

City of Miami Springs

# News Bulletin



The City of Miami Springs pays for the News Bulletin

**City Officials:**  
 Mayor Xavier Garcia  
 Vice-Mayor Jennifer Ator  
 Councilman Bob Best  
 Councilwoman Grace Bain  
 Councilwoman George Lob

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

NOVEMBER 2012

## IMPORTANT CALENDAR DATES

### COUNCIL MEETINGS

**MON., DECEMBER 10, 2012 – 7 P.M.**

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
 CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2012**

CHRISTMAS DAY HOLIDAY  
 CITY HALL WILL BE CLOSED!

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2013**

NEW YEAR'S DAY HOLIDAY  
 CITY HALL WILL BE CLOSED!

**MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 2013 – 7 P.M.**

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
 CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

**MONDAY, JANUARY 28, 2013 – 7 P.M.**

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
 CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

## CURBSIDE RECYCLING PICK-UP

Wednesday, November 28, 2012  
 Wednesday, December 12, 2012  
 Wednesday, December 26, 2012

## SPOTLIGHT ON ... Senior Activities

Our Senior Center is truly at the heart of an improved quality of life for many older residents of Miami Springs and Virginia Gardens. Elderly Services Director Karen Rosson describes it as a multi-purpose focal point for Senior Citizen activities and services, with a long-standing and broad commitment to the promotion of independence and dignity for all.

Senior citizens are urged to take advantage of the many programs offered at the Center Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. In addition to core services, special activities currently include: computer classes in both English and Spanish, free internet access and a computer room, yoga, a lending library, games and puzzles, chair exercises, a needle-crafts group, a dance-style aerobics class and country western line dancing. A "Walk with Ease" program, sponsored by the Arthritis Foundation and affiliated with the Walking Club at the City's Community Center, offers seniors an opportunity to join others in maintaining their health. Special holiday celebrations, birthday parties and performances by local groups (including the Xiques Family Trio, the All Angels Players and the Pelican Playhouse Puppeteers) are enjoyed by everyone. The Miami Springs/Virginia Gardens Senior Citizens' Club holds monthly meetings at the Senior Center and sponsors special events, rummage sales and silent auctions.

In addition to these activities, the center offers health screenings for cataracts, glaucoma, blood pressure and memory, classes on wellness and health maintenance in both English and Spanish, and workshops on a variety of topics such as osteoporosis, blindness prevention, memory fitness and medication safety. Each month there are a variety of lunchtime speakers who present tips on personal safety, what's happening in local government, identity theft, investor education and consumer fraud, to mention a few. The Senior Center also provides congregate hot lunches, home-delivered meals for homebound elders,



Margaret Watson, Margaret Watts, Ken Wilson, and Maria Wilson won "Best Costume" prizes at the Senior Center Halloween Party

screening and assessment, and information and referral assistance.

Need a ride? Don't worry. The City and the Hialeah Miami Springs Rotary Charitable Foundation have partnered to obtain a new minibus, with a wheelchair lift, so that qualified seniors may have free transportation to all activities at the senior center, and participate in "field trips" to grocery stores, malls, and cultural events.

For more information on senior citizen activities, to register for a program, or to arrange a ride, call the Elderly Services Department at (305) 805-5160 or email Karen at [rossonk@miamisprings-fl.gov](mailto:rossonk@miamisprings-fl.gov). For a listing of upcoming activities, stop by City Hall's lobby to pick up the Senior Center's Calendar of Events, or go to <http://www.miamisprings-fl.gov/elderlyservices/senior-centers-monthly-calendar>.

## Art in City Hall



"Winter Scene" by Ellnora Riecken

Members of the Hibiscus Fine Arts Guild will be displaying their favorite paintings of fall and winter scenes during the annual "Holiday Art Exhibit" in our City Hall lobby. With the City Hall lobby decorated for the holiday season, it will be a very festive occasion.

You are cordially invited to meet the artists during a holiday reception to be held on Monday, December 3, 2012, 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 art exhibit during the months of December and January, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:45 p.m.

If you live or work in Miami Springs and you have a special contribution you would like 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 Miami Springs Senior Center, located on Prince Field at 343 Payne Drive, offers a variety of activities and services to older residents every Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m.--5:00 p.m. Current financial and programmatic support comes from: the City of Miami Springs; the Alliance for Aging, Inc. and the Florida Department of Elder Affairs; the Village of Virginia Gardens; the Miami Springs Adult & Community School; participant donations; local organizations, civic groups and countless volunteers. Residents of Miami Springs, age 60 and over, are eligible to participate in a variety of services and activities offered at the City's senior center.

**CONGREGATE MEALS:** Hot lunch meals are served weekdays from 11:30 a.m.--12:30 p.m. to assist area seniors in maintaining a nutritionally balanced diet and to provide opportunities to volunteer and socialize with their peers.

**NUTRITION EDUCATION:** Counseling and nutrition education programs are provided monthly by the program's consulting Registered Dietician and the Project Director.

#### HEALTH SUPPORT ACTIVITIES:

- **YOGA-STYLE CLASSES** are provided free to local residents, age 60 and over, through a partnership with the Miami Springs Adult & Community School, every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8:45--10:15 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 senior center participants, are provided every M-W-F from 10:15--11:00 a.m. at the City's Community Center with Instructor Natasha Salmon-Cogno, Certified Personal Trainer. Class size is limited and pre-registration is required;

- **Free CHAIR EXERCISE CLASSES** are provided every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 11-11:30 a.m. with Instructor Elizabeth King;

- **Free CHAIR YOGA CLASSES** are offered for seniors on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:30--11:00 a.m. at the Community Center. Class size is limited and students must pre-register at the Senior Center office;

- **Free LINE DANCING CLASSES** are offered every Thursday from 9:30--10:45 a.m. by Instructor Denise Gishler.



The first class of graduates of the Senior Center's "Walk With Ease" program. This fun activity is being held in conjunction with the Community Center's Walking Club, under the direction of Recreation Specialist Caitlin Smith.

**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:** Social and recreational activities planned for December include: Bingo games (12/3, 12/10, 12/17 and 12/26); a Miami Springs/Virginia Gardens Senior Citizens' Club business meeting (12/4); a fundraising rummage sale (12/5); a field trip to Wal-Mart (12/7); the monthly birthday and anniversary celebration (12/13); the annual Holiday Party at the MS Country Club (12/18); and musical entertainment by the Xiques Family Trio (12/19).

**HEALTH SUPPORT & EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS:** Health screenings and educational presentations are scheduled each month through the sponsorship of the Alliance for Aging's Health and Wellness Department, and through networking with numerous hospitals, universities, doctors, HMOs, home health agencies, and other community service organizations.

For further information on any of the services, activities, or special programs offered, please contact the Elderly Services Department office at (305) 805-5160.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
305.888.9711

**MALL & SHOPPING SAFETY**

Don't let criminals be your "scrooge" this holiday. Take a few precautions when you venture out to do Christmas shopping and you will "take a bite out of crime".

**Personal Safety at Malls**

The threat of physical assault does not necessarily increase along with the crowds that herald the holiday season. It's when you're far from the crowd, in distant reaches of parking lots or other isolated areas of the mall that you are most vulnerable. To protect yourself:

Always try to walk to and from your vehicle with another person. If you are shopping alone, consider walking near other shoppers in the parking lot.

If shopping alone and leaving at night -- particularly if you're carrying several bundles -- ask a security officer to accompany you to your car. Most malls will provide that service.

Inside a mall, avoid darkened hallways and other backroom areas, especially near closing time.

Avoid using bathrooms that are tucked away in a back area of a mall concourse or department. If you can, find a bathroom near the mall's food court or other well-trafficked

area. And always accompany your child to the bathroom.

Never use a video arcade or toy store as a baby sitter; predators are on the prowl for unattended children.

**Pickpockets and Purse Theft Preventions**

Jostling through crowded malls while carrying your jacket, juggling countless bags and keeping your child from breaking anything you can't afford to buy makes you an attractive target to criminals looking to grab wallets, purses and your purchases. To stymie would-be thieves:

A man should carry his wallet in the front pocket of his pants, rather than in a back pocket or in his jacket. A woman should hold her purse close to her body, with the opening facing toward her; when walking with another person, the purse should be held between the two.

When you can, avoid using revolving doors -- particularly the automatic kind. A thief with good timing can grab a purse or package and make a quick getaway in the time it takes you to emerge.

Consolidate purchases into one or two large shopping bags so you can keep track of everything. Never leave your purchases unattended, even for a few minutes.

**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

**SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM**

Register now for the School Holiday Program is going on. The registration fee is \$35.00 unless registered for ASC; cost is \$20.00 per day. SHP is available for: Teachers Work Days, Christmas Holiday & Spring Break from 7:00am - 6:00pm

**GYMNASIUM:**

**Open Gym Basketball Hours:**

Monday - Friday 2:45 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. 17 & under ONLY, Saturday 7:00 a.m. - 8:30 p.m. & Sunday 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. open play, 17 & under Free 18 & over \$4

**Open Gym Volleyball:** is offered every Friday night from 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. 18 & over \$4.00, 17 & under are free.

**Walking Club:** Register Now! Members will be rewarded for miles completed. We'll not only walk on the Indoor Jogging/Walking Track in our Gymnasium we'll also do different trails located throughout the Miami Springs area and will begin field trips January 2012. 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 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 registration will be in December at the Miami Springs Community Center. 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 & Thursday Mornings: 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.



Members of the Recreation Department Teen Program passed out candy to the youngsters during the Miami Springs Safe Halloween event along with their fearless leader, Recreation Specialist Albert Vargas.

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 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.

**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:** 6:00 p.m., 7:00 p.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

**CHRISTMAS AT THE GAZEBO**

Christmas at the Gazebo has been set for Saturday December 15th. The parade will begin at 5:45pm in front of City Hall and will drop Santa off at the Circle. The fun on the circle will be from 6:00pm - 9:00pm. Be sure to bring your wish list to give to Santa and your camera to have your picture taken with Santa too! Mark your calendar; you don't miss out on another festive year of cheer. Wristbands are necessary to participate in the fun. For more information please call 305-805-5075/5076.

**BUILDING & CODE COMPLIANCE DEPT.**  
305.805.5030

**LET'S TALK TRASH**

In recent months the Code Compliance Department has been receiving numerous complaints of neighbors placing their trash and garbage in other neighbors' property and trash collection areas. Due to the brisk real estate market, many properties have recently changed owners, thereby bringing to our City new residents who are not aware of our City Codes. For this reason, we would like to clarify that it is unlawful to place trash on other properties besides in your designated area. Trash is to be placed behind your property in the alley, or where there is no alley, in front of your property. This is designated by the Public Works Department.

Every property is billed independently and an excessive accumulation of trash by others can cause your neighbors to be charged extra for pick up.

If you anticipate excessive material due to landscaping or moving, contact the Public Works Department prior to your disposal and they will make arrangements to do a special pick up.

**Sec. 93-04. - Location; offset in fence required.**

(A) Where an alley exists and is normally used for waste receptacles, such shall be placed on the owner's property as near to such alley as is practicable. In the event that no such alley exists, or it is not practical by reason of the existence of physical obstacles to place the waste receptacle on the edge of the alley, such waste receptacle shall be placed at the

point designated by the director of public works.

**Sec. 93-05. - Garbage, garden trash, and rubbish; placement in receptacles for collection and removal.**

(A) Garbage shall be differentiated from garden trash and rubbish when placed in receptacles for collection, except in areas serviced by the automated collection system as noted in (C) below. Garbage collection and trash collection shall be separate or as otherwise directed by the City Manager with limits as described in § 93-07

(B) Garbage shall be placed in garbage cans, and accumulations of garden trash and rubbish deposits on the parkway and properties abutting existing alleys shall be placed in suitable containers or tied up in bundles in such manner that they will not litter the public right-of-way. Any tree limbs over one and one-half inches in diameter and any tree trunks or stumps shall be cut to a maximum length of three feet when placed for collection as herein defined for pickup by the public works department.

(C) Where the unit is serviced by the automated collection system, garbage, garden trash, and rubbish may be commingled for placement in the automated system container. Separate trash collection service will continue, and where the amount of garbage, garden trash, and rubbish shall exceed the capacity of the automated system container, the garden trash and rubbish shall be separately placed for collection, with limits as described in § 93-07

**WELCOME**

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

**Academics, Athletics and Arts Foundation**  
75 N. Royal Poinciana Blvd.  
*School*

**Firenze Group**  
299 Park Street  
*Mortgage Broker*

**Kory's Fun & Games Kafe**  
58 Curtiss Pkwy.  
*Restaurant*

**Varadero Studio**  
8 Curtiss Pkwy.  
*Bridal Shop and Tuxedo Rental*

**Watch Channel 77**  
on COMCAST Cable for the latest updates to events and activities.

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

**HUMAN RESOURCES DEPT. 305.805.5009**

**DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS:**

Happy Birthday and Best Wishes to the following City employees:

12/1	Michael Aldridge	12/18	Rene Alonso
12/2	Angel Casas	12/19	Jeffrey Clark
12/8	Peter Baan	12/20	Loretta Boucher & Jeffrey Collins
12/10	Carlos Sanchez		Earl Williams
12/11	Caitlin Smith	12/21	Karen Rosson
12/15	Roberto Gonzalez	12/22	Theresa Michael
12/17	Claire Gurney	12/27	

**Recognizing long term employees:**

The following employees had their anniversary date in November

Suzanne S. Hitaffer	completed 20 years of service.
James S. Pessolano	completed 15 years of service.
Darryl M. Cates & Robert Barrios	completed 14 years of service.
Allene M. Paz	completed 13 years of service.
Jorge D. Capote & Claire E. Gurney	completed 11 years of service.
Albert Sandoval & Frank L. Perez	completed 10 years of service.

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

# December 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 Board of Adjustment/Zoning: 7:00 p.m.	4 Code Enforcement: 7:00 p.m.	5 Architectural Review: 7:00 p.m.	6	7	8
9	10 City Council Meeting: 7:00 p.m.	11 Recreation Commission: 7:00 p.m.	12 Golf and Country Club: 7:00 p.m. Curbside recycling	13 Board of Parks and Parkways: 7:00 p.m.	14	15
16	17 Revitalization and Redevelopment: 7:00 p.m.	18 Education Advisory Board: 6:30 p.m.	19 Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart Open House: 2:45 p.m.	20 Historic Preservation: 7:00 p.m.	21	22
23	24	25 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY! CITY HALL CLOSED!	26 Curbside recycling	27 Code Review: 7:00 p.m.	28	29
30	31				CITY OF MIAMI SPRINGS	OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK