

NEW BRITAIN PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT  
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**News Release**

Contact: Erik Barbieri, Superintendent of Recreation, 826-3453

Mayor Timothy T. Stewart, Parks and Recreation Commission Chairman Jamie Giantonio and Vice Chairman Paul Shaker Sr. announced today that the New Britain Parks and Recreation Department will be holding their Seventeenth Annual **WinterFest** at Stanley Quarter Park on Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 am – 3:00 pm. “**WinterFest 2010** will be a great opportunity for the whole family to come out to the park and enjoy the winter season with the rest of the New Britain Community. The winter activities available to the public will include ice skating, sledding and more,” explained Superintendent of Recreation Erik Barbieri. “Approximately 3,000 people were in attendance in 2009 and we are hoping for bigger and better things in 2010.”

Other activities planned for this year’s **WinterFest** include tethered hot air balloon rides, a D.J. dance party, pony rides, clowns, caricaturist, jugglers, Springbrook Ice and Fuel Service ice sculptures, video buttons, Needle-In-The-Haystack treasure hunt, micro car derby, three-story high climbing wall, warming fire, and ice skating. Sleds and saucers will be available at the park for sledding weather permitting. Everyone is encouraged to bring his or her own ice skates, if skating is available, and to dress warmly. There is an inclement weather date of February 18<sup>th</sup> if conditions warrant postponement of the event.

Wristbands will be available for \$5.00 each and Family 4 packs are \$15.00, allowing unlimited access to the attractions and amusements. Tethered hot air balloon rides are included in the price of the wristbands. Tethered hot air balloon ride ticket sales are anticipated to be the biggest attraction so come early to secure a ride. In addition, all those who purchase wristbands have the opportunity to sign up for a free raffle. The sponsors of Winterfest 2010 generously donated prizes for the raffle including: Herbs Sporting Goods, Sam's Club gift certificates, free lift tickets to Ski Sundown and Mount Southington, and a free foursome with carts to Stanley Golf Course. The Parks and Recreation Department also encourages families to have lunch in the park as hot dogs, hamburgers, hot chocolate, cotton candy, popcorn and other concessions will be available for purchase.

“Our goal is to try and provide winter sports and seasonal attractions but in addition, just tons of fun of all kinds,” said Erik Barbieri, Superintendent of Recreation. “We hope to get the entire community out of winter hibernation and come enjoy a fun-filled day at beautiful Stanley Quarter Park”.

The entire park will be closed except for the Eddie Glover Blvd. entrance, which will remain open to provide parking during the event. For more information, call the Parks and Recreation Department at 826-3360 and choose the Benefits are Endless Hotline.

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