

# DATELINE

## Taking PBC's Legislative Priorities to Tallahassee



This has been a year of lively discussions on many tough issues and while the issues are tough, I've enjoyed being engaged in the journey toward solutions.

As your county representative, I have reached out to our state and federal partners on a number of issues I feel are very important to the residents of Palm Beach County. Recently, I was in Washington, DC with the Lake Okeechobee 16-County Coalition fighting for funding to complete the Herbert Hoover Dike Restoration and Everglades cleanup.

The Lake Okeechobee 16-County Coalition has set the rehabilitation of the

Herbert Hoover Dike as its top federal priority this year.

The Army Corps of Engineers spent \$102 million this year on the Herbert Hoover Dike rehabilitation and have included another \$64 million in their 2016 budget request. In September the Corps also approved \$49 million to replace the water control structure in Canal Point.

The 2016 State Legislative Session begins early this year - normally it would be held in March, but this year the session will begin in January.

Below are Palm Beach County's leg-

islative priorities for the state level. If you would like more information on any of the topics, you can find it on our legislative affairs website at [www.pbcgov.com/legislativeaffairs/](http://www.pbcgov.com/legislativeaffairs/) or feel free to contact my office (561) 355-2206 for more information.

I hope you enjoy this newsletter and please sign up to continue receiving via email to [district6@pbcgov.org](mailto:district6@pbcgov.org)

Until next time...

## 2016 State Legislative Issues

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Glades Regional Initiatives
- Expansion of Gaming at Pari-Mutuel Facilities
- Florida's Film, Television and Digital Media Investment Program
- Scripps, Max Planck and Biomedical Research Funding
- Enterprise Florida Funding

### BUDGET & TAXATION POLICY

- Unfunded Mandates/Medicaid Cost Shifts
- Article V
- Internet Sales Tax

### TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

- Flood Prevention
- Growth Management and Infrastructure
- DMV Facility Service/Mounts Botanical Garden

### PUBLIC SAFETY

- Adjustment to the State/County Shared Detention Center Cost Split
- Reentry for Non-Violent Offenders
- Mental Health/Substance Abuse Funding
- Fire Rescue
- Domestic Violence
- Juvenile Detention Facilities
- Lifeguard Certification and Training
- Animal Care And Control Legislation
- Waiver of Public Record Fees and Disclosures for Criminal Justice Commissions
- Marchman Act Revisions
- Pre-Trial Release
- Regain Local Ability For Limited Gun Regulation
- Emergency Preparedness Issues

- Zero Tolerance Policy Revisions
- Juvenile Domestic Violence Respite Program
- Funding for Enhanced Lighting in High Crime Areas
- Brittany's Law - Driver Safety for Minors
- Rental Cars used in Thefts

### HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES AND HEALTHCARE

- Transportation Disadvantaged Programs
- Homelessness
- Affordable Housing
- Public Records Exemption for Homeless Point in Time Count ID Data
- Child Welfare
- Adults/Students With Disabilities
- Retinoblastoma

### CONSUMER SERVICES

- Towing Bill
- Regulation of Transportation Network Companies (TNCs)
- Burglar Alarm Verification Calls

### LOCAL GOVERNMENT/ADMINISTRATIVE

- Value Adjustment Board

### EDUCATION

- State Library Funding
- Elimination of School Readiness Wait List/Expand Early Learning Coalition Subsidized Childcare
- Palm Beach State College PECO Funding
- Florida Atlantic University Funding
- Career Education Funding
- Cultural Arts Funding

### AGRICULTURE

- Farm to School Programs

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**IN THE COMMUNITY****Wellington Ball Teams Honored with Celebratory Parade**

Commissioner McKinlay addresses the attendees at the ceremony following a parade to honor the Wellington Little League Intermediate All Stars team (left) and Wellington Wild '01 Softball team (right) for their national titles on August 29th. The parade started at Wellington Village Hall and ended at the Wellington Amphitheater. The All-Star team competed in California and the Wellington Wild team competed in Orlando. Commissioner McKinlay presented both teams with certificates honoring their accomplishments.

**Volunteers Remove 700 Lbs. Trash**

On September 19, Legislative Aide Lisa Wilson (2nd from left), volunteers and members of the Solid Waste Authority collected about 700 pounds of trash throughout the City of South Bay on the Annual Coastal Cleanup Day.

**Special Olympian Honored**

On behalf of Commissioner McKinlay, Legislative Aide Kelley Burke presented Special Olympian Christina Cooney with a Certificate of Congratulations at a special party on Sept. 12 at the Vincermos Therapeutic Riding Center to celebrate her recent successful trip to California for the Special Olympics World Games. Cooney was among 16 athletes from Florida competing with 7,000 athletes from 177 nations. She won silver and bronze medals at the event.

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**IN THE COMMUNITY****16-County Coalition Advocates for Lake Okeechobee in Washington, DC**

*Local elected officials representing the 16 County Lake Okeechobee Coalition Ecosystem Summit traveled to Washington DC in October advocating for continued support of Everglades Restoration and Herbert Hoover Dike repairs. Pictured from left to right: Comm. Daniella Levine Cava - Miami Dade County, Mayor Tim Ryan - Broward County, Commissioner Melissa McKinlay - Palm Beach County, US Senator Bill Nelson, Commissioner Frank Mann - Lee County, Commissioner Karson Turner - Chairman, Hendry County, Commissioner Sarah Heard - Martin County, Commissioner Frannie Hutchinson - St. Lucie County & Comm. Hutchinson's grandsons. Below, Commissioner McKinlay discusses Lake Okeechobee with Congressman Mario Diaz-Balart (center) at the Cannon House Office Building.*



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# IN THE COMMUNITY

## Glades Family Fun Fest at Pioneer Park a Success



*Lisa Wilson (at podium), representing Commissioner McKinlay, addresses the crowd at the Palm Beach County Parks & Recreation Family Fun Fest held at Glades Pioneer Park on Saturday, October 3rd. The festival showcased services and the importance of staying active and making healthy choices to improve overall quality of life. The day was filled with opportunities to learn fun ways to stay active at all ages.*



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**IN THE COMMUNITY**

**Commissioner McKinlay  
 Addresses SummerChase HOA**



Commissioner McKinlay was the guest speaker for the September Summer Chase Homeowners Association. Residents received an update on the new baseball stadium, State Road 7 and the Ag Reserve.

**Pahokee Welcomes Baker**

*New County Administrator Verdenia Baker received a hearty welcome at a reception held at the Pahokee Marina on September 14th. Baker reiterated her commitment to the Glades Region to a crowd of approximately 100 residents, business owners, elected officials and activists.*



**SWA TIP: Yard Waste Volume Limits**

The collection of yard waste (loose and containerized combined) is still limited to 6 cubic yards per week (equal to 3 standard size refrigerators). Please make sure the amount you place curbside does not exceed 6 cubic yards as the limitation is strictly enforced

**Upcoming...**

**Commission Update on Western Communities**

Commissioner McKinlay and representatives from various county departments will give an update on items of interest to the western communities on December 10, 2015 from 6:00pm - 8:00pm at the Loxahatchee Groves Town Hall, located at 155 F Road in Loxahatchee Groves (in the former Chamber of Commerce building).

For more information on these events, please call the District 6 office at (561) 355-2206.

**Alzheimer’s Day Center  
 Opens in Wellington**



Burke

Kelley Burke, assistant to Commissioner McKinlay, addresses the crowd at a dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremony for the opening of the new Leo and Anne Albert Alzheimer’s Care and Service Center with Alzheimers Community Care in Wellington on Thursday, Sept. 24 at St. Michael Lutheran Church.

ers or the patients can go to a facility like this, especially in the western communities, it is great, and we appreciate the hard work of everybody. Congratulations on this wonderful facility,” Burke said.

Wellington Mayor Bob Margolis and others shared their own stories of how Alzheimers affected their lives and loved ones.

Gene Pranzo, trustee for the Leo & Anne Albert Charitable Trust, whose mother-in-law suffered from Alzheimer’s disease, believes if they had known about Alzheimer’s Community Care, his mother-in-law would have had a better end to her life. “You’ve done a remarkable job, and I just hope that all of the people who come here enjoy it,” he said.

“Anytime that the caregiv-

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**IN THE COMMUNITY****Glades Safer Homes, Fewer Burns**

*The City of Belle Glade, Florida Power & Light Company, the American Red Cross, Palm Beach County Fire Rescue and Lakeside Medical Center teamed up for the “Safer Homes, Fewer Burns” program on October 8. A team of experts visited neighborhoods conducting free safety makeovers and evaluations for potential electrical and fire safety hazards. Experts included licensed and insured electricians who made on the spot simple repairs at no charge. Along with the certified electricians, the team was comprised of fire safety professionals, FPL line workers and tree trimmers, and American Red Cross volunteers who provided residents with home fire prevention tips and design fire escape plans for each residence.*

**CSC Accepting Applications for Healthy, Safe & Strong Fund**

The Children’s Services Council of Palm Beach County (CSC) sets aside special funds each year to assist in sponsoring public awareness events, conferences and community outreach activities for children and families in Palm Beach County. The public awareness events, conferences and activities are important to the Children’s Services Council in achieving its goals so that more children are:

- Born healthy
- Kept safe from abuse/neglect
- Ready for kindergarten
- Able to access quality afterschool and summer programming.

These funds are intended to support organizations’ activities and efforts that do not fit within the funding parameters of Children’s Services Council, but support the Council’s goals. The maximum

to be awarded for any single event is \$2,500.

Public awareness events, conferences and community outreach activities can include public education campaigns that involve a series of events or multi-media initiatives. The public awareness events/ activities must plan to reach a minimum of 100 people and include a marketing/public relations plan, distribution plan and an itemized budget. Example areas of focus for this fund include child safety, child development, parenting education, cultural events, literacy, and school readiness activities.

While applications from individual agencies are welcome, collaboration among provider agencies is encouraged. The following types of organizations

may apply for these special funds

- Not-for-profit organizations
- Accredited colleges and universities
- Governmental organizations
- Professional organizations/coalitions/associations (if the organization or coalition is not a legal entity, CSC will require a primary agency that is a legal entity for contracting).
- Cultural, arts, educational organizations

Pursuant to section 125.901 of the Florida Statutes, the Palm Beach County School District is not eligible to apply for CSC funds.

The Children’s Services Council reserves the right to reject any or all of the applications.

For more information regarding the fund, call 561-740-7000 ext. 2208.

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**IN THE COMMUNITY****Donna White Recognized for 20+ Years of Service**

Commissioner McKinlay presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Donna H. White at the Sept. 1st Board of County Commissioner's meeting for her upcoming induction into the LPGA Teaching and Club Professionals Hall of Fame and her commitment to Palm Beach County public golf for more than 20 years. Ms. White's induction into the LPGA Hall of Fame is just the latest in a long list of awards, recognition and achievements.

**1928 Hurricane Remembrance Ceremony Recognizes Survivors of Storm in Glades**

Commissioner McKinlay (far right) addressed the crowd at the 1928 Hurricane Remembrance at the Port Mayaca Memorial Cemetery on September 16. Three survivors of the storm attended the event which marked 87 years since the storm devastated Palm Beach County. (L-R) Pahokee Councilwoman Felesia Hill, Pastor Patti Auperlee, storm survivors Lucille Salvatore Herron, Ethel Williams and Iris Salvatore Hodges. Between 2500 and 3000 residents perished in the 1928 unnamed storm and were buried in mass graves at the Port Mayaca Cemetery.

**Wellington Fall Fest Brings out Record Number of Residents**

Kelley Burke hands out candy to trick-or-treaters in Wellington. Approximately 10,000 residents enjoyed Wellington's Halloween-themed Fall Fest at Village Park on October 17th. Trick-or-treating, haunted hallways, face painting, bounce houses, a costume contest, food trucks, music and a multitude of vendors kept the crowds entertained.

## palm beach county commission action

**DATA BANK****September 22, 2015**

**Vehicles for hire** – agreed to extend the current temporary operating agreement with Uber through March 31, 2016, or until state lawmakers adopt legislation resolving issues relating to ride-sharing services, whichever occurs first.

**Curbstoning** – approved an amendment to the motor vehicles traffic ordinance that prohibits curbstoning — the parking or display of motor vehicles for sale, hire or rent in certain areas, unless authorized. Those activities are now prohibited on public rights of way, easements and private property open to the public, unless authorized.

**Roadside vendors** – approved an amendment to the Palm Beach County Roadside Vendors Ordinance changing the expiration date of permits issued for roadside vendors from December 31 to January 31.

**Project Tiger** – approved ad valorem tax exemptions of up to \$850,000 over 10 years for Project Tiger, which is considering a site in the Glades area for a new manufacturing facility. The project includes a \$40 million capital investment for a new 90,000-square-foot plant. Project Tiger will create 71 new jobs at an average annual salary of \$50,000. The five-year economic impact to the area is estimated at \$162 million.

**Project Darwin** — approved a cash grant of \$160,000, with the city of Boca Raton providing \$200,000, for Project Darwin. The company is considering a site in Boca Raton for the build out of its manufacturing facility, including a \$28 million capital investment for construction of a 120,000-square-foot plant. The contributions are required local matches for a total of \$1.3 million in state awards. Project Darwin will create 160 new full-time jobs over four years and retain 57 existing jobs for five years. The project's estimated five-year economic impact is \$273 million.

**Ethics** – approved two amendments to the Palm Beach County Commission on Ethics Ordinance. One amendment allows a respondent in an enforcement case to have his/her hearing conducted by a hearing officer instead of the Commission on Ethics (COE). The other amendment requires those who file state-required gift reports must contemporaneously file a copy with the COE.

**Trains** – approved an agreement with Florida East Coast (FEC) Railway, LLC and All Aboard Florida (AAF) Operations, LLC for railroad crossing improvements. AAF will pay for all construction costs associated with installing new tracks. The additional set of tracks will increase annual sign maintenance costs paid by the county by about \$22,000.

**October 6, 2015**

**Hunger Relief** – approved the Hunger Relief Strategic Plan for Palm Beach County. The comprehensive document contains specific goals, objectives, tactics, strategies, measurements and outcomes for addressing local hunger issues.

**Marijuana** – approved on preliminary reading and to advertise for public hearing on October 20 an ordinance establishing a civil citation for possession of small amounts of marijuana. The proposed ordinance allows law enforcement to issue a civil citation with a civil fine of \$100 for anyone 18 and older who is in possession of 20 grams or less of marijuana and/or marijuana drug paraphernalia.

**Home Caregivers** – approved on preliminary reading and to advertise for public hearing on October 20 an ordinance requiring licensing and Level 2 background checks for home caregivers.

**Convention Center** – approved a five-year agreement through September 30, 2020, with Spectra Food Services and Hospitality for food and beverage services at the Palm Beach County Convention Center. The company will receive an annual management fee of \$50,000 plus 7 percent of net profits, and the opportunity to earn additional sales incentive fees.

**Golf Course Concessions** – approved a nine-month extension to the concessionaire service agreement with DH2, Inc. for the operation of mobile food and beverage carts at Osprey Point Golf Course in South County Re-

gional Park in the amount of \$30,000 per year. A new full-service restaurant building is expected to be built and operational in August 2016, at which time a new RFP will be issued.

**Employee Benefits** – approved a one-year renewal of health insurance benefits with CIGNA Health and Life Insurance for employees of the Board of County Commissioners, Supervisor of Elections and Palm Tran.

**Administration** – recognized the recent promotion of Jon Van Arnam to deputy county administrator.

**October 20, 2015**

**Baseball Complex** – approved the restated developer agreement with HW Spring Training Complex, LLC; adopted a resolution authorizing the issuance of up to \$133 million in public improvement revenue bonds to fund construction and equipping of a professional sports franchise facility on Haverhill Road south of 45<sup>th</sup> Street; and authorized staff to close on the property exchange with the city of West Palm Beach.

**Home Caregivers** – adopted the Home Caregiver Ordinance requiring licensure and Level 2 background checks of home caregivers. The ordinance will be enforced primarily by the Sheriff's Office; licensing will be handled by the Palm Beach County Division of Consumer Affairs.

**Marijuana** – continued a public hearing to the December 15 meeting establishing a civil citation process for possession of small amounts of marijuana. The proposed measure allows law enforcement officers to issue a civil citation with a civil fine of \$100 or the performance of community service for anyone 18 or older who is in possession of 20 grams or less of marijuana and/or marijuana drug paraphernalia.

**Economic Incentives** — approved ad valorem tax exemptions for Carrier Corp. and the Otis Elevator Company totaling \$3 million over a 10-year period. The companies are divisions of United Technologies Corp. which is constructing a 250,000-square-foot state-of-the-art facility on 30 acres of the Briger tract known as the UTC Center for Intelligent Buildings. Carrier and Otis are required to make a minimum \$115 million capital investment, create 380 jobs over a six-year period at an average annual wage of \$85,000, and retain those jobs for five years. They must also retain 70 existing full-time jobs for five years.

**Small Business** – approved a contract for consulting and professional services with Paragon Florida, Inc. in the amount of \$40,000 to provide consulting and financing to small businesses and persons developing small businesses. The estimated economic impact over five years is \$3.5 million.

**External Auditor** – authorized a budget transfer of \$48,000 to add more services to the external auditing services contract with McGladrey LLP. The firm will perform an analysis of county spending and identify possible savings opportunities, provide comparisons to peer counties, and make recommendations to improve efficiency and effectiveness.

**Water Mains** – adopted resolutions confirming special assessments and approved construction contracts with Johnson-Davis, Inc. to install potable water mains on 77<sup>th</sup> Place North to serve 10 residential properties and 90<sup>th</sup> Street North to serve 14 residential properties in The Acreage.

**fracking** – adopted a resolution supporting a statewide ban on hydraulic fracturing, acid fracturing, and similar high-pressure well stimulation practices commonly known as fracking for the purpose of exploration or production of oil or natural gas.

**Palm Tran** – ratified the appointment of Clinton Forbes as executive director of Palm Tran at an annual salary of \$159,000. He was chosen from a field of 62 applicants and will start on November 2.

**animal rescue** – approved an agreement with the Animal Recovery Mission, Inc. (ARM) for the care of hundreds of farm animals that were seized by county officials from farms that illegally and inhumanely slaughter animals. Due to the large number of animals involved, Palm Beach County Animal Care & Control could not house them all at the main shelter. ARM will maintain the animals until the conclusion of court cases.