

## City of Miami Springs

## News Bulletin



The City of Miami Springs pays for the News Bulletin

City Officials:  
Mayor Xavier Garcia  
Vice-Mayor Jaime Petralanda

Councilman Michael Windrem  
Councilman Billy Bain  
Councilman George Lob

201 Westward Drive, Miami Springs, FL 33166 • City Hall: 305.805.5000 • Police: 305.888.9711 • Water/Sewer Emergencies: 305.274.9272 • Fire &amp; Rescue: 911

MARCH 2015

**IMPORTANT CALENDAR DATES****GENERAL ELECTION****FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2015 AND****SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 2015**

EARLY VOTING AT CITY HALL

8:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

**TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2015**

GENERAL ELECTION

AT MIAMI SPRINGS COUNTRY CLUB

7:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.

**CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS:****MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2015, 7:00 P.M.**

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

**MONDAY, APRIL 27, 2015, 7:00 P.M.**

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

**RECYCLING:****WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1ST****WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15TH****WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29TH****SPOTLIGHT ON ... Voting**

Too many people have the impression that the upcoming municipal elections for Mayor and City Council on April 7th aren't all that important. Over 50% of registered voters will turn out for a presidential election, but the turnout in a local election is usually less than 10%.

In 1926, the first election in Miami Springs ("Country Club Estates") had participation from 74 of 79 "duly qualified voters." That was 94%!!! Our hometown and our residents deserve this level of involvement and concern.

**A special shout-out to women voters:** Over 1/3 of those voters in 1926 were women, somewhat amazing since the 19th Amendment had only been passed in 1920. Today, 52% of residents are women, so let your voice be heard. It's your hard-earned tax money, and the council members you vote for will determine how to spend it.

**Young voters:** What's decided in our

elections will affect you most of all! If you don't educate yourself on the issues and vote, someone else will. Whether you vote or not, someone will be elected, and that person will be making the decisions about crime prevention, safe and affordable homes, the "look" of downtown and NW 36th Street, our tree canopy, traffic patterns, parks and recreation and many other things that affect you every day.

**Just remember:** You get what you don't vote for.

Your neighbors, your families and your property values are all counting on you. Take the time, make the difference and vote.

**EARLY VOTING:** Friday, April 3, 2015 and Saturday, April 4, 2015, 8a.m. to 4p.m. in City Hall

**GENERAL ELECTION:** Tuesday, April 7, 2015, 7a.m. to 7p.m. at the Miami Springs Country Club (all precincts)



**Reminder from Public Works: Non-combustible materials such as tile, shingles, concrete blocks, toilets and sinks, pavers, dirt, rocks, and drywall may NOT be left out for trash pickup or placed in a trash barrel for automated collection. They must be taken to the Miami-Dade County disposal site at 21500 NW 47th Avenue. For more information, see [www.miamidade.gov/solidwaste](http://www.miamidade.gov/solidwaste)**



Follow us on Twitter:

@MiamiSpringsFL

**Art in City Hall**

Blossoms by R.C. Bailey

Miami Springs resident R.C. Bailey will be the featured artist for the "Art in City Hall Exhibit" during the month of April, 2015. Known throughout the world for his beautiful work, R.C. has been accepted into the International Guild of Realists, and has been an international top finalist in Art Renewal four times. His murals adorn the Port of Miami, the Mayfair Hotel and the Miami Museum of Science. His work may also be seen on most of Royal Caribbean's fleet of ocean liners.

You are invited to a reception in the City Hall lobby to meet the artist on Monday evening, April 6th from 6:30p.m. to 8:30 p.m. If you cannot attend the reception, be sure to come see his paintings Monday through Friday during the month of April between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:45 p.m.

If you live or work in Miami Springs and feel you have a special contribution to make for a future exhibit, please contact Barbara Robinson in the City Manager's Office for information about exhibit requirements and scheduling. The telephone number is (305) 805-5010.

**ELDERLY SERVICES DEPT.**

305.805.5160 SENIOR CENTER, • 343 PAYNE DRIVE

**SENIOR CENTER NEWS**

**THE CITY OF MIAMI SPRINGS SENIOR CENTER**, located on Prince Field at 343 Payne Drive, offers a variety of activities and services to older residents age 60 and over. The city's senior center is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. and provides older citizens with numerous opportunities to: improve their health by participating in the nutritionally balanced, daily lunch program, free nutritional counseling, and in health support screenings and activities; improve their knowledge through health, nutrition, and consumer education workshops and classes scheduled each month; obtain information and referral assistance to services available throughout the county; stay active by socializing with their peers, volunteering to help others and participating in recreational activities; and improve their use of leisure time. Older citizens may also be eligible to utilize the center's transportation service or the home delivered meal program for those who cannot leave their homes without assistance.

In addition to these core service offerings, and as part of a continuing focus on consumer, crime, wellness issues, health screenings and educational programs have been scheduled for April to include:

**"COUNCIL REPORT"** – Councilman George Lob will present information on current Council actions and other topics of interest to the citizenry on April 1st at 12:15 p.m.;

**BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING** – Registered nurses from Miami-Dade Health Department will provide free individual screening and counseling for hypertension on April 2nd from 10:00–11:30 a.m.;

**"LEGISLATIVE UPDATE"** -- On April 8th at 12:15 p.m., Silvia Castellanos, District Secretary to Representative Bryan Avila, will provide an update to current legislation before the Florida House of Representatives;

**"CRIME WATCH" PROGRAM** -- Officers Jorge Capote and Janice Simon from the MSPD's Community Policing Office will present the monthly Crime Watch Program at the senior center on April 14th at 12:15 p.m. Participants will be alerted to the types of criminal activities affecting the local area and will be provided tips on how to avoid becoming a victim.

**"LIVING WITH LOW VISION"** -- On April 15th at 12:15 p.m., Raquel Van Der Biest, Occupational & Low Vision Therapist with Miami Lighthouse for the Blind, will provide an informative workshop on how those with low vision can make adjustments and modifications that will increase their safety and independence.

**HEAD and NECK CANCER SCREENING EVENT** -- Medical personnel from Mt. Sinai Medical Center will provide a free screening to detect head and neck cancer on April 21st from 11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.;

**"MAIL FRAUD SCHEMES"** -- On April 22nd at 12:15 p.m., Otto Fernandez, U.S. Postal Inspector, will present information on mail fraud schemes that are currently being committed and investigated by the US government;

**"IDENTITY THEFT"** -- Emir Hernandez, Victim Services Program Specialist with the Office of the Attorney General, Pam Bondi, will discuss this topic on April 29th at 12:15 p.m. His presentation will focus on the multiple ways that thieves can steal your identity, how you can protect yourself, and what you should do if you become a victim.



Participants of the Senior Center's new art class meet weekly to receive expert instruction from their teacher, Amanda Petumenos.

**CHAIR YOGA CLASSES** are offered free to local residents, age 60 and over, on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:00–10:30 a.m. at the City's Senior Center. A waiting list has been established for this class as current enrollment has reached capacity.

**"LET'S DANCE" EXERCISE CLASSES**, free to area seniors, are scheduled on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10:30–11:00 a.m. at the senior center facility. Pre-registration is required.

**FLOOR YOGA CLASSES** are offered free to seniors, age 60 and over, on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30–11:00 a.m. at the Curtiss Mansion. A warm-up session using light weights is held from 9:00–9:30 a.m. A waiting list has been established for this class at this time.

**"CELEBRATION WORKOUT"** classes, designed to work on memory and physical fitness, are held every Friday morning from 9:30–11:00 a.m. at the City's Senior Center and is free to those age 60 and over.

**TAI CHI for SENIORS** -- Tai Chi exercises, designed for individuals age 60 and over, are taught by Judd Zisquit on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:30–1:30 p.m. to seniors who reside in Miami Springs. Classes meet at the Community Center and focus on improving joint flexibility, balance, muscular strength, and general fitness and health. Interested seniors must pre-register at the senior center office located at 343 Payne Drive.

**DRUMMING for SENIORS:** Alisha Ross provides weekly interactive drumming and wellness sessions on Mondays from 12:45–2:15 p.m. at the Senior Center. Participants must pre-register; and

**ART for SENIORS:** Instruction in drawing and painting is provided by Amanda Petumenos on Wednesdays from 12:45–2:15 p.m. at the Senior Center to seniors who have pre-registered.

Upcoming events also include: a field trip to Wal-Mart (4/24); weekly Bingo games (4/6, 4/13, 4/20 and 4/27), the monthly meeting of the Miami Springs/Virginia Gardens Senior Citizens Club (4/7); the monthly birthday and anniversary party (4/16) and a Rummage Sale (4/28). For further information on any of the services or activities offered at the City's senior center, please contact the Elderly Services Department's office at (305) 805-5160.

For further information on any of the services, activities, or special programs offered, or to volunteer your time, talent or expertise, please contact us.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
305.888.9711

**Residential Burglary Prevention Tips**

It's been said before, but the Miami Springs Police Department would like to remind the residents to lock their doors and cars. We offer the following tips to help protect your home against burglaries.

- Make your home look occupied, and make it difficult to break in. Burglaries do happen in the daylight hours.
- Remember to always lock your homes and vehicles at all times, whether you are home or not. Residents become complacent and leave the doors unlocked and unattended while in other areas of the homes and yards. Check all doors and windows before you leave the house or go to bed. It only takes a moment for an intruder to get into unlocked homes or vehicles. Make it a constant daily routine to check the locks, involve the children too.
- Secure sliding glass doors by placing a broomstick or steel rod in the track. You can also drill a hole through the upper part of the slider and track. Then insert a sturdy nail, bolt or screw, be sure you can remove it easily.
- Leave lights on when you go out. If you are going to be away for a length of time, connect some lamps to automatic timers to turn them on in the evening and off during the day.
- Keep your garage door closed and locked, even when home. If you do leave your garage door open and it is an attached garage, lock the door into the house.
- Don't allow daily deliveries of mail, newspapers or flyers to build up while you are away. Put a hold on your mail or arrange for a friend or neighbor to take them regularly.
- Arrange for your lawn to be mowed if you are going away for an extended time. Remove or prune bushes that hide windows and doors, thereby eliminating a hiding place for someone trying to break into your home. Plant thorny bushes under windows, they can help to keep intruders away.
- Keep valuables outside the bedroom. A burglar on the hunt for valuables in a home will make the master bedroom his first stop, because that's where the cash and jewelry are



most commonly stored. So if you do keep such valuables on your property, find another room to store them in.

- Outdoor Lighting can be a great deterrent. Light up the outside areas where intruders might hide, such as entrances, garage doors, pathways, stairwells, alleys and parking areas.
- Secure sliding glass doors by placing a broomstick or steel rod in the track. You can also drill a hole through the upper part of the slider and track. Then insert a sturdy nail, bolt or screw, be sure you can remove it easily.
- The best thing you can do is free; get to know your neighbors. They know you and your patterns; they're more likely to spot something going on.

Residents can take steps to help prevent our Community and each other from becoming victims. Please help us help you by becoming an extension of our eyes and ears. If a car is parked and occupied, if something or someone looks out of place, or suspicious call the Miami Springs Police Department at 305.888.9711, the police department is open 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. We will always be happy to respond, it's better to prevent than to lament.

For further information you may also contact the Miami Springs Community Policing Office at 305.888.5286.

**PARKS & RECREATION DEPT.**  
305.805.5075/76 1401 WESTWARD DRIVE  
FOLLOW US ON TWITTER @MIAMISPRINGSREC

**FACILITY RENTAL:**

The Multi-Purpose Room is available for rentals.

The 10x10 Pavilions at Prince Field are available for rentals.

Contact the main office at the Community Center for availability & pricing. 305.805.5075

**GYMNASIUM:**

**Open Gym Basketball Hours:**

**Monday – Friday:** 12:00 p.m. – 3 p.m. & 6:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.: 18 & Over \$4. 3:00 pm – 5:30 p.m.: 17 & under ONLY, Free

**Saturday:** 7:00 a.m. – 8:30 p.m.: 17 & Under Free, 18 & Over \$4

**Sunday:** 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.: 17 & under Free 18 & over \$4

**Open Gym Volleyball:** Friday Evening: 6:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.: 17 & under Free 18 & over \$4

**Walking Club:** Register Now! Members will be rewarded for miles completed. We'll not only walk on the Indoor Jogging/Walking Track in our Gymnasium, we'll also do different trails located throughout the Miami Springs area. For additional information, contact Caitlin Smith.

**FITNESS:**

**Fitness Room & Jogging Track Hours:** Monday – Friday 6:00 a.m. – 9:30 p.m., Saturday 7:00 a.m. – 8:30 p.m. & Sunday 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**Fitness Room Memberships are NOW AVAILABLE:**

- Adults: 18 & over \$150.00
- Senior: 60 & over \$75.00
- Youth: 13 – 17, \$150.00 (must be accompanied by a PARENT)
- Family of 2: \$188.00
- Family of 3: \$263.00
- Additional family members \$75.00\*
- \*Immediate Family Members ONLY

**YOGA:** YOGA is held Monday and Wednesday evenings from 7:15pm- 8:15pm and Saturday mornings at 8:45 a.m. The cost is \$95.00 for an 8 week session. The next registration will be held on April 27th at 6:30pm at the Community Center and the session will begin on Monday, May 4th. For more information please call the Community Center.

We are now offering a Saturday drop in YOGA class. The cost per class is \$5.00 and starts at 8:45 a.m.

**GET FIT PROGRAM:** THIS IS A TWICE-WEEKLY PROGRAM WITH HIGHLY-EXPERIENCED

COACHES / TRAINERS, TRAINING ATHLETES FOR TOP-NOTCH STRENGTH, FLEXIBILITY, SPEED, BALANCE, CARDIOVASCULAR AND RESPIRATORY ENDURANCE, CONDITIONING AND COORDINATION DESIGNED TO HELP KIDS REACH PEAK FITNESS AND PERFORMANCE!

This fitness program is for kids of all fitness levels and backgrounds between the ages of 11 – 15 years old. The Get Fit Program will be held on Tuesday & Thursday evenings and there will be one field trip on a Saturday per session.

The cost is \$50 per participant and SPACE is LIMITED.

Registration is ongoing at the Community Center.

**JAZZERCISE:** Burn up to 600 calories in one fun and powerfully effective 60-minute total body workout. Every Jazzercise group fitness class combines dance-based cardio with strength training and stretching to sculpt tone and lengthen muscles for maximum fat burn. Monday through Thursday: 6:00 p.m. Saturday: 10:00 a.m.

**Jr. Jazzercise:** is a fitness class for girls ages 5-11. The format combines dance and aerobics with group games & special activities to make the class fun and challenging.

Tuesday & Thursday: 5:15 p.m. – 6:15 p.m. For information visit jazzercise.com or call 305-888-7625

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**Get Fit Summer Camp 2015!**

JOIN A MONTH LONG FITNESS PROGRAM WITH HIGHLY-EXPERIENCED COACHES / TRAINERS, TRAINING ATHLETES FOR TOP-NOTCH STRENGTH, FLEXIBILITY, SPEED, BALANCE, CARDIOVASCULAR AND RESPIRATORY ENDURANCE, CONDITIONING AND COORDINATION DESIGNED TO HELP KIDS REACH PEAK FITNESS AND PERFORMANCE!

Get Fit Camp is for ALL KIDS of ALL FITNESS BACKGROUNDS between the ages of 9-11 years old and 12-17 years old LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE: Only 30 KIDS PER SESSION There will be TWO Four-Week Sessions

Session 1: Weeks of June 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th

Session 2: Weeks of July 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th

Activity Fee: \$100 PER SESSION  
Registration Fee: \$400 PER SESSION  
Registration opens Monday, May 4th at 6pm at the Miami Springs Community Center

**BUILDING & CODE COMPLIANCE DEPT.**  
305.805.5030

**“There’s a New Officer in Town”**

The Code Compliance Department is happy to introduce our new Code Compliance Officer Rose Piniella. Many of you already know her, since she had been working in the Finance Department. She is presently being trained in the Building and Code Compliance Department, and will help to insure that Beautiful Miami Springs continues to be a safe and enjoyable city in which to live and conduct business. Below is a list of three of our most commonly violated codes which we will commence to enforce and hopefully discourage:

**Work Without a Permit**

Virtually ALL electrical, roofing, plumbing and air conditioning work requires a Permit. All fences and driveways, including gravel driveways, need a permit. All structural work and all stucco work require a permit. All sheds require a permit. Any other maintenance work that is over \$500 requires a permit. This offense can result in a ticket of \$100 and a penalty of \$100 per day for every day the violation continues after the owner is notified.

**Off Street Parking**

It is a code violation to park in the grass in your front yard. This offense can result in a ticket of \$50 and a penalty of \$50 per day for every day the violation continues after the owner is notified.

**Recreational Vehicles**

No boats, trailers, campers or other recre-



Code Compliance Officer Rose Piniella

ational vehicles can be parked in your front or side yards. They can be parked in the rear yard as long as they are no closer than three feet to any property line. This offense can result in a ticket of \$50 and a penalty of \$50 per day for every day the violation continues after the owner is notified.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact Your Friendly Code Compliance Department Offices at (305) 805-5030 Fax: (305) 805-5036.

**WELCOME**

The City of Miami Springs welcomes the following new businesses to our City, and wishes them every success:

<p><b>365 HEALTH TECH CORP.</b> 4471 NW 36TH Street Sales and service of Medical Equipment</p>	<p><b>MAX INERTRADE, INC.</b> (Re-opening of Business) 4471 NW 36TH Street Import and export shipping</p>
<p><b>GENOME VAPES, INC.</b> 38 Curtiss Parkway Sales and service of electronic cigars</p>	<p><b>NBC UNIVERSO, LLC</b> 700 S. Royal Poinciana Blvd. General office for television network</p>

**HUMAN RESOURCES DEPT. 305.805.5009**

**APRIL BIRTHDAYS:**

Happy Birthday and Best Wishes to the following City employees:

- |                  |                |                    |
|------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Raymond Buckner  | Tom Cummings   | Katherine Anderson |
| Jorge Irizarry   | Terri Schuh    | Jonathan Castillo  |
| Charlene Navarro | Randall Walker |                    |

**Recognizing long term employees:**

The following employees had their anniversary date in March

Randall Walker	completed 36 years of service
Moira Ramos & Carlos Sánchez	completed 34 years of service
Barbara Robinson	completed 30 years of service
Steven Griffin	completed 24 years of service
Jimmy Deal	completed 21 years of service
Grace Vazquez	completed 14 years of service

**Thank you for your loyal service to the City of Miami Springs.**

# APRIL 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> CURBSIDE RECYCLING	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> EARLY VOTING: 8 A.M. - 4 P.M.	<b>4</b> EARLY VOTING: 8 A.M. - 4 P.M.
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT: 6:30 P.M.	<b>7</b> MIAMI SPRINGS GENERAL ELECTION: 7 A.M.—7 P.M.	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> CITY COUNCIL MEETING: 7:00 P.M.	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> CURBSIDE RECYCLING	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> CITY COUNCIL MEETING: 7:00 P.M.	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> CURBSIDE RECYCLING	<b>30</b>		

## YOU'RE INVITED ...



Mayor Xavier Garcia  
Vice-Mayor Jaime Petralanda  
Councilman Michael Windrem  
Councilman Billy Bain  
Councilman George Lob

Invite you to come and celebrate the

**Groundbreaking for our new Aquatic Center**

Tuesday, March 31, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the current pool parking lot

**COME OUT AND SHOW YOUR SUPPORT**