

Countryside Living...

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

The Playground Is DONE!

After years of planning, fundraising, sweat and some tears the Twisty Pines Playground is finally here. They broke ground and started the site preparations for the playground on March 11th and had the final punch list items and inspections done on Monday the 18th.

If you haven't been by the community park site lately on the northeast corner of 69th & 155th check it out. The park is beautiful!

SIRWCD has completed the county required lot development, parking lot, walking path, landscaping, irrigation and fencing.

SIRWCD is now done with the basic park infrastructure and their responsibilities have turned to maintenance. Now it's up to us. The playground is the first of the county approved amenities we are planning on installing. Now that the playground has been installed we will hire a fence company to build the picket fence around the playground. If there are any local fence companies interested in bidding on the project please contact Chris Reinhardt at 762-1281.



As a fundraiser we have been selling personally engraved fence pickets. After the fence is installed one of our neighbors has agreed to engrave the fence pickets with the names of the donors who have purchased them. We will take down 10-20 pickets at a time to engrave and then replace them. The fence picket fundraiser will be a continuous event but if you would like to be included in the inaugural set please have your orders in by April 30th.

If you purchased an engraved brick the brick paver walkway to the playground has already been installed. Thank you Danny Cox of Xtreme Pavers. Check it out and find your brick. In lieu of the donor board we opted to list the names and companies who would have been on the donor board on 8x8 bricks in the center of the walkway. This seemed a more permanent solution than a donor board that would have eventually needed

Continued on Page 14 Park Update

Officers and Committee Member

Officers:

President -	Chris Reinhardt	762-1281
	reinhardm@bellsouth.net	
1st Vice President -	Kevin Baker	748-3376
	Kevin.Baker@thetstreet.com	
2nd Vice President -	Sheri Murray	601-1647
	sheriRmurray@gmail.com	
Treasure -	Kevin Parkes	441-2855
	parkescpa@yahoo.com	
Secretary -	Ellen Meehan	401-9331
	ellen1981@live.com	

Committees:

Newsletter Editor/Advert. -	Sheri Murray	601-1647
	sheriRmurray@gmail.com	
COP Patrol & Disaster Assistance -	Mike Ryan	762-3514
	alaei@bellsouth.net	
	Bill Bolds	626-7638
	Bbolds@bellsouth.net	
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 -	Tracey Lamport	707-9641
	traceylamport@comcast.net	

Information:

Donald Ross/PBCE Landowners Association - www.mypbce.org



www.facebook.com/pages/Palm-Beach-Country-Estates-Neighbors

Park/Playground - www.twistypinesplayground.org

Neighborhood Watch - pbcenw@aol.com

SIRWCD - www.sirwcd.org 747-0550

Equestrian - Beverly Bean 575-4411

bbeaninc@bellsouth.net

Community Historian - Mike Danchuk 626-2530

Wetjets@aol.com

Webmaster - Mark Powell (561) 460-8921

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. 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 Dispatch: **561.688.3400** Crime in Progress: **911**

COP Program Mike Ryan: alaei@bellsouth.net or **Bill Bolds** Bbolds@bellsouth.net

PBCENW Info Cindy Divine: Divinelabs@aol.com or **561.744.8122**

Message from the President

Living in Florida we are able to take advantage of our great outdoors year round. This is one of the reasons why so many people in our community are so active in sports and recreation. Every day I see walkers, joggers, runners and kids and families biking on our new sidewalks.

The Jupiter-Palm Beach Gardens area is also seeing a huge increase in the number of athletes training and competing in triathlons. Triathlons consist of swimming, biking and running. Perfect for Florida! They can be anything from a sprint event like the Loggerhead Triathlon at Carlin Park in Jupiter, where competitors ocean swim 3/8 mile (660 yards), bike 13 miles and run 3.1 miles to a full ironman race like the famous Ironman World Championship in Kona, Hawaii where competitors open water swim 2.4 miles, bike 112 miles then run a full 26.2 marathon.

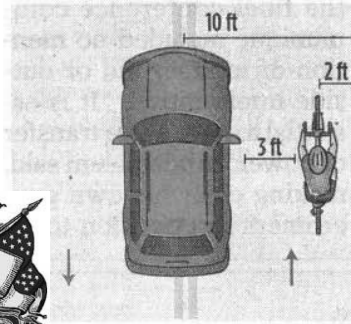
The increase in triathletes as well as regular road bikers is one of the reasons you have been seeing so many bikers on the roads the past few years. We even have quite a few who live in our neighborhood and ride on 69th Drive to get in and out of the neighborhood. These athletes are riding on the road because that is exactly what their bikes are built for. With the narrow road or tri-bike tires this is the safest place for them to ride. These bikes are built for speed, not a leisurely ride on a sidewalk and they are perfectly within the law to do so.

It's been obvious that some of the car drivers don't know the rules and laws when passing a bike on the road. I've personally seen some pretty close calls when impatient

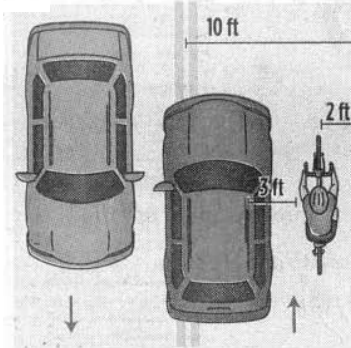
Continued on Page 13 Bicycle Safety



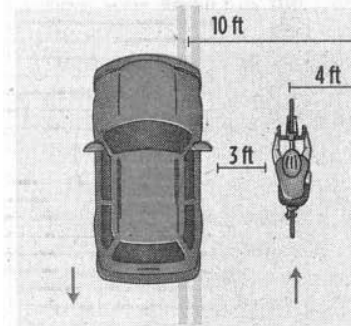
GUIDE TO SAFE BICYCLE PASSING



Most lanes in South Florida are 10-12 feet wide. If a bicyclist is the minimum safe distance of two feet from the edge of one of these lanes, **a car has to partially switch lanes to pass it** with the legal minimum clearance of three feet.



Impatient cars that squeeze between oncoming traffic and bicycles in these lanes are breaking the law by ignoring the three-foot clearance minimum. To prevent this hazard, cyclists are encouraged to travel nearer to the center of these lanes.



Bikes are legally entitled to use the entire lane to discourage motorists from squeezing by. This forces cars to wait for oncoming traffic to clear before they change lanes to pass.

Source: Florida Bicycle Association

KARA DAPENA/MIAMI HERALD STAFF

South Indian River Water Control District Annual Landowners Meeting

September 20, 2012

Our annual meeting was graced by nine landowners. The meeting started with a tribute to Board member David Beane who is retiring this year after serving on the Board for twenty-eight years. David was presented a beautiful plaque commemorating his service with the District. He thanked the community and stated he was proud of the accomplishments of SIRWCD during his time of service. He also said he was confident his replacement, Steve Hinkle (another Jupiter Farms resident), would serve his community and the District well.

Road Paving results were listed by the District's attorney, Bill Capko. Referendums that passed were:

73rd Terrace N between 155th Place N and 159th Court N

75th Way N between 163rd Court N and 165th Street N

77th Trail N between 165th Street N and 167th Court N
79th Terrace N between 155th Place N and 162nd Court N
90th Trail N between 165th Place N and 166th Way N
127th Drive N between 187th Place N and Old Indiantown Grade

There were 195 ballots sent out and 151 returned though 4 of them were unsigned. This election had very good participation. The District helped notify landowners by placing signs at each road with a referendum.

The engineers' report that followed was quite informative. The District engineer, Mr. Len Lindahl, started by reporting that last year's paving projects were completed under the estimated amount. Part of last year's plan of improvement was the new community park in Palm Beach Country Estates, The Margret Berman Memorial Park. The first phase of the park is complete and open to the community. It looks beautiful!

Mr. Lindahl also presented a diagram showing water retention

Continued on Page 4 SIRWCD

Donald Ross Landowners Minutes

Tuesday, July 10, 2012

Meeting was called to order at 7:40 by President Chris Reinhardt. In attendance: President Chris Reinhardt, 1st Vice President Kevin Baker, 2nd Vice President Sheri Murray, Treasurer Kevin Parkes, and Secretary Ellen Meehan.



Treasury Report The association has \$21,900 with \$12,300 in the operating account and \$9600 in the legal account.

Secretary Report The minutes of the May meeting will be in the next newsletter.

Old Business

Neighborhood Watch: Mike Ryan reported on the recent crime in the neighborhood which included two forced entries in June. We've had several new people join the C.O.P. program and can always use more volunteers.

Park and Playground: The initial phase of the community park is complete except for the fence which should be completed this month. The next phase will be to put in the playground. The Twisty Pines Playground Foundation was originally founded for the sole purpose of raising money for the playground. The plans have changed several times since then and we are now looking at buying playground equipment similar to most of the parks in the area from the Game Time company. We plan to have a tot lot for ages 2-5 and a separate playground for ages 5-12. We still have all the money from past donations and those donors names will be on the donor board at the entrance to the park. Please participate in fund raising by purchasing engraved bricks and fence pickets. **Bus Tour:** We just had the Neighborhood Bus Tour #3 with a patriotic 4th of July theme which was sold out and a big success. All the proceeds (approximately \$4000) go towards playground equipment. We plan to have another tour in October with a Halloween theme. **First Annual 4th of July:** Thank you to Ken and Debbie Trapasso for organizing our terrific July 4th celebration with food, games, antique cars, and the kids bike parade. Many neighbors worked hard to make is successful and about 200 people participated. We look forward to another one next year. **Security Cameras:** We spoke with Officer Hightower, our county liaison with the sheriff's department, who suggested we get a "live feed" video camera which allows the local police department to hook into the feed from their patrol cars. We will be looking into the feasibility and cost of this equipment.

New Business

Front Entrance: The west sign at the front entrance was damaged in a hit and run and we are looking for the

perpetrator to pay for the damages. **Meet the Candidates:** Jupiter Farms is having a meet the candidates night this Thursday, Sept 15, for local candidates running for office in the upcoming election and anyone is welcome to attend. We may have our own forum in PBCE later in the year. **Volunteer Fire Department:** Several residents are looking into the possibility of PBCE having our own volunteer fire department. If this is possible, it would help address the issue of insurance. Our homeowner's insurance is higher in PBCE because most houses are more than 5 miles from our fire station, so this could be a major benefit to PBCE homeowners.

Meeting was adjourned 8:15pm

Submitted by: Ellen Meehan, Secretary

Tuesday, September 11, 2012

Meeting was called to order at 7:38 by President Chris

Continued on Page 5 Minutes



Yvette Trelles, Esquire

Attorney at Law

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South Indian River Water Control District

Continued from Page 2

during storm events. Statistically, a 10 year 1 day event is about 8" of rain. An event less than that will fill the swales. An event of greater than that will fill the swales and cover the roadways. A 100 year 3 day event equals 16" of rain and would also flood yards. Houses should remain dry.

SIRWCD General Manager, Mike Dillon followed up with his annual report. The District maintains about 370 miles of drainage canals, 60 miles of main canals, and 189 miles of roadway. The District replaced 1600 linear feet of culvert pipes last year to lessen restrictions of water flow.

Rainfall in the District averages 65" in a year. This past year (ending in August) totaled 71". Most of this increase could be attributed to Tropical Storm Isaac. While Isaac made a run up through the Gulf off the west coast of Florida it dumped 10 to 12 inches of rain over our area. That was more rain than the hurricanes of '04 or '05. The areas to our southwest, in The Acreage and Wellington, received 8" more than that. Due to proper maintenance and diligence, flooding was minimized in our area. Within two days most of the street flooding was gone and by the end of the week our canals were almost back to normal.

SIRWCD has a website full of useful information. It has contact information for all of the board members and staff as well as minutes for the meetings for the last several years. There's also information about improvement petitions and referendums and much more. Visit at www.sirwcd.org. Monthly meetings are held at Jupiter High School on the 3rd Thursday at 7:30 PM.

I want to emphasize 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

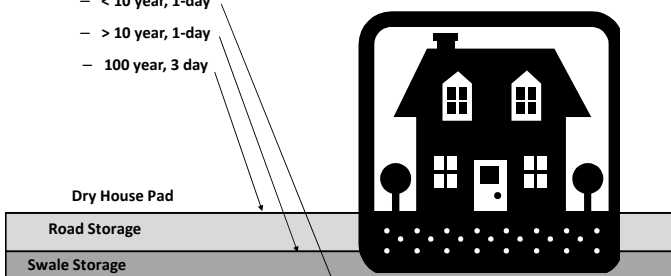
ryan@sirwcd.org

747-3233

Operations & Maintenance – SIRWCD Level of Service

Design Storms

- < 10 year, 1-day
- > 10 year, 1-day
- 100 year, 3 day



Election of DRLA Board

On May 21st the Donald Ross Landowner's Association will conducted their annual meeting to elect new officers. The offices that will be up for election are President, 2nd.

Vice President and Treasurer. The current officers all plan on running for re-election. If any landowner is interested in running for office please contact a board member to announce your candidacy.



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Donald Ross Landowners Minutes

Continued from Page 3

Reinhardt. In attendance: President Chris Reinhardt, 1st Vice President Kevin Baker, 2nd Vice President Sheri Murray, Secretary Ellen Meehan, and Treasurer Kevin Parkes.

Meet the Candidates: In lieu of a regular meeting we held a meet the candidates forum allowing local political candidates to introduce themselves and their platforms to the PBCE residents. Candidates included:

Joe Abruzzo - current Congressman, candidate for the Florida Senate

Pat Rooney - Republican candidate for Florida House of Representatives, District 85 (new district, includes PBCE)

David Lutrin - Democrat candidate for Florida House of Representative, District 85

David Levy - Mayor of Palm Beach Gardens, Candidate for County Commissioner

Hal Valeche - Candidate for County Commissioner

Christine Jax - Candidate for the School Board

Mike Murgio - Candidate for the School Board

Candidates each gave a short 5 minute speech then answered questions for 5 minutes from the audience.

Both U.S. House candidates Rep. Allen West and Patrick Murphy were invited but did not attend.

Further information on these candidates can be found on their websites or through their campaign offices.

Old and New Business:

Trunk-or-Treat: Will be having another trunk-or-treat for Halloween. Watch for announcements

Neighborhood Play Group: This will be organized by Tracy Lamport and held the first Saturday of each month at the PBCE Park, for ages 0 - 5. Check the PBCE website.

Park and Playground: The park is now open. We will have another Bus Tour fundraiser on October 13 with a Halloween theme. **Paved Roads:** The new ballots for road paving have been completed and about half of the petitions passed. See SIRWCD story.

Meeting was adjourned 8:52pm

Submitted by: Ellen Meehan, Secretary

Tuesday, Nov 13, 2012

Meeting was called to order at 7:39 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 \$7,300 in the operating account and \$9000 in the legal account.

Secretary Report The minutes from the July,

September, and November meeting will be in the newsletter and online.

Old Business

Trunk-or-Treat: The Halloween Trunk-or-Treat event (fourth annual) was a great success with 30 vehicles and 220 children participating. **Bus Tour:** We had another successful fund-raising bus tour in October which raised another \$4000 for the playground. **Park and Playground:** The Park is officially open and is available for use by the residents. The fence will be moved slightly soon to avoid putting up handrails over the culvert. The donor board will be included with the bricks which will be in tan and red; we are accepting bids to complete the 90 square feet of paving. The playground equipment has been ordered and should be installed soon. **Winter Festival:** We plan on having a neighborhood Winter Festival in the new park area in January or February if the park is ready. **Sandhill Cranes:** Please drive carefully since the seasonal Sandhill Cranes are back for the winter. **Front Entrance:** The damaged west entrance sign has been repaired at a cost of \$1,500 after the hit-and-run accident.

New Business

Road Reflectors: A resident questioned what the county will be doing about the three reflector posts that have been knocked down on the entrance road. A number of issues were then brought up. We will be following up with the county on these posts, the unlit street lights on Donald Ross and the reflectors on the curb which were not put in the right places. **County:** Our new County Commissioner for North Palm Beach will be Hal Valeche and we will look into having him attend one of our meetings in early 2013 to address the needs of our community.

Meeting was adjourned 8:12pm

Submitted by: Ellen Meehan, Secretary

December 11, 2012

The Palm Beach County Sheriff's Department asked to met with the residents of PBCE to update us on recent burglaries occurring in our area. Residents need to be aware of the situation and contact that sheriff's department at 561-688-3400 if you witness anything suspicious or have any information.

Pillowcase Burglaries Alert Summary:

A very organized gang of criminals out of Broward County have been in operation for almost two years committing home burglaries up the east coast primarily in neighborhoods near I-95 with numerous burglaries in Broward, Palm Beach, Martin and St. Lucie counties. Since some of the burglaries have been out of state and

Continued on Page 11 Minutes

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Citizen Observer Patrol

COP Update 1-13 Unit 103 Jupiter Farms /
Palm Beach Country Estates



The locations are approximated by the Sheriff's Dept. PBCE got hit with the residential breakins. It sure looks like the situation of the female driver dropping off and picking up the two black males. This is their MO to a T. We knew they were there and PBCE people ramped up the patrols and bingo after early January it stopped. JF was watching for them to come back there but apparently they did not. They may have moved to a totally different area. Jupiter Farms/Palm Beach Country Estates Residential Burglaries: J 2/PBCE 4, Stolen Vehicles: J 0/PBCE 1, Vehicle Burglaries: J 2/PBCE 0. JF Residential Burglary – 12/02/1208:00 to 01/02/13 08:00, 152nd & 96th St. N. A bank owned property vacant for several months was entered through the rear sliding glass door. Appliances were taken. Several windows along with the sliding glass door were broken. Vehicle Burglary – 01/28/13 08:30 to 01/29/13 08:30, 161st & Jupiter Farms Rd. Fuel was siphoned from two business vehicles parked inside the fenced area of Town and Country Feed. Unknown point of entry. Residential Burglary – 01/26/13 14:00 to 01/27/13, 173rd & 126th Terr. N. Unknown suspects entered the garage through the side door and stole a Ridgid shop vacuum. Burglary Vehicle – 01/31/13 19:00 to 02/01/13 6:00, 106th & 151st Ln. N. Vehicle



GROUP ONE

MORTGAGE

A LICENSED MORTGAGE LENDER

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

was left unlocked, taken was a laptop and charger. PBCE Stolen Vehicle – 01/02/13 08:00 to 01/02/13 08:30, An employee has permission to take a truck and trailer to Tampa. He was to return the vehicle instead rather than call like he was supposed to he sent a text message saying he quit. He gave two locations where the truck and trailer were parked. Tampa P.D. was notified and were unable to locate the vehicle. Residential Burglary – 01/04/13 20:00 to 01/04/13 20:35, 66th & 145th Pl. N. Victim returned home to find the lights on in the residence. Residence was checked by a deputy and K 9, finding the rear sliding glass door smashed out. The master bedroom was ransacked two 17” laptops were taken from the office area. Residential Burglary – 01/04/13 19:30 to 22:30, 78th & 150th Ct. N. Entry gained through a rear bathroom door window. The bedroom was ransacked a 380 cal. semi automatic handgun, laptop, and miscellaneous costume jewelry were taken along with a pillow case. Residential Burglary – 01/09/13 14:00 to 23:30, 67th & 195th Pl. N. Victim found his Ipad and two charging units missing from the kitchen counter top. A check for the Ipad was made by the victim with negative results. Home is alarmed but not armed prior to leaving. No signs of forced entry, entry and exit point was possibly the garage door which was left unlocked. Residential Burglary – 01/02/13 09:00 to 01/02/13 09:00, 69th & 150th Pl. N. Residence is in the process of foreclosure and has been vacant. Rear sliding glass door lock was jimmied open. Home was vandalized with spray paint and holes being punched in the walls.

COP Update Update 2-13 Unit 103 Jupiter Farms / Palm Beach Country Estates

Last month was pretty quiet. The gangs from Broward County who’ve been burglarizing our community seem to have moved from here and into Martin County. Always keep an eye out for unfamiliar people and cars on your street and report any suspicious activity to the Sheriff’s Dept. The Non-Emergency number is 688-3400.

We’ve had several new people join our unit and a few more in the process. Retired people are the real backbone of this organization and put in the most hours. However, our unit has quite a few working people in it. Several of the new people are working people also. The Sheriff’s Dept. requests that non-working people volunteer 12 hours a month and that working people volunteer 6 hours a month. Generally volunteers pick a time slot that works best for them and patrol 3 hours once a week (or every other week for working people). We have 3 cars that are

available 24hrs a day. Each volunteer has their own keys for the cars so it’s no hassle getting the cars. COP is also a good place for college students to gain community service hours.

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 more thorough job. Please consider joining your neighbors to help keep our community safe.

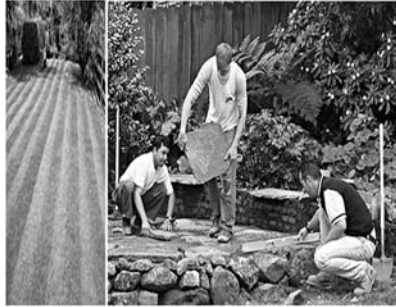
COP is more important than you know, and easier than you think!

Sincerely,

Mike Ryan

a1aei@bellsouth.net, 747-3233

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Bus Tour #4 A Spooky Good Time!

The Palm Beach Country Estates Bus Tour #4, was “A Very Spooky Night”!

October 13th, 2012 from 5:15—10:30 p.m. residents donned their spooky best and had a great time raising money for the playground.

If you’ve never attended one of these events, you’re in for a fun time with neighbors, food and drinks.

At a designated time between 5:15 and 6:00, you will be picked up by a motorcoach close to your home (we will assign you a bus stop after we know who has bought tickets). As we ride and pick up other PBCE residents, you will play games, laugh with neighbors, and have a refreshment. Then, you will disembark at four neighborhood homes for 45 minutes at each stop for food, drinks, and more fun. Silent auctions will round out our fun-filled evening. After the fourth and final home visit, you will be delivered back to your original bus stop.

Thanks to our bus masters of ceremony, Sheri Murray and Kevin Baker and a special thanks to our neighbor hosts who opened up their homes and provided food:

Kim and Albert Pradetto (appetizers), Jennifer and Orin Shakerdge (salads), Loretta and Peter Hayden (main course), Holly and Adam Morrison (dessert)

Thanks to everyone who helped out and we’ll see you at the next one!



SIRWCD Safety Meeting

SIRWCD Safety Meeting September 28, 2012

A safety meeting was held for the staff of operators and maintenance workers of the District. I took this opportunity to again meet with all of the workers responsible for the work that goes on around our communities. We have a fine group of people under the direction of Mike Dillon.



A couple of items came up that the landowners can help with.

1. Children are the number one safety concern of the equipment operators. Please talk with your children and ask them to stay far away from the District's equipment. Everyone (including adults) likes to watch the big pretty tractors do their work. Mowing equipment is particularly dangerous as sticks and stones could be thrown out at high speed.

2. Trees hanging into the Right-of-Ways was brought up again. The District wants landowners to keep in mind that trees need to be trimmed out of the right-a-ways. This is a big concern especially around corners. Vehicles have a hard time seeing oncoming traffic when tree branches hang out

too far. It's an even bigger concern for the equipment operators and the trash trucks as they are much larger and longer. The District can trim these trees back but they don't have the equipment to "neatly beautify" your plants. The landowners can help with this by trimming your trees yourself and end up with a nicer job for you and a safer street for everyone.

3. Sprinklers near the roadways were brought up by the grader operators. When installing any irrigation in the right-of-way, landowners are encouraged to call the District before any work begins.

4. Water Valve Boxes in Palm Beach Country Estates are a concern. Landowners should take notice of the location of these boxes that may be near the street in your front yard. Please do not cover these valve boxes with any vegetation or trash, not even temporarily. Once they get covered the equipment operators can't see them. Likewise Fire Hydrants and Water Stub-ups (the blue plastic pipes) should be kept clear and in view to avoid damage from maintenance equipment.

5. The equipment operators also brought up golf carts with kids (and usually dogs) following their equipment. It's difficult for the operators to see these smaller vehicles. This also applies to cars who try to pass equipment. Please exercise caution when driving near these large vehicles. The District employees are very safety conscious and we can help by doing our part.

6. The District has a "Don't Mow List" for people who prefer to maintain their own swales and don't want to have the District's large equipment used. The big problem the operators have though is finding peoples addresses. Sometimes it's hard to see the house and sometimes the mailbox might not be right in front of the house or marked. Proper addressing is also vitally important for police and firefighters to quickly respond. Everyone should check their house numbering and make sure it is in plain sight so nobody has to guess.

After the safety meeting there was a little celebration for Greg Gell for 20 years of service. Greg is a fine example of the kind of people who work for SIRWCD. He's an excellent equipment operator and a good instructor / trainer for new employees. Greg is only the fourth person to work twenty years for the District. Thanks Greg!

Thank you for your help. A little effort goes along way. Anyone with questions or suggestions can call SIRWCD at 747-0550.

Finally, I want to emphasize 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



*Private Instructions for Children

*U.S. Swim School Association Member

*Year Round Lesson

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Citizen Observer Patrol

COP Update 9-12 Unit 103 Jupiter Farms /
Palm Beach Country Estates

Palm Beach Country Estates has had a couple of decent months. The Sheriff's Department recently announced the arrest of about a dozen men and women from two gangs who have been targeting homes in Loxahatchee, Palm Beach Country Estates, and in Jupiter Farms. One of whom was the individual shot after breaking into a home in The Estates. Always keep an eye out for unfamiliar people and cars on your street and report any suspicious activity to the Sheriff's Dept. The Non-Emergency number is 688-3400.



We've had several new people join our unit and a few more in the process. Retired people are the real backbone of this organization and put in the most hours. However, our unit has quite a few working people in it. Several of the new people are working people also. The Sheriff's Dept. requests that non-working people volunteer 12 hours a month and that working people volunteer 6 hours a month. Generally volunteers pick a time slot that works best for them and patrol 3 hours once a week (or every other week for working people). We have 3 cars that are available 24hrs a day. Each volunteer has their own keys for the cars so it's no hassle getting the cars. COP is also a good place for college students to gain community service hours.

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 more 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!

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=kxOEIddXPcs>

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Chuck George

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FREE ESTIMATES

2013 DUES ARE DUE

**If you have not yet paid your
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Jupiter Water Hook-Up Financing Available Again

Once again you can finance the approximate \$3,911.28 fee to hook-up to the Jupiter city water system. The approximate \$328.00 assessment fee will be added to your annual PB County tax bill in the non ad valorem section of the bill for 20 years. (These figures are for a 3/4" water service line which requires a house to be under 4,000 sq. ft. and no city water irrigation system. The cost of a 1' service line is higher.) Jupiter Utilities will install the water meter but you still need to hire a plumber to run the line from the meter to the house. Most prices have been under \$1,000 for this. Call the Town of Jupiter Water Utility Dept. for details at 561-741-2300 or 561-746-5134.

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SIRWCD Workshop Meeting

February 7, 2013

The last two meetings were scheduled as workshops to address policies regarding paving procedure issues. I feel the meetings were very productive and dealt with concerns brought to the Board by landowners. I feel each of these changes will promote better communication, fairness, and consistency.

The first policy change is about corners lots and other lots that have more than one road adjacent to them. Previous policy had only allowed a landowner to vote on one road. Once either road was paved they weren't given a ballot on subsequent roads. The new policy gives landowners the right to vote on any and all paving referendums for roads adjacent to their property. The policy, for now, remains that a landowner only pays for paving once, and not for subsequent paving.

An issue that has caused the most response from the community has been paving petitions that seem to use more votes from one road to unfairly influence the vote count for another road or Parasitical Attachment. Roads will now have to stand on their own for a paving referendum.

In order to control the petitions being circulated and to make sure they contain accurate information, all petitions will have to be reviewed by district staff first. A petition will then be available for circulation and will contain all the information necessary to make an informed decision, including the process and the approximate cost based on previous paving costs. Landowners had complained that some petitions had been circulated containing

misinformation such as lower costs than actual.

Once an approved petition is put out for signatures, a card will be sent to all property owners informing them of the petition for paving on their road. This will give everybody involved a fair chance to lobby their neighbors whether for or against the effort. Frequently landowners had no idea a petition for their road was being circulated until the referendum showed up in the mail.

The final policy adoption was to make a public disclosure about a referendum and paving project so prospective buyers will be able to make an informed decision. When they do a title search they will find that a road is getting paved and that the property taxes will be higher as a result.

There was also some discussion about making the costs for a sidewalk or pathway an option.

The South Indian River Water Control District's 22nd Annual Landowners Family Day and the District's 90th Anniversary is March 16th at the district headquarters at 15600 Jupiter Farms Road. Festivities will be from 11:30am to 2:30pm. Come out and join your neighbors for good food, live entertainment, and visit the booths from various government and community organizations. This event gets better every year. Don't miss it!

SIRWCD has a website full of useful information. It has contact information for all of the board members and staff, as well as minutes for the meetings for the last several years. There's also information about improvement petitions, referendums, and much more. Visit at www.sirwcd.org. Monthly meetings are held at Jupiter High School on the 3rd Thursday at 7:30 PM.

I want to emphasize 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

Continued from Page 3

some of the items have been fenced in New York, there is a RICO investigation and the FBI is involved. In this area some of the most targeted neighborhoods are Jupiter Farms, Palm Beach Country Estates, Square Lakes and Juno Isles. In PBCE, there has been 11 burglaries in the last six months with 6 of them thought to be part of this pillowcase gang.

There have been between 120-140 individuals identified and over 20 arrested but the burglaries continue. The burglaries occur between 8:30am-2pm Monday through Friday - primary work and school hours. The individuals involved are young African-American males in newer-model rental cars sometimes with a female driver. They are usually in a group of three or four and the car windows are often tinted dark. They will knock on the front door to see if anyone is home. If no one answers the door, they back the car up into driveway. They have not been violent and if someone answers the door, they will just ask for a fictitious person or ask for directions and then leave and go to the next road. If nobody is home they will go to the back of the house and smash the sliding glass door or windows. In the house they proceed directly to the master bedroom and look for cash, jewelry, guns and small electronics. The suspects usually take a pillow

case from the bed to hold the items stolen. They are in and out very quickly and will often rob several houses sequentially. Fences and dogs do not generally deter them but they tend to leave quickly if a security alarm sounds, and security or hurricane glass often prevents their entry.

Residents can best protect themselves by using a security alarm system, use security glass, use locked gun safes, lock your doors, and keeping valuables in safer locations. If you have iphones, ipads, etc., register them - if they are stolen they can be tracked via gps. If you see something suspicious, try to get the car tag if possible and contact 911 or the sheriff's department.

The sheriff's department and all of law enforcement are working diligently to stop these criminals. For this reason, they are meeting with neighborhood associations to increase awareness with the issue. The two officers who talked to our residents are Daniel Shea and Ken Matlock. We thank them for their time and effort.

Feb 12, 2013

Meeting was called to order at 7:37 by President Chris Reinhardt. In attendance: President Chris Reinhardt, 1st Vice President Kevin Baker, 2nd Vice President Sheri Murray, Treasurer Kevin Parkes, and Secretary Ellen Meehan.

Treasury Report The association has \$7,530 in the operating account and \$9580 in the legal account.

Continued on Page 12 Minutes

Riverbend Park
9060 Indiantown Rd., Jupiter, FL

Pioneer Family Farmstead Day
Step Back In Time

Learn about Pioneer Life on the Loxahatchee

Saturday, March 23rd, 2013 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Antique Gas Engines
Games
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Free Event

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Or call: 561-741-1359

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Hal R. Valeche, Paulette Burdick, Shelly Vana,
Mary Lou Berger, Jess R. Santamaria

Donald Ross Landowners Minutes

Continued from Page 11

Secretary Report The minutes of the previous meetings will be in the February newsletter and on the website.

Old Business

Neighborhood Watch: The COP's volunteers have been very active and visible patrolling the neighborhood due to the burglary issue and it has helped - the number of incidents are down for January. Go to the mypbce.org website and click on the Facebook icon and then "like us". - Mike Ryan updates facebook regularly on issues and incidents. The watch team is being especially diligent on watching female joggers and children leaving school buses. There was an incident where a white van followed a young girl getting off the school bus and she had to evade the van trying to follow her. **Security Cameras:** Officer Hightower is assisting us with investigating the option of security cameras at our entrances. **Park:** The playground equipment has been purchased and delivered to the installer but we are still waiting on final permitting from Palm Beach County. The park landscaping has been completed and looks great. The first set of engraved bricks are layed and can still be ordered, but we will add the new bricks as we get groups of orders. **Damaged**

Entrance: We paid \$1,500 to repair the damaged front fence from the hit-and-run accident. The Donald Ross Landowners Association paid to have some dead stumps removed and volunteers did the trimming and removal of the damaged vegetation.

New Business

Marsh Pointe 5K Run: Marsh Point is our local elementary school and they are having their 5K Run on March 9 at 7:30am to benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. They can use more participants, volunteers, and donations if you can assist. **Annual Meeting:** At our next meeting in May, we will have Susan Bucher, the Supervisor of Elections, come to meet with us and talk about Palm Beach County Elections. The Town of Jupiter will also attend to update us on the results of the Water Survey they conducted. It will be the annual meeting and will include the election of officers. The offices that will be up for election are President, 2nd. Vice President and Treasurer. The current officers all plan on running for re-election. If any landowner is interested in running for office please contact a board member to announce your candidacy.

Meeting was adjourned 8:05

Submitted by: Ellen Meehan, Secretary



Bicycle Safety

Continued from Page 2 Bicycle Safety

drivers don't give the legal 3-foot passing distance.

The unsafe condition of substandard-width lanes is that drivers may unlawfully and dangerously attempt to pass within the lane or use the adjacent lane when there is conflicting traffic. The roads in PBCE are less than 14 wide and are considered substandard-width lanes.

The provision in the Bicycle Regulations allows bicyclist to protect their space for their own safety. The way they do that is to control the lane. They are not required to keep right. It is legal and it is the safest cycling practice under many circumstances for the cyclist to "take the lane".

It is simply a reminder to the overtaking motorist that they must fulfill the responsibilities that exist in the law to insure the adjacent lane is clear of other traffic before attempting to pass, and when passing, insure the required 3-foot safe passing distance.

A bike on the road is to be given the same respect you would give another car or motorcycle. You wouldn't consider squeezing in between a motorcycle and oncoming traffic to pass would you? You must wait until there are no other cars coming in the opposite direction so you can legally pass and give the proper 3-foot passing distance. Lets all do our best to keep our roads and our neighbors safe.

For more casual bike rides, 1st VP Kevin Baker invites you to join the Jupiter Recreational Bicycle Club at <http://www.meetup.com/Jupiter-Recreational-Bicycle-Club>.



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Park Update

Continued from Page 1 Park Update

to be replaced.

The county-approved plans include a playground, one large picnic pavilion, two smaller shade pavilions, exercise station along the fitness trail, half basketball court and racquetball court. But it's up to us to pay for these additional amenities. We would like to build the large pavilion next, but we need your help.

You, your family or business can be a part of the park forever! We are still selling engraved brick pavers and engraved fence pickets. For our new residents who haven't heard the 4x8 or 8x8 bricks will be a part of the walkway from the parking lot to the playground.

The playground it's self will be enclosed with a composite wood picket fence for added security and piece of mind for parents with small children.

These bricks and pickets will be a reminder that you helped create a playground that the children of Palm Beach Country Estates will enjoy for generations. Order forms can be downloaded at the twistypinesplayground.org website.

Or, you can make a 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

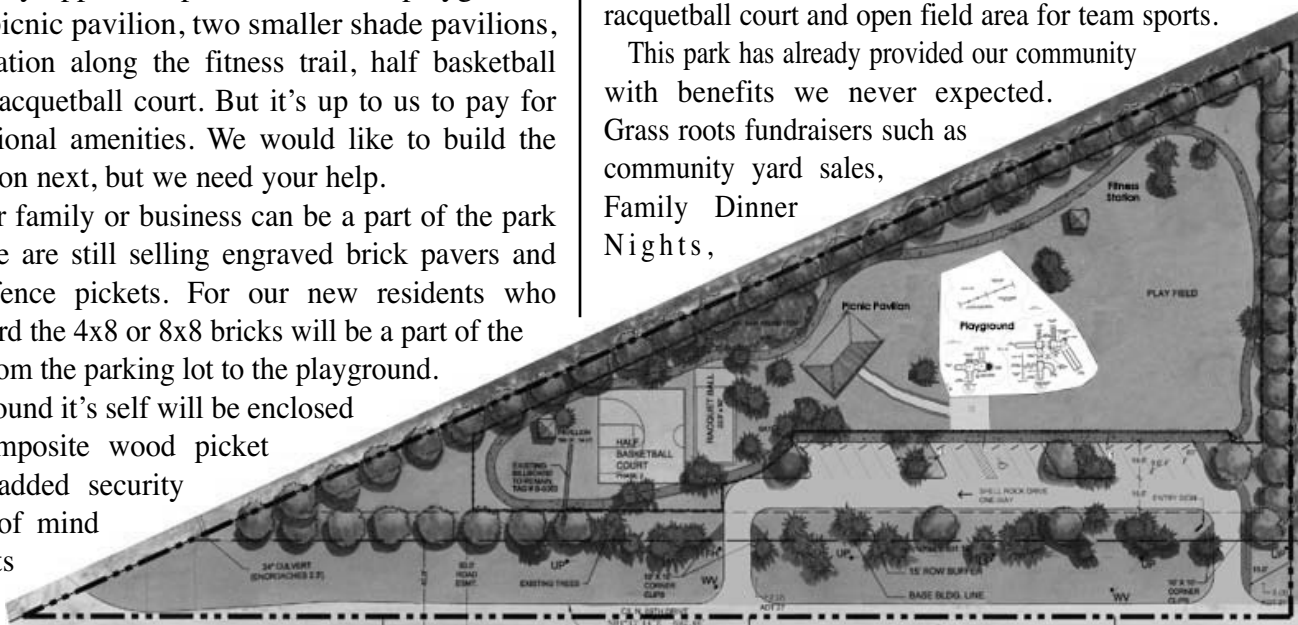
Remember, all donations are tax-deductible.

It's up to the residents of Palm Beach Country Estates to make this the best park it can be and with your help I know we can do it.

The benefits of a community park and playground are far-reaching. Children will have a safe place to play while parents socialize. As one of the few fenced-in playgrounds in the area, families will have a greater sense

of security when they come to play. The benefits of fitness will also be extended to adults because of the fitness path, exercise station, half basketball court, racquetball court and open field area for team sports.

This park has already provided our community with benefits we never expected. Grass roots fundraisers such as community yard sales, Family Dinner Nights,



Neighborhood Bus Tours and elegant dinners have allowed neighbors to create friendships that would have otherwise never occurred. Struggling local businesses have created new networks when they attend fundraisers or provided labor on lot clearing days. Families are coming together with a common goal: creating a space that will provide relaxation, family time, fitness, and most importantly, a renewed sense of community.

Now that the playground has been installed we plan on having a community event to celebrate. The date and more information to come!

The park has already been host to a community clean up day, a candidate meet-and-greet and the Moms Club meetings.

We welcome all residents to come and visit the park. Ride your bike or horse, walk or drive. Leashed dogs are welcome inside the park but not inside the playground area and please don't forget your plastic pick-up bags!



Living Oaks Ministries

Sunday Worship Service 10:30AM

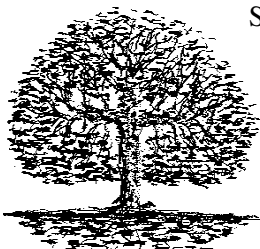
We welcome you to join us!

Ministries available for the whole family.

Please check us out on the web!

www.livingoaks.org

14156 64th Drive N, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418



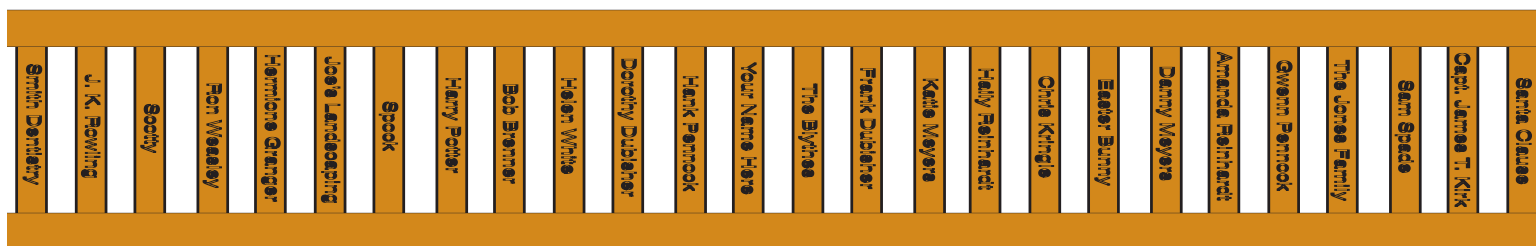
PBCE Mom's Club

New meetings and playdates for the PBCE Mom's Club!

Parents, grandparents and caregivers, join us with your 0-5 year olds for the PBCE Mom's Club.

Contact Tracey Lampport for more information:
561-707-9641 or Traceylampport@comcast.net





Twisty Pines Playground

I Want to be a part of the park and playground!

Personalized Fence Pickets!

YES, I want to purchase personalized fence pickets!

Routed with your name or message, these pickets will surround the playground.

Individual or family pickets \$30 each.

Business or corporate pickets \$50 each.

I want to purchase _____ pickets x \$30 = \$ _____

I want to purchase _____ pickets x \$50 = \$ _____

Please personalize as follows (17 character limit including spaces or punctuations):

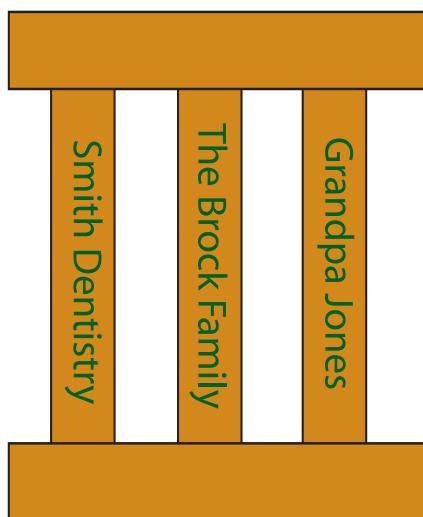
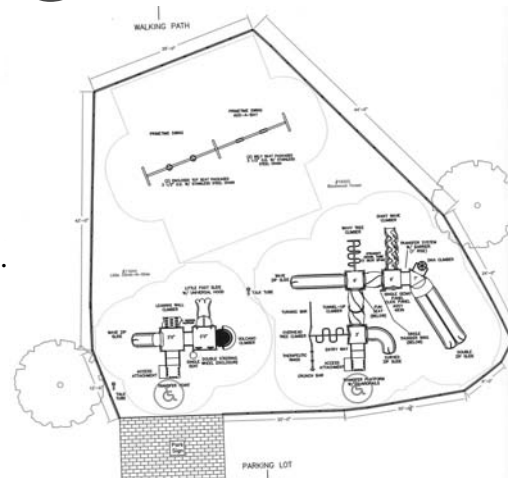
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Please fill out contact information completely:

Name: _____

Address: _____

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city

zip

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Make checks payable to
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P.O. Box 30638,

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Check out the Playground web site for updates and more information,

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For additional information call Chris at 561-762-1281

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