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Square theater to say final goodbye

Last day of movie showings at AMC West Palm Beach 12 are announced

Wayne Washington
Palm Beach Post
USA TODAY NETWORK

The movie theater at The Square, AMC West Palm Beach 12, is closing Sunday night, an indication of the big plans a developer has for the entertainment and shopping district.

The closing date was confirmed by Ryan Noonan, AMC Theatres' vice president for corporate communications.

"AMC regularly evaluates its locations and potential opportunities outside of its circuit and makes decisions to close or acquire locations on a theatre-by-theatre basis based on what will best strengthen the company going forward," Noonan wrote in an email.

Related Cos., a New York-based company that built The Square, plans to construct two office towers on the Hibiscus Street site now occupied by the movie theater. The developer plans to build another office tower on Fern Street next to the Brightline train station.

There are no movie times listed after Sunday at AMC West Palm Beach 12, according to the theater website.

Palm Beach County wants to see more hotel space in the area to accommodate the nearby Palm Beach County Convention Center.

West Palm Beach recently approved technical land use changes that would accommodate Related's plans and those of the county.

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There are no movie times listed after Sunday night at AMC West Palm Beach 12 at The Square.

LANNIS WATERS/PALM BEACH POST



Police Chief Frank Adderley speaks at a block party on Spruce Avenue April 21, as part of the West Palm Beach Police's "Pray Until Something Happens" initiative. PHOTOS BY HANNAH PHILLIPS/THE PALM BEACH POST

Police, citizens unite for cause

Pleasant City event part of crime-solving initiative

Hannah Phillips
Palm Beach Post
USA TODAY NETWORK

WEST PALM BEACH — Pleasant City residents spilled into the street Friday, blasting gospel music at one end and sharing barbecue at the other. Police officers stood among them, their own plates heaped high with food — peacekeepers-turned-partygoers for one night only.

The West Palm Beach Police Department hosted Friday's gospel-infused block party as part of Operation PUSH, or "Pray Until Something Happens," a new approach to bringing homicide investigations to a close. There have been more than 140 unsolved murders in and around Spruce Avenue since 2015, police chief Frank Adderley said Friday.

"We're praying tonight for closure in those cases. We're praying for the family of those victims," he said into a microphone. "... Don't give up. We're going to make a positive change. God bless you."

Police hope prayer can bring closure to crime victims' families

The party kicked off before sunset between 18th and 19th streets on Spruce Avenue and ended just before midnight. Each time Adderley walked from one end of the street to the other, outstretched arms greeted him — some to shake his hand, or clap him on the back, or to pull him close and share a concern.

The street racers, one man said. Couldn't he do anything to slow them down? Drivers blow through stop signs here like "bats out of hell," a mother said, a hand on her daughter's shoulder ready to snatch her back at a moment's notice. Only teen bicyclists zipped through the crowd Friday, popping wheelies with ease.

Sgt. Joseph Preusz watched the party unfold with his arms crossed. He's been here several times before, though normally in response to domestic violence complaints or shootings, he said.



Thirteen-year-old Leah Davis flashes two peace signs at a block party on Spruce Avenue April 21.



A child laughs as her neighbor spins her around in an office chair at a block party on Spruce Avenue.

"I've been a Christian my whole life, so seeing them involve the local churches means a lot," the sergeant said. "These are the people who live here — they know more about what goes on here than we do. They can make a bigger change than any police can."

Even to the faithless, the police department's presence on Spruce Avenue was meant as an outstretched hand Adderley hopes residents will grasp

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Boy, 16, faces murder charge in area shooting

Report: Teen's DNA discovered at scene where victim's body found

Julius Whigham II
Palm Beach Post
USA TODAY NETWORK

WEST PALM BEACH — A 16-year-old boy is being charged as an adult in the fatal shooting of a 32-year-old man this month in suburban West Palm Beach.

Law-enforcement officials transferred the teen to the Palm Beach County Jail on Monday to face one count of second-degree murder. The Palm Beach Post is not naming the teen, who lives near West Palm Beach, because he is a juvenile.

The Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office has not identified the man who was found shot to death in the parking lot of the Meadowbrook mobile-home community on the 1500 block of Drexel Road, between Belvedere Road and Okeechobee Boulevard.

Deputies found him on the morning of April 1 in the driver's seat of a 2022 Chevrolet Tahoe SUV. A witness reported seeing the vehicle in the clubhouse parking lot a day earlier and hearing two gunshots.

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'Angry Patriot Hippy' gets 18 months for threats to kill FBI agents

Hannah Phillips
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USA TODAY NETWORK

WEST PALM BEACH — Suzanne Kaye collapsed in the courtroom and began to convulse after a federal jury convicted her of threatening to kill FBI agents last year. On Friday, only her hands shook when the judge sentenced her to prison for it.

The 61-year-old Century Village resident, known as "Angry Patriot Hippy," posted three videos online promising to shoot FBI agents in the "(expletive) ass" after they arranged to meet with her to discuss her possible involvement in the Jan. 6 assault on the U.S. Capitol.

The videos were unserious, her attorneys argued, posted haphazardly to TikTok, Facebook and Instagram for the benefit of her conservative following — not to threaten the FBI. Though there is no evidence Kaye intended to carry out her warning, federal prosecutors insisted that all threats against law enforcement "should not be tolerated, full stop."

The jury agreed. Their verdict triggered a 25-minute series of seizures on the courtroom floor on June 29, 2022, and subsequent hospitalizations delayed Kaye's sentencing for nearly a year. During that time, her attorneys compiled record after record to argue that Kaye has been penalized enough for her political speech.

U.S. District Judge Robin Rosenberg sentenced the Boca Raton-area woman to 18 months in prison Friday despite warnings from her attorneys that the penalty might kill her.

'Angry Patriot Hippy' attorney argued posts were protected speech

Rosenberg's decision followed a lengthy debate between a public defender and prosecutor still at odds over whether Kaye's speech was protected by

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