

SIB islander

CITY OF SUNNY ISLES BEACH

April 2019

Our Annual Egg Scramble



Saturday, April 20
10:00 am–2:00 pm
Egg hunt begins at 10:00 am
Pelican Community Park
18115 North Bay Road

Join us for a day of spring fun! Start the event with our annual egg hunt. Participants ages 12 and under will receive a special bag and scramble through hundreds of beach balls to collect brightly colored eggs filled with toys and candy. Afterward, stay and enjoy crafts, games, music and carnival rides! Visit our Spring Bunny for a keepsake photo to take home.

Wristbands for rides: \$20, or \$5 with a valid City-issued SIB Resident ID Card.

Free parking is available in the NSE/SIB School garage and in the SIB Government Center garage. Ride the free SIBshuttle to the event and receive a free gift.

For more information call 305.792.1706 or visit sibfl.net/eggscramble.



from our Mayor



George 'Bud' Scholl
Mayor

It is with a heavy heart that we say goodbye to former City Commissioner Roslyn Brezin who passed away in February.

As a resident of Sunny Isles Beach for nearly 50 years, Roslyn was one of the City's strongest advocates.

Roz was my role model on a number of fronts. She aged gracefully and maintained a spirit and sense of humor that still rivals anyone I know. Roz always had a goal in mind and was relentless in pursuing her goal. However, she could vigorously advocate without being adversarial. These qualities endeared her to most everyone she came across. She will be deeply missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing her.

Roslyn was appointed to the City's first Charter Commission in February of 1997 where she worked with the other members to draft the City Charter and create our Council/Manager form of government. Just six years later, she was appointed to the Sunny Isles Beach City Commission on October 27, 2003 to fill a vacant seat. Roz completed that term until 2005 and was re-elected, serving and advocating for residents until 2010.

Roz championed several initiatives during her time as Commissioner including the school, City beautification, parks, and programs for seniors. She was always available and ready to speak with her fellow residents regarding issues related to improving life in Sunny Isles Beach.

After leaving office, Roz continued to have an active voice and role acting as the ambassador for seniors in our community. Throughout the last couple of years, she became our chief supporter for the Gateway Park build out, which will provide a space for enhanced senior programs.

Always at our City events and a regular at our bi-monthly bingo tournaments, Roslyn was a well-respected and longstanding member of our community. I know we will all miss her greatly. Her service and dedication toward making our City a better place to live will remain in our history books for all time.

SIBlife

Distracted Driving Awareness Month

This April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month, a united effort to recognize and eliminate preventable deaths from distracted driving. The Sunny Isles Beach Police Department is committed year-round to keeping all residents and commuters safe on and off the road. Throughout the month, the City and the Police Department will be focusing efforts on educating the public about the dangerous repercussions of distracted driving.

More than 40,000 people nationwide were killed on the road in 2017, and distracted driving is a significant contributor. Though cell phones have become a necessity to most, using them while driving will only end in tragedy. Cell phones are not the only disturbance causing accidents. Distracted driving can include use of GPS systems and “infotainment” dashboards, and even passengers. “Infotainment” dashboards and hands-free technology, while convenient and thought of as safe, still pose threats to your concentration while driving and can distract your brain even long after you have used them.

Take safety in your own hands. Pledge to give up distractions while driving and keep your hands on the wheel and your eyes on the road. Follow @SIBPD on Facebook and Twitter this month to learn more about how to eliminate distractions and become an alert driver.

New SIBshuttle Signs

You may have noticed new signs at our SIBshuttle stops around the City. You can use them to identify your stop number and which lines and directions the bus services

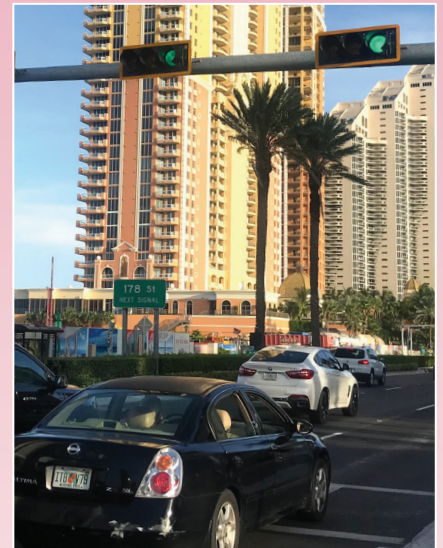
from that stop. Call the number listed on the sign, 305.741.0907, to find out your approximate wait time. You will be asked to identify your desired route color, stop number, and direction in which you are traveling, northbound or southbound. You can also download the SIBshuttle mobile app on your mobile device to place this information at your fingertips. Find out more information at sibshuttle.net.

Tax Fraud

Around this time of year, unscrupulous people may be calling to try and take advantage of residents by threatening them with fines and jail time for money they supposedly owe the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Everyone should be aware that the IRS does not call you at home with threats. The agency will communicate via the U.S. Postal Service with a letter regarding any tax owed or refund due. Never give out personal information to these callers nor offer to pay. Make note of the caller ID, hang up and go online to report the incident at treasury.gov.

Coming Next Month!

Don't miss Decades Rewind at Gateway LIVE! happening on Saturday, May 11. Celebrate the hits of the 60s, 70s and 80s, the most prominent decades in music history. Featuring more than 60 songs from Aretha to Zeppelin, 100 costume changes and nostalgic video, Decades Rewind will have you singing and dancing in the aisles. Tickets are \$10, or free with a valid City-issued SIB Resident ID Card and available for purchase online at sibevents.ticketleap.com or in person at Pelican Community Park and the SIB Government Center. For more information, visit sibfl.net/decadesrewind.



A Message from the City Manager

by Christopher J. Russo



It has been almost a year since former Chief Fred Maas entered retirement. Retirement for Fred is defined by continuing to serve the police profession through volunteerism while continuing to nurture and maintain the many relationships he established throughout his career. One such opportunity to meld those two is his participation in the Law Enforcement Officers Awards (LEO's) and the annual Borrell Family Award. One of his other passions is writing and he especially enjoys writing about the wonderful works of his beloved former officers and his good friends. Please read on for a special story by retired Police Chief Fred Maas.

From Former Chief of Police Fred Maas

On Thursday, March 7, 2019, the 11th annual presentation of the Borrell Family Award was held and it was an exciting day of firsts. This year's recipients were two SIBPD officers, both female, which was a first in the history of the award. Detective Sasee Morales and Officer Maureen Carulo were named co-winners of the award. The award is named in honor of two professional sports icons, Joe and John Borrell, internationally known athletes in boxing and golf, respectively. The award symbolizes strength, courage, benevolence and compas-

sion when dealing with the less fortunate in our community.

Both women are known for their extreme compassion and understanding toward helping the underprivileged in our community, from children to the elderly. Both are highly respected for their knowledge and use of resources in order to effectively secure help for those in need, specifically in the areas of elder abuse, DCF cases, homelessness and mental health crisis cases. It was a very proud day for both of these veteran officers who are respected for the job they do in this field. Mr. Frank Borrell and his son, Joe, were both on hand to make the presentation along with numerous guests. Congratulations to both of these fine officers.

The Borrell Award presentation was preceded by the annual Law Enforcement Officer (LEO) Awards, and once again, the Sunny Isles Beach Police Department was well represented. Detective Mitch Glansberg was nominated for his relentless pursuit of justice in an economics crime case involving over \$2 million. The work of the detective division requires patience and determination amongst other investigative attributes as many cases take time and require endless follow up. Congratulations to Detective

Glansberg for being recognized for the outstanding achievement in bringing this white-collar crime to justice.

It is not surprising that the other Sunny Isles Beach officer recognized at the LEO Awards was Sasee Morales mentioned before. Sasee is a veteran Sunny Isles Beach police officer who has really found her niche. Her caring and nurturing persona made her ideal for the position of being the go-to person for incidents involving children, elders and mental health cases. Sasee has made connections countywide to best serve all of our residents in any circumstance. Policing goes beyond the enforcement of law and Sasee embodies the spirit of community service we strive for.

As all of the above-mentioned officers will tell you, it takes a team of support behind them to be successful. This extends to their fellow officers, colleagues, and superiors all the way to the City Manager and the City Commission. They are provided the opportunity of training, equipment and resources to accomplish their goals. To all of SIBPD, I say thank you for another remarkable year of going above and beyond, and for the honor and privilege to share the word of your good works with our residents.

Human Trafficking Awareness Training

from the desk of Commissioner Jeniffer Viscarra



Miami-Dade's GRACE Court (Growth Renewed through Acceptance, Change and Empowerment) is a specialized court created to provide comprehensive services and support to child victims of human trafficking and is the first of its kind in the nation. While a valuable resource, its existence highlights the prevalence of this problem in South Florida.

On February 21, 2019, the Sunny Isles Beach City Commission voted unanimously to pass a resolution in support of Senate Bill 540, which requires human trafficking awareness training for establishments of public lodging, hotels and short-term rentals. The training, intended for those employees who interact with guests such as housekeeping and reception, would help the employees identify individuals who may be victims of human trafficking and provide guidance in reporting and responding to suspected human trafficking. Educating the employees of businesses that are likely to come into contact with trafficked victims is an excellent idea that I fully support. It will add another opportunity of protection for the most vulnerable among us.

I'd like to thank Vice Mayor Larisa Svechin for bringing Senate Bill 540 to the City Commission's attention, prompting us to review, discuss, and publicly support it. Regardless of whether the bill ultimately becomes a law, the mere fact that we are discussing new ways to help human trafficking victims is a victory in and of itself.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns at jviscarra@sibfl.net or call 305.792.1750.



The City is working on two major storm drainage maintenance projects to improve the citywide drainage system prior to the start of the rainy season. The first project is the cleaning of multiple storm drainage wells in the Golden Shores and Central Island areas. These wells allow storm-water runoff to discharge into the shallow aquifer roughly 90 feet below the surface and prevent flooding of the streets. The second project is the annual cleanout of storm drainage catch basins and manholes to remove dirt, silt and trash accumulated this past year. This reduces the level of pollutants discharged into the adjacent waterways.

- Wells cleaned: 34
- Catch basins cleaned to date: 186
- Manholes cleaned to date: 74

Storm drains are not disposal locations for household or pet waste, paint, or yard clippings. These drains are intended to prevent rainwater from puddling on the streets. Remember, **Only Rain Down the Drain!** To report illegal dumping into any storm drain call 305.792.1760.

The Importance of State Legislation

from the desk of Commissioner Alex Lama



The 2019 Legislative Sessions began on March 5 in Tallahassee and will continue for 60 days. Here are some proposed bills that may impact our daily lives:

The Use of Wireless Communication Devices While Driving: this bill would make texting and driving a primary offense and allow law enforcement officials to stop and issue a citation solely based on this offense. At the moment, law enforcement officers are not allowed to issue a citation for texting and driving unless you are stopped for another offense and you were seen texting.

Human Trafficking: this bill would require hotels and other lodging establishments to train certain employees and create policies relating to this issue that greatly affects South Florida. It will also require police officers to complete training on identifying and investigating human trafficking.

Water Pollution: the Governor is seeking legislation to allocate a \$2.5 billion budget over the next four years for the restoration of the Everglades and protection of Florida's waters. This is an important bill as we still remember images of the green algae that filled our state waters a few months ago.

Although many important bills are being proposed, the State Legislature is only obligated to pass one bill, the budget bill, while many bills important to us do not move forward. It is imperative to be informed and to write or call our state legislators to pass or deny bills that affect you and our community. To learn more about all proposed bills, please visit floridaleagueofcities.com.

Please contact me at alama@sibfl.net or 305.792.1752.



April 3

Wednesday, 3:00 pm
Bingo
SIB Govt. Center Commission Chambers

April 4

Thursday, 10:00 am–noon
Medical Lecture Series
SIB Govt. Center Commission Chambers

April 4

Thursday, 6:00 pm
Public Arts Advisory Committee Meeting
SIB Govt. Center 4th Floor Conference Room

April 4

Thursday, 6:15 pm
Cultural Event: *9 to 5, The Musical*
Broward Center for the Performing Arts

April 5

Friday, 9:30 am–1:30 pm
Mini-FLOW
Pelican Community Park

April 6

Saturday, 10:00 am–3:00 pm
Concert & Cars on the Green featuring
The Everly Set: Sean Altman & Jack Skuller
Celebrate the Everly Brothers
Gateway Park

April 8

Monday, 10:00 am–12:30 pm
Modern Era Movie: *Book Club*
Pelican Community Park

April 11

Thursday, 9:00 am–12:00 pm
Blood Pressure and Glucose Screening
SIB Govt. Center Commission Chambers

April 11 & 18

Thursday, noon–3:00 pm
FTRI Phone Distribution
SIB Govt. Center 1st Floor Meeting Room

April 12

Friday, 7:00–10:00 pm
Teens Only: Luau
Gateway Park

April 17

Wednesday, 7:30–9:00 pm
Sunny Serenade: Classic Rock Therapy
Samson Oceanfront Park

April 18

Thursday, 6:30 pm
Regular City Commission Meeting
SIB Govt. Center
Commission Chambers

April 18

Thursday, 7:30 pm
Full Moon Yoga
Samson Oceanfront Park

April 20

Saturday, 10:00 am–2:00 pm
Egg Scramble
Pelican Community Park

April 23

Tuesday, 9:30 am
Cultural Event: Sawgrass Mills Mall
Sunrise, FL

April 24

Wednesday, 3:00 pm
Bingo
SIB Govt. Center
Commission Chambers

April 26

Friday, 9:30 am
Arbor Day
Pelican Community Park

April 28

Sunday, 11:00 am–1:00 pm
Wiggle and Paint
Samson Oceanfront Park

MDC-SIB Branch Library Programs

Miami-Dade County Sunny Isles Beach Branch Library: For more information about hours and the offerings below call 305.682.0726. Classes and programs are held in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Sunny Isles Beach Government Center, 18070 Collins Avenue, unless otherwise indicated.

Programs for Adults

Basic Computer Classes for Seniors

Tuesday: April 16
10:00–11:00 am inside the library

Citizenship Classes

Saturdays: April 6–27
10:00–11:30 am

Poetry Reading

Saturday: April 13
4:00–5:00 pm

Russian Social Club

Saturday: April 13
3:30–5:30 pm

Programs for Children

Bedtime Stories

Wednesdays: April 3–24
6:00–6:30 pm
Ages 3–5 yrs.

Talking is Teaching: Talk, Read, Sing for Toddlers

Mondays: April 1–29
10:00–10:40 am
Ages 19 mo.–3 yrs.

Creative Corner Family Program

Saturdays: April 6–27
11:00 am inside the library



All persons are invited to attend these meetings. If a person decides to appeal any decision made at such meeting or hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings and, for such purpose, may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, all persons who are disabled and who need special accommodations to participate in any meeting because of that disability should contact the City Manager at 305.947.0606, no later than 48 hours prior to the proceeding.

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IS PUBLISHED BY THE
CITY OF SUNNY ISLES BEACH
CULTURAL & COMMUNITY SERVICES

18115 North Bay Road
Sunny Isles Beach, FL 33160
305.792.1706

April 2019

CITY OF SUNNY ISLES BEACH

18070 Collins Avenue • Sunny Isles Beach, FL 33160

SIB *islander*

*The official communication
of the City of Sunny Isles Beach!*



Concert & Cars on the Green

The Everly Set: Sean Altman & Jack Skuller
Celebrate The Everly Brothers beginning at 1:30 pm.



Saturday, April 6 • 10:00 am–3:00 pm
Gateway Park • 151 Sunny Isles Boulevard

Admission is free and free parking is available in the Gateway Park garage or ride the free SIBshuttle within City limits.

Sunny Serenade

Rock out with Classic Rock Therapy
at this outdoor concert in the park.



Wednesday, April 17 • 7:30–9:00 pm
Samson Oceanfront Park • 17425 Collins Avenue

Admission is free and free parking is available on the north side of 174 Street, the municipal lot behind Walgreens on 175 Terrace & the SIB Government Center. Limited seating available.