

City of Miami Springs

News Bulletin



The City of Miami Springs pays for the News Bulletin

City Officials:
Mayor Xavier Garcia
Vice-Mayor Bob Best

Councilwoman Roslyn Buckner
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 2015

**IMPORTANT
CALENDAR DATES****CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS:****MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2015**

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2015

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2015

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

RECYCLING:**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14TH****WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28TH**

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@MiamiSpringsFL

Art in City Hall

GMC Truck, photograph by Alex Abate

The "Art in City Hall" October/November 2015 exhibit will feature the work of Miami Springs photographer Alex Abate. A reception to meet Alex will be held on Monday, October 5 between the hours of 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. If you are not able to attend the reception, you are invited to view the exhibit Monday through Friday in City Hall Lobby between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:45 p.m., during the months of October and November.

Alex has been in love with Florida's environment since 1979, when he first came here to study marine biology at the University of Miami. "My dad was a photographer when I was growing up. I spent a lot of time watching him work and photography has always been part of my life. So has nature, and I knew from an early age that I wanted to work with both nature and photography. Here, in Florida, the wonders of the wild are all around us. I am happy to be able to capture some of the beauty that is out there waiting to be discovered."

With the evolution of high-resolution digital photography, he's been able to experiment with different shooting techniques and equipment. Alex shoots with Canon cameras, using a 7D that shoots 8 frames per second, essential to capturing objects in motion, as well as a variety of lenses. Most of his work is hand-held, with the exception of landscape photography and other subjects that require a tripod.

SPOTLIGHT ON ... Ulises Fernandez

The City of Miami Springs Building Department has recently welcomed Ulises Fernandez, who is filling the roles of Building Official and Director of Building and Code Compliance.

His first exposure to design and construction came at the age of 13. His father, who was a teacher of construction methods in Cuba, had purchased a drafting table and some drawing supplies. Ulises gravitated to that table and soon discovered that drafting came easy to him. From that point on, he never looked back and construction and drafting became part of his life. He went on to study architecture and construction management at University of Miami, Miami-Dade College and Florida International University. He worked for several years as a Plans Examiner and Building and Roofing Inspector for the City of Hialeah as well as doing some part-time roofing inspection here in Miami Springs. Ulises received his General Contractor license in 2001, and founded Design Builders, Inc., a firm that is still managed by his family.

His goal is to facilitate and expedite



Building Official and Building and Code Compliance Director Ulises A. Fernandez

the City's Building Department processes, and he has already instituted a same-day "walk through" service for roofing permits every Tuesday and Thursday from 8 to 9 a.m. Plans are "in the works" for digitizing all permits, code compliance documents and plans, and purchasing customer-friendly software that will allow residents

and contractors to access, view and print their permits without ever having to come to City Hall. He will be hiring some additional personnel soon to assist with the digitization project and with customer service, thereby freeing up our Code Compliance officers to spend more time in the field.

Ulises originally hails from Colon, in Matanzas, Cuba, and now resides in Hialeah. As one might guess, he likes to work around his house in his spare time, and is looking forward to the birth of a daughter in December.

He says "What I love most about my job is that it offers me a unique opportunity to help others. Whether it be a simple answer to a question, or taking the time to meet with anyone that comes to my department or to facilitate the permit process and make it as simple as possible, my focus is to provide the best customer service possible. I want everyone who visits the Building Department to leave with a positive experience." To contact Ulises and our friendly Building Department staff, call 305.805.5017.

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. 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, the following educational programs have been scheduled for October:

- **"COUNCIL REPORT"** – Councilman Billy Bain will present information on current Council actions and other topics of interest to the citizenry on October 7th 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 October 14th at 12:15 p.m. Participants will be alerted to the types of criminal activities affecting the local area and will be provided tips on how to avoid becoming a victim.

- **"9 TIPS FOR CANCER PREVENTION"** -- On October 21st at 12:15 p.m., Jackie Gibson, MS from the UF/M-D Extension Service Bureau, will present information on lifestyle changes in diets and physical activity that can help prevent cancer.

- **FREE BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING** – Registered Nurses from the Miami-Dade Health Department will provide a free screening to detect hypertension and individual counseling on October 22nd from 10:00–11:30 a.m.

- **"WHAT'S ON YOUR PLATE?"** – Amerigroup Community Care and the Alliance for Aging, Inc. will sponsor a Nutrition Program on October 28th at 12:15 p.m.

Special health support and recreational activities are scheduled in October to include the following classes:

- **CHAIR YOGA CLASSES** are offered free to local residents, age 60 and over, on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:00–10:30 a.m. at the City's Senior Center. Registration with the City's Elderly Services Department is required.

- **"LET'S DANCE" EXERCISE CLASSES**, free to area seniors, are scheduled on Mondays and Wednesdays from



Local seniors attend a "Matter of Balance" class at the Miami Springs Senior Center as part of an evidence-based training program designed to teach exercises that increase their strength and balance, reduce their fear of falling and improve their overall quality of life.

10:30–11:00 a.m. at the senior center facility. Registration is required.

- **FLOOR YOGA CLASSES** are offered free to seniors, age 60 and over, on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30–11:00 a.m. at the Curtiss Mansion. A warm-up session using light weights is held from 9:00–9:30 a.m. Students must pre-register.

- **"CELEBRATION WORKOUT"** classes, designed to work on memory and physical fitness, are held every Friday morning from 9:00–11:00 a.m. at the City's Senior Center and is free to those age 60 and over who register with the City's Elderly Services Department.

- **TAI CHI for SENIORS** -- Tai Chi exercises, designed for individuals age 60 and over, are taught by Judd Zisquit on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:30–1:30 p.m. to seniors who register with the City's senior center. Classes will meet at the M.S. Community Center. Course work will focus on improving joint flexibility, balance, muscular strength, and general fitness and health. Interested seniors must pre-register at the senior center office located at 343 Payne Drive.

Upcoming events also include: field trips to Target (10/9) and Wal-Mart (9/29); weekly Bingo games (10/5, 10/12, 10/19 and 10/26); the monthly meeting of the Miami Springs/Virginia Gardens Senior Citizens Club (10/13); a fundraising Rummage Sale (10/20); and the monthly birthday and anniversary party (10/15).

For further information on any of the services or activities offered at the City's senior center, or to volunteer your time, talent or expertise, please contact the Elderly Services Department's office at (305) 805-5160.

POLICE DEPARTMENT
305.888.9711

Rules for Driving Golf Carts in Florida

The Miami Springs Police Department would like to remind the owners of golf carts that they are not toys, they are motor vehicles. The State of Florida has laws in place that govern the operation and use of golf carts and Low Speed Vehicles (LSV). It is the responsibility of the vehicle operators to understand and obey the laws that pertain to them.

The use of golf carts on the streets of Miami Springs is prohibited unless they are being used at the Miami Springs Golf and Country Club. In order for a golf cart to be operated on the streets of Miami Springs, it must be deemed an LSV. Neither a golf cart nor an LSV is allowed to be driven on a sidewalk in Miami Springs.

Vehicle Definitions and Requirements

- A golf cart is defined as a motor vehicle that is designed for operation on a golf course or for sporting or recreation and is not capable of exceeding 20 mph.
- Per F.S.S. 316.2122, an LSV is defined as a four wheeled vehicle whose top speed is greater than 20 mph, but less than 25 mph.
- An LSV may only be operated on roadways where the speed limit is 35 mph or less.
- The operator of an LSV must be a licensed driver.
- An LSV must have a registered license plate and be insured.
- Also per F.S.S 316.3122, an LSV **must**



be equipped with the following safety equipment: Seat belts, a windshield, rear view mirror, headlights, tail lights, stop lamps, side reflectors, a parking brake, turn signals and a VIN number.

- Do not allow anyone to ride standing in the vehicle or on the back platform of the vehicle. Please keep your arms and legs inside the vehicle at all times.

As of the August 31, 2015 City of Miami Springs Council Meeting, it was decided that no changes would be made. The City of Miami Springs continues to abide by the Florida State Statutes that govern the operation of golf carts and LSVs.

Once again, "golf carts" are not allowed on public streets within our City. Only LSVs are permitted on public streets, provided that they meet the requirements stated in F.S.S. 316.2122.

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 – Friday:** 12:00 p.m. – 3 p.m.: 18 & Over \$4
3:00 pm – 5:30 p.m.: 17 & under ONLY, Free
- Tuesday & Thursday:** 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.

ATHLETICS:

Youth Basketball League: Registration will begin on Monday, October 12th at 6pm at the Community Center. The youth basketball league is a co-ed basketball league for children between the ages of 6 -15 years old. For more information please call the Community Center

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

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 9 – 15 years old. The Get Fit Program will be held on Tuesday & Thursday evenings,



2015 Summer Camp Field Day

6:15pm – 7:15pm.

The cost is \$50 per participant and SPACE is LIMITED. Registration is OPEN!

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:** 5:15 p.m. – 6:15 p.m.

For information visit jazzercise.com or call 305.888.7625

SPECIAL EVENTS:

The Annual Spook-tacular Halloween Costume Contest will be held on Friday, October 30th at 7:00pm at the **Miami Springs Community Center**. The costume contest is for ALL AGES; from Babies to Adults including Family Costumes!

For more information please call the Miami Springs Community Center at 305-805-5075

The Veteran's Day Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, November 11th at 10:00am at the War Memorial on Curtiss Parkway. All Veterans are invited to participate in this service. 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 21st! 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 the local organizations to be distributed as needed. If you would like to register prior to the 21st, TROT on over to the Community Center to turn in your registration form and canned goods beginning Monday, November 2nd!

Save the Date for Christmas at the Gazebo. **Christmas at the Gazebo** will be held Saturday, December 5th. Mark your calendar; you don't want to miss out on another festive year of cheer. Check next month's Gazette for more information.

Aquatic Center Update



Restrooms and locker areas are taking shape.



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

Guillermo Gutierrez, Inc.

265 Cherokee St.
General home office

KM Springs Apartments

254-256 Canal St.
Apartments

Ocean Blue Medical Research

282 Westward Dr.
Medical office

USA Special Aviation Security

4471 NW 36th St.
General office

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPT. 305.805.5009

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS:

Happy Birthday and Best Wishes to the following City employees:

Patricia Mann Bradley	Armando Domínguez	Jason Hall
Carol Foster	Elora Sakal	Jorge Romeo
Christine Blount	Rafael Pérez	Eneyra Encarnación

Recognizing long term employees:

The following employee had his anniversary date in September

Karen L. Rosson	completed 38 years of service.
Rosita Hernandez	completed 25 years of service.
Charlene M. Navarro	completed 23 years of service.
David A. Bente	completed 21 years of service.
Terri L. Schuh	completed 19 years of service.
Jeanne M. Malden and Roberto C. Gonzalez	completed 14 years of service.

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

BUILDING & CODE COMPLIANCE DEPT.
305.805.5030

IT'S A JUNGLE OUT THERE!!!

With our recent rains the trees and grass seem to have grown overnight. In some areas it seems like they have never be cut or trimmed. In our Code Compliance Officers' recent drives through the alleys ways they have noticed that privately owned trees are encroaching into the alley ways, sidewalks and even our roads. In some areas the grass in the alley ways is almost as high as the fences.

This is a friendly reminder to our residents, that all adjacent areas around the property need to be maintained, this means cutting the grass in the alley ways as well the swale areas. The trees and bushes need to be trimmed and kept way from roads, alley ways and sidewalks.

Public works usually informs the property owner and Code Compliance when an area needs to be trimmed. However, when Code Compliance informs the resident it becomes a Civil Infraction, which means a fine could be imposed.

Let's all work together to keep our road ways, alleys and sidewalks safe by maintaining vegetation on a regular basis.

Sec. 150-013. Fences, landscaping, and boundary walls

(D) No hedge, screening, shrubbery, or trees growing on private property shall be permitted to obstruct any pedestrian or vehicular public right-of-way.

OCTOBER 2015

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 CITY COUNCIL MEETING: 7:00 P.M.	13	14 CURBSIDE RECYCLING	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 CITY COUNCIL MEETING: 7:00 P.M.	27	28 CURBSIDE RECYCLING	29	30	31