

MARGATE MATTERS



A monthly newsletter published by the City of Margate

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As a Reminder...

Last month, we mentioned events and happenings that will take place in the City of Margate this month. Here's a quick reminder:



- **Kids ROGY (red/orange/green/yellow) Tennis Play Event on May 21st.** Is your child just starting to compete? Kids can gain experience and confidence by playing multiple matches close to home on May 21st at Firefighters Park. Get more information and register online at gsm-tennis.com.
- The **Margate Inner-City Transit** community bus is now **FREE!** Go grocery shopping, stop by the mall, get a ride to school or run your errands using the City's community bus. There is no cost to ride, and rides are unlimited. For routes and schedules, go to margatefl.com/resident/transportation.
- **Calypso Cove is open** on Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more info, go to margatefl.com/prec.

Farewell to Longtime City Attorney Eugene Steinfeld

The City of Margate has been fortunate to have a city attorney who has dedicated much of his career to serving our community. On April 30th, Eugene M. Steinfeld retired after serving 38 years as the City Attorney.



Affectionately known as Gene, City officials and staff are grateful for the legacy he leaves behind. Gene was a trusted adviser, a wise counselor, a true professional, a hard worker, and a wealth of knowledge and "smarts"! He guided the City on various issues (large and small) and assisted City leaders with invaluable counsel. Some of these issues include: Creating the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA), re-writing the City Charter in the 80s, and providing counsel for the construction of City Hall.

Gene was generous with his time and talent. He served as the Counsel to the Broward County Legislative Delegation for 32 years, the General Counsel to the Broward County Solid Waste Disposal District, and a Code Enforcement Special Magistrate for several Broward municipalities. He was an adjunct professor of Local Government Law at NSU. Prior to serving as City Attorney of Margate, Gene was an Assistant City Attorney for the City of Miami. He received both his A.B. and J.D. from the University of Miami. He has received numerous awards and accolades. For 15 years, Gene served as the Chairman of the Government Attorneys of Broward and was a member of the Executive Council of the Local Government Section of the Florida Bar and President of the Florida Municipal Attorneys Association.

A die-hard "Hurricane," City Hall employees will miss hearing the infamous UM fight song every time his cell phone rang, and seeing his orange and green University of Miami throw blanket and pillows that were strategically placed on the couch in his office - it's all you saw as you walked towards the City Attorney's/City Manager's Offices.

The Mayor and Commission, City Manager, and City staff, wish Gene all the best as he looks forward to his future with excitement and anticipation.

Get Ready for Summer FUN! Register Now for Camp



Registration is open for the **Summer Camp Program**. Youth and teen camps will begin **Monday, June 13th**. Registration forms are available online at margatefl.com/prec or in the Parks and Recreation Office at 6199 NW 10th Street. Space is limited. Register early!

Know the Code! Keep Pools Clean and Secure

It's swim season, and for many of us, the preferred way to cool off is by taking a dip in the swimming pool. But, before you jump in, be sure you are well aware of the City's code that outlines how residential swimming pools should be maintained. Here are some guidelines to follow:

1. Swimming pools must be maintained in a sanitary condition at all times - not just during the summer months.
2. Dirt, algae and scum shall be removed as often as necessary to maintain good sanitary conditions.
3. All pools, or premises surrounding a pool, must be enclosed by a safety barrier.
4. Some acceptable safety barriers include a screened-in patio, a wood or wire fence, or concrete block wall.
5. The height of the safety barrier shall be between four and six feet.
6. Gates shall open outward, be self closing and self locking.



The proper way to maintain your pool - it's clean and secure.



This pool speaks for itself. This is definitely a no-no!

Help keep our City beautiful. To learn more about City codes or to report code violations, please call **Neighborhood Policing** at **(954) 972-1232**.

Doug Gonzales Named New City Attorney

Douglas R. Gonzales has been named the new City Attorney by the Margate City Commission.

Gonzales, who has 27 years of experience, replaced Eugene M. Steinfeld who retired on April 30th after 38 years with the City.



Gonzales received his B.S.B.A. in Finance and his J.D. from the University of Florida, College of Law. He was admitted to the Florida State Bar in 1990 and spent six years with a number of private sector law firms including serving as an Associate practicing all phases of commercial litigation, bankruptcy and appellate law for William C. Stalions, P.A. He then joined the City of Hollywood as an Assistant City Attorney and was responsible for the code enforcement and special magistrate hearings, prosecuting municipal ordinance violations, foreclosures, bankruptcies, eminent domain, unsafe structures, commercial litigation and administrative tasks.

From 1999 to 2015, as a Partner with Weiss Serota Helfman Cole & Bierman, P.L., he was a City Attorney for the City of Miramar and was responsible for all aspects of government practice.

In accordance with the City Charter, the City Attorney is appointed by the Margate City Commission as the chief legal advisor to the commission, city manager and all city departments, offices and agencies. He will also serve as City Prosecutor.

"Doug brings a wealth of experience to this position - from being the City Attorney for a municipality that grew by leaps and bounds during his tenure to developing and managing the municipal prosecutor's office for the City of Hollywood. I am sure he'll be a terrific addition to the City," said Mayor Tommy Ruzzano.

Be Aware of Fake Utility Workers

Homeowners across the nation are being warned to be on the lookout for people who knock on their front doors claiming to be utility workers who need to gain access to their home. In Margate, these impostors are becoming more brazen, and City officials are reminding all residents of the following:

- Utility personnel rarely show up unexpectedly to a home. The company they work for typically calls to give prior notification.
- Utility personnel will always have company ID/credentials - ask for it!
- Call the utility or company to confirm worker activity, especially if there is a need to access the home or if you observe suspicious activity.

City of Margate utility workers like Theo Estreval (pictured here) wear clothing that is clearly marked with "City of Margate" insignia. In addition, City employees working in the field, drive City-owned vehicles that are clearly marked with the City logo and the department/division they work for.



Do not allow anyone to enter your home without obtaining their proper credentials and contacting the company that they work for - especially if there was no prior contact. If you have any concern or question about the validity of someone claiming to represent the City or another company, please call **Margate Police** at **(954) 764-HELP (4357)**. An officer will respond and verify the worker's identity and purpose. For an emergency, call **911**.

Upcoming Events

Learn-to-Swim Program Begins June 20th

It's that time of year again! It's time to register for summer **Learn-to-Swim** sessions at **Calypso Cove**, located at 6200 Royal Palm Boulevard.

Taught by certified American Red Cross instructors, the summer Learn-to-Swim program is offered in four, two-weeks sessions beginning on June 20th. Classes are held Monday through Friday at 9 a.m. or 9:30 a.m. and are 25 minutes each. All ages are welcome.

The sessions are aimed at teaching participants, regardless of ability and skill level, basic water safety techniques and swim skills. Each session costs \$55/resident and \$75/non-resident and are as follows:

Session 1: June 20th - July 1st
Session 3: July 18th - July 29th

Session 2: July 5th - July 15th
Session 4: August 1st - August 12th

For info, call Calypso Cove at **(954) 974-4566** or visit margatefl.com/prec.



Get Your FREE Coupon for Swim Lessons

The Children's Services Council of Broward County, in partnership with Broward County's Swim Central program, provides a coupon to help off-set the cost of swimming instruction for children 4 years and younger. To apply for a coupon, go to watersmartbroward.org.

Tennis Anyone? Tennis Program at Firefighters Park Open to All Ages

The game of tennis is a highly respected sport, and in the City of Margate, **Game Set Match Tennis Experience** is working hard to develop highly respected tennis players.



In just one year of starting the program, the organization, in partnership with the Margate Parks and Recreation Department, has more than 30 players of all ages and levels participating in the **Developmental Tennis Programs for Kids, Youth and Adults**. The program takes place at Firefighters Park, located at 2500 Rock Island Road, and practice sessions are held Monday through Friday and Saturday mornings.



Register now for tennis! Certified tennis instructors will help you and/or your child develop tennis techniques and skills that are essential to advance your game. To learn more about Game Set Match Tennis Experience and to register, please visit gsm-tennis.com or call **(954)-496-6061**.

Memorial Day Ceremony

Join the City of Margate as we honor the men and women who have paid the ultimate price for our country. The City's annual **Memorial Day Ceremony** will take place on **Monday, May 30th at 9 a.m.** at Veterans Memorial Park, located at 7044 NW 1st Street. The ceremony will include honorary presentation of colors, tributes to our soldiers, and patriotic performances. Winners of the student essay contest will be recognized, and refreshments will be available.



For more information, contact Parks and Recreation at **(954) 972-6458**.

In the Biz Tuesdays

Hosted by the Margate Community Redevelopment Agency, **In the Biz Tuesdays** is a new series of FREE VIP events that provide unique opportunities to meet the businesses that make Margate great. Join us on **May 24th from 5:30-7:30 p.m.** at Parrot's Cove, 8000 W Sample Road. For more information, visit margatefl.com or call **(772) 708-0230**.



The **Sounds at Sundown** concert series continues **Saturday, June 4th from 5-10 p.m.** at the NW corner of Margate Boulevard and 441. This free event features music by Orange Sunshine, food trucks, pop-up shops, activities for all ages and free parking.

New Light Pole Numbering System Designed to Expedite Repairs

The City of Margate Public Works Department is responsible for maintaining all City-owned and contracted light poles. Mostly, these poles are located on main or secondary roadways such as State Road 7, Royal Palm Boulevard, Rock Island Road, Atlantic Boulevard and Sample Road. Over the years, these poles have had various numbering systems which, over time, became confusing.

In an effort to update and correct the identification of these poles,



Public Works staff designed a numbering system which will go a long way towards the City's goal of repairing outages in an expeditious manner. The new system is a part of GIS, making it simple to locate the outage as well as find pertinent information such as the bulb type, wattage, height and type of the pole, length of arm, type of fixture, etc.

Staff currently relies on residents and police officers, who work the night shift, to report outages. Much of the time there is no precise location, so it takes time to find the pole(s) in question. But with this new system, the number on the pole will identify the exact location of the pole for Public Works staff.

To report an outage: Find the 4-digit COM number (attached vertically) on the pole. Then, call the Public Works Department at **(954) 972-8126**.

If a light pole does not have the City's COM number on it, it most likely is owned and maintained by another entity such as FPL, Broward County, or, if you live in a community with an association, possibly your homeowner or condo association. If in doubt or the pole does not have a number, please call the **Margate Public Works Department** at **(954) 972-8126** to determine the responsible party.

At Your Fingertips...

Emergency	911
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
Waste Management	(954) 974-7500
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"

Fight the Bite!

Residents are encouraged to take every precaution against mosquitoes, as they potentially carry the West Nile and Zika viruses. To help prevent the breeding of these mosquitoes, drain any standing water in your yard - from garbage cans, pool covers, flower pots, or any container where sprinkler or rain water is collected.



The City's **Public Works Department** sprays for mosquitoes year round, however, should you experience a problem with the pesky pests, please call **(954) 972-8126, ext. 14**. City personnel, who are professionally trained and licensed by the Florida Department of Agriculture, will conduct a special spraying in your area.

Water Quality Report Coming Soon

COMING SOON! Beginning June 9th, the City of Margate's 2015 Water Quality Report will be available online at 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
 Email: dees@margatefl.com
 Phone: (954) 972-0828
 Fax: (954) 978-7349
 Mail: 901 NW 66th Ave., Margate, FL 33063

City Offices Closed on Memorial Day

The City of Margate will observe **Memorial Day** on **Monday, May 30th**. Margate City Hall and most municipal offices will be closed. As a reminder, City Hall and most offices are closed on Fridays.

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