

# MARGATE MATTERS



A monthly newsletter published by the City of Margate

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## Margate Firefighters Assigned to FEMA Search & Rescue Team

Ask any firefighter and they'll tell you: The most gratifying experience of their career is to know they have saved a life – even while risking their own. Every day, firefighters across the country face the very-real possibility of having to enter burning buildings, cut open crumpled cars, or even dive in to murky waters to save lives. However, some firefighters just don't get enough and they step up, prepare themselves and constantly train to do and be more.

This is the case for six firefighter/paramedics with the Margate-Coconut Creek Fire Rescue Department who are assigned to the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Urban Search and Rescue South Florida Task Force 2 Team. When called to serve, these six firefighters put their lives in extreme danger to enter devastation – hoping they'll find survivors.

The Margate-Coconut Creek Fire Rescue firefighters Task Force 2 members are:

- Lt. Robert Ramirez - Rescue Squad Officer & Team Coordinator
- Capt. Carlos Pumariega - Rescue Squad Officer
- Capt. Oscar Rodriguez - Rescue Squad Officer
- Capt. Raul Perez - Rescue Specialist
- Lt. Ryan Nemesek - Rescue Specialist
- Lt. Lorne Brown- Rescue Specialist



"Most of us have been a part of this team since 2005. Before joining the team, I don't think any of us could have imagined the type of rescue missions we would be doing around the world," said Lt. Robert Ramirez, who is a Rescue Squad Officer and the Team Coordinator. "Our last major deployment was to Haiti in 2010 after a magnitude 7.0 earthquake struck the island. We were gone for 14 days, and it was a life changing experience."



Only two days after the earthquake, on January 14, 2010, the Florida - Task Force 2 team landed in Haiti. With nowhere to sleep, the group spread their beds on the lawn of the U.S. Embassy and prepared to receive their search and rescue assignments. The Task Force was split into two teams and headed out to search a school and a supermarket. At the school, the search and rescue team dug through the rubble for more than six hours to locate a survivor. This rescue was made more difficult because the team had to amputate the victim's arm with a construction saw. A second survivor was freed in good condition, and the last victim was found deceased.

The Margate team was assigned to the Caribbean Supermarket in downtown Port-au-Prince. The collapsed supermarket, which was a part of a five story building that was reduced to two, had numerous trapped survivors. Time was of the essence. The team moved as quickly as possible and after 32 hours of digging by hand, the team rescued the only American citizen found alive on the island. In total, seven people were found alive and 56 dead in the building.

"We are extremely proud of our guys. They have worked on the frontlines in some of the most tragic and devastated areas, and they go freely to rescue and save lives," said Fire Chief Dan Booker. "They are highly skilled, experienced and trained to handle this type of dangerous work, and our Department and City appreciate the value they bring to Margate."

For the complete story, go to [margatefl.com/newsroom](http://margatefl.com/newsroom)

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## Relay for Life - April 9<sup>th</sup>

This year's annual **Coconut Creek/Margate Relay for Life**, with the theme: Fairytales, will take place on **Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup>** from 3 p.m. to midnight on the track at Monarch High School located at 5050 Wiles Road in Coconut Creek.



Last year, the Relay for Life Committee, led by Margate City Clerk Joseph Kavanagh, coordinated the day-long event, recruited volunteers, and conducted all fundraising activities leading up to the event. The Committee raised over \$100,000 - far exceeding its goal of \$65,000. This year's goal is \$100,000.



The American Cancer Society's Relay For Life of Coconut Creek/Margate is a celebration where people take turns walking, running or otherwise circling around a track "relay" style to raise funds to fight cancer.

There will be food, games, and

other activities that will provide continuous entertainment for everyone.

One of the many highlights of the event is the Luminaria Ceremony or candlelight vigil held at nightfall to honor cancer survivors and caregivers and to remember those lost to cancer. This moving tribute is a must-see!

Be a part of the 2016 Coconut Creek/Margate Relay for Life. To become a part of the Relay for Life movement, make a donation or volunteer at the event, please call American Cancer Society, Community Manager, Chelsea Wagner at **(954) 200-7536** or email at [chelsea.wagner@cancer.org](mailto:chelsea.wagner@cancer.org).

## Celebrate Earth Day on April 22<sup>nd</sup> (and Every Day)

Looking for an easy way to celebrate Earth Day this year? Remember to reduce, reuse and recycle. Here is a list of items you should place in your blue recycling cart:

- Newspapers, magazines, junk mail and office paper
- Cardboard and paperboard boxes
- Milk and juice cartons
- Plastic cups & containers #1-7
- Glass bottles and jars
- Aluminum and metal cans



Please remember that Styrofoam, plastic bags, plastic wrap, foil, plastic pouches, paint, pesticides, wires, building debris, yard, medical waste and pharmaceuticals are not accepted in your recycling cart.

To learn more about the City's recycling program and for a complete list of acceptable and unacceptable items, please visit the City's website at [margatefl.com/wasteandrecycling](http://margatefl.com/wasteandrecycling).

## Reminder: Bulk Waste and Yard Waste are Collected Separately

As a reminder, yard waste is collected separately once a week on the same day as your first garbage collection day.

Bulk is collected monthly on your second garbage collection day during the first full week of each month.

**Yard waste is not collected with bulk materials.**



*Set yard waste out separately*



*Do not mix yard waste with bulk trash - it's now collected separately*

## National Prescription Drug Take Back Set for April 30<sup>th</sup>

On **Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>**, from **10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** bring unused or unwanted medications to CVS Pharmacy, 7210 West Atlantic Blvd. (Palm Lakes Plaza), where the Margate Police Department and Drug Enforcement Agency will be hosting a **National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day**.

Prescription drug abuse is now at epidemic levels across the nation. With one in four teens having misused or abused prescription drugs, and the majority getting them from the medicine cabinet of family and friends, it is imperative that we support actions to remove unused prescription medications from the community.

## Bicycle & Pedestrian Safety

The Margate Police Department (MPD), in partnership with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, launched a comprehensive traffic safety and accident prevention campaign that focuses on the safety of pedestrians and bicyclists. The campaign runs through May 2016.



Starting this month, MPD will be issuing citations to violators of the bicycle and pedestrian laws. For more information and safety tips, go to [AlertTodayFlorida.com](http://AlertTodayFlorida.com).

# Upcoming Events

## Splash, Slide and Swim at Calypso Cove; Water Park to Open in March

Looking forward to Spring Break but don't have any plans? Well, now you do! The City of Margate's **Calypso Cove** Water Park is set to open this March - just in time for spring breakers.

Beginning the weekend of March 19<sup>th</sup>, Calypso Cove will open on **Saturdays and Sundays only from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.** To kick-off the "swim" season, a **Dive-in Movie** featuring "Tomorrowland" (PG) will be shown the evening of **Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.**

**Spring Break Week (March 21<sup>st</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup>)**, the water park will open **Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.** For just \$4 per person, residents can spend an entire day swimming, sliding and splashing around at the City's Caribbean-themed aquatic facility.



Calypso Cove features two water slides with a plunge pool; a zero-depth, beach entry pool with water-spraying animals, palm trees with tipping coconuts and a play structure; and a six-lane lap pool for family swimming. Lifeguards are in and around the facility to ensure everyone's safety. Complimentary shade umbrellas and lounge chairs are available. Food and drinks will be available for purchase.

### CALYPSO COVE SCHEDULE

#### Spring Break (Monday-Friday)

March 21<sup>st</sup> - March 25<sup>th</sup>  
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

March 19<sup>th</sup> - June 5<sup>th</sup>  
Saturdays and Sundays Only  
10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

### SWIM LESSONS

Teaching children (and adults) water safety skills - especially how to swim - is an important task for the City of Margate!

Beginning June 20<sup>th</sup>, **Learn to Swim** lessons will take place at Calypso Cove. Four, two-week sessions will be taught by certified American Red Cross Water Safety Instructors. Swim lessons cost \$55 per session for residents.

Private, one-on-one swim lessons are available at the pool year round.

Calypso Cove accepts **Swim Central** vouchers at no additional charge for swim lessons. To register for the voucher program, visit [watersmartbroward.org](http://watersmartbroward.org).

For information, call Calypso Cove at (954) 974-4566 or visit [margatefl.com](http://margatefl.com).

City of Margate Presents

# SOUNDS at SUNDOWN

Music • Food Trucks • Fun

## 18TH ANNUAL CONCERT SERIES

**April 9th Lineup:**  
Pitbull of Blues: 5-8pm  
More Live Music after 8pm!

OVER 10 FOOD TRUCKS  
POP-UP SHOPS  
FREE EVENT!  
FREE PARKING

ALL AGES!  
ACTIVITIES  
January through June  
5-10pm  
At the N.W. Corner of Margate Blvd & 441

[www.soundsatsundown.com](http://www.soundsatsundown.com)

FOR ADDITIONAL INFO:  
MARGATE CRA: 954-935-5324  
PARKS AND RECREATION: 954-972-6458

MARGATE CITY CRA

## Get Your Yellow Dot Today

The Margate City Commission recently announced their support of the Broward County Yellow Dot Program, a free program for drivers who want to let emergency responders know their medical history in the case of an emergency.



By displaying a Yellow Dot decal on your car's rear windshield, emergency responders will know to look for a Yellow Dot pamphlet in your car's glove compartment. This pamphlet may help emergency responders decide how to treat you if you are unable to communicate effectively following an accident or emergency.

The information you provide in the pamphlet includes your physician's contact information, medical history and allergies, emergency contact, and your preferred hospital.

Pick up your free Yellow Dot decal and pamphlet today at:

- City Hall, 5790 Margate Blvd.
- Northwest Focal Point Senior Center, 6009 NW 10<sup>th</sup> Street
- Margate Catharine Young Library, 5810 Park Drive



## At Your Fingertips...

<b>Emergency</b>	<b>911</b>
Police/Fire Non-Emergency Line	(954) 764-HELP (4357)
City Hall	(954) 972-6454
Building	(954) 970-3004
DEES*	(954) 972-0828
Neighborhood Policing (Code)	(954) 972-1232
NW Focal Point Senior Center	(954) 973-0300
Parks and Recreation	(954) 972-6458
Public Works	(954) 972-8126
Water Billing Customer Service	(954) 972-6454

\*Department of Environmental and Engineering Services

Publication and distribution of this newsletter made possible by the Margate City Commission



## Be in the Know!

### Get connected with "Our Margate"

#### City Seeking Applicants for Boards

The City of Margate is seeking applicants to serve on various boards and committees on a voluntary basis. To review the list of boards and committees and download the application, go to [margatefl.com/boards-and-committees](http://margatefl.com/boards-and-committees).

#### Water Quality Report Coming Soon

**COMING SOON!** Beginning June 9<sup>th</sup>, the City of Margate's 2015 Water Quality Report will be available online at [margatefl.com/ccr2015](http://margatefl.com/ccr2015). This report contains important information about the source and quality of your drinking water. To have a report mailed to your home, submit your name and address to the Dept. of Environmental & Engineering Services via:

Web: [margatefl.com/ccr2015](http://margatefl.com/ccr2015)  
Email: [dees@margatefl.com](mailto:dees@margatefl.com)  
Phone: (954) 972-0828  
Fax: (954) 978-7349  
Mail: 901 NW 66<sup>th</sup> Ave., Margate, FL 33063

#### Sign Up for a Free Tree

The Arbor Day Foundation is partnering with the Florida Forest Service to offer trees to homeowners at no cost through the Energy-Savings Tree program. When you plant the right tree in the right place, it can help save energy and reduce utility bills. That's a win-win! Each household is able to reserve one tree, but tree quantities are limited, so sign up today at [arborday.org/floridatrees](http://arborday.org/floridatrees).

#### Car Seat Safety Check Available

The Margate Police Department has officers who are Nationally Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians who will gladly install or inspect your car seat to ensure your baby's safety. Using a car seat is the law, but most importantly, it saves lives! To schedule an appointment to have your car seat inspected or installed, please call **(954) 972-1232**.

## Connect with us...

 Get City information and e-services on the web at: [margatefl.com](http://margatefl.com)

 Like the City's Facebook page at: [facebook.com/CityofMargateFL](https://facebook.com/CityofMargateFL)

 Follow us on Twitter at: [twitter.com/CityofMargateFL](https://twitter.com/CityofMargateFL)

 Search for "Our Margate" in your smartphone app store. It's free.