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#### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

*—photography available—*

#### **ICE RINK OPENS IN HIGHWOOD'S EVERTS PARK**

*Families can enjoy FREE ice-skating all winter long thanks to U.S. Bank*

**HIGHWOOD, IL (DECEMBER, 2009)** – The City of Highwood and U.S. Bank of Highwood are proud to announce the opening of the U.S. Bank Ice Rink in Highwood's Everts Park, located behind the Highwood Post Office, 130 Highwood Avenue.

The ice rink was donated by U.S. Bank for the second annual Highwood for the Holidays event on December 5<sup>th</sup> that embraced some 500 military men and women who could not be with their families for the holidays. It will become a permanent yearly attraction for the local community.

“The ice rink is a great addition to the community for families to spend quality time together ice skating and getting some exercise and it is free,” states Joe McKittrick, branch manager of U.S. Bank - Highwood. “U.S. Bank is dedicated to being an active member of its community and paying for an ice rink for the City of Highwood to use year after year was in line with our corporate goals and community responsibility.”

Since Mother Nature did not provide the seasonal temperatures to freeze the ice rink in time for Highwood for the Holidays, it was turned into a ‘hay’ volleyball court for the event. Now, as temperatures have fallen the ice rink is open to the public from sunrise to sunset. Children need to be accompanied by an adult at all times as the rink is unsupervised, and remember to BYOS (bring your own skates).

Another nice addition from Highwood for the Holidays is the transformation of the Santa Shack into a seasonal warming house. The 12 ft. x 10 ft. heated structure was built by Highwood's Public Works Department and will stay up all season alongside the new U.S. Bank Ice Rink!

#### **About The City of Highwood**

Highwood was founded in 1868 by William Wallace Everts, a Chicago civic leader and world-renown educator. His concept of a family-based community has endured for more than a century. The beautiful Everts Park, in the heart of downtown Highwood, has been named in the founder's honor. Benches and trees in the park celebrate and remember people who, through turbulent times and peaceful ones, built and sustained the community. Many of Highwood's street names recall Everts' family and friends whom the founder encouraged to build homes here. Residents of Swedish, Irish, Italian, Latino and other heritages have since populated the community, each enriching the community through their cultural traditions.

The Village of Highwood was incorporated in 1887. The name briefly became Village of Fort Sheridan and then City of Fort Sheridan. In 1904, the community officially became known as the City of Highwood. Fort Sheridan, a former army base northeast of the City, has had a profound influence on Highwood's development, and it continues to do so today as part of its land, incorporated into the City, nearly doubled Highwood in size. Today, Highwood is blending the past and present with exciting new plans for its future.

The City of Highwood, IL administrative offices are located at 17 Highwood Avenue Highwood, Illinois 60040. For more information, please visit <http://www.celebratehighwood.com> or <http://www.cityofhighwood.com> Tel: 847.432.1924.

### **About U.S. Bank**

U.S. Bank of Highwood is located at 310 Waukegan Road, Highwood IL 60040, (847) 266 6414 office (847) 433 1767 Fax. There are 85 U.S. Bank branches in Chicagoland.

U.S. Bancorp, with \$265 billion in assets as of Sept. 30, 2009, is the parent company of U.S. Bank, the sixth largest commercial bank in the United States. The company operates 3,002 banking offices in 25 states and 5,170 ATMs and provides a comprehensive line of banking, brokerage, insurance, investment, mortgage, trust and payment services products to consumers, businesses and institutions. Visit U.S. Bancorp on the web at [usbank.com](http://usbank.com).

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