



**Pascagoula City Council**

938-6614

Mayor Robbie Maxwell

Robert Stallworth, Sr.  
Ward 1

George Wolverton, Sr.  
Ward 2

Joe Abston  
Ward 3

Frank Corder  
Ward 4

Jim Milstead  
Ward 5

Harold Tillman, Jr.  
At Large

**Contact Info**

City Manager	938-6614
City Attorney	938-6605
Animal Control	762-2211
City Clerk	769-7795
City Hall	762-1020
Community Dev.	938-6639
Fire	762-0751
Human Resources	938-6602
Main Street	938-6604
Parks & Rec.	938-2356
Planning & Building	938-6620
Police	762-2211
Public Works	938-6623
Senior Center	762-2290
Utilities Billing	938-6633

## Citizen Self Services: Online utility payments and more



The City of Pascagoula is now offering several online services to citizens. Utility payments, permit requests, business license renewal payments, and non-emergency requests can all be completed through the “Citizen Self Services” website. There is a link to “Citizen Self Services” at cityofpascagoula.com. There are also complete instructions for using the website, but the process is very simple.

The most anticipated service is the online utility payments service. Citizens no longer need to mail a payment, or drive to the utilities office to

pay their bill. “We’re happy to offer this new option for utility bill payments,” said Utilities Business Manager, Jerri Rainey. “If someone is out of town, stuck at work or if it is just a personal preference, they can simply go online and pay their bill. We are excited to finally meet this need for our customers,” Rainey added.

Citizens may also apply for permits online. Once the permit request has been received and approved, online payment can be made. Business license renewals may be viewed and paid, and non-emergency requests may be made. Non-emergency requests include reporting code violations such as tall grass, pot holes,

*Citizen Self Services*

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## City of Pascagoula sends aid to hurricane victims of New Jersey

The City of Pascagoula recently collected items to help with the recovery effort for victims of Hurricane Sandy. An eighteen wheeler loaded with donations of clothing, food, toiletries, and other items arrived yesterday at Hasbrouck Heights Fire

Department in Bergen County, New Jersey.

The Firefighters of Hasbrouck Heights Fire Department welcomed the delivery with open arms. This same fire department brought much needed aid to Pascagoula after the devastation of Hurricane Katrina seven years ago. “Two communities, Pascagoula, MS, and Hasbrouck Heights,

*Hurricane Victims*

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## Eco-Tourism in Pascagoula



Magnolia Street Birding Pier

Opportunities for ecotourism in Pascagoula are increasing. Ecotourism, or tourism involving travel to areas of natural or ecological interest, has many positive impacts on the local community. The City of Pascagoula has so many natural assets that ecotourism here is a perfect fit. Harnessing these natural assets by protecting and enhancing them creates jobs, increases education and awareness, and increases tourism dollars spent in the community. The Mississippi Sound, the Pascagoula River, and many small lakes and bayous offer citizens and visitors access to nature and outdoor recreation. Pascagoula has recently seen the creation of a Historic Bike Trail, a Blue

*Ecotourism continued on page 3*

**City Council  
& Committee  
Calendar**

# City Council Action

More information about council action may be found at [cityofpascagoula.com](http://cityofpascagoula.com).

## City Council

1st & 3rd Tues. of each month; 6 PM at City Hall

## Planning Commission

2nd Wed. of each month; 6 PM at City Hall

## Parks & Recreation Commission

1st Wed. of each month; 6 PM at Rec. Center

## Main Street Board of Directors

1st Mon. of each month; 4 PM at the Train Depot



### **August 21, 2012**

#### Resolution

Resolution establishing the Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee

#### Resolution

Resolution granting tax exemption from ad valorem taxes for a period of ten years to Huntington Ingalls, Inc.

### **September 4, 2012**

#### Resolution

Resolution authorizing City personnel or private contractor to clean parcels of land not cleaned by owners within seven days.

#### Resolution

Resolution granting final approval of an ad valorem tax exemption to Huntington Ingalls, Inc.

### **September 18, 2012**

#### Resolution

Resolution authorizing and directing preparations for issuance of refunding bonds of the City for the purpose of refunding certain outstanding debt of the City; authorizing the negotiated sale of such refunding bonds; directing the preparation and distribution of a preliminary official statement in connection with the refunding bonds; and for related purposes.

### **October 2, 2012**

#### Resolution

Resolution authorizing transfer of funds to LaPointe-Krebs Foundation.

### **October 16, 2012**

#### Resolution

Resolution of the City Council of Pascagoula terminating the interlocal agreement between Jackson County and the City of Pascagoula for the restoration, preservation, management, and maintenance of the Old Spanish Fort.

#### Resolution

Resolution approving withdrawal from the interlocal governmental agreement for the Narcotics Task Force.

#### Resolution

Resolution providing preliminary approval for tax abatement request by Strunk Commons, LLC.

### **November 6, 2012**

#### Resolution

Resolution authorizing City personnel or private contractor to clean parcels of land not cleaned by owners within seven days.

#### Resolution

Resolution granting final approval of an ad valorem tax exemption to Huntington Ingalls, INC.



From left to right: George Wolverton, Sr., Jim Milstead, Joe Abston, Robbie Maxwell, Frank Corder, Robert Stallworth Sr., Harold Tillman, Jr.

and any other general request.

When completing an online payment for a utility bill, business license, or permit, a fee of \$3.95 will be charged by the credit card processing company. This will result in two separate charges on your bank statement—one for the amount paid to the City of Pascagoula, and one for the fee. When paying a utility bill, citizens will need to have their customer number, which is located on their bill, in order to make the online payment. No customer number is needed to apply for permits, renew business licenses, or make non-emergency requests.

**Hurricane Victims**

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NJ, because of two epic storms, Hurricane Katrina, and Hurricane Sandy, came together,” said former Hasbrouck Heights Fire Commissioner, Tom Meli, in an interview by Alana Quartuccio of Wood-Ridge, New Jersey. “This is what it’s supposed to be all about, communities giving to communities.”

Pascagoula Police Sergeant and Community Affairs Coordinator Doug Adams helped to coordinate this effort. “I would like to say thanks to everyone that took part in the relief drive not only for the City of Pascagoula but also anyone that assisted with the Jackson County effort,” Adams commented. “I can tell you first hand from talking with the people of New Jersey, they are very thankful to the City of Pascagoula and Jackson County.” Adams has been in New Jersey assisting at the Monmouth County Emergency Management Office. He traveled there earlier this month along with some others from Jackson County, and is scheduled to arrive back in Pascagoula tomorrow. The City of Pascagoula would also like to thank F&H Trucking Company, Wal-Mart, The Elks Lodge, and Frist Baptist Church for their helping in making this effort a success.

**Ecotourism**

continued from page 1



Way, and an Educational Environmental Trail. Most recently, a Birding Pier at the south end of Magnolia Street has been constructed and is near completion. All these amenities are excellent opportunities for ecotourism. These attractions are hopefully just the beginning for ecotourism in Pascagoula.

**County Coastal Cleanup led by City of Pascagoula’s Special Events Coordinator Ann Burgo huge success**



Last month, volunteers worked together in an international effort to cleanup beaches and waterways. Mississippi Coastal Cleanup collected a total of 2053 bags of trash. The Jackson County effort, led by City Special Events Coordinator, Ann Burgo, was very successful and had the most volunteers, collection sites, and trash collected. Jackson County had 26 collection sites, 1,000 volunteers, and 1,008 bags/15,120 lbs trash collected. Plus, Renew our Rivers, a cleanup effort led by Mississippi Power, collected 5.5 tons of large items from the Pascagoula River. “Ann Burgo has been an integral part of the growth of the Jackson County portion of Coastal Cleanup,” said Parks and Recreation Director, Darcie Crew. “Her leadership and dedication to this very important event has led to the involvement of more volunteers and, ultimately, a cleaner Jackson County.”

Ann Burgo has been leading both the City of Pascagoula and Jackson County efforts for several years. This year, Theresa Dixon led the effort for Pascagoula while Burgo was able to focus on the entire county.

“Trash is one of the biggest threats to the health of our oceans and waterways,” said Lauren Thompson, state coordinator for the Mississippi Coastal Cleanup and public relations director for the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources. “It’s here to stay unless we change our practices. Every piece of trash that is picked up during the Mississippi Coastal Cleanup should be a challenge for change.”

The mission of the International Coastal Cleanup is to remove debris from shorelines, bayous, bays, rivers, waterways and beaches; collect valuable information on the amount and types of debris collected; educate people on the issue of Marine debris; and use the data collected to effect positive change.

## MDA Asset Mapping Program in Pascagoula



On Wednesday, October 24th, the City of Pascagoula participated in Mississippi Development Authority's (MDA) Community Assets Mapping Program. This program is designed to identify the assets of a particular community that have the potential to enrich the quality of life for its citizens. These assets can include natural surroundings, parks, schools, historic homes, local restaurants, and industries. According to the MDA website, "While assets may vary throughout Mississippi's communities, the benefits that can be obtained through asset identification and mapping are the same throughout the state: by identifying, improving and promoting their assets, communities can improve their quality of life, increase their competitiveness and increase tax revenues."

Throughout the morning, City staff, MDA staff, and volunteers from numerous organizations combed the City identifying Pascagoula's assets. After a brief conference, MDA staff and volunteers presented their reflections and an initial report on the findings of the day including the need of partnerships with industries to encourage workers to stay in Pascagoula and enhancement strategies for the Historic Pascagoula Bike Trail among others. MDA staff and volunteers commended Pascagoula for our already successful efforts to beautify and enhance our City through asset development. Several emphasized that Pascagoula is leaps and bounds ahead of many other communities in Mississippi. The City will receive a more expansive detailed report in a few weeks. The City hopes to incorporate this feedback into the Comprehensive Plan and overall direction of the City.

The Community Assets Mapping program results in a nationally promoted interactive map of assets state wide and can provide leverage in obtaining future funding if the project is correlated to these efforts. For more information about MDA's Mapping Program, please visit <http://www.mississippi.org/helping-our-communities/#asset-dev>.

## Pascagoula Named Bicycle Friendly Community



Pascagoula applied for a League of American Bicyclists' Bicycle Friendly Communities (BFC) designation in July. Based on our efforts including the Historic Pascagoula Bike Trail, Bike Month 2012 celebrations, and Biking Webpage (<http://cityofpascagoula.com/biking>), the City of Pascagoula was awarded a BFC designation of Honorable Mention. The League will promote the City's Honorable Mention status on their website for one year at <http://www.bikeleague.org/programs/bicyclefriendlyamerica/communities/>.

As the state advocate for biking and walking, Bike Walk Mississippi was awarded a grant from the Foundation for the MidSouth, the League of American Bicyclists and the Alliance for Biking and Walking, to launch a "Bicycle Friendly Mississippi" initiative in order to increase the Bicycle Friendliness of four communities around the state. The cities included in the grant are: Starkville, Pascagoula, Greenwood and Jackson. Through this partnership with Bike Walk Mississippi, the City held a public meeting on November 13 at City Hall to gather community input and define an action plan with the hopes of improving the City's ranking in the future.

During the meeting, participants discussed the need for increased bicycle efforts as well as took steps to create a bicycle friendly action plan for Pascagoula. In partnership with Bike Walk Mississippi, City staff will continue to work on the action plan and hopes to hold another meeting in order to release the plan by February 2013.

## CALEA Accreditation for the Pascagoula PD



Gifford Saravia with Acadian Ambulance demonstrates CPR to Detention Officer Susie Jenkins

In mid-November, a team of assessors from the Mississippi Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission (MSLEAC) conducted an on-site assessment at the Pascagoula Police Department to ensure compliance with the

Mississippi State Standards and The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) Standards. Law enforcement agencies seeking to be accredited by MSLEAC and recognized by CALEA are required to comply with 123 professional standards in order to achieve state accredited and CALEA recognition status.

In an effort led by Sergeant Jim Roe, the Pascagoula Police Department has worked diligently to standardize procedures in order to comply with CALEA standards. The benefits of compliance and accreditation include:

- Greater accountability within the agency
- Reduced risk and liability exposure
- Stronger defense against civil lawsuits
- Staunch support from government officials

- Increased community advocacy

In the photo to the left you see one of many efforts to meet accreditation standards. The Police Department in cooperation with the Fire Department and Acadian Ambulance held a First Aid/CPR/AED Training Class for employees of the Police Department. The CALEA Standard states that detention officers must have this training, and that there must be an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) in the courtroom. Our PD went above and beyond by providing this training to all civilian employees. First Aid kits and new AED's provided by the Jackson County Fire District were installed in areas that are easily accessible. This enables rapid deployment in the event of an emergency; in addition, the employees near the units will all be CPR and AED trained and certified.

After the on-site assessment, MS CALEA representatives commented that the Pascagoula Police Department did an outstanding job completing this two year process in only seven months. The police department will be awarded accreditation through the state and recognized by CALEA.

The accreditation process doesn't end here. Next, the Pascagoula Police Department seeks to achieve Tier 1 status through CALEA, which involves policies for an additional 65 standards, most of which are already completed.

# Calendar of Events



228-938-2356

### 33rd Annual Christmas Tree Lighting

11/30

Come to Beach Park at 6 P.M. to see 5 trees with 5000 lights, an old fashioned sing-a-long, Hands for Him puppet show, Santa and Mrs. Claus, and participate in a coat drive to help those in need. Call 938-2356 for more information.

### Christmas Camp

12/27-28; 01/2-4

Registration is ongoing until full. Camp is held from 7 AM - 5:30 PM daily. The cost is only \$80 for all 5 days. Register

online at [cityofpascagoula.com](http://cityofpascagoula.com).

### Santa's Calling

12/13

Santa himself will be calling kids ages 8 and under from 6-8 P.M. This program is free.

Registration is ongoing through 12/10.

### Zumba

Looking for a fun way to get fit? Give our Zumba Fitness Class a try. Zumba is an exhilarating, effective, easy-to-follow, Latin-inspired, calorie-burning dance fitness-party™ that's moving millions of people toward joy and health. Zumba classes meet on Tuesday and Thursday from 6 to 7 pm at 2935 Pascagoula St. The cost is only \$5 per person, per class or \$40 for 10 lessons. The first class is free.

### Kids Night Out

#### **Monster Jam at the Coast Coliseum**

02/01

Cost is only \$10 and includes admission, transportation, and snack. Call 938-2356

for more information.

### Valentine's Lock-In

02/15

Cost is only \$25. Kids ages 6-12 bring their pajamas and sleeping bags for a night of fun, food, and activities. Call 938-2356 for more information.

### Dr. Suess's Birthday

03/02

Guests include the Cat in the Hat, Thing 1 and Thing 2! This party is free and is for children ages 2-4. Reservations are required. Call 938-2356 for more information.



## Calendar of Events continued



### 2nd Saturdays

12/8; 02/09; 03/09

2nd Saturdays supports events and promotions throughout the City of Pascagoula and is excited to help spread the word about what your town has to offer. If you are interested in having your event listed on the flyer, please call 938-2352. Check out [cityofpascagoula.com](http://cityofpascagoula.com) for the flyer and listing of events.

### Run Run Rudolph 5k

12/8

Race day registration and check-in from 7:30-8:30 a.m.; race begins at 9 a.m. at Anchor Square in Pascagoula. Awards for top male and female and in each category will be given out. Music, fruit, beverages and other fun activities will be provided after the race. All registered participants will be eligible for fantastic door prizes. Benefits the American Heart Association Jackson County Heart Walk; Entry fees: Pre-registered: \$20; Day of race: \$25; [www.mysrhs.com/rudolph.html](http://www.mysrhs.com/rudolph.html).



### Small Business Seminars

Check [cityofpascagoula.com](http://cityofpascagoula.com) for more information!

### Downtown for the Holidays

12/07

Celebrate Christmas along Delmas Avenue from 5-9 P.M. There will be carriage rides, classic cars, children's games, food, entertainment, arts & crafts, fire engine rides, shopping, events and much more!

### Pascagoula Christmas Parade

12/08

Enjoy a beautiful night parade as festive floats escort Santa through downtown starting at 6 P.M. Parade route begins on Dupont St, then left on Pascagoula St, left on Delmas Ave to Anchor Square, left on Anchor St to Watts Ave, left on Watts Ave; Registration to enter the parade due by Nov. 30. Please call 938-6604 for more info.

### Krewe of Little Rascals Mardi Gras Parade

02/02

Children's parade with decorated "floats" including bikes, wagons, shopping carts, skates, and scooters. There will be a contest with trophies for best costume and best float! For more information call 938-6604. Time and place TBA.



### Pottery

New class starting in February; Call for times and dates.

### Intro To Pottery

New class starting in January; Call for times and dates.

### Kanvas & Koolaid

This painting party is just for kids. It's held the 1st Monday of the month from 4-6 P.M.; cost is only \$25 or \$20 if you provide the canvas.

### Canvas & Cocktails

Painting party for adults! Call for times and dates.

## Other Events

### Jackson County Day Bicentennial Block Party

12/18

This event is happening from 11 A.M.-3 P.M. at the Courthouse. There will be speakers, music, re-enactments, recognitions of students who win the essay competition, a time capsule with the mounting of a commemorative Bicentennial Marker.