

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

DECEMBER 2013

## IMPORTANT CALENDAR DATES

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2013**  
CHRISTMAS DAY HOLIDAY  
CITY HALL CLOSED!

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2014**  
NEW YEARS DAY  
CITY HALL CLOSED!

**MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 2014**  
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. HOLIDAY  
CITY HALL CLOSED!

### CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS:

**SPECIAL MEETING**  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2014 • 6PM

**REGULAR MEETING**  
MONDAY, JANUARY 13, 2014 • 7 PM

**WORKSHOP MEETING**  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2014 • 7 PM

**REGULAR MEETING**  
MONDAY, JANUARY 27, 2014 • 7 PM

### RECYCLING:

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2014**  
**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22, 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.



*Happy Holidays  
from the staff at  
Miami Springs  
Golf Course*

*Season's  
Greetings  
from the Finance  
Department*



## ELDERLY SERVICES DEPT. 305.805.5160 SENIOR CENTER, 343 PAYNE DRIVE

### SENIOR CENTER NEWS

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; the Miami Springs Adult & Community School; the Miami Springs Optimist Club; participant donations; local 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.

**NUTRITION EDUCATION:** Counseling and nutrition education programs are provided monthly by the program's consulting Registered Dietician or the Project Director.

#### HEALTH SUPPORT ACTIVITIES:

- **YOGA-STYLE CLASSES** will be offered free to local residents, age 60 and over, through a partnership with the Miami Springs Adult & Community School, beginning the week of January 13th. Classes will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00--10:30 a.m. at the City's Community Center. Enrollment will be limited and new participants must complete senior center and school enrollment forms.

- **"LET'S DANCE" EXERCISE CLASSES**, free to area seniors, will be scheduled on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 10:30--11:00 a.m., beginning January 13th. Instruction will be provided by Natasha Salmon-Cogno, a Certified Personal Trainer and teacher with the Miami Springs Adult & Community School. Pre-registration is required.

- **Free CHAIR EXERCISE CLASSES**, instructed by Elizabeth King, will be offered on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 12:30--1:00 p.m. at the City's Senior Center throughout the month of January.

- **CHAIR YOGA CLASSES** will be available free to seniors beginning the week of January 13th and will be taught by Natasha Salmon-Cogno, Certified Yoga Instructor. Classes will meet Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:00--10:30 a.m. at the City's Senior Center. Class size will be limited and new students will need to pre-register at the Senior Center office;

- **CHAIR EXERCISE CLASSES**, free to seniors and instructed by Natasha Salmon-Cogno, will be provided on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10:30--11:00 a.m. at the City's Senior Center. Pre-registration is required for new students.



Mr. Andy Luna from Miami Springs High School and his band students delighted the seniors with Christmas music

- **Free LINE DANCING** instruction will be offered every Thursday morning in January from 9:30--10:45 a.m. at the City's Senior Center.

- **TRANSPORTATION:** Daily pick up, utilizing the city's mini-bus, is provided to older residents with no means of transportation to and from the center. In addition, 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.

- **RECREATION:** Social and recreational events are also planned each month. Although the calendar hasn't been finalized, the following activities have been planned for January: Musical entertainment by the Xique Family (1/2); Bingo games (1/6, 1/13, 1/20 and 1/27); a Miami Springs/Virginia Gardens Senior Citizens' Club business meeting (1/7); a field trip to Wal-Mart (TBA); a Silent Auction sponsored by the MS/VG Senior Citizens' Club; and the monthly birthday and anniversary celebration (1/18).

- **HEALTH SUPPORT & EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS:** Health screenings and educational presentations are scheduled each month through the sponsorship of numerous community service organizations and businesses. At the time of this writing, La Colonia Medical Center has volunteered to sponsor a presentation by Norma Trabanco on "Community Services and Resources" at 12:15 p.m. on 1/8 and the monthly "Crime Watch Program" by the City's Community Policing Department has been planned for 1/21 at 12:15 p.m. In addition, new Health and Wellness Courses and Computer Classes are in the works and will soon be announced.

For further information on any of the services, activities, or special programs offered, or to volunteer your time and talent, please contact the Elderly Services Department office at (305) 805-5160.

## WELCOME

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

### Camila's Boutique

1 Curtiss Parkway  
Retail Sales

## Art in City Hall



Margaret Leiro, Three Kings, acrylic on canvas, 12" x 14"

Members of the Hibiscus Fine Arts Guild will be displaying their favorite paintings of fall and winter scenes during the annual "Holiday Art Exhibit" throughout December and January in our City Hall lobby.

You are cordially invited to view the art exhibit during the months of December and January, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 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 Barbara Robinson in the City Manager's Office for information about exhibit requirements and scheduling. The telephone number is (305) 805-5010.

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

305.888.9711

### New Year's Eve Safety Tips

There can be a lot of pressure and hype around what to do on New Year's Eve. Everyone wants to have a memorable night and alcohol often plays a big part in the activities, as it does throughout the entire holiday season. But because of all of the parties and socializing during the holidays, many people are indulging in drinking and the chances of being in a drunk-driving crash are higher. Here are some tips for celebrating New Year's Eve while staying safe.

**Drinking:** While this goes under the "common sense" rule, it still must be said, DON'T SIT YOUR DRINK DOWN ANYWHERE! A lot of times people are too trusting within their surrounding and tend to put their drink down where anyone can get to it, keep your drink with you. Even if you have to go to the bathroom, either take it with you or give it to a close friend of yours. Whatever you do, don't leave your drink at a table and then come back to it. While New Year's Eve is super fun it's also super dangerous when it comes to someone spiking your drink while it's unattended. When you are popping champagne bottles, aim the cork away from people. This may sound funny, however; it's a serious issue - it's all fun and games until someone loses an eye!

**Driving:** Whatever you do this New Year's Eve, DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE! Even if you've had only a couple of drinks, have a designated driver to drive you around. You may think that you're not that "buzzed", however you're wrong! To avoid problems with accidents and the law, have someone "sober" drive for you. This doesn't count if your designated driver had drinks along with you; make sure your driver is alcohol free for the night. If at all possible, avoid getting behind the wheel of a car even if you haven't been drinking. Even if you are sober, there's no way to control other drivers. There will probably be lots of impaired drivers on the streets and the best way to stay safe is to avoid driving all together. If you do drive, be sure to wear your seat belt and stay alert for people driving under the influence.

**Have a Sleep Over:** Consider making plans to sleep where you're celebrating New Year's Eve. This will keep you safely off the roads and allow you to drink without worrying about driving.

**Public Events:** Being that it's New Year's



Eve I'm sure you're going to want to attend all of the parties and New Year's festivities. When attending these events, beware of your surroundings at all times! This is extremely important since you may be drinking around tons of people you don't know in a place you've probably never been. Never go to these types of places by yourself. This doesn't just go for women it also goes for men! When at public events make sure you have a communication device such as cell phone or laptop just in case anything negative occurs. Be prepared!

**No Fireworks or Guns:** This will be enforced to the fullest by law enforcement when it comes to New Year's Eve festivities. Never ever fire any shots into the air, as what goes up must come down. Every year there are people that are hurt or killed by stray bullets. If you are going to engage in fireworks, leave it up to the professionals. If you are caught with fireworks this New Year's Eve, it may be more than just a fine; it may possibly lead to jail time!

**Pet Safety:** Nothing frightens pet's more than sudden loud noises. Extra attention must be given so your pets won't run away in a panic. Scared, running pets can be hit by cars, cause accidents, and become lost...not to mention, frequently bite people.

#### Here are other tips for you to take before your New Year's Celebration:

- Make sure all fences and gates are secure.
- Make sure your pet has its ID or dog license, if you already have a microchip make sure it is current.
- Ask your veterinarian for tranquilizers if your animal has shown signs of extreme uneasiness in the past.
- Keep your pets INSIDE, in a comfortable room, with comforting music playing to drowned out scary noises.

## PARKS & RECREATION DEPT.

305.805.5075/76 1401 WESTWARD DRIVE  
FOLLOW US ON TWITTER @MIAMISPRINGSREC

### COMMUNITY CENTER HOLIDAY HOURS OF OPERATION

Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24th the Community Center will be CLOSING at 3:00pm, parks will remain open till sundown

Christmas Day, Wednesday, December 25th the Community Center will be CLOSED ALL DAY

New Year's Eve, Tuesday, December 31st the Community Center will be CLOSING at 3:00pm parks will remain open till sundown

New Year's Day, Wednesday, January 1st the Community Center will be CLOSED ALL DAY

### AQUATIC CENTER HOLIDAY HOURS OF OPERATION

**Winter Break:** December 23rd, 2013 - January 5th, 2014: Holiday Hours from 1:00 - 5:00p.m. (Saturdays and Sundays we will be open our normal schedule from 1:00-5:00p.m.)

**Christmas and New Years:** Tuesday, 12/24/2013: 1:00-5:00pm Holiday Hours; Wednesday, 12/25/2013: Pool Closed; Tuesday, 12/31/2013: 1:00-5:00pm Holiday Hours; Wednesday, 1/01/2014: Pool Closed

### 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, Christmas Holiday & Spring Break from 7:00am - 6:00pm

### 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.

### 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 be held in February of 2014. Keep a lookout for the exact date. 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:** 6:00p.m.

**Water Aerobics:** Monday and Wednesday: 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday 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, January 16th, 11am - 12pm for children ages 2 - 4.

**SAVE THE DATE!** Daddy & Daughter Date Night will be held on Saturday, February 8th at the Miami Springs Golf & Country Club from 6:00pm - 9:30pm. RESERVATIONS are REQUIRED & SPACE is LIMITED. Tickets will go on sale Monday, January 6th at the Miami Springs Community Center. The cost is \$45 per couple and \$10 for each additional daughter.

## BUILDING & CODE COMPLIANCE DEPT.

305.805.5030

### THE CODE PROCESS!

**YOU CAN NOW ACCESS MUNICODE DIRECTLY FROM THE CITY WEBSITE AT:**  
<http://www.miamisprings-fl.gov>

### THE CODE COMPLIANCE PROCESS

In keeping with our past practice, the Code Compliance Officers always attempt, whenever practical, to talk to residents about violations first, before issuing a formal Courtesy Notice or Notice of Violation. With some violations, when verbal contact is not possible, often a request for contact form may be left at the front door.

However, remember that not all violations are handled in exactly the same way. Some violations of our Code are called Civil Infractions. These are generally violations that are somewhat more serious in nature, or need to be dealt with in a timelier manner. These violations are usually accompanied by the authority for the Code Compliance Officer to issue what is called a Uniform Civil Violation Notice (or a Civil Infraction Ticket). In some cases a Civil Infraction Courtesy Notice is issued first, and in other cases a ticket may be issued right away. Please note that Civil Infraction fines are levied by the issuance of a ticket. However the Code states that the penalty can be imposed for every day that the violation exists, without the issuance of additional tickets! Some of the violations included in the Civil Infraction section, and the corresponding fines are: Inoperable Vehicles-\$100, Defacing City Trees-\$250, Operating a business without a License-\$100, Failure to obtain a Building Permit-\$100. Illegally parked Recreational Vehicles-\$50

### HURRICANE AWNINGS/PROTECTION

The hurricane season is over and it is time to remove all hurricane protection (awnings, shutters, wood panels, etc.). Our code requires that all such protection be removed within 30 days of the end of hurricane conditions. Please be sure that you remove all hurricane protection from your windows and doors. Also any recreational vehicles that were stored temporarily due to the hurricanes need to be moved to a complying location.

### Building Permit Code

#### Sec. 151-04. Application for building permits.

No person shall erect, construct, or proceed with the erection or construction of any building or structure, nor add to, enlarge, move, renovate, remodel, improve, alter, convert, extend, or demolish any building or structure, or any group of buildings or structures under one or joint ownership, whether on one or more lots or tract of land, or cause the same to be done without first obtaining a building permit therefor from the City Building Department. However, no permit shall be required for maintenance or repair work that does not change occupancy, does not affect life safety, and the value of which does not exceed \$500.00 in labor and materials as determined by the City Building Official. **PLEASE NOTE REGARDLESS OF COST THE FOLLOWING TYPE OF WORK MUST HAVE A PERMIT: ELECTRICAL, PLUMBING, DRYWALL, WINDOWS, DOORS. WHEN IN DOUBT CALL US!**

## HUMAN RESOURCES DEPT. 305.805.5009

THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT EXTENDS ITS BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY, SAFE AND HEALTHY HOLIDAY SEASON TO THE CITY OF MIAMI SPRINGS RESIDENTS, EMPLOYEES AND THEIR FAMILIES. **HAVE A GREAT YEAR 2014!**

### JANUARY BIRTHDAYS:

Happy Birthday and Best Wishes to the following City employees:



Jonathan Kahn	Castella Postell	José Bergueiro
Suzie Hitaffer	James Pessolano	Nelson Figueredo
Thomas Nash	Tammy Romero	Charles Schubert
Carlos Nuñez	Antonio Pérez	David Berman

### Recognizing long term employees:

The following employees had their anniversary date in December

John Mulla	completed 23 years of service.
Angel Casas & James Patterson	completed 21 years of service.
Lourdes I. Taveras & Tulio J. Garcia Sr.	completed 11 years of service.
Jorge E. Irizarry, Shiketa Duberry, & Ramon A. Tamargo	completed 10 years of service.

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

# JANUARY 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
CITY OF MIAMI SPRINGS	CITY CLERKS OFFICE		1 NEW YEARS DAY! CITY HALL CLOSED!	2	3	4
5	6 BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT/ ZONING : 7:00 P.M.	7 CODE ENFORCEMENT: 7:00 P.M.	8 CITY COUNCIL SPE- CIAL MEETING: 6:00 P.M. ~curbside recycling	9	10	11
12	13 CITY COUNCIL MEETING: 7:00 P.M.	14	15 CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING: 7 P.M.	16	17	18
19	20 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. HOLIDAY! CITY HALL CLOSED!	21 EDUCATION ADVISORY BD.: 6:30 P.M.	22 HISTORIC PRESER- VATION: 7:00 P.M. ~curbside recycling	23 CODE REVIEW BOARD: 7:00 P.M.	24	25
26	27 CITY COUNCIL MEETING: 7:00 P.M.	28	29	30	31	