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20  25
SUMMER
CAMP
GUIDE



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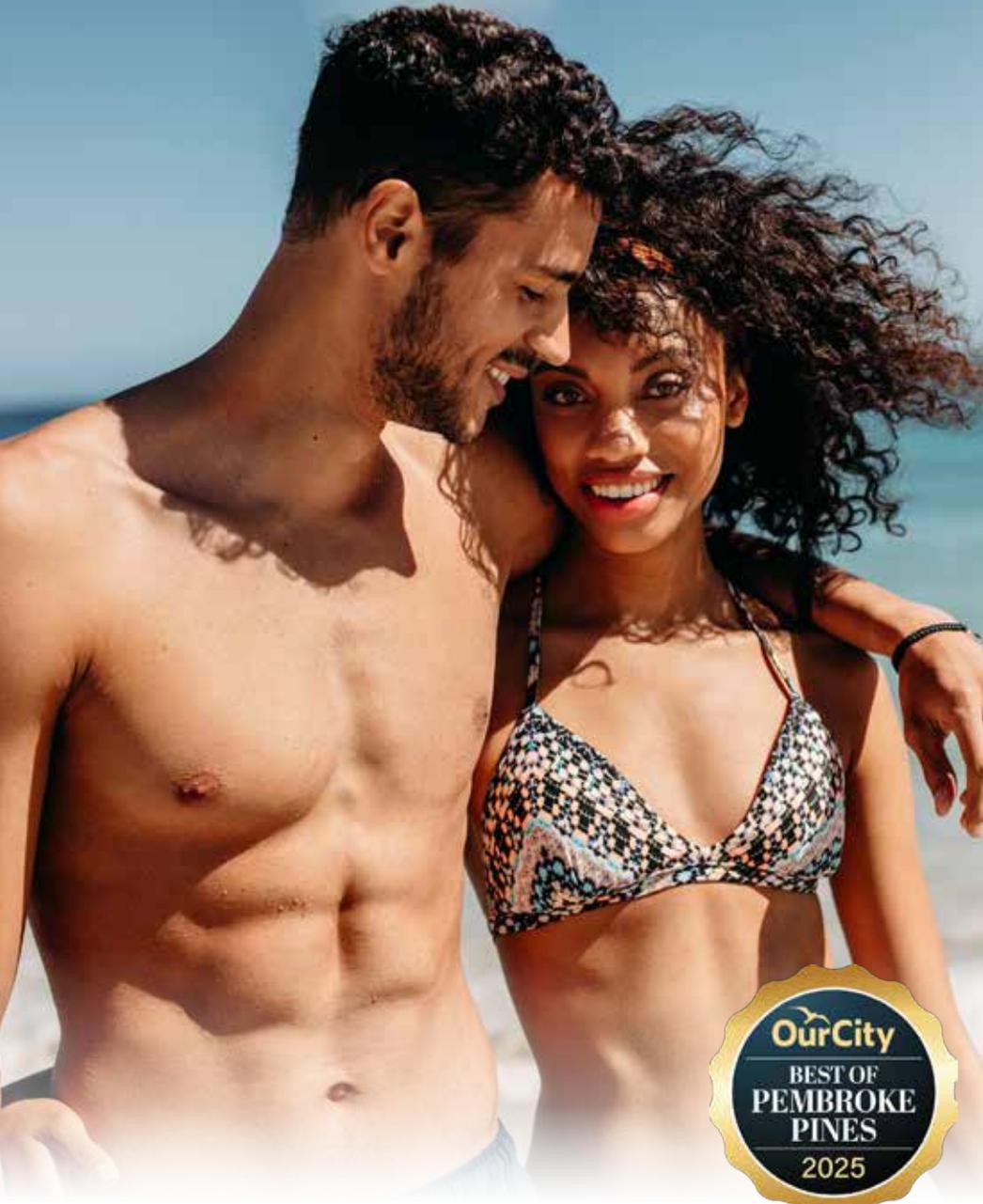
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ourcitymedia.com/puzzles/

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April Awakening: Get Ready for Summer



April is here, bringing longer, hotter days. This season is a time of growth, both in nature and in our own lives. It's a chance to let go of the past and look ahead with optimism.

As Rainer Maria Rilke said, "Spring is the time of plans and projects." It's a great time to set new goals, take on new challenges, and embrace the longer, sunnier days.

With that in mind, we're excited to share **Our City's Annual Summer Camp Guide** in this month's edition. Summer camps offer kids a variety of enriching experiences, from arts and science to sports and outdoor fun. Whatever their interests, there's a camp to make their summer both enjoyable and meaningful.

As we enjoy the beauty and warmth of spring in South Florida, let's embrace the opportunity for new beginnings. Whether it's pursuing a new hobby, embarking on a home improvement project, or simply taking more time to enjoy the outdoors, let the renewal of the season inspire you.

April is a time of preparation for the adventures ahead.

Here's to a bright and exciting spring—and the summer fun that awaits!

With warmth and connection,

Christy & Terry Jaillet

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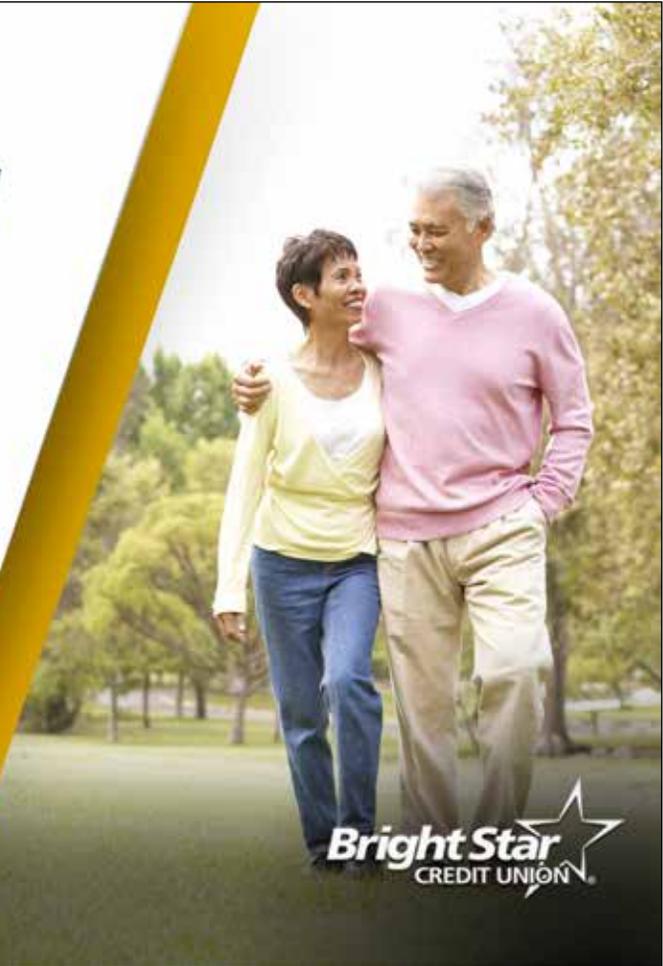
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Sheriff Gregory Tony, Ph.D.
sheriff.org



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- Sheriff Dr. Gregory Tony
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APRIL 1

Southern Handcraft Society

The society meets the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 at the Carl Shechter Southwest Focal Point Community Center, 301 NW 103 Avenue, Pembroke Pines. Come and join them for a fun evening. **For information, call 954-470-9014.**



APRIL 5

Miramar Invitational

Come out and watch some of the world's greatest athletes compete at the USATF sanctioned track and field event. This meet will include elite runners competing in a number of sprints, along with the long jump. Hosted at Ansin Sports Complex, Miramar's world renown, premier track venue. Races start at 11:30 am. **For more info or tickets, scan the QR code.**



APRIL 5

Relay For Life Pickleball Tournament

The City of Cooper City & Optimist Club of Cooper City are hosting a Doubles Pickleball Tournament to benefit the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. The exciting event allows players to register as single players to participate in a round-robin tournament, where a partner will be selected for them, or a competitive round-robin where players can register their team to compete. Check-in will begin at 7:30 AM on the event day. Games will start at 8 AM. Hosted at the Suellen H. Fardelmann Cooper City Sports Complex. **Scan the QR code to register or for more info.**



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APRIL 12

Aden Perry Hero Run & Celebration

Join members of the community for a 5K run/walk followed by BBQ, a live DJ and Tribute Band with great food, drinks, and more to celebrate the life of Aden Perry. Aden tragically lost his life attempting to save a fellow teen who had crashed his car into a lake. The 5K honors his memory and helps raise money to help students on their academic journeys through the Aden Perry Good Samaritan and Scholarship Fund. The race kicks off at 6:45 am at the home of the Florida Panthers, Amerant Bank Arena. **To register or get more info, scan the QR code.**



APRIL 12-20

Passover

Wishing a happy Passover holiday to all of our Jewish readers. Passover is a Jewish holiday that commemorates the liberation of the Israelites from slavery in ancient Egypt. It is celebrated for seven or eight days, depending on the Jewish tradition. The holiday is marked by a number of rituals and customs, the most well-known of which is the Seder. The Seder is a festive meal that takes place on the first night of Passover, during which the story of the Exodus is retold and special foods, such as matzo and bitter herbs, are eaten. The holiday is a time for family gatherings, reflection, and gratitude for freedom and deliverance.

APRIL 14

Flamingo Gardens Orchid Society

Interested in orchids and want to learn more? The Flamingo Gardens Orchid Society meets on the 2nd Monday of every month. This month's meeting will feature a special program from Claire Garrett, an award-winning member of the Ft. Lauderdale Orchid Society and Sandi Block-Brezner, an American Orchid Society judge. The program will take place in the Mary N. Porter Learning Center at 6:45 pm. **Scan the QR code for more info.**



APRIL 19

Miramar Easter Eggstravaganza 2025

Grab a basket and get the little ones dressed up and ready to hunt! Miramar Commissioner Maxwell Chambers will host the City of Miramar's annual Easter Eggstravaganza. The hunt begins at 10:00 am at Miramar Regional Park. **For more info, visit www.MiramarFL.gov.**



APRIL 20

Easter

Christians worldwide will celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, as described in the New Testament. The holiday is the culmination of Holy Week, following Good Friday, which commemorates Jesus' crucifixion. Easter is observed on the first Sunday after the first full moon following the spring equinox. Traditions include church services, festive meals, egg hunts, and the exchange of chocolate eggs, symbolizing new life and rebirth. **Happy Easter to everyone celebrating, from all of us at Our City!**

APRIL 26

Special Olympics Fundraiser

Join the American Legion Post 321 Cooper City for a fun-filled day of food, raffles, games, vendors, silent auctions, and raffle baskets. Be a part of their annual Special Olympics fundraiser and Community Family Day! There will be activities and live music by APACHE DRAGON, so bring your lawn chairs. Come support Special Olympics, which provides year-long training and competition for children and adults with intellectual disabilities. 11:00 am - 6:00 pm at Post 321, 9081 SW 51 St. Cooper City. **For more info, call George De Angelo at 954 434-0965 or 954 801-5543.**



APRIL 27

Fleet Week 5K

Fleet Week is returning to Broward County in 2025! Join hundreds of Sailors, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen on the Hollywood Broadwalk for the Fleet Week 5K. Remote physical fitness and honor the troops at this patriotic race along scenic Hollywood Beach. Performances by the Navy Band, a color guard, and other special surprises await competitors and spectators, alike. **Scan the QR code to register or for more info.**



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IN HONOR OF VOLUNTEER MONTH

Four Queens, One Purpose: A Legacy of Leadership and Service

By Dr. Willis Eubanks | Vice Chancellor
www.GODSU.org

What unites four extraordinary women—spanning ages 17 to 101—beyond their beauty, intelligence, and achievements in pageantry? It is their unwavering commitment to servant leadership, both locally and globally. Meet these remarkable queens: Sudan Eubanks (17), Rev. Dr. Diane Moore-Eubanks, Joanie Helesen (84), and Lynne Warrick (101). As the United States celebrated its 246th anniversary on July 4, 2024, these women collectively embodied over 263 years of wisdom, service, and dedication to uplifting others.

Queen Lynne Warrick (101): A Trailblazer in Service and Leadership

Born on April 24, 1923, in Newark, New Jersey, Lynne Warrick was profoundly influenced by her mother, Ethel Duchemin, who instilled in her the belief that “Love never fails.” This guiding principle shaped her lifelong dedication to volunteerism and supporting scholarships for young students.

Affectionately known as “Ma Lynne,” she began her career as a secretary for the U.S. government, where her remarkable speed and accuracy in typing earned her a distinguished role as a top-secret analyst under Rear Admiral Bruce Keener III, a 1947 U.S. Naval Academy graduate. She also made history as the first

woman to pass the rigorous “Management by Objective” course. Even in retirement, Ma Lynne continues to inspire future generations through her philanthropic work.

Queen Joanie Helesen (84): The Harp Lady’s Melody of Success

Born in Madison, Wisconsin, Joanie Helesen discovered her love for music early, beginning piano lessons at the age of eight. At just 10 years old, she was awarded a high merit music achievement honor by The National Federation of Music Clubs. She later earned a scholarship to the University of Wisconsin, where she pursued her passion for music.

Joanie’s journey into pageantry began on a friend’s encouragement, leading her to embrace the motto: “If we don’t try, we don’t know if we can do it.” Her courage propelled her to win nine world titles. Today, she channels her passion for music into a new venture—establishing a Music Club in her condo community, where both young and mature musicians can learn, share, and grow.

Rev. Dr. Diane Moore-Eubanks: Empowering a Global Community

Born in Kingston, Jamaica, Queen Diane is the Chancellor of Global Oved Dei Seminary & University (GODSU), an international educational platform committed to cultivating servant leaders. Through her work in pageantry,

she empowers mature women to break barriers related to race, nationality, and religion.

One of her most impactful initiatives was helping over 11,000 women in Nigeria and Ghana start small businesses, enabling them to achieve financial independence. Through her leadership, she continues to inspire a new generation of women to rise beyond societal limitations and embrace their full potential.

Sudan Eubanks (17): A Young Leader with a Global Impact

A senior at a Miami high school and a Silver Knight Finalist, Sudan Eubanks began her journey of service in third grade through the Peer Pal program, assisting students with physical and mental disabilities.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, she founded Reading With Royalty™, a nonprofit that provides reading videos for hospitalized children. Since 2020, Sudan has mobilized over 500 volunteers across seven countries—Canada, Australia, Greece, England, the Netherlands, Jamaica, and all 50 U.S. states—ensuring that children worldwide have access to the joy of storytelling.

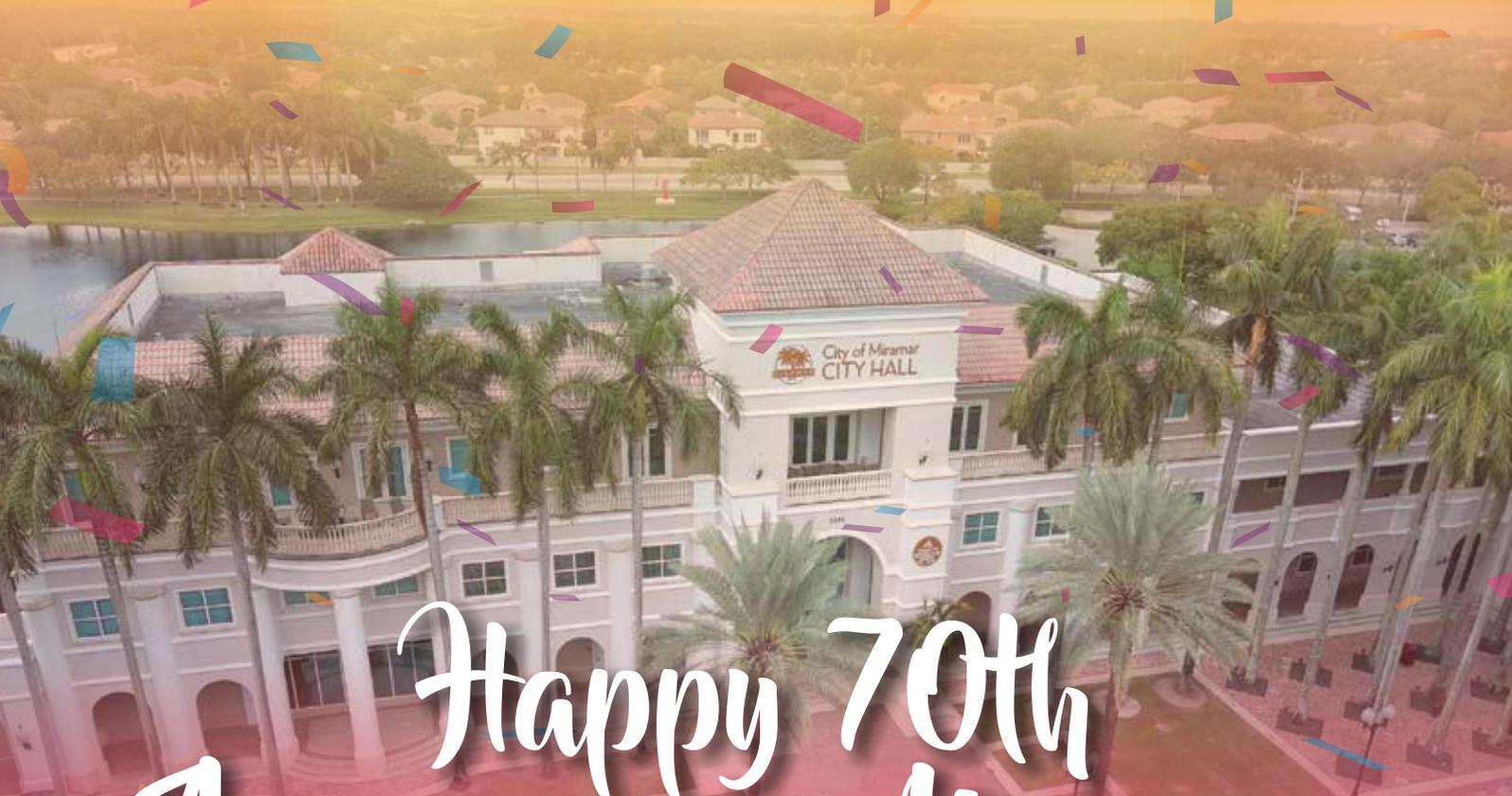
A Bright Future Led by Servant Hearts

Despite their differences in age and backgrounds, these four queens share a singular purpose—lifting others through service, leadership, and love. As they continue to break barriers and inspire change, one thing is certain: the future shines brighter because of their dedication.

Photography credit: Dakar’s Marketing Toolz



Left to Right: Queens: Sudan Eubanks (18, Miramar); Lynne Warrick (102, Pompano Beach); Joanie Helgesen (85, Delray); Diane Moore-Eubanks (62, Miramar)



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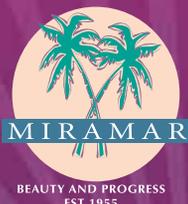
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SUMMER
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Searching for the perfect solution to keep your child both entertained and physically active over the

summer? Search no more—Summer Camp is here! Offering an array of programs, Summer Camp is a fantastic avenue for kids to mingle with their age group, explore new interests, and enhance their self-esteem. Plus, it gives parents the perfect opportunity to relax and unwind. This guide is your go-to resource for selecting the ideal camp for your youngster. Featuring extensive choices and professional advice, you can rest assured that your child will enjoy a fun-filled summer creating unforgettable experiences.



Camp WOK

www.worldofknowledge-kids.com

954-430-7707

This summer, A World of Knowledge Preschool invites children ages 1-8 to embark on an exciting journey through its summer camp programs. With a diverse array of activities, campers will enjoy "journeys around the world," where they'll celebrate different cultures and destinations. The fun-filled schedule includes water days, field trips, arts & crafts, dance, face painting, playtime, and academic reviews. Each day offers a new opportunity for your child to unleash their creativity, embrace their playful spirit, and discover the amazing wonders of the world around them.



Apple Tree Montessori

www.appletreemont.com

954-252-9250

At Apple Tree Montessori's Summer Camp, children have the unique opportunity to enhance both their minds and bodies through a blend of traditional summer fun and personalized educational experiences. The camp's program is designed to balance joyful activities such as playtime, field trips, and arts & crafts with the Montessori school's bespoke learning environment. Guided by certified and experienced teachers, campers receive support tailored to their emotional, academic, and social development. This comprehensive approach ensures that every child enjoys a summer filled with growth, discovery, and the joy of learning, all within a nurturing and engaging setting.



This immersive experience is not just about mastering dance moves; it's about the invaluable life lessons learned along the way. The skills developed over the summer will extend beyond the dance floor, enriching campers' lives in numerous ways. Dive into a summer where dance is the language of expression, growth, and connection at the Academy of Arts.

Camp Chameleon

www.CampChameleon.com

954-815-9054

Marking its 15th anniversary, Camp Chameleon takes pride in offering a summer filled with outdoor fun at Markham Park. The camp promotes the joy of outdoor activities and instills an appreciation for nature among children aged 6 to 15. Emphasizing physical activity, Camp Chameleon introduces campers to a range of non-competitive sports, fostering a healthy lifestyle.



Academy of Arts

www.AcademyOfArtsInc.com

954-704-0068

The Academy of Arts invites dancers of all ages and skill levels to join an exhilarating summer of dance. Catering to everyone from preschoolers to high school students, our studio serves as a vibrant creative outlet, offering a dance-intensive summer camp designed to refine skills, boost confidence, and instill discipline in every participant.



The camp counselors are dedicated to creating an inclusive atmosphere that encourages participation in group games, creative projects, and the building of friendships through special activities. Additionally, campers look forward to daily field trips that include visits to local pools, bowling alleys, skating rinks, movie theaters, indoor gyms, and more, ensuring a summer that is not only educational but also packed with adventure and fun.

Camp Embark

www.campembark.com
954-654-4091



At Camp Embark, the belief is that every child deserves a safe space to engage their minds and creativity, build friendships, and ignite their curiosity and excitement. The camp focuses on nurturing entrepreneurial values and mindsets, preparing children for their future. With a foundation in diversity, inclusion, and innovation, Camp Embark offers a variety of activities for all interests, ensuring an enjoyable experience.

The camp schedule promotes creativity, learning, and fun, with a range of games, arts, and sports, all in a safe environment supervised by qualified staff, facilitating personal growth.

City of Miramar Summer Camps

https://tinyurl.com/3fnf32cv
954-883-5230



The City of Miramar offers a variety of Summer Camp options. Each week, different themes and camp activities are on offer. There is something for everyone! From sports to science, cooking, money avengers, water and outdoor fun, there are so many options to choose from! Camp locations are found throughout the City. Weekly sessions begin Jun 12 and continue through August.

Camp locations include Ansin



Sports Complex, Miramar Regional Aquatic Complex, Miramar Regional Park, Sunset Lakes Community Center, Vernon E. Hargray Youth Enrichment Center, Vizcaya Park, MiramarVels Early Childhood Academy and Miramar Cultural Center.

Miramar Aquatics Camp

www.miramarfl.gov/551/
Summer-Camps
954-883-5230



The City of Miramar will host nine weeks of aquatics camps all summer long. Focus will be on learning swimming fundamentals and pool safety with lots of fun thrown in! Each week will be dedicated to a specific swimming discipline, including Backstroke, Breaststroke, Butterfly, Diving, Flip Turns, Freestyle and First Aid. The summer will end with Hawaiian Week!

Little Broadway Summer Camp

www.miramarculturalcenter.org
954-602-4519



The 9th annual Little Broadway Summer Camp is a seven-week fun-filled summer theater arts program for youth ages 8 - 14, designed for performing art students with all levels of ability and experience. Camp includes weekly field trips, arts enrichment classes, nutritional snacks and culminates with a public theater performance.

Little Broadway: A 7-week long (all-inclusive) summer program that embraces the visual and performing arts and culminates with a public performance. Classes offered include singing, acting, musical theater, dancing (choreography/technique), visual art, guitar, violin, percussion and keyboard. Additional camp highlights include special guest artists, lunch 'n learn with guest speakers and field trips that include art/cultural centers.



Camp Live Oak

www.CampLiveOakFl.com
954-563-4880



Camp Live Oak presents an enriching summer experience with its focus on environmental and marine science. Each week, campers delve into captivating environmental themes, embarking on a journey of discovery and learning. The camp's diverse schedule includes a wide array of activities, ensuring something new and exciting for every day of the week. From field trips that explore the natural beauty of the surroundings to on-site adventures that bring the thrill of discovery, and guest speakers who share their knowledge and passion, Camp Live Oak promises a comprehensive camp experience.

City of Miramar Summer Camps

www.miramarfl.gov/
Summer-Camps/
954-883-5230



Each week The City of Miramar offers different themes and camp activities. There is something for everyone! From sports to science, cooking, money avengers, water and outdoor fun, there are so many options to choose from! Camp locations are found throughout the City.

NEW FACES AND FRESH PERSPECTIVES: Colbourne Retains Seat as Cherasard and Edwards Join the Commission

The recent municipal elections in Miramar, Florida, held on March 11, 2025, ushered in notable changes to the City Commission, introducing two new members and reaffirming the tenure of an incumbent.

Seat 2: Yvette Colbourne's Re-election

Incumbent Commissioner Yvette Colbourne secured her fourth consecutive term, obtaining approximately 86% of the vote. Her opponent, Luis Pedraza, was listed as a write-in candidate due to a paperwork error.

Colbourne, who has served since 2013, campaigned on her record of maintaining stable city taxes, supporting a minimum wage for city employees, establishing an affordable housing trust fund, and opposing Miami-Dade County's proposal to construct a trash incinerator near Miramar.



Seat 3: Avril K. Cherasard's Victory

Avril K. Cherasard, a real estate broker and independent candidate, won Seat 3 with 53.5% of the vote, defeating radio personality Keith "Papa Keith" Walcott (28%) and finance director Nari Tomlinson (18%). Cherasard focused her campaign on affordable housing, addressing the city's budget concerns, and advocating for fiscal discipline by reducing expenditures on events and government employee benefits.

Seat 4: Carson "Eddy" Edwards' Election

Carson "Eddy" Edwards, an event organizer and marketing professional, secured Seat 4 with 41.6% of the vote, surpassing Kerri-Ann Nesbeth (33%), Kertch Conze (18%), and Pamela Reid (7%). Edwards emphasized financial responsibility during his campaign, highlighting concerns over excessive spending on nonessential events.

Low Turnout

The elections experienced low voter turnout, with fewer than 10% of eligible voters casting ballots across Broward County municipalities, including Miramar. This low engagement was partly attributed to a state law requiring voters to renew their vote-by-mail requests after every even-numbered year, leading to some confusion among the electorate.

These election results mark a significant shift in Miramar's leadership, blending experienced governance with fresh perspectives to address the city's evolving challenges and opportunities.



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Former Obama Official Headlines Miramar's Women's Empowerment Luncheon

The Women's Empowerment Luncheon, hosted by Commissioner Yvette Colbourne, celebrated Women's History Month with a gathering that inspired and connected the community. The event featured Valerie Jarrett, CEO of the Barack Obama Foundation and former senior advisor to President Obama, as the keynote speaker.

Held on March 14, 2025, the luncheon brought together community members to honor the impact and resilience of women. Attendees engaged in uplifting conversations and moments of reflection, celebrating women's contributions and fostering a sense of unity.

Valerie Jarrett shared her experiences and insights, encouraging attendees to continue striving for empowerment and equality. Her presence added depth to the event, leaving a lasting impression on those who attended.

The luncheon exemplified the spirit of Women's History Month, providing a platform for inspiration, connection, and celebration within the Miramar community.



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APRIL IS UPON US ALREADY!

By Mayor Wayne Messam

I want to take a moment to celebrate the incredible energy and unity we've shared in Miramar over the past few weeks.

Last month, we kicked off the 7th Annual Mayor's 5K Run/Walk & Health Fair, an event dedicated to promoting health and wellness in our city. It was truly inspiring to see so many residents, families, friends, and fitness enthusiasts come together to prioritize their well-being. From the morning run to the interactive health fair, the day was a true reflection of our city's commitment to a healthier future. Thank you to everyone who participated and to our amazing partners who made it all possible!

We also recently gathered for our annual Iftar Dinner, a special evening that highlighted the diversity and unity of our

Miramar. Celebrating Ramadan with our Muslim neighbors and recognizing the contributions of partner organizations reaffirmed the strength of Miramar's inclusive spirit.

While we celebrate these positive moments, I also want to take a moment to acknowledge the ongoing discussions regarding the incinerator proposal with Miami-Dade County. The Airport West location remains on the table as a potential site, since no final decision has been made. The Miami-Dade Commission is expected to revisit this item in July, responding to findings about the potential impact of building an incinerator close to our border. As Mayor, I have led the effort to file two bills in the Florida Legislature that would prevent an incinerator from being built at Airport West, reinforcing our city's firm stance against waste incineration near our community. Our administration

remains committed to advocating for the best interests of our residents, ensuring that any decision made prioritizes health, safety, and environmental responsibility. I encourage you to stay engaged and informed as this process continues. We will have updates posted to our social media platforms and website.

Finally, I want to extend my warmest Easter wishes to those celebrating. Easter is a time of renewal, hope, and joy. Whether you're attending a local Easter event right here in Miramar, gathering with loved ones, or simply enjoying the beauty of spring, I hope this season brings happiness and peace to everyone.

Let's continue working together to make Miramar a city where everyone feels welcome, supported, and inspired.

Wayne M. Messam

Mayor, City of Miramar.



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Pet of the Month



“Peanut”

Meet Peanut—the King of the alley and the sweetest boy you’ll ever meet! He comes running out from the bushes the moment I get home, rolling on the ground with joy to welcome me back. Peanut loves a good afternoon nap in the sun, being held like a baby, and showered with kisses. He’s not just charming—he’s my handsome boy through and through..🐾

ENTER TODAY & MAKE YOUR PET FAMOUS!

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Send Pet’s: Best Picture, Name and about fifty words describing why they’re so special!

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Email entries to: anna@ourcitymedia.com

GOOD LUCK!

■ CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Greetings From Your Chamber CEO!

By **Patty Archer**

April is National Volunteer Month, a time to celebrate the individuals and businesses that give back to our community. Beyond providing goods and services, many local businesses serve as the backbone of charitable efforts by donating their time, resources, and expertise to make a lasting impact.

From sponsoring youth programs to organizing employee volunteer days, our local businesses understand that strong communities create strong economies. When businesses invest in the well-being of their neighbors, they help build a more vibrant, connected, and resilient community.

At the Chamber, we proudly support and recognize businesses that go beyond their bottom line to support local nonprofits, schools, and community projects. Through our South Broward Foundation, we help fund high school scholarships, classroom grants, and non-profit initiatives—all made possible by the generosity of local businesses and leaders.

At our annual Gold Star Breakfast, we honor every local Teacher of the Year, recognize our outstanding Principals and Asst. Principals, and award grants to each high school. We extend an invitation to join us on April 11th, donate to a scholarship in your business name, or contribute towards the Teacher of the Year gift baskets.

We encourage businesses and residents alike to find ways to give back—whether through volunteering, donating, or supporting companies that prioritize community impact. Every act of service, big or small, helps strengthen the place we call home. Want to get involved? Connect with the Chamber to learn how your business can make a difference.

Now and in the future, the Chamber is dedicated to being a Convener of Leaders, a Catalyst for positive change, and a Champion for a strong business community. For more information and our event calendar, visit www.miramarpembrokepines.org.

Yours in Service,

Patty Archer

CEO/Executive Director

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