

# PRESS RELEASE

## Mayor Proclaims Olympic Day and Citywide Celebration

**ARLINGTON, June 15, 2009:** Mayor Margaret Larson to announce at the City Council Meeting that June 23 will be observed citywide as Olympic Day.

Tiffany Hardebeck, Tim Groves and Jamie Shull are all Arlington residents and participate in the growing sport of inline speed skating which is currently under consideration as a new Olympic Sport for the 2016 Olympic Games. Miss Hardebeck and Jamie Shull are advancing to the national finals that will be held the week of July 19th in Peoria, IL. Olympic Day, held annually on June 23 is celebrated by thousands of people, in more than 160 countries.

At the urging of Chicago Mayor Richard Daley during the U.S. Conference of Mayors in January in Washington, D.C., Mayor Margaret Larson joined with fellow mayors across the country in a collective pledge of support for hosting the Olympic Games in Chicago in 2016. Today's mayoral proclamation and the community's cooperative celebration with other cities will send a clear message to the International Olympic Committee that our city and the United States of America support the Chicago 2016 bid for the Olympic Games. An announcement of the site for the 2016 Olympic Games is forthcoming in October 2009.

Olympic Day is a worldwide commemoration of Baron Pierre de Coubertin's June 23, 1894, convening of the first International Olympic Committee (IOC) meeting at the Sorbonne in Paris, and the founding of the Modern Olympic Games. National Olympic Committees (NOCs) throughout the world will also participate in the international celebration, with each Olympic Committee sending Olympic Day greetings to participating nations.