

By Carolyn Lee

The Imperial Republican

Imperial will recreate an "Old Fashioned Christmas" when activities sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce usher in the season Wednesday, Dec. 2.

Besides special events, many in-store specials are planned.

Chamber Events Chair Mary Deyle said, "We had a really big turnout last year and I think this year will be even bigger. The merchants themselves are looking forward to the event."

A sampling of events includes special music, an art show, a gingerbread house contest, a vehicle viewing, a newspaper printing and the turning on of the Christmas lights downtown around 4:30 p.m.

Deyle said children's events planned include Christmas stories at the city offices, a free movie, "Christmas in Happy Forest," at the library and pictures with Santa at Pinnacle Bank. Families may bring their own cameras to have pictures taken with Santa, too.

Cookies, popcorn and cider will be served at various businesses, and many places have free lunches or meal specials.

There are about 30 businesses offering drawings, giveaways or other specials. Those include free candy canes, tanning sessions and atlases, in-house discounts, and drawings for a Nativity set, gift cards, dinners, popcorn, college tuition and more.

"Several new merchants are offering merchandise or gift certificates this year," Deyle noted.

A soup and pie supper will draw the day to a close. The supper, for a free will donation, will be held from 5-7 p.m. at the VFW Hall, with all proceeds to go to the Adam Spady medical fund.

During the supper, drawing winners will be announced, beginning about 5:15 p.m. Five free Imperial Theatre tickets will also be given away.

A flyer with all of the Old Fashioned Christmas events will be mailed to post office and rural box holders early next week.

Deyle said persons who bring the flyer with its 10 business spaces stamped to Pinnacle Bank or the VFW before 5:15 on Dec. 2 will have their name go into the drawing for Chamber Bucks, too.