



## Spotlight: Economic Development

Contributed by Pinellas County Economic Development

Part of [Pinellas County's Strategic Plan: Doing Things to Serve the Public](#) is the goal to foster continual economic growth and vitality. One of the underlying strategies is to proactively attract and retain businesses with targeted jobs to the county and the region. The primary responsibility of implementing the strategies to achieve this goal and monitoring the progress for the BCC falls to Economic Development. However, it could not be accomplished without the collective efforts of almost every department in Pinellas County, the close partnership of Planning, Building Services and Development Review Services, Communications, Real Estate, Public Works and the assistance of our municipal economic development partners and industry organizations.

Additionally, the team relies on the guidance of the [Pinellas County Economic Development Council](#), a volunteer group of business leaders appointed by the BCC, who help to identify the challenges, issues and opportunities faced by businesses within the County. Commission Chairman John Morroni chairs the 2015 PCED Council and works to establish the agenda and topics addressed at quarterly meetings.

**Why Economic Development?** The main goal of economic development is improving the economic well being of a community through high-wage job creation, job retention, tax base enhancements and quality of life. These objectives support the County's goal of continual economic growth. There is no single strategy, policy or program for achieving successful economic development because each community differs in strengths and weaknesses. Economic development must be tailored to meet the needs and objectives of the community. Pinellas is fortunate to be part the 18th largest metropolitan area in the country; it includes Hillsborough,

Pasco and Hernando counties. When any one of our communities is successful, we all succeed.

In Pinellas, these are some key factors that must be considered for economic development:

- Pinellas County has limited developable land available
- Types of businesses recruited and retained should be primary employers
- Wages must meet a high-wage milestone goal
- Industry must have potential for further growth
- Types of business recruited and retained should build on the area's existing industry strengths

**Why Primary Employers and High-Wage Jobs?** A local economy will grow in size based upon the amount of money coming in from other areas. The **quality** of an economy is a result of the amount of money earned by individuals in an area each year. Primary employers sell a majority of their products and services outside the local area, bringing new money into the community. In order to increase the size and improve the quality of a local economy, a community needs to create more primary industry jobs which pay a wage higher than the area average wage. For Pinellas, the following [target industry clusters](#) have been identified as the most likely to produce higher than average wage jobs in growing industries: Advanced Manufacturing, Aviation & Aerospace, Business & Financial Services, Defense & Homeland Security, Information Technology, and Life Sciences & Medical Technologies.

Business retention and expansion is the primary mission of the department, and staff focuses on meeting with growing companies to conduct needs assessments designed to help businesses continue to expand and create more high-wage jobs

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To view past issues of *The Pen*, visit [www.pinellascounty.org/hr/publications.htm](http://www.pinellascounty.org/hr/publications.htm).

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for our citizens. Assistance to existing firms can include helping to locate and train a quality workforce or identifying new markets for a company's goods and services overseas. Additionally, the Economic Development staff focuses on recruiting new companies in target industries to the County, and works with numerous leads to share the advantages of a Pinellas location for growing companies.

**Growing Small to Medium-Sized Businesses.** In Pinellas County, more than 85% of businesses have ten or fewer employees. These growth-postured small- to medium-sized enterprises are a large part of the economy and the special focus of the [Florida Small Business Development Center](#) at Pinellas County Economic Development. This focus supports the County's strategy of investing in communities that need the most – like small businesses and entrepreneurs. This partnership of the Florida Small Business Development Center at the University of South Florida and Pinellas County allows local entrepreneurs to access the expertise of business consultants for one-on-one appointments designed to accelerate the profitability and growth of their businesses. Additionally, the FSBDC at PCED offers [business workshops](#) ranging from Starting a Business and Business Plans, to QuickBooks and Selling to the Federal Government. The FSBDC staff also specializes in helping businesses prepare and secure [SBA Loans and financing](#) and learn more about government procurement and contracting. Each Wednesday the team takes the show on the road, [visiting local Cham-](#)

Continued on page 5.

## Employee Spotlight

### Rob Krueger

Entomology & Education Support Specialist  
Mosquito Control & Vegetation Management Unit



#### What is your job in 25 words or less?

My position title is Entomology and Education Support Specialist. I work in the mosquito lab and also maintain our in-house and outreach education program.

### OurSpace

Don't forget to check the employee blog – **Our Space** – regularly.

Bookmark it. There is news every day!

YOU can post to the blog. It's easier than you might think – give it a try! Share your photos, celebrations, upcoming events and check for the latest news from the County.

If you have questions, please contact Mary Sault at 464-5098 or [employee.communications@pinellascounty.org](mailto:employee.communications@pinellascounty.org).

#### What aspect of your job do you enjoy the most? Why?

I finally have an outside job, for the most part, where I get to see all the wild areas of Pinellas County on a regular basis. Gators, snakes, insects and all the forested wetland a guy could ever hope to see in one day “at the office!”

#### How do you help make Pinellas a great place to live, work, and play?

I'm a small part of an entire team of great folks that protect the public from arthropod borne virus and nuisance mosquitoes. Without Mosquito Control, many scientists believe that much of Florida would be uninhabitable!

#### Who is one colleague who deserves praise and recognition? Why?

I can't name one specifically. That said however, it's completely fair to say that our whole group of Mosquito Control technicians are rocking and rolling, rain or shine, through treacherous terrain to answer the call for this entire summer thus far. Most are putting in 14 hour days to ensure our goals and duties to keep this recent West Nile Virus situation in check.

#### If you could take a vacation anywhere, where would you go?

Vacation? What's that? This may be the first job I've had where vacation could be a reality! Bucket list for me has always been to go to the Pantanal Wetland in South America in the hopes to see an Anaconda in the wild!

*The Employee Spotlight focuses on you. If you would like to nominate a fellow employee, please send his or her name, position, and why you are nominating them to [employee.communications@pinellascounty.org](mailto:employee.communications@pinellascounty.org). View previous [spotlighted employees](#).*



## BLOOD DRIVE

**Every donor is  
three more lives  
saved!**

### Mark Your Calendars

**Clearwater Courthouse**  
315 Court Street  
West Parking Lot  
**Thursday, October 15**  
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**Logan Lab**  
1620 Ridge Road, Largo  
West Parking Lot  
**Thursday, October 29**  
8:00 - 10:00 a.m.

### The Pen

INTERIM PUBLISHER: Beverly Waldron

EDITOR: Laura Berkowitz

ASSISTANT EDITOR: Mary L. Sault

A monthly publication by the  
Pinellas County Human Resources Department

#### How to Participate:

It's easy to get involved in *The Pen*. You can contribute by informing us of noteworthy news or sending us story ideas.

You can also ask about writing a guest column or submit photos of co-workers at work in your department.

PHONE: (727) 464-5098

FAX: (727) 453-3660

E-mail: [employee.communications@pinellascounty.org](mailto:employee.communications@pinellascounty.org)

## In case you missed it!

The September [To Your Health](#) newsletter has info about cancer awareness, TWO new challenges coming this fall, the Tampa Bay Heart Walk, and more.

September's [Leadership Notes](#) talks about terminating poor performers. Don't miss it.



**Q.** Is it true if I buy specialized equipment to make my job more comfortable for myself that I forfeit ownership of it?

**A.** You do not forfeit ownership of your property by using it at work. You should check with your Appointing Authority or his/her designee that your equipment is compatible and will not negatively affect the operation of County property.

You should also check the Pinellas County Administrative Directive **"Damage to Employees' Property Directive."** Basically it states that you take all the risk should your property be damaged or stolen.

**Q.** Do we have a formal policy regarding eating at our desk? I've been told in the past that we can have small snacks while working at our desk, but not meals, which seems very subjective and undefined. I was also recently told that I was "abusing" the privilege of eating at my desk because I eat a small breakfast (yogurt w/granola) every morning while checking my email/voice messages. This is confusing considering a member of our management team eats breakfast at his desk nearly every morning. I'd like to know if there is a formal policy so I can educate my supervisor on the appropriate way to handle this situation.

**A.** This is the kind of policy that is decided upon and enforced at the department level. When forming a policy around eating at one's desk, consideration would be given to preserving the integrity of County property such as computers, attracting pests, and so on. Policies should be clear to all and uniformly enforced.

Consider as well that taking meal breaks away from one's work area is a healthy practice. Changing your environment, even for a few minutes, can refresh your body and mind.

Check with your manager or director to clarify his or her position or policy.

**Q.** Can you please tell me if I can go to my local Walgreens in my area (Hudson, Pasco County) to comply with the biometric screening? When I get there, do I just inform them I am there for the screening and present my insurance card?

**A.** Yes you can go to a Walgreens walk-in clinic. Please make sure to let them know you are there for a biometric screening for your employee wellness incentive program and provide them with your insurance card. Be sure to go to the clinic area of the store not to the pharmacy counter. View a list of [convenience care clinics](#).

## UPDATE: Pay Increases

Pending the approval of the Board of County Commissioners, the *maximum* salary ranges for all classifications (classified and exempt) will be raised by 2% as of September 27, 2015. This is a result of a survey done by the Classification and Compensation Division of Human Resources.

Pending the approval of the Board of County Commissioners, the *minimum* compensation of the ranges of all classifications (classified and exempt) will be raised by 2% as of December 27, 2015.

FY2016: It is projected that, for the third straight year, all permanent employees will receive a 3% pay increase – pending approval of the Board of County Commissioners on September 24. If approved, the increase will be in the October 23rd paycheck. As in the past, those at maximum can expect to receive a lump sum payment. The increase is projected to be 3% based on salary.

If you have questions, please check with your manager or call Human Resources at 464-3367.



On September 25th I will retire from Pinellas County. It has been an honor to serve as the Editor of the *The Pen* newsletter for the past seven years. I am handing over the reins to the capable hands of Mary Sault, our Assistant Editor for the past three years. I wish you all well and thanks for the memories.

*Laura Berkowitz*



## Promotions

Promotions listed are for August 2015.

### Board of County Commissioners

#### Building Services

Carol Purchell.....Envir Spec Sr

#### Public Works

John Graham.....Fld Opns Supv

Jeffrey Hails .....Crew Chf 2

Dennis McDuffy.....Opns Mgr Asst

#### Real Estate Management

Keith Royster.....Mgr Fac Opns Div

#### Utilities

Richard Blacklidge.....Fld Insp 1

Constance Bostick .....Eng Svcs Tech 2

Robert Pamic .....Fld Insp 1

### Business Technology Services

Kyle Beam .....Acctg & Fin Tech

### Clerk of the Circuit Court

Lori Scott.....Prob Audit Spec

Anne DiNatale.....Insp Gen Audit Sr

William McGuinness.....Insp Gen Audit Sr

Deborah Weiss.....Insp Gen Audit Sr

### Property Appraiser's Office

Gwendolyn Brooks.....Dir PAO Pub Info Svcs

## BenefitsU Are You Ready?

**Annual Enrollment** for your 2016 benefits will be October 19 through November 6. Are you ready? [Sign up in OPUS](#) for a daytime informational meeting to help you prepare.

Human Resources is also scheduling on-site meetings in early October for employees unable to make the larger meetings.

Make informed decisions at enrollment time and use ALL that your benefit providers have to offer.

## FACE Tips

The newest supervisor guide, [Setting Performance Expectations \(Goals\)](#), provides easy step-by-step instructions for assigning a new goal, monitoring goals and updating goals. If you would like the goal to be included within a specific quarterly performance review, remember that the type must be "quarterly" and the due date must be within the quarterly review date period.



## TECH BITS ACCESSING COUNTY EMAIL ON MOBILE DEVICES

Want to access County email on an Apple, Android or Windows mobile device?

1. Visit the BTS [Enterprise Technical Training SharePoint](#) site.
2. In the Training Documents library you'll find a [County Email on Mobile Devices](#) folder.
3. Click the document related to your mobile device.

Find more Technical Training Resources at [BTS Enterprise Technical Training](#).



## Training & Development Upcoming Classes

Some classes fill up quickly so request enrollment early through [OPUS Learning Management](#) (OLM).

### Working With The Media 9/30

This course is for supervisors, managers, and other positions that interact with the media. You will learn tools necessary to effectively communicate with the media. Key Topics include: the media's role, the media's goals, packaging the news, the basics of a good interview, and the press conferences.

### Workplace Diversity: Beyond Race, Religion & Gender 10/7

Diversity is more than race, religion and gender; true diversity is appreciating all that makes us different from one another. In a diversified work environment, it is important to know not only what the differences are but how our behavior sometimes unconscious or unintended, can impact our relationships with others.

### Myers-Briggs Type Indicator 10/22

Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) is a self-report questionnaire designed to identify valuable differences between personal styles various individuals use. MBTI results help us identify our unique gifts and personal styles and enhance self-understanding of our own motivations, natural strengths, and potential areas for growth. Understanding the variety of personal styles also helps us appreciate people who differ from us.

To view a complete list of all courses, along with descriptions, go to the [Consortium Training Catalog](#). Need assistance? Contact Training and Development at 464-3796 or email [training@pinellascounty.org](mailto:training@pinellascounty.org).



# Employees' Advisory Council Elections 2015

Annual elections for Employees' Advisory Council (EAC) Representatives are coming soon.

Watch your email for a nomination form on October 2nd if you are a classified employee working in one of the following areas:

BCC Group 1	Solid Waste, Utilities Maintenance North and South, Mosquito Control and Vegetation Management
BCC Group 2	All classified employees at Real Estate Management
BCC Group 6	Utilities Customer Service, Utilities Engineering, Office of Management and Budget
BCC Group 8	Communications, Purchasing, Economic Development, Planning, MPO, Airport, Convention & Visitors Bureau, Community Development, Building Services, Risk Management, Code Enforcement
Clerk North	Finance, Payroll, Accounting, Inspector General, Administration, North County Branch, Recording Services, Official Records, Printing & Mail Services, Civil Court Records, Probate Court Records
Property Appraiser	All classified employees at the Property Appraiser's Office
Supervisor of Elections	All classified employees at the Supervisor of Elections

Each year, half of the Representatives' positions are up for election, so if your area is not listed, you'll have an opportunity to participate next year. If you work in one of the areas listed above and you'd like to get involved, consider nominating yourself as an EAC Representative. If not, think about a coworker who would be a great choice and nominate them.

There are fifteen (15) elected representatives on the Employees' Advisory Council of which eight (8) are allocated to departments under the County Administrator; two (2) to the Clerk of the Circuit Court; and one (1) each to the Property Appraiser, Supervisor of Elections, Tax Collector, Other Appointing Authorities (collectively); and one (1) At Large representative.

The Employees' Advisory Council serves in an advisory capacity to the Pinellas County Personnel Board concerning personnel matters, policies, rules, and regulations affecting Pinellas County employees. Members of the Employees' Advisory Council serve a two year term of office.

**Sneak preview:** This year's election will be conducted online instead of using paper ballots. It will be easier and quicker to vote. Paper ballots will still be available upon request. The EAC Representatives encourage classified employees to vote in their election!

Visit [www.pinellascounty.org/hr/eac](http://www.pinellascounty.org/hr/eac) to learn more about the EAC. To find out the name of your current EAC Representative, see [www.pinellascounty.org/hr/eac/pdf/rep-del.pdf](http://www.pinellascounty.org/hr/eac/pdf/rep-del.pdf). For more information, view the [Two-Minute Tuesday video on EAC Elections](#), or contact Lisa Wombles, EAC Chair, at 464-4862 or email [lwombles@pinellascounty.org](mailto:lwombles@pinellascounty.org).

## Economic Development

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**bers of Commerce** for offsite office hours and outreach to the business community.

**Redevelopment.** The most significant issue currently facing the Pinellas business environment is the unavoidable product of limited land, a rapidly diminishing amount of developable vacant land, and rising real estate costs. When a community is in this position, new businesses face increasing costs to locate there and existing companies, which need to expand, have difficulty finding a place to build and are tempted to leave. Consequently, the economy can begin to decline.

To further investigate and address this issue, last year a cross-functional County team led by Commissioner Karen Seel brought the community together to assess the current state of

available land and update the [Pinellas by Design](#) redevelopment plan. The [2014 Economic Innovation and Leadership Symposium](#) presented an overview of the current economy and explored the challenges and opportunities presented by redevelopment. The assessment demonstrated that the Pinellas economy has experienced the expected economic decline. The growth rate for employment and earnings over the last ten years ranks among the lower 10% of the metropolitan areas in the nation, and Pinellas has lost more than 12,000 primary jobs since 2001.

The Symposium recommended that the community preserve industrially zoned land and invest in land for Targeted Primary employers. With the direction of the BCC and County Administrator, the Economic Development team is working to make progress on this pressing issue. These efforts

support the strategy of catalyzing redevelopment through planning and regulatory programs.

**It's About Jobs.** In summary, Economic Development seeks to encourage the expansion of existing primary employers within the community and to attract new primary employers with high-wage jobs to Pinellas County. Through investment tools, one-on-one business growth consulting, trade missions to open new markets, site selection services and links to business financing, the team works with the business community to help grow businesses that can create career opportunities for our citizens. Collaboration with local, regional and statewide partnerships and industry groups helps Economic Development to foster a pro-business climate in Pinellas County. Learn more at [www.PCED.org](http://www.PCED.org).

# SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

## 35 YEARS



Michael Butts  
*Utilities*

## 30 YEARS

Bruce Cherkas  
*Parks & Conservation  
Resources*

Ronald Kirkland,  
*Public Works*



## 25 YEARS



Margaret Dohrman  
*Regional 911*



Steven Farber  
*Tax Collector's Office*



Raymond Kosach  
*Real Estate Management*

## 30 YEARS



Brian Wallace  
*Public Works*



Catherine Moore  
*Clerk of the Circuit Court*

## Unavailable for Photo

**30 YEARS** Steven Barriger, *Utilities*, Michael Roiland, *Business Technology Services*

**25 YEARS** Warren Bown, *Utilities*, Nancy Stock, *Clerk of the Circuit Court*

**20 YEARS** Chance Walton, *Utilities*

## 15 YEARS

Stephen Baird ..... Public Works  
Anne DiNatale ..... Clerk of the Circuit Court  
Cindy Even ..... Tax Collector's Office  
Caroline Franklin ..... Tax Collector's Office  
David Howdeshell ..... Building Services  
Catherine McCarthy ..... Tax Collector's Office  
John McGlone ..... Parks & Conservation Resources  
Sonya Miller ..... Parks & Conservation Resources  
Theresa Robinette ..... Safety & Emergency Services  
Kevin Rosekrans ..... Public Works  
Rickard Webster ..... Safety & Emergency Services

## 10 YEARS

Kat Black ..... Business Technology Services  
Linda Christian ..... Clerk of the Circuit Court  
Rose DiGennaro ..... Tax Collector's Office  
Laurie Griffith ..... Airport  
Katherine Harris ..... Clerk of the Circuit Court  
Christopher Labiak ..... Business Technology Services  
Kyminda Lehman ..... Business Technology Services  
Larry Nerge ..... Business Technology Services  
Kim Pelaez ..... Clerk of the Circuit Court  
Michael Reilly ..... Solid Waste  
Kenneth Ross ..... Public Works  
Ronisha Taylor ..... Office of Human Rights  
Victoria Thiel ..... Tax Collector's Office

## 5 YEARS

Brian Brenhoch ..... Business Technology Services  
Jodi Rousculp ..... Tax Collector's Office  
Scott Rozell ..... Real Estate Management



## RETIREMENTS

35 Years



James Coker  
*Utilities Maintenance Specialist 3  
Maintenance Division*

Over 27 Years



Robert Davis  
*Engineering Specialist 2  
Public Works*

21 Years



Kerry Klemm  
*Lead Traffic Signal Technician  
Public Works*

13 Years



Thomas Roberts  
*Solid Waste Technician  
Solid Waste*

### UNAVAILABLE FOR PHOTO

**Over 23 Years** Nathaniel Johnson, *HVAC Mechanic, Airport*

**17 Years** Brian Landry, *Manager, Facility Operations Division, Real Estate Management*, Janet Roehrich, *Senior Tax Technician, Tax Collector's Office*

## REPCO News

**REPCO's October 12** meeting will be at Applebee's, 5110 East Bay Drive, Clearwater. The speaker for the meeting will be a representative from Human Resources Benefits Division to tell attendees about health insurance options for retirees. For more information contact Rudy at (813) 855-3466 or [rdgarcia@verizon.net](mailto:rdgarcia@verizon.net).

You don't have to be a Pinellas County retiree to attend. Current employees and family members are also welcome.



**SAVE  
THE  
DATE!**

**Fall Scramble Golf Tournament  
Saturday, November 7, 2015**

at the  
**Bellevue Biltmore Golf Club**

12 p.m. shotgun start. Registration opens September 24th.



**REMINDER:** We now bring you the **Pen Extra** on a monthly basis. When you turn to the back pages of the **Pen** you'll find timely announcements of graduations, births, obituaries, want ads, awards, accomplishments, and more. It's our personal side, and it's news you want to get even more often. We are happy to bring it to you.

## Welcome Aboard!

### Board of County Commissioners

#### Building Services

Emily Ling ..... Bldg Prmt Tech 2  
Scott Williams ..... Bldg Insp

#### Emergency Management

Tonya Love ..... Off Spec Sr

#### Engineering & Technical Support

Bruce Wirth ..... Sr Eng

#### Human Services

Lisa Brandes ..... Sec Mgr 1  
Ekaterini Gerakios-Siren ..... Sec Mgr 1  
Christina Rossignol ..... Admin Sec  
Anita Russell ..... Hum Svcs Prog Adm  
Justin Tayser ..... Mgmt Intern

#### Public Works

Matthew Bellefeuille ..... Maint 1  
Daniel Johnson ..... Maint 1  
Peter Lundy ..... Maint 1  
Michael Morgan ..... Maint 1  
Hayden Mosley ..... Spray Tech  
Peter Pruett ..... Spray Tech  
Nikolas Papadopoulos ..... Traf Sig Tech  
Sean Welch ..... Maint 2

#### Real Estate Management

Rawn Godwin ..... Craftwkr 2

#### Utilities

Robert Butler ..... Meter Rdr 1  
Nabeedah McGill ..... Eng Svc Tech 2  
Erick Wells ..... Util Maint Wkr  
Tre Williams ..... Meter Rdr 1

### Business Technology Services

Dylan Connelly ..... BTS Tchnogst 2  
Ovais Syed ..... Info Tech Analyst Sr

### Clerk of the Circuit Court

Carl Bostic ..... Rec Spec 1  
Joseph Bradt ..... Rec Spec 1  
Brenda Coleman ..... Mail Clk

### County Attorney's Office

Edwina Tate ..... Legal Sec

### Property Appraiser's Office

Rusvelina Montero ..... Prop Rclds Asst

### Tax Collector's Office

Azra Day ..... Cust Svc Tech 1

## Congratulations CPM Graduates!

This summer 23 Pinellas County employees joined the ranks of one of the largest and most successful Certified Public Manager (CPM) programs in the country. Administered through the Askew School of Public Administration at Florida State University, Florida's CPM program is nationally recognized for training and developing public managers and supervisors with the primary goals of professionalizing public management and improving organizational efficiency and effectiveness. These new graduates have completed a rigorous two-year program that including 32 days of classroom training plus required projects and exams.

For more information on participating in Florida's CPM program, please visit Pinellas County Human Resources [CPM website](#) or the [FSU CPM website](#).

### The Graduates

Catherine Bailey-Noble (TCO)	Jolanda Jordan (Utils)
Jim Battyanyi (TCO)	Mona Kaushal (TCO)
Mary Kate Belniak (911)	Angel Lafita (Construction)
Brian Brenhoch (BTS)	Sone Lo (TCO)
Lenora Collins (TCO)	Charles Mangio (SW)
Karen Davis (BTS)	Marcy McCraney (TCO)
Meagan Decker (HR)	Donna McGhee (TCO)
Cindy Even (TCO)	Michael Pereiro (BTS)
Jonathan Ferguson (BTS)	Janice Rose (TCO)
Jolanda Jordan (Util)	Dawn Schmerer (TCO)
Elizabeth Giaquinto (TCO)	Nancy Sherman (BTS)
Benjamin Hagenlocher (TCO)	Tori Tipton (TCO)

There were two graduations this summer held on July 23 and August 21. The first was in Tallahassee and the second in Fort Lauderdale. Here are photos of the graduates.







## Create Sustainable Solutions

Vision • Innovation • Collaboration

### Register Now for Fall Training

*Are you interested in green practices? Want to make a difference in your community?*



**Sustainable Floridians<sup>SM</sup>**  
is the program for you!

### Want more information?

[Blue Revolution: A Water Ethic for Florida & America, October 20, 2015](#)

[Other Upcoming Programs](#)



**UF** IFAS Extension  
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

## FROM THE RECORD KEEPER



### Destruction Notices

Records Management distributes Destruction Notices four times per year to those departments with records that have met their minimum retention requirements. If you receive a Destruction Notice, please be sure to review the paperwork, have the paperwork signed by the designated person, and return the entire packet to Records Management by the due date. Signed paperwork should be sent by interoffice mail to Peg Poole at the 49th Street Records Center.

For more information about the destruction process, please contact Peg Poole at (727) 453-3064.

## Consumer Corner



**Connie Consumer**

**Identity theft** happens when someone steals your personal information and uses it without your permission to commit fraud and other crimes. It's a serious crime that can affect your finances, credit history and cost you time and money to fix. There are steps you can take to safeguard your information.

- Do not give out your financial information, passwords, Social Security or Medicare number unless you know who you are giving it to and how it will be used.
- Don't respond to unsolicited requests for personal information.
- Regularly monitor your bank accounts, credit card statements and credit reports.
- Be sure to immediately report any fraudulent or inaccurate information.
- Shred any personal or financial documents before you throw them away.

If your identity is stolen, notify the fraud department for the organization information that's been compromised, place a fraud alert with the three nationwide credit bureaus, file a police report, order your free credit report, and continue to monitor your accounts.

For more information or to file to a complaint, contact Pinellas County Consumer Protection at (727) 464-6200 or visit [www.pinellascounty.org/consumer/tips.htm](http://www.pinellascounty.org/consumer/tips.htm).

Take advantage of a **FREE paper shredding event** Saturday, October 10 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., sponsored by Justice & Consumer Services and Solid Waste.

# The Pen Extra

Your Source for Employee Info

Employee and family news including kudos, weddings, births, graduations, memorials, and classified ads. Send your news to [employee.communications@pinellascounty.org](mailto:employee.communications@pinellascounty.org) or call 464-5098.

## Graduated



**Ashley S. Gammon** graduated from University of South Florida on August 8, 2015 with her Bachelor of Science in Public Health. Ashley was an honor student and a member of the Delta Epsilon Iota Academic Honor Society. Ashley also volunteers at Tampa General Hospital as a NICU Nanny in the Neonatal Unit through the Bulls for Babies program. Ashley will be attending Galen College of Nursing in the fall to pursue a RN nursing degree with a specialty in Neonatal. Her mother, Andrea Clemons Gammon (PSS/EMS) is very proud of all of her accomplishments and future success.

## Over 15 Years and Counting



**Congratulations** to the Water Supply and Transmission staff at the S.K. Keller Water Treatment Plant. For 15 years, they have had no lost time accidents.

## Introducing...



**Thomas Bishop** was born August 19, weighed 7 pounds, 10 ounces and was 20 inches long. Parents are Vickie and John Bishop (Natural Resources) and his big brother is Andy.



**Averie Jean Linton** was born September 12, 2015, weighed 7 pounds, 12.5 ounces, and was 19 inches long. The proud parents are David and Blair Linton. Grandparents are Lorelei and John Linton (Public Works).



**Mariah Dinkins** was born August 30 at 12:45 p.m. weighing 7 pounds, 6 ounces. Angela (Human Services) and Reginald Greene welcome their 2nd grandchild into the world! Proud parents are their daughter Keyona and her husband Marque.

## Pinellas County Scores 2015 PTI Solutions Award

Pinellas County received top honors for innovation from the Public Technology Institute for the "Doing Things for You" mobile app. The app enables citizens to report issues and access resources. [Download the app for free.](#)



Michael Roiland (BTS Web Manager), Stella Mansfield (Communications Department Admin. Support Specialist), Marty Rose (BTS CIO), Commissioner John Morroni (BCC Chairman)

# *Gone but not Forgotten*



**JOHN “Buck” BUCKLIN** went to be with the Lord on Tuesday, September 1, 2015. He passed away in his sleep peacefully at home. He had been under the excellent care of the Suncoast Hospice Silver Team since June 16, 2014, and had wonderful dedicated caregivers for many years.

He was famous for his colorful sense of humor and vivid storytelling skills.

He served 23 years in the U.S. Navy and retired from Pinellas County Government in 1988 finishing up his career at Fort De Soto Park. He later served as a volunteer docent at the Fort. He and his wife Ginny split their time between St. Petersburg and Franklin, NC. Together they traveled the world, square danced, did daily crossword puzzles, were very active in Pilgrim Congregational Church, loved entertaining and had a wealth of very close friends and family. One of his fondest memories was family summer vacations by the Beavertail Lighthouse in Rhode Island. During the summers as a teenager he biked throughout New England to youth hostels. He attended Hamilton College in New York.

His is survived by his wife Virginia (Clerk's Office, retired), daughter Elaine (County Attorney's Office, son Bob (Kathi), grandchildren Stacey, Heather (Christopher), Michael (Mary), two great-grandchildren, brother Donald (Hope), sister Mary (Shan), sister Ruth and many loving family members and friends.

