

City of Miami Springs

# News Bulletin



The City of Miami Springs pays for the News Bulletin

**City Officials:**  
 Mayor Xavier Garcia  
 Vice-Mayor Michael Windrem  
 Councilman Billy Bain  
 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

MAY 2013

## IMPORTANT CALENDAR DATES

### COUNCIL MEETINGS

**MONDAY, MAY 27, 2013**

MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY!

REGULAR MEETING CANCELED!

**CITY HALL WILL BE CLOSED!**

**MONDAY, JUNE 10, 2013 – 7 P.M.**

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

**MONDAY, JUNE 24, 2013 – 7 P.M.**

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

### CURBSIDE RECYCLING PICK-UP

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12th

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26th

## Tips from the Ecology Board

Stop junk mail! A surprising amount of household garbage first arrives through the mail. To stop most of your junk mail, write to: Mail Preference Service, Direct Marketing Association, Attn: Dept. 11630860, PO Box 282, Carmel, NY 10512 or go to [www.DMAconsumers.org/consumerassistance.html](http://www.DMAconsumers.org/consumerassistance.html) Requests also may be submitted online, but there is a \$5 charge for the online processing.

## SPOTLIGHT ON ... Social Networking and Communication

Instant messaging in Miami Springs has come a long way since two Donald Duck orange juice cans on a string or gossip picked up at the Piggly Wiggly!

Recognizing the 21st century need for getting out accurate, timely and relevant information to our residents, several diverse strategies and vehicles have been rolled out to keep YOU informed about the City decisions, events and news that affect your life and to help keep YOUR family safe every day.

Improved open communication is a stated priority for our City Council and Administration, and we are daily getting all kinds of news out in the following ways. So, if you want to be "in the know", check them out.

- First of all, are you a Tweeter? The City has joined over 500 million registered Twitter users (including President Obama and the Pope) to use this social networking capability to get out bits of current information. Want the scoop from City Hall? Follow @MiamiSpringsFL. The latest from Parks and Rec, including league highlights and field closures? Follow @MiamiSpringsRec. Golfers, follow @MiamiSpringsGC for what's happening on the greens. ....trending #MiamiSprings!!!!!!

- The City web site, [www.miamisprings-fl.gov](http://www.miamisprings-fl.gov) (Our City's official web site. Don't be fooled by imitations!) It is updated daily. Here you will find city and community event notices and calendars, Council agendas, minutes and webcasts, budget reports, parks and recreation information, public service announcements

from the Police Department, BOLOs, crime prevention information, links to Florida's sexual offenders list, links to Florida State Statutes, the Miami Springs Code of Ordinances, links to all City departments and much more.

- Of course, we all rely on the monthly News-Bulletin that is delivered to our homes in the monthly "big" issue of the River Cities Gazette.

- Community events are posted on the sign in the Circle, and changed at least twice a week.

- The Community Center Pool bulletin board is a great place for personal notices such as garage sales, lost pets, items for sale, etc.

- Comcast Ch. 77 not only carries pre-recorded City Council meetings, it also televises a rotation of current municipal and community notices 24 hours a day.

- Want to watch a Council meeting live, or review a past one? These webcasts are available over the internet at [www.miamisprings-fl.gov/webcast](http://www.miamisprings-fl.gov/webcast)

- Are you outdoors in threatening weather, and hear something like air horns blasting for about 15 seconds? That's the City's Thor-Guard Lightning Detection and Warning System. It means there is a high probability of lightning strikes nearby within the next 8-20 minutes. When the horns sound, you should immediately seek an appropriate, safe shelter and remain there until the all clear signal (three short 5 second blasts) sounds even if it has stopped raining.

- "Just the Facts" sheets in both English and

Spanish are released and dispersed using various methods to give in-depth information about hot topics on an as-needed basis.

- The 8-page bilingual "Springs Connection" arrives quarterly in the mail to every address in the City. It provides insight into a variety of current issues of interest and importance.

- The monthly electronic Miami Springs Golf Course Newsletter reaches out to thousands of past and present golfers with the latest from the greens, tips from pros, and activity at our beautiful golf course and country club. Want to be on the list? Sign up at the Pro Shop.

- Press Releases are sent to all major media outlets on an as-needed basis.

- There are also racks of brochures and flyers available in City Hall, the Community Policing Office and the Senior Center for a multitude of opportunities and community and governmental resources.

- Special City-sponsored events and activities such as pre-school Story Time, the Springs 5K, the Turkey Trot, and the Halloween and Easter Egg Hunt events are also frequently publicized by posters and banners placed in busy locations throughout town.

- And if you have a City-related question that has you stumped, and you just can't find the answer, email it with your contact information to [info@miamisprings-fl.gov](mailto:info@miamisprings-fl.gov) and we'll do our best to help get the information for you as soon as possible.



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

**The Caribel Group**  
 383 Westward Drive  
 Real Estate Office

**Erika Flowers Corp.**  
 383 Westward Drive  
 Flower Shop

**Ministerio Jesus Viene Pronto**  
 261 Westward Drive  
 School

**Sparkle Parties**  
 261 Westward Drive  
 Beauty Parlor

## Art in City Hall



DeVerne Miller, Safe Landing, acrylic, 12" x 24"

The City of Miami Springs "Art in City Hall" exhibit for June 2013 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. 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 the. For information, please call 305.887.3042 or 305.888.8133.

The reception to meet the artists will be held on Monday, June 3, 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.

## 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 multipurpose 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 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, the following programs have been scheduled for June as follows:

- **"HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS"** - On June 5th at 12:15 p.m., Christine Lacayo from the South Florida Chapter of the American Red Cross will provide information on the steps seniors should take to protect themselves and their property during the upcoming hurricane season;

- **"JUST SO STORIES"** - On June 6th at 12:30 p.m., senior center participants have been invited to attend a free play of stories written by British author Rudyard Kipling and performed by students from the All Angels Academy, to be held in the Rebeca Sosa Theater.

- **"STAND STRONG for LIFE"** - Falls are the leading cause of injury-related deaths among older adults and each year more than one-third of elderly persons in the United States falls. On June 12th at 12:15 p.m., Cindy Magnole, R.N. and the Injury Prevention Coordinator for Jackson Memorial Hospital, will present information on fall prevention, tips to stay active, medication reviews and what to discuss with your healthcare provider;

- **"LIVING WITH LOW VISION"** - Raquel Van Der Biest from the Miami Lighthouse for the Blind will present this topic on June 13th at 12:15 p.m.;

- **"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 18th 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;



County Commissioner Rebeca Sosa singing with a mariachi band celebrates Mother's Day with our seniors.

- **"ENERGY SAVINGS ESSENTIAL"** - On June 19th at 12:15, a representative of M-D College and Florida Power and Light will present a free workshop on how to customize the "smart meters" used by area homes to gain control over energy use and electric bills;

- **"SILVER SURFERS"** - A free, 5 week computer and Internet training course for Spanish speaking seniors, sponsored by S.T.E.P.S. in the Right Direction, Inc. and the Alliance for Aging, Inc., will be offered at the senior center on Tuesday mornings beginning June 25–July 23rd. Call to register as class size is limited;

- **"COUNCIL REPORT"** -- On June 26th at 12:15 p.m., Vice-Mayor Michael Windrem will provide seniors with an update of recent Council actions and answer questions about important issues affecting City residents; and

- **FREE BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING** -- Registered Nurses from the Miami-Dade Health Department will provide free blood pressure screening and individual counseling on hypertension to older adults on June 28th from 10:00 a.m.–12 noon.

Additionally, special program activities will be held in June to include: Senior Yoga classes, Chair Yoga classes, "Let's Dance" fitness classes, chair exercises, line dancing classes, a rummage sale to raise funds for the senior citizens club's entertainment budget (6/4), weekly Bingo games, a field trip to Wal-Mart (6/14), a Father's Day Celebration (6/14) and the monthly birthday and anniversary party (6/20). For further information, please contact the Elderly Services Department's office at (305) 805-5160.

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

305.888.9711

### Check Your Home Before the Storm

As we begin hurricane season on June 1 the Miami Springs Police Department would like to remind everyone that now is a good time to start getting your home ready. Hurricanes and tropical storms generally can be tracked days ahead of any impact, providing ample time to prepare for a potential evacuation. These storms can change direction, speed and intensity quickly. That makes it all the more important to make a plan to protect the people and things you value before a hurricane or tropical storm arrives.

#### Protect your property

Decide where you will store your boat during a tropical storm or hurricane, and factor into your action plan the time to move it to storage. Start clean-up and clearing your yard of debris and loose items. Now is a good time to look around for items that can become flying projectiles. Trim trees to reduce the amount of flying debris. Cut low lying branches and those hitting your roof.

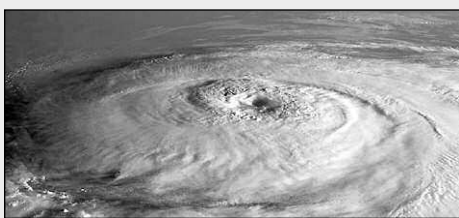
#### Shutters

One way to protect a home from damage in wind storms is to install impact-resistant shutters over all large windows and glass doors.

The easiest designs are those that simply cover the opening with a structural panel such as plywood. Be sure to use adequate fasteners to attach the panels over the openings when a hurricane approaches. If your home is made with concrete blocks you will have to install anchoring devices well in advance.

If your residence has permanent shutters, evaluate their effectiveness. Some shutters are very flexible, especially those that roll up. If struck by a rigid piece of debris, shutters may bend and break the window. To determine whether your shutter can resist this impact, gently lean against it and see if it yields. You can also inspect your shutters to see if they are properly attached to the house and will not fly off during a storm by inspecting the shutter connectors for obvious excessive wear or missing connectors.

Another way to protect your home from damage in windstorms is through the installation of impact-resistant windows and doors. Although these products look no dif-



ferent than standard windows and doors, they offer significantly more protection from wind-borne debris. In fact, these systems are capable of resisting impacts from large objects. For this reason, temporary shutters do not need to be installed before a storm strikes.

#### Securing Entry doors

Your home has either double or single entry doors. If they are solid wood or hollow metal they probably can resist wind pressures and hurricane debris. However, if you are not sure whether they are strong enough, take these precautions:

- Install head and foot bolts on the inactive door of double-entry doors.
- Make sure your doors have at least three hinges and a dead bolt security lock which has a minimum one inch bolt throw length.
- Since double entry doors fail when their surface bolts break at the header trim or threshold, check the connections at both places. Be sure the surface bolt extends into the door header and through the threshold into the subfloor.

#### Bracing Garage Doors

Because of their width, double-wide garage doors are more susceptible to wind damage than single doors. Unless you have a tested hurricane-resistant door, the wind may force it out of the roller track –

To secure your garage door, you should probably reinforce your double-wide garage door at its weakest points. This involves installing horizontal and/or vertical bracing onto each panel, using wood or light gauge metal girds bolted to the door mullions. You may also need heavier hinges and stronger end and vertical supports for your door. If you decide to retrofit your garage door with a kit that allows you to operate the door after it is installed, make sure the door is balanced by lowering it about halfway and letting go. If the door goes up or down, the springs will need adjusting. Note: Since the springs are dangerous, only a professional should adjust them.

## BUILDING & CODE COMPLIANCE DEPT.

305.805.5030

Remember that you can access all of our City Codes free of charge online DIRECTLY FROM THE CITY WEBSITE AT: <http://www.miamisprings-fl.gov>

#### OWNER/BUILDERS

Some maintenance, repair or construction work that requires a permit can be done by Homeowners themselves. However, if you decide to sign a permit as an Owner/Builder, be sure that you know exactly what you are doing. Many Owner/Builders are not familiar with our Codes or the requirements for inspections, etc. This can cause you problems once you have started a project. If you are not sure how the inspection process goes, please ask us when you pick up your permit. Owner/Builders are also required to sign a form that states that they understand that they are completely liable for any problems that might occur with the work that they are doing, including injuries that might occur on their property. Remember that if you hire a contractor and he wants you to sign the permit as an Owner/Builder, then the liability is yours and not his. If a contractor is properly registered with the city and has all of the required licenses and insurance, then he should have no problem signing a permit as a Contractor. If you intend to do work as an Owner/Builder, be sure that you have done your homework first!

#### THE CODE ENFORCEMENT BOARD

Whenever a Code violator does not respond to the notices given by the Code Compliance Officer, the Officer has the option of bringing them before the Code Enforcement Board.

According to our code, the task of the Board is: "To enforce the occupational license, building, zoning, sign, and other related codes and ordinances of the City." The Board listens to cases brought before them, and can decide to levy fines, set dates for compliance and issue Fines and Lien Orders for failure to comply. They also act as an appeals Board, whenever a Uniform Civil Violation Notice (ticket) is appealed. The Board is made up of seven members. The current members are: John Bankston, Rhonda Calvert, Walter Dworak (Vice-Chairman), Jorge Filgueira, Marlene Jimenez (Chairman), Jacqueline Martinez Regueira, and Robert Williams. The Liaison to the Code Enforcement Board from the City Council is Councilman George Lob.

#### CODE COMPLIANCE REMINDER!

Some years ago Miami Springs was awarded the designation of Tree City USA, because of its commitment to protect and increase our tree canopy. We have adopted specific ordinances to insure that we can protect that canopy.

REMEMBER IT IS A CODE VIOLATION TO REMOVE ANY PROTECTED TREE IN THE CITY WITHOUT A PERMIT! YOU MAY TRIM TREES WITHOUT A PERMIT, BUT YOU CANNOT REMOVE MORE THAN ONE QUARTER (25%) OF THE CROWN OF THE TREE! BY OUR CODE, DOING THIS IS THE SAME AS REMOVING THE TREE! VIOLATION OF THIS CODE BRINGS A FINE OF \$250 PER TREE! PROTECT OUR TREE CANOPY! BELOW IS A PICTURE OF A TREE THAT HAS BEEN WHAT IS CALLED "HAT RACKED" THIS IS WHAT YOU SHOULD NOT DO!

## PARKS & RECREATION DEPT.

305.805.5075/76 1401 WESTWARD DRIVE

#### 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 2:45 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. 17 & under ONLY, Tuesday & Wednesday evenings 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 10th - August 16th 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:** The current YOGA session is FULL. 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. Please call the Community Center for details. The next YOGA registration will be held in July at the Miami Springs Community Center.

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.

**Tuesday & Thursday Mornings:** 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

**Monday through Thursday:** 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

**Tuesday & Thursday:** 7:05 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

**Saturday:** 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

#### Jr. Jazzercise:

**Tuesday & Thursday:** 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

For information visit [jazzercise.com](http://jazzercise.com) or call 305.888.7625

#### AQUATICS:

##### 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., 7:00p.m.

**SUMMER SWIMMING LESSONS BEGIN** on Monday June 10th

Registration is going on now for summer classes

#### 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 & Friday 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Tuesday & 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 27th at 9:30am

Mark your calendars so you do not miss out on the July 4th festivities! The parade is set for Thursday, July 4th at 10am; if you are interested in participating in the parade please call Patricia Bradley at 305.805.5075 to reserve your spot. All participants MUST pre-register for the event no later than Wednesday, June 26th



The Youth Basketball League's 13-15 year old division All-Stars

## HUMAN RESOURCES DEPT. 305.805.5009

#### JUNE BIRTHDAYS:

Happy Birthday and Best Wishes to the following City employees:



6/01	Jennifer Casanova	6/25	Errol Vassell
6/20	Gary Fetters	6/27	James Patterson
6/21	Sandra Pell	6/30	Jimmy Deal
6/24	Ronald Gorland		
	Jorge Pacheco		

#### Recognizing long term employees:

The following employees had their anniversary date in May

Jonathan Kahn completed 34 years of service

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

# JUNE 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT/ ZONING: 7:00 P.M.	<b>4</b> CODE ENFORCEMENT: 7:00 P.M.	<b>5</b> ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD: 7:00 P.M.	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> CITY COUNCIL MEETING: 7:00 P.M.	<b>11</b> RECREATION COMMISSION: 7:00 P.M.	<b>12</b> GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB: 7:00 P.M. CURBSIDE RECYCLING	<b>13</b> BOARD OF PARKS & PARKWAYS: 7:00 P.M.	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> REVITALIZATION AND REDEVELOPMENT: 7:00 P.M.	<b>18</b> EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD: 6:30 P.M.	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> HISTORIC PRESERVATION: 7:00 P.M.	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> CITY COUNCIL MEETING: 7:00 P.M.	<b>25</b> ECOLOGY BOARD: 7:00 P.M.	<b>26</b> CURBSIDE RECYCLING	<b>27</b> CODE REVIEW BOARD: 7:00	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b>					CITY OF MIAMI SPRINGS	CITY CLERK'S OFFICE Issued: 5-3-13