



# SACHS SENTINEL



Maria Sachs



PALM BEACH COUNTY COMMISSIONER  
DISTRICT 5



March 2021, Issue Six

## Light at the End of the Tunnel... for Teachers, Law Enforcement & Fire Fighters



Florida will receive 175,000 doses of the recently approved Johnson & Johnson vaccine this week; enough to vaccinate members of law enforcement, fire fighters and all teachers age 50 and up in the entire state.

Closed PODS will be set up and administered by the school district, fire stations and the sheriff's office throughout the county.

- Our children need to get back to safe schools, we will vaccinate our teachers.
- Our law enforcement officers are on the frontlines to protect us, we need to protect them.
- Our first responders are our heroes, we need to protect those who protect us.

**-Maria Sachs**



**For persons Under 65** with a medical issue who qualifies as vulnerable to COVID-19, please click on this link [Health Care District](#) to register for a vaccine. A **State Health Department Determination Letter** is required to be completed by your physician to qualify. Please click this link for that form. [State Determination Letter for Medical Vulnerability](#)

**UPDATE: West Boynton Ranches Holdings, Inc.**



### **NOTICE OF VIOLATION**

Palm Beach County Planning, Zoning & Building Dept.

**West Boynton Beach Ranches LLC**

### **Ski Lake**

Again, I have good news to share on the Ski Lake issue.

On 3/2/2021, the Special Magistrate ruled in favor of the County by denying the Respondent's Motion for New Trial. In his Order, Special Magistrate Earl K. Mallory stated "Respondent's intended purpose for the lake and the land was incredible and unconvincing. I find it stunning that the Respondent dug a lake on the Property without any approvals from the County"

*This is a great victory for the County and the residents of our Ag Reserve.*

## **Connectivity in Palm Beach County: Palm Tran Bus**



Commissioner Maria Sachs attended the grand celebration and red ribbon cutting ceremony for the opening of the much anticipated Palm Tran Delray Beach headquarters.

The mission of Palm Tran is to provide equitable transportation services for safety and efficiency throughout the county.

Within District Five, Palm Tran provides essential trips to medical facilities like the Boca West Medical Center, Bethesda Hospital West and to the Delray Medical Center. These 3 stops are vital to the patients, nurses, doctors, caregivers and other healthcare staff within our community.



"It is imperative for the economy of Palm Beach County that we support public transportation systems to connect the community with jobs, retail, entertainment and government services. Having the headquarters located near our district is a "victory for everyone".

- **Maria Sachs**

[Palm Tran, Click Here](#)

## Connectivity in Palm Beach County: Aviation



**Boca Raton Airport Authority** is more than just an airport.

Commissioner Sachs received an in-depth tour hosted by the Airport Authority's Executive Director, Clara Bennett, Deputy Director Scott Kohut and Board Member Cheryl Budd.

The airport was originally constructed in 1936 and it expanded to an Army Airfield base that served World War II where Army Air Forces flight crews learned brand new radar technology. In 1948 the Airfield was shut down and the United States government transferred the airport to the Town of Boca Raton then later transferred to the State of Florida. In 1982 the airport officially became the Boca Raton Airport Authority created by the Florida Legislature.

The airport has been drastically reduced in size over the years as 1,000 acres was set aside for education. There is a small preserve on the east side of the airport and there is a current project to construct a small observation deck for educational tours. The airport authority not only maintains a 21st century airport but it also



protects the **famous burrowing owls** that claimed this land as theirs long before airplanes.

The Airport Authority has a strong strategic plan with multiple business models to sustain long term economic stability. This includes lease agreements for small commercial businesses such as a hotel and a movie theatre as well as agreements with aviation companies, aviation mechanics and other aircraft service providers. Lynn University has an Aviation school located on site and the airport recently added U.S. Customs and Border Protection to provide passengers with a convenient travel plan to return home.



The Airport Authority prides itself on community engagement working with local charities, providing scholarships for students and hosts open house tours to students to learn about career opportunities. Providing a responsible and safe environment is also a priority to reduce any environmental impacts including air, land and noise pollution.

The Noise Hotline Number is (561) 391-0296.

[Boca Raton Airport Authority, Click Here](#)

---

## Sustainability in Palm Beach County: Reservoir

Commissioner Maria Sachs attended the **C-51 Reservoir** formal groundbreaking on February 24th for a regional alternative water supply project that will benefit Southeast Florida.

The reservoir is designed to capture and store the excess storm water to replenish the surficial and Biscayne Aquifers throughout the region.





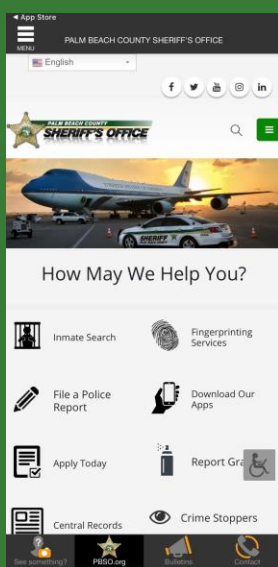
The purpose of the reservoir is to remove the harm done to the Lake Worth Lagoon currently caused by water wasted that is sent to tide.

This is a regional collaborative effort among the State, Counties, Water Management agencies, private businesses and local governments.

*"Water is one of the most valuable resources in the county. We need to ensure its quality and availability".*

**- Maria Sachs**





## Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office *There's an app for that?*

### SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING

Utilize the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office Connect & Protect Neighborhood Awareness app to report suspicious activity and stay informed and aware within your neighborhood and community.

The Connect & Protect app also provides useful contact information, services and policing community news.

<https://www.pbsoapp.com/>

## Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission to Host Community Forum on Policing in West Delray

Discussion includes policing in  
West Boca, West Delray and West Boynton Beach

Join the Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission's Community Engagement Task Force on Wednesday, March 10, 2021 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at [Hagen Ranch Road Library](#); 14350 Hagen Ranch Road, Delray Beach, FL 33446 for the seventh Community Forum on Policing in Palm Beach County. Pre-registration is required.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

The event will be held in person with a maximum of 60 attendees and will be broadcast live on [Channel 20](#). Others may participate virtually via Webex where questions may also be asked in advance or on the day of the broadcast. Email your questions to [CJC-PublicForums@pbcgov.org](mailto:CJC-PublicForums@pbcgov.org).

This will be an insightful open dialogue of questions and answers with Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office Command Staff for all of the communities west of Military Trail that include West Boca Raton, West Delray Beach, and West Boynton Beach in South Palm Beach County.



**Palm Beach County Fire Rescue** is one of the largest professional Fire Departments in the state of Florida. They are here when you need them most, responding to just about every emergency you can imagine - and some that you can't.

With 49 strategically located fire stations crossing more than 1800 square miles, they serve the visitors and residents of Palm Beach County in their greatest times of need... with integrity, unity, compassion, accountability and dedication as their core values.

***Excellence today, Improving tomorrow.***

## Voter Integrity in Palm Beach County



*"After a tour of Palm Beach County's election warehouse where ballots are stored, equipment and supplies are maintained, I was impressed with its focus on security. By using the most sophisticated technology our votes are secure".*

The right to vote is the most sacred constitutional right that we are guaranteed as Americans. We should do all we can to protect it.

**Palm Beach County is no stranger** to electoral integrity. Under the leadership of the Supervisor of Election, Wendy Sartory-Link, our reputation is stellar for transparency and for voter integrity.



[Your Vote Counts, Click Here](#)



*"To provide cybersecurity, protect against mail fraud and computer breeches of our system, we need to ensure that our equipment is first rate and technologically savvy. This is a commitment that County government should make to protect the people of Palm Beach County".*

**- Maria Sachs**

**Sharon DiPietro**

**Chairwoman  
Tri-County Animal  
Rescue**

***A Heart to Help***



**Volunteer  
Spotlight**

Sharon DiPietro became involved with the Tri-County Animal Rescue the same way she came to volunteer her time her whole life through – she followed her heart.

At a very young age, Sharon tried to save a little bird that had fallen from its nest but did not survive. It kindled in her heart the commitment to help those in need, especially the voiceless.

Sharon's love for people and animals alike could be seen through many aspects of her life, from the way she ate (lifelong vegetarian) to her spirit (serving her church) to how she spent her time (volunteering).



Some examples of her volunteer work included reaching out to assist the elderly in her community in any way, from pulling weeds, mowing lawns or running errands to the grocery store. She also formed special groups to organize drives to collect clothing, food, and school supplies to distribute them to local families in need. Holiday drives helped to ensure underprivileged families would be remembered.

About 35 years ago, Sharon relocated to Florida. After living in paradise for a few years she met the love of her life and married her husband, Jay DiPietro. They became very involved with local charities that focused on children in need. It was around that time that Sharon's heartfelt passion for animals, especially those in distressed, abusive, and neglected situations was rekindled, and led her to Tri-County Animal Rescue (TCAR) – her most profound passion to date.

Sharon has been involved with TCAR for over 15 years and proudly serves as the board's Chairwoman. Her favorite part is to witness sweet innocent lives being rescued and given a second chance – which she calls their "rebirthday."

One of her greatest achievements is the ground-up construction and development of Phase I of TCAR's ongoing capital campaign, The Big Dig, resulting in a fantastic state-of-the-art, cutting-edge hospital that treats and cares for ailing dogs and cats. TCAR's Lois Pope Pet Clinic serves the rescued animals. Sharon is extremely proud that the facility offers a program, Together Furever, explicitly designed to help area community families in financial hardship by treating their beloved pets at a fraction of the costs at general veterinarian practices.

In addition to their charitable ventures, Sharon and her husband are most proud of their nine children, 24 grandchildren, six great-grandchildren and two little rescue furbabies, Bella and Baer.

**Do you know of a volunteer to be featured in the Sachs Sentinel?  
Send your nomination to [MSachs@pbcgov.org](mailto:MSachs@pbcgov.org)**

---

# ***FIGHTING FOR YOU!***



**Contact us on Any Matter of Interest or Concern**

**Commissioner Sachs**  
**[MSachs@pbcgov.org](mailto:MSachs@pbcgov.org)**

**Michelle Damone**  
**[MDamone@pbcgov.org](mailto:MDamone@pbcgov.org)**

**Vivian Leiva**  
**[VLeiva@pbcgov.org](mailto:VLeiva@pbcgov.org)**

**Meaghan White**  
**[MAWhite@pbcgov.org](mailto:MAWhite@pbcgov.org)**

**Office: (561) 355-2205**



**Visit Commissioner Sachs Online [www.PBCGOV.com/D5](http://www.PBCGOV.com/D5)**

***Share with a Friend: To Subscribe to Sachs Sentinel Click Here***

Commissioner Maria Sachs | 301 N. Olive Avenue, West Palm Beach, FL 33401

Sent by district5@pbcgov.org powered by

