



# Countryside Living...

A PERIODIC PUBLICATION OF THE DONALD ROSS LANDOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

JOIN US FOR THE 5th ANNUAL  
PALM BEACH COUNTRY ESTATES

## ★ Fourth of July ★ Community Parade & Celebration

July 4th, 2016 11:00am-3:00pm

JOIN US FOR FREE FOOD, FUN, AND GAMES!

- **FREE FOOD** - Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Ice Cream and Apple Pie served
- **PARADE - Please Join the Parade!** - Feel free to walk in the parade OR if you have an interesting vehicle (car, tractor, lawn mower, bike, etc) and would like to include it in the parade, please do!
- **FLOATS:** If you have or want to make a float, let us know!
- **BIKE PARADE (for Kids of all ages)** - Kids and adults are invited to decorate their bikes for a small parade around the park walking path.
- **WEAR YOUR RED, WHITE, & BLUE!** - If you live along the parade route, please put out your American flags, come out, invite your friends and cheer for the parade participants!

### PARADE ROUTE:

Gather at the Living Oaks Church on 64th Dr at 10:30am.  
At 11:00am, West on 140th Ln to 69th, and North on 69th ending at Margaret Berman Memorial Park

### ◆Volunteers Needed◆

### QUESTIONS?

Call Ken Trapasso at 561-578-9323

## Message from President Ken Trapasso

First of all, I would like to thank everyone who came to the annual meeting for supporting my bid for President. My top three goals as President will be to clean up the litter in the estates, to better maintain our sidewalks, and to redo the front entrance. First, this is where we live. As residents we should all pitch in to keep Palm Beach Country Estates neat and clean. So when you go for a walk, take a bag with you and pick up stray pieces of litter. I do this on my daily walk. Second, the sidewalk down 69th Drive needs to be maintained and cleaned. Also, the sidewalks

### Officers and Committees

#### Officers:

President -	Ken Trapasso	578-9323
	TrapassoK@comcast.net	
1st Vice President -	Tim Brown	748-0709
	TJBrown10@comcast.net	
2nd Vice President -	Jason McFarland	951-9977
	Jason.T.McFarland@gmail.com	
Treasurer -	John Jones	408-2503
	John@JJonesCPA.com	
Secretary -	Bob Berman	627-1118
	BobBerman@comcast.net	

#### Committees:

Newsletter -	Kevin Baker - Editor/Ads	748-3376
Neighborhood Watch -	Cindy Divine	744-8122
	Divinelabs@aol.com	
Park/Playground -	Sheri Murray	601-1647
	Chris Reinhardt	762-1281
	Sarah Applegate	741-1140
	Bob Berman	627-1118
Mom's Club -	Rose Moon	
	rdlouca@yahoo.com	
July 4th & Beautification -	Ken Trapasso	578-9323
	trapassok@comcast.net	

#### Information:

Website -	<a href="http://www.mypbce.org">www.mypbce.org</a>	
Facebook Page & Group name -	Please Like & Join:	
	Palm Beach Country Estates Neighbors	
Park/Playground -	<a href="http://www.twistypinesplayground.org">www.twistypinesplayground.org</a>	
Neighborhood Watch -	<a href="mailto:pbcenw@aol.com">pbcenw@aol.com</a>	
COP Patrol -	Martin Spiro	371-4485
	LineDancer50@bellsouth.net	
	Bob Berman	627-1118
SIRWCD -	<a href="http://www.sirwcd.org">www.sirwcd.org</a>	747-0550
Equestrian -	Kerie Franco	762-7988
	Kerie_Hudson@yahoo.com	
Webmaster -	Bob Berman	627-1118



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## Donald Ross Landowners Minutes Tuesday, May 17, 2016 - Annual Meeting and May Meeting

The May DRLA meeting was called to order at 7:33pm by Kevin Baker. Also in attendance: 2nd Vice President Kevin McFarland, Secretary Ellen Meehan, and Treasurer John Jones. The 1st Vice President Carol-Sue Ryan did not attend.

**PBSO:** Deputy Russell spoke and introduced Deputy Casey, who is replacing Deputy Harper. He reported that there was one residential burglary in PBCE since the March meeting, 2 vandalism incidents, and 3 auto burglaries - all 3 cars were unlocked.

**ANNUAL MEETING Election:** Annual elections were held as required in the by-laws. Kevin called for any proxy votes to be turned in, and encouraged residents to run for office. Jason McFarland ran the election with the following results:

President Austin Gregg 561.644.0249		Licensed and Insured
<b>CORNERSTONE</b> Landscape Management Inc.		
P.O. Box 1783 Jupiter, FL 33468 Austin@cornerstonelandscapfl.com		

<h3>Neighborhood Watch</h3>
Think Safe! If you see Suspicious Activity Call: PBSO Non-Emergency Dispatch: 561-688-3400. If you see a crime in progress call: 911.
<h3>COP Program</h3>
Martin Spiro (561) 371-4485 LineDancer50@bellsouth.net & Bob Berman 627-1118
Please consider joining the COP.

**PRESIDENT:** Ken Trapasso was nominated by Bob Berman who presented a valid proxy vote for Ken. Kevin Baker was nominated and declined the nomination. Ken was elected by a unanimous voice vote.

**1ST VICE PRESIDENT:** Jennifer Gusikoff was nominated by Bob Berman and declined the nomination. Tim Brown was nominated by Kurt Hiller - elected by unanimous voice vote.

**SECRETARY:** Bob Berman was nominated by Jennifer Gusikoff - elected by unanimous voice vote.

Congratulations and Thank You to our New Board Members!!

**MAY MEETING:** Meeting was called to order at 7:52 by outgoing President, Kevin Baker. Guest Speakers: The following individuals are all running for office in the upcoming August election. Each spoke to the residents regarding their position of interest, background, qualifications, and platform. We appreciate  
*Continued on Page 3*

Gary Poland	Chuck George
<b>P.T.L. LAWN MAINTENANCE</b>	
“Quality is out Service- Lawns are our Business”	
Palm Beach Country Estates Resident	
561-386-0884	FREE ESTIMATES

	<i>Living Oaks Church</i>
	Sunday Worship Service 10:30AM
	We welcome you to join us! Ministries available for the whole family.
	Please check us out on the web! <b>www.LivingOaks.org</b>
14156 64th Drive N. Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418	

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## Donald Ross Landowners Minutes

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these candidates taking the time to address our community.

### Judicial Candidates:

Marni Bryson - Incumbent County Court Judge, Seat 7

Lisa Grossman - Candidate for County Court Judge, Seat 7

Robert Ostrov - Candidate for Circuit Court Judge, Group 1

Bradley Harper - Candidate for County Court Judge, Group 15

Ettie Feistmann - Candidate for County Court Judge, Group 15

**Other Candidates:** Dorothy Jacks - Candidate for Palm Beach County Property Appraiser  
William Abramson is a candidate for Palm Beach County Public Defender (Democrat).  
Jonathan Chane is a candidate for US House of Representatives, District 18 (Democrat).



Be sure to research these candidates and vote in the upcoming elections.

**Treasury Report:** The Association has \$17,920 in the operating account and \$11,995 in the legal account.

**Secretary Report:** The minutes from the January meeting were printed in the Newsletter - approved as published. March and May minutes will be in the next newsletter.

**Old Business: SIRWCD:** Kevin Baker announced that he will be running for the SIRWCD Board of Supervisors for the seat which will be left open by Mike Danchuk. Kevin has been on the DRLA Board for 17 years and wants to continue to contribute to our community through SIRWCD. The election will take place this summer.

**Email List:** Give the Secretary your email to be included on the PBCE DRLA email blasts. Residents are also encouraged to like the

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## Donald Ross Landowners Minutes

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PBCE Facebook page.

**July 4th Celebration:** Thank you to Ken Trapasso who has agreed to organize our Annual PBCE July 4 Celebration and Parade. Please contact Ken if you can be a sponsor or volunteer. Watch for signs and email announcements.

**Trash:** We hope to have more community clean-up events but residents can contribute regularly by just cleaning up the trash that lands on your property and in your section of the neighborhood. Thank you to those who do so!

**New Business:** July Meeting: Two speakers have agreed to speak at our July Meeting: Laurie Albrecht will speak on invasive plant species, and Carey Haughwout - incumbent candidate for Public Defender.

**Zoning and Rehab Facilities:** A resident expressed concern for a property in PBCE that is a rehab facility for teenage boys. Bob Berman clarified that there are actually six such facilities in PBCE since there are no restrictions or regulations governing such facilities. Concerned residents should contact the County Commissioners on this issue.

**ATVs, Dirt Bikes, Golf Carts:** Some residents are not happy with the new enforcement of laws prohibiting use of said vehicles on our dirt roads. They are looking into this issue in depth to find options which allow continued responsible use of such vehicles in PBCE, in accordance with the general nature of this neighborhood.

Meeting was adjourned 8:52

Submitted by Ellen Meehan, Secretary

### **Tuesday, March 8, 2016**

Meeting was called to order at 7:35pm by President Kevin Baker. In attendance: Presi-

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## 2016 DUES Still Just \$35

If you have not yet paid  
your 2016 dues,  
please do so now.

Your \$35 is payable to:  
Donald Ross Landowners' Association  
PO Box 30638  
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33420

If you prefer to pay by credit card,  
please use the Pay Dues button on  
<http://pbce.org/>.

## Message from the President

*Continued from Page 1*

down 75th Ave, 150th Ct, and 155th Pl require better edging of encroaching grass. Lastly, the entrance to our community should make a bold statement. That means better lighting and prettier vegetation. Look for these changes to come very soon.

I love hosting events and our annual celebration of the 4th of July is coming on us fast with residents flying American flags. The July 4th Parade and Barbeque at Margaret Berman Memorial Park will be from 11 AM to 3 PM. Please plan to attend this free event in our park. We will have hamburgers, hotdogs, apple pie, and ice cream. A bike parade will be held in the park for the youngsters. The larger parade of fun vehicles and adults on bikes will gather at Living Oaks and travel down 69th Drive to the park. Please line up along the parade route to see them all roll by. A bounce house will be at the park for the children to enjoy. We need volunteers. Please call my wife Debbie at 561-254-4664 with questions or if you would like to help. Bring some chairs and enjoy a great time getting to know your neighbors. We hope to see you there.

Please come to the next bi-monthly meeting on July 12th to meet the new board and thank Kevin Baker for his long service to our neighborhood.  
Sincerely, Kenneth Trapasso, President

## Donald Ross Landowners Minutes

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dent Kevin Baker, 1st Vice President Carol-Sue Ryan, Treasurer John Jones, and Secretary Ellen Meehan; 2nd Vice President Jason McFarland was not able to attend.

**Security Report:** The Sheriff's Office presented their update to the PBCE community. There has been two property crimes in PBCE in the last 60 days: one in a vacant house where boxes of flooring were stolen and cell phone tower batteries were stolen. This sheriff's report only includes property crime and not other police calls such as fights.

**Guest Speaker:** Jim Kovalsky spoke to the community about computer security. He is the President/Owner of HonestWare 561-972-8546, a computer optimization company in Jupiter, FL, in business since 1988. His

business provides all computer hardware, software, security, web development and network solutions. With the viruses, computer crashes, and ransomware in the computer environment, Jim provided insight into keeping your computer data safe. Important points included: Back up your computer - you will need it, Just say "no" - do not open unknown messages attachments and don't download updates to software working fine or not used, beware of people trying to "steal" your personal data and information.

**Treasurer's Report:** The new Treasurer, John Jones, was introduced. He has been a resident of PBCE for 18 years and is CPA with an office on PGA. The association has \$11,177 in the operating account and \$11,985 in the legal account. The 2015 Dues Letter will be sent out shortly.

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# Donald Ross Landowners Minutes

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**Secretary's Report:** The minutes from the previous meetings were printed in the Newsletter - approved as published. The position of Secretary will be open for election at the May Annual Meeting if any residents are interested in running for this position. The position requires producing and publishing the meeting minutes and keeping the records for the organization.

**Old Business SIRWCD:** Resident Mike Ryan spoke for SIRWCD. The 25th Annual Landowners Family Day hosted by SIRWCD will be this month in Jupiter Farms. There will be BBQ, music, children's events, and local community and government representatives. It is open to all residents of PBCE.

SIRWCD continues to address important issues such as general maintenance, water back-ups, upgrading culverts and road maintenance. The election cycle for the Board of Supervisors is coming up again this summer. Mike Ryan will be up for re-election and Mike Danchuk, previous President, will be retiring from the Board. New pavings will be going up to bid shortly - local businesses are encouraged to bid.

**Speeding vehicles:** A resident asked about the possibility of speed tables in PBCE to slow down speeding vehicles. This is a county issue and they are consistently reluctant to use them; most people react negatively to the possibility of speed bumps. Residents

expressed concern about some school buses that are speeding in PBCE. Please contact the School District if you witness speeding school buses. You can also call the Police non-emergency Number 688-3400.

**New Business Main Roads:** Residents complained about the poor maintenance by Palm Beach County of the main roads including Donald Ross, 69th and 155th. The county is responsible for these roads and some feel they are in poor condition and need paving and painting. The person to call at the County is Carlos at 561-233-3950.

**Park Tables and Benches:** We are in the process of purchasing additional picnic tables and benches for the Park.

**Annual Meeting:** Our next meeting is our Annual Meeting on the 3rd Tuesday of May. We will have our election of officers.

Meeting was adjourned 8:23pm

Submitted by Ellen Meehan, Secretary

## Get your business noticed!

To place an ad in the Countryside Living Newsletter- Submit camera ready ads to Carol-Sue Ryan at [ca.sueryan@yahoo.com](mailto:ca.sueryan@yahoo.com)

Business card size ad 3.625 x 2 @ \$50  
1/4 page ad 3.625 x 5 @ \$95  
1/2 page ad 7.5 x 5 @ \$185

Disclaimer: Ads do NOT imply endorsement by Donald Ross Landowners' Assn or its board.

We are creating a new Who's Who list for our website. Email Bob Berman your PBCE resident owned business contact information.

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## Message from Outgoing President Kevin Baker

Upon finishing my term as President last month, the occasion marked seventeen years since I first volunteered to join the Donald Ross Landowners' Association Board of Directors as Treasurer. Back in 1999, I had just completed my Master's Degree in Finance from Nova Southeastern and at my first Landowners' meeting Mike Danchuk asked if anyone wanted to fill the open post of Treasurer. I introduced myself and offered to join the board. Our treasury had so little money that I needed to loan the association money to pay for a mailing to ask residents to pay their \$15 membership dues in our first-ever dues letter. Back then, we didn't yet have a park, sidewalks, or a water system. As a community we came together to landscape our front entrance planting trees, installing irrigation, and planting grass seed. We took turns getting to drive the mini-bobcat. A number of years later, after our board met with the Palm Beach County Roads Department about the anticipated widening of Donald Ross Road, we returned to the front entrance, dug up the trees we planted, and saved them for our park. Thank you to everyone that joined us at all the fundraisers we did for the park. I especially enjoyed manning the roulette wheel for our casino nights and directing the tour busses to pick up & drop off everyone for our multi-house party Tour of PBCE evenings. Serving as Treasurer then 1st Vice President under, my mentor, Mike Danchuk, was very educational in both neighborhood meeting content and decorum. Presiding over our largest ever meeting, when water lines were being debated, I made sure that everyone in the over-capacity crowd had their chance to speak regardless of my opinion or theirs. We do live in an increasingly polarized world where people too often talk past each other instead of with each other with civility and respect. I pride myself in listening with an open mind to people whose ideas differ from mine. When I get accused of being too friendly with both Mike & Carol-Sue Ryan and Bob Berman, I know I am doing my best to get along with everyone. For the record, I am completely impartial when it comes to road paving. I living on 155th, a county road not subject to the South Indian River Water Control District (SIRWCD) petition & referendum process. I have never sold any real estate for myself or others. In full disclosure, I was the one who came up with the idea & exact language for a dirt road petition to inform SIRWCD when more than half the residents on a road want a moratorium against repeated paving referendums that are guaranteed to fail. Numerous roads in the district have the protection of paving-referendum moratoriums in place. This saves everyone money by avoiding the cost of a doomed referendum when more than half the residents on a road have stated in advance that they will always vote "No" on paving. Another way I saved money for PBCE is also an accomplishment I am very proud of. Seventeen years ago, I questioned why our association was filing and paying taxes as a for-profit corporation when nobody was profiting. Once taking over a President, the decision was mine to convert to 501c4 non-profit tax status. So money not owed in 2015 taxes and all the years to come can now be spent for the benefit of Palm Beach Country Estates. As I shift my focus to serve our community in other ways, I look forward to seeing the great things that the incoming board of Palm Beach Country Estates Landowners' Association will do with the flush Treasury I left them. Be well, Kevin



# VOTE KEVIN BAKER FOR SIRWCD SUPERVISOR

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- Supported by outgoing SIRWCD Board member Mike Danchuk
- For higher level of service including having SIRWCD clean canals of small debris that is ugly and bad for the environment.
- For changing SIRWCD statute to require district residency for all five board members where two board members would be selected just by PBCE, two selected by just Jupiter Farms, and one resident supervisor selected by the entire district that must alternate between PBCE & Jupiter Farms.



Political advertisement paid for and approved by Kevin Baker for SIRWCD Board

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