



Pedro E. Segarra
Mayor

SKATING RINK OPENS TO THE PUBLIC

---NEWS AND COMMUNITY RELEASE---

(December 10, 2010) --- With the singing talent of the Hartford Public High School Show Choir, the skating elegance of the athletes from Champions Skating Center, and the holiday festivity of a ribbon cutting--- today marked the opening of the public ice skating rink at Bushnell Park in Downtown Hartford.

“This is a way to expand our winter festivities, invite people to our beautiful city, and demonstrate how Bushnell Park is a centralized connector to other wonderful events in Hartford, including our sports, arts and heritage, and business communities,” said Mayor Pedro E. Segarra.

Thanks to generous contributions, ice time and skate rentals are free through January 6th. The 45’ x 90’ ice rink holds up to 75 skaters at a time. Colorful wristbands will be used as needed to accommodate the crowd. Skating rotation time is about 45-minute cycles.

On December 10th and 11th, special additional artistic theatrical lighting projections by Herring Media Group--- featuring photos from the new Hartford History Center at the Hartford Public Library--- can be seen. Please note that the rink and the park will continue to be lit until January 6th.

Skating schedule beginning December 11th: (Ice maintenance time throughout the day as needed):

- Sunday –Thursday 11:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- Friday - Saturday 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.; 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. with Champions Amateur Skating show 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

School Vacation week:

- Monday – Thursday December 27th – 30th: 11:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- Friday December 31st (First Night): 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. – 1:00 a.m. with Champions Amateur Skating show 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Holiday skating hours:

- Christmas Eve (December 24th) and Christmas Day (December 25th) 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- New Years Eve – First Night (December 31st) until 1:00 a.m.
- New Years Day (January 1st) 11:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Santa will be at the Pump House on December 10th following the opening ceremony until 7:00 p.m. and on December 11th and 12th from 2:00 – 5:00 pm. Santa will return with Mrs. Claus on Friday, December 17th from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Bushnell Carousel which will be open Fridays and Saturdays from 2:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Enjoy refreshments, face painting, balloons and more! If you are able, please donate a new, unwrapped toy to the Marines’ Toys for Tots drive for a needy child. Collection boxes are at the rink, the Carousel, and the Pump House.

During your visit, you are invited to enjoy free cocoa and cookies provided by Center Church. These will be served in the ground level dining room at 60 Gold Street, on Fridays December 10th and 17th from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

This year’s winter festivities are presented by the City of Hartford, the Greater Hartford Arts Council, The Bushnell, The Connecticut Whale, Champions Skating Center and funding from many of the region’s corporations and foundations.