

## City of Miami Springs

## News Bulletin



The City of Miami Springs pays for the News Bulletin

City Officials:  
Mayor Xavier Garcia  
Vice-Mayor Bob Best

Councilwoman Roslyn Buckner  
Councilman Billy Bain  
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

APRIL 2015

**IMPORTANT CALENDAR DATES****CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS:****MONDAY, APRIL 27, 2015, 7:00 P.M.**

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

**MONDAY, MAY 11, 2015, 7:00 P.M.**

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

**TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2015, 7:00 P.M.**

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

**MONDAY, MAY 25, 2015**

MEMORIAL DAY! CITY HALL CLOSED!

**RECYCLING:****WEDNESDAY, MAY 13TH****WEDNESDAY, MAY 27TH****SPOTLIGHT ON ... Crimes of Opportunity**

Over the past several weeks, many Miami Springs residents and visitors have experienced a rash of thefts from vehicles. Some are "smash and grab", where a window is shattered to steal visible contents such as a purse, backpack, laptop or cell phone. However, too many of these "crimes of opportunity" occurred in an UNLOCKED vehicle parked in a driveway or on the swale in front of a home, where the perpetrators take whatever can be found. This can be loose change, an ID, a wallet, a cellphone – anything of some value.

And who are these criminals? They aren't always bad guys from somewhere else! In one of the latest instances, Miami Springs Police Department officers apprehended two local high school boys, working as a team on their way home from school. One was a lookout, and the other was just trying the door handles of every car they passed, to see if the vehicle was open!

To combat this problem, MSPD is out in the community alerting residents, distributing flyers, tweeting from @MiamiSpringsPD, and speaking with crime watch groups and seniors, as these "crimes of opportunity" are easily preventable. The Department wants you to know that criminals want things quick and easy. Don't make things easy! With a few common-

sense precautions you can keep your belongings and family safe from this very preventable type of victimization:

Lock your doors to prevent car break-ins. If you have a car alarm, activate it. This seems like a no-brainer, but many people don't lock their car when it's in their driveway, or they're "just running into the store" or "they'll only be a minute." A minute is all the time it takes to break into a car. Don't make the thief's job any easier by handing him an open door. Also, make sure to keep your windows rolled up. Your car may get hot, but at least it won't get emptied.

Never leave valuables or bundles visible in your car. (Thieves do not have x-ray vision, and can't tell if a backpack is full of dirty laundry or expensive electronics!) If you must leave them in your car unattended, place them in the trunk before you reach your destination.

If you see suspicious activity in your neighborhood, or anywhere else around town, immediately call MSPD at 305.888.9711 to come check it out. Our Police Department has an amazingly fast response time of under three minutes, and is always on the job to keep Miami Springs a safe place to live, work and play.



Follow us on Twitter:  
@MiamiSpringsFL

**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; 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 currently offered 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.

**"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 9:30–11:00 a.m. at the Curtiss Mansion. A warm-up session using light weights is held from 9:00–9:30 a.m.

**"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. Classes are instructed by Natasha Salmon-Cogno and are free to those who are age 60 and over.

**TAI CHI for ARTHRITIS** -- Tai Chi exercises, designed to help older individuals with Arthritis, are taught by 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 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**

**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 FUN:** Beginning in May, weekly instruction will be provided by Natasha Salmon-Cogno in exploring different mediums in art. (Day and time to be announced.)

Other recreational and social events are planned each month at the senior center. The following activities are scheduled for May: a presentation by the Pelican Player's Puppeteers enacting the original story "Eggs," written by Ralph Wakefield (5/8); a Mother's Day Celebration (5/11); the "Spring Fling" special event (5/12); the



Area residents enrolled in the City's Senior Center enjoy participating in a Tai Chi for Arthritis class taught by Judd Zisquit, an instructor certified by the Tai Chi for Health Institute.

monthly birthday & anniversary party (5/21); a rummage sale (5/27); and a shopping trip to Wal-Mart (5/28).

**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.

**HEALTH SUPPORT & EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS:** Educational presentations are scheduled each month through the sponsorship of numerous individuals, community service organizations and businesses. Currently, the following topics are scheduled for May:

**"FALL PREVENTION"** – Catholic Hospice will sponsor a presentation by Maritza Lopez on how to prevent falling on May 5th at 12:15 p.m.

**"LIVING WILLS and TRUSTS"** – On May 13th at 12:15 p.m., Caridad Amores, Esq. will provide valuable information on legal issues important to seniors.

**"LIVING WITH LOW VISION"** -- On May 14th 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.

**FREE FALL SCREENINGS** -- Catholic Health Services will provide free screenings to assess individuals at risk for falls and offer recommendations to prevent these events. Physical Therapists and staff from St. Catherine's West Rehab Hospital and Villa Maria West will be available from 9:30 a.m.–12:00 noon on May 19th to screen those who have made appointments.

**"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 May 20th at 12:15 p.m. and provide information on recent local criminal activity.

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE** -- On a May date yet to be determined, Representative Bryan Avila will provide participants of the senior center with an update of recent legislative actions taken by the state's House of Representatives

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.

**Art in City Hall**

"Pavan" by R.C. Bailey

By popular demand, the amazing and beautiful work of Miami Springs resident R.C. Bailey will remain on display in the "Art in City Hall Exhibit" during the month of May, 2015. Known throughout the world, 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.

A reception for the general public to enjoy RC's work after hours will be held on Monday, May 4th, from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. If you are in the area during the daytime, be sure to stop by City Hall lobby to see it Monday through Friday during the month of May 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.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
305.888.9711

# DON'T BE A VICTIM!

## YOU Are The Person Most Capable Of Preventing Vehicle and Residential Burglaries



**Keys to protect you and your property:**

- Lock your doors at all times – **THIS INCLUDES YOUR VEHICLES!**
- Park your car in a well-lit area of your property. Use lighting and landscaping to make your home's surroundings unattractive to burglars, vandals, and other criminals.
- DO NOT leave valuables in your car. If you must, leave them out of sight or locked in the trunk or glove compartment.
- **BE AN ALERT NEIGHBOR.** If you see a stranger at a neighbor's door, on their property, or if you see a vehicle you don't recognize backed up in a neighbor's driveway or parked in an alley, don't hesitate to call the police. DO NOT approach the subjects.

**Together we can keep Miami Springs a safe community.  
Criminals look for easy targets. Don't be one.**

Contact the Miami Springs Police Department at (305) 888-9711

# LOCK IT UP!!

[www.miamisprings-fl.gov](http://www.miamisprings-fl.gov)

**HUMAN RESOURCES DEPT.** 305.805.5009

**MAY 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.**

**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

**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

**Summer Camp 2015!**

Registration for children between 5 years old – 13 years old is going on NOW for City of Miami Springs & Virginia Gardens RESIDENTS at the Miami Springs Community Center

NON-RESIDENT Registration will OPEN on Monday, May 4th, SPACE PERMITTING

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



Congratulations to all participants in the 5th Annual River Cities 5K Run/Walk! (Photo by Phil DeStefano)

**BUILDING & CODE COMPLIANCE DEPT.**  
305.805.5030

## The Race Is Over!!

Now that the votes have been cast and counted, it's time to clean up and remove all political signs from residential and commercial properties.

Congratulations to the winners. The Code Compliance Department is looking forward to working with our elected officials, Mayor Zavier Garcia, and Council Members Bob Best, Billy Bain, Roslyn Buckner and Jaime Petralanda in keeping Miami Springs a safe and beautiful place to live, work and play.

Code Compliance Officers will be performing a City sweep to make sure that all political signs have been completely removed. We're asking all candidates, residents and business owners to please remove all signs to avoid a

Civil Infraction notice. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

**Sec. 150-029. Political and election sign regulations.**

(D) Violations and enforcement.

(1) Each political candidate or sponsoring organization is responsible for each sign posted or displayed on behalf of said candidate or ballot issue regardless of who may have authorized or actually performed the act of posting and display.

(2) Each and every sign posted or displayed on behalf of any candidate or ballot issue shall be removed within ten calendar days following the determination of the election for which the candidate's or ballot issues' signs were posted and displayed.

# MAY 2015

| Sun       | Mon  | Tue   | Wed                                | Thu       | Fri       | Sat       |
|-----------|--|---|------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|           |  |   |                                    |           | <b>1</b>  | <b>2</b>  |
| <b>3</b>  | <b>4</b>   | <b>5</b>  | <b>6</b>                           | <b>7</b>  | <b>8</b>  | <b>9</b>  |
| <b>10</b> | <b>11</b><br>CITY COUNCIL<br>MEETING:<br>7:00P.M.  | <b>12</b>   | <b>13</b><br>CURBSIDE<br>RECYCLING | <b>14</b> | <b>15</b> | <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><br>MEMORIAL<br>DAY. CITY HALL<br>CLOSED! | <b>26</b><br>CITY COUNCIL<br>MEETING:<br>7:00P.M. | <b>27</b><br>CURBSIDE<br>RECYCLING | <b>28</b> | <b>29</b> | <b>30</b> |
| <b>31</b> |  |   |                                    |           |           |           |