

Race enthusiast Dave Gorman to be honored at today's Brockton holiday parade



Marc Vasconcellos/The Enterprise

Race enthusiast Dave Gorman will receive the first James Edgar Service Award at today's Brockton holiday parade.

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Posted Nov 27, 2010 @ 12:00 AM

Last update Nov 27, 2010 @ 10:29 PM

BROCKTON —

For a dozen years, Dave Gorman has put together the city's Jingle Bell Run, which last year raised more than \$10,000 for The Enterprise's Helping Hands Fund benefiting local charities, many of which serve children.

For nearly 30 years, the Brockton native has organized the Kids Road Races at D.W. Field Park, which have instilled generations of children with self-confidence and a love of running.

This afternoon, the city will honor Gorman when he receives the first James Edgar Service Award at the Greater Brockton Holiday Parade on behalf of the "unsung heroes" behind children's activities in the city.

"There's a lot of people out there who do a lot of work," said Gorman, 63, who organizes about 30 races a year, including the Kids Road Races and the Jingle Bell Run. "It's really good for someone to step up and recognize what these people do."

That "someone" is the Greater Brockton Holiday Parade Committee. To celebrate Brockton's past and build a sense of community in the present, this year's parade committee instituted the James Edgar Service Award to honor local residents who make a difference in the lives of Brockton youth.

The award, to be presented this year by parade grand marshal U.S. Sen. Scott Brown, is in remembrance of Brockton's James Edgar, the country's first department store Santa and a local philanthropist whose downtown retail store bore his name.

