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JOINT PRESS RELEASE

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In collaboration, Zelienople Borough and the Zelienople Area Business Association (ZABA), have established alternatives for having the Holiday events during the pandemic crisis that adhere to federal, state, county and local COVID-19 mitigation guidelines. These alternatives will still make it possible to support local charities during these difficult times. The Borough council has agreed with the following holiday activities:

<u>Miracle on Main Street:</u> This is an important charity event - it is our one event of the year where the focus is on giving back, and the community is passionate about seeing it continue to help those in need.

- Spread donation collections and distribution, as well as the Elf on the Shelf hunt, over three days
 Thursday evening, Friday evening, and Saturday throughout the day to encourage people
 participating in either giving or receiving these donations to spread out their participation rather
 than within a single 4-hour window. There will be no social events scheduled and all
 participating businesses will do so as part of their normal business activities that adhere to 50%
 occupancy as the state requires.
- There will be no Thursday night "festival" activities as has occurred in past months. No outside vendors to sell their wares will be allowed.
- There will be no locations where people will be inclined to congregate at any time.
- Member businesses who are participating, as well as the charity organizations like the Butler County Food Cupboard, will have opportunities to collect donations within the business locations and not on the Main Street corridor.
- There will not be any public carriage rides or street entertainment except for musical offering from the balcony of the Kaufman Tavern building.
- The live Reindeer and live Nativity scene will be located at the Zelienople Community Park
 where they will be displayed as a drive-through feature only. This will be part of the already
 existing holiday display at the park.
- The Cookie Decorating with Mrs. Clause feature will consist of kits given out to take home and complete. The kits will handed out at Spring on Main Cafe for them to take, eliminating any long-term gathering.

<u>Santa in Zelienople:</u> Santa will come to town in a single horse drawn carriage. He will travel down Main Street and will continue onto borough side streets in a "Porch Parade" setting so people can

enjoy Santa from the comfort of their own homes. This will discourage large gatherings along the Main Street corridor. Santa's arrival is scheduled to take place 6:30-7:30 pm on Thursday, December 3^{rd} . A map of Santa's proposed route will be posted on the Borough website and Facebook page.

Santa will also be available to the public in a virtual setting this year to avoid direct contact, group gathering, and sanitation needs at Santa's House. Further details will be posted on the Borough website and Facebook Page.

It is important to note that we are jointly trying to make our Christmas Holiday season as joyous as possible during times of great stress in this public health emergency. It is a time of exceptions with the hope that we can again enjoy our season in a normal way next year.