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# WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

## PRESS RELEASE

### **2018 Oakwood Cemetery Walk “Typical Illinois”**

**WAUKEGAN, IL** (September 19, 2018) The 24th Annual Oakwood Cemetery Walk is Saturday, September 22, 2018 from 12:00-5:00pm. The Cemetery Walk is sponsored by the Waukegan Park District, Waukegan Historical Society, City of Waukegan, and Mark Harms, Financial Advisor for Edward Jones. The Oakwood Cemetery Walk is an annual “living history” event that showcases the rich history of Waukegan through costumed actors portraying local historical figures with connections to the cemetery and Waukegan, Illinois.

The theme of this year’s Oakwood Cemetery Walk is “Typical Illinois.” This year, unique stories have been chosen to celebrate the Illinois Bicentennial and include: a Chicago Gangster in Town, an Illinois Governor on Trial, the End of the Beloved North Shore Line, a Writer of the Illinois Constitution, a Flip-Flopping Politician, Abraham Lincoln's Visit to Waukegan, a Voting Issue, and Waukegan vs. Cubs & White Sox. Participants will also hear more stories as well as the history of the City of Waukegan’s Oakwood Cemetery.

The Cemetery Walk starts at Lilac Cottage in Bowen Park-1911 N. Sheridan Road, Waukegan, IL, 60087. Shuttle vans will depart from Lilac Cottage to Oakwood Cemetery at 12:00pm, 12:30pm, 1:30pm, 2:00pm, and 3:15pm. Ticket prices are \$5 in advance and \$10 the day of the event. Advance tickets can be purchased at the Jack Benny Center for the Arts-39 Jack Benny Drive in Bowen Park, the Belvidere Recreation Center-412 S. Lewis Avenue in Belvidere Park, the Field House Sports, Fitness and Aquatics Center at Hinkston Park-800 Baldwin Avenue and

online at [www.waukeganparks.org](http://www.waukeganparks.org). When registering online, go to “Program Registration” and search for “Tickets.” Day of tickets can be purchased by cash or check at Lilac Cottage starting at 11:00am. Limited tickets are available and this event usually sells out.

There is no public parking at Oakwood Cemetery. Each tour is expected to run approximately 1.5 hours and will include walking on uneven ground. The last tour will start at 3:30pm. The Cemetery Walk will proceed during inclement weather. The Waukegan History Museum will be open from 11:00am-4:00pm during the event.

For more information, please contact Ty Rohrer-Manager of Cultural Arts at 847-360-4744, the Jack Benny Center for the Arts at 847-360-4740, or visit [www.waukeganparks.org](http://www.waukeganparks.org).

### **About the Waukegan Park District**

Established on December 26, 1916, the district has 50 properties and more than 736 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’s Greg Petry 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 62 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.

4/10/18 Comm. Relations

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