

# SIB islander

CITY OF SUNNY ISLES BEACH

June 2018

## Renew Your SIB Resident ID Card



Summer is here and that means it's time to start planning to renew your SIB Resident ID Card. In July of last year, the requirements to receive a Resident ID Card were revised and updated. Renewing and receiving your valid Resident ID Card grants you access to a variety of benefits such as priority registration for after school and PCP programs, free or reduced special event rates, and free giveaways and goodies. After School Program registration for residents begins Saturday, July 14, so plan to renew your ID Card to receive priority enrollment. Complete SIB Resident ID Card requirements are available at [sibfl.net/resident-id](http://sibfl.net/resident-id).



## from our Mayor



George 'Bud' Scholl  
Mayor

On March 23, Governor Scott signed House Bill 631 into law. This generated a lot of sensationalistic media stories around the public's right to use Florida's beaches.

It also generated a lot of phone calls and email messages to my office regarding how this will affect Sunny Isles Beach. The good news is that it has no effect on our current uses of public beachfront and public access to them. Let me explain why.

In many areas of the State of Florida, such as the panhandle, the State generally owns the property under water up to the average high-water mark and the adjacent, "or upland," landowners own the land down to the average high-water mark. This is not the case in Sunny Isles Beach and most of South Florida. The State owns all the beaches in our City up to the western end of the sand dunes or up to the platted property lines of coastal properties. Coastal property owners, such as condominiums and hotels, do not have property lines that extend to the water's edge. Their property lines are up closer to their buildings thereby insuring a significant distance of public beach between the ocean and the private property lines. The new law was established to provide land owners and local governments with a mechanism to reconcile public or private use on the beach. In some cases the local government has simply given the public full rights to the private landowners' sandy portion of their property. The new law prohibits a government entity from establishing the right of the public to use private beachfront without first filing a court case to allow a judge to determine those rights after January 1, 2016.

In the case of our City, we were forward thinking when we established more than 20 beach access points over the years. Our rules and regulations have been in place for several years regarding the public's right to utilize the beach. We recently expanded the public beach with the beach renourishment project.

When I called our state legislators to research this issue, they mentioned this has been one of the most misunderstood laws in years and reiterated that it does not generally affect South Florida. I was pleased at the outpouring of concern from our residents who want to ensure that the beach stays as a public amenity for generations to come. It will!



# SIBlife

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## Don't Wait, Prepare Now!

It's hard to believe that another year has gone by, but the muggy mornings and rainy afternoons are a telltale sign that summer has arrived. And with that means the arrival of hurricane season. Don't wait for the news to announce a named storm. Start planning your hurricane preparations now.

Hurricane season begins June 1 and runs through November 30. Because Sunny Isles Beach is in Zone B floodplain, any storm may cause a tidal surge, flooding, or loss of utility services. Every resident should have a plan in place for sheltering or evacuating, if needed. Get tips on completing your personal hurricane plan, by visiting the Miami-Dade County Office of Emergency Management website at [miamidade.gov/hurricane](http://miamidade.gov/hurricane).

We also encourage you to attend the City's Hurricane Preparedness Workshop on Wednesday, June 13, at 6:00 pm, in the SIB Government Center Commission Chambers. Speakers will address preparations families should make before hurricane season begins, where and how to shelter during the storm, and what actions to take after the storm passes. If you are unable to attend in person, you can also access the broadcast of this via our cable access channel, SIBTV, or on the web at [sibfl.net/city-hall/webcasting](http://sibfl.net/city-hall/webcasting).

## Protect Your Skin

We all look forward to the warmer weather the summer brings, but unfortunately, this also includes mosquitoes. The City takes multiple steps to protect our residents from mosquitoes. Our Code Compliance department inspects properties for standing water

throughout the City, and notifies owners if actions need to be taken. The City also performs mosquito spraying throughout City parks and beach accesses, once a month during the summer (May through September). This treatment includes stormwater retention areas and catch basins, where mosquitoes tend to breed.

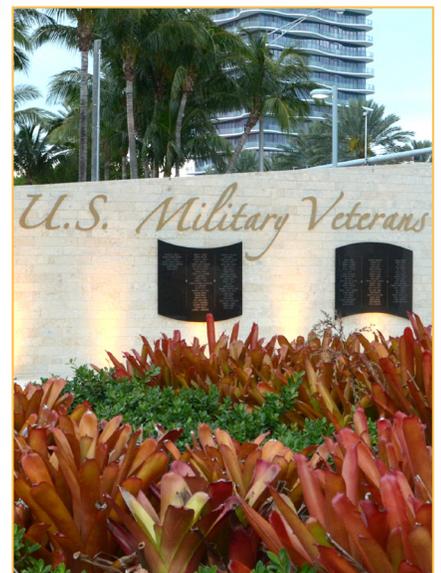
There are steps you can take as well, to protect yourself and your neighbors: wear clothing that covers your arms and legs, use insect repellent, and remove any standing water outside of your home. These little steps can make a big difference this season.

## Teens Only Splash Bash

On June 7, get ready for the next installment of the City's popular quarterly teen event, the Teens Only Splash Bash. Beat the heat with plenty of water fun for everyone. School is out for the summer; so leave your parents and your worries at the gate. Be at Gateway Park, 151 Sunny Isles Boulevard, from 6:00-9:00 pm for this free event for ages 13-18 only. Stay tuned for the next teen event in August.

## Veterans Nominations

Residents who have served in the U.S. Military Services are honored on our Military Memorial Wall at Heritage Park yearly on Veterans Day, November 11. To apply, return an application form, proof of residency and a copy of the Honorable Discharge Certificate or the DD214 Form to any City reception desk. Applications are online at [sibfl.net/register-veteran](http://sibfl.net/register-veteran). The deadline is September 1, 2018.





# A Message from the City Manager

by Christopher J. Russo



May was Building Safety Month. Interestingly, the City issues more than 5,000 building permits each year. Many of these permits relate to average home or condominium renovations to a kitchen, bathroom, or replacement of a door or window. The most common concern of residents living in single-family homes or condominiums is how long the building permit process takes. Here is some important information on that permit process.

First, a building permit cannot be issued without the legally-required paperwork and a complete set of plans. These documents ensure each project complies with all building codes. Second, it is often wise to hire a licensed contractor as they are familiar with these codes and the process. Depending on the size and extent of the project, it may take anywhere from one day to several weeks for the Building Department to review the submission. The length of time it takes for issuance of a permit also varies depending on whether the original submission is complete. In our experience, most times the “delay” in the

issuance of the permit relates to the City waiting to receive the proper paperwork and complete plans. Our hands are tied with this. A permit cannot be issued unless it complies with the codes, and the Building Department cannot perform any review until it has a complete application. Sometimes the City and contractor go back and forth several times until everything is complete and compliant.

The good news is that all of this is documented and tracked by a computer application known as SmartGov. It keeps track of the amount of time the Building Department puts in to review the plans, the exact date the contractor was notified that their permit is ready, or that their application is not complete. The software is accurate and provides information that allows us to update and enhance our processes, if necessary. We are always looking to improve efficiency.

We used our Business Intelligence program to conduct an evaluation of the past year as to the amount of time that a residential project application was under re-

view by the Building Department, versus in the hands of a contractor/owner. In a year’s time, from March 2017 to March 2018, building permit applications spent most of the processing time in the hands of the applicant or contractor. The building department had possession, during the process, for less than 27 percent of the time for six of the months and less than 37 percent of the time for five months, with only February and March 2018 hitting a percentage at or above 50 percent due to a building department personnel shortage. After that spike, the percentage, which the department spent processing a permit, returned to more normal numbers by April.

Once again, if you are having delays and are not sure why, we urge you to check the Internet portal at [sibfl.net/building-dept](http://sibfl.net/building-dept) or call us at 305.947.2150. Of course, you may visit us in person. You can also help yourself, and us, to move your application along through the process by picking up a copy of our new Building Permit Guide, available on the 3rd floor in the Sunny Isles Beach Government Center.

## Employment Opportunities in Sunny Isles Beach

from the desk of Commissioner Larisa Svechin



Are you looking for a part-time or full-time job? Residents often ask me if I know of job openings in the City of Sunny Isles Beach. Being a productive and involved resident makes for a better and stronger city. Although Commissioners do not hire or interview, our City staff does. Our City website is filled with information on employment opportunities, from police officer, to sports coach, to maintenance worker. Applications are accepted all year long.

During the summer, the City starts staffing for the aftercare positions at Pelican Community Park. Do not get discouraged if you cannot find a suitable position. Besides the City of Sunny Isles Beach, local business are looking for extra help. Just walking around in our plazas, I noticed multiple help wanted signs in the restaurants and stores. Other options are neighboring cities' websites and on social media. The diversity of our population means that all sorts of skills, languages, and ages are needed to fill these jobs. Today is a great day to apply.

Check out the City's website for the latest at [sibfl.net/employment](http://sibfl.net/employment). Commissioner Larisa Svechin may be emailed at [lsvechin@sibfl.net](mailto:lsvechin@sibfl.net).

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## School Safety: What About Your School?

from the desk of Police Chief Fred Maas



I had a choice in this issue of the *SIBislander* to write an article on any topic of importance. I chose the topic of greatest importance to our police department, school and student safety.

It is no secret of the vast resources the City and police department contribute to NSE/SIB K-8 School. Yes, it is a Miami-Dade County Public School, but the students, teachers, administrators and staff are Sunny Isles Beach people. Whether they are residents or simply educate and work at the school, they are our concern. That concern translates into the most effective and secure environment that we can provide for safety.

To that end, your Sunny Isles Beach Police Department recently trained each and every member of the department, from Officer to Command Staff, in Active Shooter and Critical Incident Response. Every officer has been trained similarly as to response, immediate entry, action and neutralization of the emergency at hand. Most importantly, every officer is not only committed, but expected, to preserve life by risking their own, by immediate entry and engagement of any adverse activity or subjects.

Every police officer takes an oath when they are sworn in to defend life against all enemies, foreign and domestic. This is why we chose this profession. This is why we train. This is why I want your students to consider Sunny Isles Beach Police Department their partners, their defenders, and their friends. Most of all, as parents, please know that our job is the extended protection of your child's safety. May God protect us all from ever having to be in that circumstance.

# SIBiInformation



## Stay Connected This Hurricane Season

Hurricane season starts June 1 and we want to make sure all our residents are prepared to receive the appropriate information and resources before, during and after a hurricane.

### Before a Hurricane

Visit [sibfl.net/hurricane](http://sibfl.net/hurricane) for resources on how to prepare your home, condominium, or business in the event of a tropical storm or hurricane. Sign up for City email alerts by visiting [sibfl.net/notifyme](http://sibfl.net/notifyme) and follow @CityofSIB on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

### During and After a Hurricane

Visit [sibfl.net/emergency](http://sibfl.net/emergency) for all information and resources regarding a tropical storm or hurricane. Follow the City on social media to receive the most up-to-date and accurate Sunny Isles Beach information. For Miami-Dade County information and resources, visit [miamidade.gov/emergency](http://miamidade.gov/emergency) or call 311.

Don't miss the Sunny Isles Beach Hurricane Workshop on Wednesday, June 13 at 6:00 pm in the SIB Government Center Commission Chambers.



## June 1

Friday, 10:00 am–2:00 pm  
Mini-FLOW  
SIB Govt. Center 1st Floor Meeting Room

## June 2

Saturday, 4:30–8:00 pm  
World Record Attempt:  
Most Simultaneous Sand Angels  
On the beach from 183 to 191 Streets

## June 6

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

## June 7

Thursday, 6:00–9:00 pm  
Teens Only Splash Bash  
Gateway Park

## June 8

Friday, noon–5:00 pm  
CLOSED for staff development  
City Offices and Pelican Community Park

## June 9

Saturday, 7:00–9:00 pm  
21st Anniversary Concert & Fireworks  
Samson Oceanfront Park

## June 10

Sunday, 11:00 am–3:00 pm  
21st Anniversary BBQ Picnic  
Town Center Park

## June 11

Monday, 10:00 am–12:30 pm  
Modern Era Movie: *Catch Me if you Can*  
SIB Govt. Center 1st Floor Meeting Room

## June 13

Wednesday, 6:00 pm  
Hurricane Preparedness Workshop  
SIB Govt. Center Commission Chambers

## June 14

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

## June 14

Thursday, 6:30 pm  
Cultural Event: *Million Dollar Quartet*  
Actors' Playhouse, Coral Gables

## June 20

Wednesday, 7:30–9:00 pm  
Sunny Serenade featuring Curbstone  
Samson Oceanfront Park

## June 21

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

## June 24

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

## June 26

Tuesday, 6:00 pm  
Cultural Event: Marlins vs. Diamondbacks  
Marlins Park, Miami

## June 27

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

## June 27

Wednesday, 6:00 pm  
City Advisory Committee Meeting  
SIB Govt. Center Commission Chambers

## June 27

Wednesday, 8:00–9:00 pm  
Full Moon Yoga  
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.

## Summer Reading Program

### "Libraries Rock!"

June 2–August 4

For more details on summer reading activities, please contact your librarian.

## Programs for Adults

### Basic Computer Classes for Seniors

Tuesday: June 19  
10:00–11:00 am inside the library

### Citizenship Classes

Saturdays: June 2–30  
10:00–11:30 am

## Programs for Children

### Bedtime Stories

Wednesdays: June 6–27  
7:00–7:30 pm  
Sharing stories and music.  
Ages 3 to 5 yrs.

### Talking is Teaching:

### Talk, Read, Sing for Toddlers

Mondays: June 4–25  
10:00–10:40 am  
Activities for toddlers and caregivers.  
Ages 19 mo. to 3 yrs.

## Family Program

Saturdays: June 2–30  
11:00 am inside the library  
Activities for the entire family.

## Programs for All Ages

### Poetry Reading

Saturday: June 9  
4:00–5:00 pm  
Bring your own poetry to share, hear others recite their own, or come share your 'all-time' favorite with others.

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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.

# CITY OF SUNNY ISLES BEACH

18070 Collins Avenue • Sunny Isles Beach, FL 33160

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The official communication  
of the City of Sunny Isles Beach!



## 21st Anniversary Weekend Celebration

### Concert & Fireworks

Come and enjoy a free evening concert by Classic Rock Therapy at our ocean side park, and after the music, walk to the beach to view a fireworks display.



Saturday, June 9 • Music 7:00–9:00 pm • Fireworks 9:10 pm  
Samson Oceanfront Park • 17425 Collins Avenue

### BBQ Picnic

Shorty's Barbeque will be served at the City's annual picnic. Music and games are also on the menu. Residents with SIB Resident ID Cards can avoid lines and pick up your FREE BBQ wristbands early at Pelican Community Park or the SIB Government Center.



Sunday, June 10 • 11:00 am–3:00 pm  
Town Center Park • 17200 Collins Avenue

Parking for both events is on the north side of 174 Street, at the SIB Government Center and in all municipal lots. The SIBshuttle will run within the City limits during both events. Share photos of the events on social media with the hashtag #SIB21 for a chance to win a pair of AirPods!