

City of Miami Springs

News Bulletin



The City of Miami Springs pays for the News Bulletin

City Officials: Councilwoman Jennifer Aton
 Mayor Xavier Garcia Councilman Bob Best
 Vice-Mayor George Lob Councilman Dan Espino

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 2012

IMPORTANT CALENDAR DATES COUNCIL MEETINGS

MONDAY, MAY 28, 2012
MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY
CITY HALL WILL BE CLOSED!

TUES., MAY 29, 2012 – 7:00 P.M.
 CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
 CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MON., JUNE 11, 2012 – 7:00 P.M.
 CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
 CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MON., JUNE 25, 2012 – 7:00 P.M.
 CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
 CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

CURBSIDE RECYCLING PICK-UP

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13, 2012
 WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27, 2012

SPOTLIGHT ON ... Keeping Sidewalks Clear

One of the signature aspects of our lovely Miami Springs neighborhoods is the sidewalk—the “roadway for pedestrians”. Our beautiful tree-lined sidewalks need to be accessible to everyone: working people out for an evening stroll, children running, playing and walking to school, older adults, Moms with baby carriages, owners walking their pets, people using wheelchairs, canes and walkers, pedestrians with vision loss and residents with many other types of disabilities. Sidewalk obstacles make walking difficult and sometimes downright dangerous, especially if a pedestrian has to detour into the street to get around a barrier. One of the very commonly violated Codes in our City is the blocking of sidewalks with cars. A vehicle blocking the sidewalk may be a nuisance to one pedestrian, but it becomes an impossible obstacle to a pedestrian using a wheelchair or who is visually impaired.

The safe, free, and full use of sidewalks is



very important - after all, Miami Springs residents and businesses have invested hard-earned dollars building these important elements of our transportation system.

Whether you are a new or longstanding City resident, property owner or business owner, you should be familiar with your

responsibility to keep sidewalks clear and unblocked. Our Code of Ordinances states that “it shall be unlawful to obstruct any part of public streets, sidewalks, parkways, parks, or other publicly owned properties in the City by placing or causing to be placed thereon any box, stand, counter, shelving, debris, sign, merchandise, building material, or other obstruction.” Florida Statutes state that “no person shall stop, stand or park a vehicle on a sidewalk.” These are ticketable offenses which can be enforced by the Police Department or the Code Compliance Officers.

This may seem harsh, but imagine what life is like for people who use a cane or wheelchair. Please be considerate and do not park your car, truck or van so as to block any sidewalk, even if it’s “just for a minute.” An accident can happen in half a minute! Your fellow citizens depend upon you for neighborhood safety.



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

Austin Carr, P.A.
 371 N. Royal Poinciana Blvd.
 Attorney
McCormack Music Academy
 357 N. Royal Poinciana Blvd.
 Music Academy

Miami Springs Dollar
 4853 NW 36th Street
 Dollar Store
Sabor de Buenos Aires
 1 Curtiss Parkway
 Restaurant

DID YOU KNOW?

Miami Springs City Council meetings are webcast live (and archived as well) at www.miamisprings-fl.gov/webcast

ELDERLY SERVICES DEPT.

305.805.5160 SENIOR CENTER,
 343 PAYNE DRIVE

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, Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. A variety of services and activities are offered to include:

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.

HOME DELIVERED MEALS: A limited number of lunch meals are delivered each weekday to functionally impaired, older residents who are homebound, unable to cook properly for themselves, and who have little or no additional support available.

NUTRITION EDUCATION: Nutrition education programs are provided each month by the program’s consulting Registered Dietician or the Elderly Services Director.

HEALTH SUPPORT ACTIVITIES:

• **YOGA-STYLE CLASSES**, sponsored by the Miami Springs Adult & Community School, are provided free to those age 60 and over on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8:45–10:00 a.m. at the City’s Community Center. Class size is limited and participants must complete senior center and school enrollment forms.

• **“GET-IN-SHAPE” EXERCISE CLASSES**, free to area seniors, are provided by Natasha Salmon-Cogno, Certified Personal Trainer, through the sponsorship of the Miami Springs Adult & Community School. Class size is limited and meets on M-W-F from 10:00–11:15 a.m. at the City’s Community Center. Contact the senior center to enroll.

• **Free CHAIR EXERCISE CLASSES** are provided at the senior center every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 11-11:30 a.m. by Instructor Liz King.

• **Free LINE DANCING CLASSES** are offered every Thursday from 9:30–11:00 a.m. by Instructor Denise Gishler.

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 a local grocery store and assistance is given with shopping and carrying packages. Field trips to area stores and other places of interest are planned each month.

RECREATION: Recreational and social activities are planned for June to include: a very special performance by the All Angels Players, directed by Ralph Wakefield, entitled “A Tribute to Shel Silverstein” (author of “The Giving Tree”) scheduled for 6/7 at 12:30 p.m. at the Rebeca Sosa Theater; Bingo games (6/4, 6/11, 6/20 and 6/25); a field trip to Westfield Mall on the 8th; a rummage sale fundraiser slated for the 27th; a birthday and anniversary

Art in City Hall



Monasterio Espanol, Ana Maria Marafioti, oil on canvas, 20” x 24”, will be included in the Hibiscus Art Guild exhibit during June and July.

Members of the Hibiscus Fine Arts Guild will be displaying their art work in City Hall Lobby during June and July. A reception to meet the artists will be held on Monday, June 4, 2012 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. You will be able to view the art exhibit Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:45 p.m., during the months of June and July.

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.

If you live or work in Miami Springs and feel you have some 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.



Senior Center crafts class recycling plastic bags into useful items donates proceeds to MSHS Math Club. L to r: Francis Morgan (president, MS/VG Senior Citizens Club), Shirley Parks, Elizabeth King, Bessie Raymond, Maria Wilson, and Lois Floyd (These are some of the ladies who have worked on making the items from recycled bags). Mu Alpha Theta Math Honor Society students Susie Soto and Pablo Hernandez, who is also president of the Math Club.

sary celebration planned for the 21st; a Father’s Day Celebration for 6/15; and a meeting of the Miami Springs/Virginia Gardens Senior Citizens’ Club scheduled for the 26th. In addition, an art class, instructed by Natasha Salmon-Cogno and sponsored by M-D County Public Schools, will continue on Tuesday afternoons through July 3rd.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS: Presentations on crime prevention, health, nutrition, city and consumer issues are presented at 12:15 p.m. on different dates throughout each month. On June 13th, Miami-Dade Consumer Services, in conjunction with the Alliance for Aging, will present a program on “Identity Theft and Consumer Fraud” to senior center participants. On June 18th, a medical doctor from Chen Medical Center will conduct a workshop on “Diabetes”. Judge Andrea Wolfson will present the topic “Understanding the County’s Court System” in June, at a time to be announced. Officers from the Miami Springs Community Policing Office will conduct a “Crime Watch” meeting on June 19th. On June 28th, Maritza Lopez from Catholic Hospice will present information on “Emergency Response Systems.”

In addition, a large selection of jig-saw puzzles, magazines, books and audio-books are available to area residents on a free loan basis. A monthly “Calendar of Events” can be obtained at the senior center and at city hall. For further information on any of the services, activities, or special programs offered, please contact the Elderly Services Department office at (305) 805-5160. Your inquiries and suggestions for program and service development are always welcome.

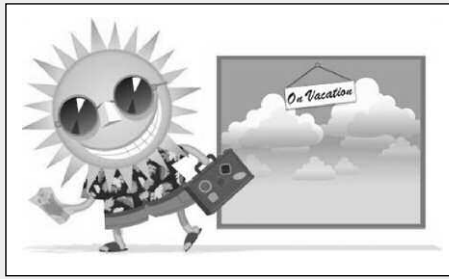
POLICE DEPARTMENT
305.888.9711

Vacation Tips for Homeowners

By using these theft-prevention tips to protect your home and possessions, you and your family will have extra peace of mind, whether you're away for a day or on vacation.

Make your home looked "lived in" even when you're not there

- Stop deliveries or have a trusted neighbor pick up your mail and newspapers.
- Arrange for someone to mow your lawn and water your plants.
- Ask a neighbor to park a car in your driveway while you're gone.
- Use timed switches on your lights, TV and stereo. Look for timers that turn on and off randomly.
- Never advertise your absence by taping a note to your door or announcing it on your answering machine/voice mail.
- Keep drapes/blinds in a normal position to maintain a lived-in appearance.
- Check your alarm system and notify the companies that monitor your fire and burglar alarms.
- Turn your telephone ringer down or off. This way a burglar is less likely to hear the ringing of unanswered calls and realize no one is home.
- Have good locks on all doors and windows. Ensure they are in good working condition and use them. Be sure all windows and doors are locked, before you leave.
- You can add to the security of your lighting system and cut your electric bill by



installing a motion detector on outside lights. This will activate your lights when anyone comes within range of the unit's motion sensor.

- Remove valuables from home and leave them with a trusted friend or relative. Place small articles in a safe deposit box.
- Avoid leaving an extra "hidden" key outside your home, such as under the doormat or in a mailbox or planter.
- Leave information on where you can be contacted in an emergency with a trusted neighbor and ask them to keep an eye on the house.
- Do not announce on social networking sites such as Facebook, MySpace and Twitter that you are on vacation or post pictures of places you are visiting until you return home from your vacation.
- Notify the Miami Springs Police Department of your plans by filling out a "vacant house watch" form. Stop by the police station, community policing office or go on-line (www.mspd.us) to obtain the form. Officers will keep an eye on your house when they are in the area.

PARKS & RECREATION DEPT.
305.805.5075/76 1401 WESTWARD DRIVE

FACILITY RENTAL:

The Multi-Purpose Room is available for rentals.

Contact the main office at the Community Center for availability and pricing. 305.805.5075

GYMNASIUM:

Open Gym Basketball is offered: Monday and Wednesday evenings 6:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m., Saturday 7:00 a.m. - 8:30 p.m. and Sunday 9:00 a.m. -7:00 p.m. Open play, 17 and under Free, 18 and over \$4

From June 11 through June 15th, the Basketball Courts will NOT OPEN until 6pm, Monday – Friday due to Summer Camp

Effective June 18th – August 6th Open Gym Basketball: Saturday 7:00 a.m. - 8:30 p.m. and Sunday 9:00 a.m. -7:00 p.m. open play, 17 and under Free, 18 and over \$4

Open Gym Volleyball: is offered every Friday night from 6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. 18 and over \$4.00, 17 and 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 and do field trips. For additional information, contact Caitlin Smith.

FITNESS:

Fitness Room and Jogging Track: Monday – Friday 6:00 a.m. – 9:30 p.m., Saturday 7:00 a.m. – 8:30 p.m. and Sunday 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Fitness Room Memberships are NOW AVAILABLE:

- Adults: 18 and over \$150.00
- Senior: 60 and over \$75.00
- Youth: 13 – 17, \$150.00 (must be accompanied by a PARENT)
- Family of 2: \$187.50
- Family of 3: \$262.50
- Additional family members \$75.00*
- *Immediate Family Members ONLY

Yoga: The yoga class is hosted by certified yoga teacher and personal trainer, Natasha Salmon Cagno. Yoga is held Monday and Wednesday evenings from 7:15pm- 8:15pm and Saturday mornings at 8:45 a.m. The next yoga session registration will be held on Monday, June 25th. The cost is \$95 for an 8 week session. 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.

Tuesday and Thursday Mornings: 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Monday through Thursday: 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday: 7:05 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Saturday: 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

Jr. Jazzercise: Tuesday and Thursday: 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. For information visit jazzercise.com or call 305.888.7625

AQUATICS:

Pool Hours: Monday-Friday: Lap



The Teen Program is always quick to lend a helping hand by washing the little bus at the Community Center

Swimming 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Open Swim 3:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday: Open Swim 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

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: 5:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., and 7:00 p.m.

Summer Swimming Lessons begin on 06/11/12 and run every two weeks. There are both morning and evening classes offered at the following times: Mornings: 9:00a.m., 10:00a.m., 11:00a.m. Afternoons: 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 and over \$80.00
Child: 17 and under \$40.00
Senior: 60 and over \$40.00

DRIVER LICENSE SERVICE:

The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles will be at the Senior Center, 343 Payne Dr. on Thursday June 14th. They offer full Drivers License services from 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Mark your calendars so you do not miss out on the July 4th festivities! The parade is set for Wednesday, 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. The fun doesn't end when the parade does, so be sure to join us at the Miami Springs Golf and Country Club immediately following the parade for activities and the "almost famous" Baby Contest at 12 p.m., REGISTRATION begins at 11 a.m. All babies between the ages of birth – 24 months are welcome to participate. Come back later to find a good spot for the fireworks that will begin at DUSK.

Miami Springs Residents!

Take a brief survey about City Communications by June 30th, and you will be entered in a drawing to win **Cart and Greens Fees for 4 at Miami Springs Golf Course** -or- **a \$25 gift certificate to Holleman's**
Go to <http://www.miamisprings-fl.gov/community/survey2> or pick up a form at City Hall, the Senior Center or the Community Center.



BUILDING & CODE COMPLIANCE DEPT.
305.805.5030

BUILDING AND 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.

WORK WITHOUT A PERMIT

One of the Code violations which is extremely detrimental to our Community is work being done without a Permit. When this happens, it undermines our ability to insure that homes in Miami Springs are maintained in accordance with the Florida Building Code and that they are safe and properly constructed. Please be sure that you check with the Building Department before doing work around your house. On our Web Site, there is a form under the Building Department tab that shows you what situations and work requires a permit. Please take a look at it and if in doubt, give us a call! Our number is (305) 805-5030. If you know of work being done in your neighborhood (especially in vacant houses) and you do not think a Permit has been issued for the work, please call us! We do take anonymous complaints. Thanks for your help in Keeping Miami Springs as one of the most desirable places to live in South Florida!

The following penalties are applied when work has been confirmed as being done without a Permit:

- 2) \$100 Building Permit fee penalty.
- 3) Building Permit fees doubled from what they normally would have been (minimum \$100).

Our Code states:

Sec. 151-04. - Application for building permits.

No person shall erect, construct, or proceed with the erection or construction of any building or structure, nor add to, enlarge, move, renovate, remodel, improve, alter, convert, extend, or demolish any building or structure, or any group of buildings or structures under one or joint ownership, whether on one or more lots or tract of land, or cause the same to be done without first obtaining a building permit therefor from the City Building Department.

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 for your area:

Lourdes Taveras (786) 255-0995
ALL COMMERCIAL AND MULTIPLE FAMILY ZONES

Jose Sadin (786) 367-4962
ALL RESIDENTIAL AREAS AT THIS TIME

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

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPT. 305.805.5009

JUNE BIRTHDAYS:

Happy Birthday and Best Wishes to the following City employees:

6/01	Jennifer Casanova	6/24	Jorge Pacheco
6/17	Robert Whittington	6/25	Errol Vassell
6/20	Gary Fetters	6/27	James Patterson
6/21	Sandra Pell	6/30	Jimmy Deal
6/24	Ronald Gorland		

Recognizing long term employees:

The following employees had their anniversary date in April:
Jonathan Kahn completed 33 years of service
Robert Whittington completed 17 years of service

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

June 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
CITY OF MIAMI SPRINGS	OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK				1	2
3	4 Board of Adjustment/Zoning: 7:00 p.m.	5 Code Enforcement: 7:00 p.m.	6 Architectural Review: 7:00 p.m.	7	8	9
10	11 City Council Meeting: 7:00 p.m. / watch it live at www.miamisprings-fl.gov/webcast	12 Recreation Commission: 7:00 p.m.	13 Golf and Country Club: 7:00 p.m. / curbside recycling	14 Board of Parks and Parkways: 7:00 p.m.	15	16
17	18 Revitalization & Redevelopment 7pm	19 Education Advisory Board: 7:00 p.m. CANCELED!	20 Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart Open House: 2:45 p.m.	21 Historic Preservation: 7:00 p.m.	22	23
24	25 City Council Meeting: 7:00 p.m. / watch it live at www.miamisprings-fl.gov/webcast	26 Ecology Board: 7:00 p.m.	27 curbside recycling	28 Code Review: 7:00 p.m.	29	30