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LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Mayor David Dermer and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager

DATE: March 2, 2007

SUBJECT: More Parks and Recreation News and Events!!

Adult Aerobics - The Parks and Recreation Department has placed a strong emphasis on providing a variety of adult programs. The North Shore Park Youth Center has expanded over the past few years to include computer classes, dominoes, fitness, ceramics, yoga, ESOL and new this month, Adult Aerobics. North Shore Youth Center welcomes Carmen Klepper, aerobics instructor of over 22 years, to the new class. Her work focuses on family fitness, rehabilitation, cardio, and overall personal fitness. This class offered at North Shore Park Youth Center is a 90 minute cardio work out that focuses on steps, body sculpting, and aerobics. Classes are offered mornings and evenings throughout the week and participants can register by the month or per class at a reasonable cost.

Teens Traveled to Arcadia - On January 19th, North Shore Park Teen Club members traveled to an exciting two day/one night outdoor camping and canoeing adventure in Arcadia, Florida. The Teens were selected based on their hard work and community involvement in events over the past few months. Sightings of alligators, turtles, vultures, cows, and the screams of wild boars were not to be missed as they rowed their way down the 23 mile river. Throughout the evening the boys and girls sat around the camp fire discussing current teen issues as they roasted marshmallows. The trip was sure to be an unforgettable experience.

Recreation Expo - On January 20th, Flamingo Park hosted the City's seasonal Winter/ Spring Recreation Expo to kick off the upcoming athletics season. Registration hit mass numbers as 351 participants signed up for various sports. Over 1,500 enjoyed the Expo that included various activities such as: bounce houses and rides, carnival games, a slit walker, face painting, a train ride and live entertainment provided by the Miami Beach Senior High School Rock Ensemble.

Weight Training - The Senior Scenes program at the North Shore Park and Youth Center currently has over 115 seniors enrolled in a variety of recreational and educational classes. The City is glad to announce that registered seniors in the Senior Scenes program will now have an opportunity to take weight training classes at North Shore Park Youth Center. Classes are held Monday thru Friday 10a.m. - 1 p.m. Each session will focus on workouts which target upper and lower body strengthening, bike and treadmill cardio workouts, and fitness instructions according to personal interests.

Upcoming Events

On Friday February 9th - Flamingo Park will host Cupid's Carnival from 6-9p.m. on 12th Street and Michigan Avenue. This Carnival style event will be sure to bring fun and smiles to both children and adults of all ages. Enjoy FREE carnival rides, train rides, DJ entertainment, arts and crafts and more. Tickets will be available for purchase for all carnival games (prizes awarded) and concessions will be sold.

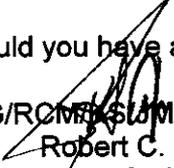
Throughout February - Hopscotch, box ball, double Dutch, jewelry making and more! In the month of February, Flamingo Park will be hosting Sidewalk Games on Tuesday's and Jewelry making on Thursday's from 6-7p.m. at the Flamingo Park Pool Promenade. All events are free of charge for children and adults of all ages. Children under the age of age 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

On March 2nd - Grab a blanket and join the Parks and Recreation Department on Friday, March 2, 2007 for yet another FREE Movie in the Park at Muss Park, located at 4400 Chase Avenue. Sit back and relax with family and friends on our very own park lawn, watching a movie on a 15' x 20' inflatable big screen from 7-9 p.m. Refreshments, garden burgers, and hotdog combos will be available for purchase.

On Saturdays - The Hang Ten Surf Club, a group of next generation surfers ranging in age from 9 to 15, meets every Saturday morning at the Flamingo Park Pool. The club focuses on fundamentals of surfing history and terminology, recognition of hazards in a marine environment, ocean currents and open water safety skills. In addition, they learn basic oceanography, meteorology and its relation to surfing conditions. The club travels up and down the coast to surf locations including Miami Beach's Government Cut, Dania Beach, John Lloyd State Park, Harbor House and West Palm Beach to name a few.

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

JMG/RCS/SLM/rm

c:  Robert C. Middaugh, Assistant City Manager
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