

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 & Rescue: 911

MAY 2015

**IMPORTANT
CALENDAR DATES****MONDAY, MAY 25, 2015**

MEMORIAL DAY! CITY HALL CLOSED!

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

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2015, 7:00 P.M.

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

MONDAY, JUNE 22, 2015, 7:00 P.M.

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

RECYCLING:**WEDNESDAY, MAY 27TH****WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10TH****WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24TH****SPOTLIGHT ON ... Stormy Weather Ahead!**

June first marks the beginning of the 2015 Atlantic Hurricane Season, and the possible visits to Miami Springs of tropical storms Bill, Claudette, Danny, Erika, Fred, Grace, Henri, Ida, Joaquin, Kate, Larry, Mindy, Nicholas, Odette, Peter, Rose, Sam, Teresa, Victor and Wanda. (If you're wondering about "Ana", she already made her appearance in the Carolinas and Virginia over Mother's Day weekend.) These unwelcome guests can wreak havoc and destruction, as we all recall the power, tree and other losses we've experienced in Miami Springs from past hurricanes.

Our City isn't in a flood-prone evacuation zone, so residents who are able are advised to be ready, be set and be safe while sheltering in place. The Police Department article in this News-Bulletin is chock-full of preparation tips.

Elderly residents and residents with special needs who live alone or with their families and are dependent upon assis-

tance with activities of daily living or require specific medical monitoring may use the Miami-Dade County Emergency Evacuation Assistance Program (EEAP) to meet their needs. The EEAP offers assistance, shelter and transportation evacuating to a facility appropriate for their level of care. Liftgate buses and other specialized transportation will pick up those registered and take them to and from their homes to their assigned facility. **You must pre-register for EEAP services.** Do not wait until a hurricane is pending. You may call the Miami-Dade Answer Center at 3-1-1 to receive an application in English, Spanish, or Creole. Applications in English and Spanish may also be downloaded at www.miamidade.gov/hurricane/evacuation-assistance.asp

Homeowners are reminded to

- Test emergency equipment and generators.

• Trim trees and shrubs. **Do not trim trees and shrubs after a hurricane watch or warning has been issued! The debris will not be picked up and can become harmful missiles during a storm.**

- Inspect roof and home for potential dangers.
- Purchase shutters or plywood and barrel bolt fasteners for doors and windows.
- Clear rain gutters and drains of debris.
- Update emergency contact lists.
- Fill prescriptions of emergency medications.

And finally, don't be the last to know when a hurricane is coming! **Sign up to receive Miami-Dade County emergency text alerts for weather alerts and other emergency events at www.miamidade.gov/alerts.**

ELDERLY SERVICES DEPT.

305.805.5160

SENIOR CENTER, • 343 PAYNE DRIVE

SENIOR CENTER NEWS

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. and provides older citizens with numerous opportunities to: improve their health by participating in the nutritionally balanced, daily lunch program, free nutritional counseling, and in health support screenings and activities; improve their knowledge through health, nutrition, and consumer education workshops and classes scheduled each month; obtain information and referral assistance to services available throughout the county; stay active by socializing with their peers, volunteering to help others and participating in recreational activities; and improve their use of leisure time. Older citizens may also be eligible to utilize the center's transportation service or the home delivered meal program for those who cannot leave their homes without assistance.

In addition to these core service offerings, and as part of a continuing focus on consumer, crime, wellness issues, health screenings and educational programs have been scheduled for June to include:

• **"COUNCIL REPORT"** -- Councilman Bob Best will present information on current Council actions and other topics of interest to the citizenry on June 3rd at 12:15 p.m.

• **"NUTRITION FOR SENIORS"** -- On June 10th at 12:15 p.m., Leon Medical Center will sponsor a nutrition education program for participants.

• **FREE HEARING SCREENING** -- Humana will sponsor Audiologists from HearX to provide free hearing screenings on June 16th, from 10:30--12:10 p.m., for those who have reserved an appointment. Call (305) 805-5160 to schedule. A presentation on "the Importance of Hearing" will be made at 12:15 p.m.

• **"DISASTER PREPAREDNESS"** -- On June 17th at 12:15 p.m., Monica Rusconi, from the American Red Cross, will provide an informative workshop on how to prepare for natural and man-made emergencies.

• **FREE SPECIALIZED TELEPHONE EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE at the SENIOR CENTER** -- A variety of specialized phones are available free to Floridians with hearing loss or speech disabilities. To qualify, you must be able to show proof of permanent residence and disability. Under the State of Florida Telecommunications Access Systems Act, specialized telephones are made available free to new clients with a hearing aid or to those who are hearing or speech impaired. Current clients who have an inoperable telephone (that was previously issued through this program) may exchange it for a new one at this time.

There will be a free amplified phone distribution on Tuesday, June 23rd, from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m., at the Miami Springs Senior Center. For more information, contact the City's Elderly Services at (305) 805-5160 or call the Center for Independent Living of South Florida at (305) 751-8025 (V) or (305) 751-8891 (TTY).

• **"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 June 24th 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.

• **"IDENTITY THEFT"** -- Emir Hernandez, Victim Services Program Specialist with the Office of the Attorney General, Pam Bondi, will discuss this topic on June 30th at 12:15 p.m. His presentation will focus on the multiple ways that thieves can steal your



Seniors at the Miami Springs Community Center aren't just drumming for smiles - they're drumming for health! Participants under the direction of Alisha Ross (center, r) have discovered that regular group drumming can reduce stress, boost immunity, improve focus and concentration, and potentially slow memory loss during the aging process. Laughter is also a big bonus.

identity, how you can protect yourself, and what you should do if you become a victim.

Special health support and recreational activities are scheduled through June 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.

• **"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 9:30--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 will meet at the Miami Springs Optimist Club beginning June 4th and will 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.

• **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:** Instruction in drawing and painting is provided by Natasha Salmon-Cogno on Fridays from 12:30--2:00 p.m. at the Senior Center to seniors who have pre-registered.

Upcoming events also include: a field trip to Wal-Mart (6/25); weekly Bingo games (6/1, 6/8, 6/15, 6/22 and 6/29); the monthly meeting of the Miami Springs/Virginia Gardens Senior Citizens Club (6/9); and the monthly birthday and anniversary party (6/18).

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

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

DRE REALTY700 S. Royal Poinciana Blvd.
real estate agency**Off Street Parking City Sweep
Taking Place during June 2015**

The Code Compliance Department will be conducting a City sweep starting June 1st 2015 for Off Street Parking violations. Code Compliance officers will be looking for vehicles parked on the front yard setback sodded areas. Inspections will be performed both during and after business hours, and weekends. Side yard and rear yard parking is allowed, and so is parking on the swale sodded area, except for inoperable vehicles or recreational vehicles. Special permission is granted in cases where there is a special event gathering or construction workers are present.

Sec. 150-016. Off-street parking facilities

(G) Off-street parking requirements for single-family residential and duplex zoning districts.

(9) Off street residential parking driveways shall be constructed of gravel, asphalt, concrete or brick. **No vehicle shall be parked on the front yard of any private property which has been previously designated as a landscape or sodded area.**

ART IN CITY HALL

The City of Miami Springs "Art in City Hall" exhibit for June and July, 2015, will be presented by members of the Hibiscus Fine Arts Guild, and will feature the most recent paintings of local artists.

The Hibiscus Art Guild was organized over 40 years ago to foster art appreciation in our community. The Guild brings artists together to share techniques and to promote artistic creation. All artists are welcome, and they encourage interested local residents to join them. For information, please call 305.887.3042 or 305.888.8133.

The reception to meet the artists will be held on Monday, June 1, 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 exhibit during the months of June and July 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 at 305.805.5010.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

305.888.9711

Hurricane Preparedness

May 24-30, is National Hurricane Preparedness Week. Hurricane season starts June 1 and runs through November 30, it can be a nerve racking time for everyone. Not only for those whose homes are in the path of one, but for families and relatives alike who may worry about those people. The Miami Springs Police Department encourages our residents to develop a personalized emergency plan. As residents of South Florida, we are never far from the possible dangers associated with hurricanes. Ensure that insurance matters are kept up to date. Note: most regular home insurance does not include flood coverage in the policy, so you'll have to buy this separately. Preparedness is not just necessary, but having a plan will help you and your loved ones keep their peace of mind during this stressful time.

Throughout the Year

Keep a Hurricane Preparedness Kit packed. This assures that you will lessen the amount of things you'll have to do when the time comes. Also, items such as batteries are easier to find when everyone else isn't panicking. As a bonus, if any other event, such as a fire occurs, you'll be prepared for that as well.

- Battery operated flashlights are fine if the power is out for a short time. The new LED flashlights work well, as long as a spotlight isn't needed. Make sure each person has their own flashlight and battery supply, in case you have to separate.

- After a couple of days you will need candles for light. Buy big decorative candles that will burn for days. Don't forget to get matches or lighters. Glow sticks are safer than candles IF there are gas leaks in your area, do NOT use candles, if you do, watch them to prevent fire, especially if children are with you.

- Battery-operated radio
- Battery-powered fans will be very appreciated if the power is out.

- Lots of batteries of all sizes (you can always use later what is not used during the storm). Consider buying a car battery to power battery operated devices in the home.

- Buy a DC to AC inverter.
- Corded telephone. Even if your electricity is out, your telephone may still work. Cordless phones still require electricity, so plug in a corded phone into the phone receptacle, and you may be surprised.

- "Self Powered Lights" and "Self Powered Radios". This equipment is either solar pow-

ered, and/or has a "crank up" generator built into the light and the radio. Some of these models will also charge cell phones.

- Cell phone and extra charged batteries. IF the cell phone towers are damaged, destroyed, cell phones will be no good.

- Solar powered garden lights. You can charge them up in the sun by day and use them indoors for lighting at night.

- Canned goods and a manual can opener, fruits and vegetables and other foods that do not require refrigeration.

- Water (at least one gallon daily per person with a seven-day supply). You can also fill up bathtubs if you close or seal the drains.

- Bleach. In the event that water enters your home, you will need to get it out and then kill any microbes that remain.

- A good supply of all prescription drugs.

- A first-aid kit.

- Pre-moistened towelettes.

Create a "take box". The take box should have everything you need to reconstruct your life in the event you evacuate and everything is lost. Passports; birth, wedding, adoption, divorce, and armed service separation certificates; copies of insurance policies; mortgage information; house and car title; large purchase receipts. You get the idea. Have a list of contact phone numbers and addresses. If you have a scanner, save yourself space and heartbreak by scanning family albums and images of other keepsakes, burn those to CD and keep a copy in your take box, or make a copy of all your pictures, videos, music and documents on an external hard drive that you can keep in your take box. But remember that CD's can malfunction. Make sure you take along the original documents, if possible, make copies of them. The CD is just for convenience when shown to officials.

Learn how to turn off the gas and power to your home and make sure that all tools needed for the job are easily accessible. If you're not sure, speak with the gas or electric company for instructions. You don't want to be running around at the last minute trying to figure out how to do these things.

Discuss and practice a disaster plan with your family. One of the most important lessons from hurricanes Andrew and Katrina was to make sure everyone in the family knows who to contact (and how to contact them) as an out of area contact. Make sure kids know enough information so that an adult can get in touch with that person should sudden evacuation be necessary when you aren't near them.

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:

Effective Monday, June 8th – Friday, August 21st. The courts will not open until 6pm due to Summer Camp

Monday & Tuesday: 6:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.: 17 & under Free, 18 & Over \$4

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

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

Summer Camp 2015! Registration for children between 5 years old – 13 years old is going on NOW! Full 10 Week program & SESSIONS are still AVAILABLE! For more information please call the Miami Springs Community Center at 305-805-5075

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

The City of Miami Springs is gearing up for our Annual Independence Day Festivities to be held on Saturday, July 4th. The day begins with the Parade at 10:00 a.m., immediately followed by activities at the Miami Springs Country Club. Come cool off on the Giant Water Slides, sit and relax out of the sun, while listening to "DJ Frankie" crank out the tunes.

Registration for the Baby Contest will begin at 11:00 a.m. in the Country Club; the contest will start promptly at 12:00 p.m., ages birth to twenty four months. Don't forget! There's also a category for the "Most Patriotic" baby.

The day's not over yet: our Fireworks display will be held on the golf course at DUSK.

If you're interested in participating in the parade, contact Patti Bradley at the Miami Springs Parks & Recreation Department, 305-805-5075, no later than Wednesday June 24th to reserve a spot. ALL parade participants must be preregistered, no exceptions.

BUILDING & CODE COMPLIANCE DEPT.

305.805.5030

SWIMMING POOL SAFETY

Aaah its summer and it's hot! And for those fortunate to have a swimming pool on their property, be aware that it comes with some very important safety and sanitary responsibilities. If you have a pool there should be a safety barrier around the property or the pool (see MS Code Sec. 150-014.) Your pool should be kept in sanitary conditions to avoid mosquito, frog and other water born infestations (see MS Code Sec. 93-13.) If your pool was built before 1984, the electrical lighting should be replaced with low voltage lights or opt to not have underwater lights, (see MD Ord. 14-95.) Lastly, if you have an above ground pool, it requires a special GFCI Electrical outlet (permit is required), pool barrier around the property and that should be removed when not in use.

Sec. 150-014. Swimming pools and safety barriers.

(A) Inspection and approval. Unless the swimming pool area is entirely enclosed and surrounded by a safety barrier of sufficient strength to prevent small children from reaching or entering the pool, except through a lockable gate or door, no final inspection and approval shall be given by the building inspector.

(B) Safety barrier. The safety barrier shall take the form of a fence or wall constructed of approved materials, completely surrounding either the pool/patio area or yard of the prop-

erty where on the swimming pool is located, as further specified in division (E) below.

(C) Height. The minimum height of any fence or wall shall be not less than four feet.

(D) It shall be unlawful to construct an underground swimming pool in the front yard or in the front yard setback of any residential dwelling in the City.

(E) Enclosure. The safety barrier shall be erected either around the swimming pool or around the premises on which the swimming pool is erected; in either event, it shall enclose the swimming pool area entirely, prohibiting unrestrained admittance to the enclosed area.

(F) Gates. Gates shall be of the self-locking type so that they shall automatically be in a closed position at all times, and shall also be equipped with a safe lock.

(G) Fences and walls. A fence or wall that is to be utilized as a safety barrier shall be constructed and maintained in accordance with the provisions of § 150-013.

Sec. 93-13. Maintenance of property by owner.

(A) It is the duty of all owners or occupants of property within the City, including both developed and undeveloped whether vacant or occupied, to maintain such property in a safe, clean, and presentable condition.

(E) It shall be unlawful for any owner or occupant of property within the City to maintain said property in a condition that is detrimental to the public health, safety and general welfare by permitting said property:

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

305.805.5170

Hurricane News from the Public Works Department

Within 72 hours of a tropical storm or hurricane watch or warning, do not trim trees, cut branches, or place any objects such as furniture or appliances outside. The Public Works Department may not be able to remove them and they have the potential to become deadly missiles or projectiles.



HUMAN RESOURCES DEPT. 305.805.5009

JUNE BIRTHDAYS:

Happy Birthday and Best Wishes to the following City employees:

Gary Fetters

Ronald Gorland

Jorge Pacheco

Errol Vassell

James Patterson

Jimmy Deal

Recognizing long term employees:

The following employee had his anniversary date in May

Jonathan Kahn

completed 36 years of service.

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

JUNE 2015

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