



Margate – Coconut Creek Kiwanis Club

8/10/2016

RE: Use of CRA property at 911 N. State Rd 7

To the CRA Board;

The Kiwanis would like to utilize the above lot for our annual Christmas tree lot, as the lot we had been using for the past 15 plus years was sold and is no longer available – they are set to break ground in the next 30 days.

We are asking that the rental fee be waived or substantially reduced as the CRA deems possible, as the Kiwanis is a not-for-profit organization (also a 501c3 foundation) and all proceeds from the tree lot directly benefit children in Margate and Coconut Creek. Every single dollar we receive from the tree lot company goes directly toward our goals of helping the children of Margate and Coconut Creek... period. All operating expenses are funded by membership fees and other sources. The “normal” rental fee would eat up half of our potential income for use to aid Margate children – and for Kiwanis... it’s all about the kids !!!

In addition to the contribution we hope to receive from the CRA, the 4 local Key Clubs we sponsor set up tables each weekend at the tree lot and offer cookies, drinks and other items to help fund their activities.

The Margate-Coconut Creek Kiwanis sponsors, funds or makes direct contributions to the following programs that benefit the children of Margate – after all, our kids are our future!

- Backpack program – we send a backpack filled with food items home every Friday to 4 families (children in elementary schools) in Margate so the kids don’t go hungry over the weekend.
- Holiday meals – each year we supply a complete Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner to several families in Margate in need.
- We support, contribute to and participate in “Shop with a cop”.
- Our club provides financial and administrative support to 4 Key Clubs – the high school version of the Kiwanis organization, all of which have students from Margate - Coconut Creek High, ATC, North Broward Prep and Monarch High.
- We support the SOS Childrens Village in Coconut Creek.
- Childrens Drug prevention programs in Margate elementary schools.

- Reading through the summer program - For the past 3 years, we have given each Margate child that graduates kindergarten their own book to promote reading for the rest of their lives.
- Cokesbury Church Victory Living Group.
- 4 Scholarships offered to all graduating High School students from the High Schools that service Margate.
- Christmas in July – for 17 years, this county-wide affair put on by the 23 Kiwanis clubs in Broward county provides homeless kids (over 1560 children and their families in 2016) in shelters everything they need to go back to school in August – clothes, shoes, toiletries, school supplies, etc., and a fun filled day out of the shelter to help forget their problems for a day.

The cost of the property rental would create a hardship not to our organization, but to the children that we dedicate our time and effort to support. Every dollar in rent that the Kiwanis would have to pay would come out of the contribution we receive from Hart T Trees (our partner for the past 15 plus years) and would reduce the available funds to pay for all of the above programs that we support.

In the name of the children of Margate, we are asking for your support to assist the Kiwanis is helping the kids of Margate.

Thank you for your consideration. Do not hesitate to contact me if any additional information is required.

Phil Hylander
President – Margate-Coconut Creek Kiwanis