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Source: Becky Booker, communication manager 205/562-3220.

PARA SEEKING NOMINATIONS FOR GRAND MARSHAL(S) OF ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARADE

Tuscaloosa, Ala. - The Tuscaloosa County Park & Recreation Authority is seeking nominations for Grand Marshal(s) of the 33rd Annual West Alabama Christmas Parade. The theme is “*Tinsel in T’town*” and the parade will be held on December 7 in downtown Tuscaloosa.

The deadline for receipt of completed Grand Marshal nomination forms is October 9 at 5 p.m. Nomination forms may be obtained by visiting www.tpara.org, any PARA facility or the main office located at 614 Greensboro Avenue in Tuscaloosa.

Nominations may be made by any interested individual or group. Nominations will be reviewed and a Grand Marshal(s) selected by a committee comprised of community representatives. Decisions made by this committee are final.

The following are criteria for nominating the 2009 Grand Marshal(s):

- Significant community contributions
- Lifetime achievements with a lasting community impact
- Career accomplishments

Nominations forms can be returned to PARA in the following manner:

Hand Delivery: PARA Building
 614 Greensboro Avenue in downtown Tuscaloosa

Mail: PARA
 Attn: Grand Marshal Nominations
 P.O. Box 2496
 Tuscaloosa, AL 35403

E-mail: Becky Booker, Communications Manager
 bbooker@tpara.org

“The Grand Marshals have typically been citizens who have made a difference in people’s lives in the community,” says Gary Minor, recreation superintendent. “We are excited about the possibilities for nominations this year,” he said.

The following is a historical listing of Grand Marshals:

- 2008 Carolyn Fritz and Sam Faucett
- 2007 Harry Lee and Dr. Doug Phillips
- 2006 Jimmy Harrison Jr. and Milady Murphy
- 2005 Ann Gibson (Salvation Army), Virginia Cruse (American Red Cross), and Jim Singleton (Temporary Emergency Services) representing volunteers who aided in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina
- 2004 Paul Singleton, Verta Barr Meherg and Marvin Harper
- 2003 A member of four military branches and a member of Ala. National Guard
- 2002 Judge John H. England Jr., Mary Ann Phelps and Dawson Christian
- 2001 Local firefighters represented by John Brook, Pedro Hollingsworth, Keith Hyche, Mike Oswald and Billy Doss
- 2000 James Barnett, Billy Hubbard, Debra Bush, Perry Free
- 1999 Emmett Dendy and Victor Poole
- 1998 A.H. Bean, Joe Mallisham and Jim Wells
- 1997 Bill Taylor, O.D. Thomas, Zelpha Wells
- 1996 Coaches Sarah Patterson and David Patterson
- 1995 Ken Swindle, Ted Sexton and Dempsey Marcum
- 1994 Bessie Aubrey and Myrtle Gray
- 1993 Dr. Joyce Sellers and Dr. Robert Winter
- 1992 Dan Kilgo
- 1991 Ruth Ann Stallings and John Mark Stallings
- 1990 Dr. Barry Mason, Emmett Dendy, Willie Forte, Mike Spiller, Tim Parker Jr., and A.D. Christian
- 1989 Hoyt "Wu" Winsiell
- 1988 John Stallworth
- 1987 Joe Sewell
- 1986 Wimp Sanderson
- 1985 Dr. Joab Thomas, Dr. Cordell Wynn and Leo Sumner
- 1984 Don Grambril, Lillie Leatherwood, Calvin Smith, Justin Lemberg
- 1983 Walter Lewis
- 1982 Mike Davis
- 1981 Big Al
- 1980 Steadman Shealy
- 1979 Bobby Allison
- 1978 Butch Hobson
- 1977 Bobby Allison
- 1976 Coach Paul “Bear” Bryant

Live, Learn, Play! PARA. The Tuscaloosa County Park & Recreation Authority is a county wide non-profit agency funded by the city of Tuscaloosa, the city of Northport and Tuscaloosa County. PARA’s mission is to provide safe, clean, and beautiful

facilities, parks and open space, along with professionally managed leisure activities for all people and to enrich the quality of life, provide economic value, and encourage long-term community stability and growth. Through strong partnerships, we achieve exceptional services and foster an atmosphere of cooperation, trust, and innovation to better serve our community.

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