



“Ramblin’” Ray Stevens Joins WLS AM 890 Chicago *Reunites With “Big” John Howell for Mornings*

CHICAGO, IL, AUGUST 3, 2016— Cumulus Media announces that award-winning and well-known Chicago radio personality “Ramblin’” Ray Stevens will join WLS AM 890 weekday mornings from 5:00AM until 9:00AM CST, beginning Monday, August 8, 2016. The move reunites Stevens with current WLS AM 890 morning personality “Big” John Howell, as the two worked together for several years at US99.5 Chicago.

Peter Bowen, WLS AM 890 General Manager and Vice President/Market Manager for Cumulus Media-Chicago, said: “Big John and Ray are deeply rooted in Chicago and are well known to the community. We are excited for our listeners, as Big John and Ray are a winning combination.”

Stevens said: “I’m thrilled to be re-joining my former partner and good friend Big John Howell for mornings on Chicago’s News/Talk leader, WLS AM 890. I want to thank Peter Bowen, Peter Bolger and Mike McVay for this tremendous opportunity to speak with Chicagoans each weekday about the news and topics important to us all.”

Stevens has been a Chicago media fixture for over two decades. In addition to winning ACM, CMA and CRB Personality of the Year awards and having been nominated for radio’s coveted Marconi Award, Stevens is heavily involved in leadership and fundraising roles for The Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation, The Illinois State Crime Commission, The Ronald McDonald House Charities, P.A.W.’s Chicago and many more. Stevens is a champion for United States Military Servicemen and Veterans, dedicating his time and energy to America’s enlisted men and women and their families. In 2001, Stevens was awarded the United States Marine’s Semper Fi Award for his work with military veterans, the highest Marine honor bestowed upon a civilian.

Howell has entertained Chicago radio audiences for almost three decades, including the last two as morning host for WLS-AM 890. Prior to that, he hosted mornings for WIND, as well as afternoons and then morning at US99.5 where he and Ray Stevens had a long and successful run. Howell made his name with national audiences as host of a call-in request show, “Country Gold”, syndicated by Westwood One from 1999-2006. A graduate of the Berklee College of Music, Howell has traveled nationally as a musician and arranger. He started his radio career in 1984 in Grand Rapids, MI.

About WLS AM 890

Long renowned as a station of larger-than-life personalities, WLS AM 890 continues its tradition as one of Chicago’s most important radio outlets with award winning local news wrapping around iconic and beloved Chicago personalities like “Big” John Howell, Steve Dahl and Jonathan Brandmeier. WLS-AM is also the flagship for the Chicago White Sox and the Chicago Bulls. For more information, visit www.wlsam.com.

About Cumulus Media

A leader in the radio broadcasting industry, Cumulus Media (NASDAQ:CMLS) combines high-quality local programming with iconic, nationally syndicated media, sports and entertainment brands to deliver premium content choices to the 245 million people reached each week through its 452 owned-and-operated stations broadcasting in 90 US media markets (including eight of the top 10), more than 8,200 broadcast radio stations affiliated with its Westwood One network and numerous digital channels. Together, the Cumulus/Westwood One platforms make Cumulus Media one of the few media companies that can provide advertisers with national reach and local impact.

Cumulus/Westwood One is the exclusive radio broadcast partner to some of the largest brands in sports, entertainment, news, and talk, including the NFL, the NCAA, the Masters, the Olympics, the GRAMMYS, the Academy of Country Music Awards, the American Music Awards, the Billboard Music Awards, Westwood One News, and more. Additionally, it is the nation's leading provider of country music and lifestyle content through its NASH brand, which serves country fans nationwide through radio programming, exclusive digital content, and live events. For more information, visit www.cumulus.com.

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