



Citizens for Ponce Inlet

Newsletter

Dedicated to improving the quality of life in Ponce Inlet

VOL. XCVI

Winter 2014

Town of Ponce Inlet Mayor's State of the Town Address January 16, 2014



Gary L. Smith,
Mayor

With the start of a fresh New Year, many of us reflect on the prior year. The Town does this as well and we provide this information to you through an annual Address.

First and foremost is the financial health of our Town. The Town remains fiscally sound with a general fund reserve of \$1.6 million dollars, which equates to about 4 months of our current expenses. The Town's standard for the general fund reserve is between 3 and 9 months of operating expenses. Le-

gal defense of the Town in *Pacetta vs. Ponce Inlet*, otherwise known as *The Lawsuit*, continues to impair our financial resources but now that we have prevailed on the Bert J. Harris portion of this suit, we can at least look forward to seeking reimbursement of some of that cost. In order to meet our approved budget expenditures for the current fiscal year, our millage rate was raised to 6.5 mills, which is about 1.25 mills higher than it would have needed to be apart from *The Lawsuit*. However, on the topic of taxation, the Town adopted an ordinance to implement the additional homestead exemption for qualifying low-income seniors that was approved by the voters statewide in the election of November 2012; this relieves those most in need from any additional tax burden.

As *The Lawsuit* continues to be the most prevalent topic in the Town, I will provide a synopsis for any of you who may wish to have it and I will also provide a status update on the case. As most of you know, *The Lawsuit*, was originally brought against the Town in 2008 by Pacetta LLC because they felt they had obtained sufficient assurances from previous members of Council and Staff which entitled them to certain economically favorable changes to

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Nominations for 2014 Citizen of the Year now being accepted.

The Citizens For Ponce Inlet Newsletter is published four times yearly to inform the citizens and businesses of Ponce Inlet about matters which may be of interest or have an impact on them. The newsletter is not a public forum and no editorial articles or letters will be accepted for publication.

The Town of Ponce Inlet's arrangement with the Citizens For Ponce Inlet organization is that the Town of Ponce Inlet covers the cost of the printing of the newsletter in exchange for running information from all of the Town's departments. The Citizens For Ponce Inlet organization puts the newsletter together to include articles from all of the various organizations within the Town. The Citizens For Ponce Inlet organization also pays for the mailing and handles other local distribution. Though the printing varies from one issue to the next based upon its size, the Town of Ponce Inlet spent \$5,522 in total for the four issues published last fiscal year.

The newsletter does not accept paid advertisements so please consider becoming a member of the Citizens For Ponce Inlet by completing the form on the last page of this publication. Your membership helps defray the costs of the many activities of this organization including postage for the newsletter, the annual Candidate's Forum, and the Citizens of the Year awards event.

All comments, questions, and articles for submission should be directed to:

Citizens For Ponce Inlet
4670 South Peninsula Drive
Ponce Inlet, FL 32127

Or:

ponce.newsletter@gmail.com

**2013 Citizens For Ponce Inlet
Board Members**

**Ginger Bayer
Kristi Drumheller
Mary Lou Fillingame
Don Hampton
Jim Hinson
Mary Lou Hinson
Judy Huggins
Mary Ann Redinger**

The Board of the Citizens for Ponce Inlet has made several changes to the way the Citizen of the Year is selected that we think will enhance the selection process.

Starting this year, anyone may nominate a person for the award by sending a letter of recommendation to us for consideration. Formerly only past recipients of the award could nominate potential winners. All nominations will now be made in writing in advance of the meeting to elect the winner instead of at the election meeting itself. The majority of the CFPI board felt that having all nominations in writing in advance of the election meeting will better allow adequate consideration of the nominee's qualifications with respect to one another. Only one citizen will be selected to receive the Citizen of the Year award.

Citizen of the Year selection criteria:

- Nominations will be accepted from the general public for individuals that have made outstanding contributions to the Town of Ponce Inlet and have not previously received the award.
- The person being nominated must be a current resident of Ponce Inlet or a paid employee of the Town of Ponce Inlet who is involved with local volunteer work.
- A written letter of recommendation must accompany the nomination. Letters should be limited to one page, cite the nominee's Ponce Inlet related accomplishments, and contain the name and contact information of the individual making the nomination.
- **The cutoff date for submitting nomination letters is Friday, February 21st, 2014.**
- If a CFPI board member is nominated they will recuse themselves from the process.

All nominating letters should be sent to:

Judy Huggins
44 Coastal Oaks Circle
Ponce Inlet, FL 32127-7249
or e-mailed to :
ponce.newsletter@gmail.com

All nomination letters will be distributed to former winners of the Citizen of the Year and CFPI Board members for their review. At a meeting to be held on March 8th past recipients and Board members will vote on those nominated. The person receiving the highest ranking will receive the award.

We look forward to receiving your recommendation for individuals worthy of the 2014 Ponce Inlet Citizen of the Year award.

the legal uses available to the property they had purchased, even without the required public process. This is the core of the current legal proceeding which unfortunately has become the most costly high stakes case the Town has ever experienced.

It is important to understand the basic components of this lawsuit before you can understand its status so I will describe them for you. *The Lawsuit* is actually four separate lawsuits. I'll list these and describe the status of each. For those of you familiar with last year's address, some of this will be more of a refresher but the current status may contain new information.

In 2008, Pacetta filed suit against the Town in Circuit Court to keep the citizen initiated Charter prohibition against dry boat storage facilities and buildings larger than 5,000 square feet in the Riverfront Overlay District (ROD) off of the ballot. Judge Graham allowed the vote to take place and the issue passed. Then the suit morphed into an issue to overturn the vote. Judge Graham then found in favor of Pacetta in that this prohibition was an inappropriate amendment to the Charter when applied to five or fewer parcels. Judge Graham viewed the unified ownership of Pacetta's ten separate parcels as one since Pacetta always intended to develop the parcels as one unified development. The Town appealed this ruling and it was upheld by the Fifth District Court of Appeals in favor of Pacetta. The State Supreme Court declined the Town's request for further review. However, this ruling did not affect the application of the pre-existing rules of the Town since dry boat storage facilities were already prohibited in the land use and development code for this area and the building size limitation of 5,000 square feet was already present in the comprehensive plan prior to Pacetta's purchase of any of its property. The ruling simply prevented the Town from adding these pre-existing rules into the Charter. Recently, the Town received repeated requests from Pacetta and others for documents that are protected so long as a case remains active. In response, the Town filed a mo-

tion for dismissal of any remaining parts of this case that Judge Graham had not ruled on so that the Town could then release these protected documents. Pacetta objected to the final dismissal of this case and is now pursuing a ruling on these two remaining matters. These are: 1) the legality of the ROD and 2) a reimbursement of legal expenses to Pacetta. The Town will be arguing its motion for dismissal before Judge Perkins.

In 2009, Pacetta filed an administrative petition against the Town to the State Department of Community Affairs alleging that the process by which the Town adopted its Comprehensive Plan was in conflict with State Law and that the dry boat storage facility restriction was in violation of the State's manatee protection plan. Administrative Judge Canter held a two day hearing on this case and then recommended that the State that they find in favor of the Town on all issues. The State fully accepted this recommendation and Pacetta did not challenge it further; so the State's decision in favor of the Town is now final. This case is completely closed.

In 2010, Pacetta filed a petition against the Town with the Volusia Growth Management Commission arguing that the Town's comprehensive plan prohibition of dry boat storage was in conflict with the County's manatee protection plan. All seventeen members of the Volusia Growth Management Commission found in favor of the Town in this proceeding. Pacetta appealed the ruling to Circuit Court and Judge Perkins upheld this ruling in favor of the Town. This case is completely closed.

In 2010, Pacetta filed suit against the Town in Circuit Court on several claims. The primary claim, the Bert J. Harris claim, is that the Town has damaged Pacetta by not changing its rules so as to permit their project. Pacetta also claimed the Town had taken a portion of Pacetta's property by not changing the Town's rules so as to permit their project which is called the takings claim. There are two other claims in this suit, one regarding substantive due process

and one regarding procedural due process. In 2012, Judge Parsons ruled in favor of Pacetta on the Bert J. Harris claim and partially ruled in favor of Pacetta on 4 of the 10 parcels owned by Pacetta in the takings claim. It is important to differentiate between the two primary claims because only the ruling on the Bert J. Harris claim could be appealed prior to a jury trial on damages. On July 5th, 2013, the Town was notified by the Fifth District Court of Appeals that it had won the Bert J. Harris appeal. Following this, Pacetta requested discretionary review of the decision from the State Supreme Court. There has been no word on whether the State Supreme Court will consider Pacetta's request and all parties to the suit are required to move forward as if that discretionary review will be denied, as most are. The next step in the process is the jury trial to determine any damages to Pacetta based upon the takings claim and the two process claims. Please remember that claims cannot be appealed until the jury trial is over. The Town did, however, ask Judge Parsons to reconsider his ruling on the remaining claims, as the Town believes the logic behind the flawed Bert J. Harris ruling is the same used to support the remaining rulings. Therefore we hope that any future appeal to the Fifth District Court of Appeals will yield the same results in favor of the Town. Judge Parsons denied the Town's request for reconsideration so we must proceed with preparation of our defense in the jury trial scheduled to begin on May 19th. This concludes *The Lawsuit* synopsis and I will now focus on the brighter aspects of last year.

During 2013, the Town was particularly focused on our 50th anniversary celebration. Our Historic and Archaeological Preservation Board and our Parks Recreation and Tree Advisory Board each provided a highly energetic member to work with a couple of equally energetic Town staff members to create this outstanding celebration. Throughout the entire year, various events were identified as Positively! Ponce, recognizing the community spirit of Ponce Inlet as a key component of the event. Promotional efforts

took place throughout the year with t-shirts and other merchandise being sold to raise money for the grand finale' celebration held all day at the Davies Lighthouse Park on October 5th. Many volunteers gave of their time for this event and our local businesses set up stands selling their delicious food at very reasonable prices. I know that many of you came out for this event and experienced a great day for all and a wonderful way to celebrate the Town's incorporation 50 years ago.

In 2013, we built upon the types of changes we had begun in the prior year when we allowed property owners of TIF deeded lands to make use of their submerged land property rights through setback requirements and floor area ratio calculations. We continued this effort in reviewing our Code of Ordinances and the Land Use and Development code to reevaluate some of our rules and in most cases we reduced the regulatory impact on property owners. There were a couple of areas that we made more stringent though, as our citizens expressed support for increased regulatory oversight relative to historic preservation. Over the course of one year, the following changes were made to regulations in the Town:

- Parking plans are no longer required to be resubmitted each year as part of the business tax renewal process, unless changes have been made which affect their parking requirements. The application fee for renewal was also eliminated by resolution and the fire inspection fees were significantly reduced. This fire inspection fee reduction was equally applied to multi-family structures.
- The height setback requirements, also known as the "Wedding Cake" requirements, in residential areas were repealed.
- Floor area ratio requirements in residential areas were eliminated and relative definitions were amended to include submerged lands in the calculation for non-residential properties.
- The criteria for a structure to be designated as his-

toric and therefore placed under review by the Historic and Archaeological Preservation Advisory Board for a Certificate of Appropriateness was modified. The number of structures this would apply to was significantly reduced, while the impact on those few who met the criteria was enhanced to provide adequate protections for the most historic structures in the Town. Later review led to a recommendation that any structures which are recognized as National Historic Landmarks, and thereby meeting the criteria of a higher authority, need not go through the Town's Certificate of Appropriateness process. By resolution, the fee for a Certificate of Appropriateness application was eliminated.

- A change was made to the manner in which building height is measured for residential properties located in a special flood hazard area to ensure the homes were able to have thirty-five feet high of livable space, just as properties outside of special flood hazard areas do.
- The specific deadline for registration of legal non-conforming structures was eliminated, however it is still up to the property owner to make sure their non-conforming structures are registered if they wish to receive the benefit of post-disaster build-back for residential structures if they were ever destroyed in a natural disaster.
- The Bed & Breakfast Homestays regulations were modified to limit them to the Town's Historic Area, which was identified by resolution for sections in the Southwest portion of the Town.
- The fee for a resident to perform work in the right of way in front of their home was also eliminated, but a permit still must be obtained.

The Town was recognized among only a handful of communities for supporting Central Florida's *Open for Business* initiative to promote a user-friendly business climate within our community with great municipal service and thereby encouraging job creation and business investment. The Town's designation was a direct result of enhanced efforts to streamline our operations in the area of permitting.

The Town also made a number of changes within the building and permitting division following the 2012 Building & Permitting Review Committee's Report. Improvements began in 2012 and were further enhanced in 2013, which has resulted in consistently high ratings from customer service reviews and contractor feedback throughout the year.

During the process of formally adopting, with sole proprietorship, the Town's Corporate Seal, it was suggested by Vice-Mayor Hoss that we amend the Seal to include the words "*The Joy of the Land and Sea*". You see these words on our signs at the entrances to the Town on Atlantic Avenue and Peninsula Drive and this phrase has long held special meaning to our residents for this area. The Town amended its Seal accordingly.

The Town adopted an emergency activation and operations plan as an addendum to the comprehensive emergency management plan that we have had since 2007. This activation and operations plan laid out specific areas of responsibility for individual departments and individuals within the departments in the event of an emergency, based upon the level of the emergency. Recognizing the importance of a detailed plan to a barrier island community, this plan was initiated by our town manager and completed by our fire chief with input from all departments. In addition, three of our employees were selected for interactive training and the expenses for it were paid by the Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA); these employees were our Town Manager Jeaneen Clauss, Police Chief Frank Fabrizio, and Fire Chief Dan Scales.

The Town has successfully provided non-emergency medical transport to Ponce Inlet residents and visitors for over a year now. Fire Chief Scales brought forth this idea and has received very positive feedback from our users about the job our employees are doing; patients are getting to the hospital faster and with continuity in care. This service has also ena-

bled the majority of the revenue from Ponce Inlet transports to return to Ponce Inlet. It is our intent to gain the County Council's approval for us to provide full emergency medical transportation service over the next year, thereby enhancing the service we provide at no additional cost to you.

The Town adopted a plan prioritizing the completion of water system improvements over the course of the next ten to twelve years and approved the water rates necessary to implement this plan. In early 2015, you can expect to see larger scale construction projects in the areas of Town replacing older pipes and pipes that are smaller than what is recommended for fire suppression.

The Town implemented a pedestrian safety program that has received much attention from the media. Yellow flags are now available at approved crosswalk locations along South Atlantic Avenue to assist pedestrians in making vehicles aware that they are trying to cross the street at that location. This program has been used successfully in some larger cities in other states but we are the first that we have found in Florida to implement it. Police Chief Fabrizio suggested this program and has received compliments from the Volusia-Flagler Transportation Planning Organization's bicycle pedestrian committee.

With the invaluable assistance of community volunteers, the Town was pleased to sponsor or co-sponsor a number of events during the year. Most all of these events are funded by their respective organizations, as it has been the policy of the Town for the last several years to avoid using your tax dollars towards them. The following is a list of those twenty-eight events:

January 19th, Ecological, Cultural, Heritage & Outdoors (ECHO) rangers program in Ponce Preserve and at the Historic Museum;
February 2nd, Community Day which was organized by the Ponce Inlet Community Center, Inc. (PICCI)

Board and held at the Community Center to showcase Town businesses and services;
February 16th, Living Legends Historic Racing Parade which was organized by the North Turn Restaurant;
February 27th, *Our Town Talk* regarding the historical link between Ponce Inlet and Port Orange;
March 2nd, *Jazz on the River* which was organized by the Ponce Inlet Lions Club and Down the Hatch Restaurant;
March 16th, ECHO rangers program in Ponce Preserve and at the Historic Museum;
March 19th, Timucuan Technology Talk;
March 27th, Timucuan Technology Workshop for children;
March 30th, Children's Easter Party which was organized by the Children's Activity Committee;
April 27th, *Artwalk* in Ponce Preserve;
April 27th, Marine Science Center's Annual *Turtle Day* turtle release;
April 28th, Garden Club's annual ice cream social;
May 18th, *Vettes at the Light*, a corvette show organized by the Ponce Inlet Corvette Club;
May 27th, Memorial Day Ceremony organized by the Ponce Inlet Veteran's Association;
August 3rd, *Surfers for Autism* organized by various volunteers;
October 5th, Town's 50th Anniversary Celebration;
October 11th & 12th, Garden Club's annual Arts & Crafts show;
October 26th, Children's Halloween Party which was organized by the Children's Activity Committee;
October 27th, *Lighthouse Loop* Half-Marathon;
October 31st, *Ghosts of the Past* which included historic "ghost" stories on the museum porch and cemetery tours;
November 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th, *Shape-Up Ponce Inlet*, a series of 1 hour exercise classes in the Town's various parks;
November 9th, Marine Science Center's Annual *Wings on the Wind* bird release;
November 11th, Veteran's Day Ceremony organized by the Ponce Inlet Veteran's Association;
November 23rd, *Operation Changing Lives* 5K race;
December 7th, Christmas Parade which was organized by volunteers on the Parade Committee;
December 7th, Tree Lighting Ceremony and the Children's Christmas Party which was organized by the Children's Activity Committee;
December 14th & 15th, Garden Club's Holiday Lights Contest; and
December 17th & 18th, Ponce Inlet Fire Department hosted *Santa's Run* through Town.

Two of our Town employees were recognized by the Volusia League of Cities with the designation of Employee of the Year in their specific work field – John Brooks with the Fire Department and Peg Hunt with the Planning and Development Department. We are very proud of all these employees for this outstanding accomplishment and we are also proud to say that Ponce Inlet often has employees that stand out in their respective job fields and are recognized with this countywide award.

The Ponce Inlet Veteran's Memorial was selected by the United States Department of Veterans' Affairs as a Regional Site for the celebration of Veteran's Day 2013. It is important to add that we are one of only three memorial locations in the State of Florida and one of only fifty-five sites in the entire country to have achieved this honor. The Ponce Inlet Veteran's Association is to be commended for their ongoing efforts to show the patriotic pride of our small but mighty Community.

Throughout 2013, Ponce Inlet Councilmember Tami Lewis served as the President of the Volusia League of Cities (VLC) and was recognized for her fine service in this position in December. The VLC is an organization consisting of all 94 Volusia municipal and county elected officials and the President works to build cooperative relationships amongst them, to provide education on issues concerning public service, and to facilitate determination of any issues they wish to collectively pursue with the State Legislature.

The Ponce Inlet Historical Museum located at 143 Beach Street received a total of 1,884 visitors in 2013. We currently have ten volunteers assisting with the operation of this facility and we welcome any more who are interested. We have enhanced what is offered at this museum and we change display items and themes on a regular basis for your ongoing enjoyment of this facility, which is available at no charge. We are also planning a number of talks in the coming year. All of this supports the commitments made in our grant agreements with the Florida Communities Trust and the Volusia County ECHO Grant program.

Phase II of the Timucuan Oaks project was completed in 2013 and we budgeted for the final touches of phase III, entrance beautification. This will include a pergola, pavers, landscaping, fountain, benches and an irrigation system. Completion of this project

is in line with the requirements of a federal grant to purchase the property that the Town received in 2004.

In reviewing 2013, it is easy to see that our Town staff has been very hard at work for all of us and we appreciate them and we understand the value to our community in hiring and retaining quality employees. It also cannot go unsaid that our citizens continue to serve as the pulse of our community. You are the best at telling us what you want. Your opinions are very important to us. And you are a citizenry that volunteers at an amazing rate, which shows that you will put your time into what you are telling us is important to you. In recognition of you, I am going to acknowledge as many of the organizations that I am aware of that are directly related to the Town: Citizens Watch; Volunteer Firefighters; Volunteer Police Officers; Museum Volunteers; Volusia Growth Management Commission representative; Citizens Advisory Committee and the Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee to Transportation Planning Agency representatives; Code Enforcement Board; Historic & Archaeological Preservation Advisory Board; Parks, Recreation & Tree Advisory Board; Planning Board; Accession Committee; Ponce Inlet Community Center, Inc (PICCI Board); and the Lighthouse Preservation Association. In addition, we have the volunteer groups which are not directly related to the Town, but provide services that benefit the Town either directly or indirectly: Ponce Inlet Garden Club; Women's Club; Lion's Club; Children's Activity Committee; Citizens for Ponce Inlet; Christmas Parade Committee; Ponce Animal Welfare; the Ponce Inlet Corvette Club; and the Ponce Inlet Veteran's Association. Forgive me if I have missed naming any of these fine organizations. There are almost too many to list which is especially commendable for a community with a population of just over 3,000! These many volunteers make our Town this special place we enjoy. On behalf of Council and staff, I want to give our heartfelt thanks to all of our volunteers.

With that, I wish you all a very happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year!

Respectively submitted,
Gary L. Smith, Mayor

Town Manager



From the Town Manager,

Jeaneen Clauss,

... Now beginning my fifth year as your Town manager, I continue to appreciate this opportunity to serve all of you and I am really enjoying everything that we are accomplishing together. For a summary of this very productive year, please take the time to read the Mayor's State of the Town Address.

I want to extend special thanks to all of you on behalf of the Town's employees who work hard to coordinate our *Hearts of Ponce Inlet* food and toy drive and also those items needed by our military troops and our local humane society. Many of you have other means of doing this as part of an on-going basis and the Town tries to assist in this spirit once each year for your convenience. In addition to this event, the Town staff participated in the County initiated employee-only food drive. Ponce Inlet to its core is a caring community and the success of our charitable initiatives each year gives proof to that.

Some of you may be interested in how much the Town spends each year on this newsletter. The Town's arrangement with *Citizens for Ponce Inlet* is that we cover the cost of the printing in exchange for running informative from all of the Town's departments and that *Citizens for Ponce Inlet* puts the newsletter together to include articles from all of the various Town organizations. *Citizens for Ponce Inlet* also pays for the mailing and handles other local distribution. Though the printing varies from one issue to the next based upon its size, the Town spent

\$4,900 in total for the printing of the four issues published last fiscal year.

Ponce Inlet Employee of the Year **– Margi Richard**



Margi Richard has worked for the Town of Ponce Inlet staff since October, 2001. She is a long-time resident of Ponce Inlet, having moved here in 1996. As Development Review Clerk, she assists the public with the Town's zoning regulations and reviews development permits. In addition to her many other duties, Ms. Richard serves as the recording secretary to the Planning Board, as the chief staff liaison to the Park Board, and also assists the recording secretaries at Council meetings with audio-visual production, web page retrieval and editing. She updates the department page on the Town web site to ensure the public stays informed of board meeting dates and agendas.

Ms. Richard has been instrumental in the planning, funding, and development of many of the Town's parks, a subject she cares deeply about. Before working for the Town, Ms. Richard served as a volunteer on the Park, Recreation, and Tree Advisory Board. Ms. Richard now oversees the Town's grant applications and ongoing obligations, including those which helped fund the Ponce Preserve Park and Ponce Inlet Historical Museum.

Margi has also been an active participant in the department's customer service improvement and permit streamlining efforts. She helped create the department's fast-track permit review process; drafted brochures and fact sheets to help the public understand the Town's regulations; and suggested ways to streamline the tree removal requirements that affect the public on a daily basis.

That said, Margi's exceptional performance relates to her work outside of day-to-day activities. Most significantly, Margi served as the lead staff person and organizer of "Positively! Ponce," a year-long series of events that lead up to the Town's 50th anniversary of incorporation in October 2013, celebrating all that is positive in Ponce Inlet. Margi not only coined the name "Positively! Ponce," but served as the planning committee coordinator, working with other staff, members of the public, representatives from the Park Board and Historic Board, and with the Ponce Inlet Business Association. She and the committee garnered support from all local restaurants and many business owners who had expressed excitement for this celebration. Margi also worked with a local artist to design the "Positively! Ponce" logo, and created the advertising for the event in the form of banners, articles in the Town newsletter, notices on the Town website, and updates to Town Boards and the Town Council. During this period, Margi helped plan and organize events and contests for kids and residents, including a T-shirt design contest and pumpkin-carving contest, the "Where's Ponce?" scavenger hunt, a historic speaker series, and an artist showcase at Ponce Preserve. These events were very well-received and brought together all facets of the community during a truly special year.

Spotlight on ... Ken Jones, Maintenance Tech II



Ponce Inlet resident Ken Jones started working in Public Works in the fall of 2007. He moved here from Cincinnati, Ohio where he worked for Kroger/Zenith Logistics for 25 years. Ken has earned multiple certificates in the Public Works field for the water and storm water system. He takes care of the grounds around the Town Hall complex, Fire Department and Pollard Park, helping showcase the natural beauty of our Town. Ken's love for baseball has led him to be an umpire for almost 20 years. He has officiated at the local level, state championship and national championships. We thank Ken for his years for service and his hard work to maintain the Town's beautification efforts.

CodeRED® Emergency Notification System

For those of you who may not be aware, several years back Ponce Inlet instituted a rapid emergency notification service called CodeRED®. The system will distribute emergency messages via telephone to targeted areas or the entire Town at a rate of 1,000 calls per minute. CodeRED® employs a one-of-a-kind Internet mapping capability for geographic targeting of calls, coupled with a high speed telephone calling system capable of delivering customized pre-

recorded emergency messages directly to homes and businesses, live individuals and answering machines.

Ponce Inlet residents and businesses are welcome and encouraged to enter their contact information for home, business, and mobile phones so they may be contacted by the system in the event of an emergency. It is important for town residents and businesses customers to register, especially if they use unlisted numbers, cell phones, or VOIP. Those who do not register their address and phone number may not be notified with CodeRED® in the case of an emergency. Registration is confidential, free, and easy.

Please go to the Town's web page at www.ponce-inlet.org and click the CodeRed® link for more information and to register.

Town Holiday Closings. Town offices will be closed on Monday, February 17th, 2014 in observance of President's Day.

Town Businesses on Website. Please check out our webpage for a directory of Ponce Inlet businesses. You'll be surprised by the variety of services so close at hand. This is a compilation of those within the Town limits who have obtained the required business tax receipt (formerly known as occupational license). This business directory can be found as a link to the Town's home page – www.ponce-inlet.org.

Wanted: Interested Citizens to serve on Town Boards. The Town Council seeks interested citizens to serve on our advisory committees. To view the current vacancies, you can visit our website: [\[inlet.org\]\(http://inlet.org\) or call Town Hall. Please note that you must be a resident & a registered voter of the Town of Ponce Inlet in order to be appointed to the various boards. We appreciate your interest in serving as a volunteer in your community.](http://www.ponce-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Town Council & Board Meetings.

The Town Council meets the third Thursday of every month, 6:00 p.m. at the Council Chambers, 4300 S. Atlantic Avenue. Special meetings are scheduled and noticed as needed. The agendas are for all Town Council and Town Boards are posted at Town Hall, and on the website. For your convenience, all Town Council and Town Board meetings are now live-streamed so that you may listen from the comfort of your home through the Town's website. The audio of all meetings is also archived on the website. Both the live and archived meetings can be found by clicking on the audio streaming icon on the front page. Live streaming plays through Windows Media Player. If you come to meetings at the Council Chambers, enjoy free Wi-Fi while you're there.

Please visit our website www.ponce-inlet.org for all public meeting notices and minutes, general information, and status of current or upcoming projects. Further, be sure to read the back of your utility bills for special announcements and important information. If you haven't already done so, please sign up for our email list through the website. Just please be informed that in doing so your e-mail address becomes a public record and we must provide it to anyone upon request.

Police



Frank G. Fabrizio
Chief of Police

As we start 2014, I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and had a chance to spend quality time with family and friends. The Ponce Inlet Police Department wishes everyone a happy, safe, and prosperous New Year!

Flags Over Ponce Inlet A Pedestrian Crosswalk Safety Program



Did you know that according to the Transportation for America Dangerous by Design Report the

Deltona-Daytona Beach-Ormond Beach area is the 6th highest Florida Metropolitan Area for total pedestrian fatalities, the 7th highest for percentage of traffic fatalities who were pedestrians, and the 2nd highest pedestrian fatality rate per 100,000 people.

In an ongoing effort to keep Ponce Inlet a safe pedestrian community, the Town of Ponce Inlet in conjunction with the Ponce Inlet Police Department (PIPD) launched a pedestrian crosswalk safety initiative called **"Flags Over Ponce Inlet"** in October 2013.

The objective of this program is to improve pedestrian safety by increasing the percentage of motorists who yield to pedestrians. This objective will be accomplished by increasing pedestrian visibility through the use of bright yellow flags that are to be carried by pedestrians as they cross the street. The pedestrian picks up a flag from a holder on one side of the street, holds it out while crossing, and returns it to a container on the other side of the street, where it will be available for the next walker. The containers read **"Take It to Make It,"** a slogan which reflects the seriousness of crosswalk safety.

Drivers can easily get distracted on a busy day. Between signage, bike paths, and turning vehicles, many things compete for drivers' attention. The flags are a way to cut through the visual clutter and draw attention to the pedestrians crossing the street.

Even though state statute requires that drivers yield to pedestrians in a crosswalk, drivers may be unfamiliar with the law, and pedestrians are often fearful to cross. What's more, there are many visi-

tors and part-time residents in Ponce Inlet who may be unfamiliar with these traffic control laws. Ponce Inlet is a destination that draws many visitors to this oceanfront community. Based on the latest figures available, almost 1,000,000 visitors come to Ponce Inlet during the course of the year to take advantage of all the opportunities afforded to them: these drivers are not always aware of crosswalk laws.

The Ponce Inlet Police Department has stepped up enforcement and education efforts in response to residents' complaints about feeling unsafe when attempting to cross the street.

First, the PIPD recently held a pedestrian crosswalk safety awareness operation focused on educating motorists about the crosswalk laws. The motorists who committed violations were stopped, informed about the law, and given educational pamphlets. *A total of 52 violations and stops were conducted in a little over 2 hours.*

In addition to this educational initiative, **"Flags Over Ponce Inlet"** was instituted to give walkers a faster, safer, and more pleasant crossing.

We are a walking and biking-friendly town which many residents and tourists take advantage of. There are 5 marked crosswalks that handle a majority of the pedestrian and bicycle traffic in town. These crosswalks occur on a one-mile stretch of the highway where more than 75% of our citations for failure to obey a traffic control device are issued. The **"Flags Over Ponce Inlet"** project will make pedestrians feel safer as they cross the street *and* help drivers become more aware of cross-

walk etiquette.

The five pedestrian flag locations for the initial pilot program are:

- South Atlantic Ave & Old Carriage Road
- South Atlantic Ave & Seahaven Drive
- South Atlantic Ave & Winterhaven Park
- 4679 South Atlantic Ave (The Beach Club)
- South Atlantic Ave & Calumet Ave

Since the flags are not approved traffic control devices, pedestrians must remember that while drivers are required to yield to them in marked crosswalks, the use of flags in and of themselves does not eliminate a pedestrian's responsibility to first make certain that approaching vehicles are preparing to stop. Normal, prudent safety considerations still apply.

To maintain the program, town employees will monitor flag locations to replace missing flags, repair/replace damaged flag holders and signage, and remove trash from flag holders. Town employees will also ensure an approximately equal number of flags on the sides of the road.

With the cooperation of visitors, residents, and town employees, our goal is to keep Ponce Inlet a safe residential haven for pedestrians, drivers and cyclists.



Are You S.A.F.E.?



On December 5, 2012, we offered our first Self-Defense Awareness and Familiarization Exchange (S.A.F.E.) program. The two-hour program introduced women and girls (14 years and up) to the concept of physical self-defense and educated them in ways to reduce the risk of becoming victims of violent crimes. We have since offered 5 additional classes!

The program was broken down into three parts:

- Introduction and discussion about individual mindset and safety
- Informational video
- Physical self-defense techniques

The class has been well-received by the women who participated and the enthusiasm they displayed was contagious. At the end of class, every participant was given a thirteen-piece color folio to read and study at home. This material reinforces what was discussed in class and was made possible by the generous donation of the law

firm of Rue, Ziffra & Caldwell P.A.

Our ultimate goal is to promote safety and build confidence. Our hope is that no one will ever have to use the skills they learned in the class. We're not teaching people how to fight, we are teaching them how to protect themselves with skills they can use to create a diversion and get away, should they ever find themselves in a dangerous situation.

We are offering another **S.A.F.E.** class on February 25, 2014, from 5:30pm – 7:30pm. Please contact the Police Department at (386) 236-2160 to register, as seating is limited or check the Town's web site for additional information.

Florida Sexual Predators & Offenders How can I find out more information?

Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) is authorized to post registered sexual offenders/predators via the public website (www.fdle.state.fl.us). The FDLE website lists sexual offender/predator flyers which include a photo, designation, status, a physical description of the offender/predator, crime information, and a registered address.

Searches may be conducted by area (city, county and/or zip code), by name, or E-mail/ IM names. To conduct a search, click on the red [Offender Search](#) button at the top of the site.

Citizens may also sign up for email notification using the [Florida Offender Alert System](#). The emails are sent when a sexual of-

fender/predator moves within a certain distance from a specified location set by the citizen or when a particular sexual offender/predator moves anywhere throughout the state of Florida. Click on the yellow [Offender Alert System](#) button at the top of the site to sign up.

A Florida criminal history for an individual may be obtained through the FDLE website (www.fdle.state.fl.us) for a fee. Click on the [Request a Criminal History](#) button approximately halfway down the page.

To obtain details regarding a specific crime that occurred in Florida, contact the Office of the Clerk of Courts in the county in which the subject was convicted. The county of conviction is listed on the offender/predator registry flyer. Clicking on the county link provided will open a new window with all Florida Clerk of Court websites. To obtain details regarding an arrest in Florida, contact the local arresting law enforcement agency.

A Few Crime Prevention Reminders



Don't be a victim – take away the criminal's OPPORTUNITY.

- Keep your garage doors closed
- Lock your car doors and keep your valuables out of sight
- Never leave your purse unattended
- Lock your bike on a fixed metal rack
- Don't forget to register your

- bike with the police department
- Be aware of your surroundings

The Ponce Inlet Police Department wants to keep you and Ponce Inlet safe. Always remember that safety comes with staying **AWARE** and **ALERT!**

Fire and Rescue



...With Fire Chief Dan Scales

2013 Activity Summary for the Fire Department

2013 was very exciting and productive year for the Ponce Inlet Fire Department. Our biggest project (which is still ongoing) was the pilot non-emergency transport program started in August of 2012. As we've reported in past newsletters, the program has been a huge success, with Ponce Inlet transporting close to 200 patients since the beginning of the program. The community's support and your firefighters' dedication has been a large part of the program's continuing success, and we hope that Volusia County will allow Ponce Inlet to transport ALL of our patients in the very near future.



For January through November

2013, the Fire Department responded to 408 requests for service, with a majority of those requests being EMS related (236). In 2013 alone, we transported 159 patients to the hospital.

In addition to our full-time firefighters, we also have three volunteer firefighters that have been busy this year, donating 702 hours collectively!

Community CPR Classes: The Ponce Inlet Fire Department is happy to offer CPR/AED training to the community. The classes are conducted on an as-needed basis by on-duty firefighters. We like to limit the class size to 10 people, but we can handle larger groups with advance notice. These classes are free of charge, but donations are always appreciated to help off-set the cost of materials used in the program. If you are interested, please contact Jeni Trepasso at jtrepasso@ponce-inlet.org or call the Fire Department at 322-6720.

Fire Safety During Winter



As the weather gets colder, the days shorter and the nights darker we find ourselves turning up the heat to keep warm over the winter months. Before you all reach for the thermostat, start up the log fire or dig out the portable heaters and electric blankets from storage, there are a few things you should be thinking about in order to protect

yourself and your family from the threat of fires within your home this winter:

Open fires

- Keep chimneys and flues clean and well maintained; it is best practice to thoroughly clean your fire place and chimney area during autumn time, before the first fire of the year
- Only burn suitable fuels and never overload the fire place
- Be careful when using open fires to keep warm. Make sure that embers are extinguished before leaving the room unattended for long periods of time or before going to bed
- Never store firewood close to a fire place or stove in case of accidental ignition via radiated heat
- Never empty ashes into a plastic bag or cardboard box.

Portable heaters

- Always keep heaters away from curtains and furnishings; in no circumstances should portable heaters be covered or used to dry clothes
- Always ensure you turn off and unplug electric heaters when they are left unattended for long periods of time, when leaving the house and before going to bed
- Heaters should always be positioned with their backs against the wall and if possible, secured against the wall to prevent them from falling over

Electric blankets

- Always unplug blankets before you go to bed unless they have a thermostat control ensuring their safe for overnight use, although it is advisable to turn them off
- Under no circumstances should a hot water bottle be used in the same bed as an electric blanket
- Check regularly for wear and tear of your blanket. It is ad-

vised you have them checked once every three years and they should be replaced after ten years

- Keep electric blankets flat or rolled up when in storage, as folding them will damage internal wiring

The men and women of the Ponce Inlet Fire Department would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of our residents for your continued support for all we do. We wish you and your family a happy and healthy 2014. All of you make Ponce Inlet a great place to live and work, truly the "jewel" of Volusia County.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT



...with Aref Joulani, Director

Planning and Zoning Division

Land Use and Development Code (LUDC) Updates

Over the past year, the Town Council and advisory boards have been working on a prioritized list of updates to the LUDC. The Planning Board and other advisory boards were charged with reviewing these amendment topics and providing recommendations on any changes if warranted.

Over the course of the year, there have been 26 Board and Council meetings and workshops, resulting in eight LUDC amendment ordinances, one comprehensive plan amendment ordinance, and one resolution. These ordinances addressed the regulations be-

lieved to be most problematic, such as the requirements for the "wedding cake" height setback and maximum floor area ratio. The more recent ordinances concern the certificate of appropriateness review process for national historic landmarks and height limits for accessory structures in waterfront yards.

Upcoming workshops will focus on the following topics, in order of priority:

- Landscaping and Tree Preservation
- Signs
- Parking
- Courtyards
- Minor replats
- Maximum size of non-residential buildings
- Variance criteria.

For more information about upcoming workshops, check the calendar on the Town website at www.ponce-inlet.org, or contact the Planning and Zoning staff at (386) 236-2181.

Welcome Our New Museum Coordinator

The Town is pleased to welcome Monica Drake as the Town's new Museum Coordinator. Ms. Drake brings experience and educational training in museum operations and public history to this position, along with expertise in modern technologies and software. She recently received her M.A. degree in History and Museum Studies from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, and while there designed and curated exhibits at various museums.

Ms. Drake began working at the Ponce Inlet Historical Museum on September 30, 2013 and in that short time has initiated efforts to reorganize the museum layout, collect new items, create

new displays and educational programs, and increase the number of museum visitors. She is currently putting together a series of programs for 2014 pertaining to archaeology, genealogy, and local history. Monica can be reached via phone at 761-2408 or e-mail at mdrake@ponceinlet.org.

Sinkholes In Ponce Inlet?

With reports of sinkholes appearing in central Florida, residents might wonder whether this is likely to occur in Ponce Inlet. Information on this topic can be found through the Florida Geological Survey (FGS) maps, which indicate the probability to be very low.

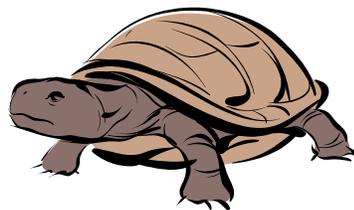
According to a 2008 FGS map of reported Florida [sinkhole locations](#), only two sinkholes were reported since 1954 in the east side of Volusia County. Another FGS map of [sinkhole zones](#) shows that in eastern Volusia County, sinkholes are possible, but are usually relatively small and develop slowly over time. Given the sandy geology, sinkholes here usually result from surface subsidence, as opposed to the catastrophic, house-swallowing cave-ins that typically make the news. Some of the holes in our area may have resulted from man-made, rather than geologic causes, such as septic tank collapse. An [interactive map](#) from the *Orlando Sentinel* contains data for individual sinkholes.

The maps referenced above show only sinkholes reported between 1954 and 2008, not the actual location of all sinkholes in the state. The FGS began a new three-year [project](#) this past fall to map

all of the sinkholes in the state. Please also see the FGS website [FAQs](#) for more information.

Timucuan Oaks Update

You may wonder why there is orange fencing around a portion of Timucuan Oaks Gardens. The fencing was placed after tire tracks were noticed in the center area, which is prime habitat for the threatened gopher tortoise. Town staff is aware of a number of burrows in the area, some of which are known to be active and one of which was partially damaged by the tracks. In order to protect the gopher tortoises and prevent further damage, this area is now off-limits until the gopher tortoises can be relocated to ensure their survival.



When Timucuan Oaks was first acquired by the Town, there was only one known gopher tortoise burrow.

Over the past nine years, that number has grown to eight, and at least three gophers are known to have active burrows at this time. Unfortunately, there is no guarantee that park visitors will not unintentionally damage the resident gophers, and development of the park entrance features may cause them undue stress. It is for these reasons that the Town believes that it is in the best interest of the gophers to relocate them off-site.

Town staff is currently working with a biologist to ensure that the tortoises are protected. This will

involve trapping and relocating the tortoises to a host-site which has been approved by the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission.

Meanwhile, the design for the park entrance is underway. The entrance will include a pergola, seating areas and a picnic area. Work will not be started until the gopher tortoise protection phase is complete.

During the relocation and construction phases, the park will be closed in the interest of public safety. Updates will be posted on the Town's website.

Citizen Dispute Resolution Information

Staff wishes to make all residents aware of a Citizen Dispute Resolution Mediation program, offered by the Volusia County Court system. All mediators are volunteers and are Florida Supreme Court Certified County Mediators. There is **no fee** for this service. Types of mediation include:

Neighborhood disputes

Animal nuisance

Landlord/tenant

Business disputes

Homeowner's Associations

Code Enforcement

Property damage

If you need assistance or have any questions, please contact 386-239-7825 or visit:

www.ccms7th.org/.

Beautification and Community Outreach Donation Funds

Town funds have recently been established for Beautification and Community Outreach. Donations to the Beautification fund will contribute toward projects such as the median plantings completed last year and the Community

Outreach donations will be used to obtain or create education materials for the public at Town events, such as Community Day. For more information, please call (386) 236-2181.

Volunteer Board Vacancies

The Ponce Inlet Code Enforcement Board currently has one (1) Regular seat and two (2) Alternate seats vacant. Terms for Regular seats are three (3) years and Alternate seats are one (1) year. This board meets on the 4th Monday of the month.

The Ponce Inlet Planning Board has 1 Regular seat and 2 Alternate seats available. Terms for Regular seats are three (3) years and Alternate seats are one (1) year. This Board meets on the last Tuesday of the month.

The Parks, Recreation, and Tree Advisory Board has 1 Alternate seat available. Terms for Alternate seats are one (1) year. This Board meets on the 1st Tuesday of the month.

This Historical and Archaeological Preservation Advisory Board has One Alternate seat available. Terms for Alternate seats are one (1) year. This Board meets on the 1st Thursday of the month.

If you are interested in volunteering with any of the Town's Boards, please contact the Planning & Development Department at 236-2181. Board and Committee members must be residents and registered voters of the Town of Ponce Inlet. Annual training is provided to those individuals wishing to serve.

The Ponce Inlet Historical Museum in the 21st Century



Since opening in 2010, The Ponce Inlet Historical Museum (PIHM) has operated as a small historic home with a mission dedicated to *education through the preservation and dissemination of the history and cultural heritage of the Town of Ponce Inlet.*

The Museum-site, located at 143 Beach Street, includes two buildings: the Meyer-Davis Home (c.1920s) and Hasty Cottage (c.1880s).

Both structures stand stoically in time as symbolic representations of Ponce Inlet's past. They have survived into the 21st century; they remain for the community to contemplate, research, and enjoy.

But no man or building is an island. These structures require historical interpretation to fully express their design, their purpose, and their meaning. Since October 2013, Museum Staff has developed a pro-active plan to further develop the Ponce Inlet Historical Museum.

Our first priority is encouraging community support; it will allow the museum to survive and flourish.

The local community can help PIHM in many different ways. First, the history of Ponce Inlet is difficult to access; there are few primary sources from which to guide our historical research. The Museum Staff relies on the memories and experiences of those living in and around Ponce Inlet. These stories are the HEART and SOUL of the museum.

Second, those in the community possess relevant images and artifacts that can help tell the history of Ponce Inlet. The story is not enough, but historical interpretation requires visual images and artifacts which physically connect us to the past.

Third, your time and commitment to the museum is paramount above all. The museum is always interested in taking on new volunteers and guides that can take visitors into Ponce Inlet's past. Equally important, monetary donations help support the museum, which is free and open to the public; monetary support will allow for the creation of museum programs, exhibits, and events that benefit the community.

If you feel strongly about the history of Ponce Inlet and would like to support the museum in any capacity. Please contact Monica Drake, Museum Coordinator, at mdrake@ponce-inlet.org or 386-761-2408.

Building and Code Enforcement Division

Personnel Changes

Ms. Peg Hunt, who most recently worked as the Town's Code Enforcement Officer, has accepted the position of Administrative Assistant. Ms. Hunt has been employed with the Town since 1998

and has worked in various positions in different departments.

Ms. Hunt's responsibilities include greeting customers, answering planning and zoning questions, reviewing applications for completeness and accuracy, processing permits, and acts as the Town's special events coordinator. In addition, Ms. Hunt remains Chairperson of the Town's Safety Committee. She can be reached at 236-2181 or by email at phunt@ponce-inlet.org.

Staff is pleased to welcome **Steve Linkfield** as the Town's Code Enforcement Officer. Mr. Linkfield has been employed by the Town since 2005, working in the Public Works Division. Mr. Linkfield brings many years of building and construction knowledge to this position. Mr. Linkfield will be attending the Fundamentals of Code Enforcement (Level 1) training in March 2014.

Mr. Linkfield's responsibilities include performing daily trips throughout Town to troubleshoot for code violations, process and inspect code enforcement complaints, and assist property owners through education with the Town's codes and ordinances. Mr. Linkfield can be reached at 236-2187 or by email at slinkfield@ponce-inlet.org.

Why Do We Regulate the Floodplain?

Floodplain management is about reducing vulnerability to flood risk in our built environment. If we know low lying land will flood from time to time, we should make reasonable decisions to help protect our fami-

lies, homes, and businesses.

To reduce future flood losses in Florida, Floodplain development regulations are simply a "good neighbor" policy designed to protect our citizens from future flood losses. Regulating floodplain development helps keep flooding conditions from getting worse as development continues.

To make sure that federal flood insurance is available, your community must join the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) before its residents and businesses can purchase flood insurance. If not, your community may be ineligible for some types of federal assistance. In addition, residents may be unable to secure mortgages.

To save tax dollars, every time you hear about a flood disaster, think about what it means to your community's budget. If we build smart, we'll have fewer problems the next time the water rises. Remember, federal disaster assistance is not available for all floods. Even when the President declares a disaster, your community still has to pay a portion of repair and clean-up costs, temporary housing assistance, and could also incur some evacuation expenses.

To avoid liability and lawsuits – If we know an area is mapped as a flood hazard area and is likely to flood, and if we know people could be in danger and buildings could be damaged, doesn't it make sense to take reasonable protective steps as we develop and build?

What is the National Flood Insurance Program?

The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) was created by Congress in 1968 to protect

lives and property and to reduce the financial burden of providing disaster assistance. The NFIP is administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Nationwide, over 20,500 communities participate in the NFIP—almost 460 of Florida's counties, cities and towns participate.

The NFIP is based on a mutual agreement between the Federal Government and communities. Communities that participate agree to regulate floodplain development according to certain criteria and standards. The partnership involves:

Flood hazard maps. FEMA produces flood maps, in partnership with water management districts, communities and the State, in accordance with FEMA standards. The maps are used by communities, insurance agents, and others.

Flood insurance. Property owners and renters in participating communities are eligible to purchase Federal flood insurance for buildings and contents.

Regulations. Communities must adopt and enforce minimum floodplain management regulations so that development, including buildings, is undertaken in ways that reduce exposure to flooding.

To learn more about the NFIP, including your potential flood risk and the approximate cost of a flood insurance policy, go to FEMA's Flood Smart website at www.floodsmart.gov.

Community Responsibilities to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program

Adopt and enforce flood maps and a flood damage prevention ordinance.

Require permits for all types of development in the floodplain
 Assure that building sites are reasonably safe from flooding.
 Establish Base Flood Elevations (BFE) where not determined by FEMA.
 Require new and substantially improved homes and manufactured homes to be elevated above the BFE.
 Require non-residential buildings to be elevated or flood-proofed above the BFE.
 Determine if damaged buildings are substantially damaged.
 Conduct field inspections; cite and remedy violations.
 Require and maintain surveyed elevation information to document compliance.
 Carefully consider requests for variances.
 Resolve non-compliance and violations.
 Advise and work with FEMA and the State when updates to flood maps are needed.
 Maintain records for review and respond to periodic requests for reports to FEMA.

Who needs flood insurance?

Federal flood insurance is required for all buildings in mapped Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHAs) shown on FEMA’s maps if they are financed by Federally-backed loans or mortgages. All homeowners, business owners, and renters in communities that participate in the NFIP may purchase Federal flood insurance on any building and its contents, even if outside of the mapped flood zone. If your home is in the mapped SFHA, you are five times more likely to be damaged by flood than by a major fire.

Not in a mapped floodplain? Unfortunately, it’s often after a

flood that many people discover that their home or business property insurance does NOT cover flood damage. Approximately 25% of all flood damage occurs in low risk zones, commonly described as being “outside the mapped flood zone.”

What about disaster grants and loans?

Federal disaster grants do not cover most losses and repayment of a disaster loan can cost many times more than the cost of a flood insurance policy.

Want to know more?

To purchase a policy, call your insurance agent. To get the name of an agent in your community, use the Agent Locator or call (888) 379-9531. Learn more at www.floodsmart.gov.

Public Works



... with Public Works - Keith Gunter, General Manager

How to Contact Us:

Office: 4875 S. Peninsula Drive
 Phone: 322-6729 / Fax: 322-6718
 Hours: Mon – Fri, 8:00am – 3:30pm
 E-mail: kgunter@ponce-inlet.org

Leaving Town?: If you are leaving town, we recommend that you turn off the water supply to your residence. This prevents any leaks from occurring within

your property, and will avoid a high utility bill and costly repairs. If you contact the Utility Billing Department with this request, staff can also lock your meter to prevent meter tampering and theft. There may be a fee for this service. Contact 236-2151 for more information.

Staff News:

Curtis Mitchell has completed his state exam and is now licensed in the state of Florida for Water Distribution Level 3.

Keith Gunter has completed Road Signs and Markings course and is now certified.

Welcome to **Kurt Strom** the new Public Works Maintenance Tech.



For more information about Public Works click on the Public Works link on the Town’s web site.

<http://www.ponce-inlet.org>

Please view the Public Works video “So Community Works Better – APWA Florida Chapter”.

Water Meter Access: Please keep your water meters clear of vegetation, vehicles, and other obstacles as this hinders meter readings and repairs. Ready access to your meter is a *must*. **Meters that need to be re-read due to blocked access are subject to additional fees.**

Solid Waste, Yard Waste & Recycling:



Household trash (solid waste), Yard Waste, and Recycling services are provided by Waste Management. If you have questions, they can be reached at 673-0800, x-331 during normal business hours. Please keep in mind that large piles or special pick-ups may be assessed additional fees. The regular schedule for pickups in the Town is: **Monday** and **Thursday** house hold trash, **Tuesday** recycling and yard trash, and **Wednesday** large piles of yard trash. Please make sure all items are to the curb before 7 am on the day of pick up.

Call Before You Dig:



It is required by State law that you contact Sunshine State Locates at **1-800-432-4770** before doing any digging (hand or machine). This will prevent damage to buried cables, water lines, sewer lines, etc.

and an unnecessary expense to you should you damage a utility.

Storm water Maintenance:



Please visit the Town Hall or the Public Works Yard to pick up information on storm water runoff or visit www.sjrwmd.com or epa.gov/npdes/stormwatermonth.cfm and help keep our storm water systems clean and working properly.

The county landfill is closed on Sundays.

Backflow Device Information

What is back-siphonage? Back-siphonage is the reversal of normal flow in a system caused by a negative pressure (vacuum or partial vacuum) in the supply piping.

What factors cause back-siphonage?

Back-siphonage can be created when there is stoppage of the water supply due to nearby fire-fighting, repairs or breaks in the city main, etc,. The effect is similar to the sipping of a soda by inhaling through a straw, which induces a flow in the opposite direction.

What is backpressure flow?

Backpressure backflow is the reversal of the normal flow in a system due to an increase in the downstream pressure above that of the supply pressure.

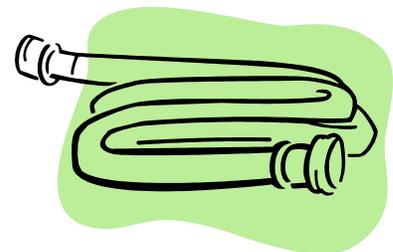
What factors can cause a back-pressure-backflow condition?

Backpressure-backflow is created whenever the downstream pressure exceeds the supply pressure which is possible in installations such as a heating system, elevated tanks, and pressure-producing systems. An example would be a hot water space-heating boiler operating under 15-20 lbs. pressure coincidental with a reduction of the city water supply below such pressure (or higher in most common boilers). As water tends to flow in the direction of least resistance, a backpressure-backflow condition would be created and the contaminated boiler water would flow into the potable water supply.

What is a cross connection?

A cross connection is a direct arrangement of a piping line which allows the potable water supply to be connected to a line which contains a contaminant. An example is the common garden hose attached to a service sink with the end of the hose submerged in a tub full of detergent, supply lines connected to bottom-fed tanks, supply lines to boilers.

What is the most common form of a cross connection?



Ironically, the ordinary garden hose is the most common offender as it can be easily connected to the potable water supply and used for a variety of potentially dangerous applications.

Ponce Inlet Women's Club



By Sandy Wester,
Publicity Chair

PIWC Pink Lady Talk

Greetings and Happy New Year! Updates from fall 2013 include the well-attended "Positively Ponce" celebration on October 5 at the

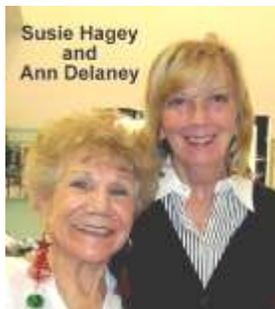


Lighthouse Park. Past President, Eleanor Perocier set up a table and several PIWC members

joined her to offer information about the Club's mission and promote membership to those who stopped by. Assisting her that day was Jeanette Kellum, Rosemary Volz and me. The intermittent rain showers did not dampen the celebration.

At the Veteran's Day ceremony on November 11, the PIWC President, Susie Hagey and Vice President, Marlene Heiden presented a wreath to honor the men and women who have served in our military.

Holiday Boutique Chair, Jeanette Kellum and her committee hosted a very successful luncheon and fund raiser on November 13, 2013. This annual auction and luncheon is a major fund raiser for Daytona State College scholarships and local charities. The holiday event was attended by 88 generous people who bid on beautiful gifts donated by PIWC members, raising over \$5,000. Special recognition goes to John Mann, Docent, and Mary Wentzel, Program Manager from the Ponce de Leon Inlet Light Station for their role as auctioneers.



Everyone enjoyed the food and appreciated the generous donation made by Jeanette Kellum of all the wine served throughout the event.



Barbara Lambert, Chair for PIWC participation in the annual Ponce Inlet Christmas parade, recruited several PIWC members to drive convertibles in the parade on Saturday, December 7. We were fortunate to have lovely weather and were greeted by many of our neighbors along the parade route.



For another year, Marian Kelly chaired the annual Christmas luncheon for the members of the PIWC. The luncheon was held at Port Orange Steak House on December 11. Many of the members came to the luncheon to celebrate a very successful year of fundraising.



.....**Women's Club continued**

On Wednesday, February 5, PIWC will introduce 11 new members to our Club with a festive Valentine's theme luncheon at the community center. The PIWC officers and directors will provide the food items for the new member luncheon. We welcome new members, Suzanne Barrow, Mary Bonneville, Nancy Dillard, Helen Groves, Lynda Hodgson, Elviria LaBarre, Judy Lampe, Carol Jerson, Angela Molpus, Linda Schade, and Kris Thompson.

A day of fun and enjoyment has been planned by Jeanette Kellum. She has made arrangements for a tour and tasting at the Lakeridge Winery followed by lunch and shopping in Mt. Dora. PIWC members

will have many choices of activities while in Mt. Dora from the Premier Boat tour to the Historic Trolley Tour. Those who have signed up, will meet in the community center parking lot to board the bus on the morning of January 29.

The PIWC objective is a united effort for the welfare of the community. The Club invites all women in Ponce Inlet, especially those who have just moved here, to come and check-out our Club and perhaps become members. The Club meets the second Wednesday each month September through May at 10:30am in the Ponce Inlet Community Center. Please stop by the Community Center to pick up an application for membership.

The date for the "Great Gatsby Soiree" has been changed to Friday, February 14 from 5pm to 7pm. The PIWC will partner with the Guild of the Museum of Arts and Sciences by providing a menu of delectable delights and champagne libations to those attending the event at a Ponce Inlet waterfront estate. For entertainment, Jazz Age music will be provided. The PIWC Chair for this event, Kay Brawley and Co-Chair, Joann Doyle have arranged for tickets to be sold at the Ponce Inlet Community Center for \$30.



Love is in the air...

The "Great Gatsby" Evening Delight

Join us for a Dazzling Valentine's Soiree

*Time to Sparkle...Dress to the "Nines"
in glamorous "Flapper" style decadence
of the Great Gatsby era...if you wish*

Private Ponce Inlet Waterfront Estate

**Friday, February 14, 2014
5:00 pm to 7:00 pm**

Jazz Age Music for your Entertainment

**Champagne Libations with
Delectable Menu of Soiree Delights**

\$30 for "Entertaining with Style" Benefit
Sponsored by Ponce Inlet Women's Club

RSVP: Kay Brawley, MOAS Guild Pres. 2011-2013
kbrawley@mindspring.com
Joann Doyle, PIWC CoChair
jdoyle409@gmail.com

Tickets on sale at the Ponce Inlet Community Center
4670 S. Peninsula Dr., Ponce Inlet, FL 32127, 386.760.0615

In just 8 weeks, it will be Show Time for the premier *Puttin on the Ritz* Fashion Show Luncheon Benefit of the Season, a Benefit for the Ponce Inlet Women's Club Scholarships and Charity programs, on Thursday, March 20, at the Halifax River Yacht Club. **Time is of the essence for making reservations for yourself and your friends, to fill a table of 10; deadline, one week in advance...that's Thursday, March 13.** For reservation, call the Ponce Inlet Community Center today at: 386.760.0615, and go to the Center to purchase your ticket (s), or mail check (s) for \$35 per person, made out to "PIWC", to Ponce Inlet Community Center, 4670 S. Peninsula Ave., Ponce Inlet, 32127.

Highlights:

- The House of Fashion is *SteinMart*, featuring the latest spring/summer fashion collections from casual, chic to simple elegance, starring new member models with **Leslye Gale of Magic 107.7** as the Celebrity Guest Emcee.
- *Puttin On the Ritz Parade of Hats* by the Patrons, showcasing footwear as well as hats to add that special elegant touch to attire...finale grande prize for Best in Parade.

Schedule:

- Doors open at 10:30 am for traditional social with friends, as well as preview of of the fabulous auction items, and grand raffle prizes.
- Show begins at 11 am, prior to a special gourmet luncheon at noon.

Make plans now at the Halifax River Yacht Club for a really "Good Time for a Good Cause" on Thursday, March 20! Please share the promotional flyer...bring a friend or two, or a whole table of your buddies (10).

Also, **donations** of gifts from local business, organizations and individual patrons are solicited for the Auction. When making gift contribution, please identifying its value and minimum bid, and how your business, organization or you would like to be listed in the program. For more information, contact Coordinators Dr. Kay Brawley, kbrawley@mindspring.com (386.322.4512), Pam Quillian (386.760.8532), or Mary Lee Sturno (386.682.3364).

PUTTIN' ON THE RITZ
Halifax River Yacht Club
331 S. Beach St., Daytona Beach

**Ponce Inlet Women's Club
Fashion Show Luncheon Benefit**
Best of 2014 Styles by SteinMart
Thursday, March 20, 2014 10:30am

Guest Emcee: **Leslye Gale of Magic 107.7**

Benefit Ticket \$35
Invite a friend, or 2 or more! Reserved tables for 10 available

AWARDS FOR BEST HATS
RAFFLE FOR GRAND PRIZES

Tickets can be purchased at:
Ponce Inlet Community Center
4670 S. Peninsula Ave., Ponce Inlet
(386) 760-0615

Supporting Scholarships for Education & Charities in our Community
Contacts: kbrawley@mindspring.com • Kay Brawley (386) 322-4512
Mary Lee Sturno (386) 682-3364 • Pam Quillian (386) 760-8532

PICCI POINTS



by Susie Hagey

Happiest of New Years to each of you. So much has been accomplished at the Community Center this past year, come visit us and find out for yourself. The president, Jim Hinson, along with the board of trustees always keep in mind the needs and wants of our residents and visitors. Just a reminder, be sure and pick up your Christmas Cards that are at the Center. You might not think you received any ---- but I bet you did!

COMING UP FEB. 1 WILL BE COMMUNITY DAY chaired by Bill Hibbert with the help of Peter Finch. All businesses, clubs, town departments, etc. in Ponce Inlet have been invited to come to the center on this day to share their talents, information and maybe 'samples' with the residents and visitors of Ponce Inlet. It takes many hours to get this day ready for all to enjoy. As quoted by Bill Hibbert: "You all know this is a "labor of love" for me since I initiated it several years ago. It's original purpose was to be a "welcome" to the new Harbor Village citizens, but it quickly evolved into "Community Day" and has become a great Town event which is made particularly successful by the complete cooperation of the Town Departments, our commercial establishments and all of your enthusiastic participation. The best adjustment that was made was to hold this on a Saturday, when more of our citizens are available and we thank

the Town employees for their cooperation on that. I look forward to having Peter work with me on it so either he or someone will be in place for 2015." SO COME ONE & ALL TO LEARN MORE ABOUT PONCE INLET – IT IS REALLY A FUN DAY!

An event coming up on Feb. 22 is called 'THE PICCI BBQ SHOWDOWN.' The 'girls' on the picci board are handling this event with Kristi Drumheller chairing. It's from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Soft background music via of our sound system playing while people are discussing entries. Cost

\$10.00 for tasting tickets including sampling of BBQ entries, 3 sides (cole slaw, baked beans, faye's cucumber dish) and dessert/s. BYOB & snack for your table if you wish. Mixing a Signature drink at the Tiki Bar (\$3.00 donation). There will be a 50/50 drawing with one winner of the 'pot'.

Here're the rules: ENTRANTS – gather your fellow 'foodies' and name your team for a chance to win 1st prize in the PICCI BBQ Showdown. If you can BBQ it... you can bring it ready to serve and enter it. Teams or Individuals

The Ponce Inlet Community Center Board is hosting a

BBQ SHOWDOWN

February 22, 2014

Grab your "foodie" friends and name your team!

- 1st Prize \$100.00 and 1st Place Trophy
- 2nd prize—\$50.00
- 3rd prize—\$25.00

Deadline for entries 2-1-2014

We want Organizations, Groups, Clubs, Condos and Individuals to enter. Keep the prize or donate to your favorite charity/club.



If you can BBQ it you can enter it!
Bring entrees ready to serve in "tasting" portions.

Call or email Kristi Drumheller for more information and to enter your team. 561-308-0312 or 386-760-9911 or gsdksd@hotmail.com

may enter – Examples: Garden Club Team, Town Team, Fish Fry Team, Lighthouse Team, Harbor Village Team, other clubs, even a street team or condo team is welcome.

Form a team in honor of your favorite charity and, if you win, donate the proceeds to your charity.

Entrants will be asked to cook 1-2 tablespoons sampling for 100-120 people. (..or for purchasing purposes Entrée size portions for appx. 20)

Teams with “left overs” at the end of the event can package and sell “food to go” and keep the proceeds. (Teams responsible for own ‘to go’ boxes, foils, packaging....)

Each team will have “one” server for the food line. The PICCI ladies will serve the sides.

SIGNUP DEADLINE FOR ENTRANTS IS JAN. 20, 2014.

JUDGES – Three ‘celebrity judges’ – TBA (One commitment from P.O. Steakhouse)

PRIZES – 1ST - \$100.00 cash plus the ‘coveted’ golden __ show-down statue

(keep for one year & return for next year’s winner)

2nd - \$50.00 cash

3rd - \$25.00 cash

We are expecting a very large group to participate and make it a fun night.

And before you know it, March 7 & 8 will be here and so will our Flea Market. Doors open at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, closing at 4:00 p.m. Saturday, doors open at 9:00 a.m. and close at 2:00 p.m. This is a good time to clean out the attic, garage, and closets – then donate all that great ‘stuff’ to the center. We take donations year round. Carolyn Sprague, who has

been in charge of the past 41 Flea Markets, is again the ‘chief’ for this year. Thank you soooo much, Carolyn.

March 15, 2014 will be PICCI’s St. Patrick’s Day Dinner/Dance. Mark your calendar and watch for the poster for details. (see pg. 31)

Do you know that the Community Center can be rented for receptions, weddings, parties of all kinds? We have the best rates going in this whole area. If interested, please call Faye McHugh at 386-846-0814 – she’s our hostess with the mostest!

The FLOW (Florida Licensing on Wheels) Van will be at the Center Jan. 30 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Here, you can renew your driver’s license and tags for your car.

We wish to thank the Ponce Inlet Women’s Club for their generous donation of \$1500.00 earmarked for remodeling the women’s bath room at the Center. We do appreciate so much this generous gift.

We’re thinking about having an electronics class. Perhaps you have a new window’s 8 computer that you’re struggling with or an I-pad, phone or tablet or what ever item it is! We are interested in finding out if you WANT a class. Please call the Center at 760-0615 and let us know.

Keep up with what is going on at PICCI by picking up a calendar of events each month, by checking the sign out front and by reading our bulletin boards located on the walls on either side of the front doors outside. Send us your ideas and suggestions....and enjoy our beautiful town.

**PICCI BOARD IS HOSTING A
BBQ SHOWDOWN**
FEBRUARY 22, 2014
5pm to 8pm

**JOIN US FOR A
FUN EVENING
SAMPLING GREAT FOOD**

Come visit with friends and neighbors and our three celebrity judges.

BYOB and appetizer for your table if you wish



\$10.00 “Tasting Tickets” will be on sale at the Community Center from 1-13-14 until 2-14-14. Only 120 tickets will be sold. Don’t get shut out.

*Signature drink at Tiki Bar
Donation \$3.00*

MENU

“Tasting” of all Entries

Coleslaw

Baked Beans

Cucumber Salad

Banana Pudding



Garden Club

by Mary Ann Redinger

A lot of good things have been happening with the Ponce Inlet Garden Club since the last newsletter was published in September!

At our September meeting, Wini Irvin was sworn in as Interim President due to the fact that President Trish Humphries is on hiatus. Thanks go out to both women for their very capable service to the club. We were also able to honor one of our most beloved members at that meeting as well. Long time member Carolyn Sprague was named a Lifetime Member and we also celebrated Carolyn's 85th birthday with cake and ice cream!

Congratulations to Carolyn for reaching that milestone birthday and for her Lifetime Member honor. Judy Whitaker not only won the 50/50 raffle, but was the recipient of the Beautification Award for September as well. Way to go Judy!

The October meeting was great fun with members dressing up for Halloween...some of us looked really silly, some were beautiful and some were scary!! A sight to see for sure! The Beautification Award was won by Caroline Russell and she also won the door prize. The annual Arts, Crafts and Plant sale was a great success. Many thanks go out to Diane Bell and Mary Ann Opperud for their excellent work in chairing this event. Great job, ladies!! Mother Nature cooperated by giving us beautiful weather. There were several new vendors participating this year and they all came with wonderful items to sell. This event is one of our biggest

fund raisers which benefit our Scholarship Program, so we really appreciate the large turnout and the support of the Ponce Inlet community and beyond. The Club is able to continue to help students through this program only because of the support of people like you.

At our November meeting, Membership chairperson Kathy Cannon said we now have 114 members with nine guests in attendance hoping to become new members soon!

The Beautification Award for November was won by Amar and Surjit Singh.

Plans are coming along for the annual High Tea scheduled for January 15th. The theme for this year's tea is Thyme and Again. Members were encouraged to donate "gently enjoyed" jewelry, purses and scarves to be sold at this event. The committee chairs have come up with great new ideas to make this tea even better than ever!

In December members were entertained by the Crane Lakes Dancers. They danced, sang and tapped their way through many of our favorite Christmas carols. There was a lot of "singing along" by club members...even a few got up and danced along!! It was obvious we all enjoyed this holiday festivity. In place of our regular program, members were encouraged to share a favorite family holiday tradition or memento with the group. Several baked or cooked their special holiday treat which they shared. Yum!! It was a good time for sharing and getting to know each other better. The club donated Poinsettias to civic centers and the museum and plants were placed at the signs on the north end of Ponce Inlet. Money from the 50/50 was donated to the Second Harvest Food Bank.

Best of all, the Garden Club entry in the Town Christmas Parade received the "Judge's Choice" award! Thanks to Faye McHugh for her ingenuity and hard work in chairing this event and making it all possible.

Our own Kristi Drumheller, with hubby Scott, of course, won first place in the annual Garden Club Christmas lighting contest. Kathy and George Kent placed second and Cindy and Joe Rutz were named third place winners. Sea Gull Landing won the multi-family/Commercial category.

Club members are looking forward to our annual bus trip in February, the Arbor Day event in April and the ever popular Sunday Ice Cream Social fund raiser in May.

Cool weather is definitely here, so be sure to cover tender plants to minimize damage. This is also the time to prune non-spring flowering shrubs and trees. Be sure to provide a layer of mulch for your plantings to protect them from the cold. And remember "the seeds you plant today become the flowers of tomorrow".





SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

GARDEN CLUB OF PONCE INLET MARGIE JONES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

PURPOSE: To assist in the continuing education of a high school senior upon graduation
CRITERIA: High school seniors living in Ponce Inlet are eligible to apply

\$1500

1. NAME _____ PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

HOME ADDRESS _____

NAME OF PARENT/GUARDIAN _____

HIGH SCHOOL _____

2. CURRENT GPA _____ CLASS RANK/SIZE _____

HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR VERIFICATION _____

3. ON A SEPARATE PAPER, PLEASE TYPE AN ESSAY ON THE TOPIC:

"MY TOWN, I'M PART OF IT, I'M PROUD OF IT." LIMIT THE ESSAY TO 500 WORDS.

4. PLEASE ATTACH A RESUME OF YOUR *SCHOOL, EXTRACURRICULAR AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING THOSE SPECIFIC TO PONCE INLET), AND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION YOU PLAN TO ATTEND FOLLOWING HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION.*

5. PLEASE ATTACH ONE LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION.

6. PLEASE DROP OFF* OR MAIL (*preferred method*) YOUR APPLICATION TO:

THE GARDEN CLUB OF PONCE INLET
PONCE INLET COMMUNITY CENTER
4670 SOUTH PENINSULA DRIVE
PONCE INLET, FL 32127

**DEADLINE: THE APPLICATION MUST BE RECEIVED BY
FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 2014**

CONTACT SHERRY UTTER 767-1669 or ponceutter@bellsouth.net
FOR MORE INFORMATION

*If you plan to hand deliver the application to the Community Center, please call 760-0615 for hours to ensure someone will be present to receive it.

Creature Feature

By Jo Ellen Basile



*"The greatness of a Nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated."
--Mahatma Gandhi*

Ponce Inlet Animal Welfare, Inc. (PAW) is a nonprofit group that has been working since 2009 to reduce the number of free-roaming (stray) cats in Ponce Inlet through a trap-neuter-return (TNR) program.

Our dedicated caregivers, who feed the cats each day, are screened and registered by the Ponce Inlet Police Department and wear IDs to identify them. Landowners give written permission for the cats and caregivers to be on their property.

Colony Cat Kanga

One thing our caregivers obviously share is a love for animals. We were all heartbroken recently when one of our colony cats was run over and killed. I trapped Kanga in 2009 and named him after the store that he lived behind, the Kangaroo.

RIP Kanga – the sweetest soul



I gave Kanga the nickname "Ambassador" because he would always come out to greet you and seemed to rally the other cats and calm them. Because he was not as wild as the others, he was more likely to roam around and even follow someone that had been feeding him. Luckily, most TNR cats are more secretive and stay in the safety of the woods.

PLEASE do not assume that stray cats need to be fed. We have TNR cats in several different locations in town and they are well-fed by registered caregivers. If you believe a stray cat is in need of care, please contact PAW for help with trapping and neutering at (386) 316-2991. Well-fed, unfixed cats can produce many more offspring very quickly.

Consolation

One week after we buried our dear Kanga, a strange cat showed up at the cat colony. After checking my records, I found that I had trapped and released this cat four years ago and named her Bobbi. She had disappeared soon after her release.

It is a mystery what happened to poor Bobbi in those four years, but she looks like she has lived a hard life since then. We hope that she will decide to stay at the colony where she can receive the love and care all animals deserve.

Information

The town website, www.ponceinlet.org, has a [Pet Lost and Found](#) link (on the left) for posting pictures and details about lost or found pets. Please REGISTER YOUR PETS at the Police Department. Pet registration is FREE and helps in the event your pet is lost. Ponce Inlet has two police officers certified in animal control that respond to animal calls and enforce

the spay/neuter ordinance. Call Volusia County dispatch for assistance at (386) 248-1777.

Donations

PAW is a small organization and can use your help to fund our efforts.

Businesses or individuals can hold fundraisers with donations or a percentage of proceeds going to PAW. On December 16, Faye McHugh hosted a luncheon for which every guest brought a dry cat food donation for PAW.

To donate or volunteer for PAW, call (386) 756-1467 or mail donations to 139 Anchor Drive, Ponce Inlet, FL 32127.



Bobbi in 2009



Bobbi in 2013

Lions Club

The Ponce Inlet Lions Club is a group of men and women, almost 50 members strong, dedicated to addressing the needs of our fellow citizens, and the needs of the local community in general. As the local arm of Lions Clubs International, the Ponce Inlet Lions also have a commitment to help with concerns in the worldwide community. In an effort to help address the issue of world hunger, the Ponce Inlet Lions have decided to initiate a local campaign to support "Stop Hunger Now".

Since 1998, "Stop Hunger Now" has coordinated the distribution of food and other lifesaving aid to children and families all over the world. Stop Hunger Now created its meal packaging program, in 2005. The program perfected the assembly process that combines rice, soy, dehydrated vegetables and a flavoring mix including 21 essential vitamins and minerals into small meal packets. Each meal costs only 25 cents. The food stores easily and has a shelf life of two years and transports quickly. The use of volunteers for product packaging has resulted in an extremely cost-effective operation while, at the same time, increasing awareness of global hunger and food insecurity issues across the world.

Stop Hunger Now provides over 70% of its meals to support transformational development programs such as school feeding programs, vocational training programs, early childhood development programs, orphanages, and medical clinics. Working with these programs helps enhance lives by giving beneficiaries the opportunity to break the cycle of poverty through education, skills development, and health care while also receiving much needed nutrition.

Every year Stop Hunger Now reserves 10% of its projected meals to respond right away to crisis situations including natural disasters, conflict and famine. In addition to providing food for crisis relief, Stop Hunger Now also works to meet the immediate needs of those suffering from hunger.

The Ponce Inlet Lions are looking for your help with their support of Stop Hunger Now. They are placing donation canisters in the community to collect the money needed to support this extremely important cause meet their worldwide goals.

Canisters can be found in popular establishments such as Hidden Treasure, North Turn, Jerry's Tiki Bar, Down the Hatch and at Harbor Villages Links and Pub. Please help the Lions help the Hungry.

100% of the funds collected will reach Stop Hunger Now. If you choose to make a more significant contribution, your donation is tax deductible. The Ponce Inlet Lions Club can be reached at:

Ponce Inlet Community Center

4670 S. Peninsula Dr.

Ponce Inlet, FL 32127



Ponce Inlet Lions Club
Present's

Western BBQ Fund Raiser
with all profits donated to Lion's charities
i.e. Sight, Hearing, Diabetes, Guide Dogs

Ribs, Pulled Pork & fixings
for only \$15.00

January 25, 2014

Happy Hour 5:00—6:00 PM BYOB
Dinner 6:00—7:00 PM
Entertainment 7:00—9:30 PM
Silent Auction 5:00—8:00 PM



Prize for best dressed cowgal & cowpoke

Purchase tickets at
Ponce Inlet Community Center
Phone: 760-0615
Cut-off date for ticket sales 1/22/14



Ponce Inlet Lighthouse

Mary Wentzel
Programs Manager

We had a great fall of 2013 at the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse. Many guests visited the tallest lighthouse in Florida, eager to climb the tower and enjoy our pristine grounds and museums. There were many special event for our guests to take part in during the fall.

On Saturday, October 19th the Lighthouse partnered with the Museum of Arts and Sciences for a star gazing event at the Lighthouse. Seth Mayo and Zach Zacharias, curators at MOAS, provided a multitude of astronomy activities for our visiting families. Our VIP Volunteers were there in force to assist our guests as they explored the night's offerings. Mr. Mayo, along with astronomy club members from ERAU, showed our guests the museum's high powered telescopes that were positioned at the foot of the tower during the evening. This nighttime event was an opportunity for the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse to invite guests to our tower and museums during extended hours. In addition, to show our appreciation for all that our teachers do for the community, the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse admitted teachers for free during the Lighthouse at Night event.

We had a wonderfully successful Homeschoolers Event on November 7th. The theme this year was Games and Chores at the Lighthouse. The featured activity was our new Lighthouse Chores Obstacle Course which introduced students to a unique way to learn about the household jobs that children would have participated in while living at the Lighthouse. Pumping water, making brass polish, washing clothes and beating rugs were just a few of the activities children could participate in along the course. Participants would work their way through the obstacle course paying close attention to the completion of each task. The activity was just one of the many stations designed to teach children about the early years at the

Lighthouse.

The Lighthouse celebrated the holidays beginning with Thanksgiving gifts on November 29th. Fun was had by all as visitors made holiday ornaments with pinecones, oranges, cloves and holiday ribbon. Our winter holiday event was held on December 27th and was a wonderful day for all who visited the Lighthouse. Lighthouse VIP volunteers and staff participated in both the Ponce Inlet Parade as well as the Port Orange Parade this holiday season. We are proud to announce that our wonderful Lighthouse float, designed and created by Mike Bennett and our multi-talented maintenance staff, were presented with the "most creative" award by the town of Ponce Inlet. On November 30th our VIP volunteers spread the word about our wonderful Lighthouse to visitors to the holiday celebration, Light up Volusia, held at the Ocean Center. Thousands of people from all over attended the annual holiday tree lighting event.

The Ponce Inlet Lighthouse Association has an exciting winter season ahead. We are inviting girl scouts, troop leaders and their families to come and enjoy the lighthouse and museum, while working on requirements for the Lighthouse Brownie Try-It, the Junior Lighthouse Badge, or the Lighthouse Interest Project. Special admission rates have been established and reservations are required. Please contact Mary Wentzel at mwentzel@ponceinlet.org, or (386) 761-1821 ext. 18, for more information.

Our first Museum at Night event of the year will be held on Friday, January 24.

This event began as a national campaign, in the United Kingdom, that sought to encourage visitors into museum, galleries and heritage sites by simply opening up late or putting on special evening events. It has spread to the U. S. and now is gaining traction within museums here. During this special Museum at Night event, in honor of our teachers, all teacher with valid school ID will be admitted to the Lighthouse for free.

History of Beach Racing Day will be held on Sunday,

February 16th. During this event author William P. Lazarus will share his vast knowledge about the History of Beach Racing with our visitors. The History of Beach Racing Day gives visitors a chance to see historic beach racing cars and talk with former drivers, owners and mechanics, who were there on the hard packed sand beach. Participants will have an opportunity to photograph and get autographs, tour the grounds, climb the tower and participate in family oriented activities.

This year we have a second Beach Racing Day opportunity for our guests on Friday, February 21st. At this Beach Racing Event, author William P. Lazarus will return to the Lighthouse to speak about The History of Women in Racing. This event gives visitors a chance to learn about historic beach racing cars and the men and women who were there on the hard packed sand beach. Participants can tour the grounds, climb the tower and participate in family oriented activities.

On March 3rd the Lighthouse will join the Nation for the 17th annual Read Across America celebration. Our V.I.P Lighthouse volunteers will be in full force and ready to share their love of reading with school children throughout the county. On March 3, 4th and 5th our volunteers will all share the story Nelly the Lighthouse cat going out to the schools. To find these activities and much more visit our website at www.ponceinlet.org or call us at (386)761-1821 ext. 18.

Our wonderful Climb to the Moon event has become one of the Lighthouse's most popular RSVP events. Held on the eve of each full moon, participants are given the unique opportunity to experience the historic Ponce Inlet Lighthouse by the light of full moon. What better place to see the day turn into night than a top of the tower. We thank the folks at Inlet Harbor Restaurant who have sponsored the food for the Climb to the Moon event since its inception. Due to popular demand, individuals interested in participat-

ing in one of our Climb to the Moon events are encouraged to purchase their tickets well in advance. Please contact Tasha Gallimore via email at tgallimore@ponceinlet.org or by phone at (386) 761-1821 ext. 10 for details.

We would like to congratulate Dick Neland, Inlet Harbor Restaurant partner and great friend of the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse, as he has been named our VIP Volunteer of the quarter. We thank Mr. Neland for his long history of support of the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse.

We encourage Individuals interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities at the Lighthouse to contact the Programs Manager at: mwentzel@ponceinlet.org or by phone at (386) 761-1821, ext 18.



**We invite you to visit us at Ponce Church
Sunday's 10:00am at the Ponce Inlet Commu-
nity Center - 4670 S. Peninsula.
For more info and to listen to Pastor Rick's
weekly messages go to poncechurch.com - See
You Sunday!**

Ponce Inlet Veterans Memorial

The Ponce Inlet Veterans Memorial is dedicated to the few who serve to ensure the freedom of many. A grateful community remembers those who serve in the armed forces of the United States during time of wars and peace whose courage and personal sacrifice defend and preserve our freedom. The Ponce Inlet Veterans Memorial Association

wants to thank all who have contributed to the Memorial, as well as those who have supported our different functions and fund raisers.

On Monday, May 26, 2014 at 11:00 AM the Ponce Inlet Veterans Memorial Association will celebrate Memorial Day with a ceremony at the Memorial at Davies Lighthouse Park. There will be a color guard, speakers, a fly-over, dedication and wreath laying, a firing squad and taps. All are invited to join us for this special event.

Ponce Inlet Community Day

Ponce Inlet Community Center
4670 South Peninsula Drive

Saturday, February 1, 2014
9:30 am to noon

Learn about the business services, social activities, town services and more from representatives as well as displays from:

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Town Government | Local Clubs |
| Marine Science Center | Community Church |
| The Lighthouse | Restaurants |
| Miscellaneous Businesses | Gift Shop |

Get the facts and enjoy some snacks!

This is a free event and everyone is welcome!



THE ART GUILD OF PONCE INLET PRESENTS THE ANNUAL FINE ARTS SHOW & SALE

SATURDAY, FEB. 15 (10:00 - 5:00)

SUNDAY, FEB. 16 (10:00 - 4:00)

4670 S. PENINSULA DRIVE, PONCE INLET

PICCI Board
Irish Night
Saturday, March 15, 2014
Corned Beef and Cabbage
\$15.00
B.Y.O.B. Cocktails 5:00 PM
Dinner 6:00 PM



Irish Coffee
\$2.00 donation

- Dances**
- Macarena
 - Cha Cha Slide
 - Cupid Shuffle
 - Twist
 - Electric Slide
 - Hokey Pokey
 - Chicken Dance
 - YMCA



Surround Sound DJ Entertainment
DJ Chris
7:00 PM

Purchase tickets at the
Community Center
Information—760-0615

Cut-off for ticket
sales Wednesday,
March 12, 2014
at noon



Citizens for Ponce Inlet
4670 South Peninsula Drive
Ponce Inlet, FL 32127-7134

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
DAYTONA BCH FL
PERMIT #328



Did you enjoy this newsletter?

If so, please consider supporting this organization by becoming a member of the Citizens For Ponce Inlet. Your financial contribution will be used to help defray the costs of this newsletter as well as the annual Candidate's Forum and the Citizens of the Year Award event.

2014—2015 Membership Registration Form

I wish to become a new member _____ ; renew my membership _____
Enclosed is \$10 ___ \$15 ___ Other _____ (We can hope) contribution for my annual membership.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ State ___ Zip _____

Please make all checks payable to Citizens For Ponce Inlet. Detach and mail to:

Judy Huggins
44 Coastal Oaks Circle
Ponce Inlet, FL 32127-6901
(or leave in the Citizens For Ponce Inlet box at the Community Center)