



THE CITY OF FORT MYERS

Office of the City Manager
2200 Second Street
Fort Myers, FL 33901
www.cityftmyers.com

Press Release

Date: December 6, 2016

For questions regarding this press release, please contact:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Press Release Information:

Main Title of Press Release: Interactive light sculpture debuts at Holiday in the Park

Date: December 6, 2016

Location: Roberto Clemente Park, 1936 Henderson Avenue, Fort Myers, FL 33916

Body of Press Release:

Interactive Light Sculpture Debuts at Holiday in the Park

Annual holiday event to be held December 10-17, 2016

Fort Myers, FL: (December 7, 2016) An interactive holiday light sculpture, *The Heart of Christmas*, will debut at the free *Holiday in the Park* series of events held December 10-17, 2016, in the City of Fort Myers' Roberto Clemente Park.



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The giant walk-through light sculpture ornament was purchased for the community in lieu of replacing deteriorated holiday pole lights that were hung along Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. for more than ten years. Also known as *Coeur de Noel*, the new holiday fixture was chosen because of its design and potential impact in bringing the community together for years to come.

The sculpture was funded through a \$21,000 contribution from the Fort Myers Community Redevelopment Agency and a total of \$14,000 from the City of Fort Myers Mayor and City Council neighborhood discretionary funds.

Holiday in the Park featuring a Winter Wonderland in Roberto Clemente Park is a series of free, family-based holiday events hosted by the Lee County Black History Society, First Assembly Cornerstone, the Housing Authority of City of Fort Myers, the Fort Myers Community Redevelopment Agency, and the City of Fort Myers, Florida.

Festivities begin on Saturday, December 10 at 2:00 p.m. with Soul Santa's Parade and the Community Tree Lighting Ceremony. *Holiday in the Park* continues December 12, 14 and 16 with evening entertainment and activities by local groups and organizations. The celebration culminates on December 17 with Fun Day in the Park. In addition to the new light sculpture, all events will feature a 35-foot Community Christmas Tree, 26 decorated palm trees, and holiday trees decorated by community groups.

The schedule for *Holiday in the Park featuring a Winter Wonderland in Roberto Clemente Park* is as follows:

December 10, 2016 2:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Holiday in the Park Kick-Off including Soul Santa's Parade and The Community Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony, plus free food and drinks

December 12, 2016 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Community Holiday Concert

December 14, 2016 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Youth Event sponsored in partnership with the Dunbar Festival Committee, plus free food and drinks

December 16, 2016 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.



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Movie in the Park: “Frozen” sponsored in partnership with the City of Fort Myers Parks and Recreation Department, plus free food and drinks

December 17, 2016 12 Noon – 6:00 p.m.

Fun Day in the Park

All events will be held in Roberto Clemente Park at 1936 Henderson Avenue in Fort Myers, Florida. For details and directions to the event, please visit www.leecountyblackhistorysociety.org.

About the Fort Myers Community Redevelopment Agency

The Fort Myers Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) was created in 1984 by the City of Fort Myers, Florida, under Florida Statute Chapter 163, to formulate a plan and strategy for the revitalization of the downtown River District. The Fort Myers CRA has continued to grow, and today the Agency oversees 14 different redevelopment districts throughout the Fort Myers city limits. The Fort Myers CRA, along with the City’s Community Development Division, prepares plans for the revitalization of each district and coordinates the implementation of the plan’s recommendations. Tax Increment Funds (TIF) generated by each district, combined with other funding sources, are used to upgrade the public infrastructure and to stimulate redevelopment. The Fort Myers City Council members, sitting as the Community Redevelopment Agency, oversee the Agency’s divisions and their operations. The Fort Myers CRA office is located at 1400 Jackson Street in the River District.

About the Lee County Black History Society

The Lee County Black History Society (LCBHS), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, seeks to preserve and commemorate cultural and educational contributions made by both locally- and nationally-known Black people. By presenting *Holiday in the Park featuring a Winter Wonderland in Roberto Clemente Park*, LCBHS seeks to unite the local community in celebrating its holiday heritage as well as promoting positive thought about Black people in the minds of citizens of Lee County and surrounding areas. The Lee County Black History Society is located in Roberto Clemente Park at 1936 Henderson Avenue, Fort Myers, FL 33916.

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