

WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

PRESS RELEASE

Waukegan Park District Hosts Virtual Waukegan American Independence Parade: Shoebox Edition on Saturday, July 4

Waukegan, Illinois (June 19, 2020) – The Waukegan Park District invites local families, organizations, and businesses to celebrate the American Independence with a virtual parade featuring mini “floats” made of recycled shoeboxes or other boxes. The 2020 Virtual American Independence Parade: Shoebox Edition will be pre-recorded and released via Facebook Premiere on the Waukegan Park District’s Facebook page on Saturday, July 4 at 1pm. The commentary during the virtual parade will be provided by David Motley and Jane Ferry, the traditional Waukegan American Independence parade emcees.

To participate in the pre-recorded virtual parade and be featured in the video, participants must decorate a “mini float” with a shoebox or other box, register via the form found at <https://forms.gle/vvn2XdSMP1U9HeDeA> by Monday, June 29 at 12pm, and drop off the float at the Jack Benny Center for the Arts located at 39 Jack Benny Drive in Bowen Park by Tuesday, June 30 at 12pm. All local families, organizations, and businesses are welcome to participate for free.

A shoebox is not required. Participants can make “floats” using toaster pastry boxes, soda boxes, empty milk jugs, tissue boxes, among other creative options that individuals can recycle.

For more information, contact Debra Carl at dcarl@waukeganparks.org or (847) 360-4740.

About the Waukegan Park District

Established on December 26, 1916, the district has 50 properties and more than 737 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, splash pads, 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 63 full-time and over 230 part-time, 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 has received Government Finance Officer Association awards for Distinguished Budget Presentation and Certificate for Excellence in Financial Reporting for eight consecutive years. The district was awarded the NRPA National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management in 2013 and named a NRPA Gold Medal Finalist in 2012, 2013, and 2019.

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Josue Pasillas
Communications Supervisor
Waukegan Park District
(847) 360-4789
jpasillas@waukeganparks.org
waukeganparks.org