

**Palm Beach
Country Estates**

A PERIODIC PUBLICATION OF THE PALM BEACH COUNTRY ESTATES LANDOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Message from the President

Our 4th of July parade and party was a great success. The weather was perfect. Many families turned out for our event. The petting zoo was a big hit. Everyone enjoyed the hot dogs, hamburgers, apple pie, and ice cream. Prizes were given out to the kids in the bike parade led by Kevin Baker. I would like to thank all that helped make this event run so smoothly. Volunteers: Trapasso family of Debbie, Ken Jr., & Christopher, Susan Scalf, Lisa Scalf, Gerald Scalf, Jeanell Barnett, Ocean Barnett, Kurt Hiller, Brad Hiller, Maria Obrien, Rob Sjahole, Vince Izzo, Nelson Romero, Larry Richardson, Janet Richardson, Mark Patti, Cassie Palusis, Mary Kaye, Rob Hagenbuch, Lorraine Mynahan, Jared Richardson, Brian Cassady, Ariel Richardson, Jason McFarland, and everyone else who helped. A big thank you to Living Oaks for all their help and for allowing us to stage the parade from their lot. Trunk or Treat is fantastic and will continue. However, we are looking to see if any PBCE residents would like to set up traditional Halloween trick or treating. It could be through a house sign up process so costumed kids will know where to go. If you would like trick or treaters coming to your home, please contact me. If we get enough homes expressing an interest, I will let you know.

The new street lights are in the works. Many more people have joined the association. The front walls are getting a face lift. If the fire hydrant near your house is covered in weeds please try to clean it out. The COP is always looking for new volunteers. God Bless America. Kenneth Trapasso

**Officers and Committees****Officers:**

President -	Ken Trapasso	578-9323
	President@pbce.org	
1st Vice President -	Tim Brown	676-5527
	VP1@pbce.org	
2nd Vice President -	Jason McFarland	951-9977
	VP2@pbce.org	
Treasurer -	Bob Schneider	622-6556
	Treasurer@pbce.org	
Secretary -	Bob Berman	627-1118
	Secretary@pbce.org	

Committees & Information:

By-Laws -	Stephanie Duncan	575-7956
Newsletter -	Kevin Baker - Editor/Ads	748-3376
Neighborhood Watch -	Cindy Divine	744-8122
	Divinelabs@aol.com	
Park/Playground -	Chris Reinhardt	762-1281
	Sarah Applegate	741-1140
	Bob Berman	627-1118
Mom's Club -	Rose Moon	
	rdlouca@yahoo.com	
July 4th & Beautification -	Ken Trapasso	578-9323
Website -	www.mypbce.org	
Official Facebook Group to Join:		
Palm Beach Country Estates LANDOWNERS		
Park/Playground -	www.twistypinesplayground.org	
Neighborhood Watch -	pbceiw@aol.com	
COP Patrol -	Bob Berman	627-1118
SIRWCD -	www.sirwcd.org	747-0550
Webmaster -	Bob Berman	627-1118

ENTRANCE and 69th DRIVE LANDSCAPING IMPROVEMENTS

The new landscaping of the entrance signs has been completed. The entrance sign walls have been pressure cleaned and the walls repainted. The wooden border at the top of the signs has been replaced with a permanent stucco finish. Additional landscaping is being installed along 69th Drive at the canal crossings. The street lighting at the major intersections along 69th Drive

Entrance and Landscape Continued on Page 4

PBCE Landowners Meeting Minutes

JULY 11, 2017 7:30 PM

OFFICERS PRESENT: President Ken Trapasso, 1st Vice-President Tim Brown, 2nd Vice-President Jason McFarland, Treasurer Bob Schneider, & Secretary Bob Berman

Approximately 10 landowners were also present and cookies were served.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ken Trapasso stated that the meeting is recorded to ensure accuracy of the minutes. President Trapasso stated that this July meeting is usually lightly attended due to summer vacations and that is why no special speaker was scheduled.

PBSO REPORT: Deputy Russell reported that there has been very little crime in Palm Beach Country Estates as compared to other north county neighborhoods. There was one vehicle burglary due to unlocked vehicle. There were three deputies present and they gave some frig magnets to be distributed reminding property owners to keep their property secure. They thanked the COP volunteers for making a difference in the community.

TREASURER'S REPORT: STreasurer Bob Schneider gave the treasurers report. Balance in the General Fund is \$22,215.25 and there is \$11,995.09 in the legal fund. Motion made and seconded to approve the Treasurers Report and the motion passed unanimously.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Secretary Bob Berman presented the minutes from the Annual Meeting May 16, 2017. Motion made and seconded to approve the minutes and the motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS: Tim Brown reported on the status of the new additional lighting on the main roadways. The light fixtures are in the design phase with FPL and will be installed as soon as possible.

Bob Berman reported that in accordance with the desires of many landowners the association made a formal request for a traffic calming study. Palm Beach County engineering and the area County Commissioner's office responded and landowners have seen traffic counting devices.

NEW BUSINESS: President Trapasso expressed a desire to attempt to have a Trick-or-Treat event the evening of Halloween for older children. This event would complement the annual Trunk-or-Treat event that is geared mostly to the youngest children.

MEMBERSHIP: Approx. 650 members had joined for 2017 so far.

Being no further business the meeting was adjourned approximately 8:15 PM.

Submitted by Bob Berman, Secretary



Gary Poland

Chuck George

P.T.L. LAWN MAINTENANCE

**"Quality is out Service-
Lawns are our Business"**

Palm Beach Country Estates Resident

561-386-0884

FREE ESTIMATES



Living Oaks Church

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

Neighborhood Watch

Think Safe! **If you see Suspicious Activity Call: PBSO**
Non-Emergency Dispatch: **561-688-3400.**
If you see a crime in progress call: **911.**

COP Program

Bob Berman 561-627-1118 pbcegroup@gmail.com

Please consider joining the COP.

ELECT JOHN JONES

For South Indian River Water Control District (SIRWCD) Board of Supervisors



Protecting Paradise

As a native Floridian who grew up in South Florida, John understands the risks we all face from overdevelopment and poorly managed growth. As an eighteen-year resident of Palm Beach Country Estates, John understands the challenges faced by landowners and residents in the South Indian River Water Control District. He is committed to making flood control and water quality our highest priorities. As a certified public accountant, John also understands that the district must be operated in a fiscally responsible manner. As custodians of our landowners' assets, John knows that board members must be diligent in controlling expenses and must continually weigh benefits against costs when making policy decisions for the district.

John Jones is committed to:

- ★ Accountability and fiscal responsibility
- ★ Fairly representing all landowners, not special interests
- ★ Keeping homeownership affordable and property assessments in check
- ★ Protecting the character of our unique communities
- ★ Making flood protection and water management our number one priority
- ★ Investing in our future by improving drainage infrastructure
- ★ Promoting transparency and open government to protect landowner rights
- ★ Fairness across the District

The South Indian River Water Control District provides water management, road maintenance and related services to Jupiter Farms, Palm Beach Country Estates, Egret Landing and Jupiter Park of Commerce. The District covers over 12,500 acres and includes 189 miles of roadways, 60 miles of canals and 376 miles of swales. The District was established in 1923 by an act of the Florida legislature. The District is governed by a five member Board of Supervisors who are responsible for setting District policies and overseeing District finances.

This election is important! Watch for your ballot in the mail.

**We need John Jones on the SIRWCD Board to represent your interests, not special interests!
Sign and return your ballot to make your voice heard, now and for the future!**



Entrance and Landscape Continued from Page 1

N. and also 75th Ave. N is in the final design phase from FPL and should be installed soon. The Palm Beach Country Estates Landowners Association has been working closely with the South Indian River Water Control District to aggressively attempt to keep the swales and sidewalks along 69th Drive N. clear of trash and debris. Landowners are asked to be careful when disposing of lawn debris to place it in a location that does not block the roadway or the sidewalks.

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E-mail dbsinc@att.net

Ron Disorbo
Owner

2017 DUES \$35

If you have not yet paid
your 2017 dues,
please do so now.

Mail checks payable to:
PBCE Landowners Association
PO Box 30638
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33420

If you prefer to pay by credit card,
please use the Pay Dues button on
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MARGARET BERMAN MEMORIAL PARK UPDATE

Permits have been applied for to add a water supply including a drinking fountain at the park. Additionally, electric service will be provided to the main pavilion for convenience and for use with community events. The park hours are from dawn to dark so no additional lighting will be installed other than motion-detecting security lights for video monitoring of park area violators. Park benches are being ordered for the two smaller pavilions. Now that the park is completed the emphasis will be on maintenance including adherence to the rules of the park. The required chain link fence surrounding the park is in constant need of maintenance due to the increase use of the park. There have too many reports and incidents of landown-

ers not keeping their pets on leashes and/or not cleaning up after the pet in the park area. Garbage bags are provided for any form of litter including pet litter. The park is "Pack-In/Pack-Out". Please remember to take any trash with you when you leave the park. As a reminder, the park now has 24 hour video surveillance and can be used to determine when violations of the rules or misuse of the park occurs. The park is a great asset to Palm Beach Country Estates and is used by families and landowners of all ages. Please help keep the Margaret Berman Memorial Park a clean and beautiful area for all PBCE landowners to enjoy.



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TRAFFIC CALMING STUDY INITIATED

With the cooperation of the District One County Commissioners office and the Palm Beach County Engineering Dept. a traffic calming study has been initiated in response from the numerous complaints from landowners regarding speeding on the main roadways but especially 69th Drive. The Palm Beach County Sheriff has also been responsive in providing additional enforcement when their duty schedule permits. Landowners are reminded to abide by the posted speed limits and also to be careful to stop and yield where posted. Enclosed in this mailing is an information brochure regarding roundabouts. There have been too many accidents and too many "near misses" at the roundabout at the corner of Donald Ross Road and 69th Drive. All of these have been caused by drivers not observing the correct procedure entering and using the roundabouts. Please review the brochure.



Land Owners Meetings

Tuesdays, Sept 12th and Nov 14th
at 7:30 PM

at Living Oaks Church on 64th Drive

Get your business noticed!

To place an ad in the Countryside Living Newsletter-
Submit camera ready ads to Kevin Baker
at Kevin.Baker@TheStreet.com

Ads are now in **Color!**

Business card size ad 3.625 x 2 @ \$50

1/4 page ad 3.625 x 5 @ \$95

1/2 page ad 7.5 x 5 @ \$185

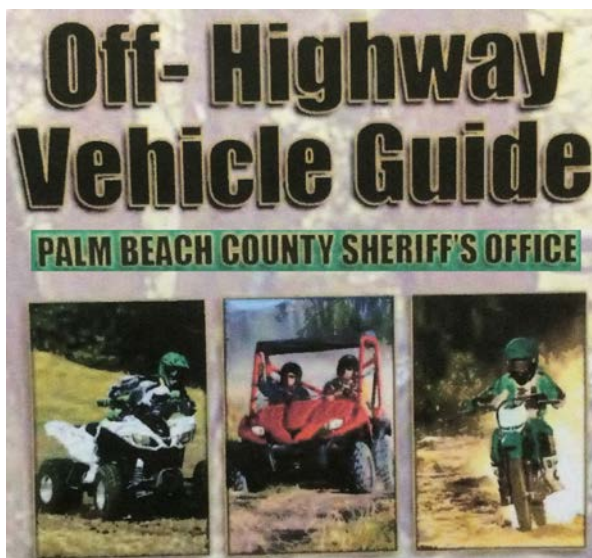
New! --> Full page ad @ \$365

Disclaimer: Ads do NOT imply endorsement by Donald Ross Landowners' Assn or its board. The word "we" in political ads does not refer to the Landowners' Association or its board.

To be added to the PBCELA website Who's Who list, email Bob Berman your PBCE resident owned business contact information.

ATV and GOLF CART RESTRICTIONS

The Palm Beach County Sheriff Dept has reminded us again that ATV and Golf Carts are prohibited on any of the roadways in Palm Beach Country Estates. This includes Golf Carts that are considered "street legal". To meet the criteria established by Palm Beach County for the use of Golf Carts in the community BOTH the carts AND the streets need to be determined to be legal. The streets in PBCE (paved and dirt) DO NOT meet the criteria for the use of Golf Carts. The Board of Directors of the Palm Beach Country Estates Landowners Association supports the legal use of Golf Carts in the community and is working with the District County Commissioner in an attempt to make Golf Carts legal in PBCE. However, PBSO has stated that although it is not a priority, the illegal use of ATV's and Golf Carts can result in the issuance of a ticket with a fine up to \$500 or even result in confiscation of the vehicle. PBSO has also stated that the current leadership for this District 3 where we are located has adopted a "no warning" policy which means that if you are caught, the local deputy is required to issue a ticket. A brochure is included in the mailing detailing the restrictions regarding the use of ATV's and Golf Carts in PBCE.



BICYCLE RULES and REGULATIONS

The use of bicycles as transportation around Palm Beach Country Estates is strongly encouraged. However there have been increased complaints regarding the proper operation of bicycles. Bicycles must adhere to the same rules as motor vehicles when it comes to operations on roadways. Bicycles may use the sidewalk/pathway but pedestrians have the right-of-way over bicycles. Enclosed with this newsletter is a brochure detailing the laws and rules for the operation of bicycles. Please review the brochure to insure that you are operating your bicycle safely.



LOCK YOUR CAR & SECURE VALUABLES OUT OF SIGHT

The Palm Beach County Sheriff (PBSO) Dept has reported a significant increase in Vehicle Burglaries in the county. Although there has been very few in Palm Beach Country Estates, PBSO has asked the local COP (Community Observer Patrol) volunteers and the landowners association to distribute information as a reminder to landowners. Included in this mailing is a brochure provided by PBSO to help landowners prevent vehicle burglaries. ALL of the cases of vehicle burglaries in PBCE have been instances of unlocked vehicles and/or valuables left in plain sight. Your local COP's also have refrigerator reminder magnets that were donated by PBSO for any landowner who requests them. Please feel free to flag down one of the local COP's on patrol and request the magnet.



SAMPLE BALLOT FOR SIRWCD ELECTION

VOTE FOR ONE CANDIDATE FOR SUPERVISOR FROM EACH COLUMN	
<u>COLUMN A</u> – NON-RESIDENT CANDIDATE MUST BE A NON-RESIDENT LANDOWNER	<u>COLUMN B</u> – EASTSIDE RESIDENT CANDIDATE MUST RESIDE IN THE DISTRICT EAST OF THE C-18 CANAL
<input type="checkbox"/> TOM POWELL <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> BOB BERMAN <input type="checkbox"/> JOHN JONES <input type="checkbox"/> _____

SAMPLE
 BALLOT
 ONLY.
 NOT
 VALID
 FOR
 VOTING.

Letter from the Editor: Back in the Sept 2009 SIRWCD election, Michael Ryan and I lost 316 votes that were considered illegal “Over Voted Ballots” as Palm Beach Country Estates residents voted for both of us in an election that required at least one West Side resident to be elected. In this election, at least one non-resident property owner must be elected. Any ballot that contains 2 votes must have voted for at least 1 non-resident property owner to be valid and counted. That means any ballot with votes for both Bob Berman and John Jones will NOT be counted. The above ballot is laid out much better. Nice to see my repeated ballot layout complaints were finally addressed by the SIRWCD attorneys. Also, back in 2009, 18 residents failed to sign their ballot and their votes were not counted either. Please remember to sign your ballot. Look for ballots in your mail to arrive soon. Vote! Sincerely, Kevin Baker



If you are thinking about buying or selling real estate, contact Charles at 561-762-3141.

Charles Murphy Cell - 561-762-3141
 LIC: 3380866
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 Office- 561-656-2929

As a resident of PBCE, I am proud of our neighborhood and the positive influence that we each have to our community. I want to be your local professional to help sell your home for the highest price and in the shortest duration. When you work with me, I'll leverage the power of Keller Williams network of more than 120,000 real estate professionals to your advantage. Plus, our proprietary online marketing system will market your property on more than 350 of the world's most popular real estate search engines.

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Service First

COP VOLUNTEERS DESPERATELY NEEDED

Due to recent resignations, the COP program for Palm Beach Country Estates is in desperate need of additional volunteers. The Citizen Observer Patrol program is a part of the Palm Beach County Sheriff Department. PBSO provides the training, uniforms, vehicles for our use and the fuel and maintenance for the vehicles. In return, PBSO asks that we patrol at least 100 hours per month for each of the vehicles. Palm Beach Country Estates has three (3) assigned vehicles. There are two Ford



Focus' and one Ford Escape. Volunteers are asked to provide at least 12 hours of volunteer time each month and attend one monthly meeting. This is a "see and be seen" program. Just the presence of the COP vehicle patrols within the PBCE community over the past 7 years has very significantly reduced the incidents of crime and mischief in the community. Volunteers can choose anytime at all to patrol 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. To volunteer for the program or to obtain additional information, please contact the PBSO volunteer services division at 433-2003 and tell them that you are interested in volunteering for the Palm Beach Country Estates COP program.

EXTREMELY IMPORTANT EMAIL INFORMATION

We are attempting to ensure that we have complete and accurate contact information for all members. If you have not been receiving the email notifications from the Palm Beach Country Estates Landowners Association, Inc., please go to the NEW AND IMPROVED association web site www.pbce.org. There you can sign up for email notifications. You can also unsubscribe at any time. Because of the number of members, we will need the cooperation of all landowners to help maintain a current database of owners. THANK YOU.

WATER TRUCK AVAILABLE FOR DIRT ROADS

SIRWCD (South Indian River Water Control District) has acquired a watering truck/trailer that can be used to wet down dirt roads to help prevent the clouds of dirt and dust that occurs each time a vehicle passes. If landowners feel they are being subjected to too much dirt and dust in the air because of the extremely dry conditions, please feel free to contact the water control district office at 561-747-0550 and request that the roadway be watered.

CONNECT WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS ON FACEBOOK

There are several Facebook Groups formed for Palm Beach Country Estates.

Landowners may want to join one or more of the groups.

The OFFICIAL group for the Palm Beach Country Estates Landowners Association that ONLY accepts PBCE LANDOWNERS is:

Palm Beach Country Estates LANDOWNERS

Other groups include:

Palm Beach Country Estates Neighbors (Accepts landowners and people from other areas)

Palm Beach Country Estates Barter & Sales

Palm Beach Country Estates Business

Palm Beach Country Estates LOST and FOUND PETS

Palm Beach Country Escapes

Twisty Pines Playground - Palm Beach Country Estates



PLEASE
VOTE

BOB
BERMAN

SOUTH INDIAN RIVER WATER CONTROL DISTRICT

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MOST QUALIFIED & EXPERIENCED

"Making Palm Beach Country Estates GREAT Since 1978"

- Has been a PBCE resident for over 37 years.
- Served as a Supervisor for South Indian River Water Control District for 11 years (1999-2010).
- Helped form the Palm Beach Country Estates Landowners Association. Served as its President twice and currently serves as Secretary.
- Built and donated the PBCE entrance signs at the corner of 69th Drive and Donald Ross Road.
- Has volunteered over 9,000 hours of service to the Community Observer Patrol (COP) program since 2009.
- Donated the land for the construction of PBCE's community park.
- Was instrumental in getting potable water lines installed in PBCE as well as obtaining the necessary rights-of-way to pave the main arterial roadways that are now owned and maintained by Palm Beach County (69th Dr, 150th, 155th, etc).
- Believes that **landowners should be able to decide on whether or not they want improvements in their community by a majority vote system**. This is the simple system that was in place for 30+ years before the current Board changed it to require a 90% approval to get anything done, effectively making it impossible to ever make any improvements in our area.
- **Believes it is unfair that Jupiter Farms residents, by outnumbering PBCE residents 5 to 1, are essentially able to control the District and make decisions that aren't necessarily in the best interest of all landowners**. PBCE and Jupiter Farms are fundamentally different. They should have their own elected Supervisors who can effectively represent them. Ideally, the District should be split (east/west of the C-18 canal) to best represent the residents of each area.
- Agrees with outgoing Board member Michael Ryan's sentiment in his resignation letter where he describes the SIRWCD Board of the last two years as a "full-blown circus". It is time to restore some sanity and order to the Board.

**VOTE FOR BOB BERMAN to bring common sense, good judgment, and balance
back to the Board of Supervisors for SIRWCD**



PLEASE DO NOT VOTE FOR JOHN JONES

- Aside from being a landowner, Jones has no real experience or qualifications for the Board position.
- Believes it is fair that any neighborhood improvements need an overwhelming 90% majority approval (which is a ridiculous requirement).
- Despite being a PBCE resident, he is being endorsed by a Jupiter Farms residents' group.
- Believes it is okay for Jupiter Farms residents to elect a Supervisor that is supposed to represent the area East of the C-18 canal.
- Despite being positioned as an "incumbent", Jones was only recently appointed (not elected by landowners) 2 months ago by the Board that was described by resigning Supervisor Michael Ryan as a "full blown circus". The Board did this to give an advantage to their preferred candidate. With an impending election coming up, this should not have been done.
- DO NOT let this "circus" Board of SIRWCD and Jupiter Farms landowners make important decisions for residents of Palm Beach Country Estates.