

January 2013 – Polk City Newsletter



- Polk City Utilities **emergency number** is **1 866 815 0074**. Please use this number **only for emergencies**.
- If you have any questions regarding utilities **Monday through Thursday during Business Hours**, please call Polk City Utilities - **863 874 4808**.

City Hall 863-984-1375

Mayor Joe LaCascia

Councilor Trudy Block

Councilor Don Kimsey

joe.lacascia@mypolkcity.org

trudy.block@mypolkcity.org

don.kimsey@mypolkcity.org

City Manager Patricia Jackson 863 984 1375 ext 237 patricia.jackson@mypolkcity.org

Vice Mayor Michael Blethen

Councilor Kelly Downing

Phone for an appointment with any council member call 863 984 1375 ext 221

michael.blethen@mypolkcity.org

kelly.downing@mypolkcity.org

January CLOSURES

- **Martin Luther King Day January 14, 2012 for both City Hall and Library**
- City Council Meetings are the **second Monday Night each Month** at 7:00 PM

Summary of December 10, 2012 City Council Meeting

- Presentation by Tom Phillips, Executive Director, Citrus Connection and the Polk Transit – My Ride Plan (public transit plan for Polk County) – There is a customized transportation plan for all 17 municipalities within Polk County. For more information go to the following URL – www.polktransit.org. Polk County has won several awards for the work being done to provide efficient, safe, and affordable public transportation throughout Polk County.
- Approval of invoice for Emergency Repair of Water Main on Golden Gate by Odom Engineering in the amount of \$6,513. Motion approved by the City Council.

Linda Busch named Interim Polk City Library Director

- Congratulations Linda! Linda has worked at the Polk City Library for over 4 years.
- Suzette Penton is also now working at the Polk City Library.

Did You Know? POLK CITY LIBRARY is more than books!

Polk City Library Services

- Polk City Library - located at 215 Bougainvillea Street (Behind the Ace Hardware)
- Hours: Mon/Tue 9:00am to 6:00pm Wed/Thur 9:00am to 5:00pm
 Fri/Sat 9:00am to 1:00pm Sunday Closed

The library offers the following services:

- **FREE WI-FI** (Free Internet Access)
- **FREE** use of Computer Programs, MS Word 2010
- **FAX** Service - \$1.00 Outgoing/Page
- **DVD** Movies at a Nominal Fee
- **FREE** Children's Events – Story Time and Summer Program
- **FREE** use of **Computers**
- **PRINTING** – Black and White - \$0.15/page
- \$0.50 Incoming Fax/page
- Monthly Book Club
- The Polk City Library has approx. 1500 visits/month!
- **Volunteer** at Polk City Library – Volunteers are needed to help with special programs and other activities. Contact Linda to get more details – [863-984-4340](tel:863-984-4340).

January –February 2013

Polk City Library Activities

- **Children's Story Time** – Thursdays at 11:00 AM

- January 10 Snowmen
- January 24 Bears

- January 17 Penguins
- January 31 Teasing with Weasels

Games, stories, and crafts will follow the reading of the story. Parents are encouraged to bring their child and join in.

- January 14 - The library will be showing the movie Ice Age Continental Drift at 6:15 pm. Free Popcorn and Drinks! Bring your kids. Children can come in pajamas for this event.
- Monthly, Book Club is January 15 at 6:00Pm. January's book is A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini. For info call [863-984-4340](tel:863-984-4340).
- **KIDS PROGRAM – The Museum of Art - Saturday, January 19 10:30-to 12:00**
Create an art project with an expert! This is a **"don't miss"** event at the Polk City Library! We will have cookies and punch.
- Polk City Library is taking part in Florida's statewide **Snapshot Day at the Library** on January 30. Our Librarians will tell the story, through pictures of a day in Polk City's Library and its value to the community.

Graduate Polk – Are you only a few classes away from a degree? – Call 863-298-6855

Polk County public and private colleges and universities (Florida Southern College, Keiser University, Polk State College, Southeastern University, Warner University, Webber International University, and Webster University) have joined forces to offer citizens a chance to complete their degree. Call one phone number to get an evaluation of the requirements to complete your degree. When you call, identify that you are calling about **Graduate Polk**. What a great time to complete your degree!

Congressman Dan Webster

Polk City's newly elected Congressman, Dan Webster, honored Polk City with his participation in our Christmas Parade. Congressman Webster's updates on his activities are located at the following website - <http://webster.house.gov/>. Subscribe to **Rep. Webster's Newsletter** under the Contacts section of his homepage and keep up to date on the latest news from Washington DC.

"Art i Facts" Polk County's Art and Cultural Magazine

The January – March 2013 issue of **Art i Facts** is available at the following url

<http://www.polkarts.org/2013/01/art-i-facts-magazine-winter-jan-mar-2013/>.

This magazine is filled with great information about art and cultural activities around Polk County. There is something for everyone in this issue from art, dance, theater, music and more. You can be a participant or admire the talents of others. There are lots of activities for families and many of them are **FREE!** Looking for something to do with the kids this weekend? This issue of Art i facts provides a calendar listing all of the arts and cultural events throughout Polk County through May.

New Hours for City Hall and Utilities beginning February 4, 2013

City Hall and the Utilities will now be open Monday – Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Watering Restrictions for Polk City (SWFMD-Southwest Florida Water Management District)

- SWFMD has extended the watering restrictions for Polk County. This restriction is effective through July 31, 2013. The Polk City website, www.mypolkcity.org, has the links to the SWFMD websites or you can go direct (see url below).
- Polk City follows the watering restrictions set by SWFMD.
<http://www.swfmd.state.fl.us/conservation/restrictions/swfwmd.php>
- Lawn watering is limited to twice per week.
- Lawn watering days and times are as follows:
 - **Even addresses** may water on Thursday and/or Sunday before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m.
 - **Odd addresses** may water on Wednesday and/or Saturday before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m.
 - Locations without a discernible address, such as rights-of-way and other common areas inside a subdivision, may water on Tuesday and/or Friday before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m.
- Hand-watering and micro-irrigation of plants (other than lawns) can be done on any day and any time.

Van Fleet Trail -- Closing for Construction North of Bay Lake Trail Head Only

Bay Lake Trail Head (very close to the north end of the trail) project will begin December 17, 2012. Therefore beginning December 17th the trail head will be closed until the project is complete. Through traffic (bikes, pedestrian, equestrian, etc.) will not be possible during that time. We will update the information when the construction is complete.

Race to Place – Polk Partners Placing 10,000 to Work in Polk County - January 1st - June 30th, 2013

Are you looking for a job? Businesses, civic organizations, and municipalities within Polk County have committed to helping job seekers find jobs within Polk County. The goal is to place 10,000 job-seekers within Polk County over the next 6 months. More information can be found at the following URL - <http://www.polkworks.org/>. Don't have a computer? Visit Polk City Library and use the free computers there.

THANK YOU

As we look back at 2012, we want to thank all of our citizens who participate in and attend the city events, attend the City Council Meetings, volunteer for committees, and those who let the City Council and Staff know how we are doing. We appreciate your Public Comments at the City Council Meetings, emails, phone calls and informal conversations. We are listening to all of you.

If you have questions about Polk City, please contact the City Manager or any one of the City Council members. The contact information is published at the top of every newsletter.