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## **CHAMBER ANNOUNCES ANNUAL HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS TOUR**

**Trolley tour gives inside look at historic Atchison homes**

ATCHISON, Kan. (Oct. 28, 2008) — Holiday revelers need look no further than historic Atchison to start the holiday season in style. The Atchison Area Chamber of Commerce will give the public an up-close look at the past and present of Atchison with the annual Home for the Holidays Tour on Dec. 5-6.

The Atchison Trolley and RiverCity Coach will provide free transportation between downtown Atchison and the homes, many of which date back to the mid-1800s. The vehicles will make a continuous loop, stopping at each of the tour homes, museums and at Theatre Atchison.

“We’re excited to present the 7<sup>th</sup> annual tour featuring homes decorated for Christmas,” said Jacque Pregont, Atchison Area Chamber of Commerce president. “It gives the public a chance to visit Atchison, experience our wonderful hospitality and share our rich history.”

In addition to a first-hand look at the historic homes, the tour includes stops at The Amelia Earhart Birthplace Museum, the Evah C. Cray Historical Home Museum and the Muchnic Art Gallery. The gallery, which is housed in a Queen Anne-style mansion, will feature performances by local choral groups in the elegant Victorian parlors.

Several other holiday activities will round out the experience. Theatre Atchison will sell fresh homemade apple dumplings, the Methodist Church has a chili and soup supper planned, and The Visitors Center will raffle off a Victorian dollhouse in the historic Santa Fe Depot.

The tour will run from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Dec. 5-6. Tickets are \$12 before Dec. 5 and can be purchased at several Atchison locations, including the Chamber of Commerce, 200 S. 10<sup>th</sup> St.; Ball Brother’s Drug Store, 504 Commercial St.; United Bank of Kansas, 734 Commercial St.; Bank of Atchison, 701 Kansas Ave.; Exchange National Bank at

600 Commercial, 712 Kansas and inside Country Mart or Wal-Mart; and at UMB Bank, 626 Commercial St. Tickets purchased during tour hours on Dec. 5-6 are available for \$15 at The Visitors Center, 200 S. 10<sup>th</sup> St.; Theatre Atchison, 401 Santa Fe; and Ball Brothers Drugs, 504 Commercial.

Out of town guests can also reserve tickets by calling 800-234-1854.

To find out more about the Home for the Holidays Tour, visit [www.atchisonkansas.net](http://www.atchisonkansas.net). A full brochure for the event is available on the web site.

The mission of the Atchison Area Chamber of Commerce is to focus on the quality of life, attraction, growth and retention of jobs and businesses in Atchison County. Established in 1919, the Chamber continues to be the leading business organization of the community. With the support of over 400 member investors, the Chamber delivers programs and services that make our community a better place to live, work, raise a family and visit.

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For more information about the Home for the Holidays Tour, Atchison or the Chamber's work, or to schedule an interview or photo opportunity, please call Jacque Pregont at 913-367-2427 or 800-234-1854, or e-mail Jacque at [president@atchisonkansas.net](mailto:president@atchisonkansas.net).