S. Milton Restaurant: Three Flutists including Kathleen Devoors, Meredith Mink and Patricia Boyle-Wight.

8:00 pm – Funky Red Barn: Community Dance with the Ten Point Stump (and friends) live band including Paul Farrar on bass guitar, Ross Timberlake on guitar, Joe Anderson on harp and guitar and Brian Horan on drums.

Continuous entertainment all evening will include Santa who will visit six local businesses beginning at 4 pm; Kai Clothing will hold a fashion show with a DJ; Spirit Wings will have entertainment by an acoustic quartet; and Philbrook Place will have musical entertainment.

Timberlake and Arizzi said “These local artists are giving their time and talents to make this an entertaining holiday event for local people. We encourage the local community to take advantage of this occasion to enjoy the talents of their friends and neighbors.”

For more information, call Ross Timberlake at 824-6545 or Lynn Arizzi at 824-0080.