



Volume 15, No. 5 December, 2019

FOCUS

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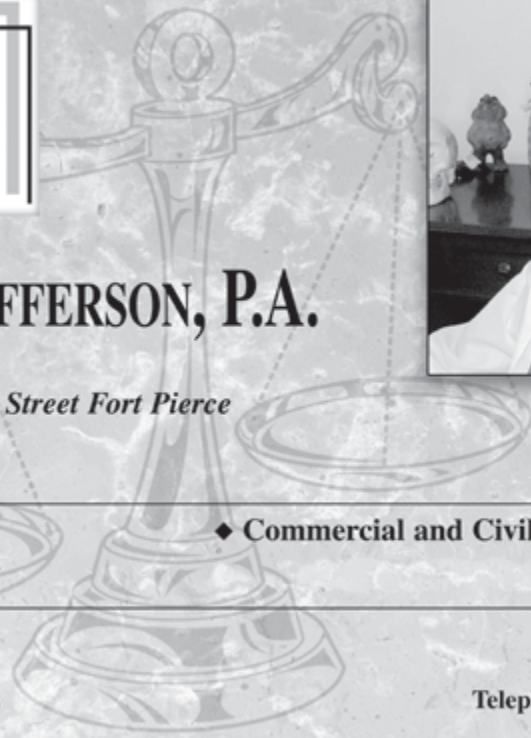



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fort Pierce Matters!

by Sue Dannahower



This is more than just a slogan. It is our mission: To preserve, promote and build on the historic and natural treasures of our downtown waterfront community.


Main Street Fort Pierce has been restoring and promoting downtown for over 30 years. We host 30+ events yearly; most are free to the public. We are always looking for volunteers to assist with our events. We love our volunteers and we can find the perfect fit for you. Call us at (772) 466-3880 to be put on the volunteer list.

In order to meet our mission and provide services in our community, we rely on the generosity of individuals and

businesses for support. *Main Street Fort Pierce* would like you to consider our organization when you are choosing which groups to donate to for your end of the year giving.

We ask that you make a monetary commitment to support our mission. Remember that every donation is important, regardless of size. Your generosity will make a difference by allowing us to continue our work to bring people to our downtown waterfront community.

On behalf of the entire Board of Directors and staff, I want to thank all of our members, volunteers and sponsors for their support of *Main Street Fort Pierce* during 2019. I wish you and your loved ones a very joyous holiday season and a happy and prosperous New Year! ❖



MAIN STREET FOCUS FORT PIERCE

Volume 15, No. 5

December 2019

Publisher	Main Street Fort Pierce Inc.
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-RUN-

For the Coach

Saturday, January 18
at 7:30 a.m.

Downtown at the RiverWalk

\$10 Registration, Medallions





2019 – 2020

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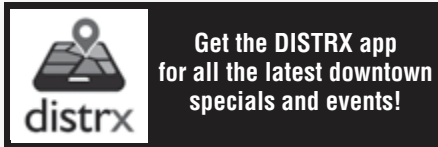
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Phone: 772.466.3880 • www.mainstreetfortpierce.org

Calendar

Dine, Shop and Enjoy Beautiful, Historic, Downtown Fort Pierce!



MONTHLY EVENTS

Thursdays from December 5th thru December 19th — *DOWNTOWN SIP & SHOP THURSDAYS*; holiday shop in downtown after hours!

December 6, Friday: FRIDAY FEST — 5:30 to 9:00 p.m. at Marina Square & Melody Lane; Live music with **Humdingers**; Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880; www.mainstreetfortpierce.org.

December 7, Saturday: 29TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BOAT PARADE — 6:30 p.m. Captain's Meeting 12/6 @ Sailfish Brewery 6:00 p.m.; For more details please visit www.miatc.com.

December 8, Sunday: SIGHTS & SOUNDS ON 2ND FESTIVAL & PARADE — Theme: "Christmas by Land, Air, or Sea"; festival begins at 1:00 p.m. with performances from local dance groups, children's activities, pictures with Santa, crafts, holiday shopping, and more; Parade begins at 4:00 p.m. with tree lighting ceremony immediately following the last float (see info in this month's *Focus*).

December 12, Thursday: "ESSENCE OF NATURE" ART SHOW — 5 to 7:30 p.m.; Platts/Backus House; Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880; www.mainstreetfortpierce.org.

December 13, Friday: SPOOKY CHRISTMAS ONESIE PUB CRAWL with MOTORWORKS BREWING — 6:30 p.m. at **Cobb's Landing** with 5 stops; tickets available for \$25 on Eventbrite (see info in this month's *Focus*).

December 14, Saturday: 5TH ANNUAL DOWNTOWN TOY DRIVE BLOCK PARTY — 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.; Free admission with new unwrapped toy donation(s); Facebook Downtown Toy Drive Block Party; 409-3650.

December 20, Friday: COFFEE WITH THE MAYOR — 8:00 a.m. at the **Fort Pierce Yacht Club**; Sponsor — **Centerstate Bank**; Christmas music by the **Fort Pierce Jazz & Blues Society**; Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880; www.mainstreetfortpierce.org.

December 20, Friday: ARTWALK — 5 to 8:00 p.m.; Various studios and shops open throughout the downtown area; seriouslymixedmedia.com, artconnectionfp.com.

WEEKLY EVENTS

Wednesdays: Wednesday Green Market & Food Co-Op — rain or shine 12:00 to 6:00 p.m., Downtown Marina Square; 971-8480.

Saturdays: The Jazz Market — 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; north side of the Downtown Fort Pierce Library; Jazz & Blues Society, 460-5299, www.jazzsociety.org.

Saturdays: Ft. Pierce Farmer's Market — 8:00 a.m. to Noon; Marina Square on Melody Lane; Market Manager, 940-1145.

LIVE MUSIC DOWNTOWN

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Bottom's Up Public House
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772-461-4775 • www.sunrisetheatre.com
SEE BACK COVER FOR UPCOMING SHOWS

Tuesdays: Jazz Jam at the Sunrise Black Box Theatre — 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.; 460-5299; www.jazzsociety.org.

MANATEE OBSERVATION & EDUCATION CENTER

429-6266 • www.ManateeEducationCenter.org

Tuesdays @ 2:00 p.m.: Fin-Tastic Fish Feeding — come meet the fishes in the Center.

Wednesdays @ 2:00 p.m.: Tide Pool Touch Tank — touch and hold the urchins, conchs, and more.

Thursdays @ 2:00 p.m.: Meet the MOEC Reptiles — touch and hold Diego the corn snake and turtles

Fridays @ 2:00 p.m.: Seahorse Snack Time — watch the MOEC seahorses eat and play.

Saturdays @ 2:00 p.m.: Fin-Tastic Fish Feeding — come meet the fishes in the Center.

SUNDAY DOWNTOWN CHURCH SERVICES

Common Ground Vineyard Church — 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.; 460-5414, www.commongroundvineyard.com.

First United Methodist Church — 9:30 a.m.; 464-0440, www.umatter2Godandus.com.

Fort Pierce Haitian United Methodist Church; 940-6728, www.haitianmethodist.org.

Notre-Dame Mission Catholic Church — 8 a.m. & 9:30 a.m.; 466-9617, www.notredamecc.com.

St. Andrews Episcopal Church (founded 1893) — 8 a.m. & 10:15 a.m.; Sunday School for all ages 9:00 a.m.; adult Bible study 9:15 a.m., nursery provided; 461-5009 www.mystandrews.org.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

A.E. Backus Museum
772-465-0630 • www.backusmuseum.com

Bud Adams Gallery of Historical Photographs
772-462-1795
2nd Floor of P.P. Cobb Building, Open Fridays and Saturdays, 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Downtown Fort Pierce Library
772-462-2787 • www.st-lucie.lib.fl.us

Fort Pierce Jazz & Blues Society
772-460-5299 • www.jazzsociety.org

Fort Pierce Police Athletic League
772-370-6162 • www.fortpiercepall.com
Volunteers needed: 772-466-0606

Fort Pierce RiverWalk Center
600 North Indian River Drive

772-489-6473 • www.cityoffortpierce.com

Fort Pierce Jazz & Blues Society
772-460-5299 • www.jazzsociety.org

Heathcote Botanical Gardens
772-464-4672
heathcotebotanicalgardens.org

Manatee Observation & Education Center
772-429-6266 • www.ManateeEducationCenter.org

National Navy UDT-SEAL Museum
772-595-5845 • www.navysealmuseum.org

St. Lucie County Marine Center
772-462-3474
www.stlucieco.gov/marine_center

St. Lucie County Regional History Center
772-462-1795 • www.stlucieco.gov/history

City of Fort Pierce Announces *Movies in the Fort* hosted by the Fort Pierce Police Department

M*ovies in the Fort* is back, and just in time for the holidays! Join the **Fort Pierce Police Department** at the station Friday, December 6, at 6:00 p.m. as they host Dr. Seuss’ “The Grinch,” a 2018 animated movie. This event is a free family-friendly movie with complimentary hot chocolate, Christmas cookies, pizza and so much more! Just bring the blankets or lawn chairs, and local sponsors will provide

all the fun. The City of Fort Pierce is committed to increasing access to family-friendly cultural opportunities. *Movies in the*



Fort is a perfect example of this work and gives residents an opportunity to engage with their neighbors and community.

The **Fort Pierce Police Department** is located at 920 US Highway 1. For more information, please call 772-467-6801 or 772-467-3031. ❖

Downtown and Fort Pierce Businesses Unite to Host the *5th Annual Toy Drive Block Party*

The 5th annual Toy-Drive Block party, benefitting Mustard Seed Ministries & Suncoast Mental Health Center, will be held on Saturday December 14, 2019 from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in historic downtown Fort Pierce!

Help bring a smile to a child this holiday season! Admission to the event is free with the donation of a new and unwrapped toy. There will be a Santa’s Village, Christmas trees for sale, food vendors, live music, face painting, bounce houses, interactive kids’ activities, as well as live art and dancing.

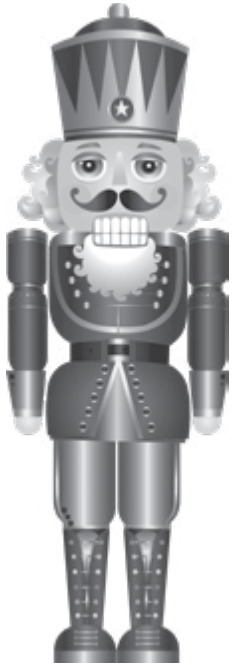
All donations will be given to local disadvantaged children in Saint Lucie County. This event, created and organized by Jose Ruiz of LeGit Cuts Barber Shop, has collected and distributed thousands of toys to Treasure Coast families in need of assistance during the holiday season over the past 4 years.

Together we strive to bring happiness to our future generation and our beautiful community!



There are Nutcrackers and then there is "The Nutcracker"

by Britt Anderson



NI suppose since the first cave person picked up a rock and crushed a nut but a tool made specifically or designed to crack nuts was first mentioned in ancient Greece although one assume that someone at some time before that invented or designed a tool of sort for that purpose. But since then such tools have come in all shapes and sizes, with or without levers, made of various woods, metals and even porcelain.

In England, France and Italy they came to be more than a useful

tool. During Victorian England, nuts were served at dinners as conversation starters often in preparation for the serving of the final course. Diners often needed a break in the long meals that were served and a chance to relax and converse while the kitchens probably needed some time to catch their breath, wash dishes and make final preparations. One can only imagine the gleaming silver or gold nutcrackers along with the array of fish forks, soup spoons and butter spreaders that adorned the candlelit tables.

In the 1800's Germans began to popularize the wooden carved nutcracker. Some historians believe that after the fall harvest and the gathering of nuts before the winter snows began to fall in earnest the farmers took to carving wooden nutcrackers for the Yuletide Holidays in which nuts were often put in children's stockings.

German folklore has nutcrackers as a symbol of good luck and were often made by puppet makers. There were challenges

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among this group one such challenge was apparently won by someone who created a doll with a mouth for a lever to crack the nut, which by then had become a traditional symbol of the Holidays. The most famous nutcracker carvings came from Sonneberg in Thuringia (a center for doll making) and part of the wooden toymaking “industry” in the Ore Mountains. The dolls/nutcrackers became especially popular in the U.S. after the first U.S. production of “The Nutcracker” and the return of soldiers after WWII. Many of the German workshops which had created these “soldier” like “dolls” became part of the Soviet Zone at the end of the WWII.

“The Nutcracker” was first performed in the U.S. in 1934 by the San Francisco Ballet. It has become a “hit” and a staple of the New York City Ballet since its first performance there in 1954.

This brings us to “The Nutcracker and the Mouse King” written by E.T.A. Hoffmann, a Prussian author, in 1816. That story which was adapted by Alexandre Dumas (author of the Three Musketeers) in 1844 and put to

music by composer Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky in 1892 with choreographers Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov which became the ballet “The Nutcracker”. The original story is slightly more detailed and involved than Dumas’ adaptation and I’m not going into details of the plots in either versions, but both carry the same themes. While the original performance at the Mariinsky Theatre in St. Petersburg was not well received “The Nutcracker” has become part of the tradition of the Christmas Season. The basic story is of a young girl (Clara) on Christmas Eve who awakens to find romantic love. It is a story without religious connotations. It is a magical world of young children, parents, toys, Christmas Trees, snowflakes and candy. The eternal battle of good (sugar plum fairies) against evil (the mouse king and his mice) and the enduring love of Clara and the Nutcracker or her captor’s nephew. All of which make for the enjoyment of all and of traditional values that transcend the Holiday Season.

We in Fort Pierce are fortunate to have the State Theatre of Odessa performing “The Nutcracker” live at the Sunrise Theatre on December 26, 2019. Tickets can be had at the Sunrise Theatre Box Office at 117 South 2nd St. Ft. Pierce (772-461-4775) or at www.sunrisetheatre.com. As Isabel McMerkan, founder of Everybody Ballet, has stated: “It’ really a feel-good ballet to perform as well as to watch...It’s fun when it comes on each year, there’s a role for everyone...It really does stand alone, there’s no other ballet like it.”

So, here’s wishing you sugarplum fairies and handsome nutcrackers and nuts for your stockings as you approach the Season with fair winds and following seas. ❖



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The Essence of Nature Art Show & Sale will Feature Works from Several Talented Local Artists

On Thursday evening, December 12th, a handful of talented local artists will converge and join forces at the historic **Platts/Backus House** to present an art show not to be missed. The house itself has a rich cultural history that revolves around the creative thinkers it attracted while it was the former house and studio of the beloved landscape artist, A.E. “Bean” Backus. In fact, one of the artists to be showcased in this upcoming show is **Jackie Schindehette**, a Backus student.

Last year, Jackie and her husband returned to Fort Pierce after a 20-year hiatus; however, the previous 20 years were spent in Fort Pierce raising their two sons, Chad and David. Ten of those earlier twenty years were spent with Backus at his studio/home. “Bean had an open-door policy, so I would just visit and watch. Eventually he invited me to paint with him. I declined because I did not know how to paint. He insisted and made a list of supplies. I bought them and showed up the next day — brush in hand.”

Thanks to Bean’s generosity and willingness to share his extensive knowledge Schindehette’s

hobby turned into a career. Her formal training was at the prestigious Art Students League in New York City.

Schindehette specializes in oil paintings of the Florida landscape. She paints on location to accurately capture the essence of Florida from the beaches with sand dunes and waves to the interior with live oak trees and sawgrass.

She is listed in Florida Artists Registry, National Museum of Women in the Arts, Art Students League of New York, Oil Painters of America, National Association of Independent Artists, Plein Air Florida, Artists Alliance of North Florida, and International Plein Air Painters. Private and public collections include her work, such as the State of Florida, the City of Fort Pierce, Bascom-Palmer Eye Institute, Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Coral Gables National Bank, Integon Insurance Corp.; and Florida Power and Light Corp., to name a few.

Continued on page 10 ...



JACKIE SCHINDEHETTE



LESLIE STOKES



LESLIE STOKES



ALLIE COMER



ALLIE COMER



GINNY PIECH STREET



GINNY PIECH STREET

ART SHOW ... continued from page 9

Schindehette's paintings have also been featured in solo and group exhibitions throughout the State of Florida: Florida Governor's Gallery; Florida Supreme Court Rotunda; Florida Secretary of State Gallery; Walt Disney World Epcot; Walt Disney World Festival of the Masters; Museum of Florida Art and Culture; LeMoyne Museum of Art; A. E. Backus Art Museum; Elliott Museum; and the Appleton Museum of Art.

Since returning to Fort Pierce, Jackie has opened a gallery, open by appointment and during the 3rd Friday Art Walk, at 101 South Second Street (above Rosslow's) in Historic Downtown Fort Pierce. Contact her at jackieschin@aol.com. Other artists to show at the Essence of Nature Art Show & Sale include the following:

Leslie Stokes. Strongly influenced by her mother, an artist and musician, Leslie has been painting since the age of 13 when she produced her first portrait on an oversized canvas. Originally from Louisville, Kentucky, Stokes graduated from the University of Kentucky with a B.A. in Art History with a concentration in museum studies and painting. While working at the Headley-Whitney Museum, Leslie traveled to Paris and Giverny to study art. She currently paints in a studio in the downtown Fort Pierce arts district. Her work has been placed in many corporate collections, attorney firms, and medical offices throughout the state of Florida. She has been included in juried shows at The Cummer Museum in Jacksonville, the Museum of Art in Deland, The University of Kentucky Art Museum in Lexington, Kentucky, and the Elliott Museum in Stuart, Florida. She is represented by Laura Pedonti Interiors, Orlando, and FRANK, Winter Park, Florida.

Artist Statement: Using paint to convey my affinity for nature, I strive to refrain from literal interpretation. I often convey the same places repeatedly. Although I return to certain retention areas, fields, and bodies of water, they are never the same as nature is constantly changing and resilient against human influence. Once I begin a canvas, I follow what is taking place on the surface. Pushing paint is a way for me to suggest a sense of place though contrasts, light, and color without fully defining the subject. The physicality of paint is often the subject matter.

Selected Corporate Collections: Starling Chevrolet, Orlando; Rumberger, Kirk, and Caldwell, Tampa; Jill Schwartz Law Offices, Winter Park; University of Kentucky, Lexington; City National Bank, Miami, Winter Park; CenterState Bank, Fort Pierce; Shelby Homes, Vero Beach; PREA, Fort Pierce.

Allie Comer. Allie Comer loves words and loves the feel of papers and fibers, the richness of layers and the interest of textures. These

are the pieces of her art. Languages, connections, constructions, and collections of various things reappear.

As a youngster she made "inventions" out of wood scraps, nails and colored rubber bands — her first constructions. Past explorations include hand papermaking, quilting, basket-making, encaustic, altered books. Today she works in mixed media, fiber, wax, collage and metal. Recent projects include expanding the *Cool Tool* collection at **Heathcote Botanical Gardens**, random weave hangings, fiber and paper mâché' bird sculptures — all focused on utilizing collections on hand such as papers, paints, fabrics and fibers, botanicals and serendipitous items.

Allie grew up in central Florida in a home by a lake and has always been inclined towards the outdoors, inspired by the many facets of the natural world. This inclination led her from an initial career in social work to the field of horticulture where she has been involved in different capacities for the past 35 years. "I like to work outdoors when making my art at home— it feels right."

Allie shares studio space at **Seriously Mixed Media Art** at 207 Orange Avenue in downtown. Contact Allie by e-mail: alliezcomer@gmail.com.

Ginny Piech Street. Ginny Piech Street is well known in the local art scene for her whimsical works. The characters she creates possess fun, eccentric, and unique personalities that brighten any room they occupy. She uses a variety of mediums to bring her ideas to fruition, including paper, clay, graphic design and other materials.

Ginny earned a Bachelors Degree in Fine Art with an emphasis in printmaking at Murray State University in Kentucky. She has shared her passion for art with others through the multiple art classes she has taught throughout the Treasure Coast area. She tells her students "there are no mistakes" and pushes them out of their comfort zone to create their own unique works of art. Exhibits include: Chelsea, NYC; Art Foundation – Tallahassee, FL; Bradenton's Village of the Arts Holiday Show (1st Place Sculpture); and more.

She has created 3 large-scale public art installations and has founded and co-founded several artist collaborations groups.

Don't miss this opportunity to view and purchase one-of-a-kind holiday gifts from some of Fort Pierce's talented artists. The **Essence of Nature Art Show** will be held on Thursday, December 12th from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the **Platts/Backus House**. The event address is 122 A.E. Backus Avenue. Call 772-466-3880 for more information. ❖

Mayor's Message In Fort Pierce, Art Surrounds Us

by Linda Hudson, Mayor, City of Fort Pierce



At holiday time, many of us decorate our homes, lawns and businesses to add to the festive holiday spirit. What if we decided to enhance and beautify our whole town to lift our spirits year-round? That's just what the City of Fort Pierce has been encouraging in recent years.

The *Keep Fort Pierce Beautiful Advisory Board* started the ball rolling when it embarked on decorating the **Fort Pierce Utilities Authority** boxes. On the beach, the boxes have a sand and surf theme, and on the mainland, the boxes are "wrapped" with other colorful scenes.

The City created the Peacock Arts District (PAD) and local artists painted large street landscaping pots with various scenes of their own creation. Fifteen vibrant painted pots now line Orange Avenue from U.S. 1 to 7th Street. New decorative pole banners have now joined the painted pots. Earlier this year, the City held a contest for artwork to use on the pole banners. A total of 16 designs were chosen and are now displayed along Orange and Delaware Avenue, and 7th and 10th Street in the PAD.

Next, the City began branding different neighborhoods with new street signs. Downtown signs are cyan, Lincoln Park is black, and the PAD is deep purple, all with white lettering. The City has now introduced colorful scenes on the traffic signal boxes. Fifteen traffic signal boxes have been decorated throughout the city. Some highlights: Avenue H and U.S. 1, night port scene (photo by Terrie Selph); Orange Avenue and Indian River Drive, orange blossoms; Avenue D and U.S. 1, waterfront saxophonist at night; Orange Avenue and 10th Street, royal poinciana blooms amid peacock feathers.

Murals are starting to adorn buildings through the City: Georgia Avenue and U.S. #1, sail fish painted on the Dollar Tree (Artist: Brian Bezo Taylor); Avenue D and 8th Street, Highwaymen Tribute mosaic royal poinciana (Artists: Pat Cochran and Anita Prentice); N. 9th Street, children reading books, under "Save Our Children" (Artist: Logan Designs). These are just a few of the murals, old and new, that can be found inside and outside buildings in Fort Pierce.

Main Street Fort Pierce collaborated with local schools, artists, businesses, the city and FPUA to create the "Fish on the Fence," a project to beautify the fence around the large empty area where the King power plant once stood. And, don't forget to look down when walking on Orange Avenue, east of 2nd Street. Sanitation covers have also been painted brightly.



Fifteen traffic signal boxes have been decorated throughout Fort Pierce, including this orange blossom array on Orange Avenue.

Did you know that Indian River Drive and North and South A1A are designated as scenic highways by the State of Florida? This designation is meant to preserve and enhance the cultural, historic, recreational and natural resources of the area, while promoting their appreciation and enjoyment by residents and visitors alike.

Add to these beautification efforts the city's façade grants, the Gold Hammer and Neighborhood Gem Awards, the ongoing efforts of our city and FPUA staff, along with *Main Street Fort Pierce*, Art Walk, the Downtown Business Alliance and the South Beach Association, and so many, many more who collaborate every day to help *Keep Fort Pierce Beautiful*. ❖



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Spooky Christmas Pub Crawl – Friday, December 13th

Take a break from the normal holiday festivities and stress by walking around downtown Fort Pierce in your favorite onesie. This creepy Christmas-themed pub crawl gives participants a fun evening tasting a variety of the best brews



Motorworks Brewing has to offer.

This fun, spirited pub crawl will begin at **Cobb's Landing** at 6:30 p.m. and then continues to **Taco Dive, Rizzos, 2nd Street Bistro** and finally will conclude at **Public House**. Pub crawlers will enjoy a different **Motorworks** craft brew at each stop. Entertainment will be provided by band **Nasty Habits**. They will take the stage at **Public House** at 8 p.m.

Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased on Eventbrite. Check-in begins at 6:30 p.m. at **Cobb's Landing**. Contact **Main Street Fort Pierce** with additional questions: 772-466-3880.

All proceeds of the **Motorworks Brewing Spooky Christmas Pub Crawl** will benefit **Main Street Fort Pierce, Inc.** **Main Street Fort Pierce** was established in 1988 and is accredited with the Florida Main Street program and the National Trust for Historic

Preservation's Main Street America program. Main Street programs nationwide initiate, facilitate, and support downtown revitalization. **Main Street Fort Pierce** organizes over 30 public events a year; restored the **Historic City Hall**, the **Sunrise Theatre** and the **Platts/Backus House**; and works with city, county, and state governments, corporations, small businesses, volunteers, and the public to ensure that the historic economic heart of Fort Pierce thrives once again as it had for centuries.

Join **Motorworks Brewing** and **Main Street Fort Pierce** to put a spooky, festive twist on the most wonderful time of the year! ❖

The City of Fort Pierce is Excited to Announce the Fort Pierce Youth Council

The City of Fort Pierce is excited to announce **Fort Pierce Youth Council (YOCO)**, an advisory board of high school students dedicated to assisting the Mayor and City Commission in solving problems and accomplishing goals on behalf of youth in the community. **YOCO** is a great opportunity to give youth a voice and a chance to identify and solve community issues from a youth perspective. **YOCO** members are resources for elected officials to receive advice on issues youth face, especially those decisions that directly affect young people.

YOCO will consist of seven members and will be appointed by the City Commission. Members nominated by the selection



committee must be residents of the City of Fort Pierce and be between grades 9th through 12th. Students interested in joining will be accepted through an application process which can be found online at: www.cityoffortpierce.com/818/Fort-Pierce-Youth-Council

www.cityoffortpierce.com/818/Fort-Pierce-Youth-Council

The **Fort Pierce Youth Council** will meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 3:30 p.m. at City Hall. For applications and more information on the program will be made available through www.CityOfFortPierce.com. All packets should be returned by December 1, 2019. Those with additional questions can contact Joe Sweat at 772-467-3031. ❖

City of Fort Pierce Mayor Linda Hudson Announces Winners of *Neighborhood Gems Award* at the November *Coffee with the Mayor*

The *Keep Fort Pierce Beautiful Committee*, *City of Fort Pierce Code Enforcement Department* and Mayor Hudson have partnered together to recognize residential and business improvements. The award is intended to build community pride by recognizing a gem in a neighborhood. A gem can be yard and/or outdoor improvements that show pride of place. Recognizing

Neighborhood Gems is meant to encourage others to improve the attractiveness and cleanliness of their homes which will contribute to safer, cleaner neighborhoods and a sense of community that will improve the quality of life throughout the City of Fort Pierce. Winners received a sign for their yard, a goody bag and an energy saving kit from the **Fort Pierce Utilities Authority**. ❖



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1610 Coronado Avenue

Volunteer of the Month

Michelle Jacoby (accepting on behalf of her husband, Doug Jacoby,) Fort Pierce Yacht Club Commodore Diane Korbey, Mayor Linda Hudson.



PHOTO BY WENDY DWYER

2019 Has Been a Great Year for the Manatee Center!

by April Frederick, Education Coordinator



Did you know that the **Manatee Observation and Education Center (MOEC)** was awarded “Best Tourist Attraction of the Treasure Coast 2019” by *Indian River Magazine*?

Learning that we had received that distinction only made us try harder to make our events and programs more interesting!

This past year has been an exciting and busy time for the **Manatee Center**. We have hosted fun events, updated exhibits, partnered with old friends and new all to build better relationships with our community; spread our message and fulfill our mission.

Here are a few of our special moments of 2019:

First and foremost, MOEC always kicks off the year with our annual **NatureFest** in February. We bring nature and the community together by hosting other local eco-centers on the MOEC campus. Always a big hit with families. This year’s celebration was a great success with new partners, fun activities for kids and, of course, Moe the Manatee making everyone smile!

The *Treasure Coast Manatee Foundation* held its 5K Run to support education programs at the **Manatee Center** in March. This year, **Rooster in the Garden** hosted a special runners’ packet pick-up party. What fun! The fundraiser is held near St. Patrick’s Day each year and participants are encouraged to show off their best shamrock gear. This year’s competitors included families with young children, sibling teams, and even octogenarians.

During the summer months, MOEC always offers an awesome lineup of nature-adventure camps for kids 6–13. Each camp included adventures like snorkeling, seining and kayaking as well as visits to local environmental centers and museums.

In September, MOEC helped support the *Cans for a Cause* program by building a 3D image of a manatee all out of cans of vegetables. The sculpture honored the longest living manatee (in captivity), Snooty, and earned Best Original Design in the contest.

October found MOEC as the *hottest* location in the nation ... because MOEC hosted the *National Firefighter Combat Challenge*. Firefighters from around the U.S. came to Fort Pierce to compete for the national title. The three-day event

was open to the public and provided opportunities for kids to practice firefighter skills and visit the **Manatee Center’s** Kid Zone for fun nature games and activities.

Later in the month of October, MOEC was transformed into a spook zone, complete with zombies and creepy creatures, for our annual Halloween Bash. Families were invited to attend this free community event for pumpkin decorating, face painting, trick-or-treating and dancing with the *Lincoln Park Academy Theater Zombies*.

We hope you’ll join us at one of the **Manatee Center’s** regular education programs, as well. Every Tuesday through Saturday at 2:00 p.m. we feature a different mini program. From Fantastic Fish Feeding to Reptile Encounters, visitors get a chance to learn more about some of our education animals and observe feedings. On the first and third Thursday of each month at 10:30 a.m. our younger guests can stop in for *Mermaid Tales*, a fun, interactive story time program. There are also fun learning opportunities for adults. Join us on the second Friday of each month at noon for a *Lunch & Learn* lecture or come to the **Fort Pierce Yacht Club** on the third Thursday at 6:30 p.m. for an *Eco Evenings* talk.

Of course, we couldn’t do anything without our amazing ManaTeam volunteers. So far this year, 130 MOEC volunteers have donated nearly 9,000 hours working in the gift shop, greeting visitors, assisting with education programs, helping with special events and so much more.

There are more exciting things to come at the **Manatee Center** in 2020, so be sure to stop in to see what’s new. ❖

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The Manatee Center December Events

Season hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.;
Sunday, 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Friday, December 13th at 12 p.m.

Painting Nature – The Life and Work of A.E. Backus Lunch & Learn — Join us for a free presentation at the Manatee Center hosted by Marshall Adams, Executive Director of the Backus Museum and Gallery. A.E. “Beanie” Backus has been called the Dean of Florida Landscape art. His work inspired other artists like the Highwaymen to capture Florida’s natural beauty. Learn about Backus’s love of nature, his work and his lasting influence on the Fort Pierce community. Bring your lunch and bring a friend. *Free event.*

Thursday, December 19th, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Restoring the Indian River Lagoon: Keystone Habitats of a National Treasure

Eco-evening at the *Fort Pierce Yacht Club* — Join us for a special presentation by Jeffrey L. Beal from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. Beer and wine reception hosted by the *Treasure Coast Manatee Foundation* begins at 6:30 p.m. Presentation begins at 7:00 p.m.

Free event at the **Fort Pierce Yacht Club**

Saturday, December 14th, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Mermaid Takeover – A Sip and Shop Fundraiser Event

Come get all of your holiday shopping done in one fun evening as the **Vanishing Mermaid Gift Shop** takes over the **Manatee Center**. Enjoy a cold beer or a glass of wine provided by the *Treasure Coast Manatee Foundation* as you shop to live holiday music by the **Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society**. All proceeds from this shopping extravaganza support education programs at the **Manatee Center**.

Recurring Programs

Tuesdays, 2:00 p.m. — *Fin-Tastic Fish Feeding* — come meet the fishes in the Center.

Wednesdays, 2:00 p.m. — *Tide Pool Touch Tank* — a special hands-on touch tank presentation!

Thursdays, 2:00 p.m. — *Meet the MOEC Reptiles* — and witness Diego the corn snake eating.

Fridays, 2:00 p.m. — *Seahorse Snack Time* — watch the MOEC seahorses eat and play.

Saturdays, 2:00 p.m. — *Fin-Tastic Fish Feeding* — come meet the fishes in the Center.

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Audubon's Kings Landing Moves Forward

November 12th was a day for congratulations and celebration in the City of Fort Pierce. Their 100 year history with the H. D. King Plant property will have a new phase as a tax-paying benefit to the City.

“The *Kings Landing* project has the potential to offer a major benefit to downtown Fort Pierce, the city as a whole, and the Treasure Coast region. The choice of *Audubon's Kings Landing* by the *Fort Pierce Redevelopment Agency* (FPRA) represents years of effort by the City of Fort Pierce, the **Fort Pierce Utilities Authority** (FPUA) and the FPRA to transform the seven-acre downtown property from a century-old power plant to a clean and safe, river front site, ripe for development. The FPRA, with the help of the *Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council*, city staff and the citizens of Fort Pierce, helped shape a community decision, balancing protection for the taxpayer, and opportunity for the development team,” said Mayor Linda Hudson.

The *Fort Pierce Redevelopment Authority Board* voted unanimously to move forward with an \$85 million dollar mixed-use project that will be a catalyst for downtown

development. Kim Delaney of the *Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council* moderated the presentation describing the process and the eight phases of the project to the FPRA board. Ms. Delaney said, “We are so excited for the City’s great success in negotiating a model public/private agreement with **Audubon Development**. This project will take the H. D. King property from vacant land to an exciting and vibrant mixed use to continue the City’s great redevelopment success story.”

The project, called *King's Landing*, will be in eight phases with phase 1 to include a hotel, housing, retail, and office spaces. It will also include infrastructure for public streets, water, sewer, storm water drains, lighting and landscaping. This phase will be an estimated cost of \$2.5 million to be paid by **Audubon Development**. Construction is planned to begin within one year.

Phases two through eight will include additional mixed use as well as improvements to Moore’s Creek adding a pedestrian bridge and promenade, landscape and public amenities. Build-out of the project is expected to be completed within five years. ❖



31st Annual Sights & Sounds Festival, Parade & Tree Lighting Ceremony

“Christmas by Land, Air or Sea,” Sunday, December 8
Presented by Main Street Fort Pierce and City of Fort Pierce with Sunrise City Kiwanis

Sights & Sounds on 2nd Festival

Schedule of Events

10:30 a.m. – Outdoor Sunday service by the **Common Ground Vineyard Church** at intersection of Orange Avenue and 2nd Street

1:30 p.m. – **SANTA ARRIVES IN FIRE TRUCK**

4:00 p.m. – **PARADE BEGINS**

Santa will be at the *Sights and Sounds Festival* to take requests and photos with children. Other children’s activities include: free children’s activity booths from area non-profits, a “build a downtown” Lego brick area, face painting, special characters, bounce houses and entertainment from local dance groups & musicians.

Sights & Sounds on 2nd Parade

Grand Marshall - Fort Pierce Lions Club

The *Sights & Sounds Parade* starts at Tickle Tummy Hill on Second Street at 4:00 p.m. It will travel south to Orange Avenue; turn east on Orange and North on Indian River Drive concluding at the River Walk Center.

Special thanks to **Total Golf Cart** for donating use of golf carts at the last minute — we greatly appreciate their support!



Continued on page 18 ...

SIGHTS & SOUNDS ... continued from page 17

Sights & Sounds on 2nd Tree Lighting Ceremony

Immediately following the Parade will be the lighting of the holiday Christmas Tree located in the roundabout at Avenue A & Indian River Drive. The **Fort Pierce Jazz & Blues Society** will play holiday jazz music before and after the tree lighting.

After the tree lighting, stay around for the “The Holiday Lights Spectacular” in Marina Square on Melody Lane. “The Holiday Lights Spectacular” is presented by the City of Fort Pierce. The light show consists of over 100,000 lights synchronized to holiday music and is a must-see for both locals and out-of-town guests. The lights and music will run from 6:00–9:00 p.m. daily until January 5, 2020.

For over 30 years, **Sights & Sounds on Second** has brought residents and visitors together to celebrate the beginning of the holiday season in Fort Pierce.

For more information call **Main Street Fort Pierce** at 772-466-3880 or www.mainstreetfortpierce.org.

Free parking is available at the City Parking Garage (Orange Avenue & Depot Drive), County Parking Garage (2nd Street & Boston Avenue).



Love, JAZZ Community: Ring a Ding Ding!

by Don Bestor

Andy Williams used to sing, “It’s the holiday season, so whoop de doo, and dickory dock,” and that’s a pretty good description of how we feel at **Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society** when December rolls around on the Treasure Coast. After all, December means it’s time for our annual *Ring-a-Ding Ding Holiday Fling with FDO Swing*, and this year, it’s going to be better than ever!

Sunday, December 8th, beginning at 1 p.m., which is a little earlier than in past years, Al Hager will give the sign, and the 17-piece big band we like to call *FDO (For Dancing Only)* will fill the vineyard and sweeten the grapes at **Summer Crush Winery** on Angle Road in Fort Pierce with your favorite tunes for dancing. They’ll throw in a few classics to help get you into the holiday spirit, and the celebration of the season can officially begin.

All year long, members of **Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society** make it their mission to share live, professional music at venues throughout the Treasure Coast. In addition to providing live, affordable, professional music, the members also facilitate master classes, give lessons, mentor, and work with talented young musicians who want to learn more about their craft and how to become professional master musicians, too. As a result, we all enjoy great musical entertainment from seasoned pros who love what they do and want to give a gift back to the community that supports their efforts all year long.

Music is truly a gift in our lives, and if you’d like to support **Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society’s** efforts at helping provide the soundtrack to your life and its many wonderful memories, not consider becoming a member of this organization which provides live, professional entertainment, scholarships, classes, dancing, memories to last a lifetime, and loads of fun all year long? Or maybe you’d like to gift someone else with a membership during this holiday season? Either way, it’s inexpensive and easy to do by visiting www.jazzsociety.org, or calling (772) 460-JAZZ today. ❖



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Fort Pierce Yacht Club Launches Charitable Arm

At the November 15th *Coffee with the Mayor*, sponsor **Fort Pierce Yacht Club** announced the formation of a new charitable arm of their organization — the *Fort Pierce Yacht Club Foundation*. “**Fort Pierce Yacht Club** has raised monies for many years for organizations in need in the local Fort Pierce area. The Foundation will give these efforts both the managerial and fiscal attention they deserve,” said Diane Korbey, Commodore, “while allowing us to also seek other areas for community support.”

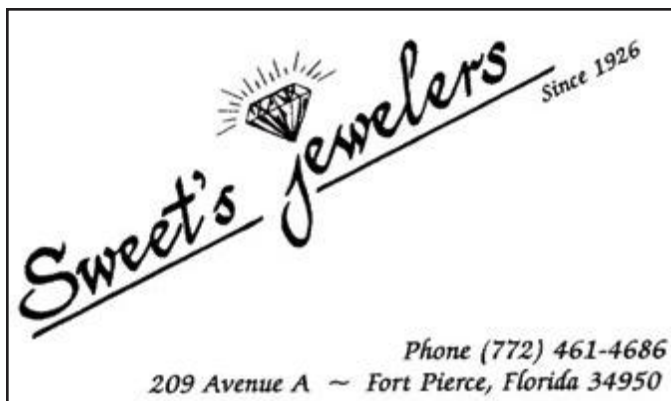
Speaking in support of the Foundation were over ten organizations which have received charitable support from the **Fort Pierce Yacht Club** including *Aaron’s Project*, *Adam’s Place*, *Voici Bernadette Artificial Reef Project*, *Boys and Girls Club of St. Lucie*, *Treasure Coast Waterway Clean-up*, and Oak Hammock K-8 School. Don Bestor, president of the **Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society** greeted all attendees with his keyboard selections and said, “Each year, we award scholarships to music students to enable continuing education. We raise these monies

predominately through an annual fundraising event “Dollars for Scholars.” For the past two years, **Fort Pierce Yacht Club** has co-sponsored the event, and the club and its members have generously contributed to our auction table.” Lillian Beauchamp, founder of *Aaron’s Project*, praised the Club for selecting the Project’s arts, athletics and academic scholarship awards as its annual *Trim-a-Tree Christmas Donation* program recipient, as did Oak Hammock K-8 principal Patricia Galloway who acknowledged the Club’s support of their program for the deaf.

Candace Banack, Chairperson of the Board of Trustees, spoke of the Foundation’s major fundraiser to sponsor a summer intern at *FAU Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute* conducting marine research. “We are announcing our third year as a sponsor of this program and are proud to have had two summer interns funded through our *On the Water Poker Run*. This is a big undertaking which raises \$4,500 in tuition fees annually, depends on many corporate sponsorships, and attracts over 100 boaters. We have hopes of expanding the *Poker Run* to enable us fund other scholarship programs as well. Help us support the community by being a corporate sponsor and/or a participant in this event.” The *On the Water Poker Run* will be held on March 22, 2020 and sign-ups will be on the **Fort Pierce Yacht Club** website www.fortpiercenyachtclub.com.

Fort Pierce Yacht Club Foundation will focus its work on scholarships; on activities which promote clean water; and on environmental and boating educational programs. “One such program,” said Commodore Korbey, “is our partnership with **Manatee Observation and Educational Center** to bring six monthly talks on topical environmental issues to the community, free of charge.”

While you all know **Fort Pierce Yacht Club** for the on-the-water events that they host for the community each year, including sailboat racing, raft-ups, 4th of July Boat Parade, On the Water Charity Poker Run, and boating safety programs, there is much that they are not known for — and that is their community support. Members of the **Fort Pierce Yacht Club** work together all year long to help raise and distribute funds to a host of nonprofit community organizations whose missions touch the hearts of its members — and now this got bigger and better. ❖



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Life's a Relay Race

by Lisa Jill Allison



Something as simple as a sprained ankle can teach a profound lesson...if you let it. While efficiently sprinting from place to place and responsibility to responsibility, I was focused, efficient and dedicated to accomplishing it all. With an aged parent in health crisis three hours

away, moving my gallery to its new location and a plethora of other family and secular responsibilities, I felt stretched but capable. To others I must have looked stretched too thin. In hindsight, perhaps I was. A co-worker's repeated advice, "take a day off" still rings in my ears. But like a proficient, practiced juggler, I refused to lose focus on my routine of all balls in the air.

Then the stumble ... just a minor miscalculation ... stepping wrong off a curb, and the balls flew off in all directions. So, here I am up in Saint Augustine with an ankle full of torn ligaments and a head full of worries. Who will catch the balls? And so, the unfolding of the lessons begins.

Within hours I am headed back to Fort Pierce, snuggled in the back seat of my van with my grandson dozing on my shoulder, as my son lovingly mans the wheel. Hating to inconvenience anyone, I was reluctant for him to come right up to bring me home. Here was lesson one. I expressed my concern over adding six hours travel time to my son's already long day. My son assured me how nice it felt to be able to do

something for me, especially in view of all the times I made his life easier by pitching in on a moment's notice. I was reminded, life is a relay race. My son was eager to grab the baton and run his lap, with me tucked in cozy for the ride.

Now came the inconvenience of no driving for weeks. Housework came to a halt and little things became a chore. Again, the reminder to pass the baton nudged me. Instead of the facilitator I became the recipient. Rides appeared to and from work, coffee appeared on my worktable, doors were held, packages were carried, and I felt the love.

Things fell into place. More care was brought in for my mom and family members appeared at mom's to provide more assistance. A van appeared and moved the last load to my new gallery. Other responsibilities were handled by new willing hands. A calm set in.

I used the illustrations of both a juggler and a relay race as we spent time together just now because honestly, at times doesn't life feel like a three-ring circus and a relay race simultaneously? Yet as we live our life, let's remember there are others running side by side with us and it's ok and even good to pass the baton from time to time. Eager hands will reach for it, giving a needed break. As far as juggling all we juggle, it's ok and even good to get more hands in the mix at times. In turn, as we live our lives side by side with others, when we have a free hand and we see a wavering baton or a cascading of juggled balls out of synch let's reach in and keep the balls going or carry the baton until the next hand arrives. Remember, we are all in this together. ❖

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15th Annual Ghosts of Fort Pierce Past Walking Tours

Wednesday, October 23rd & Thursday, October 24th

Main Street Fort Pierce wishes to thank all the volunteer “ghosts” and guides that participated in the annual *Ghosts of Fort Pierce Past Walking Tours*. This event would not be possible without the generous donation of these folk’s time.

Part of *Main Street Fort Pierce’s* mission is to preserve the historic architecture, charm and stories that make Fort Pierce’s downtown unique. We strive to bring new stories and characters alive each October and early spring with our Downtown Trolley Tours. If you are new to the area or want a refresher on local history make sure to check our Facebook page for these events or call the *Main Street Fort Pierce* office at 466-3880.

Thank you also to **Dyer Chevy Fort Pierce** and the law firms of **Fee, Yates & Fee** and **Hoskins, Turco, Lloyd & Lloyd** who sponsor this event year after year. Both of these firms have historic ties to Fort Pierce.

Law Firm of Hoskins, Turco, Lloyd & Lloyd. At the **Law Firm of Hoskins, Turco, Lloyd & Lloyd**, we have deep roots in the Treasure Coast providing excellent legal representation for people in the areas of personal injury, wrongful death, workers’ compensation, Social Security and Veterans’ disability, and bankruptcy. Our attorneys and staff live and work here and continuously volunteer and contribute to numerous community events, and we have supported *Main Street Fort*

Pierce’s ghost walk for years. The firm is led by senior partner Steve Hoskins, a fourth generation Fort Pierce resident and a Board Certified Civil Trial Lawyer by the Florida Bar since 1989. Together with partners Louis Turco, Colin Lloyd, and Ian Lloyd, we have over 100 years of combined legal experience, and we have successfully represented thousands of Treasure Coast clients, securing millions of dollars for the injured and disabled. Because of our experience, we know how to handle just about any legal issue presented to us — no case is too complex. Whether you’ve been injured, are facing bankruptcy, or have been denied benefits you deserve, our legal team is here to help you. Call us at 772-464-4600 for a free review of your case. ❖



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Small Business Solutions: Family-Friendly Franchise Businesses

by Joel Libava, published on www.sba.gov



If you invest in a business of your own, and it's a business your family can get involved in, you may be able to secure their future along with your own. How good would that feel?

I'm going to give a few examples of franchise opportunity types that make good family businesses, so you can start your search for a franchise you can include your family in.

FRANCHISES THAT ARE FAMILY-FRIENDLY

The following franchise types are worth a look:

Dry Cleaners. Today's dry-cleaning businesses have had to evolve as more and more people dress up less and less. They've had to add other services like rug and drapery cleaning, alterations and more. As a result, the need for employees has gone up.

Sign Businesses. All non-home-based businesses need signage. Would you like to own the business that produces them? As the owner-in this case the franchise owner, your job will be one of business development. You'll be the person calling on local businesses to persuade them to use your company for all of their signage needs. And once orders start rolling in, you'll need to have employees who can design, manufacture and potentially install the signs.

Food Service Businesses. If you've always wanted to own a food franchise, you have lots of choices these days. That said, once you've decided on one and have chosen your location, you'll need to start interviewing potential employees. For instance, if you buy a full-service food franchise, you'll need to hire cooks, servers, dishwashers and hosts and/or hostesses. If you end up buying a food franchise that's mostly take-out, you'll need to hire people who take orders, along with people who prepare and even deliver the food.

Retail Stores. Retail businesses are open 6 to 7 days a week. Some nights, too. That's why they're perfect for your family to get involved with. Of course you knew ahead of time about the long hours in retail. But do you always have to be the one working? To clarify, you are going to want to be there monitoring the operation. After all, retail businesses aren't

meant to be absentee businesses. In addition, you should want to interact with your customers. Just not all the time. That's where your employees come in. Maybe even your kids. That's because retail stores are great training grounds for 1st time employees. For example, 16-year-olds. And let's not forget your spouse. If he wants to get involved in your business, let him! Two heads are better than one!

Should You Involve Your Family? I say yes. After all, they're probably going to be loyal employees. Punctual, too. In addition, (and in a perfect world) you shouldn't have to watch the cash registers as much when they're working in your franchise business.

Now, it's possible that your kids may not want to work for you. If that's the case, try not to take it personally. They may have other interests. Same goes with your spouse. She may want to do her own thing.

Given these points, it's crucial for you to find out ahead of time if your family members want to get involved in your new business venture. If they do, great. If they don't, that's fine, too. At least you gave them the option. Because they could end up changing their mind once they see the business up and running. Who knows? Maybe your kids will buy it.

About the author: Joel Libava, The Franchise King®, is the author of Become a Franchise Owner! and is a franchise ownership advisor. ❖

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by Sue Dannahower

Brussels Sprouts For Dinner

Brussels sprouts can be so much more than the boiled, bitter side dish that some of us may have had in our childhood. A tasty dish of Brussel sprouts starts with the Brussels sprouts that you buy and how you prepare them for cooking. Here are a few tips.

1. When you're shopping for Brussels sprouts, look for balls with tight, compact leaves. They should be bright green, without any browned spots or yellowing leaves.
2. The larger the Brussels sprout, the more they take on the qualities of cabbage. Large pieces will be slightly more bitter, while smaller Brussels sprouts are a little bit sweeter.
3. If you are going to shred them in a food processor or by hand, trim the end and leave them whole. For roasting or sautéing, halving or quartering is best. If you just want the leaves, trim a little higher up above the stem. This makes it easier to pull apart the leaves from the head.
4. As Brussels sprouts roast, they brown around the edges or the cut sides that are faced down on the sheet pan. The browning adds loads of flavor to every bite. The next time you roast them, cook them a little longer than you have previously to capitalize on how mellow and sweet their flavor becomes.
5. Raw is just as good as roasted. When dressed with the right vinaigrette, uncooked Brussels sprouts make for a tasty salad. If you want to take some of the edge off, toss it with the dressing and let it stand for as little as 15 minutes before serving. Like coleslaw, the leaves will soften slightly without losing all their crunch.



December Fishing, the Fort Pierce Way

by Captain Bo Samuel, Pullin Drag Charters

The intense tropical heat is finally over and with the cooler waters moving in, the fishing will be heating up! Our local waters provide abundant opportunities to enjoy this great sport. This is the time to look for migratory fish like cobia, tripletail, mackerel, and pompano.

Cobia move from the colder waters of the Carolinas and north Florida to our area and further south in the fall. These powerful pelagic fish are highly prized as a great catch and a delicious dinner. They are attracted to buoys, wrecks, and floating objects and debris. Use medium to heavy tackle for your best chance to land these aggressive feeders. They are also fast growers and can reach over 100 pounds so keeping a gaff ready is a very good idea.

The Golden or Florida Pompano, known simply as pompano, are fun to catch and very popular for their mild and slightly sweet taste. Some consider them the best tasting fish in the sea. They are in the jack family so you will have a great fight when you get one hooked. Small jigs, live shrimp or sandfleas are the baits of choice for pompano.

Always check your local bait and tackle shops for complete fishing regulations and license information. This time of year remember them for all your tackle needs too, otherwise known as "Christmas shopping needs!" Merry Christmas! All I want this season is to keep *Pullin Drag!*



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Recipe Corner

by Sue Dannahower

Christmas Sides

I love Brussel sprouts!

Here are a few ways I've prepared them.

Brussels Sprouts with Pancetta

- 2 pounds fresh Brussels sprouts, trimmed and halved
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 6 pancetta slices (1/8-inch-thick)
- 1 tablespoon freshly grated Parmesan cheese



Preheat oven to 425°. Toss together Brussels sprouts and next three ingredients in a 15- x 10-inch jelly-roll pan. Bake 20 to 25 minutes or until sprouts are tender and edges are

lightly browned, stirring occasionally. Meanwhile, cook pancetta in a large skillet over medium heat 8 to 10 minutes or until crisp. Remove pancetta and drain on paper towels. Crumble pancetta. Remove sprouts from oven, and place in a large serving dish. Top with cheese and crumbled pancetta. *Serves 8.*

Brussels Sprouts Supreme

- 1 pound Brussels sprouts, trimmed and halved
- 4 strips bacon
- 1 Tablespoon butter
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 2 small tomatoes, diced
- salt & pepper
- sour cream

In a medium pan steam Brussels sprouts till tender. In a skillet cook bacon till crisp, set aside. Reserve 2 tablespoons bacon grease. Discard the remaining grease.



Add butter, reserved grease and onion to skillet; cook until tender. Crumble bacon and add to onion. Stir in tomatoes. Season with salt and pepper. Add Brussels sprouts to skillet and heat to warm. Serve with sour cream. *Serves 8.*

Oven Roasted Parmesan Brussels Sprouts

- 1/2 pound Brussels sprouts (trimmed & halved)
- 1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
- 2/3 cup parmesan cheese
- 2 teaspoon garlic, minced
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper

Heat oven to 425°. Very lightly spray a cookie sheet with cooking spray. In a bowl, combine Brussels sprouts (that have been halved and ends trimmed) with the remaining ingredients. Toss together to coat all the Brussels sprouts. Spread onto the cookie sheet making sure they are not touching. Cook for 16–18 minutes. Serve immediately. *Serves 4.*



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