

# eHighlights

DECEMBER 2007

## Baez House at Long Key Natural Area Gets Award

The Broward County Parks and Recreation Division is pleased to announce that the Division's Natural Areas program has been selected by the [Broward County Historical Commission](#) as the recipient of the **2007 Judge L. Clayton Nance Award**. The award is in recognition of the Division's restoration of the Baez House at Long Key Natural Area in Davie.

According to a report from the Historical Commission recommending that the house be designated as an Archaeological and Historical Cultural Resource Site, the house is "a modest, minimal-traditional rural residence ('farmhouse') that was once typical of the types of houses built on working farms and groves in both Broward County and throughout southern Florida beginning in the 1930s and into the late 1940s and early 1950s. These houses were built to serve the agrarian community in which they were situated and utilized a combination of building materials that were of local (Dade County pine or cypress) and regional (brick, hollow concrete block) manufacture."

The Baez House was originally built in the early 1940s and added to in the 1970s, when the back porch was also closed in. The house has since been restored as much as possible to its 1940s condition. The restoration was initiated by the Parks and Recreation Division's Environmental Section.

Elsewhere the Historical Commission's report reads: "The property itself has a history of human occupation that is over 1000 years and perhaps as early as the late archaic period (over 2500 years ago). Archaeological investigations have determined that this particular area of Long Key was utilized by the Seminoles as well in the 19th century for farming and habitation. Archaeological deposits and the site's natural setting are well-preserved."

The award was presented at the Pioneer Days Awards Ceremony on Saturday, November 3, at the Broward County Main Library.

## Chip-A-Tree Program Returns to 14 Parks

As Broward County continues to grow at a rapid pace, recycling is more important than ever. The Parks and Recreation Division remains committed to the recycling cause with its annual **Chip-A-Tree** initiative.

## Events Calendar

### Quote of the Month

"I am still determined to be cheerful and happy, in whatever situation I may be; for I have also learned from experience that the greater part of our happiness or misery depends upon our dispositions, and not upon our circumstances."

– American first lady Martha Washington (1732-1802)

### Special Attractions

#### BATTING CAGES

[C.B. Smith Park](#) 954-441-1333

#### BUTTERFLY WORLD

[Tradewinds Park](#) 954-977-4400

#### CAMPING

[C.B. Smith Park](#) 954-437-2650

Easterlin Park 954-938-0610

Markham Park 954-389-2000

[Quiet Waters Park](#) 954-360-1315

T.Y. Park 954-985-1980

#### EXHIBIT HALL

Anne Kolb Nature Center at

West Lake Park 954-926-2480

#### GOLF FACILITIES

[C.B. Smith Park](#) 954-441-1333

#### RACQUET CENTERS

Brian Piccolo Park 954-437-2661

[C. B. Smith Park](#) 954-437-2674

#### RIDING STABLES

[Tradewinds Park](#) 954-968-3875

Tree Tops Park 954-370-3750

#### SKATE PARKS/TRACKS

Brian Piccolo Park 954-437-2626

[Quiet Waters Park](#) 954-360-1315

#### SKI RIXEN CABLE WATER-SKIING

[Quiet Waters Park](#) 954-429-0215

#### TARGET RANGE

Markham Park 954-389-2005

#### VELODROME

Brian Piccolo Park 954-437-2626

Last year the Division recycled 9,694 trees, representing 121 tons of material that would otherwise have gone to landfills.

The free program encourages residents to bring holiday trees to a participating park, where they are then chipped and used for landscaping throughout the county park system. There is a limit of two trees per vehicle, artificial trees are not accepted, and no commercial vehicles or garbage trucks are allowed. All decorative items must be removed.

This season the program runs from Wednesday, December 26 through Sunday, January 20. The regular weekend holiday gate entrance fee will not be in effect for recyclers. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the following locations:

- Brian Piccolo Park, 9501 Sheridan St., Cooper City, 954-437-2600
- [C. B. Smith Park](#), 900 N. Flamingo Rd., Pembroke Pines, 954-437-2650
- Easterlin Park, 1000 N.W. 38th St., Oakland Park, 954-938-0610
- Fern Forest Nature Center, 201 Lyons Rd. South, Coconut Creek, 954-970-0150
- Markham Park, 16001 W. State Rd. 84, Sunrise, 954-389-2000
- McTyre Park, 3501 S.W. 56th Ave., Pembroke Park, 954-964-0283
- Plantation Heritage Park, 1100 S. Fig Tree Ln., Plantation, 954-791-1025
- [Quiet Waters Park](#), 401 S. Powerline Rd., Deerfield Beach, 954-360-1315
- Reverend Samuel Delevoe Park, 2520 N.W. Sixth St., Fort Lauderdale, 954-791-1036
- Snake Warrior's Island Natural Area, 3600 S.W. 62nd Ave., Miramar, 954-964-0283
- [Tradewinds Park](#), 3600 W. Sample Rd., Coconut Creek, 954-968-3880
- Tree Tops Park, 3900 S.W. 100th Ave., Davie, 954-370-3750
- T.Y. Park, 3300 N. Park Rd., Hollywood, 954-985-1980
- West Lake Park, 751 Sheridan St., Hollywood, 954-926-2480

?: Parks and Recreation Division, 954-357-8100.

## Free Trees!

On Saturday, December 1, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., five Broward County Parks will offer a **Tree Giveaway**, featuring native and fruit trees, while supplies last, to Broward County residents. There is a limit of two trees per household, and proof of residency – for example, a photo I.D. or utility bill – is required. For more information, contact one of the parks listed below:

- [C. B. Smith Park](#), 900 N. Flamingo Rd., Pembroke Pines, 954-437-2650
- Plantation Heritage Park, 1100 S. Fig Tree Ln., Plantation, 954-791-1025
- Reverend Samuel Delevoe Park, 2520 N.W. Sixth St., Fort Lauderdale, 954-791-1036
- T.Y. Park, 3300 N. Park Rd., Hollywood, 954-985-1980
- [Tradewinds Park](#), 3600 W. Sample Rd., Coconut Creek, 954-968-3880

### WATER PLAYGROUND/ WATERSLIDE/SWIMMING

[C. B. Smith Park](#) 954-437-2650  
Markham Park 954-389-2000  
[Quiet Waters Park](#) 954-360-1315  
T. Y. Park 954-985-1980



Patrons can visit any Broward County park office and receive a Commit 2B Fit™ Rewards Card to keep track of their activities. The card will be stamped every time someone comes to the park and completes a 30-minute fitness activity. Use our online [calendar of events](#) to find an activity to fit your lifestyle. Participants can get up to six stamps each month. Rewards Cards collected monthly will be eligible for quarterly prizes.

### Mission Statement

The Parks and Recreation Division is dedicated to providing exceptional services and facilities essential to the quality of life in Broward County while preserving our natural areas.



The Broward County Commission's primary resource and referral service for available swim programs in cooperation with various cities and nonprofit organizations. Call 954-357-SWIM (7946) for information.

### Broward County Board of County Commissioners

- [Josephus Eggleston, Jr.](#)
- [Sue Gunzburger](#)
- [Kristin D. Jacobs](#)
- [Ken Keech](#)
- [Ilene Lieberman](#)

## We're Back!

After two years' worth of renovations – some planned, some made necessary by the storm season that included Hurricane Wilma – all five campgrounds operated by the Broward County Parks and Recreation Division are back to normal just in time for “the season.”

The campgrounds at Markham Park in Sunrise and [Quiet Waters Park](#) in Deerfield Beach were the most heavily damaged by Wilma. Markham's 88-site facility reopened partially last year, with renovations continuing until recently. Quiet Waters reopened with 25 Rent-A-Tent sites (each equipped with a pre-setup tent, a grill, a picnic table, and a fire ring) and two new tepee sites.

The last of the FEMA trailers, used to house local residents whose homes were devastated by the storms, came out at Easterlin Park in Oakland Park at the beginning of the summer, so that now all of the park's 45 RV sites and 10 tent sites are available for campers. At [C. B. Smith Park](#) in Pembroke Pines, 60 RV sites and 10 tent sites are available, with another 11 RV sites in the works. And at T.Y. Park in Hollywood, a long-planned renovation completely overhauled the campground, so that now 61 sites with full hookups are on line.

A new fee schedule is also in place. An RV or tent campsite for up to four campers is now offered to tricity residents for \$25 and to nonresidents for \$35. Rent-A-Tent sites are \$35 across the board. Additional campers can be added for \$3 per person for residents, \$4 per person for nonresidents. The campgrounds are often booked to capacity during peak season, so early reservations are strongly suggested.

?: [C.B. Smith](#), 954-437-2650; Easterlin, 954-938-0610; Markham, 954-389-2000; [Quiet Waters](#), 954-360-1315; T.Y., 954-985-1980.

\$: \$25/campsite for tricity residents, \$35 for nonresidents; \$35/Rent-A-Tent site. Additional fees may apply.

R: Reservations recommended.

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## Fun in the Sun – at the Toys in the Sun Run

Imagine a marathon run on motorcycles instead of on foot, and you'll get the idea behind the [Toys in the Sun Run](#), an annual event that sends more than 30,000 bikers from all over the country on a 26-mile trek from the Pompano Harness Track in Pompano Beach to Markham Park in Sunrise. This year's festivities, marking the event's 20th anniversary, take place on Sunday, December 9. The bikes begin lining up at 7 a.m. at the harness track, with the parade pulling out at 9:45 a.m. The park will open at 8 a.m., and live entertainment gets under way at 11 a.m. Admission is \$10 and one unwrapped toy per person; if you don't bring a toy, the cost is \$20 per person.

To get an idea of how much this fund-raiser has grown over the years, consider that when it was started by Wings of Gold Motorcycle Club president Bob Amchir back in 1987, about 700 motorcycles participated, and the event netted \$965 in cash and a little over 500 toys. Compare that with last year's run, which raised more than \$599,000 and collected more than 40,000 toys.

Activities at the park include more than 100 vendors, live music, children's rides, international food court, and a raffle.

- [Stacy Ritter](#)
- [John E. Rodstrom, Jr.](#)
- [Diana Wasserman-Rubin](#)
- [Lois Wexler](#)

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?: 954-343-8782, or [www.toysinthesunrun.com](http://www.toysinthesunrun.com).

\$: \$10 and one unwrapped toy per person; without a toy, \$20 per person.

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## R&R at a B&B

You don't have to go to a fancy place in some trendy tourist destination for rest and relaxation at a bed and breakfast. Just head on over to [Quiet Waters Park](#) in Deerfield Beach for a **Family Bed and Breakfast** the weekend of Saturday and Sunday, December 8 and 9. Check-in runs from 3 to 6 p.m. on Saturday, and the weekend concludes with checkout at 1 p.m. on Sunday.

Campers will stay in one of the park's 10-foot-square platform tents. Each site includes the platform tent, a fire ring, a barbecue grill, water, a picnic table, and access to a public shower/restroom facility. On Saturday, guests can enjoy an evening at the bonfire ring, including s'mores and a hayride. (Dinner is not provided.) On Sunday, the day starts with an 8:30 a.m. breakfast, followed by family fishing at 9:30 a.m. and boating at 11:30 a.m.

For the basic fee of \$60, each campsite accommodates up to four campers, one of whom must be at least 18 years old. Two extra campers may be added for an additional fee of \$2 each, for a maximum total of six campers per site. Preregistration at the park office is required, along with a refundable \$25 security deposit at check-in. Space is limited.

?: [Quiet Waters](#), 954-360-1315.

\$: \$60/campsite for up to four campers; \$2/additional camper (up to two); \$25 refundable security deposit.

R: Preregistration is required. Space is limited and early registration is recommended.

BCT: Routes #14, #94, and #95.

## Holiday Closures

Parks will be closed on Tuesday, December 25 for Christmas Day.

## Advisory Board Notice

The next meeting of the **Parks and Recreation Advisory Board** is scheduled for 7:30 a.m. on Wednesday, December 5, at Fern Forest Nature Center, 201 Lyons Rd. South, Coconut Creek. For more information, go to <http://www.broward.org/parks/abmeeting.htm>.

## The Gift of Parks

Trying to find the perfect gift to build family memories? Purchase the Parks and Recreation Division's Individual or Family **Parks Passports!** The passports allow for unlimited access, excluding some special events and the optional parking fee at Hollywood North Beach Park, to regional parks charging a gate entrance fee through September 30, 2008. An Individual Passport is \$25; a Family Passport (good for up to six people) is \$60. The 2007-2008 Parks Passports are available at regional park offices. For more information, visit [www.broward.org/parks](http://www.broward.org/parks).

## Highlights Goes Electronic

The monthly newsletter of the Broward County Parks and Recreation Division is now available only as an electronic publication. Pass this information on to friends and family so they can sign up and become part of the Division's online community. You will receive the latest information about upcoming events and special programs, as well as park news, via our monthly e-newsletter. To sign up, send your name and e-mail address to [ParksMarketing@broward.org](mailto:ParksMarketing@broward.org).

### ***Key to Symbols***

**?**: Call the number indicated for further information about the event.

**\$**: Participation fees.

**R**: Registration requirements.

**+**: Plus park gate entrance fee on weekends/holidays;  
\$1.50/person (children 5 and under free).

**BCT**: Park accessible from Broward County Mass Transit bus route.

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