

For immediate release

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North Grand Mall

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Santa gets fired up for early arrival at North Grand Mall

Ames, IA --- He answers to many names, Kris Kringle, Old Saint Nick or Santa Claus, but the magical man in the red suit will kick off the holiday season one week earlier this year at North Grand Mall on Saturday, November 22 at 1 p.m.

Escorted by the Ames Fire Department, Santa trades in his sleigh for a fiery red truck for his grand arrival. Fire fighters, who will deliver Santa to the front of the mall's main entrance on Grand Avenue, will also showcase the fire truck and answer children's questions. Santa will open his official visiting area at Center Court where excited youngsters will share their Christmas wishes. Kids will enjoy fresh-baked cookies and the first 100 children to visit Santa will receive a deluxe holiday countdown calendar.

While visiting Santa is free, of course, state-of-the-art digital photography packages will be available so that the precious moments are saved forever on film. Parents can view photos immediately. Several different photography packages will be available in order to fill the needs of all family and friends. To celebrate Santa's early arrival, all portrait packages will be \$2 off on Saturday, November 22 and Sunday, November 23 only. All children visiting Santa throughout the holidays will receive a free gift.

North Grand Mall holiday hours begin Friday, November 28 when the shopping center is open from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

For more information on extended mall hours and Santa's hours, visit the mall website, www.northgrandmall.com or call the mall office at 515-232-3679.

North Grand Mall, located at 2801 Grand Avenue, is home to JCPenney, North Grand 5 Theatre, Younkers and nearly 60 fine shops and services.

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ADD 1 – Santa Arrival

North Grand Mall supports the community with multiple programs throughout the year. Past activities include: Go Green for Story County Conservation, Soup's on Game on Contest benefiting MICA, Toys for Tots, Holiday Giving Tree and semi-annual Community Fairs.

North Grand Mall is owned and managed by GK Development, Inc.

About GK Development, Inc.

GK Development, Inc acquires, re-develops, manages and leases well-located properties in growing markets. The Barrington, Illinois-based company owns 5 million square feet of space located in nine states. The company was founded in 1995. For more information visit www.gkdevelopment.com

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