

# DATELINE

## Infrastructure, Basic Needs Must Come First

Over the past few years, Palm Beach County has seen a dramatic decrease in its unemployment rate, its economic indicators rise, and businesses begin to flourish once again. This positive growth has not been felt countywide. Throughout areas of my district, mostly the far western reaches of the County, unemployment continues to hover between 20-26%. Business recruitment is slow and families are not feeling the economic recovery that many other people across Palm Beach County are experiencing. Roads desperately need repair, parks have broken equipment, housing inventory is critically low and what is available is often in disrepair.

When I ran for the County Commission, my priorities of improving infrastructure, providing a favorable environment for job growth and ensuring our children had safe neighborhoods and homes were the cornerstone of my campaign platform. I continue that pledge today, which is why I supported a surtax initiative that solely focused on improving our schools and our County and City infrastructure.

I recognize the importance of cultural facilities in our County and the opportunities they provide to expand the imaginations of our children. I feel that these organizations are better off raising money in the private sector and not competing with the critical infrastructure needs of our schools and communities. When you represent an area where people are fighting to keep a roof over their head or put food on the table, it is hard to justify giving scarce tax dollars to museums.

*The focus should be what is in the best interest of the 180,000 public school students in our County.*

I am very appreciative that the Palm Beach County School District recognized that the initiative approved by the County Commission provides an es-

timated additional \$54 million to our public schools to address their needs. By partnering with us, it allows them to do additional capital projects like purchase much needed school buses. And it allows the funding to stay in the hands of traditional public schools.

This is still, and should remain, one penny/one plan.



McKinlay

## Update Your Family Hurricane Plan

As we head into the 2016 Hurricane Season, Palm Beach County is preparing for the needs of our residents. It only takes one storm to remind us of Mother Nature's fury. If a storm does affect us, you can be assured that Palm Beach County is ready and able to respond quickly to the needs of our residents.

Now is the time to take a look at your family emergency plan, including pets, seniors and disabled/handicapped loved ones.

**SPECIAL NOTE** - If you have livestock, make sure you have a plan for them too. Make arrangements now and allow for transport time if necessary.

Please take time to read the Hurricane Survival Guide that is attached to the email with this newsletter and then share this info with your friends and neighbors. Don't wait for a storm to brew, be prepared now.

- \* Emergency ..... 911
- \* Public Safety ..... 561-712-6400
- \* TDD (Hearing Impaired) ..... 561-712-6343
- \* Senior Helpline ..... 211
- Animal Care & Control ..... 561-233-1200
- American Red Cross ..... 561-833-7711
- Code Enforcement ..... 561-233-5500
- Consumer Affairs ..... 561-712-6600
- Consumer Assistance Hotline ..... 800-227-8676
- Contractor Certification ..... 561-233-5525
- Engineering & Public Works ..... 561-684-4000
- FEMA ..... 800-621-3362
- Fire Rescue - Non-Emergency ..... 561-712-6550
- Insurance Commissioner ..... 561-681-6392
- FPL Power Outages ..... 561-697-8000
- Health Department ..... 561-840-4500
- Palm Tran ..... 561-841-4200
- Palm Tran Connection ..... 561-649-9838
- Parks and Recreation ..... 561-966-6600
- Price Gouging Hotline ..... 866-966-7226
- Public Affairs Department ..... 561-355-2754
- Roads, Drainage, Traffic ..... 561-684-4018
- Salvation Army ..... 561-686-3530
- Sheriff (PBSO) - Non-Emergency ..... 561-688-3000
- Solid Waste Authority ..... 561-640-4000
- Traffic Signal Repair ..... 561-683-6885
- United Way ..... 561-375-6600
- \*PBC Water Utilities ..... 561-493-6000
- Emergency Repairs 24 hrs ..... 561-740-4600

*\*Check who provides your water.*

palm beach county district six

# IN THE COMMUNITY

## Success and Innovation Highlighted at first Palm Beach International Ag Summit

On May 4, the Palm Beach International Ag Summit was held at the Palm Beach County Convention Center. Over 1000 people from around the world gathered for in-depth discussions on modern agriculture and its role in advancing Florida's economy and quality of life.

### Highlights of the 2016 PBI Ag Summit:

- Agriculture is a \$10 billion economic driver in Palm Beach County alone - the top producing county in the state of Florida.
- The top employer in Palm Beach County is agriculture, natural resources and food.
- Florida exports to 170 countries; \$4 billion worth of product.
- Only 20% of agriculture land in Florida is irrigated and most of that is in Palm Beach County.
- A 69% increase in food production is needed to meet the demands of future global population.
- The Palm Beach County Food Bank distributes 5 million pounds of food each year; 40% of that is donated by local farmers.

### Palm Beach County Produces\*:

- Sugar: Enough to supply 6.5 million people for a year
- Sweet corn: Enough to supply 1 billion people one ear a day for two months
- Rice; Enough to supply 150 million people a serving per day for two months



Photo courtesy of Capehart Photography  
Assistant County Administrator Todd Bonlarron, Assistant County Administrator Nancy Bolton, Deputy County Administrator Jon Van Arnam, Commissioner McKinlay and Sugar Cane Growers Cooperative Senior VP, David Goodlett at the 2016 Palm Beach International Ag Summit.



Photo courtesy of Capehart Photography  
Commissioner McKinlay, Representative Bobby Powell and Dr. Rachel Docekal at the 2016 Palm Beach International Ag Summit Reception.

- Lettuce: 1 billion salads a year
- Radishes: 36 million pounds a year
- Celery: 120 million stalks a year
- Cabbage: 250 million servings of coleslaw per year
- Green beans: 350 million servings per year

\*Estimates provided by John S. Hundley, Vice president of Hundley Farms, a major grower based in Belle Glade



Commissioner McKinlay took at turn at operating the sugar cane harvesting machinery on a field trip in conjunction with the Palm Beach International Ag Summit.

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# IN THE COMMUNITY

## FDOT Status Report on US27 Improvements

This is a status report for the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) on-going effort to improve traffic safety on the section of US-27 between I-75 in Broward County and the City of South Bay in Palm Beach County. The Department performed a comprehensive safety study of this section of US-27 that identified improvements to traffic control and the roadway. These improvements will generally increase driver awareness of traffic control on US 27, improve visibility of the traveled way at night, make it safer and easier for vehicles to accelerate and decelerate at major intersections, and reduce the potential for vehicles to leave the roadway. The improvements will address specific locations or sections of US 27 experiencing crash trends and/or enhance existing traffic control within the study section. They are categorized as short, mid and long-term and are summarized below. The short-term projects are being implemented through Department forces and should be completed within 6 months. Mid and long-term improvements will be constructed as funding allows through Safety or Strategic Intermodal System capacity projects or as part of projects to resurface US 27. Design for two of the mid-term projects is planned at this time for FY 16/17 as noted below.

### Short Term (Within 6 Months)

- Install signing / marking at specific locations on US 27 to improve visibility of traveled way and make appropriate vehicle control more apparent
- Restore full width of paved shoulders through removal of encroaching ground cover on sections of US 27 where needed to make shoulders more visible and useable

### Mid-Term / Long Term

- Install internally-illuminated pavement markers on sections of US 27 experiencing a night time crash pattern to further enhance roadway visibility (**mid-term** project; design planned for FY 16/17; construction planned through the Department's Safety program as funds are available)
- Install audible edge line striping along the entire study section of US 27 to make drivers more aware of the limits of the roadway (**mid-term** project; design planned for FY 16/17; construction planned through the Safety program as funds are available) Construct acceleration / deceleration lanes at major intersections to facilitate safe entry and exit to / from US-27 (**mid-term** project to be implemented through the Strategic Intermodal System program if eligible; if not eligible the Safety program or other resources will be used; design and construction funding and schedules will be identified)
- Increase guardrail height to current standards where feasible to reduce potential for vehicles leaving the roadway (**mid-term** project; design and construction planned through the Safety program; design and construction funding and schedules will be identified)
- Increase shoulder width and adjust guardrail location where feasible to further reduce potential for vehicles leaving the roadway (**long-term** project; design and construction funding and schedules will be identified)
- Assess the effectiveness of the internally-illuminated pavement markers within approximately a year after their installation and on the basis of the assessment determine whether and where roadway lighting should be installed. If

roadway lighting is appropriate the Department will program projects and work with Palm Beach County to identify and allocate necessary maintenance resources (assessment mid-term; any resulting roadway lighting **long-term** project)

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Yujing (Tracey) Xie, District Safety Engineer, at 954-777-4355.

## Coffee with the Commissioner in Belle Glade



*Pahokee Mayor Keith Babb joined Commissioner McKinlay for Coffee with the Commissioner, sponsored by the American Red Cross, on April 11, at the Bank of Belle Glade. The events provide an opportunity for residents to meet personally with local leaders in law enforcement, government, veteran's affairs and first responders.*

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# IN THE COMMUNITY

## Micro Grant Opportunity

The Women's Foundation of Palm Beach County will award micro-grants to support local projects that empower women and girls and create social change. Grants will range from \$1,000 to \$2,500. Projects may include advocacy, education, leadership development, life skills development, mentoring, skills development, trainings, and more, but should not focus on delivery of direct service. While direct service is incredibly valuable and needed, this grant program focuses on addressing the root causes of obstacles impacting women and girls. Competitive grant applications will focus on projects that empower women and girls to challenge the status quo, build their leadership, and lead positive change in PBC.

These grants are given by a circle of women committed to investing in local ideas. The grantees will receive additional in-kind support from the Women's Founda-

tion of Palm Beach County and the Giving Circle members. Your application is due no later than **Friday, June 10, 2016 at 5:00pm** via email and grants will be awarded by the end of July 2016.

### ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Requests may be for general operating support or for a specific program that meets the areas described above.
- The organization or program must serve women and/or girls in Palm Beach County and meet the mission of the Women's Foundation of PBC.
- The program supported by the grant must start in 2016.
- Organizations must have documented 501(c)(3) status or a 501(c)(3) fiscal sponsor.
- Organizations must have an annual operating budget under \$1 million.
- Organizations may have a religious affiliation, but the project seeking funding may not proselytize.

### TO APPLY FOR THE MICRO-GRANT

Please email your completed application, organization budget, and 501c3 documentation no later than Friday, June 10, 2016 at 5:00pm to [info@womensfoundationpbc.org](mailto:info@womensfoundationpbc.org). If you have questions please contact [info@womensfoundationpbc.org](mailto:info@womensfoundationpbc.org). By submitting an application, you are certifying that you meet the eligibility requirements listed above. You can download the application at <http://www.womensfoundationpbc.org/programs/givingcircle/>

## Glades Citizen's Criminal Justice Academy Set for June

Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office & the Palm Beach County Office of Community Revitalization presents The Glades Citizen's Criminal Justice Academy. There is a no charge to attend the classes. It's an informative and casual way to learn about the criminal justice its impact upon its citizens. Dinner will be provided

**WHEN:** Thursdays, June 9, 16, 23, & 30, 2016 5:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** Belle Glade Library Civic Center, 725 NW 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Belle Glade

For more information call: (561) 355-4943 or [rmurry@pbcgov.org](mailto:rmurry@pbcgov.org)

## FREE MEALS for kids and teens!

### SUMMER BREAK SPOT

Summer BreakSpot provides **free nutritious meals** to kids and teens 18 and under during summer break.

Over 3,500 supervised locations in Florida offer a **breakfast, lunch or snack**.



**To find a location:**

Dial 2-1-1

Visit [SummerFoodFlorida.org](http://SummerFoodFlorida.org)

Text **FoodFL** to 877-877



USDA SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM  
THIS INSTITUTION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER  
Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services • Adam H. Putnam, Commissioner

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# IN THE COMMUNITY

## Wellington – The Winter Equestrian Capital of the World

At a recent Wellington Village Council meeting, Glenn Jergensen, Executive Director of the Tourist Development Council, George Linley, Executive Director of the Palm Beach County Sports Commission and Commissioner McKinlay provided a recap of equestrian tourism and various other successful partnerships between the county and the Village of Wellington.

Highlights from the 2014 Equestrian Industry Economic Impact Study included the following facts:

- Equestrian industry adds hundreds of millions of dollars to the Palm Beach County economy each year;
- 6,500 horses stay in Palm Beach County year round, this doubles to over 13,000 horses during equestrian season;

- Over 122,000 room nights are projected to be generated from the equestrian season in Palm Beach County;

- Other sports also flourish in Wellington, which is a destination for the youth sporting events such as:

- American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO) State Games;
- USSSA Wellington March Madness;
- USSSA Mother's Day – Walk on the Wild Side;
- Florida United Lacrosse Cup – Palm Beach Blast;
- 480 teams competed in over 1,400 field hockey games at the International Polo Club over the last two years.



*Commissioner McKinlay address the Wellington Village Council during a presentation on the equestrian industry in Palm Beach County.*

### Wellington Celebrates 20 Years



*Commissioner McKinlay presented Wellington councilmembers with a proclamation honoring the Village of Wellington's 20th anniversary as a municipality in March. Pictured above are, left to right, Councilman Michael Napoleone, Mayor Anne Gerwig, Commissioner McKinlay, Councilman Michael Drahos and Vice Mayor John McGovern.*

## Free Farm-Your-Backyard Workshop

Learn the secrets of small-acreage vegetable cultivation in South Florida with Arthur Kirstein, Palm Beach County's coordinator of Agricultural Economic Development. The focus of this workshop is on applying established agricultural techniques for successful small vegetable garden projects.

The program is free of charge and is limited to the first 100 individuals to sign up. To register, call Melissa Allman at 561-233-1792 or email [mallman@pbcgov.org](mailto:mallman@pbcgov.org).

Saturday, June 11 at 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. at the Palm Beach County Cooperative Extension Service Clayton Hutcheson Agricultural Complex 559 N. Military Trail, West Palm Beach

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# IN THE COMMUNITY

## PBC & Partners Holding Lake Worth Lagoon Fishing Challenge

To collect fisheries information about the county’s largest estuary, Palm Beach County and its partners in the Lake Worth Lagoon Initiative will hold the first-ever Lake Worth Lagoon Fishing Challenge throughout the month of June. The initiative is collaborating with the Snook & Gamefish Foundation and the West Palm Beach Fishing Club to host the challenge as a fun citizen science contest.

Participating is easy and free. Interested anglers can register online, then log the fish they catch using a free downloadable app for their mobile device or by signing into their online account. By taking photos of their catches in the lagoon and reporting them as part of the challenge, anglers will contribute valuable data that could steer future lagoon habitat restoration and will be eligible for some great awards. Whether they fish once during the month

or every day, they could win prizes that include Engel coolers and Penn rod and reel combos.

“By involving citizens, including youth, in a contest like this, we are encouraging them to connect with the lagoon and to be stewards of their environment,” said Rob Robbins, director of Palm Beach County’s Department of Environmental Resources Management (ERM). “By sharing details about the fish being caught in the lagoon, participants will help us better understand this local treasure that we are working hard to protect, restore and enhance.”

Approximately 20 miles long and a half-mile wide, Lake Worth Lagoon extends from North Palm Beach to Ocean Ridge. The estuary is home to a variety of fish species and offers many fishing spots accessible from land or by boat.

Additional support for the challenge comes from *Coastal Angler Magazine*.

The Lake Worth Lagoon Fishing Challenge will be open to anglers age 5 and older. Entries can be submitted throughout June, but must be made by midnight on Thursday, June 30. For more information about the challenge, prize details, and how to register, visit [www.LWLI.org/FishingChallenge](http://www.LWLI.org/FishingChallenge) or contact ERM at (561)233-2400 or at [ERM-FishingChallenge@pbcgov.org](mailto:ERM-FishingChallenge@pbcgov.org).

### *Congratulations Todd!*



*Congratulations to my former legislative boss, Todd Bonlarron, on being selected recently as a Palm Beach County Assistant County Administrator. You deserve it and will make a great administrator. Look forward to working with you to make Palm Beach County even better!*

--- Melissa

### Upcoming Board Meetings —

- June 7, 2016 ..... 9:30am ..... BCC Regular Meeting
- June 8, 2016 ..... 9:00am ..... SWA Meeting
- June 14, 2016 ..... 6:00pm ..... BCC Budget Workshop
- June 16, 2016 ..... 9:00am ..... MPO Meeting
- June 21, 2016 ..... 9:30am ..... BCC Regular Meeting

### District 6 Contact Info

- Melissa McKinlay ..... [mmckinlay@pbcgov.org](mailto:mmckinlay@pbcgov.org) ..... (561) 355-2206
- Kelley Burke ..... [kburke@pbcgov.org](mailto:kburke@pbcgov.org) ..... (561) 355-2206
- Johnnie Easton ..... [jeaston@pbcgov.org](mailto:jeaston@pbcgov.org) ..... (561) 355-2206
- Lisa Wilson ..... [awilson1@pbcgov.org](mailto:awilson1@pbcgov.org) ..... (561) 996-4814
- Fax ..... (561) 355-4366

**Governmental Center Office**  
 301 N. Olive Ave., 12th Floor  
 West Palm Beach, FL 33401

**Belle Glade Office**  
 2976 State Road #15  
 Belle Glade, FL 33430

palm beach county district six

# People & Places



*Commissioner McKinlay welcomed Hendry County Commissioner Karson Turner and the leaders of local trades unions to her Belle Glade office recently to discuss working together with Hendry County and the Glades to establish career training for lifelong careers.*



*Commissioner McKinlay with trade union leaders of Iron Workers Local 402, County Administrator Verdenia Baker (2nd from right) and Representative Dave Kerner (3rd from right) discussing the need for skilled labor and touring their free apprenticeship training facility.*

## palm beach county commission action

**DATABANK****May 3, 2016**

At the May 3, 2016, Board of County Commissioners meeting, the board took the following action:

**Infrastructure surtax** – approved on first reading and to advertise for public hearing on May 17 an ordinance authorizing a one-cent sales surtax referendum to fund infrastructure projects countywide. If approved by voters in November, the surtax would generate an estimated \$2.7 billion over 10 years to be distributed in the following amounts: Palm Beach County School District, 50%; Palm Beach County, 30%; municipalities, 20%. Because cultural projects and economic incentives were removed from the proposal, a new interlocal agreement must be executed between the county, the school district and municipalities comprising 50 percent plus one of the incorporated population.

**Mounts Botanical Garden** – accepted a donation of \$470,000 from Friends of the Mounts Botanical Garden, Inc. and approved a budget transfer of \$40,000 from the capital outlay fund for construction of a tropical wetland garden at the Mounts Botanical Garden in West Palm Beach.

**Avenir** – approved a proportionate share agreement with Avenir Holdings, LLC in the approximate amount of \$105.4 million to satisfy countywide traffic concurrency for the Avenir residential development project located north of Northlake Blvd., east of Grapeview Blvd. and south of Beeline Highway in the city of Palm Beach Gardens.

**Pal-Mar** – approved the acquisition of an undeveloped 1.1-acre parcel north of Indiantown Road and northeast of Beeline Highway. The tract is located in Palm Beach Heights, which is part of the Pal-Mar Natural Area. The purchase price is \$1,850 plus approximately \$500 in closing costs, title insurance and recording fees.

**Enclave** – approved an interlocal agreement with the city of Lake Worth for the annexation of 14 parcels totaling 8.19 acres on the northwest and southeast corners of 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue North and Boutwell Road.

**Artificial reef** – approved the acquisition of the *M/V Ana Ceilia* from the U. S. Customs Service at no cost to the county and approved a budget transfer of \$125,000 from the vessel registration fee trust fund to cover the costs for towing, preparing and scuttling of the ship off the Lake Worth Inlet to become an artificial reef.

**STD medical services** – adopted a resolution amending the Florida Department of Health Palm Beach County's fee schedule reducing the rates to the self-pay uninsured population for treatment of sexually transmitted diseases (STD) and medical and laboratory services. Patients are currently charged \$159. The proposed new rates are \$58.02 for new patients and \$48.84 for existing patients.

**Economic Sustainability** – heard a presentation on the 2016-2017 Palm Beach County Action Plan.

**May 17, 2016**

At the May 17, 2016, Board of County Commissioners meeting, the board took the following action:

**Infrastructure surtax** – adopted an ordinance imposing a one-cent countywide infrastructure surtax and ballot language for a November 2016 referendum. If approved by voters, the surtax would begin January 1, 2017, and end on or before December 31, 2026. The estimated \$2.7 billion generated over a period of 10 years would be distributed as follows: School Board, 50%; Palm Beach County, 30%; municipalities, 20%. Oversight committees will be created to audit spending for compliance with approved projects. A sunset provision calls for ending the surtax earlier than 10 years, if the \$2.7 billion has been reached before September 1 of any year prior to December 31, 2026.

**Fire Rescue** – directed legal staff to send a letter to the Florida Attorney General seeking an opinion on a revenue-neutral emergency fire-rescue services and facilities surtax.

**CRA** – directed staff to draft an interlocal agreement with Lake Clarke

Shores town officials for a resolution creating a new community redevelopment agency (CRA) within the town of Lake Clarke Shores.

**Quiet zones** – adopted a resolution authorizing the county administrator or a designee to respond with a letter of no objection to municipalities wishing to establish municipal quiet zones at county-maintained railroad crossings. Several municipalities along the FEC rail line have expressed a desire to create quiet zones due to the anticipated increase in train traffic from the All Aboard Florida/Brightline project.

**Airports** – approved the purchase of two parcels located west of Runway 10L at Palm Beach International Airport: a .13-acre parcel near the northwest corner of Military Trail and Bertram Street acquired for \$265,000 and a .27-acre parcel on the east side of Post Road, west of Military Trail and south of Wallis Road acquired for \$240,000. Both purchase prices are the appraised fair market values.

**Active shooter** – received a briefing on an active shooter incident survival training program to be required of all county employees.

**Planning, Zoning & Building** – ratified the appointment of Patrick Rutter as director of the Planning, Zoning & Building Department. He replaces Rebecca Caldwell who is retiring. Mr. Rutter had been deputy director of the Planning Division.

**Retirement** – acknowledged Liz Bloeser who is retiring as director of Financial Management & Budget and thanked her for many years of service to Palm Beach County.

## Palm Beach Unites Child Abuse Prevention Month Kickoff Event



*Lisa Wilson (Glades Assistant for Commissioner McKinlay) with members of "B.A.C.A. (Bikers Against Child Abuse) at the Palm Beach Unites for Children Child Abuse Prevention Month Kick Off Event on April 7. The event was a call to action of more than 30 agencies and non-profit community and religious organizations to unite and raise awareness of child abuse.*