



# THE BELLRINGER



Freedoms Foundation  
At  
Valley Forge

*Celebrates*

75th Years of

Civic Responsibility in 2024!

Civic responsibility means active participation in the public life of a community in an informed, committed, and constructive manner, with a focus on the common good.

Throughout 2024, our organization aims to collect over 7,500 Acts of Civic Responsibility as we celebrate 75 years!

Share with us how YOU will play an active role in our country by completing an act of  
**CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY**

[Civic Acts Form](#)

## CONTENTS

1. **UPCOMING EVENTS**  
**Civic Responsibility**
2. **Bill of Responsibilities**  
**Help Us Reach Our Goal!**
3. **ANNUAL AWARDS**  
**Year in Review**
4. **COMMUNITY**  
**Out and About**
5. **Did You Know?**  
**Blue Angels jet at PNS**
6. **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**Add to your contact list**
7. **JOIN US**  
**Reject apathy and get involved**



## Bill of Responsibilities

### THE BILL OF RESPONSIBILITIES

*Preamble.* Freedom and responsibility are mutual and inseparable; we can ensure enjoyment of the one only by exercising the other. Freedom for all of us depends on responsibility by each of us. To secure and expand our liberties, therefore, we accept these responsibilities as individual members of a free society.

- ★ **To be fully responsible for our own actions and for the consequences of those actions.** Freedom to choose carries with it the responsibility for our choice.
- ★ **To respect the rights and beliefs of others.** In a free society, diversity flourishes. Courtesy and consideration toward others are measures of a civilized society.
- ★ **To give sympathy, understanding and help to others.** As we hope others will help us when we are in need, we should help others when they are in need.
- ★ **To do our best to meet our own and our families needs.** There is no personal freedom without economic freedom. By helping ourselves and those closest to us to become productive members of society, we contribute to the strength of the nation.
- ★ **To respect and obey the laws.** Laws are mutually accepted rules by which, together, we maintain a free society. Liberty itself is built on the foundation of law. That foundation provides an orderly process for changing laws. It also depends on our obeying laws once they have been freely adopted.
- ★ **To respect the property of others, both private and public.** No one has a right to what is not his or hers. The right to enjoy what is ours depends on our respecting the right of others to enjoy what is theirs.
- ★ **To share with others our appreciation of the benefits and obligations of freedom.** Freedom shared is freedom strengthened.
- ★ **To participate constructively in the nation's political life.** Democracy depends on an active citizenry. It depends equally on an informed citizenry.
- ★ **To help freedom survive by assuming personal responsibility for its defense.** Our nation cannot survive unless we defend it. Its security rests on the individual determination of each of us to help preserve it.
- ★ **To respect the rights and to meet the responsibilities on which our liberty rests and our democracy depends.** This is the essence of freedom. Maintaining it requires our common effort, all together and each individually.

Our Bill of Responsibilities can be condensed into five themes: participation, respect, accountability, productivity, and generosity. Each of these themes represents actions you can emulate in your community as a productive citizen.

Help us reach our goal!



## 39th ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

Freedoms Foundation Pensacola Chapter held their 39th Annual Awards Banquet on November 1, 2023. We presented nine George Washington Honor Medals and five Youth Essay Medals on neck ribbons. In addition, we recognized three teachers who participated in Summer Freedoms Foundation Programs and five Youth Conference students. Visit <http://tinyurl.com/byucw65s> to view and download a larger image for your enjoyment.



### **Valerie's House -**

Crista Brandt and Jenni Elzweig  
Valerie's House, Pensacola Chapter is a special place where children connect with one another and acquire tools to heal after they have experienced the death of someone they love.



### **Muscogee Creek Historical Marker -**

Chief Dan "Sky Horse" Helms and supporters acquired a historical marker in Milton, FL to educate the community about the Lumberton Incident, where Muscogee Creek Indians were attacked and killed by a local mob.



### **J.U.S.T. Pensacola - Rick Branch (Marion Bennett accepting)**

A coalition of 17 congregations from 12 different faith traditions in Pensacola and other surrounding areas of Escambia County, strive to fulfill their religious mandate to advocate for the most vulnerable members of society. This entails uncovering injustice and mobilizing the community to create and win just, fair, and effective solutions. J.U.S.T. Pensacola offers remedies that benefit not only the public at large, but also the perpetrators of non-violent crimes.



### **Military Award - SSgt Cheyann Smith**

(Mom and Brother accepting)

SSgt. Cheyann Smith is a model service member and citizen who leads by example, both in her demeanor and her actions. By volunteering in her temporary duty stations, she encourages others to do the same. Her involvement in base activities and local events demonstrate what we have long known, that military personnel who are assigned to Pensacola enrich and enhance our community.



### **Righting the Past - Robin Reshard**

A group of Pensacola community members is working to revive those important narratives and to share with the public the impact each had on the development and the vitality of our city, including memories from their descendants. *Righting the Past* strives to share these stories in the long overdue obituaries of African-Americans, so that the circle of knowledge increases and is not in danger of vanishing forever.



### **Wall South: Reading the Names - Paul Entrekin**

A major project of the Veterans Memorial Foundation observed Veteran's Day 2022, the 30 year anniversary of the National Vietnam Memorial. The *Reading of the Names Ceremony*, from November 5 through November 11, from 9:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m., twelve hundred volunteers read 58,316 names on the wall. The end of the *Reading of the Names* occurred at 11:00 a.m. during the Veteran's Day Ceremony.



### **Beyond Backpacks - Michele Ledoux**

During the past school year, teachers identified sixty-five students who would benefit from an out-of-school feeding program. Their solution was to supply backpacks filled with nutritious, non-perishable food for these students to take home for the weekend and long holidays, when school meals are not available to them.



### **Heritage Day at Beulah Elementary School -**

Principal, Monica Silvers,

Krystal and Jeremy Gibson

Heritage Day is a traditional event at Beulah Elementary School for 5<sup>th</sup> grade students.

Students learn about the heritage of the area and/or country. In addition, students can also dress to represent their family heritage. Pensacola Chapter members participate as historic actors each year.



### **Youth Essays -** Carlo Ghiglino, Audrey Foss,

Seren Conway, Caroline Amentler, Alice Zhang

This year's Youth Essay Contest asked high school students to consider ways to become better informed citizens. Five young people from our community demonstrated a great deal of maturity and innovative ideas revealing the kind of understanding and commitment to democracy, that we hope all citizens possess.



### **Incubate Debate: MLK Symposium -**

James Fishback (accepted by debate student)

*Incubate Debate* is a non-profit high school debate initiative for students from Florida's urban and rural underserved communities. At no cost to students or their families, it teaches public speaking skills, critical thinking, and knowledge on policy issues affecting our nation.



**Colors** - presented by Pine Forest High School NJROTC



## Community Activities



### Save the Dates

- April 18, 2024 - Meet & Greet
- June 1, 2024 - Student Essay Deadline
- Sept. 4, 2024 - POW Luncheon
- Nov. 19, 2024 - Awards Banquet

## Homeless Survey Assistance

Pensacola Chapter Board Members, Betty Williams, Billie and Robert Nicholson worked with Opening Doors of NWFL to fill Care bags to give to the homeless during the annual Point in Time homeless survey.



## Did You Know ... ?



### The Story Behind the Blue Angels Jet at the Pensacola Airport

You can't miss the Blue Angels jet at the Pensacola International Airport entrance. Have you ever wondered why? Here's the scoop. It was placed there in honor of a former Blue Angels pilot, Commander Herbert P. Hunter, who flew with the Blue Angels in the 1950's. Father of two sons, he was also the Executive Officer of Fighter Squadron 162, attached to the USS Oriskany during the Vietnam war.

Sadly, he died on July 19, 1967 when his plane landed hard on the USS Bonhomme Richard and ended up in the water after taking enemy fire in the Gulf of Tonkin while on a bombing mission.

Originally from Texas, he now rests at Barrancas National Cemetery; his name is on the Wall South at Veterans Memorial Park in Pensacola; his former plane once stood outside the Pensacola International Airport, although it has been replaced, there is a plaque honoring Hunter there now. Oh, and do you remember the Oriskany, from which he departed that fateful day fifty-seven years ago, it is buried in the Gulf of Mexico as a fishing/diving reef. He is remembered in many ways in Pensacola.

His son Hebert Perry Hunter, Jr., well-known general manager at McGuire's Irish Pub, recalls precious memories about his dad. "It still hurts," he said, "I've never really gotten over it either."

The next time you drive into Pensacola International Airport, remember that freedom isn't free and some have made the ultimate sacrifice.

<http://tinyurl.com/2dpkr7dn>



**FREEDOMS FOUNDATION PENSACOLA CHAPTER BOARD 2024****Bob Anderson**

Director

850-384-7474

[nsgfmc4@aol.com](mailto:nsgfmc4@aol.com)**Cherie Arnette**

Escambia Public Schools

850-380-3541

[carnette@ecsdfl.us](mailto:carnette@ecsdfl.us)**Connie Brown**

VP-Youth Leadership

850-484-8567

850-450-4227

[conniecbrown991@gmail.com](mailto:conniecbrown991@gmail.com)**Donna Harper**

Director

850-748-4121

[harper2paint@gmail.com](mailto:harper2paint@gmail.com)**Lynn Mott**

Treasurer

850-501-7218

[beachrun49@aol.com](mailto:beachrun49@aol.com)**Billie Nicholson**

BELLRINGER Editor

Website Admin

850-375-5900

[billieandrobort@gmail.com](mailto:billieandrobort@gmail.com)**Robert Nicholson**

Membership

850-602-0850

[billieandrobort@gmail.com](mailto:billieandrobort@gmail.com)**Beth Partington**

Director

850-572-5245

[beth-partington@cox.net](mailto:beth-partington@cox.net)**Dr. Anita Schmitt**

Secretary

850-393-9623

[anitaschmitt53@gmail.com](mailto:anitaschmitt53@gmail.com)**Tracie Stitt**

Director380

850-206-9264

[traciestitt61@gmail.com](mailto:traciestitt61@gmail.com)**Freddie Tellis**

Chaplain

850-492-0882

850-508-5753

[freddietellis@gmail.com](mailto:freddietellis@gmail.com)**Betty Williams**

President

850-944-3237

850-712-7221

[herbwilliams@prodigy.net](mailto:herbwilliams@prodigy.net)**Michele Wilson**

Director

850-453-8726

850-516-8692

[michelewilson2898@gmail.com](mailto:michelewilson2898@gmail.com)**Dr. Jacqueline Young**

Director Emeritus

850-438-4401

[jacqueline\\_young@outlook.com](mailto:jacqueline_young@outlook.com)





**APPLICATION FOR  
PENSACOLA CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP**

2024

Please Print Clearly

Name (Mr./ Mrs./ Ms./ Dr.) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/Partner \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Desired**

- |                                      |                                   |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Patriot (Basic)                      | \$30.00 - Membership + newsletter |
| Dual Patriot                         | \$45.00 - Membership + newsletter |
| Family Patriot                       | \$60.00 - Membership + newsletter |
| Patriot Academic (Full time student) | \$15.00 - Membership + newsletter |
| Patriot Military (Active Duty).      | \$25.00 - Membership + newsletter |

Scholarship Fund Donation: Will be used exclusively for sending students to Valley Forge Youth Conference. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Other donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Freedom Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization and all donations are tax deductible

[www.FreedomsFoundationPensacola.org](http://www.FreedomsFoundationPensacola.org)

Please join today - send check to FFVF Pensacola Chapter, P. O. Box 1012 Pensacola, FL 32591