

## 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

Councilwoman Roslyn Buckner  
Councilman Bob Best  
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 &amp; Rescue: 911

NOVEMBER 2015

**IMPORTANT CALENDAR DATES**

**City Council Regular Meeting:**  
Monday, December 14, 2015

**City Council Regular Meeting:**  
Monday, December 28, 2015

**RECYCLING:**

**Wednesday, December 9, 2015**  
**Wednesday, December 23, 2015**

**SPOTLIGHT ON ... Flood Insurance Rate Reduction Process**

Many residents have complained that their National Flood Insurance rates have risen dramatically as a result of new floodplain maps issued by FEMA. Is there a process for residents to follow for possible flood insurance cost reduction? Yes!

To change the flood hazard designation for a property, FEMA has established the Letter of Map Amendment (LOMA) process for properties on naturally high ground and the LOMR-F process for properties elevated by the placement of fill. A LOMA officially amends an effective Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM). It establishes that a property is not in a special flood hazard area (SFHA) and, by doing so, removes the Federal flood insurance requirement. LOMAs are usually issued because a property has been inadvertently mapped as being in the floodplain, but is actually on natural high ground above the base flood elevation.

Because a LOMA officially amends the effective National Flood Insurance Rate map, it is a public record that the city must maintain, note on the master flood map and file by panel number in an accessible location.

**How to obtain a LOMA or LOMR-F:**

A LOMA application form can be downloaded from the FEMA website at [www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/fhm/dl\\_mt\\_ez.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/fhm/dl_mt_ez.shtm). FEMA does not charge a fee to review a LOMA request, but requesters are responsible for providing the required mapping and survey information specific to their property, including a Community Acknowledgement Form (found with the online application), the location, legal description (subdivision plat map or property deed with Tax Assessor's map

or other suitable map), elevation form or existing elevation certificate and use of fill. For FEMA to remove a structure from the SFHA through the LOMA process, Federal regulations require the lowest ground touching the structure, or Lowest Adjacent Grade (LAG) elevation, to be at or above the Base Flood Elevation (BFE). The exception to this requirement is when the submitted property information shows that the structure is outside the SFHA. In this case, the property is referred to as "out as shown."

Submission of a LOMA application online (versus applying by mail) is highly recommended, and may be done by community officials, property owners or lessees or designated authorized persons (e.g., agents, surveyors, engineers).

**More information about this process may be found at:**

- [www.miamisprings-fl.gov/citymanager/national-flood-insurance-program-loma-process](http://www.miamisprings-fl.gov/citymanager/national-flood-insurance-program-loma-process)
- [www.fema.gov/letter-map-amendment-loma](http://www.fema.gov/letter-map-amendment-loma)
- [www.fema.gov/letter-map-changes](http://www.fema.gov/letter-map-changes)

**WELCOME**

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

**THE BRANDON GROUP, LLC**  
75 N. ROYAL POINCIANA BLVD.  
Holding Group

**DYNAMIC THERAPY INSTITUTE**  
4471 NW 36TH STREET  
Psychologist / Therapist

**TECH CONSTRUCTION GROUP RESIDENTIAL**  
284 WESTWARD DRIVE  
General Contractor

**TOP ART DBA ART & JEWELRY**  
355 WESTWARD DRIVE  
Art and Jewelry Making and Sales

**ELDERLY SERVICES DEPT.**

305.805.5160 • SENIOR CENTER, • 343 PAYNE DRIVE

**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. The following services, programs and activities have been scheduled for December:

• **FREE TELEPHONES FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED** – On December 2nd from 11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m., Daniel Lago, from the Hearing and Speech Center of Florida, will be at the City's Senior Center to distribute AMPLIFIED TELEPHONES at no charge to those with verification of hearing loss and proof of Florida residency.

• **"GRIEF & THE HOLIDAYS"** -- Maritza Lopez, MFT, Grief Counselor with Catholic Hospice, will provide valuable information on 12/9 at 12:15 p.m. on how to handle depression that typically occurs during the holidays.

• **"HEALTHY HOLIDAY EATING"** -- On 12/11, this nutrition education topic will be presented at 12:15 p.m. and simple steps will be offered on how to enjoy the holidays and still maintain a dietary regimen.

• **"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 December 15th 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.

• **"NATASHA'S SENIOR VARIETY SHOW"** -- Thanks to the creative direction of their instructor Natasha, participants of the Chair Yoga, Floor Yoga, "Let's Dance" and "Celebration Workout" classes will perform in the senior center's first annual variety show scheduled for December 16th at 12:15 p.m. (Do not miss this!)

• **"ART FOR SPRING'S SENIORS"** -- Camille Wildenburg, Artist, certified High School Art Teacher and Art Education Graduate Student at UF, has selected the Miami Springs Senior Center to work with as part of her Master's studies. She will offer seniors the opportunity to learn more about art and art history through a series of 8 classes, with each session focused on an individual project. Sessions will be scheduled throughout December, January and February at dates and times to be determined.

Special health support and recreational activities are scheduled in December to include the following classes:

• **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. Registration with the City's Elderly Services Department is required.



Seniors enjoy their chair Yoga classes with Natasha Salmon-Cogno, a certified Yoga Instructor and Personal Trainer.

• **"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. 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. Students must pre-register.

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

• **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 register with the City's senior center. Classes focus on improving joint flexibility, balance, muscular strength, and general fitness and health. Students will need to consult the center's "Calendar of Events" for class locations as December sessions will be held at both the City's Community Center and the Miami Springs' Optimist Club.

**Upcoming events** also include: field trips to Flagler Street Mall (12/4) and Wal-Mart (12/10); weekly Bingo games (12/7, 12/14, 12/21 and 12/28); the monthly meeting of the MS/VG Senior Citizens Club (12/1); the 38th annual Holiday Party at the MS Country Club (12/8); the monthly birthday and anniversary party (12/17); and the senior center's Christmas luncheon with entertainment by the Xiques Family Trio (12/23).

For further information or to volunteer your time, talent or expertise, please contact the Elderly Services Department's office at (305) 805-5160.

**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 3-1-1.

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLAINTS 24-HOUR HOTLINE**

The Department of Regulatory & Economic Resources (RER) 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 RER 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.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
305.888.9711

**Responsible Party Host Tips**

**Party Planning**

- Have designated drivers. Plan to have sober drivers at your party who can escort folks home. Volunteer to be a sober driver at someone else's party.
- Plan ahead to get keys. Prepare a basket or bowl where all of your guests can leave their keys. You are the only person who can retrieve the keys. This way, you can examine all of your guests before they leave.
- Have a cab fare fund. Having available cash to pay the fare for your guests if they need it reduces the stress on you. If you can't afford to pay for it yourself, ask your guests to pitch in a few bucks on your invitation.
- Have your guest download the UBER or LYFT apps on their phone, if they already don't have it. Suggest they use the car service to and from the party for a worry free evening.
- Purchase non-alcoholic beverages. Always have soft drinks, juices and other non-alcoholic beverages available for those guests who are driving or choose not to drink.
- Plan to be sober. Be a responsible host. Limiting your own alcohol intake will allow you to better determine if a guest is sober enough to drive at the end of the night.

**Serving Drinks**

- Don't serve alcohol to minors. The legal drinking age is 21 and, as a host, it is your responsibility to make sure minors aren't drinking.
- Don't force drinks on your guests. Also, don't rush to refill their glasses when empty. Be a smart host; push the food, not the alcohol on your guests.
- Food is the key. Always serve food with alcohol. It is proven that food can help counter the effects of alcohol.

Stop serving alcohol one hour before the party ends. Serve only coffee, tea and non-alcoholic beverages as the party comes to a close. As the host or hostess, it is your responsibility to help your guests get home

safely, so limit the amount of alcohol served toward the end of the party as guests prepare to leave or go home.

**Intervention Techniques**

- Know and watch for the likely signs of visible intoxication, combinations of the signs, and changes in behavior.
- Count the number of drinks, not glasses, each guest has.
- Wait until a guest finishes a drink before offering another.
- Serve one drink per person at a time. Do not push drinks.
- Encourage guests to eat food and non-alcoholic drinks.
- Offer water, coffee, or other non-alcoholic spacers between drinks.
- Announce party ending time well in advance.
- When appropriate, take a co-host or friend with you when you have to cut off a guest.
- Make it clear you are in control without being overbearing and/or scaring off guests.
- Use peer pressure if possible by asking support from the guest's friends.
- When you attempt to pull the drink, use distraction to divert the guest's attention: tell the guest they have a phone call, or ask the guest if that's their money or jewelry under the chair, and so on.
- When you pull the drink, have something to replace it with: a glass of soda, a cup of coffee, a plate of food, even just a glass of water is better than nothing.
- If at all possible, slow down the intoxicated guest who intends to drive by offering them food and non-alcoholic drinks to allow time to sober up.
- Offer alternative transportation to keep intoxicated guests from driving.
- If an intoxicated guest insists on driving threaten to call the police and identify the driver and the vehicle.
- Follow through on your threat if the intoxicated guest drives away. – This is especially important for the host. Social host liability laws could hold you responsible for any damages or injuries caused by the impaired driver.

**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. The 20x20 Pavilion at Stafford Park is available for rental

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.: 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:**

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  
Seniors 60 & Over  
Use of the Fitness Room is FREE, Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
Participants must fill out the registration



The Miami Heat held a free youth basketball clinic for the youth basketball teams in the 9 & 10's age group & the 11 & 12's age group.

form at the Main Office of the Community Center

**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 9 – 15 years old. The Get Fit Program will be held on Tuesday & Thursday evenings, 6:15pm – 7:15pm.

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

Registration is OPEN!

**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:**

**Christmas at the Gazebo** will be held Saturday, December 5th. The parade will begin at 5:45pm in front of City Hall and will drop Santa off at the Circle. The fun on the circle will be from 6:00pm – 9:00pm. Be sure to bring your wish list to give to Santa and your camera to have your picture taken with Santa too! Mark your calendar; you don't want to miss out on another festive year of cheer.

I.D. Bracelets for Miami Springs and Virginia Gardens RESIDENTS (with proof of residency) will be available at the Community Center beginning Monday, November 9th.

5 & under are free, 6-13 are \$2

ID Bracelets for Non- Residents will be available at the Community Center beginning on Monday, November 30th ALL AGES \$10

For more information please call 305.805.5075



Students from Natasha Salmon-Cogno's Senior Yoga and Fitness Classes will showcase their various musical, dance and comedic talents during this event. The first annual variety show is scheduled for December 16th from 12:15-1:30 p.m. at the Senior Center. Don't miss this memorable event!

**BUILDING & CODE COMPLIANCE DEPT.**  
305.805.5030

**Our thanks and appreciation to all our residents**

In this month of giving thanks and showing appreciation, the Code Compliance Department would like to thank all the residents for keeping our City safe and beautiful. Very few decorations were placed on the public right of ways. And even though the rain has been constant, the grass has been kept cut, with exception of a few vacant properties.

We also want to wish all our residents and business owners a wonderful and safe holiday season.

Please keep in mind and make every effort to comply with the following codes so that our residents and visitors can enjoy the holidays.

**CODE SECTION: 96-07D** Vehicle parked in swale without owner's permission; when entertaining, talk to your neighbors and visitors and make arrangements for parking.

**CODE SECTION: 114-09 (B)** Obstructing of pedestrian or vehicular right of way; decorations or vehicles parked on the sidewalk could

become a safety hazard to pedestrians. To avoid accidents and damages to City property, we ask that all decorations be kept on your property line. Please do not place decorations on City trees, swales, light posts, or across sidewalks or swales.

**CODE SECTION 99-03** Hours of operation of sound making devices:

It shall be unlawful for any person owning, occupying, or having charge of any business establishment, or any part thereof, in the City, to cause or allow the playing or operating of music boxes, juke boxes, radios, musical instruments, or any other musical devices on or about the premises between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. the following day; unless such music boxes, juke boxes, radios, musical instruments, and other devices are played or operated in a closed building and the sound is not audible from outside the building so as to disturb the quiet, comfort, or repose of persons in any dwelling, hotel, or other type of residence.

**Happy thanksgiving to all!!!**

**ART IN CITY HALL**  
Members of the Hibiscus Fine Arts Guild will be displaying their favorite paintings of fall and winter scenes during the annual "Holiday Art Exhibit" in our City Hall lobby. With the City Hall lobby decorated for the holiday season, it will be a very festive occasion.

You are cordially invited to meet the artists during a reception to be held on Monday, December 7th, 2015, between the hours of 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. If you are not able to attend the reception, you will be able to view the art exhibit during the months of December and January, Monday through Friday, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:45 p.m.

If you live or work in Miami Springs and you have a special contribution you would like to make for a future exhibit, please contact Vicky at 305.805.5010.

**HUMAN RESOURCES DEPT. 305.805.5009**

**DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS:**

Happy Birthday and Best Wishes to the following City employees:

	Angel Casas	Claire Gurney	Karen Rosson
	Carlos Sanchez	Jeffrey Clark	Theresa Michael
	Caitlin Smith	Loretta Boucher	Laurie Bland
	Roberto Gonzalez	Jeffrey Collins	Juan Garcia

**Recognizing long term employees:**

The following employee had his anniversary date in November

Darryl M. Cates & Robert Barrios	completed 17 years of service.
Allene M. Paz	completed 16 years of service.
Jorge D. Capote & Claire E. Gurney	completed 14 years of service.
Albert Sandoval & Frank L. Perez	completed 13 years of service.
Jorge L. Fonseca	completed 11 years of service.

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

# DECEMBER 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 CODE ENFORCEMENT BOARD: 7:00 P.M.	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD: 6:00 P.M.	9 Curbside recycling	10	11	12
13	14 CITY COUNCIL MEETING: 7:00 P.M.	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 Curbside recycling	24	25 CHRISTMAS DAY. CITY HALL CLOSED	26
27	28 CITY COUNCIL MEETING: 7:00 P.M.	29	30	31		