



BOCA RATON BEACH & PARK DISPATCH

December 2023 | *Official Newsletter of the Greater Boca Raton Beach & Park District*



2023: GROWTH AND PRESERVATION

From opening a new park, to increasing pickleball options, to making Boca Raton parks safer and more accommodating, December closes a busy 2023 for the Greater Boca Raton Beach and Park District.

Actions taken by District Commissioners significantly improved the Boca Raton Community's quality of life by preserving natural green space (Ocean Strand Park) and providing more ways to be athletic (additional lit tennis courts, additional pickleball courts, a new futsal surface).

And 2024 is already shaping up to be even more impressive. In the coming months construction crews expect to complete construction of Jacob's Outlook at the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, create a modern, inclusive playground at Patch Reef Park, and begin construction of a state-of-the-art pickleball facility that will be the hub of North Park.

[VIEW ACCOMPLISHMENTS](#)



Braves New World

Aidan Tropepe and the Boca Braves falling one point shy of attaining the improbable barely subtracts from achievements best classified as remarkable.

In his first season playing tackle football, Tropepe unexpectedly emerged as the Braves quarterback, leading the 14-under team to within a game of the American Youth Football national championship.

“That’s a little unheard of, a first year quarterback taking his team to the Super Bowl, but it wasn’t just me,” Tropepe said. “It’s the amazing group of guys we have.”

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Commissioners' Corner

Everyone who ever received a bicycle as a Christmas present remembers that morning. A doll given during Hanukkah could bring years, even decades, of happiness.

The holiday season is one of giving. Some of those gifts leave an indelible impression on those who receive them. The gifts bring joy, elicit fond memories, and foster love.

In this month's Commissioners' Corner, we asked each District Commissioner: What is the best gift you have ever received? We didn't limit them to a Christmas or Hanukkah present. Their answers appear below.

[CONTINUE READING](#)



Patch Reef Pickleball

More lighted pickleball courts are about to open at Patch Reef Park. Construction crews are nearly finished converting two more Patch Reef tennis courts into six new pickleball courts. Pickleball is widely recognized as the fastest growing sport in the nation. In 2021 the District first converted tennis courts to pickleball courts. Since then the demand for places to play one of the nation's most social sports continues to grow.



Holiday Events

District owned and supported parks are full of holiday spirit this season. Experience Gumbo Limbo Aglow! (photo) again on Dec. 15, and 22, from 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

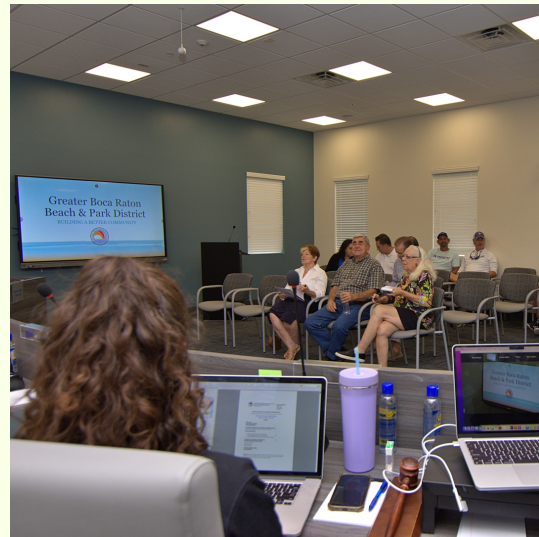
Upcoming Events Include:

- **Paint A Snowman** (Sugar Sand): Dec. 27, 11am, 1pm, 3pm
- **Build Edible House** (Sugar Sand): Dec 29, 11am, 2 pm
- **Noon Year's Eve** (Sugar Sand): Dec 31, 11am – 1 pm



Carousel Spins Again

Long a favorite of the Boca Raton holiday scene, the carousel at Sugar Sand Park is once again ready to take eager children for a spin. The carousel reopened for riders the day after Thanksgiving to the glee of many Boca Raton children. It is scheduled to operate every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Giddy Up!



Board Meetings Set

Have an idea regarding a District owned or supported park? District Commissioners would love to hear it! The public is invited to speak at public District Commissioner meetings. They are held two Mondays per month (except holidays) at the Boca Raton Swim & Racquet Club. Register online! View the entire 2024 schedule by visiting MyBocaParks.org.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

MONDAY DEC. 18

**Commissioners' General
Public Meeting, 5:15 p.m.**

TUESDAY JAN. 2

**Commissioners' General
Public Meeting, 5:15 p.m.**

TUESDAY JAN. 16

**Commissioners' General
Public Meeting, 5:15 p.m.**

**Meetings at Boca Raton Swim & Racquet Center
21618 St. Andrews Boulevard Boca Raton, FL**

Ode To Open Space

"I go to nature every day for
inspiration in the day's work."

– Frank Lloyd Wright,
architect.



LINKED INTO BOCA RATON

Searching for a fun way for your kids to spend winter break? At Sugar Sand Park's Winter Break Blast Science Camp children will explore the wonders of science within the Children's Science Explorium, enjoying activities, experiments, games, and more.

[Program Information](#)

**GREATER BOCA RATON
BEACH & PARK DISTRICT**
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[Send Us A Message](#)

Keep in Touch!



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