



Municipal News

**City Officials:**

- Mayor Billy Bain
- Vice-Mayor Bob Best
- Councilwoman Mara Zapata
- Councilwoman Maria Puente Mitchell
- Councilman Jaime Petralanda
- City Manager William Alonso
- Police Chief Armando Guzman

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 2017

In the Spotlight..... MSTV77

On September 10, 2017 our beautiful city, the City of Miami Springs was struck by a powerful hurricane, causing major destruction in its wake. Crews are working tirelessly around the clock to clear the fallen trees and large amounts of debris. City officials, County and State representatives, along with members of the community, came together pre and post hurricane to provide for families in need. Our determination to restore our city to its natural beauty is ongoing.

Here is a message from the Mayor and the City Manager...

From the Mayor:

I want to thank Commissioner Rebeca Sosa, State Senator Rene Garcia, and State Representative Bryan Avila, for helping our City recover from the damages caused by the hurricane.

A special thank you to Public Works Director Tom Nash for immediate debris cleanup on main artery roads, to the residents of our City for their patience and participation with the cleanup efforts, and to the City Manager William Alonso for coordination of all the special projects executed during this time of need.

From the City Manager:

The week after hurricane Irma, the City faced a variety of challenging issues from loss of power citywide, (approximately 5,800 homes/businesses), to an alarming amount of



debris and trash accumulation. One of our priorities was getting power restored to the Fair Haven Center/Nursing Home as well as to the seniors in our City. The City was proactive in mobilizing our debris collection contractor, Crowder Gulf, who were in the City by Monday following the storm and began debris hauling activities soon thereafter. We had the main roads of the City opened by Tuesday and over 85% of our residents had their power restored by the following Saturday. Our Public Works department, Parks and Recreation department, Golf Course and Police department staff did an awesome job and we should all be proud. A special thank you to Betty Dunn and the Lowell Dunn family for their generous gesture in allowing us to use their NW 74th St property as a staging area for debris. I also want to thank many political leaders that assisted us during this period: Commissioner Rebeca Sosa, Representative Bryan Avila, and Senator Rene Garcia to name a few. A special thank you to

Council for their involvement within the community in providing staff with information on what was needed in the field. Finally, "THANK YOU" residents for your patience and support of your neighbors during this crisis! This is what makes our City a great place to live in!

Watch the video on Hurricane Irma: <https://youtu.be/EMD-coNR66oY> or Search for "City of Miami Springs – Government" on YouTube under Public Service Announcements.

Jack-O'-Lantern Festival

Attention local Businesses, Churches and Clubs, the City of Miami Springs is seeking your participation in the Inaugural Jack-O'-Lantern Festival on Westward Drive. This family friendly event will be from the Circle to Park Street on Saturday, October 28th from 5:30pm-8:30pm (with set-up for participants starting at 4pm) and will feature music by Twilight Productions, trick or treating, our first ever Jack-O'-Lantern contest and YOU! There is no cost to reserve your space but you must provide wrapped, store bought candy and promotional materials and set up your own decorated tent (no larger than 10' x 10') and/or table and chairs. If you have questions or would like to reserve a space, contact Tammy Key at keyt@miamisprings-fl.gov.

IMPORTANT CALENDAR DATES

City Council Meetings:

City Council Regular Meetings

- Monday, Oct. 9, 2017 at 7 P.M. at City Hall
- Monday, Oct. 23, 2017 at 7 P.M. at City Hall

Special Dates:

VOICE YOUR VIEWS!

Congressman Diaz-Balart's Office Visits to City Hall

- Every third Wednesday of every month: 11 A.M. to 12 P.M. • Wed., Oct. 18 at City Hall
- Question & Answer session for residents!

SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE AT CITY HALL

- School Board Member Susy Castillo's Satellite Office Visits to City Hall
- Wed., Oct. 25, 2017 – 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

FREE NOTARY SERVICE

- The Office of the City Clerk offers free notary services to residents of Miami Springs and Virginia Gardens with a valid ID.
- Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.

Don't Miss:

Driver's License & ID Card Services

- Every third Wednesday of every month: 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.
- Wed., Oct. 18 at Miami Springs Community Center

Recycling Dates:

- Wednesday, Oct. 11, 2017
- Wednesday Oct. 25, 2017

POLICE DEPARTMENT

305.888.9711

After Hurricane Irma

In the days before Hurricane Irma's arrival the Miami Springs Police Officers were already making preparations at home knowing well that as the storm approached they would be called upon to serve and protect. All unscheduled vacations and time off requests were put on hold. On Friday, September 8th at 1700 hours (5pm) they started their Alpha/Bravo shifts.

Miami Springs Police officers patrolled the streets throughout the days to follow looking for potential hazards and directing traffic, especially around FPL trucks with workers at downed lines trying to restore power. Police Dispatchers manned the phone lines and police radios as the calls came in from the residents asking for help while others called in for welfare checks concerned about their elderly family members.

Beware of unscrupulous business and scam artists who may try to take advantage of vulnerable storm victims and charitable Floridians in the aftermath of a disaster and in the rebuilding process.

As you recover from Hurricane Irma, you will need to share personal information to get relief benefits or replacement identification documents from government agencies and organizations: be cautious. Identity thieves may pose as government officials or representatives for government agencies. Ask for identification and when possible, initiate contact yourself using information posted on official websites or in official information dissemination areas.

Debris Clean-Up and Removal Scams, unlicensed contractors and scammers often come into the affected area prom-



ising quick repairs at discount prices. Write down the driver's license and vehicle information (make, model, and license plate number) in case you need to report the contractor to authorities. Some may demand payment up-front for work they never do, or simply lack the skills, licenses, and insurance to legally do the work. Get a written estimate that includes a description of the work to be performed, what materials are included, when the work will be finished, the price, and the address and phone number of the contractor. Read all agreements carefully and be sure that all blanks are filled in before you sign. Make sure to pay with a credit card or check, and be wary of contractors who ask for a deposit in cash or to be paid in cash. Make full payment only upon satisfactory completion of the work. Trust your gut.

If you have any doubts, take your business elsewhere.



Visit our web site:
www.miamisprings-fl.gov

We are now live on TV
MSTV • Channel 77

SPECIAL PULL-OUT SECTION

AFTER A HURRICANE

Our City code mandates that all hurricane protection devices be removed promptly after a hurricane, to provide an egress to the property owner in the event of an emergency. Please plan to remove all protection devices within the thirty (30) days allowed by our City Ordinance below.

Sec. 93-13. Maintenance of property by owner.

(C) Accordion shutters, window awnings, hurricane panels, plywood sheets, and other forms of storm protection devices that are utilized for the protection of windows and doors in anticipation of impending hurricanes and other storm systems may be closed, lowered, placed or installed no sooner than five (5) days prior to the time that the hurricane or storm system is anticipated to reach the City. However, upon proper notification to the Police Department that the property will be vacant for a specified period of time, the aforesaid storm protection devices may be closed, lowered, placed or installed for no longer than ninety (90) days during any calendar year. **Following the passage of the hurricane or storm system, and the return of the City to normal weather conditions, all Accordion shutters, window awnings, hurricane panels, plywood sheets, and other forms of storm protection devices shall be opened, raised or removed within thirty (30) days thereof.** Any failure to comply with the foregoing shall be considered a violation of Section (A) above and enforced in accordance with the City's established Code enforcement procedures. It is the established policy of the City that the storm protection devices specified herein shall not be used as a method or means of providing security or crime prevention while the premises are being occupied.

If you suffered any damages to your prop-



erty, remember to apply for a permit. In general any maintenance and repairs under \$500** can be done without a permit.

However, there are exceptions as follows:

- All Structural work must have a permit.
- All Exterior Windows or Doors, new or replacement, must have a permit.
- All Drywall work must have a permit.
- All Stucco work must have a permit.
- All Fascia must have a permit (Per Building Official, this is a new rule as it may affect structural, roof, drip, etc.).
- All gutters must have a permit.
- All Mechanical/Air Conditioning work must have a permit. This would include any replacement of condensing units or air handlers and any addition of duct. For other maintenance such as cleaning coils or ducts, the \$500 rule would apply.
- All Roofing work valued at over \$300** or 3 squares (3 squares=300 square feet) must have a permit and any roofing with hot mop or structural must have a permit.
- ALL fencing must have a permit.
- Any fencing repairs where support posts or poles are replaced must have a permit. If only changing the chain link or wood panels and not changing the support posts, then the \$500 rule applies.

As we've all learned from Hurricane Irma, the time to prevent storm-related damage to your trees and property is well before a storm hits. Once it happens, it's too late to protect your assets. You should never trim your trees right before a storm! There may not be enough time to pick up the debris, therefore making unnecessary projectiles to your property, as well as your neighbors.

Here's a look at how you can preventative prune your trees by cutting them back to prevent and mitigate damage during and after a storm.

When you decide to preventatively prune your trees, start by encouraging proper angles: branches that extend upward at 30- to 45-degree angles. Also, look for branches that are too large to support beyond the trunk. Lateral branches should be no more than 50 to 75 percent of the trunk's diameter. Prune to create balanced crowns that promote stability and be sure to re-



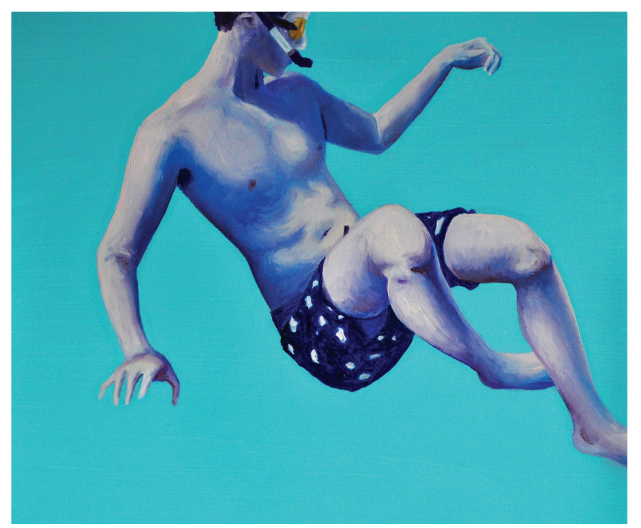
Public Works Director Tom Nash pruning a tree.

move rubbing branches. Finally, don't cut back all the way to stubs.

And it's always a good idea to hire a professional if you can. They have the knowledge and experience needed to properly prune trees. If you see your trees as valuable assets, a certified arborist can help you protect those trees and prevent storm-related damage.

Don't let your trees become dangerous — protect them and yourself when you choose preventative pruning.

ART IN MIAMI SPRINGS



Enjoy exciting new works of art in a variety of mediums at the City's Gallery Space located in the lobby of City Hall @ 201 Westward Drive. All exhibitions are free and open to the public, Monday-Friday from 8am-4:45pm. During October & November, the Gallery will feature the paintings of **Felipe Melendrez**.

Join us for the exhibition opening and meet the Artist on Thursday, October 5 from 7-10 pm. Mr. Melendrez's work will be

on view until November 27. To learn more about the Artist or to purchase or commission a work, please visit <http://www.felipemelendrez.com/>

This exhibition is made possible by the City of Miami Springs. If you are a local business that would like to sponsor an upcoming Artist reception or an Artist living or working in Miami Springs looking for exhibition opportunities, contact Tammy Key, Professional Services Specialist @ keyt@miamisprings-fl.gov

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

305.805.5009

Did you know that in addition to handling personnel matters, the City of Miami Springs HR Department also handles risk management functions? Risk management is all about protecting the City's assets and limiting the City's liability for loss and injury. The HR Department's risk management duties include maintaining adequate insurance policies and processing all claims for City property loss, workers' compensation, and any third party claims. After experiencing both a tornado and hurricane in 2017, the department is anxiously looking forward to a safe, tranquil, and uneventful 2018!

CITY OF MIAMI SPRINGS CELEBRATES OCT. BIRTHDAYS

- Patricia Mann Bradley Parks & Recreation Department
- Joel Watts Parks & Recreation Department
- Eneyra Encarnacion Police Department
- Jason Hall Police Department
- Armando Dominguez Public Works Department
- Denise Rivera Public Works Department
- Adrian Lopez Public Works Department
- Jorge Romeo Public Works Department
- Rafael Perez Public Works Department

Happy Birthday and Best Wishes!

CITY OF MIAMI SPRINGS RECOGNIZES SEPTEMBER EMPLOYMENT ANNIVERSARIES:

- Karen Rosson completed 40 years of service (Senior Center)
- Jeanne Malden completed 14 years of service (Public Works Dept.)
- Roberto Gonzalez completed 14 years of service (Public Works Dept.)

Thank You For Your Loyal Service to the City of Miami Springs!

MIAMI SPRINGS GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

305.805.5180

The Miami Springs Golf Course re-opened in its entirety just a few days post-hurricane! This was only 1 of 3 golf courses open in all of Miami-Dade County! The Golf Course took a big hit and the tree damage was grave. Thanks to the Golf Course staff, they are continuing the restoration of the Golf Course's natural beauty.



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PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

305.805.5075 • Follow us on Twitter @miamispringsrec

COMMUNITY CENTER



The Parks and Recreation Department is glad to see our community working together to get back up and running post hurricane Irma. Our staff was happy to work with City Council to distribute sand (pre-hurricane), ice, and meals to those members of our community that needed it during this time. Through joint efforts with Public Works and our Parks & Recreation staff, our beautiful parks are back up and running. The Aquatic Center weathered the storm and is open for everyone to come and enjoy.



Operating Hours

Monday – Friday: 6:00 a.m. – 9:30p.m.

Saturday: 7:00 a.m. – 8:30p.m. • **Sunday:** 9:00a.m. – 7:00p.m.

COED BASKETBALL CAMP 2017

Ages: 8 - 15
Cost: \$50

Mondays & Wednesdays
September 11 - October 4

Registration begins August 14 at 6 p.m.
Specializing: dribbling, passing, defense, rebounding, and more

Times According to Division
8 - 10 Division - 6:15 - 7:10 p.m.
11 - 12 Division - 7:15 - 8:10 p.m.
13 - 15 Division - 8:15 - 9:10 p.m.

Contact Information:

Miami Springs Community Center: 1401 Westward Dr. Miami Springs, FL 33166
www.MiamiSprings-fl.gov/ParksAndRecreation • 305.805.5075

2017 BASKETBALL LEAGUE

Ages: 6 - 15
Cost: \$100

Mondays & Wednesdays:

Ages 9-10 from 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Ages 13-15 from 7:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Tuesdays & Thursdays:

Ages 6-8 from 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Ages 11-12 from 7:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Uniforms Provided

Tryouts: November 6th & 7th
Games begin January 8th & 9th
Registration Begins
October 2nd at 6 p.m.!!

Contact Information:

Miami Springs Community Center: 1401 Westward Dr. Miami Springs, FL 33166
www.MiamiSprings-fl.gov/ParksAndRecreation • 305.805.5075

FACILITY RENTALS

- The Multi-Purpose Room is available for rental
- The 10x10 Pavilions at Prince Field are available for rental
- The 20x20 Pavilion at Stafford Park is available for rental

For More Information Contact: The Miami Springs Community Center at 305.805.5075
<http://www.miamisprings-fl.gov/parksandrecreation>

Jazzercise & Jr. Jazzercise: Visit www.jazzercise.com or call 305.888.7625

For Information on Athletics & Fitness Programs
(Basketball, Volleyball, Fitness Room, Jogging Track)
Visit: www.miamisprings-fl.gov/parksandrecreation

SPECIAL EVENT



Costume Contest
October 27th at 7 p.m. in the Gym

AQUATIC CENTER



Operating Hours

Monday-Friday Lap Swim: 8:00a.m. – 12:00p.m. Open Swim: 1:00p.m. – 8:00p.m.	Saturday Open Swim: 11:00a.m. – 7:00p.m.	Sunday Open Swim: 12:00p.m. – 6:00p.m.
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WEATHER PERMITTING

Water Aerobics

Water Aerobics is an exercise that is fun for all! It employs the resistance and buoyancy of water to condition your muscles while improving strength, flexibility and cardiovascular fitness.

Taught in our heated pool, this course is ideal for:

- Swimmers & non-swimmers alike
- Losing or maintaining weight
- Low impact exercise
- Suffers of arthritis
- Socialization

Summer Class Times:

Mondays & Wednesdays: 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Tuesdays & Thursdays: 6:15-7:15 p.m.

Fall/Winter Class Times:

Mondays & Wednesdays: 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Tuesdays & Thursdays: 6 -7 p.m.

	8 Classes	16 Classes
Resident	\$50	\$80
Non-Resident	\$60	\$100

*Classes can be completed at your leisure, and do not expire until used

Contact Information:

Miami Springs Aquatic Center
1401 Westward Dr.
Miami Springs, FL. 33166
305-805-5078
www.MiamiSprings-fl.gov/ParksAndRecreation

POOL AREA RENTALS

The Miami Springs Aquatic Facility offers public and private rentals for residents & non-residents.

- The Multi-Purpose room is available for rental
- 12x12 umbrella rental or 16x16 shaded areas

For More Information Contact: The Miami Springs Aquatic Center at 305.805.5078 <http://www.miamisprings-fl.gov/parksandrecreation/aquatic-facility-rental-information>

POOL MEMBERSHIPS:

Residents

Adults: 18 & over \$90.00
Senior: 60 & over \$50.00
Youth: 17 & under \$50.00
Family of 4: \$250.00

Non-Residents

Adults: 18 & over \$150.00
Child: 17 & under \$100.00
Senior: 60 & over \$100.00
Family of 4: \$350.00
Seniors 60 & Over
FREE: Monday – Friday, 9:00a.m. – 12:00p.m

For Information on Aquatic Programs
(Swimming Lessons, Swim Fit, and Water Aerobics)
Visit: www.miamisprings-fl.gov/parksandrecreation

We are now live on TV
MSTV • Channel 77



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SPECIAL PULL-OUT SECTION

The Miami Springs Senior Center facility suffered no damage as a result of Hurricane Irma, but the trees around the building sure did take a hit! Thanks to Public Works' excellent efforts, the senior center was able to reopen on the Wednesday following the storm to offer seniors hot meals and air conditioned respite from the heat.

The center is back on schedule and offers a variety of FREE activities and services to older residents of Miami Springs and Virginia Gardens, age 60 and over. Current financial and programmatic support comes from: the City of Miami Springs, the Alliance for Aging, Inc., the Florida Department of Elder Affairs, the Village of Virginia Gardens, participant donations, local business organizations, civic groups and countless volunteers.

CONGREGATE MEALS:

Weekdays 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

TRANSPORTATION:

Hialeah-MS Rotary Charitable Foundation Bus:

- Trips scheduled for October: Walmart (10/12), Publix (10/5 & 10/26) and Fresco y Mas (10/19).

RECREATION ACTIVITIES:

- October: Weekly Bingo games (10/2, 10/9, 10/16, 10/23 and 10/30)
- Monthly birthday & anniversary party (10/19)

HEALTH SUPPORT PROGRAMS AND EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS:

- "Council Report" – On October

4th at 12:15 p.m., Councilmember Maria Mitchell will update senior center participants on recent Council actions and items of interest to the citizenry.

- **"Library Happenings"** – Rita Mayer, Assistant Branch Manager of the Miami Springs Branch Library, will present information about upcoming library services and events on October 10th at 12:15 p.m. Following her presentation, seniors are invited to participant in an outreach art session sponsored by the MS Branch Library at the senior center.

- **"Arrhythmia in the Elderly"** – Dr. Veronica McCloskey, a Cardiologist with Mount Sinai Medical Center, will present this topic on October 11th at 12:15 p.m. In an effort to better serve our community, Mt. Sinai Medical Center will offer a monthly lecture series at the senior center over the next eight months. Programs aimed at helping seniors live better, healthier lives will be offered at 12:15 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month. A variety of medical issues, including cardiovascular health, nutrition, stress management and stroke prevention, will be offered, as the hospital believes that information is the key to leading a healthy life.

- **FREE Blood Pressure Screening** -- Mercedes Blanco, RN, from the Miami-Dade Health Department, will provide free testing for hypertension and individual counseling at the senior center on October 17th from 10—11:30 a.m.

- **"Crime Watch Program** -- Officers

Jorge Capote and Janice Simon, from the MSPD's Community Policing Office, will present the monthly crime watch program on October 25th at 12:15 p.m. The Officers will inform attendees about current crimes being committed in the City and will provide tips on how to avoid becoming a victim.

For more information on any of the services, activities, or special programs offered, or to volunteer your time, talent or expertise, please contact us at (305) 805.5160.



Seniors helping seniors! Jose Garcia provided Barbara Worth with transportation home after a hot meal provided by the Senior Center after the storm. Ever the adventurer at 90 years old, Barbara preferred a bike ride to a bus ride!

HEALTH SUPPORT ACTIVITIES

The following Health Support activities require registration, and are offered to seniors enrolled in the Miami Springs Senior Center activities.

CHAIR YOGA

Mondays & Wednesdays from 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.
Instructor: Natasha Salmon-Cogno
Classes meet at the Senior Center.

FLOOR YOGA CLASSES

Tuesdays & Thursdays from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.
Instructor: Natasha Salmon-Cogno
Classes meet at the Curtiss Mansion.

"LET'S DANCE" EXERCISE CLASSES

Mondays & Wednesdays from 10:30 - 11:00 a.m.
Instructor: Natasha Salmon-Cogno
Classes meet at Senior Center.

CHAIR EXERCISE CLASSES

Tuesdays & Thursdays from 10:30—11:00 a.m.
Instructor: Elizabeth King
Classes meet at Senior Center.

"CELEBRATION WORKOUT"

Fridays from 9:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.
Instructor: Natasha Salmon-Cogno
Class meets at the Senior Center.

TAI CHI for ARTHRITIS

Tuesdays & Thursdays from 12:30 — 1:30 p.m. Instructor: Judd Zisquit
Classes meet at the Aquatic Center.

OCTOBER 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 BD OF ADJUSTMENT: 6:00PM	3 CODE ENFORCEMENT: 7:00PM	4 PARKS & PARKWAYS BD: 7:00PM	5	6	7
8	9 CITY COUNCIL MEETING: 7:00PM	10	11 CURBSIDE RECYCLING	12	13	14
15	16	17 EDUCATION ADVISORY BD: 6:00PM	18 HISTORIC PRESERVATION BD: 7:00PM	19	20	21
22	23 CITY COUNCIL MEETING: 7:00PM	24	25 CURBSIDE RECYCLING	26	27	28
29	30	31				

