

GOOD MORNING EVERYONE!

THANK YOU GIA FOR THAT KIND INTRODUCTION AND FOR AGREEING TO LEAD OUR LIBRARY SYSTEM TO NEW HEIGHTS AS OUR DIRECTOR.

I WANT TO RECOGNIZE OUR COUNTY COMMISSIONER SALLY HEYMAN. THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMITMENT TO RESIDENTS IN DISTRICT 4, COMMISSIONER.

ALSO PARTICIPATING HERE IN THE CITY OF AVENTURA IS ITS HONORABLE MAYOR ENID WEISMAN, AND CITY COMMISSIONERS.

THANK YOU ALL FOR BEING HERE AND FOR HOSTING MY BUDGET TOWN HALL IN YOUR CITY CHAMBERS LAST THURSDAY AS WELL.

I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK OUR INTERNAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND THE LIBRARY STAFF FOR THEIR HARD WORK AND DEDICATION IN BRINGING THE COMMUNITY THIS STATE-OF-THE-ART LIBRARY.

FELLOW ELECTED OFFICIALS, DISTINGUISHED GUESTS AND FELLOW RESIDENTS...

IT IS A REAL PLEASURE TO CELEBRATE THE GRAND OPENING OF THE NORTHEAST DADE AVENTURA LIBRARY.

I'M PROUD TO SAY THAT THE NORTHEAST DADE AVENTURA LIBRARY IS MIAMI-DADE COUNTY'S FIRST "GREEN" PUBLIC LIBRARY WITH MORE THAN 22,000 ITEMS UNDER MORE THAN 26,000 SQUARE FEET OF STATE-OF-THE-ART SPACE.

IN 2005, THE LIBRARY WAS BADLY DAMAGED BY HURRICANE WILMA. AS PART OF THE LIBRARY'S CAPITAL EXPANSION PLAN, ALL THE HARD WORK IS DONE AND OUR NEW AND IMPROVED LIBRARY IS NOW READY.

THIS CENTER FOR LEARNING IS CERTAINLY VALUABLE FOR THE MANY BOOKS, CDS, MOVIES, COMPUTERS, AND UNLIMITED FREE INTERNET ACCESS IT PROVIDES. BUT ITS VALUE EXTENDS BEYOND ALL THAT.

LIKE ALL OUR LIBRARIES, IT IS ALSO A COMMUNITY CENTER AND A GATHERING SPACE FOR OUR RESIDENTS.

MY ADMINISTRATION VALUES OUR LIBRARIES SO MUCH THAT DESPITE ALL THE BUDGETARY CHALLENGES WE HAVE FACED OVER THE PAST FOUR YEARS, WE ALWAYS WORKED TOGETHER WITH OUR COMMISSIONERS TO PRESERVE IMPORTANT SERVICES INCLUDING THOSE OFFERED BY OUR LIBRARIES.

IN FACT, A LITTLE KNOWN FACT IS THAT IN THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR, FIVE BRANCHES ARE OPEN SEVEN DAYS A WEEK ALL YEAR LONG. THAT INCLUDES FULL 8-HOUR DAYS ON SUNDAYS.

THAT HAS NOT BEEN DONE BEFORE AND IT UNDERSCORES OUR COMMITMENT TO OUR LIBRARIES AND THE RESIDENTS WHO USE THEM.

THE MOST ENDURING VALUE OUR LIBRARIES OFFER IS IN THE HUMAN CONNECTIONS WHICH FORM HERE. THEY ENRICH THIS COMMUNITY THROUGH ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND CULTURE, AND BRING THE OPPORTUNITY FOR FRIENDSHIPS AND

THE EXCHANGING OF IDEAS FOR ALL WHO ENTER THEIR DOORS.

SENIOR CITIZENS WILL CONNECT HERE FOR BOOK CLUBS.

TEENS WILL WORK TOGETHER ON RESEARCH PROJECTS.

TODDLERS WILL DISCOVER THE WORLD THROUGH STORY TIME WHILE THEIR MOMS SHARE PARENTING TIPS WITH EACH OTHER.

AND THAT IS WHY OUR HARD WORK ON THIS FACILITY IS TO BE CELEBRATED.

THE OPENING OF THE NEW NORTHEAST DADE AVENTURA LIBRARY IS A MOMENT WE CAN ALL BE PROUD OF NOT ONLY FOR WHAT IT REPRESENTS, BUT ALSO FOR WHAT MIAMI-DADE COUNTY HAS ACCOMPLISHED TOGETHER.

ON BEHALF OF THE 2.6 MILLION RESIDENTS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, LET ME THANK ALL WHO WORKED ON MAKING THIS DAY POSSIBLE.

THROUGH YOUR DEDICATION AND HARD WORK, THE  
NORTHEAST DADE AVENTURA LIBRARY IS FINALLY  
OPEN.

YOU ALL DESERVE A BIG ROUND OF APPLAUSE!

GOD BLESS YOU ALL AND MAY GOD CONTINUE TO  
BLESS MIAMI-DADE COUNTY!

