

Citizens for Ponce Inlet NEWSLETTER



Improving the Quality of Life in the Town of Ponce Inlet



Ponce Inlet is and will be a residential haven for those persons who value nature, quiet, and privacy.

Election Day is Tuesday, August 23rd



Polls are open on August 23rd from **7am-7pm** at the Ponce Inlet Community Center 4670 South Peninsula Drive

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The Town of PONCE INLET

Est. 1963

“Joy of the Land and Sea”



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Citizens For PONCE INLET

TOWN OF PONCE INLET

The purpose of the Town's section of this Newsletter is to provide information to its citizens and businesses that concern the workings of the Town government. Articles feature the various departments of the Town and include pertinent information to educate and inform individuals on issues of interest to them.

To avoid the appearance of political favoritism or viewpoints on public issues, the Town cannot accept political or public issue ads or ads from non-profit associations for publication.

CITIZENS FOR PONCE INLET (C4Pi)

The Citizens for Ponce Inlet Newsletter is published quarterly throughout the year 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.

For 35 years the Citizens for Ponce Inlet Newsletter has been distributed in paper form. Volunteers on foot and sometimes roller skates faithfully delivered the letter to the households. As the years passed, the publication was mailed directly to all residents and property owners.

In 2020, the Citizens for Ponce Inlet (CFPI) created the website www.C4Pi.org and posted the first digital edition of the CFPI Newsletter with the Winter 2021 issue. The new digital version is emailed to all CFPI Members and to the Town's email list.

If you would like to be placed on the email list please go to www.C4Pi.org and JOIN – it's free -you will automatically be enrolled to receive the Newsletter and important notifications while enjoying other C4PI benefits.

The Citizens for Ponce Inlet is an independent organization and not part of the Town government. Read the Citizens for Ponce Inlet agreement with the Town on our website.

The Town's financial contribution relates solely to the CFPI/C4Pi Newsletter and insures all citizens in Ponce Inlet have access to this information and to the Newsletters provided on the www.C4Pi.org website. The newsletter does not accept paid advertisements and is distributed free of charge. We hope you find this information valuable.

Donations are welcomed and appreciated to help defray the costs of the many activities of Citizens for Ponce Inlet. These include the C4Pi website, www.C4Pi.org, the Annual Town Council Candidates Forum, and the Citizen of the Year and Lifetime Achievement Awards events.

Donations may be made directly on the [C4Pi.org website](http://C4Pi.org) or by mailing a check made to:

Citizens for Ponce Inlet, Inc.
4670 S. Peninsula Drive
Ponce Inlet, FL 32127

Please visit www.c4pi.org for more information about our Organization.

Volunteers are always needed.

If you can help, please email:

info@c4pi.org or contact C4Pi on the bottom of our Home Page.

Citizens for Ponce Inlet is an all-volunteer Organization.

Board of Directors:

- Don Hampton, President
- Judy DiCarlo, Vice-President
- Sue Fillion, Treasurer
- Kathy Cannon, Secretary
- Lauren Albinson, Newsletter Editor
- Lynn Albinson, IT
- Joe Cannon
- Joe DiCarlo
- Elviria LaBarre
- Ellen Pagliarulo
- Jane White

Newsletter Content and Publication Requirements

The Quarterly CFPI Newsletters are finalized around the end of January, April, July, and October. Deadlines for submitting content are as follows:

January 15th **Winter Edition**

April 15th **Spring Edition**

July 15th **Summer Edition**

October 15th **Fall Edition**

Upload your submissions:

<https://www.c4pi.org/newsletter-content-portal/>

This portal is intended to simplify the process of submitting content for the CFPI Newsletter Your content has two elements: text and photos (optional).

For assistance, directions to upload the information can be found on the webpage. Thank you for your continued contributions and support of the CFPI Newsletter.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions about an upcoming issue of the newsletter or need assistance in submitting information via the portal.

Please email admin@c4pi.org with your contact information and questions.

A Moment with the Mayor

At the American Flood Coalition's Summit on Flooding and Sea Level Rise, Mayor Lois Paritsky participated alongside mayors from all over the nation and local leaders in Washington, DC. The three-day summit in June included meetings with federal specialists and members of Congress and examined solutions to flooding and sea level rise.

As residents in Ponce Inlet face stronger storms and more frequent flooding, the summit provided Mayor Paritsky with the opportunity to collaborate with other leaders facing comparable issues.

As a barrier island with water on three sides, the Town of Ponce Inlet is particularly vulnerable to the impacts of flooding and sea level rise. These effects are present in the infrastructure supporting the services vital to the wellbeing and the safety of our citizens and guests.



Lois Paritsky

Mayor Paritsky was a panelist at the Summit, presenting Ponce Inlet's best practices for building resilience in Ponce Inlet through local planning, all of which led to the Vulnerability Assessment that was adopted by the Town Council in February 2022.



The three days of policy-focused roundtables and meetings included:

- Discussions with Mitch Landrieu, White House Senior Advisor and Infrastructure Coordinator, and senior officials from EPA, FEMA, and NOA. In addition, Wes Brooks, Head of Resilience in Florida, accompanied by AFC State Directors, discussed building resilience at the state level.
- Federal funding and resources, policy, communications, and resilience planning.
- An understanding of resources and actions available to our community to address flooding in our community by identifying top risks, planning and project development, and policy advancement and funding applications.

- Provided concrete resources and tools that have been shared with our Town staff; specifically, the federal and state grant opportunities and federal government contacts should intervention or help be required to resolve a concern at the federal level.

- A commitment from leaders to be speakers on platforms, specifically the Volusia League of Cities Mayor's Zoom calls and at the League's business dinner meetings, to provide further service for our residents.

Mayor Paritsky also met with congressional delegation members; specifically, Senator Rubio and legislative aids of Senator Rick Scott, helping to further collaborate on solutions with our federal partners on the impacts of flooding and sea level rise.



Ponce Inlet Lighthouse



Beat the Heat and Catch Some Rays at the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse By Zach Hopple

Although school was out for the children of Volusia County, the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse and Museum's Programs Department did not slow down the educational programming during the summer months. Summer camps, educational outreach, and guided tours may have replaced school visits temporarily, but maritime and social history continued to be the focus of the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse volunteers and staff.

Collaboration with the local community and other cultural centers across Volusia County is a main focus of the Programs Department. Participating in events across the county, including DeBary Hall's Living History Day, Volusia County Schools F.A.C.T. Fair, Ponce Inlet Community Days, and New Smyrna Museum Heritage Day, the dedicated volunteers of Ponce Inlet Lighthouse were able to dispense maritime and lighthouse education to hundreds of participants. The volunteers of the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse regularly visit other cultural centers and museums to advance their knowledge of the local community. Keep up to date with the [Events Page](#) on the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse website, as you never know where we will be in the future.

Ponce Inlet Lighthouse is proud to offer a variety of onsite events throughout the summer and fall months. On August 6th, 2022, the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse hosted National Lighthouse Day from 10:30am until 2:30pm. This fun-filled day of learning featured a special presentation on What is a Lighthouse, as well as the ability to get up close and personal with artifacts from over 100 years ago, guided tours throughout the day, children's activities, and much more. Entrance to this special event is included with regular admission rates.

Other onsite events included Spirit of '45 Day which was held on Saturday August 13th. An upcoming Labor Day Celebration will be held on Monday September 5th from 10:30am until 2:30pm.

Throughout the summer, the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse and Museum has provided educational programming for the Volusia County Library system in conjunction with their theme, Oceans of Possibilities. Children of all ages from across the county have taken part in this joint venture, learning and enjoying presentations on artifacts, the Science of Light, as well as readings of Nelly the Lighthouse Cat. Nelly herself has even made an appearance before an excited crowd of youngsters. Be sure to check the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse Event Calendar for more opportunities.

The Programs Department is preparing for another big school year. Using the summer months to prepare high-quality, engaging education for the fall term, the lighthouse is looking forward to welcoming children from across the state once again. Homeschool co-op groups, public school classes, and private schools are lining up for dates to tour the museum or have our costumed

docents in their classrooms. Educational workshops are provided fee-free to all Volusia public schools and with a nominal charge to homeschool groups. For more information about group and school tours, please contact Programs Manager Zach Hopple at zhopple@ponceinlet.org.

On May 5th, 2022, the Programs Department hosted homeschool students from across the state for the annual Spring Homeschool Day. Building off of the success of the homeschool day in the Fall of 2021, school-age students received high-quality, standards-based learning focusing on the topic What is a Lighthouse? All lessons for the day were delivered through the STEAM lens, including workshops on why the lighthouse is so tall, the science behind harnessing light, families and artifacts of the lighthouse, and the function of lighthouses. This day included hands-on activities and a take-home craft and educational activities to continue the learning long after the day has concluded. All programming was given by the fabulous volunteers of the lighthouse and the partnership with Daytona State College student teachers.

Adult education continues to be a key component of the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse Programs Department. Delivering high-quality historical presentations, presenters from the lighthouse have engaged with over 750 people across Volusia County. Maritime, lighthouse, and social history topics have captivated spectators, with many more speaking dates that have already been announced. For more information, refer to the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse website Events Page or email education@ponceinlet.org.

One of the most popular onsite offerings here at the lighthouse is our monthly Climb to the Moon event. This event offers guests the opportunity to toast the setting of the

sun and the rise of the full moon with a spectacular view unlike anywhere else. If you want to book a date for Climb to the Moon in 2022, call the lighthouse at (386) 761-1821 ext. 10. We encourage you to make early reservations as these dates fill up months in advance.

The success of all of the programs provided by the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse depends on the dedication and hard work of our amazing volunteer corps. They are the backbone of the programs department and we appreciate everything that they do for us. The Preservation Association is always looking for more individuals interested in volunteering. Monthly meetings and training will be provided for all volunteers, as well as the opportunity to preserve and interpret the history of a National Historic Landmark. Volunteers are encouraged to contact Programs Manager Zach Hopple via email at zhopple@ponceinlet.org or by phone at (386)761-1821 ext. 18.



Ponce Inlet Veterans Memorial Association

by Bill Wester

The Ponce Inlet Veterans Memorial Association wants to thank all of you for your support and for attending our recent Memorial Day ceremony. We extend our sincere appreciation to our Ponce Inlet residents who honor those who serve or have served in the United States armed forces.



On May 1, the new Board of Directors took office for the 2022–2023 year. The officers are: President, Jim Hinson; Vice President, David Israel; Treasurer, Tracy Bell; and Secretary, Mark Oebbecke. Other board members include directors Deke DiCostanzo, Rick Gray, Tony Raia, Tom Whalen, and immediate past president Bill Wester.



We would like to invite all veterans and those still serving on active duty to join us. The Association is a non-profit 501(c)(19) organization and our mission is to maintain our memorial and promote veterans' activities in our community. Dues are \$20 per year and meetings are held at the Ponce Inlet Community Center at 7:00pm on the second Tuesday of each month, except during the summer. Contact Jim Hinson, at 386-760-5448, for additional information or to obtain a membership form.

On Friday, November 11, 2022, at 10:00am, the Association will celebrate Veterans Day with a ceremony at the Memorial at Davies Lighthouse Park. Put this on your calendar and we hope you can join us for this special event.



Ponce Church

by Pastor Nina Tidwell



Ponce Church meets Sundays at 10:00am at the PI Community Center, 4670 S. Peninsula Drive, next to the fire station. Everyone is welcome at Ponce Church.

Established in 2003

Twenty years ago, the Lord led our family to the beautiful town of Ponce Inlet. One day, while Pastor Rick was walking on the beach, the Lord spoke to him and said, “There is no church in this town. I want you to start one.” In January of 2003, the Tidwell Family launched the First Church in the History of Ponce Inlet. Ponce Church is a Christian, non-denominational church that is active in obeying the words of Jesus by caring for the orphans and widows, giving food to the hungry, water for the thirsty, clothing, healing the sick, visiting those in prison, and providing shelter for the homeless, as Jesus said, “... If you’ve done it to the least of these, my brothers and sisters, you have done it to me.” Matthew 25:31–46.

At Ponce Church, we teach the importance of obeying the words of Jesus through loving our neighbor. John 15.

Visit PonceChurch.com for more info., including Tabitha’s Housing for Adult Homeless Women. Thank you.

Legacy Housing for Age-Out Foster Youth

At Legacy House, we prevent youth homelessness and trafficking by providing safe housing for girls aging out of the foster care system. The Legacy Housing Project provides a safe support system which allows our youth to graduate high school, enroll in a local college, and obtain employment.

Legacy Housing Ranch

The Legacy Housing Project is also working to provide housing for boys aging out of the foster care system. To learn more, and how you can help, visit LegacyHousingProject.org. Thank you.

Join us at Ponce Church on Sundays at 10am, 4670 S. Peninsula in Ponce Inlet, 386-308-1533. Thank you.



LEGACY
H O U S I N G

Ponce Inlet Lions Club

By Nancy Epps, President



Our Ponce Inlet Lions Club was chartered on May 28, 1992, so this year marked our 30th anniversary of service to the Town. Mayor Lois Paritsky attended our May board meeting to present a proclamation from the Town Council that recognized our 30 years of service. We truly appreciate the council's support.

As usual, our club participated in the Memorial Day ceremony at the Veterans Memorial by placing a wreath on this solemn day. We thank the Ponce Inlet Veterans Association for presenting such moving programs every year. This year was no exception.

In spite of the remnants of the pandemic having significantly impacted our club's fundraising activities the past two years, we still raised several thousand dollars, which we have just paid to our charities at the end of our Lions year. Our club supports multiple charities in our local community, including RJ Longstreet Elementary School, the Conklin Davis Center for the Visually Impaired, Halifax Urban Ministries, the Florida Division of Blind Services' Braille and Talking Book Library, the Jewish Federation's student backpack program, diabetes testing, hearing services, and, of course, used eyeglasses and hearing aid recycling. Additionally, we support

various important Lions charities, including the Southeastern Guide Dogs veterans assistance dog program. Please visit our website at www.pilions.org for more information.

We really appreciate the donations of used eyeglasses and hearing aids that may be dropped into the box marked "Lions" on the south side of the PICC parking lot. Please do not place anything else in that box. Community Center donations go into the Rubbermaid box outside the storage building. They are refurbished and distributed to people who would otherwise not be able to afford them. We often hear at various events in the community that the Lions gave someone their first pair of glasses, and it's always touching to hear.

All funds raised at our events are spent on our charities—nothing is spent on administration. Information about becoming a Lion can be found on the website, or you can contact me by email at nancyepps@cfl.rr.com, call me at 386-795-2310, or speak to any Lion you know.

Lionism is a great way to meet wonderful people and serve your community while having fun! We take the summer off since many of our members are at their summer homes, but we will be meeting again beginning September 7th. Our social time begins at 5:30pm when we share snacks and our beverage of choice, all provided by members. At 6 pm, we begin the general meeting and have dinner. Our September meeting is traditionally our membership recruitment meeting, so feel free to join us! Please RSVP to me if possible so we can plan the menu. We promise not to bore you with a lot of tedious business! As the old saying goes, "many hands make light work" — please consider joining us for great camaraderie and the wonderful feeling of helping those in need.

Ponce Inlet Community Center



Happy Summer! The Ponce Inlet Community Center, affectionately called “PICCI”, is YOUR community center. You can find all the events happening here in various places. The town website, the sign in front of the community center, Facebook, and c4pi.org. You can even pick up a monthly calendar inside the center.

The office is open **Monday-Friday from 9am to 12pm**. Stop in and borrow books from the library, use the free wifi, or just say “hi” to the volunteer office staff.

Even though it is summer, we still have activities in our air conditioning! Stay healthy and fit while having fun. There are exercise classes for all ages and abilities.

-Monday and Thursday are Aerobics and Toning with Kathleen at 9:00am and Yoga with Chelsea at 6:30pm.

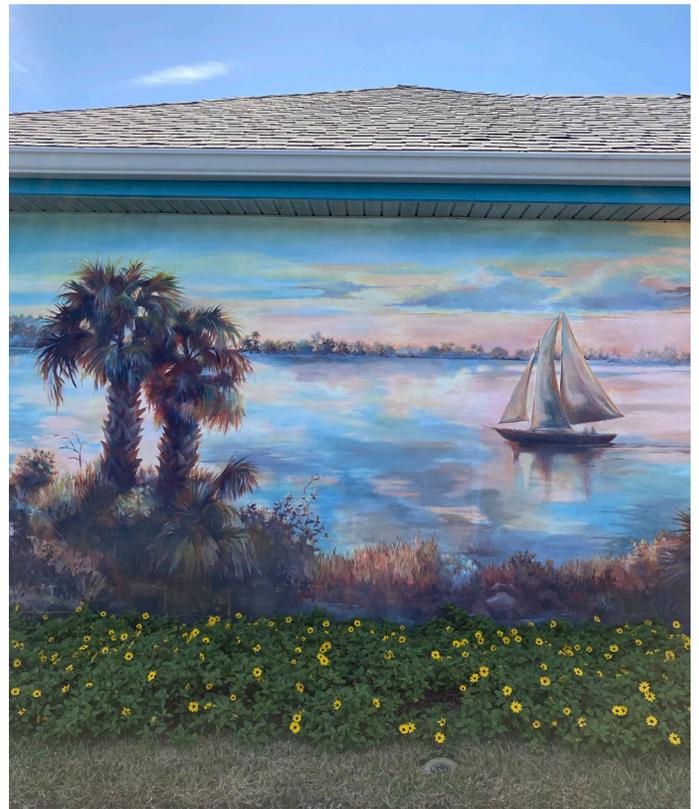
-Tuesday and Thursday is Fitness and Fun with Joanne at 10:30am.

The community center is also the voting site for all elections. **Election Day is August 23rd, from 7am to 7pm.**

Watch for special events happening at the center.

The community center is looking forward to the fall when it becomes even more active. Our town’s clubs, such as the Lions Club, Women’s Club, Art Guild, and Garden Club, meet here. You’ll also have a chance to meet more neighbors and have a great time with our Food Truck nights, Soup and Salad nights, and Irish night, to name a few. Stay tuned for those dates and times.

Your community center is also available for rent. If you need a place for a wedding, reunion, birthday party, or any special event, contact our rental coordinator, **Mark**, at **610-716-0041**.



Garden Club of Ponce Inlet

Summer Greetings!

On Wednesday, April 27, the Garden Club of Ponce Inlet held its annual Arbor Day Celebration. This year marked the 50th Anniversary of the National Celebration of Arbor Day and the 28th Anniversary of Ponce Inlet being declared a Tree City. Arbor Day is traditionally marked by the planting of trees and emphasizes the care of trees as a way to sustainably protect our planet's natural resources. Our theme for this year's event was "Spring Rebirth", celebrating our coming out of the dark days of COVID and sharing our rebirth with our friends and service to our community. Our guests for the day included several town officials, including Mayor Lois Paritsky, Vice Mayor Gary Smith, Chief of Police Jeff Glazier, and Deputy Fire Chief Noble Taylor, along with other town representatives. It was our honor to have Mayor Paritsky read a proclamation from the Town of Ponce Inlet proclaiming April 29th as Arbor Day.



Mayor Paritsky and Suzi Hahn,
Chair of the Garden Club's Arbor
Day Celebration

Following Mayor Paritsky's reading of the proclamation, the Garden Club was delighted to present ten deserving RJ Longstreet School students in Grades 1 through 5 with Garden Club Scholarships in order for them to attend the Marine Science Center camps this summer. The students wrote essays explaining why they should be selected to attend. Ms. Allie Bernstein of the Marine Science Center was on hand to present the scholarships and discuss the advantages of having the students attend the Marine Science Center Camp.

Vice Mayor Gary Smith then made a special presentation to two very worthy charities. He awarded two remarkable and generous donations from the Diane Smith Memorial to two very worthy charities. The Garden Club chose these charities as they were near and dear to Diane's heart.

The Miracle League of Volusia County received the first donation, while the Special Olympics of Florida received the second. Ms. Doreen Shore was present to accept the donation for the Miracle League. In person to accept on behalf of the Special Olympics was Denise Breneman.

Finally, our Club recognized our Honorary Gardener of the Year. The Gardener of the Year is someone who has helped our Club promote the Garden Club's goal of promoting the beauty of the world around us, particularly our town, over the past year. Mark Oebbecke was this year's Honorary Gardener of the Year. We thank Mark for his support and appreciate his help throughout the year.



Honorary Gardener of the Year, Mark Oebbecke, Ms. Denise Breneman from the Special Olympics and Vice Mayor Gary Smith

The Garden Club would like to thank everyone who came out to celebrate Arbor Day with us. Special thanks goes to Mrs. Suzi Hahn, our Arbor Day Chair, and Joann Doyle, who assisted Suzi with our Program and invitations.

Following our Arbor Day Celebration, the Garden Club hosted its first Ice Cream Social after a 2-year hiatus due to Covid. The theme for this year was “Daytona Speedway.” We had a Kid’s Zone with crafts, our annual Ice Cream Social Bake Sale, a Craft Sale with handmade items from our crafters, JJ’s Jewelry Sale, and beautiful Raffle prizes this year.

To top it all off, Lighthouse Ice Cream generously donated ice cream and toppings. Lighthouse Ice Cream not only provided the ice cream, but they also stayed and scooped it throughout the Social. We are grateful to Lighthouse Ice Cream for their generous donation of ice cream as well as their time. Everyone who attended had a great time. Many thanks to our Garden Club Members—there are too many to mention here—who made the successful event possible.

And finally, to close out our year, our Club celebrated its 40th Anniversary as a Garden Club. We hosted this celebration on May 25 during our final meeting of the year.

Past presidents, founding members, and lifetime members of our club were present to commemorate this anniversary. Many of our members shared their thoughts and memories about our Club throughout the years.

We were so pleased to have Edwina Knox, one of our founding members, there to deliver a beautiful devotional and share her own cherished recollections of our Club, as she does at every gathering. Edwina, Alice Washington, Sherry Utter, Faye McHugh, and Liz Finch were among the other past presidents and charter members in attendance. In addition to commemorating our Club’s 40th anniversary, we were pleased to honor our Gardener of the Year.



Charter Members - Alice Washington, Edwina Knox and Sherry Utter

Mrs. Linda Spicher, this year's recipient, was certainly deserving of this honor. While Linda's choice was not specifically related to gardening, there is no denying her contribution to our community. Throughout the year, Linda dedicated her heart and soul to assisting Longstreet's food-insecure children.



Gardener of the Year Award presented by Pat Morris to Linda Spicher

Each month, Linda gathered, organized, and delivered food to Longstreet that had been kindly donated by our members. Longstreet expressed their sincere appreciation for all of the food provided during the year. We sincerely appreciate everything Linda did for the children at Longstreet.

Finally, we selected our May Gardener of the Year at this meeting. This honor is customarily given to one of our own members. Mrs. Joann Doyle of 127 Ponce DeLeon Circle was this month's honoree. If you get the chance, I urge you to visit the Doyles' beautifully landscaped property.



Beautification Award presented by Rosemary Volz to Joann Doyle

I would also like to pay honor and recognize present and former members who we lost this year- Mary Hoss, Wini Irvin, Marie Spitzfaden, Shirley Hibbert, Louise Cocci and DeeDee Bunnell.

They all made contributions to our Club that will be long remembered. All those who knew them will undoubtedly miss them. We will continue to keep the family members and friends of those we lost in our thoughts and prayers. As you can see from this and previous Newsletters, our Club works hard all year to give back to our community, and with the support of all of our members, we can continue to do so.

We thank all of our members for their ongoing support and contributions to the beautification of the town we all call "home." Anyone interested in joining our club is always welcome to pick up an application at the Community Center. Our membership meetings are held on the 4th Wednesday of the month at the Community Center at 10:30 AM.

Everyone is welcome!!

Enjoy the rest of your summer!

See you in September.

PONCE INLET ANIMAL WELFARE BY NANCY EPPS, PRESIDENT



Our little colony is still thriving with our two permanent residents, Ruthie Grace and Tiki, and an occasional visit from a box turtle.

Our faithful volunteers are there every day, providing food, water, and love to the cats. I want to again thank the generous residents who have donated time, food, and money. I received another call last week from a new resident who wants to help, and I'm sure she will find it as rewarding as we "regulars" do.

Although dogs are generally at a higher risk of overheating in the summer, cats can also be at risk, especially if they are outdoors. PAW highly recommends all pets be kept inside for safety reasons, but we accept that it is not always possible. If your pets are outdoors, be aware that they need extra cool water at this time of year, and shade is mandatory. Never tether a dog in a place where it cannot find shade. If your cat is inside and outside, make sure they are inside as much as possible in the heat of the day. Both dogs and cats will pant if they become overheated, so keep a close eye on them for that, plus other telltale signs like lethargy, vomiting, red gums and mouth, or making strange noises. Get them to the

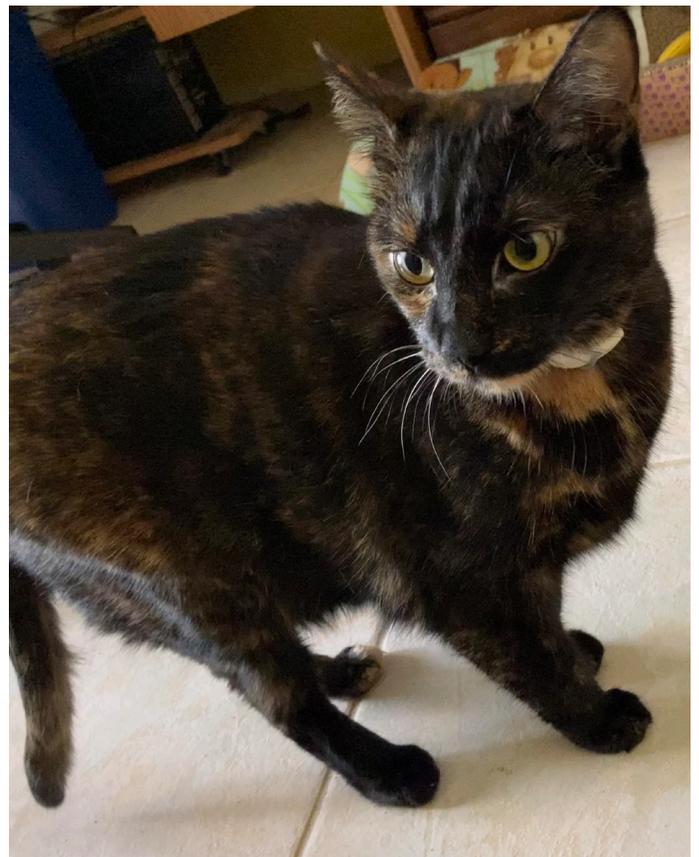
veterinarian immediately if any of these signs occur.

Indoor animals can have problems, too, although it is not as likely if you have adequate temperature control. If indicated, use a ceiling or floor fan to help circulate air, and keep blinds and curtains closed during the heat of the day.

I had a personal pet tragedy on June 13th when I learned that my beloved tortie, Daggett, had adenocarcinoma of the lungs and she was euthanized. A few days later, I found a tortie on NextDoor who needed a home due to her person having developed allergies to cat dander, so I now have Callie, a very sweet cat who is gradually adjusting to her new home.

Please contact me if you would like to learn more about PAW, donate time or food, or need our help: nancyepps@cfl.rr.com, (386) 795-2310. We will also help if you have a cat that needs to be trapped and in need of care.

Have a great summer!



PEDESTRIAN SAFETY - CROSSWALKS

In Florida, even in the absence of traffic control signals, automobiles are nonetheless required to yield—slow down or stop—for a pedestrian using a crosswalk.

To maintain the security and comfort of all road users, it is the duty of both drivers and pedestrians to familiarize themselves with Florida’s driver yeild regulations.

For the complete wording, the state traffic code should be consulted:

[F.S.316.130 Pedestrians; Traffic regulations](#)

[F.S.316.075 Traffic control signal devices](#)

Please see the “Best Foot Forward” flyer and fact sheets on pages 19, 20, and 21.

*Reprinted as a courtesy of Best Foot Forward, Bike/Walk Central Florida.

BikeWalkCentralFlorida.org





FACTS: PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

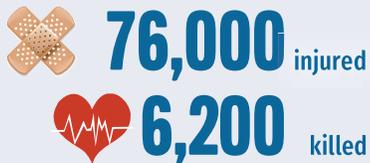
Florida Statutes - Pedestrians; traffic regulations

F.S. 316.130 (7)*: Florida law requires drivers to stop and remain stopped at any marked crosswalk to allow a pedestrian to cross a roadway when the pedestrian steps into or is in the crosswalk. *Summarized. Multiple statutes apply.

FAILURE TO YIELD = **\$164** + **3 POINTS**
minimum fine on your license

National Data

Federal reports estimate more than 76,000 pedestrians were injured and 6,200 pedestrians were killed in 2019.⁽¹⁾



Pedestrian deaths decreased by 2.7% from 2018 to 2019. That's an decrease of 169 lives lost, from 6,374 to 6,205.⁽¹⁾



59%
occurred on high traffic, high speed, wide roads

Heavy traffic, high speeds and wide roads make main thoroughfares dangerous for pedestrians. In 2018, 59% of pedestrian fatalities happened on these roads.⁽⁷⁾



Florida Data

Pedestrians make up more than 22% of all the traffic fatalities.⁽¹⁾

more than **22%**



Florida accounts for more than 11% of all pedestrian deaths in the country.⁽¹⁾

Metro Orlando Data

On average, 3 pedestrians are injured every day, and at least 1 is killed every week.⁽⁴⁾



Florida metropolitan areas were ranked as the most dangerous places to walk in the nation (including Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford).⁽²⁾



Across the country, there is an epidemic of pedestrian deaths. In 2019, a pedestrian was killed every 85 minutes, nationwide.⁽¹⁾

In 2009, Smart Growth America's Dangerous by Design report named Metro Orlando the #1 most dangerous place in the country for pedestrians. In 2021, we are still at the top of the list.⁽²⁾

From 2010 to 2019, nearly **54,500** Americans walking were hit and killed by drivers.⁽¹⁾



What are some of the contributing factors?

1 Speed hit by a vehicle traveling:



2 Streets designed for cars, rather than for the safety of all road users.

3 Drivers who violate traffic laws and drive distracted. Example: You **MUST YIELD** and stop for a pedestrian in a crosswalk (even if you have a green light).

For more information, visit

iYield4ped.org

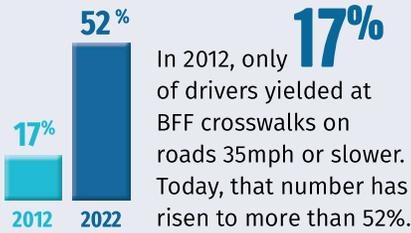
Contact: info@bikewalkcf.org
407-542-6074



STEPPING UP FOR SAFETY

Fast Facts About BFF

Proven progress – More drivers are complying with the law and yielding to pedestrians in crosswalks today than they were 8 years ago.



On roads 40 mph or higher, the driver yield rate has risen from 2% to 43% over the last 8 years.



43% yield rate

Best Foot Forward's educational initiatives include community outreach efforts where pedestrian safety messages are presented to communities where locals live and play. The program's message has been presented to more than 130,000 Central Florida residents since 2012.

In The Numbers

20% of pedestrian fatalities nationwide involved hit-and-run drivers.⁽¹⁾



14% of pedestrian fatalities in Florida occur in marked crosswalks.⁽⁵⁾

Between 2018 and 2019, pedestrian fatalities in the Orlando Metro area increased by 22%.⁽⁶⁾

It's not the tourists' fault:

93% of pedestrians killed in Florida live here.

96% of drivers who hit pedestrians in Florida live here.⁽⁶⁾

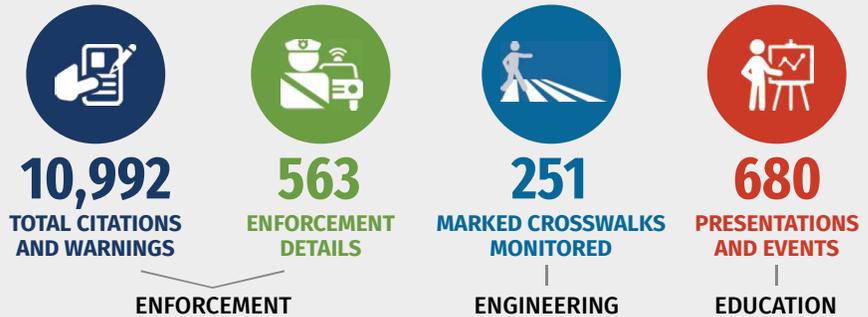
Central Florida has an established problem with crashes that injure and kill pedestrians. The **Best Foot Forward Coalition** believes the status quo is unacceptable. There is no silver bullet to end pedestrian crashes, but previous successes, combined with continued persistence can make a proven difference. Pedestrians' deaths & injuries are not accidents, but crashes that can be prevented.

In 2012, the Best Foot Forward coalition formed with MetroPlan Orlando, the City of Orlando and Orange County as founding partners. The program has expanded to include Osceola and Seminole Counties and the cities of Apopka, Casselberry, Kissimmee, Longwood, Oakland, St. Cloud and Winter Park. We are proud to work with more than 30 partners to make Central Florida safer for all road users.

The mission of the Best Foot Forward program is to lower pedestrian fatalities and injuries by getting more drivers to yield and stop for people in crosswalks, as Florida law requires.

Progress from 2012 to 2021

Orange, Osceola & Seminole Counties



Best Foot Forward Coalition



Best Foot Forward depends on every resident and organization working toward one common purpose – people before cars. BFF seeks community ideas to make walking a “normal” activity by identifying problematic areas and creating real solutions in neighborhoods. Step up for safety.

*Data as of 02/18/2022

1. NHTSA, Traffic Safety Facts (May 2021)
2. Smart Growth America, Dangerous by Design 2021
3. National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, CDC
4. Signal Four Analytics, 2021
5. Center for Urban Transportation, University of South Florida
6. MetroPlan Orlando, 2017
7. Governors Highway Safety Assn. Report, May, 2021



Best Foot Forward is administered by Bike/Walk Central Florida, 501(c)(3).

IT'S NOT JUST THE LAW... IT'S A LIFE.



THE LAW IS CLEAR:

In Florida, drivers must slow down or stop for a pedestrian crossing the road in a crosswalk, even when traffic control signals or yield signs are not present.

FAILURE TO YIELD = \$164 + 3 POINTS
minimum fine on your license

FLORIDA DRIVER YIELD LAW

Fla. Stat. § 316.130



Drivers must stop for pedestrians at marked or unmarked intersections and mid-block crosswalks.



Drivers may not overtake and pass vehicles stopped at a crosswalk to permit a pedestrian to cross.



Turning drivers must stop for a pedestrian, with a permitted walk signal, to cross the roadway.



Drivers must come to a complete stop at crosswalks with signs indicating that a full stop is required.

iYield4peds.org

Best Foot Forward is administered by Bike/Walk Central Florida.



Sand Fencing Update

Restoring the Dunes

For more information about Sand Fencing please see our [Spring 2022 Edition](#) of the newsletter on pages 12 and 13.



February 2022



April 2022



August 2022



"Our Mission is to Educate and Preserve"

The Citizens For Ponce Inlet Website compiles and organizes all of the relevant and critical information you need into one single, easy to navigate information portal. It's like having the entire town at your fingertips. With just 1-2 clicks on your smartphone or desktop, you can access:

*Join
Today!*

- Monthly Police & Fire Activity Reports
- How Your Council & Board Members Voted
- Agendas & Minutes for All Meetings
- Extensive Library of Past Meetings
- Participate in our Surveys
- Live Streaming
- News Alerts
- Town News & Events
- Campaign Reports
- Quarterly Newsletters

Ponce Inlet's most informed citizens turn to C4Pi.org to obtain the information they need to be informed on town business, town events and town department activity.

Membership is free. Get informed. Join today.

Promoting and Improving the Quality of Life in the Town of Ponce Inlet

info@C4Pi.org

www.C4Pi.org

If enjoyed this newsletter, please consider supporting our efforts by making a donation and subscribe to our online quarterly newsletter by completing the form below:

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