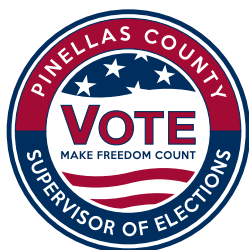


Voting Has Never Been More Convenient

Contributed by the Supervisor of Elections Office



The General Election is finally here, and voting has never been more convenient – including for those voters wishing to cast a ballot prior to Election Day.

The optimum early voting site can be found right outside your front door – in your mailbox.

Nearly 42% of Pinellas County voters have embraced the convenience of mail ballots. A ballot is delivered to your home and eliminates any and all challenges of getting to an early voting site or your Election Day polling place. You no longer have to worry about traffic, family obligations, inclement weather or having to stay late at work. All voters will receive a lengthy two-sided ballot with 11 ballot questions for the November 8 General Election. A mail ballot allows you time to study and review the candidates and questions before you make your choices.

If you prefer not to return your voted ballot by mail, we offer 15 ballot drop-off locations throughout the County. You can then track your ballot by visiting our website, VotePinellas.com, to find out when your ballot is mailed and when your voted ballot is received in our office.

We will also offer in-person early voting for two weeks from October 24 to November 6 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. each day – the maximum number of hours allowed by state law, including the Sunday prior to the election.

In total, for the November 8 General Election, Pinellas County voters will have access to:

- ▶ mail ballots for at least 30 days,
- ▶ 168 hours of early voting at five sites, and
- ▶ 12 hours of voting on Election Day.

We hope that you are as proud of Pinellas County and our elections as we are. Please know that each and every decision is made with voters' best interests in mind and to expand access to voter registration and ballots.

To enjoy the convenience of voting in your home in the upcoming November 8 General Election, request a mail ballot by visiting VotePinellas.com, calling 727-464-VOTE (8683) or emailing MailBallot@VotePinellas.com.

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In case you missed it!

In the October **To Your Health**: breast cancer risks and early detection, and **Oct. 21 is wear PINK day**; Tampa Bay Heartwalk registration; Flu Shot Q&A with Nurse Amy; the October Fitness Group Classes schedule; and more.

October's **Leadership Notes**: *Staying Calm Under Pressure Says a Lot About a Leader.*



Annual Benefits Enrollment is **SUSPENDED**

- ▶ At this time, Annual Enrollment elections cannot be made through OPUS. We have encountered unexpected issues and regret any inconvenience.
- ▶ We will send notification when you may make your elections.
- ▶ We are uncertain how long it will take to correct the problem.
- ▶ In the meantime, the Annual Enrollment website remains available to review your options for 2017. To access them, go to the Human Resources [2017 Annual Benefits Enrollment](#) website.

Employee Spotlight



Tina Jablon

Administrative Secretary
Forward Pinellas



Why did you first choose to work for the County and why do you stay?

I am a native Floridian and have lived in the Tampa Bay Area my entire life. I have spent time in Pasco, Hernando, Hillsborough and Pinellas counties over the years. Of all the counties I have lived in, Pinellas has always been my favorite. I knew I would return here to live. Now I am lucky enough to live and work here. Pinellas County offers many opportunities to learn and grow in your career. Pinellas County also finds ways to make its employees feel valued. I hope to finish out my career here.

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

I work for Forward Pinellas, the metropolitan planning organization and planning council for Pinellas County. We are a separate appointing authority responsible for countywide land use and transportation planning. We work with other local governments, agencies and regional partners to create sustainable, livable, enjoyable communities. We connect those communities by actively pursuing transportation initiatives that make travel easier and safer for people using cars, buses, bicycles and their feet. We encourage collaboration that results in countywide and regional efforts being realized. Our work supports vibrant downtowns and increased options for getting around. I am excited to be a part of this agency and look forward to the future destinations and transportation options that will result from our efforts.

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. View previous [spotlighted employees](#).

What aspect of your job do you enjoy the most?

I have thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to learn about the inner workings of local government. This was something I never paid enough attention to in the past. I now realize how important local issues are and appreciate being a part of a team that helps find solutions to those issues. In the process, I enjoy getting to know many of the local elected officials and staff at each of our unique municipalities.

What is one accomplishment at work that you are most proud of? Why?

I arrived to my position just months after the agency had completed the unification process for the Pinellas Planning Council and Metropolitan Planning Organization. I am proud to have played a role in breaking down barriers between the two and helping create an environment of collaboration and improved office morale. I enjoyed being part of our communications team that resulted in the re-branding of our agency as Forward Pinellas. I appreciate being a part of something new and exciting from the ground level. I love organizing team building events that allow these efforts to continue for the benefit of all our staff.

When you retire, what do you hope people will say about you at your retirement party?

I hope people will say I made their lives better for knowing them. I very much enjoy making others laugh and smile. I hope they will say I made their job easier in some way. That I was a person who could always be counted on to go above and beyond to get the job done with excellence. But most important, I hope they will say I made a positive impact on my beloved Pinellas County.



**FLORIDA
BLOOD
SERVICES**

BLOOD DRIVE
**Mark Your
Calendars**

Downtown Clearwater

Courthouse
315 Court St., west lot
October 20
11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Public Works

22211 US Hwy. 19 N.
Building 1, Clearwater
October 27
1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Logan Lab

1620 Ridge Road, Largo
Under the flag pole
October 25
10 a.m. - 12 noon

Utilities Building

14 S. Fort Harrison Ave.
Clearwater
October 28
9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

The Pen

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

E-mail: employee.communications@pinellascounty.org

Share With Holly



Holly J. Schoenherr, Ph.D., SHRM-SCP
Human Resources Director

In the [August edition of The Pen](#), I announced the ShareWithHolly email as a way for you to share your thoughts with me on how Human Resources (HR) can help you and your colleagues be most effective. I personally read and responded to each message received and appreciate the time and thoughtfulness that employees invested in sharing their thoughts with me.

During my first three months as Director of Human Resources I have listened to a lot of people, including Appointing Authorities, Employees' Advisory Council representatives and delegates, and many other employees across multiple classifications and departments. All of these conversations have helped me understand the important work that is done by caring and dedicated people across the organization.

Some of the themes that were conveyed through the SharewithHolly email centered around:

- › HR customer service and accessibility
- › Recruitment, hiring, and the Taleo system
- › Training and supervisor support
- › Career ladders and position audits

In addition, several employees shared with me their high level of satisfaction they have received from members of the Human Resources team, including those in Employee Relations, Wellness, Employment, Records Administration, Benefits, and Training & Development. Your input helps inform the development of short term and long term goals which will ensure Human Resources is positioned to be a valued partner for everyone.

As I have mentioned in previous communications, I believe that trust is the foundation for a healthy workplace. Therefore, our vision is to become a trusted solution partner for every member of the Unified Personnel System. Not only will all of us in Human Resources work daily to earn your trust, we are committed to partnering with you to work on solutions as well.

Based on your feedback, two of the strategic directions we will work on are strategic talent management and HR service delivery. In fact, I have recently reorganized the Human Resources department into six Centers of Excellence to align our resources with your needs. The Centers of Excellence include:

- › Workforce Strategy, including the Employment (recruitment) and Classification & Compensation divisions
- › Wellness & Benefits
- › HRIS (Human Resources Information System) & Records Administration
- › Communications & Outreach, including Volunteer Services, Employee Communications, and the award programs
- › Employee Relations & Business Partners
- › Training & Development

We are in the process of hiring a Workforce Strategy Manager to oversee the Workforce Strategy Center of Excellence. Once on board, that individual will work closely with me to conduct a Pay and Class Study to provide critical information necessary to ensure that we are compensating employees fairly and competitively for the work that they do.

In just three months, it has become evident to me that Pinellas County government employees provide a wide array of important and high quality services to the citizens and visitors we serve. There is a strong foundation in place, and I look forward to working with you to make it even better.

You can view our Centers of Excellence [online](#).



Q. How much annual leave can I accrue? If I accrue up to the limit, can it be cashed in as regular pay?

A. [Rule 4. Time Off. Section C](#) details eligibility and accrual rates by seniority. As for cashing in accrued leave time, you are asking at just the right time.

The [Annual Leave Exchange program](#) is available to employees and you can sign up ONLY during Annual Benefits Enrollment. Please review the 2017 [Annual Leave Exchange Guide](#) and call the Benefits staff (464-4570) if you have further questions.



What if you could tackle your next challenge, roadblock or career opportunity with just one click?

ULearnIT is Pinellas County's online learning portal. Here are what a few of the top performers on the site are saying about ways to discover, improve, and advance with ULearnIT:

Discover

"I like learning at my own pace and whenever I have time ... videos, classes with tests, and books." *Susan Koehler, Public Works*

"I wanted to expand my horizons ... you can always learn something new." *Clare McGrane, Building Services*

"I was interested in learning about different software that my department is thinking about getting." *Teo Marte, Property Appraiser*

"Many wonderful tools in ULearnIT help to gain a better understanding of the programs used every day." *Violet Wike, Solid Waste*

Improve

"I expected to improve myself in several computer related areas/software ... perfect for Microsoft Office" and "classes with tests I can see immediately if I understood what I have learned." *Susan*

"Knowledge is never wasted ... if I run into something new or unfamiliar, I know where to look for quick and easy assistance ... seeing where my weaknesses are is also a big help." *Clare*

"Explore 'how to's' and best practices on new software and tools ... quickly return to content." *Teo*

Advance

"I like getting certificates ... it shows what you've achieved and can show others." *Susan*

"I wanted to expand my horizons ... even in just 15 or 20 minute increments." *Clare*

"People can suggest books, articles, or videos, share recommendations on content, post comments, and follow people within the organization." *Teo*

"Learn new skills to help progress in my career path ... everyone should invest in themselves." *Violet*

Too much to do and too little time? You are not alone!

"If you have spare time, use it on ULearnIT ... you can never lose, only win!" *Susan*

"Great way to get information ... could be very beneficial to everyone in their department" *Teo*

"Work at own pace ... help yourself, help your department, help the County as a 'business', and make Pinellas the highest standard in local government for our citizens" *Violet*

Log in today to discover, improve, and advance with [ULearnIT!](#)



TECH BITS

Technology Training Available – Sign Up Today!

Microsoft Outlook

Core Essentials 2013 (next class 10/25)

Attend a 3 ½ hour hands-on learning experience that covers all the core essentials of Microsoft Outlook 2013.

Explore ways to manage mail, calendar and people. Determine methods to organize your mailbox. Learn skills to get the most out of your Outlook.

Basic proficiency with computer keyboarding and mouse skills is required. Need assistance with these skills prior to class? Visit [GCF LearnFree](#) for hands-on tutorials.

Register here through [OPUS](#).

Microsoft Excel

Core Essentials 2013 (next class 11/16)

Attend a 3 ½ hour hands on learning experience that covers all the core essentials of Microsoft Excel 2013. Topics covered include the new Flash Fill feature, using formulas and functions, inserting PivotTables and PivotCharts, and customizing the Excel 2013 interface.

Basic proficiency with computer keyboarding and mouse skills is required. Need assistance with these skills prior to class? Visit [GCF LearnFree](#) for hands-on tutorials.

Register here through [OPUS](#).

Upcoming Training Classes

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

Five Questions Every Leader Must Ask - 10/26 – 7 hours

The Framework for Leadership uses a set of highly effective questions to shift a group's focus from a problem orientation to one of solutions and success. These questions can be applied to almost every management challenge: improving teamwork, resolving conflicts, encouraging performance improvement, solving problems, managing projects, and much more.

Learn to change the emphasis from a backward-focused mindset of "what went wrong" to a "forward focus." This expands possibilities, solutions, and achievement. Using the 5-step questioning process, you will be able to apply the knowledge gained from the answers received and build on each question to create a successful outcome.

Grants 101 - 10/27 – 6.5 hours

Overview of the Grants Management Process for Pinellas County BCC Departments. In this class you will learn to understand the Pinellas County Grant Process, develop awareness of federal grant regulations (Super Circular), and how to construct a grant application. Plus learn how grants are managed, understand stakeholder roles and learn about available resources.

Effective Listening - 11/1 – 3.5 hours

This workshop provides a valuable tool in better communication techniques—the ability to listen more effectively. Learn to identify barriers to good listening skills, look beyond the words we hear to the meaning behind them plus practice active listening skills.

Find a complete list of courses with descriptions in the [2016 Consortium Training Catalog](#) which is continually updated. Need assistance? Contact Training and Development at 464-3796 or email training@pinellascounty.org.

Have you seen the latest Two-Minute Tuesday videos?

Tools & Resources for Annual Enrollment

Learn about the Health Plan Cost Estimator Tool and other helpful resources.

Save Money on Healthcare Expenses - Find out more about pre-tax savings accounts like HSAs and FSAs.

Annual Enrollment: What's New for 2017? - There are five important changes you need to know about.

View these videos and subscribe to future videos at www.pinellascounty.org/hr/two.



Promotions

Promotions listed are for September 2016.

Board of County Commissioners

Airport

Drew Jester Spray Tech

Marketing & Communications

Alexis Sergeant Proj Coord-Proj Mgmt

Parks & Conservation Resources

Adam Kiehn Envir Spec 2

Purchasing

Sharon Beacht Purch Supt Spec

Real Estate Management

Richard Ochalek Trades/Fld Svcs Supv

Safety & Emergency Services

Karen Cervone-Nitz Acctg & Contract Mgr

Solid Waste

Ben Panike Acctg & Fin Tech

Utilities

Anderson Mitchell Trne UF C EE01

Cheryl Whitson Util Maint Spec 4

Business Technology Services

Dale Carter Info Tech Spec

J. Michael Jenkins Info Tech Spec

Danny Miller Info Tech Spec

Michel Napoleon Info Tech Spec

Property Appraiser's Office

Darlene Davis Deed Spec

Erica Evangelist Trne UF A EE05

Catherine Rengert Property Records Specialist

Tax Collector's Office

Lori Mostrom Tax Tech Ld

Cami Rettman Tax Col Supv



Find it Fast: HR from A to Z

Find what you need on the HR website quickly and easily with the [A to Z Index](#). Access the link on the blue menu bar from any Human Resources web page. New index items are added frequently. [Let us know](#) if you have items to add.

SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

35 YEARS



Annette Douglas
Tax Collector's Office



Teresa Williams-Brown
Convention & Visitors Bureau

30 YEARS



Essie McClendon
Clerk of the Circuit Court



Timothy Stevenson
Development Review Services

20 YEARS



Mary Burleson
Tax Collector's Office



Denise Schmidt
Property Appraiser's Office

Unavailable for Photo

30 Years

James Owens, *Human Resources*

25 Years

William Baker, *Solid Waste*

20 Years

Ramon Camacho, *Parks & Conservation Resources*

Sue Constantinoff, *Property Appraiser's Office*

Ines Torres, *Solid Waste*

15 YEARS

John Beliveau..... Public Works
Jill Brown..... Convention & Visitors Bureau
Lisa Gentry..... Tax Collector's Office
Valerie Grajirena..... County Attorney's Office
Kevin Schnorr..... Public Works
Deborah Weiss..... Clerk of the Circuit Court
Maria White..... Clerk of the Circuit Court

10 YEARS

Nancy Adams..... Supervisor of Election's Office
Bonnie Best..... Clerk of the Circuit Court
Mary Burrell..... Emergency Management
Robert Derry..... Utilities
Kurt Forster..... Economic Development
Leonard Jankowski..... Utilities
Aaron Johnson..... Utilities
Anne Marie Morse..... Tax Collector's Office
Douglas Peat..... Business Technology Services
Nicole Riley..... Construction Licensing Board
Cristiane Smith..... Utilities
Matthew Stalnaker..... Public Works
Elizabeth Walker..... Clerk of the Circuit Court
Cassandra Williams..... Clerk of the Circuit Court

5 YEARS

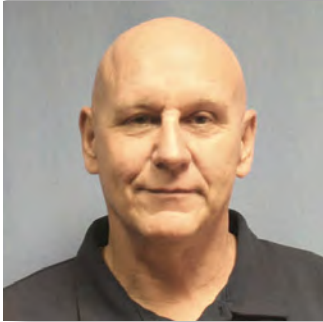
Elliot Diaz..... Human Services
Darla Epper..... Human Services
Rosa Garcia..... Purchasing
Christina Goodrich..... Utilities
Naresh Kalidindi..... Business Technology Services
Herlinda Lockheart..... Clerk of the Circuit Court
Tiffani Schrader..... Clerk of the Circuit Court

3 YEARS

Yvette Acosta MacMillan..... County Attorney's Office
Joseph Anthony..... Parks & Conservation Resources
Natalia Arcila..... Clerk of the Circuit Court
James Bath..... Public Works
Steven Beharry..... Utilities
Juami Boyden..... Clerk of the Circuit Court
Ana Caraballo..... Clerk of the Circuit Court
Richard Castle..... Parks & Conservation Resources
Adena Eason..... Parks & Conservation Resources
Nancy East..... Marketing & Communications
James Howat..... Development Review Services
Karen Kirchmann..... Clerk of the Circuit Court
John Klipp..... Parks & Conservation Resources
Victoria Martin..... Clerk of the Circuit Court
Latricia Robinson..... Human Services
Jenee Skipper..... Economic Development
John Utterback..... Public Works
Marsheila Voss..... Parks & Conservation Resources

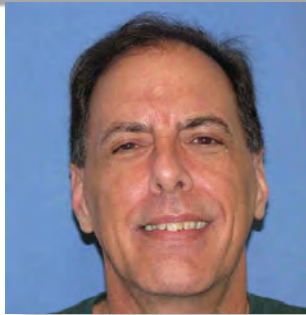
RETIREMENTS

Over 26 Years



James Taylor
PAO Appraiser 2
Property Appraiser's Office

Over 17 Years



David Bailey
Customer Service Technician 2
Tax Collector's Office

Over 16 Years



Robert McDonald
Customer Services Technician 2
Tax Collector's Office

Unavailable for Photo

26 Years Nancy Stock, *Customer Information Specialist 2, Clerk of the Circuit Court*

Over 16 Years Stephanie Brobeil, *Purchasing Support Specialist, Purchasing Department*

REPCO News

REPCO's November meeting will be the annual picnic. Meet at Shelter 7, Phillippe Park in Safety Harbor at **11:30 a.m., November 14, 2016**. The menu is fried chicken, Greek salad, baked beans, iced tea and lemonade. Attendees may bring desserts. For more information contact Rudy Garcia at (813) 855-3466 or rdgarcia@verizon.net.

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

Fire Professionals Honored at Board Meeting

Excerpted from press release

At its Sept. 27 meeting, the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners named the recipients of the 3rd Annual Fire Professional of the Year Awards in recognition of Fire Prevention Week in Pinellas County, which runs from Oct. 9-15.

The awards are given to those who go above and beyond the call of duty when providing professional fire services to the community and to the members of the fire service. Pinellas County Emergency Medical Services and Fire Administration Division Director **Craig Hare** presented this year's awards.

Pinellas County Regional 9-1-1 Center Telecommunicator **Brigett Cerce** was named Emergency Fire Dispatcher of the Year. Cerce has worked for Pinellas County for 18 years.

"Cerce is the consummate emergency fire dispatch professional and very deserving of recognition," said 9-1-1 Communications Center Manager **Ruthie Doles**. "She provides top quality service to all her customers, including peers, supervisors, citizens and first responders, and her strong knowledge of the system makes her a great resource."

Also honored at the ceremony: Pinellas Park Fire Department **Lt. Bert Williams**, Fire Professional of the Year, and **Largo Fire Rescue**, Special Operations Team of the Year.



Front row, from left, Pinellas Federal Credit Union executive Debra Collins, Emergency Medical Services and Fire Administration Division Director Craig Hare, Emergency Fire Dispatcher of the Year Brigett Cerce, Commission Chairman Charlie Justice; middle row, from left, Commissioners Pat Gerard, Janet Long and Karen Williams Seel; back row, from left, Commissioners Kenneth T. Welch and Dave Eggers.

Welcome Aboard!

Board of County Commissioners

Animal Services

Rebekka Huneke Ani Svcs Rep

Development Review Services

Lori Messenger BDRS Code Enf Ofcr

Human Services

Meghan Lomas Plan Section Mgr

Management & Budget

Joshua Harmon-Schaefer . Bud & Fin Mgmt Analyst

Parks & Conservation Resources

Alexander Lane Park/Prsve Maint Wkr

Public Works

Ian Jackson Trne UF A

James Stokling Maint 1

Real Estate Management

Jason Dearsman Craftwkr 2

Kip Stickler Craftwkr 2

Solid Waste

Kori Brock Scalhs Svcs Spec

Jose Tirado DiFrisco Spec Proj Asst "C"

Utilities

Connor Costello Wtr Qual Mgmt Spec 1

Kristin Perkins Util Chem 1

Jermaine Raymond Util Maint Spec 2

Business Technology Services

Alejandro Profet Beruff Info Tech Analyst Sr

Clerk of the Circuit Court

Ewelina Wigal Fin Opns Tech

Natalie Wilson Mail Clk

Property Appraiser's Office

Bruce Wright PAO Appr 1



New Employee Orientation class September 11th.



New Employee Orientation class September 25th.

THE RECORD KEEPER

Returning Records to the Records Center (Re-files)

Before sending a box or file back to the records center for re-filing, you will need to enter a re-file request in the Oracle Records Management System. The Records Management team needs to be able to track the status of records leaving and returning to the records center, and a re-file request is part of that process. Without a re-file request, we are not able to process your record(s) back into the records center.

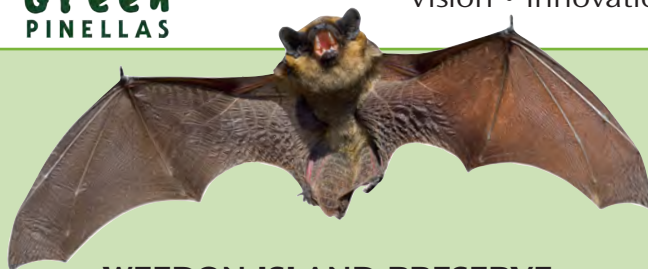
If you have any questions about re-files, please contact Michele Koehler in Records Management at (727) 453-3038.





Create Sustainable Solutions

Vision • Innovation • Collaboration



WEEDON ISLAND PRESERVE Wild World of Bats Saturday, October 29, 2016 1 pm to 2 pm

Weedon Island Education Center offers a variety of [programs](#) on environmental and marine sciences supported through UF/IFAS Extension. Take a hike or participate in the many programs offered this fall.

[How much do you know about bats?](#)

Want more information?

www.pinellascountyextension.org

Salty Topics: A Blue-Green Summer in South Florida

Thursday, November 3, 2016
7:00 PM to 8:00 PM



UF | IFAS Extension
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

Consumer Corner



We've all found ourselves in situations where we need cash fast. Title and payday loans give borrowers quick access to cash for a short time, but at what cost? What may seem like an easy solution to financial troubles can cause consumers to end up in worse shape than when they started.

- ▶ With a **title loan**, you give the lender the title to your vehicle and the lender places a lien on the vehicle in exchange for a loan. The loan is usually for 30 days.
- ▶ **Payday loans** are usually for two weeks, until the next payday. You give the lender a check for the amount of money you want to borrow, plus a fee. The lender keeps your check and gives you cash, less the fee they charge. On your next payday, you have to pay the lender the full amount in cash.

What happens if you're not be able to pay back the loan when the money is due? The lender might let you extend the due date. This is called a "rollover," or "rolling over" the loan. Each time you roll over the loan, you pay a fee. If you roll over the loan several times, you might end up paying more in fees than the original amount you borrowed. Eventually, you might not be able to repay the lender. With a title loan the lender can take your vehicle.

Title and payday loans should be a last resort. Borrowers should carefully consider their options before taking out a loan and make sure they understand fees and repayment terms associated with these loans before signing any paperwork.

For more information, to file a complaint, or check the complaint history of a business, call Pinellas County Consumer Protection at (727) 464-6200 or visit www.pinellascounty.org/consumer.



Connie Consumer

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 or call 464-5098.

Introducing ...



Amaya Diane Abbinanti was born on Father's Day, June 19, 2016, weighed 7 pounds, 9 ounces, and was 20¾ inches long. Parents are Alison (Utilities) and Pete. Amaya joins big sister, Julianne who is 3½, and big brother/cousin Dylan, 7.



The Regional 911 Division congratulates Morgan Pyle, Law Enforcement Telecommunicator, on the birth of her son.

Aevin Gabel Pyle was born August 28, 2016, weighed 7 pounds, 3.5 ounces, and was 19.25 inches long. His father is Devin Gabel.



Gone but not Forgotten

The Pen is saddened to report the passing of the following retirees:

James "Jim" Buss, 78, passed away on June 16, 2016. He retired from the Pinellas County Supervisor of Elections Office as an accountant in March of 2001. In retirement Jim volunteered at Heritage Village, accompanied singing groups and played piano at senior care centers in Pinellas county. Jim was known for his beautiful yard with many flowers and native plants. Weekends were filled with his love of dancing. Burial was in his home town of Potosi, Wisconsin.

Donna J. Luebking, 83, died Sept. 25, 2016. She retired from Pinellas County in 1999. Donna is survived by her husband, Lloyd "Jim", and two sons. The family will appreciate donations in her memory to Hospice of the Florida Suncoast.

Jerome P. McCarthy, 87, passed away Sept. 16. He retired from Pinellas County in 1991. He was predeceased by his wife, Elaine, and is survived by a brother, a son, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Barry Mogil, 86, passed away Sept. 12. He was the former director of Emergency Communications/911 and retired in June of 2000 having been with the County 10 years. Barry was also the director of the Emergency Medical Services and Fire Administration and a team leader for the Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services. He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Shirley, a son and two daughters, and several grandchildren. Visit [Barry's memorial page](#). If you wish to make a donation in Barry's memory, a scholarship fund will be established to benefit EMS students at St. Pete College. Visit www.spcollege.edu/foundation.

Robert Gary Robinson, 78, passed away Sept. 6. He retired from the Highway Department in 1995. He is survived by his life partner, Janet R. Prince; a nephew, James; daughters Rita, Gina, and Jana; and eight grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

Robert W. "Bob" Zinn, 83, passed away Sept. 5, 2016. After a distinguished career, he retired from Pinellas County as an Assistant County Administrator in 1994. Bob was predeceased by his wife, Sondra; and leaves behind four children, six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren, a niece and two nephews. The family asks that, to celebrate Bob's memory, make it a daily practice to show kindness and tolerance to all.

Continued next page.

Elliott (Ellie) Aslyn Cutrell was born on September 12, 2016 to Alicia and Tim Cutrell of the USAF. She weighed 7 pounds, 8 ounces, and was 19 inches long. Ellie is the first granddaughter of Kristin O'Meara (Risk Management) and Art Patterson.



Abigail Grace Osborne was born on October 2, 2016. She weighed 6 pounds, 13 ounces, and was 19 inches long. Proud parents are April Hayes-Osborne and Isaiah Osborne (Utilities, South Cross WRF).



Landon James Hamilton was born July 5, 2016. He is the son of Peter and Tessa Hamilton of Chesapeake, VA, and grandson of Janet Hamilton (Supervisor of Elections) and James Hamilton.



**Don't forget ...
October 21 is
WEAR PINK
DAY.**
WearItPink.org



Pinellas County EMS/Sunstar employees wear **pink** in support of breast cancer awareness.

Volunteers needed for Holiday Lights in the Gardens

Excerpted from press release

The Florida Botanical Gardens Foundation is seeking volunteers to staff multiple positions and shifts during the annual Holiday Lights in the Gardens event from Friday, Nov. 25 through Saturday, Dec. 31. Volunteers can choose one or more shifts that run nightly from 5 - 9:15 p.m.

More than 450 volunteers are wanted as entertainers, greeters and gift cart attendants during the five-week event. The foundation is looking for talented musicians, dancers and performers to provide entertainment that enhances the excitement and joy of the season. Volunteers interested in being a greeter will welcome visitors, accept donations, stamp hands and provide directions. Gift cart volunteers will sell holiday-themed items from an outdoor gift cart.

For more information and to volunteer, contact Richard Berube, Volunteer Coordinator for the Florida Botanical Gardens, at rberube@pinellascounty.org, or call (727) 582-2247.

County Attorney's Office Staff Makes Fidget Quilts for Charity

Submitted by Elaine Bucklin, Legal Secretary

Fidget quilts/mats are a means to safely stimulate and soothe people with Alzheimer's, dementia, autism, ADD, head trauma, or persons recovering from strokes and help those with restless or "fidgety" hands. The quilt has items to zip, button, touch and fiddle with.

- › They can be small lap quilts, mats, blankets, aprons or pillows.
- › They need to stand up to constant pulling and laundering.
- › Zippers, buttons, strings of beads, yarn, etc., provide tactile stimulation and exercise for arms, hands, and fingers.
- › Soft toy animals, yarn bundles, etc., provide soothing relief for sore hands or agitation.
- › Different colors, textures, pictures, etc., provide visual stimulation.
- › Bells and squeeze toys provide auditory stimulation.

We have a few staff members that love to sew and were interested in making these quilts for donation. Office staff brought in supplies and we organized boxes of fabric, buttons, lace, and so on. It's amazing what can be used. There is no pattern, no right or wrong (except for safety), and you can let your imagination run wild. Those who sew in the office are working with those who don't sew, so not only is it a satisfying project, it is also a great office team-building activity.

If anyone would like information on how to make these, you can either research it on the Internet or contact me. Or if you'd like donate items for us to use, I can provide a list.

While office staff have recently lost family members to circumstances other than Alzheimer's, we are proud to donate our first completed quilts in their memories. It is very satisfying to know that our efforts will be used to benefit those suffering from these terrible conditions and diseases.

