



PHS Newsletter

Volume 10, Issue 3

October 2011

Homeowners Meeting – October 25th Palm Island Park

The next General Homeowners Meeting for the Palm-Hibiscus-Star Islands Association is scheduled for Tuesday, October 25th and will be held at the Palm Island Park. This meeting will cover several important topics and begin promptly at 7:30 PM.

President Hans Mueller indicates that the agenda will include an update on the **Port of Miami Tunnel Project**. Representatives will be on hand to cover the Tunnel project and issues that face us during construction. They will also take questions from residents.

Also covered will be **Security on the Islands** (Lt. Toby Rabelo), **the upcoming Roadway Project for Palm and Hibiscus Islands** (Grace Escalante from the City CIP Office) **and the Undergrounding Project on Hibiscus Island** (Ian Kaplan, Chair). Of course, please bring your questions and concerns to the meeting.

You will also have the opportunity to sign up for a Committee of your choice. Refreshments will be served. Please plan to attend.

Annual PHS Halloween Party

The Annual PHS Halloween Party for the children and families on the Islands will be held at the Palm Island Park on Sunday, **October 30th from 4 to 6 PM**. This is a private party for residents and their invited guests. We fully expect to again have the best Halloween Party in Miami-Dade County! That being said, for the last year or so there have been concerns about uninvited guests coming to our Halloween Party. This one-time change of date may address that. **“Trick or Treating”** will still be held on the traditional date of October 31st, which is Monday.

There will be plenty of food, rides and attractions for ghosts and goblins of all ages. There will also be a prize for the **“Best Decorated Home”** on each Island. Please come out and join your neighbors for this fun event!

The Roadway Projects

All 3 Islands will be participating in Roadway Projects that have been slated for several years. The Project on **Star Island** began in May of this year and should be completed by the end of the year.

The projects for **Palm Island** and **Hibiscus Island** are scheduled to commence next year. The projects will include improvements to the Storm Water Drainage, improvements to the drinking water system and total repaving of the streets. Some aesthetic improvements, such as pavers at the entrance to Star Island and the entrance to Palm Island will be included. Pavers are also being planned at various other areas on Palm Avenue and Hibiscus Drive to serve as traffic calming devices. A project update for the Roadway Project on Palm and Hibiscus Island will be covered at the **Homeowners Meeting on October 25th**. These projects will have a major impact on our community for years to come.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 General Homeowners Meeting – October 25th
- 1 The Roadway Projects
- 2 Boat Theft Prevention
- 3 Calendar of Events
- 4 Sponsor of this Issue - Bertha Diaz, Yoga Instructor

Let's Talk Trash!

Living in an Island community certainly has its rewards, but is also has its challenges. Keeping our streets and properties neat and clean is one of the challenges. Being a good neighbor and taking extra care to properly dispose of our trash can keep our community looking as good as it should. **Our garbage pickup days are Monday and Thursday. Wednesday is our recycle pickup day.**

- **House Trash** – General housekeeping trash (excluding old paint, gas, etc.) is collected from the back or side yard on Monday and Thursday. Cans or bags cannot weigh more than 50 lbs. Only materials placed inside the garbage cans will be removed.
- **Yard Trash** includes tree/shrub cuttings, grass clippings and palm fronds. All trash must be in bags/cans or tied in bundles and weigh less than 50 lbs. Bundles cannot be bigger than 4 feet in length, limbs no bigger than 4 inches in diameter. Place trash at the curb no sooner than 24 hours prior to 7 AM on our days of pickup, Monday and Thursday.
- **Bulk Waste** includes large cuttings, tree limbs and yard trash which cannot be placed in a can, bag or tied in bundles 4 feet in length or less; household appliances, trash from do-it-yourself home remodeling/repair projects including carpeting, dry wall and lumber not exceeding 5 feet in length or 40 lbs, and furniture (sofas, chairs and mattresses). **Residents are entitled up to 4 free bulk pickups a year.** Bulk waste does not include trash from tree removal, land clearing, building demolition, boats, biological waste or any work done by a contractor. For a Bulk waste pickup you should call Choice Environment Services at **305-687-0177**.

For more information, please call the **Miami Beach Sanitation Department at (305) 673-7616**.

Boat Theft Prevention

The City of Miami Beach, as well as surrounding waterfront communities, is a constant target of Boat Thieves, with outboard motors as the primary target of the thefts.

- Almost all vessels stolen are in the water at the time of the theft with the dock lines cut, although some are stolen on lifts.
- Almost all vessels are stripped of motors and various equipment, close to where they are stolen from and then abandoned.
- Almost all vessels are recovered within 12 to 48 hours after being stolen. Most are recovered before being reported stolen.

The following suggestions may help prevent the theft of your boat or that of your neighbors, and assist the City of Miami Beach Police Department in apprehending the thieves:

- Use motion sensing lighting and/or alarms where your vessel is secured.
- Secure your boat with more than just one dock line. Lifts and davits have been effective in preventing thefts in the past. Any locking device will help.
- Cover your motors and boat if possible. Thieves frequently “shop” for their target during daytime hours. Yamaha motors seem to be among the most popular targets
- Outboard motors are mounted with four bolts—weld one of the nuts to its mounted bolts. Any reputable shop would be able to grind the bolts off for future removal of the motor. Thieves are not prepared for this.
- Record your outboard motor serial numbers, exactly as they appear on your motor. Warranty cards and receipts sometimes add or delete letters or digits at the beginning or end of serial numbers.
- Take notice of vessels moving suspiciously near backyards and secured boats. Write down description of persons and vessels along with the FL number if possible. Report those activities to the **Miami Beach Police Marine Patrol at (305) 673-7959 or 673-5859**. In case of emergency or a boat theft in progress, please call 911.

Port of Miami Tunnel Project

Construction on the Port of Miami Tunnel to the Port of Miami began in May of last year and is scheduled to be completed in the Spring of 2014. The Tunnel is designed to take the large cargo trucks that currently travel through the streets of downtown Miami, from I-395 to Watson Island and through the Tunnel, under the Bay, to the Port. A project update will be covered at the **Homeowners Meeting on October 25th**.

You can view an animation of the Tunnel at our website, www.phsislands.org, under the heading "Hot Topics". County Officials tell us that in order for the Port to continue to grow and prosper, this project is needed. Obviously this project will impact our community and the surrounding traffic patterns. We are working with project personnel and County Officials to minimize the impact on our lives. For more information you can go to their website, www.portofmiamitunnel.com. Thank you for your cooperation and support during this time.

Permits for Palm Island Park

We are very fortunate to have beautiful **Palm Island Park** located in our community. This public park is part of the City of Miami Beach Parks Department and as such, you are required to have a park permit to have functions at the Park. Without a permit your event may be in conflict with other events at the park and may be subject to cancellation. The City's Parks Department has been very cooperative with our Association and continues to work with us to make improvements in the Park. To obtain a permit to use the Palm Island Park, please call The **Parks Department at (305) 673-7730**.

Illegal Dumping

Illegal dumping of landscape debris and other trash takes place almost weekly in our community and hurts us all. It is virtually impossible to catch those responsible, but it is harmful to the neighborhood and causes the use of resources that might be spent in other ways in our community. **Please** make sure that your landscaper does the right thing and takes your debris out to the proper dumping sites. Also be on the lookout for those who violate the City Code for dumping.

Calendar of Events

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| OCTOBER 25 | GENERAL HOMEOWNERS MEETING PALM ISLAND PARK 7 PM |
| OCTOBER 30 | ANNUAL HALLOWEEN PARTY PALM ISLAND PARK 4 TO 6 PM |
| NOVEMBER 8 | ELECTION DAY VFW POST #3559 650 WEST AVENUE 7 AM TO 7 PM |

THANKS TO:

- **The City of Miami Beach Capital Improvements Projects Office** for their good work with the Roadway Projects scheduled for Star Island and Palm and Hibiscus Islands. City Staff member **Roberto Rodriguez** is giving leadership to the Star Island Project and **Grace Escalante** is in charge of the projects on Palm and Hibiscus Islands. Thanks a lot!!
- **The Parks & Recreation Department and the Sanitation Department** for going the extra mile and scheduling 3 Palm frond pickups during each week in our community. This helps keep our neighborhood beautiful!
- **Commissioner Bruno Barreiro and his great staff** for helping us work through the process and complexities of the Undergrounding Project on Hibiscus Island.
- **Bertha Diaz, Yoga Instructor** for sponsoring this PHS Newsletter.

Homeowners Meeting Agenda Items

The upcoming Homeowners Meeting to be held on Tuesday, October 25th, at 7:30 PM at the Palm Island Park will contain several important items with respect to our community. Among those items are:

**The Port of Miami Tunnel
Security on the Islands
The Roadway Projects
Undergrounding Project on Hibiscus Island
See you there!**