

Our Margate

THE OFFICIAL CITY OF MARGATE MAGAZINE

OCTOBER
NOVEMBER
DECEMBER
2025

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70th Anniversary Special Edition

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YOUR MARGATE GOVERNMENT

CITY COMMISSION

Arlene R. Schwartz | *Mayor*
 Antonio V. Arserio, FRA-RP | *Vice Mayor*
 Anthony N. Caggiano | *Commissioner*
 Tommy Ruzzano | *Commissioner*
 Joanne Simone | *Commissioner*

Cale Curtis | *City Manager*
 Larry Vignola | *Assistant City Manager*
 Jennifer Johnson | *City Clerk*
 Weiss Serota Heffman Cole + Bierman |
City Attorney

Featured Articles



See Margate through the years with a stroll down memory lane and test your hometown knowledge in our quiz.

Read more on [page 6](#).



Seasonal celebrations, concerts, movies, Veterans Day, and more... your calendar of fun in Margate is here.

Find more starting on [page 10](#).



At 103, Frank Orilio finds his way to the Senior Center to play Big Band hits. Meet the man who proves age is just a number.

Read more on [page 16](#).



ON THE COVER:

A friendly jack-o'-lantern enjoys the Fall Festival pumpkin patch.

Publication Team:
 J.R. VanWassenhove
 Lisa J. Huriash
 Jonathan R. Gil

Please send us your feedback about this magazine at PIO@margatefl.com.

FROM THE MAYOR

As we close out the year, it's fitting that we take a step back in time and celebrate 2025 as a milestone year, commemorating our 70th anniversary.

Developed by Jack Marqusee as a "city with a plan," Margate was named by combining the first three letters of his last name with the first four letters of "gateway," since at the time the area was considered a "gateway" to western Broward County. Margate was created in 1955, becoming the 15th municipality in Broward County and incorporated as a city in 1961. Margate Elementary, our first school, opened in 1958 in portable classrooms. Margate Middle now sits on that site. Our library first opened in the 1960s in a small room in City Hall, the hospital followed in the 1970s, and our Community Redevelopment Agency was formed in 1996 to support redevelopment efforts.

In 1955, Margate had 200 residents; today, we are about 59,000 strong, a full-service city with great schools, dedicated employees, a senior center, newly updated parks, and

scores of thriving restaurants and businesses. While we are constantly improving our services, hardening our infrastructure, renovating our water treatment plant, and celebrating our police and fire departments, we still have great things to accomplish.

We're dedicated to making Margate a great, safe city for young families, seniors, and everyone in between. Fulfilling a 20-year promise to create a downtown City Center that enhances our excellent quality of life is part of that commitment, as well as continuing to offer fun-filled programming, festivals and outdoor activities. Parks and Recreation is creating great memories through successful youth sports programs.

In addition, the Northwest Focal Point Senior Center is a significant source of pride for the City, offering a home away from home for our seniors. At 70, Margate is a fantastic place to live, work, and play, and will only get better as we write the next chapter of our story.

I hope you enjoy the photos



we've compiled. While it's a look at where we've been, I promise you that where we are going will be even more exciting.

I wish you and your family a Happy Thanksgiving and a wonderful Christmas, Chanukah, Kwanzaa and Diwali season filled with health, joy, and abundance. I look forward to seeing what we accomplish together in 2026.

Thank you for being part of Margate where Together We Make It Great! The Best is Yet to Come!

Mayor Arlene R. Schwartz
aschwartz@margatefl.com

FROM THE VICE MAYOR



I'm wishing everyone a joyous holiday season and an even better 2026.

Our mission for the new year continues to prioritize the well-being of our community with exceptional services, making Margate an extraordinary, family-friendly city. Winter Festival, Trunk or Treat and Fall Festival are our season highlights and make Margate special.

To maintain the city's appearance, recycling and proper disposal are important to us.

The Waste Wizard tool at margatefl.com/WasteWizard provides information about items that can be recycled, such as glass jars and metal food cans. Household Hazardous Waste disposal events are also held throughout the year.

Let's work together to keep the city beautiful and clean.

Vice Mayor Antonio V. Arserio, FRA-RP
aarserio@margatefl.com

DEAR NEIGHBORS:



It has been a tremendous honor to spend time with our seniors this year at numerous events at the Northwest Focal Point Senior Center, and that's how I've come to see firsthand how much the center means to our community.

Our upcoming programs include a Halloween Costume Parade in October, Veterans Day bingo and Wii bowling in November, a holiday race and Ugly Sweater Day in December, and so much more.

It is not only a respite for our residents to stay busy, have a hot meal and make friends, we also attract seniors from nearby cities, too. I encourage you to explore their services and activities if you are not yet a member, for yourself or your loved ones.

Happy Thanksgiving and happy holidays!

Commissioner
Anthony N. Caggiano
acaggiano@margatefl.com



As we wrap up 2025, I would like to extend my gratitude to our first responders for their tireless care, dedication, and efforts.

We are making improvements in the fire department, including the acquisition of new, cutting-edge medical equipment. There's also a new truck equipped with an air filtration system to create a safer environment coming to town. We'll continue to grow in the new year and improve what we do and how we do it.

Registration begins in October for spring youth baseball, basketball, soccer and softball. I'll catch you on the fields.

I wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy Chanukah. May this season be filled with joy, health, and prosperity for you and your family. God bless!

Commissioner
Tommy Ruzzano
truzzano@margatefl.com



October is National Animal Safety and Protection Month, and the safety of your pets is so important to us at Margate City Hall. That's why our Fire Department offers a free "Pet Alert" decal to alert firefighters that there is a furry friend to look out for.

One decal is provided per household and should be placed on the window next to the front door.

Residents must pick up their decal at the fire station at 1835 Banks Road.

There are many ways to take care of our pets. Tags for Life, launched in early 2025, allows pet owners to receive a single tag for the lifetime of their pet. To register your pet or renew your annual tag, visit PetTags.Broward.org.

Have a happy and healthy New Year!

Commissioner
Joanne Simone
jsimone@margatefl.com

city news

Margate Schools Achieve High State Education Ratings

Great news for our little Margate learners and parents! The Florida Department of Education has released its 2025 school performance grades, and several Margate schools have earned high marks. For 2025, Liberty Elementary has now joined Margate Elementary as "A" rating.

Atlantic West Elementary and Margate Middle School both scored "B" grades, demonstrating

the dedication of their principals, teachers, staff, and students.

The report further recognizes Broward County Public Schools as an A-rated district, underscoring the county's commitment to academic excellence. These achievements highlight the continued efforts to provide quality education for all students in our community. Congratulations to all!



Margate Community Redevelopment Agency Secures 20-Year Extension for Continued Development

The Margate Community Redevelopment Agency has a great vision of the work still to do. The Broward County Commission has voted to extend the term of the Margate Community Redevelopment Agency for approximately 20 years, through September 2047.



Since 1997, the Margate Community Redevelopment Agency has revitalized and made improvements to streets, medians and parks, and local businesses. The extension allows for the continuation of economic development.

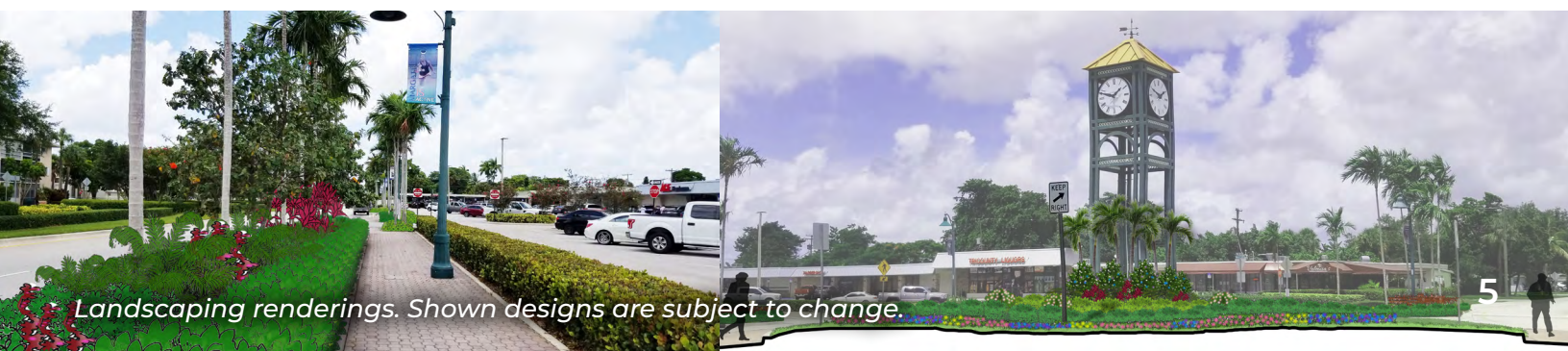
The projects underway now in various phases include Margate Boulevard improvements, various median upgrades, Coral Gate Park playground equipment enhancement, new signage for the city's entryways, grants for property upgrades, getting overhead wires underground, converting turf fields to artificial grass, and development of a future City Center.

Margate Boulevard to Receive Major Streetscape Enhancements

Margate Boulevard streetscape improvements are expected to be completed in May 2026.

The stretch runs along Margate Boulevard between State Road 7 and East River Drive, and on Northwest 58th Avenue between Park Drive and Northwest 12th Street.

The planned upgrades include street repaving, new paver crosswalks, lighting upgrades, landscaping enhancements, and more. Only one lane of traffic will be closed at a time.



Landscaping renderings. Shown designs are subject to change.

Margate has come a long way since its founding in the early 1950s, growing from humble beginnings into the sprawling community we know today. For 70 years, our story has been shaped by hardworking residents and volunteers, a knack for business and innovation, and a shared spirit of progress.

Flip through the decades, explore historic moments, and see how well you know your Margate history!

1. What is the name of the city's developer?

- A. Jack Marqusee
- B. Lennar
- C. Peter Minuit



3. True or False: Margate was once home to a public beach.

2. Which famous actress called Margate home?

- A. Lucile Ball
- B. Betty White
- C. Kaye Stevens



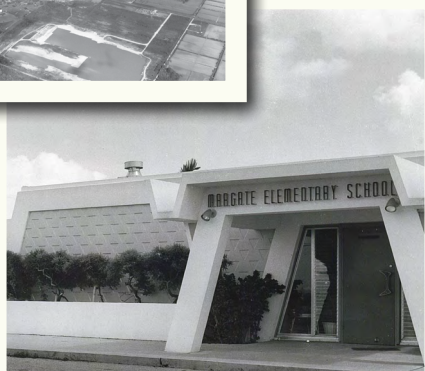
4. Who is the Broward County Library branch located in Margate named after?

- A. Kaye Stevens
- B. Catharine Young
- C. Barbra Streisand



5. Which was the first school to open in Margate back in 1958?

- A. Atlantic West Elementary School
- B. Liberty Elementary School
- C. Margate Elementary School



6. What was first located at the Margate Shopping Center, Margate's original shopping center known today as the Ace Hardware Plaza?

- A. The city's first convenience store and first bank
- B. Stands of tomatoes and beans
- C. Timeshare rental companies



Courtesy:

- ¹ HISTORY Fort Lauderdale
- ² South Florida Sun Sentinel

Answers:
1) A, 2) C, 3) True, 4) B, 5) C, 6) A

HOW CAN I HELP YOU?

HELPING BRING SAFETY HOME:

MEET NICOLE

Q: What is your name, and how long have you worked for the City of Margate?

My name is Nicole O'Neill and I started 22 years ago as a firefighter paramedic. Two years ago, I became a fire inspector / life-safety educator. Of course, I really began when I was 14 years old as a freshman at Coconut Creek High when I joined Margate's Explorer program and I never left.

Q: What is your role in the Margate Fire Department?

I'm an advisor for the Fire Cadettes in the Explorer program and I visit people's homes to check their smoke alarms to make sure the alarms are working and, if they are not, replace the batteries or replace the alarms.

Q: Tell us about the smoke detector program.

It's a free program for Margate residents and we started off with 80 alarms earlier this year. We have 40 alarms left to give away. It's important that every resident has a working smoke alarm for their safety, and their family's safety.

Q: What inspired you to work at the Fire Department?

It has always been my dream. I couldn't think of a better job. It's not just a job, it's a career.

PRO TIP:

Place a smoke alarm in your hallways leading to bedrooms, and at least 10 feet from the kitchen to avoid false alarms!



Spot-On Responses: Margate Police Robot Dog



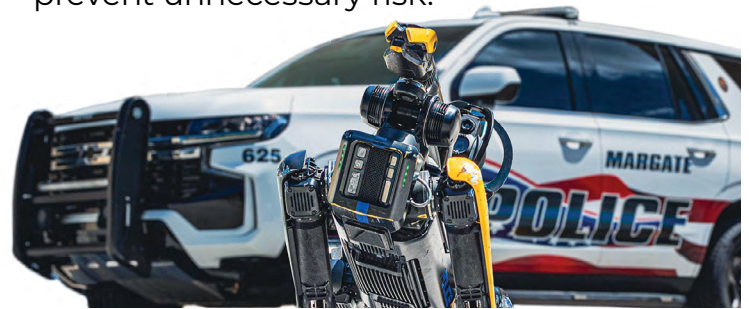
His name is Spot. He's a well-behaved doggie, and he doesn't demand any tasty treats or a scratch behind the ears. "No vet bills, no messes," muses Police Major Alain Banatte.

Spot is the Margate Police Department's robotic dog, a high-tech member intended to keep fellow officers safe during dangerous operations. While Spot won't ever replace a real-life officer, he's a crucial part of the team.

If there's a blind corner, Spot will be sent in to ensure everything is clear. He's set up with 30 cameras that zoom so his human handlers can see what he "sees," he can walk up a flight of stairs, and if a door is unlocked, his robotic arm, equipped with a claw, can open it.

The battery-operated robot has a microphone and a speaker, so officers can communicate with people around it. Four officers are well-versed in keeping Spot moving under pressure, including Officer Angel Maldonado. The goal is to "fight crime and keep people safe," he said.

"It's really an amazing tool," says Major Banatte. Spot is "our eyes and ears. It can prevent unnecessary risk."



Margate Police Officer of the Year, Detective Megan Sykes

In a family's most traumatic moments, Detective Megan Sykes steps in to help — and now she's been named Officer of the Year for 2024 by both the Margate Police Department and the Broward County Police Benevolent Association.



A 10-year department veteran, Sykes works in the Special Investigations Unit, or Special Victims Unit, focusing on crimes against children and the online sleuthing that comes with the job.

Detective Sykes investigates and solves crimes to rescue children who are crime victims and bring perpetrators to justice. Cases can take days, weeks, or even months or longer, if subpoenas and search warrants are needed. Though she's handled cases involving elderly victims, Sykes is drawn to helping children, the most vulnerable.

"I find fulfillment in helping people," she said. "Children are not always aware of the dangers that are out there, so whenever I am able to prevent something from happening to a child that could be traumatic for them later on, then that's something that is very important."

Margate Fire Adds New, High-Tech Rescue Vehicle

A new rescue truck has been added to the Margate Fire Department fleet, and it is the first one to have a new air filtration system.



The rescue truck, which will be assigned to Fire Station 98 on Northwest 24th Street, utilizes "Continuous Air & Surface Pathogen Reduction" (CASPR) technology, a purification process designed to eliminate pathogens from the air and surfaces between patients being transported to the hospital.

Division Chief Danny Rodriguez said the latest technology helps keep Margate residents safe. "They're going to have a truck that's reliable and have a truck they need when they call 911," he said.



FALL FESTIVAL

MARGATE SPORTS COMPLEX SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25

6 – 10 p.m. | 1695 BANKS ROAD

- SCARECROW BUILDING
- PUMPKIN CARVING CONTESTS
- FOOD & CRAFT VENDORS
- LIVE MUSIC FROM **REDEMPTION BAND**
- FAMILY-FAVORITE HAUNTED HOUSE
- PONY RIDES AND MORE!



VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

Tuesday, November 11 • 10:30 a.m.
Veterans Memorial Park
7044 NW 1st Street

Join us as we honor our military veterans, saluting the men and women who have fought for our country's freedom with dedicated and loyal service. The ceremony is free and open to the public, with light refreshments provided.



MOVIES IN THE PARK

Saturday, November 15 • 6 p.m.
Margate Sports Complex
1695 Banks Road

Gather the family, bring your blankets, lawn chairs, and favorite snacks as you enjoy a movie screening of *Sonic the Hedgehog 3* (2024) under the covered field of the Margate Sports Complex! Admission and parking are free. Visit margatefl.com/Movies to learn more.



PARENTS NIGHT OUT

Friday, November 21 • 6 – 9 p.m.
Charles & Carol Katz Community Center • 6111 NW 10th Street

We can help you with your next night off! Registration is open for Parents Night Out, a three-hour event where we'll watch your children aged 5 to 12. At \$30 per child, your kids will enjoy pizza, arts & crafts, and supervised games under the care of Parks & Recreation staff. Learn more: margatefl.com/ParentsNightOut!

SOUNDS AT SUNDOWN

Margate Sports Complex • 1695 Banks Road

Sing and dance the night away from at this Saturday concert series with live music on the Margate stage! You will also find food trucks serving delicious snacks, meals, and desserts for purchase. Bring your blankets and chairs. Admission and parking are free. Presented by the Margate CRA. Learn more at margatefl.com/Sounds.

DATE	BAND	TIME
October 4	Cachet Band	6 – 9 p.m.
November 1	Shadow Creek	6 – 9 p.m.



TRUNK OR TREAT

Thursday, October 30 • 5 – 8 p.m.

City Hall • 5790 Margate Boulevard

Bring the family for a spook-tacular night of trick-or-treating from creatively decorated car trunks with the Margate Police! Kids can show off their costumes, collect candy, and enjoy safe Halloween fun. Enjoy festive music, bounce houses, and activities for the whole family!



BARK IN THE PARK

NEW EVENT!

Saturday, November 8 • 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Firefighters Park • 2500 Rock Island Road

Bring your furry friends for a tail-wagging good time at our Dog Park! Enjoy a fun day of local rescue shelters with adoptable dogs, photo booth fun, a caricature artist, on-site microchipping, and dog-friendly vendors. *Note: Dogs must be leashed for the duration of the event, even within the dog park area.*

Presented by the Margate CRA

WINTER Festival

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19 | 6 – 10 p.m.

MARGATE SPORTS COMPLEX
1695 BANKS ROAD

- * LIVE MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT ON THE MARGATE STAGE
- * "FLORIDA STYLE" SNOW
- * FOOD & CRAFT VENDORS
- * CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

 Don't forget your cameras and your smiles! Santa Claus will be bringing his festive cheer to Margate for family photo fun!



You can learn about events taking place here in the City of Margate by visiting margatefl.com/Events, or by scanning the QR code!

PROGRAMS

The City of Margate's Parks & Recreation programs offer year-round activities for all ages. From tennis and dance to archery and more, there's something for everyone to enjoy. Whether you're trying a new hobby or just looking to keep active, registration is open all year, so you can join anytime!

ARCHERY

Andrews Field • 500 NW 65 Avenue
Behind Margate Middle School

Learn archery, a sport where nearly everyone can be successful regardless of age, size and physical ability. This all-inclusive sport is becoming one of the fastest-growing recreational activities among kids, teens, adults and seniors. All equipment is provided. Reservations are required.

Saturdays and Sundays: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Contact:

Karen Ludwig
954-866-4935 (TEXT ONLY)
goarchery.net@gmail.com
www.goarchery.net

MARTIAL ARTS

Charles & Carol Katz Community Center
6111 NW 10th Street

Hapkido is a non-sport mixed martial art focusing on physical and mental exercise, tactical defense, reactive responses, increased flexibility, self-confidence and focus.

Kids Class:

Tuesdays & Thursdays • 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Adult Class:

Tuesdays & Thursdays • 7:30 – 9 p.m.

Mixed Age Class:

Wednesdays • 7:30 – 9 p.m.

Fees:

\$120 per month, \$20 one-time registration fee. Family discounts available.

Contact:

Phil Barrett
954-917-0488
hapkidobear@gmail.com

JOY DECO DANCE AND GYMNASTICS

Leonard Weisinger Community Center
6199 NW 10th Street

This program is designed to introduce children to the wonderful world of dance, cheerleading, and gymnastics, allowing your child to have fun while showing off their creative side.

Mondays:

5:45 – 6:30 p.m.
Gymnastics Basics, Ages 4 – 7

6:30 – 7:15 p.m.
Gymnastics Basics, Ages 5 – 11

7:20 – 8:05 p.m.
Gymnastics Level 1, Ages 7 – 12

Wednesdays:

5:30 – 6:15 p.m.
Gymnastics Basics, Ages 4 – 7

6:20 – 7:05 p.m.
Gymnastics Level 1-2, Ages 5 – 11

Thursdays:

5:45 – 6:30 p.m.
Ballet & Jazz, Ages 4 – 7

6:30 – 7:15 p.m.
Cheerleading & Hip Hop, Ages 5 – 9

Attire:

- *Gymnastics:* Leotard and shorts, bare feet
- *Ballet & Jazz:* Leotard, tights & pink ballet shoes
- *Cheerleading & Cartwheels:* comfortable clothes and sneakers
- *Hip Hop/Jazz:* Comfortable clothes and sneakers or black jazz shoes

Fees:

\$64 per month, one class per week
\$15 one-time registration fee

Contact:

Joy Deco Enterprises
954-971-9917
Register at joydecoenterprises.com



TENNIS & PICKLEBALL CLASSES

Firefighters Park
2500 Rock Island Road

GSM Tennis of Margate offers top-quality Junior and Adult Tennis & Pickleball Classes for all skill levels. Private and group lessons are available. Whether you're a beginner or an advanced player, their certified instructors provide expert coaching in a fun and engaging environment. Open to all ages and skill levels — no experience needed!

Monday through Friday:

Morning sessions: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.

Evening sessions: 4 p.m., 5 p.m., 6 p.m., 7 p.m.

Fee: \$25 registration fee. Contact GSM for full pricing details.

Contact:

Coach Csilla:
954-825-1118
csilla@gsm-tennis.com

TRIBAL YOGA

Leonard Weisinger Community Center
6199 NW 10th Street

Yoga for all levels, from fitness-based approach to Vinyasa style flow. No experience necessary. Variation/modifications will be provided.

Mondays: 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Fees:

Drop-in Classes • \$8

10 Classes • \$65

Contact:

Wanda Olcima
954-282-9926
tribalyogallc@gmail.com

ATHLETICS

The City of Margate offers youth athletic programs in the Fall and Spring, including baseball, softball, basketball & soccer! Registration for the Spring 2026 Season will end December 31, with practices beginning in February.



YOUTH BASEBALL

- **Ages:** 3 – 13
- **Registration:** October
- **Season:** February – May



YOUTH BASKETBALL

- **Ages:** 5 – 13
- **Registration:** October
- **Season:** February – May



YOUTH SOCCER

- **Ages:** 3 – 14
- **Registration:** October
- **Season:** February – May



YOUTH SOFTBALL

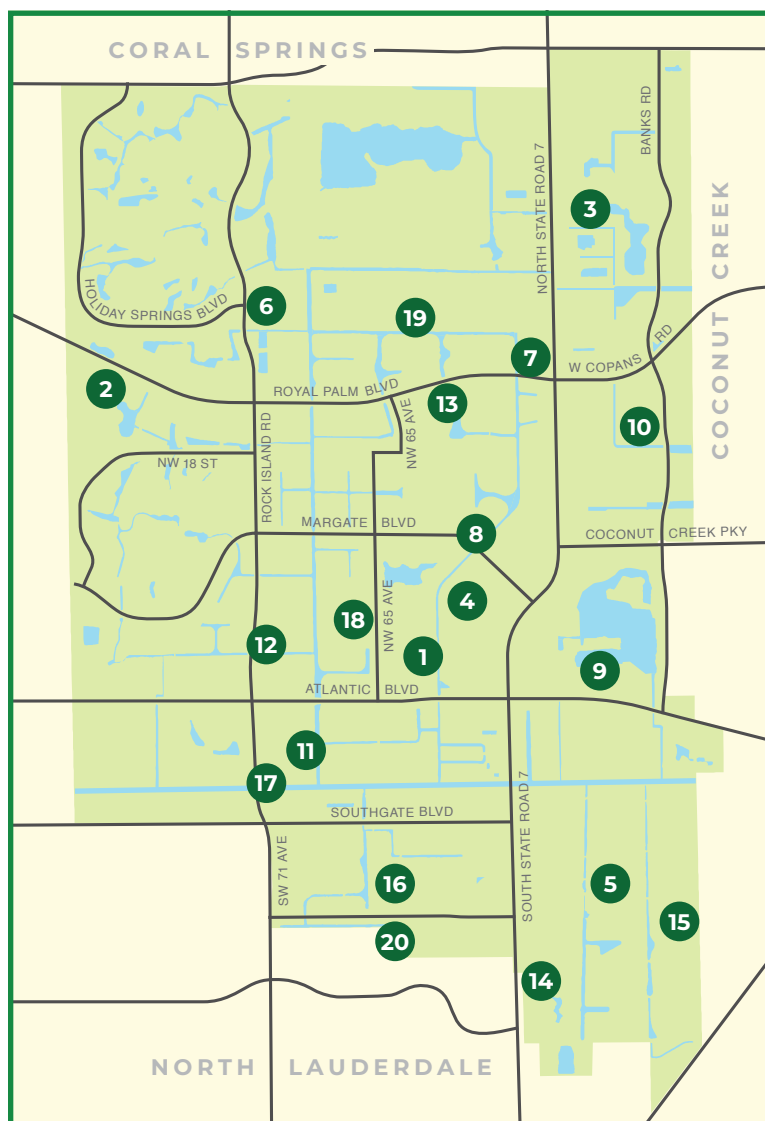
- **Ages:** 6 – 16
- **Registration:** October
- **Season:** February – May



For more information, contact Margate Athletics at 954-972-6459, or the Parks & Recreation Department at 954-972-6458 or by email at athletics@margatefl.com.

parks & recreation

PARKS & FACILITIES



1 Andrews Field at Margate Middle School
500 NW 65th Avenue

Lighted baseball/softball field, cricket field, and soccer/football field.

2 Centennial Park • 7800 Royal Palm Boulevard

Playground, full basketball court, handicap accessible picnic area, and open play area.

3 Coral Gate Park • 5650 NW 29th Street

Lighted tennis courts, pavilions, half basketball courts, playground, walking trail, and restrooms.

4 David Park and George Mudd Playground
6199 NW 10th Street

Community center, senior center, library, playground, and lighted bocce courts.

5 Ed Greenwalk Park • 5235 SW 5th Street

Passive park and green space.

6 Firefighters Park • 2500 Rock Island Road

Dog park (1.5 acre), lighted tennis courts, lighted full basketball courts, lighted pickleball courts, Safety Town, concession/restrooms, pavilions, playground, exercise trail, soccer rink, sand volleyball, and game room.

7 Kaye Stevens Park • 5825 Royal Palm Boulevard

Picnic area, swinging benches, fishing area, and walking trail.

8 Legacy Park • 1400 West River Drive

Boat launch, swinging benches, historical information, and gazebo.

9 Lemon Tree Lake Park • 426 Lakeside Drive

Pavilion, swinging benches, and boat launch.

10 Margate Sports Complex • 1695 Banks Road

Covered field, lighted baseball/softball fields, playground, splash pad, pavilions, batting cages, and walking trail with fitness stations.

11 Oriole Park • 7055 NW 1st Street

Lighted baseball/softball field and lighted football/soccer field.

12 Rock Island Fitness Park • 7100 NW 6th Court

Outdoor exercise equipment, ADA accessible equipment, and lighted pavilion cover.

13 Royal Palm Park/Calypso Cove
6200 Royal Palm Boulevard

Park: Half basketball courts, playground, pavilion, and fishing dock.

Calypso Cove: Plunge pool, zero-entry pool water playground, lap pool, concessions, complimentary shade umbrellas/lounge chairs, community room for party rentals, group & individual swim lessons.

14 Serino Park • 5600 SW 8th Court

Playground, splash pad, walking trail, outdoor exercise equipment, pavilion, and open play area.

15 Southeast Park • 655 SW 50th Avenue

Synthetic turf, pavilion, concession/restrooms, and playground.

16 Southgate Park • 425 SW 64th Avenue

Full basketball court, exercise trail, playground, and open play area.

17 Veterans Memorial Park • 7044 NW 1st Street

Boat launch, pavilion, and fishing dock.

18 Vinson Park • 955 NW 66th Avenue

Lighted baseball/softball fields, lighted batting cages, concession/restrooms, and playground.

19 Winfield Park • 6400 Winfield Boulevard

Boat launch, playground, swinging benches, half basketball court, and fishing area.

20 Herman and Dorothy Shooster Nature Preserve
740 SW 64th Terrace

(Managed by Broward County Parks)

WHO TO CALL IN MARGATE!

Have a question about City services? Whether you're reporting an issue, signing up for a program, or looking for the right department, this guide will help you find exactly who to call quickly and easily.

Streetlight Outage
954-972-8126

Mosquito Spraying
954-972-8126



Apply for a Building Permit
954-970-3004

Apply for a Business License
954-979-6213



Apply for a Homestead
954-357-6830

Make a Code Violation Complaint
954-972-1232



Rent a Pavilion
954-972-6458



Report Park Maintenance
954-972-6458



Have Your Child Say the Pledge at a Public Meeting
954-935-5326



Youth Sports
954-972-6458



City Water/Sewer Issues, Water Meter Leaks
954-972-0828
954-605-9812 (After Hours)



Catharine Young Branch Library
954-357-7500



Northwest Focal Point Senior Center & Adult Day Care
954-973-0300



Missed Garbage Collection
954-583-1830



Request New Garbage or Recycling Cart
954-583-1830



Water Billing
954-884-3666



After-Hours Water Restoration
954-972-0828



Report a Pothole
954-972-8126



Report Flooding
954-972-8126



Non-Emergency Police Line
954-972-7111



Report a Stray or Missing Animal
954-972-7111

Broward School District
754-321-0000



Broward County Tax Collector
954-765-4697



Greater Pompano Beach Chamber of Commerce
954-941-2940



Free Smoke Detector and Installation
954-304-6660



Meet the Senior Center's Hidden Rhythm, Frank Orilio

Piece by piece, Frank Orilio unloads his drums, his stands, his cylinders from his car to his set-up spot at Margate's Northwest Focal Point Senior Center for the next performance.

The musician shrugs when he's asked if it's a hassle. "Nothing to it," he proclaims.

“ I did this all my life. You choose your instrument, you carry it. I chose it. ”

—FRANK ORILIO

Frank is 103 years young. A 48-year resident of Hollywood where the city declared “Frank Orilio Day” the year he turned 100, he's a mainstay of the biweekly live band entertainment at the Margate senior center. He drives nearly an hour up State Road 7 to get there.

He specializes in Big Band Era music, and the band he is a member of is appropriately called “Hall of Fame Big Band.” He's been playing at the senior center for about five years.

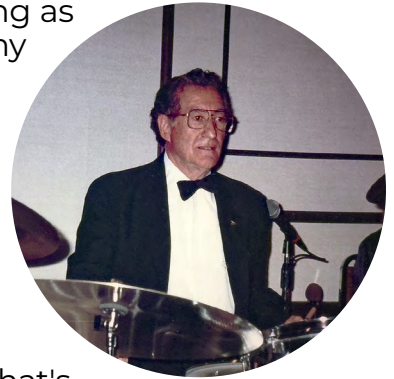
He takes it seriously and respects his band members: “A good drummer feels what the next guy is going to do,” he says.

Frank picked up his first set of drumsticks when he was 8 years old and living in upstate New York as the son of Italian immigrants. His brother brought home the sticks one day, and Frank soon “destroyed all my mother's lampshades, all her pots and pans, and the side of her dresser.” She quickly splurged for

25-cent drum lessons to protect her house.

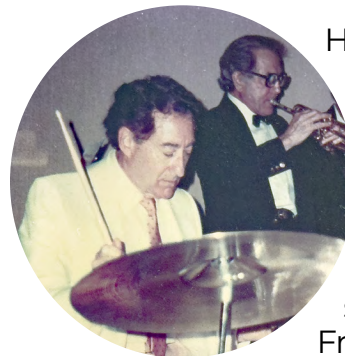
Now grown up, Frank worked for the federal government as an artist for engineers

and scientists, making their inventions come to life with pencils and paint. However, he always played his music, including while serving as a member of the Army Air Corps band and later in nightclubs. He recalls playing until the wee hours of the morning and still being able to arrive at his desk by 8:15 a.m.



“Do you know what that's called?” he asks. “Youth!”

Frank, now a widower, hopes he's an inspiration to the Margate residents who come to sway to his tunes. He cooks his food, eats well, hasn't bought bread in 10 years (he makes his own olive bread, whole wheat, German rye and pumpernickel), doesn't drink alcohol, coffee or tea, never smokes, and only on New Year's Eve treats himself to a glass of ginger ale.



How should the rest of us get to be 103? “It's easy if you live long enough,” he says.

Howard Stein is a former band member who plays the saxophone and refers to Frank as a “legacy.”

“A lot of musicians are temperamental,” he says. “Frank is mood-less. He's all good vibes.”



oint senior center

SENIOR SERVICES

SHINE

(Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders) counselor to assist with Medicare and health insurance questions.

EHEAP

(Emergency Home Energy Assistance) is a program that provides assistance for home-energy emergencies to qualified, low-income households with at least one person 60 years of age or older.

Broward County Property Appraiser

On the first Monday of the month from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., Margate residents can apply for Homestead Exemption and other tax-saving property exemptions at the Senior Center. Make an appointment for the Exemption Express service at web.bcpa.net or by calling 954-357-5579.

Counseling

Available for individuals or support groups. Caregiver Support Group is also available Wednesdays at 10 a.m.

Adult Day Care

Provides care and companionship for older adults who need assistance or supervision during the day. The program offers relief to family members and caregivers, allowing them to go to work, handle personal business, or relax while knowing their relative is well cared for and safe. Appointment required for registration. Call 954-973-0300 for an appointment or for more information.

JOIN NOW!

Northwest Focal Point Senior Center

6009 NW 10th Street, Margate, FL 33063

954-973-0300

margatefl.com/SeniorCenter

ACTIVITIES FOR SENIORS

Are you a senior looking to keep active? Take a look at some of the activities at the Northwest Focal Point Senior Center!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Choir Performance

October 13 at 11:30 a.m.

International Folk Festival Day

October 24 at 11:30 a.m.

Halloween Costume Parade

October 31 at 11:30 a.m.

Wii Bowling Tournament

November 14 at 9:30 a.m.

Thanksgiving Day Basket

November 18 at 11:30 a.m.

Holiday Choir Concert

December 9 at 11:30 a.m.

Senior Holiday Luncheon

December 12 at 11 a.m.

Reservations required

Big Bingo

December 26 at 11:30 a.m.

New Years Toast and Celebration

December 31 at 11:30 a.m.

CLASSES

Zumba Gold

Mondays and Fridays at 9:30 a.m.

Stretch & Balance Exercise Class

Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9:30 a.m.

Tai Chi Class

Tuesdays at 12 p.m.

Bingo

Wednesdays and Fridays at 11:30 a.m.

Line Dance Class

Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m.

Asian Dance

Thursdays at 1 p.m.

Live Music

Thursdays at 1:30 p.m.

Margate Photo Contest



Earlier this summer, we invited residents to share their best snapshots of life in Margate. Now it's your turn to help decide the winner! Take a look at the finalists below and cast your vote for your favorite.

The winning photo will be featured on the cover of the City's *Our Margate* magazine for January 2026. It will also be proudly included in the City's e-Newsletter, social media platforms, Comcast Channel 78, and more!



SUBMIT YOUR VOTE BY DECEMBER 1ST!

How to Vote for Your Favorite Photo

1. Visit margatefl.com/PhotoContest or scan the QR code to visit the voting page, and to view the full-size finalist images.
2. Select your winner using the provided online form.
3. Submit your vote! Be sure to share the contest with friends and family! The 2025 winner will be announced in December 2025.



Holiday Collection Notice

As we close out the year and welcome the holidays, here's a quick heads-up about your waste collection schedule during Christmas week!

No garbage, recycling, or bulk/yard waste will be collected on Thursday, December 25, 2025. For those residents with impacted service, collection will resume on your next regular scheduled day:

- **Garbage:** Monday, Dec. 29, 2025
- **Recycling, Bulk/Yard Waste:** Thursday, Jan. 1, 2026

Only residents affected by those routes not serviced on Christmas Day are allowed to place two extra bags of garbage beside their garbage cart on December 29, 2025.

If your regular collection days are Tuesdays and Fridays, or Wednesdays and Saturdays, your schedule will remain unchanged.

Multi-family home residents should check with their property management for their holiday schedule.

Christmas trees may be placed out for bulk. Prior to placing it on the swale, remove all ornaments, lights, and decorations. Trees should be cut to 6 feet in length, and the trunk should be no wider than 8 inches.

Smart Sorting this Season

The holidays often bring extra waste and you may wonder where everything goes. Here are some common examples of items and where they belong!

GARBAGE

Pumpkins, foil wrapping paper, plastic gift bags, decorations, food waste



RECYCLE

Flattened cardboard no larger than 3' x 3', clean wrapping paper (paper only), clean uncoated tissue paper

BULK & YARD WASTE

Natural Christmas trees (see left), artificial trees (bulk), furniture


HAZARDOUS WASTE & ELECTRONICS


Holiday string lights, rechargeable batteries, battery-powered candles

Not sure where something goes? Visit margatefl.com/WasteWizard, our online tool to see hundreds of waste items and how to dispose of them!

Curbside Timing Matters: Don't Miss the Truck

Garbage and recycling collection happens on a set schedule to make sure Margate is looking tidy in an efficient manner. To help this process, carts must be at the curb by 7 a.m. on your collection day, or you'll have to wait until the next scheduled pickup.

 **Correct! Your garbage and recycling can be placed outside as early as 5 p.m. the night before your service date, and up to 3 days for bulk waste.**

 **Better luck next time! Please wait until your next service date if you have missed the collection truck.**





Margate Winter Festival

Find your next family outing at margatefl.com/Events!

STAY CONNECTED!

The City of Margate has several ways you can reach us and stay connected.

Visit Our Website:

margatefl.com

Watch Us on Margate TV:

Comcast Channel 78

Subscribe to Our YouTube:

@CityofMargateFL

Like Us on Facebook:

@CityofMargateFL

Check Us Out on Instagram:

@CityofMargateFL

Follow Us on X:

@CityofMargateFL

Find Us on Nextdoor:

[Nextdoor.com](https://www.nextdoor.com)

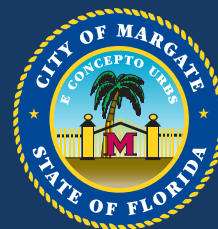
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