



MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

NO. LTC # 107-2006

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Mayor David Dermer and Members of the City Commission

FROM: City Manager Jorge M. Gonzalez

DATE: April 18, 2006

SUBJECT: March - April Recreation Update

North Shore Park Youth Center's R.A.T.S. program sent their custom built water rockets soaring over 300 feet in the air! The five members and their coach spent weeks customizing their water rockets, which consist of 2-liter soda bottles, plastic fin attachments and a built-in parachute, and launched them one by one on North Shore Park's baseball field late February, while onlookers stood by, amazed at the heights the rockets reached!

On Saturday, March 25, 2006 Parks and Recreation Department's X-treme cheerleaders competed in the US Spirit Nationals in Orlando at Universal Studios, Islands of Adventure theme park. Up against teams from across the country, the girls did their best and placed fifth in their division.

On Saturday, April 1, 2006, over 600 movie goers gathered at Flamingo Park to watch the Academy Award winning film "King Kong". King Kong himself passed out free bananas, taking pictures with the audience and invaded the movie screen. "Buddy," the Miami Beach Parks and Recreation mascot was also in attendance and available for photos. Kong and Buddy sat side by side eating bananas to watch the film.

On Saturday, April 1, 2006 Members of the North Shore Park Youth Center Special Olympics team brought home medals from the Special Olympics Local Games held at Miami-Dade College Kendall Campus. The athletes competed in various sport skills competitions including tennis and soccer.

On Saturday, April 8, 2006 North Shore Park Youth Center held a "Relay for Life Dance" that raised over \$400 for the American Cancer Society. Over 300 teenagers attended the dance. The North Shore Teen Club has also raised \$571 selling concessions and "We Care" Wristbands. The recreation division's staff at all the facilities together with the after school members have united to support the cause and have worked diligently in raising funds. To date they have raised over \$1,500 for Relay for Life!

Scott Rakow Youth Center's 4th through 6th graders are learning basic acrobatics in an on-going partnership with the Miami Performing Arts Center (MPAC). Two MPAC Walking Tall instructors are teaching 15 Scott Rakow kids twice-a-week at the Center through April 29, 2006. They are learning acrobatic exercises, tumbling and displays.

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

JMG/RCM/KS/JM/jm
Attachment

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

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

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March - April 2006 Events