

BOCA RATON FORUM

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29, 2016

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DADS LOVE CARS



HAPPY FATHER'S DAY Many came out to enjoy the Sixth annual Mizner Park Downtown Drive Car Show for Father's Day. About 185 cars were admired by the public. From left, Erica Rubin, Jack Grant, Phyllis Grant and Lori Rubin from Boca Raton celebrated Father's Day at the event.

FPG PHOTO/MARTA MIKULAN MARTIN

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July Fourth events

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Fireworks are always the big draw at July Fourth celebrations in Boca and West Boca, and there's something new in both locations this year.

"We like to do something different every year, and the Klime Wallz Challenge is a 24-foot-high activity; there's only a few in the country," said Becky Self, the city's special events coordinator. Described as part climbing wall, part Ninja warrior training, the wall will be in the parking lot area of Spanish River Athletic Facilities/de Hoernle Park, 1000 NW Spanish River Blvd., where the activities will take place again. Live music and family activities start at 6:30 p.m.

At Sunset Cove Amphitheater in West Boca, The Garden Pops orchestra will

be synchronized with the 15-minute fireworks display at 8:45 p.m. and "there may be other surprises," said Donald Perez, manager of the amphitheater in Burt Aaronson South County Regional Park, 20405 Amphitheater Circle.

There's usually a two-hour concert, so balloon artists, face painters and jugglers will be among roving entertainers earlier in the evening, he said.

Parking is completely off site in the city at Boca Corporate Center, and there's a continuous shuttle from 5:30 p.m. People also can walk from the corporate center.

"Police are at the crossings to ensure safety," Self said. There's parking across the street from de Hoernle at the Spanish

River Library until that lot is full, she added.

But don't expect to hop on a trolley just to see the 21-minute fireworks display.

"Past history is, very large crowds show up and the lines reach capacity early. People cannot expect to get on a trolley at the parking facility just for the 9 p.m. fireworks," Self said. Trolleys will shuttle crowds afterward until the park is empty, usually by 10:15 p.m.

Parking is on site at Sunset Cove out west. The earlier arrivals will have the closest spots, Perez said.

"People set up tents and canopies and claim their spot by the lake," he said.

Staking out lakeside spots is common at de

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Date set for customs building groundbreaking

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After more than two years of planning, July 21 has been tentatively set for the groundbreaking of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Facility at Boca Raton Airport.

The date is about a

month after a 30-day notice to proceed was tentatively set to be issued on June 20, operations manager Mark Cervasio announced at the June 15 monthly meeting of the Boca Raton Airport Au-

thority. The month wait was set to ensure all the details are in place, he said.

The contractor West Construction Inc. based in Lake Worth will set up a construction trailer and

"now we're really ready to go," Cervasio said.

The expected completion date for the 4,400-square-foot building is May 16, 2017, and a planned final completion date is June 16, 2017, he

said.

West Construction, airport staff and the design and consulting team had a pre-construction meeting on June 8, Cervasio said. The following work items were approved: owl miti-

gation, gate 9 relocation further from the condo hangars and Florida Power & Light Co. infrastructure including conduits and transformer pads.

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Organic turf may be next for Patch Reef fields

Organic artificial turf will probably be the material of choice for three new fields set aside for Patch Reef Park, assistant director Briann Harms said after the June 20 meeting of the Greater Boca Raton Beach & Park District.

"That will be up to Motre," she added about the district's consultant on the project.

At the meeting, the dis-

trict approved transferring \$6.5 million originally earmarked for Phase II at Spanish River Athletic Facilities/de Hoernle Park in its current budget. That move kick started the dormant Patch Reef Park fields project. The district originally agreed with the city to use artificial turf in Patch Reef and natural turf in de Hoernle. Those plans are on hold pending a city-

district agreement.

Motre CEO and principal Tinu Pena was thrilled to hear Patch Reef Park plans were back on.

"I'm glad to hear they're reviving it, and my team and I will put our heads together," said Pena, who just announced she's running for District 86 in the Florida House of Representatives.

Motre studied organic

artificial turf as part of its report, she said. The district's review was released in January 2015 (mybocaparks.org). There were also public meetings on the turf vs. grass issue.

Motre had four recommendations in the 2014 report to the district.

"We didn't specifically recommend crumb rubber," Penu said, about the controversial material. The

firm also suggested phasing in artificial turf by doing one field first, then getting community feedback.

Whatever artificial turf Motre chooses and district commissioners approve will have to be part of the specifications, she said.

"There are standard criteria for turf and it has to be minimum standards to allow vendors to bid on the process," Penu said, add-

ing she has a landscape architect on the team who has experience with turf design.

The schematics are in place for the Patch Reef project "and we could possibly be under construction this fiscal year," district interim director and legal counsel Art Koski said at the meeting. "Motre is prepared to dust off their plans."

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Hoernle, too. The city will set up 400 chairs closer to the live music by the All Star Band, first come, first serve, Self said. Otherwise, blankets and beach chairs are recommended for seating in both places.

Food and drink are allowed in the city, but no alcohol or grills, Self said. The city will have 12 food vendors and food trucks, the newest Chick-fil-A, she added.

"We've asked all the vendors to limit their menu choices so they can serve

food quickly," she said.

Sunset Cove will have food and drink concessions inside the amphitheater and two dessert trucks just outside the gate.

"We will have fair-ground food and beer and wine," Perez said.

Pets are not allowed at

either venue.

"Our policy is pets are not permitted inside the gate, but we have a wonderful dog park next door; if you want to bring your dogs it's a three- or four-minute walk," Perez said.

The Kids Fun Zone returns to Sunset Pavilion

next to Sunset Cove and opens at 6 p.m.

"We have family sports, a two-craft corner, big games like giant Jenga and colossal Connect Four, among others. Four Square in the Air is a combination of Four Square and volleyball," said Susan

Foley, president of Innovative Leisure.

For the city event, visit myboca.us or call 561-292-7995. Visit facebook.com/SunsetCoveAmphitheater or 561-488-8069 for the Sunset Cove event.



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