



Pine Ridge Civic Association

Happy New Year Pine Ridge Neighbors! Hoping that you had a wonderful holiday season and that 2019 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, PRCCA Committee members Cliff Schneider, Tom Peek and Steve Brisson, and PRCA Board Members Alan Brown, Elona Dreni, Joan Ginsberg, Carol Girardin, Al Jones, Margot & Bob Kaufman, and I have been busy working on:

PRCA Annual Meeting – Tuesday, March 26, 2019 at Covenant Presbyterian Church on Trail Blvd in Room 230 – 6pm refreshments, followed by 6:30pm start. Our Guest Speaker will be Nick Casalanguida, Collier County Deputy County Manager. We encourage all Pine Ridge residents to attend and bring your questions; it will no doubt be an interesting presentation followed by lively discussion as there are a number of topics to be addressed.

As you all know, **construction of new homes** continues in Pine Ridge Estates. Last year there were a number of concerns that were brought to the attention of the PRCA. With sincere thanks to the Pine Ridge Architectural Control Committee (PRACC) we now have a clearly written, comprehensive, multi-faceted document to which we can all refer for questions from Setbacks to Fencing, Covenants to Construction Plan Approval Submittal Process, Agricultural Areas to the History of Pine Ridge and much more. A 'must read' for all new owners in Pine Ridge – and those of us who have lived here for years too. We are greatly indebted to the members of the PRACC committee for their time and thoughtful preparation of this definitive work. Find it on our website www.PineRidge34108.com.

Monthly Meetings – PRCA Board meetings are currently 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 2018 meetings were "boosted" by the addition of guest speakers Doug Caldwell (Univ. Florida Extension Service), Commissioner Andy Solis, Sal DeAngelo (N. Collier Fire Dept.), Jerry Kurtz (Collier County Surface Water & Environmental Planning Manager), and a presentation on cane toads with various local experts. We plan to continue this program in 2019 for guest speakers on a variety of topics of interest.

Communication – our website stays current at www.PineRidge34108.com and our email address is 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**. 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.

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Sidewalk on Trail Blvd – Without wishing to tempt fate, it looks as if the residents along Trail Boulevard may soon finally be waving farewell to Florida Department of Transportation's contractor who has been working on the sidewalk along the east side of US41.

Stormwater - In June Jerry Kurtz, Collier County surface water & environmental planning manager presented the completed storm water survey in various Collier County neighborhoods including Pine Ridge. You will find a copy on our website (General Information page).

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 !**

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.

Welcome Committee – with apologies to our newest Pine Ridge neighbors, we have not done as good a job with this over the past couple of years as we had intended. However, with a shift in responsibilities and new energy on the Board, this will change. If you would like to sign up to help on the Welcome Committee, please do let us know.

Community Events – despite our best efforts, we were not successful organizing a Community Party in 2018, but our new Board members are energized with ideas for multiple community events to feature in the coming year. Please watch for emails from the PRCA, posts on our website www.PineRidge34108.com, and via NextDoor.com.

The Annual Meeting in March concludes my term as President of the PRCA, and it certainly has been an interesting and busy time! Over the past three years, the Board has accomplished much: we started a Guest Speaker initiative to inform our neighbors on a variety of community issues, improved our website and our email functionality, maintained on-line Residents' and Business Directories for PRCA members, built a neighbor-to-neighbor network on NextDoor.com, regularly attended the District 2 meetings, delved into issues of speeding, and questions of setbacks, lot splitting, lot stripping and more (see PRACC report), made our voices heard in the Pine Ridge Commons and Fire Station #40 issues, found a successful solution for the trees on Trail Boulevard, addressed the question of an MSTU for County water in Pine Ridge, weathered Hurricane Irma and her aftermath, new Board Members are rotating in as tenures expire, and much more **we encourage all Pine Ridge residents to become PRCA members, keeping this wonderful community vital and connected, and we welcome your involvement now and for our future !**

Thank you again to the Board, the PRACC and all who have contributed to our achievements over the past three years. Happy 2019 ! Hon. Caroline Martino, President, PRCA