

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



## **Happy Holidays from Mayor Flinn And Village Councilmembers**

**PALMETTO BAY, Fla.,** (Dec. 16, 2008) – The Mayor and Council of Palmetto Bay underscore the “kind and generous spirit” of Village residents in the “2008 Holiday Message” released today. Following is the text of the message submitted by Mayor Eugene P. Flinn on behalf of Vice Mayor Brian Pariser, and Village Councilmembers Edward Feller, MD (District 1), Howard Tendrich (District 2), and Shelley Stanczyk (District 3):

Families celebrate the holiday season in many different ways, but one of the great things that we all have in common in Palmetto Bay is the overwhelming sense of community and responsibility to family that we share.

I am reminded, especially during the holidays, of the importance of family and the importance of maintaining our sense of civic spirit. I am personally humbled and grateful for the remarkable compassion and goodwill that our residents demonstrate throughout the year.

The residents of Palmetto Bay consistently come together and exhibit a warmth that you find in far too few places, whether it is by participating in civic fundraising events, donating food, clothing, toys, or time to civic organizations, such as the many sports teams, scouts, and PTAs in our area public and private schools, and by contributing to your place of worship.

I hope that all of you who have performed these wonderful acts of generosity know how truly valuable your efforts are. What you do is demonstrate to another human being that you care. This is what the holiday spirit is all about.

I hope during this holiday season as we celebrate and enjoy our families that each and every one of us takes a few minutes to think about those families who cannot be together – for the soldiers who defend our country, for the loved ones who must share in their sacrifice, and for those who are no longer with us, although we hold their memory dear.

I hope that we will also never forget and never stop striving to achieve the holiday ideal of “Peace on Earth.” Everyone can do their part to help create a better world simply by treating each other with understanding, kindness and respect. Each time you help another person, we all take another step closer toward true peace on earth.

I would also like to thank the many, many volunteers and participants who help the Village of Palmetto Bay reach higher each year. The best part is that there are far too many people to mention individually, the hundreds to date who have taken the time to serve on a Village board or committee, pitch in and volunteer at community events, participate in Village debate at a council or town hall meeting.

On this note, I wish to mention how refreshingly democratic it is that this Village engages in such impassioned debate and process. After all, it is only through conflict that resolution can be achieved.

So, on behalf of the Council and Village staff, we wish each and every one of you, a happy, healthy, and safe holiday season and a joyous and prosperous New Year. You all have earned it. Thank you all, again, for the kindness you show others, not just during the holidays, but all year long. Palmetto Bay is truly a wonderful community.

I look forward to continuing our work in progress in 2009 with all of you.

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*Incorporated in 2002, **The Village of Palmetto Bay** is a vibrant community of 25,000 residents nestled between Biscayne Bay and So. Dixie Highway, about 15 miles south of downtown Miami. The Village is governed by a five-member Council and operates under a Council-Manager form of government. Dubbed "The Village of Parks," Palmetto Bay offers an extensive system of attractive parks, unique recreational opportunities, and bay access. It also is home to several excellent public schools, and a robust commercial corridor along Dixie Highway offering a diverse range of restaurants, markets, and lodging. Specifically, the Village extends from the centerline of SW 136 St., south to the centerline of SW 184 St., expanding west to the centerline of South Dixie Highway (including the center island), and east to Biscayne Bay.*