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'Great Strides' by city in five years

BY PETE CABRERA

Doral Vice Mayor



We are rapidly approaching our fifth anniversary in our city that made great strides in the past five years due to a community-wide effort.

Many changes and projects are noticeable: two new beautifully-completed parks; city-donated land for a new county library; NW 112th and 114th road expansions at 41st Street and additional road improvements such as Phase I construction at NW 107th and 122nd Avenues, re-routing local truck traffic; banning trucks on other local roads.

There's new street landscaping and signage, public trash containers, newspaper stand regulations, a new Doral City trolley, a Doral TV government access channel on Comcast with simultaneous Internet telecasting, improved park programming including Senior Citizen events, "Get Fit Doral," the "Keep Doral Beautiful" program, plus great events like our July 4 Festivities and "Camping under the Stars."

CITY STAFF, MASTER PLAN KEY BENEFITS

An amazing city staff cares for our city as if it were their own home and family, and despite construction industry pressures, we're the only City in county history to pass a development approval moratorium lasting one year.

Meanwhile, our Development Master Plan will control development in certain urban environments to allow residents to live, work, play and study within walking distances.

Concern for concrete jungles while creating a "greener" city led to including higher requirements for open green space and larger tree canopies throughout the city.

Commerce Bank opens with donation



At the grand opening of its newest Miami-Dade county store, Commerce Bank named Morgan Levy a hometown hero for his community work. Commerce also made a donation to a local nonprofit organization of his choice. (L-r) Michael Dipietro, Doral councilman; Ray Aivelo, Commerce Bank, assistant store manager; Sonya Canas, Commerce Bank, regional vice president; Joubert Oliveras, Commerce Bank, store manager; Juan C. Bermudez, Doral mayor; Morgan Levy, hometown hero; Celia Moncholi, Commerce Bank, retail market manager; John Tolomer, Commerce Bank, market president and Peter Cabrera, Doral vice mayor.

BY LEE STEPHENS

Commerce Bank named Morgan Levy a "Hometown Hero" to mark the opening of its newest Miami-Dade County store location, advancing the bank's commitment to give back to the communities it serves.

Levy designated Miami Children's Hospital to receive a cash donation from the bank because of its commitment to provide both patients and families with quality medical care, coupled with emotional, psychological, and educational support.

The grand opening of Commerce Bank at 3885 NW 107th Avenue featured free food and refreshments, prizes, and attractions for youngsters in early February.

The new store is part of a network of 150-plus retail locations Commerce plans to build throughout South Florida. Commerce currently has 22 convenient locations throughout the area, including five in Miami-Dade County.

Commerce Bank's overall corporate giving has contributed more than \$65 million to nonprofit organizations to help improve the quality of life of those who live in communities served by the

bank. In 2007, Commerce made 4,800 different contributions, donating a total \$9 million, equaling 2% of pre-tax income and double a U.S. average of .07%, according to the Giving USA Foundation.

Commerce Bank is a leading retailer of financial services with 470-plus convenient stores in New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Washington, D.C., Virginia, Maryland and Florida. Headquartered in Cherry Hill, N.J., Commerce Bancorp (NYSE: CBH) has \$50+ billion in assets. For information, tel. 1-888-751-9000.