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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

- 1. City of Darien
- 2. Darien Chamber of Commerce
- 3. Darien Park District

## **2024 Darien Fest to move to Westwood Park**

DARIEN, IL (December 18, 2023) – Mayor Marchese announced that the 2024 Darien Fest will return to the Darien Park District and will be held at Westwood Park, located at 75<sup>th</sup> Street and Fairview Avenue. "The City is pleased to assist in bringing Darien Fest back to a Park District location and partner with the chamber and Park District to make this a wonderful community event," said Mayor Marchese.

Park District Board president Ray Jablonski said, "The Park District looks forward to the fest being held at Westwood Park during this special year, which is also the Park District's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. This will complement the many other celebrations to take place next year." The 2024 Darien Fest will take place on Friday August 9<sup>th</sup>, from 6-10pm, Saturday August 10<sup>th</sup> from 1-10pm, and Sunday August 11<sup>th</sup> from 1-9pm.

The last Darien Fest to be held on Park District property was in 2019 with covid responsible for canceling the fest in 2020. In 2021, the Chamber held the fest at the QBar shopping center and had a short window to plan the event as covid restrictions were removed. The 2022 fest was a huge success for the chamber, raising more funds than in previous years. Due to the success, the fest was held at the same location in 2023, but the City, Park District and Chamber Boards have determined that it is time to reimagine the Fest, and Westwood Park provides a great location to accomplish this goal. "It's important to move forward and make the 2024 Darien Fest the best ever," said Mayor Marchese.

In addition to 3 days of family fun, a priority of the fest is to partner with the many volunteer organizations in the community. "The local volunteer groups provide so many benefits to the community and we welcome them all as active participants in the 2024 fest. These organizations will have a great opportunity to promote themselves and their service throughout the fest," said chamber director April Padalik.