The 30th annual Chamber of Commerce Ambassador Jingle Bell Parade will take place in downtown Grand Haven on Saturday, Dec. 4.

This year’s parade has more than 65 festive entries including decorated floats, musical groups and a final entry of Santa and Mrs. Claus.
Barbara Lee Van Horssen will serve as this year’s Grand Marshall. Van Horssen was honored this past July at The Chamber’s Annual Celebration as the 2021 Spirit of Community Award recipient, recognizing her devotion of time and energy to improve the quality of life for others in the community.

Van Horssen serves on the City of Grand Haven Human Relations Commission, is actively involved in Ottawa County Community Health Improvement Plan and ACES Committees and the Tri-Cities Suicide Prevention Task Force.

She founded a grassroots social lab that builds community while solving problems, providing social and recreational programming for adults and teens dealing with mental health issues, disabilities and addictions called the Momentum Center for Social Engagement. Van Horssen is a member of the Tri-Cities Women Who Care and Spring Lake Rotary Club.

The parade begins at 6 p.m. and will travel west down Franklin Avenue to Harbor Drive, north on Harbor Drive to Washington Avenue, and will proceed east on Washington to Central Park for the lighting of the Community Christmas Tree. Any promotional items, including candy, will be available to children of all ages at the tree lighting immediately following the parade. The tree lighting will also include a carol sing with Santa and Mrs. Claus and the Salvation Army Canteen will be on hand offering hot chocolate.