



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Paoli Downtown Merchants to Hold Open House**

PAOLI, Ind. – Paoli downtown merchants will hold their annual Christmas open house Sunday, November 19 from 1-5 p.m. at the Orange County Courthouse Square. Participating merchants will provide special discounts, refreshments, door prizes and games for those in attendance.

Customers can also take part in the scavenger hunt sponsored by Save Historic Orange County (SHOC). The SHOC booth will be located by the Persimmon Tree on the north side of the square. Participants will be given a paper and will try to figure out what the buildings were originally, some dating back to the 1800s. Those who answer correctly will be entered in a drawing at the end of the day. Winners will be given \$20 gift certificates from the participating merchants.

The Paoli Drama Club will also be stationed at various locations around the square. Students will be dressed in clothing representing different time periods and will act as mimes. Between visiting each business, patrons are able to drop spare change in a basket to see the mimes come alive. Students will perform various skits and sing Christmas carols.

Children will have the opportunity to take pictures with Santa from noon to 1 p.m. at the Paoli Chamber of Commerce building located on the southwest side of the square. Pictures can be picked up between 4-5 p.m. for \$1. Children can also find Santa's elves at Mitchell's Jewelry located on the northeast side of the square. Santa will also be visiting all the downtown merchants throughout the event.