**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Contact: Fran Croughan, Deputy Commissioner, Recreation & Parks

Tel: 914.422.1339

fcroughan@whiteplainsny.gov

**WHITE PLAINS WELCOMES THE HOLIDAY SEASON!**

***\*CITY LIGHTS, BRIGHT HOLIDAY NIGHTS\****

***\*SANTA’S MAILBOX\****

***\*WINTERFEST\****

**White Plains, NY – November 21, 2019.** There’s a lot going on it White Plains this holiday season! We hope you will join us for all of these fun, family-friendly activities!

***CITY LIGHTS, BRIGHT HOLIDAY NIGHTS***

The City of White Plains will kick off the start of the holiday season on **Sunday, December 1st** with its annual ***City Lights, Bright Holiday Nights*** Community Celebration from **4:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Court Street** between Main Street and Martine Avenue (Please note new location).

All are invited to attend and take in the sights and sounds of the season. We promise an evening filled with fun, family entertainment in the heart of White Plains. Guests will enjoy music provided by: The White Plains Youth Bureau Chorus, Ridgeway Alliance Chorus, Calvary Baptist Youth Choir, White Plains Chorale Singers, The White Plains Middle School Jazz Band, and the Archbishop Stepinac High School Chorus.

We hear that Santa will be making a special visit to Court Street for the occasion with his special guests the White Plains High School Marching Band. Also visiting the event will be Santa’s friends Frosty and Rudolph. Other park activities include: A spectacular ice carving exhibit, holiday-themed tattoos, hands-on crafts, the Grinch, snow globe photo booth (camera not provided), and an opportunity to write your letters to Santa. Mayor Tom Roach will light the beautiful 24-foot tree in the park, decorated with LED lights to be enjoyed for the season. Complimentary refreshments will be provided.

We would like to recognize and thank the community sponsors of our ***City Lights, Bright Holiday Nights*** event: Trader Joe’s, Stop & Shop and Webster Bank.

 This event is free and open to all White Plains residents.

***SANTA’S MAILBOX***

We hear that Santa Claus will be setting up a special mailbox **starting on Wednesday, November 27th on the front steps of City Hall**, 255 Main Street, and is inviting all City of White Plains resident children to write to him this Holiday Season using his special mailbox. Mayor Roach is honored that Santa has once again chosen White Plains for this very important purpose.

Children may drop their letters in the mailbox (no postage necessary!) any time from now **through Monday, December 16, 2019**. Children should remember to include their return address so that Santa can send them a personalized reply.

**WINTERFEST**

The City’s 5th annual WinterFest Holiday Market will once again be held **on Court Street between Martine Avenue and Main Street** (the same location as the Farmers’ Market) in downtown White Plains. WinterFest offers a unique holiday shopping experience and is a great place to pick up unique holiday gifts.

WinterFest kicks off on **Wednesday, December 18th and runs through Monday, December 23rd**. and will be open Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Monday from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Admission is free.

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