

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA PRESENTATION

TO: The Honorable Members of City Council

SUBJECT: Presentation recognizing the 2009 Senior Hall of Fame Inductees.

PRESENTER: Lynette Buchanan
Recreation Department

SCHEDULE FOR COUNCIL ON:

July 16, 2009

2009 Senior Hall of Fame
INDUCTEES

Helen T. Shaw – Mrs. Shaw has given 40 years of her life to the citizens of St. Petersburg. She has served as president, vice president, board member and chairman for many community organizations. She dearly loves her family, the Alumni Singers, her church & all mankind.

Her volunteer work has benefited the Stork's Nest Pre-natal Program, 2008 Voter Registration Drive, the Florida Presbyterian Housing Board of Directors for John Knox Apartment, Mentor for 'Bright Scholars' Program, Audition committee for the St. Pete. Boys Choir, South Pinellas Retired Educators Assoc. and many more. Nominated by: Mary S. Jones. Her nominator wrote; "The most satisfying thing in life is to be able to give of one's self to others and this Mrs. Shaw does freely and willingly..."

Mary F. Murph – With 37 years of service to her credit, Mrs. Murph continues to be an example for anyone who sees a need and is willing to push forward to get that need addressed. She is the advocate, founder, president and number one volunteer for the Sickle Cell Disease Assoc. of America, St. Petersburg Chapter. Over 135+ Bay Area families coping with Sickle Cell Disease have benefited from her organizational skills and the eloquent presentations which have brought desperately funds & improved service approaches to people in their time of need. Nominated by: Terri Murph, her youngest daughter. Her nominator wrote; "She works tirelessly, day & night and says she will not stop until a cure is found...she is known as "a trailblazer for the cause of sickle cell."

Joseph A. Mahon – Known as, 'The Tax Man'. For the past 20 years Mr. Mahon has helped the citizens of St. Petersburg and especially the residents of south St. Pete. to receive millions of dollars in tax refunds. This service is invaluable to the Enoch Davis Center and the entire City. The faithful volunteer team led by Mr. Mahon helps individuals and families receive the maximum allowed refunds at no cost to these citizens. Mr. Mahon is a site coordinator, trainer, advisor and a VITA role model.

Nominated by: Susan Riggins and The EDDC VITA team. His nominator wrote; "Joe Mahon is the personification of skill and leadership... While this service has had various corporate and agency sponsors over the years, the consistent ingredient has been Joe Mahon"

Winnie Foster – Upon moving to St. Petersburg 39 years ago, Mrs. Foster began immediately to make an impact on the lives and unjust circumstances of citizens of St. Petersburg. She has worked as an activist during the Civil Rights Movement. Advocated for the clean-up of oil contaminated area of the city called ‘Brown Fields’. Founder of the Sojourner Truth Center and currently has a community garden called the ‘Sojourner Garden’. She is a constant supporter of the Homeless Coalition, The Sierra Club and serves on many boards to improve the conditions of the people and the environment.

Nominated by : Jeanie Blue . Her nominator wrote; “Winnie Foster has received many awards for her untiring work...She deserves them all and many more. Thank You Winnie Foster ‘Granny’ for all you do.”

James Bolden - For 39 years, Mr. Bolden has been part of making St. Petersburg a great place to live by keeping music in our lives and hearts. This quiet man, who taught and retired from the public school system of Pinellas County, shares so much of himself through his volunteer work. He makes sure that his beloved fraternal organization gives generously to the children of Midtown through toys and money. Every week for the past 10 years he has played for the Neighborly Dining Site at Enoch Davis Center. Mr. Bolden has given free piano and vocal lessons to the citizens of St. Petersburg and not told a soul about this gift to our youth.

Nominated by: Mack Scott. His nominator wrote; “His teachings allow him to mentor his students by teaching the children the fundamental & universal language of music. Mr. Bolden has demonstrated his love for his community by share his time and talents.”

Patricia Wellons, R.N. – For the past 18 + years Mrs. Wellons has attended to the medical needs of St. Petersburg’s most needy citizens. As a member of a dedicated team at the St. Petersburg Free Clinic she has helped patients obtain meds, stabilize physical problems and provided reassurance to both the patients and the Bayfront Family Practice residents by offering a listening ear and compassionate heart.

Nominated by: Ronda Russick, Director of the Health Center at St. Petersburg Free Clinic. Her nominator wrote; “She brings with her a world of knowledge & experience and couples that with understanding and empathy. Pat makes real the mission of the Free Clinic.