

The AVENTURA

ANNUAL REPORT

2013



AVENTURAMALL.COM

AVENTURA MALL

THE POSSIBILITIES ARE ENDLESS



green market

Sundays

9 AM - 2:30 PM
Founders Park South
3105 NE 190th Street

The Aventura Green Market is sponsored by the City of Aventura.
For more information, please contact the
Community Services Department at 305-466-8008 or 305-466-0183.

cityofaventura.com #AVgreenmarket



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TheAventura
 was produced by
 City of Aventura
 Communications/Technical Project Specialist
 Annette Gonzalez
 and
 Information Technology Director
 Karen J. Lanke

Special thanks to Sara Fiedelholtz

Cover Photo:
 Annie Cassius and Daniel Merchan
 of Mac Bread Bar at the
 Aventura Green Market

Andrew Goldstein Photography

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CITY COMMISSION



Susan Gottlieb
Mayor



Teri Holzberg
Commissioner, Seat 1



Michael Stern
Commissioner, Seat 2



Howard Weinberg
Commissioner, Seat 3



Billy Joel
Commissioner, Seat 4



Enbar Cohen
Commissioner, Seat 5



Luz Urbáez Weinberg
Commissioner, Seat 6



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

19200 West Country Club Drive
Aventura, FL 33180



Dear City of Aventura Resident:

It is my privilege as your Mayor to present the City's Annual Report for 2013. It has been nine years since you elected me to the Office of Mayor. Based on term limits, my time as your Mayor will come to an end in November of this year. I am honored to have served as your Mayor and have had

the opportunity to address the concerns and issues of our great City. Much has been accomplished by your City Commission during this period of time, both in maintaining and enhancing our quality of life.

This past year, your City Commission focused on expanding programs and events that magnify our sense of community and promote community involvement. A "Movie Night" series in the park, including food trucks, was initiated and has been well attended. This past December, the City contracted with a company that holds a weekly Green Market on Sundays in the south portion of Founders Park. With local vendors selling delicious fresh fruits, vegetables, healthy foods, and even jewelry and crafts, the Aventura Green Market encourages and maintains a community's healthy lifestyle. Plans are underway to create a Community Green Garden in the south portion of Founders Park whereby residents can lease a planting bed to grow vegetables or flowers. Applications will be available on the City's website, and the residents will be able to start planting in April. I wish to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Community Services Advisory Board for their valuable input on these important projects.

I am pleased to report that after years of urging the County by your Aventura City Commission, the construction of the replacement facility for the Northeast Miami-Dade County Library branch is scheduled to be complete in June of this year. We look forward to the grand opening of this facility and invite the entire community to attend. The City Commission has been meeting with County staff on a regular basis to insure that this project stays on schedule.

November 2014 will bring many changes to your City of Aventura. The Mayor and three Commission seats will be changed due to term limits. This will alter the makeup of your City Commission, as the majority of the members will be new. I urge all residents who might be interested in serving the community to attend City Commission meetings and workshops. Familiarize yourselves with relevant issues, policies and procedures. Aventura is our

home and we want what is best for our residents as we go forward into the future. Please stay informed and get involved!

In our continued efforts to foster community involvement, the City once again will host Aventura Government 101 - A Citizen's Academy. The Academy, to be presented in eight sessions over a one-month period, was designed to provide a learning forum for citizens to become more familiar with the City of Aventura Government, improve communications between citizens and government, as well as foster citizen involvement. Applications are available on the City's website until April 11, 2014.

The City's charter school completed a successful tenth year and scored an "A" on the School Performance Grade issued by the State of Florida. The school administration, staff, teachers, parents, and students should be commended for a job well done. The City continues to work with the Miami-Dade County School Board to insure that the Bond funds set aside to address the high school capacity issues in this area are spent in a timely manner.

The Aventura Arts & Cultural Center began its fourth season in November 2013 with the Founders Day weekend events. The season included a variety of shows and events scheduled for the year. In our third season, the Center almost doubled the number of ticket buyers and expanded the number of days the facility was booked. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the community for continuing to embrace the Center and attending the numerous shows. We will continue to work towards improved programming that is reflective of the various suggestions made by the members of the community. I invite you to participate in the Center's fundraising projects; "Walk of the Arts" and "Honor Roll" gives residents and businesses a chance to support local cultural programs while becoming part of Aventura history.

As we begin 2014, I want to take this opportunity to thank the community for its valuable support during the past year as we addressed many difficult and important issues on behalf of the future of the City of Aventura.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan Gottlieb". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Susan Gottlieb
Mayor



OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

19200 West Country Club Drive
Aventura, FL 33180
305-466-8910



To the Residents of Aventura:

I am pleased to present the TheAventura magazine to the community which includes an overview of the City's accomplishments this past year and information on municipal services. In addition, this document has been designed as a useful resource for City residents and visitors. Each year as we

prepare this annual report to the citizens of Aventura, we reflect on and seek to communicate with you the achievements of the past and our plans for the upcoming year.

The model of privatizing many service areas of the City's operations over the years has served the City well and has allowed for a more cost effective service delivery system as compared to the traditional government structure. This, along with implementing various energy saving measures throughout the organization, assisted greatly in reducing our overall cost increases. The City's "Go Green" efforts continue to be very beneficial in keeping our operating costs down. We are firm in our knowledge that we must continue to remain prudent and conservative in our financial management of the City. We are proud of the fact that the City's tax rate still remains the lowest in the County, while we have maintained a high standard of providing services to the community.

During this past year, the City, fulfilling one of its priorities, focused on maintaining and protecting its infrastructure by completing several capital projects. In our continued efforts to improve traffic flow and safety in the City, a traffic signal was installed at the intersection of NE 185th Street and NE 28th Avenue, and a new right turn lane was constructed at the intersection of Country Club Drive and NE 34th Avenue. The northern portion of Country Club Drive was resurfaced as well. The third phase of installing more efficient decorative street lighting along the east side of Biscayne Boulevard was recently completed. The remaining portions of Biscayne Boulevard will be completed by the end of the summer. A new parking garage adjacent to the Aventura Government Center was completed this past year and has improved parking conditions for visitors and for special events at Founders Park.

As a City, we continue to explore alternative transportation opportunities to alleviate traffic congestion. Over 25,000 riders a month utilize the City's free shuttle bus service to travel to their destinations throughout the City. This past year, we worked with the Florida Department of Transportation to provide for bike paths along the Lehman Causeway that would connect our internal system to Collins Avenue and Biscayne Boulevard.

The crime rate for 2013 decreased by more than 2% when compared to the prior year. The City is proud of the efforts of our Police Department. The department, as well as our security partners at the Aventura Mall and the various condominiums, have played a major part in creating the reputation for a safe community in which to live, work and play.

The following capital improvement projects are scheduled for completion in 2014:

- ▶ A Park Enhancement Package which includes improvements based on input from the users of our park system; Installation of a SunPad adjacent to the SplashPad at Founders Park, additional shade structure and benches at Waterways Park playground, installation of additional shade structure at Veterans Park and replacing shade structure with permanent shelter at Waterways Dog Park.
- ▶ Resurfacing of the southern portion of Country Club Drive roadway.
- ▶ Completion of installing more efficient decorative street lighting along the east side of Biscayne Boulevard.

Improvements are continuously made to our website to make it easier for residents to interact conveniently with the City from purchasing tickets to an Arts & Cultural Center show to registering for a class at the Community Recreation Center. The City has embraced new technology and social media to improve communications and sharing important information with our community. At this time, we have over 3,800 Twitter followers and many of you have subscribed to the "MyAventura" email notification service.

I am proud to work with informed elected officials, a dedicated group of City employees and involved citizens as we continually strive to maintain and improve our community.

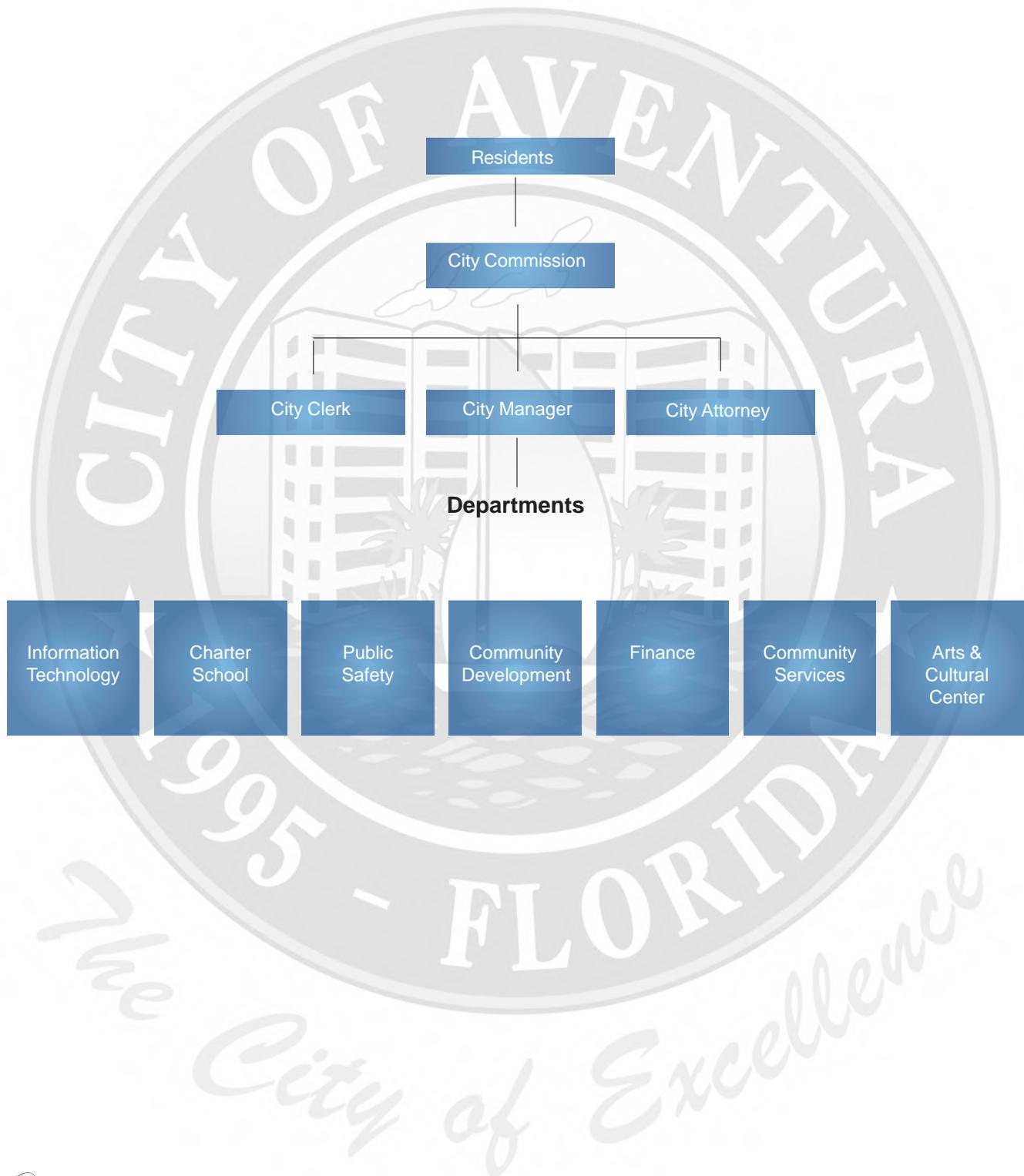
As we look forward to 2014, we are committed to continue to provide quality services to the community while maintaining a low tax rate. I hope you enjoy reading about the progress of your community, the City of Excellence.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Soroka". The signature is stylized and fluid.

Eric M. Soroka, ICMA-CM
City Manager

CITY ORGANIZATIONAL CHART





CITY

ANNUAL REPORT 2013



PUBLIC SAFETY

19200 West Country Club Drive
Aventura, FL 33180
Non-Emergencies: 305-466-8989
Emergencies: 911

The Aventura Police Department (APD) is committed to its mission, and it is recognized as an outstanding police department within the law enforcement community of Miami-Dade County.

APD's mission is to provide a full-service, community oriented police department; respond to all service calls in a timely and professional manner; ensure all crimes are thoroughly investigated, and those who are arrested are successfully prosecuted; and create partnerships that enhance law enforcement and quality of life by interacting with and engaging the community. With such dedication, both sworn and civilian men and women perform their job duties in a superior manner.

During the past two years, the Police Department has been working on projects to improve the ability to respond to service calls and deliver efficient and professional public safety services to the community. The new P25 compliant 800 MHz radio system gives the Police Department the ability to communicate with radios from different systems anywhere in Florida. The Police Department will enhance the capabilities of its officers and support personnel with a new Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) and Records Management System (RMS). The new system will provide the agency with many new features and functionalities that will not only enhance the safety of the officers, but ensure the delivery of efficient and professional public safety services to City of Aventura residents and visitors. This project should take approximately a year to complete and implement.

The Department supports children and community programs such as the DARE Program, Red Ribbon Week, National Night Out, an Annual Food Drive, and security surveys for businesses and residences through the Aventura Police Departments Crime Prevention Unit. In conjunction with the Salvation Army, the Department also conducts a holiday toy drive where the APD supplies over 250 toys for underprivileged children.



Out In Force

The Aventura Police Department provides a variety of community programs focusing on crime and drug prevention, emergency preparedness, community safety, and involvement.

These programs include: DARE, Red Ribbon Week, National Night Out, and the Aventura Safe Kids.

▶ The Drug Abuse Resistance and Education (DARE) program provides the life skills children and teens need to avoid involvement with drugs, gangs and violence.

▶ By wearing red ribbons and participating in community anti-drug events sponsored by APD, the young people of Aventura pledge to live drug-free lives during the annual Red Ribbon Week, the nation's oldest and largest drug prevention program.

▶ National Night Out is a program promoting City of Aventura neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships in the fight for a safer nation.

▶ The Aventura Safety Kids program teaches online safety to children and brings awareness to parents and teachers about children's online activities, trends and behaviors.

▶ The City of Aventura works in a partnership with the Miami-Dade Office of Emergency Management to help prepare the community for large-scale emergency events which may impact police services and the availability of resources for a prolonged period of time.

▶ Officers work in conjunction with the City of Aventura Code Compliance Division to respond to community issues.



Pedestrian Crossing Safety Tips

Everyone benefits from walking, but walking needs to be safe. Take a walk around Aventura and follow these helpful tips.

When You Are Walking

Be predictable. Follow the rules of the road and obey signs and signals.

- ▶ Walk on sidewalks whenever possible.
- ▶ If there is no sidewalk, walk facing traffic and as far from traffic as possible.
- ▶ Keep alert at all times; do not be distracted by electronic devices that take your eyes and ears off the road.
- ▶ Cross streets at crosswalks or

intersections whenever possible. This is where drivers expect pedestrians.

- ▶ Look for cars in all directions – including those turning left or right.
- ▶ If a crosswalk or intersection is not available, locate a well-lit area where you have the best view of traffic. Wait for a gap in traffic that allows you enough time to cross safely, and continue to watch for traffic as you cross.
- ▶ Never assume a driver sees you. Make eye contact with drivers as they approach you to make sure you are seen.
- ▶ Be visible at all times. Wear bright clothing during the day, and wear

reflective materials or use a flashlight at night.

- ▶ Watch for cars entering or exiting driveways, or backing up in parking lots.
- ▶ Avoid alcohol and drugs when walking; they impair your abilities and judgment too.

Drivers

Look out for pedestrians everywhere, at all times. Safety is a shared responsibility. Yield to pedestrians at crosswalks.

U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic
Safety Administration
nhtsa.gov



AVENTURA CITY OF EXCELLENCE SCHOOL

3333 NE 188th Street
Aventura, FL 33180
305-466-1499
aventuracharter.org

Aventura City of Excellence School (ACES), the first municipally-run charter school in Miami-Dade County, serves nearly 1,000 students in kindergarten through eighth grade.

ACES' well-rounded formula for success has led it to remain one of the top schools in the county by providing a safe learning environment, a talented teaching staff dedicated to best practices, and a responsive leadership team fostering a school culture of excellence.

In 2013, ACES reached several major achievements.

- ▶ ACES earned an "A" rating for the 9th consecutive year.
- ▶ ACES is the fourth highest performing K-8 combination school in the state of Florida as measured by the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test.
- ▶ The state of Florida recognized ACES as one of the states "highest performing charter schools".
- ▶ ACES expanded its technology to include an additional iPad lab used in all grade levels and subjects.
- ▶ ACES students outperformed all area high schools in algebra, geometry and biology as measured by end-of course exams.
- ▶ The middle school boys' flag football team won the International Athletic League Conference Championship.

ACES leads the way in educational excellence with a challenging core curriculum complemented by a whole child approach which supports student interests and individual development including character education with the support of both parents and teachers.

In 2013 - 2014, students explored their interests and talents through a variety of unique programs.



Elementary

Elementary students:

- ▶ Attended an assortment of special classes including art, music, physical education, dance, media, technology, and Spanish.
- ▶ Had an opportunity to enroll in student interest clubs including jazz dance, table tennis, kickball, crochet, school rocks, Middle Eastern dance, Bollywood and much more.

Middle School

At the middle school level, students had the opportunity to:

- ▶ Enroll in gifted classes, high school courses, and choose from a group of elective courses including art, drama, dance, journalism, TV production, guitar, and physical education/ health.
- ▶ Participate in intramural sports including volleyball, basketball and tennis.
- ▶ Participate in competitive sports including boys' and girls' basketball, boys' and girls' soccer, flag football, and volleyball.
- ▶ Participate in Student Government Association, National Junior Honor Society, chorus, and in City of Aventura special events including Founders Day, Veterans Day, and Arbor Day.

Aventura City of Excellence School continues to reach new heights in academic achievement and community involvement creating a foundation for success and an unparalleled experience for its students.



meeting

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

19200 West Country Club Drive
Aventura, FL 33180
305-466-8901

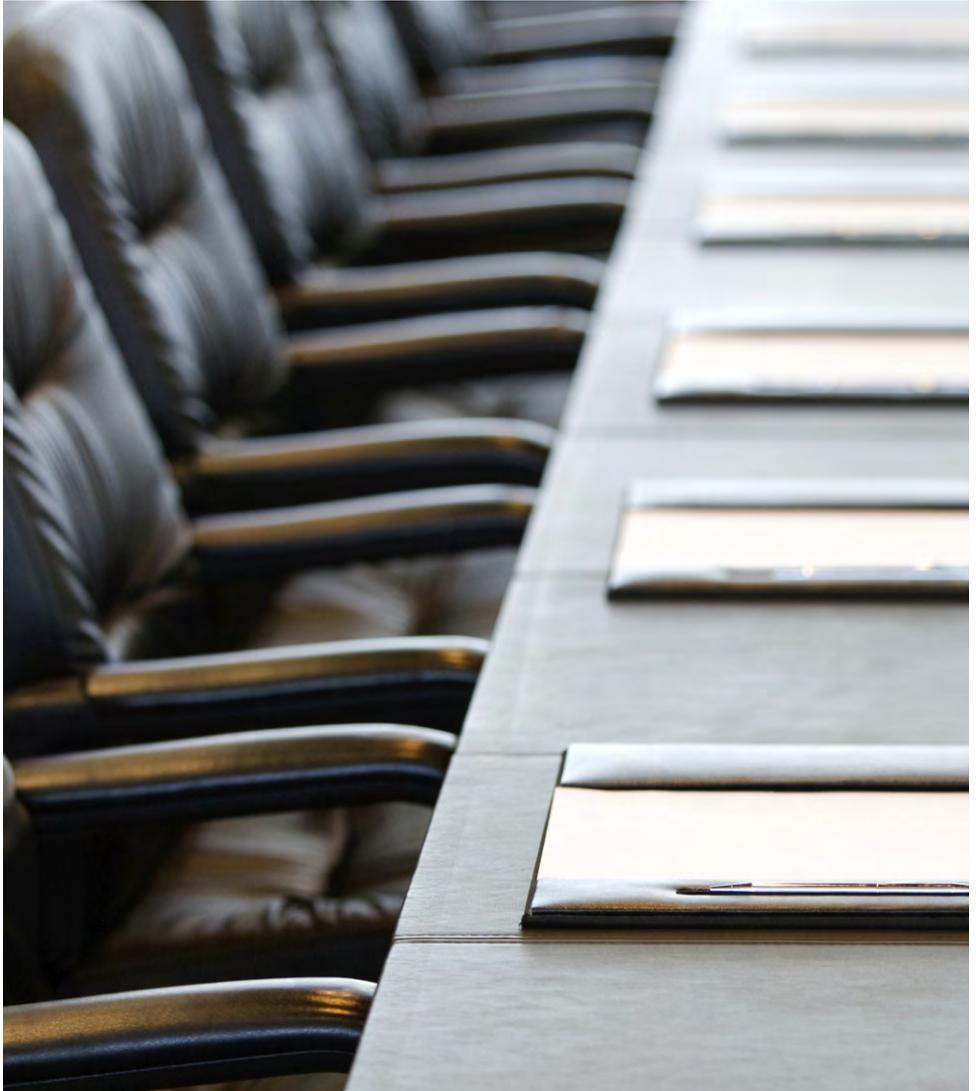
The City Clerk serves as the City of Aventura's corporate secretary. The clerk is the official records keeper and custodian of the City seal. The City Clerk is a constitutional officer appointed by and reports to the City Commission.

In 2013, the City Clerk's Office prepared: 33 sets of minutes and 39 public notices; published 18 legal advertisements; drafted 6 ordinances and 30 resolutions; responded to 1,687 lien requests; and prepared 485 welcome letters to new residents.

Responsibilities of the City Clerk include:

- ▶ Recording the meeting minutes and all official actions of the City Commission and its Advisory Boards.
- ▶ Attesting to and maintaining custody of all records of the City including ordinances, resolutions, contracts, deeds, etc.
- ▶ Publishing and distributing public notices, as required by law.
- ▶ Administering the publication and supplementation of the City Code of Ordinances.
- ▶ Serving as the municipal Supervisor of Elections, conducting all City elections in accordance with city, county and state laws.
- ▶ Establishing and coordinating the City's records management program in compliance with Florida state law.
- ▶ Responding to public records requests and lien searches.
- ▶ Scheduling code enforcement hearings and providing clerical support to Special Master.
- ▶ Providing clerical support to Commissioners and assisting the City Manager with special projects.
- ▶ Administering oaths and providing full notary services.
- ▶ Serving as Financial Disclosure Liason.
- ▶ Preparation of proclamations, certificates of appreciation, appointment and attendance.

Residents are encouraged to attend City Commission meetings which are held in the Government Center Commission Chamber on the plaza level at 19200 West Country Club Drive. To confirm all meeting dates, times and locations, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 305-466-8901 or visit cityofaventura.com.



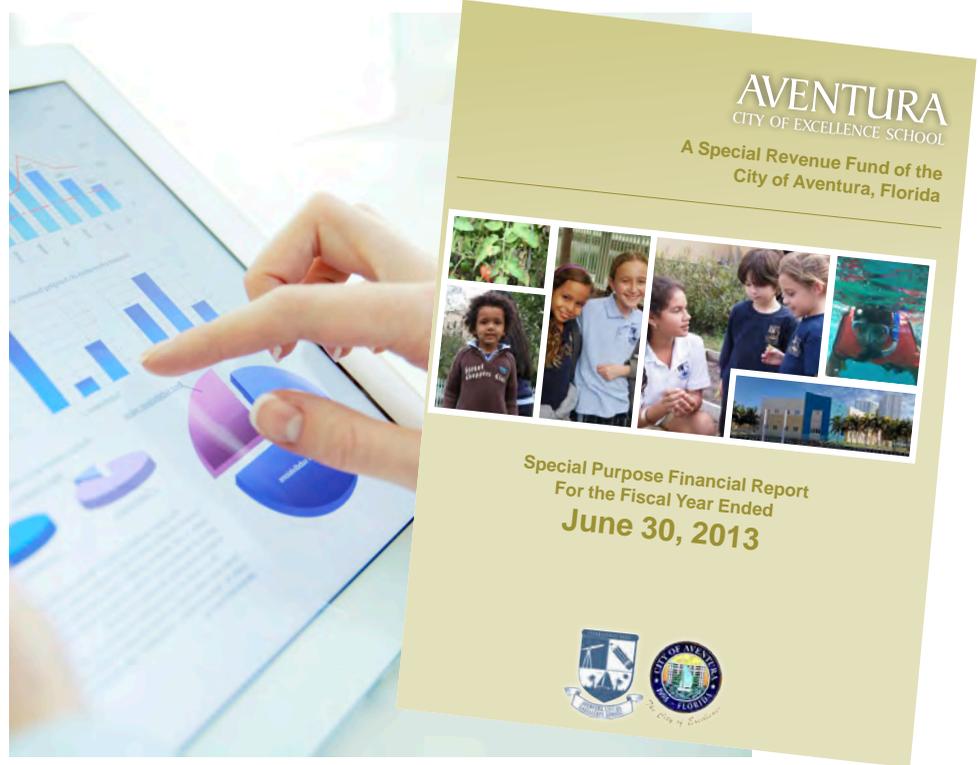


FINANCE

19200 West Country Club Drive
Aventura, FL 33180
305-466-8920

The City of Aventura's Finance Department provides overall financial and administrative support to the City's other operating departments. These services include but are not limited to providing accurate and timely accounting and financial reporting, budgetary control, purchasing, risk management, payroll, accounts payable, cash management and debt management functions.

The Department's mission is to establish and maintain a network of effective internal controls that are designed to safeguard the City's assets and to preserve the City's strong financial condition by conducting the City's business in a fiscally prudent manner. Additionally, Finance provides accurate and timely financial information to the City Manager, operating departments, elected officials, external auditors, local, state and federal oversight agencies, and citizens.



Core Responsibilities

- ▶ Providing administrative, operational and financial assistance to the City Manager and operating departments.
- ▶ Providing accounting, payroll, accounts payable, budget, grant monitoring, and revenue collection functions.
- ▶ Monitoring and projecting the City's fund balances.
- ▶ Providing analysis, preparation and assistance with the production of all financial reports including the City's Annual Budget, Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and the Aventura City of Excellence School Special Purpose Financial Report.
- ▶ Monitoring and developing financial strategies to ensure fiscal solvency and financial statement integrity by maintaining a network of effective internal controls.
- ▶ Monitoring and implementing reporting requirements recommended by the State's Auditor General, the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) and the Governmental Accounting Standards Board.
- ▶ Safeguarding the City's assets by analyzing and mitigating risk factors and coordinating the effective operations of the City's insurance programs for

general and automobile liability, property insurance and workers' compensation.

- ▶ Coordinating the City's Safety Committee meetings.
- ▶ Overseeing the cash management and debt management functions.

In February 2013, Finance issued the City's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for the 17th consecutive year, the City was awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the GFOA. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition for excellence in state and local government financial reporting, and in order to be awarded, a government must publish an easily readable and efficiently organized comprehensive annual financial report. This report must satisfy both generally accepted accounting principles and applicable legal requirements.

The Certificate of Achievement is valid for a period of one year only. The current comprehensive annual financial report continues to meet the Certificate of Achievement Program's requirements, and it is being submitted to the GFOA to determine its eligibility for another certificate.



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

19200 West Country Club Drive
Aventura, FL 33180
305-466-8900



The City of Aventura Information Technology (IT) Department provides a secure, stable and high-tech computing environment which includes software, hardware, network infrastructure, telephone systems, technical and 24/7 help desk support for City staff.

IT ensures City departments and staff are able to deliver reliable services by:

- ▶ Providing software support and maintenance for specialized business applications as well as email with spam control.
- ▶ Identifying, selecting and implementing cost-effective technology solutions.

City wide, IT supports 170 desktop computers, 90 laptops, 7 touch-screen tablets, and 35 servers. As of July 2013, IT assumed the responsibility for ACES's computing environment including the support of 400 desktop computers, 25 laptops, 90 touch screen tablets, and 2 servers.

Throughout 2013, the City of Aventura continued using computer and network innovations to increase operational effectiveness. Upgrades were made to existing software applications and computer equipment incorporating new technology where appropriate.

In 2013, Information Technology completed major projects including:

- ▶ Upgrades to the City virtual computing infrastructure.
- ▶ An increase to the connection speed Internet.
- ▶ A redesign of the Online Registration System to simplify the registration process of classes, programs, and athletics.
- ▶ Upgrades to the core public administration and public safety applications.
- ▶ Upgrades to hardware equipment and applications at the CRC Technical Center.

IT supports green technology. The server virtualization project continues to reduce the number of physical servers while increasing the number of servers available to support computer operations. This technology reduces electrical and air conditioning requirements in the data center which results in lower energy use and costs.

City Communications

The City of Aventura supports a highly accessible government that shares information using both modern and traditional channels to reach its community and encourage community engagement.

Keep in Touch

On the Web

cityofaventura.com

The official website for the City of Aventura is home to all City related information regarding its government, resources, forms, and eGovernment services.

aventuracharter.org

The official website for the Aventura City of Excellence School has information for parents and students including its popular Google calendar.

aventuracenter.org

The official website for the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center provides detailed show information and ticket sales.

[@cityofaventura](https://twitter.com/cityofaventura) [#cityofaventura](https://www.instagram.com/cityofaventura)

The official Twitter and Instagram handle and hashtag for the City of Aventura. Twitter is used as an additional resource for the City to disseminate information about City events and breaking news. The City's latest tweet is also available on its website. The City hashtag enables social media users to search and share images and information about the City of Aventura.

[@aventuracenter](https://twitter.com/aventuracenter)

The official Twitter handle for the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center provides show updates and ticket sale alerts.

On the Go

Digital street signs located at the north entrance of Aventura Mall on Biscayne Boulevard and at the intersection of N.E. 188th Street and N.E. 29th Avenue are

used to provide information about City events, park hours, the Aventura City of Excellence School, and upcoming shows at the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center.

On the Tube

Comcast Channel 77 is home to Aventura TV (AVTV), the City's information channel. AVTV runs listings of City events, programs and resources for its residents 24/7 including oncore presentations of City meetings.

On the Airwaves

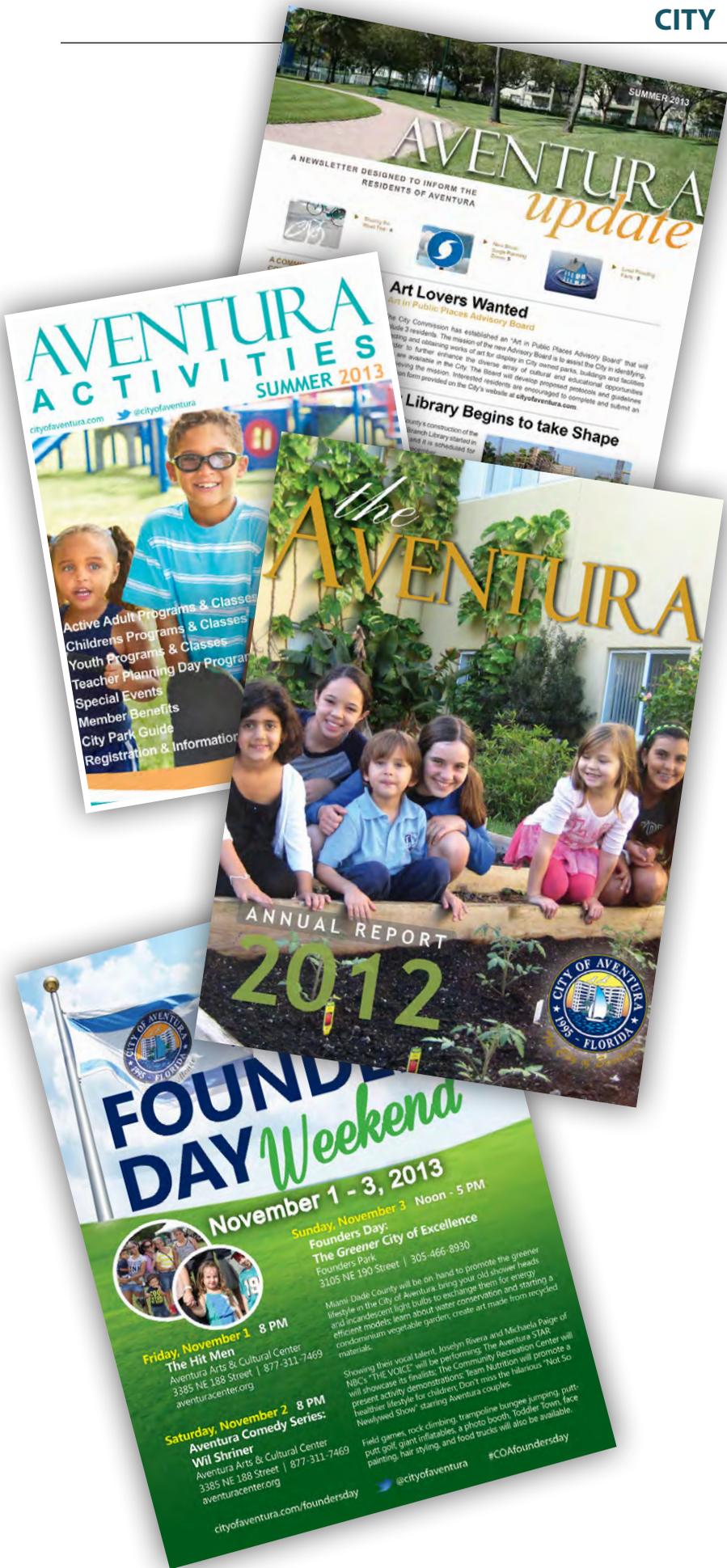
The City of Aventura's official information radio broadcasts on 1650 AM.

In Print

The City produces several print publications including: the Aventura Annual Report; Aventura Update newsletters; seasonal Aventura Activities Magazines which contain a catalog of the City's classes & programs; flyers and posters for City events; and the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center Calendar of Events booklet.

In Person

The City Commission meets monthly and invites the community to participate at its meetings. The City Manager meets with the owners of new businesses located in Aventura on a regular basis at "Meet Your City Manager" meetings.



EGovernment

Online Services For Speed and Convenience

The City of Aventura is committed to providing innovative and efficient delivery of eGovernment services to its community.

Online Registration System (ORS)

Register for recreational activities, classes and programs.

ePermits

Check building permits status and inspection requests.

MyAventura

Sign up to receive e-Notifications about the City's latest news.

Customer Service Requests

Submit a request for City service.

FAQs

A listing of common city-related frequently asked questions.

Public Records

The City's public document repository.

Document Central

A library of downloadable electronic forms available in PDF format.

Online Ticket Purchase

Purchase tickets for Aventura Arts & Cultural Center shows and events at aventuracenter.org.

The City continually upgrades these systems as technology becomes available and is financially prudent.

SUMMER CAMP

June 9 - August 15, 2014

Discovery Camp Ages 5-8

Explorer Camp Ages 9-14

Sports Camp Ages 7-14

Travel Camp Ages 9-14

Fees vary for weekly and full sessions as well as for residents and non-residents. For details, visit cityofaventura.com or contact the City of Aventura Community Recreation Center at 3375 NE 188 Street 305-466-3883





LIVING

ANNUAL REPORT 2013



COMMUNITY SERVICES

19200 West Country Club Drive
Aventura, FL 33180
305-466-8930

The mission of the City of Aventura Community Services Department is to provide Aventura residents with quality service, parks, facilities, events, programs, and activities.

The Department provides recreational and leisure activities, as well as management of City parks, the Community Recreation Center, facilities, right-of-ways, streets, landscaping, beautification efforts, and the Aventura Express Shuttle Bus service. All is accomplished via Community Services' two major operating divisions: Public Works, and Parks and Recreation.



Public Works

The Public Works Division is responsible for:

- ▶ Maintaining the City's landscaping, streets, right-of-ways, storm water drainage, decorative street-lighting, banners and informational signage, public buildings, and schools.
- ▶ Managing and maintaining all City owned buildings and facilities.
- ▶ Acting as liaison to public utility service providers and responds to citizens' concerns related to the division.
- ▶ Issuing Public Works permits to utilities performing improvements on the public right-of-ways and reviewing engineering plans.
- ▶ Mapping resources with an automated Geographic Information System (GIS) to provide accurate information regarding zoning, land parcels and infrastructure.



Parks and Recreation

The Parks and Recreation Division is responsible for:

- ▶ Operating Founders Park, Founders Park SplashPad, Waterways Park, Waterways Dog Park, and Veterans Park.
- ▶ Youth and adult athletic leagues and programs.
- ▶ Special events and programs fostering community pride and spirit including: Arbor Day, Senior Prom, 4th of July Fireworks, Halloween, Veterans Day, Movie Night, and Founders Day.
- ▶ Cultural arts, theater and leisure programs offering trips and tours for seniors to theaters, museums, historical places, art festivals, shopping malls, and restaurants.
- ▶ Community Recreation Center programming including arts and crafts; music; dance; aerobics; yoga; spring, summer and winter camps; and Teacher Planning Day Program.



City parks provide Aventura residents a wide variety of amenities and outdoor recreation opportunities to refresh, relax and recharge including: athletics, a water playground, picnics, and exercising.

Youth athletics are provided year round and include: tennis, soccer, basketball, flag football, softball, and Little League Baseball. In 2013, over 1,000 children participated in the City of Aventura Youth Athletics. Additionally, the City also offers adult softball leagues and tennis programs.

Community Recreation Center

The City of Aventura Community Recreation Center (CRC) offers a complete and balanced program of recreation activities, fitness classes, youth programs, social activities, and camps to members of all ages.

In 2013:

- ▶ Over 79,000 people visited the CRC.
- ▶ Over 870 children attended the 2013 Summer Camp program including Sports Camp and Travel Camp.
- ▶ Over 3,900 active seniors and adults participated in activities including trips & tours, Mahjong, health and wellness lectures, fitness, dance, socials, and lectures offered at the CRC.

The City hosted an array of exciting events for the entire family to enjoy throughout the year.

- ▶ For its 16th consecutive year, the City was named a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation and was recognized for this honor at the City of Aventura Arbor Day celebration.
- ▶ Over 167 seniors danced the night away at the annual Senior Prom.
- ▶ Independence Day was celebrated with a special aerial display of fireworks viewable from any location along Country Club Drive.
- ▶ Over 2,000 children and their parents enjoyed seasonal activities in a safe environment at the annual Halloween Harvest.
- ▶ The 18th annual City of Aventura Founders Day Weekend celebration consisted of world-class performances at the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center followed by a full day of Founders Day festivities.

Aventura Express Shuttle Bus

The Aventura Express Shuttle Bus serves Aventura's busy lifestyle with a convenient schedule and five ADA compliant, air conditioned buses. In 2013, approximately 287,400 passengers utilized the Aventura Express Shuttle Bus on five routes that operate 6 days per week throughout the city.

2013 Community Services Attendance Summary

Park and Community Recreation Center Attendance

Founders Park including the SplashPad	137,850
Waterways Park	61,100
Community Recreation Center Programs, Classes and Activities	79,100

TOTAL PARK / CRC Attendance 278,050

Special Events, Camps, Senior Trips, and Athletics

Arbor Day, Senior Prom, 4th of July, Halloween, Founders Day, Veterans Day	28,963
Winter, Spring and Summer Camps	1,056
Teacher Planning Days (Total 11)	142
Active Adult Trips and Tours (Total 10)	213
Tennis, Softball, T-Ball, Soccer, Basketball, Flag Football, Baseball	1,459
3 Green Markets	3,379

TOTAL Event / Program Attendance 35,212

Calendar of Events

April

- 12 . . . Movie Night
- 25 . . . Arbor Day ceremony

May

- 3 Movie Night
- 17 . . . Senior Prom
- 21 . . . Teacher Planning Day

June

- 2 Summer session classes & programs begin
- 6 Teacher Planning Day
- 9 Summer camp starts

July

- 4 Fireworks along East and West Country Club Drives

August

- 25 . . . Fall session classes & programs begin

September

- 25 . . . Teacher Planning Day

October

- 20 . . . Fall session II classes & programs begin
- 24 . . . Teacher Planning Day
- 26 . . . Halloween Harvest

November

- 9 19th Founders Day
- 4 Teacher Planning Day
- 11 . . . Veterans Day ceremony

December

- 22 . . . Winter camp starts



TEACHER PLANNING DAY PROGRAM

May 21
June 6
September 25
October 24
November 4

MOVIE NIGHT



April 12
May 3



Annual
FOUNDERS DAY Weekend

November 9, 2014



Summer Camp
June 9 - August 15

Winter Camp
December 22 - January 2

AVENTURA ACTIVITIES



Seasonal sessions of classes and programs start dates:

Summer June 2
Fall August 25
Fall II October 20

Aventura Youth Athletics

March - May
Little League, T-Ball, Softball and Baseball

August - October
Youth Flag Football

October - December
Youth Basketball

October - February
Girls Soccer

Come Out to Play



The City of Aventura is home to plenty of leisure exercise and fun. Aventura has parks, tennis courts, indoor & outdoor basketball courts, playgrounds, fitness trails, a dog park, the SplashPad, and open play fields.

Waterways Park

On the City's north side is the 7-acre Waterways Park. The park has a covered playground, fitness trail with stations, an outdoor basketball court and multipurpose lighted athletic fields. Shade can be found under the covered patio and outdoor shelter.

Waterways Dog Park

Just east of Waterways Park is Waterways Dog Park, a 1.5 acre waterside park offering open space for dogs to socialize and exercise. Dog amenities include two comfort stations with water fountains and showers. A large covered patio with benches provides a place for visitors to relax. An Aventura resident identification card is required for entry.

Founders Park

The City's largest park is the 11-acre Founders Park. The northern part of the park features the popular, interactive, water feature playground for children, the SplashPad. The water playground is free for Aventura residents and is open spring through early fall. Founders Park is also home to a multipurpose athletic field. The park's playground was completely remodeled with new equipment and four sunshelters.

Founders Park South features passive lawn area facing the Intracoastal Waterway with a walkway.

Veterans Park

The 2-acre Veterans Park has an open play field, covered playground and an on-site restroom. The multipurpose park is ideal for relaxing or playing a casual game of soccer.

Arthur L. Snyder Park

Named after the City of Aventura's first mayor, Arthur L. Snyder Park is a beautifully landscaped 3.5 acre waterfront park adjacent to the Community Recreation Center. The park features covered areas and an outdoor plaza with an open quadrangle play area adorned with trees to provide shade.

Don Soffer Exercise Trail

The 3.1 mile Don Soffer Exercise Trail circles the Tumberry Isle Resort Golf Course along Country Club Drive, and it is a popular location to walk, run, jog, rollerblade, and bike. The trail consists of a 10-foot wide paved ADA accessible path landscaped with an abundance of shade trees, ground lighting, benches, chilled water fountains, trash receptacles, and crosswalks. Convenient bags and receptacles are available from dispenser boxes along the path for residents enjoying the trail with their pets.

Community Recreation Center

Aventura's Community Recreation Center (CRC) offers a wide range of indoor activities. The CRC offers a full-size gym including a collegiate indoor basketball court; fitness center; technology center; and a myriad of classrooms to support the recreation center's classes, activities, programs, and camps. The CRC has a fee based membership which is required to use the facilities and participate in classes. The membership fees are based on household size and age groups.

The Aventura Activities Magazine is the official guide for all recreational activities in the City of Aventura. It offers a complete catalog of current classes, activities, programs, camps, special events, park guide, and registration information. The Activities Magazine is seasonally published online and is available at cityofaventura.com.

Get in the Game



A quick drive around Aventura shows this is a community with a zest for sports. The City of Aventura features multipurpose athletic fields to support the City's sport related classes, clinics and a variety of organized athletic programs such as soccer, football, baseball and softball; an outdoor basketball court, as well as a lighted field at Waterways Park for evening games; and tennis courts at Founders Park.

Youth Athletics

Aventura's team sports follow the National Standards for Youth Sports to raise awareness through leadership and education conducive to teaching skills, physical fitness and positive self-esteem.

- ▶ From fall to spring, children have the opportunity to participate in a variety of athletic sports including: flag football, basketball, girls' soccer, boys' soccer, tennis, girls' softball, and the Aventura Little League.
- ▶ Throughout the year, young athletes can participate in special sport skills training sessions including soccer skills, strength and conditioning, Junior Punters and Football Funatics.
- ▶ QuickStart Tennis is designed to make tennis approachable for younger players ages 4-6. Junior tennis teaches the basics of the game for children ages 7-12. Private tennis lessons are also available.

The collective support of parents, volunteer coaches and dedicated City staff creates an environment where children can have fun and learn new skills.

Adult Athletics

Adults can get in on the sports by joining a softball league, play in a social round-robin tennis match, participate in adult tennis clinics which provide instruction about all aspects of the game, or enroll in a high-energy, cardio tennis workout.

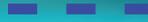
For details, view the Aventura Activities Magazine at cityofaventura.com.

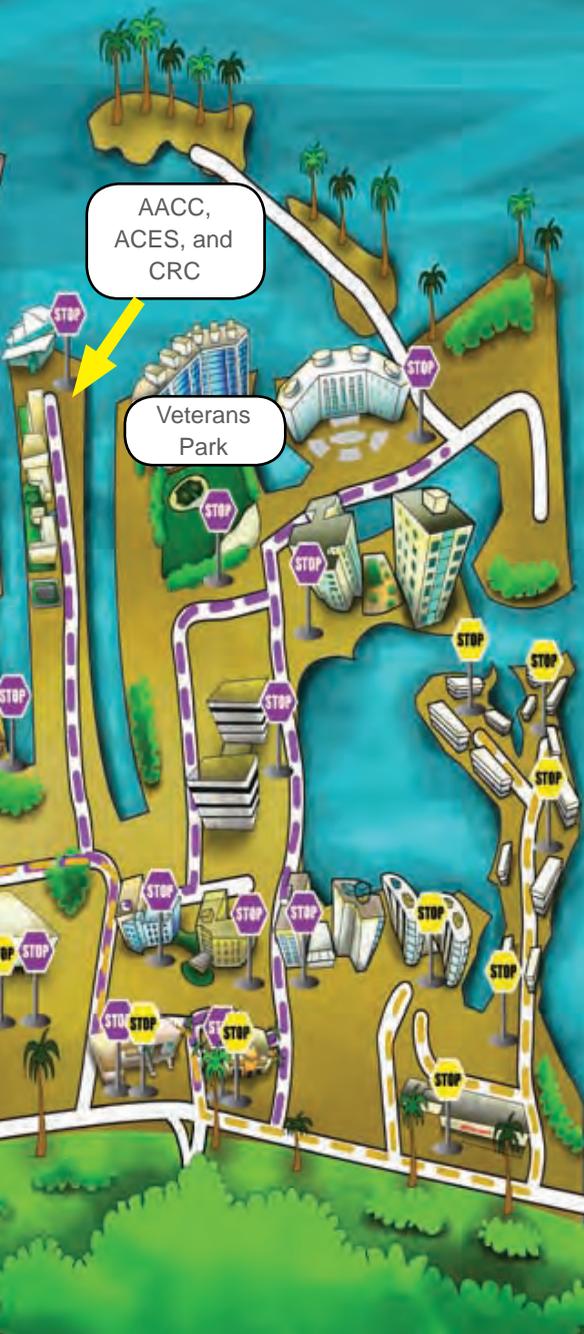
- ▶ Community Recreation Center 305-466-3883
- ▶ Founders Park 305-466-0183
- ▶ Waterways Park 305-466-8008



For your convenience, maps are available online by visiting the Residents section of cityofaventura.com, or pick up a copy in the Government Center's Lobby, 19200 West Country Club Drive.

Aventura Express Bus Service

-  Blue Express Route
-  Green Express Route
-  Red Express Route
-  Purple Express
-  Yellow Express



When do the buses run?

Monday - Friday:

Blue, Green, Red, Purple: 7:45 AM to 6:30 PM

Yellow: 8:45 AM to 6:30 PM

Saturday: All Routes 8:45 AM to 9:30 PM

There is no Express Bus service on the following holidays:

Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day & New Year's Day.

Where are the bus stops located? Are these bus stops drop-off/pick-up locations?

Bus stops are located throughout the City and all are for drop-off and pick-up. For specific bus stop locations, visit cityofaventura.com to view and/or download the Express Bus service maps.

May I bring my bicycle on the bus?

Yes. All buses are equipped with bike racks.

May I connect with county buses?

Yes. All Express Buses stop at Aventura Mall where you can connect with Miami-Dade and Broward County buses.

How often does the bus come to the Aventura Mall?

Each Express Bus stops at the mall every hour. For example, the Yellow bus starts its route from the mall on weekdays at 8:45 AM, and returns to the mall at 9:45 AM.

What time does the last scheduled Express Bus leave the Aventura Mall?

ROUTE	DAY	LAST SERVICE
All routes	Monday - Saturday	5:45 PM
Saturday Night Express bus (North route)	Saturday night	8:00 PM
Saturday Night Express bus (South route)	Saturday night	8:15 PM

Where is the Express bus stop located at the Aventura Mall?

The bus stop for the Express Buses is located outside Macy's east lower level entrance.

Does the bus go to the Aventura Library?

Yes. Take your regular Express Bus to the Aventura Mall and transfer to the Purple bus. Its first route stop is the Government Center, the temporary home for the Northeast Library Branch.

How much does the bus cost?

The City of Aventura offers free Express Bus service.

How do I know which route stops near my home?

The routes cover the following areas:

Blue serves northern Aventura;

Green & Red serve central Aventura;

Purple & Yellow serve southern Aventura.

Aventura Green City

The City of Aventura is committed to reducing its carbon footprint on the environment.

The City of Aventura's GO GREEN campaign encourages all City departments as well as the community to practice environmental sustainability by making responsible decisions that reduce negative impact on the environment, save energy, and lower operational costs.

An ordinance to promote green building for new construction was passed by the City Commission in September of 2009, and its incentives are measured against the industry standard rating, the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Green Building Rating System for New Construction.

Since then, the City and its community continuously make efforts to maintain green standards including: recycling; replacing light bulb for energy efficient bulbs; using HVAC (Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning) systems and technologies promoting the conservancy of water and energy;

use of native landscaping and natural light to create resources for heat reduction on rooftops as well as energy generation for solar panels, and reduce invasive plant growth to protect natural wildlife.

The City invites the public to participate in the annual GO GREEN Recognition Award Program for residential and commercial properties. Congratulations to the 2013 GO GREEN Recognition Award recipients which include the following properties: 2600 Island Boulevard, 2800 Island Boulevard, 3000 Island Boulevard, 4000 Island Boulevard, 7000 Island Boulevard, Admirals Port Condominium, Aventura Corporate Center, Aventura Lakes, Biscaya III, Point East Two Corporation, Porto Vita North Tower, Portsvie at the Waterways, South Tower at the Point Condominium Association, Vi at Aventura, and Williams Island POA.





ARTS & CULTURE

ANNUAL REPORT 2013



AVENTURA ARTS & CULTURAL CENTER

3385 NE 188 Street
Aventura, FL 33180
877-311-SHOW (7469)
aventuracenter.org  @aventuracenter

During its third season, the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center (AACC) assumed a leadership role in developing local arts and culture by bringing internationally acclaimed artists to the community while also enabling area arts organizations to reach larger audiences. In addition, its educational component delivered impactful programs that introduced children to the arts and reinforced classroom lessons.

The Broward Center for the Performing Arts manages the Center which held 140 performances this past year.

Having presented such theatrical icons as Patti LuPone and Mandy Patinkin in previous years, in 2013 the AACC continued to offer world-class entertainment with performances by Hal Linden and The Capitol Steps as well as many of the day's top emerging talents who appeared in cabaret and comedy series. The highly-regarded Foreign Film Series returned with the finest in international cinema.

The AACC values its collaborations with regional non-profit arts organizations. In 2013, it presented the South Florida Symphony Orchestra, the Miami International Piano Festival, Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida, Ballet Etoile, and The New World School of the Arts Repertory Dance Ensemble.

An integral part of the community, AACC once again presented the Aventura Marketing Council's annual showcase of sensational young singers which benefited the Aventura Marketing Council Education Foundation. Citizens Interested in Arts also presented its annual event at which it awarded support to 30 South Florida arts organizations.

The AACC is committed to presenting exceptional quality, diverse programming from all disciplines including popular and classical music, modern dance and ballet, Broadway stars and theater, film and family presentations.

Vi at Aventura, a continuing care retirement community in Aventura, is a proud sponsor of the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center.



Arts in Education

In 2013, the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center continued its partnership with the Broward Center for the Performing Arts and the Aventura City of Excellence School (ACES) to present a robust and diverse season of educational opportunities.

Students attending ACES get a behind-the-scenes look at the entertainment industry while also participating in numerous events including concerts and plays, a talent showcase, spelling bee and graduation on the AACC stage.

During the 2012-13 season, the Center presented five Smart Stage Matinees featuring professional school-day performances that reinforced classroom learning and directly connected with the core curriculum through literature-based shows. The impactful February production of No Bullies Allowed examined bullying through fairy tale characters such as the Big Bad Wolf.

The Broward Center's 2012-13 Family Fun Series presented by Coventry Health Care of Florida at AACC offered four performances based on classic children's literature. The series introduced young audiences to the arts while strengthening reading skills in an ultimate theatergoing experience complete with pre-show art activities and post-show snacks.



The Broward Center for the Performing Arts and the Performance Project School of the Arts presented Summer Theatre Camp 2013 with two distinct programs designed to appeal to campers ranging in ages from 6 to 13. Campers learned about musical theater, acting, dance, voice and technical production while gaining self-confidence, developing critical thinking skills and learning the importance of teamwork.

Campers topped off their experience by performing in You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown, Shrek, Willy Wonka, Jr. and a Broadway revue.



Ages 6-13

Session 1: June 23 - July 18

Session 2: July 21 - August 15

**AVENTURA
ARTS &
CULTURAL
CENTER**

3385 NE 188 Street
Aventura, FL 33180
877.311.7469

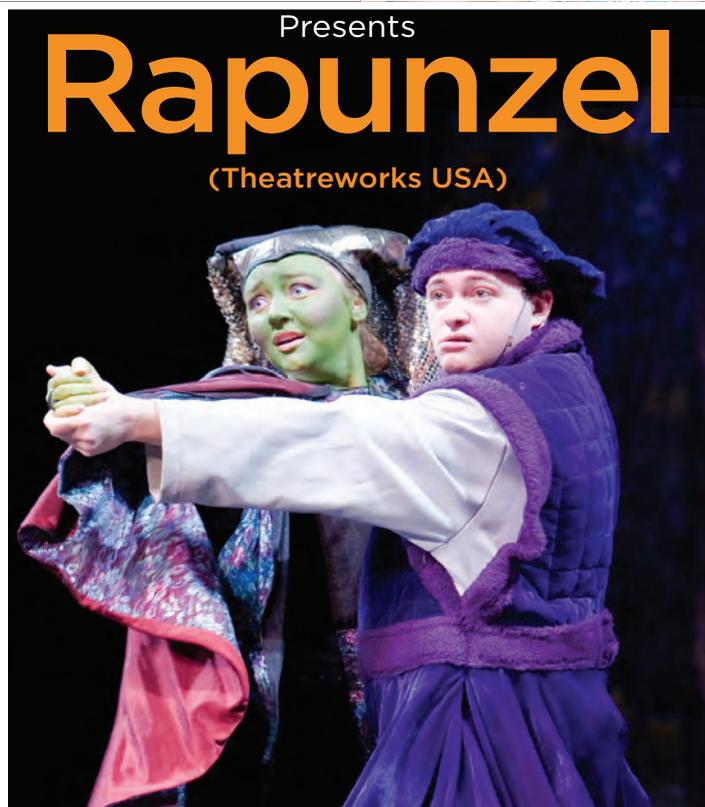
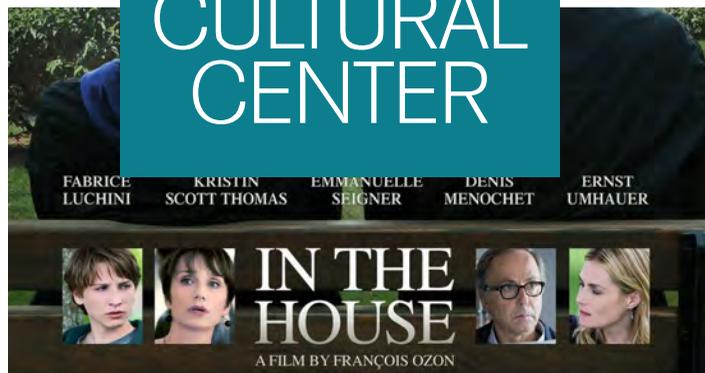
aventuracenter.org



@aventuracenter

AVENTURA ARTS & CULTURAL CENTER

2014 *Calendar Highlights*



April 1

Aventura Foreign Film Series: In the House

June 5

Young Musicians Concert

April 10-13

The City of Aventura and Slow Burn Theatre Company present Chess: The Musical

June 13

IK School of Gymnastics Recital

June 15

Kirova Ballet Academy Recital

April 27

Family Fun Series: Hansel & Gretel

June 23-July 18

Summer Camp Session 1

April 27

Miami International Piano Festival: Pavel Neressian

July 11-12

Rapunzel

May 3

Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida's Spring Ballet Gala

July 21-August 15

Summer Camp Session 2

June 1

The Fifth Baila Flamenco Festival

July 25

Arts Ballet Theatre of Florida presents Future Stars of the Ballet

Groups of 10 or more SAVE!
General Orders and Group Sales
954.462.0222

Box Office Information

Box Office is open Tuesday - Saturday, Noon - 5 PM and 1.5 hours prior to performances.

Call Center Information

Open Monday - Saturday, 10 AM - 5 PM and Sunday, Noon - 5 PM.
Toll free 877.311.7469 (SHOW)

Valet parking and self parking are available for all events.

Vi at Aventura, proud sponsor of the Aventura Center.

3385 NE 188 Street | Aventura, FL 33180 | 877.311.7469

aventuracenter.org
@aventuracenter

Box Office FAQs

When is the box office open?

The box office is open Tuesday - Saturday from 12 PM – 5 PM and 1½ hours prior to the start of a performance.

I purchased tickets to an event, but now I cannot attend. What do I do?

All ticket sales are final. Once a sale is completed, there are no refunds or exchanges for ticketed events. However, we are happy to work with you so that someone else such as a friend or family member may use your tickets. For more information, contact the call center at 877-311-7469 to speak with a friendly customer service representative.

I am in a wheelchair or have difficulty with steps. Where will my seats be located?

The Aventura Arts & Cultural Center is fully compliant with ADA rules and regulations. We have wheelchair accessible seating in rows A and L to accommodate your needs and allow you to completely enjoy the presentations. These seats are available on the website at aventuracenter.org or can be reserved by contacting the call center at 877-311-7496.

When I placed my ticket order, I requested for my tickets to arrive by mail, but they did not arrive. What should I do?

Unless you request box office pick-up, tickets purchased at least 14 days prior to an event will be mailed to the address you provided at the time of purchase. Tickets ordered less than 14 days prior to the event will automatically be held at the box office.

If you believe your tickets were mailed and you did not receive them, please contact the call center at 877-311-7469. The Aventura Arts & Cultural Center will be happy to arrange a lost ticket pass for you. To pick up your pass, present a picture ID at the box office window 1½ hours prior to curtain.

I live outside the continental United States. How will I receive my tickets?

The Aventura Arts & Cultural Center does not mail tickets outside the continental United States. The Center will automatically hold your tickets at the box office for pick-up during regular business hours or on the day of the event. To claim your tickets, please present a picture ID at the box office window.



WORKING

ANNUAL REPORT 2013



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

19200 West Country Club Drive
Aventura, FL 33180
305-466-8940

Striving to provide high-quality customer service in a centralized location to City of Aventura residents, business owners, developers and contractors alike, the Community Development Department is comprised of several divisions working together.

Building

The Building Division enforces the Florida Building Code by reviewing and issuing permits, inspecting all new construction and renovations in the City of Aventura. In 2013, the Building Division issued 5,141 building permits and performed 8,954 inspections. Building permits generated approximately \$1,589,386 in revenues. Inspection requests and results are available to the public via the ePermits section of the City's website at cityofaventura.com.

Local Business Tax Receipt

The Local Business Tax Receipt Division issues local business tax receipts for businesses and home occupations, as well as inspections to ensure all businesses have obtained their business tax receipt. During 2013, the division issued 2,712 local business tax receipts which generated approximately \$877,938 in revenues.

Planning and Zoning

The Planning and Zoning Division processes all land development applications including: site plans, re-zonings, variances, conditional uses and comprehensive plan amendments. The City's Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Regulations

provide a cohesive blueprint for development and redevelopment of the City. The blueprint addresses strategies to accommodate growth while maintaining neighborhood integrity, ensuring appropriate height, transitions and linkages, limiting the intensity of future development and redevelopment in a manner that is consistent with current development patterns, and minimizes further negative impacts to the City's infrastructure and quality of life. The goals and objectives of the Comprehensive Plan, also referred to as the Master Plan or General Plan, are restated as specific planning and zoning regulations in the City's Land Development Regulations. The documents are updated frequently to reflect current community goals. In 2013, there were 18 land development applications reviewed and processed by the Planning and Zoning Division.

Code Compliance

The Code Compliance Division ensures businesses are legally operating with local business tax receipts and necessary building permits are being obtained for construction at residences and businesses. Code Compliance officers enforce City codes such as the property maintenance ordinance, and noise and signage regulations. The Code Compliance Division issued 187 warnings and violations last year and collected approximately \$4,472.50 in fines. In addition, the division also coordinates the Special Master Hearings for the City's Traffic Intersection Safety Program. In 2013, 94 hearings were conducted.



Building Permits

When is a permit required?

In accordance with Section 105.1 of Florida Building Code, a permit is required to construct, enlarge, alter, repair, move, demolish or change the occupancy of any building or structure, including: tile, wood flooring and marble, any electrical work, installation of ceiling fans, replacement of an air conditioner unit (heat load calculations required), installation of a water heater, changing or connecting a toilet or sink, shower or bathtub fixture.

Are the building permit forms available online?

All City of Aventura building permit forms are available in the Document Central section of cityofaventura.com.

May I schedule inspections and check the status of my permit online?

Yes. The ePermits system on the City's website is available to schedule inspections and to check the status of permit applications.

Do I need to file a Notice of Commencement?

Yes. A Notice of Commencement is required to be recorded by the owner in the Miami-Dade County Court if the value of the project exceeds \$2,500.

How can I expedite review of my permit?

Reviews may be expedited by submitting the following:

- ▶ A completed application, including notarized signatures of the owner and qualifier.
- ▶ Two (2) sets of plans drawn to scale and signed and sealed by a professional when required.
- ▶ Two (2) surveys, as required for some types of review.
- ▶ Two (2) sets of calculations as required by Code- these include energy calculations, heating/cooling load calculations, and/or structural load calculations.
- ▶ Two (2) sets of Product Approvals as required by Code- these include roofs, utility sheds, windows, exterior doors, awnings, shutters, skylights, trusses, among others.

- ▶ A letter from condominium association approving work being done on a unit.

- ▶ A letter from contractor requesting expedited review and agreeing to pay any additional costs associated with the expedited review.

I just received a Notice of Violation from the City of Aventura for an open building permit, what should I do?

- ▶ Notice of Violations are sent out to both contractors and homeowners for open permits with the City. The only way to close out this Violation would be to renew the permit and call in any final inspections pending.

- ▶ If you are the homeowner, please contact your contractor and advise them of the open permit.

- ▶ Permit information may be viewed online on the ePermits system on the City's website, www.cityofaventura.com.

When does my permit expire?

- ▶ All permits are active 180 days from the date of issuance or last approved inspection.

What type of payment is accepted for building permit fees?

- ▶ Check, cash or money orders are acceptable forms of payment.

Is an upfront fee required at the time of permit submittal?

- ▶ Yes. The upfront fee is \$130 and will be credited towards your total permit fee at the time the permit is issued.

How do I register a contractor?

- ▶ The contractor registration form is available in the Document Central section of cityofaventura.com.

Local Business Tax Guide

Any person, firm, association, or corporation maintaining a business location or branch office within the City of Aventura's city limits for the privilege of engaging in or managing a business, profession, or occupation within the City is required to have a Certificate of Use and file a Local Business Tax application

(formerly known as the Occupational License). The tax receipts are required to be renewed annually before October 1. Fees for these filings are determined by the type of business or profession.

All new Business Tax Receipt applicants require a DPORA (Department of Permitting, Environment and Regulatory Affairs) approval and a Water and Sewer Notice of Compliance per Miami Dade County. For more information visit: miamidade.gov/pera.

Business Filing Requirements Include:

- ▶ Certificate of Use and Occupancy (home-based businesses excluded).
- ▶ Declaration of Use (home-based businesses excluded).
- ▶ Legal description of property (home-based businesses excluded).
- ▶ Federal Employer Identification or Social Security Number.
- ▶ Proof of current Fictitious Name Registration from the State Division of Corporations. For more information, call 850-487-6058.

- ▶ Proof of Articles of Incorporation.

For more information, visit: sunbiz.org.

Additional Requirements May Include:

- ▶ Professions regulated by the Department of Business and Professional Regulation must submit a current state license. For more information, call 850-487-1395.
- ▶ Retail and wholesale merchants must complete and file an Affidavit of Merchants Inventory, indicating average value of inventory maintained by business.
- ▶ Restaurant owners must file a current state license with the Department of Business and Professional Regulation. For more information, call 305-470-5680.

Penalty For Operating A Business Without Filing

Operating a business without a current local business tax filing starts with a fine of \$250 but can escalate to closure of the business and imprisonment.



FUTURE

ANNUAL REPORT 2013

2013/2014 Budget Priorities / Goals

The following represents the pre-established priorities and goals that provided a framework for the preparation of the 2013/14 Budget Plan.

- ▶ Maintaining current service levels and programs.
- ▶ Bridge the revenue gap by utilizing reserve funds to support nonrecurring capital improvements.
- ▶ Expand family events and programs that promote a sense of community such as movie nights and the proposed community garden.
- ▶ Provide funding to maintain landscaped areas, City facilities and the City's infrastructure to continue to provide a high quality maintenance program.
- ▶ Expedite plan review and permitting for projects that create jobs and spur economic activity.
- ▶ Continue to adopt "Go Green" initiatives in order to save energy, conserve precious natural resources and reduce our impact on climate change. These initiatives over time will also reduce our annual operating cost and impacts on the environment.
- ▶ Continue to utilize technology to improve productivity and lower costs of providing services.
- ▶ No additional debt by implementing and funding the "pay-as-you-go" Capital Improvement Program to address the City's infrastructure needs.



Budget Highlights

Some of the major points emphasized in the proposed budget are as follows:

- ▶ For the eighteenth year, no property tax increase.
- ▶ Total expenditures in all funds decreased by 9.9% due to the completion of several large capital projects.
- ▶ The operating cost increases were held to less than 4% without reducing current service levels.
- ▶ Approximately \$246,000 was utilized from the City's reserve funds to balance the budget and fund nonrecurring capital projects such as park improvements.
- ▶ Funds the final phase of upgrading the street lighting on the east side of Biscayne Boulevard.
- ▶ Increases funding for community events such as "Movie Nights" and special programs.
- ▶ Implements Park Enhancement Package which includes the following improvements based on input from the users of our park system: Install SunPad adjacent to the Splash Pad at Founders Park; Additional shade structure and benches at Waterways Park playground; Replace shade structure with permanent shelter at Waterways Dog Park; Install additional shade structure at Veterans Park.
- ▶ Provides start-up funds for a proposed Community Garden at the south portion of Founders Park.
- ▶ Funds \$885,000 to resurface the south portion of Country Club Drive.
- ▶ Continues to implement and update technology enhancements that develop our "Electronic Government" to allow the public to interact more easily and conveniently with the City and to automate City operations.
- ▶ Continues contracting most maintenance functions, engineering, plan review and inspection services, as well as the operation of the Arts & Cultural Center to the private sector.
- ▶ Funds police equipment needs from laptop computers to new police vehicles in the amount of \$727,600.
- ▶ Includes \$200,000 to upgrade the City's drainage system.
- ▶ Continues to adopt "Go Green" initiatives in order to save energy, conserve precious natural resources and reduce our impact on climate change.

did you know?



couples and individuals. Applications are available online, however they are only accepted in person at the Center. Proof of Miami-Dade County residency is required.

Registration

Registration for classes and programs can be completed online at cityofaventura.com/registration or at any of the following facilities:

Community Recreation Center
3375 NE 188 Street

Founders Park
3105 NE 190 Street

Waterways Park
3301 NE 213 Street

Aventura Arts & Cultural Center

Purchasing tickets for events at the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center can be done online at aventuracenter.org, or at the box office. Follow @aventuracenter on Twitter for both show and ticketing information.

Library

The Aventura branch of the Miami-Dade Public Library is temporarily located at the Aventura Government Center, 19200 West Country Club Drive. Call 305-931-5512 for more information.

Stay Connected

To stay connected and get information about the City of Aventura's news & events, follow us on Twitter and Instagram @cityofaventura, sign-up with MyAventura for eNotifications, or visit cityofaventura.com.



#cityofaventura

Following us on social media? Tag us at #cityofaventura.

Aventura ID

Aventura ID cards can be obtained at any City park with proof of residency.

ACES Enrollment

To enroll your child at ACES, an application must be completed. Preference is given to residents of Aventura and dependants of military personnel on active duty. If the number of applicants exceeds availability, a lottery is conducted to determine admission.

Building Permits

Building permits are required to ensure the consumer that the work is being done properly and with the appropriate materials. The Building Permits division is located on the 4th floor of the Aventura Government Center, M-F 8:30 AM - 4 PM.

related matters. Using the 911 system for non-emergencies could prevent someone with a legitimate emergency from getting immediate access to help.

Intersection Safety Violation

An intersection safety violation occurs when a motorist enters an intersection after the traffic signal has turned red.

Flood Hazard Area

Most areas within the City have been designated "Special Flood Hazard Areas" by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). For insurance purposes, the City can review the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) prepared by FEMA to determine if your property is located in a Special Flood Hazard Area. Call the Community Development Department at 305-466-8940.

Community Recreation Center Memberships

Community Recreation Center memberships are available for families,

911

Emergency vs. Non-emergency
Dial 911 for all emergencies. Dial 305-466-8989 for non-emergency police



great entertainment in a beautiful waterfront setting



AVENTURA ARTS & CULTURAL CENTER

AVENTURA, FLORIDA *The City of Excellence*

3385 NE 188 Street | Aventura, FL 33180
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aventuracenter.org

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