



# Cityline

## North Miami Beach

"It's Our Time"



An Award-Winning publication for the residents of North Miami Beach

Fall 2016

## NMB's 90th Anniversary Event: Celebrating Our City's Success

On October 1, 2016 we witnessed the streets of the North Miami Beach come alive in celebration of the City's 90th Anniversary. The event, which was sponsored by Suez, Coke, SLAM, Budweiser, and TECO Energy, had more than 5,000 attendees, including civic partners who serve on our City boards, commissions and committees, elected officials and others whose involvement is invaluable to the North Miami Beach community. The 90th birthday celebration honored the City's diverse cultural population and history with a wide variety of entertainment on the main stage and along NE 19th Avenue between 164th and 171st Streets.

The outdoor street bash, produced by Aloré Event Firm, in conjunction with the NMB Planning Committee Team, ran from 7 PM until the fireworks filled the sky shortly before 11 PM. The kick-off event for the evening started with the "Taste of NMB", a VIP culinary experience featuring mouthwatering bites from restaurants in and around the North Miami Beach community such as Aroma Espresso Bar, Dreamallows, Delicious Catering, Kabobji, Krispy Kreme, Lorenzo's, Morton's Steakhouse, Munch Thyme, Juicery Bar, and Vicky Bakery.

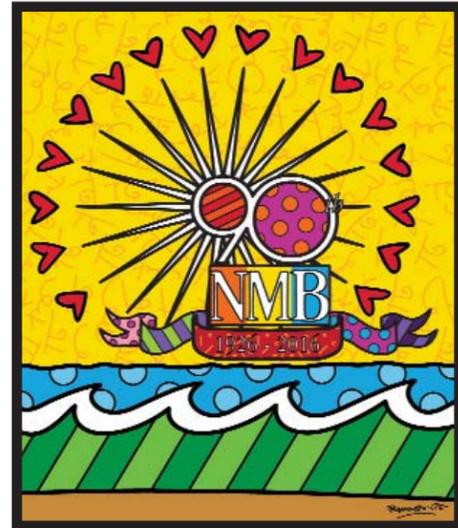
Radio station Power 96's DJ Zog & Afrika hosted the evening festivities, which included live music from the talented band Gypsy Lane. Throughout the night guests had the opportunity to experience cultural presentations such as a high-energy Chinese Dragon presentation, an inspired Junkanoo band who got the whole crowd jumping, and performances from the Miami Heat Dancers and the Hip Hop Kidz. These acts amped up and prepared the crowd for the event's amazing headliner performer and Reggae dancehall sensation, Mr. Vegas.

Local food trucks provided a wide variety of scrumptious dining and snacking options all night long.

"The City's 90th Birthday Bash was another way the City of North Miami Beach raises the bar to provide our residents with the best," said City Manager Ana M. Garcia. "This was really a memorable experience for all in attendance."



Above: Power 96's Afrika & DJ Zog keep the crowd jumping throughout the evening.



Bring on the color; NMB commissioned famed artist Romero Britto to put his artistic touch on the City's 90th anniversary logo.



Mayor, City Commissioners and Charter Officers present artist Romero Britto with a Key to the City and a Proclamation for his generous donation to the City of North Miami Beach of a one-of-a-kind 90th Anniversary inspired and innovative work of art.

## SLAM Charter School comes to North Miami Beach

The SLAM! (Sports Leadership and Management) Charter School, Inc. is excited to announce its plan to open a charter school in North Miami Beach, the city's FIRST charter school. The school will open in the Fall of 2017.

SLAM! North, a charter middle school, will infuse sports related themes into the core curriculum to engage students, offering a unique and innovative approach to instruction. SLAM North Miami Beach is the latest member of the SLAM! family of charter schools. The first SLAM! school opened in the Little Havana community of Miami, one of the City's most impoverished neighborhoods, and one which was home to SLAM! Ambassador Armando Christian "Pitbull" Perez. With more than 3,000 applicants in its inaugural year and capacity for only 1,000 students, SLAM! Miami is expanding its facilities and will open the doors to 1,700 more students in the Fall of 2017.

schools governed by non-profit organizations that have a contract or charter to provide tuition-free educational services. Charter schools are attended by choice and have the freedom to implement innovative educational programs in exchange for being held accountable for student achievement and financial practices. A charter school is a school of choice; any child living within the county in which the school is located, is eligible to attend. Enrollment is on a first come, first serve basis and a lottery is held if the number of applicants exceeds the

capacity of the school. SLAM! is proud to be the first charter school in the City of North Miami Beach, and looks forward to serving the community through our unique program.

For more information about SLAM! North please visit [www.slamnorth.com](http://www.slamnorth.com) and for more information on the SLAM! network please visit [www.slamfoundation.org](http://www.slamfoundation.org)



Parents: NMB Residents receive top priority when registering their children at SLAM Charter School.

After being featured on The Today Show, Good Morning America, The Tonight Show, The Katie Couric Show, National Public Radio, ABC Nightline and others, the school quickly captured national attention and has expanded throughout Florida, Nevada, and is excited about the expansion to the City of North Miami Beach. "The future of SLAM! in North Miami Beach will focus on developing college-bound students with a challenging curriculum combined with extensive sports-related programs to encourage all students to excel!" comments Eddie Gorritz, future principal of SLAM! North.

Charter schools are independent public



Frantz Pierre, Commissioner • Marlen Martell, Commissioner • Phyllis S. Smith, Commissioner • Anthony F. DeFillipo, Commissioner • Barbara Kramer, Vice Mayor • George Vallejo, Mayor • Beth E. Spiegel, Commissioner

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[www.citynmb.com](http://www.citynmb.com)



Mayor George Vallejo

Dear Neighbors,

As we close out this calendar year, I am happy to report: Promises made, promises kept.

We delivered on 13 of 13 major, top-priority goals set for the year, a huge winning streak that propelled our City forward in giant strides. We made significant advances in parks and events, police and safety, public works and beautification, code compliance, financial reserves and city personnel. In fact, NMB is now being recognized by other cities statewide as a model for how good government can radically transform an older city and improve the quality of life for its residents and businesses.

Most recently, our voters overwhelmingly approved a brand new City Charter. This historic event replaced a massive jumble of outdated and contradictory laws with a clean, simple and modern Charter that brings us into the 21st century. Here is just one example of the benefits: Our city elections will now be held in November, saving taxpayers over \$100,000 per election while also massively increasing voter participation.

In 2017 we will focus on:

- Creating the best parks, with activities for young and old alike
- Enhanced and innovative policing, to keep you and your family safe

- Delivering efficiency and excellence in all of our municipal services
- Keeping NMB's fiscal house in order, with strong cash reserves and lower taxes
- Beautifying every neighborhood and thoroughfare in our City
- Attracting the very best in shopping, dining and entertainment to our City

I am proud of the accomplishments of Team NMB this year and am very excited for our future. Our City is a modern urban oasis, blessed with an absolutely perfect location and a wonderfully diverse population. We are an international City on the RISE and our best days clearly lie ahead.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Mayor and I wish you a Happy Holidays and a healthy, prosperous New Year.

Warmest regards,

George Vallejo

MayorGeorgeVallejo

MayorVallejo

Mayor George Vallejo

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Check us out on the web at:

[www.citynmb.com](http://www.citynmb.com)

Check us out on social media:



citynmb

[company/city-of-north-miami-beach](https://www.linkedin.com/company/city-of-north-miami-beach)

## city manager

Dear Residents and Friends of NMB,

Celebrating our City's 90th Birthday with thousands of our residents and our City Team enjoying themselves was truly remarkable! Joy and laughter filled the air as Celebration and Community pride took center stage! What I witnessed Saturday night, the 1st of October, was the difference between being part of a Community or simply working for a company, or perhaps the County, where there's a lack of connection and interaction between the client and the service provider or the resident and the employee. You can live in a House or you can come Home every day or night and find that you are part of an environment that is supportive and values you! I look at our City flag in my office every day and what sticks out the most beyond our iconic historic Fulford monument that adorns our City Seal, is our motto, "Where People Care"! We are on a Mission in the great City of North Miami Beach to live up to our Motto and we are making great strides in ensuring that we are successful in accomplishing our objective! We have set out to recruit, retain, and develop a Team of individuals who are equipped to provide the best customer service to all our

residents and business partners. We have high expectations of our employees to Communicate, Listen, and Engage with our Community via a consistent, genuine, and open dialogue in order to find solutions, overcome challenges, and resolve issues. We are looking within to be the best public servants we can be; yet we are constantly searching and looking outwardly to seek best practices and best ways to better serve you. Our Goal is to ensure that our residents experience the best quality of life they have ever known for as long as they and their families reside in NMB.

Salutation,

Ana M. Garcia, City Manager



City Manager Ana M. Garcia

## police department

### WHEN IN SCHOOL ZONES - THINK SAFE, RIDE SAFE, BE SAFE

The best weather of the year is on its way, and with it comes additional traffic. Regardless of the time of year, it is important to keep traffic safety in mind. At arrival and dismissal times, school areas are congested: drivers are often in a hurry and harried which can lead to unsafe conditions for students and others walking, bicycling and driving in the school areas. In this vein, the North Miami Beach Police Department ( NMBPD) joins forces with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration ( NHTSA) in its nationwide campaign: "THINK SAFE, RIDE SAFE, BE SAFE", to encourage parents and students to exercise care and caution whether traveling to school by bus, bike, foot or car.

**Adults:**

- Be alert.
- Slow down.
- Yield to pedestrians, crossing guards in crosswalks.
- Avoid double-parking or stopping in crosswalks to let children out of the car. Double-parking blocks visibility for other children and vehicles.
- Comply with school drop-off and pick-up procedures.
- Watch for marked school zones, areas near bus stops and bike lanes.
- Be vigilant, expect the unexpected. Children are unpredictable and tend to ignore hazards and take risks.
- Remind the children /passengers, if you are part of a carpool, that seatbelts are a must. Not only are seatbelts are the law, they save thousands of lives a year.
- Do not text and drive.
- Advise your children that drivers are not the only ones to obey the rules of the road.

**Children:**

- Tell your children to cross streets only at the crosswalks or stoplights before crossing.

- Tell them to avoid walking or riding bikes behind school buses and other dangerous blind spots.
- Practice school bus safety. School bus fatalities can occur when kids run out in front of the bus.
- Make sure your children know they should walk where they can see the bus driver.
- Remind your children to wait for the bus to come to a complete stop before approaching from the curb, and to look both ways to see that no other traffic is coming prior to crossing the street.

**BIKE:**

- Always wear a bicycle helmet, no matter the length of the ride.
- Always ride on the right side in the same direction as vehicular traffic.
- Always use appropriate hand signals.
- Wear bright-colored clothing to increase visibility, white or light-colored clothing and/or reflective gear is especially important after dark.
- Know the "rules of the road".



Teamwork: NMB Police preparing for a safe 90th Birthday Bash.



A Halloween tradition: NMB Police Pumkin Patrol on duty.



In October NMB Police show their colors and go pink in recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.



< A proud moment: Officer Sevens Dotaly with his mother following his swearing-in.



Coming full circle: NMB Police Explorers congratulate Sevens Dotaly, a former NMB Explorer who was sworn-in as a North Miami Beach Police Officer on November 1, 2016.

**NMBPD Numbers:** [www.nmbpd.org](http://www.nmbpd.org)  
Information . . . . .(305) 949-5500  
Chief of Police . . . . .(305) 948-2995  
Crime Prevention . . . . .(305) 948-2955



Community Policing . . . . .(305) 948-2956  
Records Section . . . . .(305) 948-2952  
Report Crime Anonymously . . . . .(305) 948-2913  
Volunteer Services . . . . .(305) 948-2955

Tell us how we are doing! Take our Citizen Satisfaction Survey on [www.nmbpd.org](http://www.nmbpd.org)

## FITCH UPGRADES UTILITY BOND RATING

In October 2016 Fitch Ratings upgraded the \$50.5 million utility system revenue refunding bonds, series 2012, to 'AA-' from 'A+' with a rating outlook revised from Stable to Positive. The result is the utility's bonds move from upper medium grade to a high grade rating. The upgrades reflect continued improvements in the financial profile in Fiscals 2014 and 2015, including a much-improved liquidity position.

Factors leading to this decision include the utility's manageable debt burden, ample infrastructure capacity and a stable customer base. Compared to Fiscal 2010 when it had no Cash On Hand to Fiscal 2015, where the utility had 500 Day Cash On Hand. Other factors such as ample water supply and capacity favor the utility's rating.



Above: NMB Water receives Excellence in Resourcefulness Award. Right: Top Projects Award received by Sr. Manager Pedro Melo.

## TAKE CONTROL OVER YOUR WATER USE

by logging on to NMB Water's new Customer Web Portal.

The Customer Web Portal is part of NMB Water's recent system wide Advanced Metering Infrastructure project. Visit NMB-Water.com to learn more and take advantage of the powerful tools now available to our customers.

Creating your web portal account is easy. Visit NMBWater.com and click on the customer web portal link and follow the directions to register.

Knowing your water consumption gives you the power to control your usage, save money and protect the environment.

If you have any questions regarding the Customer Web Portal, please contact Customer Service 305-948-2960.



## BENEFITS OF THE CUSTOMER WEB PORTAL:

- Monitor water usage
- Charts display high usage and/or possible leak issues
- Set water consumption goals
- Receive water use alerts or messages
- View water use charts
- Watch step-by-step "How To" videos

*All of these great features and more are available to you by signing up at NMBwater.com and clicking on the customer web portal link.*

## NMB Water Recognized With Two New Awards

NMB Water was recently named as a Top Projects Winner by Water and Wastes Digest for the utility's Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) project, and received additional recognition with Frost & Sullivan's Excellence in Resourcefulness Awards.

Both awards recognize the recent technological improvements in the utility's infrastructure. Over 33,800 water meters in the NMB Water service area were replaced with fixed-based AMI. The Fixed-based network allows the utility to receive meter consumption information on a schedule or on demand.

The AMI network NMB Water selected includes the use of new meter technology, acoustic leak sensors, neighborhood collection units, repeaters, and a customer web portal that will allow the utility and its customers to access water consumption information in near real time.



## public works



Doing just these three things will make a difference.



1 Recycle all my empty bottles, cans and paper.



2 Keep food and liquids out of my recycling.



3 Keep plastic bags out of my recycling.

## NMB LINE ADDS TWO NEW ROUTES IN 2017

The NMB Line service will be expanded in January 2017 from the current one-route system to three routes. The added routes will complement the existing service covering the eastern section of the city.

One of the new routes will include the Biscayne Boulevard corridor from Highland Village to the Walmart store on NE 15th Avenue. Stop highlights on this route include stores like Target, Costco, and the Biscayne Commons/Publix shopping center, as well as Florida International University and Taylor and Allen parks. The second new route will cover the northern areas of the city, roughly from the NE 164th Street/West Dixie Highway area to the NE 12th Avenue/183rd Street Skylake



area. Highlights of this route include the Snyder Tennis Complex, portions of the Snake Creek and Sunray neighborhoods, Nova Southeastern University, City Hall/Victory Park, and the Shoppes at Skylake.

New, larger, and more attractive vehicles will be deployed as part of this expansion.

The "old town" trolley vehicles will offer higher seating capacity, display the city's brand with tricolor exterior graphics, and offer technological amenities such as WiFi and route status updates via a cell phone app. Additional and more specific information will be provided in the coming weeks via the city's website, social media, City Commissioners meetings, radio, print and other outlets.

## PROTECT Florida's Water

### What is NonPoint Source (NPS) pollution?

Commonly referred to as stormwater runoff or urban runoff, NonPoint Source (NPS) pollution is water pollution that cannot be traced to its specific origin or starting point.

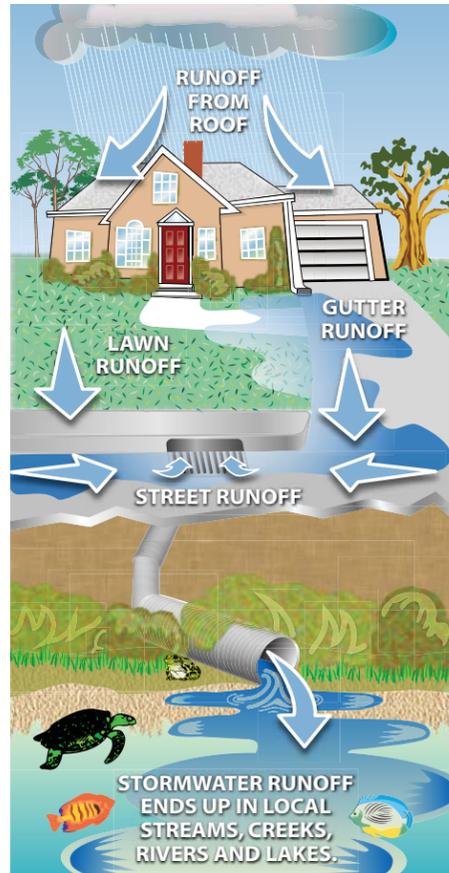
NPS pollution comes from our home, yards, streets, farms and construction sites. For example, substances such as detergents, pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, motor oils, animal feces, lawn clippings, soil erosion (sediments) from lawns and construction sites pollute our waterways.

Every time it rains, these substances run off of the land and flow through our storm drainage systems directly to our lakes, streams, rivers and canals.

This process causes more than half of the pollution to our water bodies.

### Did You Know That...

- At least 50% of the water quality problems in the U.S. result from NPS pollution.
- Five quarts of used motor oil can create an oil slick 2 football fields in size.
- Yard fertilizer runoff from residential areas is estimated to be responsible for 1/3 of the excess nitrogen polluting our waterways.
- The first inch of runoff generally carries 90% of the pollution from the streets and parking lots to the waterways and aquifers.
- Storm drains do not go to a sewage treatment plants, they lead directly to bodies of water.



## DON'T DISCARD USED MOTOR OIL

Recycle it!  
It's easy!

Help protect our drinking water.

There are more than 100 facilities in Miami-Dade County that accept and recycle used motor oil. Locate a company that recycles used oil near you by calling the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's (FDEP) Used Oil Hotline.

**1-800-741-4DEP.**

## Reporting Environmental Emergencies, Complaints, and Environmental Crimes

The Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources (DRER) responds to environmental complaints and emergencies 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. To file a complaint, call **(305) 372-6955.**

## city projects

### Capital Improvement Projects Progress Report

Construction of new streets, sidewalks, lighting and landscaping can be seen throughout the City. Projects are being planned and constructed throughout the City. If you have any questions about current construction projects, please call (305) 948-2925.

### COMPLETED PROJECTS

#### HIGHLAND VILLAGE COMMUNITY CENTER

Bathrooms, kitchen and classroom area were upgraded.

#### VICTORY POOL, HIGHLAND VILLAGE & WASHINGTON PARK PLAYGROUNDS

These playground amenities were all re-painted.



#### PICKWICK ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS

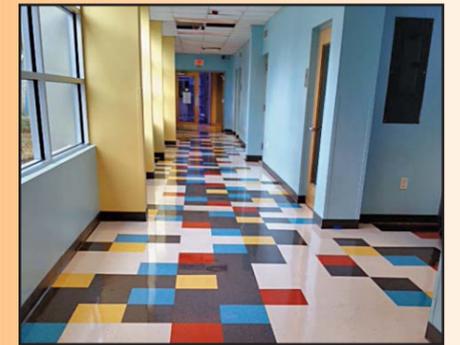
Roads within sections of the Pick Wick Community were upgraded with sidewalk repairs, ADA ramps, roundabout upgrade and roadway resurfaced.

#### ROADWAY AND SIDEWALK UPGRADES

Sidewalks were repaired and constructed, new ADA ramps installed in the communities of Highland Village, Skylake, Oak Grove and Windward.

#### YES CENTER UPGRADE

The Yes Center classrooms, bathrooms, kitchen and hallway were upgraded.



### PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

#### HAZEL FAZZINO PARK - PHASE 1

The old Hazel Fazzino nursery is being transformed into a neighborhood Park. The greenhouse and other structures have been demolished, the property has been graded and a new iron fence and concrete wall installed.

#### PICK WICK WALL

This wall at the City's west entrance on Miami Gardens Drive is being artistically enhanced with a unique landscaping design.

#### BISCAYNE BLVD. BEAUTIFICATION

New landscaping is being installed on the medians from NE 137 Street to NE 174 Street.

#### BISCAYNE BOULEVARD WELCOME SIGN

A new Welcome Sign has been erected just north of NE 172 Street on Biscayne Boulevard and is in the final stages of completion.

#### ROOF REPAIRS

Roof repairs are underway at the Police Department Building.

#### SEWER PROJECT NE 164 ST and NE 20 Ave.

This County/CRA funded project commenced construction of approximately 750 linear feet of new sewer line on NE 20 Avenue between NE 163 and NE 164 Streets.

#### ALLEN PARK LIGHTING

The lighting in this park will be replaced with a new lighting system.

### UPCOMING PROJECTS

#### MCDONALD CENTER UPGRADE

Bathrooms, kitchen new flooring and painting.

#### LITTMAN THEATER CURTAIN REPLACEMENT

New curtains will be installed in the theater.

#### FULFORD FOUNTAIN RESTORATION

The city is in the planning stages of restoring the Fulford Fountain.

#### GWEN MARGOLIS THEATER LIGHTING

New lighting will be installed at the amphitheater.



## Special Events

### TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

Tuesday, December 6, 2016  
from 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM  
Median in front of City Hall  
17010 NE 19th Avenue

### SNOWFEST

A snow advisory has been issued for North Miami Beach! Bring the entire family to enjoy a snow mountain, rock climbing walls, rides, carnival games, bounce houses, music, and arts & crafts.

Saturday, December 10, 2016  
from 6:00 PM - 11:00 PM • \$5.00  
Along NE 19th Avenue between 168th and 172nd Streets.

### MENORAH LIGHTING

Tuesday, December 27, 2016  
from 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM  
Median in front of City Hall  
17010 NE 19th Avenue

### NMB LOVE-IN

A themed Valentine's Day event open to all couples who would like to reaffirm their vows and commitment of love to one another. The night begins with a renewal of vows then moves on to a champagne toast, dinner, dancing and musical entertainment.

Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
from 7:00-10:00 PM • \$15.00 per person  
\$120 per table  
Marjorie & William McDonald Center  
17051 NE 19th Avenue

### HEART HEALTH WALK

Get moving at this free family event sponsored by the Commission on the Status of Women, featuring free heart health information and more.

Saturday, February 25, 2017  
from 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM  
Patricia A. Mishcon Athletic Field  
16601 NE 15th Avenue

## Adult Coed Social Kickball, Basketball Leagues coming to North Miami Beach

Perhaps your youthful dreams of being a basketball champ fell by the wayside when you grew up, but your love of the game never died. Maybe you miss the comradery you experienced on your elementary school kickball team. Whatever your reason, playing team sports doesn't have to be reserved for pros and school kids.

South Florida Club Sport brings together adults who want to have fun through a variety of adult sports leagues and social events. "If you don't know anybody, we place you on a team as a free agent and you just met 12 new people," said Steve Arsenault, founder



of Miami Sports & Social Club.

South Florida Club Sport takes networking to a new level, as young professionals bond and share through athletics. "You are branching out and (engaging in) social networking," said Arsenault. "People want to be active, and this is a great way to be active and be social."

Beginning Nov. 14, The City of North Miami Beach will offer a Coed Social Basketball League at Allen Park/DeLeonardis Youth Center and a Coed Social Kickball League at Uleta Park and Washington Park Community Centers on Mondays from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Leagues are for adults, ages 18



and over.

Kickball is \$60 for seven weeks of play and includes team shirts, refs and post-game happy hour specials. Basketball is \$80 for seven weeks and includes team jerseys, refs and post-game happy hour specials.

To sign up or for more information, please call (954) 589-2180 or visit [www.southfloridadaclubsport.com](http://www.southfloridadaclubsport.com)

## EXPECT TONS OF SNOW, AND LOADS OF FROSTY FUN AT SNOW FEST!

Take out your hats, jackets and mittens, because a snow advisory has been declared for Saturday, Dec. 10, 2016. On that day, the City of North Miami Beach Parks & R.E.C. Department will host its annual Holiday Snow Fest & Community Safety Day Parade from 6 PM to 11 PM along NE 19th Avenue between 164th and 171st Streets.

Bring the entire family to enjoy a holiday parade with floats, marching bands and holiday characters. The kids can enjoy a snow mountain, ice skating rink, rock climbing wall, giant slide, bounce houses, carnival games and edible arts and crafts. Participate in holiday games, such as the Grinch's Grab Bag or for those who have been nice, write a letter filled with your list of wishes to Dear Ole St. Nick.

Enjoy live performances and a DJ who will entertain the crowd throughout the evening with interactive activities, raffles, prizes and contests.

There will be many photo opportunities with Santa, Mrs. Claus, the cast of Frozen and other holiday characters throughout the event. Another special guest from the North Pole includes the Grinch, who will be prowling around looking to steal away some holiday cheer!

Food trucks will be on hand & refreshments will be on sale throughout the evening.

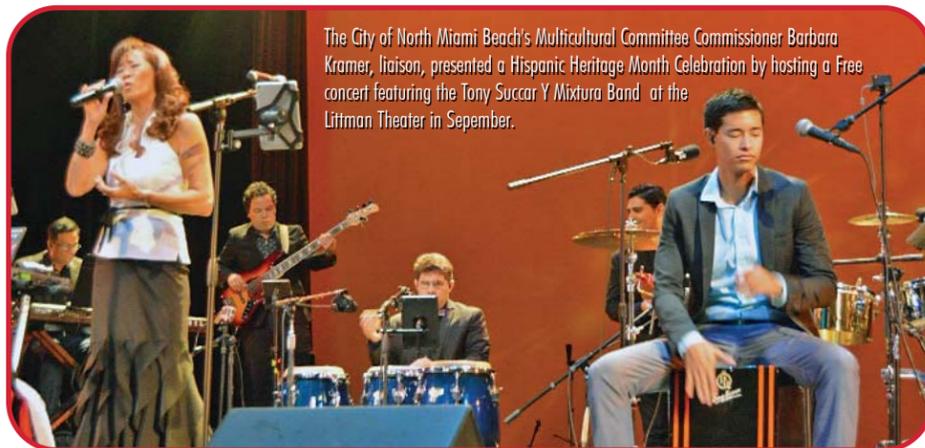
The parade is free and a \$5.00 Snow Pass grants you unlimited access to certain rides. For more information on sponsorship opportunities or how to be a vendor, please call the Parks & R.E.C. Department at (305) 948-2957.



Bring on the frosty fun in North Miami Beach on December 10th.



Enter a Winter Wonderland at the annual Holiday Snow Fest & Community Safety Day Parade!



The City of North Miami Beach's Multicultural Committee Commissioner Barbara Kramer, liaison, presented a Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration by hosting a Free concert featuring the Tony Succar Y Mixtura Band at the Littman Theater in September.

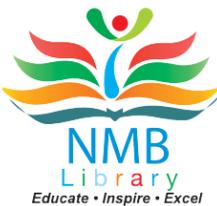
## nmb public library

1601 NE 164th Street  
Phone: (305) 948-2970

- Internet Access
- Wireless Technology
- Programs for All Ages
- Story Hour for Preschoolers
- Voter Registration and IRS Forms
- Research Databases

Computers are available for public use free of charge. The library has a children's section. There's also Chinese, Creole, French and Spanish materials available. DVDs, CDs and E-books are also available.

**Library Hours:**  
Monday - Thursday:  
9:30 AM to 7:50 PM  
Friday & Saturday:  
9:30 AM to 4:50 PM  
Most Sundays: 1 PM to 4:50 PM  
Call to confirm Sunday. Computer catalog at [www.nmblib.com](http://www.nmblib.com).



The Fall Season is in full swing at the NMB Library! Our kick-off with our History Tent and archive project at the Birthday Bash was only the beginning! Our Toddler and Senior morning classes are growing and our STEM and Art classes are multiplying. The Citizenship classes have started and obtaining great reviews! If you are not checking [nmblib.com](http://nmblib.com) to check our events calendar you may be missing out on many community events. This November we had a wonderful event celebrating the City's 90th and the Library's 50th Birthday. This large community event was a momentous celebration. The artwork of Jake Cordero, Carrie Sue Ayvar, a storyteller whose tale weaved back to her time growing up in NMB led us through a memo-

orable enjoyment of the arts. Local author Kraig Geiger received a Key to the City from our NMB Mayor George Vallejo. State Department/Library Representative Sandra Newell, recognized the City of North Miami Beach Library for 50 years of service to the NMB community. Desiree De la Huerta, an NMB resident was this year's International Book Battle winner for the US and was duly recognized at the event. Skippy Jon Jones our book character visitor and UM's Sebastian were a treat for the kids. Please join us as we celebrate NMB Library's first graduating class of High School students. We are excited for the adult members of our community who made the decision to work towards a High School Diploma. Support your community members on this great event on December 1st, 2016 at 6:30 PM. As we enter our Holiday Season, we are grateful for our ability to meet the educational, cultural and leisure needs of our community. We are a center where families gather and complete tasks and that makes us feel like part of the great NMB Family. We hope you have a wonderful time gathering with your closest loved ones.

## VOTERS APPROVE NEW NMB CHARTER

On November 8th 2016 the electors of North Miami Beach went to the polls in huge numbers and voted for a New Modern Charter for the City along with 9 other Charter Amendments.

The New charter will go into effect once the election results are certified by the Miami Dade County Department of Elections on November 18th 2016, accepted by the Mayor and now City Commission, transmitted to the Department of State and Miami Dade Clerk of Courts by City Clerk Pamela L. Latimore.

The following questions and the results were:

**New City Charter for City of North Miami Beach PASSED.**

**Change in the Number of Regular City Council Meetings PASSED.**

**Change in how the Commission will hire the City Manager PASSED.**

**Change in defining the duties and requirements of the City Attorney and City Clerk PASSED.**

**Change of City's General Election Date to November elections of even years PASSED.**

**Change in Commission Term Limits and Service of Full Term PASSED.**

**Removing Civil Service DID NOT PASS.**

**Change in when the City Commission will Accept Election Returns and Election to Fill Vacancy on Council PASSED.**

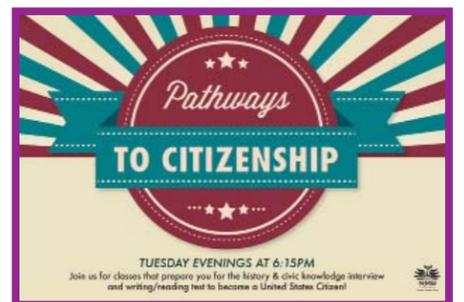
**Reducing Quorum of City Commission did not pass. Changing name of "City Council" to "City Commission" PASSED.**

The next regular election for the City of North Miami Beach will be held in November of 2018.

## "Socks on a String"

### An Annual Sock Drive Benefiting Homeless in Miami-Dade County

The City of North Miami Beach held its annual sock drive for Project Up-Start. In honor of Miami-Dade County's Homeless Awareness Day, which was held on November 3, 2016. Local schools and the community donated nearly 1,500 pairs of socks for homeless men, women and children. Highland Oaks Middle School was the overall winner of the drive with a donation of nearly 500 pairs of new socks. The socks will be donated to this year's partners: Miami Homes for All, Lotus House, Miami Beach Community Church and Project UP-START.



# building division

The City of North Miami Beach is a City on the RISE. A City that does not spare any initiative to serve the residents of the community. In the forefront of this endeavor is the Building Division. The Building Division in the City of North Miami Beach provides supervision of construction activities, acceptance of building permit applications, issuance of all building and trade permits, verification of compliance with the 2014 Florida Building Code and drives compliance with the codes whenever a violation is observed.

The focus and mission behind the Division is providing excellent municipal services while engaging the community. We have built our services around the residents and the customers. As part of the City's Strategic Plan, we have put in place several policies and tangible improvements to better serve the residents in a high performing and expeditious way:

- Information at the fingertips of all inspectors via software implementation and tablets. This will allow for faster service while on field inspections.
- Newly renovated lobby area that is in compliance with all A.D.A. requirements in

order to serve all residents and customers equally, while providing a comfortable and professional atmosphere.



- The new design of our lobby area provides residents the opportunity to discuss all requests to a specialized permit clerk on an individual and one on one basis.
- The Building Division added 15 extra hours of service to the residents and customers by expanding the hours of operation. The front counter is now open from 7:00 AM until 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday.
- In an effort to be the highest performing City Organization, management has re-organized the Building Division's duties to allow for an expansion of personnel in the front counter to assist all residents. We currently have six (6) permitting stations with up

to six (6) specialized permit clerks to assist with any and all needs of the public.

- "Open door and open cellphone policy" regarding management hours of operation. We are available to all residents 24 hours a day and 7 seven days a week. We cater to any challenges that arise even during non-operating hours. We are not only on the RISE, but we are on the RISE 24/7.
- All Inspection requests associated with Building Permits are expedited within a 24 hour time frame.
- Walk-through building permitting processes for instant approval within the hour for permits related to fences, roofs, sheds, and air condition units.

As part of the City's Strategic Plan to engage all residents equally, we are in tune with the needs of the community. The City of North Miami Beach has introduced the "Mobile Permitting Unit" program. This program is dedicated to residents who may need special assistance in obtaining permits for home improvement projects. This initiative's particular focus is on our senior citizens



and our residents with limited mobility. Residents can now contact our team to meet at their property in order to obtain a permit for a list of projects such as:

- Fences
- Sheds
- Roofs
- Air conditioner unit change outs
- Driveway

This customer first approach is the soul of our organization. We make every effort in policy decisions to include solutions to community challenges along with the residents. We are dedicated to excellence in our processes and interactions with the community. The culture behind our efforts are founded in the Respect, Integrity, Service, and Excellence - R.I.S.E. Principles. These values only equate to solutions. In NMB, customer service starts with solutions.

# spotlight ON NORTH MIAMI BEACH



Annual NMB Magical History Tour included a Groundbreaking Ceremony for the restoration of the historical Fulford Monument.



MDCLC & NMB Police Childhood Awareness Month kick-off event.



Dr. Steven and Silvia Vani of the Mystic Force Foundation.



State Representative Barbara Watson and the City of North Miami Beach hosted a "Farm Share" event at Allen Park in North Miami Beach.

Jack Neil Ross, a/k/a "Mr. North Miami Beach", touched the lives of thousands of people with his love and contributions. And that big grin! From the kids he coached and mentored, to the Optimist Club Members, to Special Olympics, to Big Brothers & Big Sisters, to bowlers everywhere, to the Lions Club, to the Footlighters Club, to AZA advisor, and to all he sang a 5 minute version of Happy Birthday to, and to his work as the social director at various hotels on Miami Beach, Jack was everybody's best friend.



Jack N. Ross Way designation ceremony was held on October 27th (NE 15th Ave between 163rd and 170th Streets)



NMB Team attending the Miami-Dade County League of Cities Best Practices Conference on October 14th in downtown Miami.



Representing the City in style at the Ancient Spanish Monastery's 2016 Legacy Awards Gala on September 24th.



The Annual Monster Mash Bash was a great success with lots of costumes, treats, activities and no tricks!



The North Miami Beach Police Department Annual Domestic Violence Walk took place on October 22nd. The Walk raises awareness and educates our community on the destructive impact domestic violence has on our children, families, congregations and work environment.



Two-legged and four-legged children enjoy the Fall Harvest display along NE 19th Avenue in North Miami Beach.

# NORTH MIAMI BEACH'S 90th birthday bash

A majority of the NMB 90th Anniversary photos were supplied by David Sutta Photography.



Bring on the night: event headliner Mr. Vegas delivers a crowd pleasing show.



Power 96's DJ Zog keep the crowd moving throughout the night and this crowd knows how to enjoy a birthday party!



Fun for all ages and musical preferences: NMB's 90th Birthday Bash brought smiles to kids of all ages.



Let's get this party started! high-energy band Gypsy Lane kicks off the evening and gets the crowd moving with top hits in both English and Spanish!



Above: John Wai Kung Fu Academy delighted the crowd with a highly entertaining Dragon Dance. Left: Headliner act Mr. Vegas delivers a crowd-pleasing birthday party to remember.



The Bahamas Junkanoo Shakers brought it on and off the stage as they performed traditional songs that kept people in the groove.



Hip Hop Kidz perform a variety of dance hits for the audience.



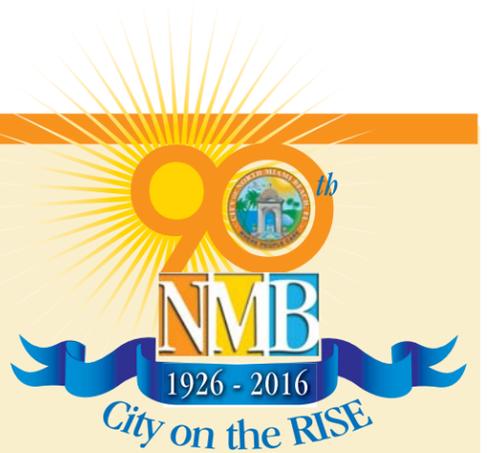
John Wai Kung Fu Academy strikes a pose for the camera before the birthday festivities begin.



Above: The Mayor and Council declared world-renowned artist Romero Britto (above with white jacket and microphone) a Key to the City and an official City Proclamation declaring October 1, 2016 as "Romero Britto Day" in honor of his enduring artistic talent, passion, and vision, and for his generous donation to the City of North Miami Beach of a one-of-a-kind 90th Anniversary innovative work of art inspired by our Anniversary logo. Below: A thumbs "up" event with Commissioner Anthony F. DeFillipo, City Attorney Jose Smith, City Manager Ana M. Garcia, Commissioner Marlen Martell, Commissioner Barbara Kramer, Mayor George Vallejo, Artist Romero Britto, City Clerk Pamela Latimore, Commissioner Phyllis S. Smith, Commissioner Frantz Pierre and Commissioner Beth E. Speigel.



# Taste of NMB



The doors opened early for VIP attendees, who purchased tickets to the "Taste of NMB," which provided them with samples of local cuisine from restaurants in the NMB community.



The following restaurants were represented at the "Taste of NMB" -- Aroma Espresso Bar, Dreamallows, Delicious Catering, Kabobji, Krispy Kreme, Laurenzo's, Morton's Steakhouse, Munch Thyme, Juicy Bar, and Vicky Bakery.



Police Athletic League (PAL) shares program information at the event.



NMB residents received a backpack and commemorative tee shirt.



SLAM Academy promoted the first charter school in NMB.



Kids having a great time with some sliding and climbing activity.



Attendees of all ages enjoyed the celebration.



Games were played to win a variety of gifts and prizes.



Parks & R.E.C. team working together!



Kids playing a hockey video game at the Florida Panther's booth.



There were lots of smiles and great memories shared that night.



Billy the Marlin getting into the swing of things with families and friends at the 90th Birthday Bash.



Stanley C Panther of the Florida Panthers.



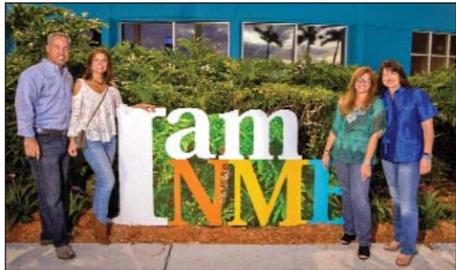
The Miami Heat Dancers take to the stage and street to keep the party going into the night.

# NORTH MIAMI BEACH'S 90th birthday bash

Most photos supplied by David Sutta Photography



**Birthday Bash Committee:** From the City's Mayor and Commissioners to the Public Works and Parks & R.E.C. departments, to Procurement and Code Compliance divisions and many more people. The team came together and within budget to throw the biggest party the city has ever seen in 90 years. Team members were: Ana M. Garcia, ICMA-CM, City Manager; Jose Smith, City Attorney; Pamela L. Latimore, City Clerk; Sarah Johnston, Deputy City Attorney; Candido Sosa-Cruz, Deputy City Mgr.; Esmond K. Scott, Asst. City Mgr.; Fernando Rodriguez, Public Works Dir.; Paulette Murphy, Parks & R.E.C., Dir.; Lynnetta Jackson, Team Leader; Nicole Gomez, CoS; Alore Event Firm: Allie Irizarry, Anna Noriega, Marina Korolyova, Aja Dorsainvil, Anthony Lamar, Brian Andrews, Captain Juan Pinillos, Captain Muhammad Asim, Captain Stuart Nichols, Edenia Hernandez, Elisabeth Pierre, Frank Ruiz, Greg Williams, Jackie Shakespeare, Janette Smith, Joel Wasserman, Julio Magrisso, Lazaro Remond, Major Antonio Marciano, Marcia Fennell, Mark Perkins, Marvin Adams, Meghan Bennett, Mitchell Abrahams, Robbie Walker, Shaun Fass.



The streets were full of party goers as they enjoyed music, food and more!

The ALORE Team L to R: Allie Irizarry, Marina Korolyova, Ana Noriega and team did a fantastic job planning and organizing the 90th Birthday Bash.



L to R: City Manager Ana M. Garcia, Chief of Staff Nicole Gomez and Commissioners Marlen Martell & Barbara Kramer.

There were plenty of food trucks on hand. Here are some ice cream lovers enjoying the festivities.

The large crowds were entertained throughout the night with a variety of acts and performances.



Mayor Vallejo, City Manager Ana M. Garcia, some Commissioners and some friends take time out to pose for a picture with the new "I am NMB" sign in front of City Hall.

Partiers above and below boogie to the music.

More than music: The 90th Birthday Bash included Local Graffiti Artist Luis Valle (luisvalleart.com) and his original artistic interpretation of NMB's 90th Anniversary on a Crown Victoria. The car will be on display at various City events in the coming year.



L to R: North Miami Beach Mayor George Vallejo, Commissioner Marlen Martell and newly appointed Assistant City Manager Esmond K. Scott enjoying the evening.



From Bash to Splash: The weather was great and the rain stayed away for the entire night. But as the evening came to a close and "Happy Birthday" was sung, candles were blown out and the fireworks began, along with a rain storm that didn't seem to stop many from continuing to enjoy themselves.



Large Instagram frames were a big hit for those that wanted to mug for the camera. A 90th Anniversary "signature wall" in the background served as a permanent memento of the event, which included personal messages and signatures of attendees.