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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

What's in a name? Everything! **Community Services is named "Parks & Recreation"**

Call it what it is. The Town of Windsor Parks and Recreation Department creates community through people parks and programs. While the name will change from Community Services, the same diverse and innovative programming will continue to make life better for individuals and for the Windsor community. At its meeting of December 2, 2009, the Town Council approved the sensible new name to support the desire of staff and the Parks and Recreation Commission to more accurately reflect the administration of programs, services, parks, facilities, and broad community partnerships while raising the department's profile and branding parks and recreation as an essential Town service.

The Town of Windsor Parks and Recreation Department provides ***space to learn & play***, ***space to be safe & secure***, and ***space to create & imagine*** with the following community benefits:

- Healthier residents
- Protection of environmental resources that provide access to serenity and use of nature
- Outdoor space to play and exercise
- Facilities for self-directed or organized recreation
- Positive alternatives for youth which help lower crime and mischief
- Activities that facilitate social connections, human development, therapy, the arts, and lifelong learning
- Strengthen economic development
- Community problem solving
- Safer neighborhoods
- Increased property values
- Access to recreation experiences and opportunities for all ages, interests and abilities
- Cultural expression and unity
- Seasonal employment opportunities

A recent statewide survey showed that 98% of California households visit a park at least once a year. The study further revealed that Californians see parks and recreation as significant because of the impact it has on their quality of life. Parks and Recreation Director Donna Legge proclaimed, "Parks and Recreation make life better! There is something for everyone".

Look for the Summer Recreation Guide coming out in April. The Guide will include information on a variety of recreational opportunities including community events such as Earth Day on the Green, Spring Clean in the Parks, Cinco de Mayo Celebration, Windsor Fine Art Show and the Summer Night concert series. Additional programs will be offered such as after school programs, summer camp, pre-school, youth, teens, senior citizens, sports and special interest classes. The Parks and Recreation Department also manages park and facility maintenance, rentals, park development, animal control, Town Hall, Huerta Gym, Community Center, Senior Center and Pool. The department staff support the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Senior Citizen Advisory Council.

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We create community through people, parks & programs!