## CITY OF OCEANSIDE

## **NEWS RELEASE**

Contact:

## PARKS & RECREATION DIVISION

Eileen Turk (760) 435-5529 For Immediate Release August 29, 2011

## FIRST ANNUAL PARKS AND RECREATION AMBASSADOR'S SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST

The City of Oceanside's Neighborhood Services Department along with the Friends of Oceanside Parks and The San Diego North County Lions Club will be conducting a scholarship contest this Fall to name the first "Parks and Recreation Ambassadors". The contest will require qualified applicants to prepare an essay illustrating "how parks make their lives better", demonstrate their public speaking and fundraising abilities, and compete in a sports uniform contest. The scholarship committee will name the four top-ranking individuals in the contest as "Parks and Recreation Ambassadors" for 2011-2012. The top prize winner will be awarded \$250, second place will receive \$100, third place, \$75, and fourth place, \$50. Young women and men between the ages of 17-20 are asked to attend an informational meeting on Thursday, September 15, from 6:00 – 8:00 pm at El Corazon Senior Center, located at 3302 Senior Center Drive in Oceanside. This meeting will explain the contest guidelines in detail and will give applicants specific requirements for successful entry.

Arminda Ruiz, President of the San Diego North County Lions Club, stated, "This is a great way for young people to get experience with public speaking, make new friends and compete for funds for their future educational plans".

Friends of Oceanside Parks Chairperson, David Palmatier, a former school teacher, stated, "This is just one more opportunity for youth to get additional financial support and an opportunity to meet other students who are motivated to help their community".

The contest will culminate in a "Grand Finale Evening" celebration on Saturday, November 19, at El Corazon from 7:00 – 9:00 pm. The "Grand Finale Evening" will be open to family and friends. Ticket prices are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students (with school I.D.). Refreshments,

programs and flowers will be sold, and there will be a silent auction. Local businesses are encouraged to donate gift certificates or products for the silent auction. Interested donors can contact Eileen Turk at (760) 435-5529.

For more information regarding this event please contact Eileen Turk at 760-435-5529. Parks Make Life Better!