



Volume 18, No. 1

August, 2022

FOCUS

The Official Monthly Newspaper of Main Street Fort Pierce

National Dog Month August 2022

Gracie Lou Freebush Taylor
Celebrating in Fort Pierce

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Don't Miss Tax-Free Shopping & Wedding Showcase

by Donna Sizemore



It feels as though the summer just flew by this year and now, it's almost time for school to begin. Take advantage of all the downtown shops and boutiques when back-to-school shopping. Keep in mind that back to school shopping tax-free week is July 25 – August 7, 2022.

A shout out to *Main Street Fort Pierce* and the *City of Fort Pierce* for the fabulous display of fireworks on the 4th of July. The reflections on the Indian River were spectacular! A little taste of paradise for sure.


If you are a soon-to-be bride, groom, attendant and/or family of the bridal company, you don't want to miss 'The Downtown

Bridal and Wedding Stroll' scheduled for Sunday, September 18th. A group of downtown businesses have collaborated and put together an agenda to ensure that all your wedding planning needs are met. There is more information on this event on page 5.

Several of us, from *Main Street Board*, met with the city planners to discuss the five-year Master Plan for downtown Fort Pierce. Visit <https://bit.ly/FtPierceDTN> to obtain all the details and follow along with the planning. There is an interactive map and the history of the development of Fort Pierce with pictures of downtown development over the years. For the natives, this is a journey down memory lane.

We hope to see you at *Friday Fest*, which is always the first Friday of each month. ❖

“... you don't want to miss
*The Downtown Bridal and
Wedding Stroll on Sunday,
September 18th.*”



Volume 18, No. 1 August 2022

Publisher Main Street Fort Pierce Inc.
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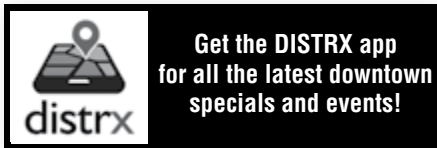
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Calendar

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



MONTHLY EVENTS

August 5, Friday: FRIDAY FEST AT MARINA SQUARE — 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.; live music by *Riverdaws*; 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.

August 19, Friday: ARTWALK — 5 to 8:00 p.m.; Various studios and shops open throughout the downtown area; artstlucie.org.

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
Fort Social in the Galleria on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month, 6 to 8 p.m.
TheFortSteakhouse.com

Sailfish Brewing Company
[facebook/Sailfish Brewing Company](https://facebook.com/SailfishBrewingCompany)

Pierced Cider
[Facebook @piercedcider](https://facebook.com/piercedcider)

Cobbs Landing
cobbs-landing.com

Bottom's Up Public House
facebook.com/bottomsuppublichouse

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.

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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

➔ AUGUST: NATIONAL DOG MONTH
AUGUST: AMERICAN ARTIST APPRECIATION MONTH
AUGUST 2: NATIONAL COLORING BOOK DAY
AUGUST 3: NATIONAL WATERMELON DAY
AUGUST 4: ASSISTANCE DOG DAY
AUGUST 4: U.S. COAST GUARD BIRTHDAY
AUGUST 5: NATIONAL OYSTER DAY
AUGUST 5: WORK LIKE A DOG DAY
AUGUST 6: SANDCASTLE DAY
AUGUST 7: NATIONAL SEA SERPENT DAY
AUGUST 8: INTERNATIONAL CAT DAY
AUGUST 10: NATIONAL S'MORES DAY
AUGUST 10: NATIONAL SPOIL YOUR DOG DAY
AUGUST 14: NATIONAL CREAMSCICLE DAY
AUGUST 16: NATIONAL AIRBORNE DAY
AUGUST 17: NATIONAL NONPROFIT DAY
AUGUST 20: INTERNATIONAL GEOCACHING DAY
AUGUST 21: GIVE A DOG A BONE WEEK
AUGUST 25: NATIONAL BURGER DAY
AUGUST 26: NATIONAL DOG DAY
AUGUST 30: NATIONAL BEACH DAY

Attention All Brides!

Downtown Fort Pierce is having an *Inaugural Bridal Wedding Stroll* on September 18th from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. 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 ranging from event venues, florist, cake specialist, make-up artists, music and so much more.

There is also plenty to do when planning bachelorette and bachelor parties: find out how many unique and different experiences are available to do like axe throwing, creating a signature scented candle as party favors, and don't forget the brewery.

Sign up on Event Brite for \$5 per person or \$10 at the door. Sign in at **Chic & Shore Things** to receive your wedding bag, map, and tiara. Each bride will receive a tiara for the bridal bouquet toss and one lucky bride will win a wedding cake valued up to \$350 and 50% off at **Cobb's Landing** event

space. You will also have a chance to win a wedding gift basket, discounts of venue space, free samples, goodies and more. Every place that you visit on the map, you will receive a ticket to enter to win the bridal gift basket.

Participating Bbusinesses include *Chic & Shore Things*, *The Cake Lady*, *Chaney's Florist*, *Drift Away Spa*, *Notions & Potions*, *2nd St. Bistro*, *Cobb's Landing*, *Sailfish Brewing Company*, *Legit Cuts Barbershop*, *Harmony Music Lounge*, *Hard Axe Lounge*, and more. ❖

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Mayor's Message Highwaymen Museum First Look

by Linda Hudson, Mayor, City of Fort Pierce



On July 8, 1234 Avenue D was the place to be in Fort Pierce and St. Lucie County. The community turned out in great numbers to get a “first look” at the newly-renovated Jackie Caynon Building, transforming it into the first museum devoted to *Florida's Highwaymen*.

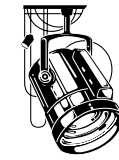
The *Highwaymen* landscape school of art was born in Fort Pierce at Lincoln Park Academy, a racially-segregated all-black high school with a history of excellence, located in what is now the Means Court Center, at 13th and Avenue E. Zanobia Jefferson, Chicago born high-achiever art teacher, recognized talent in her student, Alfred Hair. She asked her friend, A.E. “Beanie” Backus, Fort Pierce-born landscape artist to mentor Hair. Hair and a collection of other African American young men (and one woman) began to paint landscapes at high-speed, and sell them from their vehicles by the side of the road, many when they were still wet. Tourists and residents alike bought their paintings, colorful, vivid, and portraying the essence of Florida's natural tropical beauty.

Eventually the group were dubbed the original Florida *Highwaymen* and in 2004, 26 original *Highwaymen* (including one woman) were inducted into the Florida Artists Hall of Fame. Since then, the Smithsonian and the African American History and Cultural Museum have recognized their importance.

Many of the 26 have since passed, but new generations of *Highwaymen*-type painters are thriving today.

Although much discussed through the years, a museum for the *Highwaymen* remained elusive until recently when the building, renovated by the Fort Pierce Redevelopment Agency (FPRA), was retrofitted as a museum for *Highwaymen*. State grant funds have helped turn the former headquarters of the *Lincoln Park Main Street* into a museum, which hosted its first public viewing July 8.

The evening was a great success. Doretha Hair Truesdell, widowed when Alfred Hair was killed in 1960, has worked tirelessly with the new *Highwaymen Museum* Board of Directors to get the museum off to a good start. The *Highwaymen* have an opportunity to have their own license plate, the proceeds of which will help fund the museum. Many more license plates must be sold before October of 2022. Buy license plates here: <https://github.com/stlucie/vouchers#highwaymen>. For more information about the museum, email: floridahighwaymenmuseum@gmail.com. ❖



Downtown Business Spotlight: 2nd Street Art

2nd Street Art, located at 131-B N. 2nd Street, Downtown Fort Pierce, is a collective of 34 local, award-winning artists. They are: Alexander Nemo, Anita Prentice, Anna Steakin, Becky Kline, Christopher Gunkel, Corina Pelloni, David Bolinsky, Debi Crouse, Diane Stark Kennedy, Doc McKineey, Eileen DiTullio, Frankey Redd, Ginny Piech Street, Gretchen Green, Janet Bird Fuller, Jeanne Johansen, Joe Young, Kathleen Ewing, Laura Kinnamon, Lea Marsh, Lora Yakimov, Maggie Cook, Martha Cross, Mary Tangora, Michael Love, Pam DeAngelis, Paul Gottardo, Rita Polizzi, Sheila Parcell, Sherry Horton, Sophia Tranoris, Tesla Krapfl, Tristine Davis and Vicky Beck.

They offer a wide array of art to suit any taste and wallet including stained glass, collage, oil and acrylic paintings, *Highwaymen* legacy art, Florida landscapes and seascapes, metal art, mosaic, clay, sculpture, photography, jewelry and much more.

2nd Street Art is proud to host the *Fort Pierce Art Club*, which was founded by the famed landscape artist, A.E. Backus, in 1955. They also represent 2nd generation *Highwaymen* legacy artist Michael Love, whose uncle and mentor is Al Black. Another *Highwayman*, Willie Daniels, also served as an influential art instructor. Resident Artist Paul Gottardo is a Beanie Brat who — as a youngster — learned art at the knee

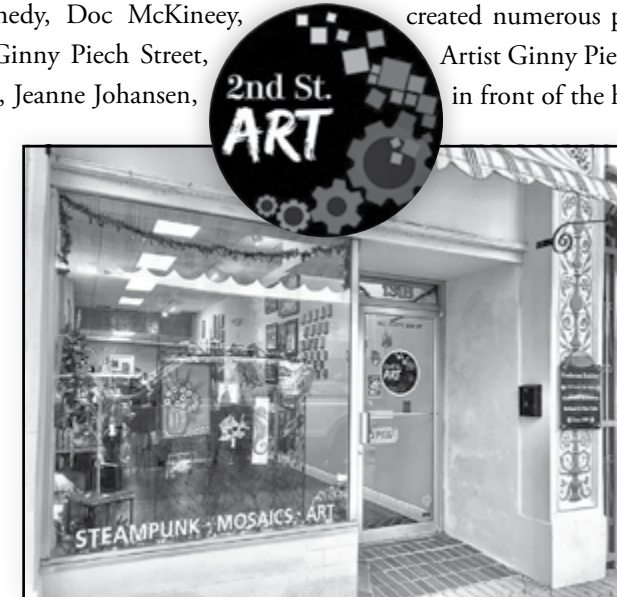
of Backus. The gallery also represents Anita Prentice who is affectionately named “The Bench Lady” as she is the creator of countless mosaic benches and public art throughout the Treasure Coast and at *Heathcote Botanical Gardens*. She also created numerous public artworks with fellow Resident Artist Ginny Piech Street — one of which is stationed in front of the historic **Fort Pierce City Hall**.

Established in October, 2020, **2nd Street Art** is the proud recipient of the Chamber of Commerce's 2021 *B&I People's Choice for Small Business Retail Award*. They are currently in contention for *TC Palm's Best of the Best* competition as a Specialty Shop, which voting remains ongoing.

Most notable about the gallery is that many of its resident artists are pursuing a professional art

career in midlife and retirement. Their former professions include Fed Ex delivery, EMT, police officer, chef, nurse, teachers, Naval Officer, etc. Current professions include pilot, tree service, grocery retail, and others.

2nd Street Art prides itself as being more than just an art gallery. It is a meeting place where folks can visit and be warmly welcomed as family, a place where friends old and new can take a break from everyday life and find camaraderie. It's a haven for human connection. ❖



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Colorful Future in Original Florida Highwaymen Museum

by Crystal Samuel, Highwaymen Museum Strategic Planning Committee

July 8th was the date for a fabulous onsite Preview Party for the future **Original Florida Highwaymen Museum** at 1234 Avenue D. The Museum Board and Strategic Planning Committee along with the great leadership of *Lincoln Park Main Street* organized a well-attended and very delightful

evening. There was excitement in the air as attendees, enjoying wine, beer, and hors d'oeuvres, realized the Jackie Cannon building has been secured and the museum will be a reality in the very near future. Many well-known community leaders attended and spoke of their commitment to this great endeavor.



Board Member Matt Samuel, CC Jeremiah Johnson, Artist Anita Prentice, Holly Theuns



Fire Sky painting by Highwaymen Artist Willie Daniels

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Doretha Hair Truesdell and Dr. Lorae Simpson Foltz



Mrs. Dawn Reagan and Highwaymen Artist Willie Reagan

The *Original Highwaymen Artists* are a group consisting of mostly self-taught Black painters from the 1950s who captured the colorful beauty of Florida landscapes in a unique impressionistic style.

Doretha Hair Truesdell, President of the Board, and a driving force in seeing the museum dream come true, welcomed everyone to the event and spoke about the work yet to be done, the support of the City of Fort Pierce, and the need for community involvement. Guests were encouraged to participate in a brick paver program, sign up to be volunteers

at the museum, become donors/sponsors, and purchase a *Highwaymen* license plate voucher.

Guests were also able to view original *Highwaymen* paintings hung for the event by Matthew and Crystal Samuel from their private collection. The colorful landscape paintings were accompanied by artist panels that presented information on each artist. *Highwaymen Artist* Al Black said, "I'm glad to be here tonight. It's time for this museum in Fort Pierce." Everyone in attendance most surely felt the same. ❖

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Dog Days of Summer

August is *National Dog Month* and there are many ways to celebrate our furry friends this month including swimming or simply a car ride with the windows down. The loyalty and affection we share with them not only makes our lives better but theirs too. The Milk-Bone brand founded *National Dog Month* in 2020 to recognize all the ways dogs make our lives better.

There are animal shelters in St. Lucie County that are always seeking volunteers and donations. If you are looking for a pet to join your household, please check out the following shelters:

- **Sunrise Humane Society**, <https://www.sunrisehs.org/>
- **The Humane Society of St. Lucie County**, <https://hsslc.org/>
- **Dogs and Cats Forever**, <https://dogsandcatsforever.com/>


Make sure to support these local shelters during *National Dog Month* and throughout the year.

Enjoy these photos of *Main Street* board members canine family members! ❖



 Makai, Farm Dog Ranch rescue




 Henry Lounds, rescue pet




 Callie Sizemore, rescue pet



 Roscoe P. Tankerton Johnson, AKA Tank, rescue pet




 Jesse, rescued at Sandy Shoes 9 years ago, and adopted




 Amigo and Reba Tillman



 Lilly, Roxy and Grand Pub Zury McSweeney




 Chai and Titus Harris

 Magnolia Marie Taylor



 Bella Blandford, rescue pet



 Fenway and her son, Yeti Birchall

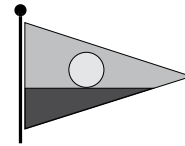
Community Celebrations

by Robynn Holland, Community Liaison FPYC

The annual *Fourth of July Fort Pierce Boat Parade* is a community wide celebration of the signing of the United States Declaration of Independence in 1776. This year's parade began with a beautiful clear day on the sparkling waters of the Indian River highlighted with blue skies and plenty of sunshine. Hosted by the **Fort Pierce Yacht Club** each year, boats gathered in the "Turning Basin," just north of the south bridge, decorated with red, white, and blue and American flags to enjoy the camaraderie and celebration. Led by Commodore Forest Blanton, the boat parade traveled east through the inlet and then turned back to the west, and headed south down the Indian River. The boat parade included all types of boats, both large and small, and was a wonderful time on the water.

Congratulations to the *City of Fort Pierce* and *Main Street Fort Pierce* and all the workers and volunteers in the background for a very successful *Stars Over St. Lucie* event, culminating with spectacular fireworks viewed by thousands. We also thank the police department for their efficient handling of the traffic afterwards. It was a very good day for the people in the Sunrise City as large crowds enjoyed the beaches, water, food, events and fireworks.

First Look at the Highwaymen Museum — The FPYC was thrilled to welcome Doretha Hair Truesdell of the *Highwaymen* to speak at their members meeting on Tuesday, July 5. Ms. Hair Truesdell gave a delightful history of the *Highwaymen*



and her role in the development of the **Highwaymen Museum**, opening soon on Avenue D. The "first look" at the **Highwaymen Museum**, located at 1234 Avenue D in Fort Pierce, was held on Friday, July 8 from 5–8 p.m. and was a resounding success. A large and jubilant crowd gathered at the **Highwaymen Museum** and enjoyed the ambiance and excitement of the opening. Guests were able to view a display of the work of the *Highwaymen*, many of the paintings provided by members of the community who have been collecting the now valuable paintings for years. To help support the museum, license plate vouchers can be purchased (<https://govhub.com/stlucie/vouchers>). Scroll down until you see the *Highwaymen* sample.

To support other community efforts the FPYC made a donation to help support *Stars Over St. Lucie*, purchased a brick to support *Main Street Fort Pierce* fund raising, purchased a brick to support the building of the *Sgt. Danny Paris First Responder Park*, and members attended *Unity in the Community*, sponsored by the Fort Pierce Police Department on July 6th.

The Sunrise City is a wonderful place to live because of the vision of city leaders and the support of many diverse community and business groups in providing opportunities for people to get out and enjoy the community. The FPYC is honored to be a part of this community. ❖



FPYC Members Robynn & Steve Holland with Highwaymen Artist Al Black (center)



Ellen Gillette, CC Arnold Gaines, and Former State Representative Delores Hogan-Johnson



Doretha Hair Truesdell and Mayor Linda Hudson

Youth Sailing Hits the Waters Again

The *Treasure Coast Youth Sailing Foundation*, beached by covid restrictions for almost two years, is once again providing sailing lessons for the youth of the Treasure Coast. The TCYSF, located at Jaycee Park in Fort Pierce, is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation which was founded in 2006. The mission of FPYSF is to introduce the youth of the Treasure Coast to the joys and responsibility of sailing while teaching teamwork and the basics of sailing.

Ernie Small, President of TCYSF, could not contain his joy about this new beginning as he spoke about seeing the

excitement in students learn to sail. Beginning in July the TCYSF began offering sailing classes, limited to 10 students per class. The TCYSF has also been busy hosting the St. Lucie Sheriff's Police Athletic League (PAL) and the Boys and Girls Club of St. Lucie County. Youth from both groups enjoyed a day on the water learning about teamwork and responsibility. For many, it was their first experience on the water and one they will remember for many years to come.

For more information: www.treasurecoastyouthsailingfoundation.com. ❖



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Fort Pierce Yacht Club Foundation

by Diane Korbey, Director of Trustees

While you probably know the Foundation arm of the **Fort Pierce Yacht Club** as a result of the 2018 *On the Water Charitable Poker Runs*, I am not sure you *know* the **Fort Pierce Yacht Club Foundation**.

Our charter is to assist in supporting environmental efforts to ensure we can continue to enjoy our local waterways, and to provide education on conservation and safe boating activities. We continue our fund raising all year long and this year we have greatly expanded the list of those we donate to.

Poker Run raised sufficient funds to sponsor an intern at **FAU Harbor Branch** this summer and to give us funds to launch next year's event. (Save the date – April 1, 2023.) Help us make a difference in the quality of our waterways and in a young person's life.

We raise money by providing beverage service at the **Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society** summer performances at the **Fort Pierce Yacht Club**. From last year's net income, we funded scholarships at *Wesley Island Eco Camp* in Fort Pierce. FPJBS performs at FPYC August 9 and 23, September 13 and 27, and October 11 and 25. We invite you to join us and aid

in our fund raising and the continuation of our support of the *Eco Camp* and the **Jazz Society's** annual scholarship program.

We are planning a nightclub-like musical extravaganza for November 5th at 7:30 p.m., with a tasting beforehand on our patio. Buy a ticket, sponsor a table of 8, host the bar or treats — be part of this fund raiser to enable us to host a marine industries career exposition for high school students in Fort Pierce next winter.

We appreciate your on-going support of us as we support our area youth and our area waterways. ❖




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Love, JAZZ Community: Jazzing Up Those Dog Days of Summer

by Don Bestor

You've probably heard the expression about 'the dog days of summer, but did you know they're a real thing and actually have a history? According to National Geographic, the Ancient Greeks noticed that Sirius—which they dubbed the "dog star" as it is the brightest star in the constellation Canis Major—appeared to rise alongside the sun in late July. They believed the combined power of the stars is what made this the hottest time of year—a time when dogs and humans could be driven mad by the heat.

Floridians know a thing or two about heat and humidity, and we've learned how to turn the dog days of summer into a time of relaxation, enjoyment, and evenings filled with great music. **Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society** offers an assortment of live music every single week throughout St. Lucie County—even during the dog days of summer.

Every other Tuesday, you can find fabulous sunsets and music at the **Fort Pierce Yacht Club**, at 700 Indian River Drive, just at the base of the beautiful bridge that carries us over to Hutchinson Island? You don't have to be a member to enjoy great live music and a full bar every other Tuesday (almost) throughout the summer and fall. You can join the fun every on Tuesdays through November (August 9th and 23rd, September

13th and 27th, and October 11th and 25th) from 7–9:30 p.m. and the cover charge is only \$10 (\$8 if you're a member).

Almost every other Wednesday, you can enjoy live music and even sit in with the pros and jam at the **Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens**, on Westmoreland Boulevard in Port St. Lucie. The professional musicians from **Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society** will be on hand from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. every other Wednesday throughout the summer and fall months. For just \$7 (\$6 if you're a member of **Fort Pierce Jazz**

and Blues Society), you can enjoy live music and maybe even grab the mic or take a seat at the keyboard or drums and impress the crowd with your own musical prowess. It's a fun evening twice each month through the end of October (August 10th and 24th, September 7th and 21st, and October 5th and 19th).

If you'd prefer your music with a side of dinner, the dog days of summer are the time to pop on into **2nd Street Bistro Tap House and Eatery**, where **Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society** provides with live music on the last Thursday of each month through October (August 25th, September 29th, and October 27th) from 6:30 to 9 p.m. You can sit inside or out, and no one is going to raise an eyebrow if you end up using your French fry or even your fork as a drumstick to help you keep the beat or tap on the cymbal that looks suspiciously like your beer mug.

The dog days of summer may have dogs panting and snowbirds firmly planted in the cooler Northern climes, but any Floridian worth his sweet tea knows that the dogs days are a great time for fun, sunshine, cool briny breezes, and fabulous music, and **Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society** has you covered. 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. ❖



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TREASURES OF THE PAST

100 years ago this month as reported in the Friday, August 11, 1922 edition of the Tampa Tribune

Building Operations Large

Summer building work in Fort Pierce continues at a good pace, and with the recent announcement of the awarding of a contract for additions and improvements to the New Fort Pierce hotel the volume of new work received quite a boost. Contract be shortly awarded also, it is expected, for construction of the new \$150,000 business and theater building recently announced by Messrs, Koblegard and Minschel.

In practically every section of town new work is under way. A large number of residences are going up, while other are planned for summer construction. In the business district the Holtsberg building, which is being enlarged and improved, is coming along at a good pace, while work on the new Rirou three-store building is more than half completed.

That Fort Pierce is growing and expanding steadily and continually is very evident.

Giving the main street a sure-enough “citified” feature, a new automobile agency and display room has been opened up on Pine street (current 2nd Street) in the room formerly occupied by Baker and Company, in the Faber building.

100 years ago this month as reported in the Friday, August 11, 1922 edition of the Tampa Tribune

Photographic History of Town

H.E. Hill, head of the Florida Photographic Concern, from photographs which he has made of Fort Pierce scenes and Fort Pierce people during the past quarter of a century, has prepared a remarkable collection of stereopticon slides that give a graphic story of the history and development of the town from the days when it was but a tiny little village up to the present. Among them is a scene which show the present main business section as nothing but a stretch of unoccupied ground. Pictures of many of the prominent men of town when they were only barefooted kids are included among the lot.

Mr. Hill proposes to offer his collection, numbering 150 slides, as a gift to the Woman’s Club, and it is quite likely that the whole will be exhibited to the people of the town at an early date.

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75 years ago this month as reported in the Friday, August 22, 1947 edition of the Miami News

Fort Pierce Gets New Phone Cables

Part of a nationwide network, crews of the American Telephone & Telegraph co. are installing underground coaxial cables through this area.

Installation on the north is almost to the city limits, and to the south to the city line. On the north, the cables are following the old Dixie highway to the Fort Pierce cemetery, then crossing over to Seventh St. and extending through town along that street and out to Oleander Ave., thence on through the county.

75 years ago this month as reported in the Tuesday, August 26, 1947 edition of the Miami News

Flight School Approved

Fort Pierce Airways has received approval from the Civil Aeronautics Authority as a school for commercial flight training, and a contract has been negotiated with the Veterans Administration setting up that phase of the company’s GI training course, according to announcement of company officials.

50 years ago this month as reported by Ron Ishoy in the Saturday, August 12, 1972 edition of the Miami Herald

French Cannons’ Salvor Approves New Location

Shelton Green feels the new City Hall is a “fitting place” for the old French warship cannons he helped salvage from the Atlantic in 1928.

“I think that’s the best place, I mean they are the city’s,” said Green, who missed the massive moving operation by city crews because of ill health.

“I wouldn’t like to see them destroyed; most of them have decomposed and lots are in bad shape,” he said.

The two were among 21 cannons and six huge anchors that were scattered along the ocean bottom in about 12 feet of water about one-half mile north of Pebble Park.

Several of the cannons and an anchor can be found at the entrance to Fort Pierce Park.

Green, who is now 68, was working for a salvage firm that was contracted by the city to bring up the remains of the wrecked French ship which legend says crashed during a violent storm in 1565.

Green’s job in the salvage operation was to dive in nude and hook up to the grappling hooks once the items were located.

Why nude? “They had those diving suits, then but they weren’t worth anything,” he explained.

Among the salvage crew were Fort Pierce Mayor Denis Summerlin’s brothers, Rube and Dick. Mayor Summerlin voted at the City Commission meeting Monday night to have the cannons moved to in front of the new City Hall instead of the St. Lucie County Museum.

Thursday, workmen used a big crane to lift the massive iron pierces from their foundations onto a flatbed truck for the short trip to the new City Hall.

The work crew encountered no Spanish ships, and all wore clothes.

25 years ago this month as reported by David Seaton in the Tuesday, August 12, 1997 edition of The Fort Pierce Tribune

In his article, Progress sounds sweet downtown, David Seaton writes of the numerous projects underway in downtown Fort Pierce. These projects included:

- \$1 million road and sidewalk improvement on Avenue A and Melody Lane. Along with a traffic circle at Avenue A and Indian River Drive
- \$2 million Harbor Federal office building a drive-thru on North Indian River Drive
- \$340,000 restoration of Tickle Tummy Bridge on Second Street which will provide another entrance to downtown Fort Pierce and flow through traffic
- \$1.7 million Public Defender’s building on Second Street

A quote from Dick Coke, owner of the downtown business – Coke’s Stationers, was especially poignant. “There is going to be more happening in the next year and a half than in the

20-some years I’ve been here,” said Coke. “It really is the culmination of eight or nine years of work to get to this point.”

The article also listed these projects that were in design phases:

- \$2.5 million county library to be built at Orange Avenue & Melody Lane
- \$12 million federal courthouse to be built on corner of Orange Avenue and U.S.1

• Renovation of the Historic Sunrise Theatre

The article mentioned the construction was part of the master revitalization plan that was developed by community focus groups the prior year. (An updated master plan is in the works currently – more information can be found at <https://smeinc.mysocialpinpoint.com/fort-pierce-downtown-master-plan/>)

Other local business owners quoted in the article were Larry Lee, president of Fort Pierce Investors, Inc. and Ed Fisher, president of the Downtown Merchant’s Association and owner of Fun Time Cruise and Travel.

Lee was quoted as saying “I’ve never seen so much excitement and enthusiasm. There’s stuff happening all over.”

Fisher remarked on the temporary inconvenience of the blocked roads for the construction of the roundabout at Avenue A (Marina Way) and Indian River Drive. “It’s just one of those things that we all know we’ll be better off in the end. It’s just a matter of waiting it out.”



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ARE YOU PREPARED FOR HURRICANE SEASON? 

Mid-August through late October is the most likely time for a hurricane to make landfall in Florida. These are a few things you can do to help minimize your chances of a power outage during a storm.

TODAY YOU CAN:



Limit the number of items around your house that can become projectiles. Limit items in your yard that could become projectiles during a storm. They could injure others, damage property or power lines.



Trim your trees. Trees should be assessed and trimming should be done before or early in the season. For safety reasons, tree trimming should be done by professionals.

Put together a plan. Since there is no guarantee that you won't lose power, decide now what you and your family will do should you lose power during a storm.
www.fpua.com/storm-center/



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Start or Grow Your Small Business

by U.S. Small Business Administration

July was Independent Retailer Month. Learn how the SBA can help you start or grow your independent retail operation.

Independent retailers are a cornerstone of any local economy: They serve as the foundation for thriving, sustainable communities by creating jobs, providing services, and recirculating revenue. This July, as we celebrate Independent Retailer Month, there is as much optimism as ever for the outlook of the retail industry in general. In fact, the National Retail Federation expects retail sales will grow between 6 and 8% this year — substantially higher than the 10-year, pre-pandemic growth rate of 3.7% — and small, independent retailers stand to benefit. With this level of anticipated growth, now is a great time to consider the next steps for your independent retail operation.

If you've been thinking about starting or growing your own business, the SBA is here for you. There are a variety of resources that you can leverage to build your unique brand from the ground up — or to expand upon what is already there. This Independent Retailer Month, learn more about the following services and programs from the SBA.

LOCAL ASSISTANCE: The small business landscape doesn't have to be complicated and confusing. Area-specific SBA Resource Partners can not only help you get up and running, but also navigate ownership once you've started.

COMMUNITY NAVIGATORS: The Community Navigator Pilot Program helps strengthen outreach to underserved businesses by partnering with organizations with deep roots in their communities. Fifty-one centralized "hub" organizations support 450 local and trusted "spoke" organizations, connecting small businesses with programs and services.

SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS (SBDCs): Access to capital, business planning, financial management, marketing assistance — SBDCs do it all. From coast to coast, entrepreneurs can find training and counseling at over 900 hundred SBDCs across the U.S.

SCORE: It is never a bad idea to connect with someone who has been there before. SCORE business mentors offer no-cost assistance with planning, launching, managing, and growing your small business.



WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTERS (WBC): WBCs work to level the playing field for women entrepreneurs by helping them launch new businesses and compete in the marketplace.

VETERANS BUSINESS OUTREACH CENTERS (VBOC): VBOCs serve as one-stop shops for the veteran and military community members whose next mission is entrepreneurship. Access business training, workshops, resource referrals, and more through 22 VBOC locations.

FUNDING PROGRAMS: Once you've done your market research and written your business plan, you have to ask yourself, "How am I going to fund my business?" The SBA has an answer.

SBA-BACKED LOANS: Some prospective business owners are credit-worthy but don't qualify for conventional financing. That is where the SBA comes in. The SBA guarantees loans by working with participating lenders, reducing their risk and increasing the likelihood that your loan will be approved.

LENDER MATCH: A free online referral tool, Lender Match connects small businesses with more than 800 participating SBA-approved lenders throughout all 50 states and territories. Start there to secure your SBA-guaranteed loan.

CONTINUED SUPPORT: The SBA doesn't limit its services to helping entrepreneurs launch. If you are an established business that needs more capital, the SBA can help you acquire more funding.

The SBA looks forward to celebrating the achievements of independent retailers across the country — and welcoming many more to the table. Find out more about starting or growing your small business at sba.gov. ❖

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Become A Member

It Takes All of Us to Make Our Historic Downtown Prosper and Grow!



Main Street Fort Pierce wants to invite you to become a part of the renaissance of our Historic Downtown area. Over the past twenty-nine years, we have worked to repair streets and sidewalks, upgrade storefronts, renovated the Sunrise Theatre, Old City Hall and the Platts Backus House, sponsor charrettes to design a downtown "Master Plan," built the Manatee Observation and Education Center and so much more! Annually, Main Street Fort Pierce sponsors over 30 events — most which are free of charge.

Yet there is still so much more to be done! We need you to be involved in our continued planning for the area. Become a member and support *Main Street* financially. We rely on the participation and the voluntary annual dues from our members to accomplish our goals and complete our projects.

Whether you own a downtown business or you just love Historic Downtown Fort Pierce, we need your energy and support to continue to rejuvenate our community's heart and soul.



Why Main Street Fort Pierce?

- Downtown Fort Pierce is an important employment center.
- The area is a reflection of the community image.
- Locally owned businesses keep profits in town and support other local businesses and community projects.
 - A vibrant downtown creates a feeling of "hometown pride" and sense of place.
- The downtown district is a public gathering area, where parades, special events, and celebrations are held in a unique setting.
 - Community character and historic integrity cannot be recreated.

What are Membership Benefits?

- Your membership dues are an investment in the future of Historic Downtown Fort Pierce, helping us to sponsor improvements and events throughout the year.
- Members receive advanced notice and invitations to special events.
 - You will receive the monthly subscription to *Main Street Focus* magazine and links to *Focus On-Line*.

As a member of *Main Street* you are automatically aligned with others who want to preserve the past and influence the future of Fort Pierce. You can belong to Fort Pierce *Main Street* at one of eight different membership levels, starting at just \$15.

Main Street Membership Levels

Benefactor Levels	Community Levels	Corporate Levels
Headline Sponsor (\$1,000) Patron Sponsor (\$500)	Main Street Friend Membership (\$25) Main Street Family Membership (\$50)	Main Street Small Business Membership (less than 10 employees) (\$100) Main Street Medium Business Membership (11-50 employees) (\$250) Main Street Large Business Membership (51 or more employees) (\$500)

Please Take a Minute to Join Today!

Complete the form below and join our growing group of committed members. By joining Main Street Fort Pierce, Inc., you are supporting the economic well being of the entire community.

Name: _____ Membership Level: _____

Company/Organization: _____

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Three Easy Ways to Join!

- 1 – Call Main Street Fort Pierce at (772) 466-3880
- 2 – Visit our Website at www.mainstreetfortpierce.org, click the membership link
- 3 – Fill out the membership form and mail to:

Main Street Fort Pierce
122 A.E. Backus Ave.
Fort Pierce, Florida 34950

Busy Waters

by Captain Bo Samuel, Pullin Drag Charters

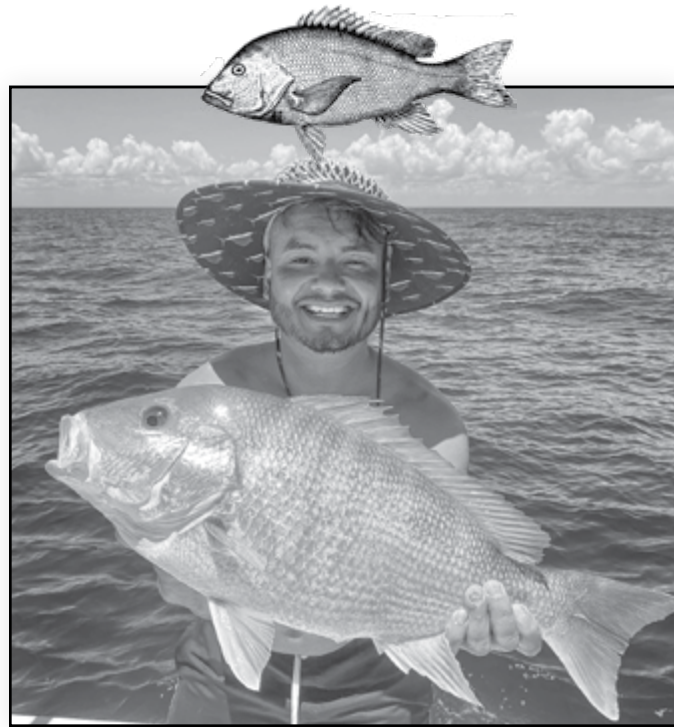
This is a busy time on our local waters and for good reason! We live in a fishing paradise. Last month was the always popular Red Snapper season, only two days this year, July 8th & 9th. Anglers of all ages enjoy catching this excellent tasting fish. The end of July also saw the highly anticipated lobster mini-season, July 27th & 28th. Boat activity greatly increased with divers that chose Fort Pierce and our great inlet as their diving destination.

August sees the start of regular lobster season so we can expect boat traffic to remain busy. Many anglers are also divers and our local reefs attract great numbers of divers from across the state trying their best to catch their limit of "bugs." This is the time for non-diving anglers to trade some scales for tails and let the seafood fest begin!

With lots of bait in the area like threadfins and pilchards, the offshore action is going strong. We are consistently pulling in mahi, kingfish, amberjack, and sails. Slow trolling live bait around weed lines can usually produce good results. Fresh ballyhoo, naked or skirted, is best for dolphin. Snapper can be found on reefs at about 50-100 feet. I like to use a chum bag and throw some cut bait to stir up these aggressive feeders. It's key to use enough weight to keep your bait on bottom and provide your best chance at landing mangroves, lanes, and muttons.

The photo shows Kiko with a very nice red snapper during the two-day season last month. Great job, Kiko!

Come visit me at **Little Jim Bait & Tackle** to share some



fish stories and for all your bait and tackle needs. It's the perfect time to book a charter and hook your own salty groceries! You're officially invited to get busy *Pullin Drag!* ❖

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Favorite Recipes from Main Street Board Members



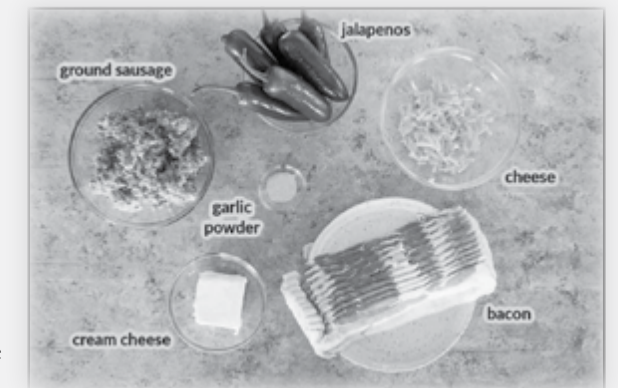
Rich Ziarkowski's Smoked Armadillo Eggs

Ingredients

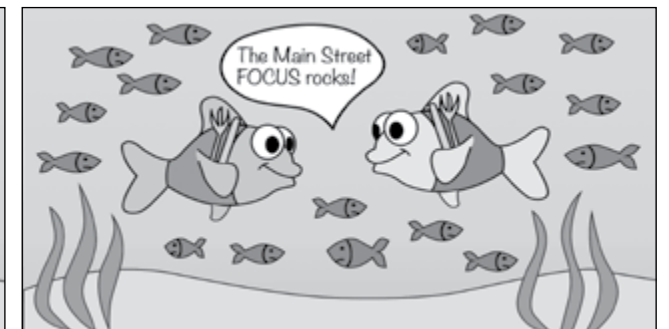
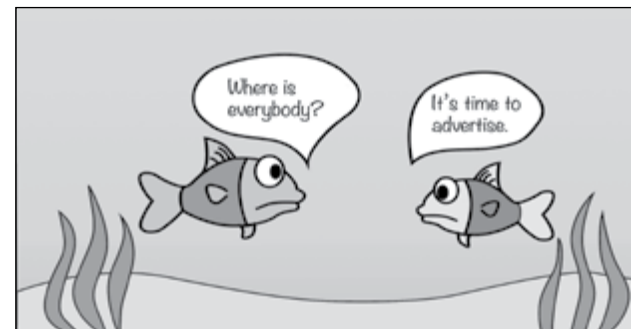
- 6 jalapenos
- 4 oz. cream cheese, softened
- 1/2 tsp. garlic powder
- 1 cup of shredded cheddar cheese
- 1 lb. ground sausage
- 12 slices of bacon

Instructions

1. Start smoker and set it to 250 degrees F.
2. Cut the tops of the jalapenos off and core the pepper to remove the seeds and membrane.
3. In a small bowl cream together the cream cheese, grated cheddar cheese and garlic powder.
4. Fill the cored jalapenos with cream cheese mixture.
5. Take 1/6 of the sausage meat and wrap it around the pepper making sure that none of the pepper is visible. Form it so it's evenly coating the pepper. Wrap two pieces of bacon around each one.
6. Place the armadillo eggs on smoker rack in preheated smoker. Smoke for about 2 hours. These are done when the internal temperature of the sausage is 160 degrees F.
7. To crisp up the bacon turn up smoker to about 400 degrees and cook for an additional 2-3 minutes or place on a baking sheet and broil them until the bacon is crisp in the oven.



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You've Got Mail!

Open your TRIM Notice to view the following important information:



- Market & Assessed Value of your property as of January 1, 2022
- Property tax exemptions applied to your property as of January 1, 2022
- Proposed tax rates, dates, times and contact information for taxing authorities holding hearing to adopt tax rates and budgets

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