



April 11, 2022



District 6 Update

On April 6th, I revisited the Okeechobee and Osceola Centers, the U.S. Department of Agriculture farmworker housing complexes in Belle Glade. I was happy to be joined by Regional Director Greg Langowski from Senator Marco Rubio's Office and Regional Director Ryan Hnatiuk from Senator Rick Scott's Office. We toured these complexes as a follow-up to the horrible conditions we found in 2019.

I'm happy to report that, even though we have a long way to go, improvements are well underway. I'll continue to hold the Belle Glade Housing Authority's feet to the fire on this one. And the USDA's.

I want to thank Senator Rubio and Scott for sending their staff with me for this visit. Thanks to State Representative Rick Roth for following through on the audit and for joining us. And thanks to Belle Glade Mayor Steve Wilson.

This is what partnership looks like: City-County-State-Federal. This is how you get things done.



Bus Stop Crash Arrest Press Conference

An arrest has been made in the tragic school bus stop accident that claimed the lives of two fifteen year old students and injured two others. Toxicology reports show the driver was impaired. Thank you to PBSO for doing your job thoroughly. I appreciate your work to keep our streets safe and hold those accountable who drive recklessly. I attended the press conference where Sheriff Bradshaw announced the arrest. Watch the press conference [here](#).

State Road 80 Lighting

After years of advocacy, the placement of lighting along State Road 80 took a massive step forward this week. At the April 5th BCC meeting, the County Commission approved an agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation for the maintenance of 1000

lights along SR-80 from State Road 15 to County Road 880. This is a tremendous victory for public safety.

I want to thank Belle Glade Mayor Steve Wilson, Pahokee Mayor Keith Babb, South Bay Mayor Joe Kyles, and all the Glades stakeholders who've advocated with me over the past seven years, as well as FDOT District 4 Secretary Gerry O'Reilly for working with the County to move this project forward.



Black Gold Jubilee

On April 2, I attended the Black Gold Jubilee in Belle Glade and participated in the 5k! I want to thank Keith and Amanda Wedgworth for all they did for this year's festival, and a big thank you to Jessica Clasby for inspiring me to run again--I got 3rd place in my group, which isn't bad for a rookie!

Pictured here (l to r) are Morgan Lucia, Danielle Catsman, Commissioner McKinlay, and

Michelle McGovern

And a huge shoutout goes to PBSO and Maj. Eric Coleman for accepting the challenge to put a team together. The cops beat the firefighters on that one!



National County Government Month Proclamation

At the Board of County Commissioners meeting on April 5, I sponsored a proclamation declaring April 2022 as National County Government Month in Palm Beach County. There are 3,069 county governments serving over 300 million people in the United States. Palm Beach County's mission is to protect and enhance the health, welfare, and safety of its residents in efficient and cost-effective ways and to continually focus on delivering quality programs and services.

Pictured here are (l to r): County Attorney Denise Coffman, Commissioner Maria G. Marino, Vice Mayor Gregg K. Weiss, Commissioner Melissa McKinlay, Mayor Robert S. Weinroth, County Administrator Verdenia Baker, Commissioner Mack Bernard, Commissioner Maria Sachs, and Commissioner Dave Kerner.



Field of Hope

On April 5, I visited the Field of Hope at the County's Division of Victim Services for the Day of Action, which calls attention to sexual violence prevention. I presented a proclamation declaring April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month. I want to thank Victim Services staff and all the community advocates who help survivors overcome this horrific crime.

Pictured here are Assistant County Administrator Todd Bonlarron and Commissioner McKinlay



Back to School PBC!

Registration is open for the 2022 Back to School PBC! Event. Back to School PBC! will be held on Saturday, July 30 at different locations throughout the county to be announced at a later date.

Registration is mandatory to participate in this event. Students must reside in designated neighborhoods or mobile home parks in unincorporated Palm Beach County to be eligible to register.

Please register online [here](#) and enter code **PBCOCR** for students to receive free school supplies and backpacks. Depending on the location and resource availability, participating students may also receive free food, haircuts, sneakers, socks, school uniforms, biometric health screenings, vision screening, blood tests, hearing tests, and other health-related resources. Several service agencies will be at hand to provide resources to participating students and their families. Registration closes on **Sunday, May 15**.

An invitation will be sent two weeks prior to the event by email or regular mail to the address provided in the registration with the event's location and time to attend. All efforts will be made to ensure that students are assigned to attend the event at a location which is closest to their home.

For more information, please contact the Office of Community Revitalization at ocrnews@pbcgov.org

Anquan Boldin Scholarship Deadline Approaching

The deadline to apply for a scholarship from Anquan Boldin's Q81 Foundation is April 15th.

"On an annual basis, The Anquan and Dionne Boldin Scholarship Foundation awards four \$10,000 scholarships over the course of four years to high school graduates. In addition to the financial need, each student must demonstrate academic excellence and show leadership in their community."

To learn more and apply, visit [here](#).

Owner Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Assistance

Owner Occupied Housing Rehabilitation assistance funding is available for income eligible homeowners, residing in the **unincorporated area of Palm Beach County**, with substantial rehabilitation to correct code violations or items that will become a code violation. NOTE: Applicant must provide a statement on how their household was

financially impacted by COVID. **PROPERTY'S ASSESSED VALUE CANNOT EXCEED \$352,371.**

ARPA Owner Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program applications will be available online by visiting the website at <https://pbcgov.com/HED> beginning **Monday, April 11, 2022 at 8:00 am – Friday, May 13, 2022 at 11:59 pm** (or until 70 applications have been submitted). Applications will be processed on a first submitted, first qualified, first served basis, subject to funding availability.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: ALL applicants are required to attend a Virtual Mandatory Orientation prior to application submittal. Interested parties may register at <https://survey.pbcgov.com/s3/HED-Owner-Occupied-Housing-Rehabilitation>.

For additional information, please contact:

Palm Beach County Department of Housing and Economic Development
Mortgage and Housing Investments Division

Telephone: (561) 233-3600

Email: HEDverify@pbcgov.org

In Closing

For rental assistance, click here: [Emergency Rental Assistance Program](#)

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