



PRESS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2nd Annual Night of Lights and Christmas with the Nashville King

Bristol, CT – [December 11, 2023] The City of Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services (BPRYCS) Department is proud to present the **2nd Annual Night of Lights** on Saturday, December 16, 2023 from 5:00-6:30pm (Rain Date: Sunday, December 17th). In partnership with Brian Shactman from WTIC Radio, this year's event will be held on the Open Field on Veterans Memorial Boulevard outside the Bristol Arts and Innovation Magnet School (70 Memorial Boulevard). This free event features a community tree lighting (taking place at 6:00pm), holiday carols, meet and greet with Santa Claus, luminary display, and hot chocolate for sale to benefit the BPRYCS Holiday Gift Giving program.

Superintendent of BPRYCS, Josh Medeiros commented, "The Night of Lights is a magical event that brings people together and allows us to come together and celebrate the holidays with our friends, family and neighbors. We are thrilled to have WTIC Radio and Brian Shactman joining us again this year. We're also excited to move this event to BAIMS to create a highly visible display and also to showcase the new Rockwell Theater!

BPRYCS encourages community members to fill out the Luminaria dedication form. Community Engagement Coordinator, Erica Benoit, remarked "There is no cost and luminarias are a simple way to symbolize the spirit of the holidays. Luminarias will bring light and warmth into the Bristol community. Our staff will transcribe the dedication message and/or name onto a Luminary bag for you. Luminaries will be displayed around the perimeter of the field during the Night of Lights!" Luminaria Dedication forms can be found at BristolRec.com.

Following the Annual Night of Lights will be **Christmas with the Nashville King, Starring John Beardsley at Downtown Live at Rockwell Theater** on Saturday, December 16, 2023 at 6:00pm and Sunday, December 17, 2023 at 2:00pm. Join Bristol's own, John Beardsley, as he returns home to celebrate Elvis' Christmas music at Downtown Live at the Rockwell Theater, the first stage John ever performed on! Limited tickets are still available for both shows and they may be purchased at www.bristolrec.com while supplies last. Arts and Culture Supervisor Arianna Therriault states, "Our team is thrilled to offer this incredible show to the city during the holidays. John Beardsley is a Bristol native and we've received quite a lot of feedback about how excited the community is to have one of its own, on stage at Downtown Live. We love the support for arts and culture in Bristol and look forward to providing so many shows for our amazing community. This will be the biggest show yet and we can't wait to sing and dance the night away to some classic Elvis tunes!"

###



About the City of Bristol Department of Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services

It is the mission of the City of Bristol Department of Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services (BPRYCS) to deliver high-quality services and facilities that enhance the community's quality of life, meet the diverse needs of all citizens, and build a sustainable future.

Media Inquiries:

Erica Benoit

Community Engagement Coordinator

EricaBenoit@bristolct.gov

(860)-584-6160

www.BristolRec.com



NIGHT OF LIGHTS

Saturday, December 16, 2023

5:00 - 6:30 PM

Rain Date: Sunday, December 17, 2023

- **Community Tree Lighting**
Happening at 6:00 PM
 - **Interfaith Carols**
 - **Meet Santa**
 - **Luminary Display**
 - **Hot Chocolate for Sale**
To benefit the Holiday Gift Giving Program
-

**At the Open Field on
Memorial Boulevard at BAIMS**
70 Memorial Boulevard, Bristol, CT 06032

For questions, or to learn more, please contact Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services at: (860) 584-6160 or parksandrecreation@bristolct.gov or by visiting www.BristolRec.com

