# In The News



June 2023

# Patricia Jackson, City Manager patricia.jackson@mypolkcity.org

Mayor Joe LaCascia <u>ioe.lacascia@mypolkcity.org</u> Commissioner Michael T. Blethen <u>michael.blethen@mypolkcity.org</u> Commissioner Charles Nichols Charles.nichols@mypolkcity.org Vice Mayor Wayne Harper Commissioner Brian Knouff wayne.harper@mypolkcity.org brian.knouff@mypolkcity.org

For an appointment with any City Commissioner or the City Manager, please call 863-984-1375 x 238 City Commission Meetings are the 3rd Tuesday each month at 7:00 pm



POLK CITY GOVERNMENT OFFICES AND THE LIBRARY <u>WILL BE CLOSED</u> IN OBSERVANCE OF INDEPENDENCE DAY ON TUESDAY, JULY 4, 2023 AND WILL REOPEN ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 2023.

#### Recap of May 16, 2023 City Commission Meeting

- 1. City Commission Vacancy District #2 Approved
- 2. 2025 Centennial Celebration Update David Byrd Approved \$100,000
- 3. Re-Appointment of Planning Commission Members Approved David Prins and William Fienga
- 4. Approval of Easement with Mt. Olive Shoes "South" Approved
- 5. Approval of Purchase of Water Meter Registers Approved

#### Welcome Aboard



On May 16, 2023 the City Commission selected *Brian Knouff* to serve as the Commissioner for District #2. Brian has been a resident of Polk City since 2020. Over the course of his career, he has been a Volunteer, later to become a part-time Firefighter and EMT for over 16 years in the Nimishillen Township in Stark County, Ohio. Since 2014, Brian has worked in various capacities of Oakley Transport in Lake Wales, where he is currently the Quality Control Coordinator of equipment and the Training Coordinator for the Technicians. Brian has been happily married to his wife, Jennifer since 2016. His hobbies are operating remote controlled cars and trucks. He is excited to learn more about our community and help improve Polk City in the future.

#### Hurricane Leason is Here

The Atlantic hurricane season officially begins on June 1, and the Colorado State University Tropical Meteorology Project team has predicted a "slightly below-normal" Atlantic hurricane season this year.

"Don't let the words 'slightly below-normal' make you think you don't need to prepare," said Paul Womble, Director of Polk County's Emergency Management Division. "It only takes one hurricane to bring everything in our community to a halt."

In September 2022, Hurricane Ian hit Polk County with winds of nearly 80 mph and more than a foot of rain, causing widespread power outages and flooding. The storm also was responsible for the deaths of two County residents. Here are a few things you can do now to prepare:

- Make sure you have enough supplies for your household, including medications and pet food, in your emergency "go bag."
- Review your hurricane emergency plan with your family.
- Sign up for Polk County warnings by visiting <u>www.alertpolk.com</u>.

For information on hurricane safety, visit <a href="www.polk-county.net/emergency-management">www.polk-county.net/emergency-management</a> or go to Polk County Emergency Management's social media accounts:

Facebook: PolkCountyEMTwitter: @PolkEmergency

## Vpcoming fvents In Polk City and around Polk County

#### **Feeding Polk City**

Date/Time: Monthly, every 2nd & 4th Saturday, 8:30 am (Saturday, June 10 & 17, 2023)

Location: Donald Bronson Community Center, 124 Bronson Trail, Polk City, FL 33868

In collaboration with Feeding Tampa Bay and Polk City, Central Florida Health Care is providing a week's worth of food to local families in the Polk County community. *Available on a first come, first serve basis, while supplies last.* 

#### **Meals On Wheels**

We began on Monday, March 13, 2023 delivering Meals on Wheels in Polk City to homebound seniors in Polk City. Meals on Wheels of Polk County is a private charitable 501c3 nonprofit organization devoted to serving individuals with one hot, nutritious meal each weekday, while insuring well-being through personal contact. The program reduces senior isolation experienced by so many elderly. Meals are delivered by volunteers. The program provides a means of independence for many of our citizens. All meals are discounted at \$5.75. We work with each recipient to make sure that a homebound senior can afford the meal. If they cannot, a reduced-cost or free "Angel Meal" is offered.

If you are interested in receiving meals or volunteering to deliver meals, please contact me at <a href="mailto:susan@mealsonwheelspolk.com">susan@mealsonwheelspolk.com</a>. To sign up for meals or to volunteer please sign up on our website <a href="mailto:MOWpolk.org">MOWpolk.org</a>. You may also call at 863-299-1616 - M-F between 8:00 am and 1:30 pm at 620 6th Street NW, Winter Haven.

### Summer Reading Program

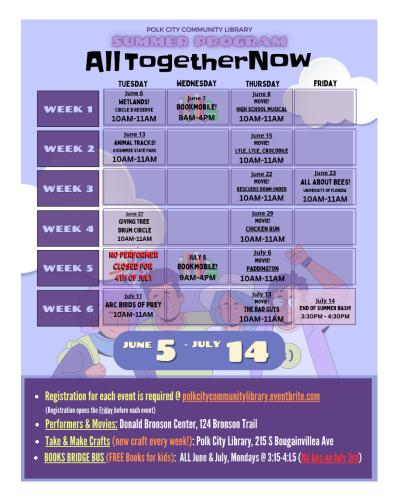


This year's summer library program, themed <u>All Together Now</u>, begins the week of June 5, 2023! We are focusing on our surrounding environment, nature, and community partners! Every week will feature a new take & make craft, a special performer, and a family movie! We have also partnered with the Bookmobile and the Books Bridge Bus again this summer.

Registration for the Reading Program opens on May 29, 2023. Book logs will be available on Monday, June 5, 2023. Registration for special performers opens the Friday before each event. Please register

everyone in attendance, including adults and older siblings. Follow the Suzette Penton Polk City Community Library's Facebook page for more detailed information!

Polk City Commission and Staff wishes you a





\*\*If you have community activities or news that would be of interest to the Polk City service area, please contact Sheandolen Dunn – sheandolen.dunn@mypolkcity.org – 863-984-1375 x 238.