



I am honored and humbled to have been elected Mayor by my colleagues. To lead Palm Beach County at this time of growth will be a challenge and one that I accept whole heartily. With a continuing increase of people coming into our county, we must address our infrastructure, housing, education and healthcare needs.

I commit to the 1.5 million residents of this county to work diligently to address these challenges so that the place we call home will continue to be our paradise.

## 2023 State of the County Breakfast





Pictured l to r: Mayor Maria Sachs and Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches CEO Donald Burgess. Photo credit: CAPEHART Photography.



Pictured l to r: Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches Chair Kimberly Lea, Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches CEO Donald Burgess, Mayor Maria Sachs and Palm Beach State College, Lake Worth Campus, Provost and Dean Barb Cipriano. Photo credit: CAPEHART Photography.



On Tuesday, Nov. 28, the Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches held its annual State of the County Business Breakfast at the Palm Beach County Convention Center. Event attendees included residents, elected officials, and business and community leaders, and I had the privilege of giving the State of the County address.

The video featured here highlights the legacy right here in our beloved Palm Beach County. My legacy includes serving as one of seven county commissioners representing 1.5 million people across the county from north to south and east to west. It also includes being a daughter, wife, mother, grandmother, former member of the Florida Legislature, criminal defense attorney, proud Italian American, and now Palm Beach County Mayor.

I have lived here for more than 40 years. I love this county. I represent and am a small business owner and resident of the Agriculture Reserve. Plus, I

care about the future of this incredible place, this paradise we call Palm Beach County.

**Moving for Better Balance®**

Congresswoman Lois Frankel  
& Mayor Maria Sachs Present

# Moving for Better Balance®

Join our Tai Ji Quan Class

**Weekdays**

8:30-9:30 a.m.

**SOUTH COUNTY  
CIVIC CENTER**

Outdoors beneath the pavillion  
16700 Jog Road  
Delray Beach, 33446  
Call 561-804-5700



If you are interested in bringing this program to your community,  
contact our office at 561-355-2205 or email [district5@pbc.gov](mailto:district5@pbc.gov).

## Upcoming Commission Meetings



### **BCC Zoning Meeting**

Thursday, Jan. 4, 2024, 9:30 a.m.

### **BCC Meeting, Public Hearings & Matters by the Public**

Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2024, 9:30 a.m.

### **BCC Zoning Meeting**

Thursday, Jan. 25, 2024, 9:30 a.m.

### **BCC Comprehensive Plan & Public Hearing**

Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2024, 9:30 a.m.

### **BCC Meeting, Public Hearings & Matters by the Public**

Tuesday, Feb. 6, 2024, 9:30 a.m.

The scheduled meetings will be held at the Jane M. Thompson Memorial Chambers in the Robert Weisman Governmental Center at [301 N. Olive Ave., 6th Floor, West Palm Beach 33401](#).

## Proclamations

### **Family Court Awareness Month**



Pictured l to r: Palm Beach County NOW Graphics Director Bob Jaffe, Mayor Maria Sachs, Palm Beach County NOW Communications Vice President Natalie Andre and Palm Beach County NOW President Sheila Jaffe.

I presented a proclamation declaring November 2023 as Family Court Awareness Month in Palm Beach County. Families Against Court Travesties Inc. and the Family Court Awareness Month Committee (FCAMC) aim to increase awareness of the importance of a family court system that prioritizes child safety and acts in the children's best interest.

The mission of the FCAMC is fueled by the desire to create awareness and change in the family court system for the conservatively estimated 58,000 children a year ordered into unsupervised contact with physically or sexually abusive parents while honoring the hundreds of children who have been reported as murdered during visitation with a dangerous parent.

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## **Veteran Service Dog Day**



Pictured l to r: Amanda Onda, Mayor Maria Sachs, Semper-Fi Service Dogs Founder/President Ryan Onda and service dog Titan.

I presented a proclamation declaring Nov. 7, 2023 as Veteran Service Dog Day in Palm Beach County.

Palm Beach County is home to approximately 84,000 veterans, making it the third-largest veteran population in Florida. Post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) in war veterans is a common condition that can develop immediately after a disturbing event or weeks, months or even years later. Service dogs perform specific tasks that help address PTSD symptoms, including applying pressure to alleviate anxiety and nudging to interrupt flashbacks.

Research has found benefits of PTSD service dogs, such as reduced severity of symptoms, improved mental health and improved social interactions. Semper-Fi Service Dogs is a nonprofit organization that rescues shelter dogs and trains them as service dogs free of charge for military veterans who have PTSD, a traumatic brain injury or military sexual trauma.

## Committee Reports

**Mayor Maria Sachs, Chair of the Tourist Development Council**



**Palm Beach International Airport Holiday Travel Tips**



- Check your flight status with your airline before coming to the airport.
- If you are picking someone up, wait in the Cell Phone Waiting lot, located off Belvedere Road behind Drive Shack. Vehicles may not wait at the passenger pick-up area near the terminal.
- Allow extra time to find parking and be aware parking areas closest to the terminal often reach capacity around the holidays.
- Remember to lock your vehicle at the airport and never leave the keys with the vehicle.
- Never bring prohibited items, including weapons, to the airport. Mace and pocket knives are among the prohibited items.
- Always have your boarding pass and ID ready when going through TSA screening.



- Anticipate longer than typical screening times around the holiday season.
- Check with your airline to ensure your carry-on bag will fit in the overhead compartment.
- Label all luggage with your name and contact information.
- Liquids and gels in carry-on bags must be 3.4 oz. or less and fit in a one-quart clear zip seal bag. Each passenger is only permitted one zip seal bag.
- If you lose an item at the airport, follow the instructions at [pbia.org](http://pbia.org).
- Remember, ride-sharing services such as Uber and Lyft are available on level three, while taxis and bus services are available on level one.
- Monitor PBI's social media accounts for significant announcements.

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## **Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County**

With the increase of garbage around Christmas, there are special holiday provisions in the collections contract for residents living in unincorporated Palm Beach County, as follows:

### **Garbage**

- Per the collections contract, on Friday, Saturday and Monday from Dec. 26 to Jan. 1, excess garbage can be placed outside the standardized SWA garbage cart at the curb for pick up.



- Excess garbage placed outside the standardized SWA garbage cart must be properly secured in plastic bags weighing less than 50 pounds when filled.
- All waste should be placed curbside by 6 a.m.

### **Recycling**

- Oversized or excess cardboard may always be placed beside the yellow recycling bin for collection.
- All non-cardboard packing material must be removed.

### **Yard waste**

- Remains limited to six cubic yards on the next yard waste collection day.

### **Bulk waste**

- Remains limited to three items at the curb on the next bulk waste collection day.

## **Community Events**



**Green Cay Nature Center**  
[12800 Hagen Ranch Road](#)

[Boynton Beach 33437](#)

**REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS: AMAZING ALLIGATORS**

Saturday, Dec. 9, 10 a.m.

All ages, \$5/participant (Reservations required, limit 20)

Join a naturalist as we learn about Florida's reptiles and amphibians, followed by a guided tour.

**ARCHERY 101**

Saturday, Dec. 23, 10 a.m.

Ages 9+, \$10/participant (Reservations required, limit 12)

Join a USA Archery Certified Instructor to learn the basics of archery and develop a fun new skill. This 1.5-hour program will start with a demonstration followed by target practice. All equipment provided; wear closed-toe shoes and bring water and sun protection as it takes place outdoors.

**NIGHT STALKERS**

Wednesday, Dec. 27, 6 p.m.

Ages 9+, \$5/participant (Reservations required, limit 20)

Join a naturalist on a nighttime boardwalk tour looking at nature from the point of view of its nocturnal residents. Flashlights are recommended, but not required.

**ANIMAL KEEPER FOR A DAY**

Saturday, Dec. 30, 9:30 a.m.

Ages 8+, \$10/participant (Reservations required, limit 8)

Ever wondered what it would be like to be an animal keeper? Work behind the scenes with animal care staff and volunteers to find out. It can be a dirty job but the most rewarding.

**Canyon Amphitheater  
at Canyon Town Center**

[8802 Boynton Beach Blvd.](#)

[Boynton Beach](#) 33472

**LEGENDS ON THE LAWN: NORTH 40**

Saturday, Dec. 16, 7 p.m.

A free live music event series. Lawn chairs and blankets are welcome. The event is free to the public.

**South County  
Regional Park**

[11435 Park Access Road](#)

[Boca Raton 33498](#)

**DAGGERWING VISITS THE LIBRARY: INSECTS & SPIDERS**

Tuesday, Dec. 12, 3:30 p.m.

Ages 5+, FREE (Reservations required)

Enjoy a special program about insects and spiders featuring a visit from some of the nature center's resident animal ambassadors, at the West Boca Branch Library.

### **ALL ABOUT AMPHIBIANS**

Saturday, Dec. 16, 10:30 a.m.

Ages 5+, \$5/participant (Reservations required)

Amphibians are amazing. Learn about different types of amphibians, including frogs and toads, and find out why they are so important to the ecosystem. You'll even get to meet some live residents here in Florida.

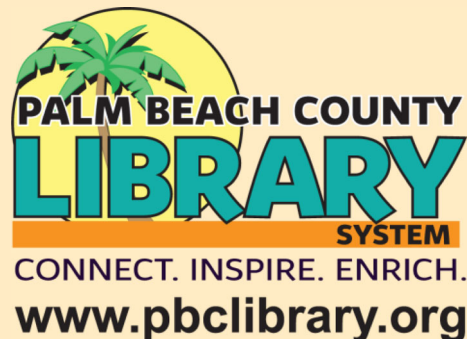
### **MOTHER NATURE & ME: FLORIDA FELINES**

Tuesday, Dec. 19, 10:30 a.m.

Ages 2-5 (w/guardian), \$4/child (Reservations required)

Get ready to jump and shout with Mother Nature through stories, live animals, activities, and a craft designed for toddlers and preschoolers.

All programs are by online reservation only unless otherwise stated. Register online at [pbcparks.com](http://pbcparks.com); under "Online Services," click on Register/Pay for a program or visit the nature center to register and make payment. All participants are required to sign a Program Participation Form before each program.



[Click here](#) for a full list of events the Palm Beach County Library System is presenting.



# Families For Everglades™ **CROC TALK**



**WITH A CROC DOC  
WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST**

**We invite you and your family to join  
us to learn all about alligators  
and crocodiles as indicators  
for Everglades restoration!**

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5  
6:00 - 6:45 PM**

**REGISTER IN ADVANCE  
FOR THIS VIRTUAL EVENT**



[Click here](#) to register for the Families For Everglades Croc Talk event.

## Volunteer Opportunities

### Feeding South Florida



Feeding South Florida offers several volunteer opportunities. One way to make an impact is through the Community Kitchen Experience.

The kitchen provides needed meals to the community. Volunteer to help prep, cook and pack meals in the Community Kitchen at Feeding Palm Beach County.

For more information, contact [volunteers@feedingsouthflorida.org](mailto:volunteers@feedingsouthflorida.org) or [click here](#) to sign up to become a volunteer.

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## Palm Beach County Animal Care and Control Division

Palm Beach County Public Safety Department's Animal Care and Control Division has several volunteer opportunities. From kittens to pups and even helping with administrative tasks, there's a role for everyone.



[Click here](#) to complete the volunteer application or for more information, email [ACCVolunteer@pbcgov.org](mailto:ACCVolunteer@pbcgov.org).

## Animal Care and Control Spotlight



My name is Donut and I weigh just over 41 pounds. If you're looking for a new adventure buddy, I'm it.

Adoption fees are \$60 for adult dogs, \$75 for puppies and \$50 for cats and kittens. Residents of Palm Beach County, 55 years and older, are offered a discounted adoption fee.

All adopted animals will be spayed/neutered, current on vaccinations, protected against fleas and ticks, microchipped and more.

If you are interested in adopting Donut or for more information, call 561-233-1272 and reference [A2159564](#).

## Dear Commissioner



**I am new to the area; where can I take my family for holiday lights?**

Inside the heart of West Palm Beach beats a wild holiday celebration unlike any other. Giant animal displays of giraffes, panthers and flamingos come to light at night as the dense foliage twinkles with over one million lights.

Over 100,000 visitors have seen the Palm Beach Zoo in a new light during the Zoo Lights presented by Florida Power & Light Company, FPL SolarNow®. Zoo Lights is going on now through Jan. 7, 2024.

[Click here](#) to purchase tickets to the Palm Beach Zoo Lights.

The Palm Beach Zoo is at [1301 Summit Blvd., West Palm Beach 33405](#).

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## Mayor Maria Sachs

Please contact us with any questions or concerns!

561-355-2205

[MSachs@pbc.gov](mailto:MSachs@pbc.gov)

[301 N. Olive Ave., Suite 1201  
West Palm Beach, 33401](#)

[\*Visit our website\*](#)

Mayor Maria Sachs | Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners | District 5

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