

City of Miami Springs

News Bulletin



The City of Miami Springs pays for the News Bulletin

City Officials:
Mayor Xavier Garcia
Vice-Mayor Billy Bain

Councilman Michael Windrem
Councilman George Lob
Councilman Jaime Petralanda

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

JANUARY 2014

IMPORTANT CALENDAR DATES

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS:

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2014, 7:00 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2014, 7:00 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

RECYCLING:

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2014
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2014

Voice your views!

U.S. Congresswoman

Ileana Ros-Lehtinen's Outreach Program:

Ms. Lourdes Ruiz from Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen's office will be available in the Council Chambers in City Hall every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Citizens may contact her at 305.934.9441 or Lourdes.ruiz@mail.house.gov.

SPOTLIGHT ON ... Free Income Tax Preparation

Once again, AARP Foundation Tax-Aide volunteers will be offering FREE TAX COUNSELING and PREPARATION ASSISTANCE for 2013 tax returns for low-to moderate-income taxpayers, especially those 60 and older. This service will be available, by appointment only, every Tuesday afternoon through April 8th at the City of Miami Springs Senior Center, located at 343 Payne Drive on Prince Field. Returns will be filed electronically on the premises.

For more than 17 years, IRS trained and certified AARP Foundation volunteer Tax-Aide Counselors have been assisting local residents with their returns and answering questions regarding special federal tax provisions for pensions, credit for the elderly or disabled, and other important issues. You do not need to be a member of AARP or a retiree to use this free service.

Tax-Aide volunteers are trained to assist you in filing certain tax forms and schedules, including the form 1040, and to help you receive applicable tax credits and deductions, since tax laws change every year. If counselors feel they do not have adequate knowledge or your return is too complex, you may need to seek another qualified counselor or paid tax assistance.

Among the people for whom the AARP Foundation Tax Aides have prepared returns, nearly 80 percent have used it more than once, and 16 percent have used it for at least seven years.

If you are in need of this free service, call



AARP Tax Aides Gaston Correa and Neida Pimienta setting up at the Senior Center for Tax Season.

the Senior Center at 305.805.5160 to schedule your appointment as soon as possible. You must bring with you to your appointment the following documents:

- a copy of last year's income tax return(s) and supporting documentation
- photo identification
- Social Security cards or other official documentation for yourself and all dependents

Income:

- W-2 forms from each employer
- Unemployment compensation statements
- SSA-1099 form if you were paid Social Security benefits or Form RRB-1099, Tier 1 Railroad Retirement benefits
- All 1099 forms reporting interest (1099-INT), dividends (1099-DIV), proceeds from

sales (1099-B), as well as documentation showing the original purchase price of your sold assets

- 1099-R form if you received a pension or annuity
- 1099-MISC form showing any miscellaneous income

Payments

You will need to bring all forms indicating federal income tax paid (including quarterly estimated tax payments).

Deductions

Most taxpayers have a choice of taking either a standard deduction or itemizing their deductions. If you have a substantial amount of deductions, you may want to itemize. You will need to bring the following information:

- 1098 form showing any home mortgage interest
- All receipts or canceled checks for medical/dental expenses (including doctor and hospital bills and medical insurance premiums), receipts for prescription medicines, costs of assisted living services and bills for home improvements, such as ramps and railings for people with disabilities
- Receipts for contributions to charity
- Receipts or canceled checks for all tax income and property taxes you paid, as well as records of tax refunds

Credits

- Dependent care provider information (name, employer ID or Social Security number)
- Receipts, canceled checks or 1099 forms related to continuing education

WELCOME

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

Jewelry Boutique by ECG

8 Canal Street
Retail Sales

Mom and Pop Donut Shop

2 S. Royal Poinciana Blvd.
Restaurant

Art in City Hall

The City of Miami Springs "Art in City Hall" exhibit for the month of February will showcase information and pictures about the history of Miami Springs from the collection of the Miami Springs Historical Society. The public is invited to attend a reception to meet Historical Society members in the lobby of City Hall on Monday, February 3 at 6:30. The display may be seen between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:45 p.m. throughout the month.

The Miami Springs Historical Society and Museum, a not-for-profit organization, was organized in 1987 to ensure that future generations will be able to enjoy the heritage of a beautiful and historic Miami Springs. The Society brings community members and historians together to learn about topics of local interest, and will be opening a new home for their museum in the Spring at 501 East Drive. They encourage interested local residents to join them, and enjoy expert speakers and interesting events. Their next meeting is Thursday, February 6th at 7:30 at the Curtiss Mansion, where author Seth Bramson will talk about his new book on the history of Homestead, "From Railroad Boom to Sonic Boom". For information, please call 305.884.4406 or write miamispringshistoricalsociety@hotmail.com.

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 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 informal health, nutrition, and consumer education workshops 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.

In addition to these core service offerings, and as part of a continuing focus on health and wellness, consumer, crime, and civic issues, the following programs have been scheduled for February as follows:

- **"MEMORY and WARNING SIGNS"** - On February 5th at 12:15 p.m., the Alzheimer's Association of Southeast Florida, in conjunction with the Alliance for Aging, Inc., will present information on the importance of early detection, how to recognize the 10 signs of memory disorder and tips on how to improve your memory;

- **"EXERCISES and DIETS for YOUR HEART"** - In recognition of "Heart Healthy Month," Granny Nannies of Miami will sponsor this topic on February 7th at 12:15 p.m. with speakers Meghan Goicouria and Roy Garner, Certified Personal Trainer;

- **"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 February 18th at 12:15 p.m. Seniors will be alerted to criminal activities affecting the local area and learn tips on how to avoid becoming a victim;

- **"HEART HEALTH"** - On February 19th at 12:15 p.m., Leon Medical Center and the Alliance for Aging, Inc. will conduct a program on heart health;

- **"SILVER SURFERS"** - Free basic and intermediate level computer and Internet training courses for senior citizens, conducted in English and Spanish, are held throughout the year at



A busload of our seniors enjoyed Engelbert Humperdinck in concert at the Arshet Center as guests of Commissioner Rebeca Sosa.

the City's Senior Center. Sponsored by S.T.E.P.S. in the Right Direction, Inc. and the Alliance for Aging, Inc., classes meet once a week for a five week period. If interested, please call to register as classes are scheduled once 12 students have enrolled.

- **TAX PREPARATION ASSISTANCE** - FREE tax counseling and preparation assistance for 2013 tax returns will be provided by AARP Tax-Aide Counselors again this year. Counselors will be available by appointment only every Tuesday afternoon beginning February 4th at the City of Miami Springs Senior Center located at 343 Payne Drive on Prince Field. If you are in need of this free service, call the senior center at 305-805-5160 to schedule your appointment as soon as possible.

Special health & wellness classes, as well as recreational activities will be held in February to include: Chair Yoga (M & W from 9:00-10:30 a.m. at the Senior Center); "Let's Dance" exercise classes (M & W from 10:30-11:00 a.m. at the Senior Center); Weight Training (Tu & Th from 9:00-9:30 a.m. at the Community Center); Floor Yoga classes (Tu & Th from 9:30-11:00 a.m. at the Community Center); Line Dancing (Thursdays from 9:30-11:00 a.m. at the Senior Center); "Celebration Workout" (Fridays from 9:30-11:00 a.m. at the Senior Center); and Art Classes, with the current focus on pencil drawing (Fridays from 12:30-1:30 p.m. at the Senior Center). Weekly Bingo games, a field trip to Wal-Mart (2/12), a Valentine's Day celebration (2/14) and the monthly birthday and anniversary party (2/20) are also planned. For further information, please contact the Elderly Services Department's office at 305.805.5160.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

305.888.9711

12 Tips to Help You Protect Yourself from ATM Theft:

1. Get in the habit of using the same ATM machine for your transactions. Become familiar with it and be able to recognize changes to the machine.
2. If possible, use ATM machines inside banks or at an inside location rather than on the street (less access for criminals to install skimmers).
3. Be careful of ATMs in tourist areas...they are a popular target of skimmers.
4. Inspect the ATM, gas pump, or credit card reader before using it...be suspicious if you see anything loose, crooked, or damaged, or if you notice scratches or adhesive/tape residue.
5. If you're visiting an unfamiliar ATM machine that is not inside a bank, examine it carefully for devices. Card or cash trapping devices need to be glued or taped to the card reader or cash dispenser. Look for 'extra' cameras beyond the basic and generally obvious ATM security camera.
6. When entering your PIN, block the key-

pad with your other hand to prevent possible hidden cameras from recording your number.

7. Never rely on the help of strangers to retrieve a confiscated card.

8. If your card isn't returned after the transaction or after hitting "cancel," immediately contact the financial institution that issued the card.

9. Never use an ATM machine when other people are lingering.

10. Report confiscated cards immediately. If you can, don't leave the machine. Instead call the bank from the ATM where your card was taken using a cell phone.

11. Don't use ATM machines with extra signage or warnings posted on the machine.

12. Never follow a link in a supposed bank email notice. If you are wondering if your bank has really contacted you via email, then close the email and directly type your bank's website address into your browser. Visit your account and look for update notices directly on your account or bank's website. The email is almost always a phishing scam.

While ATM theft isn't going to go away, with a little bit of care and attention, you can avoid these scams and keep your money.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

305.805.5170

REDUCE TOXIC STORMWATER RUNOFF

Rain falls on yards, roads and parking lots, flows from the gutters into storm drains, and then washes into tributaries and lakes or bays, carrying pollutants like fertilizers, pesticides, soil, petroleum products and other pollutants. Scientists have discovered that fertilizers and pesticides from residential areas are serious threats to the health of Florida's water and ecosystems.

Runoff containing nitrogen from fertilizers or toxic substances from pesticides can damage aquatic plants and animals that live in fresh and salt water environments.

Florida Yards and Neighborhoods, an educational outreach program, encourages homeowners to water efficiently, mulch, recycle, select the least toxic pest control measures, put the right plant in the right spot, fertilize only when necessary, provide food, water and shelter for wildlife, protect surface water bodies (i.e., bays, rivers, streams, ponds, etc.) and minimize stormwater runoff. Proper implementation of Florida Yards & Neighborhoods practices in your yard will protect the natural environment around us for generations of Miami Springs' residents to enjoy. Please visit the FY&N website for information on what you and your neighbors can do to protect our resources. <http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/index.html>

HAZARDOUS CHEMICAL WASTE DISPOSAL

If you have household or hazardous chemicals to dispose of, please remember that it is illegal to dispose of them in your garbage container or bulk trash pile. The proper method of disposal is a site designated for such items. Fortunately for Miami Springs residents, we are only minutes away from the Miami-Dade County Home Chemical Collection site, which is located at 8831 NW 58 Street. The collection site is open from Wednesday through Sunday from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. For more information, please call the collection site at 305-594-1500.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLAINTS 24-HOUR HOTLINE

The Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM) responds to environmental complaints and emergencies 24 hours a day, seven days a week. If your complaint is an emergency please call 305-372-6955. The following situations should be reported to DERM immediately:

1. Discharges or spills into storm drains, street drains, parking lot drains, waterways, or onto the open ground.
2. Tanker trucks dumping waste into manholes, drainage structures, or waterways.
3. Any spill or discharge to the environment of suspected hazardous waste, including sewage.

For more information, please visit the DERM website at: <http://www.miamidade.gov/environment/>

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

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Registration for our School Holiday Program is open. The registration fee is \$35.00, unless registered for ASC; cost is \$20.00 per day. SHP is available for: Teachers' Work Days & Spring Break from 7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

GYMNASIUM:

Open Gym Basketball Hours: Saturday 7:00 a.m. - 8:30 p.m. & Sunday 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. open play, 17 & under Free 18 & over \$4

Open Gym Volleyball: is offered every Friday night from 6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. 18 & over \$4.00, 17 & under are free.

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 in the Community Center office.

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 YOGA registration will on Monday, February 3rd at 6:45 p.m. Please call the Community Center for details.

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

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: 5:00 p.m.

For information visit jazzercise.com or call 305.888.7625

AQUATICS:

THE POOL IS HEATED

Pool Hours

Monday-Friday: Lap Swimming 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Open Swim 3:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Saturday: Open Swim 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Sunday: 1:00p.m. – 5:00 p.m., weather permitting

Swimming Lessons: With certified American Red Cross Instructors, and an outstanding facility, the Miami Springs Aquatic Center welcomes all children, ages six months and up, to join our American Red Cross Learn-to-Swim program.

Sessions run every two weeks and swim classes are offered year round. Our prices are \$45.00 per session and we offer various types of classes.

Class Times: 6:00 p.m.

Water Aerobics: Monday, Wednesday and Friday: 10:00 a.m. -11:00 a.m.

Cost: \$40.00 for 8 classes, per participant

Pool Memberships are NOW AVAILABLE:

Adults: 18 & over \$80.00

Child: 17 & under \$40.00

Senior: 60 & over \$40.00

SPECIAL EVENTS

The Parks and Recreation Department will be hosting Story Time at the Miami Springs Community Center. Children and Parents will enjoy stories and activities that will encourage the JOY of reading. Story time will be held on Thursday, February 20th, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. for children ages 2 - 4.

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The **Annual Easter Egg Hunt & Festivities** will be held on Saturday, April 19th Time: 10:00 a.m.

Location: Prince Field

No child will be admitted without an ID bracelet

ID bracelets will be available beginning Monday, March 31st at the Community Center

Miami Springs & Virginia Gardens Residents, 6 – 13: \$2.00, 5 & under free,

Proof of Residency Required

Non-resident bracelets will be available on Monday, April 14th, for \$10.00 (all ages)

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Summer Camp Employee Interest

forms will be available at the Miami Springs Community Center from March 3rd – March 12th. All interest forms must be completed and returned NO LATER than 6 p.m. on March 12th.

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Summer Camp 2014 registration for ages 5 years old – 13 years old will be held on Saturday, April 5th at the Miami Springs Community Center from 10 a.m. – Noon.

City of Miami Springs RESIDENTS ONLY, PROOF OF RESIDENCY REQUIRED.

For more information please call the Miami Springs Community Center at 305.805.5075.

Miami Springs Golf Course • 305.805.5180

Save the Dates!

March 28th through March 31st

First Annual Member/Guest Tournament Call the Pro Shop for details.

BUILDING & CODE COMPLIANCE DEPT.

305.805.5030

DISPLAY OF BUILDING PERMITS

Building permits issued by the City of Miami Springs are required to be properly displayed in a manner in which it is visible from the street.

Permit cards are issued for specified construction work only and not as an authority to violate, cancel, alter or set aside any of the provisions of the Florida Building Codes.

Penalties for failure to display a Building Permit Card can result in a fine of \$100 (2010 Florida Building Code Sec. 105.7). Your Building

Permit Card is required for all inspections. It's your record of the inspections performed and it shows the results for the inspections.

Proper display of Building Permit Cards avoids unnecessary field contact between the Building Department and the property owners. It also lessens the number of calls made to the Code Compliance Department to report construction work being done on properties where a Permit Card is not displayed.

We appreciate your cooperation in displaying your Active Building Permit Card.

LOST OR FOUND A PET?

Our City web site may be able to help you locate your pet: go to www.miamisprings-fl.gov and click on the "Pet Lost and Found" tab located at the bottom of "Key Links" menu.

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPT. 305.805.5009

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS:

Happy Birthday and Best Wishes to the following City employees:



Robert Evans

Joe Perez

William Alonso

Tex Ziadie

Linda Bosque

Recognizing long term employees:

The following employees had their anniversary date in January

JJeffrey Clark & Armando Torre completed 26 years of service.

Jerry Balester completed 23 years of service.

Harold J. Ziadie Jr. completed 10 years of service.

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

FEBRUARY 2014

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
CITY OF MIAMI SPRINGS	CITY CLERK'S OFFICE					1
2	3 BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT/ ZONING: 7:00 P.M.	4 CODE ENFORCEMENT: 7:00 P.M.	5 CURBSIDE RECYCLING	6	7	8
9	10 CITY COUNCIL MEETING: 7:00 P.M.	11	12 RECREATION COMMISSION: 7:00 P.M.	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 CURBSIDE RECYCLING PARKS AND PARKWAYS: 7:00 P.M.	20	21	22
23	24 CITY COUNCIL MEETING: 7:00 P.M.	25	26 ECOLOGY BOARD: 7:00 P.M.	27	28	