



WESTON TEEN RECEIVES \$1,000 PRIZE

Weston resident, and now Cypress Bay High School graduate, Jesse Mutschler, is \$1,000 richer on account of his prose.

Jesse's submission was selected as the winning entry in an essay contest sponsored by the law firm of Weiss Serota Helfman Pastoriza Cole & Boniske, P.L., in honor of its 20th anniversary.

The contest was open to any high school senior that was a resident of the city. Students had to write an essay, limited to 500 words, on "Why My City Is Special."



Jesse's winning essay was selected by a panel of three judges: City Attorney Jamie Alan Cole, Attorney Brooke Dolara and Commissioner Toby Feuer. They all agreed that his insightful reflection of his moving to Weston as a young boy and love for the city that he now calls home came through in his writing as genuine and expressive. *The essay accompanies this article.*



L-R: Commissioner Angel Gomez, Commissioner Toby Feuer, Geraldine Mutschler, Mayor Eric Hersh, Jesse Mutschler, City Attorney Jamie Cole, Commissioner Mercedes Henriksson, Commissioner Jim Norton



Why My City Is Special

Like any eight-year-old, my natural response when I first heard I was moving from New York to Weston, Florida, was to cry. I cried in bed, I cried on my last day of school, I cried saying goodbye to my friends, and I cried at the airport. I cried even harder as I unpacked the mountains of boxes in the new place I was supposed to call "home." Fortunately, it took me only a couple of days to realize that I didn't set foot in just any old town. Weston was the idyllic place people dreamed of moving to. A special place with a strong sense of community, a variety of family oriented activities, and great schools.

One of the most striking things about Weston is the small town feel you get even though it is home to over 60,000 people. Neighbors are always willing to lend a hand and striving to make the community a clean, safe, and beautiful place to be enjoyed by all. We are also always involved in charity and raising money, whether it is for national organizations or to help the families out in our very own community. There's no place in America where citizens come together so readily and in such great numbers. We may not all know each other, but we all know when we need each other.

Personally, what I can thank Weston for is for making my childhood a memorable experience. There's no greater gift than being able to have fun and be happy, both of which Weston has given me. My city stands out from the rest of the pack as being family friendly. I'll reminisce about playing flag football in Regional Park, hunting for Easter eggs in The Ridges, and catching fish in one of the many lakes.

Weston has not only shaped my past, but has played a vital role in providing me with a promising future. Our great schools, something most of us teens take for granted, have afforded me many opportunities. It's because of them, and because of the unparalleled efforts of teachers and administrators who help create a conducive learning environment, that I have decided to further my education by going to college. Not every town has educators who are so committed to helping kids learn and are willing to sacrifice their personal time to ensure every student has the potential for success.

Weston is the city where the elements of a strong sense of community, a variety of family oriented activities, and great schools come together to create a thriving, vibrant community. It is a place inhabited by people of the highest caliber and of the most diverse backgrounds. It is a place where families can prosper. It is a place that inspires even the youngest of students. It is this place that I call home.

Jesse Mutschler
Cypress Bay High School



2011 WESTON HOMETOWN JULY 4TH 5K Run/Walk and Hometown Parade

The City of Weston



July 4th Celebration
2011

7:00AM – 5K RUN/Walk: On Monday, July 4th the morning festivities kick off with a **5K Run/Walk**, sponsored by Broward Health Weston and the City of Weston, beginning at 7 a.m. at Weston Town Center. Registration in advance is \$16; race day registration is \$20 available 5:45 a.m. - 6:45 a.m.

The race will begin at Town Center and go east on Three Village Road to Indian Trace. The route then heads west on Indian Trace to Town Center Blvd. then south, returning to Three Village Road and ending back at the Town Center. Detailed information and downloadable application are available on-line at www.splitsecondtiming.com.

"Celebrating the American Dream" is the theme of the 2011 parade

10:30AM – PARADE: Join us later that morning for the **City of Weston 4th of July Hometown Parade!** Participants including local businesses, civic groups, schools, bands, organizations and residents gather to march in Weston's biggest and most exciting event.

The Parade begins promptly at 10:30 am at the corner of Town Center Blvd. and Three Village Road, continuing east on Three Village Road to Bonaventure Blvd. heading south briefly to Bell Tower Lane, and winding through Town Center to the heart of Main Street. The theme of this year's parade is **"Celebrating the American Dream."**

Contact the Weston Community Center with any questions at 954-389-4321.





2011 JULY 4TH PARADE GRAND MARSHALS

The City of Weston



July 4th Celebration
2011

"Celebrating the American Dream"

In recognition of this year's parade theme, "Celebrating the American Dream", the City of Weston has selected two families that have embraced that dream by becoming naturalized citizens. Mayor Eric Hersh stated "As a naturalized citizen myself, originating from Canada, I personally understand the pride one has when becoming a citizen in this land of true freedom and opportunity."

David Lopez and Maria Flores moved to Weston from Venezuela in 2001. David and Maria celebrated their Oath of Allegiance on April 26th of this year. They are active members of Saint Katharine Drexel Catholic Church and have three daughters. Their youngest daughter, Mariana, will join them in the parade. When asked about choosing Weston for their home, Maria stated her family enjoys the excellent schools, beautiful parks and the peaceful nature of Weston.

The Escobar family moved to Weston from Colombia in 2007. **Sergio Escobar** became an American citizen in August of 2008 and his youngest daughter **Elisa Escobar** in 2009. Mr. Escobar is involved with Rotary and Sister Cities Fort Lauderdale and has children who attend Cypress Bay and Sagemont schools. Mr. Escobar said he enjoys the secure and relaxed feeling in Weston and appreciates the friendly children in our community. Sergio will be joined by his wife, Lina Henao, and daughter Elisa on the float.

COME OUT AND CELEBRATE!!!!

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TWO EVENTS IN ONE OPERATION MEDICINE CABINET & SHRED-A-THON SATURDAY, JULY 9TH

The Broward Sheriff's Office District VIII Weston is pleased to announce two events in one – Operation Medicine Cabinet and Shred-a-thon!

On Saturday, July 9th, from 9:00 a.m. to 12 Noon, bring your unused, unwanted or expired **medications for safe disposal**. Come early and receive a \$5 gift card while supplies last.



Also, Broward County residents can **shred away identity theft** by safely disposing of their personal documents, check stubs, credit card offers, receipts and any other material that might contain sensitive data. This service is free of charge but there is a 5 box maximum.

Both events will take place at the Weston District Office located at 17300 Royal Palm Boulevard. For more information, please call **954-321-4100** or visit www.westonfl.org.

Weston Police Services offers much more to the Weston community than their emergency response, patrol, and investigative activities, including numerous safety, education and volunteer opportunities for residents.

- ✓ Fingerprinting available to residents on Tuesdays from 10am-11:30am
- ✓ Children's Fingerprinting at events
- ✓ Bicycle Registration - [Click here](#).
- ✓ HomeWatch program - [Click here](#).
- ✓ Bicycle Rodeo Safety Programs
- ✓ Crime Prevention/Security Inspections for homes and businesses – call for appointment
- ✓ Residential Pool Safety Inspections – call for appointment
- ✓ Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) etching and verification – by appointment
- ✓ Crime Prevention and Personal Safety programs for your group or organization: We can come to your group or HOA with programs/classes such as Self-Defense for Women; Drug, Bullying and Gun Safety and others.

Call 954-389-2030 or 954-389-2010 for more information or an appointment.



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FOR VULNERABLE RESIDENTS DURING HURRICANE SEASON



Hurricane season officially started June 1st and runs through November 30th. It is not unusual to see storms developing early and late in the season, so it is important to always be prepared.

From being aware of approaching storms and installing proper hurricane shutters, to generator safety and after-storm maintenance, there are many factors to be aware of that not everyone is capable of doing. For those who are disabled, frail or have health issues, it is especially important to be prepared.

- ✓ **Register with Broward County's Vulnerable Population Registry.** This registry allows people who have any sort of health issue or are disabled to register in advance with their city so that emergency workers may plan a better response to vulnerable residents in a recovery effort following a hurricane or other emergency. **For more information or to register, call 954-831-4000.**
- ✓ **Consider your sheltering options** and decide on a sheltering plan that is appropriate for you or those in need of extra assistance. Shelters do not require pre-registration, however, if you plan on going to a Special Medical Needs Shelter, pre-registration is encouraged to ensure that the shelter is adequately prepared to meet the desired needs.
- ✓ **Pre-register for paratransit transportation**, if you think you or someone you know may need it. As with shelter registration, you are not required to take advantage of this service. **To pre-register, call Broward County Human Services Department at 954-357-6385.**

Use Weston's online Emergency Preparedness tool

Just go to:



<http://www.westonfl.org/Residents/Hurricane/ReadyTown.aspx>



WESTON BRANCH LIBRARY

The Weston Friends were awarded a Certificate of Appreciation for Outstanding Achievement in Support of Youth Programming

At the annual Broward County Friends of the Library Awards Luncheon in June, the Weston Branch Friends were awarded a Certificate of Appreciation for Outstanding Achievement in the support of youth programming.

The Weston Friends raise funds by selling new and nearly new books, books on CDs, CDs, videos and magazines in their Book Shop located just inside the entrance of Weston Branch Library.

Several large Book Fairs are also held every year. The money they raise is used to provide special library events for children of all ages and items needed by the library.



The Weston Friends of the Library at the annual Broward County Friends of the Library Awards Luncheon:

Pictured L-R: **Front row:** Beverly Ross, Lexie Cohen, Mona Habib, Rosalind Burd, Muriel Fields

Back Row: Weston Branch Manager, Eileen McNally, Sonny Levey, Ruth Bettini, Ellen Korman, Lorraine Smargon, Eli Habib.

Broward County Library - Weston Branch
4205 Bonaventure Boulevard
954-389-2098 x230 Fax 954-389-2046
www.broward.org/library

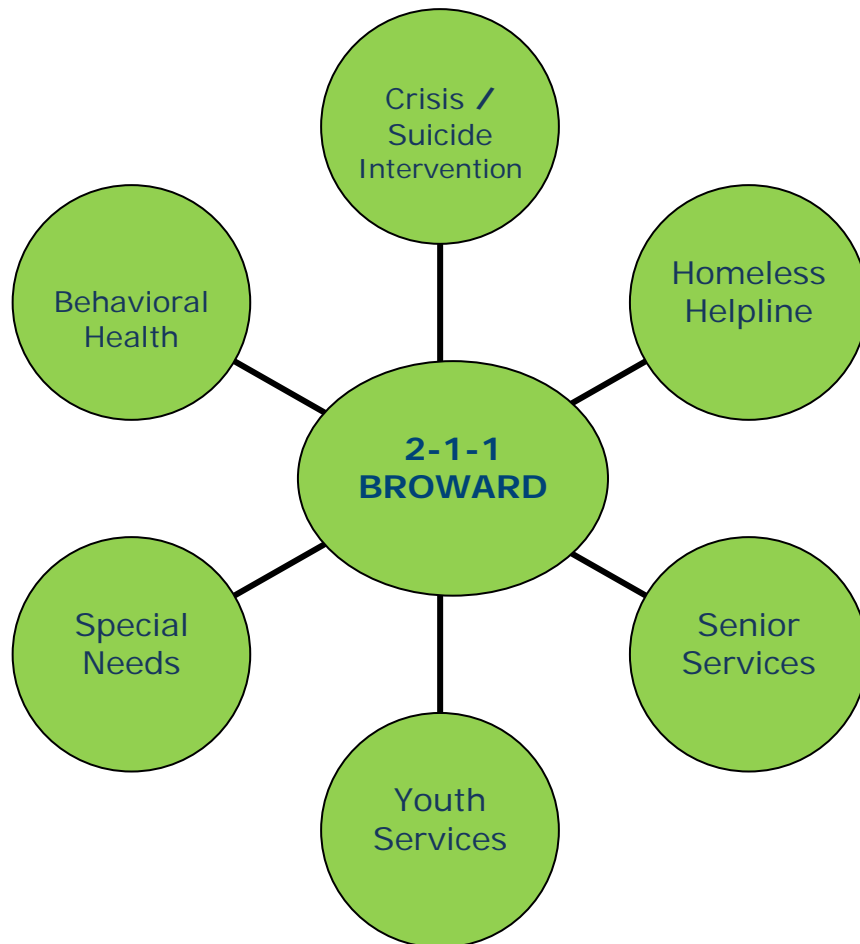
THE LIBRARY INVITES YOU to come to the *Special Saturdays* July 9-30 at 11:00am for stories & yoga, songs & music, and meet Cyber Sue. Book clubs for children in every age group meet monthly. Story times for toddlers and preschoolers are presented weekly. Call the library for details at 954-389-2098.



HELP IS JUST A PHONE CALL AWAY



EVERY HOUR OF EVERY DAY, SOMEONE IN BROWARD IS SEARCHING FOR HELP OR SERVICES – housing, food, financial assistance, relief from abuse, family issues, depression, childcare, suicide prevention, etc, but navigating the maze of city, state and non-profit agencies can be overwhelming and confusing.



Knowing where to go is the first step to getting the help you need.



2-1-1 Broward: Help Starts Here

Since 1995, 2-1-1 Broward, has been the community's central point of entry into the health and human services system. Dialing 2-1-1 is an easy way for people who need help to get connected with the community service providers that can help them.

The 2-1-1 Broward helpline is available to every individual and family in Broward County.

Benefits of 2-1-1:

- Dial an easy three digit number: 2-1-1
- Accessible 24hours a day, 365 days a year
- Free, confidential, anonymous
- Available in any language
- Get connected to health & human services
- Every call answered by a trained, degreed counselor
- No call goes unanswered

Services offered by 2-1-1:

- Empathetic listening
- Emotional support
- Needs assessment
- Information
- Get connected to health & human services
- Every call answered by a trained, degreed counselor
- No call goes unanswered

The 2-1-1 Broward website has a wealth of information: www.211-broward.org



UPCOMING EVENTS /MEETINGS

Tuesday, June 28th at 6:30 p.m.

SFWD Night Out - Understand Drainage System

Understand South Florida's Primary Drainage System at a 'Night out at the Service Center' at the Fort Lauderdale Field Station. Susan Sylvester, Director of Operations will be speaking. **RSVP by June 27th to Tammy Moore at 954-713-3200 or tmoore@sfwmd.gov.** The Fort Lauderdale Field Station is located at 2535 Davie Road, Davie, FL 33317.

Thursday, June 30th, 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

FDOT Community Update Meeting for the I-595 Express Corridor Improvements Project

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) will be holding a **Community Update Meeting** for the I-595 Express Corridor Improvements Project. The purpose of the Community Update Meeting is to provide property owners, residents, businesses and interested parties throughout the corridor and South Florida with an opportunity to learn about the current status of the I-595 project, now in its second year of construction. **For further information, visit www.i-595.com.**

Monday, July 4th

Independence Day

5K Run/Walk, 7:00 a.m. – The morning festivities kick off with a 5K Run/Walk, sponsored by Broward Health Weston and the City of Weston, beginning at 7:00 a.m. at Weston Town Center. **Registration in advance is \$16.00; race day registration is \$20.00 available at 5:45 – 6:45 a.m.** The race will begin at Town Center and go east on Three Village Road to Indian Trace. The route then heads west on Indian Trace to Town Center Blvd. then south, returning to Three Village Road and ending back at Town Center. **Detailed information and downloadable application are available on-line at www.splitsecondtiming.com and also on the Weston website at www.westonfl.org.**

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Saturday, July 9th, 9:00 a.m. – 12 Noon

BSO Operation Medicine Cabinet & Shred-A-Thon

The City of Weston is pleased to announce two events in one – **Operation Medicine Cabinet and the Shred-A-Thon!** Bring your unused, unwanted or expired medications for safe disposal. Come early and receive a \$5 gift card while supplies last. Also, Broward County residents can shred away identity theft by safely disposing of their personal documents, check stubs, credit card offers, receipts and any other material that might contain sensitive data. This service is free of charge but there is a 5 box maximum. **Both events will take place at the Weston Police Services Center located at 17300 Royal Palm Boulevard. For more information, please call 954-321-4100 or visit www.westonfl.org.**

Saturday, July 16th, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

AARP's 55+ Mature Driving Program

The City of Weston is offering AARP's 55 Alive/Mature Driving Program. This is a six hour classroom session designed especially for motorists age 50 and over dealing with age related physical changes. Advanced registration is required. **To register, call Sonny at 954-385-9920. The course will be held at the Weston Community Center, located at 20200 Saddle Club Road inside the Weston Regional Park.**

Wednesday, July 27th; Thursday, July 28th; Friday, July 29th; *Saturday, July 30th

FREE Residential Bulk Pick-Up

Bulk Trash will be picked up on your regularly scheduled collection day. Bulk trash must be placed curbside by 7 a.m. For residences with dumpster service, place items alongside dumpster. *Indicates pick-up for multi-family units (condominiums & apartment complexes). *Occasionally bulk trash is not collected on its regularly scheduled collection day due to heavy volume, if this occurs it will be collected the following day.* **For more information, please call the Weston Public Works Services Center at 954-385-2600.**

THINK BEFORE YOU THROW – Consider donating before tossing

Help those in need, keep items out of the waste stream, and get a tax deduction. Several national organizations will even pick-up directly from your residence – you don't have to wait for bulk pick-up day! There are many local, well-established charitable organizations that readily accept donated items. From your home to a New home....and don't forget pets, many pet shelters are in need of sheets and towels on a regular basis.