



Citizens for Ponce Inlet

Newsletter

Dedicated to improving the quality of life in Ponce Inlet

VOL. CIV

WINTER 2016

MAYOR'S STATE OF THE TOWN OF PONCE INLET ADDRESS JANUARY 2016



Mayor Gary Smith

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.

As always, we'll start with providing you information on the financial health of our Town. We have a general fund reserve of approximately \$2.3 million, which equates to a little over 6 months of our current expenses. The Town's established goal is to keep the general fund reserve between 3 and 9 months of operating expenses. The Town's total millage rate continues to be the fourth lowest out of the 17 taxing districts in Volusia County, a half-mill lower than our neighboring unincorporated area Wilbur-by-the-Sea and almost two mills lower than our nearest incorporated neighbor, Daytona Beach Shores. We contin-

ue to meet our stated mission to provide you with excellence in service delivery while ensuring citizens obtain the greatest value for their tax dollar.

One of the more recent means of service delivery improvement has been the patient transport service that our fire department provides. The majority of the revenue from Ponce Inlet transport users has been returned to Ponce Inlet via this program for the last few years, thereby allowing the enhancement of this service to you at a nominal cost. Ponce Inlet is one of only two municipalities in Volusia County to provide this additional service to its residents. We have now been doing so for a little over three years, transporting approximately 570 patients in total. You may not be aware that this program came

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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 \$7,200 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

about due to the incredible generosity of the late Constance Hunter, as she donated the funding for the purchase of the Town's first ambulance. It was her hope that the Town would someday be allowed to perform emergency medical transport and prevent its citizens from having to wait while a County ambulance made its way to our distant barrier island community. If not for her belief in this program, the Town would not have been in the position to assume this responsibility when it was offered and now have a proven track record of success and reliability. In 2015, the Town purchased a larger used ambulance that will be our primary transport vehicle. Our gratitude to Mrs. Hunter continues as half of the cost of refurbishing our original ambulance is being covered by a grant from her estate, so that we may keep it operational for backup as needed.

In recognition of Mrs. Hunter, the front portion of Timucuan Oaks Garden was designed to include a fountain which will be dedicated to her at the grand opening of the park on January 30th. Many local clubs and associations donated towards the purchase of this fountain, as she was an active member in many of them and they wished to give something back to honor her memory. This park land was purchased by the Town in 2004 with State grant funding that included conditions for its future development. Eleven years later, this obligation has been met and the Town's residents have another park for their enjoyment. A park that distinguishes itself as being a little different than our others with its lovely garden frontage leading to an upland trail, then a boardwalk through the wetlands, and a kayak launch at the end. We hope that you will enjoy the addition of this

park in our beautiful Town.

Another major construction project that the Town has been preparing for over the past few years is the water system improvement project. This project is underway exactly as anticipated and we expect it to be completed before the end of May 2016. This large scale construction project focuses on the areas of Town where older water pipes are in need of replacement and where some pipes are smaller than what is recommended for fire suppression. In addition to this, the Town is installing a gravity sewer line on west Inlet Harbor Road and making an intersection improvement there as well. A pocket park at this corner and a bike path along this road is also planned for installation by June 2016 by Inlet Harbor Development.

A minor project but one which made a noticeable improvement is the replacement of the Town entry sign on South Peninsula Drive. We also straightened out the bicycle path in this area for improved safety for both pedestrians and bicyclists. As I'm sure you also noticed around the Town, Florida Power and Light recently upgraded their light poles along Ponce Inlet's primary power grid. This was an FPL company decision for many locations around Florida, as the concrete poles are less susceptible to down power line issues, yet remain easy to repair when one does occur.

As the economy begins to recover, we've seen construction also increasing in residential areas as well. During 2015 there were more than 1,050 permits issued and more than 1,400 inspections conducted. Only 4 percent of those inspections failed that clearly shows the greatly improved efforts of our building inspectors to assist our residents and their contractors. In

Ponce Inlet, there were almost 200 more permits issued in 2015 than in the prior year and we saw an increase in 2014 of almost 300 more permits than in the year prior to that. Our planning & development department processed almost 500 more permits in 2015 than they did in 2013. That is a 100 percent increase! With this heavy increase in work load we've restructured some of our internal operations to better serve you. We've also given the department's customer service area an upgrade to create a more efficient environment for our customers and our staff. In 2015, we completed the third phase in reviewing and rewriting portions of the Town's Land Use and Development Code (LUDC). We also made some modifications to other areas of the Town's Code of Ordinances. Over the course of one year, the following changes were made to regulations in the Town:

- A provision for waivers for accessory structures on single-family residential properties has been created to allow homeowners an option under which to submit a request for a minor deviation from the LUDC;
- Parking and loading requirements were amended to clarify intent, create flexibility, and make them easier to understand.
- Modified height requirements for courtyard walls located within the building area to be built up to the lowest point of the adjacent roof;
- Modified requirements to allow two additional feet in fence height where significant elevation differences exist between two adjacent properties & provides for an increase above this height for columns, caps, arches, arbors, trellises and entry ways;
- Modified requirements to downsize the process for simple minor replats;

Adopted tougher standards to restrict the proximity to a park where a sexual offender may establish a residence.

With the invaluable assistance of community volunteers, the Town was pleased to sponsor or co-sponsor a number of events during the year. In total, the Town participated in providing 16 Cultural / Historic events, 16 Community / Holiday events, and 7 athletic events during 2015. In addition to that, are all of the events held by the Marine Science Center, the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse Association and by your various Town clubs at the Community Center. We are an active community and there is always plenty to do here in Ponce Inlet!

In recognition of our focus on an active community lifestyle, the Town was awarded as a Healthy Weight Community Champion for the second year straight in 2015. Our interconnecting sidewalks, walking trails, athletic equipment in parks, and our landscape regulations that allow a percentage of the front yard for vegetable gardens are all positive factors taken into consideration for this award.

Most of our cultural / historic events have been sponsored by the Ponce Inlet Historical Museum located at 143 Beach Street. The museum has a number of talks planned in the coming months for your education and enjoyment. The museum is operated in total by a part-time equivalent staff member and 11 volunteers. We welcome any of you who may be interested in giving of your time in this manner. The museum welcomed a total of 2,110 visitors in 2015. Four modest construction projects were completed on the museum property this year: the instillation of storm shutters on the Meyer-Davis House, the addition of a shed for onsite storage, the walkway at the front entrance, and a fence to protect the historic cistern on the property. However the most significant accomplishment for the museum property is that both of the structures, the Meyer-Davis

House and the Hasty Cottage, were listed on the National Register of Historic Places, joining our nationally famous Lighthouse in this historic recognition.

In reviewing 2015, we can see that our Town staff were not the only ones who have been hard at work for all of us. As our citizenry continue to volunteer at an amazing rate! We have volunteers related directly to town government purposes and volunteers who give of their time to other various community clubs. In total, there are at least 23 different boards, clubs, or other organizations for a population of just over 3,000. This is quite commendable! These many volunteers make our Town the special place we all enjoy. On behalf of Council and staff, I want to give our heartfelt thanks to all of our volunteers.

Lastly, in the election of 2015, the voice of our citizens was heard in a resounding stand of unification for the Town to stay the course in the final appeal process of the takings claim in Pacetta vs Ponce Inlet. We thank you for making the effort to study the issue and learn the important facts that led to your decision. The filings with the 5th District Court of Appeals have been completed and we anticipate an oral argument will be scheduled sometime in 2016 with a ruling within the months to follow. This has been a long, difficult, and tiring road for all of us. I for one am very proud of the fortitude of our citizenry - staying involved, studying the issues, and refusing to bow down to scare tactics. YOU are what make Ponce Inlet great! YOU are the ones who will protect Ponce Inlet's unique and valuable assets for future generations to enjoy! I feel sure that in this I can speak for all of our Town Council as I say thank YOU!

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

Respectively,

Gary L. Smith, Mayor



*Timucuan Oaks Garden
Grand Opening Ceremony &
Dedication of Memorial for
Constance D. Hunter*

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 2016

10:30 A.M.

SHUTTLE PARKING AVAILABLE AT THE
PONCE INLET COMMUNITY CENTER.
4670 SOUTH PENINSULA DRIVE
PONCE INLET, FL

THE CELEBRATION CONTINUES AT THE
COMMUNITY CENTER FOLLOWING THE CEREMONY.
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED.

TOWN MANAGER



From the Town Manager, Jeaneen Witt...

Happy New Year to all of you! I wish you a healthy and prosperous 2016! Mayor Gary Smith has thoughtfully prepared his annual State of the Town Address, which is included in this edition of the newsletter. This is a summary of what has occurred in Town over the past year and some of the things that are just ahead for us. 2015 was a year full of many positive improvements here in Ponce Inlet and we enter the New Year with plenty more in store for you. You can look forward to seeing projects completed around Town in our parks, on our sidewalks, at our bus stops, and a continuing effort at beautification town-wide. We also have many town-sponsored events coming up for your enjoyment. First and foremost though is our continued attention to service delivery, as we know that your experiences with us shape your view of your Town government, and we want to be a gov-

ernment that you are proud of. We currently have vacancies on all of our various boards, so there are many opportunities for you to put some of your ideas to work for the betterment of your community. The Florida League of Cities has an annual campaign to remind us that local government is the closest to the people because it is made up by you and your neighbors – [My Town: I'm Part of It, I'm Proud of It!](#) There is room for you on Team Ponce Inlet!

As we close out the holidays, I want to extend special thanks to all of you for your donations to the *Hearts of Ponce Inlet* food and toy drive and also those items needed by our military troops and for needy pets in Volusia County. In addition to this event, the Town staff participated in the County initiated food drive, which collects food and money donations from local government employees for the needy. Ponce Inlet at 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 information 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 about \$7,200 in total for the printing of the four issues published last fiscal year.

Ponce Inlet Employee of the Year

Fred "Butch" Roubidoux, Administrative Assistant, Police Department

Butch was hired in April of 2000 as a Dispatcher. In October 2011, when Volusia County took over dispatch, Butch was switched to an Administrative Assistant. In either role, Butch

has been one who can be counted on to complete all his assignments in a timely manner and he pays great attention to detail.



Butch handles the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) for the police department, which the FBI uses to calculate crime trends. He has been trained in grant management and now applies for and manages grants for the Police Department, saving the Town thousands of dollars each year. Butch coordinates the records destruction annually and maintains a current list of all records for the department. He also submits all citations to the Clerk of Court and handles all of the arrest files. The Department recently transitioned to e-citations (electronic) and Butch was instrumental in getting the training set up for all of the police officers and in getting the programs and information on all of the computers. Butch is also the assistant evidence technician and handles the logging-in of most of the evidence submitted by the police officers. He assists the evidence custodian with preparing an evidence destruction report at least once a year and assists in the annual inventory of all evidence and property held by the department.

When dispatch was taken over by the Sheriff's Department our lobby hours changed and have changed several times over the years. Butch has adjusted to the changes and currently works every weekend. He willingly switches shifts if another employee needs specific time off and he has always been willing to work holidays

and let someone else have the day off. Butch assists residents and non-residents by phone and as walk-ins to the lobby. He is always upbeat and positive in handling any issues brought to him. He knows his job well and generally knows where to go for answers. If there is something he doesn't know he will work diligently to get the answer. Butch works well with the other employees, both within the police department and other town departments. He is always willing to assist anyone who requests it and there have been many times that he has gone beyond what is expected to help someone.

Spotlight on ... Hank Baker, Building Inspector



Hank Baker joined the Town of Ponce Inlet in December 2014 as a Building Inspector with the Planning & Development Department. Hank is a state certified General Contractor and Pool Contractor with many years of experience in the construction industry. Since starting with the Town, Hank has received his mechanical and building inspection certifications and is currently studying for his building plans examiner certification. Both contractors and homeowners have complimented Hank on his professional manner. His professionalism and dedication has proven that he is an asset to both the department and the Town. Hank's construction experience was instrumental during the planning and construction of the Department's new front office area. Hank is a native of Volusia County

and grew up around local racetracks, which led to a stint as a race car driver. He has three children and recently became engaged. We are very pleased to have Hank working as part of Team Ponce Inlet!

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 to homes and businesses either directly or on 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 15th, 2016 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: www.ponce-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.

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 2016, 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!



“If You See Something, Say Something”

The nationwide “If You See Something, Say Something” public awareness campaign is a simple and effective program to raise public awareness of the indicators of terrorism and terrorism-related crime and to emphasize the importance of reporting suspicious activity to the proper law enforcement authorities.

Don't be afraid to report:

Anyone tampering with surveillance cameras, safety sys-

tems, machinery or other sensitive equipment.

People videotaping, sketching or taking notes on transit equipment and facilities or security equipment.

People entering unauthorized areas.

People carrying aerosol containers or anything omitting a strange smell or gas.

Evasive answers to common questions regarding destinations; deliberate attempts to avoid contact with others or to draw attention.

Loose fitting clothing, large sweatshirt, vest or jacket in hot weather conditions.

Attempts to abandon a vehicle in or near a transit parking facility, or cars in the parking lot without proper tags and license plates.

Consecutive round trips on the same transit route.

Bags, boxes or other packages left unattended on buses and trains, in stations, on platforms or on train tracks—especially if partially hidden or in unusual locations.

If you see something suspicious taking place, report that behavior or activity to law enforcement or, in the case of emergency, call 911... Informed, alert neighbors play a critical role in keeping our Town and nation safe!

DRONES

Police departments across Central Florida want to remind you that your new Christmas gift could get you in trouble.

The Federal Aviation Administration is requiring that most drones be registered within two months of purchase/ownership.



The FAA says if you owned a drone weighing half a pound or more before December 21, 2015, you have until February 19, 2016 to register. It only costs \$5 to register online.

If you don't register, you could face civil penalties that could cost you about \$27,500. You can also face up to three years in jail and the fine could go up to \$250,000 if you commit a crime while not registered.

The FAA will give you a registration number that you would then put on every one of your small aircraft that you intend to fly.

Most drones can be registered online with the FAA. However, if your drone meets certain criteria, you will have to mail your registration to the FAA.

For more information on how to register your drone, visit faa.gov/uas/registration.

Since 2007, nearly 90 killings in the U.S. have been tied to Craigslist and other internet transactions. Five of those occurred in Florida. Many police departments around the country are offering Craigslist sellers/buyers the safe haven of their agency's lobbies and parking lots so that transactions can take place.



As a service to the citizens of Ponce Inlet, the Ponce Inlet Police Department has designated the Police Department as a "Safe Zone" for these types of transactions. Should you feel the need to meet with a stranger to purchase or sell an item, please meet them at the Ponce Inlet Police Department, 4301 S. Peninsula Drive. If you cannot schedule the meeting during normal business hours, call the Communications Dispatch Center, non-emergency line at (386) 248-1777 and ask for an officer to stand-by with you at the Police Department. An officer will stand-by with you, **calls for service permitting**. Your safety is of paramount importance to us at the Ponce Inlet Police Department. Please consider using this service.

Tips for conducting online deals

Only agree to meet at a law enforcement facility.
Meet during daylight hours.

Trust your instincts when conducting transactions. Don't meet with suspicious people.

Meet in the parking lot of a police department, if you can't meet in the lobby. Typically they have cameras and police officers coming and going.

Bring a friend or family member with you.

Let others know where you are meeting and what time.

Avoiding meeting at your home.

Try your best to avoid nighttime transactions.

Only accept cash and not a personal check.

When large items are being sold, meet publicly beforehand to exchange and photocopy one another's identification papers (i.e. driver's license).



The Ponce Inlet Police Department is excited to partner with "Project ChildSafe" a charity committed to promoting firearms safety among all firearms owners through the distribution of safety education messages and free firearm safety kits. The kits include a cable-style gun-locking device and a brochure discusses safe handling and storage to help deter access by unauthorized individuals, children and at-risk persons.

Our goal is to raise awareness about the safe and responsible ownership of firearms and the importance of securely storing firearms to reduce access. Through everyone's commit-

ment to firearm safety education, crime and accidents involving firearms can be reduced.

Please stop by the Ponce Inlet Police Department to pick up your free Gun Lock Safety Kit!

General Home Firearm Safety Tips

Keep all firearms locked in a safe place, away from children and other unauthorized persons, when not in use.

Store ammunition under lock and key, separately from firearms.

Read and understand the owner's manual that came with your firearm.

Follow safe gun handling practices: keep muzzle pointed in a safe direction; treat every firearm as if it were loaded; keep fingers off the trigger; and keep the firearm unloaded when not in use.

Thank You Ponce Inlet

Having served as your Chief for almost four years, I can say that I have only grown more proud of our community. On behalf of the PIPD, I would like thank all of those in the community who brought food and desserts to our officers who were on duty and couldn't spend time with their families during the holidays.

The Ponce Inlet Police Department wants to keep you and Ponce Inlet safe. Whether it is measures to protect your person, your property, or your personal information, always remember that safety comes with staying **AWARE** and **ALERT!**

Frank Fabrizio
Chief of Police

Fire and Rescue



Dan Scales Fire Chief

2015 Activity Summary for the Fire Department

2015 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 2012. As we've reported in past newsletters, the program continues to be a great success, with Ponce Inlet transporting over 500

patients since the beginning of the program.

The community's support and your firefighter's dedication has been a large part of the program's continuing success, and we hope that Volusia County will allow Ponce Inlet to continue to transport all of our patients in the very near future.

For January through December 2015, the Fire Department responded to 472 requests for service, half of them (236) EMS related.

Second Ambulance Added to the Fire Department Fleet

In 2015, the Fire Department added a second ambulance to the department's vehicle inventory. The unit is a 2009 Horton conversion previously owned by Charlotte County Florida. The unit is in excellent shape and adds a second transport capable vehicle to our department. The current ambulance will be going in for a minor refurbishment, which will provide the Town with a few more years of transports.

If you have the time, we'd love you all to stop by the station, we'd love to take a look at the second ambulance.

Regional Fire Training Activities

2015 was a very active year for the Fire Department in terms of training. The department participated in multi-



ple training drills in 2015 ranging from firefighter safety to vehicle extrication. Ponce Inlet even hosted a well attended water rescue training in July that trained over 100 firefighters from southeast Volusia County. The drills were conducted with our neighboring southeast fire departments, the same men and women that we respond with every day. This multi-company training is invaluable, not only in teaching hands-on skills that our folks don't see every day, but our crews also learn how other departments operate in different situations. This translates into a more efficient and effective response for those incidents that require outside assistance. We plan on participating and hosting more training opportunities in 2016.

Pre-fire Plan Visits

With the New Year brings new opportunities for the Fire Department. In



the coming months the crews will be visiting the condominiums and various business in town to update or pre-fire plan information. This data is extremely important in times of emergency. We assure that all contact information about the property is correct and any special hazards or idiosyncrasies of the property are documented. Not only does this benefit the Ponce Inlet Fire



Department, the information is shared county-wide and is available to any and all agencies that respond to our emergencies. This assures a quick and accurate response in any situation. Please take a minute to say "hi" to the crews when you see them out and about.

Wintertime Fire Safety

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 the portable heaters and electric blankets out of 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 safety 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 advised

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 2016. All of you make Ponce Inlet a great place to live and work, truly the "jewel" of Volusia County.



PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT



Aref Joulani, Director

TIMUCUAN OAKS GARDEN

We are pleased to announce the completion of the long-awaited entrance facilities at Timucuan Oaks Garden. The Park and its landscaping were designed with an English garden in mind as part of the memorial to the late Constance Hunter.



We wish to thank the following for their generous donations toward creation of the memorial and gardens:

- Art Guild of Ponce Inlet
- Citizens for Ponce Inlet
- Davis House Preservation Group
- Garden Club of Ponce Inlet
- Lions Club of Ponce Inlet
- Ponce deLeon Inlet Lighthouse Preservation Association

Ponce Inlet Community Center, Inc.
Ponce Inlet Professional Firefighters
Local Union 4140
Ponce Inlet Teamsters
Local Union 385
Ponce Inlet Women's Club
Reza Joulani

We hope to see you at the grand opening celebration at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, January 30th. Parking and shuttle service available at the Ponce Inlet Community Center with a reception to follow at the Community Center.

PLANNING & ZONING DIVISION:

Comprehensive Plan Update

In October 2015, the Town notified the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity of its intent to update its comprehensive plan, as required by Florida Statutes for all local governments every seven years. The "Evaluation and Appraisal Letter" included a list of amendments needed to make the plan consistent with changes to the state's growth management laws since the last plan update in 2008. The Town now has until November 1, 2016 to amend its comprehensive plan to incorporate the updates listed in the letter.

Most of the anticipated updates will focus on changes to local conditions, such as demographics and development since 2008. However, two significant statutory changes affecting Ponce Inlet warrant additional discussion by the

Planning Board and Town Council to determine future policy direction. In December 2015, the Town Council and Planning Board held a joint workshop to discuss the Town's adopted policies regarding concurrency and development in the Coastal High Hazard Area. Staff was directed to prepare additional analyses, options, and recommendations for the Board's and Council's consideration at a future workshop in the coming months. Please check the Town website for updates on these workshops. For more in-

formation, please contact the Planning and Zoning staff at (386) 236-2172.

BUILDING & CODE ENFORCEMENT DIVISION:

Beware Of Unlicensed Contractors

Un-licensed contracting has always been a problem in Florida. Handyman services may portray themselves as being licensed and insured when in fact they are not. Before signing a contract or giving a deposit for proposed work check with the Ponce Inlet Building Department for verification that they are properly licensed.

Unpermitted work: It is important for all property owners to remember that a permit must be obtained before starting any project. This includes (but is not limited to) pavers, bathroom or kitchen remodeling, window and door replacement, air conditioning & heating, electrical, plumbing, roofing, fences, etc. Permits ensure that the project is performed within the specified guidelines of the 2014 Florida Building Code and 2011 National Electrical Code and other local codes. A permit also protects the homeowner from unscrupulous contractors by ensuring that all work is performed by a licensed and insured contractor. Please contact any member of the Building or Code Enforcement office for questions regarding permitting requirements.

Online Building Permits & Complaint Center

Residents and businesses can apply for certain types of building permits on-line at the Town's website. All building permit types are available for payment and status checks on-line. Inspections can also be requested. Residents may also file and/or research Code Enforcement complaints via the Town's website.

Registration is required prior to use via the Town's website. For questions or assistance in registering please contact Ami Pierce in the Building Division at (386) 236-2182 for permitting/inspection or Dave Hooker, Code Enforcement Officer at (386) 236-2187 for Code Enforcement issues.

Public Works



Public Works General Manager
Keith Gunter

HOW TO CONTACT US:

Office: 4875 S. Peninsula Drive
Phone: 322-6729 / Fax: 322-6718
Hours: Mon – Fri, 8:00am – 4:30pm
E-mail: kgunter@ponce-inlet.org
adowling@ponce-inlet.org

Town-Wide Water Improvement Project:

As you are probably already aware, we are in the process of upgrading the Water System. We appreciate your patience throughout this process, and hope that you will call the Public Works Department if you have any questions.

Town-Wide Water Meter Project:

The Town of Ponce Inlet is in the process of replacing all residential water meters. You may see one of our Public Works staff swapping out your old meter for a new one. We are currently replacing meters at Harbor Village, and will be working our way South from there.

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.*

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.

Watering Days:

During the winter watering lawns is restricted. Homes with odd numbered or no addresses may water on Saturdays. Homes with even numbered addresses may water on Sundays and non-residential properties water on Tuesdays. When Daylight Savings Time arrives on March 13 an extra watering day is permitted.: Wednesdays for odd/no numbered homes, Thursday for even numbered homes and Friday for non-residential properties.



Along with following your designated watering days, please water only when needed and not between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Water for no more than one hour and no more than 3/4-inch per zone.

Restrictions apply to all water sources including private wells and pumps, ground or surface water, and water from public and private utilities.

Solid Waste, Yard Waste & Recycling:

Household trash (solid waste), Yard Waste, and Recycling services are provided by Waste Management.

Regular Pick Up Schedule:

Monday/Thursday-Household trash

Monday- Recycling

Wednesday - Yard Waste

Thursday- Bulk/White good items

Residential Yard Waste: When you remove weed trees, bushes, plants, dead trees and limbs, or clear excessive vegetation, **please make sure you place all vegetation debris curbside, on “your” property.**

*Do not block sidewalk or streets.

*Do not place on storm drains.

*Do not place waste on empty lots as Waste Management does not collect from vacant lots.

Contractor Generated Debris:

Please be aware that if you hire a contractor to perform any type of work on your property, the **contractor** is responsible for taking the debris to the landfill. Please do not allow contractors to place debris (vegetative or construction) on the right-of-way for pickup, as this can result in Code Enforcement action against the property owner.

Scheduling a Debris Pickup:

If you should have any questions, or if you would like to request a specific pickup at your property (there is no extra charge for this residential service), please call **Waste Management at 386-615-7781.**

Recycling Bins: If you find yourself in need of recycling bins, please stop by the Public Works Office Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. or call to have them delivered directly to your home.

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 utilities.

Ponce Inlet Historical Museum

The Ponce Inlet Historical Museum had an eventual 2015 with over 2,050 visitors. The museum hosted two lectures series in 2015, Florida's Environment and St. Augustine: 450 Years, and had several programs throughout the year including "Grandparents Day," "A Very Merry Cracker Christmas," and "The Ghosts of Ponce Past" where families came out to the museum this past October to hear spooky tales about Ponce Inlet and take a walking ghost tour of the Pacetti Cemetery. As the Museum begins a new year of programs and exhibits, please visit the Town calendar and/or the Museum webpage for up-to-date information!

The Ponce Inlet Historical Museum is happy to announce that 143 Beach Street, which includes both the Meyer-Davis House and Hasty Cottage, has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places! The proposal, which was submitted to the State of Florida, was recommended by the Florida National Register Review Board to be placed on the National Register. Amy Zengotita, Parks/Rec & Museum Educator and Phyllis Campbell, the Chair of the Historic and Archeological Preservation Advisory Board, attended the review on September 23rd in Tallahassee. The State Historic Preservation Officer submitted a formal nomination to the Keeper of the National Register in Washington, D.C., which was then approved to be placed on the registry.

Many Town Staff members and Historic Board members were involved with the process from submitting the initial request to filling out the application to reviewing and editing the submission. The National Register of Historic Places, according to the Florida Division of Historic Resource website, "is an official listing of historically significant sites and properties throughout the country. It is maintained by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. It includes districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that have been identified and documented as being significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering or culture. These sites and properties reflect the prehistoric occupation and historical development of our nation, state, and local communities. Listing in the National Register provides official recognition of the historic significance of the property and encourages consideration of its historic value in future development planning."

Upcoming events include, another great **Lecture Series** this Spring, entitled "Prehistoric Florida." Please join us for the following presentations, which will be held at **10:30 a.m. in the Town Council Chambers** at Ponce Inlet Town Hall, 4300 South Atlantic Avenue.

February 16th - "Fossils in Florida: Prehistoric Animals Found in Florida" presented by Luis Zengotita, Science and Education Asso-

ciate, Museum of Arts and Sciences

March 1st - "Cultural History of the Green Mound in 10 Artifacts" presented by Sarah Miller, Director Northeast Region of Florida Public Archaeology Network

April 19th - "A Closer Look at Lyonia: Native Plants" presented by Melissa Hughes, Program & Outreach Coordinator, Lyonia Preserve

An audio file for previous presentations can be found on the Town's website under Audio Streaming, just select the month of the presentation you would like to hear and then select the title.

Ponce Inlet Historical Museum is always seeking volunteers to help with educational programs, guided tours, and visitor information. Training is provided. Applications are available at Town Hall. For more information please call Amy Zengotita at (386) 761-2408 or email at azengotita@ponceinlet.org.

Park Spotlight:

Timothy Pollard Memorial Park was dedicated in memory of



PONCE INLET HISTORICAL MUSEUM



The Ponce Inlet Historical Museum presents its Spring 2016 Lecture Series by experts in Archaeology, History, and Preservation.

The schedule includes presentations that fulfill the museum's mission of "education through the preservation and dissemination of the history and cultural heritage of the Town of Ponce Inlet."

Lecture Series Speakers and Presentations "Prehistoric Florida"

Please join us for the following presentations, which will be held in Town Council Chambers at Ponce Inlet Town Hall, 4300 South Atlantic Avenue. Each presentation will begin at 10:30 a.m.

- **February 16th** - "Fossils in Florida: Prehistoric Animals Found in Florida" presented by Luis Zengotita, Science and Education Associate, Museum of Arts and Sciences
- **March 1st** - "Cultural History of the Green Mound in 10 Artifacts" presented by Sarah Miller, Director Northeast Region of Florida Public Archaeology Network
- **April 19th** - "A Closer Look At Lyonia: Native Plants" presented by Melissa Hughes, Program & Outreach Coordinator, Lyonia Preserve

ALL PRESENTATIONS ARE FREE!

TAX DEDUCTABLE DONATIONS ARE WELCOME TO ASSIST WITH EVENT COSTS



IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT
AZENGOTITA@PONCE-INLET.ORG
OR (386) 761-2408

Ponce Inlet Officer Timothy Polard, who died in the line of duty on September 22, 1987. This is an active park with many things to do. Sitting on two acres adjacent to the Fire Department, this park is the hub of much activity with its playgrounds, Tennis, Pickleball and Basketball courts and skate park. If this is too much activity, you can sit at one of the picnic tables and watch the kids play. Hours of Operation: Dawn to Dusk (Park), Skate Park 10am to 8pm, Tennis/Pickleball and Basketball Courts close at 11:00pm



Special Events

Timucuan Oaks Garden Grand Opening Ceremony & Dedication of Constance D. Hunter Memorial

Saturday, January 30, 2016 at 10:30am

Shuttle parking available at the Ponce Inlet Community Center 4670 South Peninsula Drive

Racing Legends Fun Run and Beach/Road Course Parade

Saturday, February 13, 2016

1:00pm: Pre-parade activities at the North Turn; speakers, meet & greet with the racers

3:30pm: 5th Annual Historic North Turn Legends Beach Parade

Ponce Inlet Historical Museum Spring Lecture Series

“Fossils in Florida: Prehistoric

Animals Found in Florida” presented by Luis Zengotita, Science and Education Associate, Museum of Arts and Sciences

February 16, 2016 at 10:30am

Town Council Chambers at Ponce Inlet Town Hall, 4300 South Atlantic Avenue

The Annual Art Guild of Ponce Inlet Fine Art Show

February 20 & 21, 10am-4pm each day

Ponce Inlet Community Center 4670 South Peninsula, Ponce Inlet There will be basket raffles, snacks and plenty of original works, created by local artists available for purchase

Community Day

February 27, 2016

Ponce Inlet Community Center 4670 South Peninsula Dr Please call (386) 760-0615 for more information

Ponce Inlet Historical Museum Spring Lecture Series

“Cultural History of the Green Mound in 10 Artifacts” presented by Sarah Miller, Director North-east Region of Florida Public Archaeology Network

March 1, 2016 at 10:30am

Town Council Chambers at Ponce Inlet Town Hall, 4300 South Atlantic Avenue

Ponce Preserves the Planet

March 5, 2016 at 10am to 2pm The Ponce Preserve

4400 block of South Peninsula Drive

Parking is at Town Hall with a

shuttle to the event

Family fun, food, crafts, art vendors celebrating Earth Day

Programs in the Parks

“Bird Watch Walk” by the Halifax River Audubon Society

March 25, 2016 at 8am

Ponce Preserve, 4400 S. Peninsula in the Peninsula entrance parking lot.

Children’s Easter Egg Hunt Party

March 26, 2016 at 9:45am to 11:00am

Davies Lighthouse Park 4931 S. Peninsula Drive

Ponce Inlet Historical Museum Spring Lecture Series

"A Closer Look At Lyonia: Native Plants" presented by Melissa Hughes, Program & Outreach Coordinator, Lyonia Preserve

April 19, 2016 at 10:30am

Town Council Chambers at Ponce Inlet Town Hall, 4300 South Atlantic Avenue

The Town of Ponce Inlet has numerous special events throughout the year. To determine if your event requires a Special Event permit, please review the Special Event regulations in the Town’s Code of Ordinances. All questions concerning special events should be directed to Amy Zengotita.(386) 236-2163.



ART SHOW

**The Art Guild of Ponce Inlet
Annual Members Fine Art Show and Sale**

FEBRUARY 20th & 21st
Saturday & Sunday
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Ponce Inlet Community Center
4870 South Peninsula Drive
Ponce Inlet

Open to the Public

Free Admission

Raffle

You don't have to be present to win.



SAVE THE DATE - DONT MISS IT

FEBRUARY 27, 2016 - 9:30am- 12:00 Noon

COMMUNITY DAY PONCE INLET COMMUNITY CENTER

Learn about the Business Services, Town Services, Social Clubs and Activities, from representatives and displays from the following:

Restaurants

Local Social Clubs

Marine Science Center

P.I. Lighthouse

Town Government

Gift Shops

Real Estate Firms

4670 S. Peninsula Drive, Ponce Inlet, FL. 32127

CHRISTMAS PARADE

It was a dark and gloomy day—perfect for the Grinch and his sidekicks who invaded the Annual Ponce Inlet Christmas Parade on December 5.



Kent Arceneaux came to the parade as the Grinch

But despite the inclement weather and the Grinch the parade proceeded in splendor over the two miles from the 7-Eleven parking lot to the far side of the Lighthouse Park, spurred on by the marching music of the Atlantic High School band. Stalwart Ponce Inlet citizens, undeterred by the misty conditions, turned out in droves to line South Peninsula and cheer the participants onward.

The parade judges--Mary Ann Scott, Cheryl Nungusser, Tyler Okhovatian and Garrett Molpus were up to the difficult choices they had to make.



R J Longstreet Elementary School showed the best Christmas Spirit

The prize for the best overall float went to The Ponce Inlet Women's Club. The most original prize went to our Seven-11 store. The R.J. Longstreet Elementary School was hands down for the best Christmas Spirit. The Marine Science Center took the prize for the most creative entry.

The Judges Choice award went to Inlet Harbor restaurant. The Garden Club was deemed the Best Club/Volunteer Organization entry. The Lions Club, which provided goodies after the parade, also had a great float which is featured in the next article.



One of the Grinch's merry-makers walks beside the Ponce Inlet Women's Club prize winning float, wishing everyone a Merry Grinchmas



The Marine Science Museum won the award for the most creative entry.



Sisters Jennica (left) and Bethanie Tarr display the Garden Club's award for the Best Club/Volunteer Organization entry.



Miss Florida Teen — Grace Smith — waves to onlookers



Parade Chairman Jim Hinson (right) presents an award to Jeremy Blackwell (left) Atlantic High School Band Director, while Ponce Inlet Mayor Gary Smith looks on.



INLET HARBOR RESTAURANT (TOP) TOOK THE JUDGES CHOICE AWARD AND THE SEVEN-11 CONVENIENCE STORE (LEFT) WAS DEEMED THE MOST ORIGINAL

LIONS CLUB

Ponce Inlet Lions Achieve Record year

By Ed Kocis, First Vice President

Anyone who lives in, or visits, Ponce Inlet is probably aware of The Ponce Inlet Lions Club. Lions are usually on hand supporting the town's other hard-working groups and sponsoring a few of their own events throughout the year. This year, Lions kicked things off with high energy and a clear view of their mission. We earned two prestigious Lions awards. The club was awarded the "Four Diamond Centennial Service Challenge," the Membership Satisfaction Award. Club President Shirley Okhovatian earned "The Club Excellence Award," for going above and beyond as Club President.

Our goal is to serve the greater Daytona Beach area by improving the overall health of our fellow citizens and to assist military veterans primarily through the Paws for Patriots Program. To do this Lions must raise \$25,000, which covers the cost of care and training of support dogs. The Ponce Inlet Club knows just how big a goal this is. We accomplished it last year and purchased a PTSD dog for a Veteran of the Iraq war.

Our year started with a Diabetes and Retinopathy Screener training session. The Ponce Inlet Lions hosted a session to certify new screeners and recertify existing screeners. Thirty two Lions from four different clubs attended, with 17 of the Lions from the Ponce Inlet Club. The newly trained screeners took their new skills to the Port Orange Family Days event. On October 3rd and 4th the Lions brought together Lions from five different clubs providing diabetes, retina, vision and glaucoma screening to over 300 individuals.

On November 7, the Lions took their training on the road again to help support the Volusia Health Summit at the Ocean Center. The One Voice for Volusia Health Summit was a huge success and the Lions

completed over 102 diabetic screenings, 10 retina screenings and along with Dr. Allen Jackson and Lion Dr. Vanessa Jackson, completed 32 vision screenings, which discovered 12 suspected cases of glaucoma.

On October 17, we held the first of three planned fundraisers — Barktoberfest, which was a sold-out event and was very successful. Proceeds of our three major fundraisers for the year are earmarked for the Paws for Patriots Program. For Barktoberfest, the Ponce Inlet Community Center became a Bavarian hall with authentic German décor and food: pretzels and German mustard on the tables, and the fragrance of home cooked German food to waken everyone's appetite for a fabulous meal as they walked in the door. The menu included Chicken Schnitzel, Bratwurst, Hot German Potato Salad, freshly cooked Beet Salad, Red Cabbage with Apples Salad, Sauerkraut and for dessert: Schwartzwalder Kirsch Torte or Black Forest Cherry Cake. Every item was made from scratch using only fresh ingredients.

Silent Auction items were obtained



through the generosity of local businesses. Representatives from Southeast Guide Dogs, who provide the dogs for Paws for Patriots, were on hand with their canine

family members. Over \$4,000 was raised toward our \$25,000 goal for the year. The second major fundraiser for the Lions' fiscal year is Western Night. This annual Lions event is scheduled to break up the cool winter weather. This year, January 16. Tickets, \$20, usually sell out weeks before the event, at the Ponce Inlet Community Center. The Lions prepare all the food, featuring the best Ribs and Pulled Pork and fixings that you will find in Ponce Inlet. The night starts with a BYOB happy hour at 5 p.m., followed by dinner then music, dancing and a best-dressed cowboy and cowgirl contest. A silent auction also adds to the enjoyment of the evening. Proceeds are earmarked to help the Lions purchase their fifth dog for a veteran.

Our last major fundraiser for the year is our famous Fish Fry, hosted by Inlet Harbor Restaurant. This event is a huge boost to the Lions, due to the generosity of Inlet Harbor, which provides all the food. The Lions sell tickets, staff the food service, sell 50/50 tickets and provide a Silent Auction. The Lions Club Fish Fry will be held on Sunday, April 24th. For Tickets, ask a Lion or inquire at the Ponce Inlet

Community Center. This event is always well attended and those who have enjoyed it once will return again for this afternoon treat.

In addition to these major fundraisers, Lions provide service to the community through our White Cane Collections at local stores. The White Cane is a key tool which aids those who are blind to navigate our sidewalks and streets. It is a key to their independence. If you see a White Cane event please offer a donation. .

The Lions also collect used prescription glasses and hearing aids. These are recycled and provided to the needy. In the last two years, the Ponce Inlet Lions have collected 10,000 eyeglasses for reuse.

You will also find out that the Ponce Inlet Lions have honored a former founding member, Connie Hunter, with a memorial fountain and benches in the Timucuan Park off South Peninsula Drive.

If you were at the December 5 Ponce Inlet Parade, you may have seen the Ponce Inlet Lions float: a beautiful sleigh pulled by three handsome Guide Dogs with a Jolly Olde Lion commanding the team. Yes, the Lions have fun along with all the good work they do.

If you would like to join in on the fun and be a part of a rewarding activity, call Lion Ed at 570-466-2549 or Lion Sandra at 617-653-2072. The Lions are always interested in new people to help serve the community, and members need not live in Ponce Inlet. Many of our members are from surrounding communities. We meet on the first Wednesday of the month at the Ponce Inlet Community Center at 6 p.m. for a wine and cheese social, followed by a restaurant-catered dinner, usually \$10, then a program and meeting. We look forward to welcoming you.



The Lions provided refreshments after the Christmas Parade. Lions (l-r): Jay Thompson, Jeff Follmer, Simon Kokis, Doreen McBride and Tami Baker.

Nominations for 2016 Citizen of the Year now being accepted

The Board of the Citizens for Ponce Inlet has made a few changes to the way the Citizen of the Year is selected so that anyone may nominate a person for the award by sending a letter of recommendation to us for consideration. All nominations will be made in writing in advance of the meeting to elect the winner, instead of at the election meeting itself. 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 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.

Nominations must be submitted by Friday, February 19, 2016.

If a CFPI board member is nominated they will recuse themselves from the process.

Nominating letters should be sent to Judy Huggins, Treasurer, at **44 Coastal Oaks Circle**
Ponce Inlet, FL 32127-7249
or e-mailed to: judyhuggins@gmail.com

You can also put your letter in the Citizens for Ponce Inlet mail box in the auxiliary office at the Ponce Inlet Community Center.

All nomination letters will be reviewed by former winners of the Citizen of the Year and CFPI Board members at a meeting to be held on March 12th where they 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 2016 Ponce Inlet Citizen of the Year award.

PONCE INLET LIGHTHOUSE

The Ponce Inlet Lighthouse had a great fall season. We had many guests from all over attending our programs, visiting our museum houses and climbing the tallest lighthouse in Florida. Our VIP Volunteers came out with great support and helped out with the on-site events for our visitors as well as events on location in other parts of the county. Port Orange Family Days and the Marine Science Center Bird Release festival were a couple of the community events we attended. The lighthouse education department and volunteers have been busy presenting our award winning Lighthouse programs to schools throughout the county. Our Fall Museum at Night event was held on October 9th. The Ponce Inlet Lighthouse remained open after dark in support of the Museums at Night initiative. The Museum at Night concept began as a national campaign in the United Kingdom as a means of encouraging museum visitation by opening museums, galleries and heritage sites beyond normal operating hours. Organizations had the opportunity to host unique educational events at their sites.

This idea spread to the United States and has become very popular with museums across the country.

During our October 9 Museum at Night event our guest enjoying the opportunity to climb the tower with flashlights, tour our museums and visit with the history folks from Lilian Place Historical House and Center and the Ponce Inlet Historical Society. Designated a teacher appreciation event, all Volusia County educators received free admission during the event.

On November 12 close to one hundred homeschoolers came to the Lighthouse for a day of activities and fun. We had seven stations set up in our buildings and around the grounds. Homeschoolers were given a schedule and a journal with extra information and activities to guide them through the day. The activities that were featured at this year's Homeschoolers Day were a program on *The Three Lighthouses of Volusia County*, Ida Lewis: Lighthouse Keeper and A true American Heroine, Yesterday and Today: The stuff we rely on, Ianthe Bond Hebel: Teacher of the Lighthouse children, The Environment at the Lighthouse in 1890s and Lighthouse Animal Tracks.

On November 17th we were thrilled to host the Volusia County Schools K- 5 Science

teachers during their Elementary Science Curriculum Cadre. Over fifty science teachers visited the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse to see the Science of Light presentation, climb the tower, and tour the Reflections of Light exhibit and the Lens Museum. We are so fortunate to have such a wonderful and dedicated group of teachers in Volusia County and we are privileged to have the opportunity to share our programs and ideas with them. On Saturday November 21, we had our Girl Scout Earn A Patch Day. The afternoon activities offered Girl Scouts the chance to learn all about Lighthouse communication and how the Ponce Inlet Light Station was built. The Lighthouse educational department, working with the Girl Scouts of Citrus, designed a unique program to teach girls about how the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse was built, who built the Light Station, and the history of Lighthouse communication. Twenty girls participated in this special program.

The day after thanksgiving was our annual Thanksgiving Gifts event. Visiting the Lighthouse for this crafty day of ornament making is always a refreshing alternative to the hustle bustle of black Friday shopping. What many of our visitors find out is that the Lighthouse Gift shop



Left to right beginning on the Lighthouse Christmas parade float are Nelly the Lighthouse Cat (Carol Jerson) John Mann, Marsha Lewis, Judy Haley and David Ahrend

has a multitude of special gifts for the holiday season for all ages. During the day children and their families who gathered to make pine cone and orange pomander holiday ornaments learned about a simpler time when making holiday decorations was a family event. The festive Christmas parade was enjoyed by all as our very own lighthouse keeper and famed Nelly the cat proudly rode our lighthouse float through town. Our dedicated lighthouse volunteers handed out candy to onlookers despite the misty weather that day. The day following Christmas was a fun distraction from

hustle and bustle of the holidays for our visitors.

Families had an opportunity to climb the tower, visit our museums and make their own mini lighthouses. This winter's upcoming educational events include: Museum at Night on Friday, January 15, from 6:00 to 8:30 pm; Beach Racing Day at the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse on Sunday, February 14, from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm; Take a ride to the lighthouse during Bike Week 2016 (March 3-6 and 10 - 13) and climb the tower, visit our museum and learn about the history of motorcycle racing on the *World's Most Famous* beach; Florida Heritage Day on Saturday,

March 26, from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm. Florida Lighthouse Day on Saturday, April 9, from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm; Girl Scout Earn a Patch Day on Saturday, April 16, from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. For more information on any of these events call Mary at (386)761-1821 ext. 18 or email mwentzel@ponceinlet.org. The Climb to the Moon 2016 events can be found on our website www.ponceinlet.org. The 2016 dates are filling up fast so don't miss the opportunity to toast the setting sun with a sparkling beverage and enjoy tasty hors d'oeuvres by moonlight. Limited to only 25 participants per evening, Climb to the Moon events sell out a few months in advance. We suggest you be sure to make your reservations early by calling Karen at (386) 761-1821 ext. 10.

The Preservation Association is always looking for individuals interested in becoming a lighthouse volunteer. Those wishing to do so may contact Programs Manager Mary Wentzel by email at mwentzel@ponceinlet.org or by phone at (386) 761-1821 ext. 18. You can also learn more about volunteering opportunities online at www.ponceinlet.org.

Do you need to renew or replace your Florida Driver License Identification Card or Vehicle Registration? (Florida Residents Only)

The Ponce Inlet Community Center is proud to Sponsor “FLOW” Florida Licensing on Wheels. The FLOWmobile will be at the Center the 2nd Monday of every other month.

**March 14, 2016 is our next
scheduled date.**

10:00 AM—2:00 PM



They accept Cash, Check, and MasterCard, Discover, American Express or Visa Credit Cards. No service fee to use credit cards.

This schedule is subject to change at any given time with or without notice, please always refer to the website www.myflorida.com (type FLOW in the top left corner Custom Search Box)

PICCI Presents



Parallel

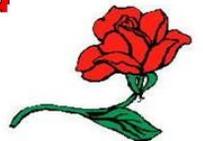
“Ponce Living Legends”

Friday, February 12, 2016

5:00 PM BYOB Happy Hour

5:45 PM Dinner—will be plated & served

7:00—9:00 PM Entertainment



For the Ladies



Menu

**Chicken Cordon Bleu
Mashed Potato
Gravy
Corn on Cob
Salad
Bread
Dessert**

Tickets \$25.00

**Tickets will go on sale
Monday, January 11, 2016**

Ponce Inlet

Community Center

760-0615

Cut-off for ticket sales

Tuesday, February 9 at 4:00 PM

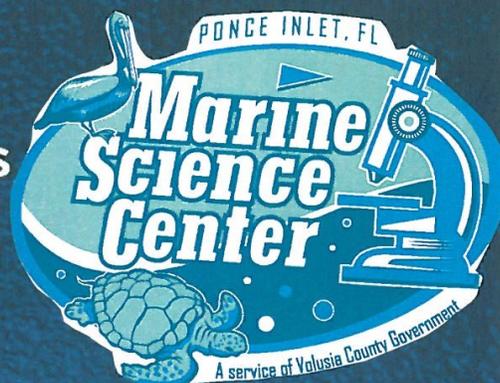


HALIFAX SPORT FISHING CLUB



Kids Can Fish Too

Partners with



Official Sponsor for The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to present

Conservation and the Environment Day

Saturday, January 23, 2016

At The Marine Science Center

100 Lighthouse Drive • Ponce Inlet, FL

FREE Event

All Kids Must Register and Be Accompanied By An Adult
Sign up on our website www.hsfc.com/kcft.registration.html

- LIMITED TO 240 PEOPLE
- Free Guided Tour of the Facility and Activities for Children 6-12

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
Heather Scherer • 732-522-3763
Email: kidscanfishtoo@hsfc.com

Sponsors:



HALIFAX SPORT FISHING CLUB
3431 S. Ridgewood Avenue
Port Orange, FL 32129
hsfc.com

PICCI POINTS



by Susie Hagey

Thinking about all of you in Ponce Inlet and hoping that each of you had a blessed Christmas and/or Holiday Season and a very HAPPY NEW YEAR. Just a reminder, be sure to come to the center and get the Christmas cards that you haven't yet picked up. You might not think you received any....but I bet you did!

Many residents of Ponce Inlet celebrated New Year's Eve in lavish style at the Ponce Inlet Community Center. Entertainers included



Armando Kortbus Diaz as Frank Sinatra and Peter Alden as Elvis Presley. Along with Chuck Henderson, R&B singer/entertainer

extraordinaire, they had everyone up on their feet for three continuous hours of fun and dancing. Just before midnight the music was pumped up, champagne opened and a large overhead screen was dropped so everyone could watch the ball being dropped at Times Square LIVE. The entertainment was fabulous, the food was great..definitely a night to remember!

During the past three months PICCI has had a very successful flea market thanks to Carolyn Sprague and her workers. We had a very successful Pancake Breakfast served by the PICCI Board. Mary Ann Redinger and Jim Irvin presented a wreath at the November 11 service. There was a gathering to set up and take down our Christmas Tree.

We entered the Christmas parade. The "Song of the Coast Chorus" was the main event in December at the Holiday Dessert presented by PICCI.

Have you ever wondered what goes on at our meetings? Please know that you are welcome to visit now and then if you like – just let us know you want to come. We meet at 9:00 a.m. on the second Tuesday of the month. If you would like to join our group as a member, let us know that also, as we do have resignations from time to time.

We want to welcome our two new members of the board at PICCI. Ben Griscom and Maureen Day became members near the end of 2015. We regret that our long



time member, Barbara Lambert, resigned from the board of trustees. She has served the community well and will be sorely missed. The Town honored her on Dec. 17th at a town meeting. She was presented with a "Certificate of Appreciation" by Mayor Gary Smith in recognition of 11+ years of service. Say BON VOYAGE to Marlene Heiden who will be away for awhile on a world cruise. It took three people to take over her jobs at PICCI. *She, also, will be missed.*

We have added a new activity at the center. Joann Doyle, a Ponce Inlet resident, has volunteered to teach and hold Mah-jongg classes & games on Wed. from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Cost is \$2.00.

PICCI Board

Irish Night

Saturday, March 12, 2016

Corned Beef and Cabbage

\$20.00

B.Y.O.B. Cocktails 5:00 PM

Dinner 6:00 PM



**Irish Coffee
\$3.00 donation**



**Memphis & Me
7:00—9:00 PM**



**Purchase tickets at the
Community Center
Information—760-0615**

**Tickets will go on sale
February 15, 2016**

**Cut-off for ticket sales
Wednesday,
March 9, 2016 at 4:00 pm**

PICCI's 46th Flea Market



Books

Ponce Inlet Community Center, Inc.

4670 South Peninsula
Ponce Inlet, FL 32127

Friday, March 4, 2016

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Saturday, March 5, 2016

9:00 AM – 2:00 PM



Electronics



Household Supplies



Clothes & Shoes

Friday, Feb. 12, we're having a dinner/dance featuring PARALLEL (THE PONCE INLET LEGENDS). Please mark your calendars and watch for opening ticket sale day. Tickets go fast so don't be left out.

We're trying to find someone to be our CHEF for a future event, plus some kitchen help for the chef. Would you like to be this person? We pay for the food. Also, if you have no special help, we'll find helpers in the community for you. Surely there is someone out there who would like to create a dinner for our event. Let Jim Hinson (760-5448) know ASAP if that person is you.

Coming up February 27 will be COMMUNITY DAY, chaired by Peter Finch. For all townspeople who may not know, this is a day that all businesses, restaurants, clubs, town departments, etc. in Ponce Inlet have been invited to come to the center to share their talents, information, and maybe 'samples' with all the residents and visitors of Ponce Inlet. Time is 9:30 to noon. **EVERYONE IS INVITED – AND IT'S ALL FREE!**

FLEA MARKET is coming Friday, March 4 and Saturday, March 5. We hope the town will come and get some good bargains. Carolyn Sprague is still managing the event and this will be her 46th flea market over the years, helping us raise over

\$100,000.00. KUDOS FOR CAROLYN & HER WORKERS.

Coming March 12 will be a Saint Patrick's Day event. Previously this event has sold out in one or two days, so get your ticket as soon as they come out. Hope to see you there!

The PICCI Board would like to thank the Ponce Inlet Women's Club for their donation of 12 round tables. This will help the center get more rentals. We appreciate their donations so much.

The Ponce Inlet Community Church meets each Sunday at 10 a.m. All are invited.

Want to remind you that we do rent the center for weddings, parties, etc. Call Faye McHugh (386-846-0814) or Maureen Day (386-212-3700) for any questions on renting.

Keep up with what is going on at PICCI by picking up a calendar of events each month, by checking the sign out front, by reading our bulletin boards located on the walls on either side of the front doors outside or by googling our web site at: Ponceinletcommunitycenter.com.

Send us your ideas and suggestions...and enjoy our beautiful town.

Ponce Inlet Women's Club



PIWC Pink Lady Talk

By Sandy Wester, Publicity

Greetings and Happy New Year
New last year was the sponsorship by PIWC of the Children's Little Van Gogh Tent at the Halifax Arts Festival on Beach Street, Saturday and Sunday, November 7-8. The following PIWC members provided volunteer service to the 300 children who painted during the two days: Ann Dunbar, Brenda Snow, Kay Brawley, Elaine DiBenedetto, Betsey Lindly, Louise Lauthain, Nancy Argo, Jessica Menloth, Shannon Arce-neaux, Milla Yerakhavets, Danielle Cheney, Lori Finitz, Eleanor Perosier, and guest John Hake-mian.





PIWC President Ann Dunbar (L) and Project Coordinator Dr. Kay Brawley (R). presented the club's contribution to Museum of Arts and Sciences Guild President Kathy Wilson for the Halifax Arts Festival Children's Little Van Gogh Tent.

Other news from fall, 2015, the Ponce Inlet Women's Club participated in the Veteran's Day Ceremony held at the Ponce Inlet Veteran's Memorial. Club members, Alice Washington and Marian Kelly presented a beautiful wreath in commemoration of the day set aside to honor our veterans. The annual Holiday Boutique on November 11 was a huge success. The ticket sales and raffle raised well over \$6,500! Boutique Chair, Brenda Snow, (right below) a new member to the PIWC, took on the



huge task of planning and hosting this major fund raiser event. Brenda brought some fresh ideas to the endeavor and even served as auctioneer for much of the raffle! This annual auction and luncheon is a major fund raiser

for Daytona State College scholarships and local charities. Everyone had a great time and enjoyed the special lunch.

In addition to the items auctioned off at the Boutique (shown on the previous page), Kathy Griscom repeated her generosity from last year by donating a large crate filled with lots of wine. Sixty tickets of \$10 each were sold to have a chance at winning this item bringing in a total of \$600. Also, as a special raffle item, the Daytona Beach Symphony donated two season tickets to the Holiday Boutique. The raffle tickets for the Symphony brought an additional \$600 to the funds raised at the Boutique.

And speaking of new members, PIWC is thrilled to have the energetic Shannon Arceneaux. Shannon teamed up with her husband Kent, (AKA The Grinch) to design and build the 2015 PIWC Christmas Parade float. With lots of competition from other parade participants, the Club is proud to claim the "Grand Prize" for the float. Great job Shannon and Kent!

The PIWC Scholarship Committee met December 7 to select and award Genesis Scholarships. They also reviewed Daytona State Foundation Scholarships. Genesis is the scholarship given to women who wish to continue their education. They are working toward a certification or advanced degree. There were ten applicants. Two students were chosen for the scholar-



Sue Fillion, Jeanne Civettini and Cathy Bauerle (l-r) enjoying the boutique



ship. Each woman will receive a \$1000.00 stipend. The winners are EMILY SNODGRASS AND HANNA LEISIE.

The Daytona State Foundation Scholarship is awarded to women that have completed the FRESH START PROGRAM. There were ten applicants. Two students were selected for these awards. Each student will receive a \$1500.00 scholarship. The awards will go to KRISTINE BAGNETTI and BIRUTA STRAUTS.

Chairperson Mary Hoss wants to thank her awesome committee members for their commitment and dedication. This is an awesome group of women who make the lives of other women better.

Monday Night Scholarship Benefits at McKenna's Place

Put these dates on your calendar PIWC Monday Night Scholarship Benefits at McKenna's Place, the Place to Be, in Bealls Shopping Center, Port Orange: January 18, February 22 and March 7, 2016. The lobster rolls



Shirley Okhovatian (far right, seated) was feted at Stonewood Grill and Tavern for help in drawing up the PIWC incorporation papers. Dianne Hand, Mary Hoss, Carolyn Zelna, Janet Sage, Cathy Bauerle and Kay Brawley (l-r)

are the best, along with fresh seafood menu items. Make plans now to join us and help build the PIWC Volusia scholarship programs. Every Christmas season brings the PIWC ladies together for a luncheon meeting at a local restaurant. Hospitality Chair, Sandy Grierson, arranged for Stonewood Grill and Tavern to open their doors especially for the PIWC on Wednesday, December 9th. Our special guest, Shirley Okhovatian

was recognized for her help in preparing the incorporation papers for the Club.

On January 13, 2016, the Ponce Inlet Women's Club will celebrate 50 years of giving and committed community service. 50th Anniversary Chairs, Barbara Lambert, Sandy Grierson and Susie Hagey are planning a special program to remember and honor our club founders who with foresight and community spirit, took an idea and created the soul of the Club.



Bonnie Bennett, Sue Fillion, Sandy Wester, Naomi Riddle and Linda Leedy (clockwise from left) enjoy lunch at the Stonewood Grill and Tavern.

In just 9 weeks, it will be show-time for the premier **2016 Spring** Fashion Show Luncheon sponsored by the Ponce Inlet Women's Club. Dr. Kay Brawley, Benefit Director has announced the new trend of the fashion industry in color. This season will be dominated by pale rose and serene blue, conveying freshness, warmth and tranquility. Thus, the show theme will focus on stylish beauty, Parisian glamour, as depicted by Jean-Pierre Cassigneul's

Bayside Beauty painting of an elegant woman by the sea.

The purpose of the PIWC Benefit will be to support the educational scholarships and cultural/charities of Volusia, and its membership from Ponce Inlet, the Port Orange, Wilbur by the Sea and Daytona Beach Shores communities. The Benefit will be held on Wednesday, March 9, at the Shores Resort and Spa's rooftop level overlooking the ocean and Halifax River, chosen to reflect the theme.

Space is limited; 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 Wednesday, March 2. For reservations, 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 \$40 per person, made out to "PIWC", to Ponce Inlet Community Center, 4670 S. Peninsula Ave., Ponce Inlet, 32127.

Highlights:

The House of Fashion is Dillard's, featuring the latest spring/summer fashion trend collections from beach/resort wear, casual chic to simple elegance, starring new member models. Guest Commentator will be Una Poole, former Vice President of Clinique in New York.

Fashion Diva consultants from Miami and Philadelphia will be judging the popular *Parade of Hats* by the Patrons, showcasing footwear as well as hats to add



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.

that special total elegant touch to attire...finale grand prize for "Best in Parade".

Schedule:

Doors open at 10:30 am for traditional social with friends, as well as preview of the fabulous live and silent auction items and the grand raffle prizes from the business communities.

Show begins at 11:30 am with Entertainment and a special gourmet luncheon.

Make plans now to come to the Shores for a really "Good Time for a Good Cause" on Wednesday, March 9! Tickets will be on sale at the Community Center. 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 a gift contribution, please identify its value and minimum bid, and how you, your business or organization would like to be listed in the program.

For more information, contact Benefit Director Dr. Kay Brawley, kbrawley@mindspring.com (386.322.4512).

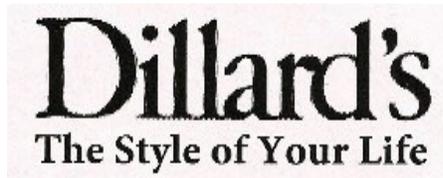
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**You're invited to
The Ponce Inlet Women's Club
Fashion Show Luncheon Benefit**

Wednesday March 9, 2016 -- 10:30 am
The Shores Resort & Spa *Rooftop*
2637 S. Atlantic Ave, Daytona Beach Shores



Featuring



Awards for Best Hats ----- Raffle for Grand Prizes

Benefit Ticket: \$40

Bring a friend, or 2 or more; Reserved Tables for 10

**Purchase tickets at Ponce Inlet Community Center
4670 S. Peninsula Ave, Ponce Inlet 32127 (386) 760-0615**

**Supporting Scholarships for Education, Culture
& Charities in the Community**

Contact: Dr. Kay Brawley: kbrawley@mindspring.com; (386) 322-4512

Garden Club of Ponce Inlet

By Jane Magrady

Our Ponce Inlet Garden Club members have enjoyed 3 monthly meetings since our last issue. Our October meeting featured a



demonstration by Angela Tully, AISD from the Pink Flamingo at Petals in New Smyrna Beach. The club members watched with amazement as Angela spent less than 30 minutes to fully adorn a Christmas tree with unique embellishments and ornaments. Our November program encouraged members to bring an object that represents them, such as a hobby or item from their past to share at their table. This was a great way to get to know each other!

In December, we were lucky to have Bob DeGaetano, guitar teacher, saxophone player and instructor at Stetson playing the sax and classical guitar for some jazzy renditions



of Christmas favorites. The Beautification Award for October went to Joe and Judy DiCarlo for their beautiful and food-producing yard at 32 Caribbean Way. Gwen and Jerry Girard of 2 Marsh Court are the winners of the November award. Their yard always is manicured and they removed all the overgrowth on the side yard, landscaped and put up a white picket fence. They also extended their efforts in the back by the marsh by cleaning up the undergrowth, landscaping, and laying rock.

They removed three dead Bay trees in the front and landscaped there as well. In December, the team takes to the streets after dark to select the homes/condos with the best Holiday Lights/Decorations. A poinsettia plant, picture and very special Christmas ornament were presented to Kathy & George Kent of 73 Loggerhead at our December Luncheon. We understand the whole street was quite festively decorated! Other winners were: 2nd Place - Craig Mason & Julie Thomas of 4780 Michael Lane; 3rd Place - Lou & Jack Ferrara of 90 Jennifer Circle; Condo Award - Mrs. J. Reamy of 4787 S. Atlantic.

A lovely wreath, made in honor of our Veteran's by Arlene Conklin was carried to the Ponce Inlet Veteran's Memorial by our Garden Club President Wini Irvin and Vice President, Mary Ann Simono.

President Irvin donated funds to the Town of Ponce Inlet for landscaping of the new Timucuan Park. At holiday time, Poinsettias were placed in all of the Town Offices, at the Ponce Inlet Historical Museum at 143 Beach Street and in front of the Ponce Inlet Community Center.

The Garden Club Crafters knit hundreds of hats and gloves that went to the homeless, Longstreet school, hospice and hospitals for cancer patients and school children. The group also dressed dolls for Christmas gifts. Christmas Parade - Portia Mallack and Gwen Girard led us to receive the Best Club/Volunteer Organization Award. Our entry in the rainy Christmas Parade on December 5th was themed "Winter is a Time to Grow and Share." The walkers wore Garden Club aprons and holiday colors and distributed



candy canes and dog treats, bringing smiles to young, old and canine alike! We included an abundance of poinsettias and small Christmas Cactus plantings in little red cups, relating to Our Club's Mission. The Parade also included our Citizen of the Year, Vice President Liz Finch!

The club currently has over 140 members. Luncheon meetings are held the fourth Wednesday of the month at the Community Center at 10:30 a.m. For more information about attending a meeting or becoming a member, please stop by the Ponce Inlet Community Center (PICCI) office.



The Garden Club of Ponce Inlet Tea Party

Date: January 20, 2016

Theme: "Tea Time with the Bears"

Cost: \$10.00

Time: 1:00

Tickets are available at the Community Center

Our upcoming meetings and events to look forward to will be: January 27: Jay Thurrott from the Florida East Coast Bromeliads

Society will speak on "Growing Bromeliads"

February 24: Kevin Bagwell from Full Moon Nursery will discuss "Native Plants Beach Side"

March 23: Martin Athearn will take us into the life of a bee and how they view the garden and will share honey products with us during his "A Taste of Honey" program.

April 22 - Arbor Day

Thanks to the community support for our special events, the club is able to continue to fund scholarships for local students and projects to beautify our town. Other easy ways you can help out is to save box tops and labels for education and pop tops to support



\$1,500 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

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 18, 2016

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

Ronald McDonald House. Just drop these by the PICCI building addressed to Sherry Utter and she will make certain



Gardening Tips

Did you realize there are many, many species of Poisonous Plants in our area? Thanks go to Florida Gardening's Conscientious Gardener for pointing out some to keep an eye on:

Oleander – all parts of this beautiful white or pink plant are toxic – both to the touch and to consume. The branches even give out toxic fumes when burned (so don't use them for your beach bonfires!)

Angel's Trumpet is another lovely plant which is toxic if eaten or touched. Be sure to use gloves when working with this plant. The toxins have a cumulative effect and have even led to death.

Carolina Jessamine – what a lovely scent! But don't let your kids or grandkids suck the nectar from this fragrant blossom, as it could prove poisonous. It will also cause skin irritation, so please wear gloves.

Caladium – again, all parts are toxic to humans and animals. We are warned against using it as landscaping in dog parks, senior centers, and playgrounds. And remember "the seeds you plant today become the flowers of tomorrow".



A sign at the Florida Botanical Gardens warns visitors against touching plants. Not many plants come with warning labels and often gardeners are unaware of the danger.

PONCE CHURCH

Ponce Church meets Sunday's 10:00am at the PI Community Center: 4670 S. Peninsula next to the fire station. Everyone is welcome at Ponce Church. Our members and visitors are from many different faith backgrounds and are very active in our community outreaches (Restore Hope Daytona). We feed approximately 150 meals to the homeless every Saturday at 320 North Street in Daytona Beach. Our winter hours are as follows: 4:00pm set up, serve at 4:30pm. We provide uplifting music and serve meals such as grilled hot dogs, chili dogs and chips, pizza, sandwiches, baked beans or rice and beans, even pasta! Some of our volunteers consist of residents of Ponce Inlet and surrounding cities. Everyone is welcome to join us at our North Street Feast and serve. You are also welcome to

bring a dish, or you can also bring water, chips and/or cookies. If you're unable to join us but would like to contribute, you can visit our website at: PonceChurch.com and click on the "Donate" button. 100% of all donations go toward the purchase of food, thank you. We also invite you to visit Restore-HopeDaytona.com and learn about our mission to provide housing for age-out foster girls. Restore Hope Daytona endeavors to provide safe and stable housing for these girls so they do not become part of the at-risk population of homelessness and trafficking. By providing a safe support system the girls are able to graduate high school, enroll in a local college and obtain employment. If you would like to support this outreach, please email Pastor Nina: nina@restorehopedaytona.com Or call 386-308-1533. Thank you. See you Sunday, 10AM at Ponce Church 4670 S. Peninsula in Ponce Inlet.

320
North St
Set Up 4:00
Serve 4:30

What We Need:
Coats
Jeans
Shoes
Blankets
Food/Water to Share
Come Join Us
Every Saturday

PONCE ANIMAL WELFARE



Creature Feature

By Jo Ellen Basile

"A righteous man regardeth the life of his beast..."

--Proverbs 12:10

Ponce Animal Welfare (PAW) Ponce Animal Welfare (PAW) is a citizens group dedicated to humanely controlling free-roaming (stray) cats in Ponce Inlet through trap-neuter-return (TNR), a proven alternative to trap and kill animal control that saves taxpayer money. Contact (386) 316-2991.

Due to the success of TNR in Ponce Inlet, each year we see fewer free-roaming (feral) cats. In 2015, PAW assisted with trapping and neutering seven cats in town, and in 2014, we assisted with 16. In comparison, we handled around 100 cats in the first year of the program in 2009-2010.

Ponce Inlet was only the second municipality in Volusia County to adopt a TNR program. Due to the success of these programs, most of Volusia County governments now have TNR programs.

Our first-year pilot program at our official colony site reduced the stray cats from 22 down to five in the first year, and seven years later, the number of cats remains at five.

Leaving a remnant population of cats in areas is key to the success of TNR because the cats that are left prevent what studies call the vacuum effect of new cats moving into the area. Caregivers that maintain the colonies ensure the cats are healthy as well as keep the area clean and remove aggressive raccoons if necessary.

Donations

PAW accepts donations to help with vet bills or donations of pet food, which we distribute to those in need, including the homeless in Daytona Beach.

Trapping

Only LICENSED trappers can trap in Ponce Inlet. Trappers may not consider the suffering of the animals, so please consider methods of prevention before trapping. Ask trappers what they will do with the animals and make sure they set traps only on your own property. Raccoons can be transported to a humane society for euthanasia or released on a 40+ acre property if they have WRITTEN landowner permission. PLEASE contact PAW if you need help with trapping stray cats.

General Information

You must **register your pets** at the Police Department. Registration is FREE and helps in the event your pet is lost. The town website, www.ponce-inlet.org, has a **Pets Lost & Found** link (on the left) for posting lost or found pets.

Ponce Inlet police officers certified in **animal control** respond to animal calls and enforce the mandatory spay/neuter ordinance. Call dispatch at (386) 248-1777.

The Halifax Humane Society's **Redinger Clinic**, at 600 Mason Avenue in Daytona Beach, is open to all Volusia County residents and offers spay/neuter and basic vaccinations for your pets at a greatly reduced rate. Call them at (386) 310-4935.

Rest in Peace Sweet Patches

Patches was one of the oldest TNR cats in Ponce Inlet. Many of us loved to see him basking in the sun on the jetty rocks. Patches survived all those years living in the wild, but could not survive the cancer that started on his right ear and spread to his eye and face. Patches is pictured below before he was trapped and neutered in 2009 and last year before cancer had spread.



Sick/Injured Wildlife Numbers

Florida Wildlife Hotline	(888) 404-FWCC
Marine Science Center Live turtles	(386) 304-5544
Volusia Turtle Patrol Dead sea turtles	(386) 763-0977
Seabird Rehab Center	(386) 304-5530
Daytona Wildlife Raccoons & other mammals	(386) 767-2500
East Coast Wildlife Rehab All wildlife/birds	(386) 334-2237

Ponce Inlet Veterans Memorial



Bill Wester, President, PI Veterans Memorial Association

This past November, Veterans Day was celebrated with a ceremony at the Memorial. This year we were again blessed to have the Aca Fella singing group from the ROTC program at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University who performed the service songs and patriotic music for us. We also want to extend our appreciation to the Spruce Creek Gag-

gle who provided three exciting flyovers. And finally, thanks to all who attended as this shows what a grateful community we have in saluting our veterans.

In December we held a successful Christmas Pancake Breakfast with Santa for the children. Later in the day we participated in the Ponce Inlet Christmas Parade posting flags to honor our branches of service.

We would like to extend an invitation for all to join us on Monday, May 30, 2016 at 9:00 AM when we celebrate Memorial Day and honor those men and women who gave all while serving our country. The ceremony will be held at the Memorial at Davies Lighthouse Park.

Memorial Day is a special holiday which remembers the men and women who died while serving in our country's armed forces. This holiday is

celebrated every year on the last Monday of May and was formerly known as Decoration Day. It started after the Civil War to commemorate the Union and Confederate soldiers who died in the war. By the 20th century, Memorial Day had been extended to honor all Americans who died while in the military service.

We are still selling commemorative brick pavers to help fund our effort to maintain the Memorial. The pavers are 12"x12"x3" and cost \$125. They can contain up to nine lines and have a seal of the appropriate service. Pavers can be ordered to commemorate family members or friends and would be a wonderful birthday or memorial gift. The donation is deductible. Order forms for the pavers can be obtained from a box at the Memorial or on the Town's website at <http://www.ponceinlet.org/pages/index> and click on Ponce Inlet Veterans Memorial.

Ponce Inlet Veterans Memorial Association would like to thank all of our members and friends who helped make these events possible and the community who supports us.

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

**PRESORTED
STANDARD
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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.

2015—2016 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)**