



## 'Rockin' with Santa' and 'Holiday Village' Highlight Holiday Celebration Second Weekend of December



The City of Oakland Park will extend its annual Holiday Celebration to three days December 9th through 11th.

The festivities commence with a free Music on Main Street **"Rockin' with Santa"** concert in front of City Hall Friday, December 9, from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. Featured performers will be the eight-piece "Solid Brass Band" performing Classic Rock and R&B songs from the 60's through the 80's. The evening will open with a performance by the Florida Singing Sons boys choir.

In addition to the lighting the City's Christmas tree and Menorah, other highlights of the event include visits with Santa Claus, Santa's Snow Village, La Cocina Klaus, bounce houses and some of South Florida's favorite food trucks.

New this year will be Oakland Park's **"Holiday Village"** just north of the Downtown Culinary Arts District in Jaco Pastorius Park. Stroll through a festive marketplace with holiday treats, gifts and arts & crafts. Attendees can enjoy both events via the new Jaco Grand Plaza public promenade between the Downtown area and the park.

Oakland Park's Holiday Village is a family-friendly event that is free and open to the public. Daily entertainment will be performed by local school bands and chorus groups. The schedule includes the Florida Youth Orchestra, School of Rock Coral Springs, and Broward Center Spotlights with performances on Saturday and Sunday from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday's headline band is "Wildfire" featuring Randi at 4:30 p.m. and Sunday's featured attraction is the "Mr. Nice Guy" band at 4 p.m.

The Holiday Village will also feature a Children's Corner sponsored by Holy Cross Hospital on Saturday and The Home Depot on Sunday. Visits and selfies with Santa are scheduled both days. Artists, crafters, and culinary artisans will comprise the marketplace with culinary demos by local Oakland Park restaurants Saturday and Sunday from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Food trucks will be in the Holiday Village food court.

A Christmas tree decorating competition will have 30 local businesses competing in three categories for Best Tree honors. A people's choice category is also slated with event attendees able to vote for their favorite tree. The decorated trees will be donated to special needs families in Oakland Park.



Holiday Village hours are:

- **Friday, December 9: 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.**
  - **Saturday, December 10: 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.**
  - **Sunday, December 11: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.**
- Call 954-630-4251 to learn more.

**Toy Drive** – Anyone attending "Rockin' with Santa" or visiting "Holiday Village" can bring an unwrapped toy for a child or teen. Collection boxes are also at City Hall, the Ethel M. Gordon Oakland Park Library and Oakland Park Fire Rescue stations. All toys will be donated to The Light of the World free medical clinic in Oakland Park. Call 954-630-4316 to learn more.

**Santa Express** – Have Santa deliver a parent-provided toy(s) to your children from a shiny red firetruck instead of a sleigh Saturday, December 17. The deadline to arrange a toy delivery to your home is Thursday, December 15. Parents can make arrangements by calling 561-901-3026. Off-duty Oakland Park firefighters will donate proceeds to help brighten the Holidays for Oakland Park's families in need.



## Oakland Park Accepting Applications for 2017 Local Government Academy



The 2017 Oakland Park Local Government Academy offers an in-depth opportunity to learn how each department and the City Commission work together to help make Oakland Park a better place to live, work and play.

Applications for the 2017 Local Government Academy (LGA) are accepted from anyone residing or working in Oakland Park. The LGA will meet 10 consecutive Thursdays from 6 to 9 p.m. beginning January 12, 2017. Tuition is free and the class is limited to 25 applicants.

Past graduates of the Local Government Academy include all five current City Commissioners, as well as several past mayors.

"The LGA equips citizens with the knowledge to serve as community leaders," Mayor John Adornato states. "And the program is a wonderful way for citizens to learn more about city operations."

Many agree that the LGA has been a significant factor in Oakland Park ascending to greater heights.

"LGA graduates become engaged and inspired ambassadors for our City and take a more prominent role in Oakland Park," explains Director of Parks and Leisure Services Heidi Burnett. "From becoming active in their homeowner or neighborhood association to serving on City Advisory Boards to following the path to elected office, the LGA provides people with a platform to help chart the course of Oakland Park's future."

To apply, go to the City's website and complete the City Advisory Board application. Submit your application by **December 23** to join a dedicated group of citizens interested in learning how their local government functions. To learn more, call Heidi Burnett at 954-630-4510.

## Mayor and City Commission

City Commission meeting scheduled for December 14 at 6:30 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers.

Live streaming at [www.oaklandparkfl.gov](http://www.oaklandparkfl.gov)  
Comcast Channel 78  
AT&T U-verse Channel 99

Agendas and backup online at [www.oaklandparkfl.gov](http://www.oaklandparkfl.gov)



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## Plaza at Prospect & Andrews Undergoes Major Enhancements, Including Facade Improvements



Oakland Park recently celebrated the completion of the new parking lots and other enhancements at The Plaza at Prospect & Andrews with a ribbon cutting.

Plaza enhancements include attractive new signage, parking lot upgrades, and beautiful new landscaping and visually appealing exterior facades to help market the businesses.

The new parking lots on both sides of Andrews Avenue total 273 spaces with new bike racks on each lot. To ensure safety and add ambience to the plaza, 20 decorative lamps were installed to illuminate the parking area.

In keeping with Oakland Park's continuing commitment to build the tree canopy, more than 100 new trees and 5,500 shrubs were planted throughout the two parking lots. Both parking lots have a "Charge-Point Level 2" station that can charge 2 electronic vehicles at a time.

At least 12 plaza businesses have benefitted from close to half a million dollars in façade improvements – nearly \$300,000 from the property owners and supplemented with approximately \$175,000 in City funding.

Oakland Park was successful in requesting and receiving a more than \$1.1 million dollar Broward County Redevelopment Program grant to upgrade the Plaza's infrastructure with the primary focus on new parking lots to improve drainage, help traffic flow and provide better accessibility to our residents with special needs.

## Quiet Zone Groundbreaking at Oakland Park's NE 38th Street/Park Lane East Rail Crossing



Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Board Members, Oakland Park city officials and partners from Brightline celebrated the start of quiet zone construction at Oakland Park's NE 38th Street grade crossing. This is one of the crossings along the Florida East Coast (FEC) Railway upgraded with the infrastructure improvements to implement a quiet zone between the cities of Hallandale Beach and Deerfield Beach.

Per federal statute, conductors are required to blow horns as trains approach at grade crossings to notify motorists and pedestrians. When a quiet zone is in place, supplemental safety measures are installed at the grade crossings, replacing the train horn unless there is an imminent threat on the tracks.

The \$4.2 million investment allocated by the Broward MPO covers the quiet zone improvements at 20 grade crossings and additional pedestrian improvements at 18 grade crossings.

As part of its investment, Brightline is upgrading all 66 grade crossings in Broward County. More than 65 percent of the work has been completed on the rail infrastructure required for the new passenger rail service. Brightline officials project their new passenger rail system to launch in mid-2017.

The quiet zone will help improve the quality-of-life for tens of thousands of residents residing in close proximity to FEC rail crossings. At over 26 miles, this will be the longest single quiet zone in the United States.

## Voters Re-Elect City Commissioners Tim Lonergan and Sara Guevrekian Matthew Sparks Wins Third City Commission Position in Election

The November 8th election saw three (3) candidates elected to the City Commission.

According to the certified results, the three highest totals of the nine City Commission candidates were:

- **Tim Lonergan** with 15.34% (4,414 votes)
- **Sara Guevrekian** with 14.57% (4,192 votes)
- **Matthew Sparks** with 12.83% (3,693 votes)

They were administered the oath of office at the 2016-2017 Organizational City Commission meeting held November 30, 2016.

## Parks and Leisure News & Notes

**Adult Coloring Club** – Adults 18 and above are invited to join the “Vibrant Colors Adult Coloring Club” at the Ethel M. Gordon Oakland Park Library. Participate in monthly creative coloring to stimulate your mind and relieve your stress. All coloring materials will be furnished by the Library, but participants are welcome to bring their own. Light refreshments are provided.

**Date:** December 3 (first Saturday of the month)

**Time:** 3:30 to 5 p.m.

**Location:** 1298 NE 37 Street

**Fee:** Free to all participants

**Phone:** 954-630-4374

**Friends of Library Book Sale** -- Shop for literary bargains at the annual Holiday “Used Book Sale” in the Marie Wright Room of the Ethel M. Gordon Oakland Park Library. A large volume of titles representing a diverse range of fiction and non-fiction are available in this clearance sale, as well as books on CD, music CD's and DVD movies. Proceeds from the Book Sale are used to help fund library improvements.

**Dates:** Friday, December 9 (9 a.m. to 5 p.m.) Saturday, December 10 (10 a.m. to 3 p.m.)

**Location:** 1298 NE 37 Street

**Phone:** 954-630-4370

**23rd Annual Tennis Tournament** – The Oakland Park Kiwanis Club and the City's Parks and Leisure Services staff will hold their 23rd Annual Tennis Tournament at the Dillon Tennis Center. The tournament –featuring three divisions of men's and women's doubles -- will be held on 8 clay courts. The entry deadline is December 7th.

**Date:** Saturday, December 10 & Sunday, December 11

**Location:** Dillon Tennis Center, 4091 NE 5 Avenue

**Fee:** \$30 per team with trophies awarded to finalists

**Phone:** 954-561-6180

### Urban Farming Institute (UFI)

**Update** – Cook your holiday meals with locally-sourced produce from the weekly “FarmShare” program and market table, including butternut squash, baby chard, pac choy, arugula and lettuce from the Discovery Farm in Jaco Pastorius Park. Discovery Farm staff is out cropping early Saturday morning, so this means that your UFI product will be just hours old when you pick up your FarmShare or market produce.

**Date:** Saturdays

**Location:** Urban Farming Institute at Jaco Pastorius Park

**Time:** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Phone:** 954-696-9577

## Oakland Park Makes a Big Splash With Jaco Grand Plaza Project Featuring Illuminated Fountain



This beautiful Jaco Grand Plaza project expands the City's premier event space Jaco Pastorius Park and serves as the northern gateway to Oakland Park's thriving Downtown Culinary Arts District.

The Plaza – with its decorative fountains and archway – provides a convenient pedestrian connection with Oakland Park Main Street (NE 12th Avenue) via the artistically-

designed public promenade. The Plaza includes a set of fantastic arching fountains so you can experience a relaxing “walk under water” effect on your way to and from the park. The fountains provide nighttime illumination in a rainbow of colors.

Bench seating around the fountains make an ideal locale for socializing, accessing Oakland Park's free Wi-Fi or enjoying a quiet respite from your busy day.

At the northern end of the Plaza project, a bronze archway welcomes everyone into Jaco Pastorius Park with its twin archway serving as the bookend for the south entrance of the Downtown Culinary Arts District.

The Plaza's grand opening event featured the Puro Mariachi Band and refreshments from Oakland Park's popular Mexican & Salvadoran taqueria El Guanaco and the adjacent Funky Buddha Brewery.

## Proud to Be Oakland Park Business Awards

The Proud to be Oakland Park Business initiative was created to represent the values of people, progress and pride. Businesses are recognized for:

- Marketing/branding their business location as Oakland Park
- Featuring Oakland Park in their packaging/corporate identity
- Engaged in community enhancement efforts

The following businesses were presented Proud to be Oakland Park Business awards by the City Commission on November 30, 2016:

- Allied Kitchen & Bath, 3484 NE 12th Avenue
- Cielito Lindo Tres, 91 E Prospect Road
- El Guanaco, 331 NE 44th Street
- 45th Street Bakery, 1950 NE 45th Street
- Oakland Park Academy, 870 NW 34th Street
- Prodecotech, 1201 NE 38th Street, Suite B-1
- Scandinavian Builders, 482 West Prospect Road
- Stout Bar & Grill, 3419 N. Andrews Avenue
- Wolfe Real Estate Group, 1400 E. Oakland Park Blvd., Suite 201

Businesses receive a storefront award decal, an award logo to use on company communications and announcements in City publications.



## Interested to Know What's Happening in Oakland Park?



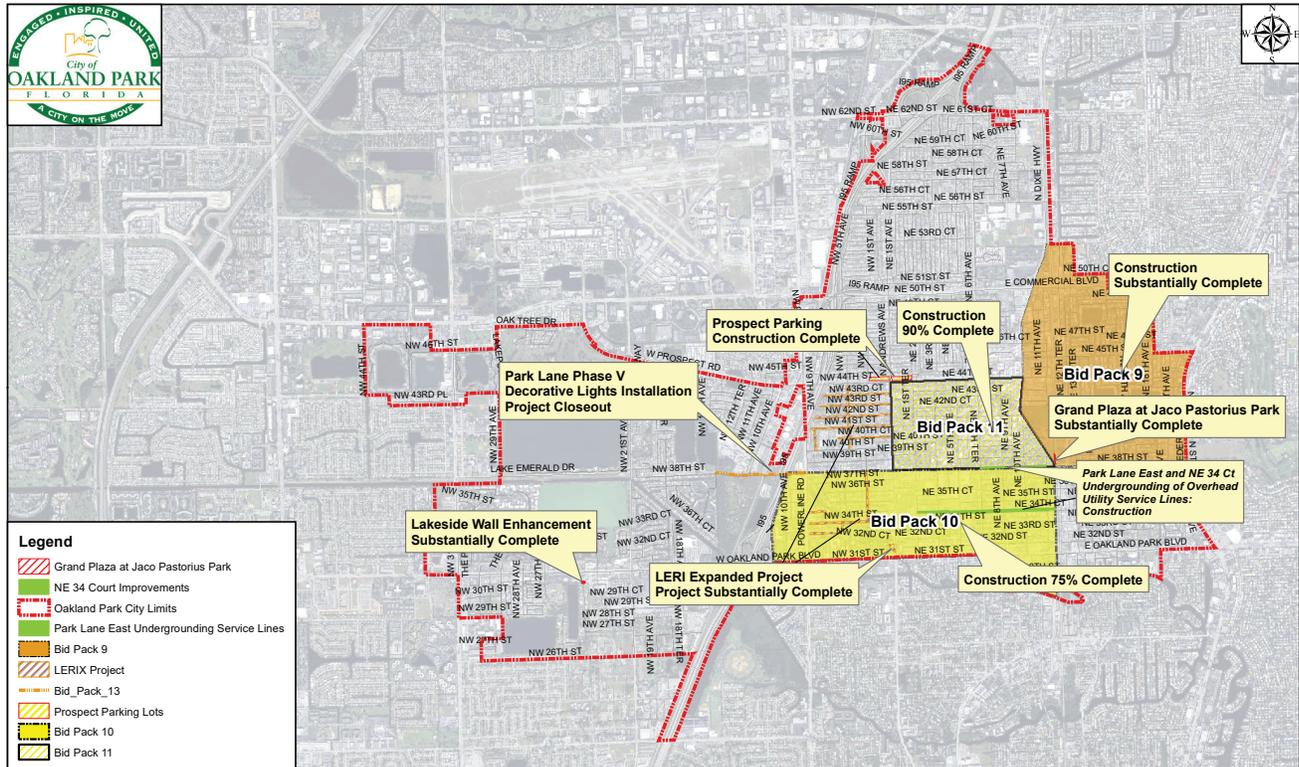
“Notify Me” for a variety of email and text alerts ranging from cultural events and meeting agendas to construction projects and traffic detours. Click on the “Notify Me” icon on the City's homepage and select the items that interest you.

Oakland Park offers a variety of outlets to subscribe or access alerts & updates that help keep residents and businesses better informed. Weekly email updates, the monthly Oakleaf and semi-annual Oakland Park LIVE are posted online under the website's “Our Community” tab. In addition, interested parties can subscribe to the online City calendars and



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## Projects Under Construction December 2016



Projects Under Construction	Location	Status
Prospect Road/Andrews Avenue Parking Lots	NE and NW side of intersection of Andrews Ave. & Prospect Rd.	Substantial Completion
Lakeside Neighborhood Enhancement	The north end of NW 24th Ave. adjacent to the north property line at NW 28th St.	Substantial Completion
Grand Plaza at Jaco Pastorius Park	Jaco Pastorius Park	Substantial Completion
LERIX Drainage Improvements	Between Oakland Park Blvd. and Prospect Rd. and Powerline Rd. and Andrews Ave.	Substantial Completion
Bid Pack 9 - Infrastructure Improvements	Between Dixie Hwy. and Federal Hwy. North of Park Lane to City Limits	Substantial Completion
Park Lane East & NE 34 Ct Underground Service Lines & Pole	Park Lane from NE 11 Ave. to NE 6 Ave & NE 34 Ct from NE 11 to NE 2 Ave	Dec-16
Bid Pack 1 - Phase 4 Inflow & Infiltration Lining	Citywide within service area as needed	Dec-16
Bid Pack 10 - Central Zone South of Park Lane	Between I-95 and Dixie Highway south of Park Lane to City Limits	Mar-17
Bid Pack 11 - Central Zone	East of Andrews Ave., West of Dixie Hwy., North of Park Lane East/NE 38th Street	May-17
<b>Other Agencies Projects Within City Limits</b>		
FDOT 3R Resurfacing of Oakland Park Blvd	Between NW 31 Ave. and NW 10 Ave.	Substantial Completion
<b>Project changes from last month</b>		
<b>Update</b>		
Park Lane East Underground Service Lines & Pole Relocation & NE 34 Ct Undergrounding of Service Lines	FPL, AT&T and Comcast have transferred all service lines underground on Park Lane East. PM is working with FPL to expedite transfer on NE 34 Ct and the relocation of poles on Park Lane East.	
LERIX Drainage Improvements	Contractor original plan for setting gate structure did not work and had to be redesigned. Pumps have been installed and project is substantially completed.	
Bid Pack 9 Infrastructure Improvements	Project substantially completed November 2016.	
Bid Pack 10: Central Zone South of Park Lane	Time extension granted due to rain days and approved change orders.	
Grand Plaza at Jaco Pastorius Park	Project is substantially completed. Successful Grand Opening event held on November 4, 2016.	

### Holiday Schedule for Trash, Recycle and Bulk Collection

City of Oakland Park Solid Waste services will proceed with the regular collection schedule on November 24, 2016 (Thanksgiving), November 25, 2016, and on January 2, 2017.

In observance of the Christmas holiday, there will not be any collection services on Monday, December 26, 2016. Garbage, recycling, and bulk collection will resume on Tuesday, December 27, 2016. To learn more, please call 954-630-4452.

