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CITY OF TYBEE ISLAND

PRESS RELEASE:
For immediate release

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Experience Tybee in a Different Light

Tybee Island, Ga. – (November 24, 2008) Celebrate your holiday the new island way! Tybee Island has undergone a number of dramatic changes in the last year. The downtown area was remodeled earlier last year, with new sidewalks and crosswalks, landscaping, and a roundabout at the end of Tybrisa showcasing the City logo in the center. Highway 80 from Lazaretto Creek to the downtown area has been repaved by the Georgia Department of Transportation, and the beach restoration by the Corps of Engineers is nearing the half-way point. Several other island activities will add to the list of new sights for the weekend starting December 12th.

Tybee businesses and residents will continue a tradition of lighting up the island to celebrate the holidays along with all of the changes. Official holiday festivities will kick off at the annual "Lights on for Tybee" celebration on Friday, December 12 at 6:30pm. Mayor Jason Buelterman and Mayor *pro tem* Wanda Doyle will announce the official start of the event with the lighting of the Christmas tree at the new downtown roundabout.

Tybee Beautification Association will announce the winners of its judging for best decorated Island business. Winners will receive a poinsettia to display in their shops. The evening will include extended store hours, a variety of special offerings, and complimentary refreshments at many locations in the downtown district.

There will be entertainment featuring local choirs, elves and more! It is even likely that there will be a surprise guest, all dressed in red and white, along with a coterie of helpers, showing up at this event.

The next day, Saturday, December 13 at 3:00pm is the annual Tybee Christmas Parade, hosted by that same surprise guest! A variety of festive participants will travel down Tybrisa Street to Butler Avenue and end at the Tybee Gymnasium. There Santa will join volunteers with the Tybee Island YMCA for all of its children's activities, including time with Santa to let him know what they'd like to see under the tree in a few weeks.

About Tybee Island, Ga.:

The City of Tybee Island, Georgia is on the outermost barrier island off the Savannah area coast. With a wild bird sanctuary, over three miles of ocean beaches and salt marshes on the back river, outdoor recreation activities abound for visitors to the island. As a key defense point to the important Savannah port, Tybee's Fort Screven, Tybee Fort Theater, Fort Pulaski, and the Tybee Island and Cockspur Lighthouses combine with the unique architectures of the island's raised cottages to form a rich backdrop for history buffs. Attracting a strong artistic community, there are several local supporting art galleries. Keeping the island interesting year round are several arts festivals, the Annual Pirate Fest, the Beach Bum Parade, St Patrick's Day celebrations, the Hot Rod Run, the Beach Bash, and the Christmas Parade, as well as fireworks displays on Independence and New Year's Days off the Parker Pier and Pavilion. The Marine Science Center cooperates with Georgia's DNR to protect threatened sea turtle species by searching for nests, protecting their eggs, and making sure hatchlings make it to sea. For visitor information, stop by <http://www.tybeevisit.com/>, and to find more about the City of Tybee Island, visit our web site at <http://www.cityoftybee.org/>.

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Copies of this release can also be found at <http://www.cityoftybee.org/PressReleases.aspx>

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