



For immediate release
November 28, 2017

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Get ready for Christmas in DōMo presented by Lagniappe Media at the Origin Bank RiverMarket this Saturday, December 2 from 10 am to 4 pm! Throughout the day you can hear the jolly sounds of Christmas music while you prepare to battle in the Ugly Sweater Contest. Be sure to dress up your furry friend for the Christmas Pet Pageant. Hear the joyful noise of carolers while kiddos participate in activities. It's a day of fun for the whole family! There will be plenty of shopping with food and drinks to enjoy. Stop in early to take a photo with Santa and Mrs. Claus. They will be visiting from 11am-1pm before heading to their workshop.

Shoppers will be able to buy items from: Pelican State Clothing, Pink Pelican, The Vintage Gaudy, DMD Handbags, Laminin by Missy Robertson, Hush Little Baby, Sessory Soaps, Cade's Candles, Salty & Lit, The Wooden Beaux, Garden District Quilts, Pat's Storybook Bags, Arthur Nolan, local artisans, crafters, and more!

Handmade items available for purchase: soaps, bath bombs, candles, holiday décor, jewelry, skincare, baby and kids clothing, baby books, wood crafts, wooden bows, wooden speaker boxes, coin jewelry, art, ornaments, wreaths, gluten free treats, kettle corn and more!

The S.O.S. Pets of Ouachita Christmas Pet Pageant will be held at 1:45pm. To enter your furry friend in the contest, simply go to eventbrite.com. The entry fee is \$10, and all the proceeds benefit S.O.S Pets and their efforts to build a new animal shelter in Ouachita Parish. Prize sponsors are: Animal House, PetSmart, Doggie Style Grooming, and Petco. Pets will be judged for a variety of different categories including: "Owner Look Alike," "Most Unusual," "Best Dance With Owner," "Best Biscuit Catcher," "Worst Biscuit Catcher," "Best Trick," "Prettiest Girl," "Most Handsome Boy," "Cutest Puppy," and "Best All-Around Senior."

What's Christmas without an ugly sweater? Don't miss the Christmas in DōMo Ugly Sweater Contest at 3:30 pm. To enter, call Sheena Burbridge at (318) 807-1735. The tickets are \$5 on eventbrite.com or \$20 for a group of five contestants. Prizes sponsored by: Freebird's, Rustico, Brass Monkey Pub & Patio, Monterrey Grill, and RoeLa Roaster.

Nothing says the holidays like carolers and live Christmas music, and live performances will take place at the RiverMarket this weekend as well. The Piney Hills Harmony Chorus, Betty Hawkins & United, First Monroe Carolers, and Angel Starr will all be performing at the RiverMarket to ring in the holiday season with song. All the performances will take place in center court except for the First Monroe Carolers; they will be walking through the pavilions singing for everyone to hear.

Also available at the Christmas in DōMo event are miniature horse and carriage rides, DōMo Rocks paint table, Exhibits on the Go- miniature golf and art display, super heroes and princesses, and more! Following Christmas in DōMo will be the annual fireworks show presented by Monroe Renaissance and Origin Bank at sunset.

To find out more information and keep up to date on Christmas in DōMo, follow our Facebook page Downtown RiverMarket or go to Downtownrivermarket.com

Parking will be available behind Riverscape, at the sheriff's annex, and street side. Bike racks are available as well for all the cyclists who would like to attend the event.

Schedule of Events:

- 10 am – 4pm: Market Hours
- 10 am- 3 pm: DōMo Rocks rock painting table will be open to raise money for the Zoological Society in efforts to bring back the train at the zoo.
- 11 am-1pm: Santa and Mrs.Claus, Princesses, and Super Heroes
- Noon-12:45 pm: Piney Hills Harmony Chorus performance
- 1 pm-1:30 pm: Betty Hawkins & United performance
- 1:45 pm-2:15 pm: S.O.S. Pets of Ouachita Christmas Pet Pageant and 1st Monroe Carolers
- 2:30 pm-3 pm: Angel Starr performance
- 3:30 pm-4 pm: Ugly Sweater Contest
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We would like to thank our sponsors are Origin Bank, Lagniappe Media, Tubbs by Grubbs, The News-Star, Delta Style, Thrifty Nickel, Holistic Chamber of Commerce, For His Temple Family Foods, Ouachita Green, Spa Bella, M&K House, Arrow Public Art, Assurance Financial, Bears Towing, Choice Brands, City of Monroe, Comcast Spotlight, Downtown Monroe Alliance, Duck & Dressing, Dusty & Co., iEncourage Fitness, The Joint Chiropractic, The Kirksey Agency, Laminin by Missy Robertson, Monroe Civic Center, Monroe- West Monroe CVB, North Delta Network, Peggy Sullivan- State Farm, Protection 1, Sanican, Scoliosis Physical Therapy, Spherion Staffing, Spinal Health Center, Strategic Counseling Solutions, Trinity Diamonds Direct, and Woodforest National Bank.

Thanks to the new RiverMarket Advisory Council: Brooke Foy of Arrow Public Art, Hope Anderson of Health with Hope, Kristin Lambrecht of Holistic Chamber of Commerce, Liz Knope Lee of Spa Bella, Sarah Lee of M&K House and Stuart Hodnett of Ouachita Green. This committee is seeking handmade and healthy vendors and making “handmade and healthy” a focus of the RiverMarket.

A Division of the City of Monroe Department of Community Affairs

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