



# Islander

Follow us @CityofSIB |     YouTube

JUNE 2024

## A MESSAGE FROM THE Mayor



Larisa Svechin  
Mayor

It is important for each of us to stand up for our principles and support what we value. As a country and a city, we revere democracy, freedom of religion, the value of the First Amendment, and the United States Constitution. As citizens, we support all that proliferates these values. It is time to take a stand. We are at a crossroads in history, a time which will be documented and later studied by students in grade school.

This month, I am traveling to Israel for a conference with the Combat Antisemitism Movement organization to learn about building a stronger city, to visit our sister city of Netanya, and witness the carnage of October 7. Following October 7, I along with the City Commission immediately condemned terrorist organizations like Hamas and we supported Israel's right to defend itself. Could we do more? Given that college campuses across the country are burning the US flag, wearing terrorist garb, and chanting to end the only democratic state in the Middle East, as well as all Jews, understandably Jews in this country do not feel safe.

We are a community made up of over 100 countries, as well as many ethnicities and languages. Our diversity is strong. Now is the time to support your neighbors who may not feel as secure as they did before October 7. If you see bigotry and hate towards Jews, do NOT stay silent. Silence is complacency. There is not a

single group which has not been harmed at some point in history. The difference now is that we have access to more information than ever, and regrettably, more falsehoods.

Take the time to reassure your elderly neighbors wearing "Jewish stars" that you are there for them. Next time you see a family of observant Jews walking on Friday night or Saturday during the day, nod to them—acknowledge their commitment to g-d. We are all g-d's children. Let the history books of 50 years from now reflect the deep commitment of the community of Sunny Isles Beach to protect their Jews. It is said, that the hate that starts with the Jews does not end with the Jews. *Am Yisrael Chai*

*"One of the enduring facts of history is that most antisemites do not think of themselves as antisemites. We don't hate Jews, they said in the Middle Ages, just their religion. We don't hate Jews, they said in the nineteenth century, just their race. We don't hate Jews, they say now, just their nation state.*

*Antisemitism is the hardest of all hatreds to defeat because, like a virus, it mutates, but one thing stays the same. Jews, whether as a religion or a race or as the State of Israel, are made the scapegoat for problems for which all sides are responsible. That is how the road to tragedy begins"*

*- Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks*

Contact Mayor Larisa Svechin at [lsvechin@sibfl.net](mailto:lsvechin@sibfl.net) or [305.792.1753](tel:305.792.1753).

# New Community Conversations Series: Family Edition

Commissioner Fabiola Stuyvesant

Building upon the resounding success of Commissioner Viscarra's Residents' Academy and Vice-Mayor Lama's Senior Roundtable, I'm excited to announce the launch of the SIB Community Conversations Series: Family Edition (CCS).

At the CCS meetings, I will host a series of conversations centered on family, education, and community matters. The idea is to create a safe space to address the various challenges families face. From navigating complex educational landscapes to fostering stronger community ties, we will explore an array of pressing issues. Some of the initial topics we will tackle include:

- **Parenting in the Digital Age:** Sharing online safety tips and nurturing healthy screen time habits.
- **Building Resilient Families:** Empowering families with techniques to fortify resilience, manage stress, and navigate life transitions.
- **Parenting Through Different Stages:** Addressing the distinctive joys and hurdles encountered at various developmental phases.
- **Education and Academic Success:** Offering guidance and strategies to support children's academic journey,

from homework assistance to college readiness and financial literacy.

- **Cultural Diversity and Inclusion in Families:**

Facilitating discussions to celebrate diversity, foster inclusivity, and cultivate culturally competent children.

- **Family Bonding and Healthy Quality Time:** Sharing inspiring ideas for enriching family activities and traditions to strengthen relationships and mental health.

- **Navigating Special Needs and Disabilities:** Offering information about available resources for families raising children with special needs.

The series will feature diverse formats, such as engaging panel discussions, interactive workshops, insightful guest speakers, enriching Q&A sessions, and valuable networking opportunities. Stay tuned for our inaugural gathering this summer, as we embark on this transformative journey of learning, growth, and collective action.

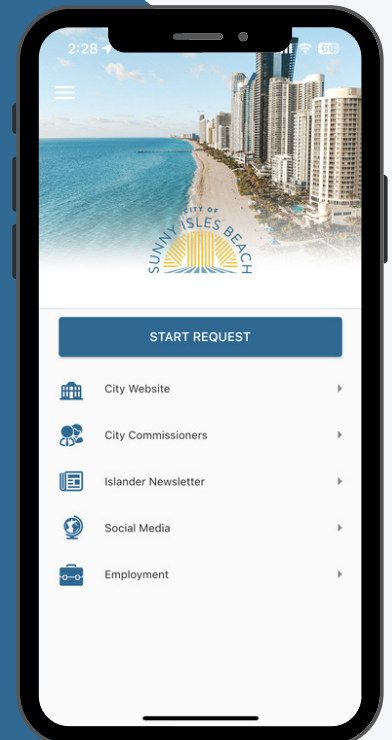


Contact Commissioner Fabiola Stuyvesant at [seat3@sibfl.net](mailto:seat3@sibfl.net) or [305.792.1751](tel:305.792.1751).

## Download My Sunny Isles Beach

- Access Information
- Submit Service Requests
- Receive Notifications
- And more...

SCAN TO DOWNLOAD →



Powered by GOGov



# CALENDAR

## JUNE OF EVENTS

### 2024 Florida Hurricane Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday

**June 1 - 14**

For a list of qualifying items, visit [floridarevenue.com/DisasterPrep](http://floridarevenue.com/DisasterPrep)



**June 5, 12, 19, 26**

**Wednesdays | 3 - 4 PM**

Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.

### Summer Camp

**June 10 - August 9**

Register at [activities.sibfl.net](http://activities.sibfl.net)

### Teen Talk

**Tuesday, June 11**

**6 - 7:30 PM**

The Spot, 215 185 St.

### City Commission Workshop

**Tuesday, June 18**

**10 AM**

Fourth Floor Conference Room, Government Center, 18070 Collins Ave.

### Regular City Commission Meeting

**Thursday, June 20**

**6:30 PM**

Commission Chambers, Government Center, 18070 Collins Ave.



### Full Moon Yoga

**Friday, June 21**

**7:45 - 8:45 PM**

On the Beach by Trump International Beach Resort, 18001 Collins Ave.  
*Pre-registration is encouraged.*

### Senior Roundtable

**Wednesday, June 26**

**12 - 1 PM**

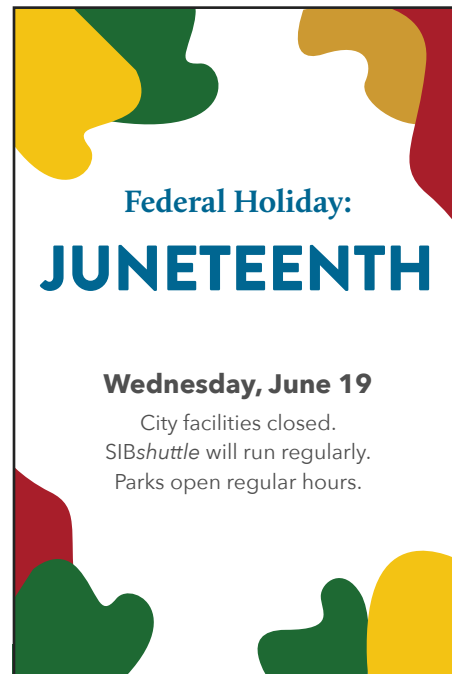
Gateway Center, 151 Sunny Isles Blvd.  
*Pre-registration is required.*

### Teens Only: *Movie on the Beach*

**Friday, June 28**

**8 PM**

Samson Oceanfront Park, 17425 Collins Ave.



Federal Holiday:

## JUNETEENTH

**Wednesday, June 19**

City facilities closed.  
SIBshuttle will run regularly.  
Parks open regular hours.

### City Commission Workshop

**Thursday, June 20**

**3 PM**

Commission Chambers, Government Center, 18070 Collins Ave.

**FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF EVENTS, VISIT**

[sibfl.net/events](http://sibfl.net/events)

*Disclosure: Events are subject to change.*

### SENIOR SUMMER CAMP

**A Trip Around the World**

**June 10 - August 1**  
Register at [activities.sibfl.net](http://activities.sibfl.net)

Embark on a global adventure without leaving Sunny Isles Beach! Join us as we explore different countries each week through workshops, classes, and cultural trips for seniors ages 55+. Registration is available a la carte, so you can tailor your experience to suit your interests.

# Miami-Dade County Sunny Isles Beach Branch

# JUNE **LIBRARY PROGRAMS**

## Citizenship Class (ages 19+)

June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29  
Saturdays | 10 AM - 12 PM

## Chess Club (ages 9+)

June 4, 11, 18, 25  
Tuesdays | 4 - 6 PM

## Talking is Teaching – Talk, Read, Sing for Toddlers (ages 18 mos. – 3 yrs.)

June 5, 12, 26  
Wednesdays | 11 AM - 12 PM

## Children’s Story Time and Craft Celebrating Shavuot (ages 3+)

Wednesday, June 5  
5:30 - 6:30 PM

## The Kids Reading Club (ages 6 – 11)

Saturday, June 8  
1 - 2 PM

## Homework Help and Tutoring (students grades K-12)

June 15, 22, 29  
Saturdays | 10 AM - 1 PM  
For more information contact  
[tutoring@mdpls.org](mailto:tutoring@mdpls.org) or call 305.375.1413.

## Furry Tales (all ages)

Saturday, June 22  
2 - 3 PM

Read your favorite story aloud to a registered therapy dog!

For more information on Miami-Dade County Sunny Isles Beach Branch Library programs, call 305.682.0726 or email [vazquezh@mdpls.org](mailto:vazquezh@mdpls.org). Unless otherwise noted, classes and programs are held in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Sunny Isles Beach Government Center, 18070 Collins Avenue.





# HURRICANE GUIDE

Hurricane season starts **JUNE 1**, which means it's time to get prepared. The City of Sunny Isles Beach is here to provide resources to ensure you are ready for hurricane season.

## KNOW YOUR ZONE

Sunny Isles Beach is located in storm surge and evacuation Zone B. This means the City is at risk from storm surge in Category 2 or higher

storms. If the storm's threat is significant enough, Zone B may be evacuated due to storm surge.

## BUILD A KIT

Create an emergency kit that can sustain you and your family for 3 to 7 days. Include the following items:

- ✓ **Non-perishable foods and water:**  
7-day supply
- ✓ **Flashlights:** With extra batteries
- ✓ **First aid kit**
- ✓ **Cash**
- ✓ **Battery-powered portable TV or radio:**  
With extra batteries
- ✓ **Sanitation and hygiene items**
- ✓ **Extra clothing, blankets, and sleeping bags**
- ✓ **Kitchen accessories and cooking utensils:**  
Manual can opener
- ✓ **Prescription medications, eyeglasses, contact lens solution, and hearing aid batteries**
- ✓ **Formula, baby food, diapers, and pacifiers**

- ✓ **Photocopies of important documents:**

*Identification, insurance, prescriptions, household inventory, credit cards, utility bills, birth certificates, adoption certificates, marriage licenses, divorce papers, Social Security cards, passport, green cards, will, bank statements*

- ✓ **Pet carriers, leashes, shot records, and food for each pet evacuating with you**



## MAKE A PLAN



### ***BEFORE THE STORM HITS:***

---

- **Emergency Plan:** Have a plan tailored to your family's needs, including an evacuation route.
- **Tree Preparation:** Prune trees properly, do not remove more than 25% of the canopy, and schedule bulky waste pickup for disposal of tree cuttings.
- **Pets:** Include your pets in your plans. If evacuating, take your pets with you or use pet-friendly shelters provided by Animal Services.

### ***DURING THE STORM:***

---

- **Stay Informed:** Check the City's webpage ([sibfl.net/emergency](http://sibfl.net/emergency)), social media, SIBAlert, and the My Sunny Isles Beach mobile app for updates.
- **Home Preparation:** Remove balcony and yard items, cover windows and doors, dispose of yard trash properly, and declutter drains and gutters.
- **Power Safety:** Be ready to turn off your power if you see flooding or downed power lines.
- **Water Supply:** Fill clean water containers and bathtubs with water.
- **CO Detector:** Check your carbon monoxide detector's battery.
- **Electronics:** Keep your cell phone and electronics charged.
- **Community Support:** Check with neighbors, especially senior adults or those needing extra help.
- **Evacuations:** If Miami-Dade County orders Zone B to evacuate, all residents and visitors must evacuate. Leave as quickly as possible, as evacuation routes become congested. Be prepared to be self-sufficient for 72 hours after a storm.
- **Free Transportation:** The county provides free transportation to Hurricane Evacuation Centers from predetermined locations in Sunny Isles Beach: Arlen House Condominiums, Winston Towers, Golden Shores area, and Ocean View Condominiums.



## AFTER THE STORM PASSES:

---

### Safety Tips

- Shut off electrical power and gas to avoid fire, electrocution, or explosions.
- If you suspect a gas leak, turn off the main gas valve, open windows, and leave the house immediately. Then call your gas company.
- Do not drive or walk through standing water.
- Use battery-powered lanterns and flashlights instead of candles. If using candles, keep them in safe holders away from flammable items.
- Photograph or videotape your home to document losses and contact your insurance agent. Keep records of repair and cleaning costs.

### Fighting the Flood:

Sunny Isles Beach is susceptible to flooding from major rain events and storm surge. Protect yourself, your family, and your home

by understanding your flood risk and getting flood insurance. Visit [sibfl.net/flood-protection](https://sibfl.net/flood-protection) for more information.

## STAY INFORMED

- **Hurricane Resources:**  
Miami-Dade County: [miamidade.gov/hurricane](https://miamidade.gov/hurricane)  
Sunny Isles Beach: [sibfl.net/hurricane](https://sibfl.net/hurricane)
- **Emergency Alerts:** Sign up for Miami-Dade County Emergency Alerts and download the "Ready MDC" Mobile App at [miamidade.gov/alerts](https://miamidade.gov/alerts)
- **Report Issues:** Use the My Sunny Isles Beach mobile app to report flooding and downed trees.
- **Monitor Media Reports**
- Sign up for storm alerts and City updates at [sibalert.net](https://sibalert.net)



Follow us @CityofSIB |     YouTube

ANNUAL SUNNY ISLES BEACH

# Photo Contest



Submit your photos for a chance to be featured in the **2025 SUNNY ISLES BEACH DESKTOP CALENDAR**.

Photos should be at least 300 DPI to be considered. Horizontal photos are preferred. For best resolution, a digital camera should be used.

The photo must be of a scene taken in Sunny Isles Beach, Florida (*between 156 Street and 195 Street and the Atlantic Ocean and the Intracoastal Waterway*).

**SUBMISSIONS DUE BY SEPTEMBER 1, 2024**

**SUBMIT YOUR PHOTOS AT [SIBFL.NET/PHOTOCONTEST](https://sibfl.net/photocontest).**







# Islander

---

**PUBLISHED BY**  
**CITY OF SUNNY ISLES BEACH**  
**MEDIA DIVISION**  
18070 Collins Avenue  
Sunny Isles Beach, FL 33160

## ELECTED OFFICIALS

**MAYOR** Larisa Svechin

**VICE MAYOR** Alex Lama

**COMMISSIONER** Jerry Joseph

**COMMISSIONER** Fabiola Stuyvesant

**COMMISSIONER** Jeniffer Viscarra

## ARTICLES & EDITORIAL

**EDITOR** Leah Einwalter

**MANAGING EDITOR** Francesca Constantini

## ART & PRODUCTION

**GRAPHIC DESIGNER** Elvira Gatina

## PHOTOGRAPHY

**VIDEO PRODUCTION MANAGER**

Vanessa Viera

**VIDEO PRODUCTION SPECIALIST**

Pablo Rodriguez

The views, opinions, representations, information, or statements made or expressed by any individual contributor in this newsletter are those of the individual contributor only and do not represent the views or beliefs of the City of Sunny Isles Beach or those of the broader community. The views, opinions, representations, information, or statements by individual contributors are provided on an "as-is" basis with no guarantees of completeness or accuracy, and the City of Sunny Isles Beach assumes no responsibility or liability for any errors or omission therein, or for the consequences of any action or inaction on the basis of any views, opinions, representations, information or statements made or expressed by individual contributors.

## STAY CONNECTED



**EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS**  
Sign up at [sibfl.net/notifyme](https://sibfl.net/notifyme)



**WEBSITE**  
[sibfl.net](https://sibfl.net)



**FACEBOOK, X,  
INSTAGRAM & YOUTUBE**  
[@CityofSIB](https://www.facebook.com/CityofSIB)



**EMERGENCY  
NOTIFICATIONS**  
Sign up at [sibalert.net](https://sibalert.net)



**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**  
[sibfl.net/events](https://sibfl.net/events)



**SUNNY ISLES BEACH TV**  
Breezeline Channel 662  
Formerly Atlantic Broadband  
Hotwire Channel 1612