




**Between the Lines** What's Happening in Parking and Economic Development in the City of Miami

**Curbside Chatter** **June-July 2007, No. 10**



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- Thursdays-Saturdays, 6:00 p.m.-2:00 a.m.
- Sundays, 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

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**[Join MPA in Little Havana for Viernes Culturales](#)**

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**Gusman Glimpse**



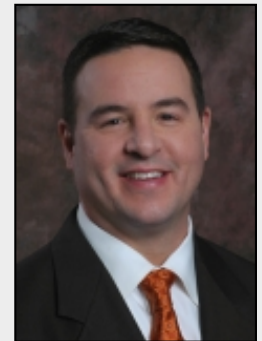
Margaret Lake

**[Gusman Center Names New Director](#)**

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Lake previously served in operations management positions with the Sundance Film Festival, Miami International Film Festival and Provincetown International Film Festival. She was also an underwriting representative and on-air music host for KRCL-FM, Salt Lake City. [More...](#)

**Viewpoint**



**Art Noriega  
Executive Director**

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*Spanish Harlem Orchestra*

businesses, state of Florida agencies, local governments, and the community at large - all working together to find countywide solutions to traffic congestion in our community.

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### **About The Miami Parking Authority**

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MPA funds its operations through parking revenues and receives no income from taxes or parking tickets. MPA was created in 1955 by a Special Act of the Florida Legislature and incorporated into the City of Miami's Charter in 1968. For more information, visit [www.miamiparking.com](http://www.miamiparking.com).

## **Leadership**

**Arthur Noriega, V.**  
Executive Director  
Miami Parking Authority

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- Thursdays-Saturdays, 6:00 p.m.-2:00 a.m.
- Sundays, 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Two convenient valet pick-up/drop-off stations are located at either end of Commodore Plaza - one near Grand Avenue and one near Main Highway - putting you within easy reach of everything the central Grove area has to offer. Cars are valet parked in MPA's Playhouse Lot, which remains available to the general public for self parking as well.

The BIC will provide up to \$66,000 in funding for the program during its six-month trial period, which began in mid-May. Funding for the BIC comes from several sources including the Coconut Grove Parking Waiver Trust, Parking Surcharge proceeds and Sidewalk Café fees generated in the Grove, and the City's general fund. MPA, as the BIC's fiscal agent, selected Imperial Parking to staff the Coconut Grove valet operation as the result of a detailed review of valet companies' qualifications and a competitive bid process.

"This valet program helps meet the strong demand for parking in the area due to the recent opening of several new businesses," said Fred Bredemeyer, MPA's deputy executive director for operations. "It's a great service for people who are patronizing the restaurants and shops that give the Grove its distinctive character.

"The Coconut Grove BIC was formed as an advisory committee to the City of Miami in 2004. It meets monthly and consists of a fourteen-member, stakeholder board which is chaired by City of Miami District 2 Commissioner Marc D. Sarnoff.

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The event consists of outdoor musical performances on a stage and along the sidewalks of Calle Ocho between 14th and 17th Avenues; art exhibits along the sidewalk and in plazas and open spaces; visits to art galleries and cultural centers; cuisine tasting at participating restaurants; and films, art exhibits and educational programs at the historic Tower Theatre. Free walking tours of Little Havana also take place during the festival.

Within the festival area are 13 art galleries featuring work by renowned Cuban and Latin American artists. Most or all galleries are open during the event.

Miami Parking Authority is pleased to be a sponsor of Viernes Culturales.

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## Gusman Center Names New Director

Gusman Center for the Performing Arts has named **Margaret Lake** Director of Theater Operations for the 81-year-old historic theater in downtown Miami.

Lake previously served in operations management positions with the Sundance Film Festival, Miami International Film Festival and Provincetown International Film Festival. She was also an underwriting representative and on-air music host for KRCL-FM, Salt Lake City.

"Margaret Lake's operations expertise, as well as her marketing and fundraising skills, will be put to good use at the Gusman as we continue to focus on returning this landmark to a central role in Miami's cultural life," said **Art Noriega**, executive director of the Miami Parking Authority, which manages the theater.



*Margaret Lake*

The Gusman currently serves primarily as a rental facility for touring shows, corporate meetings and community events; long-range plans include developing and funding the theater's own programming. The theater is the home of the Miami International Film Festival and Ballet Gamonet, and hosts numerous events presented by the New World School of the Arts and Rhythm Foundation.

For more information about Gusman Center for the Performing Arts, visit [www.gusmancenter.org](http://www.gusmancenter.org) or call Margaret Lake at 305-374-2444, ext. 222.

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*Spanish Harlem Orchestra*

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Music and dance lovers should mark their calendars now for an exciting fall season at the Gusman. Here are just a few of the performances currently scheduled (watch the Gusman [Web site](#) for ticket information):

**September 22 - Spanish Harlem Orchestra** has established itself as a standard bearer of contemporary Latin music. The 13-member all-star ensemble has reintroduced the classic sounds of New York City salsa to music lovers worldwide. United We Swing, SHO's third album, is a stunning follow-up to their 2004 Grammy award-winning album, Across 110th St., and their 2002 Grammy-nominated debut, Un Gran Día En El Barrio.

**October 26-27 - Ballet Gamonet Maximum Dance Company** returns to the Gusman with works by acclaimed choreographer Jimmy Gamonet De Los Heros, performed by his own company of dancers.

**October 31** - Fantasma Productions presents **Ben Harper**, whose music "puts a fresh perspective on Woodstock-era folk rock, 1970s soul and pretty much any other genre he comes into contact with," says one critic. His most recent album, Both Sides of the Gun, gained advance praise from Rolling Stone as the four-star work of a "natural-born superstar...finding transcendence in everyday places."

**November 16** - Rhythm Foundation presents **Youssou N'Dour**, the Senegalese singer and percussionist who is one of the most celebrated African musicians in history. His music mixes the traditional styles of his country with samba, hip hop, jazz and soul influences. Named one of the Time 100 in 2007, he has pioneered campaigns to fight malaria and improve the spread of technology in Africa.



*Ben Harper brings his band, the Innocent Criminals, to the Gusman on Oct. 31.*

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**Art Noriega**  
**Executive Director**

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The Miami Parking Authority is one of the organizations involved in the MOVN initiative. We are currently evaluating the impact of loading zone usage on downtown Miami traffic.

Possible tactics to help ease congestion include implementing weight restrictions on some downtown loading zones. This will ensure that the space is used only by large commercial delivery trucks, rather than by drivers of smaller vehicles who are simply dropping off documents or small packages. Another approach being considered is to institute time restrictions on certain loading zones so that vital traffic lanes are kept clear during the busiest times of day.

MOVN has also developed a multi-month public education campaign focused on improving driving behaviors and dispelling misperceptions about driving laws. For example, many motorists believe that if they are involved in an accident, they should not move their car until the police take a report. MOVN ads tell the real story: according to state law, drivers must make every reasonable effort to move a disabled vehicle or have it moved so it does not obstruct the regular flow of traffic, as long as the vehicle is moveable and there are no injuries.

As part of the overall MOVN program, the County has established a [Web site](#) to solicit ideas from the public on how to ease the traffic situation. To date, the County has received nearly a thousand ideas and inquiries. Parking is only one piece of the overall traffic puzzle, but it's an important piece - as always, we invite you to [contact us](#) at MPA directly if you have suggestions.

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