

CITY OF MIAMI BEACH  
Office of the City Manager  
Letter to Commission No. 293-2004



**To:** Mayor David Dermer and  
Members of the City Commission

**Date:** November 18, 2004

**From:** Jorge M. Gonzalez  
City Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jorge M. Gonzalez', written over the printed name.

**Subject:** Parks & Recreation Department Update

Four Halloween celebrations drew more than 3,300 kids and adults for fright and fun at the Scott Rakow Youth Center, the North Shore Band Shell and the 21<sup>st</sup> Street Recreation Center October 30 & 31, 2004. (Please see the scary photos attached.)

- The 2-night event at the Scott Rakow Youth Center drew more than 1,000 Trick or Treaters who visited the Haunted House and strolled through the considerably less frightening Candy Land, where they met Sponge Bob Squarepants and other friends, and then went onto Trick or Treat Street where every child was a carnival game winner and received sweet treats.
- On Sunday, October 31, more than 2,300 parents and younger children participated in the Safe Night of Fright at the Bandshell which included a live D.J. and free candy, soft drinks and popcorn for every visitor.
- On Friday Night, October 29, more than 60 teens danced and skated to the sounds of Rhythm City DJ at our first Halloween Skating Party at the new Scott Rakow Youth Center Ice Rink. The event was held from 6:00 p.m. -10:00 p.m.
- The North Shore Margaret M. Swett Social Club held its Halloween Dance at the 21<sup>st</sup> Street Recreation Center Saturday, October 30, 2004, from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Sixty-five developmentally disabled adults attended the evening's festivities which included dancing and refreshments.

Parks & Recreation participated with more than 250 volunteers to help clean and spruce-up North Shore Open Space Park and South Pointe Park Saturday November 6, 2004, as part of the Miami-Dade county-wide Hands on Miami Volunteer Day. The volunteers spread mulch, planted trees, eradicated weeds and picked up litter from 9:00 a.m. - Noon.

The name of the new Parks & Recreation Department mascot is **"Buddy."** Since his June 5, 2004, debut at the grand opening of the new North Shore Park & Youth Center, hundreds resident suggested names in a contest that offered the winning family three months of free entry to the beautiful Flamingo Park Pool. Two entries suggested the winning name, and will receive the prize.

The "Free Family Funday" program continues to be an effective means of introducing residents and non-residents to our Parks & Recreation programs and facilities. We held another successful Free Family Funday on the first Sunday of November at the Flamingo Park Pool. Approximately 215 residents and non-residents came out Sunday November 7, 2004, to the for free entry to the pool and water park, refreshments and games for the children.

The new Miami Beach Youth Ice Hockey team traveled to the Sunrise Skating Center to play its first game Sunday November 7, 2004. Despite never having played on a full size rink, the Miami Beach "Squirts" (ages 9 & 10) team scored two goals against the much more experienced Sunrise team on its own ice. The final score was 6-2 in favor of Sunrise, but the experience was a real victory for the more than 30 players and parents who make up our team.

On Saturday December 11th, 2004, the City of Miami Beach X-TREME and the City of Miami Beach Bolts cheerleading teams will be competing in the COA (Cheerleaders of America) Beach Blast Competition to be held here at the Miami Beach Convention Center.

You are cordially invited to visit our facilities and experience firsthand the recreational programs that offer something for every member of the family.

Should you have additional questions, please contact Kevin Smith at (305) 673-7730.

JMG/ROM/KS/JM/jm  
Attachment

c: Robert C. Middaugh, Assistant City Manager  
Kevin Smith, Parks & Recreation Director  
Julio Magrisso, Assistant Parks & Recreation Director



**Miami Beach Parks & Recreation**

**Halloween 2004**

