

VOLUNTEER VOICE

A newsletter by and for Pinellas County government volunteers.



April 2016

We're on the web at www.pinellascounty.org/volunteer

Puttin' on the Ritz!

In FY2015, citizens volunteered **276,254 hours** to Pinellas County. According to the Independent Sector that amount of donated labor adds up to an approximate dollar value of **\$6,375,619**. But dollar valuation doesn't begin to measure the extent of the contributions of our volunteers. There is no way to truly calculate the effect your presence has and the support for the community it demonstrates.

Pinellas County has over 3,200 volunteers and to express our gratitude, Volunteer Services held the annual volunteer appreciation event on April 14. The theme this year was "Puttin' on the Ritz" – a lively, retro affair held at the [Armed Forces History Museum](#) in Largo. Approximately 200 volunteers came and enjoyed live big band music, dancing, touring the museum and delicious hors d'oeuvres. Many came all dolled up for a date night!

Celebrate Service



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Volunteer Voice

Graphics, layout, editor - Mary Sault
msault@pinellascounty.org or call
(727) 464-5098.

How to participate: Send questions, article submissions, upcoming events, photos, or story ideas to mkvam@pinellascounty.org.



More "Puttin' on the Ritz" photos on page 3.



Gone but not Forgotten

Bruce Roggenkamp WD9FMI SK

Bruce became a silent key on Tuesday, April 5 in the morning following an apparent burst artery. He felt dizzy and then fell. 911 was called and he was transported to the hospital where he died.

Bruce worked as a volunteer with the Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS) and the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) since April of 2008 and had logged over 1,000 hours as a volunteer. He served as the ACS/ARES Administrative Assistant Deputy RO/Assistant EC and he staffed a shelter during activations.

Bruce belonged to several clubs in Pinellas County. He was the Secretary of the Wormhole Club and had recently become a SPARC member.

Bruce will be greatly missed by all who knew him and knew the contributions he made as a volunteer.

There are no current plans for a memorial service. When the funeral takes place it will be at Bay Pines Cemetery.

The following notice was submitted by Sandy Wilson, Volunteer Program Project Manager.

It is with profound sadness that we were notified of the death of Auxiliary Ranger **Pat O'Hara**.

Pat, along with her husband Pete, were great supporters of the Pinellas Trail and showed their love for the Trail by becoming Auxiliary Rangers for the Pinellas County Parks and Conservation Resources (PCR) Department, serving in that capacity since 2011.

Pat and her husband were active Auxiliary Rangers and rode together constantly. They were snowbirds (from New Jersey) and split their time between Pennington, NJ and Florida. Pat started volunteering on the Pinellas Trail in January 2011. During her time Pat logged 578.5 hours volunteering for PCR. The last time she was able to go on the trail was in September 2015.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Pete and to the extended family and friends of the O'Hara's during this time of great loss.



Colors of Pinellas

I can't paint my way out of a paper bag

That's okay. You don't have to be a professional artist to participate in the 2016 Art Show, which is open to active volunteers and their families.

There are three categories: amateur, intermediate and professional. Last year, there were over 60 amateur entries. Join us and enter your favorite creation. It could be a photo, drawing, craft, painting, you pick it.

Registration deadline: May 20, 2016

Visit pinellascounty.org/hr/artshow.

SPONSORED BY THE NATIONAL ARTS PROGRAM

PINELLAS PAWS CAUSE

A Pinellas County Animal Services and Murals for Mutts Partnership

Murals for Mutts artist Anna Hamilton Fields wants to paint YOUR pet ... on the wall at Animal Services. Your \$100 donation includes the pet portrait while 25% goes to the Animal Welfare Trust Fund which helps support a higher quality of care for the dogs and cats at the shelter.

Simply contact Murals for Mutts at muralsformutts@gmail.com or call (727) 204-5515.

ADOPT | DONATE | VOLUNTEER



Happenings

May 21 - Animal Adoption Event

Animal Services will be at Petco in Pinellas Park from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. This is a special event where residents can adopt a pet and name their own price. For information, please call (727) 582-2600, Animal Services, 12450 Ulmerton Road, Largo. Petco, 7050 U.S. Highway 19 North, Pinellas Park.

June 11 - Second Annual Ken Rowe Birdathon

Birders of all levels are welcome and encouraged to attend. Teams of two to four people may enter this contest. Birding will take place by teams at their own pace at a choice of several areas within the Brooker Creek Preserve boundary, most of them not open to the public. Birding will take place from 5:30 to 11 a.m. Lunch and prizes will take place from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Team leaders must **RSVP by June 5**. \$10 per person, includes lunch. Sponsored by Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve. For questions and registration call (727) 934-2680, email fobcp@tampabay.rr.com or visit www.eventbrite.com and search "Ken Rowe." Brooker Creek Preserve, (727) 453-6800; 3940 Keystone Road, Tarpon Springs.

June 25 - Introduction to Beekeeping

A Hobby with Sweet Rewards (Part 1): This program will introduce participants to the basics of honey bees and their biology and the guiding principles of beekeeping. 10 a.m. to noon. Free; advance registration required. Register online at www.eventbrite.com and search keyword "beekeeping." Pinellas County Extension, 12520 Ulmerton Road, Largo.

"Puttin' on the Ritz" photo gallery, continued from page 1.

