

Our Margate

THE OFFICIAL CITY OF MARGATE MAGAZINE

OCTOBER
NOVEMBER
DECEMBER
2023



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YOUR MARGATE GOVERNMENT

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Tommy Ruzzano | *Vice Mayor*

Antonio V. Arserio, FRA-RP | *Commissioner*

Arlene R. Schwartz | *Commissioner*

Joanne Simone | *Commissioner*

Cale Curtis | *City Manager*

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Interim City Attorney



ON THE COVER: MARGATE KIDS
PARTICIPATE IN THE COSTUME
CONTEST AT THE ANNUAL FALL
FESTIVAL.

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Let us know how we're
doing! Please send us
your feedback about
this magazine at
PIO@margatefl.com.

To read this magazine
en español, visit
www.margatefl.com/ourmargate

FROM THE MAYOR

Over the past year, serving as the Mayor of the City of Margate has been an incredible honor and privilege. This role has allowed me to connect with many of you in our community, work on important initiatives, and witness the positive changes that can be achieved through collaboration and dedication.

When you pay your property taxes for your single-family home, the City of Margate receives only one-third of what you pay yearly. The rest of your taxes fund the Broward County School District, Broward County, the North Broward Hospital District, Children's Services Council, South Florida Water Management District, and the Florida Inland Navigation Division. That's an incredible value for the top services you receive from Our Margate: for police, fire, parks, public works, senior center, and all the other

departments that service you daily to enhance your quality of life.

This past year, we've welcomed several new businesses while we continue to promote existing ones to attract more patrons and bring foot traffic to our commercial areas. We've hosted a number of successful events at our parks, including a new International Day Festival, to celebrate the multicultural diversity of our community. We've launched new initiatives such as the Property Improvement Grant Program citywide and for properties in the MCRA. We've been recognized with a Telly Award and a Davey Award for excellence in social media communications. We also received the Government Finance Officers Association Certificate of Achievement of Excellence in Financial Reporting, and a Distinguished Budget Award.



These are just a few of the accomplishments from last year that stand as a testament to the power of what we can accomplish when working together toward a common goal. While my time as Mayor comes to an end, I anticipate many more exciting opportunities for Margate in the upcoming year.

Thank you for entrusting me with the responsibility of leading our community. It has been an honor to serve you.

Mayor Anthony N. Caggiano
acaggiano@margatefl.com

FROM THE VICE MAYOR



On November 11, the City of Margate will celebrate Veterans Day with a morning ceremony at Veterans Memorial Park. On this day, we will unite as a community to honor and salute our brave veterans who have served in the military and whose sacrifices have safeguarded our freedom and way of life. One Margate tradition I fully support is the gesture of displaying the American flag in front of our homes. For years, I have volunteered my time to distribute and install our nation's flag throughout our neighborhoods to display red,

white, and blue as a symbol of gratitude and respect.

Join me in displaying the American flag on Veterans Day and every day. Let's honor those who have served and continue to serve our nation. God bless.

Vice Mayor Tommy Ruzzano
truzzano@margatefl.com

Dear Neighbors:



We are lucky to call Margate our home. The City of Margate stands out as having one of the most sought-after zip codes due to its winning combination of affordability and central location in Broward County. The 33063 zip code ranks among the top home sale areas over the past six months, according to Opendoor, the digital platform for residential real estate. Its affordable housing options make Margate ideal for individuals and families looking to settle down without breaking the bank.

As you already know, Margate has a vibrant community that offers excellent municipal services, outstanding park facilities, and fun special community events for all ages. Living in Margate is a source of joy for many reasons, whether you are a long-term resident or a new homeowner.

This holiday season, let's count our blessings and celebrate the wonderful location we get to call home.

Commissioner
Antonio V. Arserio, FRA-RP
aarserio@margatefl.com



As we enter the holiday season, the City of Margate will come alive with our highly anticipated family-friendly events that never fail to delight residents and visitors alike.

The season kicks off with the Fall Fest on October 28, a fun-filled family event. Join us for live music, pony rides, a petting zoo, our famous "scary" haunted house, arts and crafts, and so much more. Don't forget to enter the costume contests, as well as the pumpkin carving and scarecrow building contests open to all age groups. Fall Fest offers a wholesome, family-friendly time for everyone to enjoy.

As 2023 draws to a close, the City in partnership with the Margate Community Redevelopment Agency (MCRA), invites you to come and enjoy our renowned Winter Festival on December 15. Bring your children to play in real "Florida Style" snow, participate in fun rides and activities, and experience the magic of the holiday season. Thank you for helping make Margate a great community to live. Together, let's make this holiday season one to remember.

Commissioner
Arlene R. Schwartz
aschwartz@margatefl.com



Experience the magic of the season in December with the annual Holiday Decorating Contest. All residents are invited to transform their homes into enchanting displays of lights and decorations. This contest fosters a sense of community and holiday spirit, bringing neighbors together in a shared holiday celebration. Participating isn't just about winning—it's about spreading joy, inspiring creativity, and making cherished memories. Each year, winners are recognized at a City Commission meeting in December.

So, join in and be part of this wonderful tradition. Stay tuned for further details on how to participate and where to register. I look forward to touring your decorated home and celebrating together the joy of the holidays. Enjoy the festivities!

Commissioner
Joanne Simone
jsimone@margatefl.com

Ember

Margate's Therapy Dog



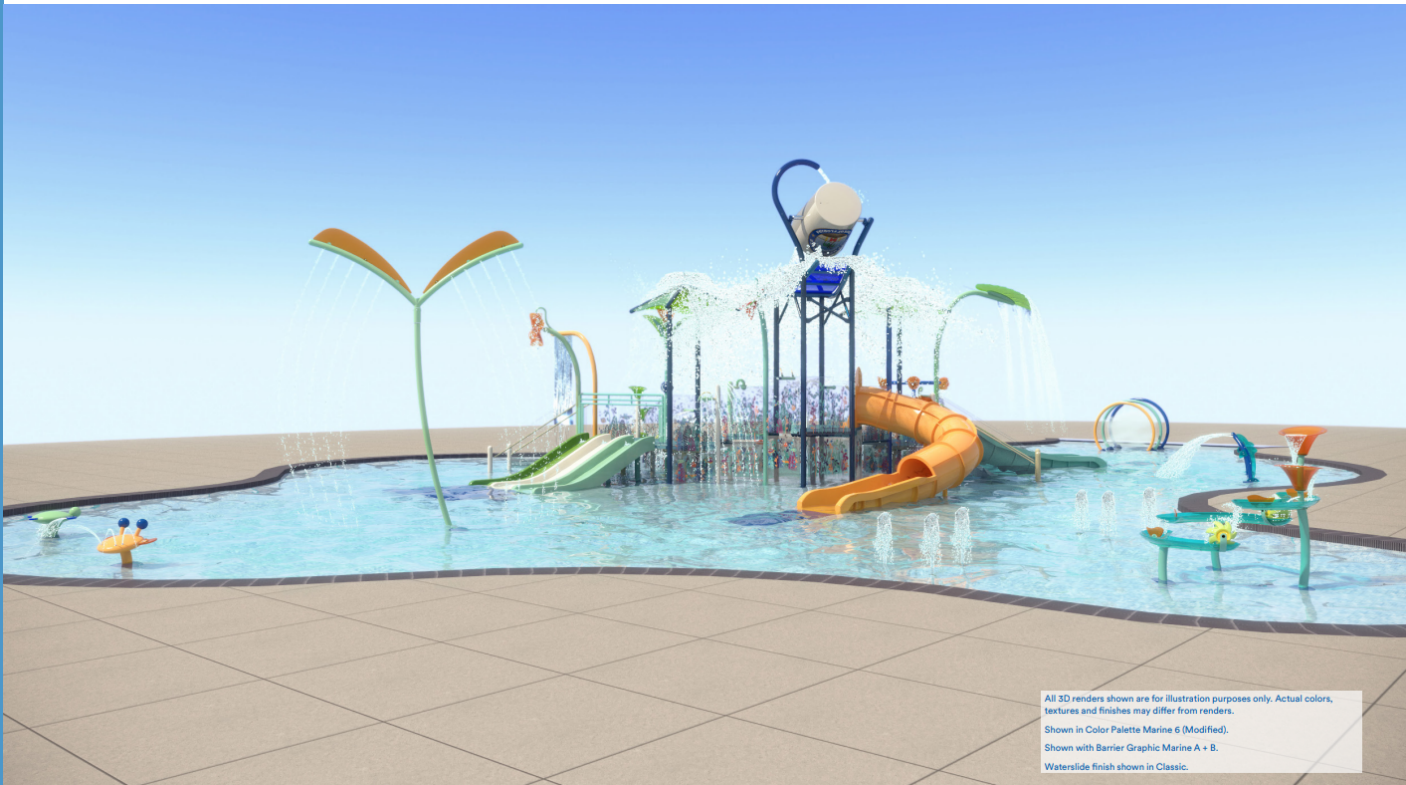
Introducing **Ember**, a six-month-old Bernedoodle

—a unique blend of a Bernese Mountain Dog and a Poodle— joining the ranks of Margate's Fire Department as a Therapy Dog. Under the close supervision of Fire Department Battalion Chief Edward Pickering, she's set to become a comforting figure within the community.

Starting this October, Ember will spread joy and healing across hospitals, schools, and City events after completing her specialized training. She will also be a source of support and protection for our first responders and City employees. As a Therapy dog, Ember will provide essential emotional support, comfort, and companionship to Margate residents. Her gentle presence is aimed at lowering stress and anxiety. Look for Ember at upcoming Margate events, and don't hesitate to say hello. Her wagging tail and friendly pawprints will leave an indelible mark on the hearts of all ages.

"Ember will spread joy and healing across hospitals, schools, and City events"





(Concept Art Only)

Improvements Coming to Calypso Cove

Margate City officials are in the initial stages of a plan to upgrade the current Aquatic Playground area at Calypso Cove. The project is still subject to final Commission approval. Proposed improvements include an upgraded interactive water play area, pump room equipment, and pool deck expansion. The project is scheduled to be completed in time for next summer.

Coming soon:

The Property Improvement Grant Program (PIP) will reopen this Fall. This reimbursement grant will help property and business owners restore, renovate, and improve their properties. Start getting your quotes and other documentation, and get ready to apply online once it opens.

For more information, please visit the City's website at www.margatefl.com.



Be a Good Neighbor: Trimming Your Trees

Trimming trees in your neighborhood offers many benefits for the community. Overgrown branches can pose a safety hazard by obstructing walkways, roads, and visibility, especially during Hurricane Season. Regular tree trimming helps eliminate these potential risks, reducing the likelihood of accidents. Trees growing near powerlines can cause outages or safety concerns. Never attempt to trim vegetation growing near powerlines or on poles. Only specially trained line-clearing professionals should work around power lines.

The City of Margate recommends hiring licensed arborists who can “thin out” a tree strategically without weakening its structure. City officials cannot make a property owner remove or trim a tree simply because it is too large. However, overgrown trees that might encroach on neighboring properties can cause disputes. Be a good neighbor: regular trimming demonstrates consideration for your neighbor’s spaces and promotes harmonious relationships.



By City Code, the following requires a homeowner to trim or remove a tree:

- Trim branches that fall below 8 feet over a sidewalk
- Trim branches that fall below 12 feet over a canal
- Trim branches that fall below 14 feet over a street
- Remove dead tree (no permit is required)
- Remove tree stump (no permit is required)
- “Hatracking” (improperly trimming the main leaders of a tree, causing irreparable harm/damage) is considered tree abuse and is strictly prohibited.

"Be a good neighbor: regular trimming demonstrates consideration for your neighbor's spaces and promotes harmonious relationships."

Homeowners can apply for a permit with DEES at 954-972-0828 if they wish to remove a healthy tree. A permit will only be granted as allowed by ordinance under certain circumstances. FPL is the only entity permitted to trim/remove trees near powerlines. Contact FPL immediately at 1-800-4OUTAGE (1-800-468-8243) to report a trimming issue.

2023

OCTOBER



**Saturday, October 7 &
November 4**

5 - 9 p.m.

Margate Sports Complex
1695 Banks Road

Be prepared to sing, dance, and have a blast at this Saturday concert series featuring live music and food trucks serving delicious snacks, meals, and desserts for purchase. Bring your blankets and chairs. Admission and parking are free. Presented by the MCRA.



Tuesday, October 31

5 - 8 p.m.

City Hall Parking Lot
5790 Margate Boulevard

City staff will decorate their vehicles for Halloween and have plenty of candy to pass out. Free.

Saturday, October 28

6 - 10 p.m.

Margate Sports Complex
1695 Banks Road

Celebrate the arrival of Fall with this event for all ages. Live music and family-friendly activities include pony rides, a petting zoo, and a haunted house. Interactive activities include costume contests for all ages, carved pumpkin contest (bring your already-carved pumpkin), a scarecrow-building contest, and craft and food vendors. Contest winners will receive prizes. Free.

NOVEMBER



Saturday, November 11

10:30 a.m.

Veterans Memorial Park
7044 NW 1st Street

Join us as we honor our military veterans for their dedicated and loyal service to our country. We'll salute all the men and women who have fought for our country's freedom. The Veterans Day essay contest winners will read their essays and be recognized during the ceremony. Free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be provided.

movies in the park

Saturday, November 18

6 p.m.

Movie: Puss in Boots: The Last Wish

Margate Sports Complex
1695 Banks Road

Gather the family and bring your blankets and chair to enjoy a free movie under the covered field of the Margate Sports Complex. Free.

DECEMBER



Friday, December 15

6 -10 p.m.

Margate Blvd. and State Road 7

This free, family-friendly event will include real "Florida Style" snow, children's rides, arts and craft, a craft fair, food vendors, and pictures with Santa (bring your camera). Food and craft vendors. Presented by the MCRA.



ONGOING PROGRAMS

Archery

Andrews Field (Behind Margate Middle School) 500 NW 65 Ave.

Learn archery, a sport where nearly everyone can be successful regardless of age, size, and physical ability. This all-inclusive sport is becoming one of the fastest-growing recreational activities among kids, teens, adults, and seniors. All equipment is provided, and reservations are required.

Saturdays and Sundays: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Contact:

Karen Ludwig
954-866-4935 (TEXT ONLY)
Goarchery.net@gmail.com

Martial Arts

Charley Katz Community Center
6111 NW 10th Street

Hapkido is a non-sport mixed martial art focusing on physical and mental exercise, tactical defense, reactive responses, increased flexibility, self-confidence, and focus.

Kids Class: Tuesdays and Thursdays
6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Adult Class: Tuesdays and Thursdays
7:30 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Mixed Age Class: Wednesdays
7:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Fees:

\$120 per month, \$20 one-time registration fee. Family discounts available

Contact:

Phil Barrett
954-917-0488
hapkidobear@gmail.com

Joy Deco (Dance and Gymnastics)

Leonard Weisinger Community Center
6199 NW 10th Street

This program is designed to introduce children to the beautiful world of dance, allowing your child to have fun while showing off their creative side.

Mondays: 5:45 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Gymnastics basics, ages 4-7
6:30 p.m. - 7:20 p.m., Gymnastics basics
ages 5-11
7:30 p.m. - 8:20 p.m., Gymnastics level 1
ages 7-12

Tuesdays: 5:15 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Cheerleading & Cartwheels, ages 5-9
6 p.m. - 6:45 p.m., Dance & Cheer
(Jazz ballet), ages 4-7
6:45 p.m. – 7:30 p.m., Hip Hop/Jazz,
ages 6-12

Wednesdays: 5:30 p.m. - 6:20 p.m.

Gymnastics basics, ages 4-7
6:30 p.m. - 7:20 p.m., Gymnastics level 1-2
ages 5-11

Fees:

\$60 per month, 1 class weekly
\$15 one-time registration fee

Attire:

Gymnastics: Leotard and shoes, bare feet
Ballet & Cheer: Leotard, tights, and pink ballet shoes
Cheerleading & Cartwheels: comfortable clothes and sneakers
Hip Hop/Jazz: Comfortable clothes and sneakers or black jazz shoes

Contact:

Joy Deco Enterprises
954-971-9917
Register at joydecoenterprises.com

Tennis

Firefighters Park
2500 Rock Island Road

Get healthy and active by learning tennis taught by certified tennis instructors. Classes are available for all age groups and all skill levels. No experience is needed.

Monday - Friday: 4:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Fees: \$25 registration. Please contact the program for additional pricing information.

Contact: Coach Peter and Coach Csilla
954-496-6061, 954-825-1118
peter@gsm-tennis.com

Tribal Yoga

Leonard Weisinger Community Center
6199 NW 10th Street

Yoga for all levels, from fitness-based approach to Vinyasa style flow. No experience is necessary. Variations/modifications will be provided.

Mondays: 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Fees: Drop-In \$8.00; 10 Classes: \$65.00

Contact: Wanda Olcima
954-282-9926
tribalyogainc@gmail.com

Plus:

• Youth Sports

For a list of times, schedules and locations, please visit the City's website at www.margatefl.com.

Margate Baseball & Softball Leagues



To learn more about how to be a part of a baseball or softball league, email info@margatebaseball.com.

Spring season: March - May

Fall season: September - November

Margate Youth Soccer Association



To learn more about soccer league registration, contact 954-740-1680 or email marlonp02@gmail.com. Registration takes place in July, August, and September.

Seasons: September – January (registration starts in July)
March – June (registration starts in February)

Calypso Cove

Calypso Cove is **closed until March 22, 2024**. We will reopen Saturday, March 23, 2024.

See you soon!





older adults 60+

Northwest Focal Point Senior Center



Classes and Activities for Seniors

Below is a list of regular classes and activities for older adults you can enjoy by registering with the N.W. Focal Point Senior Center. Contact the Senior Center for a monthly schedule or visit the City's website. Activities are subject to change.

CLASSES

Zumba Gold
Stretch & Balance
Line Dancing
Tai Chi

ACTIVITIES

Dominos
Cards
Wii Bowling
Billiards
Mah-Jong
Rummikub
Bingo

LIVE MUSIC

Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Additional live bands and entertainment are provided during special celebrations.



2023

OCTOBER

October 20, 10:30 a.m.: International Folk Festival

October 31, 11:30 a.m.: Halloween Costume Parade

NOVEMBER

November 14, 11:30 a.m.: Turkey basket raffle

November 17, 10:00 a.m.: Autumn Wii tournament

DECEMBER

December 5, 11:30 a.m.: In-house Choir Production

December 29, 11:30 a.m.: New Year toast

Activities are subject to change, and attendees must be registered members of the Senior Center to participate.

SENIOR SERVICES

SHINE

(Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elder) counselor to assist with Medicare and health insurance questions.

EHEAP

(Emergency Home Energy Assistance) is a program that provides assistance for home-energy emergencies to qualified, low-income households with at least one person 60 years of age or older.

Broward County Property Appraiser

At the Center the first Monday of the month, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Margate residents can apply for Homestead Exemption and other tax-saving property exemptions. You can make an appointment for the Exemption Express service at web.bcpa.net or by calling 954-357-5579.

Counseling

Available for individuals or support groups. Caregiver Support Group is also available on Wednesday at 10 a.m.

Adult Daycare

Provides care and companionship for older adults who need assistance or supervision during the day. The program offers relief to family members and caregivers, allowing them to go to work, handle personal business, or relax while knowing their relative is well cared for and safe.

Farmers Market

Every Thursday morning, the Center provides fresh produce and other food items donated by local stores.

JOIN NOW!

Northwest Focal Point Senior Center

954-973-0300 | 6009 NW 10th Street, Margate, FL 33063

www.margatefl.com/Government/SeniorCenter



NEW MARGATE BUSINESSES

WELCOME
WE ARE
OPEN
PLEASE COME IN



Caribe Smoothie Cafe

2515 N. State Road 7, #2503
954-960-5914
www.caribesmoothiescafe.com



PJ's Seafood

5560 W. Sample Rd.
954-366-1744



Serino Park Improvements

The recent Serino Park improvements at 5600 SW 8 Court were unveiled this Fall. The Margate Community Redevelopment Agency funded approximately \$2 million for park upgrades, including a Splash Pad, exercise court, a new playground with shade and lighting, a picnic shelter, and restroom facilities.



Fingerprinting at City Hall



If you need to submit fingerprints for any potential jobs, you can come to Margate City Hall. Digital fingerprinting for employment is available at the Police Department Mondays through Thursdays, from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Appointments are preferred. Walk-ins are also accepted and are subject to availability. The Cost is \$15 for residents and \$40 for non-residents. To make an appointment, please contact 954-972-7111.

Holiday Safety Tips

The City of Margate wants to ensure you stay safe during the holiday season. Staying vigilant about fire safety is essential as the weather gets cooler and the holiday season approaches. Please adhere to the following safety tips:

October: Fire Prevention Week (October 8 -14)

- **Check Smoke Alarms:**

Test and replace batteries in your smoke alarms. Make sure they're functioning correctly.

- **Fall Decorations:** If using candles or decorative lights for Halloween, place them away from flammable items and never leave them unattended.



November: Thanksgiving and Cooking Safety

- **Cooking Awareness:**

The holiday season often involves extensive cooking. Never leave the kitchen unattended while cooking, especially when using stovetops and ovens.

- **Keep a Fire Extinguisher Handy:** Make sure you have a working fire extinguisher in the kitchen. Know how to use it and keep it within easy reach.



- **Turkey Fryer Safety:** If deep-frying a turkey for Thanksgiving, do it outdoors, away from buildings and flammable materials. Thaw the turkey completely and follow the manufacturer's instructions.

December: Holiday Decor

Christmas Tree Safety:

If using a real Christmas tree, keep it watered to prevent it from drying out. If using artificial trees, ensure they are flame-resistant.



Lights and Decorations:

Inspect holiday lights for frayed wires or other damage. Turn off decorative lights when leaving home or going to bed.



Candle Safety:

During the holiday season, candles are often used for decoration. Keep them away from children, pets, and flammable items. Consider using flameless candles as a safer alternative.



Holiday Cooking:

As with Thanksgiving, be cautious while cooking holiday meals. Don't overload outlets with multiple appliances and decorations.



By following these fire safety tips, you can ensure a safer and more enjoyable holiday season. Remember that fire prevention is a year-round effort, so stay informed and proactive to protect your loved ones and property. Happy holidays!

City of Margate
5790 Margate Boulevard
Margate FL 33063

STAY CONNECTED!

The City of Margate has several ways you can reach us and stay connected.

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www.margatefl.com

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[@CityofMargateFL](https://www.facebook.com/CityofMargateFL)

Follow Us on Twitter:

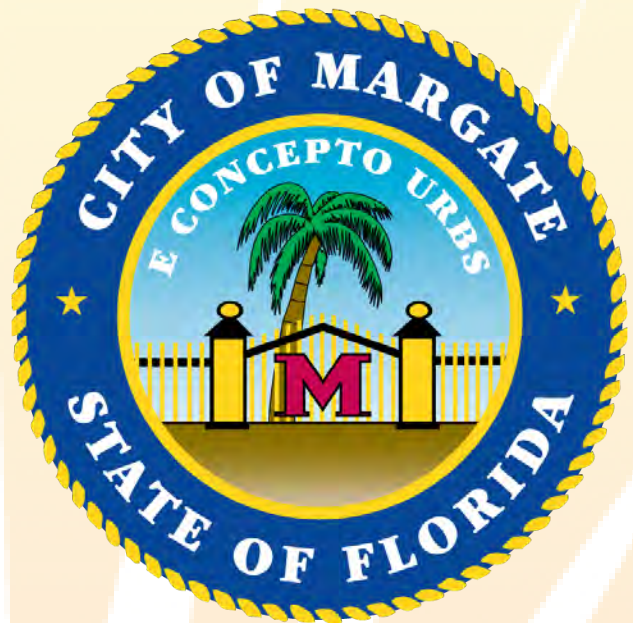
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[@CityofMargateFL](https://www.twitter.com/CityofMargateFL)

Check Us Out on Instagram:

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[@CityofMargateFL](https://www.instagram.com/CityofMargateFL)

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