

Alliance of Delray Residential Associations, Inc.

Serving the Membership ♦ Improving the Community Lifestyle ♦ Working Toward Sustainable Development

Applying Resilience Thinking to Our Natural Resources

Visit Our Website at: www.allianceofdelray.com

January 2024 issue of The Alliance Connection

Next Meeting

Wednesday January 3, 2024

Doors Open 9 AM Meeting Begins 9:30 AM

Joshua Gerstin, Esq.

2023 Legislative Update

Including How to Navigate Through New Insurance Requirements

Plus

**Greg Waltz, Vice President Assured Partners Insurance
How You and Your Association Can Work to Lower Insurance Costs**

Plus

Reports from PBSO, PBCFR, and Local Elected and Government Officials

Meetings take place at the South County Civic Center

16700 Jog Road Delray Beach

The Public is Welcome

Bagels and Coffee/Tea Served

In this Issue:

**Election & Voting Dates to Know
Alliance December Meeting Summary
Delray Beach Police's First Therapy Dog
Climate Psychology: What to Know
Sales Surtax Update
and more!**

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF THE ALLIANCE:

Lori Vinikoor, President

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Carol Klausner, Secretary Sylvia Borrellie, Recording Secretary Deborah Borenstein, Treasurer

Directors: Rob Cuskaden York Freund Judy Goldberg Susan Zuckerman

Assistants to the President: Rose DeSanto Marci McFaul Joel Vinikoor

Bob Schulbaum, Chairman of the Board

Legal Counsel: Joshua Gerstin

Alliance Defeats Logistics Center and Receives Award

Regarding the Olympus, formerly known as GoldCoast Logistics application, this application would have brought more commerce/light industrial uses to a mostly residential area of the Agricultural Reserve south of Atlantic Avenue on State Road 7/441.* The use was found to be incompatible and County Staff recommended DENIAL. The Application was WITHDRAWN. Unless the request is significantly changed, it cannot be brought up again for a year.

The Tierra Del Rey community was thankful to the Alliance and presented an award to President Vinikoor (see photo).

*In August 2022, the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners created a new use designation, "Commerce" (CMR) for the Agricultural Reserve, CMR uses are now allowed along the Atlantic avenue and Boynton Beach Boulevard corridors and State Road 7/441 in the Agricultural Reserve from the northern boundary to Rio Grande Avenue just south of Atlantic Avenue.



Make Your Vote Count! Know Your Election Dates and Deadlines

Supervisor of Elections Wendy Sartory Link provided information for 2024. The website votepalmbeach.gov provides the ability for residents to view or update a residential address, view or update a party affiliation, find a polling location, request and track a Vote-by-Mail ballot and view a sample ballot for an upcoming election when it is available. Phone contact: 561-656-6208

Here are important dates:

- February 20, 2024: Registration Deadline & Political Party Change Deadline
- March 7, 2024: Vote-by-Mail Ballot Request Deadline
- March 9, 2024 through March 17, 2024: Early Voting Dates
- March 19, 2024: Election Day
- July 22, 2024: Registration Deadline & Political Party Change Deadline
- August 8, 2024: Vote-by-Mail Ballot Request Deadline
- August 10, 2024 through August 18, 2024: Early voting Dates
- August 20, 2023: Election Day
- October 7, 2024: Registration Deadline
- October 21, 2024 through November 3, 2024: Early Voting Dates
- October 24, 2024: Vote-by-Mail Ballot Request Deadline
- November 5, 2024: Election Day

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“Tastes of the Agricultural Reserve” at Mayor’s Luncheon

On December 13, 2023 the 6 th floor atrium of the Governmental Center was filled with fruits and vegetables from the Agricultural Reserve. The “Mayor’s Luncheon” is an annual event where the newly elected mayor, and this year it is Maria Sachs, holds the event. Alliance President Lori Vinikoor was there.



The Vinikoor Farm is located in the Agricultural Reserve and provided a tasting table of desserts which included a “Starfruit Upside Down Cake,” “Mango Strudel,” “Macadamia Nut Biscotti,” fresh Tamarind, Carambola (Star Fruit), and Pitaya (Dragon Fruit), Coconut, Plantains, Macadamias, and Red Bananas. All of these fruits are grown in the Agricultural Reserve.

Other farmers brought fresh vegetables for the attendees. Represented were the Yee Farm, Alderman Farm, Bedner Farm, and US Sugar. This time of year, many vegetables are being harvested in Palm Beach County including beans, cauliflower, broccoli, peppers, yellow and green squash, and corn.

It was a special event and an excellent beginning to Mayor Sachs’ year leading the County Commission.



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ALLIANCE OF DELRAY MEETING SUMMARY December 6, 2023

President Lori Vinikoor called the meeting to order at 9:30 am. Since it was the day before December 7 th (D-Day), all veterans stood and received applause from the audience.

Maria Sachs was introduced as our new mayor. Mayor Sachs provided information on her newsletter "The Sachs Sentinel" which contains the latest information for the community.

New Commissioner Michael Barnett greeted the audience and provided information on his office and how he is available to the residents.

The new School Board Chair Karen Brill was introduced. She stated that enrollment is up.

Lt. John Wink from Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office District 4 reported several tips on shopping safely. There will be extra police patrol in our malls and synagogues. Advice for the holiday season: Be aware of your surroundings, place purchases in the car trunk, always lock your vehicle, pay attention to your surroundings.

Fire Rescue Chief Charlie Coyle discussed the need for whole blood for trauma victims. In critical injuries there is only thirty minutes to stabilize the victim and stop the hemorrhaging. It is critical to put blood back into the body. In Palm Beach County the only two trauma centers are Delray Medical Center and St. Mary's Medical Center. Blood must be kept in a cooler. The fire department handled 3000 calls this past year from the Hypoluxo Road through Clint Moore Road area. Also, all emergency vehicles are now carrying whole blood. The importance of CPR was discussed. A demonstration was conducted by the EMT personnel which included the Lucas Device. In cases of heart failure, the Lucas Device (see photo of demonstration) is now being used for Cardiac Arrest Enhancement. The Device automatically activates the appropriate steps based on the patient's body size and weight which includes chest compression and advanced resuscitation. In cases where the cardiac arrest leads to the patient being pronounced clinically dead the Lucas Device can reverse

State Attorney Dave Aronberg addressed the audience on the prevalence of antisemitism in the state. He assured the audience that instances of that will result in the perpetrator being prosecuted and jailed. He will not be running for reelection.

The next meeting will be held on January 3, 2024. Alliance attorney Joshua Gerstin will be providing a 2023 Legislative Update including how to navigate through new insurance requirements. We will also be hearing from the insurance industry. Greg Waltz of Assured Partner Insurance will provide information on how to lower insurance costs. The meeting was ended at 10:25 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Klausner, Recording Secretary
Sylvia Borrellie, Director



Delray Beach: City Police Trained It's First Therapy Dog

“Leo” has joined the Delray Beach Police Department. He is the first Therapy Dog and Officer Brett Gordon is his handler (See photo). The little guy entered Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office Therapy Dogs Academy and graduated. Generally, the K9's complete over 400 hours of training at the Paws & Stripes College. These therapy dogs provide comfort to anyone who is or has experienced a trauma or traumatic event.

Photo below from Alliance of Delray's "Get to Know Palm Beach County Expo 2023": Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office Therapy Dogs and their handlers.



Be Aware of Climate Psychology: A Component of Climate Change

The subject is hurricanes. Community residents may be affected by the climate disasters that south Florida experienced in the past two decades. The American Psychological Association has defined “ecoanxiety” as a chronic fear of environmental doom. Further, a 2022 survey by Yale and George Mason University indicated that a majority of Americans report that they spend time worrying about climate change.

Palm Beach County has experienced some devastating hurricanes during the last two decades. Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne in 2004, Wilma in 2005 created much distress among Palm Beach County residents.

There are three broad types of possible impacts and they are described as: The acute trauma of living through climate disasters; the corroding fear of a collapsing future; and the psychological decay that could damage the fabric of communities dealing with disruptive changes. All of these could make the climate crisis a huge psychological and social phenomenon.

Palm Beach County's Office of Resilience is carefully monitoring climate changes and works to ensure a sustainable and thriving Palm Beach County while confronting a changing climate through adaptation, mitigation, and sustainable development. Climate science is a large part of the equation when examining climate change.

More information from the Office of Resilience

<https://discover.pbcgov.org/resilience/Pages/default.aspx>



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Alliance Joins with Delray Medical Center in Holiday Toy Drive

There will be some happier neighborhood children this holiday season with all of the toys that the Alliance and Delray Medical Center donated to the Delray Beach Department's Toy Drive. Photo from December 10, 2023 below: Members of the Delray Beach Police Department join Delray Medical Center Administration and Staff along with Alliance representatives.

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Sales Surtax Update for the School's Half-Penny: May End One Year Early

Receipts through September 2023 for the half penny sales tax which is funding improvements for the Palm Beach County School District were projected at \$84,313,169. Actually, the receipts were \$1,060,236,705. This is 125.57 % of the projection for this timeframe. This translates to 78% of total projected receipts for the ten year sales tax in 66 % of the time. Therefore, if collections through September 1, 2025 are \$1.35 billion or higher (as opposed to the original projection of \$1.345 billion) , the sales tax would end one year early. That would be December 31, 2025 rather than 2026.

Expenses and interest earnings through September 30 , 2023 included expenditures of \$658,432,546 and interest earnings of \$28,204,900.

What improvements does the half-penny surtax pay for? Improvements include new infrastructure such as air conditioning units, roofing, custodial items, classroom lighting, plumbing replacement, emergency management system controls.

The Dr. Joaquin Garcia High School in Lake Worth recently opened and is a shining example of the exemplary work of the Palm Beach County School Board in bringing state-of-the-art technology and school design to enrich the community and contribute to the successes of the students who will become future community leaders.

Alliance of Delray Residential Associations, Inc.

Preserving the Community Lifestyle

10290 W Atlantic Ave. #480504

Delray Beach, Florida 33448



Important Information Contained in this Newsletter

TO:

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