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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CENTENNIAL COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS GALA MOVING TO THE SUTHERLAND

WAKE FOREST, NC – November 4, 2009 – Due to continued construction delays at the site of the new Wake Forest Town Hall, the Dec. 5 Centennial Community Christmas Gala will be held at The Sutherland Estate & Gardens, located at 13371 Wake Union Church Road in Wake Forest.

Scheduled to conclude Wake Forest's 2009 Centennial Celebration schedule of events, the Christmas Gala was also expected to serve as the official grand opening of the new town hall. Repeated construction delays over the past several months, however, forced event planners to initially move the gala outdoors onto Centennial Plaza. Officials ultimately decided to relocate to The Sutherland when they determined the plaza might not be ready in time for the Dec. 5 event.

"As we bring our centennial year to a close, we want to provide the kind of celebration such a historic occasion deserves," said Town Manager Mark Williams. "Since we couldn't be sure the area around the new town hall would be ready to accommodate the kind of crowd we're expecting, we made the decision to change venues.

"We're extremely excited about moving to The Sutherland and believe that everyone who attends the gala will be thrilled with the entire experience."

Tickets for the Christmas Gala are on sale for \$25 each and can be purchased at the Wake Forest Area Chamber of Commerce, the Wake Forest Town Hall, and online at www.wakeforestnc.gov/marketplace.aspx. The ticket price includes heavy hors d'oeuvres, non-alcoholic beverages, and drink tickets for two adult beverages.

Billed as the "Social Event of the Century," the semi-formal event will get underway at 7 p.m. Featuring special music by "Tuxedo Junction" and hors d'oeuvres from several Wake Forest restaurants, the occasion will also include the annual presentation of the Civic Organization of the Year, the Peggy Allen Lifetime Achievement Award, and the Citizen of the Year.

Hosted by ABC11 Eyewitness News Co-anchor Steve Daniels, the Centennial Community Christmas Gala will serve as a fitting close to Wake Forest's first 100 years while bringing the community together one last time for what has been an incredible once-in-a-lifetime celebration.

For more information about the Centennial Community Christmas Gala, contact Centennial Celebration Events Coordinator Kara Louise at (919) 761-3021 or klouise@wakeforestnc.gov.

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For more information about the [Town of Wake Forest](#), contact Public Information Officer [Bill Crabtree](#) at (919) 554-6196.