



BOCA RATON BEACH & PARK DISPATCH

July 2025 | Official Newsletter of the Greater Boca Raton Beach & Park District



District Retires North Park Debt Early

Greater Boca Raton Beach and Park District Commissioners turbocharged plans to develop North Park when they voted unanimously to pay off the bond on the site's west side nearly seven years early.

The decision gives Commissioners the ability to move forward with design and development plans, and to pursue potential public-private partnerships more than half-a-decade ahead of the originally determined pace.

"I think what we did tonight was really a milestone in paying off the debt to the city," Commissioner Steve Engel said. "It frees our hand to entertain the thought of doing all the things we want to do on the west side."

In 2018 the District purchased the defunct Ocean Breeze Golf Course in the Boca Teeca section of east Boca Raton to help offset the city of Boca Raton's plan to sell its municipal golf course.

[READ MORE ABOUT NORTH PARK](#)



Top Youth Tennis Talent

While the top professionals were in England gunning for the Wimbledon title during the first couple weeks of July, many of their younger counterparts flocked to the Boca Raton Swim and Racquet Center for one of the most prestigious junior tennis tournaments.

“It’s a great facility,” Irvine, Calif., native Siddharth Bharadwaha said of the Racquet Center following a mid-morning victory. “The courts are really nice. Everything’s really well maintained. It’s a pleasure to play here.”

More than 500 junior players from around the nation entered the USTA’s National Clay Court Championship during the second weekend of July.

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Fabulous Fourth Fun

Christopher Cadagan and Sabrina Spellman flashed big grins when hoisting the trophies presented to them moments earlier.

Proving that pickleball is a sport growing in popularity with younger people, Cadagan, 22, and Spellman, 15, highlighted their Independence Day by winning the top division of Patch Reef Park’s Fabulous Fourth Liberty Cup pickleball tournament.

“It feels good,” Spellman said. “It was fun. It was a battle.”

Nearly 50 players participated in pickleball’s Liberty Cup, a mixed doubles tournament. Fans adorned in patriotic garb cheered loudly for their friends and competitors during the award presentations.

[CONTINUE READING](#)



Looking Up At Sugar Sand

Last year the District began replacing the roofs covering Sugar Sand Park buildings. Earlier this month construction crews began work on the field house roof, under which indoor basketball, volleyball and pickleball - among other sports – are played. The project is not expected to close the facility for play. Field house re-roofing is scheduled to be completed by year’s end. Recently workers replaced the roof over Sugar Sand’s community center. The roofs over the ball field buildings and picnic pavilions are also scheduled to be replaced as part of the preventive maintenance plan. The entire project is expected to be completed by the summer of 2026.



You've Got A Friend

The next Patch Reef pickleball tournament is aimed at building friendships across borders. The International Friendship Pickleball Tournament, which celebrates competition, camaraderie, and the global pickleball community, is slated for July 27. The tournament will feature singles, doubles and mixed doubles competition, with two divisions in each format. Registration closes on Thursday, July 24. Players can register at the Patch Reef Tennis Center, via a phone call, or online via [WEBTRAC](#). Tournament play begins at 8 a.m. for doubles and mixed doubles, 2 p.m. for singles.



Softball A Go At Sugar Sand

Last month this newsletter informed the Boca Raton community that District Commissioners [approved building softball fields](#) in an undeveloped portion of Sugar Sand Park. Earlier this month the Boca Raton City Council made it official, approving a contract to build as many as four softball fields in the northwest corner of the park. The need for new softball fields arose from Boca Raton's plan to rebuild its government campus. Doing so will remove the softball fields located at Memorial Park, creating the need for more youth fields.



Gumbo Limbo Upgrades

The Gumbo Limbo Nature Center also received its share of maintenance upgrades. Recently construction crews completed upkeep on sections of the boardwalk at the south entrance that leads visitors through the hammock. Those repairs were finished with minimal interruption to normal hammock access. Several buildings at Gumbo Limbo also received new roofs – part of scheduled preventative maintenance at the Nature Center. The District funded both projects. Gumbo Limbo remained open for visitors during the maintenance.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

MONDAY AUG. 4

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

MONDAY AUG. 18

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

WEDNESDAY SEPT. 3

**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

“The more civilized man becomes, the more he needs and craves a great background of forest wildness, to which he may return like a contrite prodigal from the husks of an artificial life.” – *Ellen Burns Sherman, author*



snap
the **park**

LINKED INTO BOCA RATON

You can play a role in choosing some of the best photography within Boca Raton parks. As part of the City's Centennial Celebration, Boca Raton's Recreation Services department is holding the Snap The Park photo contest. Online voting for the People's Choice Award runs from July 25-31.

[More About Snap The Park](#)

**GREATER BOCA RATON
BEACH & PARK DISTRICT**

Keep in Touch!

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