

**NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Saranac Lake Civic Center
March 19, 2024**

Saranac Lake Civic Center remaining open for Pre- and Post-Eclipse Ice Skating Sessions

*Special skating to be offered through April 9,
after Civic Center season typically ends*

SARANAC LAKE, N.Y. -- The Saranac Lake Civic Center will stay open until April 9 — later than usual this year — as part of the celebration surrounding the total solar eclipse that will occur on April 8.

The Civic Center has made this decision to help support activities for locals and visitors to the area who want to catch a glimpse of the solar eclipse. The Civic Center will host 10 total skating sessions the day of, the day after and just prior to the eclipse.

Through funding by Franklin County's Solar Eclipse grant and the Cloudsplitter Foundation, the Civic Center is able to keep its doors open for an extended period. "We're so pleased to be able to help provide skaters with this opportunity," said Chenelle Palyswiat of the Cloudsplitter Foundation. "Celebrating the eclipse is something we hope everyone can do in their own way and if families choose to come get a last skate of the season in, we think that would be wonderful."

The eclipse skating series begins Thursday, April 4th at the newly remodeled facility in Saranac Lake. The full schedule is available on the Saranac Lake Civic Center website and will be promoted through community calendars and on its Facebook page. There may also be Learn to Skate and Learn to Curl sessions in the mix.

"Offering this special skating series will be a nice complement to the area's activities to eclipse visitors but equally nice for local community members who aren't going away on Spring Break," Saranac Lake Civic Center's Marnie Crane said. "We have had a great season and this is the perfect way to bring it to a close." The last day of the Civic Center's ice season will be on April 9th when this series ends.

Admission will be \$2.50/person. Skate rentals will be offered at \$5/pair at the Civic Center's pro shop.

"Without the support of Franklin County, Cloudsplitter and implementing a nominal admission fee, it wouldn't have been possible," said Ollie Burgess, President of the Saranac Lake Civic Center Board of Directors.

"Franklin County Tourism/Explore Adirondack Frontier is proud to financially support the added ice time at the civic center during the 2024 Eclipse," said Phil Hans, Director of Tourism & Economic Development. **Franklin County.** "The added days of ice time fosters community engagement and enhances the region's recreational opportunities for visitors."

The Saranac Lake Civic Center will be offering summer events and is looking for more events to host. Individuals, businesses or organizations that would like to host its event or enter other partnerships with the Civic Center are encouraged to email info@saranaclakeciviccenter.org.

The Saranac Lake Civic Center is located at 213 Ampersand Avenue.

###

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Marnie Cochran Crane, Saranac Lake Civic Center, (804) 516-5296
info@saranaclakeciviccenter.org

About the Saranac Lake Civic Center

The Saranac Lake Civic Center is a year-round, not-for-profit recreation and events facility, serving the residents and visitors of Saranac Lake and the surrounding Adirondack community. The Saranac Lake Civic Center serves residents and visitors from across the region and beyond. Its regular users include local youth hockey, high school players from Saranac Lake and Lake Placid Central Schools, women's and men's adult recreational hockey, Lake Placid Curling Club, Paul Smith's College, Northwood School and more. Expanded users include tournament users (such as Can-Am Hockey, Canadian Hockey Enterprises, Empire State Winter Games) and exposition organizers to take advantage of the event space.