

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 & Rescue: 911

FEBRUARY 2016

**IMPORTANT
CALENDAR DATES****Monday, March 14, 2016**

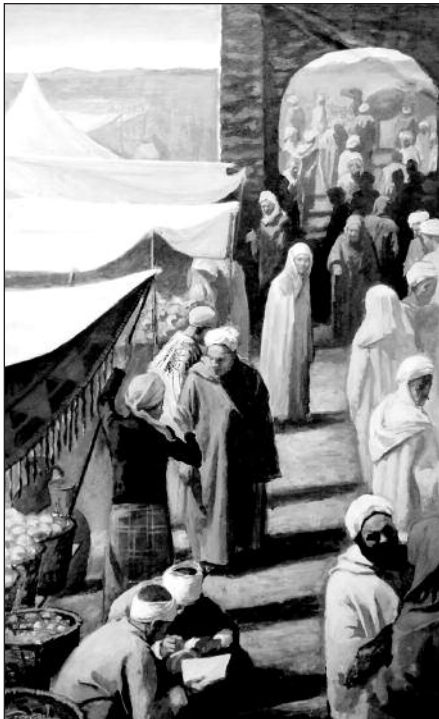
City Council Regular Meeting

Monday, March 28, 2016

City Council Regular Meeting

RECYCLING:**Wednesday, March 2, 2016****Wednesday, March 16, 2016****Wednesday, March 30, 2016**

Follow us on Twitter:
@MiamiSpringsFL

Art in City Hall

Shadow Spinner, Alexander Leon,
24" x 15 3/4", oil on paper

The "Art in City Hall" exhibit for the month of March will continue to feature the work of Miami Springs artist and resident Alexander Leon. You are invited to view his work Monday through Friday in City Hall Lobby between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:45 p.m., throughout the month. Alex is a graduate of the School of Visual Arts in New York City and is a classically trained realist. He will be displaying a selection of figurative studies including portraits and illustration originals.

If you live or work in Miami Springs and feel you have some special contribution to make for a future exhibit, please contact Vicky Panoff in City Hall for information about exhibit requirements and scheduling at (305) 805-5010 or panoffv@miamisprings-fl.gov.

SPOTLIGHT ON ... Mosquito Control

Although winter is not the typical time of year that we look to mitigate against mosquitoes, due to the warmer wetter weather we've been having, the little buggers are finding places to breed. They need only a surprisingly small amount of water, such as that found in the center of a bromeliad! Mosquito bites can be potentially far worse than annoying and itchy – they can transmit serious illnesses.

Not all mosquitoes are the same. Different mosquitoes spread different viruses and bite at different times of the day. Some mosquito species bite during the day, such as those mosquitoes that can spread Chikungunya, Dengue, and Zika viruses. Other species of mosquitoes bite most often at dawn and dusk, including those that can transmit West Nile virus.

Although Miami-Dade County's Department of Solid Waste Management has a very proactive program of mosquito control, they can't be everywhere at



once. The first – and best – line of defense is YOU. Check your property for any stagnant or standing water at least twice a week.

- Empty and drain water from all garbage cans, gutters, buckets, flower pots, kiddie pools, pet bowls, birdbaths, pool covers or other items that hold or can hold water. This includes bromeliads or other similar plants.

- Small boats should be turned upside down. If a boat is too large to turn, cover

it and make sure the cover doesn't hold water.

- If you have a swimming pool, be sure to maintain it properly and run the pump regularly.

- Screen all doors and windows, and protect infants with mosquito netting.

- Avoid going outside when mosquitoes are most active, at dawn and dusk. If you must go out, cover yourself up with loose, light-colored clothing with long sleeves, long pants and socks.

- Use a repellent when you go outside. Follow the directions on the label! The best repellents use DEET or picaridin as the active ingredient, and should be applied over sunscreen.

County Mosquito Control Unit teams are actively conducting inspections and spraying throughout Miami-Dade to help keep down the volume of mosquitoes. If you have a mosquito problem in your area that you can't mitigate, report it to 3-1-1 or on line at <http://www.miamidade.gov/311direct/#/map/c08/PW6102>.

ELDERLY SERVICES DEPT.

305.805.5160 • SENIOR CENTER, • 343 PAYNE DRIVE

The Miami Springs Senior Center, located on Prince Field at 343 Payne Drive, offers a variety of activities and services to older residents every Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Current financial and programmatic support comes from: the City of Miami Springs; the Alliance for Aging, Inc. and the Florida Department of Elder Affairs; the Village of Virginia Gardens; participant donations; local business organizations, civic groups and countless volunteers. Residents of Miami Springs, age 60 and over, are eligible to participate in a variety of services and activities offered at the City's senior center.

CONGREGATE MEALS: Hot lunch meals are served weekdays from 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. to assist area seniors in maintaining a nutritionally balanced diet and to provide opportunities to volunteer and socialize with their peers.

HEALTH SUPPORT ACTIVITIES:

The following courses require registration, as class size is limited, and are offered only to seniors enrolled in Miami Springs Senior Center activities:

- **CHAIR YOGA** instruction is provided by Natasha Salmon-Cogno on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:00–10:30 a.m. at the City's Senior Center. Classes are offered free to local residents, age 60 and over, who register with the Elderly Services Department.

- **"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. Classes are instructed by Natasha Salmon-Cogno and pre-registration is required.

- **FLOOR YOGA CLASSES**, instructed by Natasha Salmon-Cogno, are offered free to registered seniors on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00–11:00 a.m. at the Curtiss Mansion.

- **"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. Classes are instructed by Natasha Salmon-Cogno and are free to registered seniors.

- **CHAIR EXERCISE CLASSES**, instructed by Elizabeth King and free for registered seniors, are offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:45–11:15 a.m. at the Senior Center.

- **TAI CHI for ARTHRITIS** -- Tai Chi exercises, designed to help older individuals with Arthritis, are taught by certified instructor Judd Zisquit on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:30–1:30 p.m. to seniors who are enrolled in senior center activities. Classes meet at the Miami Springs 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.

RECREATION ACTIVITIES: Recreational and social events are planned each month at the senior center. Currently, the following activities are scheduled for March: weekly Bingo games (3/7, 3/14, 3/21 and 3/28); the monthly birthday & anniversary party (3/17); and shopping trips to Mall of the Americas (3/11) and Wal-Mart (3/25).

TRANSPORTATION: Daily pick up, utilizing the Hialeah-MS Rotary Charitable Foundation bus, is provided to older residents with no means of transportation to and from the center. In addi-



FREE tax prep and filing is again available at the Senior Center for low and moderate income residents. Call for an appointment: 305.805.5160.

tion, weekly trips are made to area grocery stores and assistance is given with shopping and carrying packages. Field trips to local stores, malls or other places of interest are scheduled each month.

HEALTH SUPPORT AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS: Educational presentations are scheduled each month through the sponsorship of numerous individuals, community service organizations and businesses. The following topics are currently scheduled for March:

- **"COLORECTAL CANCER"** – Health professionals from the Miami-Dade Area Health Education Center will address this topic on March 9th at 12:15 p.m.;

- **TAI CHI DEMONSTRATION** -- On March 10th at 12:15 p.m., certified Tai Chi instructor Judd Zisquit will demonstrate movements and explain how this form of martial arts can improve one's balance and coordination, lower blood pressure, revitalize tissue, organs and bones, and eliminate stress.

- **"MEDICARE BINGO"** -- On March 23rd at Florida Senior Medicare Patrol will present a cover-all game of Medicare Fraud Bingo that will teach you how to protect yourself while having fun and winning prizes;

- **"CRIME WATCH" PROGRAM** – Officers Jorge Capote and Janice Simon from the MSPD's Community Policing Office will conduct the monthly Crime Watch Meeting at the senior center on 3/30 at 12:15 p.m. and provide information on recent local criminal activity;

- **TAX PREPARATION ASSISTANCE** - FREE tax counseling and preparation assistance for 2015 tax returns will be provided by AARP Tax-Aide Counselors again this year. Counselors will be available by appointment only every Tuesday afternoon 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 (305) 805-5160 to schedule your appointment as soon as possible.

For further information on any of the services, activities, or special programs offered, or to volunteer your time, talent or expertise at the Miami Springs Senior Center, please contact us at 305.805.5160.

Watch Channel 77

on COMCAST Cable for the latest
updates to events and activities.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

305.888.9711

Community Policing Office New Office Hours

The Miami Springs Police Department's Community Policing Office will be expanding its office hours.

Starting on Tuesday, March 1, 2016 we will be open from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm; Monday through Friday. The longer expanded hours means we will be more accessible to the residents and business owners.

Community policing is a strategy of policing that focuses on police building ties and working closely with members of the communities.

Effective community policing has a positive impact on reducing crime, helping to reduce fear of crime and enhancing the quality of life within the community. It accomplishes these things by combining the efforts and resources of the police, community governance, and community members. It involves all elements of the community in the search for solutions to these problems and is founded on close, mutually beneficial ties between police and community members.

The Miami Springs Police Patrol Division fully supports and embraces the philosophy of Community Policing and promotes organizational strategies which support the systematic

use of partnerships with community members and problem-solving techniques to proactively address the immediate conditions that give rise to public safety issues within the community. Crime or fear of crime, social disorder, and the safe movement of vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians along roadways are prime examples where partnerships and open, cooperative discussions between community members and the police can help resolve or improve conditions contributing to the problem. The focus of community-oriented policing is not simply on response, but on preventing crime and resolving community problems. We believe that the police and the community must work together as partners to solve the contemporary challenges faced in today's society.

Come on by, or give us a call and let the Miami Springs Police Department's Community Policing Office answer your questions or address your concerns. We are conveniently located at 274 Westward Drive, right in the heart of downtown Miami Springs. Our phone number is (305) 888-5286. Visit our website at www.mspd.us for more information.

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>

BUILDING & CODE COMPLIANCE DEPT.

305.805.5030

DRAIN AFTER THE RAIN

In an effort to back up our Spotlight article, here are some facts about City and County codes and penalties involving failure to correct mosquito breeding violations.

The City's Code Sec. 93-13 Maintenance of Property can involve a fine of \$250 per day and Miami Dade County's Code Sec. 26A-201 Mosquito Control, has an initial fine of \$200 and or the following convictions: " (3) Any person who obstructs, or resists the Enforcement Officer in the discharge of his duty as provided in this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree."

Code Compliance Officers and Miami Dade Mosquito Control Division cannot see beyond the front yard, therefore we encourage the community to report swimming pools that are lacking maintenance, vacant properties with overgrown grass or excessive material in the rear

yards, by contacting our office. The City of Miami Springs will make every effort to correct the problem, and in the event of non-compliance we will contact the Miami Dade County Mosquito Control Department for reinforcement.

The City of Miami Springs Code Compliance Office thanks you in advance for your cooperation with this very important issue affecting our community.

REVISED PERMIT FEE SCHEDULE

Attention Homeowners and Contractors, effective March 1, 2016 the Building Department will be publishing the recently revised Permit Fee Schedule on the City of Miami Springs web site www.miamisprings-fl.gov It will also be available at the Building Department Office for your convenience.

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 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:

The Annual Easter Egg Hunt & Festivities will be held on Saturday, March 26th. Time: 10:00 a.m. Location: Prince Field

No child will be admitted without an ID bracelet. ID bracelets will be available beginning Monday, February 29th at the Community Center. Miami Springs & Virginia Gardens Residents, 11 & Under FREE
Proof of Residency Required

Non-resident bracelets will be available on Wednesday, March, 23rd, 11 & under \$5.00

Summer Camp 2016

Join us for a SUMMER with new & old FRIENDS for FIELD TRIPS, SPORTS, ARTS & CRAFTS, & MORE! Summer Camp is available for children between the ages of 5 – 13 years old.

2 Options are available this SUMMER:
FULL 10 Week SUMMER CAMP: June 13th

- August 19th

2 Week Sessions: June 13th - 24th, June 27th - July 8th, July 11th - 22nd, July 25th - August 5th, August 8th - 19th Sessions must be PAID in FULL at the time of registration.

Summer Camp Registration BEGINS for Residents of Miami Springs & Virginia Gardens at the Miami Springs Community Center on Monday, April 4th at 6pm

Proof of Residency is REQUIRED (i.e. current utility bill)

Registration will open to NON-RESIDENTS on Monday, April 25th at the Community Center space permitting

For detailed information please call the Parks and Recreation Department at 305-805-5075

Summer Camp Employment

Summer Camp Employee Interest forms will be available at the Miami Springs Community Center from Tuesday, March 1st – Friday, March 11th. All interest forms must be completed and returned NO LATER than 6pm on March 11th.

Basketball Camp 2016

Get ready for a SUMMER of BASKETBALL! Join us for the 1st ever SUMMER BASKETBALL CAMP! A month-long specialized camp with highly experienced coaches/ trainers working with campers on the fundamentals of the game: dribbling, passing, defense, rebounding, shooting and more! Basketball camp is for ALL KIDS & skill levels ages 11- 14 years old. LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE: Only 30 kids per session DON'T MISS OUT! There will be TWO 4-week sessions.

1st session: Weeks of June 13th, 20th, 27th & July 5th

2nd session: Weeks of July 11th, 18th, 25th & August 1st

Registration begins Monday, April 4th at 6pm at the Miami Springs Community Center

For detailed information please call the Community Center at 305-805-5075

Get Fit Camp 2016

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 20 KIDS PER SESSION

There will be TWO Four-Week Sessions
Session 1: Weeks of June 13th, 20th, 27th & July 5th

Session 2: Weeks of July 11th, 18th, 25th & August 1st

Activity Fee: \$100 PER SESSION
Session Fee: \$400 PER SESSION

Registration begins Monday, April 4th at 6pm at the Miami Springs Community Center

For detailed information please call the Community Center at 305-805-5075



The Recreation Department reminds residents that the new pavilion near the kiddie playground at Stafford Park is available for event rentals. For available dates and fees, please call 305.805.5075.

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPT. 305.805.5009

MARCH BIRTHDAYS:

Happy Birthday and Best Wishes to the following City employees:

Thomas Kelly	Leah Cates	Graciela Vázquez
Florentino Vasallo	Marilyn Newton	
Tomas Lopez	Awilda Rivera	

Recognizing long term employees:

The following employees had his anniversary date in February

Tom Cummings	completed 30 years of service
Charles Schubert	completed 27 years of service
Jose Bergueiro	completed 11 years of service

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

MARCH 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 CURBSIDE RECYCLING	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 CITY COUNCIL MEETING: 7:00 P.M.	15	16 CURBSIDE RECYCLING HISTORIC PRESERVATION: 7:00 P.M.	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 CITY COUNCIL MEETING: 7:00 P.M.	29	30 CURBSIDE RECYCLING	31		