



Joliet City Center Partnership

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Annual Christmas tree arrives in Downtown Joliet

Joliet, IL – The Joliet City Center Partnership announced today the arrival of the annual City of Joliet Christmas Tree. This year’s tree was donated by the Will County State’s Attorney’s Drug Court program, from their recovery home for women on Frank Avenue in Joliet. The tree removal, transport, and installation services were fully donated by Arbor Tek Services and Chellino Crane.

“We are thrilled that our recovery home that gives hope to its residents could donate this year’s tree which will bring much hope and good cheer to the entire city,” said Julie McCabe-Sterr, Coordinator of the Will County Adult and Juvenile Drug Courts.

The tree’s short journey across the river and installation took only two hours. The Colorado Blue Spruce weighed approximately 3,000 lbs. and Arbor Tek estimated the height to be around thirty feet tall. City of Joliet Traffic Engineer Russ Lubash selected the tree from about fourteen submissions because of its traditional conical shape and close proximity.

The tree is now installed in Van Buren Plaza in Downtown Joliet at the corner of Chicago and Van Buren Streets. It will be decorated over the next week in preparation for the annual Light Up the Holidays Festival and Parade presented by the University of St. Francis on Friday, November 25th. The tree will be officially lit that day at 5:15pm by Mayor of Joliet Bob O’Dekirk and USF President Arvid Johnson. The parade will kick off immediately afterward. More information about the parade is available by visiting www.jolietdowntown.com.

The Light Up the Holidays Festival and Parade is one of many downtown events produced by the Joliet City Center Partnership in order to provide an opportunity to showcase and promote downtown businesses and boost community pride among Joliet residents and visitors.

The Will County Drug Court was created in the late 1990s. In Drug Court, prosecutors and defense attorneys work with the judge and treatment providers to help abusers who have committed non-violent offenses battle their addictions. Those who are nearing the completion of the program live in the two recovery homes – one for men and one for women.

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