



CITY OF OAKLAND PARK

OAKLEAF COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2019

An official publication of the City of Oakland Park



Oakland Park's 62nd Annual Youth Day March 9th Grand Marshal Announced for Downtown Parade

Oakland Park will present its 62nd Annual Youth Day on Saturday, March 9, 2019. The City's signature celebration of its youth features Broward County's longest-running parade led by elected officials, community groups, local schools and athletic teams.

This year's parade – featuring the circus theme "Under the Big Top" – begins at 10 a.m. from Jaco Pastorius Park, proceeds south on Dixie Highway, turns west on NE 38th Street, north along NE 5th Avenue and finishes at the Wimberly Field Athletic complex for a day of carnival-style fun and entertainment capped off by a spectacular fireworks display.

The primary parade viewing opportunities are the City's West Dixie lots at NE 38th Street and the area along Stevens Field and the Giusti Heart walking/jogging trail at NE 6th Avenue.

The Parade's Grand Marshal is Oakland Park Elementary School 4th grade teacher Matthew D. Burton. Mr. Burton is a highly-accomplished teacher earning Oakland Park Elementary Teacher of the Year in 2017, the Governor's Shine Award for Inspiration in Teaching in 2018 and is a master coach for other teachers.

Wristbands for unlimited rides can be purchased in advance for \$15 or at the event's ticket booth for \$20.

For more information about Youth Day, including parade registration and Little Miss Oakland Park entry, please call **954-630-4500**.



Library Offers Free Tax Return Preparation

Residents can have taxes prepared for free through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program at the Ethel. M. Gordon Oakland Park Library. IRS-certified volunteer tax preparers provide free basic income tax return preparation and determine an individual's eligibility for special tax credits. This service is available for qualified individuals at the Library on Mondays (2 to 5 p.m.), Tuesdays (1 to 4 p.m.) and Saturdays (9 a.m. to 2 p.m.) with the service not available March 26th.



Taxes Easy Free | Prepared by IRS Certified Volunteers

For more information
call 2-1-1 or 954-537-0211
www.VITATaxesFree.org

Before going, make sure to call the Library at 954-630-4374 or 954-630-4378 to find out the list of items you need to bring in preparation for your visit. The program is made available through the Hispanic Unity of Florida and services are provided in English and Spanish. The Library is located at 1298 NE 37 Street.

In the 2018 tax season, more than 6,000 Broward County taxpaying working families and individuals took advantage of the VITA program and had their income taxes prepared by trained VITA volunteers. More than \$6 million in taxes were refunded to working families.

Mayor and City Commission

City Commission meetings are scheduled for **March 6 & 20** at 6:30 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers.

Comcast Channel 78
AT&T U-verse Channel 99

See agendas & backup, livestreaming, minutes and videos of prior meetings at: www.oaklandparkfl.gov



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STUDENTS OF THE QUARTER AWARDS

Oakland Park's "Student of the Quarter" recognition is an initiative of the City's School Advisory Board. Each quarter, Oakland Park schools select one accomplished student in the areas of academics, behavior, and attendance. Elementary schools select a 5th grader, the middle school selects an 8th grader and the high school selects an 11th grader.

The "Character Counts" award is an initiative of the Oakland Park Afterschool Care Program. One student is selected from Spiher Recreation Center and North Andrews Gardens Recreation Center. The students are recognized for meeting the elements of good character in the Character Counts Program.



Students of the Quarter:

- Avery P., a 5th grader from Floranada Elementary School
- Alexander R., a 5th grader from Lloyd Estates Elementary School
- Kayden D., a 5th grader from N. Andrews Gardens Elementary School
- Janara A., an 11th grader from Northeast High School

Character Counts Awards:

- Damon B., from the Spiher Recreation Center
- Nicholas S., from the N. Andrews Gardens Recreation Center

Oakland Park Adds Bahama Breeze to its Culinary Offerings

The Mayor and City Commissioners recently helped Bahama Breeze cut the ribbon for its new 12,138-square-foot restaurant open at 3339 N. Federal Highway just north of Oakland Park Boulevard.

The Oakland Park Bahama Breeze -- led by General Manager Jesse Declé -- features the company's latest restaurant design. The new rustic look is comparable to a sugar mill in the islands and inspired by sugar cane made into Caribbean rum. The restaurant accommodates more than 400 guests and created 150 jobs in our community.

Bahama Breeze serves Caribbean-inspired dishes reminiscent of the islands, including favorites such as Beef Empanadas and Jerk Chicken Pasta, along with a wide variety of handcrafted tropical drinks.



PARKS and LEISURE NEWS

Waterway Cleanup March 2 -- Oakland Park will participate in the 42nd Annual Waterway Cleanup on Saturday, March 2. Check-in begins at 8 a.m. at the City's J. Dewey Hawkins Landing boat ramp/kayak launch (2960 NE 12th Terrace south off Oakland Park Blvd.) with the cleanup from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Help clean Oakland Park waterways and improve wildlife habitats. You do not need a boat or kayak to help clean up the waterways and shorelines. Reminders:

- Volunteers can sign up at: waterwaycleanup.org and **select Oakland Park**
- Free refreshments and T-shirts provided (pre-register to ensure your size)
- Gloves provided, but you may bring your own to ensure proper size
- Trash bags provided
- Please remember to wear closed toe shoes, sunglasses, and sunscreen
- Wear clothes that you don't mind getting a little wet or dirty
- Community Service hours are available
- For more information, call **954-524-2733**

Citywide Yard Sale March 16 -- Take advantage of the shoppers attracted by numerous tables located in a single venue on March 16. It is an occasion for everyone to make some extra money by selling their unwanted goods or find some new treasures. To reserve your space, please call **954-630-4500**. Resident: \$10 single space, \$5 each additional space and non-resident: \$20 single space, \$10 each additional space. More than one person may share a space.

Location: Jaco Pastorius Park

Date: Saturday, March 16

Time: 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Firefighter's Egg Hunt April 20 -- The Oakland Park Firefighters' Benevolent Association will host its annual free Easter Egg Hunt at Royal Palm Park on April 20. At approximately 9:45 a.m., the Easter Bunny will arrive by fire engine at the park's south entrance to start the Easter Egg Hunt at 10 a.m. Children ages 12 and younger are invited to participate and should bring a basket or bag to hold the eggs. For more Easter Egg Hunt information, please call **954-235-7639**.

Location: Royal Palm Park

Address: 1701 NW 38 St./Park Lane West

Date: Saturday, April 20

Free Event



Dancing in the Street April 26 -- Join us for a mile-long block party along Oakland Park Main Street (NE 12th Avenue between NE 38th Street & Oakland Park Blvd.). This free cultural event will feature a diverse array of live musical performances, including jazz, funk, acoustic, Top 40, country, rock, salsa, merengue and more. Dancing in the Street will also have many of your favorite food trucks and some fun family-friendly activities. Call **954-630-4500** or visit the City's website for a list of musical performers, food trucks and other information.

Location: Oakland Park Main Street (NE 12th Avenue)

Date: Friday, April 26

Time: 6 to 10 p.m.

Free Event

City Completes Urban Tree Canopy Planting Project Grant Funding Awarded for Enhancement of Stunson Nature Trail



The City of Oakland Park completed its most recent Urban Tree Canopy Planting Project at Stunson Nature Trail.

The objective is to increase the City's overall tree canopy by focusing on planting native tree species throughout the nature trail.

USDA Forest Service funded the project through the Florida Forest

Service's Urban and Community Forestry Grant Program. The Florida Urban Community Forestry Grant Program awarded funds to organizations and municipalities enhancing urban and community forestry programs. Oakland Park's \$7,000 grant was matched by \$7,000 in municipal funds.

The grant funding assisted the City in planting of more than 70 trees representing a wide variety of species, including Slash Pine, Bald Cypress, Dahoon Holly, Live Oak and Cabbage Palms throughout the park.

Spring Break Camp Registration Opens March 4



The City's Parks and Recreation Department will offer its annual "**Spring Break Camp**" for elementary and middle school children March 22 – March 29 from 7:30 a.m. to 5:45 p.m.

The Spring Break Camp will be held at two locations. Children grades K-2 will attend North Andrews Gardens Community Center (250 NE 56th Court) and children grades 3-8 will attend at Spiker Recreation Center (1246 NE 37th Street).

Parents can register their children in the Parks and Leisure Services office at City Hall, at either of the two camp locations or online. The Spring Break Camp fee is \$60 per week (resident) and \$80 (non-resident). Children must bring their own lunch and snacks.

Activities include sports, arts and crafts, games, movies, and exciting field trips to "Off the Wall" and "Chuck E. Cheese" (field trips are an additional cost).

For more information on the City's Spring Break Camp and other public school child care programs, please call **954-630-4500**.

3650 NE 12 Avenue,
Oakland Park, FL 33334

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City of Oakland Park Event & Activities March 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
UPCOMING EVENTS IN APRIL						1
April 20: Firefighters' Egg Hunt , Royal Palm Park, 9:45 a.m.						2
April 26: Dancing in the Street , Oakland Park Main Street, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.						Waterway Cleanup , J. Dewey Hawkins Landing, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
3	4	5 Property Tax Exemption Assistance , City Hall, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Unsafe Structures Board , City Hall, 7:30 p.m.	6 General Employees' Pension Plan Meeting , City Hall, 9 a.m. City Commission Meeting , City Hall, 6:30 p.m.	7 Bond Community Meeting , Jaco Pastorius Comm. Center, 6:30 p.m.	8	9 62nd Annual Youth Day Celebration , Wimberly Field
10	11 Planning & Zoning Board , City Hall, 6:30 p.m.	12 Civil Service Board , City Hall, 6 p.m.	13	14 Code Enforcement Board , City Hall, 6:30 p.m.	15	16 Citywide Yard Sale , Jaco Pastorius Park, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Park Cleanup , Lakeside Sand Pine Preserve, 8:30 a.m. to Noon
17	18	19 Special Magistrate Meeting , City Hall, 3 p.m.	20 City Commission Meeting , City Hall, 6:30 p.m.	21 Bond Community Meeting , Jaco Pastorius Comm. Center, 6:30 p.m.	22	23
24	25 School Advisory Board , City Hall, 5:30 p.m.	26 Board of Adjustment , City Hall, 6:30 p.m.	27	28 Beautification Advisory Board , City Hall, 5 p.m. Art & Culture Board , City Hall, 6 p.m.	29	30

Meetings & Events Listing *(subject to change)*

- March 2: **Waterway Cleanup**, J. Dewey Hawkins Landing, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- March 5: **Property Tax Exemption Assistance**, Oakland Park City Hall, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- March 5: **Unsafe Structures Board**, Oakland Park City Hall, 7:30 p.m.
- March 6: **General Employees' Pension Plan Meeting**, Oakland Park City Hall, 9 a.m.
- March 6: **City Commission Meeting**, Oakland Park City Hall, 6:30 p.m.
- March 7: **Bond Community Meeting**, Jaco Pastorius Comm. Center, 6:30 p.m.
- March 9: **62nd Annual Youth Day Celebration**, Wimberly Field
- March 11: **Planning & Zoning Board**, Oakland Park City Hall, 6:30 p.m.
- March 12: **Civil Service Board**, Oakland Park City Hall, 6 p.m.
- March 14: **Code Enforcement Board**, Oakland Park City Hall, 6:30 p.m.
- March 16: **Citywide Yard Sale**, Jaco Pastorius Park, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- March 16: **Park Cleanup**, Lakeside Sand Pine Preserve, 8:30 a.m. to Noon
- March 19: **Special Magistrate Meeting**, Oakland Park City Hall, 3 p.m.
- March 20: **City Commission Meeting**, Oakland Park City Hall, 6:30 p.m.
- March 21: **Bond Community Meeting**, Jaco Pastorius Comm. Center, 6:30 p.m.
- March 25: **School Advisory Board**, Oakland Park City Hall, 5:30 p.m.
- March 26: **Board of Adjustment**, Oakland Park City Hall, 6:30 p.m.
- March 28: **Beautification Advisory Board**, Oakland Park City Hall, 5 p.m.
- March 28: **Art & Culture Board**, Oakland Park City Hall, 6 p.m.

Watch for your Spring-Summer issue of **"Oakland Park LIVE"** magazine arriving in the mail soon. This 40-page guide to enjoying the best of what Oakland Park offers serves as a helpful resource to many residents.

Addresses:

- Oakland Park City Hall, 3650 NE 12 Avenue
- Ethel M. Gordon Oakland Park Library 1298 NE 37 Street
- Jaco Pastorius Park, 4000 N. Dixie Hwy
- Collins Community Center, 3900 NE 3 Avenue

Telephone Numbers:

- Parks & Leisure Services: 954-630-4500
- Ethel M. Gordon Oakland Park Library: 954-630-4370
- Oakland Park City Hall: 954-630-4200