

May 2007

SoRoPa Neighbors

South Royal Palm Acres Neighbors United, Oakland Park, Florida

Neighborhood Meeting May 2nd, 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!



Tentative Topics:

- Oakland Park's Strategic Initiative
- NW 44 St Connector, NW 21st Ave to 441
- Broward Beautiful Grant for Entryway Design?
- Broward County Traffic Planning
- Veterans Park Update



Oakland Park's Strategic Initiative

This has been a busy month in Oakland Park. Oakland Park has called itself "a City on the Move." "Where the people make the difference." and "A great place to live, work and play." Do you have a new motto or slogan for our city? Send it by May 1st to MarieE@oaklandparkfl.org!!!

Oakland Park also wants your input as to the City's direction in their Mission and Vision statement. We want YOU to help us shape the City's new Mission and Vision Statement. Our City defines Mission, Vision and Values as follows:

MISSION -- Our Mission is a statement that specifies Oakland Park's purpose of "reason or reason for being." It is the primary objective toward which our City's plans and programs should be aimed, i.e. a mission is something to be accomplished, while a vision is something to be pursued.

VISION -- The Vision of Oakland Park provides a concise "word picture" of our City at some future time, which sets the overall direction. It is what our City strives to be.

VALUES -- Values are the collective principals and ideals which guide the thoughts and actions of an individual, or a group of individuals, i.e. the City of Oakland Park. Values define the character of our City and describe what Oakland Park stands for.

Please review the Mission and Vision Statement on page 7 and e-mail the key points and priorities you believe should be emphasized to: MarieE@oaklandparkfl.org

Individual Highlights:

NW 44th St Alert 2

Broward County Traffic Planning 3

Royal Palm Park – Grand Re-Opening 4

Oakland Park History 5

Oakland Park Volunteer Day – April 28th!

Check Out The Beautification Award Nomination Form on Page 8
Show your Neighborhood Pride and Submit a Nomination

Northwest 44th St. - Alert

With the opening of NW 44 Street, BSO deputies have increased visibility and increased traffic enforcement to curb speeding. Deputies have been assigned stationary enforcement posts on NW 44 Street between NW 21 Avenue and NW 31 Avenue; as well as west of NW 31 Avenue.

The message board has also been intermittently placed in the area to educate motorists of the traffic enforcement initiative. As of April 11th enforcement actions thus far have resulted in 49 citations. 13 citations out of the 49 were issued to Drivers with local addresses along NW 44 Street. Eighteen hours of staffing this specific assignment was expended thus far. During the operation the BSO SMART TRAILER was utilized to conduct an east / west vehicle count, 4236 vehicles were counted. Our 85% was 45 MPH in a posted 35 MPH Speed Zone.

- Traffic
- Neighborhood Ingress/Egress
- 8-10' walls to minimize traffic noise where appropriate
- Liability for traffic accidents
- Better Lighting
- Speeding
- Signalization at NW 21st Ave
- Development of additional traffic lanes along the Golf course
- Traffic stacking and U-Turns
- Safety at the Bus Stops
- Traffic Signals
- Pedestrian and Bicyclist Safety

There is no consensus yet on the matter of NW 44th St. The road is open and the last estimates we got from BSO show that about 5,000 cars per day are using the roadway. There have been a number of strategy meetings and informational conferences to keep us informed.

Two weeks ago, the leaders of the affected neighborhoods were invited to participate in a telephone conference with Oakland Park city representatives to get the city's feedback from our multi-neighborhood meeting and to get an update on the city's strategy and plans to address the matter.

Marie Elianor, the assistant to the City Manager, spoke on behalf of the city. She informed us that the city IS concerned and is doing everything they can to address the matter. The city addressed the following areas that are the concerns of the residents:

Some of the improvements that have already been put on the planning board are:

- * Cleaning and Painting the wall along the south side of NW 44th St to improve the appearance as well as a swale cleanup.
- * Parks and Rec have been asked to come up with a landscaping enhancement plan for the length of NW 44th St from NW 21st Ave up to the city boundary at NW 34th Ave (?).
- * Oakland Park BSO has been asked to increase their presence in the area and to focus a heavy enforcement in the area. Lt. Hubrig reported that BSO has issued more than 50 traffic citations and asked all neighborhood leaders to let our residents know that there is a no-tolerance policy. Of the 50 citations issued, 15 or so have been to area residents. Ongoing heavy enforcement will eventually result in a change in the traffic pattern but BSO wants us to be aware that they will ticket anyone which means if you are hurrying home to catch "American Idol" on television, you will be ticketed if you exceed the speed limit or run the light! **PLEASE pass the word.**

The initial portion of the traffic count performed by Carter-Burgess has been received by the city on Friday and the results of that study will be shared with us when it has been reviewed.

The city has promised us a weekly update from the city managers office as to the status of the issue. They are communicating with the city of Lauderdale Lakes, Broward County and the Metropolitan Planning Organization (who provided the funding for the traffic study.)

The city is developing a long range strategy plan and will let us know when they are ready to present it to the city at a Commission Meeting. We have been asked to plan our Public Comments attendance before the Commission to the May 2nd meeting. Please try to join your neighbors at the City Commission Meeting – Wednesday May 2, 6:30 pm.

Broward County Traffic Planning – I met with Broward County Mayor Eggelletion to discuss the NW 44th St Connector, the County stand on the matter and the bigger picture. It was a very informative meeting!

One of the interesting points discussed was that this road has been planned and essentially a done deal for ten years, which reinforces the concern about communication between municipalities and the level of knowledge shared with our city officials. The Mayor stressed that the road was opened and there was no going back but that he was omitted to protecting all the residents of his constituency.

We discussed the golf course, future development and the protection of neighborhoods. He stressed his disapproval of the development of the OakTree Golf Course into a medium to high density residential area.

There have been inquiries made by some of the new 5-star hotels planned for Broward County in the very near future as to associating a golf club with their hotels. On the other hand, the prospective developers have made it know that they intend to purchase the property regardless of the consensus of opinions regarding development. In fact, they presented a preliminary proposal to the city which included about 90 single family homes in the \$500k range and 300 townhouses at about \$300k, as well as a school. A public records request has been submitted for copies of the proposal. The very real concern is that the roads and water infrastructure are presently at their breaking point.

Mayor Eggelletion has promised to attend one of our upcoming neighborhood meetings in person or by way of his community liaison to listen and respond to our concerns. We are in the midst of some serious changes and we need to stay informed and voice your opinion. This is our town which is supported by our tax dollars directly and indirectly. Speak up and have a voice in how your money is spent!

\$ 50-50 Raffle \$

Join us in a 50-50 raffle to cover cost of our new signs and refreshments!
(and perhaps enrich your pockets!!!)

Veteran's Park Update - Veteran's Park Shoreline. Staff has met with Broward County Environmental Regulation and potential contractors for the shoreline restoration project. Carter Burgess has drafted a scope of work, reviewed existing contracts and determined that we should put this project out to bid. Engineering will facilitate a work authorization with Carter Burgess to prepare the bid documents. This project will be underway in no time!

Meet 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


Don't forget the tightened water restrictions. Citations are being issued and fines will be applicable – if you have any questions, see the city website at www.oaklandparkfl.org



Royal Palm Park

- I attended the Grand Re-Opening of Royal Palm Park a few weeks ago. The opening was a grand affair with many neighborhoods represented to enjoy the park, free hot dogs & cotton candy and a positive feeling for our neighborhoods! If you haven't been by the park, check it out! It is located at 1701 NW 38th St.

Just a short bike ride, stroll or drive (if you must) up the road from your house is a remarkable park, brought back to glory since the hurricane. There are tennis courts, bocci courts, a volleyball court, a floating dock, catch & release fishing pond, basketball courts, children's playground, walking trail and exercise stations. Trees have been replaced, restrooms have been built and it is a fun place to hang out! The Bark Park is just east of Royal Palm Park, down NW 38th St.



I learned a little tidbit the morning of the opening. Have you noticed that 38th St. has a new name? I first noticed at the intersection of Andrews Ave. and 38th St. I looked up and saw a new street sign that said "Park Lane East" and "Park Lane West." I didn't get it and couldn't find anyone else who had noticed, never mind had an explanation.

Mayor Larry Geier and Jeff Hillyer from Lloyd Estates enlightened me. As they explained, if you line up the Oakland Parks on a map, the majority of them are on or near 38th St. Traveling from east to west on 38th St. you'll pass the Giusti Heart Parcours, Collins Center and end at Royal Palm Park and Veterans Park. Thus "***Park Lane.***" Think

of that next time you toodle around our neighborhood.



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

Meet Me on Main Street!

Friday, April 13th was an evening that hopefully will be repeated on a regular basis! NW 12th Ave in front of the Oakland Park Main Street Office was transformed into a free street event with music, food and fun! I saw some of our neighbors there and I hope you had as great a time as we did! It was a HUGE success!!!

If you missed it this time, keep your ears and eyes open for the next event – it is not to be missed and gives a feeling of what "Downtown" will become in the VERY near future!

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, (954) 733 9871-H & (954) 579 9662-C

DID YOU KNOW?

OAKLAND PARK HISTORY – Part I

Oakland Park's first permanent settlers were the Whidby family, moving from Georgia to South Florida in 1901. By 1918 several other farming families had moved into the area, built permanent homes. In 1923 a Miami land development company initiated the Oakland Park Subdivision with one of the biggest barbecues ever held in Broward County. In early 1925 a group of international investors, primarily European royalty led by the Earl and Countess of Lauderdale, purchased an area which approximates the current size of Oakland Park and incorporated the City of Floranada. Intended to be a resort for rivaling Palm Beach, this vision was carried away with the winds of a hurricane on September 18, 1926. On June 10, 1929 the City was reorganized and reincorporated as Oakland Park.

The 1930 decennial census indicated a population of 562 people in Oakland Park. Today the City's population is estimated at 30,966. In 1941 a volunteer Fire Department was organized and operated until 1958 when the City first employed professional firefighters. The original City Hall was constructed in 1946 by the volunteer Fire Department and City employees and was located on NE 36th Street, just west of Dixie Highway. In 1963 the current City Hall was built at 3650 NE 12th Avenue.

(Look for more installments in future months)

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.



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!*

City of Oakland Park Beautification Advisory Board

BEAUTIFICATION AWARD NOMINATION FORM

- Nomination forms may be submitted to the City Manager's Office, Community Development Department at City Hall, 3650 NE 12 Avenue or Code Enforcement at 2901 W. Oakland Park Blvd., Suite B-19.
- The Oakland Park Beautification Advisory Board will select deserving properties on a monthly basis to receive the Beautification Award.
- Awards will be made in four categories: Single-family residential, Multi-family residential, Commercial/Industrial and Neighborhood.
- Deserving properties are those which have recently completed noteworthy improvements to appearance, including landscaping, painting, exterior repairs or remodeling, etc.
- Each award recipient will be recognized at a regular City Commission meeting, receive a certificate of appreciation and be requested to place a Beautification Award sign (provided by the City) on the property for one month.
- Any property in the City of Oakland Park may be nominated by any individual.

CATEGORY

_____ Single-family residence
_____ Multi-family residence
_____ Commercial/Industrial
_____ Neighborhood Pride Award

PROPERTY ADDRESS: _____

BUSINESS OR PROPERTY NAME (For multi-family, commercial and industrial):

Contact person: _____

OWNER: _____ **PHONE:** _____

NOMINATED BY: _____ **PHONE:** _____

DATE: _____

PLEASE DESCRIBE BRIEFLY WHY YOU HAVE CHOSEN THIS SITE:

DIRECTIONS (to be completed by staff): _____

"The Board reserves the right to rescind this award if, at any time, the property incurs any violation of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Oakland Park prior to placement of the award sign or at any time the award sign is in place."

City of Oakland Park

OUR VISION

By 2008, Oakland Park will be recognized as a friendly “small town” with safe and attractive neighborhoods, quality schools, outstanding parks, and exceptional recreation programs, with the social, cultural, and business opportunities of a *big city*.

OUR MISSION

We are dedicated to providing friendly, responsive, and quality service to all residents, businesses, and visitors in our diverse community.

OUR VALUES

Our actions are guided by the following principles:

RESPECT

We value all members of our community and will treat everyone with the highest regard.

SERVICE

We work together to satisfy the needs of our entire community in the most effective and efficient way possible.

INTEGRITY

The highest standards of honesty and fairness are the foundations of all policies and decisions.

EXCELLENCE

We are committed to excellence through hard work, innovation, creativity, and continuous improvement.