

2022 MEMORIAL DAY UNITY MARCH AND CEREMONY PLEASE PARTICIPATE!



This year, the Village of Wilmette is celebrating the 150th anniversary of its founding in 1872. As part of this celebration, the Sesquicentennial Planning Committee is observing Memorial Day (May 30) by conducting a special **UNITY MARCH AND CEREMONY** to honor the 110 Wilmette men and women who died while serving their country in time of war.

The Committee is urging representatives of all of Wilmette's civic, service, governmental, religious, business, and other organizations/groups to participate in the **Unity March** and attend the **Ceremony**. Widespread participation will not only honor the service and supreme sacrifice made by our Wilmette heroes, but it will affirm that we are truly a community of citizens who not only live together but who care about one another.

The way to participate is by having representatives of your organization walk or ride in the **Unity March** while displaying a placard that identifies your organization. The Committee will supply the placard. Walking is preferred but riding in a vehicle is acceptable if your representatives are unable to walk the entire route. Floats will not be included due to the solemnity of the occasion.

The **Unity March** will begin staging at 9:30 a.m. at the St. Joseph Church parking lot and will proceed at 10:30 a.m. to Village Hall via Lake Avenue, Park Avenue, and Wilmette Avenue. The **Ceremony** will begin at Village Hall following the arrival of the marchers. The Wilmette Community Band will provide music as the marchers arrive and during the **Ceremony**. Wilmette vocalist Paul Reineck will sing the national Anthem. Village President Senta Plunkett will be the emcee. Nancy Fox, mother of the village's most recent fallen hero, Marine Sgt. John Phillips, will lay a wreath at the War Memorial. The Wilmette Police Department will provide a rifle salute to the 110 honorees, whose names will be read by Wilmette Scouts.

The Committee is especially pleased that Wilmette native Michael Rogers will be the guest speaker. Mike is a retired Admiral of the U.S. Navy who was appointed by President Obama as Director of the National Security Agency (NSA) and head of U.S. Cyber Command, having been confirmed unanimously by the U.S. Senate. Mike was leader of U.S. cyber security until his retirement in 2018.



Please complete and submit a registration form to confirm your organization's participation. The form is attached and is also available on the Committee's website (wilmette150.org). For questions, contact Alex Arteaga at arteagaa@wilmette.com or (847) 853-7502. To allow adequate time to prepare your placard, the Committee requests that you register no later than April 30.