

Spotlight



Palm Coast Graduates 45th Citizen's Academy

This week, twenty-six residents graduated from the City's 45th class of the Palm Coast Citizen's Academy. Students spent 5 weeks visiting various City departments and learning about local government and the day-to-day operations of the City. Citizen's Academy meets once a week and is open to all Palm Coast residents. To participate in an upcoming Citizen's Academy, virtual or in-person, visit the City's website here

https://www.palmcoastgov. com/palmcoasters/citizens-academy.



Highlights

Best Tasting Drinking Water:

Palm Coast's Utility Water Operations Division was named winner in the Florida Section American Water Works Association annual Region II "Best Tasting Drinking Water" contest. This is the 5th win for the City. Utility Water Ops will now compete in the State contest in April. For more information, see the attached news release.

WastePro Begins New Garbage Routes:

This week, WastePro initiated new garbage routes in an ongoing effort to improve service. Pickup days stay the same, however time of day will change. Residents should place garbage at the curb no later than 6am or the evening before a scheduled pickup. For more information, see the attached news release.

2019 Fine Your Florida Photo Contest Begins:

It's that time of year again for residents to get out those cameras and capture in a photograph, what's special about Palm Coast! Photographers may submit up to 20 photographs and must be submitted no later than July 6th. For more information, see the attached news release.







Announcements



Friday, March 8, 7:45pm Central Park in Town Center

Palm Coast Historical Society ~ Lecture Series Patrick Smith's Florida is a Land Remembered Saturday, March 9, 10am Community Center



Tuesday, March 19, 5pm Central Park at Town Center

Next Week:

- Tuesday, March 12, City Council Special Mtg City Manager Search, 9am, City Hall Community Wing, 160 Lake Avenue
- Tuesday, March 12, City Council Workshop, 9:05am, City Hall Community Wing, 160 Lake Avenue
- Tuesday, March 12, Leisure Services Advisory Committee Mtg, 5pm, Palm Coast Community Center

Attachments

- Administrative Services & Economic Development Department Update
- BAC Update
- Public Works Department Update
- Community Development Department Update
- Fire Department Update
- Parks & Recreation Department Update
- Utility Department Update
- Humane Society Update

News Releases

- 2019 Photo Contest
- Utility Department wins 'Best Tasting Drinking Water' competition for North Florida utilities (and now we advance to State)
- Waste Pro begins new routes, with new pickup times
- 26 Palm Coast residents graduate from Citizen's Academy
- Eddie Eagle GunSafe Program.

Communications & Marketing

The Division has been supporting the City Manager search process, staffing the special meetings and working with the media. We also coordinated the Citizen's Academy's visit to Fire Station 25 and the academy graduation at Tuesday's City Council meeting.

There are several upcoming events we're planning – dedication of the first sculpture in Central Park, the Stormwater Outreach Meetings on March 25, and the State of the City address on April 5. Content for the annual Water Quality Report has been finalized, and the Annual Progress Report is in design.

The 2019 Photo Contest is officially underway! Other news releases that went out this week include: Utility Department wins 'Best Tasting Drinking Water' competition for North Florida utilities (and now we advance to State); Waste Pro begins new routes, with new pickup times; 26 Palm Coast residents graduate from Citizen's Academy; and Eddie Eagle GunSafe Program.

Work has started on a video, "Future in Focus," for the upcoming State of the City video. Live streaming services were provided for two Council meetings.

For social media, we posted to Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. The most successful post was to Facebook regarding Waste Pro's new shorter pickup routes and times. We asked people to share, and they did. With 65 shares, reaching almost 10,000 people, the post received 51 comments, about half of which were positive regarding trash service.

The Brand Plus Team is working on signage to go next to public art, an updated plan for the Rooted in Nature campaign and signage for the electric car charging station.

City Clerk

- Processed 7 public records requests.
- Processed 2 litigation documents.
- Prepared and processed 40 documents for recording.
- Prepared 1 agenda item.
- Prepared and posted 2 agendas and 4 sets of approved meeting minutes to the web.
- Processed 3 resolutions.
- Processed 6 ordinances.



Central Services Division

Purchasing

Status	Ref. #	Project		
Pending	ITB-UT-19-45	Replacement PEP Pumps - Price Agreement Contract		
	RFSQ-CD-19-47			
Pending	/ ITB-CD-19-47	Belle Terre Bridge Rehabilitation		
Open	ITB-CD-19-22	Stormwater Utility Site Maintenance		
		Request for Letter of Interest (LOI) for Central Park Master Plan Update		
Open	LOI-CD-19-38	and Design Services		
Open	RFQ-PW-19-39	Debris Disposal Services		
	RFP-ADM-19-			
Open	30	Request for Proposal (RFP) for Hearing Officer Services		
		Request for Letter of Interest for Professional Services for SWCS K-		
Open	LOI-CD-19-41	6/Smith Trail Replacement Design Services		
	RFSQ-CD-19-43			
Open	/ ITB-CD-19-43	Water Treatment Plant No. 1 (WTP1) Electrical Upgrades		
	RFSQ-CD-19-40			
Open	/ ITB-CD-19-40	Belle Terre Parkway Right Turn Lane at Eastwood Drive		
		Invitation to Bid (ITB) for Celebration Sod (265,000 square feet) installed		
Open	ITB-PW-19-46	on ITSC fields 1 & 2		
Completed	RFP-IT-19-21	City Wide VoIP Phone System		
Completed	RFQ-UT-19-24	SCADA Support Software (Rockwell Factory Talk) and PLC Maintenance		
		Request for Letter of Interest (LOI) for Water Treatment Plants Nos. 1 & 2		
Completed	LOI-CD-19-28	Lime Sludge Handling, Removal & Disposal Study Engineering Services		
	RFSQ-CD-19-10			
Completed	/ ITB-CD-19-10	Whiteview Parkway Force Main Crossing		
Completed	RFP-ADM-19-31	Request for Proposal (RFP) for Real Estate Acquisition Services		

Contracts Processed:

- ♣ Motion Industries, Inc Piggyback Contract for Facility MRO, Industrial & Building Supplies RFP # 121218 3/1/2019 1/25/2023
- ♣ Environmental Land Services of Flagler County, Inc. Franchise Agreement for Commercial Solid Waste 2/28/2019 2/27/2020
- **♣** REP Services, Inc. Piggyback Contract for Park and Playground Equipment Bid # 160-0025-MR 3/2/2019 9/9/2019
- ♣ Environmental Products of Florida Corporation Piggyback Contract for Vehicles, Equipment, and Accessories Contract # 3708 3/5/2019 4/6/2021
- \clubsuit Central Pump & Supply Inc. DBA Central Pro – MPA for Irrigation Supplies – ITB-PW-PFM-17-21 – 3/4/2019 – 5/7/2020
- Welch Tennis Courts, Inc. − MSA for Resurfacing of Clay Tennis Courts − ITB-CD-19-25 − 2/28/2019 − 2/27/2020



The Palm Coast Business Assistance Center

Services Provided by the SBDC at UCF

Located at City Hall 160 Lake Avenue Palm Coast, Florida 32164 (386) 986-2499

www.PalmCoastBAC.com

BUSINESS CONSULTING

- This Week 11 Consulting Sessions, 40 Consulting Hours
- Total for Month 11 Consulting Sessions, 40 Consulting Hours

NEW PALM COAST COMMERCIAL BUSINESSES

- Flovac Inc 15 Utility Drive Retail Sales
- Joann Perryman 4 Concorde Lane Massage Therapist

NEW PALM COAST HOME BASED BUSINESSES

- Shannon B Fox Massage Therapist
- RJM Entertainment Entertainment Service
- Bahama Jane's Retail Sales

PUBLIC WORKS - Nestor Abreu, Director



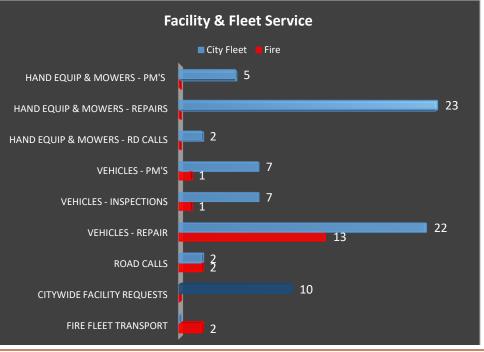
Parks & Medians Division				
135				
32				
97				
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86				
7.55				





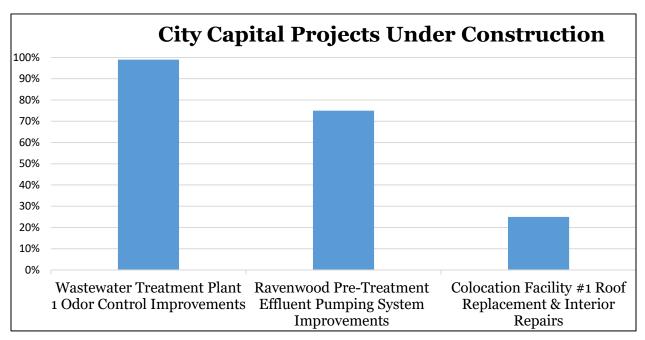


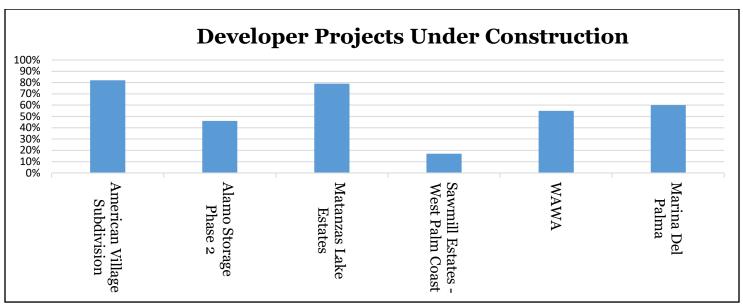




COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – Stephen Flanagan, Director

DEVELOPMENT FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE CITY'S
NATURAL RESOURCES, PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE.





	Commercial Permits Issued				
1070 Palm Coast Parkway NW # 5	Interior Renovations - Purdees Italian Ice	Fontana Construction	\$25,000		
5200 State Road 100 E # 107	Interior Renovations- Hand & Stone Massage & Facial Spa	DHP Construction LLC	\$300,000		
	Occupancy Permits Issued				
101 Palm Harbor Parkway B114	A-1 Sunshine Construction Services Inc.	Hector Zamora			
4 Concorde Lane #2	Joann Perryman - Massage Therapy	Joann Perryman	Joann Perryman		
1 Florida Park Drive S # 214	Maitland & Associates - Tax and Accounting	Kingsly Maitland	Kingsly Maitland		
	Certificate of Occupancy Issued				
101 Palm Harbor Parkway B118	Manila Maes (Restaurant)	EXO Sunrooms	\$2,000		
	Development Application				
Technical Site Plan with Master Plan	Central Landings at Town Center, Location: 1465 Central Avenue	Matthew H. Lah	Matthew H. Lahti		
Construction value improvements from October 1, 2018 to date					
Residential Single Family / Duplex Residences	11				

FIRE-Jerry Forte, Fire Chief



GUIDANCE

Tip of the Month:

Daylight Savings Time – We Spring Ahead on March 10th. Remember, when you change your clocks, change the batteries in your smoke detectors. If you want to keep your city's firefighters from following you around your house during the day, then watch this video!

PSA – "Change Your Batteries" http://bit.ly/PCFDPSA

Volunteer Intern

"Become a Volunteer"

http://www.palmcoastgov.com/government/fire/volunteer

Register for Basic First Aid & CPR or Healthcare Provider:

http://www.palmcoastgov.com/government/fire/cpr

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Basic First Aid & CPR:

March 23rd 5 openings April 13th 12 openings

Healthcare Provider:

March 22nd 2 openings

DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES

Flagler Palm Coast High School students and Volunteer Firefighter Intern applicants have a total of 16 "Ride-Along" hours this week.

During the week, Firefighters took part in the Fire Operations Command Simulator. This training prepares current & future company officers in fire ground command & strategies. We had some unique outreach opportunities such as a Spartan Race & reading Dr. Seuss books.

The Palm Coast Fire Department launched its official Facebook Page. You can visit the page at www.facebook.com/palmcoastfire for more photos and updates on the department's activities.



Lt. Bob Ballou, FF Chris Strozier, FF Katelyn Douglas & FF Sean McBride who ran the North Florida Spartan Race. They were challenged to an 8.4-mile race with over 30 challenging obstacles

HIGHLIGHTS

Sheriff Recognition...

Sheriff Rick Staly & Flagler County Sheriff's Office recognized members of the Palm Coast Fire Department who assisted in the search for missing and endangered child Rickey Wheeler this past September.

Those that were recognized were:

Fire Police Felix Ramos
Captain Gary Potter
Fire Police Captain Steve Garnes
Driver Engineer Nikolay Kulev
Lieutenant Jim Gore
Fire Police Vinny Devita
Fire Police Lieutenant Willie Canizales



Palm Coast Firefighters celebrated Dr. Seuss Birthday by reading to students at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School. Engine 21 crew visited St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, where students heard Lt. Faust read Oh the Places You'll Go!

Command Simulator Training

This week Palm Coast Fire Department hosted the Fire Operations Command Simulator. The purpose of the training was to allow crews to simulate taking command of a major fire operation. This training prepares Driver Engineers, Lieutenants & Lieutenant Mentees in establishing fire ground priorities and developing their strategies and tactics of fire operations.





Lt. Faust reading Dr. Seuss to students at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School



Parks & Recreation - Alex Boyer, Director

Our Winter/Spring season of Adult Flag Football League wrapped up this week. Team "Flight Risk" were the league champs! They were awarded with official league champs t-shirts and medals.

If you missed the Flagler Health Matters radio show where our Recreation Supervisor of Marketing was on talking about our upcoming Parks & Rec activities, you can listen to the archived sound clip here: https://soundcloud.com/flaglerbroadcasting/flagler-health-matters.

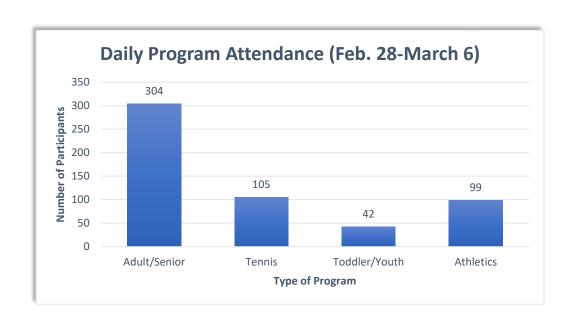
We officially unveiled our summer activity season. This included our hard copy activity guide and Civic Rec registration. We should have the digital version of the activity guide available next week. This summer will truly be the time to follow us to the fun!

Winter/Spring 2018-19 Activity Guide

http://www.palmcoastgov.com/recreation

Online Registration & Activities List

http://www.parksandrec.fun



Programs Offered this Week

Adult/Senior

Weekly Senior Social Programs
Dance with Me Ballroom Dancing
Line Dancing
West Coast Swing
Coffee Series

Health & Wellness

Yoga for All & Gentle Yoga Better Balance through Tai Chi Mayor's 90/90 Challenge Indoor Rowing REFIT Revolution Family Fitness Zumba Gold

Athletics

Open Pickleball Beginner's Pickleball Adult Flag Football League Adult Open Gym Volleyball Adult Open Gym Basketball

Tennis - Adults

Beginners, Cardio, Morning Blast, Doubles Skills, & Round Robins

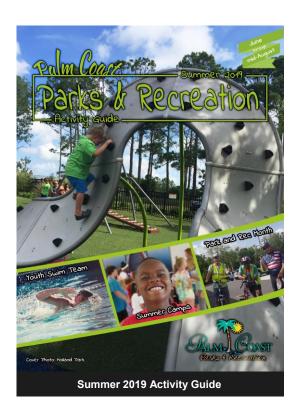
Tennis - Youth

Tennis Tots Rallies (Rookie, Red, Orange, & Green) Junior Development

Toddler/Youth/Teen

Teddy Bear Picnic Beginning Ballet Lil Sensory Explorers Awesome Alphabet Outing Palm Coast Apprentice Builders Cooking is Fun





COMING UP

March 19 – Food Truck Tuesday

March 23 – NCCAA Youth Sports Clinic

April 12 – Movies in the Park

April 16 – Food Truck Tuesday

April 19 – Teen Flashlight Egg Hunt

April 20 – Egg'Stravaganza

April 26 – Art Exhibition and Show

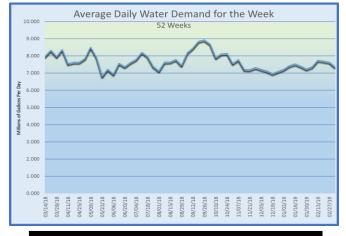
April 27 – Annual Ladies Day Tennis

Utility - Richard Adams, Director

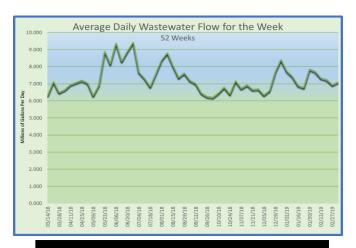
3-7-2019

- The average water demand for this week was 7.363 million gallons per day.
- The average wastewater flow for the week was 7.101 million gallons per day.
- Water Distribution crews installed 16 new water meters.
- There are 167 new meter installations pending with 34 lots cleared and an average installation time of 3 weeks.
- Wastewater Operations installed 15 new PEP tanks and replaced 4 PEP tanks.
- There are 27 new PEP tanks pending.
- Currently all new tanks are being installed within 10 days of site ready.
- There were 47 calls after hours.
- Water Distribution crews replaced 27 water service lines, repaired 2 service lines and 3 manifolds, completed 6 meter pit adjustments/replacements and tested and repaired 241 backflow preventers.
- Wastewater crews replaced 26 PEP pumps, 13 ball valves and 5 boxes, 30 floats, 11 cleanout caps and 4 back lids. Crews installed 13 new PEP pump assemblies, 14 PEP pump electric assemblies and 2 risers. Repaired 1 service lateral and 1 PEP main. Inspected via CCTV 6,644 feet of gravity sewer and 24 manholes.
- On March 2nd, staff from Water Treatment Plant #3 adjusted the corrosion inhibitor up to proper dosage levels. Staff also trained on conversion from free chlorine to chloramines and the required lab testing to monitor the process.
- Wastewater Operations delivered door tags for pending smoke testing in section 13.
- The Water Quality Division is currently in the process of performing unidirectional flushing throughout the City. Unidirectional flushing is a process of cleaning the water mains of a water distribution system by flowing water in one direction through the mains. This is accomplished by closing specified valves and by flushing strategically located hydrants. The unidirectional flushing operation will continue on March 25th and crews will be working in Section 7 which includes Farmsworth Lane and surrounding streets.
- PBM Constructors, Inc. and staff from Wastewater Plant #1 assisted in the installation of Rotor #3. Staff prepared and cleaned the surface of the area where the rotor will be installed.





The average water demand for the week was 7.363 million gallons per day.



The average wastewater flow was 7.101 million gallons per day

HIGHLIGHTS

WATER OPERATIONS DIVISION

The City of Palm Coast was recognized as having the 'Best Tasting Drinking Water in Northeast Florida," by the Florida Section American Water Works Association, Region II and the Florida Water Environment Association. At a regional meeting held on March 5th 2019, 6 judges taste-tested samples submitted by 7 separate utilities including the City of Palm Coast, and six others. This is the 5th time the City of Palm Coast has been recognized as having the "Best Tasting Drinking Water in Northeast Florida" in the past 16 years. The City of Palm Coast was also honored with this award in 2007, 2009, 2011 and 2015.

The City of Palm Coast will compete against other regional winners at a statewide taste testing to be held at the Florida Water Resources Conference in Tampa.



WASTEWATER OPERATIONS

 Disc filter #3 was returned to Wastewater Plant #1 after being sent out for repair.

PBM Constructors, Inc., and staff from Wastewater Plant #1, assisted in installing the disc filter. A high lift crane was used to lift the filter and position it back into place. The final step is to wire the filter to the electrical supply and communications control.





PHOTO: Last year's first-place winner was "Town Center Celebration" by Vicki Payne.



NEWS RELEASE – City of Palm Coast

Contact: Cindi Lane, Communications & Marketing Manager 386-986-3708; cell 386-214-4729

March 4, 2019

City of Palm Coast's Find Your Florida 2019 Photo Contest begins

Palm Coast – In a photograph, show what makes Palm Coast special!

The City of Palm Coast will hold the Find *Your* Florida 2019 Photography Contest now through July 6. Prizes will be awarded, and photographs submitted for the contest will be used by the City for marketing, promotional and public relations purposes.

The theme of the contest is "Find Your Florida in Palm Coast." Winning photos will illustrate what makes Palm Coast special. Examples of what the City is looking for include: family fun at our festivals, sports activities, cultural clubs and organizations, and on our parks and trails; active lifestyle such as walking/running/bicycling, sports, swimming, fishing and boating; and nature such as beautiful landscapes, birds and other wildlife, and waterways. The City wants to share what's special about Palm Coast!

First, second and third place will be awarded, plus a special award for a new category, "Special Events," and for the Best Photo taken by a youth age 17 and younger.

For the second time, a concurrent photo contest on Instagram will be held, and prizes will be awarded for the best Instagram photos, too. To enter via Instagram, be sure to use the hashtag "PCpics2019" and include the photo location (where in Palm Coast?) in the caption.

Gift certificates to local businesses will be awarded in the following amounts: First Prize, \$200; Second Prize, \$100; Third Prize, \$50; Instagram winner, \$100; "Special Events" winner, \$50; and Youth winner, \$50. Gift certificates will be offered to a variety of businesses, and winners will be able to select from the list. In addition, honorable mentions will be awarded as determined by the judges. Winning photographs will be displayed on the City's website, and winning photographers will be recognized at a meeting of the Palm Coast City Council. Photographers may submit up to 20 entries. It is free to enter. Entries must be submitted no later than midnight July 6, 2019.

Photographs submitted for the contest must be taken in the City of Palm Coast. The photographs will be used by the City for marketing, promotional and public relations purposes such as publications, videos and websites, and at City facilities, to promote the City of Palm Coast. All submissions will become the property of the City of Palm Coast.

For complete guidelines and an online entry form, visit www.palmcoastgov.com/photocontest. For more information, contact Cindi Lane, Palm Coast communications & marketing manager, at 386-986-3708 or clane@palmcoastgov.com.

Photo 1: Pictured from left to right, Angela Bryan – FSAWWA Region II Chair; Peter Roussell – City of Palm Coast Utility Systems Manager; and Andy May – FSAWWA Past Chair.

Photo 2: This shows the water filtration membranes at Water Treatment Plant 3.

Photo 3: This shows the Palm Coast Water Tower.



NEWS RELEASE – City of Palm Coast

Contact: Kimberly Norman, Public Relations Associate

386-986-3717 **March 6, 2019**

City of Palm Coast Water Utility wins 'Best Tasting Drinking Water' in regional contest

Palm Coast – The City of Palm Coast's Utility Water Operations Division was named the winner in the Florida Section American Water Works Association annual Region II "Best Tasting Drinking Water Contest."

The City's Utility Department competed against six other utilities for the title. FSAWWA (Florida Section of AWWA) has been holding the contest since 2003. This is the fifth win for the City in the regional competition in the utility's history, which includes wins in 2015, 2011, 2009 and 2007.

"We are actively involved with the organization and have been for years," said Peter Roussell, City of Palm Coast Utility Systems Manager. "It gives us the opportunity to highlight our efforts in treating water. Winning this award means we are engaged in our jobs and meeting not only the drinking water regulations set forth by our Primacy Agency but exceeding them as well."

Water samples were judged on taste, color, odor, and clarity in a blind sampling test. The judges were:

- Jim French, P.E., Chief Engineer, CCUA
- Teddy Robinson, President, SEWRA (Society of Environmental Water Resource Awareness), UNF Student
- Samantha Chan, SEWRA Member, UNF Student
- Stephen Spence, E.I., Engineer Specialist II, FDEP
- John Fitzgerald, Regional Water Supply Planning Coordinator, SJRWMD
- Scott Laidlaw, P.G., Bureau Chief Water Supply Planning, SJRWMD

The winners will have the opportunity to enter the state "Best Drinking Water Contest" in the April FSAWWA annual convention in Tampa and compete with nine other regions throughout Florida.

Region II consists of Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, Putnam, and St. Johns counties. All public and private utilities that operate water production facilities located within the geographical area of the region were invited to participate.

The City of Palm Coast Utility Department is responsible for providing high quality, safe drinking water and environmentally responsible wastewater service to the community. With over 500 miles each of water and wastewater pipelines, three water treatment plants and a wastewater treatment facility, the Utility Department provides service to the residents and businesses as well as to various territories outside the city limits. Our staff of highly trained individuals are equipped to provide the best utility service available.



NEWS RELEASE – City of Palm Coast

Contact: Cindi Lane, Communications & Marketing Manager 386-986-3708; cell 386-214-4729

March 4, 2019

Waste Pro begins new garbage routes, with new pickup times, in Palm Coast

Palm Coast – Waste Pro, the City of Palm Coast's contracted garbage collection hauler, began new shorter, pickup routes Monday morning as part of ongoing efforts to improve service for garbage, yard trash and recyclables in Palm Coast.

Customer pickup days will stay the same. However, the time of day when the pickup is made will change because all routes now have new starting and finishing locations.

Customers are reminded that garbage and recyclables collection in Palm Coast runs from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Garbage must be placed at the curb no later than 6 a.m., or the evening before scheduled pickup, to ensure it's not missed. Waste Pro is unable to return to a route to collect garbage that was put out after that day's collection.

Palm Coast Utility customers are advised to contact Customer Service at customer-service@palmcoastgov.com or 386-986-2360 if Waste Pro misses their pickup. The City works with Waste Pro to resolve all concerns.

More information about Palm Coast garbage service is available online at www.palmcoastgov.com/trash.

Graduation photo attached.



NEWS RELEASE – City of Palm Coast

Contact: Cindi Lane, Communications & Marketing Manager

386-986-3708; cell 386-214-4729

March 6, 2019

Palm Coast Citizen's Academy graduates 26 students in its 45th session

Palm Coast – Twenty-six Palm Coast residents graduated this month from the Palm Coast Citizen's Academy, a comprehensive program designed to educate interested residents about the operation and workings of their City government.

The graduating class – the 45th in the program's history – spent five weeks learning about City departments and visiting City Hall, the Community Center, main Fire Station 25, and Water Treatment Plant No. 3, and Wastewater Treatment Plant 2. The class also attended a Palm Coast City Council meeting together.

This session's graduates were Rhonda Barner, Walt Barner Jr., Mark Burda, Daniel Cauley, Patricia Cauley, David Chaney, Sarah Chaney, Candace Covey, Joey Covey, Patricia Devoy, Beth Hagan, Louis Hagan, Cecil Hengeveld, Peggy Hengeveld, Joseph LaMacchia, Marilyn Moreira, Connie Orell, Larry Orell, Scott Pearston, Sharon Petty, Lilian Rodriguez, Diane Scarnecchia, Vickie Taylor, Cynthia Turner, Hugh Turner, and James Zimmerman.

"The Citizen's Academy is one of the best ways to learn about our local government – about the City Council's goals for maintaining our high quality of life and well-run City services, for advancing our community's economic development and quality of life through new technology and innovation, and for understanding what goes into day-to-day operations of City government," said Palm Coast Mayor Milissa Holland. "We appreciate our Citizen's Academy graduates' interest and welcome them as the City's newest ambassadors."

The Citizen's Academy kicked off in early February with an opening session titled, "Governing the City," providing background on Palm Coast's incorporation, City Charter, the Council-Manager form of government, and overall information about the City.

Participants in the Citizen's Academy received an overview on every City department and met City Council members, department directors and many other City employees. Interim City Manager Beau Falgout did a presentation on development projects – both public and private – currently underway in Palm Coast.

The Citizen's Academy meets once a week, usually on Monday evenings, for five straight weeks. The course is free and registration is limited to approximately 30 Palm Coast citizens per session.

Registration is now open for two additional sessions this year. Go to www.palmcoastgov.com and search for "Citizen's Academy."

For residents whose schedules don't allow for the in-person Citizen's Academy, the City also offers a Virtual Citizen's Academy. Visit www.palmcoastgov.com/vca. The Virtual Citizen's Academy includes an overview of the City government and separate modules on each of the City's departments.

For more information, contact Cindi Lane, Palm Coast Communications & Marketing Manager, at 386-986-3708 or clane@palmcoastgov.com.



NEWS RELEASE – City of Palm Coast

Contact: Kimberly Norman, Public Relations Associate 386-986-3717

March 5, 2019

Eddie Eagle GunSafe Program offers spring sessions to teach kids gun safety

Palm Coast – Palm Coast Parks & Recreation and the Flagler County Sheriff's Office are partnering once again to host the Eddie Eagle GunSafe Program – a gun accident prevention program – for children Pre-K through fourth grade.

This program is free to attend, but pre-registration is required. There are a limited amount of spots available so please register early at www.parksandrec.fun/youth.

All classes will be held from 4:30-5:30 p.m. at the Palm Coast Community Center located at 305 Palm Coast Pkwy NE.

The schedule by grade level is:

- Pre-K and Kindergarten March 19
- 1st and 2nd March 20
- 3rd and 4th March 21

The Eddie Eagle GunSafe Program is designed to teach children four simple, easy-to-remember steps so they know what to do if they ever come across a gun: STOP! Don't touch. Run Away. Tell a grown-up.

No actual firearms will be used in this program. The class will be taught by a certified NRA instructor and law enforcement will be in attendance.

The program was developed by a task force made up of educators, school administrators, curriculum specialists, urban housing safety officials, clinical psychologists, law enforcement officials and National Rifle Association (NRA) firearm safety experts.

For more information, please call Parks & Rec at 386-986-2323.



184 Cats

83 Dogs

1 Rabbit

1 Turtle

Animals ready for homes

Studies have found that young adults who had a pet in their home as an infant were only half as likely to develop a significant amount of antibodies to pet allergens. "This research provides further evidence that experiences in the first year of life are associated with health status later in life, and that early life pet exposure does not put most children at risk of being sensitized to these animals later in life," says researcher Ganesa Wegienka, PhD, of the department of biostatistics and research epidemiology at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit. This study, published in Clinical & Experimental Allergy, looked at the association between lifetime pet exposure and allergic sensitization. They studied a group of 566 boys and girls from the Detroit area. They were followed from birth until 18 years old. At 18 years old, they were tested for allergic sensitization to pets.

The study found that being exposed to pets at home during the first year of life was the most important component in reducing the risk of allergic sensitizations to those pets later in life compared to those that were not exposed. They found that exposure later in childhood did not have a protective effect against the allergens.

Donation Opportunities: The *Flagler Humane Society Thrift Store* always accepts donations. They cannot take in any computers/printers or large appliances. Call for our new store location where we collect donations.

"General Donations" can be dropped off anytime at your convenience. FHS appreciates all donations, especially those from our Wish List (available at <u>flaglerhumanesociety.org/wish-list</u>). You can also purchase items via the Amazon.com link on the FHS website and ship them directly to the shelter.

Outreach Adoption Events: Don't forget that FHS have volunteers and adoptable pets at Petco, PetSmart, PetSupermarket and Tractor Supply in Palm Coast. Stop by and see our adoptable pets!

Want to be a volunteer? Attend an orientation! Orientations are held at noon in the Humane Society education room every second Saturday of the month. Applications can be found on the FHS website.

Interested in fostering? Contact our adoption specialist at adopt@flaglerhumanesociety.org.

Adoption Specials: Check out our Facebook for any upcoming specials.

Upcoming Fundraisers/Events: See the FHS Website for information on any upcoming events.

Offered Services: The Flagler Humane Society has a variety of Subsidized Spay & Neuter Programs for members of the community that need to have their pets or community pets sterilized. Please call FHS at 386-445-1814, email info@flaglerhumanesociety.org for questions.

FHS has a *Wellness Clinic* for minor veterinary issues. Call 386-445-1814 for Appointments. *Low Cost Vaccination Clinics* are held every Saturday from 1pm-3pm. FHS also offers a "*Furry Friend Food Pantry*" for those that are in need of assistance. Please call for more information.

To keep up with Flagler Humane Society happenings – visit us on the FHS Facebook/Instagram/Website at www.flaglerhumanesociety.org, or via email at info@flaglerhumanesociety.org.

Pet of the Week



BUN BUN

Bun Bun is an adorable Lionhead mix that is approximately 1.5 years old. He is a smaller rabbit that is very clean and likes to be petted. He is not used to being picked up but we think that he would acclimate easily. He is ready for a forever home today. Come and meet this special boy!

Adoption specialist:

Katrina Geigley adopt@flaglerhumanesociety.org

Outreach Manager:

Katie Share kshare@flaglerhumanesociety.org