



Islander

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SEPTEMBER 2022

A MESSAGE FROM THE Mayor

“ Traffic safety and enforcement remains a number one priority for the City of Sunny Isles Beach and our stellar Police Department is stepping up in a big way. ”



Dana Robin Goldman
Mayor

Most recently, the Police Department has been working overtime to monitor our major thoroughfares four nights a week for five to six hours. This is all part of their new Strategic Traffic Enforcement Plan (STEP) to specifically target traffic violations. The City's goal is to gain the reputation that we do not tolerate traffic violations on our roads. Similar to Bal Harbour and Golden Beach, we want Sunny Isles Beach to be recognized as a zero-tolerance city for reckless and distracted driving.

These additional traffic enforcement details are resulting in a number of citations. In total thus far, our traffic detail has resulted in 86 citations and 1 arrest. Through this extra vigilance, we are changing the mindset of residents and transient visitors who may have thought it was safe to speed through Sunny Isles Beach. In doing this extra detail, our officers remain committed to covering the school's morning drop-off and afternoon pickup, a tremendous effort and coordination that helps to keep our students safe.

In conjunction with STEP, we remain committed to finding meaningful solutions to the pedestrian safety issues our city faces. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has agreed to make the traffic signal at 158 Street a dedicated red

light at all directions so pedestrians can safely cross the road without any vehicles in motion. We are also requesting to implement this at other major intersections; FDOT is in the process of reviewing our request.

Unfortunately, the City does not have jurisdiction over Collins Avenue and Sunny Isles Boulevard, and must seek approval from FDOT before implementing any safety measures. But we are in the process of procuring flashing crosswalk signs and flashing stop signs for our interior streets as we have complete jurisdiction over all interior streets. We also added a crossing guard at 174 Street and North Bay Road during school drop-off and pick-up, a continuation of last spring's increase.

I encourage you to follow our public safety efforts by visiting our website at sibfl.net/trafficsafety or following us on social media as we regularly provide updates on our traffic citations. But please note - lower numbers of citations and arrests do not mean our police department is becoming lenient on enforcement. It means that people are getting the message. It's a good indicator that STEP is working. Our primary objective is to issue zero citations on a daily basis because everyone traveling through the city is obeying traffic laws.

Contact Mayor Dana Robin Goldman at mayor@sibfl.net or [305.792.1753](tel:305.792.1753).

Miami-Dade Septic to Sewer Conversions and Existing Priorities

Commissioner Jerry Joseph



I recently had the opportunity to hear from and meet the Mayor of the Village of El Portal. El Portal is in a low-lying area in Miami-Dade County that borders the Little River, a tributary that empties into Biscayne Bay. The Village has been suffering from septic overflows and spillage during storms, which is causing beach closures, fish kills and algae blooms in Biscayne Bay.

I have pledged my support, along with his own efforts, in finding El Portal's Mayor, Omarr C. Nickerson, the \$5 million necessary to switch his Village over to 100% county sewer. Along with Omarr, we are making the necessary connections on the County, State and Federal level to gain this funding. \$5 million is a small amount when considering the major issue that it would assist in overcoming.

I understand that there are several other communities on septic that require a changeover to sewer, some of which also spill into Biscayne Bay and others which affect ground water quality.

Each of these situations should have been a priority many years back, but El Portal should be the starting point as a main contributor to Biscayne Bay pollution, algae bloom occurrences and beach closures.

On August 29, 2022, at a countywide meeting with Miami-Dade Mayor Daniella Levine-Cava, I was able to bring these issues to further light and received guarantees of assistance in developing a quick action plan.

Since then, the County has revised its Priority 1 Plan to include El Portal and a few other septic connected communities that directly affect Biscayne Bay water quality. I, along with Mayor Omarr C. Nickerson and other City and Village Officials throughout the County are delighted with Mayor Daniella Cava's attention to this critical issue.

Contact Commissioner Jerry Joseph at seat1@sibfl.net or [305.792.1754](tel:305.792.1754).

Vic-tor or Vic-tim

Commissioner Fabiola Stuyvesant



There is no denying that all choices come with consequences. As Newton would say, "for every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction." In a world where deception and misinformation are the grotesque new normal, we must take a position and decide if we want to be victims or victors against rotten messages.

The difference lays on the VIC rule, where V is for vision – I is for intention – C is for courage.

A victor not only looks ahead but is capable of seeing; not only hears but listens. Her vision is another tool for her leadership. A victor's intention is to inform and share the truth, her motivations are for the greater good of all. And a victor demonstrates her courage by standing against injustice and defeating the wannabes of misinformation. Victor is just another word for winner. Someone who "looks" past the noise, "hears" the sound and understands the call to action.

As William Boetcker says "Beware of ignorance when in motion; look out for inexperience when in action, and beware of the majority when mentally poisoned with misinformation, for collective ignorance does not become wisdom."

I will add that repeated lies don't become facts. So let's be cautious when we come across emails and messages from delusional actors for "not everything that shines is gold." Do not be upset when someone lies to you, be upset if you choose to believe the lies. Just remember Exodus 20:16 "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour."

So let's be the victors of the truth and not the victims of stupidity.

Contact Commissioner Fabiola Stuyvesant at seat3@sibfl.net or [305.792.1751](tel:305.792.1751).

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

Mount Sinai Blood Pressure and Glucose Screening

Thursday, September 1

9:30 - 11 AM

Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

Mount Sinai Lunch & Learn

Thursday, September 1

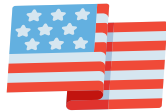
11 AM - 12 PM

Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

Pre-registration required.

Federal Holiday:

Labor Day



Monday, September 5

City Facilities Closed. SIBshuttle will not run.

Special City Commission

Meeting: *First Budget Hearing*

Tuesday, September 6 | 5:30 PM

Commission Chambers, Government Center, 18070 Collins Ave.

Doc Chats: Senior Sexual Health and Wellness

Wednesday, September 7

11 AM - 12 PM

Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

Lunch is included. Pre-registration required.

Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee Meeting

Wednesday, September 7 | 12 PM

Government Center, 4th Floor Conference Room, 18070 Collins Ave.

Bingo

September 7, 14, 21, 28

Wednesday | 3 - 4 PM

Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

Teens Only:

eSports Game Night

Friday, September 9 | 7 - 9 PM | FREE

Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

Pre-registration required.

Beach Cleanup

Saturday, September 10

8 AM - 12 PM | FREE

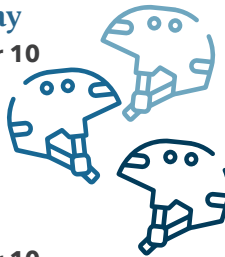
Samson Oceanfront Park, 17425 Collins Ave.

Bike Helmet Fitting & Giveaway

Saturday, September 10

8 AM - 12 PM | FREE

Government Center, 1st Floor Meeting Room, 18070 Collins Ave.



Full Moon Yoga

Saturday, September 10

7:15 - 8:15 PM | FREE

Samson Oceanfront Park (on the beach), 17425 Collins Ave.

Pre-registration required.

Lunch n' Learn with Florida Historian Cesar Becerra

Tuesday, September 13

11 - 11:45 AM | FREE

Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

Residents: FREE | Non-Residents: \$5

Lunch is included. Pre-registration required.



Local Planning Agency (LPA) Meeting

Thursday, September 15 | 6:10 PM

Commission Chambers, Government Center, 18070 Collins Ave.

Special City Commission Meeting: *Second Budget Hearing*

Thursday, September 15

6:15 PM

Commission Chambers, Government Center, 18070 Collins Ave.

Regular City Commission Meeting

Thursday, September 15

6:30 PM

Commission Chambers, Government Center, 18070 Collins Ave.

Senior Ice Cream Social

Friday, September 16

12 - 1 PM

Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

Residents: FREE

Pre-registration required.



Senior Movie Series: *Annie*

Friday, September 16 | 10 AM - 1 PM

Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

Residents: FREE | Non-Residents: \$5

Lunch is included. Pre-registration required.

Concert in the Park: *Michael Marotta Band*

Wednesday, September 21

7:30 - 9 PM | FREE

Samson Oceanfront Park, 17425 Collins Ave.

Cultural Trip: *Schnebly Winery*

Friday, September 23 | 10 AM - 3 PM

Schnebly Redlands Winery, Homestead, FL. Transportation provided.

Residents: \$30 | Non-Residents: \$35

Hygiene Pack Distribution Program

Thursday, September 22

12 - 1 PM | FREE

Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

Residents only. Pre-registration required.

Hispanic Heritage Celebration

Saturday, September 24

6 - 9 PM | FREE

Gateway Park, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

Medicare Open Enrollment Workshop

Wednesday, September 28

11 AM - 1 PM | FREE

Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

Senior Roundtable

Wednesday, September 28

12 - 1:30 PM

Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

Lunch is included. Pre-registration required.

Artist in Residence Series

Friday, September 30 | 11 AM - 1 PM

Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

Residents: FREE | Non-Residents: \$10

Lunch is included. Pre-registration required.

**FOR COMPLETE EVENT
DETAILS, VISIT**

sibfl.net/events

SPOTLIGHT ON...

HUMAN RESOURCES

Our Human Resources department is always hard at work recruiting, onboarding, and training. HR takes the lead in all recruitment effort to hire the most qualified and professional individuals to join the Sunny Isles Beach team.

The City of Sunny Isles Beach is hiring! Our Human Resources team is recruiting for a variety of positions in departments such as Finance, Public Works, IT, Parks, and more. If you are looking to start or continue a career in public service, Sunny Isles Beach is the perfect place. Don't miss our Career Expo where several Sunny Isles Beach employers across all industries, including the City, will be hiring.

Sunny Isles Beach Career Expo

Thursday, October 13
Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.
Learn more at sibfl.net/careerexpo.

See all employment opportunities and apply for a job online at sibfl.net/employment.

INSIDE THE Isles

Senior Roundtable

In July, we held a roundtable with a group of Sunny Isles Beach seniors to listen and discuss topics important to them. The roundtable was so well-received, we held another one in August to gain even more input from this crucial demographic in our city. In July, we discussed events, concerts and trips, shuttle stops, programming ideas, and other concerns.

We hope to continue the conversation with our seniors as we curate our services and offerings to be inclusive of all age groups and individuals who live in Sunny Isles Beach. Senior Roundtable will be hosted monthly on the last Wednesday of each month. We invite all seniors to join us as we share ideas and suggestions for a better quality of life in our city.



Registration is required and available online at activities.sibfl.net.

MISSING ISLANDER IN YOUR MAILBOX?

The Islander is the City's monthly digital publication to provide residents with the timeliest news and information. The publication is available each month online on the city's website at sibfl.net and delivered to your email inbox. If you would like a printed copy of the newsletter mailed to your home each month, please let us know by calling the Cultural and Community Services department at [305.792.1706](tel:305.792.1706) or online at sibfl.net/islander.

Residents can always view current and past issues online at sibfl.net/islander.

To receive the newsletter straight to your email inbox, sign up today at sibfl.net/notifyme.



RESIDENTS' ACADEMY

Interested in learning more about your local government? Want to get engaged? Or prepare for a future leadership role in the City?

The Sunny Isles Beach Residents' Academy is the perfect venue for residents to gain a more comprehensive sense of how our local government functions. The eight-session course will provide a holistic lesson plan featuring topics like policy process, public service delivery, and the role of residents in the decision-making process.

Our inaugural Spring session featured instruction, discussion, and hands-on activities that our participants found engaging and informative. We are excited to offer the program again in the fall.

Dates

September 7 - October 26
Wednesdays | 5:30 - 7 PM

**No class will be held on October 5.*

Location

Sunny Isles Beach Government Center
1st Floor Meeting Room
18070 Collins Ave.

Registration, Cost & Eligibility

Participants must be 18+ and live or own a business in Sunny Isles Beach. Residents' Academy is FREE and registration is required.



TO REGISTER, VISIT [ACTIVITIES.SIBFL.NET](https://activities.sibfl.net).

HISPANIC HERITAGE CELEBRATION

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

6 - 9 PM | FREE

Gateway Park | 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

LIVE MUSIC
ENTERTAINMENT
VENDORS
FOOD
ACTIVITIES
& CRAFTS

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT SIBFL.NET/EVENTS.

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