

Countryside Living...

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

New Boat Ramp



Some residents have brought up the idea of a small boat ramp in the C-18 Canal that runs behind our neighborhood for the use of our community. Since this canal is surrounded by protected Natural Areas, the ramp would be limited for use of up to 25 Horse Power. Its intended use would be for "Jon Boats", Canoes, and similar small boats for fishing or passive sight seeing (not Bass Boats or Jet Skis).

We need to gauge the interest in such a boat ramp among our community to see if the effort of construction and the cost of insurance is warranted. Anyone with an interest in seeing this happen should contact Mike Ryan at a1aei@bellsouth.net or 747-3233. The more people who respond, the more likely we can make it will happen.

Park Update



Have you checked out the park site lately? The site has been cleared and cleaned and is now being maintained regularly by SIRWCD who is the current owner of the property. The next steps in the process are going to be to have the parking lot put in place and the exterior buffer of trees put in place per county requirements. These are two very important steps and the progress of these steps will depend very heavily on the community's support in terms of fundraising and donations. The park committee

is currently accepting bids for the construction of the Parking lot. If you are a licensed and insured paving contractor and would like to bid on this project please Contact Bob Berman via email at: bobberman@comcast.net or go to his office on Donald Ross Rd. to obtain the specs of the project for bidding. The deadline for accepting bids is March 31st 2010.

Citizen Observer Patrol

The Citizen Observer Patrol (COP) is a volunteer program sponsored by the Sheriff's Department for people who want to take it to the next step. It is the largest program of its kind in the United Sates with over 4,000 volunteers. They provide a car marked just like a Sheriff patrol car that volunteers can patrol our neighborhood with. The COP Program provides our area with substantial visibility to deter crime. A volunteer may not spot the crooks, but the crooks are going to notice that car and hopefully go elsewhere.

To become a COP volunteer is fairly simple. After you are cleared through a background check you will attend a three hour class followed by three "ride-alongs" with a COP trainer. That's it!

Volunteers are asked to do three hour patrols. Retired people are asked to patrol once a week. Working people

Officers and Committee Members

Officers:

President - Chris Reinhardt	762-1281
reinharm@bellsouth.net 1st Vice President - Kevin Baker	748-3376
Kevin.Baker@thestreet.com	004.4047
2nd Vice President - Sheri Murray sherirmurray@gmail.com	601-1647
Treasure - Kevin Parkes	441-2855
parkescpa@yahoo.com Secretary - Merry Lunsford	747-7841
racekeegan@yahoo.com	171.1041

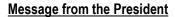
Committees:

Newsletter Editor/Ad	vert. – Sheri Murray	601-1647
Neighborhood Watch - Cindy Divine		744-8122
COP Patrol & Disaster Assistance- Bill Bolds		626-7638
Entrance - Kirk Humphreys		748-4595
Beautification - Valerie Rozzo		743-3290
Car Shows - Scott Rice		723-5552
Helping Hands - Par	Helping Hands – Pam Malone	
Welcoming - Arie Strobel		748-6784
Sidewalks – Mike Danchuk		626-2530
Mom's Club - Sara Nakashian		748-7744
Park/Playground –	Sarah Applegate	741-1140
,,,	Sheri Murray	601-1647
	Chris Reinhardt	762-1281
	Tim Brown	676-5527
	Bob Berman	627-1118

Information:

Landowners Association - www.myPBCE.org
Park/Playground - www.twistypinesplayground.org
Neighborhood Watch - pbcenw@aol.com
SIRWCD - www.sirwcd.org
747-0550
Equestrian - Beverly Bean 575-4411
bbceninc@bellsouth.net
RV/Camping Club - Connie McCormick 744-2938

Cont. Pg 2





The roadwork on Donald Ross has been completed and Jog Rd. will soon be open. There seems to be a great deal of confusion as to

which lane our residents are supposed to be using to turn onto 69th Dr. The County designed the road so our residents would have a dedicated turn lane onto 69th. That is the right turn lane. This lane is for people to turn onto 64th, 67th 69th and all the houses along Donald Ross Rd.

The county's intensions were for traffic in the left lane to access Jog Rd. ONLY, via the roundabout. Cars should NOT be using the left lane to turn onto 69th. This is creating a traffic hazard. The only cars coming onto 69th from the roundabout are cars that were coming from the west, from the new Jog Rd. extension. Then they would come around the roundabout and onto 69th. There should only be a few cars doing this throughout the day. This is the only time cars should be using the roundabout to access 69th and the only time there would be a merge issue.

I have seen the traffic problem first hand. The way it is now, cars are using both the left and right lanes to turn onto 69th from Donald Ross, creating a hazard as cars try to race around the corner and merge onto 69th. Technically, cars should not be merging at all. The county installed two yield signs, one by the left lane and one by the right lane as you approach the roundabout. This means you MUST YEILD to the car on your left. If you are in the left lane you must yield to the car in the roundabout. If you are in the right lane you must yield to the car on your left already turning onto 69th. I know, this means if you are in the right lane (the correct lane) and turning onto 69th you must STOP and let the cars on your left (who are in the wrong lane) go first. Drivers on Donald Ross Road must be aware that traffic may stop at either of these yield signs and not rear-end each other. And yes, I know, this defeats the whole purpose of keeping traffic moving in the right dedicated turn lane. I have asked the county to put a merge sign on the right lane so cars don't have to come to a complete stop if cars are approaching from the left and legally they could just merge.

The solution to this whole issue is **DON'T USE THE LEFT LANE TO TURN ONTO 69**th. And if you happen to be in the right lane and someone is in the left lane, be the bigger person and let them go by first. Maybe they are new to the area and don't know. Maybe they just need to get home that whole 30 seconds faster. Who knows and does it really matter? All that really matters is everyone gets home safely and without having an "accident."

One last thing, I'd like to thank Kevin Baker for helping me weed and trim the bushes around the west entrance sign and help repair the east sign. Things had grown up quite a bit around the west sign since Joey the Eagle Scout had worked on it. Now that construction on Donald Ross has been completed we will be looking into hiring a landscaping company to mow and trim the two front entrance signs. If there are any interested residents who own landscaping companies contact one of the board members. I have been working on repairing the east wooden sign getting it

ready to be repainted. This is just a temporary fix for this sign, as the only thing holding it together is Bondo and paint. We are planning on getting quotes for three different styles of signage. One, the same carved wood look we already have, second, raised letters against the wall in a nice typeface and the third may be the sign company's suggestion. We are then going to put the three choices up on the PBCE website and let residents vote which style they like best. The front entrance signs are the first things people see when they come into our community. We want them to give the best impression we can of the community that we all love.

But, cost is also an issue. The Donald Ross Landowners Association's only source of revenue is the yearly dues. Dues letters went out last month. If you haven't paid yours already, please consider doing so. I know times are tough right now, but your \$35 will help pay for our new sign, lawn maintenance, electricity and water for the landscaping, electricity at some of the lights in the neighborhoods major intersections, insurance and the newsletter, which helps keep our neighborhood informed and connected to issues that concern us all. Palm Beach Country Estates is such a unique and great place to live!

Thank you,

Chris Reinhardt - President

Citizen Observer Patrol Cont.

are asked to patrol at least every other week. Many people patrol more than that. It's easy and it's a relaxing way to get out of the house.

One of the benefits offered to the community by the COP Program is House Checks. If you are going on vacation, you can ask the COP to check on your house while you are away. Each time a COP Unit is in the area they will drive by and make sure everything looks okay. The House Check list is kept confidential and available only to the COP.

For more information you can access the Sheriff's Dept website at www.pbso.org and see community services. You may also contact Mike Ryan at a1aei@bellsouth.net or 747-3233

Neighborhood Watch Program Update

Many of you already know that Palm Beach Country Estates now has a Neighborhood Watch Program. After a rash of crimes last summer residents decided it was time to take a stand. The Program's primary goal is to raise awareness. Here is how you can help.

First and foremost, sign up for the e-mail alerts. You can get on the list by sending your information to: PBCENW@AOL.COM. It helps communications if you provide your name, address, phone number, and of course your e-mail addresses. You will then receive a list of contact Cont. Pg. 3

Neighborhood Watch Program Update Cont.

information of other neighbors as well as contacts in the Sheriff's Department. Alerts are sent out to everyone on the list of suspicious activity or crime that is currently happening or has happened. Most people are initially surprised to see the amount of activity going on out here.

The second thing you can do is patrol your street and your neighboring streets. This is as simple as going for a walk or a bike ride just to keep an eye out for suspicious activity. This can be a family activity. It's a good way to get to know your neighbors. Crooks aren't as likely to strike on a street that has people out in plain view. Some people take it a step further and cruise the neighborhood in their cars.

Next you can take positive actions to protect yourself. Along with the alerts, tips are also sent out. One of the more common crimes is vehicle burglaries. This is carried out mostly by neighborhood youths. It almost always happens to unlocked cars. LOCK you cars. Don't leave any valuables in your car. These people are stealing cell phones, I-Pods, laptops, cameras, even loose change. They sometimes take your garage door opener to come back later and rob your house.

Keep your garage doors closed. Thieves drive by, see what you have, drive around the block and come back by, jump out and grab what they can. They're gone in less than a minute.

Other pro-active things you can do are to get an alarm system and USE it. Fenced yards are a good deterrent with a gate. Some people rap chain around their gate just to create extra hassle/noise by people coming in. After that, a dog helps keep unwanted people away. It doesn't have to be a mean dog as much as a dog that just barks when people arrive.

Joining our Neighborhood Watch and following these few steps will make our neighborhood safer and more enjoyable for all of us.

If you see suspicious activity you can call the Sheriff's Dept Non-Emergency number 688-3400.

PBCE Equestrians Win First Place



PBCE equestrians won 1st place (again) in the Jupiter Farms Annual Holiday Parade this year. The theme was organized by residents Kerie and Dan Franco. We had a large group of horses representing the values of the holiday season including love, prosperity, peace, and happiness. JJ the 29 year old Santa Horse pulled the traditional buck- board cart with music, presents and decorated trees.

The banner for PBCE was decorated with many 1st and 2nd place ribbons we have won for our community over a decade of participation. The oldest ribbon was dated 1996.

Beu

Living Oaks Ministries Church of God

14156 64th Drive North Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418 Pastor Larry Richardson 561- 627-9288

Sunday Morning Worship @ 10:30AM

Bible Studies and Mid Week Services for all ages Come join us!!!!

Check our website @ www.livingoaks.org



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Donald Ross Landowners Association

Minutes - January 19, 2010

Meeting was called to order a 7:33 by President Chris Reinhart. In attendance Kevin Baker Vice President, Sheri Murray 2nd Vice President, Kevin Parkes Treasury, Merry Lunsford Secretary.

<u>Treasury Report:</u> We have a total of \$8,376.22 of that \$7,375.59 is in the legal account. We made \$350.00 last year. The dues letter is being put together now and will be out shortly. These dues pay our expenses and the newsletter, which is costly but connects us as a neighborhood and keeps everyone informed about our community. There will be a newsletter after the dues have been paid.

<u>Secretary Report:</u> The minutes for the November meeting were read and approved.

New Business: We tried to get a speaker from Palm Beach County for a road update; unfortunately no one was available to attend the meeting. The park site is now maintained by SIRWCD. We are still accepting bids for the construction of the parking lot at the park. If anyone is interested please contact Bob Berman for a bid packet. The bus tour made \$4,000.00 for the park and was enjoyed by everyone. There was also a shopping party, which made about \$300.00 for the park.

Neighborhood Watch: We are having great success with the program, one car break-in and one residential break-in occurred in the past month. Keep up the good work. The COP program logged 3,463 miles between here and Jupiter farms. If you are on vacation, elderly or infirmed the COP drivers will do a drive by check, but you have to sign up for this service. Contact Mike Ryan for more information. To sign up for the neighborhood updates please go to PBCENW@AOL.COM. Thank you to Jupiter Farms for their help in making this program work.

Old Business: We are still looking into options to replace the entrance signs. We will be talking to sign companies for different idea and will be posting those ideas on the PBCE website so we can have a neighborhood vote on the options. We are still looking for volunteers to help with irrigation on the east side of the entrance. If anyone can help with that please contact Tim Brown his information is on the front of the newsletter, or on the website. We are still looking into the flood zone maps and will let you now when we have that information.

The roundabout has been quite an issue. The county designed the roundabout intending for those entering PBCE to use the right lane. The left lane is intended for Jog Rd. traffic only. If everyone uses the right to enter the community we will not have all these problems with merging. The county is still working on signs to help residents understand the roundabout. Several residents spoke up regarding this issue. Some in opposition of so many cars using the right lane cited accident risk, others said the risk of cars cutting each other off while trying to merge is a greater risk.

All paved roads owned by the county are scheduled to have sidewalks this year. They are 69^{th} , 150^{th} and 75^{th} , 143^{rd} and 64^{th} will also have sidewalks. They are still being engineered by the county.

Jupiter Farms has a very nice newsletter done by a company, it was suggested we look into this possibility for our newsletter. A resident volunteered to look into it.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:25

Submitted by: Merry Lunsford, Secretary

Information Regarding Hiking and Riding Trails

Florida Trail Association (hiking). This is a dedicated trail system for hiking only. It is always marked in orange. The (FTA) Ocean to Lake Greenway Event (like our equestrian event), is intended to preserve the experience of the sport, which is why it is for hiking only.

Dates: February 2010

http://www.floridatrail.org/options/South

Ocean to Lake MULTI_USE event. Dates - February 26 - 28, 2010.

They usually put everyone on one trail (multi-use), which is not the dedicated experience that the Ride the Ring of Unity Equestrian Event or FTA Hiking event offers, but it is a popular event. They also usually charge a fee. http://www.oceantolake.org/

Park Fundraising

Over the last few months we have had some fun and very successful fundraisers for the park in PBCE. In October we celebrated Halloween as a community for the first time in years. We had 40 families come out and decorate the trunks of their cars and pass out candy to over 200 neighborhood children. The Palm Beach County Fire Department joined us and let children climb on the fire engine while they passed out candy as well. This event was a safe, fun way for our children to enjoy trick or treating without leaving the neighborhood. In November we had our 2nd Neighborhood bus tour which was sponsored by Juana Geldress DDS. This very successful event picked neighbors up in a charter bus from designated bus stops near their homes and brought them to 4 resident's homes. At each house the guests enjoyed food, drink and music from a different country or region. This bus tour not only raised money for the park it helped residents to meet their neighbors and get more involved in their community. In December David and Julie Webster once again opened their home and hosted a shopping party to benefit the park. Women from the neighborhood got together and shopped from local vendor's and enjoyed good food and company. The Park committee would like to thank all the people who have spent countless hours on fundraisers for the park.

Future and current fundraising activities for the Twisty Pines Playground Foundation and your Community Park.

We will have many opportunities to meet and mingle with neighbors to support this community park and playground. Here are a few fundraisers we have planned over the next few months.

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<u>5k Run:</u> We are working on a plan to have a race through the neighborhood, keep checking your newsletter and emails for more information. We are looking for help with this fundraiser. Please contact Sheri at 561-601-1647

Movies in the Park: We are in the planning stages to have a family movie night in the park in the Middle of March. Please check website and watch out for signs advertising this fun family event.

<u>Family Bowling Day:</u> We are planning a family fun bowling night to benefit the park. Please look for signs or check the website for more details coming soon.

<u>Business Owners:</u> Remember to check the playground website to find out how to sponsor a playground component or a section of the park so your name can be seen at our community park for many years to come. We are also looking for businesses that would like to sponsor any of our fundraising events please contact Sheri Murray at 601-1647 to discuss sponsorship opportunities.

<u>Personalized Fence Pickets:</u> Routed with your name or message, these pickets will surround the playground. Individual or family pickets \$30 each. Business or corporate pickets \$50 each. Check the website for order form.

<u>Personalized Bricks:</u> Laser engraved with your name, message, stock clip art, or company logo. These bricks will pave the entryway to the playground. Check the website for prices and available sizes and order form.

<u>Aluminum Can Drive:</u> Barry Benjamin has graciously continued to take our aluminum to a recycling center. This aluminum will be sold, and all of the money will be donated to the park & playground. To make this project work, we need the help of the community. Drop off locations are:

<u>Debbie's:</u> 16432 77th Trail N. PLACE CANS IN BAGS AND LEAVE BESIDE GARAGE fgavin0829@bellsouth.net

<u>Chris':</u> 15610 73rd Terr. N PLACE CANS IN BAGS AND LEAVE ON THE SOUTH CORNER OUTSIDE OF THE FENCE reinharm@bellsouth.net

<u>Barry's:</u> 14731 67th Trail North PLACE CANS IN BAGS AND LEAVE IN THE BLUE RECYCLE CONTAINER BESIDE THE GARAGE DOOR <u>barryjbenjamin@yahoo.com</u>

<u>Duane's:</u> 15087 80th Dr. N. house is on the Corner of 150th and 80th. PLACE CANS IN BAGS AND DROP OVER THE FENCE ON RIGHT SIDE OF DRIVEWAY <u>dlongphoto@aol.com</u>

For info on any of the fundraisers or if you have ideas to share, please contact Sheri Murray at 561-601-1647 or check the website www.twistypinesplayground.org for more information.

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Jupiter: Grand Opening 425 Greenwich Circle Suite 101, Jupiter (561) 653-1163 South Indian River Water Control District cordially invites you to attend the

19th Annual Landowners Family Day

Jupiter Farms • Palm Beach Country Estates Egret Landing • Jupiter Commerce Park

Saturday, March 13, 2010 •
 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
 at the District Work Center
 15600 Jupiter Farms Road, Jupiter

Enjoy Barbeque & Live Music Meet the Supervisors & Staff See Community Exhibits & Displays Fun for the Kids!

RSVP to Greta Rayman at 747-0550

This Article was written by a previous resident requesting assistance in finding a dog.

I am looking for a Tan Lhasa dog named Ginger in your area. I had to give away. I ran an ad and gave her to a young girl for her birthday around 5 years ago. Ginger should be around 7 or 8 years by now and the new owner should be around 17. I believe her mother might have been named Laurie or Linda, I can't remember. It's been over a year since I lost the contact information. I can't remember exactly where the house was located, but I know it's somewhere in your **neighborhood**. I remember they <u>had two horses gated at the time on the right side of their house</u>. I regret losing the contact information so that I could find out how **Ginger** is doing. If you know the owner, please contact me (Robin) and let me know how she is doing @ 561-386-9364 or 561-429-7199.

Ring of Unity Equestrian Event 2010

Mark your Calendar! Community Connection invites equestrians to join in a Five Year Trail Ride Celebration of community accessible equestrian trails in our Ride the Ring of Unity Event, Sunday, February 14th 2010 - Valentines Day!

Our Celebration is two-fold: First, we will be celebrating the opening of new community accessible equestrian trails, new access to these trails, the traditional sharing of the historic Ring of Unity and lunch in Riverbend Park for equestrian trail participants.

Second, we are celebrating the trails we have worked hard to preserve and that have resulted from the promise made at our inaugural Ocean to Lake Greenway Equestrian Events 2005 and 2006. The promise was made between Swamp Owl, Seminole Representative of Riverbend Park and representatives of Palm Beach Country Estates, Jupiter Farms, Wind in the Pines, Caloosa, The Acreage, Palm City Farms, Okeechobee, Ranch Colony and Oakwood Estates. Each community placed a symbolic feather on the Ring of Unity which was carried on horseback, connecting over 52 miles, 9 equestrian communities, three counties and 6 parks and preserves. The promise was to "Connect cultures and communities, parks and preserves, with respect to the environment and preservation of the history of horses on these lands."

Since then, the connective areas of our event have been designated by the State as part of the Ocean to Lake Greenway, the Ring of Unity, crafted by Seminole representatives of Riverbend Park, was dedicated to the Riverbend Park Interpretative Center, we have preserved community accessible trails, formed Stewardships, and improved access.

This is a volunteer, community event therefore Registration is free. A \$10.00 (tax deductible) donation will qualify you as an equestrian trail participant for the "Food and Feather" option which includes lunch at Riverbend Park and a hand-crafted, symbolic eagle feather for your horses mane! Donations and feathers support equestrian trail preservation and improved access. Watch for our Event Updates and join us for Valentines Day!

For Registration, Donations, Volunteers (needed) and Information, email Kerie at:

RingOfUnity2010@yahoo.com

2010 Dues are Due

If you have not yet paid your 2010 dues please do so and support your community. Please issue payment of \$35.00 to the:

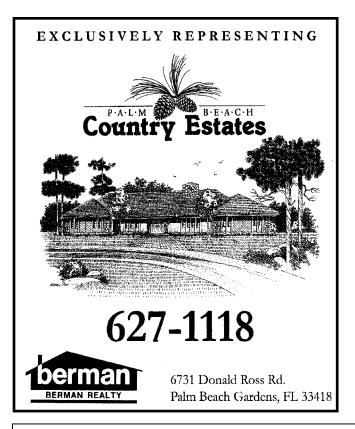
Donald Ross Landowners Association, P.O. Box 30638, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418

Living Oaks Ministries
Community Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 3rd @11:00AM

Children 10 and under Bring your Easter Basket and join the fun!!!

Snow Cones, Easter Bunny, Fun for ALL!





Land Owners Meeting

March 9, 2010 at 7:30 PM at Living Oaks Ministries Church on 64th Drive

Permit No. 1946 West Palm Beach, FL U.S. POSTAGE PAID FIRST-CLASS MAIL **PRESORTED**

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Donald Ross Land Owners, Assoc.