



The Civic Courier

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

Volume XVI- Issue 2
October 2026

"From the President's Desk"



Can I begin by saying how excited I am with the committees and the commitment they have shown to the WCC in the month since we returned from summer break! We have Ironman signing up volunteers for multiple days of opportunities, Special Beach Events scheduling multiple shifts over 3 days of Pirates Fest, Arts and Crafts planning the Fall Fling, and Silent Auction planning an updated event. Member to Member is busy planning great events throughout the year for all members as well as adding a couple of special fundraisers to assist our charities. Marketing is filling our social media with news of the club's community efforts and fundraising opportunities as well as researching other marketing avenues.

Community Outreach is volunteering with assisted living facilities and looking for additional opportunities, while School Projects is collecting and distributing items for our schools and students. Reservations is greeting our members at the luncheon and ensuring a smooth check in process, and Sunshine is continually recognizing our members birthdays and special needs. And of course, the Luncheon committee already has the full year of luncheons and speakers planned and is working monthly to ensure we have smooth business luncheons.

I would like to ask ALL of our members to remember the commitment that you made to each of these committees. Do you remember which committees you signed up to serve on? Check your yearbook or contact Kelly Bertin if you need a reminder. PLEASE make sure you respond to all emails from your committee chairs AND sign up to support your committee events.

Because, when all of us work together, we are "United for a Better Community".

Thank you for your commitment!

Cheri Leistner

"May Luncheon"



Gloria Turner introducing Speaker Ann Howard



BADA-BING! What a great start for our 2026-27 session at Captain Jack's. The gathering before the luncheon/meeting was full of energy with friends getting caught up on each other's activities over the summer. As always Captain Jack's buffet was scrumptious, and we appreciate their kindness and efficiency in hosting our club.

Our speaker, Ann Howard, branch manager of Panama City Beach Public Library gave us a thought -provoking presentation on “Using AI in our everyday life” while emphasizing AI is a tool not a replacement and suggested using two different AI platforms for more accurate information. Ann was a very good speaker. We could tell she enjoyed her topic and interjected some of her personal experience with AI that helped us in understanding the benefits.

In October we will go to a new restaurant, Dick’s Last Resort in Pier Park. Its location is close to Front Beach Road. Parking is available behind the shops near the restaurant. If you are unfamiliar with that area, plan on coming earlier so you can find a parking space. We will have our meeting/luncheon upstairs in a private room that has an unobstructed view of the gulf. There is a “service” elevator for those who find climbing steps difficult. The restaurant’s theme has the waiters being rude (in a kind /funny way) to their customers. However, that is not the case in our instance or for any other organization that rents the private dining area. Although it is not my thing, the times I have been at the restaurant does draw a lot of families with children, and they seem to really enjoy the comedy aspect. In another part of this Newsletter and in your luncheon invitation there will be information on October donations and the buffet luncheon.

I hope you are excited as the Luncheon Committee is about trying a new restaurant and we are looking forward to seeing you at Dick’s Last Resort!

FYI: The December luncheon will be on a WEDNESDAY, the 2nd.

Gloria Turner, Chair Lunches and Programs

"Welcome New Members"



Karen Decoteau



Sponsor Toni McLane, Anita English, Karen Decoteau, Membership Chair Kelly Bertin



Anita English

Karen Decoteau is a retired nurse practitioner from Baton Rouge. She worked in a variety of nursing positions, including supervisory; however, ended her career specializing in wound care and geriatrics. After retiring in 2023, she and her husband Audie moved to their vacation home on Panama City Beach. They also enjoy a second home near Warsaw, Florida where they enjoy being outside, working on their property and living a sustainable lifestyle. Karen also spends time traveling and is interested in learning about different cultures throughout the US and world. Past volunteer organizations have included a local business women’s group, Girl Scouts, March of Dimes, Gulf Beach Garden Club, and other local community efforts. She enjoys actively participating in community events and meeting others who enjoy the same.

Anita English, originally from Baton Rouge, Louisiana, was raised in a close-knit Catholic family of eight children and is proud to have raised three sons.

She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing and then spent 40 years in healthcare. After working as a nurse in Labor & Delivery and the Operating Room, she transitioned to a 20-year career as a pharmaceutical and medical device representative. She retired from Medela Healthcare in 2025.

Her husband, Alan, a retired business broker, and she moved to Latitude Margaritaville in 2024. They love the active lifestyle and friendships they have found here in Margaritaville and Panama City Beach. She enjoys fitness, Mahjong, book club, game nights, entertaining, cooking, decorating, and organizing.

After a lifetime as a busy working mother, she is grateful for the opportunity to give back. She is honored to be a member of the Women's Civic Club of Panama City Beach and looks forward to building friendships, sharing her talents, and supporting our community.

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

Raising Funds

Fall Fling Arts and Craft Show

Saturday, November 14, 2026

9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Frank Brown Park

Christmas is only 93 days away. The Fall Fling Arts and Crafts Fair is the best place to start your shopping. The Fall Fling is November 14th at Frank Brown Recreational Center from 9 AM - 3 PM. The Arts and Crafts team is working hard. 121 vendor applications were sent out and the deadline for returning them is the end of September. We will once again have an Author's Nook to highlight local authors. Once we have all applications, the committee will meet and decide which vendors to include. We would like to encourage our membership to start talking about this wonderful event with your neighbors, friends, church members, etc. We will need shoppers! Don't forget to tell them about all the wonderful food that our kitchen committee will be making for us. Hope to see you there!

Flyer included at the end of the newsletter.

Jayn Collins and Diane Pickering, Arts and Crafts Show Chairs

Ironman

The Fall Ironman Florida 2026 will be held on Saturday, November 7th and volunteer registration is now open.

Our designated shifts will occur at Aaron Bessant Park in Ironman Village. Below are our volunteer dates:

Bag Stuffing - Women's Civic Club and Senior Services of PCB

- Tuesday, November 3rd, 9am – 2pm (The bag stuffing normally finishes early)

Athlete Check-In

- Wednesday, November 4th, 12:30 – 5 pm
- Thursday, November 5th, 8:30 am – 12:30 pm and/or 12:30-5:00 pm
- Friday, November 6th, 8:30-11:30 am

Use the below link to register. Enter your name and email, and it will bring up the shifts as well as other shifts if you wish to volunteer for those as well. Once you select your desired shifts, you will be asked to agree to several agreements and notices. You will need to enter your name for each of these notices and then finally you will reach an "Almost Finished" screen. Click Submit and after a few seconds you should receive a "Thank You" message. You will receive an email summary from Rhonda McMichael of the shifts you selected.

Please let me know which shifts you sign up for when you complete the registration as we are not provided that information from the organization. You can forward me your email from Rhonda showing the shifts you are assigned.

<https://ironman.volunteerlocal.com/volunteer/?id=106491>

Thank you so much for volunteering for this great event. You will meet so many impressive athletes.

Pamela Sanders, Ironman Chair

Special Beach Events

Our first event of the season will be The Pirates of the High Seas and Renaissance Festival on October 9, 10, and 11. Yes that is 3 days, 2 shifts per day so we need plenty of help! Please feel free to dress in costume and invite your spouse, friends or family to volunteer alongside you. Just make sure each person uses the link below and signs up separately. And be sure to indicate WCC when it asks for whom you are working. (That system sign up is how we are paid). Once you have completed the registration application, you will receive an email confirming receipt of your application, then another which confirms acceptance. Please let Dena Roewe know when you are registered and for which shift. Her contact info is denaroewe@att.net or text (214) 794-8843.

Here is the link: <https://eventeny.com/events/volunteer/application/?id=15681>.

Also, November events on the horizon include s'mores making at Cheri Leistner's home on 11/20, followed by everyone's favorite Home for the Holidays on 11/27 and 11/28. We will be serving the s'mores, hot cocoa, and distributing hats. This event really gets you in the holiday spirit! As we get closer to the event, we will send out a registration link. We hope will you will join us in spreading holiday joy.

"Supporting the Community"

Community Outreach



Members of the Community Outreach Committee make a meaningful difference in the lives of residents at The Addison and Charter Senior Living. Working alongside the staff, committee members help serve meals, participate in fun crafts and activities, and spend time visiting with the residents. These simple acts of kindness and friendship bring smiles, companionship, and a sense of community to those we are privileged to serve.

Gloria Turner and Sharon Cook, Community Outreach Chairs

Brenda Farmer, Sylvia Payne, El Moreland, Sharon Cook

School Projects

Donations collected at the September Luncheon were distributed to our elementary and middle schools.



A. Gary Walsingham Academy



Susan Shelton*, Jean Glen-Walker, Lisa Nicholson, Jan Schott, Tonia Sampson, Principal Brandy Kemp, Monica Thomas
*Soula Dortch's Daughter

Hutchinson Beach Elementary



Monica Thomas, Principal Glenda Nouskhajian, Jan Schott, Lisa Nicholson, Jean Glen-Walker, Assistant Principal Jennifer Jimenez, Tonia Sampson, Admin Assistant Cindy Brost

Breakfast Point Academy



Arlene Klaas, Gloria Turner, Admin Secretary Danielle Lashbrook, Sharon Cook

West Bay Elementary



Becky Farmer, Assistant Principal Amanda Stephens, Principal Bridgett Miller, Mo Chiarella

Patronis Elementary



Assistant Principal Katie McKenzie, Deb Kesinger, Principal Brooke Loyd

The Coats and Clothing Collection for the **October Luncheon** includes coats size youth small to adult large.

The schools are still in need of the following items as well:

- Long Sleeve Solid Color T shirts (youth and adult sizes) blue, orange, black, white, yellow, and grey
- Elastic waist pants or shorts for boys and girls (youth sizes)
- Girls and boys underwear (small youth sizes to medium adult)
- Shorts and skorts (adult small and medium)
- Socks for girls and boys (youth and adult sizes)

Jayn Collins and Monica Thomas, School Projects Chairs

"Spending Time Together"

Member to Member

Get ready to have some fun! The WCC Member-to-Member Committee is up and running! The committee met twice within four days, and managed to schedule some amazingly fun activities and events for our members. You will want to save the date for three events coming up before the end of the year!

Texas Roadhouse "Dine-to-Donate"

Wednesday, October 14, 2026 (Save the Date!)

Time: 2:00 PM – 10:00 PM

Round up your family, friends, neighbors, and acquaintances to help support our fundraising event by eating! Yes! Eating! Wednesday, October 14, 2026, the Women's Civic Club of PCB will be hosting a fundraising event "Dine to Donate" at the PCB Texas Roadhouse location. Anyone dining there can support the fundraiser by verbally stating they are supporting the WCC share night, show the "Dine to Donate" flyer, or show the Facebook post on their phone. Texas Roadhouse will donate 10% of the total food purchase to the WCC of PCB. Look for information about this event on wccpcb.org and on social media. If you have questions about this event, please contact Cathy Schnader at cathyschnaderwcc@gmail.com or text (815)494-3049.

30th Holiday Decorating Showcase

Thursday, October 22, 2026 (Save the Date!)

Featuring Kirby Holt, AIFD and Brad Holt

Times: 10:00 AM and 6:00 PM

Admission: \$20 (Purchase tickets online at wccpcb.org)

Location: Washington County AG Center

1424 W. Jackson Ave.

Chipley, FL 32428

Happy Holidays! Thursday, October 22, 2026 the Women's Civic Club of PCB is excited to present the 30th Annual Holiday Decorating Showcase featuring Kirby Holt, AIFD and Brad Holt. It is a stage show presenting designer level tips, tricks, and techniques for all your holiday decorating fun. The show will be presented at 10AM and at 6PM. Admission is \$20 per person. Limited tickets are available online at wccpcb.org. Any questions should be addressed to Sue Jiles at ssjiles@aol.com or text (770) 364-5890.

Port St. Joe *Bus Trip*

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 (Save the Date!)

Time: 9AM – 4 PM

Hop on the bus! Enjoy a day of shopping, dining, and exploring in Port St. Joe, FL. Tickets will be available online soon at wccpcb.org. More details to come!

Flyers are included at the end of the newsletter.

Watch for more fun Member-to-Member events scheduled for the upcoming New Year!

Cathy Schnader, Joyce Kippes, Annetta Henderson, Member to Member Chairs

"Recognizing our Members"

Happy Birthday Wishes!!

October

01	Donna Schlosser	16	Rhonda Stephens
03	Soula Dortch	19	Arlene Klaas
05	Anita English	21	Gloria Turner
09	Bobbi Griggs	22	Nancy Stovall
10	Roberta Bernhardt	23	Susan West
10	Julie Sanders	26	Barbara Lambrow
11	Nancy Lee	31	Gwen Odenheimer
12	Pamela Sanders		



*"Today you have added
another candle of
knowledge and wisdom to
your life!"*

"Upcoming Events"

October 1	Luncheon at Dick's Last Resort, 16210 Front Beach Rd, 11AM
October 9-11	Pirates of the High Seas and Renaissance Festival at Aaron Bessant Park
October 14	"Dine to Donate" at Texas Roadhouse, 2-10PM
October 22	Kirby Holt 30th Holiday Decorating Showcase in Chipley, 10AM & 6PM
October 29	Board Meeting at Chamber of Commerce Boardroom, 309 R. Jackson Blvd., 10AM
November 3	Ironman Bag Stuffing at Aaron Bessant Park, 9AM-2PM
November 4	Ironman Athlete Check-In at Aaron Bessant Park, 12:30PM - 5PM
November 5	Luncheon at Pineapple Willy's, 9875 S Thomas Dr., 11AM
November 5	Ironman Athlete Check-In at Aaron Bessant Park, 8:30AM-12:30PM & 12:30PM-5PM
November 6	Ironman Athlete Check-In at Aaron Bessant Park, 8:30-11:30AM
November 14	Fall Fling Arts and Crafts Sale at Frank Brown Park, 9AM-3PM
November 17	Port St, Joe Bus Trip, 9AM-4PM
November 19	Board Meeting at Chamber of Commerce Boardroom, 309 R. Jackson Blvd., 10AM
November 20	S'Mores Preparation at Cheri Leistner's
November 27-28	Home for the Holidays at Aaron Bessant Park

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

Contact Information

Mail: P.O. Box 9759, Panama City Beach, FL 32417
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Facebook: Women's Civic Club of PCB, FL
Website: wccpcb.org
Website QR Code:



This newsletter is the product of a collaborative effort

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The Women's Civic Club
of Panama City Beach
invites you to the

Shop
Local
Shop Early
for
Christmas!
♡

Fall Fling

JURIED ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW

Saturday, November 14th, 2026

9:00 AM – 3:00 PM



Frank Brown Community Center
16200 Panama City Beach Parkway
Panama City Beach, FL 32413



Café with
food and drinks
will be available
throughout
the show.

DONATION
AT THE DOOR
\$1.00
FOR ADULTS



Get a head start
on your Christmas
shopping with
one-of-a-kind
items from
talented local
artists!

Vendor applications are available at
wccpcb.org

Unique Gifts
Handmade Treasures
Holiday Décor
and More! ♡

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

*A Non-Profit Organization Supporting
Charitable Causes in Panama City Beach*

Support
Local
Support
Our Community
♡



www.wccpcb.org



womenscivicclub@aol.com



WOMEN'S CIVIC CLUB
OF PANAMA CITY BEACH, FL, INC.

presents

THE **30TH** ANNUAL

*Holiday
Decorating*
SHOWCASE

FEATURING
KIRBY HOLT, AIFD
AND **BRAD HOLT**



DATE

10/22/2026



TIMES

10AM & 6PM



ADMISSION

\$20



WASHINGTON COUNTY AG CENTER

1424 W JACKSON AVE
CHIPLEY, FL 32428

*Stage show presenting designer level
tips, tricks and techniques for all of your*

Holiday Decorating Fun

Limited tickets available online at **wccpcb.org**.

Questions? Contact Sue Jiles at ssjiles@aol.com
or text 770.364.5890.

Save the Date!

Port St. Joe Bus Trip

SHOP • EXPLORE • ENJOY



BEACHES

SHOPPING

LOCAL EATS

HISTORY

SMALL TOWN
BIG CHARM



**TUESDAY,
NOVEMBER 17, 2026**

9:00 am - 4:00 pm



Tickets will be available
online soon at
wccpcb.org.

More details to come!

