

Holiday in Old Hallowell celebration starts today

BY MEGHAN V. MALLOY
Staff Writer

HALLOWELL — Hallowell will kick off the holidays today with its annual Holiday in Old Hallowell celebration.

People will have the chance to finish up their holiday shopping, indulge in good eats and take in the annual parade.

Holiday in Old Hallowell committee member Jane Orbeton said while there are new events this year — including a toy drive

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and art show at Cerulean Gallery — it just wouldn't be the holidays in Hallowell without some of the mainstay traditions.

"The mouse hunt in the store windows usually makes a lot of excitement for the kids and their families," she said.

Families are given a list of

store names with mice hidden in the window for children to find. Three winners will be drawn at random from those who can locate all the mice.

"There are actually a lot of families who participate in this," Orbeton said.

Another festivity staple, the

parade, will begin at 5 p.m., with fireworks following thereafter.

Returning this year is Hanukkah in Old Hallowell, for all families.

"We had a lovely turnout last year and were lucky to have families of many different backgrounds," organizer Stacey

Mondschein Katz said.

Last year, Mondschein Katz organized the first Hanukkah in Old Hallowell as a way for non-Christian families to celebrate Hanukkah and for other families

days.

Mondschein Katz said families are invited to donate non-violent-themed, unwrapped toys. The gifts will be taken to the Family Violence Project office Monday.

"It's a time when holiday shopping shouldn't be just about ourselves and our own families," Mondschein Katz said.

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