

Star-Telegram

Holiday festivals continue this weekend across Tarrant County

BY GENE TRAINOR - SPECIAL TO THE STAR-TELEGRAM

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Westlake recently held its annual holiday festival, but plenty more are scheduled across Tarrant County this weekend. JUAN GUAJARDO / STAR-TELEGRAM

NORTH RICHLAND HILLS — A teenager who gained national attention on *The X Factor* television show will again headline the city's Night of Holiday Magic festival after last year's ice storm forced the cancellation of most of the festival.

Brandon Hassan, 18, of Irving, credits his appearance in 2012 on the Fox Broadcasting Company talent show with changing his life, leading him to a career in music. He now attends the Berklee College of Music in Boston.

The 15th annual Night of Holiday Magic is one of many holiday festivals going on this weekend, beginning with events in Keller, Mansfield and Saginaw on Friday.

North Richland Hills' festival is Saturday, as are holiday parades in Arlington and Euless.

Hassan said he plans to sing Christmas carols, original songs and some crowd favorites at the Night of Holiday Magic. Hassan will sing at about 7 p.m., following the tree lighting ceremony and fireworks, city spokeswoman Mary Peters said.

Other events include photos with Santa, marshmallow roasts, mini-train rides, crafts, food vendors, arts and crafts vendors, and performances by school and community groups. About 12,000 people attended the 2012 festival. Last year, an ice storm prompted city officials to cancel most of the festival, though some events, such as the crafts sales, were held the following weekend.

The city has budgeted \$55,000 for the festival, about half of that is covered through sponsorships, donations and event revenues, Peters said.

AREA HOLIDAY LIGHTS AND RELATED EVENTS

Friday

Mansfield Hometown Holidays

5-9 p.m., Mansfield City Hall, 1200 E. Broad St., Mansfield

Features snow hill, Mr. & Mrs. Claus, penguins from the Dallas Zoo, tree lighting, fireworks.

www.mansfield-tx.gov (<http://www.mansfield-tx.gov/>), 817-276-4200 (tel:817-276-4200)

Keller Holly Days

6 p.m., Keller Town Center, 1100 Bear Creek Parkway, Keller

The Very Merry Light Parade begins at 6:30 p.m. and the Santa Scurry 5K Run/Walk begins at 7:30, and other activities include the Christmas tree lighting, Santa's arrival, a two-lane tubing snow hill and entertainment. Cost is one nonperishable food item to be donated to the Community Storehouse.

www.cityofkeller.com (<http://www.cityofkeller.com/>), 817-743-4050

Saginaw Christmas Tree Lighting

6:30 p.m., Saginaw Recreation Center, 633 W. McLeroy Blvd.

Holiday music and performances from schoolchildren, the lighting of the tree, and a visit and small prize for each child from Santa. Nonperishable food items that will be donated to Community Link Mission of Saginaw will be collected.

www.ci.saginaw.tx.us (<http://www.ci.saginaw.tx.us/>), 817-230-0350 (tel:817-230-0350)

Bedford Christmas Tree Lighting

4-6 p.m., Old Bedford School and Bedford Public Library

Classic Christmas cartoons, 4-5 p.m.; cookie decorating, 4-5:30 p.m.; Santa arrives at 6 p.m., followed by tree lighting.

www.bedfordtx.gov (<http://www.bedfordtx.gov/>)

Colleyville Tree Lighting

5:30 p.m. in front of Colleyville City Hall, 100 Main St.

Next door, the Colleyville Library will hosts games, refreshments and free photos with Santa before and after the 5:30 p.m. tree lighting.

Saturday

Christmas in the Stockyards

11:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Fort Worth Stockyards, Fort Worth

Holiday parade, Cowboy Santa, pony rides, chicken roping, caroling and the lighting of a Christmas tree.

Mansfield Hometown Holidays Parade

2:30 p.m., St. Jude Catholic Church, 500 E. Dallas St., Mansfield

Annual holiday parade rolls down Main Street. This year's theme is "Inside Santa's Workshop."

www.mansfield-tx.gov (<http://www.mansfield-tx.gov/>), 817-276-4200

Breakfast With Santa, Keller

8, 9 and 10 a.m. at Keller Pointe, 405 Rufe Snow Drive, Keller

Features a pancake breakfast and pictures with Santa Claus, snow and snowman-building.

www.cityofkeller.com (<http://www.cityofkeller.com/>), 817-743-4050

Arlington Parade of Lights

6 p.m.; parade starts at corner of Main and Center streets in downtown

Arlington's parade ends with tree lighting at City Hall and photos with Santa at Levitt Pavilion. Pre-parade entertainment is 4-6 p.m.

www.holidaylightsparade.com (<http://www.holidaylightsparade.com/>)

North Richland Hills Night of Holiday Magic

4-8 p.m., NRH20 Family Water Park, 9001 Boulevard 26.

Features music, mini-train rides, photos with Santa, fireworks, holiday shopping and the tree lighting.

www.nrhtx.com (<http://www.nrhtx.com/>)

Christmas on Broadway, Haltom City

3-6 p.m., Haltom Recreation Center and Broadway Park, 4839 Broadway Ave.

Features live music, petting zoo, carriage and train rides, crafts and games and a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Eules Christmas Parade of Lights

6:30 p.m., starts at intersection of Midway Drive and Industrial Boulevard.

Parade travels east on Midway and ends at the Eules Family Life Center.

www.eulesstx.gov (<http://www.eulesstx.gov/>)

Dec. 17-25

Interlochen holiday lights, 7-11 p.m. daily, Arlington

Annual Christmas lights extravaganza begins at Randol Mill Road and Westwood Drive in Arlington.