

## **Village of Orland Park Media Relations**

# **NEWSRelease**

**Frederick T. Owens Village Hall**

**14700 South Ravinia Avenue - Orland Park, IL 60462**

Media Contact: Margie Owens-Klotz  
Village of Orland Park  
708/403-6277

Event Contact: Kurt Heinlen, Program Supervisor  
Village of Orland Park Recreation Dept  
708/403-6284

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**PHOTOS AVAILABLE**

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### **Winter Wonderland Beckons At Orland Park's Centennial Park**

*Outdoor Winter Fun Continues through March 7*

ORLAND PARK, IL - The Village of Orland Park's 250-acre Centennial Park has again been transformed into a winter wonderland. The gem of the village's extensive park system, Centennial is the center of winter sports in Orland Park, offering free ice skating, sledding and cross country skiing through March 7. Centennial Park is located at 15600 West (100<sup>th</sup>) Avenue, four blocks west of LaGrange Road/US Route 45.

The village's ice skating rink opened in mid-November and is open daily from sunrise until 9:00 p.m. Skaters may bring their own skates or rent them when the warming house is open. There is no charge to use the rink. The warming house is open Monday through Friday, 4 p.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. In addition to skate rentals, the warming house offers cross country ski rentals, weather permitting.

"This is a great opportunity for families to enjoy winter sports," said Orland Park Director of Recreation Nancy Flores. "The village has had a great response each year that the Winter Wonderland has been open," she added."

Three remaining outdoor special events are planned for the Centennial Park Ice Rink. Free and open to all ages, the Recreation Department's Winter Follies are held from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. and include free popcorn and hot apple cider for attendees.

A winter craft is the featured fare on Thursday, January 7 with turkey bowling being offered on January 28. An ice skating obstacle contest will be held February 18.

"Winter Follies have become an annual favorite," said Recreation Program Supervisor Kurt Heinlen who oversees the village's winter offerings at Centennial. "People come out to ice skate on our professionally installed ice rink and enjoy a special event at the same time," Heinlen said, adding that hockey is not permitted on the rink.

"The village's rink is in the perfect outdoor setting as you're surrounded by Centennial Park with a great view of Lake Sedgewick," Heinlen added.

Rental costs include \$2 for skates, \$1 for helmets and \$5 for cross-country skis. A photo ID is required to rent equipment. Or, winter revelers may bring their own equipment.

Sledding is available on the village's 30-foot sledding hill; however, sleds with runners are not permitted. Those sledding are asked to use plastic sleds, saucers and other winter devices that won't damage the hill.

For further information, call the Village of Orland Park Recreation Department at 708/403-7275. After hours, interested persons may call the Recreation and Parks Department Weather Hotline at 708/403-6290 for park updates.