



# Countryside Living...

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



## Large Turnout at Water/Road Meeting

About 200 PBCE residents turned out to get updates on the status of the water and road projects in Palm Beach Country Estates. The meeting was sponsored by the PBCE Landowners Association to provide a resource for those with questions.

Present for the meeting were South Indian River Water Control supervisors David Beane, Robert Berman, Michael Danchuk and Tom Rice. Providing specific information for residents were personnel from the SIRWCD. Engineers Len Lindahl and Len Lindahl Jr. provided a powerpoint presentation explaining the status of the water projects. Vince Amato of Felix Associates, the contractor that had been awarded the water project, introduced himself, and looked forward to working with the community. Mr. Lindahl explained that there would be about 46 miles of pipeline put in. There would be 445 fire hydrants put in as part of the system. The work has already started and the contractor has up to 2 years to complete the work, however he is hoping to get it done in as little as one year. The lines will start from the northern P section, then be put in the western section working its way east and finally in the southern Z section. It is possible that water will be turned on in the sections as they are completed.

Those residents that choose to get "city water" will be responsible to put in their own lines from the meters by the road to their homes. It is anticipated that independent plumbers will be available to provide quantity discounts as the hook up time approaches.

Charles Haas, the Treasurer for the SIRWCD explained the costs of the project. The entire project came in at \$13,570,000. The impact hook up fee for those that decide to get city water would be \$3,877.18, and a plan is being looked into to allow this cost to also be amortized for those that do not want to pay it at one time. The costs of the project were able to be kept down and within the parameters of the original estimates through negotiations, and innovative ideas by staff. It was felt that if the project was just being started today, it would not have been able to be accomplished because of tremendous cost increases in the industry. The residents thanked the SIRWCD staff for the work that had been done.

Residents then had an opportunity to ask specific questions and review maps that were available showing the actual placements of the water lines.

A short discussion was then held on the status of the road projects. Engineer Len Lindahl explained that the project has been delayed because of a shortage of both asphaltic materials and rock that is needed for the roads. This is a statewide shortage and as a result of this problem ballots have not been able to be sent out. Hopefully this problem will resolve itself, and then the estimates and ballots will be sent out to the residents that had petitioned for the road paving.



## SIRWCD Does Canal Stabilization

Michael Danchuk and Robert Berman, Supervisors on the Board of the South Indian River Water Control District from PBCE joined other SIRWCD Board members Tom Powell, Tom Rice, and David Beane to celebrate and formally cut the ribbon on the completion of the Palm Beach Country Estates outfall canal project.

Recent hurricanes took the canal banks down on the section of the canal east of I-95 that takes storm water from Jupiter and Palm Beach Country Estates into the Loxahatchee River. As part of the project the canal banks were repaired and blanketed with concrete mats, to prevent future erosion. The four month project cost \$840,000 with \$630,000 of the cost being funded by a grant from the Natural Resources Conservation Services. SIRWCD General Manager Gale English felt the project should help prevent storm flooding in Palm Beach Country Estates as a result of backup water caused by bank erosion in this vital canal.

## Officers and Committee Members

### Officers:

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| President - Michael Danchuk      | 626-2530 |
| 1st Vice President - Kevin Baker | 748-3376 |
| 2nd Vice President - Bob Berman  | 627-1118 |
| Treasure - Daniela Russell       | 575-5189 |
| Secretary - Stephanie Duncan     | 575-7956 |

### Committees:

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| Beautification - Valerie Rozzo              | 743-3290 |
| Car Show - Scott Rice                       | 723-5552 |
| COP Patrol - Bill Bolts                     | 626-7638 |
| Entrance - Kirk Humphreys                   | 748-4595 |
| Helping Hands - Pam Malone                  | 743-9912 |
| NEC - Mike Danchuk                          | 626-2530 |
| Newsletter Editor/Advert. - Nicole Campbell | 626-2530 |
| Parks - Bill Meyers                         | 745-6632 |
| Bob Berman                                  | 627-1118 |
| Kirk Humphreys                              | 748-4595 |
| Mike Ryan                                   | 747-3233 |
| Sidewalks - Mike Danchuk                    | 626-2530 |
| Welcoming - Arie Strobel                    | 748-6784 |

### Information:

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Equestrian - Beverly Bean   | 575-4411 |
| RV/Camping Club - Connie McCormick  | 744-2938 |
| SIRWCD - <a href="http://www.sirwcd.org">www.sirwcd.org</a>                             | 747-0550 |
| Landowners Association - <a href="http://www.PBCE.org">www.PBCE.org</a>                 |          |
| Park - <a href="http://www.twistypinesplayground.org">www.twistypinesplayground.org</a> |          |

## Jog Road Connection

Michael Danchuk, Robert Berman, and Kevin Baker as Board members of the Landowners Association and Kirk Humphreys, chairman of the front entrance committee, met with Kathleen Farrell, P.E. of the Palm Beach County roadway department on March 15 to discuss the Jog Road/Donald Ross Road connection. Concerns they had involved the scope of the project, as well as the need for the two circles being put in.

The county showed the residents how the road was being put in, which required the use of most of the land where the front entrance improvements exist. As this area is a County right of way, the County does have the right to utilize the property.

The connection will have two circles instead of a traffic light. One will be at 69<sup>th</sup> Drive, and the second is slightly west. The one that is slightly west is necessary to allow people leaving the Unity Church at 69<sup>th</sup>



### Message from the President

The year is starting on a positive note. Water contracts are signed and construction has already started, setbacks are going to go back to the 25' for accessory dwellings, the park is finally after 18 years getting into the pre-construction phase, Scripps which I strongly supported on Donald Ross Road, looks like it is becoming a reality in the north county where it always belonged, and our sidewalks are on the horizon. These things just did not happen on their own. Thousands of volunteer hours have been put in and are more are needed as the projects continue. We all sometimes wish that everything could be done overnight, but until you become actively involved in the process it is difficult to comprehend the many steps necessary to get some of these things done.

It is exciting to get involved in working with your neighbors, so with the new year here I would ask that everyone consider what they can do to be involved in the future of Palm Beach Country Estates. We have become a community that has kept its special charm while tremendous changes are occurring around us. We will continue to be the best place to live in northern Palm Beach County, but with your help it will be easier to accomplish our goals.

For those that missed the last meeting I want to again express my appreciation for the overwhelming financial support that many of you have given to the Palm Beach Country Estates Landowners Association during our annual membership drive. We continue to grow with new members, but the many nice notes that were included with the membership dues from those that have lived here for a long time are truly appreciated. I always enjoy telling financial institutions, when they call me about new home buyers, that our dues and membership are voluntary, and hear their amazement as they see the things being done. But that is why it works, like the park project, when residents approve of it, they support it with their time and money.

Thank you for your support, and we look forward to a great 2006.

*Michael Danekuk*

Cont. From Pg 1 - Jog Road

to be able to head east on Donald Ross Road.

Without the circle they would not be able to, as there will be a median there, and a congestion problem as well as a traffic hazard could occur from any traffic coming from Jog road without the second circle. The Association members expressed concern about any continuation of Donald Ross Road either west or north from this second circle, which could have a negative traffic impact on PBCE. We were advised that there are no plans to make those type of extensions.

The plans include extensive foliage and landscaping on the circles and dividers that should be attractive. A request was made that appropriate signage be included in the circle so unfamiliar drivers knew the directions to PBCE and Marisol.

As part of the project there will also be bicycle paths in addition to the previously planned sidewalk on Donald Ross Road. The project as planned will have an effect on our current front entrance improvements, but as a whole it should make an attractive entrance to the community, and the County will help relocate some of the trees that have been planted. The Landowners Association followed up in writing with their suggestions and requests to the county, and plans to work with the roadway department on the project. The construction is planned to start in the summer of 2007.

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