

Reflections

July 1, 2007

A PONTE VEDRA VALLEY PUBLICATION

Volume 9, Issue 4



"a family owned Funeral Home,
Cremation Center and Cemetery"

"The people who get on in this world are
the people who get up and look for the
circumstances they want, and, if they
can't find them, make them."

-George Bernard Shaw

The West Family



*In
Loving
Memory*

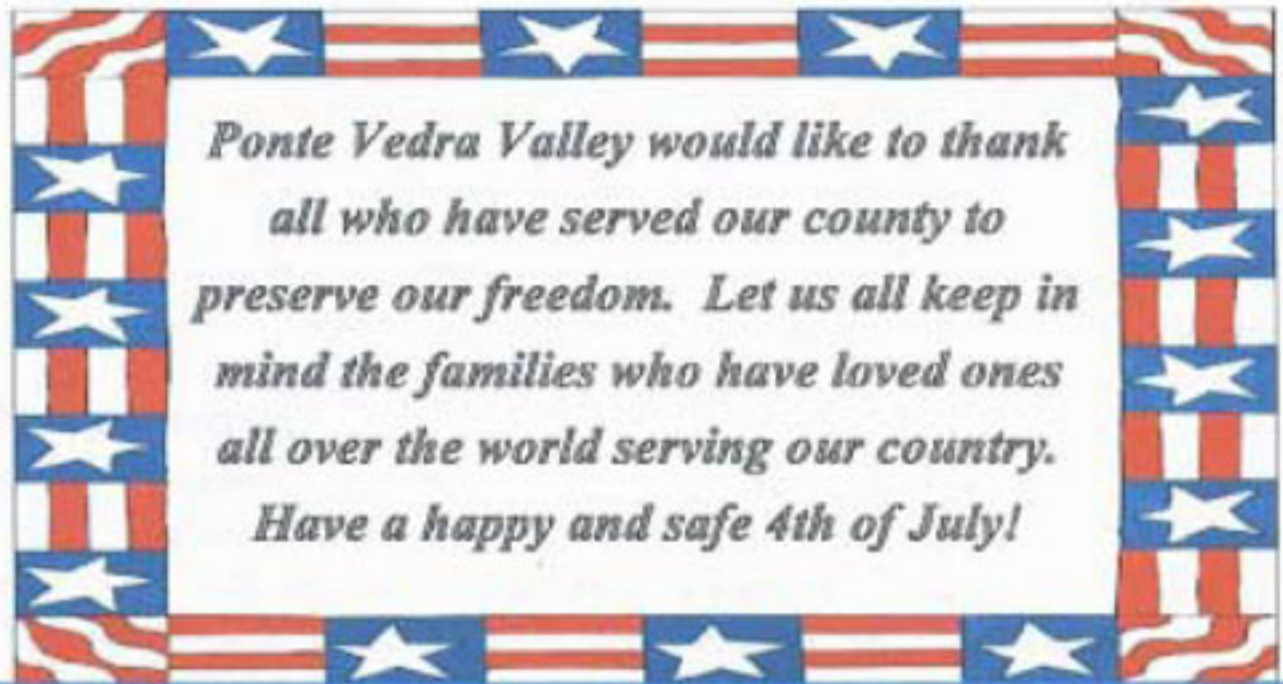
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Kathleen Pobst

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Johnathan Jones

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Rebecca Rowe
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"Freedom has its life in the hearts, the
actions, the spirit of men and so it must
be daily earned and refreshed - else like
a flower cut from its life-giving roots, it
will wither and die."

-Dwight D. Eisenhower



*Ponte Vedra Valley would like to thank
all who have served our county to
preserve our freedom. Let us all keep in
mind the families who have loved ones
all over the world serving our country.
Have a happy and safe 4th of July!*

Fourth of July Facts

*Not all members of the Continental Congress supported a formal Declaration of Independence, but those who did were passionate about it. One representative rode 80 miles by horseback to reach Philadelphia and break a tie in support of independence.

*The American national anthem, the "Star-Spangled Banner," is set to the tune of an English drinking song ("To Anacreon in Heaven").

*Father of the country and architect of independence George Washington held his first public office at the tender age of 17. He continued in public service until his death in 1799.

*30 equals the number of places nationwide with "liberty" in their name. The most populous one is Liberty, Missouri (26,232). Iowa has four cities with "liberty" in their name.

Visit Our New and Improved Website

www.pontevedravally.com



Our new and improved website has been launched! Along with informing families of the services we offer, our newsletter is now available on-line for your convenience. In September of this year, we will be switching completely to the on-line version. However, if you would still like to receive the newsletter via US mail, please contact our office at 285-1130 and ask for Marcus who will be happy to send you the mailout each month.

Your comments are greatly appreciated, and would help us in making sure our website is helpful and informative to all who visit it. Please let us know any ideas or suggestions you may have to help make our site a success!



Thomas Jefferson (13 April 1743 – 4 July 1826) was the third President of the United States (1801 - 1809), the principal author of the Declaration of Independence (1776), and one of the most influential Founding Fathers for his promotion of the ideals of Republicanism in the United States. In 1752, Jefferson began attending a local school run by William Douglas, a Scottish minister. At the age of nine, he began studying Latin, Greek, and

French. In 1757, when he was 14 years old, his father died. Jefferson inherited about 5,000 acres of land; he built his home there, Monticello. In 1760 Jefferson entered the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg; he studied there for two years, graduating with highest honors in 1762. He idealized the independent yeoman farmer as exemplar of the republican virtue, distrusted cities and financiers, and favored states' rights and a strictly limited federal government. He supported the separation of church and state and was the author of the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom. He was the founder of the Democratic-Republican Party, which was the precursor to the Democratic Party. Jefferson was the primary author of the Declaration of Independence and a contributor to American political and civil culture. The Continental Congress delegated the task of writing the Declaration to a Committee of Five that unanimously solicited Jefferson, considered the best writer, to write the first draft, and in fact wrote all of them with no help. As the Republican candidate in 1796 he lost to John Adams, but had enough electoral votes to become Vice President. Then Jefferson was elected President and served from 1801-1809 in the office. After leaving the Presidency, he continued to be active in public affairs. He also became increasingly obsessed with founding a new institution of higher learning, specifically one free of church influences where students could specialize in many areas not offered at other universities. His dream was realized in 1819, with the founding of the University of Virginia. One of the largest construction projects to that time in North America, it was notable for being centered about a library rather than a church. Jefferson was an avid wine lover and noted gourmet. He is noted for the bold pronouncement: "We could in the United States make as great a variety of wines as are made in Europe, not exactly of the same kinds, but doubtless as good." After the British burned Washington, D.C. and the Library of Congress in August 1814, Jefferson offered his own collection to the nation. In January 1815, Congress accepted his offer, appropriating \$23,950 for his 6,487 books, and the foundation was laid for the great national library. Jefferson died on the fourth of July, 1826, the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence, the same day as John Adams death. Thomas Jefferson is buried on his Monticello estate, in Charlottesville, VA. In his will, he left Monticello to the United States to be used as a school for orphans of navy officers. His epitaph, written by him with an insistence that only his words and "not a word more" be inscribed, reads:

HERE WAS BURIED THOMAS JEFFERSON
AUTHOR OF THE DECLARATION OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE
OF THE STATUTE OF VIRGINIA FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM
AND FATHER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

Reflections

Cemetery Hours

Gates Open at 8:00 am & Close at Dusk

Office Hours

Monday-Friday

9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Other Times by Appointment

Funeral Home Hours

Monday-Friday

9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Other Times by Appointment

We are available for our families 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Please feel free to reach us by phone anytime.

Phone 285-1130 Fax 285-3392

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www.pontevedravalley.com

Did you know...

*Every day more money is printed for Monopoly than the U.S. Treasury

*Thomas Jefferson was the first president to shake hands in greeting. Earlier presidents bowed.

Ponte Vedra Valley is a licensed monument dealer available to help families select a lasting tribute to their loved ones. We have many different options from flat markers, to upright markers, to the construction of private estates.

Please visit

www.pontevedravalley.com

to see a selection of the many options we have available. Call or stop by the office to get more details on the monuments we offer.