



City of Bristol

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Hiker Statue Returns to Memorial Boulevard**

Bristol, CT, October 30, 2008 — It has been 5 ½ months since vandals destroyed the historic bronze monument of the soldier, titled “The Hiker” from the Spanish American War. On Friday, October 31<sup>st</sup> at 1:00 p.m., Mayor Ward and Superintendent of Parks and Recreation, Ed Swicklas will unveil the newly renovated statue which has been returned to its original spot on Memorial Boulevard. North Shore Monuments, of Brookville NY did the restoration of Hiker and the World War I monument on Memorial Boulevard.

The statue was completely destroyed back in June by vandals who were believed to have shattered the monument for the value of the metal of which it was made. The statue has a twin which sits at the entrance to the newly renovated Rockwell Park. Mayor Ward stated, “It’s great to have the statue returned to its original glory.” The State of Connecticut contributed \$15,000 toward the restoration through a grant which Senator Colapietro found that could offset the tremendous cost.

Because of the increase in the number of vandalisms in Brackett Park and on the Boulevard, the City has taken to installing surveillance cameras in both locations.