



**HERE THEY ARE!**

## YOUR WEEKLY NEWSDAY TUESDAY ARTICLES

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## WESTON RECOGNIZED IN FAMILY CIRCLE'S *2015 BEST TOWNS FOR FAMILIES*

The City of Weston has been selected by Family Circle magazine as one of ten Best Towns for Families for 2015.

Weston was lauded for its cultural diversity, expansive park system, great schools and community involvement by service organizations, such as The Rotary Club of Weston.

City leaders are thrilled at the recognition from the national publication. "It is gratifying to know that the City that we know and love is recognized nationally for the qualities that we cherish. Our hometown feel is accomplished by having fantastic parks and cultural activities that families can enjoy and exemplary service to our community at all levels," stated Mayor Daniel J. Stermer upon receiving notice of the recognition, "When choosing where to live in South Florida, Weston is a choice for your style... for your life."



**Weston resident, Monica Socas (center), with husband Luis Ortíz and family.**

When told that Weston had been selected, Monica was thrilled, stating "This recognition makes my family feel even more blessed to be a part of this community."

Weston's profile in the article features the story of Monica Socas, shown here with her family, who immigrated from Venezuela seven years ago.

Weston was selected by the magazine from a list of 4,500 cities and towns. The magazine focused in on 1,400 communities that met their family-friendly criteria—including affordable homes, quality schools, access to health care, low crime rate and financial stability. Ten winners were selected from among the highest-rated towns.



[Click here](#) to view the full article online, which will be published in the August 2015 print edition of Family Circle magazine.



## PROPOSED BUDGETS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016 AVAILABLE ONLINE

### *Fiscal Year 2016 Begins on October 1<sup>st</sup>*

It's budget season and time for the City of Weston to prepare for the next fiscal year, which begins October 1<sup>st</sup>. The City Manager's Fiscal Year 2016 Proposed Budgets for the City of Weston, the Bonaventure Development District, and the Indian Trace Development District are now available online ([click here](#)).

The recommended budget is based on an ad valorem millage rate of 2.3900 mils, which is the same rate as Fiscal Year 2015. With the increase in property value, adopting the same millage rate results in an increase in ad valorem revenues of \$871,900, compared to FY2015, and **allows for the City of Weston to still have the lowest millage rate amongst all municipalities in Broward County.**

*Prepared to be Even Better* is the theme for Fiscal Year 2016.

In his budget message, City Manager, John R. Flint expanded on this year's theme by stating, "Our strong financial discipline and our tradition of long range planning have built a foundation which has proven to be resilient and upon which we can be even better."

#### **Some highlights in the FY2016 budget are:**

- Stability in the ad valorem millage rate for the next two years
- No assessment increases in the Bonaventure Development District and Indian Trace Development District
- Public Safety and Fire services maintained at the current levels
- Arts, cultural and recreation programs maintained at the current levels
- Field renovations at Heron Park, Regional Park and Tequesta Trace Park
- Concrete walkways at Country Isles Park and Indian Trace Park
- Replacement of playground equipment at Emerald Estates Park

[Click here](#) to view the Fiscal Year 2016 Proposed Budgets

The City of Weston Budget Hearings for Fiscal Year 2016 will be held on:

**First Hearing:** Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:05 p.m.

**Final Hearing:** Monday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

Meetings are held at Weston City Hall, 17200 Royal Palm Blvd., Weston

Meetings are broadcast live on Weston TV and online at [Westonfl.org](http://Westonfl.org).



## WESTON EXPLORER POST 44 COMPETE AT STATE COMPETITION

The BSO Law Enforcement Explorers from Weston Post 44 have been working very hard since their inception and lately the results speak for themselves.

They recently participated in the Florida Sheriff's Explorer Association State Competition hosted by BSO. The competition was held at Millennium Middle School and consisted of 33 different Sheriff's Office Explorer Posts from throughout the state.

**The following is a list of Weston Post 44 results:**

1<sup>st</sup> Place in Team Shooting out of approximately 150 individual shooters

2<sup>nd</sup> Place in Building Search

3<sup>rd</sup> Place in In-Progress

1<sup>st</sup> Place in Team Amazing Race Competition

**For more information on the Explorers Program visit:**

[http://www.sheriff.org/about\\_bso](http://www.sheriff.org/about_bso)





**Sheriff Scott Israel**

## **BSO Weston District Offers Helpful Tips and Programs**

Criminals gain access to guard gated communities by tailgating other vehicles through the gate. If you are followed into your gated community, call security or Police immediately with a vehicle description of the vehicle that followed you in.

**To learn more about how to secure your home, schedule a [Home Security Inspection](#) by calling the BSO Weston District Office at 954-389-2030 or 954-389-2010.**

**Planning to travel? Register for the [BSO Home Watch program](#). Complete the [online form](#) and submit to BSO Weston, 17300 Royal Palm Blvd.**

## **PLANNING A VACATION? TAKE STEPS NOW TO SECURE YOUR HOME**

As part of your regular routine to prepare for out of town travels, steps can be included to secure your home to reduce the chances of becoming a target for burglary.



The following recommendations will help secure your home:

- If you are traveling out of town, leave a car in the driveway, or have a neighbor park there periodically.
- Arrange for daily newspaper, mail and any special delivery packages to be picked up by a neighbor.
- Install timers on interior and exterior lights.
- Install pry guards for door locks.
- Survey your property to look for possible clues that may indicate you are away.
- If you have an alarm system, use it. Do not be complacent if you live inside a guard gated community.
- If you have an alarm system, install glass breakage detectors on all sliding doors and motion sensors.
- Impact glass is good to have, but it is expensive. Consider limited installation in the rear of your home on windows or sliding glass doors that are out of sight of neighbors.
- Place cameras around the perimeter of your home.



## WESTON 55+ CLUB AT THE WESTON COMMUNITY CENTER

### Join the fun with the Weston Community Center's 55+ Club!

The Weston 55+ Club is an incredible opportunity for mature adults to socialize with other seniors while participating in a weekly variety of activities.

The activities are offered year round and include but are not limited to bus trips, seminars, game days, luncheon outings, movie afternoons, lectures and other events as interest arises.

To register for Weston 55+ Club Membership, click here to download the form:

[http://www.westonfl.org/media/docs/misc/55Plus Membership Form.pdf](http://www.westonfl.org/media/docs/misc/55Plus%20Membership%20Form.pdf)

Click here to view the current schedule of events.

<http://www.westonfl.org/Departments/ParksAndRecreation/55PlusClub>

For more information about Weston  
55+ Club call  
954-389-4321

### Examples of the Club's activities include:

**Bingo-mania and Game days**

**Monster Mini Golf Miramar**

**Perez Art Museum in Miami**

**Lunch at D'Angelo Pizza**

**Trip to Festival Flea Market**

To join the club, you have to be 55 years or older, register for membership, and have free time to gather with a great group that's looking for entertainment and friendship.





## GET READY FOR BACK TO SCHOOL TAX FREE WEEKEND Friday, August 7<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, August 16<sup>th</sup>



Florida's Back to school tax sales holiday will take place August 7<sup>th</sup> – August 16<sup>th</sup>, which is perfect for parents who need to pick up school supplies, clothing, shoes, and other shopping items for the new school year.

### Florida's Back-to-School Sales Tax Holiday Applies to:

- Clothing and footwear (\$100 or less) per item
- School supplies (\$15 or less) per item
- Personal computers and certain related accessories for personal use (\$750 or less) when purchased for noncommercial home or personal use
- Books are not tax exempt

### Smart Shopping Strategies:

Being a sensible shopper is the best way to save even more during tax free weekend. For example, you can compare prices ahead of time at several stores or even online, and can plan to use coupons for some purchases.

Since the regular sales tax rate in Broward County is 6%, that is the amount of money you'll save by shopping during the sales tax holiday. You might find that you can actually save more money by shopping at competitive sales or with coupons either before or after the tax free weekend.



Keep in mind, too, that some specially priced items are not all tax exempt. For example, you will save tax on one item in a Buy One Get One Free deal.

If you have any questions about what items are tax free, refer to Florida's Department of Revenue website for a list of tax exempt items at <http://dor.myflorida.com>, or scan the QR code.



**Don't miss this great tax free weekend to get ready for school!**



## YEAR-ROUND FOOD DRIVE TO BENEFIT LOCAL FOOD BANKS

*HELP THOSE IN NEED WHEN THEY REALLY NEED IT!*

With the holidays still a few months away, the thought of giving back to those in need is far from the minds of many.

As a result of this mentality, it is during the months from March through August where these individuals need the most amount of help.

Therefore, we are encouraging residents to participate in Broward County's 365 Food Drive, a year-round drive, to help those in need when they need it the most!

### Here are some of the donation collection box locations:

- Broward County Main Library and all branch libraries
- West Regional County Courthouse, 100 N. Pine Island Road, Plantation
- Government Center West, 1 N. University Drive, Plantation
- Main Courthouse, 201 S.E. Sixth St., Fort Lauderdale



Collected to Date

*(Since January 2010)*





## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES THROUGHOUT BROWARD COUNTY

Are you looking for ways to give back to the community? Or earn community service hours? The organizations listed below are all separate entities from the City of Weston. The listing is for informational purposes only.

### HandsOn Broward

There are over 600 non-profit organizations in Broward. HandsOn Broward is connecting individuals and groups to the right organization for volunteer effort. Visit [www.handsonbroward.org](http://www.handsonbroward.org)



HandsOn  
BROWARD

### Broward County

Broward County offers the chance for residents to volunteer their services to benefit their community. There are many different opportunities available for residents of all ages. For more information, visit: [Broward.org/Volunteer/](http://Broward.org/Volunteer/).



### County Parks

The V.I.P Program, (Volunteers Improving Parks), is directly involved in maintaining and improving our parks, landscaped areas, greenways, and recreational facilities to help build community spirit and a sense of civic pride and responsibility. For more information, contact the park of your choice or the Parks Volunteer Coordinator at 954-357-8153 or by email at [parksvolunteers@broward.org](mailto:parksvolunteers@broward.org).



### Weston Library

You can get involved with the Weston Library through the Weston Friends of the Library program. For more information, call 954-357-5420.





## WESTON BRANCH LIBRARY ADULT AND YOUTH PROGRAMS – AUGUST 2015

### ADULT SERVICES PROGRAMS

#### English Café

Beginners I	Monday, 10:30 AM
Beginners II	Tuesday, 10:30 AM
Intermediate I	Monday, 5:30 PM
Intermediate II	Wednesday, 5:30 PM
Advanced	Friday, 10:30 AM

#### Spanish Café

Beginners	Saturday, 4:00 PM
Intermediate	Wed., 4:00 PM
Advanced	Friday, 10:30 AM

#### Italian Café

Beginners	Monday, 6:00 PM
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#### Citizenship Studies

Tuesday, 6:00 PM
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Writer's Circle First Saturday of the Month 10:30 AM

#### Special Events

- Wed., Aug. 12<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 PM Adult Book Club – An Object of Beauty by Steve Martin

#### Weekly Classes

- Tuesday, 3:00 pm Knitting and Crocheting Club - age 18 & up (FREE)

### YOUTH SERVICES PROGRAMS

- Thursdays\*
 

10:30 AM	Baby Story Time	3–11 months
11:30 AM	Toddler Story Time	12–35 months
12:30 PM	Preschool Story Time	3–5 years
- \* *No Story time programs on August 13<sup>th</sup>*
- August 13<sup>th</sup>

10:30 AM	Baby Yoga	3-11 months
11:30 AM	Toddler Yoga	12-35 months
12:30 PM	Preschool Yoga	3–5 years

#### Special Events:

- August 8<sup>th</sup> 11:00 AM Stevens Puppets All ages
- August 10<sup>th</sup> 4:00 PM Munchkin Mondays\* Grades K-2
- August 15<sup>th</sup> 11:00 AM Sensory Story Time *for children with autism*
- August 17<sup>th</sup> 4:00 PM Kids Club Program\* Grades 3-5
- August 20<sup>th</sup> 3:00 PM Wags and Tales\* Ages 5–12
- August 24<sup>th</sup> 4:30 PM Teen Scene\* Grades 6-12

*\*Call the Library to pre-register for these programs.*

For details, call the Library at 954-357-5420 or [click here](#).



## SUMMARY OF EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

### CITY EVENTS

[westonfl.org/events](http://westonfl.org/events)



### **CITY COMMISSION MEETING**

**Monday, August 17, 2015**

**7:00PM**

A regular meeting of the Weston City Commission.

**Location:** Weston City Hall, 17200 Royal Palm Blvd.

## ONGOING CITY PROGRAMS

### **BSO WESTON POLICE SERVICES**

More information on programs listed below: Call 954-389-2010 or visit [www.westonfl.org/Departments/Police/PoliceHome.aspx](http://www.westonfl.org/Departments/Police/PoliceHome.aspx).



### **SAFE SELLING TRANSACTION ZONE**

### **A LOCATION FOR ONLINE BUYERS/SELLERS**

BSO's Weston district office's parking lot serves as a safe haven for the City's online buyers and sellers to meet at 17300 Royal Palm Boulevard. Download a flyer here: [Safe Transaction Zone](#)

**CLICK HERE FOR MORE ONGOING PROGRAMS**



## BSO WESTON FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT

More information on programs listed below: Call 954-389-2015 or visit [www.westonfl.org/Departments/FireEMS/FireEMSHome.aspx](http://www.westonfl.org/Departments/FireEMS/FireEMSHome.aspx).



### FREE EMS GO PACKETS

These packets hold medical information and legal documents for EMS and hospital personnel can be aware of your medical conditions.



### FREE CPR CLASSES

FREE CPR classes for residents, organizations and businesses. Classes are offered at Weston Fire Station No. 81. Classes are also offered at your own location with a minimum of 8 persons.



### SMOKE ALARM AND BATTERY REPLACEMENT

This free service is designed to reach people who are unable to safely install smoke alarms and/or replace the batteries in existing alarms.

## WESTON COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

More information on the programs below, call 954-385-2000.



### REGISTER FOR CODERED TODAY

All residents and businesses should register with the City's CodeRED Emergency Notification System.

To register, please visit:

[www.westonfl.org/Residents/Hurricane/CodeRed.aspx](http://www.westonfl.org/Residents/Hurricane/CodeRed.aspx).



## WESTON DELIVERS THE LATEST NEWS TO YOUR INBOX

- \* **Newsday Tuesday:** A collection of weekly city news articles, information and events.
- \* **General Notifications:** Updates on projects; media releases; sports registrations, events and more.

**Subscribe at:** <http://www.westonfl.org/EmailSubscriptions.aspx>



## WESTON GOVERNMENT INFORMATION CHANNEL

The Weston government access channel can be found on these channels with local cable television providers:

Advanced Communications – Channel #25

Comcast Cable – Channel #78

AT&T U-verse – Channel #99, then scroll to Weston Government TV



## WESTON GOVERNMENT RADIO 1680AM

Information on City events, programs, services and more. In the event of an emergency, all broadcasts will be interrupted and emergency notifications will be provided. This AM channel can be accessed in your car while in and around the City of Weston. Tune in today.



## HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS INFORMATION

Visit [WestonFL.org/Hurricane](http://WestonFL.org/Hurricane) for tips on how you can prepare your home, family and business throughout the hurricane season – June 1<sup>st</sup> through November 30<sup>th</sup>.