

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.

Citizens for Ponce Inlet has attained 501(c)(3) Status



We are an all-volunteer citizen organization that studies, conducts research, investigates and recommends programs affecting the quality of life in Ponce Inlet.

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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, Inc. has achieved 501(c)(3) status, marking a significant milestone in its more than 40-year history as an entirely volunteer-driven organization dedicated to serving the residents of Ponce Inlet. The organization's roots trace back over four decades, when it first embarked on a mission to conduct research, investigate various issues, and propose initiatives aimed at enhancing the quality of life in Ponce Inlet. Its primary objective was to collaborate with the Town Council in shaping a community that would be a source of pride for all. Today, this dedicated organization not only persists in pursuing these objectives but also annually recognizes and celebrates exceptional citizen volunteers through its Annual Awards Banquet. Among the accolades bestowed are the Citizen of the Year Award as well as various Lifetime Achievement Awards, reserved for residents who have generously volunteered for more than two decades.

Furthermore, CFPI, Inc./C4Pi hosts an annual Election Forum, providing residents with a valuable platform to engage with town council candidates. In a recent development, the organization introduced an Election Edition Newsletter, distributed via email to its C4Pi membership. This newsletter serves as a medium for candidates to address crucial community concerns and questions. In an effort to

conserve funds, offer more information, and adapt to the digital age, CFPI established the C4Pi.org website in 2019. This platform grants members the opportunity to access a digital quarterly newsletter, along with an extensive archive spanning over 40 years of past newsletters.

In addition to the services mentioned earlier, the C4Pi.org website also provides the opportunity for residents to stay informed about how Town Council and Planning Board members voted on various issues. Moreover, it allows users to access live streaming of town council meetings and other special town council meetings or conveniently view stored videos at their leisure.

For those seeking even more information and ways to get involved, the website offers an extensive assortment of resources and details. Please visit www.C4Pi.org

Citizens for Ponce Inlet is constantly on the lookout for dedicated volunteers who possess website and computer skills, expertise in newsletter publication, and strong writing talent. If you are interested in contributing your skills and making a positive impact, please don't hesitate to reach out. You can contact Judy DiCarlo, President, at judy.dicarlo@c4pi.org to express your interest and learn more about how you can be a valuable part of this community-driven organization.

We are also grateful for any tax-deductible donations you may make to help us continue these valuable community services. Thank you.

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 over 40 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.

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 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.



Board of Directors:

- Judy DiCarlo, President
- Joe Cannon, Vice-President
- Sue Fillion, Treasurer
- Kathy Cannon, Secretary
- Lauren Albinson, Newsletter Editor
- Lynn Albinson, IT
- Elviria LaBarre
- Pat Morris
- Mark Oebbecke

A Moment with the Mayor

One of the most significant responsibilities of the Council is to approve an annual budget that will determine the purchases, projects, maintenance activities, professional services, and new personnel necessary to maintain or enhance the level of services in our town and how they will be funded.

A proposed budget is presented to the Council for review in July of each year and represents the many months of work of our Town Manager, Department Heads, staff, and the Essential Services Advisory Board.

Once the proposed budget is presented to Council, the members of Town Council and the public have opportunities at budget workshops, special meetings, and Town Council meetings to discuss the operational needs and levels of service.

Discussions at these public meetings help the Council as it moves forward in this annual millage rate and budget adoption process. Below is the power point slide presentation from our August 24, 2023, Town Hall meeting, where I provided an overview of the budget process. On September 21, 2023, the Town Council approved a 6.2779 millage rate and adopted our budget, which begins on October 1, 2023, and ends on September 30, 2024.

The adopted budget is available to view on the town website at <https://www.ponceinlet.org/494/FY-2324-Budget>



Lois Paritsky

The public's opportunity to participate in the next budget process (FY 24-25) will be at the Essential Services Advisory Board (ESAB) meeting in March 2024.





Budgeting Process

Mayor Lois Paritsky

Each and every year, your town government is responsible for presenting a budget to the Town Council. The budget serves as a financial plan for the coming year and is intended to support the town’s operations and meet the goals set forth by the council. Each of our department heads is responsible for maintaining and working toward improving the level of service that our residents have come to expect and rely upon.

I would like to take this opportunity to present a brief overview of the budget process so that everyone can better understand all the steps that take place between the time the work begins each year and the time Council adopts the final millage rate and approves the annual budget.



Directly related to our work on the budget are our property taxes. I know that my neighbors, friends, and relatives don’t like paying taxes. You probably don’t like paying for them either. But, as our Volusia County Property Appraiser, Larry Bartlett, points out, taxes are the cost of civilization. I will circle back to our property appraiser in just

a moment, but for now, I think we can all agree that when it comes to paying taxes, everyone needs to pay their fair share, and nobody wants to pay more than they need to.

Funding for Services

- Fire Department
- Police Department
- Administration
- Public Works
- Building & Code
- Planning & Zoning
- Parks & Recreation
- Information Technology
- Legal
- Legislative

As applied to Ponce Inlet, our property taxes fund approximately 10 different departments and categories of expenses. Close to seventy-six percent of the budget is allocated to the top five departments you see on this list above.

Town Manager & Department Heads



Each of our departments is led by a department head. Pictured here from left to right are Town Manager Mike Disher, Public Safety Director and Fire Chief Dan Scales, Police Chief Jeff Glazier, Public Works Director Fred Griffith, Cultural Services Manager Jackie French, Finance Director Kim McCall, Town Clerk and HR Director Kim Cherbano, and IT Director Randy Okum.

The budget process begins early in the calendar year, when each department head provides our town manager with an assessment of the needs of their department. These individuals are all experienced leaders who work day in and day out in service to our residents. This preliminary information allows the Town Manager to begin compiling a proposed budget for presentation to the Council.

Once the outline of a preliminary budget is ready for early review, the process of council and citizen engagement and involvement begins. Next, let's walk through several of those steps and review the timeline.

Public Meeting #1

Essential Service Board

March 2nd, 2023

Capital purchase requests in excess of \$50,000 are reviewed by this advisory board (made up of residents) and discussed at a public meeting.

All capital purchases in excess of \$50,000 are subject to a hearing and a vote at the Essential Services Advisory Board, or ESB. This board, made up of residents with expertise in each of the five disciplines, conducts a public hearing during which each item is presented, reviewed, debated, and finally voted on.

The ESB sends a recommendation to the Council, where a determination is made to include or exclude specific line items in the final budget.

A series of budget workshops are then scheduled. These public meetings are always noticed, and our residents are invited to attend. During these preliminary meetings, the council will discuss expense and revenue projections, along with priorities for equipment, projects, and staffing levels, and debate the merits of each item. The first such meeting this year took place on June 23.

A second budget workshop was held on July 18th. This meeting provided another opportunity to evaluate specific line items and discuss the overall level of service to provide, along with its associated millage rate. Again, this was a publicly noticed meeting where our residents were invited and encouraged to attend and participate.

On July 20th, the council set a proposed millage rate based on what we projected should be included in the proposed budget. This rate represents a "ceiling," the highest millage rate that the Council can adopt while leaving open the possibility of a lower rate being set at an upcoming meeting.

On September 6th, the council held another public meeting to finalize the budget and set the tentative millage rate. Once agreed upon, the item was included in the agenda for the September 21st Council meeting.

During the September 21st Council meeting, the final budget was adopted, and the millage rate for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 was voted on.

In summary, there are approximately six opportunities for our residents to be heard and engage with the Town when it comes to formulating the budget. By law as well as design, it is a very open process where resident input is welcome and encouraged.

Residents can attend and ask questions as to why certain items are included or excluded from the budget. Our Town Manager and our department heads are there to address each question that pertains to their department's share of the budget. Residents may have also reached out to our staff and council members via phone or email to ask questions and express their opinions.



Now that we hopefully have a better understanding of the town's end of the work, let's circle back to Larry Bartlett, Volusia County's property appraiser.

The property appraiser's primary job is to calculate the taxable value of our property. The taxable value, multiplied by the millage rate, determines the amount of "ad valorem" revenue, or revenue from the value of our real estate, that the Town receives each year. Approximately 79% of Ponce Inlet's revenue comes from Ad Valorem taxes. Because each municipality is different in terms of its available revenue streams, the ratio of homes to businesses, and the percentage of homesteaded properties, comparing millage rates between municipalities is rarely an apples-to-apples comparison.



How is Taxable Value Calculated?

Just Value	\$580,000	<i>Property's Market Value</i>
- Accumulated SOH	- \$200,000	<i>Accumulated difference between Market Value and Assessed Value is the Save Our Homes Benefit</i>
= Assessed Value	= \$380,000	<i>Market Value minus Accumulated SOH</i>
- Exemptions	- \$50,000	<i>Homestead can result in exempting up to \$50,000 of home's assessed value</i>
= Taxable Value	= \$330,000	<i>Assessed Value minus Exemptions</i>

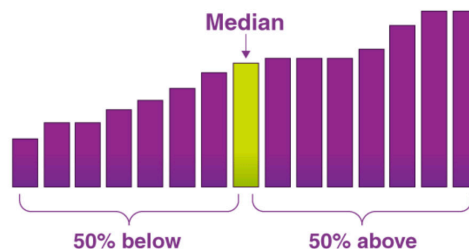
This slide above explains how the taxable value is calculated. Starting with the just value, which is derived from the market value, the first reduction is based on the accumulated Save Our Homes (or SOH) benefit. SOH dates back to an amendment to the Florida Constitution in 1995. It limits the annual increase in the assessed value of homesteaded properties to 3% or the change in the National Consumer Price Index (CPI), whichever is less. After this adjustment, we arrive at the Assessed Value.

Finally, homesteaded properties receive an additional fifty-thousand-dollar exemption. The remaining amount is the taxable value.

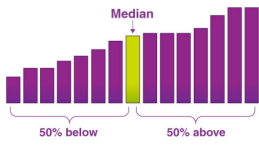
Now that we understand how our Property Appraiser goes about his work, let's apply this to some example properties in Ponce Inlet.

Median Value

Half of all homes are lower
Half of all homes are higher



Many of you are probably familiar with the term "median value." At this point, half the homes in Ponce Inlet have a higher taxable value, and half are lower.

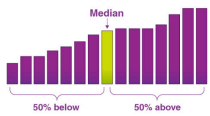


A homesteaded property with a taxable value of \$500,000 will have appreciated almost \$100,000 over the same period of time, with a tax increase this year of about \$667.00 based upon a 6.5 millage rate.

The median taxable value of a homesteaded single-family property in our Town is approximately \$328,000. Using this as a reference point, let's apply a tentative millage rate of 6.5 and see what the results are. As most of you know, Ponce Inlet accounts for approximately one-third of your total tax bill.



2021-22	+10.83%
2022-23	+8.25%



↓ 2022 Tax Cut (\$135)

↑ 2023 Tax Increase \$463.00

2 Year Composite Increase:
 $(\$463 - \$135) = \$328/2$
 = \$164.00 / Year

At a 6.5-millage rate, taxes would increase \$463 per year compared to 2022. Last year, the council voted to reduce taxes, and the same home received a \$135 reduction. If we combine the two years into a single composite rate, the two-year difference in taxes between 2021 and 2023 comes out to approximately \$164.00 per year for each of the last two years.

Several extraordinary events had an impact on our reserve levels and the 2023 budget calculations. First, we sustained approximately \$850,000 worth of storm-related cleanup following Hurricanes Ian and Nicole. We have already received a portion of that back from FEMA and insurance, but the exact timeline for the rest remains uncertain. Second, the town was involved in a legal proceeding, and although we ultimately prevailed, the cost came to approximately \$500,000. State and federal mandates also increased our wage and retirement costs. These items were on top of the inflationary pressures we are faced with on almost everything we purchase. The Town is not exempt from the same cost increases that our residents are subjected to.

A homesteaded property with an assessed value of approximately one million dollars will see a tax increase this year of approximately \$1,335 under this scenario but will have appreciated almost \$200,000 in the last two years.

Extraordinary Events

- **\$850,000** Hurricane Cleanup 2x
- **\$500,000** Legal Fees. Town Prevailed
- Insurance, Utility, Refuse Increases
- Inflation – Supplies & Equipment

The final budget this year was voted on at the September 21st council meeting. It provided for the safety, well-being, high-quality service levels, and expectations of our community. Our residents have chosen to make Ponce Inlet their home for a number of very good reasons. I believe that the Council has an obligation to meet their expectations and to do so with a responsible and well-thought-out budget.

I hope I have helped you understand the process just a little better, and I look forward to seeing you at the next budget meeting. Thank you.



COUNTY CORNER

Hello everyone. It is that time again for an update from your County Councilman, Matt Reinhart. As I have done in the past two updates, I will start off by giving you an update with regards to our beaches. Since the last newsletter, the following has taken place:

- The trap bag deployment that was implemented several months ago has reached over 46,000 linear feet. That has obviously increased from the 34,670 linear feet reported in the last newsletter.
- In my last newsletter, I reported that the County had already removed over 11,950 cubic yards of debris from our beaches. That number is currently over 13,000 cubic yards.
- Many have asked about some of the walkovers and when they will be fully repaired. I can tell you that some of them have been a bit challenging since poles need to be drilled down to support those walkovers. They must be sunk down a considerable amount, and to do that, the tides must work with us. Recently, that has not been happening. Other walkovers have ADA issues, and that work must be subcontracted out. We anticipate more of this to be accomplished during the winter months.
- We have a couple of sand replacement projects in the works as well. The first is a dredging project for the intracoastal waterway. This will help produce about 700,000 cubic yards of beach compatible sand. It will be staged in the Ponce Inlet area to be ultimately placed in the most vulnerable areas needed. Another sand replenishment project is that of obtaining approximately 550,000 cubic yards of



beach-compatible sand from Rattlesnake Island, which is located near the Inlet.

The plan for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) grant that was awarded to Volusia County in the amount of \$328.9 million has been approved by Volusia County Council. Therefore, the next step is to review the applications being received by those to whom the grant is applicable. For more information about this, please go to <https://www.transform386.org> or call 386-943-7029.

I mentioned in the last newsletter that I am currently working on a project to install 9-1-1 call boxes at our county-operated parks. The idea is to start with our coastal parks, as they are already due for necessary repairs due to last year's storms. We are in the solicitation phase of obtaining bids for this project. There may even be grants available for the purchase of this equipment. If they prove to be helpful, which I anticipate they will be, I plan to see if the program can be expanded to other county parks. I will keep you posted. I recently had a meeting with Dr. Duane DeFreese, Ph.D. His area of expertise is that of coastal conservation, sustainability, water quality remediation, climate change, sea level rise, and water resources.

The purpose of this meeting was to see what we could do to assist with the improvement of our water quality in the IRL (Indian River Lagoon). The growing of mangroves is a proven method. I wanted to see if it was possible to grow the mangroves off-site and then replant them in the IRL. At the end of the conversation, we agreed this could be done. I identified that I would like to see if we could teach our inmate population how to perform both functions (planting and growing and then replanting). I am now seeking appropriations from the State of Florida to purchase two greenhouses to be placed on Corrections property. The appropriations process is scheduled to be heard by our local state delegation next month. If approved, we would be awarded those appropriations for next year's budget. This plan not only helps our waterways but also assists our neighboring county of Brevard and Palm Beach County stretching 156 miles. This also helps teach our inmates a new trade and the importance of conserving our waterways.



The Inmate Work Program I have been speaking of in the past two newsletters (inmate embroidery, farm, etc.) has been placed on hold. This is due to the fact that our staffing levels at Corrections need to vastly improve before we can take on this

task. Our focus needs to be staffing the actual institutions for staff and inmate safety, as well as the safety of our citizens. I will keep this program on the drawing board, though, and if I am fortunate enough to be re-elected in November 2024, we can revisit.

Lastly, we just approved our annual budget for 2023–24. The amount was almost \$1.4 billion in both operating and non-operating costs. For more information, please go to FY 2023–24 Budget Information (volusia.org)

Remember to stay involved in your local government and attend your town hall meetings as well as your County Council meetings when you can. I look forward to seeing you at both! Also, please remember that if you have any questions, please feel free to reach out. Thank you so much, and God bless!

Matt Reinhart
Volusia County Council
District 2
mreinhardt@volusia.org

THE TALK OF TALLAHASSEE

As the representative for Ponce Inlet, I am deeply honored by the opportunity to serve this vibrant community. I want to express my gratitude for the trust and support that you have shown me throughout my time in the state legislature.

Last legislative session was dedicated to a cause that is close to my heart: protecting Florida's families. I don't take this responsibility lightly, and it is an honor to work on policies and initiatives that directly impact the lives of our residents.

I am truly humbled to have been appointed as the "Whip" of the prestigious Education & Workforce Committee. It's a responsibility that comes with a lot of weight, and I am well aware of the trust placed in me to shape Florida's education system. I remain committed to advocating for policies that benefit our students and ensure they receive the best education possible.

During the last legislative session, I was fortunate to see three bills that I filed signed into law by Governor Ron DeSantis.

One of my proudest moments was securing Ponce Inlet's first ever legislative appropriation. It was a significant milestone for this community, and I am truly grateful for the opportunity to bring these funds back to the town of Ponce Inlet. I want to assure you that I will continue to work diligently to secure additional funding for important local projects and improvements.



In conclusion, I am truly humbled to represent Ponce Inlet and Volusia County. Your support and trust have been the driving force behind the work I do. I am committed to continuing my service with humility and dedication, always keeping the best interests of our community at heart. Together, we can create a brighter and more prosperous future for all who call this beautiful state home. Thank you for allowing me the privilege to serve you.

Chase Tramont
Florida House of Representatives
District 30



From the Town Manager, Mike Disher

Time flies when you enjoy what you do! I was recently surprised to realize that as of November 2023, I will have worked for the Town a total of 11 years. I started as the Senior Planner in the Planning and Development Department, then became the Assistant Director in 2018, and finally the Director in 2021. I can say that when I first began working here, I never imagined that I would be in this role today. But last summer, when the previous Town Manager, Jeaneen Witt, asked if I would be willing to serve as the Interim Town Manager after her resignation, I couldn't say no.

It is even harder for me to believe that it has now been a whole year since the Town Council appointed me as the Interim Manager. Officially being hired as the Town Manager last April was an incredible honor for me personally and professionally. It has been especially rewarding to work closely with the Town Council, Boards, department heads, and residents. I want to express my gratitude and appreciation for your encouragement and support of me and the Town staff, because none of us would be here without you.

We've been through and accomplished a lot over the past year, including repairs and recovery from two hurricanes; cleaning all storm drainage pipes in the south half of town; completion of improvements to Elbers Park, Pollard Park, and Town Hall; adopting a contract with our local Fire Union; initiating the Watershed Master Plan to improve the Town's flood insurance rating; adopting resilience policies recommended by the 2022 Vulnerability Assessment; finishing the Ponce de Leon septic-to-sewer project; updating the



town's special event co-sponsorship ordinance; maintaining Police Department accreditation for the 15th consecutive year; and celebrating the Town's 60th Anniversary!

Congratulations!

Join us in congratulating current Mayor Lois Paritsky, current Vice-Mayor Gary Smith, and Councilmember-elect Skip White for winning their elections in August! Please join us at the inauguration ceremony on Thursday, November 16th at 6:00 p.m. Cake and refreshments will be served during a short break right afterward.

The Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Budget

On September 21, the Town Council approved the final budget for fiscal year 23/24. This budget is the result of several months of work based on guidance from the Council and valuable input from the Essential Services Advisory Board (ESAB), all eight departments, and the public over the course of five public meetings and workshops. It is designed to meet or exceed the Town's current level of service to our residents, continue necessary maintenance activities in the wake of last year's hurricanes, and ensure adequate reserves.

The FY 23/24 budget includes the top priorities of the Council, including new staff positions for emergency responders and much needed maintenance of our stormwater drainage system. Some highlights of this budget are: three new firefighter positions, two police officer positions, and one public works position, all to be hired at mid-year; cleaning the storm drainage pipes in the north half of town; creation of an Adaptation Action Plan, which is the next step in the town's resiliency planning efforts; excavating the Town's retention ponds to remove muck deposits; installing one-way backflow valves in storm drains on low-lying streets; and purchasing a new emergency power generator for the Community Center.

In a few months, the budget process will begin again for FY 24/25. The first opportunity for the public to participate is the Essential Services Advisory Board (ESAB) meeting in March. At this meeting, the ESAB will be asked to review and help prioritize budget proposals related to the departments of police, fire, and public works. Balancing the Town's operational needs, service levels, and quality of life are all considerations in the budget process where public input is not only welcome, but vital.

From Police Chief Jeff Glazier...



Accreditation

An accreditation program has long been recognized as a means of maintaining the highest standards of professionalism. Accreditation is the certification by an independent reviewing authority that an entity has met specific requirements and prescribed standards. Law enforcement agencies can attain accredited status through the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation, Inc.

On August 15, 2023, assessors from across Florida arrived in Ponce Inlet to conduct a three-day review of the Ponce Inlet Police Department (PIPD) policies and procedures. They reviewed files, proofs of compliance, interviewed officers, conducted ride-a-longs, and inspected equipment. The PIPD was responsible for complying with over 200 standards to achieve re-accreditation.

On October 5, 2023, Town Manager Mike Disher, Police Chief Jeff Glazier, Accreditation Manager Gina Manchester, and Lt. Corey Mead traveled to Fort Myers,

Florida to receive their fifth re-accreditation certificate also known as the Excelsior Award. This is a rare achievement that demonstrates exceptional commitment to the Florida accreditation program. The Excelsior Recognition program is the highest level of achievement a criminal justice agency can receive from the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation.

the potential risks they pose to residents and pets. We thought we would bring in the experts to answer all your questions.



Police Activity

The Year-to-Date 2023 activity for the PIPD:

- 423 calls for service
- 4 min., 17sec. average response time
- 1,750 traffic stops
- 14,013 Property Checks
- 182 Suspicious Incidents
- 31 Well-Being checks



Wildlife Workshop

On Wednesday, November 8th at 6:30 pm, the Ponce Inlet Police Department will be hosting a presentation at the Community Center by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission (FWC). FWC biologists will discuss the bears, coyotes, raccoons, and bobcats that have been spotted in Ponce Inlet. The Police Department has received many questions about these animals and

The Ponce Inlet Police department continues to receive numerous complaints of fraud and has created a 1-hour fraud class called “Don’t Be a Victim” that can be brought to your neighborhood group, condo association, or club.

Call the PIPD at 386-236-2160 to schedule your class.

From Fire Chief

Dan Scales...



New Employee - Joe Landreville, Deputy Fire Chief

We are happy to announce the hiring of Ponce Inlet's new Deputy Fire Chief, Joe Landreville. Mr. Landreville is a long-term resident of Volusia County. He graduated from New Smyrna Beach High School and has lived in the same area ever since. His work experience for the past 40 years includes being a firefighter paramedic, chief fire officer, educator at the local community college, and a supervisor for the Florida Bureau of Fire Standards and Training. He holds a BA Degree in Organizational Management and is a graduate of the four-year Executive Fire Officer Program at the National Fire Academy. It is with great enthusiasm that he is returning to Volusia County to continue his public safety career. Mr. Landreville was the top finalist from over a dozen candidates, many from out of the county and state. The interview process was very rigorous, with each candidate required to complete a questionnaire, along with an "in-basket" exercise that presented the candidates with a wide range of situational challenges. The comprehensive interview process allowed us to evaluate potential hires in a wide range of performance areas, including their written, verbal, and prioritization skills. The tentative start date for Mr. Landreville will be in mid-November. We are very excited to welcome Joe to the department and look forward to his

contribution to our organization and the community.

Accreditation Update

In September, the fire department received the final version of the Strategic Plan, facilitated by the Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE). The strategic plan is the second step in a three-part process for department accreditation through the CPSE. The third part is the self-assessment manual, which is slated to commence this fiscal year. You can view the strategic plan by selecting the link to the fire department page on the Town's website.

New Equipment

The fire department will soon be deploying our new cardiac monitors and defibrillators. The new equipment represents the latest in pre-hospital cardiac care, replacing the previous units that were over a decade old. The new units also provide standardization with other EMS departments and hospitals, allowing seamless sharing of information and the transfer of patient care. The new monitors and defibrillators will significantly enhance the level of care provided by the Ponce Inlet Fire Department.



2023 Santa Run

In December, the PIFD drives Santa on his sleigh to spread cheer throughout the town. Santa is escorted by firefighters, police officers, and other staff members. Residents are encouraged to wave Santa down for a photo! This event is for three nights, December 8, 9, and 10. Please visit our website for more information.

From Public Works Manager, Fred Griffith...



Our Public Works Department crews continue to stand ready to protect our Town from future flooding. The recent 5”–6” rainfall during the highly intense storm this past month was contained very well within our existing storm water pipes, exfiltration systems, and retention ponds.

Stormwater System Cleaning

In April and May of this year, we had 50% of the storm pipe systems thoroughly flushed and cleaned. We are in the process of getting the remaining 50% of the storm pipe system cleaned later this calendar year. Public Works crews also this year constructed improvements to many of our existing stormwater pipe inlets and outfalls. This past month, the County came through for us, after our urging and encouragement, to construct swales along the western side of S. Atlantic Avenue just north of Beach Street to reduce the amount of stormwater run-off from this roadway. We will be asking them to do more of the same next calendar year, just to the north near the Glenview Avenue area.

New Pumps

We recently received two new pumps, a 3” pump and a trailer-mounted 4” stormwater pump, shown in the picture being tested at the Beach Street retention pond. Later this year, we are planning for additional stormwater improvements along Old Carriage, Anchor Drive, and at the west end of Beach Street, including the desilting of several Town-maintained retention areas on Beach Street and Inlet Point Boulevard.



New Employee – Lindsay Gatrost, Office Manager

We are very happy to announce the hire of our new Public Works Department Office Manager, Lindsay Gatrost. Lindsay was originally hired in 2021 as an Office Specialist with the Police Department. She is a graduate of New Smyrna Beach High School and is currently pursuing a college degree at Daytona State University. Her cheery personality, organizational and technical computer skills, and understanding of the Town’s financial processes and procedures have proven to be an extreme asset to our office operations and department as a whole. Please join us in welcoming her now to our Public Works Department Team!

From Cultural Services Manager, Jackie French...



60th Anniversary Celebration

The department also helped celebrate an important milestone—the 60th anniversary of the Town’s incorporation! Over 300 people attended this event, which included a scavenger hunt focused on the town’s history, a 1960s-themed costume contest, participation from local businesses and clubs, games, a food drive for our local elementary school, and even the opportunity to dunk Council members and Town staff in a dunk tank! The department was honored and grateful for all the support from the community to ensure this momentous occasion happened with such spirit, connection, and great fun! This was an event celebrating 60 years of the town as a community, and we believe it was a great example of what makes ours stand out among the rest!

Events & Programs

This summer, between June and September, the Cultural Services Department offered 16 total programs that attracted people looking for fun despite

the heat! Through crafts, we helped build connections between grandparents and their grandkids, locals with the importance of shells, the many benefits of stretching, and treasures in the park!

The Department is gearing up for spooky and nostalgic events, ranging from our annual returns of Ghosts of Ponce Past, Children’s Halloween Party, the Town Tree Lighting and Visit with Santa, and assisting with the Christmas Parade.

Events for October:

Ghosts of Ponce Past

Come hear spooky tales about Ponce Inlet and take a walking ghost tour of the Pacetti Cemetery.

6:00 PM-7:30 PM

Saturday, October 21, 2023

Ponce Inlet Historical Museum

143 Beach Street, meet outside on the lawn.

Questions? Contact Jennifer LaGreca at Jlagreca@ponce-inlet.org or (386)761-2408.

RSVP not required but greatly appreciated.

Children’s Halloween Party

Come in costume and have “spooktacular” fun with children’s games, haunted hayrides and more!

5:30 PM

Saturday, October 28, 2023

Kay & Ayres Davies Lighthouse Park

4931 S. Peninsula Dr.

Free. Contact Jackie French at Jfrench@ponce-inlet.org or (386)322-6703.

Events for November:

Painting at the Museum - Reflections of Fall

Acrylic Canvas Painting Class for ages 7 and up. No experience necessary, instructor will guide you step by step.

9:30 AM

Saturday, November 4, 2023

Ponce Inlet Historical Museum

143 Beach Street, outside on the lawn.

\$10 per person, all supplies included.

Space is limited to 12 people. Pre-payment required at Town Hall by 10/27/23.

Questions? Contact Jennifer at Jlagreca@ponce-inlet.org or (386)761-2408.

Veterans Day Ceremony in Ponce Inlet

10:00 AM

Friday, November 10, 2023

Kay & Ayres Davies Lighthouse Park

4931 S. Peninsula Dr.

Free. Contact Jackie French at Jfrench@ponce-inlet.org or (386)322-6703.

Scavenger Hunt @the Park

Come look for treasure and make a memory with your little one on a tiny tot park adventure craft project! Parents and children 2 and up.

9:00 AM

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Timucuan Oaks Garden

4550 S. Peninsula Dr., outside on the lawn.

Free. RSVP by 11/8 required:

Contact Jennifer at Jlagreca@ponce-inlet.org or (386)761-2408.

Painting at the Museum- Beach Resin on canvas board

Acrylic Canvas Painting Class for ages 7 and up. No experience necessary, instructor will guide you step by step.

9:30 AM

Saturday, November 18, 2023

Ponce Inlet Historical Museum

143 Beach Street, outside on the lawn.

\$15 per person, all supplies included.

Space is limited to 12 people. Pre-payment required at Town Hall by 11/9/23.

Questions? Contact Jennifer at Jlagreca@ponce-inlet.org or (386)761-2408.

Events for December:

Town Tree Lighting and Children's Christmas Party

6:00 PM

Friday, December 1, 2023

Pollard Park

4680 S. Peninsula Dr.

Free. Contact Jackie French at Jfrench@ponce-inlet.org or (386)322-6703.

Christmas Parade and Breakfast with Santa

Hosted by the Ponce Inlet Veterans Memorial Association.

Breakfast with Santa @ 9:00 AM

Parade starts @ 2:00 PM

Saturday, December 2, 2023

There is a change this year to the parade route. This year, the route proceeds **NORTH** along S. Peninsula Dr. from Davies Lighthouse Park to Harbour Village Blvd.

For more information, contact Mark Oebbecke: moebbecke@yahoo.com and Cherise Wintz: cherises39@yahoo.com.

Merry Old-Fashioned Christmas!

Celebrate with live holiday music, old fashioned games, memorable crafts, and tour the Museum!

10:00 AM-1:00PM

Saturday, December 9, 2023

Ponce Inlet Historical Museum

143 Beach Street, outside on the lawn.

Free; RSVP by 12/2 required:

Jennifer; Jlagreca@ponce-inlet.org or (386)761-2408.

Painting at the Museum- Rockefeller at Christmas

Acrylic Canvas Painting Class for ages 7 and up. No experience necessary, instructor will guide you step by step.

9:30 AM

Saturday, December 16, 2023

Ponce Inlet Historical Museum

143 Beach Street, outside on the lawn.

\$10 per person, all supplies included.

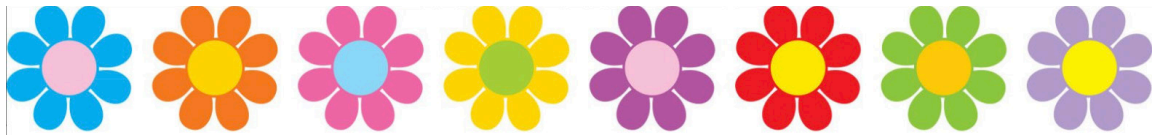
Space is limited to 12 people. Pre-payment required at Town Hall by 12/8. 386-236-2150

Questions? Contact Jennifer at Jlagreca@ponce-inlet.org or (386)761-2408.

Special Events

There are numerous special events taking place in Ponce Inlet throughout the year. All questions can be directed to Jackie French, jfrench@ponce-inlet.org or (386) 322-6703. For more information about the Town's Special Event regulations, see Chapter 51 in the Ponce Inlet Code of Ordinances.





Garden Club of Ponce Inlet

by Patricia Morris



Happy Fall, and welcome to the 42nd year of the Garden Club of Ponce Inlet!

The Garden Club is excited to be back and celebrating the beginning of our 42nd year as a club in Ponce Inlet. As we have in past years, our club will work diligently to ensure that we accomplish all of the goals set forth for the upcoming year while continuing to promote the beauty of our town. To that end, we held our first membership meeting of the year on September 27, welcoming back all of our members and prospective members. Edwina Knox, 95 years young and a founding member of our club back in the spring of 1982, was once again in attendance to lead us in the devotional and pledge of allegiance.



Just to give you a snapshot of our year, we will be hosting speakers at our October 2023, November 2023, January 2024, and February 2024 meetings. In October, Ms. Sandy Hartung, the owner of the Flower Market in Ormond Beach, will be joining us to teach us all about flower arranging. In November, Mr. Robert Bowden, retired Executive Director of Leu Gardens, will be making a return appearance to our club, this time talking to us about making new plants from old ones. Our January meeting will feature Mr. Chris Marquis from Big Value Garden Center in Daytona, who will be discussing Landscape Planning in Volusia County and Ponce Inlet. At our February meeting, Mrs. Joann Doyle, our resident Hostess Extraordinaire, will be demonstrating how to do a Spring Holiday Tablescape. In December, we hold our Annual Holiday Luncheon and in March, we have our annual “Looking to the New Year” and organizational meeting. April is always a special meeting for us since we hold our annual Arbor Day celebration. At this meeting, we will be celebrating the 30th anniversary of Ponce Inlet being declared a Tree City. And finally, in May, we say good-bye for the season to our members and celebrate our accomplishments from the year. As a club, we will also participate in the Ponce Inlet Christmas Parade and the Marine Science Center’s Christmas Tree Festival, which will take place in early December. As you can see, we have a very busy year ahead of us.

In the meantime, our club was very excited to hold its Annual Arts, Crafts and Plant Show on October 6th and 7th. This is an annual event that our club has been hosting for over 30 years. Highlights of our event included both indoor and outdoor vendors displaying and selling their often unique and varied handmade arts and crafts. Our Garden Club Crafters and JJ’s Jewelry also joined in the fun by displaying and selling some of their lovely crafts and handmade jewelry.

Of course, we had our Annual Garden Club Plant Sale, showcasing some popular and unique plants rooted and planted from cuttings donated by our members. Not to be undone, we also featured our Annual Bake Sale and Potter's Café. All of our items for the bake sale were made and donated by our members, and if you did not get a chance to partake, trust me, they were all delicious. Our Potter's Café offered our popular walking tacos and hot dogs. All food was cooked and prepared by our members, and from all accounts, everyone enjoyed our food offerings. Finally, our raffle items were a huge hit this year. We had seven beautiful baskets, which included our ever-popular Lottery Wheel, a Paramount+ and Chill Gift Basket, a Wine Gift Basket, a \$500 Shutterfly Gift Card, a delightful Tablescape Boo Basket, and two different pieces of artwork by two of our very own members.

As the saying goes, a picture is worth a thousand words, so I hope you enjoy these photos of our vendors and Garden Club members.



Our Ponce Primers have already been at work beautifying the area around Town Hall and will continue their efforts throughout the year.



Our Monthly Beautification Award to residents of Ponce Inlet will resume later this month and continue throughout the year, with the exception of January and February. In December, our Beautification Committee will also be choosing the winners of the Holiday Lights Award.

Our Garden 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.

As always, we thank all of our members for their ongoing support and contributions to our club.

Anyone interested in joining our club or seeing what we are all about is welcome to join us as a guest at one of our membership meetings, which are held on the 4th Wednesday of the month starting at 10:30 a.m. at the Ponce Inlet Community Center.

Ponce Inlet Lions Club **By Nancy Epps, President**



Our thoughts are with the victims of Hurricane Idalia, which struck the northern Florida Gulf Coast in late August as a strong category 4, but better than our thoughts, our deeds are helping in material ways. Our club is in Florida Lions Multiple District 35-O, and our district disaster team, of which I am a member, received a generous \$10,000 grant from the district. Many of the supplies we purchased with the grant funds were delivered to a firehouse in Yankeetown to be distributed to residents who needed them.

Included were large shovels for mucking out, squeegees on long handles, push brooms, cleaning and mildew removal chemicals, gloves, hand wipes, “blessing bags” with personal hygiene items, etc. Blessing bag supplies were donated by numerous clubs in the district late last year and were then packed into gallon-size plastic bags by the teenage Lions called Leos.

District 35-O also received \$45,000 from our international charity, Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), which was specifically to help recover from Hurricanes Ian and Nicole. The disaster team decided the dollars would make an impact on the most people by renovating a community center in Davenport, which is on the west side of the state and suffered a lot of damage. Their community center serves

Davenport in ways that are very similar to the way our community center (PICC) serves Ponce Inlet. The Davenport Center is the meeting place for numerous clubs (including the Lions Club), community activities, a church, and a community swimming pool. The Davenport Center is now in use again after significant repairs, so we will be applying for a new grant as new needs are identified. Unfortunately, we never run out of need.

On a lighter note, the Ponce Inlet Lions offered hotdogs, chips, and drinks to support the Town of Ponce Inlet's 60th anniversary celebration on September 16th. Lions Jim Martin, Dan Snyder, Shirley Okhovatian, Charlie Burge, and his wife, Anna, provided the grill and sales services. We thank all our wonderful residents who supported us by purchasing a hotdog meal. For example, we had one nice woman who said she couldn't buy the \$5 package deal because she is a vegetarian. Lion Shirley pointed out that a bun, mustard, onion, chips, and a drink are vegetarian, and she purchased the \$5 deal. We love our community!

Looking ahead, we are planning to start offering bingo soon at the PICC! We feel this will be a great addition to the town's many

opportunities to have fun. We are in the planning stages, so watch for more details.

Lionism is a great way to meet wonderful people and serve your community while having fun!

Information about becoming a Lion can be found on our website, www.pilions.org, 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. Consider joining us for great camaraderie with neighbors who care and the incomparable feeling of helping those in need. We always have dinner (and usually some wine), so come as a guest to find out more about the great work we do. We meet at 6 PM at the Ponce Inlet Community Center (PICC) on the first Wednesday of most months, although our December meeting will be for members only as we celebrate Christmas at the Halifax River Yacht Club. Please call me if you would like to attend a meeting to make sure we are going to be there.

These stories represent some examples of how we fulfill our mottos, "We Serve" and "Where there is a need, there is a Lion."

Happy Holidays!



Ponce Inlet Veterans Memorial Association

by Bill Wester



We kicked off the new year for us in great style. We participated in Ponce Inlet's 60th Anniversary. As a result of our participation, we signed up five new members and sold a bunch of our T-shirts. Those of us who attended enjoyed dunking our Town Manager, Council Members, and especially the Police Chief in the frigid dunk tank. It was a great day of fun!

Veterans Day Ceremony

Our plans are moving forward for the Veterans Day ceremony. This year, we are holding it on Friday, November 10, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. with a ceremony at the Memorial at Davies Lighthouse Park. This November 10 ceremony pays tribute to those who serve or have served in the armed forces of the United States during any war and also during peacetime.

It is anticipated that the ceremony will be as moving as it has been in previous years. There will be speakers, an Embry Riddle University ROTC color guard, a POW/Missing Man ceremony, a flyover, and a dedication and wreath-laying. We hope that everyone in the area will be able to attend.

Pancake Breakfast and Christmas Parade

The planning for the pancake breakfast with Santa and the Christmas parade is coming together well. Both are on December 2nd, with the Pancake Breakfast going from 9:00 a.m. to noon at the Ponce Inlet Community Center. A minimum fee is charged for each breakfast. The breakfast will be staffed by members of the Ponce Inlet Veterans Memorial Association and the Ponce Inlet Lions Club.

The parade will kick off at 2:00 PM from Davies Lighthouse Park, going up South Peninsula Drive to Harbour Village Boulevard. This year, we are expanding the parade to include three marching bands and up to 30 parade participants from Ponce Inlet and our neighboring communities. That does not include the Grand and Special Parade Marshals, the Veterans contingent, the Town Council float, the Public Works float, Fire/EMS, and Police. Obviously, Santa and his sleigh will also be present to kick off the holiday season. If you are interested in registering for any of the last remaining parade slots, stop by the Community Center to fill out a registration form. The registration fee is \$100.

Veterans Information

We would like to extend an invitation to all local veterans and those who are 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 7:00 PM on the second Tuesday of each month, except during the summer. Contact Mark Oebbecke at 610-716-0041 for additional information or to obtain a membership form.

PONCE INLET ANIMAL WELFARE "PAW"

BY NANCY EPPS, PRESIDENT

This summer, Ponce Inlet Animal Welfare Ruthie, one of the original colony cats who is at least 14 years old now, is looking good again after we thought we were losing her earlier in the year. She has become much more docile and gets along fine with Tiki now after a rough couple of years. Some of the volunteers can pet and brush her, so she is living out her last years peacefully with loving care.



I frequently get calls from people in the community who are concerned about stray kittens and cats, and a kind woman from Las Olas recently called about a little black and white cat that she and her son were seeing as they walked to the beach. We determined he was a male, and he was so friendly and sweet. The son named him Arthur, and they and the colony volunteers started feeding him until he could get to the vet, etc. After a week or so, Terri and Rip were able to get him to the Veterinary Emergency Center in South Daytona, where he was determined to be neutered and

declawed but not microchipped. It is hard to imagine anyone intentionally dumping a declawed cat into the wild. After a lot of expensive and time-consuming care by our wonderful volunteers and Mary Ann, our treasurer, sadly, the little guy was too sick to save.

We need to replenish the coffers after the expensive care for Arthur, so please watch for us to be asking for your help at a fundraiser later this year. If you can help now, please call me, and I will tell you how to donate.

We are now working with some concerned residents who have identified what appears to be a stray mother cat and her kittens. I can arrange for discounted spay/neuter services with shots at the HHS/Redinger Clinic, so we are working out a plan with the help of our wonderful animal control officer, Sgt. Rudd, to trap and sterilize the little family. There is also a Siamese cat that appears to be tame, and we are going to work together to trap and get him/her rehomed. Life with cats is never dull in Ponce Inlet, sadly.

Speaking of the Redinger Clinic, October 16 marked the anniversary of the passing of its founder and PAW's cofounder, Alan Redinger. September 11 was the date PAW's other cofounder, Jo Ellen Basile, passed away. We should always remember and be thankful to them for the service they did for the town and the helpless animals.

Please contact me if you would like to learn more about PAW, donate time, food, or money, or if you need our help: nancyepps@cfl.rr.com, (386) 795-2310.

Have a great holiday season!

Ponce Inlet Lighthouse and Museum

by Zach Hopple



As summer comes to an end, the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse begins the new school year by welcoming back students from across the state. Over 1000 summer camp children were able to tour the National Historic Landmark this summer, and large numbers of private, public, and homeschool children will once again learn about the maritime and social history of the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse this fall.

What's Happening from October through December 2023

On October 26th, the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse will once again open its doors to homeschool families from across the state of Florida. With a focus on the Indigenous People of Northeast Florida, over 100 students will interact with six workshops focused on Florida's educational standards. Fall Homeschool Day is one of the premier educational events held annually at the lighthouse. If you are interested in helping out with educational events like this, make sure to contact the lighthouse at Education@ponceinlet.org.

Also, the lighthouse will open its doors to cultural institutions from across the state on November 18th for Indigenous Peoples Heritage Day. One of the most popular events run each year at the lighthouse, visitors will have the opportunity to travel back in time and discover the fascinating

history of the indigenous people who once lived along the Volusia County inland waterways and throughout the local Florida region. Learn about the Timucua and Seminole as you explore the historic light station and participate in interactive workshops, living history demonstrations, and other activities presented by lighthouse staff, volunteers, and representatives from museums and cultural sites located throughout Central Florida.



From 10:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. on November 24th, the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse will host Thanksgiving Gifts at the Lighthouse. During this family-oriented event, guests will have the opportunity to make crafts, learn about early lighthouse keepers, and climb the tallest lighthouse in the state of Florida.

Be on the lookout for more information on Museum at Night on February 16th, 2024! Make sure to keep up with the events page at Event Calendar (ponceinlet.org) for up-to-date locations where you can find the volunteers and staff of the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse and Museum.

The Constance D. Hunter Historic Pacetti Hotel Museum Update

After a lengthy process spanning back to October of 2019, major restoration work has officially begun at the Pacetti Hotel! Those who have been following our progress will know of the many steps involved in this process, including acquiring the building and site, placing it on the National Register

of Historic Places, working with a historic preservation architect to plan out the development of the building, and then obtaining permits and approval for all the work that needs to be done to ensure that the 130+ year-old building remains standing for many years to come.

Some town residents might even have seen construction work near the south side of Sailfish Drive. Currently, different teams are working on different projects inside and outside the structure. While window technicians restore the hotel's many historic windows, others are installing fire suppression lines and equipment outside. Interior ceilings have been uncovered for the first time in over a century.

And of course, our staff is recording and photographing this process as much as possible for the benefit of future generations who would like to learn more about this process. Here at the lighthouse, we are lucky to have a relatively comprehensive overview of the construction and changes that happened here at the light station. The Pacetti Hotel, however, is a different story. Being that it was a private building for nearly all of its life, detailed records of building repairs and modifications were not kept like they were here at the lighthouse. This modern-day restoration is a wonderful opportunity for our staff to be able to learn more about the history of the building by studying whatever is found during this restoration phase of the project.

Volunteer Opportunities

The success of all of the programs provided by the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse relies 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 individuals interested in becoming volunteers. Monthly meetings and trainings will be provided for all

volunteers, as well as the opportunity to preserve and interpret the history of a National Historic Landmark. Any individuals interested in volunteering are encouraged to contact Programs Manager Zach Hopple by email at education@ponceinlet.org or by phone at (386) 761-1821, ext. 18.

Become a Member

Purchasing an Annual Membership is one of the most popular and affordable ways to support the Ponce de Leon Inlet Lighthouse Preservation Association in its mission to preserve and disseminate the maritime and social history of the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse. Benefits of membership include free admission to the museum and lighthouse during normal hours of operation, a 10% discount on all regular-priced merchandise in the giftshop, an annual subscription to the Association's quarterly journal Illuminations, as well as invitations to special events.

For more information about membership, please visit www.ponceinlet.org or call 386-761-1821.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES HERITAGE DAY
- A COLLABORATIVE CELEBRATION OF FLORIDA'S RICH NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURE -

NOVEMBER 18, 2023
10 AM TO 3 PM

LEARN ABOUT THE TIMUCUA AND SEMINOLE AS YOU EXPLORE THE HISTORIC LIGHT STATION AND PARTICIPATE IN INTERACTIVE WORKSHOPS, DEMONSTRATIONS, AND OTHER ACTIVITIES INCLUDED WITH REGULAR PAID ADMISSION

THE PONCE INLET LIGHTHOUSE & MUSEUM
4931 S. PENINSULA DR. PONCE INLET, FL 32127

PONCE CHURCH



7th Annual Legacy Housing Dinner Gala

December 7, 2023, from 6 p.m.–9 p.m.
Located at Sunset Riverfront Event Center,
145 N Halifax Ave., Daytona Beach, FL

Ponce Church meets Sundays at 10:30
a.m. at the PI Community Center, 4670 S.
Peninsula, next to the fire station. Everyone
is welcome at Ponce Church.

ESTABLISHED 2003

Twenty-one 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 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 to 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.

Coming Soon: Ponce Church will be reaching our community in Ponce Inlet with concerts and other special events with free surfboard and electric scooter giveaways. Follow Ponce Church on Facebook for updates.

Visit PonceChurch.com for more information. Thank you.

Join us Sundays at 10:30 a.m. at Ponce Church.

4670 S. Peninsula in Ponce Inlet, 386-308-1533

LEGACY HOUSING FOR AGE-OUT FOSTER YOUTH:

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



LEGACY
HOUSING

Watering Guidelines

Watering Restrictions

To ensure the efficient use of water for lawn and landscape irrigation, the St. John's River Water Management District has adopted watering restrictions. These restrictions are in effect year-round and apply throughout the District's entire 18-county area.

Rules & Regulations

During Daylight Savings Time the following rules apply:

Daylight Saving Time begins the second Sunday in March and ends the first Sunday in November. Residential irrigation is allowed at odd-numbered addresses from 4 p.m. to 10 a.m. Wednesdays and Saturdays and even-number addresses Thursdays and Sundays.

Business may irrigate from 4 p.m. to 10 a.m. Tuesdays and Fridays.

Restrictions apply to all water sources, including private wells and pumps, ground or surface water, and water from public and private utilities. New plantings may be watered any time for 30 days, then every other day for another 30 days. Keep the store receipt for proof of purchase. Hand watering with a spray nozzle that shuts-off when released is allowed anytime.

During Standard Time watering is allowed only once a week.

Helpful Resources

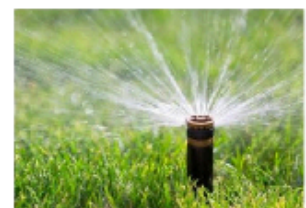
For more information regarding watering restrictions, you may contact the St. John's River Water Management District or 800-451-7106, or you may contact the Code Enforcement office at the Town of Ponce Inlet at 386-236-2187.

<https://www.ponce-inlet.org/286/Watering-Restrictions>

 <h2>Know your watering days</h2>			
	Homes with odd-numbered or no addresses	Homes with even-numbered or no addresses	Nonresidential properties
Daylight Saving Time	Wednesday and Saturday	Thursday and Sunday	Tuesday and Friday
Eastern Standard Time	Saturday	Sunday	Tuesday

These guidelines apply to all areas in Volusia County, including cities:

- Water only when needed, and not between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.
- Water for no more than one hour per zone, and no more than ¾ inch per zone.
- Restrictions apply to all water sources, including private wells and pumps, ground and surface water, and water from public and private utilities.





Ponce Inlet Women's Club

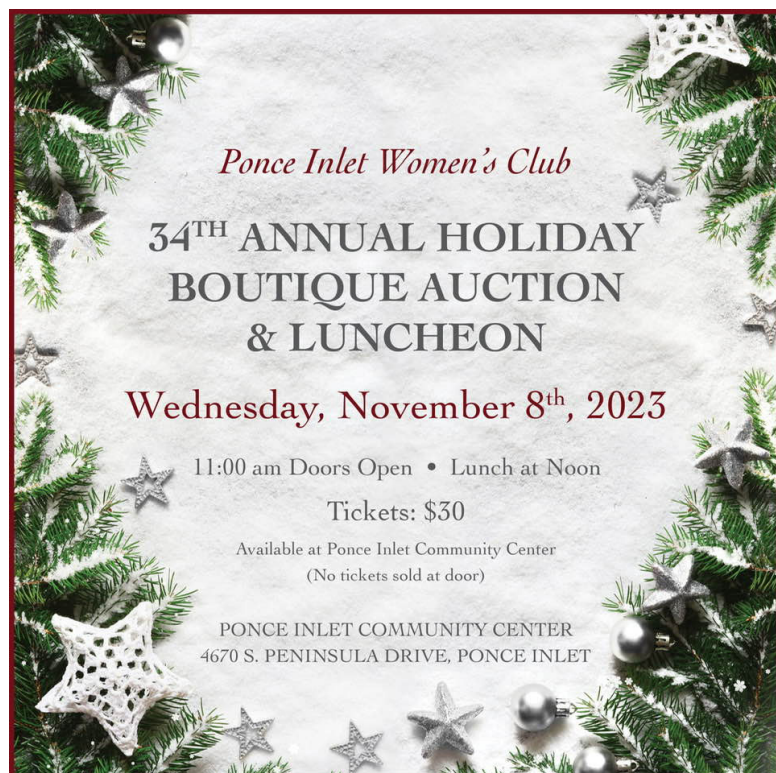
Greetings All!

We are happy to say that our club is in a stage of regrowth post-COVID-19, and with growth sometimes come growing pains! Our challenge is to re-establish our presence within the community of Ponce Inlet and other neighboring communities. Our club was established in 1966 and has weathered many storms along the way. Our mission is still the same: to build community engagement and have fun while we do it! We are hitting the ground running with our **Holiday Boutique on November 8th, 2023, at the PICCI.**

This is our first fundraiser, and we are excited to see what this year brings. Please support our Facebook page to see our list of events throughout the year. Social media is a strong tool, and we want to utilize it to keep our club members and community informed. If you are interested in our club, we invite you to attend our meetings, which are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 10:30 a.m. at PICCI. (Check our Facebook page for the most updated information.)

We value our members and their innovation in making the Ponce Inlet Women's Club successful in our 2023–2024 year and for years to come!

Sending Love and Light,
Cynthia Pinion
PIWC President





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.

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.





"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:

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- 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

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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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