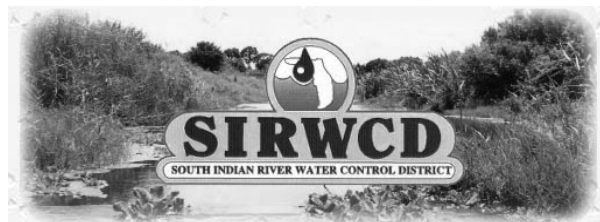


Countryside Living...

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

Two South Indian River Water Control District Board of Supervisors sworn in at monthly meeting

Jupiter, FL – Michael Danchuk and Michael J. Ryan were sworn in at a rescheduled monthly meeting of the South Indian River Water Control District (SIRWCD) Board of Supervisors. The board accepted the certified results from the Supervisor of Elections with Ryan receiving 1,374 votes, and Danchuk, 1,318 votes.



The board also moved to keep the current slate of officers – Thomas Powell as president, Thomas Rice as vice-president, and Jane Woodward as Secretary. In addition, committee heads are also to keep their positions – Powell, budgeting; Rice, communications; and David Beane, policies and procedures. Michael Ryan was asked to take over former Board of Supervisor Robert Berman's committee on parks, recreation and water.

In other business, the board unanimously voted to approve the use of reusable street signage for the Board of Supervisors' annual elections and roadway referenda. While the board encouraged landowners to read their newsletters and check the SIRWCD website, which regularly includes information on elections and referenda, they felt the signs would increase awareness for the landowners.

District Engineer Lennart J. Lindahl noted that the District is coordinating water quality testing with the Loxahatchee River District and will issue a request for proposals seeking qualified firms to provide water quality sampling services to the District.

In addition, he said that his staff will coordinate with the District's Public Information Officer to issue a second, more detailed mailing on the FEMA floodplain revision opportunity for affected Palm Beach Country Estates landowners.

Continued on Page 4, Supervisors

Officers and Committee Members

Officers:

President - Chris Reinhardt	762-1281
reinhardm@bellsouth.net	
1st Vice President - Kevin Baker	748-3376
Kevin.Baker@thestreet.com	
2nd Vice President - Sheri Murray	601-1647
sherimurray@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
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 – Pam Malone	743-9912
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
bbeaninc@bellsouth.net	
RV/Camping Club – Connie McCormick	744-2938

2011 Ocean to Lake Celebration

Atlantic Ocean to Lake Okeechobee
February 25-27, 2011

The Ocean to Lake Greenway Celebration is an annual long distance trail event spanning 140,000 acres of public parks, state and federal natural lands, and

rights-of-way that extend between Lake Okeechobee and the Atlantic Ocean. The lands are in both Martin and Palm Beach Counties. Some are well established areas such as Jonathan Dickinson State Park and both Dupuis and Corbett Wildlife Areas, while others were purchased fairly recently as part of efforts to protect

Continued on Page 7, Celebrations

Message from the President

After years of hard work, the Palm Beach Country Estates community park is finally going to be a reality. Soon we will have a park to hold events, families can have picnics and socialize with neighbors and kids and adults can use the many amenities planned for the park. The park will be a shining focal point in our community.

Residents have asked us now that SIRWCD owns the park property if there was any way they can help fund the park. So the Park/Playground committee has formally asked SIRWCD if there is any way they can help fund the park. The attorneys and the treasurer came back with a solution. Over the years residents have asked SIRWCD to do things that were not in their normal scope of road and canal maintenance. They couldn't do these extra things because they are not considered maintenance. So back in 2005 SIRWCD budgeted a separate account for "Special Projects" or "Special Landscaping" from the taxes that were already being assessed. The money is appropriated annually into this fund out of only PBCE resident's taxes. Jupiter Farms and other SIRWCD communities are not affected. This money is to be used by PBCE only. So far the only thing this account has been used for is the additional swale maintenance on 69th that residents requested. A



landscape company was hired to do the maintenance because SIRWCD doesn't have the proper equipment. This is a yearly contract. There is still approximately \$250,000 in this account and the account will continue to increase annually. We were extremely excited when the accountants and lawyers said this account could be used for the park. Bids were collected for the parking area, landscaping, irrigation and fence. These are county requirements and with these improvements we would have a basic park. These bids total approximately \$130,000. This figure does not include the county approved pavilions, fitness trail, basketball and racquetball courts and playground. We are still unsure if SIRWCD would be able to fund these recreational amenities. Fundraising will continue to help mitigate or possibly pay for the playground in full. There will be a public hearing regarding the park funding at the December 2nd SIRWCD meeting at Jupiter High School. We encourage residents to attend to show your support for the park or if you have any questions or concerns you can ask them there.

Palm Beach Country Estates will finally have a park and playground where our kids can play safely and adults can play too!

Chris Reinhardt - President DRLA

Citizen On Patrol Update

The Citizen Observer Patrol just had their annual Recognition Luncheon. Invited were volunteers with at least 85 hours reported last year. The big news of the day was the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Department had just received an award for "Outstanding Achievement in Law Enforcement Volunteer Programs" from the International Association of Chiefs of Police. This was a competition involving 2,065 volunteer organizations from around the world.

The award was sponsored by the Science Applications International Corporation to recognize volunteer programs that demonstrate innovative and effective practices for assisting sworn and civilian staff and improving service delivery to their communities.

Our unit (Jupiter Farms and Palm Beach Country Estates) was recognized for having over 7,000 volunteer hours last year (ending in August). We had several individuals recognized for their service. Paul LaMontagne had 284 hours, Bob Berman had 610, Frances Mullane had 699, Gabe Spina had 707, and Bill Comensky had 799 hours. These folks went above and

beyond to help our community and deserve our heart felt thanks.

Our COP performed 581 house checks last month. Anyone going away should fill out a form and ask for house checks while their away. You can get a form from any COP Patrol car, on-line at the Palm Beach Country Estates website. or Bob Berman's office. And as usual, residents are encouraged to join our fine COP unit and help our community. We still have open time slots for patrol.

*Thanks and be safe,
Mike Ryan*



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Donald Ross Landowners Associations

Minutes - November 9, 2010

Meeting was called to order at 7:32 by President Chris Reinhardt. In attendance: President Chris Reinhardt, 2nd Vice President Sheri Murray, Secretary Ellen Meehan, and Treasurer Kevin Parkes. 1st Vice President Kevin Baker was unable to attend.

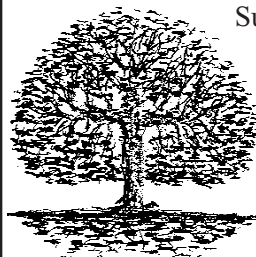
Treasury Report - The association has \$9000 in the operating account and \$8000 in the legal account.

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

Old Business - Trunk-or-Treat: The Halloween Trunk-or-Treat event was a great success with 35 vehicles and over 200 children participating. We received donations at the event and the money will be added to the Twisty Pines playground fund. **Park and Playground:** Since SIRWCD now owns the park property, the Park/Playground committee has formally asked SIRWCD if they can help fund the park. To our delight, the SIRWCD board and attorneys have informed us that there is funding available for the park. It is a budgeted fund for "Special Projects" for neighborhood improvements in PBCE that was started in 2005 for just such projects. The money is appropriated into this fund out of PBCE residents taxes annually. A portion of these funds currently gets used each year for additional landscaping on 69th. There is approximately \$250,000 in the fund and the SIRWCD board will be deciding at their next public hearing on Dec. 2 on approval of use of some of these funds to pay for the park. The bid for the first portion of the park totals approximately \$130,000 and will include the parking, landscaping, irrigation and the fence. The next stage will include completion of the pavilions, fitness trail, basketball and racquetball courts and the playground. Residents who would like to demonstrate their support for the park are encouraged to attend the Dec. 2nd meeting at Jupiter High School or contact the SIRWCD board members prior to the meeting. **Road Maintenance:** A homeowner questioned the process of the use of SIRWCD funds for additional maintenance on our dirt roads and if the funds are being best used for the benefit of all residents. Bob Berman explained the budgeting process at SIRWCD and that the money designated for road and canal maintenance are separate budgets items from the special landscaping projects. It was explained that you basically can get whatever you are willing to pay for. If residents want to spend more

Continued on Page 5, Minutes

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Sunday Worship Service 10:30AM

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Wet Palm Beach, FL 33401

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STOP for Sandhill Cranes

This past week a speeding car has killed another Sandhill Crane on 69th Drive. A resident who witnessed the accident stopped and took the bird to Busch Wildlife Sanctuary in Jupiter, but the crane died of its injuries. The Florida Sandhill Crane is listed as endangered, primarily due to habitat loss. They are protected under state and federal law. The Florida Sandhill Crane is a subspecies of the North American Sandhill Crane. Florida Sandhill Cranes are year round residents where as the North American Sandhill Cranes will migrate here for the winter. These cranes are omnivorous and will eat things like seeds, worms, insects, lizards, snakes and mice. They will also eat shelled corn and commercially purchased bird seed from the ground and from feeders. Sandhill Cranes seem little afraid of human or car approach. They can't take off and fly from a standing position, so cars **must slow down or stop** to let them cross the road. To our west, our community borders a protected Sandhill Crane nesting area. Nesting begins in December to early March. Females typically lay one or two eggs, with incubation lasting 29 - 32 days. These birds can live up to 20 years and mate for life. They are part of our community and it's up to us to protect them.

Citizen's Observer Patrol Info

The Citizen's Observer Patrol has been conducting house checks for resident's that request the COP to check on their home while they are out of town. It has recently come to the attention of the COP that many resident's of PBCE do not have address numbers on the front of their homes. Even though house numbers are often clearly marked on mailboxes, mailboxes are often not in front of the home or there are multiple mailboxes in front of a home. This makes it difficult for the COP to recognize which house has requested the house check. It has also been noted that this is a concern in regards to fire or police service as well. Please take the time to put your address numbers clearly on the front of your home so that any assistance you request will not be delayed due to the service provider being unable to find your home.

Supervisors sworn in at meeting

Continued from Page 1

Robert Berman asked the board to consider amending the existing plan of improvements for Palm Beach Country Estates to include the use of existing funds for the community's new park that is being developed. While, there was no objection from the board on usage of the funds for this purpose, Michael Danchuk and Michael Ryan wanted Palm Beach Country Estates landowners to be made aware of the situation and possible options for the funding.

Prior to the board meeting, the first of two required public hearings was held on the 15 referenda that passed regarding roadway improvement projects in Palm Beach Country Estates and Jupiter Farms. Lindahl reported that the total estimated annual payment per parcel for the Palm Beach County standard asphalt roads is estimated at \$975 per parcel, while the roadways seeking to apply open-graded emulsified mix (OGEM) would be approximately \$636 annually per parcel. These estimates are based upon current interest rates over a term of up to fifteen years. If landowners choose to, they may pay in full without financing – \$9,036 for the asphalt roadways and \$5,208 for the OGEM roadways.

After discussion and comments from the public, the board directed staff to file the plan of improvement and scheduled the second public hearing on the project for December 2.

SIRWCD serves Palm Beach Country Estates, Jupiter Farms, Egret Landing and the Jupiter Park of Commerce. For more information contact the District office at 747-0550.

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Donald Ross Landowners Minutes

Continued from Page 3

money on shellrock or maintenance of dirt roads you can go to the budget hearings for SIRWCD when they divide all the funds between the individual budget items. It is a very precise budget and they do not collect or spend any more money than is needed. Be aware that for the last 10 years there has been less than a 1% increase in the total budget for PBCE. The increased number of residents and road usage during that time has affected road quality and they are especially difficult when really wet or really dry. Residents desiring more information on this subject should contact a SIRWCD board member or Gale English at 747-0550. **Sidewalks:** The Construction on the sidewalk on 69th has been finished and 150th is in progress; the sidewalks for 143rd, and 64th are next. A resident questioned the maintenance of the new sidewalks. The sidewalks are the property of the county and they should be maintaining all landscaping. The SIRWCD board is checking on whether they should be involved in this process to ensure better maintenance.

Front Entrance: The merge lane from Donald Ross on 69th is in the process of being adjusted and lengthened by the county. When that is complete the 69th sidewalk will extend to the roundabout. **Road Ballots:** A special ballot went out for paving of the road between 69th and 75th on 154th. Those ballots are due on Nov 12th and we will know the status after that. The next public SIRWCD meeting regarding all roads to be paved will be on Dec 2. **The Canal:** The Blue Gill Trail construction is still in progress on the C-18 canal and the completion date has been extended to December. The new bridge has been installed but portions of the canal bank are still under construction and there is no trespassing.

Neighborhood Watch: Mike Ryan reported that there has been an uptick in crime in the last couple months and the primary offender has been apprehended. The majority of the break-ins continue to be in vehicles and homes that are not locked. Residents are encouraged to put visible house numbers on the front of your home for maximum protection from the fire and police departments and neighborhood security. Numbers on the mailbox only are not sufficient. MORE VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED for the C.O.P.S. program; please contact pbccnw@aol.com or check the PBCE website if you can donate a few hours a month. The COP program house checks are still available if you want your home checked while you are out of town. Applications are on the mypbce.org website.

New Business - SIRWCD Board: Congratulations to

Mike Ryan on his election to the SIRWCD board and Michael Danchuk on his re-election. The DRLA would like to thank Bob Berman for his years of service on the SIRWCD board. **Septic Tanks:** Be aware that new legislation has been passed in Florida and additional legislation being debated on the maintenance of septic tanks. The legislation will start requiring septic tank inspections every five years which will impact our residents financially. You may want to contact your State Representative regarding this issue. There could also be additional legislation regarding water pollution and water quality standards of the canals which could adversely affect PBCE residents financially. **Pet Waste:** A resident addressed the problem of excess dog droppings along the new sidewalks. He suggested we contact the local boy scouts about the possibility of some Eagle Scouts taking on our neighborhood as a project. They can build and install dispensers for plastic bags for removing dog droppings. The board can look into this possibility along with other enhancements such as bulletin boards and benches as our sidewalks and park are finished. An emphasis should be placed on offering services for residents of all ages.

Meeting was adjourned 8:08pm

Submitted by: Ellen Meehan, Secretary

Neighborhood Watch info



Crime had spiked in September, but the arrest of a prime suspect has seemed to cause a big drop off in incidents. Some of the home burglaries were done by someone who knew the victims. Two homes had large dogs. A crook entered one of the homes through the doggie door. Some people had things stolen from their homes while they were in the back yard. A little extra precaution can prevent some of these crimes.

There were several vehicle burglaries. Almost all vehicle burglaries happen to unlocked cars. Most of these crimes are completely preventable. Lock your cars and don't leave any valuables in your car.

Residents are encouraged to sign up for Neighborhood Watch updates. Just send your e-mail address to pbccnw@aol.com.

Thanks and be safe,

Mike Ryan

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Palm Beach Country Estates FEMA Flood Zone Revision Opportunity

Notices were sent out to those landowners in Palm Beach Country Estates that own property located in Flood Zone A0 as determined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). South Indian River Water Control District (SIRWCD) is considering applying for a Letter of Map Revision based on Fill (LOMR-F) with FEMA for the effective property structure(s) that are located within this flood zone.

- If SIRWCD is successful with this application, the structures on the effective property could be removed from the flood zone designation, making the purchase of flood insurance optional instead of a requirement

- This could save affected landowners hundreds of dollars annually in future insurance costs

By requesting SIRWCD to apply for this application, the affected residents of Palm Beach Country Estates could save money by submitting one application for multiple parcels rather than each landowner processing one individually. The cost to process this application is dependent on the number of landowners who participate and the number of required elevation surveys and is estimated to range from \$200-\$500 per landowner (a one-time cost), which would be offset by your flood insurance savings.

SIRWCD had previously investigated trying to get the FEMA maps changed based on the drainage work done in the District in 1989, however, the cost of re-certifying the improvements that were done would have exceeded the costs for this proposed approach.

If you are interested in participating in this process, either return your notice or contact SIRWCD at 15600 Jupiter Farms Road, Jupiter, FL 33478. If you are in this Flood Zone and did not receive a mailing, please contact the District office at 747-0550.

This is a voluntary program. If you wish to retain your FEMA flood insurance you may do so.

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2011 Ocean to Lake Celebration

Continued from Page 1

open spaces and natural areas, and to preserve lands needed to restore the Wild and Scenic Loxahatchee River. The OTL celebration is for both amateur and experienced recreational athletes. Events include long distance backpacking, horseback riding, off-road bicycling, and paddling. All of which include opportunities for camping.

Events include:

Hiking - hike the Loxahatchee River corridor. Hike starts at Riverbend Park and ends at Jonathan Dickinson State Park river area.

Horseback Riding - ride one day, two or all three! Ride starts at Dupuis and ends at J.D. State Park.

The one day ride from Jupiter Farms to J.D. State Park is approximately 24 miles. The distance horseback event includes opportunities for camping, and because of the "one-way" nature of the Greenway, shuttle transportation will be arranged back to the trailheads on a daily basis.

Off-Road Cycling - Greenway Loop Ride. Greenway Loop ride west of J.D. in the Cypress Creek area. Loops start and end at Eaglesview Equestrian area. Ride up to



40 miles out and back.

Paddling - paddle the wild and scenic Loxahatchee River. Rent a canoe and paddle from Riverbend to JD Park. Return transportation included.

Geocaching - explorers get ready! New caches are being set throughout the Ocean To Lake Greenway. Visit the most and report your findings at our Celebration at J.D. Park. No registration required.

Registration required for the following OTL Greenway events: Loxahatchee Trail Hike, Bicycling, Greenway Loop, and all horseback riding segments. This is a permitted and insured event. All Participants will be issued Event ID. You MUST wear your ID at all times.

The Ocean to Lake Greenway Celebration is hosted by the Jupiter Farms Environmental Council, Inc., a 501(c)3 charitable organization of volunteers dedicated to protecting and enhancing the Loxahatchee River Watershed and to promoting the Ocean to Lake Greenway.

Please visit the website for more information and participation forms.

www.oceantolake.org

Referendum for 154th Roadway Improvement Sent to Landowners

A referendum for constructing a Palm Beach County standard asphalt roadway for 154th Road N between 69th Drive N and 75th Avenue N was mailed out to affected landowners on October 20. The referendum will pass if a majority of the votes cast are in favor of the roadway improvement. Landowners must cast a vote, whether for or against, to have it counted. Please sign, date and mark the ballot with your vote and return it in the pre-addressed, stamped envelope to the Supervisor of Elections offices.

It must be received on or before November 24, 2010.

As requested by landowners at a previous Board of Supervisors meeting, signs notifying affected landowners about the referendum were posted on 154th Road N. Unfortunately, the signs were removed by unknown persons within a day.

If you have any questions regarding the project or have misplaced or did not receive a ballot, please call the District office at 561-747-0550

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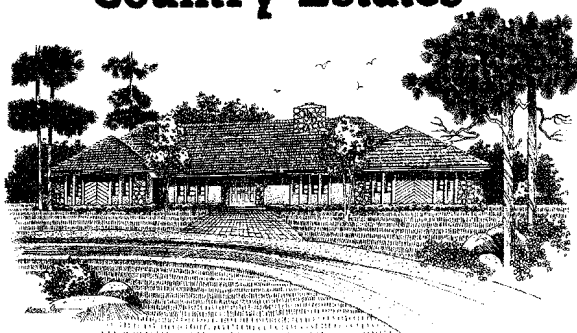
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****Land Owners Meeting****

Tuesday, January 11, 2011 at 7:30 PM at Living Oaks Ministries Church on 64th Drive

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