

## **Memorial Day Weekend Marks Summer's Start in Orland Park**

### *Aquatic Center Opens and Veterans Honored and Remembered*

ORLAND PARK, IL- Memorial Day Weekend in Orland Park means the start of summer.

“We officially welcome summer to Orland Park with the arrival of Memorial Day Weekend,” said Mayor Dan McLaughlin. “The pool opens and we gather as a community to remember the brave men and women who have given their lives serving our country,” the mayor said.

The village's Centennial Park Aquatic Center begins its 22<sup>nd</sup> season on Saturday, May 25 being open from noon to 8 p.m. Pool members may enter at 11 a.m.

Located at 15600 West Avenue, Centennial Pool includes a lazy river, a 200 foot enclosed body slide, a 328 foot enclosed tube slide, a drop slide, two speed slides, two body slides, a platform cliff jump and a large zero depth pool with a kiddie play and spray structure. The concession area offers a full menu with pizza, hamburgers, hot dogs, nachos, sno-cones, ice cream and more. Tube rentals are free and lockers are available for a nominal fee.

The village's Recreation Department offers open swim, swim lessons, splash parties, pavilion rentals, late night swims and family fun events. The full schedule appears in the Recreation and Parks Department Spring/Summer Program Guide and can be found online in the recreation area of [www.orland-park.il.us](http://www.orland-park.il.us).

“The Centennial Park Aquatic Center was voted the best pool in the area by readers of one of our local media,” said Trustee Pat Gira, chair of the village's Recreation and Parks Committee. “Pool memberships are a great value, giving residents a wonderful facility to cool off and enjoy some summer fun,” she added.

Pedal boat and kayak rentals at the adjacent Lake Sedgewick also open for the season Memorial Day Weekend. Pedal boats and kayaks may be rented on Fridays, from noon to 7 p.m. and on Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. through Labor Day. Single and tandem kayaks are available for \$5 per person per hour. Four person pedal boats may be rented for \$10 an hour. Boat rentals are not available when the pool is closed or when weather conditions are deemed unsafe for boaters.

The village's Veterans Commission will host its annual Memorial Day Ceremony on Monday, May 27 at 1 p.m. at the village's memorial, Ara Pace – Place of Peace, located at the Village Center, 14700 South Ravinia Avenue.

“The village's ceremonies on Memorial Day and Veterans Day are very moving and we invite everyone to join us,” McLaughlin said. “On Memorial Day, we remember those who have died serving our country and we also recognize the veterans and their families whose names have been added to the village's memorial,” the mayor said.

The names of 10 veterans have been added to Orland Park's granite wall since the village's Veterans Day Ceremony. Seven of the 10 are expected to be at the ceremony with their families while the three deceased veterans will be represented by family and friends.

Refreshments will be served inside of the Orland Park Civic Center immediately following the ceremony and attendees will be able to view the memorial table with photos of the veterans who have been added.

Frann Carnivele-Sidlow, resident director of the Village of Orland Park Theatre Troupe, will sing the national anthem. Colors will be presented by members of the Palos-Orland Reber-Tesmond Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #2604 and the American Legion Orland Memorial Post #111. Members of Orland Park Boy Scout Troop #383 will serve as an honor guard with members of Orland Park Cub Scout Pack #383.

"We're happy to honor the 10 veterans whose names have been added to the village's wall," McLaughlin said, adding, "It's always nice to see the vets and their families proudly rise to their feet as everyone applauds their service to our country."