



BOCA RATON BEACH & PARK DISPATCH

September 2026 | Official Newsletter of the Greater Boca Raton Beach & Park District



North Park Construction Begins

Development of North Park's east side is officially underway.

Greater Boca Raton Beach and Park District Commissioners, representatives from Butters Construction & Development and local leaders ceremoniously launched development with a groundbreaking in early September.

"It means the end of the beginning, as we now have started putting our plans in place here with development," District Chair Bob Rollins said. "It's nice to see how far we've come with the site cleanup and the next phase is actually construction, so I'm looking forward to that."

Rollins addressed the gathering prior to all five Commissioners digging their shovels into the dirt.

A couple of months ago District Commissioners selected Butters Construction & Development to develop the 70 acres on the east side of North Park. That part of the project will include more than five miles of walking and riding trails, a dog park and a playground. Some trails will feature exercise equipment.

[READ MORE ABOUT NORTH PARK PROGRESS](#)



Boo Is Back In Boca

District parks are about to get much spookier.

Of the 14 Boca Boo Days events celebrating the Halloween season, 10 will occur at parks either owned or funded by the District.

Sugar Sand Park will serve as the site for four such events – Pumpkin Pals Make and Take, Ghostly Glows and Ghoulish Gases, Little Boos Storytime, and Creepy Crawlies at the Chickee Lab.

At the Oct. 17 Pumpkin Pals Make and Take held in Sugar Sand Park's community center, children ages 5-10 will create spine-chilling Halloween crafts. It runs from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. An hour-and-a-half later on that same Saturday more Halloween fun occurs just across the hall with the Ghostly Glows and Ghoulish Gases science demo at the Science Explorium. The free event, which begins at 3:30, promises a "spook-tacular science demonstration."

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Wright Makes Her Pitch

District Commissioner Erin Wright cocked her right arm, then swung it forward, ceremoniously launching the City of Boca Raton's fall youth softball season. The first pitch ceremony occurred on an early September Friday night at the Spanish River Athletic Complex, with mayor Andy Thompson behind the plate to catch Wright's toss. A former youth softball player, Wright delivered a strike to the mayor. For



Explore Life On The Edge

The Boca Raton community may never look at life the same way again.

On Sept. 25 Sugar Sand Park's Science Explorium will hold a sneak peek into Life on the Edge, the latest traveling exhibit to take residence in the community center.

Attendees at the two-hour event beginning at 6 p.m. will enjoy exclusive access to the exhibit, create a craft, participate in demonstrations and leave with a prize for completing their custom sneak peek passport.

The community is invited to drop into the sneak peek any time between 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. and explore at their own pace.

The exhibit promises to introduce visitors to some of the most crucial questions we face in our search for life, specifically: What is life? Life on the Edge explores extreme environments on Earth and the possibilities for life in outer space.

[CONTINUE READING](#)



Millage Rate Going Down

District Commissioners voted to give the Boca Raton community a tax break. At their Sept. 22 final TRIM meeting, Commissioners lowered the 2027 millage rate from 1.08 to 1.0331 mils. The millage rate is used to determine property taxes paid to the District. Under the adopted rate, homeowners pay \$1.0331 for every \$1,000 of their home's value as assessed by the Palm Beach County tax collector. Revenue

the first time this fall, the Spanish River Athletic Complex is serving as the home for Boca's youth softball leagues.

generated is expected to help fund projects such as the creation of additional fields at Spanish River Athletic Park and North Park development.



You Can Hear Me Now

Notice that cell phone reception at certain areas within Sugar Sand Park seems improved? There's a reason for that. Recently crews completed installing antenna boosters on the community center and field house roofs – and park visitors are already reporting significantly increased signal strength within and around those buildings. The new antenna greatly improves the ability to contact emergency services, if needed, from those buildings.

Boca Paddle Memberships

Boca Paddle is expected to open in November, and you can be a part of it. The Boca Raton pickleball community can now take advantage of [Boca Paddle's membership options](#). A limited number of memberships are available this year. Membership is not required to play. Day passes will also be for sale. Located within North Park, Boca Paddle will offer indoor and outdoor pickleball courts, padel courts, a dining area and viewing spots.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

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

MONDAY OCT. 19
Commissioners' General Public Meeting, 5:15 p.m.

MONDAY NOV. 2
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

"One touch of nature makes the whole world kin." - William Shakespeare, author



LINKED INTO BOCA RATON



Beginning this fall the Community Accessibility Program will have a new home within the Patch Reef Park community center. Dedicated to inclusive and adaptive recreation, CAP program organizers want to meet as many needs as possible. The link below takes followers to the CAP page. There you can participate in a survey about wishes and needs.

[View Program Details](#)

BEACH & PARK DISTRICT
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