



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 15, 2018**

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Waukeee's Annual WinterFest Celebration Set for December 7

Waukeee, Iowa—Bring on the holiday cheer with Waukeee's free, annual WinterFest celebration on Friday, Dec. 7 in the Downtown Triangle area. Festivities kick off at 6 p.m. SHARP when Santa Claus and Waukeee Mayor Bill Peard light the WinterFest Tree!

"WinterFest offers an early opportunity to gather with family members, friends and neighbors to celebrate the holidays," said Mayor Peard. "Seeing the excited looks on the kids' faces when we count down from 10 and light the big tree is what the magic of the season is all about."

After the tree lighting, kids can visit Santa at the Waukeee Community Center. Guests can watch an ice sculptor create holiday pieces, enjoy hot cocoa and cookies, make art with the Waukeee Area Arts Council, hear carolers and embark on a scavenger hunt. An old-fashioned trolley will circle residential streets with the WinterFest Light Tour. The Waukeee Parks & Recreation Department is excited to announce it will hold a new "Snowball Drop" event this year as well.

"We are partnering with Central Bank for our first-ever Snowball Drop," said Recreation Supervisor Danae Edwards. "Crews will drop 600 snowballs (table tennis balls) from above which children will retrieve and then redeem for a free book at Central Bank's Waukeee location."

The Snowball Drop will be held on 6th Street between Walnut and Locust Streets at 6:30 p.m. for kids up to age 10.

WinterFest attendees are encouraged to donate new, unwrapped toys or non-perishable food items to be distributed to those in need through Waukeee Area Christian Services. Those items can be dropped off at the Waukeee Community Center during WinterFest or at the Waukeee Public Works Building (805 University Avenue) December 3-14.

For more information, visit www.Waukeee.org/winterfest.

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The City of Waukee is recognized as one of the fastest growing cities in Iowa and is located in Dallas County—one of the fastest growing counties in the U.S. The current population is 20,649 residents. Waukee offers a family-friendly environment featuring quality parks, schools and trails. The City is also dedicated to economic development and expanding business opportunities, including the creation of the mixed-use development, Kettlestone. For more information, visit www.Waukee.org.