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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LIGHT UP DOWNTOWN BOCA KICKS OFF WITH ANNUAL HOLIDAY FESTIVAL ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21 FROM 5:30 P.M. – 9:30 P.M.
Highlights Include Oversized SnowGlobe, Artificial Ice Rink, and “Bouncy,” the World’s Largest Snowman

BOCA RATON, FLORIDA (November 16, 2018) – *Light Up Downtown Boca*, a series of winter holiday festivities including parades, concerts and more, kicks off on **Wednesday, November 21** at Mizner Park Amphitheater (MPA), 590 Plaza Real, from 5:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. with a **FREE Holiday Festival** culminating with the City of Boca Raton’s and Mizner Park’s annual tree lighting ceremony.

The event will include **FREE** carnival rides, an artificial ice rink, Bouncy, the World’s Largest Snowman – a bounce house standing 30 feet tall, *Santa’s Circus* variety show, carolers, stilt walkers, aerial performances, letters to Santa station, photos with Santa (\$5 each), carnival food for purchase, and more!

The highlight of the evening will be the ceremonial lighting of the City’s tree led by Mayor Scott Singer that will illuminate simultaneously with Mizner Park’s 47-foot animated tree at the south end of the center near Lord & Taylor and followed by a spectacular fireworks display above the MPA.

Throughout Mizner Park, 50,000 LED lights will adorn 75 palm trees; poles will be laced with garland; lights and four wreaths (each 60” in diameter) will be placed throughout the center; garland will be swooped throughout the gazebos and the valet parking station – all of which will be decorated with lights and holiday trimmings.

Located at the south end of the center near Lord & Taylor, Mizner Park’s “iTree” consists of more than 32,000 life-like PVC branches, red & gold bows, ornament clusters and 25,000 clear & multi-colored LED lights. There will be 20-minute musical light shows performed nightly at 6 p.m., 7 p.m., 8 p.m. and 9 p.m. starting on Wednesday, November 22 and continuing through the holiday season. The tree will be illuminated for photo opportunities between shows.

Your favorite Mizner Park restaurants will be open with special seating options offering great views of the holiday decor, lights and fireworks. Please contact the restaurants directly for more information.

The event is sponsored by the City of Boca Raton, Mizner Park, and WPBF-TV.

The **48th Holiday Street Parade**, themed “Sights and Sounds of Broadway,” will be **Wednesday, December 5** from **7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.** beginning at Federal Highway and SE 5th Street, traveling north to the Mizner Park Amphitheater. More than 75 floats and groups will entertain viewers as they bring dance, lights and song to Federal Highway in Boca Raton.

Sunday Jazz Brunch at the Mizner Park Amphitheater on **Sunday, December 9** from **11 a.m. to 2 p.m.** is a free event to feature live music with some holiday favorites and pop-up vendors for holiday shopping. The event is free and open to the public.

Following the Jazz Brunch, enjoy **FAU’s Tuba Christmas** with music starting at **5 p.m.** Tuba Christmas concerts will be presented in 250 cities throughout the world, including Boca Raton. Enjoy the tradition of holiday music performed by tubas and euphoniums, started by Indiana University Professor Harvey G. Phillips. FAU's Sean Murray brings this tradition to the Boca Raton community for its sixth annual presentation.

The **42nd Annual Holiday Boat Parade** on **Saturday, December 22** will begin at **6:30 p.m.** and light up the waterways from the C-15 Canal to the Hillsboro Bridge with viewing areas at Silver Palm Park, Red Reef Park, and the Wildflower Property. Free boat entry with \$10,000 in cash and prizes with many categories in which to win. Vessels of all sizes are welcome to enter the parade through December 14 at bit.ly/BocaBoatParade.

Attendees are encouraged to walk, bike, car pool and use free parking at City Hall, the Boca Raton Library and Downtown Boca Library.

For more information visit www.myboca.us/specialevents or call 561.367.7073.

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