



# The Civic Courier

The Women's Civic Club  
of Panama City Beach,  
Inc.

Volume XIII- Issue 5  
January 2024



**Nancy Stovall**

## From the President's Desk

Dear Members:

*Resolve - decide firmly on a course of action.* The ancient Babylonians are said to have been the first people to make New Year's resolutions. Today, while as many as 45 percent of Americans say they usually make New Year's resolutions, only 8 percent say they are successful in achieving their goals. Reasons for failing to meet goals include not considering that there will be obstacles and having an accountability check. As part of the installation oath, members agree to participate in club functions to help the club achieve its goals in the community. Are there obstacles or accountability issues that hinder you from fully achieving this promise? If there is, will you resolve to do better in 2024?

At the January General Meeting and Luncheon, a nomination committee will be formed to select a slate of officers for Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer. In accordance with the bylaws, nomination forms will be given to each member in attendance at the meeting to identify a candidate for the committee. The form will be signed then placed in the designated container. A member must have been active for two years to be eligible for nomination. Once the nominations are collected, the President will draw a name, allow the member to accept or decline. The process will continue until there are seven (7) members for the committee.

"What the new year brings to you will depend a great deal on what you bring to the new year." Vern McLellan

*Nancy*

## "December Christmas Luncheon"



**Left to Right: Arnold High School Principal Britt Smith, Boys & Girls Club Jerri Skipper, Bay County Sheriff Tommy Ford, Boys & Girls Club Latina Reed, Panama City Beach Mayor Mark Shelton, Panama City Beach Fire Chief Ray Morgan, Salvation Army Domestic Violence Patricia Vicars, Panama City Beach Police Chief J.R. Talamantez, Thomas Drive & West End Fire Departments Bob Lavery, Girl's Inc. Catherine Glover, Panama City Beach Library Laura Laspee, Parks & Recreation Assistant Director Keith Meyerl, Women's Civic Club President Nancy Stovall, Parks & Recreation Director Cheryl Joiner**

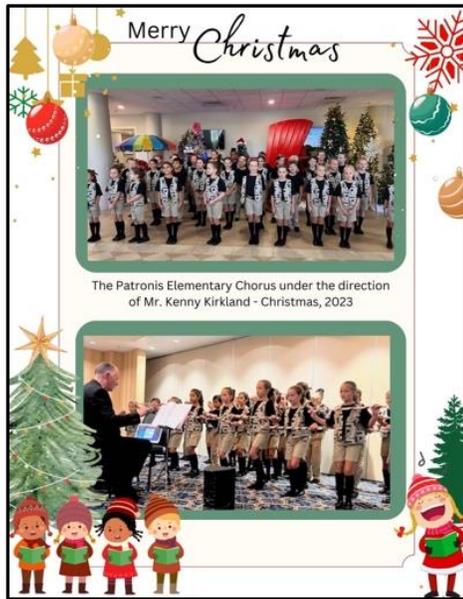
**Not in attendance: Representatives from the Ark, Beach Care Services and the Food Pantry**

Not only were the members and guests transported across the world with "song and dance", the club had the joy of giving back to our community. Each receiving organization shared what they would do with their gift. Throughout the year club members, oftentimes enlisting family and friends, volunteer their time and efforts to ensure our Christmas Luncheon is a success.



Arlene Geneva, a member of the club since November 2000, takes the time to enjoy one of the many Boardwalk Beach Hotel's beautifully decorated Christmas trees and rejoice in her 50/50 win!!

## *"Patronis Elementary Chorus Delights Audience with Christmas Music Performance"*



What a wonderful time! The festive atmosphere of this year's Christmas luncheon at The Boardwalk came alive and was made even more magical by the enchanting performance of the Patronis Elementary School Chorus. Their delightful voices filled the air with joy and melody as the young singers took center stage. Led by their talented music teacher, Mr. Kenny Kirkland, the third, fourth, and fifth grade singers delivered a captivating show that warmed the hearts of all of those in attendance.

The performance featured a delightful selection of Christmas melodies, each song bringing the magic of the season to life. From the jubilant notes of "Reindeer Rattle and Roll" to the soul-stirring rendition of "Oh What A Wonderful Baby," the choir enchanted the audience with their harmonious voices and spirited performance.

In addition to our members and guests, many parents of the children were in the audience, adding to the festive atmosphere. The chorus's performance not only entertained but also conveyed the warmth of the holiday season, evoking many feelings of joy, love, and pride. Speaking of pride, I have to tell you that my great-granddaughter, Leighton Belle was one of the singers. She is in the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. Her Mom, Mariah, (my granddaughter) her Grandmother, Laura (my daughter) and I were all there, making 4 generation at a WCC luncheon. I bet that was a first! Leighton Belle is also the great-granddaughter of member, Jean Sturman. Jean's son and my daughter are married so we get the privilege of sharing all the "greats"! Needless to say, we were all beaming.

We were truly blessed by the students' outstanding performance, and we extend our heartfelt appreciation to the parents, teachers, and school officials who work tirelessly to coordinate off campus trips, which allow the children to perform at various events.

A special thank you to all of those involved and to Mr. Kenny Kirkland for his leadership, guidance, and support and for playing such a pivotal role in nurturing the talents of these young performers that enables them to shine so brightly in the spotlight.

As we reflect on the joyous occasion, we are reminded of the importance of nurturing young minds and talent and providing opportunities for artistic expression. The young singers from Patronis Elementary School have certainly left a lasting impression on all of us, and we are grateful for the joy and inspiration they have brought into our lives this Christmas season.

### **Thank You**

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all our members who joined us and participated in our December Christmas luncheon. A special appreciation goes out to Sue Jiles for coordinating with Mr. Kirkland and arranging the Patronis Elementary Chorus to perform. To all - your presence and contributions made this event truly special.

### **January Luncheon**

We'll start out the new year with our January 4th, 2024 luncheon at The Deckhand Social, 3901 Thomas Drive, Panama City Beach, FL. The restaurant has recently been renovated and we are looking forward to trying it out! Renowned director and conductor Sergey Bogza with the Panama City Symphony Orchestra will be our guest speaker. Don't miss it and don't forget to RSVP to save your seat! See you there!

*Jane Fillingim*, Chair, Lunches and Programs Committee

### ***"Thank You Magnolia's Flowers"***



During the new member installation ceremony, each new member is presented with a bouquet of flowers. Magnolia's Flowers (originally Mimi's Flowers) has been creating the bouquets for several years at a minimal cost to the club. Susan Velazquez purchased the business from Mimi four (4) years ago and has six (6) employees. The shop offers a lovely variety of fresh flowers and creative gift ideas to suit any style or budget. If you need a floral gift, consider Magnolia's Flowers located at 7906 Front Beach Road, Panama City Beach, (850) 249-6009, [orders@magnoliasflowers.net](mailto:orders@magnoliasflowers.net).

### ***"Fulfilling Our Mission of Improving Life in Panama City Beach Community"***

#### ***Raising Funds***

#### **Spring Fling Juried Arts and Crafts Show and Sale!**

Mark your calendars now for Saturday, March 2, 2024! We will need volunteers and shoppers for our annual Spring Fling held at Frank Brown Park from 9-3. We are also accepting applications for vendors through January 12. Please refer any vendors to our website to the events tab, where they can download an application or contact Julie Sanders [jqsander@aol.com](mailto:jqsander@aol.com) for information on becoming a vendor!

We have lots of new vendors who have applied with some amazing products!

*Julie Sanders*, Chairman

## Dance and Silent Auction

The Women's Civic Club of Panama City Beach, FL, Inc.  
Presents

# OH WHAT A NIGHT!

*Caring and Sharing with Our Community*

Laketown Wharf Event Center  
9902 S Thomas Drive  
Panama City Beach, FL 32408

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2024  
6:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Dancing  
Silent Auction  
Live Auction  
DJ  
Buffet Dinner  
Cash Bar  
50/50 Raffle Drawing  
Door Prizes

INDIVIDUAL TICKET \$50 | SPONSORSHIP AVAILABLE

SPONSORSHIP AND TICKET  
INFORMATION: [WWW.WCCPCB.ORG](http://WWW.WCCPCB.ORG)

*Dance & Auction*

### Sponsorship Levels

#### **Gold Sponsor - \$1,500**

Exclusive recognition as a Gold Sponsor  
VIP tickets and table reservations for 10 - Dinner served 1st  
Premier table placement at the event  
Website and social media spotlight  
Preferred parking

#### **Silver Sponsor - \$1,000**

Logo inclusion on event materials and website  
Acknowledgment in event programs and website  
VIP tickers and table reservation for 10 - Dinner served with priority

#### **Bronze Sponsor - \$750**

Acknowledgment in event programs and website  
Complimentary tickets and table reservation for 10 - Dinner served with priority  
Premier table placement at the event



Donations of an item, service, experience or gift card to be included in our silent auction is another way to support our fundraising efforts and donations are still needed. If you have not yet reached out to prospective donors, please do so as soon as possible as the date of the Dance & Silent Auction is quickly approaching! Please let Kelly Bertin [kwbertin@yahoo.com](mailto:kwbertin@yahoo.com) know of any commitments you have for donations. Also contact Kelly for a convenient pick-up or drop off process for the received donations.

*Jane Fillingim and Darlene Dial - Dance Committee Chairs  
Tammy Haight and Kelly Bertin - Silent Auction Chairs*

## PCB Marathon



Jenna Hall, Sherrill Kelley



Monica Thomas, Allen & Susan Major Janine Evenson,  
Jayn Collins



Patty & Tim Rocco

Thank you so much to everyone who braved the rainy weather to work the PCB Marathon. Due to our hard work and positive attitudes, the Chamber of Commerce received numerous compliments about us. Due to this positivity, they have elected to present us with a higher donation! We will now receive \$2,500 for manning the water stations and finish line instead of \$2,000.

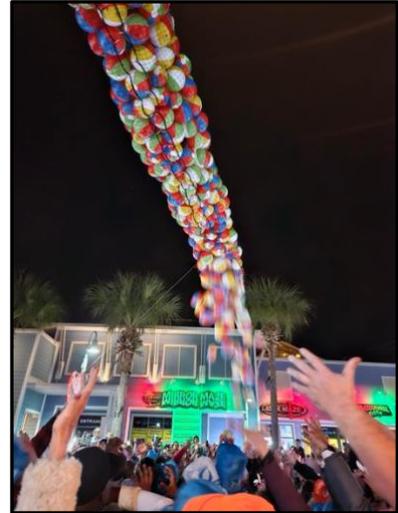
Thank you! I know it wasn't an easy day!  
*Monica Thomas*

## Special Beach Events



**Monica Thomas, Rhonda Zartman**

## New Year's Eve Beach Ball Drop!!



**"Let Them Drop!"**

PCB sure knows how to throw a New Year's Eve party and The Women's Civic Club of PCB was delighted to have been a part of it! We were tasked with handing out 15,000 party hats to the party goers at Pier Park. And we were amazed at the number of folks that came out to ring in the new year with their families and friends.

Many thanks to the ladies and hubbies that came out to participate in this task. We really got into the party spirit as we were positioned right under the 8pm beach ball drop.

This was a great opportunity to be part of a huge party and earn funds for our charities and support organizations.



**Faye Culpepper, Diane Vitale**



**Sue Jiles, Lynn Padgett, Rhonda Zartman, Denice Dare**



**Joyce Kippes, Brenda Bryson, Marie Hall**

We can take a few days to rest, but next up is beer sales at the PCB Mardi Gras in Aaron Bessant on January 27, 2024.

*Cheri Leistner and Sue Jiles, Special Beach Events Chairs*

## *"Supporting the Community"*

### **Boys and Girls Club**

The Boys and Girls Club provides a world-class club experience that assures success is within reach of every young person who enters their doors. Their goal is to enable all young people, especially those who need it most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens.

At the February business luncheon, we will be collecting for the Boys and Girls Club.

*Cheri Leistner*- Boys and Girls Club Liaison

### **Community Outreach**

The Community Outreach committee needs volunteers! On Thursday, January 18th at 8:30a.m. we will assist with packing backpacks of food. Backpack Blessings is a non-profit organization that provides weekend meals to students in all PCB schools. These students, who have been identified by their counselors and teachers as needing additional support, receive 7 meals and snacks each for each weekend.

We will meet at the Hospitality Depot, 158 Griffin Blvd (near the Powder Room) at 8:30a.m. Depending on the number of volunteers, it should take approximately one hour. Then, those that wish to may join us for breakfast nearby. There will be a sign-up sheet at the January luncheon, or you may contact Dena Roewe at 214-794-8843, [denaroewe@att.net](mailto:denaroewe@att.net) to schedule. A rewarding way to help students in need. For more information on Backpack Blessings, go to [www.backpackblessingspcb.com](http://www.backpackblessingspcb.com).

The kick-off of the Red Hat Tea Party at Charter Senior Living in November was a success. China was donated, and red hats were purchased for the residents. The next scheduled Red Hat Tea Party will be on January 22nd at 2:30p.m. Only two volunteers are needed each month. If you are interested in participating, please contact Denise Rentz [deniserentz1@gmail.com](mailto:deniserentz1@gmail.com) or Dawn Wise [dwise1945@yahoo.com](mailto:dwise1945@yahoo.com).

### **Food Pantry**



December Luncheon Meeting Collections



Beth Reedy Accepting the Club Donation From Gloria Turner

## *"Spending Time Together"*

### **Member to Member**

#### *December Bunco*



**Arlene Klaas "I Got a Bunco"**



**Sue Jiles, Arlene Klaas, Patty Rocco, Jackie Logan, Gloria Turner, Rhonda Zartman, Nancy Stovall, Dacia Smith, Carol Metaxas**



**Wendy**

We had a wonderful time at our 1st December Bunco. We had 8 players with Sue Jiles as our cheerleader.

Each player received a bag of goodies!

Raffle winners- Nancy Stovall Carol Metaxas, Gloria Turner, Jackie Logan, Rhonda Zartman, and Dacia Smith.

Most Bunco's- tie Gloria Turner & Arlene Klaas

Most Wins- 1st time player Carol Metaxas

Most Losses- tie Nancy Stovall & Rhonda Zartman

Final Bunco- Patty Rocco

We gave our wonderful waitress Wendy a nice Christmas gift. Sue made her a Christmas apron with her name on it, Cheri made her a kitchen towel and we gave her a Christmas lantern snow globe.

We all had a wonderful lunch and played dirty Santa. The gift that was most stolen was the "12 days of Christmas". The holder of gift would open one item for the next 12 days. Jackie Logan was the last lady to get it. We had a great time with lots of laughing and visiting.

## *"Recognizing our Members"*

### **Happy Birthday Wishes!!**

#### **February**

- |    |                 |
|----|-----------------|
| 10 | Sue Jiles       |
| 17 | Felicia England |
| 18 | Tammy Haight    |



*"Aging is not lost youth but a new stage of opportunity and strength!"*

## *" In Appreciation "*

**From: Arnold High School Culinary - Chef Billy Redd and Kilee Batting, Adaja Allen, Kennedy J., Avilyn Tran, Kavita, Zaheg Palmer, Dawson West, Ryker Escue, Peyton Will, Dylan S., Allen, Logan Williams, Jaden Keith, Aymee Padill, Harley Sheppard, Alex, Macy, Wy H. Linssen, Brooklynn Muchandel, Liam Brooks, Aa-ron, Isabella Rasavi, Alicia, Muchboxe**

Thank you. Thank you so much. We appreciate you. I love you thanks for money and support.

**From: Bay County Sheriff's Department - Sheriff Tommy Ford**

Thank you for your generous donation to the Bay County Sheriff's Office. We are blessed to be a part of such a giving community.

From our Bay County Sheriff's Office family to yours, we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**From: The Salvation Army Domestic Violence - Captain Arnaldo Pena and Jessica Weeks, Lisa Herst, Pat Miller, Trish Vuais, Jayne Fowler, Taylor Meadoz, Cyril, Rebecca Lazenby, Kubly**

Please accept my sincere thanks for your generous donation of \$1,000 plus the \$212 received on November 3, 2023 to the Salvation Domestic Violence Program. We appreciate your support of this program.

Every day of the year, people reach out to The Salvation Army's shield as a beacon of hope when their lives become burdened with challenges and heartache.

The Domestic Violence Program serves 6 counties in our area of responsibility and your generous donation will enable us to be more effective in our assistance to these families and individuals. In most instances, these folks have no resources and no place to turn. Our programs offer a safe haven counseling and services to help them retain or regain their individuality, self-confidence and self-respect.

Thank you for your faithful support. May God abundantly bless you!

Sending you Songs of Peace this Christmas.

**From: Girls Inc. - Brittany Pace and Catherine Glover**

A sincere thank you for your donation of \$1,000.00 to help support Girls Inc. of Bay County! Because of community partners like you, we are able to further our mission to inspire all girls to be strong, smart, and bold. With your support, we can continue to provide educational outreach to schools throughout our region, after-school structured programming, and full, day-long summer programs to girls throughout Bay County.

Our Centers, focusing on girls ages 6-18, are safe places to go, to be supported by peers, teachers, and mentors. They learn to value themselves, take risks, and develop confidence through research-based programming in areas such as STEM, economic literacy health, and wellness.

Again, we thank you for your support. Please don't hesitate to reach out to discuss more ways we can partner as we continue this important work!

With you in her corner, she will succeed.

**From: Gulf Beach Presbyterian Church Food Pantry - Beth Reedy**

Dear friends of the WCC: We send many thanks once again to the members of the Women's Civic Club for your continued support of our Community Food Pantry. Your consistent generous donations of food and money (\$1000+) are so greatly appreciated. We cannot express how these donations help us to continue our mission of helping those in need in our community. This donation for December will help fill our Christmas Baskets which are distributed to those families in need at Breakfast Point School. Again, we cannot thank you all enough for your unending generosity and support. In addition, we certainly appreciate all the support from Gloria Turner, our liaison. She is most helpful to us.

Please share with all of your members our sincere appreciation for all you do to help support our Community Food Pantry. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas.

May the Lord Bless and keep you and your, making us all ever mindful of the needs of others.

**From: Panama City Beach Library - Laura and Staff**

Thank you for the generous donation to the library. We will be able to purchase books for our collection which will be available to everyone in our community. We truly appreciate your support of the library.

**Merry Christmas from Anchorage Children's Home - Joel Booth**

On a daily basis, our staff provide life-saving care to hundreds of children and families in our community. When children come to us in a crisis, they are often confused, upset, and angry about their circumstances. Our staff meet each child where their current circumstances find them and provide loving care. Some of it is basic, life sustaining, services such as food, clothing, and shelter. Once these basic needs are met, the staff embarks on the difficult journey of "being there" for a youth as they process the myriad of emotions that they are dealt with. This often includes justifiable anger as they feel abandoned and alone; our staff are the ones that God has appointed to love these youth in some of their darkest hours. Without your ongoing trust, support and prayers, we could not continue our mission to provide hope to those who desperately need to know His love. Thank you, and may the Lord bless you and your family abundantly this Christmas season and into the New Year!

**Merry Christmas from Hutchinson Beach Elementary Faculty, Staff and Students**

**Wishing you a Joyous Holiday Season and a New Year of Peace and Happiness! from Chief Talamantez and Staff of the Panama City Beach Police Department**

**Happy Holidays from A. Gary Walsingham Academy**

**Merry Christmas from West Bay Elementary**

***"Upcoming Events"***

- Jan 8 Winter Resident Appreciation Days at Laketown Wharf Event Center, 8-10:30AM
- Jan 25 Board Meeting at Chamber of Commerce Conference Room, 309 R Jackson, 10AM
- Jan 26 & 27 Panama City Beach Mardi Gras and Music Festival at Aaron Bessant Park
- Feb 1 General Meeting and Luncheon at The Wharf, 9902 S Thomas Drive, 11AM
- Feb 3 Dance and Silent Auction at The Laketown Wharf Event Center, 9902 S Thomas Dr., 6-10PM
- Feb 5 Winter Resident Appreciation Days at Laketown Wharf Event Center, 8-10:30AM
- Feb 19 Winter Resident Appreciation Days at Laketown Wharf Event Center, 8-10:30AM
- Feb 29 Board Meeting at Chamber of Commerce Conference Room, 309 R Jackson, 10AM
- Mar 2 Spring Fling Arts & Craft Show at Frank Brown Park

***"The Women's Civic Club of Panama City Beach, Inc"***

**Contact Information**

Mail: P.O. Box 9759, Panama City Beach, FL 32417  
Email: [womenscivicclub@aol.com](mailto:womenscivicclub@aol.com)  
Web: [wccpcb.org](http://wccpcb.org)  
Facebook: Women's Civic Club of PCB, FL  
Women's Civic Club of Panama City Beach  
Hashtag: #wccpcb

**This newsletter is the product of a collaborative effort**

Coordinator: Nancy Stovall                      256-527-0195                      [nlstovall@gmail.com](mailto:nlstovall@gmail.com)

Contributors: Kelly Bertin  
Carol Davis  
Jane Fillingim  
Tammy Haight  
Cheri Leistner  
Diane Pickering  
Jeanette Poland  
Dena Roewe  
Julie Sanders

Support Staff: Arlene Klaas                      Cheri Leistner