

City of Miami Springs

# News Bulletin



The City of Miami Springs pays for the News Bulletin

**City Officials:**  
 Mayor Xavier Garcia  
 Vice-Mayor George 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

SEPTEMBER 2014

## IMPORTANT CALENDAR DATES

MONDAY, OCT. 13, 2014, 7:00 P.M.  
**CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**

MONDAY, OCT. 27, 2014, 7:00 P.M.  
**CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**

## RECYCLING:

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1st  
 WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15TH  
 WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29TH

## SPOTLIGHT ON ... Financing for the New Aquatic Center

**Note:** an asterisk \* indicates supporting documentation is located on the City web site at <http://www.miamisprings-fl.gov/finance/bond-summary-files>

### Q. How will the new Aquatic Center be financed?

A. During January and February of 2014, the City attempted to contact several banks in order to obtain a 20 year, fixed rate financing arrangement for the proposed pool. We could not find any banks willing to go out that long at a fixed rate, we then attempted to determine if a bond would be available for that length of time.

During March 2014, the City contacted the Florida League of Cities in order to obtain information on their municipal bond program for the financing of the proposed aquatic project. They provided us with a preliminary statement \* which showed that the interest rate would be about 4.19% for 20 years with closing costs of \$64,140 based on a loan of \$5 million. They explained that bonds would require the city contract a rating agency to get a credit rating, as well as contracting underwriters and bond counsel. This process is expensive and the proposed rates were not attractive.

The national trend in recent years is for municipalities to borrow funds for major projects via direct bank financing. This is due to the fact the a GO Bond issuance requires significant formalities, regulatory requirements, time, and cost, and as noted above, the rates are not as attractive as direct bank loan financing.

Therefore, the City is negotiating for bank financing since, as noted above, this can be

executed at a lower cost to the taxpayers. This financing is being repaid by a designated revenue stream from the City, and is a tax exempt financing.

Therefore, during April, 2014, the City contracted with Dunlap & Associates (D&A) to become the City's financial advisor for the purpose of providing assistance in obtaining financing options for the proposed aquatic facility project. We discussed with D&A the alternatives of bank financing versus bond issuance. D&A confirmed what we had already seen with the Florida League estimates, that a bond is more expensive\*. Thus D&A recommended that the City pursue a bank financing option. Bank financing carries a low interest rate since this is also a tax exempt borrowing just like a municipal bond issuance.

On June 2, 2014, D&A distributed a Request for Proposal (RFP) for this purpose to approx. 14 financial institutions. On July 8, 2014 the City did not receive any proposals in response to the RFP. D&A contacted some of the banks to ascertain why they did not respond\*. The most prevalent reason was that they did not want to go 15-20 years at a fixed rate, or that the project was a recreational one and not infrastructure.

SunTrust Bank did not respond to the original RFP since the person responsible for relationship was ill. However, on July 14, 2014 SunTrust submitted their proposal for the four options offered by SunTrust that would have required the closing on the loan by August 15, 2014.

After internal discussions with the City Attorney, the Administration determined that it would not be in the City's best interest to

close on the loan so early due to the many unanswered questions related to the project, including at that time whether the project would be approved at all, if approved what the total cost of the project would be, and the timing of when the funds would be needed to begin construction. The current timeline from Bermello Ajamil is for the RFP process to commence in mid-September, 2014 and responses received during November, 2014.

Based on these factors, the Administration and City Attorney met with representatives from SunTrust Bank in order to discuss solutions to our concerns. On July 30, 2014 SunTrust provided an additional four options that the City could consider to mitigate our concerns and questions addressed above. The Administration has determined that the third option listed "Set Rate three days prior to closing" would be the most appropriate option for the City to accept. Under this option we have the option of setting the rate up to 90 days prior to closing for an additional 0.1% increase in the rate (current rate if locked today is approximately 3.49%). This option would be important since, if the rates begin to increase, we can lock in the rate and close 90 days afterwards. Otherwise we can wait and lock the rate 3 days before closing. Another benefit is that although we are approved for an amount up to \$5,660,000, Council can decide to borrow less than that amount at time of closing.

Additionally, the City is also looking into the possibility of refinancing the current community center debt, which is at 3.81% interest, by combining it with the new debt. If the terms of the refinancing result in a cost reduction, we will proceed with the refinancing.



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

**Camila's Boutique**  
 1 Curtiss Parkway • Boutique

**Famosa Boutique**  
 26 Westward Drive • Boutique

**Father & Sons Floor Restoration**  
 Out of City business • Floor refinishing

**INFOCWB Electronics, Inc**  
 299 Park Street • General office

**Med Staffing Services, Inc**  
 4471 NW 26th Street • General office

**Osceola Apartments**  
 200 Azure Way • Apartment building

## 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 October to include:

- **"DELAYING NURSING HOME PLACEMENT"** – On October 15th at 12:15 p.m., representatives from American Eldercare will present information on what long-term care solutions and comprehensive support may be available through community based options.
- **"MEDICARE/MEDICAID BENEFITS"** – Representatives from WellCare Health Plans will present this topic on October 22nd at 12:15 p.m.
- **"CRIME WATCH" PROGRAM** – Officer Janice Simon from the MSPD's Community Policing Office will present the monthly Crime Watch Program at the senior center on October 28th at 12:15 p.m. She will alert participants to the types of criminal activ-



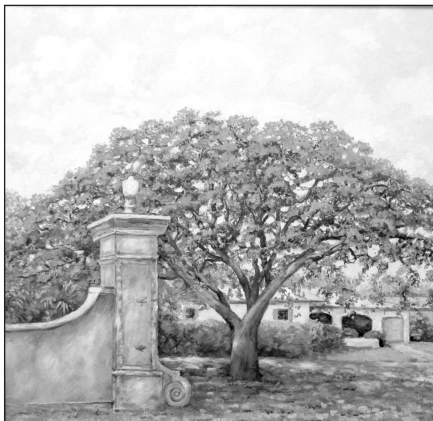
A presentation sponsored by United Healthcare and various national sponsors marked Medicare Education Week at the Senior Center. Pictured above (l to r) are participants Maria Wilson, Ken Wilson, Toni Mayo, Marta del Martini and Giancarlo Salvo from United Healthcare.

ities affecting the local area and provide tips on how to avoid becoming a victim.

• **"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 for five consecutive weeks, two hour sessions each week. If interested, please call the senior center at 305.805.5160 to learn when the next course is scheduled and to register.

Upcoming events also include: a field trip to Wal-Mart (10/23); a rummage sale (10/21); weekly Bingo games (10/6, 10/13, 10/20 and 10/27), the monthly birthday and anniversary party (10/16) and a Halloween Costume Contest (10/31). For further information, please contact the Elderly Services Department's office at (305) 805-5160.

## Art in City Hall



Poinciana, 24" x 30", oil on canvas

### CAROLTON BARRON

Miami Springs resident Carolton Barron will be the featured artist for the "Art in City Hall Exhibit" during the month of October 2014. Carolton holds the honor of being the first artist to have an exhibit at City Hall more than twenty years ago, in March 1983. She will be displaying her favorite oil paintings of Florida art, including landscape scenes, flowering trees, etc.

A reception for Carolton has been scheduled for Monday, October 6, 2014, 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 weekdays during the month of October 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.



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**POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
305.888.9711

**MIAMI SPRINGS  
POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**Taking Back  
Unwanted Prescription Drugs**

**SEPTEMBER 27th  
at 274 WESTWARD DRIVE**

On September 27th the Miami Springs Police Department and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will give the public the opportunity in its one day National Take Back to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. All you have to do is bring any of your unwanted controlled, and non-controlled pills for disposal on Saturday, September 27th to the Miami Springs Community Policing Office at 274 Westward Drive from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., where you may place them in the disposal boxes.

You may dispose of any pill form medications in their original containers or remove them from the container. If you are going to leave the medication in the original containers, please remember to remove any identifying information from the prescription labels. The DEA cannot accept liquids, intra-venous (IV) solutions, needles or sharps, only pills or patches. The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

Last April, Americans turned in 390 tons (over 780,000 pounds) of prescription drugs at nearly 6,100 sites operated by the DEA and more than 4,400 of its state and local law enforcement partners. When those



results are combined with what was collected in its eight previous Take Back events, DEA and its partners have taken in over 4.1 million pounds—more than 2,100 tons—of pills.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet. In addition, Americans are now advised that their usual methods for disposing of unused medicines—flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash—both pose potential safety and health hazards.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Miami Springs Community Policing Office at 305-888-5286, Monday through Friday 8am - 4:30pm or via e-mail at [cpo@mspd.us](mailto:cpo@mspd.us)

**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

**SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM**

Registration for our School Holiday Program is open. The registration fee is \$35.00, unless registered for ASC; the 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:** 12:00 p.m. – 3 p.m.: 18 & Over \$4. 3:00 pm – 5:30 p.m.: 17 & under ONLY, Free

**Tuesday & Thursday Evenings:** 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

**YOGA:** YOGA is held Monday and Wednesday evenings from 7:15 p.m.- 8:15 p.m. and Saturday mornings at 8:45 a.m. The cost is \$95.00 for an 8 week session. The next YOGA registration will be held on Monday, October 13th at 6:00 p.m. at the Community Center. Please call the Community Center for more information.

We are now offering a Saturday drop in YOGA class. The cost per class is \$5.00 and starts at 8:45 a.m.

**GET FIT PROGRAM:** THIS IS A TWICE-WEEKLY 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!

This fitness program is for kids of all fitness levels and backgrounds between the ages of 11 – 15 years old. The Get Fit Program will be held on Tuesday & Thursday evenings and there will be one field trip on a Saturday per session.

The cost is \$50 per participant and SPACE is

LIMITED. Registration is open now at the Community Center.

**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:**

**Pool Hours:** Monday – Friday: 3:00-8:00 p.m. Saturdays: 10:30-5:00 p.m. Sundays: CLOSED

**Swimming Lessons:**

Cancelled until further notice

Please call the Pool for more information at 305.805.5078

**Water Aerobics:**

Cancelled until further notice

Please call the Pool for more information at 305.805.5078

**Pool Memberships are NOW AVAILABLE:**

Adults: 18 & over \$80.00

Child: 17 & under \$40.00

Senior: 60 & over \$40.00

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**The Annual Spook-tacular Halloween** event will be held on Friday, October 24th from 6 p.m. -9 p.m. at Prince Field, the Costume Contest will be held at the Miami Springs Community Center at 6 p.m. The Haunted Egg Hunts will begin at 7:30 p.m. by age groups on Prince Field.

**BRACELETS ARE REQUIRED**

Bracelets will be AVAILABLE BEGINNING Monday, October 6th

Miami Springs & Virginia Gardens Residents: 5 & under are FREE, 6- 12 year olds are \$2.

NON-RESIDENTS:\$10 for ALL AGES

For more information please call the Miami Springs Community Center at 305.805.5075

**The Veterans Day Ceremony** will be held on Tuesday, November 11th at 10:00 a.m. at the War Memorial on Curtiss Parkway. All veterans are invited to participate in this event. For additional information please call Patricia Bradley at the Miami Springs Community Center at 305.805.5075

**The 5h Annual 5K Turkey Trot** is set for Saturday November 22nd! As always, this is not just a 5K, but a time to give back to those in need. In addition to the \$10 registration fee you will also need to turn in 2 canned goods (but we will gladly accept more) which will be given to local organizations to be distributed as needed. If you would like to register prior to the 22nd, TROT on over to the Community Center to turn in your registration form and canned goods beginning Monday, November 3rd!

**Save the Date for Christmas at the Gazebo.** Christmas at the Gazebo will be held Saturday, December 6th. Mark your calendar; you don't want to miss out on another festive year of cheer! Check next month's Gazette for more information.

**Miami Springs Golf & Country Club**

305.805.5180

MIAMI SPRINGS GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB  
FEATURED AS PART OF FLORIDA'S HISTORIC GOLF TRAIL PROGRAM

The Miami Springs Golf and Country Club (opened in 1923) is proud to announce a newly launched affiliation with the Florida Department of State's Division of Historical Resources program called the "Florida Historic Golf Trail". This program celebrates Florida's early golf heritage from the late 1890s through World War II, by featuring publicly accessible golf courses that can still be played today. The website [FloridaHistoricGolfTrail.com](http://FloridaHistoricGolfTrail.com) highlights interesting information about each course. Players at these courses will be provided specially designed scorecards listing all the historic golf courses on the trail and a map. Along with a special advertising and marketing campaign, this program will promote these courses and attract interested golfers from around the world.

**BUILDING & CODE COMPLIANCE DEPT.**  
305.805.5030

**CODE SWEEPS**

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 October we will be checking for violations of the new Commercial Vehicle Code in the single family zones. The new Section 150-015 of the Code states:

Approved Parking - All cars, trucks, vans, or sport utility vehicles that do not exceed 10,000 pounds of gross vehicle weight, 22 feet in length, and 8 feet in height may park in any approved parking location in any single family residential zoning district of the City.

(1) The following vehicles shall be prohibited from parking in the single family residential zoning districts of the City:

(a) The following vehicles are prohibited from parking in the single family residential zoning districts of the City, except for qualified daytime and visitation parking as previously provided in this Ordinance, to wit:

- (1) Box trucks
- (2) Equipment carriers

- (3) Trailers/tow trucks
- (4) Lunch/food trucks
- (5) Materials/supplies carriers
- (6) Commercial transport vans
- (7) Buses
- (8) Tractor trailers
- (9) Glass/mirror trucks
- (10) Other vehicles clearly designed for commercial use of carriage.

(11) Other vehicles that present health, safety, or welfare hazards to the City.

(b) Notwithstanding any City policy, provision, custom, or code section to the contrary, none of the specifically identified vehicles in Section 2(a) above shall be eligible to seek parking approval by variance or any other means.

Therefore in addition to the specific vehicles listed above, all vehicles over 10,000 pounds in Gross Vehicle Weight or over 22 feet in length or 8 feet in height are considered commercial vehicles and shall be prohibited from parking in the single family residential zones of the City, under the specific terms of the Code. For a full copy of the Code, please visit our web site at:

<http://www.miamisprings-fl.gov> and go to the Building Department Home Page.

**HUMAN RESOURCES DEPT. 305.805.5009**

**OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS:**

Happy Birthday and Best Wishes to the following City employees:



- |                       |                   |                    |
|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Patricia Mann Bradley | Armando Dominguez | Jason Hall         |
| Carol Foster          | Elora Sakal       | Jorge Romeo        |
| Christine Rodriguez   | Rafael Pérez      | Eneyra Encarnación |

**Recognizing long term employees:**

The following employees had their anniversary date in September

Karen L. Rosson	completed 37 years of service.
Rosita Hernandez	completed 24 years of service.
Charlene M. Navarro	completed 22 years of service.
David A. Bente	completed 20 years of service.
Terri L. Schuh	completed 18 years of service.
Joyce M. Cox	completed 16 years of service.
Jeanne M. Malden and Roberto C. Gonzalez	completed 13 years of service.

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

# OCTOBER 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 CURBSIDE RECYCLING	2	3	4
5	6	7 CODE ENFORCEMENT: 7:00 P.M.	8	9	10	11
12	13 CITY COUNCIL MEETING: 7:00 P.M.	14	15 CURBSIDE RECYCLING	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 CODE REVIEW BOARD: 7:00 P.M.	24	25
26	27 CITY COUNCIL MEETING: 7:00 P.M.	28	29 CURBSIDE RECYCLING	30	31	