

April 2007

SoRoPa Neighbors

Neighborhood Meeting April 3rd, 7:30 pm - Fire Station

News of Note:

- New BULK TRASH guidelines. Check the city website:

www.oaklandparkfl.org

Oakland Park Library

Tip of the Day!

- If our city library doesn't stock the book you want, ask them. They will get it through interlibrary loan or purchase it!

Individual Highlights:

New Mayor
Sworn in 2

Water Restrictions
In place 3

Monthly Meetings &
Mission 4

Tentative Topics:

- NW 44 St Connector, NW 21st Ave to 441
- Broward Beautiful Grant for Entryway Design?
- Areas of Neighborhood Concern
- Veterans Park Update



Traffic Concerns

NW 44th St has now been opened through to SR 7/US 441, despite our city's and the affected residents objections! The city of Lauderdale Lakes has built a connector of NW 44th St, which runs along the south side of the Oak Tree Golf Course, connecting NW 21st Ave. to 441. This will potentially dump an additional 10,000 vehicles per day onto NW 44th St and NW 21st Ave.

This roadway will impact all of the communities on, and west of, NW 21st Ave as well as bring a huge amount of through traffic trying to avoid the congestion on Oakland Park Blvd. and Commercial Blvd.

A meeting was held at March 26th giving residents an opportunity to voice their concerns to city & county officials regarding the opening of this roadway. Unless there is a dramatic change of events, the issue will be in contention for awhile yet. If you care about traffic in your neighborhood, you will contact your elected officials and let them know how you feel. It is only through a loud, strong, united voice that we will protect our neighborhoods from the traffic brought in due to the actions of Lauderdale Lakes!!!

Our Commissioners have voted to study the matter and a petition is being circulated for presentation to the Broward County Commission. PLEASE ATTEND our April 3rd meeting of SoRoPA Neighbors to sign this petition and be informed. If you can't attend but would like to participate in the process, please sign the petition (feel free to include other signers) Call your block rep to pick up and add to the collection!

Please Join Us!

the 1st Tuesday of every month at 7:30.

If you don't participate in the process, you won't have a voice.
We look forward to your comments and participation.

\$ 50-50 Raffle \$

Join us in a 50-50 raffle to cover cost of our new signs and refreshments!

(and perhaps enrich your pockets!!!)

Petition Regarding Lauderdale Lakes
44th Street Connector to SR 7 / US 441

We, the undersigned, residents and business owners of Oakland Park oppose the proposed 44th Street Connector between NW 21st Avenue and SR7/US441 between Oakland Park and Lauderdale Lakes. We urge Broward County Commission, Broward County Traffic Engineering, the Broward County Metropolitan Planning Organization, and City of Oakland Park, to exercise their discretion to stop this project in order to protect the affected neighborhoods and property owners, including but not limited to Montage-by-the-Lake, Mira Lago, Summer Lake, Royal Palm Acres, Lake Emerald, Oak Tree Estates, Twin Lakes South, Lake Pointe Estates.

NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
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- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____
- 4) _____
- 5) _____



Congratulations to Oakland Park Kiwanis Club, 50th Annual Youth Day Parade - 'Best Overall Theme' (A Salute to the 50's)

If you missed Youth Day – It was a remarkable event! There were rides, games of chance, funnel cakes, music, arts & crafts for sale and entertainment. A great time was had by kids of all ages, from 8 to 80 and beyond!

MARCH 21, 2007 – New Mayor Sworn in – Larry Gierer

Your Oakland Park
2007/2008 City Commission

Larry Gierer, Mayor
Layne Dallett Walls, Vice Mayor
Steven R. Arnst, Commissioner
Allegra Webb Murphy, Commissioner
Suzanne Boisvenue, Commissioner



WATER MANAGERS DECLARE WATER SHORTAGES



Below average rainfall over the past several months and rapidly receding Lake Okeechobee levels prompted the South Florida Water Management District Governing Board to issue a moderate water shortage for the Lower East Coast of Florida. The order went into effect March 22, 2007.

Linda Lobdell, 61, of Fort Lauderdale, laughed when she heard about the daily water restrictions. "Anybody who knows anything about yards knows three times a week is more than enough for grass," she said. The Victoria Park resident's lawn was flush with tall, green grass. She waters only three times a month.

"Most people around here water too short and too often. Soaking your lawn every other day isn't going to save it," she said. "Water restrictions are no big deal."

Because lawn irrigation accounts for half of drinking water used in South Florida, Phase I water restrictions require water users to limit outdoor water use. Phase I

restrictions allow lawn watering and car washing three days a week: Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays from 4 a.m. to 8 a.m. for addresses that end in an odd number; Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays from 4 a.m. to 8 a.m. for even-number addresses.

Hand watering with one hose and an automatic shut-off nozzle is also allowed from 5-7 pm on the same days. Water restrictions do not apply to the use of 100 percent reclaimed water (reuse).

In addition, residential users may wash their cars, boats and other equipment from 5-7 p.m., and within the specific times and days where irrigation is allowed. Washing must be done on, or must drain to, a non-paved surface that permits water to soak into the ground. And it must be done using a hose with an automatic shut-off nozzle.

Residents are also asked to observe more aggressive water conservation practices within the home -- such as taking shorter showers, washing full loads in dishwashers and clothes washers, and repairing old or leaky fixtures.

No domestic water use for outdoor irrigation will be allowed on Fridays.

These and other actions are intended to produce a 15 percent reduction in overall demand on our water resources by all uses, including agricultural, industrial, commercial, golf course, landscaping and residential water users who get their water from public utilities, private wells, canals, ponds and lakes.

The primary source of surface water supply and aquifer recharge for the Lower East Coast are the Everglades water conservation areas, with backup supply from Lake Okeechobee. El Niño did not produce above normal rainfall during this dry season as predicted, and March and April are typically the driest months of the year with the highest demands. Water levels in the Everglades water conservation areas are declining and their storage capability may not be sufficient to meet Lower East Coast demands without water deliveries from Lake Okeechobee.

"We must decrease our overall water use or we will be hard-pressed to ensure that regional water will be available to recharge South Florida's supplies for both area residents and to protect our natural resources, including the Everglades, from the devastating impacts of drought," Wehle said. "The water restrictions are designed to make conserving water easy -- simply cut back your lawn watering to three days a week or less and only water between 4 and 8 a.m.," Wehle said. "We have no assurances that it will rain over Lake Okeechobee, so we must take matters in our own hands."

(continued ...)



Counties, cities and homeowner associations may have year-round local irrigation ordinances already in place. Residents are asked to check with their local officials and adhere to whichever restrictions are more stringent.

In the City of Oakland Park, violations of these water restrictions are enforceable by the City's Code Enforcement Division. Potential violations can be reported via the City's on-line E-code from the website's homepage or by call the Code Enforcement Division at 954.630.4400.

Note - If you are going away, submit a vacation alert. Call (954) 561-6111. BSO will stop by and keep an eye on your home.

Block Representatives (Contact your rep with questions & comments)

32nd Ct. - Karen Nagy, 1980 NW 32nd Ct., (954) 609-8845

31st St. & 32nd St. – Dennis & Gwen Cox, 1851 NW 32nd St , (954) 730-7254

33rd Ct. - Richard & Jean Bernhardt, 1851 NW 33rd Ct, (954) 486-4057

33rd St. - Hope Gold, 1940 NW 33rd St, (954) 684-0638

34th St. - Anne & Steve Sallee, 1971 NW 34th St, (954) 717-3090

35th & 36th St. - Al Wakefield & Marshall Belmaine, 1920 NW 36th St., (954) 714-0758

21st Ave. - Paul Spearing & Louis Weinberg, 3520 NW 21st Ave, H-(954) 733 9871 & C-(954) 579 9662

What is SoRoPa Neighbors?

South Royal Palm Acres Neighbors United is a neighborhood group focused on improving crime prevention awareness, strengthening spirit and fostering pride in our community in order to provide a safer, organized and more beautiful place for all of us to live.

The mission of South Royal Palm Acres Neighbors United is...

- *To encourage and promote community pride in our neighborhood by providing a forum for neighborhood activity.*
- *To be a voice for our common neighborhood interests by acting as liaison with governmental bodies and with institutions.*
- *To serve as a focal point for maintenance and improvement of institutions and facilities serving our neighborhood, including parks, schools, and public safety services, and to provide an avenue for neighborhood social activities.*
- *To encourage and facilitate vigorous citizen participation in all issues affecting our neighborhood, including land use, zoning changes, traffic patterns, and street modifications.*
- *To promote the welfare of the community.*
- ***To Have Fun! – Please Join Us!!!***