



Volume 18, No. 2 September, 2022

FOCUS

The Official Monthly Newspaper of Main Street Fort Pierce

**Bridal & Wedding Stroll
through Downtown Fort Pierce
September 18**
see page 13



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Main Street Focus
122 AE Backus Ave.
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Mayor Linda Hudson invites you to join her for Community News, Special Announcements, Complimentary Coffee, Orchid Island Juice, Breakfast Treats, and more!

Friday, September 16, at 8:00 a.m.
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy September!

by Donna Sizemore



Doris Tillman, Executive Director of *Main Street Fort Pierce*, and I attended the *Florida Main Street State Conference* in Deland a few weeks ago. We came back with so much energy and ideas to share with our downtown businesses and community.

What do you think when you hear *Main Street Fort Pierce*? What does that mean to you? An e-mail announcing *Main Street America's* (www.mainstreet.org) recently updated strategic plan included the following description of *Main Street* communities:

"Main Streets are so much more than the sum of their parts — streets, sidewalks, storefronts. They are sites of human connection and collective memory. They inspire the next generation of entrepreneurs and deliver economic opportunities to residents. They are tapestries of artistic expression and creativity and much more. They can bring people together to bridge political differences and find common


purpose. And, with concerted effort, commitment, and willingness to put in the work — they can be drivers of a more just and equitable society." (from mainstreetnews@savingplaces.org, July 28, 2022)

Main Street's strategies should be organized around *Four Points*: Economic Vitality, Design, Promotion, and Organization. *Main Street Fort Pierce* builds community pride and provides a public space for members from all areas of the community to come together, create new partnerships, and celebrate our downtown. Some examples are *Friday Fest*, *Sights & Sounds on 2nd Festival & Parade*, *Shop Small Saturday*, *Stars Over St. Lucie*, *Historic Ghost Walk*, art shows, etc. These are wonderful events but a very small portion of what *Main Street* is all about. In the next four issues of the *Focus*, I will cover one of our four points of *Main Street*, starting in October with *Economic Vitality*.

Main Street Fort Pierce, the heartbeat of our city, is working diligently to keep downtown Fort Pierce strong, and relevant while continuing to make a difference. What makes a successful *Main Street*? The support and collaboration of the community and the people who love it!

Let's keep the fun times coming to our beautiful downtown while continuing to develop economic opportunities and striving to improve our beautiful historic downtown district! To donate, please go to our website www.mainstreetfortpiece.org or scan the QR Code below.

We'd like to hear from you. Go to our Facebook page and tell us what *Main Street Fort Pierce* means to you. We'd love to hear from you. ❖



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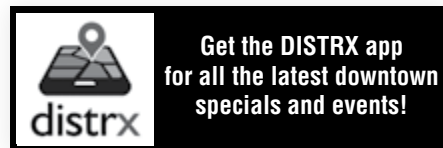
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Calendar

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



Get the DISTRX app for all the latest downtown specials and events!

MONTHLY EVENTS

September 2, Friday: FRIDAY FEST AT MARINA SQUARE — 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.; live music by *Mad Notes*; FPUA displays; sponsored by Cobbs Landing and Little Jims restaurants; **Please remove all vehicles from the permitted Friday Fest road closure area (Marina Way & Melody Lane) by 2:00 p.m.**; Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880; mainstreetfortpierce.org.

September 16, Friday: COFFEE WITH THE MAYOR — 8:00 a.m. at the **Fort Pierce Yacht Club**, 700 N. Indian River Dr.; **Sponsor – Marine Bank**; Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880; mainstreetfortpierce.org.

September 16, Friday: ARTWALK — 5 to 8:00 p.m.; Various studios and shops open throughout the downtown area; artstlucie.org.

SAVE THE DATE

18TH ANNUAL HISTORIC GHOST WALK

October 26, Wednesday — 3 tours available;
October 27, Thursday — 2 tours available;
For tickets or more information visit mainstreetfortpierce.org/ghost-walk-2022.

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; 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

Wine Down Wednesday
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Wednesday of each month, 6 to 8 p.m.

TheFortSteakhouse.com

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cobbs-landing.com

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121 Tapas on the Water

facebook.com/121tapasonthewater

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

MANATEE OBSERVATION & EDUCATION CENTER

429-6266 • ManateeEducationCenter.org

DOWNTOWN FORT PIERCE LIBRARY

462-2787 • www.st-lucie.lib.fl.us/

SUNDAY DOWNTOWN CHURCH SERVICES

Current service times may be effective by Covid-19 please call or lookup online for current information.

Common Ground Vineyard Church; 460-5414, commongroundvineyard.com.

First Church; 464-0440, firstchurchfp.org.

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

Notre-Dame Mission Catholic Church; 466-9617, notredamecc.com.

St. Andrews Episcopal Church (founded 1893); 461-5009 mystandrews.org.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

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

Bud Adams Gallery of Historical Photographs
772-462-1795
2nd Floor of P.P. Cobb Building

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

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

Fort Pierce RiverWalk Center
600 North Indian River Drive
772-489-6473 • cityoffortpierce.com

Heathcote Botanical Gardens
772-464-4672
heathcotebotanicalgardens.org

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

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

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

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

SEPTEMBER: NATIONAL CHICKEN MONTH

SEPTEMBER 3: INTERNATIONAL BACON DAY

SEPTEMBER 5: LABOR DAY

SEPTEMBER 8: STAR TREK DAY

SEPTEMBER 9: NATIONAL WHEN PIGS FLY DAY

➔ SEPTEMBER 11: PATRIOT DAY

SEPTEMBER 13: INTERNATIONAL CHOCOLATE DAY

SEPTEMBER 14: NATIONAL COLORING DAY

SEPTEMBER 16: NATIONAL GUACAMOLE DAY

SEPTEMBER 16: NATIONAL PLAY-DOH DAY

SEPTEMBER 17: INT'L COASTAL CLEANUP DAY

SEPTEMBER 18: U.S. AIR FORCE DAY

SEPTEMBER 22: NATIONAL ICE CREAM CONE DAY

SEPTEMBER 26: NATIONAL FAMILY DAY

2nd Annual Lincoln Park Business Expo Scheduled for September 27

The City of Fort Pierce will host the *2nd Annual Lincoln Park Business Expo* on Tuesday, September 27, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Percy S. Peek gymnasium and Indian River State College's Blackburn Education Center, located at 2902 Avenue D in Fort Pierce. The Expo is *free* and open to everyone.

The Expo's inaugural agenda is packed with presentations and educational workshops focusing on all things business. Workshop topics include: *City of Fort Pierce Tips and Tricks: Permits, Zoning, and Business Tax Licenses; Marketing Your Small Business; Financial Management for Small Businesses; Maximizing Marketing and Public Relations; Team Building; Non-Profit / Government Contracting; and Entrepreneurial Mindset.* Expo attendees will receive gift bags and raffle tickets



for prizes that will be given throughout the event.

The Expo will also have Small Business Grant Applications. Eligible Applicants Small businesses (with 5 or fewer employees — including part-time) located in target areas within City limits to the citizens of Fort Pierce. Applicants can only apply for *one* grant per funding cycle.

Grant Opportunities

Small Business Technical Assistance

— representatives from small businesses must attend technical assistance from IRSC SBDC to qualify. This grant can be utilized for marketing and advertising.

Startup Technical Assistance — representatives from the startup businesses must attend technical assistance from IRSC SBDC to qualify.

A 'Community Pop-Up Shop' for small local businesses to showcase their products and services will be open to the public from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the gymnasium, located adjacent to the Blackburn Education Center.

The Expo is *free* and open to everyone; however, registration is recommended.

Small businesses wishing to reserve *free* space to showcase their business in the Pop-Up Shop from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. must pre-register. To request registration information, please contact Teresa Miller at grantsadministration@cityoffortpierce.com or by calling 772-742-9831. ❖

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Mayor's Message You Can Help Rebuild Kids Park at Jaycee Park

by Linda Hudson, Mayor, City of Fort Pierce



Just a few short weeks away, you can volunteer for the community build project for the **Kids Park at Jaycee Park** — Tuesday, October 11 to end of day, Monday, October 17. After many years of use and exposure to our south Florida weather, the current playground was in need of desperate repair. In late August, the city demolished the playground to make way for a new, state-of-the-art playground that will be a fully-accessible, community-designed-and-built-playground.

Please consider joining your neighbors and elected officials volunteering at the community build; 100 to 200 will be needed for each shift, three shifts a day. Some volunteers need to be “skilled” with things like, hammer, saw, and other builder tools. Others could be in the “novice” category and be trained on site. Still others may not do building, but work as greeters, assistants, water carriers and any other tasks that need doing. Youth 10 to 13 are welcome, but they must work alongside a parent. Youth 14 to 17 can work, but not use power tools. No children under age 10 are permitted for safety concerns. Community service letters will be provided to students. All volunteers should wear work- and weather-appropriate clothing and closed-toed shoes.

Sing up to volunteer here: www.kidsparkatjayceepark.com. You can also contribute financially and/or with sponsorship opportunities for your business or family. *St. Lucie Property Appraiser*, Michelle Franklin, is coordinating volunteers. Contact her for questions: franklinm@paslc.com. This is a joint project between the *Fort Pierce Sunrise Kiwanis* and the *City of Fort Pierce*.

This is a great opportunity for community support and fun working together. ❖

REBUILD the KID'S PARK at Jaycee Park

www.KidsParkAtJayceePark.com

GET INVOLVED

VOLUNTEER
DONATE
SPREAD THE WORD

This project is brought to you by the Fort Pierce Sunrise Kiwanis, with support from the City of Fort Pierce. All donations to support the new playground at the Fort Pierce Jaycee Park will be directed to the Kiwanis, a 501(c)(3) charity, and tax deductible as allowed by law.

Kid's Park
at Jaycee Park Fort Pierce on South Hutchinson Island

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Kid's Park Project at Jaycee Park Needs Sponsors & Volunteers

by James A. Taylor, Director of Development, Paul Jacquin & Sons, Inc.

It is exciting to be a part of a group that is organizing a special **Once in a lifetime project!** We want to share some details about the quickly approaching community build of a brand-new **Kid's Park at Jaycee Park** on South Hutchinson Island and I am hoping you will consider joining us in this endeavor.

After many years of use and exposure to our South Florida weather, the current playground at **Jaycee Park** is in desperate need of repair. Later this month, the City of Fort Pierce will remove all playground equipment from this very popular park due to condition. Then, as a community, we will rebuild a playground in just one week in October! This is not just any playground. The new playground will be the first fully accessible, community-designed-and-built playground in the City of Fort Pierce.

We are asking if you would consider supporting our community by donating and making this one-of-a-kind project a reality. Your sponsorship will be remembered for decades as generations of children and families visit the new playground. And best of all, you'll be contributing to a playground that sees over 200,000 visitors every year including summer campers, school field trips, and more, right on the shores of beautiful Fort Pierce. You can learn more about sponsorship opportunities and levels, and you can also donate directly at www.kidsparkatjayceepark.com.

We're also looking for volunteers and would love to see you at the build as well! To date we are supported by representatives from school clubs, athletic teams, neighbors, and elected officials signed up to volunteer at the community build. Volunteer information and the official sign-up link can be found on the home page of www.kidsparkatjayceepark.com. This build will be a great opportunity for group team building, community support, and fun.

Scan the QR Code to sign up today! Thank you for your consideration and support. ❖



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The Importance of Clean Water

by Robynn Holland, Community Liaison FPYC

The Fort Pierce Yacht Club (FPYC) always has as a priority supporting projects that protect the waterways of the Treasure Coast as clean water is a necessity for all forms of life, and vitally important to the growth, recreation and economy of the Treasure Coast. Two recent involvements of the FPYC in this area were participation in the **Great Waterway Cleanup** and inviting Jim Oppenborn to speak at the August members' meeting.

The **Great Waterway Cleanup** sponsored by *Marine Industries Association of the Treasure Coast (MIATC)* was held the week of July 17–July 23 (self-reporting), with a Saturday event from 8:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m. “This was the 15th year of the Treasure Coast waterway cleanup and stretched 125 miles of waterways in Martin, St. Lucie and Indian River Counties.” The FPYC was a collection point with Commodore Forest Blanton welcoming volunteers and weighing

trash that was picked up. The McClain family who participated in the cleanup and brought their trash to the FPYC to be weighed has been active in water cleanup for several events, including one that daughter, Sloane McClain organized along the Jetty. Thousands of pounds were picked up on the Treasure Coast during the cleanup and approximately 200 pounds were weighed at the FPYC site. It is estimated that almost 400 pounds were picked up by teams from the FPYC who had their trash weighed at other sites; approximately 25 members for the FPYC participated in the **Great Waterway Cleanup**. If you missed this year, plan to participate next year! For more information: <http://www.tewaterwaycleanup.com/>.

Artificial Reefs and Oyster Restoration were the topics of Jim Oppenborn, Coastal Resource Coordinator for St. Lucie County, guest speaker for the August members' meeting.



Mr. Oppenborn explained the importance of artificial reefs and the restoration of oyster beds along the Treasure Coast. The creation of artificial reefs increases habitats for sea life which increases fish habitats and as a result benefits anglers, divers, fisheries, marine research, and the economy of the area. According to the *Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission*, “Florida has one of the most active artificial reef programs among the 15 Gulf and Atlantic coastal states.”

And, artificial reefs can only be built in authorized permitted areas. To learn more about artificial reefs or to volunteer with the program email oppenbornj@stlucieco.org. ❖



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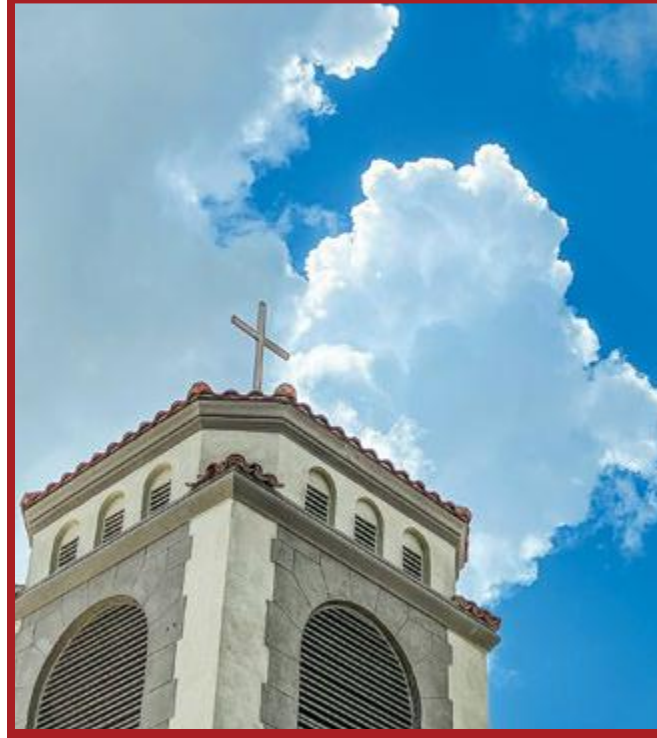
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Where the Lagoon and Learning Intersect – Manatee Center Summer Camp

by Candy Wickham, Manatee Observation & Education Center Education Coordinator

This summer at the Manatee Observation and Education Center, we were so excited to host summer camp again. We proudly hosted nearly 100 campers for summer camp fun in Downtown Fort Pierce. We offered four week-long outdoor camps promoting a love for the lagoon and it's habitants.

Days at the Manatee Observation and Education Center were filled with fun, hands-on activities with an environmental focus. Campers learned all about manatees, hermit crabs, sharks, dolphin, sea turtles, water conservation, fossils, and so much more. Two days each week we brought our fun in the sun to Museum Pointe Park and Jaycee Park with special camp days based right out of two of our favorite Fort Pierce waterfront parks.

Thanks to a generous sponsorship from Treasure Coast Manatee Foundation, each camp was able to participate in a program by Anglers for Conservation. All campers learned



fishing safety and the importance of conservation and responsible fishing habits. They all were excited to learn to assemble their own fishing rod and go fishing — but were thrilled

when they learned that their fishing rods and tackle boxes got to go home with them! To say they were “hooked on fishing” would be an understatement.

The Treasure Coast Manatee Foundation also generously sponsored camp trips on an Indian River Lagoon boat tour through Swampland Tours. The Indian River Lagoon boat tours were a huge hit with MOEC summer campers. Many of the campers had never been on a boat before and were excited to be offered the experience. They were able to spot manatee, dolphin, a variety of birds, hammerhead sharks, and even a couple spotted eagle rays.

These were priceless experiences for the children, and we are sure that they will carry the camp memories with them for a long time!



New Manager Welcome!

The Manatee Observation and Education Center welcomes new Manager, Jessica Kadie Barclay. Jessica relocated back to the Treasure Coast after having lived and worked in the Pittsburgh region for the past 15 years.

Though she grew up here, following her graduation from Fort

Pierce Central, she attended the University of Nebraska. Jessica then ventured off to the Pittsburgh region to manage a long-standing history museum and village. During this time, she received her graduate degree in Public Management from Carnegie Mellon University as well.

In this previous position, Jessica increased the overall operational capacity, oversaw the implementation of an educational whiskey distillery, complete brand refresh, multiple museum exhibition installations and associated programming.

Besides this professional experience, she has a strong interest in nature and the outdoors. She is an avid gardener and long-time volunteer with the local watershed association. She was also a certified Pennsylvania Master Naturalist. She intends to begin her naturalist training down here once she becomes more settled in the position and within the area.

With her prior experience in tourism and museum management, coupled with her love of nature, Jessica brings a fresh approach to both the visitor experience as well as operational management.

She looks forward to falling in love with Downtown Fort Pierce, and all that it has to offer. This is an exceptional place to work, live, and play! ❖

The Manatee Center September Events

MOEC is open Tuesday–Saturday 10 a.m.–5 p.m. and Sunday 12 p.m.–4 p.m.

Friday, September 9 at 12:00 p.m.

Mangroves: Connecting Land and Sea

Lunch & Learn — Join us for a free presentation at noon on August 13th at 12pm. Presented by Kathryn Brown, Outreach Specialist from The Nature Conservancy Blowing Rocks Preserve. Bring your lunch and bring a friend! Free Event.

Wednesday, September 14 at 11:00 a.m.

ManaTales: Storytime

Nurture your child's natural curiosity about nature through this Mommy-and-Me-style program. Each session will focus on a new nature theme and includes a story, craft, and more. Some classes feature live animals! Fun for preschoolers.

Saturdays, September 3, 10, 17, 24 at 9 a.m.

Guided Kayak Trip

Look for wildlife, get up close and personal with mangroves, learn about the Indian River Lagoon on an easy ninety-minute paddle led by a MOEC naturalist. Great for intermediate kayakers who want to learn more about the Indian River Lagoon. The fee for this program is \$30 per person and includes kayak, paddle & safety gear. Registration is required. Call 772-429-6266 option #3 or e-mail Education@ManateeEducationCenter.org for more information or to register.



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Call to Artists – Annual Juried Art Exhibition

“The Best of the Best” is Accepting Entries Beginning September 7 at the *A.E. Backus Museum & Gallery*

The **A.E. Backus Museum & Gallery** is pleased to issue its *Call to Artists* for the annual juried art exhibition, *The Best of the Best*. The Museum is accepting artist applications by advance appointments on Wednesdays–Sundays until 3:00 p.m., beginning September 7 through September 23, 2022. The application is open to amateur and professional artists with a \$30 entry fee per work. A full prospectus with guidelines and application form is available to download from the Museum’s website at www.BackusMuseum.org or copies can be picked up during regular hours at the Museum located at 500 North Indian River Drive in Historic Downtown Fort Pierce.

Artists may enter their work in *The Best of the Best* by submitting into one of four media categories: *Oil and Acrylic* paintings; *Watercolor* (including gouache and tempera); *Varied Techniques* (which includes mixed media, pastel, pencil, pen & ink, printmaking, graphics, collage, and computer-generated works); and *Three-Dimensional*. Accepted works of art will contend for cash prizes and placement honors (1st–2nd–3rd awards) in each category, with an overall *Best of Show* award. Additionally, at the end of the exhibition, visitor votes are counted for a special *People’s Choice* award. A full description of all categories along with presentation checklist is available in the prospectus.

Artists are required to sign up online for an entry appointment in advance. Each 15-minute entry appointment will accommodate one artist entering up to three (3) works of art; artists wishing to enter more than three works may sign up for additional entry appointments. Artists can access the online appointment schedule with all entry information by clicking on the “Call to Artists” button at www.BackusMuseum.org/juried-shows.

The Best of the Best annual juried exhibition will open the 2022–23 Season of the **A.E. Backus Museum & Gallery**, and will debut with a season open house and free admission October

8–9, continuing on view regular hours through November 18, 2022. The Museum is planning for an opening reception on Friday, October 7, but this may be subject to change if public health conditions warrant. The Museum will announce accepted works and awards on October 6 by 5:00 p.m.

The **A.E. Backus Museum & Gallery** is a community-based, 501(c)3 not-for-profit arts institution that relies on your support. Contributions during this challenging period will lessen the financial impact on the Museum, and can be made securely online at www.BackusMuseum.org/donate. Gifts can also be made as an ongoing monthly donation, as a way to extend contributions and provide steady support in these uncertain times. For more information, please visit www.BackusMuseum.org.

All dates and programming subject to change; please check the website for any updates or cancellations. ❖

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Downtown Bridal Wedding Stroll

Downtown Fort Pierce is having an *Inaugural Bridal Wedding Stroll*. Let us help you plan the most important day of your life! Come downtown, relax, and have some fun finding your perfect wedding vendors. Our merchants will be showcasing an amazing stroll including but not limited to *all* things wedding related. Downtown is your one stop shop for traditional and/or LGBTQ wedding needs. One lucky bride/groom will win a wedding cake valued up to \$350 and 50% off **Cobb’s Landing** event space only (not including food, beverages, tax or gratuity). For every place that you visit on the map, you will receive a ticket to enter to win the bridal gift basket (following the bouquet toss). Visit all 14 for more chances to win.

Available Services in Fort Pierce: Bridal and Bachelor Party Venues | Catering | Event Centers | DJs | Wedding Planner | Planning Tips | Honeymoons | Hair & Makeup | Wedding Jewelry | Personalized Wedding Favors | Gifts | Cake Specialist | Florist | Design & Decorating Specialist | Men Care & Grooming | Full Service Spa & Private Parties | Gowns | Tuxedos | Photographer | Tastings.

Giveaways: Up to \$350 towards wedding cake from **The Cake Lady** | 50% off **Cobb’s Landing** event space only (not to include food, beverages, tax or gratuity) | Raffles throughout the stroll and more.



Tickets: Eventbrite for \$5 per person or \$10 at the door.

Check-In: Check in at **Chic & Shore Things**. You will receive a tote, map, raffle ticket, and each bride will receive a tiara for the bridal bouquet toss at 4 p.m. at **The Cake Lady**. You will also have a chance to win a wedding gift basket (collect *all* 14 tickets, bring to **The Cake Lady** by 4 p.m. for the raffle). During the stroll you will receive giveaways, discounts of venue space, free samples, goodies and more.

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5. **Harmony Lounge** (wedding planning tips)
6. **Salon Bangz** (full service hair salon)
7. **Cobb’s Landing** (catering/event center)
8. **Chaney’s House O’ Flowers** (florist)
9. **Bridal Suite of Vero Beach** (gowns & tuxedos)
10. **Sailfish Brewing Company** (catering/event center)
11. **Ohana Group** (travel/real estate services)
12. **2nd Street Bistro** (catering/event center)
13. **Notions & Potions** (customized natural products/apparel)
14. **The Cake Lady** (cake & dessert specialist)

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Downtown Fort Pierce Welcomes... Heidi Messina *Welcome!*

What do scissors and paint brushes have in common? The answer is Fort Pierce's newest entrepreneur, Heidi Messina, who brings her fresh artistic spirit and years of experience to **Salon Bangz** located at 100 Avenue A in the historic **P.P. Cobb** building.



Being from both New England and New York, her roots are certainly Northeastern with her first decade of working in the hair industry on Long Island. There she was exposed to some of the latest fashion trends and honed her skills as a stylist and became a professional colorist.

The Messina family of four — husband, Mike, and two daughters, Madison and Joscelyn along with their dog, Marley, and cat, Noel — moved up from South Florida where Heidi spent twenty years as a successful hair artist in Broward County and recently arrived in St. Lucie County.

"I grew up in a home that was built in 1906, so for me, it is awesome to lay down my business roots in the historic **P.P. Cobb** building," says Heidi. "The building dates back

to the late 1800s where it was the hub of the town."

This new beginning in Fort Pierce brought her into contact with members of another historic group, the *Fort Pierce Art Club*. This new connection reignited her interest in acrylic painting. Between working hours at the salon, Heidi dedicated over 120 hours painting an antique rocking chair she named "The Rocking Polka," to raise funds for the club's free art and sewing classes offered weekly to the public.

"I love making people feel happy for a living," explains Heidi. "My work has to be meticulous or I'm not satisfied."

Her attention to detail and creative expression is evident in "The Rocking Polka," now up for auction in the *St. Lucie County Cultural Alliance Gallery* located in the **111 Orange Avenue Building** on the third floor.

Heidi loves color, chemistry, precision, geometry, and people, making her an excellent and well-rounded artist with a long history using scissors; skilled highlighting, color correction, gray coverage, and beautiful reds.



The *St. Lucie County Cultural Alliance Gallery* is open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday thru Friday. "The Rocking Polka" is being auctioned online at <https://www.32auctions.com/TheRockingPolka>. Bidding is easy for this unique one-of-a-kind furniture art perfect for any home or office.

Heidi's artistic passion continues to expand. When not painting client's hair, she paints watercolors and is taking on another chair — an Adirondack version to be auctioned off to help the art world. To see what she is doing after hours, follow her on Facebook and Instagram.

"I am very much embracing all that Fort Pierce has to offer," explains Heidi, who is also a paddleboard enthusiast. "Meeting all the wonderful people and business owners who make up this community; I love Fort Pierce's natural beauty and history."

If you are looking for a skilled stylist and professional colorist, make an appointment with Heidi at 954-552-8016 and be pampered in the historic **Salon Bangz** next to the **Old Florida Coffee Co.** in the **P.P. Cobb** building on Avenue A. ❖



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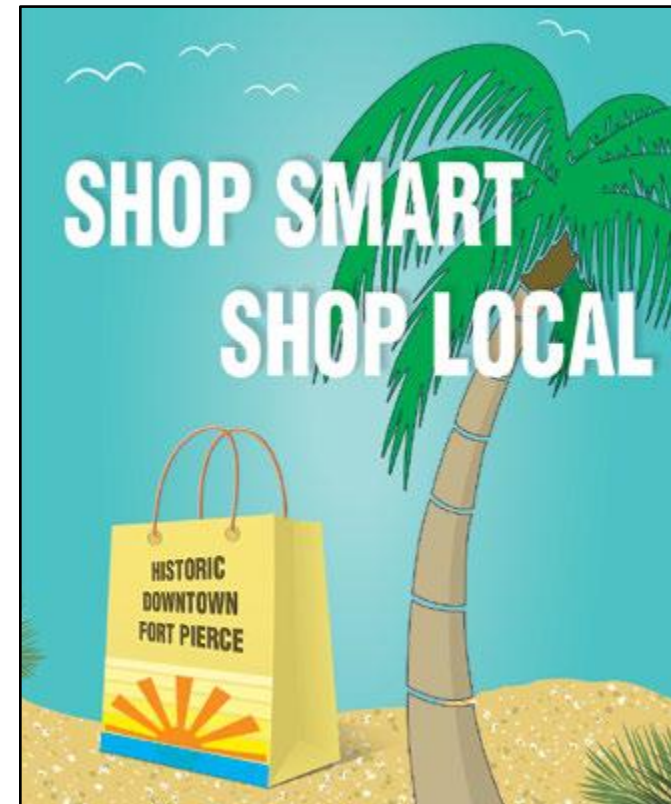
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We're Moving...to Bring More to the Arts & Cultural Community

by Laura Louise Tingo

Eyes will widen, and senses will brilliantly ignite among art enthusiasts who visit the **St. Lucie Cultural Alliance Galleries** on October 21, from 5 p.m.–8 p.m., during **Art Walk**.

We are putting the finishing touches on our new 'home' with an exciting move to the lower level of our vintage, historical gem at 111 Orange Avenue, in Downtown Fort Pierce.

We invite everyone to stop by and enjoy a 'sneak-peek' tour of **The Vault, St. Lucie Cultural Alliance's** new gallery and headquarters, and take in the vibrant changes

taking place to broaden offerings to our dynamic arts and cultural community of St. Lucie County.

The new space is an eclectic mix of urban-trend and classic modern. On tap are plans for artists to exhibit their works, a studio for a rotating resident artist, and classrooms. The enhanced, natural lighting and open floor plan will allow for new gathering space, additional galleries and for the public to observe and interact with the working artist as s/he creates.

Galleries full of juried **Cultural Alliance Art Guild** members work, boutique with artisan wearable art and jewelry, and dynamic space for an array of creative classes of all genres and disciplines are all in store. Its main gallery space — **The Vault** — will serve as its new, enlivened setting for an array of juried, curated exhibitions that will introduce its visitors to an abundance of talent in the county.

Members of the **St. Lucie Cultural Alliance** will be awarded additional benefits including opportunities to teach classes, apply for a quarterly residency, screen films, present intimate concerts, and attend networking and professional development workshops. Residents and visitors will benefit from a richer offering of exhibitions, intimate performances, classes and workshops in this eclectic addition to Downtown Fort Pierce.

Would you like to be a part of making St. Lucie County

a cultural gem of the Treasure Coast? Become a member and join our growing cultural community! Visit StLucieArts.org to learn more about the exciting benefits of membership and all of its cool, upcoming events!



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY STEVE FOGLE

Call for Instructors — Applications Now Open: Artist Members of the Alliance are encouraged to apply to teach classes. Artists of varying mediums are welcomed to apply! For more information, visit StLucieArts.org, or email: info@StLucieArts.org.

Save the Date for the Grand Opening of The Vault: A ribbon cutting ceremony and celebration will take place 5 p.m.–8 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 18th during **ArtWalk**.

About the St. Lucie Cultural Alliance: The mission of the **St. Lucie Cultural Alliance** is to better position the arts and cultural sector as a significant contributor to the vibrancy, and educational and economic well-being, of St. Lucie County.

St. Lucie Cultural Alliance is sponsored in part by the St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners, the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Council on Arts and Culture, the St. Lucie Office of Tourism.

St. Lucie Cultural Alliance is located at 111 Orange Avenue, 3rd Floor in Fort Pierce. To learn more, visit ArtStLucie.org, or call 772.462.2783. ❖

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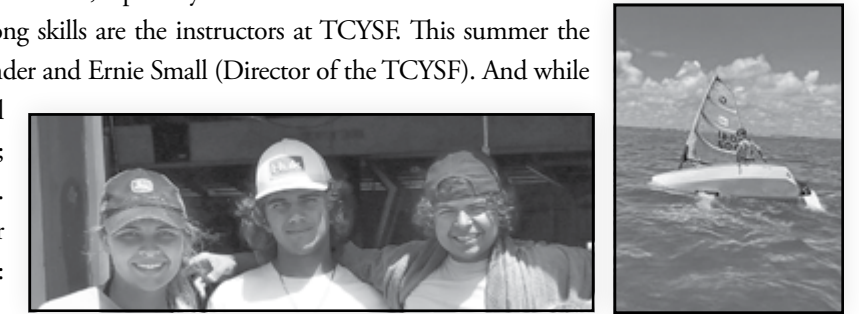
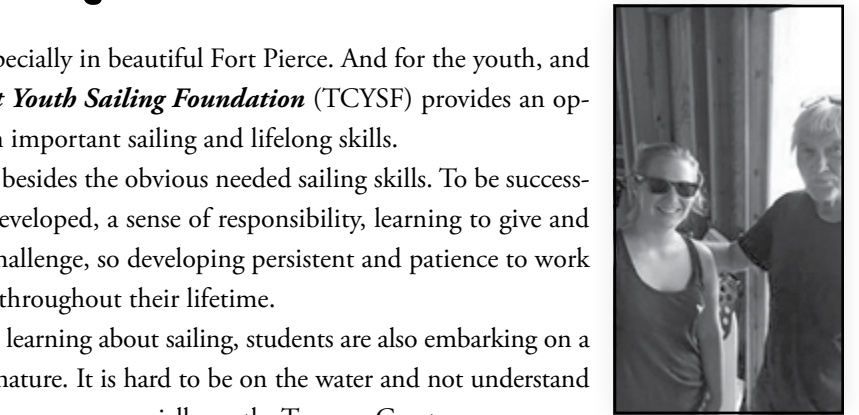
Learning Life Lessons and Having Fun

What better place to be than on the water, especially in beautiful Fort Pierce. And for the youth, and now adults of the area, the **Treasure Coast Youth Sailing Foundation** (TCYSF) provides an opportunity to do just that, be on the water and learn important sailing and lifelong skills.

While sailing is fun there are many skills learned besides the obvious needed sailing skills. To be successful on the water, a strong work ethic needs to be developed, a sense of responsibility, learning to give and take, and be a part of a team. Life constantly has challenge, so developing persistent and patience to work through problems on the water will serve students throughout their lifetime.

And don't forget *adventure*. While having fun and learning about sailing, students are also embarking on a great adventure and learning about the wonders of nature. It is hard to be on the water and not understand the importance of protecting this wonderful natural resource, especially on the Treasure Coast.

Helping young sailors learn both sailing and lifelong skills are the instructors at TCYSF. This summer the instructors were Ronja Sander, Nick Reinke, Peik Sander and Ernie Small (Director of the TCYSF). And while summer is over, the adventure continues into the fall with instructors Katia Anderson and Ernie Small; adult sailing lessons, homeschool programs and the St. Andrew's Academy joining TCYSF on Fridays. (For more information about classes or making donations: www.treasurecoastyouthsailingfoundation.com. ❖



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Eating Like a Puppy

by Lisa Jill Allison, Lisa Jill Allison Art Gallery



So, today I was a bit annoyed at an occurrence. My cohort in crime for the day said, “it’s not a big deal, it will not matter 100 years from now. Actually, no one will even remember us 100 years from now.” Well, that got me thinking all evening. The thought was a bit sobering. Finally, I went to bed, obviously still thinking until — it came to me! What came to me was, “eat like a puppy” and I *knew* I would, in fact, be remembered 100 years from now.

This plan would involve my grandson. Gavin. There is a picture of us is at the top of this article. He is one of my absolutely main humans on planet earth. He keeps me in awe on a regular basis. Normally, engaging and the life of the party, even at 2, unfed and unnapped, Gavin could bring a room full of grown adults to the brink of a nervous collapse at the intensity of this cyclone of untethered, angsty emotions. So, it behooved us to minimize said meltdowns. My plan to be remembered 100 years from now, is to ask Gavin to tell his future children (by future, I mean future, future as Gavin is just 10, almost 11 as he points out) and then to have Gavin remind his children to tell their children of “learning to eat like a puppy.” The story of learning how and where to howl — an equally important claim to fame — will follow in a future issue.

So, back to eating like a puppy. My son and Gavin had an important event to attend. I was with them and in charge of

Gavin. Lots of guests were there and good behavior was in order. “Someone” had not taken a nap or eaten and was cranky. Apparently, there was nothing on the lavish buffet table that appealed to a 2-year-old’s palette at that given moment. This is a recipe for disaster, as anyone who has ever even been near a toddler can attest to. It really seemed that, to avoid a meltdown, food needed to be consumed, now.

I am not a proud grandmother as I will resort to tricks and tomfoolery, so let the eating like a puppy commence. After varied attempts to entice Gavin to eat veggies, fruit, pasta, bread, or even a dessert, I resorted to a pork chop. There was a bit of interest, perhaps. How to make it more enticing? Hey Gavin, watch this, right off the bone, in bare hands, with a bit of growling, “you could eat it like a puppy, like this!” That was it, the magic had happened. Gavin was in, as he gnawed and growled. The better part of a pork chop was consumed. A no-nap and I-am-hungry-meltdown was avoided and fun was had. There was, however, a bit of a backlash a few days later when I got the phone call. “Hey mom, ummm...did you teach Gav to eat like a puppy, cause, umm, it got a bit messy over here with the growling and gnawing and all.”

Yes, this is how I want to be remembered 100 years from now. I want to be remembered as the Mum-Mum who saved the day by diverting a world class meltdown at an important event by teaching her grandson to eat like a puppy. So, here is to being remembered 100 years from now; a blessing beyond compare. ❖

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Love, JAZZ Community: Thank You for Being a Friend

by Don Bestor

In these days of social media, it can sometimes seem like making friends is a competitive sport. But racking up thousands of friend requests and ‘winning the internet’ isn’t all it’s cracked up to be, and today’s Tik Tok sensation is going to need more than thousands of followers to keep you feeling that warm and wonderful feeling that comes from forming real relationships and having friendships that stand the test of time. All of us at **Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society** are fortunate to be enjoy ‘ride or die’ friendships with music lovers throughout the Treasure Coast, and we wanted to take a moment to celebrate those relationships that help make our little corner of the world a better place.

Several years ago, we were looking for a place to share our music with the community that would be warm, welcoming, and have a special kind of ambience that jibed with our community flawlessly. We only had to walk down the street to the **Fort Pierce Yacht Club** to find that place and a group of people who are as dedicated to Fort Pierce as we are. The **Fort Pierce Yacht Club** is a nonprofit organization housed at 700 Indian River Drive, right at the base of the bridge to Hutchinson Island. The purpose of the Club is to promote safe boating and associated activities for power and sailing craft, and to participate in community activities deemed to be of benefit to the community at large. As it turns out, many of the members are also fans of music and sharing.

The **Fort Pierce Yacht Club** not only helps **Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society** and music lovers throughout the Treasure Coast by offering their waterside location as host for our summer *Jazz Jams* every other Tuesday evening; they also help a host of other nonprofit organizations throughout Fort Pierce. The third Friday morning of every month is extra special because it’s the morning when we all get to enjoy *Coffee with the Mayor* – where else? You guessed it – the **Fort Pierce Yacht Club** hosts *Coffee with the Mayor*, and that lovely setting is the perfect place to gather with neighbors and

members of the business community, get caught up on what’s happening all around Fort Pierce, and hear about what’s coming up, straight from the Mayor of our fair city. Plus, the coffee and juice make it a delightful way to start a Friday morning, and the **Fort Pierce Yacht Club** is a most congenial host for the monthly gathering.

Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society works together with **Fort Pierce Yacht Club** to help raise funds for scholarships, too. You already know about the thousands of dollars of scholarships our organization provides each year to young musicians pursuing higher education, but our partnership with the **Fort Pierce Yacht Club** helps them to

fun scholarships at the summertime *Wesley Island Eco Camp* in Fort Pierce.

The group also has big plans to host a *Marine and Maritime Career Expo* in early 2023 to help connect middle school students with opportunities to learn about potential careers in the maritime and marine industry and environmental-science-related fields. It’s just one more way a couple of the nonprofit organizations in Fort Pierce show their gratitude for our beautiful and caring community, and while we usually take this time to share our upcoming events, we wanted to take a moment to ‘toot the horn’ of another local organization which helps make Fort Pierce the place we’ve chosen to call home. You see, while it may be fun to be popular and have thousands of ‘likes’ and ‘friends’ on social media, most of us know that what is really important isn’t quantity but quality. And how blessed we all feel when we know we have a handful of solid, fast friendships throughout the course of our lives. It’s the same for nonprofit organizations; sure we could compete, but we’re all about doing good and making life better, so today, we celebrate and support those friendships and hope you will, too. If you’re not already a member, why not consider joining us today? You can reach us by phone at 772.460.JAZZ (5299) or via email at info@jazzsociety.org. ❖



TREASURES OF THE PAST

100 years ago this month as reported in the Thursday, Sept. 14, 1922 edition of the Tampa Tribune

New Structure to Replace Old One at Fort Pierce

Work of dismantling the Critchley building on Pine street preparatory to the erection of a fine \$150,000 theater and business building is practically completed. Work on the new structure to be erected by R.N. Koblegard of Washington and E.R. Minshal of Tulsa, Okla., is expected to begin immediately, contract having been awarded for the Pine street portion of the building to C.W. Cahow of this city and the material therefor being expected any day.

The new block will have six store rooms facing Pine street, large lobby, theater and balcony capable of seating 1,400 people, an offices on the second floor. It is to be of reinforced concrete construction, with stucco front. Of attractive design, the new building is expected to greatly enhance the appearance of the business section of town, as well as providing Fort Pierce with one of the most up to date theaters to be found along the East Coast.

With considerable other building work going on over town, it is evident on every side that Fort Pierce is enjoying a healthy growth. Building activities are especially noticeable in the residential sections, many new

homes having been erected during the summer months.

The improvements and additions to the Heltsberg store are nearing completion, greatly increasing the floor space and making the place one of the most modern and attractive establishments in Florida.

75 years ago this month as reported in the Thursday, Sept. 25, 1947 edition of the Miami News

Mines Believed Left By Navy

The Japanese-type mines uncovered on the beaches here during the recent hurricane probably have been here all along and were left by the navy after the war.

The mines, shaped like an orange sliced in half and about two feet in diameter, contained only a booster charge of explosive and the rest of the contraption was filled with sand, according to Lt. J.K. McCool, navy mine disposal officer, who came here from Jacksonville to dispose of the mines.

McCool said such mines, captured and reconverted, were used for training purposes. He said he had reports of several more having been found along the beach between Melbourne and a few miles below Fort Pierce.

McCool sounded a warning to civilians to exercise caution in driving on the beach and not to tamper with unidentified objects found there.

75 years ago this month as reported in the Tuesday, September 30, 1947 edition of the Miami News

Heavy Tides Damage Road at Fort Pierce

Extensive damage to the South Beach here and to the South Beach highway was done by the abnormally high tides of the past several days.

Monetary extent of the damage could not be ascertained, but County Road Supt. R.L. Hayes said damage to the highway alone would be "high". The highway, extensively damaged by naval usage during the war, had just been rebuilt with federal funds.

The 60-foot fishing boat Emma was ashore tow and a half miles south of the inlet, driven aground when its skipper, Capt. G.S. Wands, mistook a radio tower light for the inlet beacon, due to poor visibility. He and his two-man crew escaped and the coast guard hopes to refloat the vessel.

50 years ago this month as reported in the Thursday, September 28, 1972 edition of the News Tribune

Second St. Reopening Scheduled

A part of the downtown mall will be opened to traffic, it was announced today by the Fort Pierce Police Department.

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Request for the opening of Second Street from Atlantic Avenue to Orange Avenue was made by the Downtown Business Association, according to Lt. Fred Kendall.

It was not announced when the section would be reopened to traffic. Kendall also said that Atlantic Avenue between Second Street and Indian River Drive, now one-way heading east, will be made a two-way street.

The downtown mall was opened in January, 1971. The section of the mall between Orange Avenue and Avenue A will remain unchanged, it was reported.

25 years ago this month as reported in the Wednesday, September 10, 1997 edition of the Press Journal

Historic House Moves Closer to Being Relocated, Fixed Up

Reporter Drew Dixon, related the plans to move and restore House of Seven Gables. The historic house was originally located on U.S.1 next to McDonalds. It was donated to the City of Fort Pierce. Today the house sits in its relocated site next to the Manatee Center in downtown.



25 years ago this month as reported in the Friday, September 26, 1997 edition of the Fort Pierce News

Architects Seek Input on Sunrise Renovations

Article announces an upcoming "envisioning seminar" to enlist public input on the renovation design for the Sunrise Theatre. It also announced the hiring of three architectural firms: Killis Almond and Associates, Nichols-Schwab and The Jan Abell Kennedy Garcia Partnership. They were hired by St. Lucie Preservation/Main Street Fort Pierce organization, which recently purchased the building, managed and oversaw the restoration of the Sunrise Theatre.



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National Preparedness Month is observed to raise awareness about the importance of preparing for disasters and emergencies. September is also one of the most likely months for hurricanes to reach landfall in Florida.

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Strengthen Your Cybersecurity

by U.S. Small Business Administration

Cyberattacks are a concern for small businesses. Learn about cybersecurity threats and how to protect yourself.

Why cybersecurity matters. Cyberattacks cost the U.S. economy billions of dollars a year, and pose a threat for individuals and organizations. Small businesses are especially attractive targets because they have information that cybercriminals (bad actors, foreign governments, etc.) want, and they typically lack the security infrastructure of larger businesses to adequately protect their digital systems for storing, accessing, and disseminating data and information.

Surveys have shown that a majority of small business owners feel their businesses are vulnerable to a cyberattack. Yet many small businesses cannot afford professional IT solutions, have limited time to devote to cybersecurity, and don't know where to begin.

Start by learning about common cybersecurity best practices, understanding common threats, and dedicating resources to address and improve your cybersecurity.

BEST PRACTICES FOR PREVENTING CYBERATTACKS

Train your employees. Employees and their work-related communications are a leading cause of data breaches for small businesses because they are direct pathways into your systems. Training employees on basic internet usage best practices can go a long way in preventing cyberattacks.

Other training topics to cover include: spotting phishing emails; using good internet browsing practices; avoiding suspicious downloads; and enabling authentication tools (e.g., strong passwords, multi-factor authentication, etc.); and protect sensitive vendor and customer information.

Secure your networks. Safeguard your internet connection by encrypting information and using a firewall. If you have a Wi-Fi network, make sure it is secure and hidden. To hide your Wi-Fi network, set up your wireless access point or router so it does not broadcast the network name, known as the Service Set Identifier (SSID). Password-protect access to the router. If you



have employees working remotely, use a Virtual Private Network (VPN) to allow them to connect to your network securely from out of the office.

Use antivirus software and keep all software updated. Make sure all of your business's computers are equipped with antivirus software and are updated regularly. Such software can be found online from a variety of different vendors. All software vendors regularly provide patches and updates to their products to correct security problems and improve functionality. It is recommended to configure all software to install updates automatically. In addition to updating antivirus software, it is key to update software associated with operating systems, web browsers, and other applications, as this will help secure your entire infrastructure.

Enable Multi-Factor Authentication. Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) is a mechanism to verify an individual's identity by requiring them to provide more than just a typical username and password. MFA commonly requires users to provide two or more of the following: something the user knows (password, phrase, PIN), something the user has (physical token, phone), and/or something that physically represents the user (fingerprint, facial recognition). Check with your vendors to see if they offer MFA for your various types of accounts (e.g., financial, accounting, payroll).

Monitor and manage Cloud Service Provider (CSP) accounts. Consider using a CSP to host your organization's information, applications, and collaboration services, especially if you're utilizing a hybrid work structure. Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) providers for email and workplace productivity can help secure data being processed.

Secure, protect, and back up sensitive data. *Secure payment processing* — Work with your banks or card processors to ensure you are using the most trusted and validated tools and anti-fraud services. You may also have additional security obligations related to agreements with your bank or payment processor. Isolate payment systems from less secure programs

and do not use the same computer to process payments and casually browse the internet.

Control physical access — Prevent access or the use of business computers by unauthorized individuals. Laptops and mobile devices can be particularly easy targets for theft and can be lost, so lock them up when unattended. Make sure a separate user account is created for each employee and require strong passwords. Administrative privileges should only be given to trusted IT staff and key personnel. Conduct access audits on a regular basis to ensure that former employees have been removed from your systems and have returned all company issued devices.

Back up your data — Regularly back up data on all of your computers. Forms of critical data include word processing documents, electronic spreadsheets, databases, financial files, human resources files, and accounting files. If possible, institute data backups to cloud storage on a weekly basis.

Control data access — Frequently audit the data and information you are housing in cloud storage repositories such as Dropbox, Google Drive, Box, and Microsoft Services. Appoint administrators for cloud storage drive and collaboration tools and instruct them to monitor user permissions, giving employees access to only the information they need.

COMMON THREATS

As important as it is to include best practices in your cybersecurity strategy, preventative measures can only go so far. Cyberattacks are constantly evolving, and business owners should be aware of the most common types.

Malware (malicious software) is an umbrella term that refers to software intentionally designed to cause damage to a computer, server, or computer network. Malware can include viruses and ransomware.

Viruses are harmful programs intended to spread from computers to other connected devices like a disease. Cyber criminals use viruses to gain access to your systems and to cause significant and sometimes unrepairable issues.

Ransomware is a specific type of malware that infects and restricts access to a computer until some sort of ransom is provided. Ransomware will commonly encrypt data on the victim's device and demand money in return for a promise to restore the data. Ransomware exploits unpatched vulnerabilities in software and is usually delivered through phishing emails.

Spyware is a form of malware that is designed to gather information from a target, and then send it to another entity without consent. There are types of spyware that are legitimate, legal, and operate for commercial purposes such as advertising data collected by social media platforms, however malicious spyware is used frequently to steal information and send it to other parties.

Phishing is a type of cyberattack that uses email or a malicious website to infect your computer or system with malware or to collect sensitive information. Phishing emails appear as though they've been sent from a legitimate organization or known individual. These emails often entice users to click on a link or open an attachment containing malicious code. Be very cautious about opening links from unknown sources. If something seems suspicious from a known source, don't just click on it — ask the source directly if it's legitimate.

The first step in improving the cybersecurity of your business is understanding the risk of an attack, and where you can make improvements to safeguard your data and systems. SBA training is available on www.sba.gov. ❖

September is Snook Season!

by Captain Bo Samuel, Pullin Drag Charters

For anglers all along the Treasure Coast, September means snook season! September 1st through December 14th is the second season of the year to catch these highly-prized fish with a distinctive black lateral line. We are lucky enough to live by the Indian River Lagoon and Fort Pierce Inlet where snook are relatively plentiful. The inlet acts like a funnel for bait fish and is a great place to target snook, tarpon, and grouper.

Snook can be found around bridges, docks, jetties, and mangroves where they like to face the fast-moving current which brings bait fish in reach. The best bait choice is live mullet, pilchards, threadfins, or mojarra. I like a spinning reel combo with 40-pound fluorocarbon leader and a tight drag since these fish are smart enough to run and try to break the line on nearby structures. Once you get that hit, set back quickly and be prepared for a battle.

These aggressive predators have a unique size limit and must be “in-the-slot” to harvest. They can be no less than 28 inches and no more than 32 inches to be considered a keeper. Those caught outside the slot requirements should be quickly returned to the water so they survive. The limit is only one per angler, per day.

A snook stamp is required. You can learn more about fishing rules and regulations at our great area bait and tackle shops: **DeBrooks Fishing Center**, **Inlet Bait & Tackle**, **White’s Tackle**, and of course, **Little Jim Bait & Tackle**. Snook season



greetings to all! If you want to catch snook, you got to keep *Pullin Drag!*

This month’s photo is Dillon, proudly showing a 31.5 inch slot machine! ❖

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Favorite Recipes from Main Street Board Members



Charlie Hayek’s Fool Emdammas

As my grandparents emigrated to the US in the late 1800s from Aleppo (Halab), a region renowned for their cuisine, so I grew up eating the Syrian delicacies that our family made.

This recipe is very simple but extremely flavorful. It is an excellent dish especially during the summer. It is as refreshing as it is healthy.

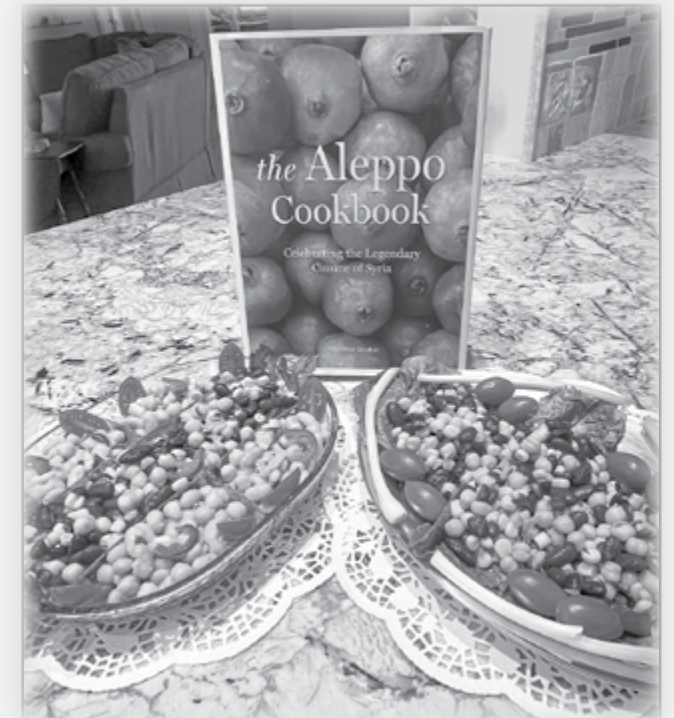
As fava beans are somewhat hard to find, cannelloni beans are a good substitute. Don’t be afraid to add your favorite bean to the dish — they all taste good. My dear uncle Bill used to eat it for breakfast as he said it was a great remedy for a hangover!

Ingredients

- 1 can (15.5 oz) fava beans-rinsed and drained
- 1 can (15.5 oz) chick peas-rinsed and drained
- 1 clove of garlic-chopped fine
- 1 teaspoon of salt
- 2 tablespoons of canola oil
- 2 fresh lemons squeezed
- 5 sprigs of parsley
- 5 scallions chopped fine

Instructions

First wash and drain beans then combine with the other ingredients. Can be served at room temperature but it is best to place in the refrigerator overnight so the flavors have time to marinate. Enjoy!



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