

City of Miami Springs

News Bulletin



The City of Miami Springs pays for the News Bulletin

City Officials:
Mayor Xavier Garcia
Vice-Mayor Georgel Lob

Councilman Michael Windrem
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 & Rescue: 911

APRIL 2014

IMPORTANT CALENDAR DATES**CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS:****MONDAY, APRIL 28, 2014 • 7:00 P.M.**

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

MONDAY, MAY 12, 2014 • 7:00 P.M.

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

MONDAY, MAY 26, 2014

MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY

CITY HALL CLOSED!

TUESDAY, MAY 27, 2014 • 7:00 P.M.

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

RECYCLING:**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30TH****WEDNESDAY, MAY 14TH****WEDNESDAY, MAY 28TH****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 ... Environmentally-Friendly Landscaping

As you beautify your yard this Spring, there are specific things you can do to protect the natural environment and create a spectacular "Florida-friendly" landscape. Visit www.florida-yards.org to find native plants for your yard and garden that require little irrigation or fertilizer, are low maintenance and attract wildlife. Learn some tips on how to transform your property to be the envy of the neighborhood.

You don't have to be an expert gardener or landscaper to create a contender for "Yard of the Month." All it takes is a willingness to learn, some great exercise, and following the nine principles below:

1) Right Plant, Right Place: Plants selected to suit a specific site will require minimal amounts of water, fertilizers and pesticides.

2) Water Efficiently: Irrigate only when your lawn needs water. Efficient watering is the key to a healthy yard and conservation of limited resources.

3) Fertilize Appropriately: Less is often best. Over-use of fertilizers can be hazardous to your yard and the environment.

4) Mulch: Maintain two to three inches of mulch to help retain soil moisture, prevent erosion and suppress weeds.

5) Attract Wildlife: Plants in your yard



Congratulations to Froilan and Aida Vega of 1070 Ibis Avenue for April 2014 "Yard of the Month"

that provide food, water and shelter can conserve Florida's diverse wildlife.

6) Manage Yard Pests Responsibly: Unwise use of pesticides can harm people, pets, beneficial organisms and the environment.

7) Recycle: Grass clippings, leaves and yard trimmings composted and recycled on site provide nutrients to the soil and reduce waste disposal.

8) Reduce Stormwater Runoff: Water running off your yard can carry pollutants, such as fertilizer, pesticides, soil and debris that can harm water quality. Reduction of this runoff will help prevent pollution.

9) Protect the Waterfront: Waterfront property, whether on one of our canals, ponds or lakes, is very fragile and should be carefully protected to maintain the ecosystem.

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:

The following classes are provided by the Miami Springs Adult and Community School and instructed by Natasha Salmon-Cogno, Personal Trainer and Certified Yoga Instructor:

- **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. Enrollment is limited to 40 and new participants must complete senior center and school enrollment forms.

- **"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. Pre-registration is required.

- **Free WEIGHT TRAINING CLASSES** meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00--9:30 a.m. at the City's Community Center. Class size is limited and pre-registration is required.

- **FLOOR YOGA CLASSES** are offered free to seniors on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30--11:00 a.m. at the City's Community Center. Pre-registration is required for new students.

- **Free "CELEBRATION WORKOUT"** classes are held every Friday morning from 9:30--11:00 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 planned for May include: Line Dancing classes on Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. that are instructed by local resident Denise Gishler; a weekly Art Class on Fridays at 12:30 p.m. that is instructed by local resident Berta Montes; weekly Bingo games (4/5, 4/12, 4/19 and 4/28); a Miami Springs/Virginia Gardens Senior Citizens' Club business meeting (5/6); the Spring Fling, a special Hawaiian dinner and dancing event (5/7);



After many months of planning and fundraising, local resident Max Dunevitz completed his Eagle Scout project by landscaping the north side of the senior center. He and members of Troop 334 removed weeds, created new planting beds and stone walkways, installed borders, planted 100 plants and mulched the whole area to create a beautiful garden for the seniors. Our heartfelt appreciation goes to Max, his fellow scouts and support team!

the monthly birthday & anniversary party (4/15); and field trips to Zoo Miami (TBA) and Wal-Mart (5/22).

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

- **"SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION SERVICES AND OTHER COUNTY SERVICES FOR SENIORS"** -- On May 2nd at 12:15 p.m., representatives from Miami-Dade County will provide valuable information on a variety of services that are available to local senior citizens;

- **"LATER LIFE ISSUES"** -- On May 14th at 12:15 p.m., Catholic Hospice will sponsor a presentation on Living Wills, Advanced Directives, appointing a Health Care Surrogate and other issues that should be addressed in later life.

- **"MENTAL HEALTH and DEPRESSION"** -- Sponsored by Leon Medical Centers and the Alliance for Aging, medical staff will present this topic on May 20th at 12:15 p.m.;

- **"WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOUR LIBRARY"** -- Bryant Capley, Branch Manager of the Miami Springs Library and the North Central Library, will provide information on what services our local library provides to our residents;

- **"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 27th at 12:15 p.m. and provide information on local criminal activity and how to avoid becoming a victim;

- **"SILVER SURFERS"** -- FREE Basic and Intermediate Level Computer and Internet training courses are offered at the senior center throughout the year. Sponsored by S.T.E.P.S. in the Right Direction, Inc. and the Alliance for Aging, Inc., these 5-week courses are offered in both English and Spanish. Classes typically meet on Tuesday mornings from 9:30--11:30 a.m. To learn more about upcoming scheduled classes and to register, call 305.805.5160.

For further information on any of the services, activities, or special programs offered, or to volunteer your time, talent or expertise, 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:

AIRBUS EXPRESS, INC

4475 NW 36TH ST.

Transportation services

DALATOUR, INC

4475 NW 36TH ST.

Tourist tour services

LEARNING CITY ACADEMY

261 WESTWARD DR.

child care center

PROWASTEUSA, LLC-MIAMI

135 WESTWARD DR.

Consulting agency

SUAREZ ICE CREAM, DBA NITROGEN

1 CURTISS PKWY

Ice cream shop

TJJA ARCHITECTS, P.A.

14 WESTWARD DR

Architect services

TUSCANY TITLE CORP.

299 PARK STREET

Mortgage title co.

USA WIRELESS, INC

58 CURTIS PKWY

AT&T cell phone center

YOUNG ACADEMY**LEARNING CTR.**

357 N. ROYAL POINCIANA BLVD

Child day care center



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@miamispringsfl

POLICE DEPARTMENT
305.888.9711

South Florida's newest road hazard: Toll scammers

The Miami Springs Police Department would like to alert the residents of a recent article that appeared in the Miami Herald. The official-looking warning letters began arriving in the mail earlier this month to dozens, perhaps hundreds or even thousands of people.

The Final Warning Notices instruct recipients to send a cashier's check or money order for \$57 to an address near Doral as payment for outstanding tolls of \$7 —plus a \$50 fee. Do it, the letter warns, or face immobilization of your vehicle, suspension of your driver's license or additional fees of \$500.

It's a scam.

Says who? Says the Florida Department of Transportation, that's who. It is trying to track down the perpetrators, who call themselves Toll Enforcement, LLC.

No such company is listed on the Florida Division of Corporations website.

Investigators made calls to two phone numbers listed on the fake warning notices, one in Miami and the other in Tallahassee, were not answered at the time. The one in Miami had voicemail but no one returned their call. The one in Tallahassee just rang and no one picked up.

The address listed on the notice, 8369 NW 66th St., is a mail and package forwarding business, USAbox.com, located in an area of warehouses,

Carlos Dominguez, the manager of USAbox.com, told El Nuevo Herald that people have been coming by his office every day to inquire about the letters. "Law enforcement is handling it," said Dominguez. "They are aware of it and are figuring out the best



way to proceed." Dominguez said USAbox.com receives mail for customers and then forwards it to them. "We open an account and they tell us where to forward it," he added.

Chad Huff, a spokesman for Florida Turnpike Enterprise, said FDOT does not do business with Toll Enforcement, LLC and has posted a fraud alert on the turnpike website, the SunPass website and the Toll-by-Plate website.

The Miami-Dade Expressways Authority (MDX) also said it had posted a fraud alert on its website.

Legitimate notices about unpaid tolls and toll violations issued by FDOT are printed in official document form and list the date, time and location of the alleged violation and a photo of the vehicle passing through a toll plaza.

Toll-by-Plate is a collection system for drivers who do not have the SunPass device. A camera snaps a photo of the vehicle's license plate as it passes below an electronic collection point and then a bill is mailed at the end of the month to the registered owner.

FDOT said the Florida Highway Patrol and the Miami-Dade Police as well as other law enforcement agencies are investigating the matter. The department asked anyone who received the Toll Enforcement, LLC notices to contact SunPass at 888-865-5352.

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: 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. Registration is going on now. 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. -



2014 River Cities Festival 5K

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.

Summer Swimming Lessons: Registration is OPEN and classes will begin on Monday, June 9th

Summer Class Times:

Morning Classes: 9:00a.m., 10:00a.m., 11:00a.m.

Evening Classes: 4:00p.m., 5:00p.m., 6:00p.m., 7:00p.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

Get Fit Camp: Join us for the first ever Get

Fit Camp! Get Fit Camp is for kids of ALL fitness backgrounds between the ages of 12 - 17 years old. During camp kids will work on their strength, flexibility, speed, balance, cardiovascular and respiratory endurance allowing the kids to reach their peak fitness and performance.

Registration will be held on Monday, May 5th at 6pm at the Miami Springs Community Center. There will be 2 four week sessions and the cost to register is \$400 per session and a \$100 activity fee per session.

Be sure to register early there are only 20 spots per sessions! For more information please call the Community Center at 305-805-5075 or visit our website at <http://www.miamisprings-fl.gov/parksandrecreation/get-fit-camp-2014>

Art in City Hall

The City of Miami Springs Art in City Hall exhibit for the month of May, in recognition of National Public Works Week, May 18-24, will showcase photographs of our dedicated Public Works Department employees and the many things they do to keep Miami Springs beautiful and running smoothly.

By planning, building and maintaining our infrastructure, the work that they do is vital to a sustainable and vibrant tomorrow for present and future generations of residents.

The display may be seen Mondays through Fridays between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:45 p.m. throughout the month.

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.



Photos highlighting our Public Works Department employees will be on display in City Hall throughout April.

BUILDING & CODE COMPLIANCE DEPT.
305.805.5030

CODE COMPLIANCE CORNER

Remember that you can access all of our City Codes free of charge online at our website. Simply type in <http://www.miamisprings-fl.gov> in your browser's address window. At the top of the website, you will see a tab on the far right side that says "Online Services." Click on the tab and scroll down to "Online Municipal Code." This will take you to Municode.com, where you will see our entire Code of Ordinances.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

Please remember that boats, trailers, jet skis, campers and other recreational vehicles are not allowed to be parked in the front yard setback or the side yard setback. Lately there have been numerous Recreational Vehicle violations, boats are being parked on the front and side yard setbacks, trailers are blocking sidewalks and mobile homes are on the swale area. A Variance can be granted if it is impossible to park the recreational vehicle in the rear

yard setback. Let's have a safe and enjoyable summer, and not cause safety issues for our neighbors or ruin an outing by receiving a ticket.

TIME EXTENSIONS

Most Code Violation Notices have a time deadline for Compliance. If you need additional time to comply, please contact the Officer who issued the Notice to you. Most Notices have the Officer's name and Cell Phone number listed on them. Some safety/health related Codes may not allow for additional time. However, call us and we will be happy to discuss it with you.

If you have any questions about Code Compliance, feel free to contact the Code Compliance Officer:

Lourdes Taveras: (786) 255-0995
CODE COMPLIANCE OFFICER

Tex Ziadie: (786) 255-0497
SUPERVISOR
DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPT. 305.805.5009

MAY BIRTHDAYS:

Happy Birthday and Best Wishes to the following City employees:



Raymond Buckner
Jorge Irizarry
Charlene Navarro
Tom Cummings

Gonzalo Garcia
Terri Schuh
Katherine Anderson
Randall Walker

Recognizing long term employees:

The following employees had their anniversary date in April

Randall Walker	completed 35 years of service
Maira Ramos & Carlos Sánchez	completed 33 years of service
Barbara Robinson	completed 29 years of service
Steven Griffin	completed 23 years of service
Jimmy Deal	completed 20 years of service
Grace Vazquez	completed 13 years of service

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

MAY 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
CITY OF MIAMI SPRINGS	CITY CLERK'S OFFICE			1	2	3
4	5 BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT: 7:00 P.M. CANCELLED	6 CODE ENFORCEMENT: 7:00 P.M.	7	8 PARKS AND PARKWAYS: 7:00 P.M.	9	10
11	12 CITY COUNCIL MEETING: 7:00 P.M.	13	14 Curbside Recycling	15	16	17
18	19	20 EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD: 6:30 P.M.	21	22	23	24
25	26 MEMORIAL DAY! CITY HALL CLOSED!	27 CITY COUNCIL MEETING: 7:00 P.M.	28 Curbside Recycling	29	30	31