



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
City of Duluth Communications Office

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DATE: 11/15/2012

SUBJECT: Bentleyville Tour of Lights Opens Saturday, November 17th-Santa to Parachute in !

BY: Amy Norris, Public Information Coordinator

Bentleyville Tour of Lights Opens

Saturday, November 17th

Santa to Parachute in !

On Saturday, November 17th at 4:55 PM Santa will arrive at Bentleyville by plane! Santa will be sky diving into Bayfront Festival Park, land next to the 128 foot Christmas tree then scurry to his Santa house in time to greet all the children who come to visit. A special invitation is extended to everyone to welcome Santa as he arrives at Bayfront Park.

This year everyone will experience the magic of over 3 million lights illuminating Bayfront Festival Park located on the shores of Lake Superior during the Bentleyville Tour of Lights. The largest holiday light show in the Midwest comes to life every evening from Saturday, November 17th - Wednesday, December 26th. Bentleyville will be open from 5:00-10:00 PM Friday and Saturday and 5:00-9:00 PM Sunday-Thursday. Admission is free.

Highlighting the 2012 Bentleyville Tour of Lights are new displays such as Christmas Camping, the Santa Claus Amusement Park which includes a roller coaster and bumper cars and the popular Thomas the Train and Friends display. Bentleyville will once again present its signature lighting display which is a 8 feet wide ball with 28-3 foot LED blue spikes placed at the top of the twelve story tall steel Christmas tree in the center of Bayfront Festival Park. Laden with over 60,000 sparkling LED lights the 120 ft. giant tree will be shining brightly in the crisp evening sky. Synchronized to music, this LED trimmed Christmas tree will dance with images to holiday tunes throughout the season.

Visitors will also be greeted by the spectacular Bentleyville castle as the enter Bentleyville which stands 24 feet high and 78 feet long and the Cookie House where visitors are welcome to complimentary hot chocolate, coffee and cookies as they stroll through the park. A dazzling lighted tunnel leads you to Santa, 15 fire pits for roasting marshmallows and the Polar Popcorn Hut. Everyone will be amazed at the local displays of the Aerial Lift Bridge, Tall Ships, a replicate of a thousand foot ore boat and Enger Tower.

Bentleyville Tour of Lights is a 501(c)3 non-profit charitable organization. **The community mission of this event is to raise non-perishable food items and new unwrapped toys for families in need. Bentleyville Tour of Lights is an official drop off site for the Salvation Army. Please make a donation.**

For more Bentleyville Tour of Lights information: www.bentleyvilleusa.org For further information contact: Nathan Bentley, Bentleyville Tour of Lights (218) 740-3536; or Mayor Don Ness at (218) 730-5320; or Amy Norris, Public Information Coordinator City of Duluth (218) 730-4312.

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