



## ON THE RANCH NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2021

[www.PalmerRanch.net](http://www.PalmerRanch.net)

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### News You Can Use

#### **SANDHILL CRANE COLTS SEASON – COMING SOON!**

Two subspecies of Sandhill Crane occur in Florida. The Florida Sandhill Crane population numbers between four and five thousand, are non-migratory year-round breeding residents, and are state protected. They are joined every winter by 25,000 migratory Greater Sandhill Cranes that nest every spring in the Great Lakes region. The babies are called “colts” because of their long spindly legs. These majestic birds make their home in our fresh water preservation areas. **Please be mindful of these downy Native Floridians as you travel along the picturesque roads of Palmer Ranch!**



#### **FRIENDS OF OSPREY JUNCTION TRAILHEAD - TREE JUVENATION WEBINAR SERIES – [SEE ATTACHED](#)**



#### **TURTLE ROCK COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE**

*Turtle Rock*, located at 8500 Turtle Rock Blvd., will be having its annual community garage sale on **Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup> from 8:00am to 11:30am**. Be sure to stop by for some great finds!

### Looking for More Information on Your Community's Stormwater Ponds?

The Palmer Ranch Watershed / Natural Assets Committee took advantage of the extra time the pandemic provided to create informative articles about stormwater ponds. If you're looking to educate yourself, or your entire community, our library of articles and reference material are available to use. We've articles on the following topics:

1. Are the lakes and ponds on Palmer Ranch natural?
2. What happens to the water in our ponds?
3. What wildlife do our ponds support?
4. What can I do as a Palmer Ranch resident to minimize red tide?
5. Stormwater ponds need your help!

This content, and so much more, can be found on the Palmer Ranch website ([www.PalmerRanch.net](http://www.PalmerRanch.net)). At the bottom of the home page, click on the Natural Assets window and a library of helpful content will be listed.



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### How Do We Compare?

We think most of our neighbors are happy living in our community—and we certainly hope you are among them. But how do the more than 65 million Americans who live in homeowner associations and condominium communities feel about their own homeowner associations and condominium communities? Are they happy with their elected boards? How do they feel about the rules?

The Foundation for Community Association Research, an affiliate of Community Associations Institute (CAI), sponsored a recent national public opinion survey to answer these and other questions. Here are some of the key findings:

- 90% of residents rate their overall community association experience as positive (64%) or neutral (26%).
- 90% of residents say association board members “absolutely” or “for the most part” serve the best interests of their communities.
- 83% say they get along well with their immediate neighbors.
- 92% say they are on friendly terms with their association board members.
- 83% of residents say their community managers provide value and support to residents and their associations.
- 88% of residents who had direct contact with their community manager say it was a positive experience.
- 70% of residents say their association’s rules protect and enhance property value; only 4% say the rules harm property values.

We’d like to think that we would do even better than the national averages, so tell us what you think we can do to make our community an even better place to live. We encourage you to get involved, so let us know how you can help. Active and engaged residents are the way to build a true sense of community. If you’re especially pleased about our community, share that too! It’s always good to know we’re on the right track.

You can contact us by sending an e-mail to [tracy@palmerranch.net](mailto:tracy@palmerranch.net). We look forward to hearing from you.



Do you want to hear about the news on Palmer Ranch first hand? If so, simply visit our website: [www.PalmerRanch.net](http://www.PalmerRanch.net). At the bottom of the home page, simply click on ‘Sign Up For Our Newsletter.’ You’ll then be asked to provide your email address and first name. It’s that easy!

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#### Palmer Ranch Master Association – Mission Statement

*‘Our mission is to enhance and maintain the aesthetic quality of Palmer Ranch and to preserve the overall unique identity and sense of community.’*



**Friends of Osprey Junction Trailhead present free “TreeJuvenation Florida” webinar**

*Wednesday, January 13, 2021 from 11am to 12pm*



Join Friends of Osprey Junction Trailhead (FOJT) for their “TreeJuvenation Florida” webinar, a 1-hour workshop on January 13, 2021. A grant from the Gulf Coast Community Foundation is underwriting this webinar.

**Webinar Description:** We're celebrating Florida Arbor Day by offering a workshop on the importance of trees. By attending this session you'll learn about and discover the many benefits you and your community derive from trees. These benefits include improved physical and mental wellness, reducing carbon dioxide, lowering temperatures, mitigating heat-island effects, and how trees contribute to cleaner water and cleaner air. This presentation will answer the many questions you might have about why adding trees to your landscape is important and how they add more life to your yard.

**Admission is free but you must register to receive an invitation for the webinar.**

Click this link: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_nSsti3VGQO-iORdn-5-s1Q](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_nSsti3VGQO-iORdn-5-s1Q)

Or visit [www.ojtfriends.com/webinars](http://www.ojtfriends.com/webinars).

**Host:** Rebecca Tasetano, Friends of Osprey Junction Trailhead

**Presenter:** Marguerite Beckford, UF/IFAS Sarasota County Commercial Horticulture Extension Education Agent.

**Presenter Bio:** Marguerite Beckford is the UF/IFAS Sarasota County Commercial Horticulture Extension Education Agent. Her current Extension education focus areas are Urban Forestry, and Environmental Landscape Management (ELM). Since launching Florida's first trademarked urban forestry Extension program – Treejuvenation© Florida, Marguerite has sourced funding to plant 300 community trees, has hosted urban forestry Extension community events with over 400 participants, and served on the inaugural tree committee which was successful in earning New College of Florida, the designation as Florida's 21st Tree Campus USA© location. Working as a UF/IFAS Extension Agent in Miami-Dade County, Marguerite obtained a grant to launch a countywide landscape irrigation conservation project by establishing Miami-Dade's first Urban Mobile Irrigation Lab. This project resulted in a 75% increase in HOA water conservation. She has also worked on agronomic research projects in Trinidad & Tobago, and the British Virgin Islands. Marguerite's additional professional accomplishments include participating in project partnerships with the South Florida Water Management District and the USDA's Soil and Water Conservation District; receiving the City of Medley's Mayor's Community Partners Award, and a UF/IFAS Faculty and Staff Superior Accomplishment Award.

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### **About Friends of Osprey Junction Trailhead**

Friends of Osprey Junction Trailhead is a Chapter of Friends of Sarasota County Parks, a 501c3 non-profit registered in Florida. Friends of Osprey Junction Trailhead mission is to support, promote and enhance Osprey Junction Trailhead, a Sarasota County Park adjacent to The Legacy Trail. You can email us at [friends@ojtfriends.com](mailto:friends@ojtfriends.com).