

# The Patriot Ledger

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## Santa catches Yule tide into Marshfield

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MARSHFIELD -- Just call him Captain Santa Claus.

Jolly old Saint Nick traded in his sleigh for the harbormaster's boat on Saturday, bringing some Yuletide cheer to Marshfield by sailing into the town pier accompanied by one of his elves.

Santa stepped off of the boat and greeted a large crowd of families. Also waiting for Santa were a few canines, including one black Lab wearing a festive collar of Christmas lights.

"It was way better than what was anticipated and expected," said Mike DiMeo, the harbormaster. "Despite the chilly weather, we had probably over 200 kids waiting for Santa."

Many of the people who came down to see Santa's arrival had not been to the harbor in a while, DiMeo said, and the event gave them a chance to see some of the changes and new additions to the area, including the new maritime center.

“People were really thrilled,” he said.

DiMeo said the event was a “great culmination of efforts” from the town’s public safety officials, the Marshfield Kiwanis, the Friends of Peter Igo Park, the Marshfield Chamber of Commerce and the local high school. He said many local restaurants donated food for the event, which made it even more special.

“It was a really good community event,” he said.

Arriving to cheers of “Hi, Santa,” the man of the hour greeted the crowd, shaking hands and exchanging high-fives with excited children. Kris Kringle took his seat in front of the colorful lobster trap Christmas tree. A long line of children quickly formed.

Those attending the festivities were also treated to clam chowder, hot dogs, popcorn and cookies.