Santa's Chocolate Express Event in Grafton Set for Dec. 7

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GRAFTON - Grafton annual holiday chocolate festival, Santa's Chocolate Express will come to town on Saturday, December 7 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Santa's Chocolate Express is an opportunity for everyone in the family to enjoy this town-wide holiday experience. Participants will visit local businesses to collect a variety of chocolates, enjoy caroling on the downtown streets, horse-drawn trolley ride and

meet Santa and Mrs. Claus at Grove Memorial Park from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Strollers can take in views of the majestic bluffs and the Illinois River as they enjoy the surrounding holiday celebration.

Participants will have the opportunity to tour Grafton's lodging and guest houses. Ticket holders will be invited to register to win a free overnight stay at one of those guest houses.

"Santa's Chocolate Express captures the full spirit of the holidays throughout the town," said Grafton Chamber President Janey Brummett. "This is a great way to celebrate in style for children and adults alike, including the collection of irresistible chocolates as you make your way through town and finish up with a chance to see Santa Claus." "New to this year's event is the opportunity to enjoy a horse-drawn trolley ride provided by Pere Marquette Stables."

Santa's Chocolate Express will begin at Drifter's Restaurant on the west end of Main Street. Tickets are required for this event and include free shuttle service, a complimentary treat at each participating business, and a holiday shopping bag with a small selection of chocolates and a holiday wine glass.

With seven designated shuttle stops, "express riders" will experience a variety of shops, eateries, and scenic views throughout the town. Many businesses will be offering specials and discounts, giving riders and strollers a chance for some Christmas shopping or a special holiday meal.

Tickets are $12 in advance and $15 the day of the event. Advance tickets can be purchased online at: https://www.graftonilchamber.com/chocolate-express.