

Our Margate

THE OFFICIAL CITY OF MARGATE MAGAZINE

JANUARY
FEBRUARY
MARCH
2024



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YOUR MARGATE GOVERNMENT

CITY COMMISSION

Tommy Ruzzano | *Mayor*
Arlene R. Schwartz | *Vice Mayor*
Antonio V. Arserio, FRA-RP | *Commissioner*
Anthony N. Caggiano | *Commissioner*
Joanne Simone | *Commissioner*

Cale Curtis | *City Manager*
Jennifer Johnson | *City Clerk*
Weiss Serota Heffman Cole & Bierman
| *Interim City Attorney*



ON THE COVER: GETTING READY TO ENJOY THE SPRINGTIME EGG HUNT.

Publication Team

Maria Rosa Higgins Fallon
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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

As your newly appointed Mayor, I am grateful for the opportunity to continue to serve this remarkable community. It is an honor to represent all of you as Mayor and Board Chair of the Margate Community Redevelopment Agency. I want to also extend my heartfelt wishes to all of you for a joyous and prosperous New Year.

In the coming year, my focus remains grounded on the needs and aspirations of our Margate community. Together, we will face the challenges and the opportunities that await us. My commitment continues to be that of the enhancement of our beautiful parks, the promise of a new City Center, and welcoming new businesses that enhance our ever-growing commercial appeal.

Thanks to its successful introduction,

the Property Improvement Program will reopen this January to fund additional improvements to your home. I urge you to be ready to submit your application starting on January 8, 2024. If you own a residential or commercial property within the MCRA district, you can apply to a similar improvement program to upgrade your property. Please take advantage of this unique opportunity to make lasting improvements to your property and contribute to the ongoing growth of our Margate.

Exciting changes are underway in our sports community. Youth basketball, baseball, softball, and soccer are now under the expert management of our Parks and Recreation Department. With a passion for fostering athletic excellence and community engagement, our park staff is



dedicated to organizing leagues and promoting sportsmanship. They are fully committed to uniting our community through the love of basketball, baseball, softball, and soccer.

Thank you again for the trust and confidence you have bestowed upon me. Wishing you and your loved ones a Happy New Year filled with joy, prosperity, and the promise of exciting new beginnings. God bless.

Mayor Tommy Ruzzano
truzzano@margatefl.com

FROM THE VICE MAYOR



Get ready to start the New Year with an exciting array of special events in our Margate parks. Join us at the Margate Sports Complex on the first Saturday of the month in January through March for the popular Sounds at Sundown, featuring local musicians and food trucks for a perfect evening ambiance.

Experience the magic of outdoor cinema under the covered field of the Margate Sports Complex and bring your blankets and popcorn for Movies in the Park in January and February.

This event is perfect for family friendly fun.

Cap off the season with our Spring Clean-Up and Garage Sale in March. This event brings our community together, connecting neighbors through shared treasures.

All these events are more than gatherings; they are designed to foster a sense of community and create lasting memories. Enjoy the beauty of this time of year!

Vice Mayor Arlene R. Schwartz
aschwartz@margatefl.com

Dear Neighbors:



The City of Margate is introducing a new Amnesty Program for Local Business Tax Receipts (LBTRs.) This program empowers our local businesses and fosters a collaborative partnership between your local government and our business community.

Compliance with Local Business Tax Receipt requirements is paramount for several crucial reasons. First, it ensures that businesses operate within the legal framework established by local regulations. Secondly, compliance contributes directly to the sustainability of our Margate by providing funding for essential services such as public safety and local development projects.

If you own a business in our City that has fallen behind the required compliance, this opportunity will alleviate your financial burden. Companies that comply with the LBTR will receive a waiver of all late fees until the end of February 2024.

I hope you embrace this limited chance to support our local economy.

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



Margate is gearing up for the Senior Games this March. These games are a testament to the enduring spirit and capabilities of our seniors, showcasing their athleticism and zest for life. Beyond the thrill of competition, the Senior Games are a platform for fostering social connections, promoting active lifestyles, and highlighting the importance of lifelong fitness.

If you are a golden resident of Margate and still young at heart, come participate in the Senior Games. You will engage in various sports, reinforcing the notion that age is no barrier to staying active and involved.

I will be there to cheer, support, and celebrate the vitality of our senior residents at this great event.

Commissioner
Anthony N. Caggiano
acaggiano@margatefl.com



Springtime joy is around the corner as we invite families to join us for the highlight of the season – the Springtime Egg Hunt on March 30th at the Margate Sports Complex.

This enchanting event promises a morning filled with laughter, excitement, and the thrill of the hunt as children scour our grounds for colorful eggs and delightful surprises. Along with bounce houses, frozen treats, and a special visit by Peter Rabbit, this is a great time to celebrate the renewal of spring.

So, please mark your calendars and join us for a magical experience that will delight the whole family! I hope to see you there.

Commissioner
Joanne Simone
jsimone@margatefl.com

No Overnight Parking at Parks

We all love our City parks, but you cannot leave your vehicle parked there overnight. Please be a good neighbor and follow the posted Park Rules, which indicate their hours of operation. Parks are open from sunrise to sunset (unless otherwise posted), and it is unlawful to conduct any business or be present at any park during any hours in which the park is not open to the public. If you are parked illegally, your vehicle may be towed, or you may receive a parking violation ticket.



New Amnesty Program for Local Business Tax Receipts

Effective now until Thursday, February 29, 2024, the City of Margate is offering an Amnesty Program for unpaid or pending-in-review Local Business Tax Receipts (LBTR). This new initiative was created to ensure that all business locations are safe by meeting compliance with Building and Fire Codes.

Per Chapter 25 of the Margate Code of Ordinances, all businesses in Margate must have a valid LBTR. This process triggers various inspections and reviews to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of our residents.

If, for some reason, you opened a business and did not get an LBTR, you have this limited opportunity to bring your business into compliance and receive a waiver for all late fees – but only until February 29, 2024.

To get started...

please visit www.margatefl.com/205/Local-Business-Tax-Receipts,
call 954-979-6213, or stop by the Margate Development Services Department
at 901 NW 66th Avenue for additional information.

Property Improvement Grant Programs Are Accepting Applications



Margate Wins the 2023 Gold Civic Experience Award

The City of Margate earned **first place** in the 2023 Civic Experience Award for its new Property Improvement Grant Program (PIP). The Civic Experience Awards recognize local governments working hard to improve civic experiences in ways that create greater resident satisfaction and safer, cleaner, and more profitable communities.

At an online awards ceremony held on September 18, 2023, the City of Margate received a Gold Civic Experience Award trophy and a \$1,500 charitable contribution from CivicPlus.



2023 Gold Civic Experience Award

Good news: The citywide Property Improvement Grant Program (PIP) will reopen and begin accepting online applications on Monday, January 8, 2024, at 9 a.m.



The PIP Grant provides a 50% reimbursement grant of up to \$50,000 for commercial or multi-family properties and common areas, as well as building exteriors owned by condominium or homeowner associations. The program also provides 50% reimbursement up to \$10,000 for improvements to single-family or multi-family (individually owned) homesteaded properties.

Please get your project estimate from a licensed contractor now and be ready to submit it when the application opens on January 8, 2024.

In addition to this program, if you have a residential or commercial property located within the boundaries of the Margate CRA, you are also eligible to apply for the MCRA Property Improvement Program Grant. This grant will help you restore, renovate, and improve your properties within the CRA district.

For additional information on these two grants, please visit www.margatefl.com.

Margate Wins Two 2023 Silver Davey Awards

The City of Margate has been recognized again for its exceptional efforts in communicating with its residents and businesses and has received **two 2023 Silver Davey Awards**.

The City of Margate and the MCRA are proud to have received Silver Davey Awards for the video "Is there a ghost in the MCRA?" in the general social video category and "What We Are Thankful for in Our Margate" in the campaign series category.

The Davey Awards, presented by the Academy of Interactive and Visual Arts, honor outstanding creative work from the best small shops worldwide. The award-winning videos can be seen on the City's YouTube Channel at this link: www.youtube.com/cityofmargatefl

Dallas Company Leases Facility in Margate

ATI Inc., a Dallas-based company formerly Allegheny Technologies, will lease a facility in Margate to produce parts for aerospace and defense clients, including the US Navy. The company will employ skilled engineers and manufacturing personnel and plans to open this location in mid-2024, occupying 130,000 square feet of warehouse space in the First Gate Logistics Center at 5301 W. Copans Road.

The industrial space in Margate was selected due to its ideal location and quick access to highways and airports.

2024

JANUARY



Saturday, January 6, February 3 & March 2

5 - 9 p.m.

Margate Sports Complex Covered Field
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.

FEBRUARY



If you are at least 60 years of age and still young at heart, sign up for the Margate Senior Games to show off your competitive spirit at any of the following games (games subject to change):

Individual Games:

- Horseshoes
- Billiards
- Shuffleboard
- Dominoes
- Golf putting
- Basketball (free throw shooting)
- Wii bowling
- Wii table tennis

Team Games:

- Petanque
- Bocce
- Pickleball
- Pinochle
- Mixed Double Tennis

Registration begins January 8 through February 26.

Games will take place at various locations depending on the sports. First, Second, and Third Place medals will be given at an Awards Ceremony (TBA). Please contact the NW Focal Point Senior Center at 954-973-0300 or the Parks and Recreation Department at 954-972-6458 for registration information.



SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, April 13, 2024 | 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Margate Sports Complex

Join us for the second annual International Day Festival to highlight the cultural diversity in Margate with international performers, multicultural vendors, and food trucks from around the world. For sponsorship information, contact PIO@margatefl.com.

Presented by:



MARCH



Saturday, March 16

7 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Oriole Park
7055 NW 1st Street

Spring clean your home and make some extra money in the process by selling your used or gently used items at this event. Register as a vendor in advance, or just come to shop for treasures from your neighbors. Registration cost to be a vendor is \$10 for residents; \$30 for non-residents. Vendor registration opens to Margate residents on January 8; for non-residents on February 5.

Springtime EGG HUNT

Saturday, March 30

9 – 11 a.m.

Margate Sports Complex
1695 Banks Road

For ages 8 and under. Celebrate the arrival of spring with Peter Rabbit and friends!

Arrive on time with your baskets to participate in the egg hunt. There will be special prize tickets hidden inside some eggs.

Families with special needs individuals will have a designated area. Activities include bounce houses and frozen treats. Free.



ONGOING PROGRAMS

New! Youth Basketball

Firefighters Park
2500 Rock Island Road



The City of Margate Youth Basketball League is a co-ed developmental, recreational program for residents and non-residents ages 5-16. Volunteer coaches will work with your

child to improve individual skills in dribbling, passing, shooting, and team play. Participants will develop friendships, character, respect, and life lessons beyond the game.

Fees: \$90 residents; \$125 non-residents

Contact:

Margate Parks and Recreation
954-972-6458
parksrec@margatefl.com



Youth Baseball and Softball

Vinson Park, 955 NW 66 Avenue and Margate Sports Complex 1695 Banks Road

The City of Margate Youth Baseball and Softball League is a co-ed recreational program for all ability levels, ages 3 to 17. We strive to create a low-pressure environment emphasizing baseball fundamentals, teamwork, sportsmanship, and fun for all our participants. Our volunteer coaches will teach basics such as batting, fielding, base running, and game rules.



Ages: Baseball (3-17 years old)

Softball (6-17 years old)

**Must be under 18 at time of registration*

Fees: \$125 residents; \$175 non-residents

Contact:

Margate Parks and Recreation
954-972-6458
parksrec@margatefl.com



Contact:

Margate Parks and Recreation
954-972-6458
parksrec@margatefl.com



Youth Soccer

Southeast Park
655 SW 50th Avenue

The City of Margate Youth Soccer League is a co-ed recreational program open to all ability levels, ages 4-16. Our volunteer coaches will teach basics such as ball handling, shooting, defense, and game rules.

Ages: 4-16 years old

Contact:

Margate Parks and Recreation
954-972-6458
parksrec@margatefl.com

Sunset Strings Academy

Firefighters Park
2500 Rock Island Road

Sunset Strings Academy sets the foundation for young students to begin learning stringed instruments and acapella singing in a fun, age-appropriate way.

Mondays (Guitar):

4 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. Grades K-2
5 p.m. - 5:45 p.m. Grades 3-5
6 p.m. - 6:45 p.m. Grades 6-8

Wednesdays (Violin):

4 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. Grades K-2
5 p.m. - 5:45 p.m. Grades 3-5
6 p.m. - 6:45 p.m. Grades 6-8

Fridays (Acapella):

4 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. Grades 3-5
5 p.m. - 5:45 p.m. Grades 6-8
6 p.m. - 6:45 p.m. Grades 9-12

For pricing information and any other questions, contact Sunset Strings Academy at 561-600-2554.

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
hapkdobear@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; 10 Classes: \$65.00

Contact:

Wanda Olcima

954-282-9926

tribalyogainc@gmail.com



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



2024

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Monday and Friday, 9:30 a.m. Zumba

Tuesday and Thursday, 9:30 a.m. Stretch and Balance exercise class

Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. Line Dance

Wednesday and Friday, 11:30 a.m. Bingo

Thursday, 1:30 p.m. Live music

Second and fourth Wednesday of each month, 2 p.m.
Bereavement Support group

Plus Health Talks. Activities are subject to change.

Membership is required to participate in any activities at the Senior Center.



SENIOR SERVICES

SHINE

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

E HEAP

(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



Royalty Specialty Care

2480 N. State Road 7
954-933-3757
www.royaltyspecialtycare.com

Reel Battery

2714 N. State Road 7
www.reelbattery.com



Chipotle Mexican Grill

5671 W. Atlantic Blvd.
(754) 704-4976
www.chipotle.com

Bones Bait and Tackle

2426 N. State Road 7
754-704-2248
www.bonesbaitandtackle.com



Caprichito Bakery

230 N. State Road 7
954-933-1718



Que Perros

2147 N. State Road 7
954-933-1718



On Valentine's Day Spread Love - Not Flames

As you celebrate February as the month of love, we ask that you don't forget about fire safety. If you're planning an evening with candles, please remember to:

- Always keep candles in a sturdy holder on a flat, stable surface.
- Never leave candles unattended, especially if you have pets or children.
- Keep candles away from flammable materials and drafts.
- Consider using battery-operated flameless candles, which can look, smell, and feel like real candles.
- Don't use lit candles in bedrooms, bathrooms, and sleeping areas.
- Blow out candles when you leave a room or home or go to bed.
- Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that burns.

Springtime Fire Safety

As we enter Springtime and think about spring cleaning tasks, we ask that you don't forget about fire safety. Please follow these safety tips:

- Remove unnecessary items that could fuel a fire, like old newspapers, cardboard boxes, or excess clutter.
- Clean the oven, stovetop, and microwave to prevent grease buildup. Ensure there are no flammable items near the stove.
- Safely discard expired or damaged cleaning chemicals.

In March, as we spring forward an hour for Daylight Saving Time, we ask that you remember to:

- Check your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors for functionality.
- Replace batteries in alarms that require them.
- Ensure alarms are installed in suitable locations throughout your home.

When spring arrives, many of us look forward to outdoor grilling. Keep grilling safely by:

- Placing your grill away from structures, overhanging branches, and other flammable materials.
- Regularly cleaning your grill to prevent grease buildup.
- Never leaving a lit grill unattended.



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.

Visit Our Website:

www.margatefl.com

Like Us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/CityofMargateFL
@CityofMargateFL

Follow Us on Twitter:

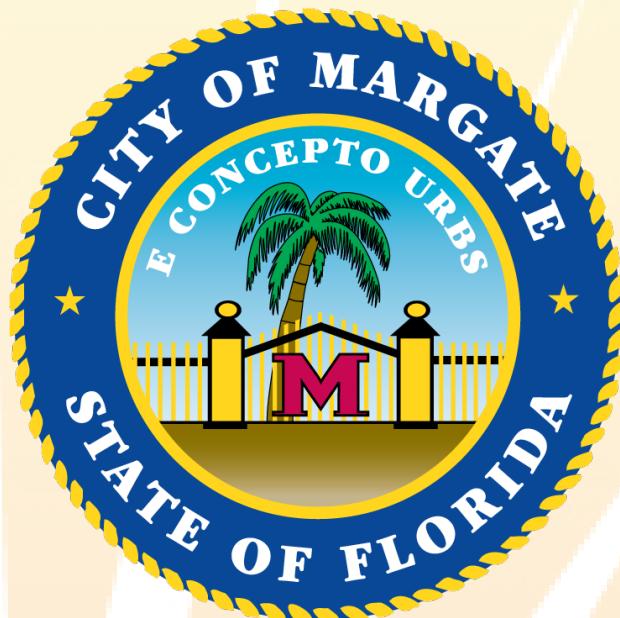
www.twitter.com/CityofMargateFL
@CityofMargateFL

Check Us Out on Instagram:

www.instagram.com/CityofMargateFL
@CityofMargateFL

Find Us On Nextdoor:

www.Nextdoor.com



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