**Wellness Watch**

Providing Miami-Dade County Employees with the Latest Wellness News, Programs and Events

**May 2016**

### MAY - NATIONAL PHYSICAL FITNESS AND SPORTS MONTH.

Regular physical activity is good for everyone’s health, and people of all ages and body types can be physically active. National Physical Fitness and Sports Month is a great time to spread the word about the benefits of getting active.

Here are just a few benefits of physical activity:

- **Children and adolescents** – Physical activity can improve muscular fitness and bone and heart health.
- **Adults** – Physical activity can lower risk for heart disease, type 2 diabetes, and some types of cancer.
- **Older adults** – Physical activity can lower the risk of falls and improve cognitive functioning (like learning and judgment skills).

Communities, health professionals, and families can work together to create opportunities for everyone to get more physical activity.

Make a difference. Spread the word about fun ways to get moving!

For information, visit [http://healthfinder.gov/nho/maytoolkit.aspx](http://healthfinder.gov/nho/maytoolkit.aspx)

### EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 7</td>
<td>8 am</td>
<td>15TH annual “Tails and Trails” 5K, 10K and Half Marathon</td>
<td>Tom Brown Park 1125 Easterwood Drive Tallahassee, Fla. 32311</td>
<td>Participation in Tails &amp; Trails supports the Animal Shelter Foundation - a non-profit organization that provides life-saving support to the homeless animals. <a href="http://preview.tinyurl.com/j87b2nn">http://preview.tinyurl.com/j87b2nn</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 15</td>
<td>6 am</td>
<td>The Miami Clean K</td>
<td>Tropical Park, 7900 Bird Road Miami, Fla. 33155</td>
<td>This 5K run/walk, presented by the Porter Project is dedicated to raising awareness, educating young and developing athletes about the dangers of anabolic steroids and performance enhancement drugs. <a href="http://www.active.com/miami-fl/running/distance-running-races/the-miami-clean-k-2016?int=">http://www.active.com/miami-fl/running/distance-running-races/the-miami-clean-k-2016?int=</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 21</td>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>Fun Glow 5k - Boca Raton, FL.</td>
<td>Sunset Cove Amphitheater 20405 Amphitheater Circle Boca Raton, Fla. 33498</td>
<td>Fun Glow 5k, an event for all ages and fitness levels, is the ultimate experience of night glow, electronic dance music and fun like no other. You will encounter 3.1 miles of glow and endless fun. <a href="http://www.active.com/boca-raton-fl/running/distance-running-races/fun-glow-5k-boca-raton-fl-2016?int=72-3-A2">http://www.active.com/boca-raton-fl/running/distance-running-races/fun-glow-5k-boca-raton-fl-2016?int=72-3-A2</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ASTHMA AND ALLERGY AWARENESS MONTH

Each year, the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America (AAFA) declares May as "National Asthma and Allergy Awareness Month." It’s a peak season for asthma and allergy sufferers, and a perfect time to educate yourself about these diseases. Asthma affects approximately 25.9 million Americans and more than 50 million suffer from allergies. To learn more, visit http://www.aafa.org/page/asthma-and-allergy-awareness-month.aspx

MAY IS NATIONAL STROKE AWARENESS MONTH

Every 40 seconds, someone in the United States has a stroke, making it the fourth leading cause of death in the US.

A stroke, sometimes called a brain attack, occurs when a blockage stops the flow of blood to the brain or when a blood vessel in or around the brain bursts. Strokes do occur in people of all ages. Nearly a quarter of all strokes occur in people younger than age 65. Strokes often lead to serious, life-changing complications including:

- Paralysis or weakness on one side of the body
- Problems with thinking, awareness, attention, learning, judgment and understanding or forming speech
- Difficulty controlling or expressing emotions
- Numbness or strange sensations and pain in the hands and feet

To help protect yourself and your loved ones, take steps to prevent a stroke and know how to spot a stroke. Visit http://www.cdc.gov/stroke/stroke_awareness_month.htm.

HEALTHY SELFIE

Florida Department of Health educator Nikki Chuck and her twin sister

Have you made fitness part of your lifestyle? Send us a picture of you participating in your favorite type of exercise and you will be entered in a raffle to win a prize. Email photos to wellnessworks@miamidade.gov.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS GIFTS FOR MOM

On this Mother’s Day, give Mom the gift of health, fitness, and well-being. No matter what age group the moms on your Mother’s Day list fall into, those gifts never go out of style and are always the best ways to appreciate any mom on any day of the year -- especially Mother’s Day. Here’s a list of gifts to give any and all moms.

http://www.webmd.com/fitness-exercise/mothers-day-fitness-gifts?page=1

GRILLED PASTA PRIMAVERA

Grilled Pasta
PriMaVera

NUTRITION FACTS
Serving Size ½ of recipe
Calories 368
Total Fat 12 g
Saturated Fat 5 g
Sodium  842 mg
Total Carbohydrate 57 g
Dietary Fiber 9 g
Protein 10 g
Servings 2

Ingredients and Preparation
Bow-tie (or other shaped) pasta 4 ounces
Red bell pepper, cut into ¼-inch strips 1
Grape tomatoes ½ cup
Red onion, cut into ¼-inch wedges ½
Reduced-calorie Italian dressing ¼ cup
Fresh oregano leaves, chopped 1 tablespoon
Feta cheese 2 ounces
Salt ¼ teaspoon
Freshly ground pepper to taste

Directions
Cook pasta according to package directions, omitting fat and salt.
Combine bell pepper, tomatoes, and onion in a large bowl. Toss with dressing.
Prepare grill. Grill vegetables on a large sheet of foil, turning occasionally, about 8-10 minutes, or until tender-crisp. Return vegetables to bowl and toss with oregano leaves.
Mix together pasta, vegetables, and feta cheese, and season with salt and pepper.

Exchanges
2 vegetables; 2 starches; 1 fat; 1 medium fat meat substitute.

Side Suggestions: Tomato, Mozzarella, and Basil. Arrange ¼-inch slices of tomato and fresh mozzarella on a large platter. Drizzle with olive oil, and sprinkle with fresh basil and salt.

Copyright © 2016 EBSCO Publishing. All rights reserved.

Submit Your Healthy Recipes: Wellness Works is looking for tasty and healthful recipes. Please submit your recipes to wellnessworks@miamidade.gov.