

MARGATE MATTERS



A monthly newsletter published by the City of Margate

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Margate City Commission (from left to right): Commissioner Anthony N. Caggiano, Vice Mayor Arlene R. Schwartz, Mayor Tommy Ruzzano, Commissioner Lesa Peerman, and Commissioner Joanne Simone

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

City to Launch New E-Services Online Portal

In September, the City will launch a new and improved E-Services portal that residents will use to pay their water bills, check the status of Building permits, search Code Compliance cases, and get updates on Local Business Tax Receipts.

Once the update is complete, utility customers who want to pay their water bills online will be prompted to enter their utility account number and current password. The system will then request the email address that the customer will be using as the Account ID. From that point forward, customers will log in using the email address as their user name rather than their utility account number. Please check margatefl.com for additional information and updates regarding this change.

Code Compliance Helps Beautify Neighborhoods

The Margate Police Department's Code Compliance Division plays an integral role in the City's beauty - working every day to ensure a comfortable, safe and clean environment is available to all Margate residents. The Code Compliance Team addresses a wide range of neighborhood issues - from illegally parked commercial vehicles to property maintenance and animal concerns. Here are some City rules you should follow:

- 1. Boats, recreational vehicles, trailers and other such vehicles** are permitted to be parked in a residential neighborhood as long as they are parked in backyards, on the side of a house, or in the driveway or any area constructed and permitted by the Building Department. These vehicles should not be parked on the grass, in the street, or on the sidewalk or right-of-way.
- 2. Pick up after your dog!** Being a good neighbor by cleaning up after your pet is not just a good idea, it's the law!
- 3. Dogs are not allowed to roam freely.** Not everyone is a lover of your best friend, so please keep your dog on a leash.
- 4. Maintain your yard.** Nothing enhances the beauty of a community and promotes increased property values as much as a well-maintained home and yard. Land owners are responsible for not only mowing and maintaining their property, but also the abutting rights-of-way, swales and canal banks. Lawns must be maintained at less than 6 inches in height. Hedges must be maintained at a height not exceeding 6 feet. And, low hanging tree branches, that are less than 14 feet above the road or 8 feet above the sidewalk, must be removed.
- 5. Swimming pools must be maintained in a sanitary condition at all times and your yard should be fenced or a screened in pool deck.** There is no better way to beat the Margate heat than with a dip in the family pool, so please keep your pool clean and safe at all times.
- 6. Get a building permit BEFORE you begin construction on your home.** A building permit is required to construct, enlarge, alter, repair, move or demolish any building, structure, or any part thereof; or change the occupancy of a building from one group to another; or to install or alter any equipment. To download a permit application, visit the City's website at margatefl.com.



For more information, call Neighborhood Policing at **(954) 972-1232**.

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Award-Winning Fire Explorers Program to Host Recruitment Meeting on Sept. 9th

The Margate Fire Explorers Post 815 is recruiting new members to join their hardworking, award-winning team. On **Saturday, September 9th from 10 a.m. to noon**, the Margate-Coconut Creek Fire Rescue Department will host a recruitment meeting for teens (between the ages of 14 and 18) who are interested in learning more about becoming a firefighter/paramedic. The meeting will take place at Fire Station 98, located at 5395 NW 24th Street.

Participants of the Fire Explorer Program will learn CPR, first aid and fire essentials. They will also get up-close experiences as they ride on fire calls with paramedics. The annual fee to join the Explorer Program is \$40.00, which will be collected at the recruitment meeting. Meetings are held every other Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Anyone interested should contact Nancy Moser at **(954) 881-3420** or **(954) 971-7010**.



Fire Explorer Competition

In June, the Margate Fire Explorers showed off their skills at the 17th Annual Fire Explorer Competition. The competition, held at the Coral Springs Fire Academy, was fierce - with participation from nine South Florida cities.

Explorer teams competed in nine strenuous events that test their knowledge and skills. The scenarios included removing victims from a car crash, hoisting ladders, performing first-aid and CPR on victims, and rolling and connecting hoses.



The Margate Explorers placed 1st, in the first aid event, 1st in the Combat Challenge, 2nd in the Barrel Push, and 3rd in Hose Deployment, giving them the honor of placing 4th overall. This is the 10th year the Margate team has participated in the competition and has placed 1st overall for more than half of those years.

"They learn leadership, discipline, and respect, in addition to skills needed to become a firefighter", said Nancy Moser, one of the Advisors of the program. "I encourage all high schoolers, girls and boys, to attend the recruitment meeting to learn more about the benefits of becoming an explorer. The program is valuable to all - not just those who want to become a firefighter."

Help Keep Mosquitoes from Spreading the Zika Virus During Rainy Season

The Zika virus is carried by a species of mosquito called *Aedes aegypti*. This type of mosquito lives near residences and businesses for ready access to feed on human hosts. If the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito transmits the Zika virus to a pregnant woman, severe birth defects such as microcephaly can occur.

How can you help?

Reduce the spread of the Zika virus by eliminating mosquito breeding habitats, and by dumping standing water around your property. In areas

where water cannot be dumped, apply larvicide to keep the mosquito larvae from developing into flying mosquitoes that can bite. The *Aedes aegypti* mosquito can breed indoors and outdoors and will bite anytime of the day or night.

Eliminate Breeding Habitats

The mosquito that carries the Zika virus is a so-called "container mosquito" because it breeds in small amounts of water that collects in containers like bottles, cans, cups, buckets, hoses,

planters, drains and in plants such as bromeliads. The life cycle of the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito is seven days, so you should implement a regular routine to inspect your property for breeding habitats, dump standing water, and cover any areas that could collect standing water, especially after it rains. Place larvicide into bromeliads and any containers that cannot be dumped every two to three days.

For more information, visit **Broward.org/ZapZika**.

Low Water Pressure? Check House Valve Before Calling.

Ever turn on the faucet and the water pressure is so low that you think something must be wrong? The water is drip-dripping or maybe even not dripping at all. Well, before you panic and pick up the phone to call the City, be sure to check your house valve to ensure that it is open.

What is the house valve, you ask? It's a device that regulates the flow of water into your home or property. This valve

is usually located above, below or next to the connection for your garden hose spigot.

The valve is sometimes adjusted by kids playing or a lawn maintenance worker who may turn the valve by mistake, which affects the water pressure in your home.

Check your valve before you request a City technician to come out and check

it for you, which will cost you an additional \$15 on your utility bill.

For additional information about checking your house valve or other related water issues in your home or property, please visit **margatefl.com/checkforleaks**.



Upcoming Events

Dive In Movie Set for September 9th

Mark your calendar for our next "Dive In" movie! On **September 9th from 7 to 10 p.m.**, moviegoers will splash around in Calypso Cove's lap pool while enjoying a feature presentation of "The Wild Life" (Rated PG).

This animated comedy takes place on a tiny exotic island. Tuesday, an outgoing parrot lives with his quirky animal friends in paradise. However, Tuesday can't stop dreaming about discovering the world. After a violent storm, Tuesday and his friends wake up to find a strange creature on the beach: Robinson Crusoe. Slowly, the group figured out a way to live in harmony until one day their lives were overtured by two savage cats.



Don't miss this Dive In movie! Hot dogs, chips and drinks will be available for purchase. Movie admission for residents is \$2/person ages 4 and older, \$1 for children 3 and under. For more information, please call **(954) 974-4566**.

Join Us For In The Business Tuesdays

The Margate Community Redevelopment Agency (MCRA) will end its 2017 **In the Business Tuesdays** event series at the new Bay Bay's Chicken and Waffles restaurant and the City's hidden gem, Stage Door Theatre.



This free event series promotes awareness of Margate's unique and diverse small business community within the MCRA district. Refreshments, entertainment, and activities are all a part of the fun-filled evening, and attendees will receive a special VIP discount card that can be used at participating businesses every Tuesday through December.

In The Business Tuesdays will take place from **6-8 p.m.** as follows:

- **August 22nd:** Bay Bay's Chicken and Waffles, 1027 N. State Rd 7
- **Sept. 26th:** Stage Door Theatre, 8036 W. Sample Rd.

For more information, please call **(952) 826-9806**.



Try A Free Dance Class on Aug. 30th

Ballet, Hip Hop/Jazz, Cheerleading and Gymnastics are all offered weekly at the Leonard Weisinger Community Center, located at 6199 NW 10th Street. On **Wednesday, August 30th**, a FREE dance class will be available to anyone interested.

All classes take place on Wednesday evenings as follows:

- **Ballet and Jazz:** 5:30-6:15 p.m., Ages 3 - 6
- **Hip Hop/Jazz and Cheerleading:** 6:15-7 p.m., Ages 6-up
- **Gymnastics:** 7-7:45 p.m., Ages 5-7 & 8-up

Classes are \$48/month with a \$15 registration fee.

To sign up for the free trial, please call Joy Deco Enterprises, the City of Margate's contractor, at **(954) 971-9917**.

Patriot Day CEREMONY

Monday, September 11th
9:00 a.m.

Firefighters Park
2500 Rock Island Road

Honoring our fallen brothers and sisters ~ gone but not forgotten!

CITY OF MARGATE
Together We Make It Great

HHW Collection & Document Shredding Sept. 23rd

The City of Margate will host a Household Hazardous Waste and Electronics Collection and Document Shredding Event on **Saturday, Sept. 23rd from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Oriole Park, 7055 NW 1st Street.**



Hosted in partnership with Waste Management, all items collected will be recycled and/or disposed of properly. Residents can bring up to three letter size boxes of documents for shredding.

Some of the items **accepted** at the event include household chemicals, aerosols, paint, oil, pesticides, herbicides, pool chemicals, mercury thermometers, propane tanks, fire extinguishers, fluorescent bulbs, CFLs, TVs, computers, printers, fax machines, phones, wire, DVD players, and tires (limit 4). Proof of Margate residency is required. For more information, please visit margatefl.com.



Home of the Month Winner

The City of Margate is pleased to announce the **Home of the Month** winner for August 2017. Congratulations to **Joe Ahne** who lives on NW 2nd Street. Mr. Ahne has been a Margate resident for more than 23 years, and he maintains a beautiful home. To enter Home of the Month Contest, visit margatefl.com/homeofthemoth.

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"

Neighbors Meeting Neighbors Event

The City of Margate will host a **Neighbors Meeting Neighbors** program on **Thursday, August 31st from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. & 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Leonard Weisinger Community Center, located at 6199 NW 10th Street** in Margate.

Residents are invited to come out for a get-together to meet other Margate residents and watch a free showing of the "New York Street Games" that will remind them of the "good ole days". The goal of this program is to help build connections among Margate neighbors and spark discussion through common interests.

Residents interested in attending the Neighbors Meeting Neighbors Program, a free program with limited space, should R.S.V.P by Wednesday, August 30th at (954) 972-6458.

Movie showing (76 min), snacks, and coffee will be provided. The program is presented by the City of Margate Parks and Recreation Department.

For more information, contact Gabriel Colon with the Margate Parks and Recreation Department at **(954) 972-6458** or by email: gcolon@margatefl.com.

City Commission Meetings Broadcast Live on Comcast Cable Channel 78

City Commission Meetings are broadcast live on the City's local access channel, Comcast Channel 78. Meetings normally take place the first Wednesday of the month beginning at 6:30 p.m. and the third Wednesday of the month beginning at 7 p.m. (Meeting dates are occasionally different. Please check website for dates.)

For those who prefer to watch the meetings online, log on to the City's website and click on "Commission Meeting LIVE Stream." Can't listen live? Archived Meetings are available at margatefl.com.

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