

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, MAY 26, 2014**

MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY  
CITY HALL CLOSED!

**TUESDAY, MAY 27, 2014 • 7:00 P.M.**

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

**MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2014 • 7:00 P.M.**

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

**MONDAY, JUNE 23, 2014 • 7:00 P.M.**

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

### RECYCLING:

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 28TH**

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11TH**

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25TH**

### 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 ... Hurricane Preparedness

### Hurricane Season is Coming

At some point after June 1st, Arthur, Bertha, Cristobal, Dolly, Edward, Fay and up to 17 other "uninvited guests" (named tropical storms) will be making unwelcome visits to our part of the world.

Depending on who you ask, this year's hurricane season could be quieter than normal, about average, or stronger than usual. In other words, it's anyone's guess. While the heart of hurricane season is not until the tail end of the summer season in August and September, it only takes one storm to create massive destruction, as Hurricane Andrew proved in August of 1992 when it hit Miami-Dade County. And who can forget that, in 2005, Hurricane Wilma alone cost our City \$4.2 million in municipal damage, with countless millions more of loss by residents?

Yet, national polls have found that one in three Florida residents doesn't have a hurricane survival kit or a family disaster plan – the most important tools in a weather-related emergency situation. South Floridians are



becoming complacent, since the area hasn't been hit by a major hurricane for nine years.

And while Miami-Dade County has a world-class Emergency Operations Center to help us through all types of emergency situations, it is up to each and every resident to be prepared for the possibility of a hurricane.

Although Springs residents are experts in

"battening down the hatches", we all know that advance planning is key to keeping safe and getting things back to normal as calmly and quickly as possible. This month's column from the Police Department has great tips for what needs to be done. Making a hurricane plan ahead of time and stocking up on vital supplies will go a long way to helping you and your loved ones stay safe in the event of a storm. It will save you time, money and worry, too.

As we all run through our pre-hurricane checklists and supplies for families, pets, homes and businesses, here is a list of helpful web sites to visit that will help keep you informed and prepared:

- [www.miamisprings-fl.gov/police/hurricane-preparedness](http://www.miamisprings-fl.gov/police/hurricane-preparedness)
- [www.miamidade.gov/hurricane](http://www.miamidade.gov/hurricane)
- [www.floridadisaster.org](http://www.floridadisaster.org)
- [www.nhc.noaa.gov/prepare/ready.php](http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/prepare/ready.php)
- [www.ready.gov/](http://www.ready.gov/)
- [www.redcross.org/prepareflorida](http://www.redcross.org/prepareflorida)



Follow us on Twitter:  
@MiamiSpringsFL

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



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

**Golden Home Health Care, Inc.**

4451 NW 36th Street.

Health Care Equipment

## 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 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 informal health, nutrition, and consumer education workshops 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.

In addition to these core service offerings, and as part of a continuing focus on health and wellness, consumer, crime, and civic issues, many programs have been scheduled for June and the public is invited to attend.

- **"LIVING WILLS & ADVANCED DIRECTIVES"** – On June 4th at 12:15 p.m., Mary Gomez, J.D. will present information on living wills and other advance directives that describe your preferences regarding your medical care preferences should you be faced with a serious accident or illness. Family members and doctors consult these written instructions when you're unable to make your own health care decisions.

- **"CAUSES OF DIABETES"** – A presentation will be made on June 11th at 12:15 p.m. by medical personnel from Finlay Clinic to clarify the many causes of Diabetes, including genetic risk factors and environmental factors.

- **FREE HEALTH SCREENINGS** – Mount Sinai Heart Institute will sponsor free CHOLESTEROL, GLUCOSE and BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS for the community on June 18th from 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. No fasting is required.

- **"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. Seniors will be alerted to criminal activities affecting the local area and learn tips on how to avoid becoming a victim.

- **"MEDICATION MANAGEMENT"** – On June 25th at 12:15



The Annual Senior Center "Spring Fling" was held on May 7th. All who attended the luau-themed dinner dance had a great time!

p.m., Leon Medical Center Healthplans will conduct a workshop on simple strategies one can use to help themselves manage their medications wisely.

- **"SILVER SURFERS" COMPUTER CLASS** – Free, basic and intermediate level computer training courses for English and Spanish speaking senior citizens are offered at the City's senior center. Sponsored by S.T.E.P.S. in the Right Direction, Inc. and the Alliance for Aging, Inc., classes meet once a week for a five week period. If interested, please call (305) 805-5160 to learn more of the upcoming schedule and to register.

**Special health & wellness classes**, as well as recreational activities, will be held in June. Classes sponsored by the M.S. Adult and Community School will run through June 19th and will include: Chair Yoga (M & W from 9:00–10:30 a.m. at the senior center); "Let's Dance" exercise classes (M & W from 10:30–11:00 a.m. at the senior center); Weight Training (Tu & Th from 9:00–9:30 a.m. at the community center); Floor Yoga classes (Tu & Th from 9:30–11:00 a.m. at the community center); and "Celebration Workout" (Fridays from 9:30–11:00 a.m. at the senior center). The summer schedule of these classes will soon be determined. Also scheduled for June are Line Dancing (Thursdays from 9:30–11:00 a.m. at the senior center) and Art Classes (Fridays from 12:30–1:30 p.m. at the senior center).

**Upcoming events include:** weekly Bingo games; a puppet show by the Pelican Players' Puppeteers (6/6), the monthly birthday and anniversary party (6/19), a field trip to Wal-Mart (6/26), and a silent auction (6/12). For further information, please contact the Elderly Services Department's office at 305.805.5160.

## Art in City Hall



Rose by Margaret Leiro, oil on canvas, 16 x 20

The City of Miami Springs "Art in City Hall" exhibit for June 2014 will be presented by members of the Hibiscus Fine Arts Guild, and will feature the most recent oil paintings of local artists.

The Hibiscus Art Guild was organized over 40 years ago to foster art appreciation in our community. For information, please call 305.887.3042 or 305.888.8133.

The reception to meet the artists will be held on Monday, June 2, 2013 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 month of June 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

### Hurricane Preparation

While we all worry about the damage a hurricane can do, it helps to be prepared in advance of the storm. The Miami Springs Police Department has put together a few things you can do to prepare in advance to protect yourself and your home.

- Double-check to ensure the supplies in your Hurricane Preparedness Kit are both well-stocked and fresh. Check expiration dates on canned foods. You'll need to stock up on batteries, flashlights, rope, tarps, plastic bags and mosquito repellants. Use a battery tester so you know they will work when you need them to keep a battery operated radio on hand. Make sure that you have a Bar-B-Que and lots of charcoal or propane so that you can cook and heat foods for meals. Prepare other disaster supplies; don't forget bad-weather clothing and other essentials to help you through the aftermath of a bad storm.

- Be sure to gather food and water, because a hurricane may last for a while. Non-perishable ready to eat foods that do not require refrigeration or least amount of cooking and little or no water are best for such events. Make sure the food is fresh; check all canned goods for expiration dates. Be sure you have at least one manual can opener. You should have enough non-perishable food and water in your home to last the family for at least a few weeks. Don't forget your pets need their food too. An average person needs about 3.5 liters of water (one gallon) per day. Pets (dogs) need about 1.75L of water per day. Cats need much less water.

- Get your home ready. If you have hurricane shutters, make sure that you have all of the parts and have some extra screws/washers handy. If you don't, have a supply of plywood precut to fit your windows.

- Remove dead trees and brush close to your house, car and any other buildings, or at very least trim their branches. If a large tree falls onto your house, it can punch a big hole in the roof. If a large tree falls onto your car, it can easily be crushed flat.

- Purchase a generator. Generally, a generator should be big enough to run your refrigerator, a lamp or two, any fans, and any special durable medical equipment needed by a member of your family.

- Purchase several 5-gallon gas cans. Fuel is usually scarce after a hurricane, and many stations even limit the amount of gas you can purchase after waiting in line. Having multiple cans will allow you to stock up. Buy a bottle of fuel stabilizer for when the power is restored. Mix this with your gas so that it will keep until you are able to use it. Also, fill and run your generator with the mixture for about 10 minutes so that the fuel system does not gum up while in storage. Change the oil and/or filter before you store it, that way it's nice and fresh next season.

- If you already have a generator, make sure it is in working order before hurricane season. There is nothing worse than finding out that your generator investment needs repairs after you need to use it.

- If you are unable to purchase a genera-

tor, buy a DC to AC converter for your car. With it you will use your car as a portable electric generator. They cost \$25 to \$100 and are available in the automotive section of department stores. If you should lose power to your house, you will be able run a radio, TV, light, refrigerator, or other low wattage appliances from your car. You will need a heavy duty extension cord to run the power into your house.

- Do not run the car or any gasoline generator in the garage or inside your home, as the carbon monoxide poisoning could kill you.

- Perform maintenance on the car you will be evacuating with if it becomes necessary. When is the last time you changed the oil or the filter? Is the battery fully charged? Have you replaced/repared the spare tire since the last time you had to use? Keep your vehicles fuel to at least half a tank at all times throughout hurricane season.

- Buy a bicycle, if you don't already own one, so that you will have a backup mode of transportation. If your neighborhood is destroyed you will be able to go for supplies or even ride out of the area. Make certain that the bike tires are pumped up before a storm hits.

- Have an inner tube patch kit and an air pump or air compressor that runs off the battery of your car.

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.

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 all documentation, ID related to anyone's armed military service or separation certificates; firearm permits and documentations, copies of insurance policies; mortgage information; house and car title; large purchase receipts, etc.

- 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 a external hard drive that you can keep in your take box.

- Remember that CDs can malfunction. Make sure you take along the original documents, if possible, make copies of them.

- Be sure you are well supplied with any prescription drugs that you or your family take on a regular basis. This can be a daunting task as some insurers will not honor refills until the last refill is nearly used up or has run out. If necessary, drugs must be purchased without insurance; weeks may go by without the ability to get refills, putting your health (or even your life) at risk.

- Don't forget to get some cash, once we're under a hurricane watch. If there's a loss of power, banks may be closed, ATM's, and credit/debit cards will not work at establishments that have lost their power.

## BUILDING & CODE COMPLIANCE DEPT.

305.805.5030

### CODE SWEEP

The City Code Compliance Department tries to routinely sweep the City for various Code violations. These sweeps constitute a drive through every street in the City checking for specific Code violations. During the month of July we will be checking for violations of the Recreational Vehicle Code. As a preparation for hurricane season, we will also be looking for excessive storage of material in back yards.

Please remember the following regarding Recreational Vehicles:

- No Recreational Vehicles may be parked in front yard setbacks or on any City property (swales, medians, parkways, etc.).

- Recreational vehicles may only be parked in side setbacks if a variance has been granted from the City.

- Recreational vehicles parked in the rear setback must not be parked any closer than three feet from any property line.

- There is no "staging" provision in the Code. Recreational vehicles parked for any length of

time in prohibited areas are considered a violation and may be ticketed.

- Trailers are classified as Recreational vehicles unless they are for commercial use, in which case they are prohibited from being parked for longer than two hours in any residential zone.

### MIAMI SPRINGS IS A BIRD SANCTUARY!

Miami Springs is officially designated as a Bird Sanctuary. The Code states: It shall be unlawful for any person to shoot, trap, or in any manner kill or destroy birds or their nests within the territory embraced within the City.

### GARAGE SALE LIST NOW ONLINE!

For all of you Garage Sellers out there, you can now access a list of the permitted Garage Sales in the City each week on our Web Site. Just go to <http://www.miamisprings-fl.gov> and you will see the list on the bottom left hand side of the home page. There is a print button if you want to print it out for you tour of the City sales! Happy Shopping!

## 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 & Tuesday 6:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m., 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

**Effective June 9th** - August 15th Open Gym Basketball: Monday - Friday: The courts will not open until 6pm due to Summer Camp

**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](http://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

**\*SUMMER POOL HOURS:** Monday-Friday: Lap Swimming 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Open Swim 1:00 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. Tuesday and Thursday: 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.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 Memorial Day Service will be held at the War Memorial Monument on Curtiss Parkway on Monday, May 26th at 10:00am

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

Registration for the Baby Contest will begin at 11:00am in the Country Club; the contest will start promptly at noon, age's 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 25th to reserve a spot. ALL parade participants must be preregistered, no exceptions.

## HUMAN RESOURCES DEPT. 305.805.5009



### JUNE BIRTHDAYS:

Happy Birthday and Best Wishes to the following City employees:

Jennifer Casanova

Gary Fetters

Ronald Gorland

Jorge Pacheco

Errol Vassell

James Patterson

Jimmy Deal

### Recognizing long term employees:

The following employees had their anniversary date in May

Jonathan Kahn

completed 35 years of service.

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

## CONSTRUCTION ALERT

### from Public Works Department

Cross Walk construction on Curtiss Parkway from the Circle to Canal Street begins on Monday, May 12th. The work will involve ADA Compliant sidewalk access, milling, paving, curbing and striping, and will take 30 - 60 days.



# JUNE 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> CODE ENFORCEMENT: 7:00 P.M.	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> CITY COUNCIL MEETING: 7:00 P.M.	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> CURBSIDE RECYCLING	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<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> CITY COUNCIL MEETING: 7:00 P.M.	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> CURBSIDE RECYCLING	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>				<b>CITY OF MIAMI SPRINGS</b>	<b>CITY CLERK'S OFFICE</b>