



MIAMI BEACH

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LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager

DATE: January 13, 2010

SUBJECT: Year - End Recreation News and Upcoming Events

After School Holiday Party – On December 23, Flamingo Park hosted their annual holiday party for our after school members with holiday music, food crafts and pizza.

Play Time Holiday Brunch – On December 18, Flamingo Park Playtime program celebrated the holidays with a special party for our youngsters and a surprise visit and gift from Santa Claus.

Play Time Holiday Show – On Thursday, December 17, the North Shore Park and Youth Center's Play Time program hosted their annual Holiday Show. Nineteen adorable Play Time participants ages three to four performed Holiday classics such as "Jingle Bells", "The Dreidel Song" and the grand finale of "Feliz Navidad" for all to enjoy. Santa made a guest appearance to surprise the little ones with gifts.

Seniors Holiday Party – On Thursday, December 17, the Parks & Recreation Department and the Miami Beach Convention Center, managed by Global Spectrum, hosted a Holiday Party for approximately 350 Miami Beach senior citizens. Seniors enjoyed an evening of food, fun and dancing while celebrating the holidays. Santa & Mrs. Claus made a special appearance. In addition, 25 members of the Miami Beach Teen Club volunteered their time to assist with the event.

1st Annual Winter Swimming Competition – On December 17, the Scott Rakow Youth Center hosted its 1st Annual Winter Swimming Competition. Adults and children ages five and up were invited to compete in the 25, 50 and 100 yard butterfly stroke, back stroke, breast stroke and freestyle events. The event was a huge success.

Official Holiday Lighting Ceremony – On December 10, the City officially "lit up" City Hall for the holiday season. The City's Menorah, Christmas tree and all of City Hall dazzled in holiday light, as the Scott Rakow Youth Center after school program members and Hip Hop Dancers entertained us with Holiday melodies. Songs included Santa Claus is Coming to Town, Jingle Bell Rock, Let it Snow, I Have a Little Dreidel, Winter Wonderland and Feliz Navidad.

Winter Wonderland – On Friday, December 4, the North Shore Park and Youth Center presented its 5th Annual Winter Wonderland from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Approximately 2,800 Miami Beach residents and guests attended the largest "Snow Village" on Miami Beach, filled with rides, food, games, and our famous **50 TONS OF SNOW** scattered throughout the wonderland! Mr. & Mrs. Claus made a special visit from the North Pole and took pictures with everyone. Children from the Parks & Recreation after school programs performed holiday songs to the audience.

Social Club's Thanksgiving Dinner – On November 21, the Margaret M. Swett Social Club (for developmentally disabled adults) hosted their Annual Thanksgiving Dinner at the North Shore Park and Youth Center's auditorium. Over 75 clients and their families made this dinner a remarkable one. The menu consisted of turkey, pork, black beans and rice, maduros, yucca and tamales.

Seniors' Thanksgiving Party – On November 20, the Parks and Recreation Department was proud to host our annual Senior Scenes Thanksgiving Dinner. The feast was held at the North Shore Park and Youth Center's gymnasium. Approximately 150 seniors and guests from our very own Senior Scenes Program enjoyed a traditional Thanksgiving feast!

Teen Club Thanksgiving Dinner – On November 20, the Miami Beach Teen Club hosted its 4th Annual Thanksgiving dinner at the 21st Street Recreation Center. Teens from North Shore Park & Youth Center and 21st Street Recreation Center gathered for this special event. Approximately 250 teens and parents attended. Some club members took this opportunity to give thanks for being able to participate in the Teen Club program.

Movie in the Park – On November 3, the Parks and Recreation Department hosted another free Movie at Flamingo Park. Adults, family and friends of Miami Beach enjoyed the release of the movie: "Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen" on our 15' x 20' inflatable big screen. The audience enjoyed complimentary popcorn as the movie transformed the night into fun.

Coming up...

2010 Winter/Spring Sports Season – The 2010 Winter/Spring Sport Season will open its registration beginning January 11, 2010 from 9:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Fairway Park, Flamingo Park, North Shore Park and Scott Rakow Youth Center will be registering Miami Beach residents before 1:00 pm, and non-residents may register thereafter. This year's Adult Leagues include Flag Football, Softball and Volleyball, and youth leagues include Girls Traveling Softball, Intramural Baseball, Intramural Boys Basketball, Intramural Girls Basketball, Soccer Clinics, Teen Boys Basketball, Traveling Baseball and Wrestling.

Please mark your calendar for these other upcoming happenings:

Pools Yearly Maintenance Schedule:

Flamingo Park Water Playground	Closed from Jan 4 until Feb 5, 2010.
Normandy Park Water Playground	Closed from Feb 8 - March 5, 2010.

Mardi Gras Masquerade	January 29, 2010 / 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. Flamingo Park
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Black History Night	February 5, 2010 / 6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. North Shore Park & Youth Center
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Sweetheart's Dance	February 12, 2010 / 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. North Shore Park & Youth Center
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Movie in the Park	February 19, 2010 / Time: TBA Muss Park
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Should you have additional questions, please contact Kevin Smith at (305) 673 -7730.

JMG/HMF/KS/JM/jg

c: Hilda M. Fernandez, Assistant City Manager
Kevin Smith, Parks & Recreation Director
Julio Magrisso, Assistant Parks & Recreation Director