



30

WONDERS *of the* **30th DISTRICT** *presented by* **Senator Adriane Johnson**



**149 S. Genesee St.,
Waukegan, IL 60085
(847) 672-6201
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OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

207 STATE HOUSE
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706

JB PRITZKER
GOVERNOR

Greetings!

As Governor of the great State of Illinois, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 30 wonders of the 30th District. I'm thrilled to join Senator Adriane Johnson in highlighting and inviting you to visit some of our state's greatest spots to experience history, culture, and nature.

The great state of Illinois is the best place to be because we are the middle of everything! From our lakefront to our world-class museums, incomparable attractions, and parks, the Land of Lincoln is full of wonders. We are the heart of the Midwest and heart of the nation, and home to the friendliest people.

To every Illinoisan and visitor who comes to the 30th district, I hope your days are filled with fun, adventure, and life-long memories.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JB Pritzker", written in a stylized, cursive script.

JB Pritzker
Governor



Adriane Johnson

SENATOR • 30th SENATE DISTRICT

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Hello 30th District and visitors!

As a proud resident of the 30th District, I wanted to do something that would accentuate the diverse attributes of our community and Lake County. What better way than to present you the 30 Wonders of the 30th District? This district has so much to offer from the beauty of its parks, to its neighboring businesses. Each Wonder adds value to our community and it's time we acknowledge the 30 Wonders of the 30th District in a way that will engage and amplify the district.

This amazing project would not have been possible without my exceptional team: Project Director Shanale Mason; Project Manager/ Intern Nina Elsner; Senate Communications Specialist Armiyah Leatherwood; cover inspiration by McKenzie Wade and our wonderful photographer Kenneth Smith.

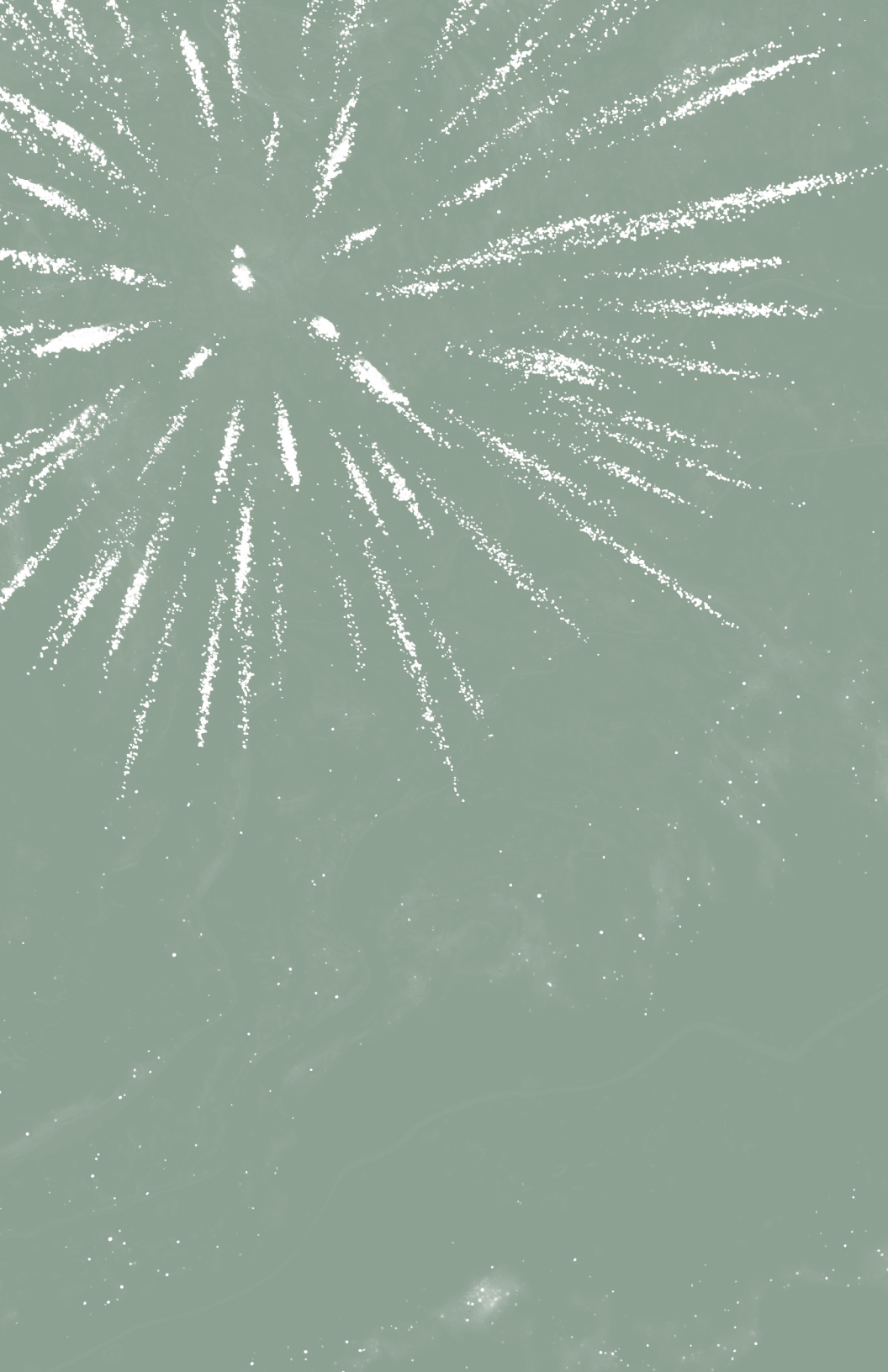
It is my hope that this project enlightens all who it reaches to all the Wonders the 30th district has to offer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Adriane Johnson", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Adriane Johnson

State Senator of the 30th District



30 Wonders of the 30th District

What They Are:

The Office of State Senator Adriane Johnson has compiled a list of public amenities, parks, monuments and other beloved spots around the 30th District. Ranging from community centers to local museums, each of these wonders deserves to be highlighted. Their value comes not just from their beauty or educational value, but also from their role as community hubs. Residents of the 30th District can be proud to live in a district full of interesting history, artistic vibrancy, social energy and stunning nature. We hope to encourage constituents around the district to take a little time to visit some of these wonders, and enjoy all that the 30th District has to offer.

The Making of the List:

This list was made by you, the residents of the 30th District. The Office of Senator Johnson publicized a brief questionnaire asking constituents to relay their favorite locations around the district. After collecting responses for two and a half weeks, the places nominated were compiled to create a list of the top 30 spots around the district. The wonders aren't listed in ranked order, but have been sorted into four main wonder types: Historical, Cultural and Arts, Social and Recreation, and Parks and Nature. Additionally, wonders that received an especially high number of nominations from constituents have been marked with a special "Constituent Favorite" label. Finally, Senator Johnson's staff nominated their own favorite wonders out of the existing list, which have been marked with a "Staff Favorite" label. The Office of Senator Johnson is pleased to present the 30 Wonders of the 30th District!

HISTORY

North Chicago Veterans Memorial Park*

1807 Sheridan Rd., North Chicago, IL 60064

- Austere and respectful memorial to the Afro-American navy veterans of the U.S. Navy Base in Great Lakes, Illinois during WWII
- Contains the Golden 13 Memorial, a special dedication to the 13 first African American Navy Officers
- Peaceful location to commemorate the contributions of veterans, and especially veterans of color



Waukegan History Museum

1917 N. Sheridan Rd., Bowen Park, Waukegan, IL 60087

- Located in the Haines House, built in 1843 on the grounds of the gorgeous Bowen Park
- Portrays life in 1870's Waukegan through a careful recreation and preservation of the House's architecture, fixtures, and furnishings – also contains exhibits and artifacts from Waukegan history
- Free admission and tours upon request



**Constituent Favorite*

***Staff Favorite*

****Staff & Constituent Favorite*

Cuneo Mansion and Gardens

*1350 N. Milwaukee Ave.,
Vernon Hills, IL 60061*

- Built in 1916 for Samuel Insull (founder of General Electric) and designed by Benjamin Marshall, then later bought by John Cuneo Sr.
- Set on a 100-acre estate with beautiful gardens, the mansion contains the Cuneo family collection of fine art and furnishings
- Currently closed due to COVID-19 related issues, but typically open for tours, academic programs, and other events



Ray Bradbury: Fantastical Traveler

128 N. County St., Waukegan, IL 60085

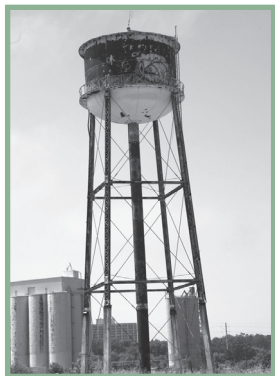
- Stainless steel sculpture outside the Waukegan Public Library - commemorates Ray Bradbury, who was born in Waukegan
- Created by Zachary Oxman, who sought to depict Bradbury's brilliance and energy

Mundelein Heritage Museum

601 Noel Dr., Mundelein, IL 60060

- Run by the Mundelein Historical Commission and the Park District
- Maintains exhibits on early pioneers in Mundelein, WWI and WWII military history, and Mundelein's railroad history





Johnson OMC Water Tower

200 E. Sea Horse Dr., Waukegan, IL 60085

- Historic landmark built in 1926 by the Johnson Outboard Motor Company (later bought by Outboard Marine Corporation)
- Now the sole remaining part of the OMC Plant in Waukegan, and a symbol of the city's industrial past
- Situated in Waukegan Harbor

Washington Park Veterans Memorial Plaza

15 S. Park Ave., Waukegan, IL 60085

- Located in Washington Park, these memorials honor military service personnel from Waukegan
- Contains numerous features, including a 36-inch diameter granite globe that floats on water, multiple historical and commemorative statues and sculptures, and engraved pavers memorializing veterans or current members of the U.S. military



The Carnegie Library

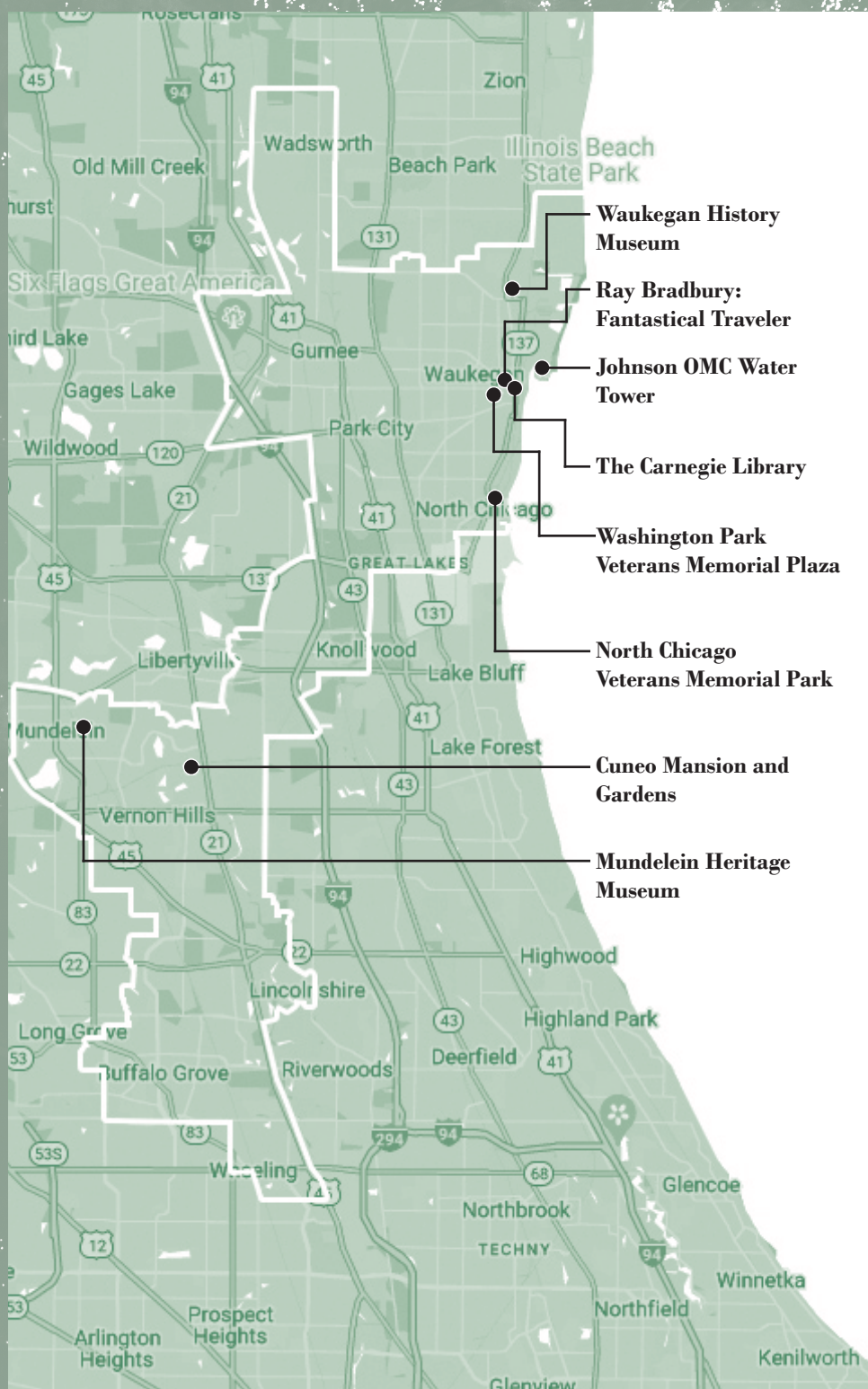
1 N. Sheridan Rd., Waukegan, IL 60085

- Built in 1903 with funding from Andrew Carnegie
- Used throughout history as a library and community activities currently being restored for further use
- Part of the National Park Service's National Register of Historic Places

**Constituent Favorite*

***Staff Favorite*

****Staff & Constituent Favorite*



CULTURE AND ARTS

Jack Benny Center for Arts

39 Jack Benny Dr., Waukegan, IL 60087

- Location for numerous arts programs, including music, dance, theater, and visual arts classes
- Hosts guest speakers and others arts-related events for the community
- Provides special events to celebrate holidays and Hispanic Heritage Month



Buffalo Grove Park District Community Arts Center ***

225 McHenry Rd., Buffalo Grove, IL 60089



- Versatile facility that serves as the heart and hub of the community
- Full theater that is perfect for dance recitals, dramatic productions and other fine arts performances
- Rentable rooms that are perfect for a variety of social, religious, or educational events
- Offers lessons and performance opportunities for fine arts performance

Genesee Theatre

203 N. Genesee St., Waukegan, IL 60085

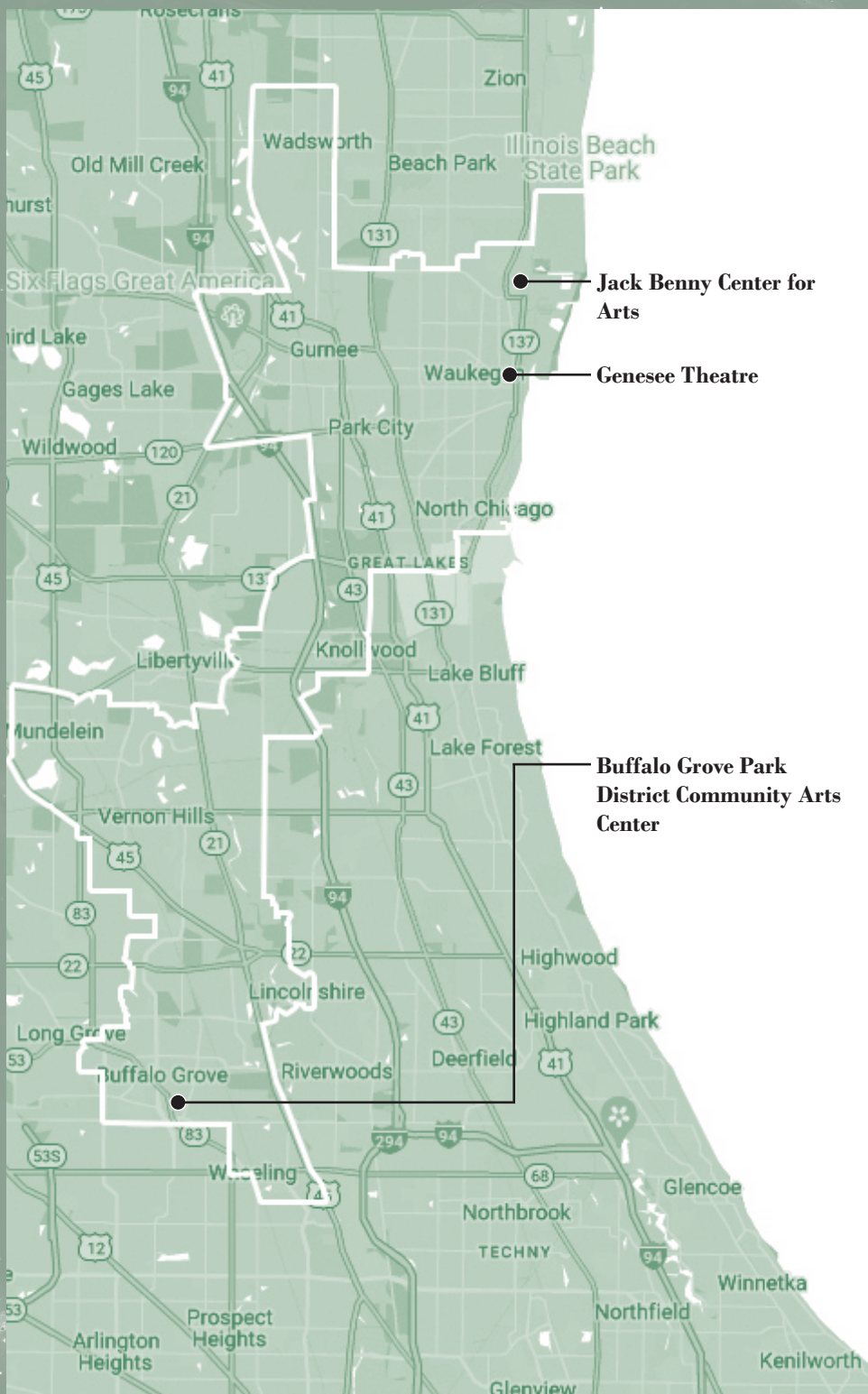
- Built in 1927, but subject of routine renovations and restorations – latest stage technology combined with the glitz and glamour of Roaring 20s' architecture
- Hosts a variety of cultural events, including theater and musical productions, comedy shows, ballets, and music concerts



**Constituent Favorite*

***Staff Favorite*

****Staff & Constituent Favorite*



● **Jack Benny Center for Arts**

● **Genesee Theatre**

● **Buffalo Grove Park District Community Arts Center**

COMMUNITY AND RECREATION

Field House Sports, Fitness, and Aquatics Center*

800 Baldwin Ave., Waukegan, IL 60085



- State-of-the-art indoor facility serving the community's fitness needs
- Includes a fitness center, pool and aquatics amenities, climbing wall, six-court hardwood gymnasium, indoor track, and a sauna
- Offers personal fitness trainers and sport and athletic classes
- Location of the Hinkston Branch of the Waukegan Public Library

Vernon Hills Athletic Complex

300 Nike Pkwy., Vernon Hills, IL 60061

- Forty-one-acre athletic complex owned by the Village of Vernon Hills
- Over two dozen fields and recreational areas for numerous sports, including soccer, baseball, and softball



Hawthorn Mall

122 Hawthorn Center, Vernon Hills, IL 60061

- Shopping Mall with 86 diverse stores, a movie theater, and a food court
- Hosts various events including live performances, character meet-and-greets, and community donation drives
- Recently celebrated their 50 Year Anniversary as a recreational and commercial space

**Constituent Favorite*

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****Staff & Constituent Favorite*

30th District Public Libraries*

- Local public libraries throughout the 30th District serve as community centers for each of their respective areas
- Provide services including loaning books, hosting lectures and author visits, English language classes, story time events for children, and more
- Calm, safe spaces for community members of all ages and from all different backgrounds
- Home to art pieces such as the Waukegan Public Library's Humpty Dumpty Sculpture

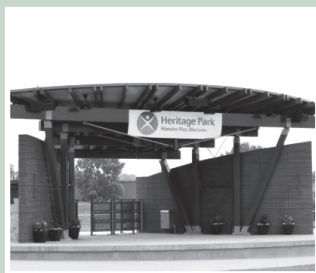


Find a library near you at by following the link below:

www.CareerOneStop.org/LocalHelp/CommunityServices/find-libraries.aspx

Wheeling Park Performance Pavilion

201 Community Blvd., Wheeling, IL 60090



- Stylish outdoor pavilion and community area located in Wheeling Park
- Has a state-of-the-art sound system that's perfect for movies, concerts and other special events
- Seating area, picnic tables, and grills make it a great spot for family gatherings and celebrations

Waukegan Main Street

214 Washington St., Waukegan, IL 60085

- Runs through Downtown Waukegan and home of many small businesses, making it ideal for shopping
- Hosts numerous events such as fundraisers, ArtWauk, and Lunch with the Mayor



Corrine J. Rose Park*

412 S. Lewis Ave., Waukegan, IL 60085



- SplashZone waterpark with water playground, six slides, and plenty of play features
- Plenty of recreation opportunities with a recreation center, as well as tennis, volleyball, and basketball courts
- Hosts several events throughout the year to celebrate different holidays and members of the community

Sullivan Community Center

635 N. Aspen Dr., Vernon Hills, IL 60061

- Community centerpiece with gymnasiums, a preschooler wing, and recreation areas
- Offers programs for art, dance, science, athletics, and more for all ages
- Contains numerous meeting rooms for family, social, or business activities



Trinity African Methodist Episcopal Church

210 South Ave., Waukegan, IL 60085

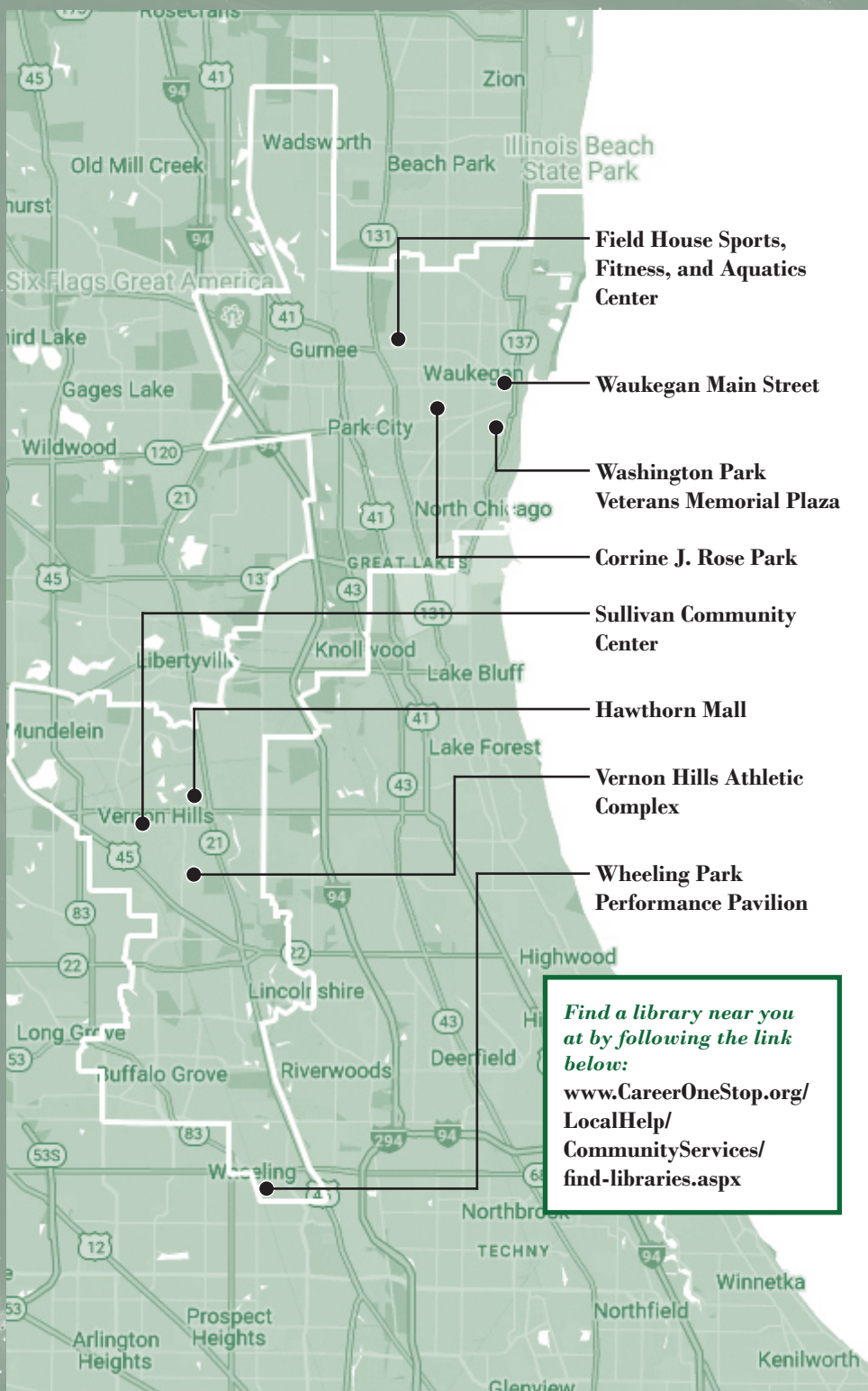


- Important place of worship oriented towards the African American community with worship services, bible study, children's ministry, choir, and missions
- Celebrated their 119th anniversary in 2023 and was granted Landmark status for the City of Waukegan
- Hosts service opportunities, community festivals, and holiday celebrations

**Constituent Favorite*

***Staff Favorite*

****Staff & Constituent Favorite*



**Field House Sports,
Fitness, and Aquatics
Center**

Waukegan Main Street

**Washington Park
Veterans Memorial Plaza**

Corrine J. Rose Park

**Sullivan Community
Center**

Hawthorn Mall

**Vernon Hills Athletic
Complex**

**Wheeling Park
Performance Pavilion**

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LocalHelp/
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find-libraries.aspx](http://www.CareerOneStop.org/LocalHelp/CommunityServices/find-libraries.aspx)**

PARKS AND NATURE

Waukegan Municipal Beach

201 E. Sea Horse Dr., Waukegan, IL 60085

- Four hundred-acre lakefront with a mile-long beach featuring natural dunes
- Free access, with free parking for all on Monday-Friday, and on the weekends for all vehicles with current Waukegan city stickers
- Great for swimming, picnicking, sunbathing, beach volleyball and other beach activities



Century Park*

1002 Lakeview Pkwy., Vernon Hills, IL 60061



- Diverse park that includes fields, wooded areas, and the Big and Little Bear Lakes all with a two mile walking path
- Home to numerous recreational activities including fishing, boating, soccer, softball, sledding, and an outdoor fitness station
- Numerous pavilions and pathways make for an easy and comfortable park experience and provides a great venue for events

Waukegan Harbor and Marina

55 S. Harbor Place, Waukegan, IL 60085

- Full service public marina right on the lake – great for those interested in boating, or even just to take a walk by the water
- Location of numerous fishing charters
- Connects to the Government Pier and Waukegan Harbor Light, a picturesque lighthouse



**Constituent Favorite*

***Staff Favorite*

****Staff & Constituent Favorite*

Captain Daniel Wright Woods Forest Preserve**

24830 St. Mary's Rd., Mettawa, IL 60045



- Seven hundred and fifty-acre wooded nature preserve with 4 miles of trails for hiking, biking, cross-country skiing, and horseback riding
- Connected to the Half Day Forest preserve via a bridge across the Des Plaines River
- Contains the Adlai E. Stevenson Historic Home, built in 1938 by the prominent statesmen – free self-guided tours of the house and grounds

Greenbelt Forest Preserve

1110 S. Green Bay Rd., North Chicago, IL 60035

- Five hundred and ninety five-acre preserve with five miles of hiking trails, located in Lake County's most urban area
- Seat of the Greenbelt Cultural Center – venue for cultural events, weddings, and other social gatherings
- Provides nature education and history education programs



Vernon Hills Memorial Arboretheater

50 Memorial Dr., Vernon Hills, IL 60061



- Beautiful and serene public amenity that provides musical entertainment and serves as a social gathering place
- Situated in Castle Park, adding an attractive water fixture to the green space
- Dedicated to the memory of U.S. Veterans and the many sacrifices they have made



Diamond Lake Beach

1016 Diamond Lake Rd., Mundelein, IL 60060

- One hundred-acre beachfront park and picnic area located on Diamond Lake
- Rentable kayaks, paddleboats, and stand-up paddleboards
- Great for swimming, boating, sunbathing, and for family gatherings and events

Foss Park Skateboard Park

Foss Park, 1901 Foss Park Ave., North Chicago, IL 60088

- Lakeside park that includes green spaces and a beach
- Recreational activities include the Foss Park Skateboard Park and a playground
- Host of several cultural and arts festivals and youth basketball programs



Old School Forest Preserve

28285 N. St. Marys Rd., Libertyville, IL 60048



- Popular 543-acre nature preserve that offers recreational activities throughout the year
- Several miles of paved and gravel trail, connections to other parks, and great bass fishing
- Location of the Old School Forest Preserve Sledding Hill, a beloved community sledding hill that can be seen from I-94

Bowen Park*

1800 N. Sheridan Rd., Waukegan, IL 60085

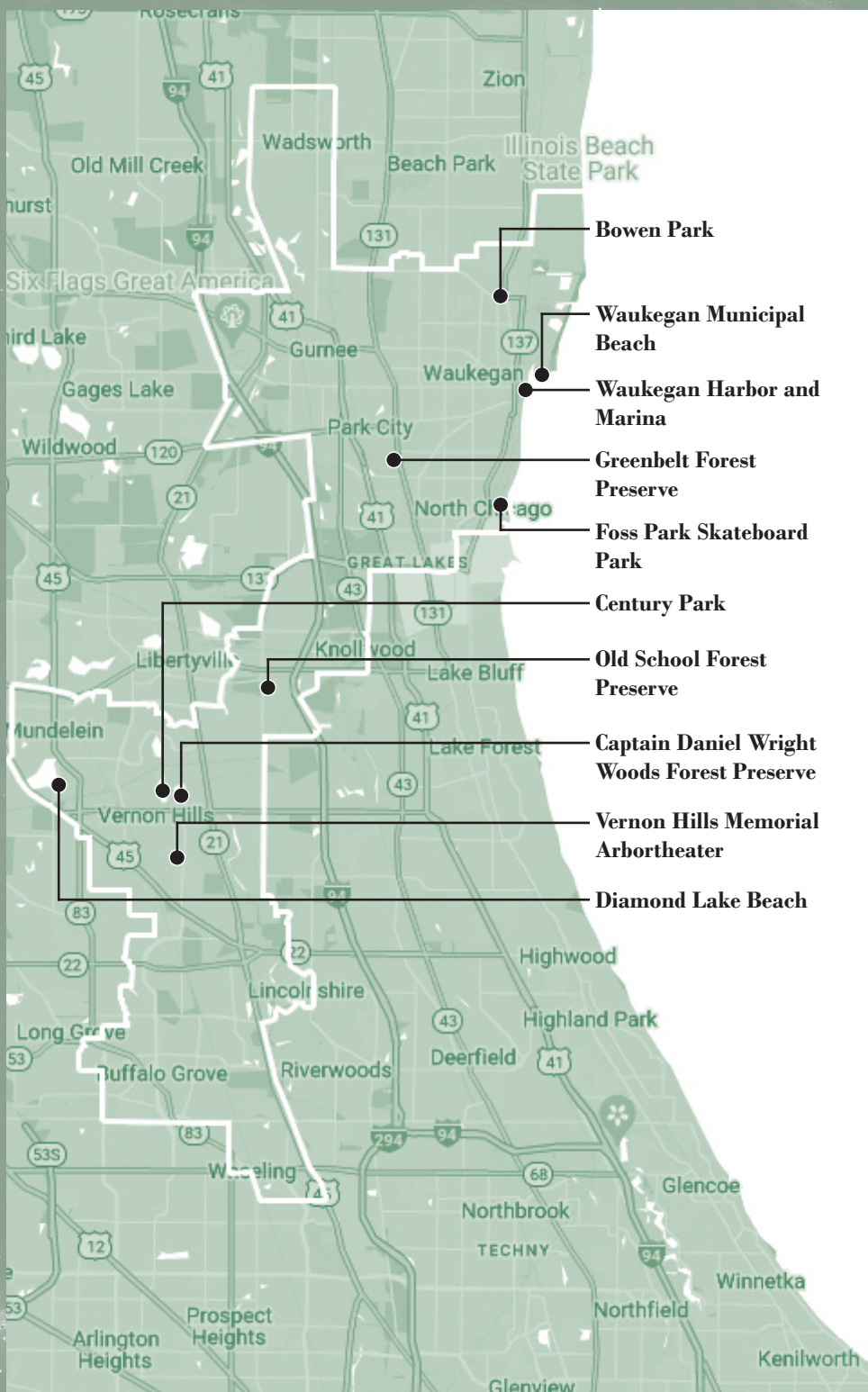
- Gorgeous open space that brings the Waukegan community in touch with nature
- Great playground for kids with a fun nature theme and log slides
- Connected to the Hofflander Wildflower Refuge, the Waukegan Skate Park, and the Waukegan History Museum
- Water features and ecological informational boards add to any visit



**Constituent Favorite*

***Staff Favorite*

****Staff & Constituent Favorite*



Note of Thanks

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