THE ANCHOR et the holidays begin!

The 42nd annual Prelude kicked off this week with all the magic of the season-tree lightings, visits from Mrs. Claus and the reindeer and Santa himself.

There's something to do literally EVERY DAY, and you can see the full schedule at ChristmasPrelude.com, but here are the signature events you shouldn't miss:

DECEMBER 1 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM Tree Lighting Ceremony in Dock Square officially begins the season. Join in Christmas caroling with the Kennebunk High School Chamber Choir, followed by the lighting of the tree at 6 p.m.

DECEMBER 1 7 PM

Cape Porpoise Lobster Trap Tree Lighting Kennebunkport 's most original holiday decoration will be officially lit in Cape Porpoise Square. Join in the caroling with The Church on the Cape Choir. Refreshments served at Cape Porpoise Fire Station.

DECEMBER 2 2:30 PM - 4:30 PM Reindeer & Mrs. Claus at Kennebunk Out-

fitters. Cozy up for some fireside hot cocoa and live music. Kennebunk Outfitters, 51 Western Ave, Kennebunk.

DECEMBER 2 3 PM

18th Annual Hat Parade. *RAIN OR SHINE* A parade of holiday hats for children and adults led by the Patriot Fife and Drum Duo. All hat wearers welcome! To join, gather at the town parking lot behind Alisson's Restaurant by 2:45 p.m. Parade



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runs through Dock Square and over the bridge to Best of Everything. DEČEMBER 2 5:30 PM

KENNEBUNK-KENNEBUNKPORT-ARUNDEL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Lower Village Tree Lighting and Christmas

Stroll. Join us at the corner of Christensen Lane and Route 35 in Kennebunk for the lighting of the Lower Village Tree with carols by the Kennebunk High School Chamber Choir. Following the lighting, enjoy the stroll to the Monastery

DECEMBER 2 6:30 PM

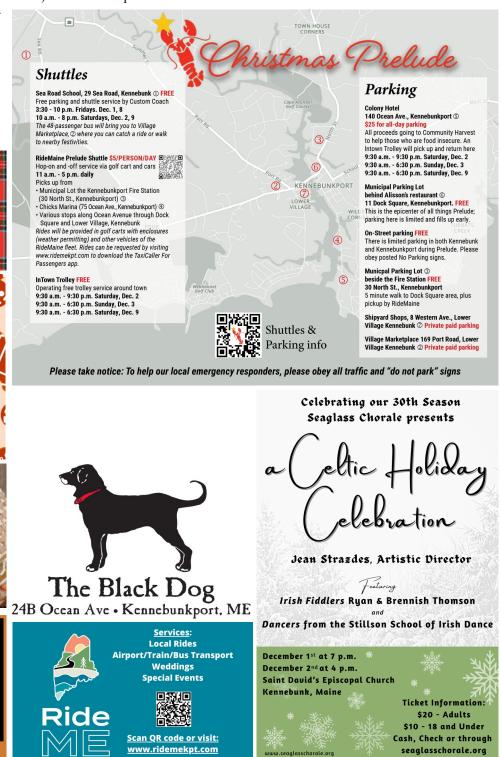
Christmas Candlelight Caroling at the Franciscan Monastery. Presented by St. Anthony's Monastery and the Secular Franciscan Order. No parking on property. Franciscan Monastery, 28 Beach Ave, Kennebunk. DECEMBER 3 12:30 PM - 12:45 PM Wave to Santa On the Lobster Boat MATHEW LANIGAN BRIDGE DOCK SQUARE. For best viewing, gather on the sidewalk of the Mathew Lanigan Bridge in Dock Square (the river side, not the basin side) or shoreside up Ocean Avenue to The

Nonantum Resort. **DECEMBER 3 1-3 PM**

Santa Arrives by Lobster Boat at the Nonantum Resort. During this family friendly event, you'll get the opportunity to meet Mr. and Mrs. Claus, take a complimentary photo, create holiday crafts, and enjoy warm beverages. Free and open to the public. DECEMBER 7 4-6 PM

DEC. 1, 2023

Storybook Christmas, KENNEBUNKPORT CONSERVATION TRUST 57 GRAVEL-LY BROOK ROAD, KENNEBUNKPORT. Join us for a magical evening as Santa Claus reads 'Twas the Night Before Christmas to the children, Mrs. Claus leads the children in making their own "gingerbread" houses and elves will help them create sparkling snowflakes. There will be treats, along with a mini hot cocoa bar courtesy of Mornings In Paris. Readings will be at 4:15, 5:00 and 5:45, and Santa is available for photos and accepting Christmas lists in between.



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