Dear District 6 Residents,

Welcome to our community newsletter, where I am thrilled to share the latest happenings and updates that truly matter to us! Get ready to dive into exciting project updates, significant events, and all the news that is shaping our community.

In the Community
I joined the groundbreaking ceremony for the $50M Dental & Medical Services Technology Building at the Dennis P. Gallon Loxahatchee Groves campus. This cutting-edge facility will equip students pursuing healthcare careers with advanced dental clinics, surgical technology suites, and state-of-the-art science labs, fostering innovation and excellence in healthcare education.

At the recent Leadership Glades graduation, I had the honor of meeting exceptional participants who are emerging as influential leaders in our community. They are equipped with essential skills to address Glades area challenges, actively enhancing our community's quality of life.
I attended the City of Pahokee's Annexation Workshop, where valuable discussions, insights, and strategies for community development took place. Collaboration among stakeholders shapes a promising future for Pahokee and its residents.

I attended this year's Governor's Hurricane Conference, a gathering for professionals focused on addressing the challenges we face during hurricane season. I'm excited to bring back the knowledge and insights to better serve District 6!
I had a fantastic time at the Sweet Corn Fiesta, where I was honored to judge the corn shucking and corn eating competitions. Congratulations to Miki Sudo, the 2023 Sweet Corn Fiesta professional Corn Eating Champion, who consumed an impressive 52 ears of sweet corn in twelve minutes!
I had the privilege of attending this year's Palm Beach County Police Benevolent Association (PBA) Ball, where we honored our amazing officers and remembered those lost in the line of duty. A heartfelt thank you to all the officers who serve and protect our community.
I enjoyed my time at the Loxahatchee Groves Town Council meeting. Thank you for the warm welcome, and I look forward to future opportunities to engage with the Loxahatchee Groves community.
I was honored to welcome home the veterans returning from their remarkable Honor Flight mission. I’d like to express our gratitude to everyone who attended and offered unwavering support for our Honor Flight veterans and volunteers. Thank you for standing by our heroes and making a difference!
I am absolutely thrilled to announce that Thomas Holt of Wellington has been inducted into the prestigious South Florida Fair Hall of Fame! This well-deserved recognition is a testament to Thomas’s unwavering dedication and passion for the Fair, which has spanned over an impressive 30 years.

Please join me in celebrating Thomas's incredible achievement and expressing our heartfelt gratitude for his outstanding service to the South Florida Fair and our local community. Thank you for all you do, and here’s to many more years of making a difference!

I am also excited to extend my heartfelt congratulations to Mr. Thomas Hrebin from Pioneer Park Elementary in Belle Glade for winning the esteemed Dwyer Award for Excellence in Education for Student Advancement and Career Education. This award recognizes his outstanding contributions to education, hard work, and devotion to mentoring and inspiring students towards successful careers. His achievement is a
testament to his dedication and passion for educating and guiding the next generation towards a bright future.

**Economic Development Week**

During Economic Development Week, we celebrated Palm Beach County's partnerships with the Business Development Board, Chambers, FAU, and more. These collaborations created over 4,600 jobs last year, transforming neighborhoods into balanced communities.

**Working for District 6**

**HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:**

- **Everglades Townhomes Project in Pahokee:** An allocation of $14,000,000 is made for the construction of 60 affordable housing units, dedicating at least 40% for qualified low-income residents through the issuance of Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds.

- **Department of Housing and Urban Development Grant for Housing and Related Services:** A substantial grant of $8,768,012 is secured, targeted at providing support to those who are homeless, at risk of homelessness, or experiencing housing instability.

- **Palm Beach County Infrastructure Improvements:** The county received approval for two supplemental agreements totaling $5,366,514 in grant funding. These funds are set for roadway improvements, bike lane additions, and critical intersection enhancements, with local matches of $762,461 and $771,890 respectively.

**TRANSPORTATION:**
• Go Glades Mobility on Demand service: A contract with MV Transportation and MV Contract Transportation, for $1,577,730, is established to supplement fixed-route service in the Glades region.

• New Traffic Signal at Artist Place and Lyons Road: An expenditure of $512,588.13 is committed to construct a mast arm traffic signal to accommodate a new county school and improve traffic flow.

ENVIRONMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE:

• Wastewater Rehabilitation Work Order: The Hinterland Group has received approval for a work order, costing $3,998,888.10, for wastewater rehabilitation. A budget transfer of $2,804,000 was also requested for the project.

• Cox Park Improvement Project in South Bay: A commitment of $492,708 ($124,028 additional Community Development Block Grant funds) is made for design/consulting services and park improvements.

• M-2 Bypass Project: An allocation of $389,324 (half from a grant and half from the Indian Trail Improvement District match) is set aside for drainage improvements in the Indian Trail Improvement District.

ADDITIONAL PROJECTS:

• Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program: A substantial funding of $5,053,983 is directed to provide assistance for approximately 13,500 low-income households facing water utility service emergencies.

• Palm Beach County Substance Abuse Coalition Budget Increase: The budget has been significantly increased, from $550,000 to $1,250,000, to expand the recovery community center network for individuals and families affected by substance use disorders.

• Department of Homeland Security Federal Emergency Management Agency Grant for Smoke/Carbon Monoxide Alarms: A grant of $85,643 is received for purchasing and installing 1,500 alarms in at-risk, low-income residential areas in the Glades.

• AARP Foundation Host Agency Agreement: An initiative that requires no County funds, designed to offer meaningful work experiences for low-income seniors aged 55 and above within the Community Services Department.

County Initiative to Expand 60th Street North
We are excited to share news of a County-initiated amendment that proposes the expansion of 60th Street North, between 140th Ave. North and N State Road 7 Extension. The amendment aims to widen this segment, allowing for the inclusion of five lanes.

This project holds significant benefits for our community. The widened 60th Street North will serve as a crucial East-West connector, providing a much-needed relief for traffic congestion in the Acreage area. With the growing population and increasing demands on our roadways, this expansion will enhance accessibility, streamline travel, and contribute to smoother commuting experiences.

Traditionally, a 5-lane roadway can be accommodated within an 80-foot right-of-way. However, there are certain constraints we need to address. The City of West Palm Beach’s M-Canal required facilities currently encroach into the 80-foot right-of-way on the northern side. Furthermore, the City holds a canal access and maintenance easement over this same area.

To achieve our goal of a 5-lane roadway and meet the City's requirements, additional right-of-way is necessary. This will allow us to create a safe and efficient roadway, as well as provide space for the City’s mandated berm with a guardrail alongside the M-Canal.

We are committed to improving transportation infrastructure in our county and appreciate your support as we work towards creating better road networks for our community. Stay tuned for further updates on this exciting development.

**Update on the Seminole Pratt Whitney Road Improvement Project**
We're widening the 2.5-mile stretch from Orange Blvd. to south of Northlake to improve traffic flow. The project, contracted to Ranger Construction, includes new traffic signals, drainage, utilities, bike lanes, and sidewalks. Despite encountering delays due to construction issues, our staff is diligently resolving them. We appreciate your patience as we work towards completing this important project promptly.

**Upcoming Events**

Saturday, May 20th: Kids to Parks Day in Wellington

Thursday, May 25th: Hispanic Vote Meeting with Commissioner Baxter in Greenacres
Community Leaders Meeting
Thursday, May 25th @ 6:30pm
Featuring:
Palm Beach County District 6 Commissioner
Sara Baxter

Location: Sabor Latino Restaurant
2202 Jog Road
Greenacres, FL 33415
Sponsored By:
Heidi Schaeffer, M.D.
CHARITABLE TRUST

Please RSVP to hispanicvotepb@gmail.com
Friday, May 26-Sunday, May 28: Jazz on the Muck Music Festival in Belle Glade
Sunday, June 4th: Rock Your Park in Loxahatchee
Catch you again next month!
Best regards,
Commissioner Sara Baxter
Try email marketing for free today!