

## PRESS RELEASE

Sing the "Hallelujah" Chorus at the Joseph A. Favero Memorial "Do It Yourself" *Messiah* and Carol Sing Along

Waukegan, IL (November 15, 2017) The Waukegan Park District Cultural Arts Department presents the Joseph A. Favero Memorial "Do It Yourself" *Messiah* and Carol Sing Along at 7pm on December 16, 2017, at the First United Methodist Church of Waukegan, 128 N. Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue in downtown Waukegan. This is the tenth year this concert has been held at the First United Methodist Church. Tickets may be purchased four ways:

- Stop by the Jack Benny Center for the Arts, 39 Jack Benny Drive, Waukegan, IL
- Online at http://wsocc3.brownpapertickets.com
- Call Brown Paper Tickets at 1-800-838-3006
- Register online at the District's website: <a href="www.waukeganparks.org/register">www.waukeganparks.org/register</a>

Tickets are \$15 per seat with tickets for students, 18 years and younger being free. There is a service fee with Brown Paper Tickets. Scores are \$10 each and will be available for purchase or rental on the evening of the event or they may be purchased in advance at the Jack Benny Center. Anyone interested in becoming a member of the Waukegan Concert Chorus, please call 847-360-4744 or email <a href="mailto:cfreeman@waukeganparks.org">cfreeman@waukeganparks.org</a>.

Joseph A. Favero served the community as a Waukegan Park District commissioner beginning in 1977 and was the sitting president at the time of his death in April of 2006. Mr. Favero, a music teacher with the Waukegan Public Schools, sang with the Waukegan Concert Chorus and played trombone with the Waukegan Municipal Band. Mr. Favero once said, "I've always felt that people who have done good things should be remembered' when he was

speaking of others. The Waukegan Park District Board of Commissioners and staff named this event in his honor as a way of remembering his years of service to our community, his love of music and desire to provide an event such as this to the residents of Waukegan and Lake County.

The Messiah was composed in 1741 by George Frederic Handel, and was intended to be an Easter oratorio for orchestra, chorus and soloists. The music, however, has become more associated with the Christmas holiday season. The orchestra, chorus, four soloists and the conductor will fill the stage while the audience fills the house. Audience members may be seated according to voice range and everyone will have the opportunity to sing along with the chorus. The front half of the church will accommodate those wanting to sing along with the choruses.

The Cultural Arts Department of the Waukegan Park District continues to look for sponsors for this event. If your group or business is interested in sponsoring a portion of this event please call Jack Benny Center for the Arts, 847-360-4744. The Waukegan Symphony Orchestra and Concert Chorus are proud to be sponsored by the Waukegan Park District and its Cultural Arts Department; and a grant is provided by the Illinois Arts Council, a State of Illinois agency.

Additional information and photographs of past concerts may be obtained from: Claudia Freeman, Superintendent of Cultural Arts,

39 Jack Benny Drive, Waukegan, IL 60087

847-360-4744

cfreeman@waukeganparks.org

www.waukeganparks.org

## **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, Fitness and Aquatics Center, the Jack Benny Center for

the Arts, the Waukegan SportsPark, the Waukegan Skate Park, the Waukegan BMX Track, recreational centers, disc golf course, dog exercise area and agility course, outdoor sports fields, picnic areas, playgrounds, and sports courts including basketball, tennis and pickleball. 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, and the Waukegan History Museum. There is something for everyone! The award-winning District employs 61 full-time and over 230 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), Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD) Distinguished Agency accreditation and Park District Risk Management Agency (PDRMA) accreditation and maintains 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.

11/1/17/Comm. Relations

## Contact:

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