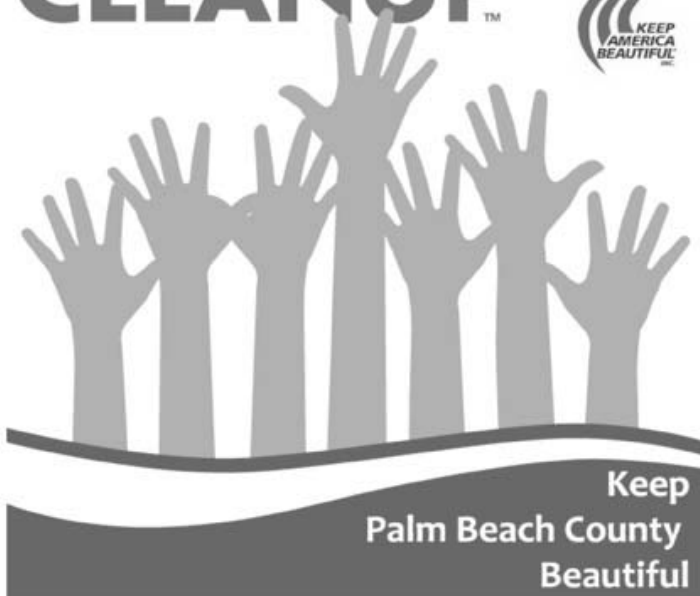


Countryside Living...

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

GREAT AMERICAN CLEANUP™



The GREAT AMERICAN CLEANUP, a project of Keep America Beautiful, Inc., is coordinated locally by Keep Palm Beach County Beautiful Inc. and the Solid Waste Authority (SWA) of Palm Beach County.

Join us and help Keep Palm Beach County Beautiful!

Saturday, April 12th

Margaret Berman Memorial Park

REGISTER AT PARK 9am

Hosted by Donald Ross Landowners Association

FREE T-Shirts to the 1st 50 Volunteers

Sonny's BBQ Lunch served after Cleanup



Officers and Committee Member

Officers:

President -	Kevin Baker	748-3376
	Kevin.Baker@thetstreet.com	
1st Vice President -	Carol-Sue Ryan	747-3233
	ca.sueryan@yahoo.com	
2nd Vice President -	Jason McFarland	951-9977
	jason.t.mcfarland@gmail.com	
Treasure -	Kevin Parkes	441-2855
	parkescpa@yahoo.com	
Secretary -	Ellen Meehan	401-9331
	ellen1981@live.com	

Committees:

Newsletter Editor/Advert. -	Carol-Sue Ryan	747-3233
	ca.sueryan@yahoo.com	
COP Patrol & Disaster Assistance -	Mike Ryan	747-3233
	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 -	Rose Moon	
	rdlouca@yahoo.com	
Neighborhood Beautification -	Ken Trapasso	578-9323
	trapassok@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 - pbcew@aol.com

SIRWCD - www.sirwcd.org 747-0550

Equestrian - Kerie Franco 762-7988

Kerie_Hudson@yahoo.com

Community Historian - Mike Danchuk 626-2530

Wetjets@aol.com

Webmaster - Help Wanted...

The Donald Ross Landowners Association is joining Keep America Beautiful, Inc. in sponsoring the Great American Cleanup this year. Join your neighbors on Saturday, April 12th, to help keep Palm Beach Country Estates clean and green. We will meet at the Margaret Berman Memorial Park at 9am for registration, information, trash bags and street assignments. Cool t-shirts are available for the first fifty volunteers. Community Service hours sheets will be on-site, please inquire if needed. Sonny's BBQ will be served after the cleanup to volunteers. Come join us in this annual effort to make Palm Beach Country Estates a safe, clean and beautiful place to live!

Message from the President

In my first “Message from the President”, you should know right away that the hand-off between Chris Reinhardt and myself has been smooth and that the mission of our landowners’ association has not changed. Since I first joined the board in May 1999, we have built & rebuilt the front entrance and established our community park through generous donations of time and money. Every day, as horses trot past my window, I am reminded that the essential character of our neighborhood has not changed and the quality of life has improved. Palm Beach Country Estates is still a great place to raise a family, live close to nature, and avoid being told by a bunch of condo-commandos what you can and can’t do on your own property.

The strength of our organization comes from gathering together to speak as one voice to county, state, and federal officials about issues important to us such as the irrationally-high price of homeowner’s insurance. Moderating our Facebook group, Palm Beach Country Estates Neighbors, I see daily examples of the power of many voices meeting in our community forum to share our collective wisdom. Start your own conversation by posting a question or feel free to “Friend” me, Kevin Baker, and send me direct messages about neighborhood issues or how you would like to get involved.



Back in July 2013, Gov. Rick Scott vetoed State Rep. Pat Rooney’s unanimously passed local bill HB 855, submitted at the request of South Indian River Water Control District (SIRWCD), which would have allowed SIRWCD to “improve” the park and finish building the remaining elements: pavilion, basketball and racquetball courts. The Governor claimed that any park improvements should be done by the county instead of SIRWCD. Rooney has revived the local bill again this year as HB 1171 to allow SIRWCD to “construct improvements upon” our park as long as “Palm Beach County declines in writing to do so.” When this bill advances out of the Local & Federal Affairs Committee and clears the entire FL legislature, I will let everyone know when to call Gov. Scott to push for his signature.

At our annual meeting on Tuesday May 20, 2014, elections will be held for President, 1st Vice President, and Secretary. If you wish to run for a board position, please call one of the existing board members so that your name can be added to the ballot. I am fortunate to have a very strong team of volunteer board members. So while I have not previously sought the presidency, I will present myself for election to that post and nominate Carol-Sue Ryan for 1st VP, and Ellen Meehan for Secretary. We will have special guest speaker Carl Domino. Please come.

Sincerely, Kevin Baker, President

South Indian River Water Control District

Regular Meeting March 27th, 2014

The regular meeting was held on the fourth Thursday this month because of the school being closed due to spring break. It was reported that the District’s Family Day was a huge success! There were almost 750 landowners who showed up to enjoy some time with their neighbors with some really good Sonny’s BBQ while listening to a great band. We had several new vendors there this year also.

Paving projects are almost complete and have come in slightly under budget.

The attorney reported that the Governor’s office isn’t happy with our latest bill presented to allow improvements to our community park in PBCE. The Governor’s objection is that he feels parks should be



the responsibility of the County first. With the current bills wording and the way the Governor has expressed his objection, if this bill gets vetoed, the attorney feels we will be able to proceed with our desired improvements if we don’t get help from the County.

The other big item of the evening was a request from a developer who wants to use the SIRWCD canal right of way to bring sewer and water to a proposed RV park on the north side of Indiantown Rd. Much debate and discussion was had on the matter.

I attended a recent safety meeting held with the district employees and to also celebrate the 15th year at SIRWCD of Arie Raz. An interesting topic presented was that SIRWCD has a drop off tank for used oil that landowners are encouraged to use. Safety items that landowners can help with were brought up. First and foremost were kids around the large equipment. Everyone like to watch the big

Continued on Page 4 SIRWCD

Donald Ross Landowners Minutes

Minutes for March 11, 2014

Meeting was called to order at 7:34 by President Kevin Baker. In attendance: President Kevin Baker, 1st Vice President Carol-Sue Ryan, 2nd Vice President Jason McFarland, Treasurer Kevin Parkes, and Secretary Ellen Meehan.



Guest Speakers:

PBSO Security Report: The sheriff's office presented their update to the PBCE community. There has been three home burglaries in PBCE since the last meeting and incidents of vandalism. The pillowcase burglars are still active throughout Florida and tend to hit houses in the middle of the work day. If someone knocks on your door with a fishy story, dismiss them and contact the sheriff's department.

Guest Speaker: Karen Clarke from the Tax Collector's Office made a presentation on the Real ID program. The Tax Collectors' offices in the State of Florida are now responsible for all services previously provided by the DMV. Currently, when you receive a new license from the Department, it is a Real ID. This program is the reason why individuals must present extensive documentation at the tax collector's office, including birth certificate or passport, a social security card and proof of residence.

The REAL ID program is the Department of Homeland Security effort to improve the integrity and security of state-issued driver licenses and ID cards.

All citizens and residents of Florida will be required to be in compliance with this program. If you recently renewed your license online, your license is not in REAL ID compliance if it does not have a gold star in the top right corner. Residents under the age of 50 are supposed to be in compliance by December 2014. However, enforcement may be delayed a year. Residents over the age of 50 should be in compliance by December 2017. You can go to the tax collector's website for further information: www.pbctax.com.

Treasury Report: The association has \$9,837 in the operating account and \$10,787 in the legal account.

Secretary Report: The minutes from the 2013 meetings were printed in the January Newsletter. Minutes from January and March 2014 will be in the April Newsletter.

Continued on Page 5 DRL Minutes

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**If you have not yet paid your
January 2014 dues please do so and
support your community.**

**Your dues help to offset the costs of the
newsletter not covered by the ads, as well as
pay for the maintenance of our front entrance
and lighting, insurance, website, intersection
street lighting, community events and special
projects. Your membership gives you a vote
during the May Annual Board Member
Elections and voice on the issues that
impact our community.**

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South Indian River Water Control District

Continued from Page 2

machines do their work, but they can be very dangerous, particularly the mowing equipment. Please keep your kids at a safe distance from all machinery. Loose dogs also present an additional worry for the equipment operators. These machines require a lot of attention to operate safely and properly and the operators don't need the additional distraction of a dog running around the equipment and certainly don't want your animals to get hurt.

The operators were also briefed on proper accounting for the equipment's hours. Each piece of equipment is tracked for the exact amount of hours used in each community. This information is used to fairly assess landowners for Palm Beach Country Estates and Jupiter Farms for the needed services.

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 from 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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Living Oaks Ministries

16th Annual Easter Egg Hunt

(Located on 64th Dr. in Palm Beach Country Estates)

Saturday, April 19th @ 11am

Ages 3-10

Bring your Easter Basket and join the fun!!

Please join us for Easter Morning Service @ 10:30am

Pastor Larry Richardson

14156 64th Dr. N, PBG, FL 561.624.9288



Donald Ross Landowners Minutes

Continued from Page 3

Old Business

Neighborhood Watch: The COPs volunteers continue to be active and visible patrolling the neighborhood. Overall incidents of crime in PBCE still remain relatively low but there are still those few cases so use caution and protect your property. Residents are encouraged to directly call the sheriff's department if they witness any suspicious activity. Do not wait and try to contact the local COPS neighborhood watch.

Roundabouts: There continue to be a few accidents at the traffic circle roundabouts on Donald Ross. Remember that roundabouts are much like 4-way stops: the first vehicle to reach the circle has the right of way but must yield to vehicles already in the circle. You do not have to stop if there is no traffic in the vicinity.

SIRWCD: Call Mike Dillon with any road maintenance questions or issues. Be aware of the mowing and grading equipment on our roads. The operators will turn off equipment if horses or small children are nearby, so do not let children get close to the maintenance equipment. SIRWCD is hosting their 22nd annual Landowners Family Day at Jupiter Farms on March 16 and all residents of PBCE are encouraged to attend.

Park: The park continues to be used by many residents. The Dwyer Band held a rummage sale at the park.

Facebook: Residents of PBCE continue to be active on our Facebook group, Palm Beach Country Estates Neighbors, with sharing of useful information including lost and found pets.

Fire Station: We are still talking to the fire department to find a way to get more of PBCE within 5 miles of a fire station. The fire chief did a drive through SFWMD locked gates along the C-18 canal to see how much of the neighborhood was within the 5 mile insurance range of Fire Station #19. Part of this drive is on grass so we need a small section of the canal shell-rocked by SFWMD while they are currently in there with their heavy equipment.

DRLA Charter: We are trying to change the Donald Ross Landowners Association charter to become a non-taxed organization.

Front Entrance: We're still looking at strengthening the lighting at the front entrance which can fail in heavy rain. One option being considered is low-voltage

LED lighting which might be a good alternative.

Volunteers: We're still looking for volunteers to be our webmaster, newsletter editor, or event organizer.

New Business

Great American Cleanup: In coordination with the International cleanup program, we will have a neighborhood cleanup here in PBCE on Saturday, April 12. We will send out emails and post signs advertising the event.

Annual Meeting: Our next meeting is our Annual Meeting on the 3rd Tuesday of May. We plan to have guest speaker Carl Domino, and we will have our election of officers Meeting was adjourned 8:35

PBCE Minutes, Tuesday, January 14, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 7:36 by Kevin Baker. In attendance: President Kevin Baker, 1st VP President Carol-Sue Ryan, 2nd VP Jason McFarland, Treasurer Kevin Parkes, and Secretary Ellen Meehan.

Guest Speakers:

PBSO Security Report: The Sheriff's Department provided their regular update on criminal activity in the area. PBCE has been relatively quiet lately

Continued on Page 7 DRL Minutes

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We need your help and participation!

We are looking for residents who are interested in being more involved with the community and might be willing to help in any of the following positions:

1. Newsletter Editor/Designer
2. Newsletter Contributor/Columnist
3. Webmaster for mypbce.org
4. Committee Chair/Helper for PBCE Events:
 - Earthday/Community Clean-up
 - Winter Festival
5. Other Committees or Activities
6. Neighborhood Watch email alerts

Please come to the upcoming meeting or contact one of us on the Board if you are interested in any of these positions.

The next PBCE Donald Ross Landowners meeting will be Tuesday, May 20, at 7:30 p.m. at the Living Oaks Ministries Church on 64th Drive. All residents are encouraged to attend.

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Citizen Observer Patrol

COP Update 10-13 Unit 103
Jupiter Farms /

Palm Beach County Estates



We've had a quite start to the New Year with little crime reported. We still need to keep an eye out for suspicious behavior though. A typical MO is to knock on the front door. If someone answers they have some lame story of why they are there and then leave. If this happens call the Sheriff's Department right away at 911. Try to get a description of the person and their car. If you just shoo them away they will just go a couple blocks away and try again. If no-one is home they'll go around back and smash a sliding glass door in and enter the home. They tend to go for money, guns, and jewelry and leave.

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

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. We have several new volunteers – Thank You! 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

Living Oaks Ministries

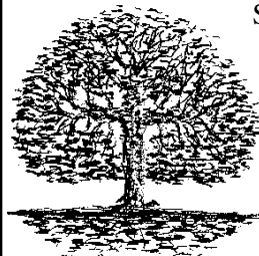
Sunday Worship Service 10:30AM

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

Donald Ross Landowners Minutes

Continued from Page 3

particularly in comparison with other nearby neighborhoods. There have been no new pillowcase burglaries, just a few petty crimes, vehicle burglaries, and some vandalism. Residents are advised not to leave important outgoing mail in your mailbox due to occasional mailbox break-ins and thefts.



Board Report: Chris Reinhardt tendered her resignation as DRLA President on December 22, 2013. We thank her for her many years on the Board and everything she has done for PBCE. With the resignation, Kevin Baker (1st VP) became acting president. The Board met in January and appointed Kevin Baker as the President, Carol-Sue Ryan has been appointed 1st Vice President and Jason McFarland has been appointed the position of 2nd Vice President, all effective January 2014.

Treasury Report: We ended 2013 with about \$20,000: \$10,500 in the operating account and \$9,600 in the legal account.

Secretary Report: The minutes from the November 2013 meeting were approved as written.

Old Business:

Neighborhood Watch: The COPS program continues to operate successfully and regularly patrol the neighborhood. Thank you to the new volunteers who were recently trained; we are always looking for additional volunteers.

SIRWCD: Mike Danchuk and Mike Ryan were re-elected to serve on the SIRWCD Board and Mike Danchuk remains President. Some of the new road pavings in PBCE have begun this week. Since the paving of roads is so expensive, SIRWCD has increasing the percentage of votes needed for road petitions. Mike Ryan is looking into having a Dedicated Dirt Road Referendum which would require 100% of a street's residents to approve paving.

C18 Canal and Vegetation: There is an effort being made to preserve the natural vegetation on the C18 canal. The Army Corps that maintains the drainage normally removes all the Australian Pines and the residents along 89th are asking to keep their vegetation since it is so far from the banks of the canals.

PBCE Park: We have restocked the informal doggie bag dispensers at the Park. SIRWCD continues to work with the legislature and governor to get approval

to allow SIRWCD to fund improvements to the park. We hope to get this approved this year.

Facebook: Join our facebook group for communication with other PBCE residents: palm beach country estates neighbors.

Fire Station/Insurance: We continue to work with the fire department looking for ways to put PBCE within 5 miles of a fire station to improve our ISO rating and lower insurance.

DRLA: We are taking action on changing the way this Donald Ross Landowners Association is incorporated and filing as a non-profit organization.

Front Entrance: We are looking at improving the lighting maintenance at the front entrance. We also are purchasing a new "announcements" sign to replace the last one that was run over and destroyed.

New Business:

Volunteers Needed: We are looking for a volunteer to take over as the new Webmaster for our website MYPBCE since the current webmaster has moved away. We are also looking for a neighbor to be our Newsletter Editor. Volunteers are also needed to help coordinate community events and another community cleanup. The Ryans volunteered to organize the Great American Cleanup.

Jog Road: A resident inquired as to the number of accidents at the jog road roundabout. Please drive carefully and yield to traffic in the roundabout.

Meeting was adjourned 8:20pm.

Submitted by Ellen Meehan, Secretary

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STOP for Sandhill Cranes

It's that time of year again.

The Sandhill Cranes and their babies are visiting our neighborhood.

There is a pair of adults and their two twin fuzzy babies visiting houses on 69th Drive. Please be alert and stop for the cranes when they cross the road.

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.



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Palm Beach County Tax Collectors Office: Real ID Deadline Getting Closer

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.



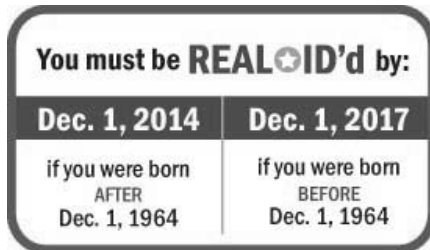
Chris Reinhardt

PBC Tax Collectors Office Update, May 2014

REAL ID Deadline Closer

The clock continues to tick on the first REAL ID deadline. That's because of a law passed by Congress after the 9/11 terrorist attacks on our country. If you were born after December 1, 1964, you have just 7 months until the December 1, 2014 deadline. Everyone else has until December 1, 2017.

How do you know if you have a REAL ID compliant driver license or ID card? Check to see if there is a star in the upper right hand corner. If so, you have a REAL ID. If there's no star, you'll need to get one.



To get your REAL ID, the Department of Homeland Security requires you come in person with specific documents proving birth, social security and residence. A list of approved documents is posted at www.pbctax.com. Without these documents, we cannot issue a REAL ID license or ID card.

The best way to avoid waiting is to schedule an appointment for driver license service at www.pbctax.com. Once you get to our counter, the average transaction time for a REAL ID is 16 minutes.

Homeland Security has announced a phased-in enforcement schedule. Full enforcement will begin no sooner than 2016. That's when REAL ID will be required to board a commercial plane or enter a federal building.

Our offices will be closed on Monday, May 26 to observe Memorial Day. On this national holiday, we honor the brave men and women that gave their lives in service to our country. We also remember our active duty troops abroad and pray for their safe return.

Please call 561-355-2805 to schedule a time.

Sincerely,

Anne M. Gannon

Constitutional Tax Collector

Phone number: 561-355-2264

Email: clientadvocate@pbcbgov.org

Website: www.taxcollectorpbcb.com

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ca.sueryan@yahoo.com
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And don't forget about our Who's Who list on the
mypbce.org website.

Blue Gill Trail Open Again

Attention NENA Stakeholders

We are pleased to announce that the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) project to remove trees along the eastern side of the C-18 Canal (Bluegill Trail) adjacent to Palm Beach Country Estates is completed, and the trail is now OPEN all the way from Sandhill Crane Access Park to Riverbend Park.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me using the information in my business card below.

Ginny Powell, Environmental Program Supervisor
Palm Beach County Department of Environmental Resources Management

2300 North Jog Road - 4th Floor

West Palm Beach, FL 33411

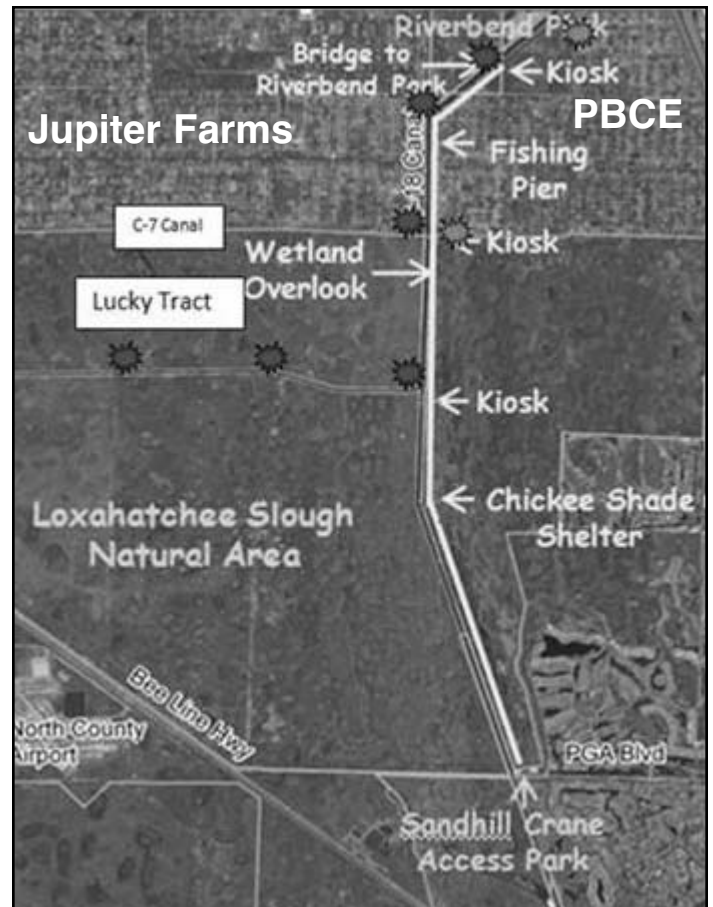
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DONALD ROSS LANDOWNERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.
PALM BEACH COUNTRY ESTATES LANDOWNERS ASSOCIATION
PO Box 30638, Palm Beach Gardens, Florida 33420

April 5, 2014

Kevin L. Baker, President
Carol-Sue Ryan, 1st Vice-President
Jason McFarland, 2nd Vice-President
Kevin Parkes, Treasurer
Ellen Meehan, Secretary



Dear Neighbor:

The Donald Ross Landowners' Association, founded in 1980, provides a unified voice for us to come together to protect the character and quality of our life in Palm Beach Country Estates. We have confronted issues such as sound walls, high tension power lines, communication towers, commercial zoning and have been successful because we speak in unison through the Association. Preventing the commercialization of our neighborhood is a constant challenge. We will present a united front against the taking of PBCE land, monitor roadwork projects, and never permit a Jupiter Farms connection.

Our association is entirely voluntary and run by the homeowners. So the Association will not tell property owners what they can or can't do. Association Officers are not compensated in any way for their community service. Please visit www.myPBCE.org and join us at our next bi-monthly Association meeting.

Your \$35 dues for 2014, payable to the Donald Ross Landowners' Association, are now due. Mail to PO Box 30638, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33420.

The dues help to offset the costs of the newsletter not covered by the ads, as well as pay for the maintenance of our entrance, insurance, website, street lighting, community events and special projects. Your membership gives you a vote and voice on the issues that impact our community.

We addressed crime in our neighborhood by helping to setup our C.O.P., Neighborhood Watch Program and an email notification program for concerned residents who have signed up, alerting them to suspicious activity in the neighborhood.

In 2009, the PBCE Community Park was formally turned over to the South Indian River Water Control District. In 2011 the District committed funds to the Park and the parking lot, irrigation and landscaping was completed the following year. The playground equipment was purchased and was installed in 2013. Come see the three new picnic tables placed in the park this month! This park will be a wonderful addition to our community. We still need your donations for additional Park improvements such as the pavilion, equipment along the fitness trail and half court basketball court. Now is the time to give generously to make this happen. Visit www.TwistyPinesPlayground.org to donate or volunteer. Please separately enclose your tax deductible, park & playground donations payable to Twisty Pines Playground Foundation.

You can also keep in touch with your neighbors on our Facebook group. Just type in "Palm Beach Country Estates Neighbors" in the Facebook search field or go to www.myPBCE.org and click on the Facebook link.

Best Wishes,
Kevin Parkes, Treasurer

(Please print clearly)

Name: _____ Dues \$35 x lots ____ = \$ ____

Address: _____ Legal Fund \$ ____

Phone: _____ Print Email: _____ Park Donation \$ ____

Register your email address at: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/PBCE> 2014 Total \$ ____

What community issues are important to you? _____

Donald Ross Land Owners, Assoc.

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**** Annual Land Owners Meeting & Board Elections ****

Tuesday, May 20, 2014 at 7:30 PM at Living Oaks Ministries Church on 64th Drive
The offices of President, 1st Vice President and Secretary are up for election this year.

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