

Palmetto Bay Quarterly

Inaugural Edition ♦ March 2016

Dedicated to enhancing the lives of our residents



A message from Mayor Flinn

Palmetto Bay Wants to Stay in Touch...

It is with great excitement that we introduce this quarterly publication to our residents, as part of a more robust community outreach program. Palmetto Bay is launching a new multi-faceted communications plan intended to reach as many of you as we possibly can, through a combination of printed and electronic media, such as the weekly *Your Village @ Work* publication, a monthly newsletter, and the upcoming new village website and app! In this inaugural edition, look over photos of recent events and see for yourself why they are so popular, read about what we are doing about traffic and how you can help us reach a solution to this regional problem, and check out important tips and information from your Palmetto Bay Policing Unit. On the back cover, we have compiled an events calendar for the upcoming three months. In a concerted effort to bring the village to the community and vice-versa, this year we tripled the number of community events and arranged an exciting line-up for everyone in the family. Post the calendar on your fridge, in your office, in your car... and take full advantage of what your village has to offer!

The village is dedicated to working with you, so that your needs are addressed, and we certainly want to be accessible and transparent to the community we serve. Visit our website regularly for exciting new updates and information about your village. If you have not already done so, please subscribe to our e-newsletters; send an email to ecurrents@palmettobay-fl.gov and you're subscribed! Reach out to your Councilmembers, tell us what you think and what we can do to serve you better. Finally, mark your calendars: The Annual Picnic Celebration is Saturday, March 5th beginning at 11 am at Coral Reef Park. We can't wait for this year's gathering and enjoy community fun, activities and food.

I look forward to your input on how we can continue to improve the Village of Palmetto Bay.



Community Outreach and Village Services committee members discuss priorities.



From Councilwoman Cunningham

You Asked, We Delivered.

What an amazing start to 2016! The New Year has brought many great changes to Palmetto Bay and at the core of these changes has been your voice. You said you wanted new and exciting community events for all ages, you said you wanted expanded opportunities for involvement and input, you said you wanted increased communications to keep the community abreast of all that is going on in Palmetto Bay. We listened. Your voice matters and this is how your village has responded.

With more than 100 planned events this year, ranging from our family-centered annual picnic, to the fitness-focused *Get Fit Palmetto Bay*, there is something for everyone! We have expanded our programming through community partnerships to offer after-school sports programs, adult exercise classes and senior seminars. We are keeping you in the loop by improving the quality of our emails, increasing our presence on social media, launching the weekly "Your Village @ Work" emails, and regularly updating our Homepage on the website. Speaking of website, ours is about to get a facelift, complete with a Village app that will bring the latest info right to your smartphone! We have also added 6 new committees, with members weighing in on everything from services to partnerships for our downtown. Since December, I have served as the Council Liaison to our Community Outreach Board that is, in part, responsible for some of the information included in this publication.

As we move forward, it is imperative that we continue to capture the voices of all stakeholders in our community. I encourage you to stay in touch with us and let us know what we can do to make Palmetto Bay an even better place to live, work, learn, and play!

Warm regards,

Popular Village Events

Independence Day Celebration



Fireworks!



Costumes & Cocktails



Scary!

Downtown Tree Lighting Ceremony



Beautiful!



Keeping You Informed

How Palmetto Bay is Tackling the Traffic Issue

Palmetto Bay has been tirelessly working to address residents' concerns regarding traffic issues in their neighborhoods such as speeding, congestion and delays, lack of signage, traffic light timing (turning lights), traffic conditions near schools, and volume of cut-through traffic on Village roads.

The Village recently hosted several traffic workshops to discuss possible solutions. Attendees agreed that most of the congestion and speeding issues are related to morning & afternoon peak hour traffic. The Public Services Department has already installed temporary speed humps on various neighborhood streets to reduce speed levels. Residents interested in installing the temporary speed humps in their neighborhood should contact the Public Services Department or complete an application, which may be downloaded from the department's webpage. In addition to the temporary speed hump program, the department successfully urged the county to install turn restriction signage on county-owned roads traversing the Village in an effort to minimize cut-through traffic on neighborhood roads. These efforts will continue for other areas of concern. Additionally, meetings are being coordinated with Miami-Dade County Public Schools to analyze the impact of school traffic on the neighboring residential streets. Lastly, the Village is exploring the feasibility of permanent traffic calming devices such as traffic circles, traffic tables, and chicanes on several village roads.



Notwithstanding our local efforts, the Village is also looking for regional solutions. Earlier in February, Council unanimously passed a resolution expressing support for the implementation of light rail and urging South Dade Mayors to join in the effort. Light-rail transit systems remain the most viable and practical solution to the traffic problems in Miami-Dade. The Village is also looking to alleviate roadway congestion by increasing the efficiency of its circulator bus; the IBus. The Corradino Group recently completed a study that analyzed the present routes and provided recommendations for improvements. For more information or to download a copy of the study, visit the Public Services Department webpage. We invite you to stay involved and informed. Send your comments to ldominguez@palmettobay-fl.gov.

Safety is a Village Effort

A stunning 85% of all reported vehicle burglaries involve unlocked doors. Your local officers are running a campaign asking residents to lock their cars and keep their garage doors closed. Don't fall victim to opportunity crimes! Palmetto Bay officers worked incredibly hard to reduce burglaries in 2014 and are NOW asking for your assistance.



To help in our efforts for a safe community, the Palmetto Bay Policing Unit provides different safety services to the residents, and it won't cost you a penny! We offer Residential and Commercial Survey services, under which a police officer will visit your home or business, assess the property's vulnerability to crime and recommend solutions. Another option to keep your neighborhood safe is to organize a Neighborhood Crime Watch group. Leaving town? You can schedule a home watch and our officers will be particularly vigilant of your home while you're away. All of this can be accomplished by a simple call to our Policing Unit at 305-278-4000.

Palmetto Bay is a safe community, and your Policing Unit is committed to keep it that way. Your help and collaboration goes a long way to help the officers in their commitment to safety.

Municipality	Population	Auto Theft	Burglary	Larceny
Coral Gables	48,780	86	312	1,589
Cutler Bay	42,944	77	202	1,567
Homestead	66,586	104	748	2,111
Palmetto Bay	23,767	49	18	669
Pinecrest	18,403	31	110	471
South Miami	13,623	29	103	550

Crime Stats in Palmetto Bay & Neighboring Communities

Check out the latest crime statistics available for South Florida, and see where Palmetto Bay stands. Also, visit our Homepage for our weekly Crime & Incident Reports.

SOURCE: FDLE 2015. Crime in Florida, Annual 2014 Florida uniform crime report [online]

Who You're Gonna Call?

Main Line:
305-259-1234

Building & Permitting Division:
305-259-1250

Planning & Zoning:
305-259-1234

Public Services (Public Works):
305-969-5011

County Waste Management:
305-375-2960

Palmetto Bay Policing Unit:
305-278-4000
305-476-5423 (Non-emergencies)

Village Website:
www.palmettobay-fl.gov

How did we do?

Send your comments about this publication to ecurrents@palmettobay-fl.gov.

IMPORTANT DATES	
Friday, March 4	Bike to Work Day Event
Saturday, March 4 to 6	Shakespeare in the Park Series
Saturday, March 5	Annual Picnic Celebration/ Bike Ride with Mayor
Monday, March 7	Regular Council Meeting
Thursday, March 10 to 12	Slamfest Softball Tournament
Thursday, March 17	St. Patrick's Day Festival
Thursday, March 17 to 19	Strategic Plan Town Hall Meetings
Sunday, March 20	Deering Seafood Festival
Saturday, March 26	Everglades Adventure Tour
Saturday, March 26	Florida Rock Stars Country Event
Thursday, March 31	Coral Reef Senior High Spring Art Showcase

March 2016



Sun	Mon	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

IMPORTANT DATES	
Saturday, April 2	Relay for Life (American Cancer Society)
Sunday, April 3	Breakfast by the Bay
Monday, April 4	Regular Council Meeting
Saturday, April 9	Palmetto Bay Bike Race
Friday, April 15	Palmetto Bay Comedy Festival
Saturday, April 16 to 23	Earth Week Events
Friday, April 22	Earth Week Movie Night
Friday, April 29	Dinner Theatre

APRIL 2016



Sun	Mon	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

IMPORTANT DATES	
Monday, May 2	Regular Council Meeting
Friday, May 6	Date Night @ Thalatta
Friday, May 13	Palmetto Bay Ghost Tour
Saturday, May 14	Community Garage Sale
Friday, May 20	Music Night at Thalatta
Saturday, May 21 & 22	Art & Crafts Festival
Monday, May 30	Memorial Day, Village Hall Closed

MAY 2016



Sun	Mon	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
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