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For Immediate Release:

Washington Township, OHIO – May 7, 2010

Centerville-Washington Park District Opens Skate Park

If you build it, they will come...this has certainly held true for the Centerville-Washington Park District's Skate Park that recently opened at Oak Creek South Park in Washington Township. The grand opening was held on Friday, May 7th and over 250 individuals showed up to see what was going on at the park. Local businesses One Love Skate Shop, DK Bikes, K&G Bike Center, Johnnys Pizza, Dawn's Cookies, Jet's Pizza, Bose, Levi's Strauss, and Kosin's Party Rental showed their support for the event by showcasing their products or demonstrating skills. Music was provided by the Centerville band, Old English.

The addition of a skate park was part of a list of projects promised to voters in the 2004 Park Improvement Levy. Passed by an overwhelming percentage of voters in Centerville and Washington Township, the Park Improvement Levy provides 0.9 mill over 10 years. The addition of a skate park has been requested by residents for more than 10 years. Total cost of the skate park was \$321, 984.50. A donation by the Centerville Kiwanis Club also helped fund the project.

Wally Hollyday of California was chosen as the designer. His company has build over 100 skate parks and has 30 years of experience. The four concrete bowls range in depth from a couple feet to nine feet deep. The bowls and ramps along with the sidewalk around the skate park total 9,000 square feet. Wally flew in from Atlanta to attend the grand opening celebration.

A couple things to keep in mind when visiting the skate park, the park is open daylight hours only and is for use by skateboards, in-line skates, and BMX bikes with no pegs. Road, mountain bikes, and scooters and prohibited. Smoking, alcoholic beverages, weapons, food and drink are all prohibited in the skate park. Personal protection devices are strongly recommended and children under 10 years of age must be supervised by an adult.

Future additions to the skate park will include fencing and additional lighting. The Park District has applied for a Land and Water Conservation Grant through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

The Centerville-Washington Park District was established in 1959 and currently operates seven community parks, seven nature parks, and 34 neighborhood parks in Centerville and Washington Township. For more information about the Centerville-Washington Park District Skate Park or other facilities, please call (937) 433-5155 or check our website at www.cwpd.org.