

## For Immediate Release

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## Senior Center Chosen to Host Documentary about Big Bands

Margate, FL January 12, 2006 – Project Director of the Northwest Focal Point Senior Center, Yolanda Rodriguez, recently received a request from one of her long-time Senior Center Volunteers. Mr. Paul Cohen of the Paul Cohen Band asked for her blessing to use the Senior Center as a location for a documentary that is to be titled, “The Big Bands–Yesterday and Today.”

The Northwest Focal Point Senior Center, located at 6009 N.W. 10th Street in Margate, has been a host to many senior bands for years. One of these groups is the Paul Cohen Band who has practiced at the Center for 11 years. The Paul Cohen Band is an 18-member band that plays Big Band music and has quite an extensive following. Mr. Cohen explained, “People travel from areas from Aventura to Boca Raton to hear us rehearse each Thursday.”

In November 2005, Five Towns College President Dr. Stanley Cohen wrote a letter to Mr. Paul Cohen to confirm the filming of the documentary. The two attended high school together in New York, but say they didn’t know each other then. They met each other forty years ago in their professional careers.

Dr. Stanley Cohen explains, “We chose this senior center because of the Paul Cohen Band, and the fact that there is such a wonderful turnout for band rehearsals here.” Dr. Cohen hopes “this documentary will...provide an important educational retrospective for young high school and college students playing in jazz orchestras today.”

“Any attention that seniors garner for their love of music and being together to celebrate is always a positive thing,” said Yolanda Rodriguez. So on January 5, the film crew from Five Towns College consisting of two faculty members, one alumnus and five senior-year college students arrived in Margate for the shoot.

The goal for completion of the project is summer 2006. Sometime thereafter Five Towns College hopes to air the documentary on Bravo or the History Channel. Ms. Rodriguez says the Senior Center will receive a copy and will plan on having a showing of the film.

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Five Towns College filming The Paul Cohen Band at the Northwest Focal Point Senior Center, January 12, 2006