



For Immediate Release

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**Thanksgiving Weekend Christmas Extravaganza
Enchanting Holiday Experience**

Excelsior, MN, August 25, 2011 – The Excelsior Christkindlsmarkt is proud to announce that Excelsior will be hosting their fifth annual Christkindlsmarkt. This three day event is based on the traditional German, open air Christmas markets held during Advent. The event will include food and entertainment for the whole family.

Christkindlsmarkt will be held in the East Lot behind Biella's in Excelsior. A three day event on Thanksgiving weekend November 25th, 26th & 27th. The market opens at 10 am on Friday November 25th, preceded by the Christkindlsmarkt parade down Water Street. The parade is lead by the Christmas Angel, the newly crowned Prince and Princess of the German organization Spielmannszug, the Minnetonka High School Choir, Mrs. Minnesota USA , Mayor Nick Ruehl, Darel Liepold the Town Crier, and our Christkindlsmarkt Santa. The market will officially open as Santa and Mayor Nick Ruehl cut the ribbon. The market features many vendors offering gifts ranging from modern to vintage to traditional German pieces. Throughout the three day event we have a packed schedule of local musical talents performing in the market. The Northpole Trolley will be offering trolley rides with Santa Claus plus Santa's live reindeer walk among the visitors offering photo ops for a memorable keepsake.

Friday at 5:30pm make way for the Children's Lighted Lantern Parade down Water Street ending at the entrance to the market where Santa will light the Christkindlsmarkt Christmas Tree and the 80 person Westonka Kids Choir will perform.

Saturday 5:00 to 7:00pm is a Special Christmas Music Program with choral groups and starlets hosted by master of ceremonies David Keiski. This will be a fun evening with doorprizes and a beautiful live Christmas music.

The Excelsior Christkindlsmarkt was started in 2007 to bring back an enchanting holiday shopping experience by local merchants and community members. With several thousand guests in attendance last year, Excelsior can expect that this year will be more delightful than the year before.

For more information about the Christkindlsmarkt please contact Myrle Mackenzie 952-292-8898, Rick Meyer 612-750-6917 and Denise Westman 612-723-4734

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