



ON THE RANCH NEWSLETTER – JUNE 12, 2015

PLEASE DISTRIBUTE OR POST ON YOUR COMMUNITY BOARD.

FLAG DAY – SUNDAY JUNE 14TH

People across the United States celebrate Flag Day on **June 14** each year, to honor the United States flag and to commemorate the flag's adoption. On June 14, 1777, the Continental Congress replaced the British symbols of the Grand Union flag with a new design featuring 13 white stars in a circle on a field of blue and 13 red and white stripes – one for each state. The number of stars increased as the new states entered the Union. The flag of the United States represents freedom and has been an enduring symbol of the country's ideals since its early days. Many people in the United States honor this day by displaying the American flag at homes and public buildings.



News you can Use

SARASOTA COUNTY DRINKING WATER REPORT

Sarasota County Public Utilities announced this week that the 2014 Sarasota County Drinking Water Report is now available online. In an effort to save taxpayer's the cost of printing and postage, the Public Utility Department has elected to provide the 2014 Consumer Confidence Report electronically. The report includes information about where our water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to the standards set by regulatory agencies. The report also includes a summary of the quality of water provided to customers. **Sarasota County Public Utilities was recently awarded best tasting drinking water** for consistently meeting or exceeding state and federal standards for drinking water. The 2014 Water Quality Report gives customers the chance to learn more about their local water supply. The report can be viewed online at: www.scgov.net/waterqualityreport. A hard copy of the report can be mailed, per request, by emailing waterquality@scgov.net, or by calling the Water Quality Services at 941-861-5000.

Palm of the Month



CANARY ISLAND DATE PALMS (*PHOENIX CANARIENSIS*)

The Canary Island Date Palm found on Honore Avenue has a tropical look and a propensity for a sunny location. This native of North Africa and the Canary Islands has a gray-brown stout trunk that is topped with a huge crown of stiff large dark green leaves. The arching feather-like fronds have stems that sport 2-3 inch sharp spines. It is not a self-cleaning palm, so dead leaves need to be pruned to maintain its beautiful appearance. When pruned correctly, the bottom of the crown has a so-called nut that looks like a pineapple, hence it is sometimes called a Pineapple Palm. Ferns often germinate in the "pineapple" part as the trunk forms, adding to the ornamental look.

Grounds Corner

PALMER RANCH TRIMMING SCHEDULED

Trimming of the Brazilian Pepper in the county rights of way, along McIntosh Road, Sawyer Loop, Honore Avenue, and Palmer Ranch Parkways East and West, has been scheduled for the **week of June 15**, weather permitting.

WORK BEGINNING ON BOARD-APPROVED ENHANCEMENT PROJECT: BOUGAINVILLEA AND COLORED TREES

It is part of what makes Palmer Ranch such an extraordinary community, renowned for its quintessential beauty! At their meeting in May, the Board of Trustees voted unanimously to pump up the color along the major roadways in Palmer Ranch. The Project will be done in stages, with work beginning this week and continuing throughout the summer. In addition to other areas on Palmer Ranch, the enhancement project will include all Cabbage Palm beds in the medians of Honore Avenue, McIntosh Road, Central Sarasota Pkwy, and west side of McIntosh Road from Palmer Ranch Parkway West to Sarasota Square Boulevard.

Work that was started this week will resume next week as the first phase of the project progresses with the removal of non-producing Oleanders within Cabbage Palm beds on Honore Avenue. Ultimately, there will be two serpentine rows of Helen Johnson Bougainvillea, stagger planted 4-feet off-center between the palms. The Cabbage Palm/Little Gem Magnolia beds in the medians on Honore between Palmer Ranch Parkway and Central Sarasota Parkway will also receive Helen Johnson Bougainvillea as they will be planted at each end of the beds. The landscape architect’s rendering of the palm beds that was presented to the Board of Trustees is featured below! Please be mindful of the workers as you travel on Honore Avenue.

