

WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

PRESS RELEASE

“Celebrating Community” American Independence Festivities Sunday, June 28, 2015

Parade	1pm	Sheridan Road, Franklin Street to Jack Benny Drive
Festival	2:30-5pm	Bowen Park
	2:30-5pm	Children’s Activities
	3-5pm	Waukegan Band, playing a program of American Music Skateboard Expo with music provided by a DJ
	3pm	Waukegan Police K9 Unit Demonstration

WAUKEGAN, IL (June 19, 2015) --- Celebrate American Independence Day in Waukegan with the Waukegan Park District on Sunday, June 28. The step-off for the American Independence Parade is at 1:00 pm from Franklin Street and Sheridan Road, proceeding north to Bowen Park. This year’s parade theme is *Celebrating Community*.

In addition to celebrating the birth of our nation, we honor this year’s Grand Marshal, Mr. Terry Duffy. In May 2015, Mr. Duffy concluded 12 years of service as a Waukegan Park District Commissioner and his positive attitude and unwavering belief in and support of his beloved City and Park District are being recognized.

The parade route will have three designated areas for special units to perform short routines. These locations are Franklin and Sheridan Road, Glen Flora and Sheridan Road, and across the street from Bowen Park on Sheridan Road.

Immediately following the parade is the American Independence Festival from 2:30-5:00pm in Bowen Park. The festival has live music, children’s games and crafts, a skateboard expo, DJ, petting zoo, pony rides, book give-a-ways, a Waukegan Police Department K9 Unit

demonstration, and Waukegan emergency vehicles (fire-truck, police car, and ambulance).

Food vendors begin serving in Bowen Park at 11:30am. The Waukegan Band will entertain with a program of American Music from 3-5pm.

The American Independence Festivities are sponsored by many local businesses and citizens. This support ensures a high quality and exciting event. Special recognition is provided to Vista Health System for its long time continued support.

There is still time to be a part of the parade! For more information about the parade and festival, please call the Waukegan Park District at 847-360-4700.

About the Waukegan Park District

Established on December 26, 1916, the district has 48 sites and more than 735 acres of land, including the 18-hole Bonnie Brook and 9-hole Greenshire Golf Courses. Properties are managed to the highest environmental and conservation standards. Facilities operated by the district include the Field House Sports and Fitness Center, the Jack Benny Center for the Arts, the Waukegan SportsPark, the Waukegan Skate Park, the Waukegan BMX Track, recreational centers, an outdoor swimming pool, disc golf course, dog exercise area, outdoor sports fields, picnic areas, playgrounds, and sports courts including basketball and tennis. A full range of programs and services are offered year round for all ages, from infants to seniors as well as special needs populations. Healthy lifestyles, wellness initiatives, and a connection with the outdoors and nature are integrated throughout programs, services, and special events. Cultural events are provided by the Waukegan Symphony Orchestra and Concert Chorus, the Bowen Park Theatre Company, and the Waukegan History Museum. There is something for everyone! The award-winning District employs 59 full-time and over 250 part-time, year round, seasonal, and temporary employees. The District is a member of the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD), and Illinois Park and Recreation Association (IPRA). The district maintains national accreditation from the NRPA Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA), the Illinois Association of Park District (IAPD) Distinguished Agency accreditation and the Park District Risk Management Agency (PDRMA) accreditation and sustains a Level A Loss Control Program. The district was a NRPA Gold Medal Finalist in 2012 and 2013, and awarded the NRPA National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management in 2013.

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