

# Countryside Living...

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

The Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners is pleased to announce the grand opening of the Cypress Creek Natural Area and Phase 1 of the Historic Jupiter-Indiantown Trail

on Saturday, March 24 at 10:00 am. There will be a short opening ceremony followed by an opportunity to visit information stations along the trail to learn more about the natural area, the multiuse trail, and the public-use facilities.

The Cypress Creek Natural Area is a 2,083-acre mosaic of high quality pine flatwoods and wetlands and provides an important buffer for the Federally Designated Wild and Scenic Loxahatchee River.

Phase 1 of the Historic Jupiter-Indiantown Trail is a two-mile segment which passes through the Cypress Creek Natural Area and is the second trail within the Northeast Everglades Natural Area (NENA) to be completed. Bluegill Trail, just west of Palm Beach Country Estates along the C-18, was the first NENA multiuse trail in Palm Beach County to break ground.

The two-mile section of the Historic Jupiter-Indiantown Trail through Palm Beach County's Cypress Creek Natural Area is a multiuse trail open to travel by foot, bicycle, and horseback. The trailhead is co-located in the new parking lot for the Cypress Creek Natural Area on the north side of Indiantown Road at the intersection of Indiantown and Gulfstream Citrus Roads. A portion of NENA's (unimproved) Jesup Trail, which extends north along Gulfstream Citrus Road into Martin County, is also open for hikers, cyclists, and equestrians.

For more information, please contact Samantha Corr at 561-233-2455 or [SCorr@pbcgov.org](mailto:SCorr@pbcgov.org). To see the event flyer and project fact sheets, go to: [www.pbcgov.com/ERM/NENA](http://www.pbcgov.com/ERM/NENA)

We look forward to seeing you on March 24th – and please spread the word!



## Officers and Committee Member

### Officers:

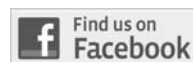
President -	Chris Reinhardt <a href="mailto:reinhardt@bellsouth.net">reinhardt@bellsouth.net</a>	762-1281
1st Vice President -	Kevin Baker <a href="mailto:Kevin.Baker@thetstreet.com">Kevin.Baker@thetstreet.com</a>	748-3376
2nd Vice President -	Sheri Murray <a href="mailto:sheriRmurray@gmail.com">sheriRmurray@gmail.com</a>	601-1647
Treasure -	Kevin Parkes <a href="mailto:parkescpa@yahoo.com">parkescpa@yahoo.com</a>	441-2855
Secretary -	Ellen Meehan <a href="mailto:ellen1981@live.com">ellen1981@live.com</a>	401-9331

### Committees:

Newsletter Editor/Advert. -	Sheri Murray <a href="mailto:sheriRmurray@gmail.com">sheriRmurray@gmail.com</a>	601-1647
COP Patrol & Disaster Assistance -	Mike Ryan <a href="mailto:alaei@bellsouth.net">alaei@bellsouth.net</a>	762-3514
	Bill Bolds <a href="mailto:Bbolds@bellsouth.net">Bbolds@bellsouth.net</a>	626-7638
Neighborhood Watch -	Cindy Divine <a href="mailto:Divinelabs@aol.com">Divinelabs@aol.com</a>	744-8122
Park/Playground -	Sheri Murray Chris Reinhardt Sarah Applegate Bob Berman	601-1647 762-1281 741-1140 627-1118

### Information:

Donald Ross/PBCE Landowners Association - [www.mypbce.org](http://www.mypbce.org)



[www.facebook.com/pages/Palm-Beach-Country-Estates-Neighbors](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Palm-Beach-Country-Estates-Neighbors)

Park/Playground - [www.twistypinesplayground.org](http://www.twistypinesplayground.org)

Neighborhood Watch - [pbcenw@aol.com](mailto:pbcenw@aol.com)

SIRWCD - [www.sirwcd.org](http://www.sirwcd.org) 747-0550

Equestrian - Beverly Bean 575-4411

[bbeaninc@bellsouth.net](mailto:bbeaninc@bellsouth.net)  
Community Historian - Mike Danchuk 626-2530

[Wetjets@aol.com](mailto:Wetjets@aol.com)

Webmaster - Mark Powell (561) 460-8921

[markapowell@gmail.com](mailto:markapowell@gmail.com)

## Neighborhood Watch

Be alert, get to know who your neighbors are, and get outside more. You can sign up for Neighborhood Alerts by e-mailing your contact information to [pbcenw@aol.com](mailto:pbcenw@aol.com). This is a good way to keep up with what's going on in our community. Think Safe!

**See Suspicious Activity Call: PBSO Non-Emergency: 561.688.3400 Crime in Progress: 911**

**COP Program Mike Ryan:** [alaei@bellsouth.net](mailto:alaei@bellsouth.net) or **Bill Bolds** [Bbolds@bellsouth.net](mailto:Bbolds@bellsouth.net)

**PBCENW Info Cindy Divine:** [Divinelabs@aol.com](mailto:Divinelabs@aol.com) or **561.744.8122**

## Message from the President

I know it's been a while since we've had a newsletter so first I'd like to thank PBCE residents Mike Ryan, from A-1 American Electric, Inc., Tim Brown from FPL and George Gillespie from Gillespie Plumbing for helping get electricity to the west side front entrance wall. And they made it just in time. For the first time we were able to put holiday lights up on both sides of our main entrance and it made the gateway to our neighborhood look beautiful and festive.

Speaking of making our neighborhood look beautiful, Ken Trapasso has volunteered to help coordinate our first neighborhood clean up. We'll be coordinating with the "Great American Cleanup" on Saturday, April 21, Earth Day weekend. We're going to be getting tee shirts for the event so register with Ken early so we know how many participants to expect. Community service hours will also be given. Call Ken Trapasso at 561-578-9323 or trapassok@comcast.net.

I just want to address some of the issues that have been brought up at the last few Landowners Association meetings.

We are still having a problem with loose dogs. Another resident was bitten on the leg as she was riding a bike down the road. Most of these incidents are not from dogs that just happened to "get loose". My family has trained and shown dogs all my life. I know they will occasionally get out. The kids forget to close the gate or they slip out while your putting the garbage down. These are not the ones causing the problems. It's the ones who are chronically loose or left off leash while the owner is outside with them, thinking that the dog is under their control. It only takes a second for a dog to see something moving fast, a bicyclist or someone walking their dogs, for a dogs chase instinct to take over. No matter how "trained" you think your dog is, their chase instinct is stronger. If your yard is fenced, keep the gates closed. If it's not, keep them on a leash while



outside. It's for their safety as well as your neighbors. If your dog runs into the road and causes a car accident, your dog could be killed and you would still be responsible for paying for all the damages and medical bills. If you have a problem with a loose dog or are bitten call Palm Beach County Animal Care & Control at 233-1200. Also, if you've lost your dog check the photos on their "found dog" page on their website. This is the first place you should check and check back often. Dogs turned in only have 5 days for the owner to pick them up. During that time they are given a health and behavioral check. If they are deemed "not adoptable" they are euthanised after the 5 days. If they are "adoptable" they are given at least another 5 days to find a home. The majority are euthanised after the additional 5 days, although some are given extra time. The bottom line is, owning a dog is a big responsibility. You are responsible for a life and you should treat that life with respect.

Just a reminder, if you smell or see smoke from the Riverbend Park area they are still doing controlled burns from December 2011 to August 2012. Call the park for more information, (561) 966-6617.

Also, June starts hurricane season. Now is the time to do any major tree trimming or house renovations. Don't wait until hurricane seasons starts. The SWA may not have time to pick up all the debris and it could become projectiles during a storm.

One last thing, It's Sandhill Crane nesting season and residents have already spotted the little fuzzy chicks wandering the neighborhood with their parents. Please drive carefully. The cranes are slow moving by nature and don't have the power to lift straight off the ground so they can't get out of the way of a moving car. They also don't recognize cars as a threat. You must stop and let them cross the road. The Florida Sandhill Crane is listed as threatened so it is against the law to harass, threaten or kill them. They usually mate for life and can live up to 20 years.

Our cranes are just one more reason why residents love PBCE!

## South Indian River Water Control District

The regular meeting for February was cancelled. The next meeting will be on March 15th at 7:30 at Jupiter High School. The District engineer will be discussing the latest road paving initiatives.

Progress is being made at the community park in Palm Beach Country Estates. Culverts have been placed, parking lot grading and site grading are almost done. We expect substantial completion near the end of March!

The SIRWCD Landowners Family Day is on March 17th 2012. My fellow descendants from the Green Isle will immediately recognize this as St Patty's Day. So it's a twofer. Wear green and enjoy! There will be live music, petting zoo, and lots of free food and good times. There will also be displays from local agencies. Citizen Observer Patrol will have volunteers on hand to answer any questions about the program. Come out and bring your whole family for a great day. RSVP to 747-0550.

These are my personal observations of the events mentioned and are not the official opinion, nor record, of SIRWCD or its Board of Supervisors. Sincerely,

Mike Ryan

ryan@sirwcd.org, 747-3233



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# Donald Ross Landowners Minutes

Minutes - Nov 8, 2011

Meeting was called to order at 7:34 by President Chris Reinhardt. In attendance: President Chris Reinhardt, 1st Vice President Kevin Baker, 2nd Vice President Sheri Murray, Secretary Ellen Meehan, and Treasurer Kevin Parkes.



**Treasury Report** The association has \$12,000 in the operating account and \$8000 in the legal account.

**Secretary Report** The minutes of the September meeting were in the October newsletter and were approved as printed.

## Old Business

**Trunk-or-Treat:** The Halloween Trunk-or-Treat event (third annual) was a great success with 46 vehicles and 257 children participating. Congratulations to Mike Ryan for the winning trunk/tractor and thank you to the Tuma family for donating the winner's basket. Check out the PBCE Facebook page for photos. **Park and Playground:** Construction has started on the parking lot for the new community park. This stage should be finished by December. **Winter Festival:** We will be holding a neighborhood Winter Festival in the new park area on December 10 if the construction is completed. Signs will be posted and emails will be sent out. **Sandhill Cranes:** A dead crane was found last month after being hit by a car. Please slow down around these protected birds. **Sidewalks:** A meeting was held with the county in October and they did two core tests to make sure that the sidewalks are up to standard. The grass that is growing on some sections is growing from the top and not underneath. They sprayed with herbicide which we may have to continue in the future. All residents are responsible for maintaining the sidewalk area on their property. **Front Entrance:** Completion of the extension of the turning lane and sidewalk are still in progress. **Neighborhood Watch:** Mike Ryan reported that crime remains extremely low with 3+ months of no burglary incidents. Please volunteer for our C.O.P.S. program which is so instrumental in keeping crime rates low.

## New Business

**Pets:** Some residents have complained about barking dogs and loose dogs. Please abide by county codes or animal control will be contacted. Check PBCE facebook for lost dogs or other pet issues. **Lights:** One resident felt street lights were too bright. If a light is too bright on your yard, FPL can be contacted to adjust the light. **Burns:** Prescribed burns will be taking place in River Bend park from December thru August. If you have respiratory issues you can call the county regarding the burn schedule to be

prepared. **SIRWCD Update:** Road paving will be finished by the end of month. Final approval is in progress for the 60+ residents who applied to FEMA for the flood insurance exemption. With final approval these homes will no longer be required to carry flood insurance. **Sidewalk Maintenance:** Although residents are responsible for maintaining sidewalks in front of their houses, the board will look at using our funds to do occasional edging or maintenance as needed when the sidewalks are not being maintained up to standard. **County:** Karen Marcus, our current county commissioner is interested in hearing from us regarding our priorities in PBCE. She is finishing her final term in office and wants to ensure that her successor continues to support the needs of Northern Palm Beach County. Let Chris Reinhardt know if you have any input.

Meeting was adjourned 8:22pm

Submitted by: Ellen Meehan, Secretary

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ytrelles@trelleslaw.com

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# Donald Ross Landowners Minutes

Minutes - Nov 8, 2011

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 by President Chris Reinhardt. In attendance: President Chris Reinhardt, 1st Vice President Kevin Baker, 2nd Vice President Sheri Murray, and Treasurer Kevin Parkes. Secretary Ellen Meehan was unable to attend.



**Treasury Report** The association ended the 2011 year with approximately \$7,500 in the operating account and \$8500 in the legal account.

**Secretary Report** The minutes of the previous November meeting will be in the February newsletter.

**Guest Speaker** Mike Dillon, Guest Speaker and Operations Manager from SIRWCD, addressed the attendees and answered questions.

## Old Business

**Park:** There has been a slight delay in completing the initial stages of the park construction due to county permitting delays but everything is still progressing. The contract has been extended to be completed in March 2012. **Road Paving:** The contractor is putting final touches on the newly

paved roads and it appears to be coming in slightly under budget; final numbers should be completed in February.

Residents questioned the wording and financing of the \$1.1 million contract for the road paving and it was confirmed that PBCE residents will only pay for PBCE roads while Jupiter Farm residents will pay for their roads being paved within the contract; the paving in the park is being paid for separately through the special projects budget. Finally, all residents in PBCE pay for the maintenance of dirt roads, OGEM and paved roads through their taxes. A complete analysis of long-term maintenance costs of each type of road has not been done but we are moving away from OGEM roads since they require more frequent replacement than paved roads. Some residents on paved roads suggested they should not have to pay for maintenance of dirt roads, but they were told by the SIRWCD board members present that all residents pay for maintenance of all three types of roads. **Illegal Waste Dumping:** Some people are still dumping yard and landscaping waste next to or in front of the canals which is illegal. Yard waste must be in front of your house. Not on SIRWCD easements. 69th Dr. was mentioned specifically by some residents. If you see anyone doing this, please contact SIRWCD and let them know the location of the waste and the identity of the culprits (if you know). **Sidewalks:** Please don't park or drive vehicles on the county sidewalks or allow landscape contractors to do so since it damages the sidewalks. **Canals:** SIRWCD is currently doing major cutbacks and trimming along the canals and culvert replacements as needed. **Neighborhood Watch:** Mike Ryan reported that crime stats for December were not out yet. Fourth quarter 2011 PBCE had excellent stats with only one major incident reported. The sheriff's department is very happy with our neighborhood effort and works well with us to follow up on any problems. We can always use more volunteers for the program.

## New Business

**Golf Carts:** Reminder that we are not a legislated golf cart community so the police can stop you if you are driving a cart on the roads. You can use a cart that is street legal but then it has to be registered. **Clean Neighborhood:** Thanks to Mike Dillon and his board for the hard work improving the appearance of our main roads and neighborhood. We discussed doing a quarterly or annual neighborhood cleanup days. An Earth Day cleanup was also suggested. **Loose Dogs:** There have been additional incidents of pedestrians being bit by loose dogs so please take care of your dogs or they will be reported to animal control. **Taxes:** The Palm Beach County Tax Office is trying to be more community oriented and will be sending us information regarding the different services their office provides; this information will be included in our newsletters.

Meeting was adjourned 8:25

Submitted by: Ellen Meehan, Secretary



**Please join us to help the  
animals in Rescues**



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Central Florida GSD Rescue, South Florida Doberman Rescue, Potcake Rescue of Florida  
and South Florida Yorkie Rescue

## Park Update

If you haven't been by the community park site lately on 69th & 155th check it out. We now have a parking lot and walking path! It took some time to get all the permits in place but now things are really moving. Next is the landscaping, irrigation, which includes digging a well and hooking up electricity and then the fence. After that SIRWCD will be done with the basic park infrastructure and their responsibilities. Then it's up to us. The county has approved the playground, one large pavilion, two small pavilions, fitness area, half basketball court and a racquetball court. But it's up to us to pay for these additional amenities. We would like to build the playground and at least one pavilion next, but we need your help. It's up to the residents of Palm Beach Country Estates to make this the best park it can be. Please make a tax-deductible donation to the Twisty Pines Playground Foundation.



Mail to: Twisty Pines Playground Foundation, Inc.  
C/O Donald Ross Landowners Association  
P.O. Box 30638  
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33420



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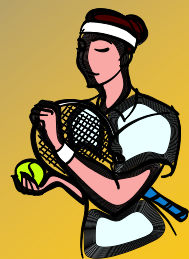
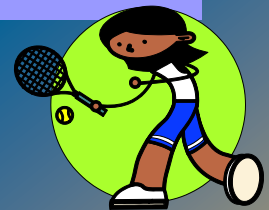
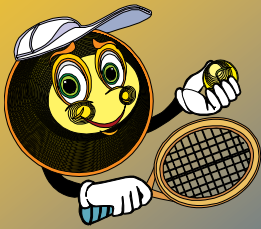
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Kids Sumer Day Camp starts June 10<sup>th</sup>  
\*\* Free Racket with Registration!!\*\*





## Palm Beach County Tax Collectors Office

The Palm Beach County Tax Collectors Office is trying to keep the community informed on issues involving their office and has asked to be included in community newsletters. Anne M. Gannon, our Constitutional Tax Collector has sent out monthly updates that I have summarized to include in the newsletter. Chris Reinhardt

### PBC Tax Collectors Office Update, January 2012

I hope you'll indulge me in taking this opportunity to congratulate our agency. Our agency recently received "The Excellence in Financial Operations Award". A panel of five judges, each with finance expertise, evaluates local Tax Collectors' 2010 financial operations. Achievement is measured in the four core areas of 1) Innovation & Automation, 2) Annual Audit Report, 3) Customer Focus, and 4) Budgeting. The panel's review of our agency cited a flawless audit report, outstanding customer service delivery and excellence in technological innovations. Great job team!

Property Tax Season is in full swing. Our office mailed 705,964 property tax bills representing total tax revenue of \$3.07 billion. Eighty percent of property tax payments are processed in November and December. These monies go to county and special taxing districts to fund critical services, including public safety, education and culture.

January is also a natural time to look ahead to the new year. That's why I want to make sure you know about our Installment Payment Plan (IPP). The IPP is an option for anyone who prefers to pay

property taxes in quarterly installments.

If you're not currently paying by installments, it's easy to enroll in the IPP for next tax season. The application is available online at [www.taxcollectorpbc.com](http://www.taxcollectorpbc.com), at our service centers and the application was enclosed with your property tax bill. The completed application must be received in our office no later than Monday, April 30, 2012. Our mailing address is: Palm Beach County Tax Collector, Post Office Box 3715, West Palm Beach, FL 33402-3715. Mail must be postmarked by April 30. And finally, property tax payments received in the month of January receive a 2 percent discount.

### PBC Tax Collectors Office Update, February 2012

I want to share two key Homeland Security authorized document requirement changes and a word of caution regarding Real ID driver licenses and state ID cards:

- Expired passports are now acceptable as long as it is in your current name.
- If you are unable to produce 2 proofs of residence in your name, we can now accept a statement from the person you live with. However, you will need to bring two of approved documents showing residence of the person signing the statement on your behalf.
- **Caution:** Please be advised that you cannot become REAL ID compliant or receive the new veteran designation online. The Florida DMV online renewal system does not prompt you with that warning. My concern is that many people are

## Living Oaks Ministries (located on 64<sup>th</sup> Drive in Palm Beach Country Estates) Community Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 7th @11:00AM



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

Snow Cones, Easter Bunny, Fun for ALL!



unaware of these two provisions and will pay more, in the long run, by renewing online.

Federal law requires every resident become Real ID compliant when renewing their driver license. The deadline is December 2014 if you are under 50 or December 2017 if you are over 50. To get these designations, you must bring the required documents in person. People who renew and pay online become understandably upset about having to pay again to become Real ID compliant before their online renewal license expires. For veterans, many opt to forgo the Veteran Designation rather than pay again. Remember that we are at the height of the season. Our service centers are very busy. We often serve over 4,000 people a day. If you want to "Lose Wait" in 2012:

- Schedule an appointment for driver license service online at [www.taxcollectorpb.com](http://www.taxcollectorpb.com). We take appointments up to 3 months in advance.
- You can check out driver license wait times at any of our 8 locations online or text "wait pb" to 41411. We will send a text message to your mobile phone with driver license wait times for all offices.

February is the last month to receive a discount. All payments in February receive a 1 percent discount. Also, remember that we offer an Installment Payment Plan (IPP) option for property taxes. This allows property owners to pay in quarterly installments rather than one lump sum. All you have to do to enroll in the IPP is return a completed application to our office by close of business

*Continued on page 8, Tax Collector*



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For more information call us at 622-1681

## Palm Beach County Tax Collectors Office

*Continued from page 7*

April 30th. You remain enrolled in the plan as long as you meet the 1st installment payment deadline each year in June. If you are already enrolled, you do not need to reapply. Either download an application from our website or pick one up at one of our offices. You will be added to the plan for the 2012 tax season. We also added a new tool for anyone needing extra information or help with online property tax payments. Just visit our website, scroll to the bottom of the home page and click on the blue "Property Tax Help" button.

### PBC Tax Collectors Office Update, March 2012

The PBC Tax Collectors office reached a \$1.9 million settlement with the major Online Travel Companies (OTC) for uncollected Tourist Development Tax – also known as "bed tax". A "bed tax" of 5 cents per dollar is levied on all Palm Beach County hotel stays of 6 months or less. Bed tax collections fund Palm Beach County tourism promotion, cultural programs and beach restoration. I filed suit against OTCs in Circuit Court in July, 2009. Defendants in our litigation include Expedia, Orbitz, Priceline and Travelocity. The suit alleged the OTCs did not pay tourist development tax as authorized by Florida Statute 125.0104 and County Code 17-111. Defendants agreed to collectively pay over \$1.9 million in uncollected differential between the wholesale and retail bed tax. This settlement was not an admission by the OTCs they owed the bed tax but a settlement of the case.

A special thanks to our legal team who worked so hard over the past three years. They include Palm Beach County attorneys Jeff Liggio, Esq., Lou Silber, Esq., and John Romano, Esq.

March is the last month to pay property taxes. All outstanding property taxes after April 2nd (see below) are delinquent. Last year over 32,000 properties were delinquent. The law requires that Tax Collectors hold an annual Tax Certificate Auction on June 1 of each year to replace uncollected revenue. All delinquent properties are listed in the sale. Please do not let your property fall into this category.

#### Important Property Tax Deadlines:

We urge you not to wait. Our offices get very busy at the end of the month.

- The deadline for postmarks for mailed property tax payments is March 30th.
- According to Florida Statutes if the end of a discount period falls on a Saturday, Sunday or holiday, the discount period is extended to the next working day, and the payment must be delivered to our office. Since the last day of the month, March 31st falls on a Saturday this year, the law extends the deadline for online or in person payments to the following work day which is Monday, April 2nd.

A few important property tax payment reminders:

- Payment options: Online, by mail, in person or drop box.
- Make payments to: Tax Collector, PBC. Include 17 digit PCN, account number or license plate number on your payment.
- Include the payment stub with your payment whenever possible for efficient processing. Do not use staples, clips or fold the payment when sending by mail.

## TENNIS-SWIMMING-GOLF-ARTS & CRAFTS



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- Mail Property Tax payments to:

P.O. Box 3353, West Palm Beach, FL 33402-3353.

- We have drop boxes at each of our locations. You can drop your payment off and avoid waiting. Please note, drop boxes are not available when our offices are closed.

If you want an alternative to the usual "one lump sum" property tax payment, you can catch a break. Our office offers an Installment Payment Plan allowing you to break up your property tax payment into four quarterly installments. Enrolling is quick and easy. Just complete an application and return it to our office by April 30, 2012. You can download one from our website at [www.taxcollectorpbc.com](http://www.taxcollectorpbc.com) or pick one up at any of 8 service locations.

Anne M. Gannon, Constitutional Tax Collector

**Gary Poland**

**Chuck George**

## **P.T.L. LAWN MAINTENANCE**

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## **Let's Go Bowling!** **Independence Middle School PTO** **Bowling Night & Silent Auction**



**Saturday, May 5, 2012 ~ 5:30-8:00 PM ~ Jupiter Lanes**

**\$20 for bowling, shoe rental and dinner**  
**Admission to the Silent Auction is FREE**

We are asking businesses and members of our community to donate items or services to be used for the Silent Auction. No item is too large or too small! Small items will be combined into gift baskets. If you would like to provide coupons, trinkets or flyers to advertise your business, they will be set up on display for attendees. Please contact Sara McDonough at [smcdonough29@yahoo.com](mailto:smcdonough29@yahoo.com). Your generosity is most appreciated!!

The IMS PTO (Parent Teacher Organization) raises money every year for the school to provide support and appreciation for staff and teachers, encouragement and incentives to students, and funds for supplies and other unbudgeted materials.



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## Citizen Observer Patrol

### Citizen Observer Patrol Update 2-12

Unit 103 Jupiter Farms / Palm Beach  
Country Estates



Palm Beach Country Estates has had an increase in home burglaries in January and February. After 4 months almost crime free we've had a significant jump in incidents. The Sheriff's Dept. believes we have some crime being committed by outsiders, but we still have problems from within our community. Several homes were broken into on 84th, 83rd, and 82nd, which definitely sounds like a very local problem. Most of these crimes have happened in the middle of the day when no-one is home. Keep an eye out for unfamiliar people and cars on your street and report any suspicious activity to the Sheriff's Dept.

Please report all crimes to the Sheriff's Dept. even if they seem insignificant. This helps the Sheriff's Dept. establish patterns that help solve crimes and catch the crooks. The Non-Emergency number is 688-3400.

We've had a few more people step up and volunteer with our COP Unit. The presence of the COP marked Sheriff Cars is an effective deterrence to crime. It shows would-be thieves that this community is pro-active against crime.

Citizen Observer Patrol is a top notch organization that provides a great service to our communities and there are many time slots to fill to do a thorough job. Please consider joining your neighbors to help keep our community safe.

COP is more important than you know, and easier than you think!

### Citizen Observer Patrol Update 3-12

Unit 103 Jupiter Farms / Palm Beach Country Estates



# GROUP MORTGAGE

A LICENSED MORTGAGE LENDER

# ONE

**Lori Hetzel & Deanne Anderson**  
900 E. Indiantown Road Suite 110 Jupiter, FL 33477  
**561-745-1212**

Palm Beach Country Estates had a little better month than last but still had a few incidents. Most of these crimes have happened in the middle of the day when no-one is home. Keep an eye out for unfamiliar people and cars on your street and report any suspicious activity to the Sheriff's Dept.

While our COP has done very well, some people may have forgotten how we began. About three summers ago our community was besieged with a rash of crime. Our community came together and started an active Neighborhood Watch. One of the first steps was for everyone to get to know who your neighbors are and what kind of cars are normally in their yards.

The second step is deterrence. Get out of your house more often. Hang out on the front porch, work in your front yard, and go for a walk, even if it's just down to the stop sign and back. Stop and talk to your neighbors. Having a visual presence is the biggest thing you can do to deter crime. A visual presence is what also makes COP work so well. Our common purpose is more to discourage crime rather than to fight crime.

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COP is more important than you know, and easier than you think!

Sincerely,

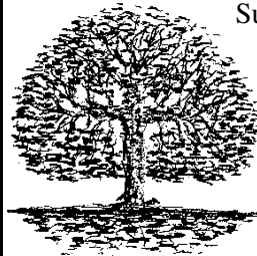
Mike Ryan

alaei@bellsouth.net, 747-3233

P.S. The Sheriff's Dept. has posted a youtube video about PBSO Volunteers. Take a couple of minutes and check it out. My only comment would be about the Traffic Control Unit. This is a small unit that specializes in issuing tickets. Most volunteer units do not issue tickets. Ours does not.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kxOEIdXPcs>

## Living Oaks Ministries



Sunday Worship Service 10:30AM

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Peter Muirhead

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**\*\*Annual Land Owners Meeting \*\***

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