



Pine Ridge Civic Association

Happy New Year Pine Ridge Neighbors! Hoping that you had a wonderful holiday season, that your Hurricane Irma recovery is almost complete and that 2018 is off to a good start.

This is the time of year we ask for your PRCA membership dues, but first I'd like to thank the PRCA Board for all of their hard work over the past year. The following are highlights of what your neighbors, PRCA Board Members Alan Brown, Elona Dreni, Cindy Dreyfuss, Joan Ginsberg, Carol Girardin, Al Jones, Margot & Bob Kaufman, Ed Livingston, and I have been busy working on:

PRCA Annual Meeting – Tuesday, February 13, 2018 at Covenant Presbyterian Church on Trail Blvd in Room 222 – 6pm refreshments, followed by 6:30pm start. We will have a **Panel of Speakers** to address **Post-Hurricane Tree Stress and Recovery**. We encourage all Pine Ridge residents to attend, as this is obviously a topic close to everyone's hearts.

Monthly Meetings – PRCA Board meetings are held regularly at 6pm on the 3rd Tuesday of the month in Room 222 in the Fellowship Hall at the Covenant Presbyterian Church on Trail Blvd (unless otherwise noted). Our 2017 meetings were "boosted" by the addition of guest speakers including Commissioner Andy Solis, cane toad expert Jennifer Southall, County planning chief Mark Strain and swale & stormwater expert Jerry Kurtz; we plan to continue this program in 2018 for guest speakers on a variety of topics of interest. More details will be posted on www.PineRidge34108.com, the online community for Pine Ridge at Nextdoor.com, and emailed (if we have your email address!)

Communication – we're always looking for better ways to communicate with our Pine Ridge community. Our website stays current at www.PineRidge34108.com and we are moving our email address from pineridgenaples@hotmail.com to PRCA@PineRidge34108.com. PRCA sends email notices to all Pine Ridge neighbors **who have provided us with their current email address**; and for neighbor-to-neighbor communication, **please do join the online community for Pine Ridge at Nextdoor.com**. Over the past year, Nextdoor.com has brought our neighborhood closer through immediate notification of everything from lost pets to information pre-, and post-Hurricane Irma, neighbor's references for vendors (especially helpful after Irma), items for sale, and so much more. There's also a Pine Ridge page on FaceBook – let us know if that's somewhere you'd like to help us become more active – but hopefully we can continue to avoid the Twitter-sphere!

Pet Directory – Did you know there's a Pet Directory on www.PineRidge34108.com? It's accessible via password to paid PRCA members only. **Fill in your pet's information on the Membership Dues sheet (enclosed)**, and you'll have another secure way for your neighbors to help your errant pet find his or her way home that much faster.

Speeding – speed control and safe driving in Pine Ridge is an on-going challenge. Reminder for us all – **the speed limit in Pine Ridge is (still) 30mph and the Florida Three Foot Law applies to grateful bicyclists, pedestrians and dogs !**

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As you all know, **construction of new homes** continues in Pine Ridge Estates. It has been brought to the attention of the PRCA that some building code violations may be taking place that warrant a review or reminder to Collier County authorities. Of note so far are: 1) concerns for lack of land management for water control - no berms or swales to contain water on property, 2) enforcement of legal set backs/easements - (i.e. 30 ft on each side, 10 ft at back and 50 ft for front of property), and finally 3) blocking of, or non-compliance with, necessary culverts for safe run off and drainage. With an effort to clarify these concerns, for the safety and wellness of our entire community, the PRCA will be scheduling a meeting with the County to confirm building code requirements and expectations, while preserving the unique nature of our area. If you have a concern that may deserve clarification, please communicate it to PRCA@PineRidge34108.com by January 31 in a factual (with use of an example), and concise format so that we may address it with the respect it warrants. Thank you.

Welcome Committee – with apologies to our newest Pine Ridge neighbors, we have not done as good a job with this over the past year as we had intended. Going forwards our plan is to make first contact from the PRCA with a welcome letter, giving contact information and ways to keep in touch even if not immediately moving to Pine Ridge. Once homeowners have moved in, our Welcoming Committee will visit bearing gifts and a personal welcome. We are looking for additional members for the Welcome Committee, so please let us know if you'd like to sign up to help.

Trees on Trail Blvd – this time last year PRCA was still in negotiation with Collier County regarding care and maintenance of the trees which we had been given permission to plant in the Trail Blvd County right of way back in the early '90s. After months negotiating an equitable resolution, the PRCA Board offered the trees as a donation to the County. The County formally accepted on June 27, 2017, and assumed responsibility for the trees which have now been trimmed and are being appropriately maintained. Happy ending!

Sidewalk on Trail Blvd – After years of planning, the Florida Department of Transportation has begun work on a sidewalk along the east side of US41. PRCA Board Member Al Jones organized a meeting of Trail Blvd residents on Jan 16th - attended by representatives of FDOT and Collier County who were there to answer questions regarding the project. Please email PRCA@PineRidge34108.com for more.

Stormwater - In June Jerry Kurtz, Collier County surface water & environmental planning manager spoke at our PRCA meeting. At that time, Jerry advised his department was working on a storm water survey in various Collier County neighborhoods including Pine Ridge. Hurricane Irma has delayed final publication, but also provided additional data. Please periodically check our website for more news and updates on this essential issue.

Community Party – date TBA - despite our best efforts, we were not successful organizing a Community Party in 2017, but intend to correct that in 2018. Please watch for emails from the PRCA, posts on Pine Ridge at NextDoor.com, and even possibly via “snail mail”.

You will find our 2018 budget posted on the website www.PineRidge34108.com and in summary, our **plans for 2018** include an invigorated Welcome Committee, Community Party, more PRCA membership meetings with guest speakers, regular updates to Residents' and Business Directories for PRCA members, Collier County storm water management dialogue and updates, and more **we encourage all Pine Ridge residents to become PRCA members and welcome your involvement!**

Happy 2018 ! Hon. Caroline Martino, President, PRCA