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For more information call Dan Noelke at 772-465-0660.
Every year, two talented women artists have an eye-opening art show that features distinctive, creative work that sets them apart from other artists in our community. Their work is one of a kind and celebrates Fort Pierce. They inspire instant creativity. These adjectives can only refer to the artwork of Ginny Piech Street and Anita Prentice AKA: The GAGA Girls.

Recently, the “Girls” took their art on the river to Sue and Dan Dannahower’s home for the unveiling of another eclectic show of new mosaics, sculpture and collages from the dynamic duo. The GAGAs donated a portion of the proceeds from sales to the restoration of Main Street’s office, the 1886 Platts/Backus House. Since I have worked in Fort Pierce, Ginny and Anita have been actively involved increasing cultural awareness in our community.

I brought my son Jack, who is 13 years old, to the GAGAs recent show and he was amazed by the incredible diversity of their work. After doing the usual walkthrough to view all the work and deciding on what called my attention for another look, I noticed that Jack had his eye on a sculpture of Ginny’s. He asked if I would consider splitting the cost with him. With Jack’s smile and excitement of purchasing his first “real” piece of artwork, of course I said yes. Now he proudly displays his sculpture along side a photograph I have with Ginny and Anita.

It is refreshing to have a varied, cultural community and the wonderful exposure our children have to the arts. With the re-opening of the Sunrise Theatre, a variety of annual downtown art shows, and plenty of downtown galleries, our young people have the opportunity to grow, enjoy, and develop a sense of place and art in our city. Take advantage of our cultural gems for yourself and your children. You are never too old or too young to appreciate art!
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MAIN STREET AND DOWNTOWN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

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Friday, April 6: Friday Fest – 5:30 until 8:30 p.m.; Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880.

Wednesday, April 11: 2nd Wednesday Walkabout – 5:00 until 8:00 p.m.; Downtown Business Association, 465-7080.

Friday, April 20: Coffee with the Mayor @ Historic City Hall – 8:00 a.m.; Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880.

Saturday, April 28: 2nd Annual Cowboy Golf Tournament (See article); Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880.

WEEKLY EVENTS

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

Arts and Crafts Show & Sale – Saturdays, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.; north of downtown Fort Pierce Library, 460-5124.

Fort Pierce Bike Night – Thursdays, 6:00 to 9:30 p.m.; 2nd Street, Downtown Fort Pierce; Yellowfin Grill & Raw Bar, 468-7071.

FORT PIERCE COMMUNITY CENTER ACTIVITIES

For information, please call 462-7071.

RESTAURANT ENTERTAINMENT

The Original Tiki Bar – 461-0880; Music by “Barley Broken,” Sundays, 3 to 7:00 p.m.

Governor’s Grill – 466-6900; “Open Mike Night” on Tuesdays, 9 p.m. to closing; “Blues Night at the Grill” on Wednesdays, 8 p.m.; “Ladies Night” on Thursdays, 10 p.m. to 12 a.m.; Live Music on Friday evenings; Live Jazz with Matrix on Saturday evenings.

BUCKUS GALLERY SEASON’S PREMIERE EXHIBITIONS

April 3 to 21 – Mixed Up Media. An exploration of the varied materials that artists utilize to create their work. Artists included in the show are John Dieckmann, Carole Keller, Witha Lacuesta, Joyce McAdams and Tom Sadler. Mediums explored in this exhibit include acrylic, oil, bronze and collage.

April 25 to May 26 – The Eye of the Camera: Juried Photography Show. Open to both amateur and professional photographers, this exhibit is sure to bring fierce competition. Applications are available at the museum or on our website at www.backusmuseum.com. Entry fee is $25 per piece. Sponsored by Jiffy Photo, Canon & Seacoast National Bank

Event Spotlight

WHO: Main Street Fort Pierce
WHAT: 2nd Annual Cowboy Golf Tournament
WHERE: Adam’s Ranch
INFO: 466-3880

(Story & photos, p 20)
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Celebrate Earth Day!

by Jann Widmayer

On March 20, we officially welcomed in spring! Springtime signifies a fresh new beginning and a rebirth of the environment. Focusing on preservation and protection of our precious environmental resources should be of great concern to each of us. It is no wonder that Earth Day is celebrated in the springtime!

What is Earth Day anyway? In response to growing concerns over the increased environmental problems of the 1960s, Senator Gaylord Nelson persuaded President Kennedy to commit to a five day, eleven-state Presidential conservation tour to raise awareness and put the environment into the political “limelight”. Although the tour did not succeed in putting the issue onto the national political agenda, it was the idea that ultimately resulted in Earth Day.

For the next seven years, Senator Nelson continued to conduct conservation speaking tours throughout the country. In Seattle in September 1969, he announced that in the spring of 1970 there would be a nationwide grassroots demonstration on behalf of the environment. The wire services carried the story nationally and the response was phenomenal! The American people were exuberant to finally have a forum to express its concern about what was happening to the land, rivers, lakes and air. For the next few months, two of Senator Nelson's staff, Linda Billings and John Heritage, managed Earth Day affairs out of his office. In mid-January, John Gardner, founder of Common Cause, provided temporary space for a D.C. headquarters. The office was staffed with college students and selected Denis Hayes as coordinator of activities. All of these efforts resulted in over 20 million demonstrators and thousands of schools and local communities participating in the first Earth Day.

Earth Day 2007 is on April 22, but most of the area’s environmental centers will be celebrating their Earth Day events on Saturday, April 21. Consider attending several of the interesting events held throughout the area. The Manatee Center will be celebrating Earth Day on Saturday, April 21 from 10 until 5. Activities include stories for children, giving away free trees and offering participants to create original artwork or poems for display. Come to the Manatee Center for more information on our Celebration of Earth Day! Consider becoming a member of the Manatee Center to ensure that education of our unique Treasure Coast animals and habitats continues.

The Manatee Observation and Education Center is located at 480 N. Indian River Drive in Fort Pierce. To contact the Manatee Center, call 772-466-1600, ext 3333 or 772-460-6445 for the Vanishing Mermaid Gift Shop.

Easter Celebrations and Services in Downtown Ft. Pierce

The following Main Street Churches have events planned for April 2007: Common Ground Vineyard Church, 600 Atlantic Avenue will be celebrating a Passover Seder on Wednesday, April 4. They will be participating in Friday Fest, downtown Fort Pierce, on April 6, where they will be having an Easter egg hunt. Easter Service will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, April 8. Please call 460-5414 for details.

First United Methodist Church, located at 616 Orange Avenue will be holding a unified Palm Sunday Service on Sunday, April 1 at 10:30 a.m., with regular Sunday School classes at 9:30. Prior to the Palm Sunday Service, there will be a Breakfast from 8:30-10:30 monetary donations accepted). On Sunday, April 8, a unified Easter Service will be held at 10:30 a.m., with Sunday school classes at 9:30. Prior to the Easter Service, there will be a Breakfast from 8:30-10:30 (monetary donations accepted). A 115th Anniversary Celebration is scheduled for Sunday, April 15, in the social hall after the unified service at 10:30 a.m. For more information, call 464-0440.

St. Andrews Episcopal Church, 210 S. Indian River Dr., has the following events scheduled for Holy Week: Palm Sunday Service, April 1, at 8:00 & 10:15 a.m., Holy Communion will be offered; Good Friday, April 6, 12:00 Noon, a dramatization called “Way of the Cross” will take place through the streets of downtown Fort Pierce; Easter Sunday, April 8, Sunrise Service with Holy Communion, 6:30 a.m.; Easter Sunday, April 8, Festival with Holy Communion, 8:30 & 10:15 a.m. Call 461-5009 for additional information.
First United Methodist Church

Rev. Todd Stube
Senior Pastor

8:15 and 11 a.m. Traditional Services
9:30 Celebration Service

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HALF-DAY PRESCHOOL
Monday through Friday
Let the Fishing Tournaments Begin!
Fort Pierce Hospitality and Excitement Welcome Anglers on a Mission

by Fort Pierce Mayor Bob Benton

April is the beginning of Fort Pierce’s Fishing Tournament season! Boats painted to resemble NASCAR vehicles will start rolling into town. The Simrad, Miller Tyne and the Bandit are just a few of the boats with fancy paint jobs. The Bandit from PSL, is the 2006 SKA Angler of the year, and our local “Off Shore Warrior” is the 2006 SKA National Champion.

If you haven’t seen these extravagant boats before (some with four outboard engines or 1200 horse power) make sure to mark your calendars! It is worth the walk out the Jetty to watch them go by.

The tournament season is the transition from the departing snowbirds, which we love and that have enjoyed our great winter paradise, and the next chain of events filling up our downtown. It is a pleasure to welcome them to town. The excitement of these fancy fishing boats spreads throughout the community! While everyone enjoys our beautiful waters in search of that prize fish, let’s show them our good ole’ Fort Pierce Hospitality.

The tournament series begins in April as the entrants begin pre-fishing the area and vacationing along our shores. In May the pressure is on! The following six weeks in a row are hard core fishing.

These tournaments bring a “buzz” to St. Lucie County and especially Fort Pierce. The tournament fishermen and women, here to catch their prize fish, are also a major part of Fort Pierce’s tourism economy. Many of the families of these fishing teams enjoy our area for their vacations throughout the entire year. So, it is with pleasure that Fort Pierce welcomes you!

Join in the fun of downtown when these tournaments arrive as participants or spectators. You will be amazed at the good time you will have.

Fort Pierce, the Sunrise City and Fishing Capital, has become the Tournament Headquarters for Fishing Tournaments beginning in January with the Sailfish Derby and continuing through November. So come on down and enjoy the fun. I’ll see you at the weigh-in!

The series begins as follows:
May 4th & 5th – Hibiscus Fishing Tournament and Boat Show;
May 11th, 12th & 13th – Wal-Mart FLW Kingfish Series;
May 18th & 19th – St. Lucie County Chamber Fishing Frenzy;
May 18th & 19th – Southern Kingfish Association;
May 25th & 26th – Vero Beach Exchange Club Blue Water Open;
June 1st & 2nd – Vero Beach Radatiogy-Cancer Benefit;
June 7th,8th,9th & 10th – Wal-Mart FLW and Kingfish Series;
June 22nd, 23rd & 24th – Wal-Mart FLW and Second Kingfish Series;
July 7th – The 25th Anniversary Fort Pierce Sportfishing Club, Fort Pierce Open;
August 31st & September 1st – St. Lucie County Sheriffs Explorer Open.
I was recently told that once you become a Board Member of Main Street you will always be a Board Member and that Doris will never allow you to quit. I am sure that is not true for all but for some of our Board members that is certainly true. With a combined 107 years of service to Main Street, our Board members prove that serving on the Main Street Board of Directors is a love and commitment to the restoration of our Downtown community.

As the Main Street fiscal year comes to an end and we approach our new year, Main Street would like you to meet the backbone of our organization our Board of Directors.
ANNE SATTERLEE, MAIN STREET BOARD PRESIDENT

Employment or Position in the Community: I am the Assistant to the City Manager for the City of Fort Pierce, Florida. I have been with the City for 10 years and oversee various special projects, the City’s annexation initiative, public and media relations and most recently served as interim director of the Fort Pierce Redevelopment Agency. I am accredited in Public Relations (APR) and received my CPRC designation for PR counseling from the Florida Public Relation Association (FPRA) in 2000.

Number of Years serving on the Main Street Board: Currently, I am serving my third term as president of Main Street Fort Pierce and have been active with the Fort Pierce Main Street program since 1993. I have worked for Doris for years!

Best Memory or Favorite Thing about Main Street: Knowing what we have accomplished over the past 14 years with a solid partnership with the City of Fort Pierce. I remember the deserted, boarded-up windows and doors in downtown and limited shopping and dining opportunities.

Special Comment by Board Member: We’ve come a long way baby!

BRITT REYNOLDS, MAIN STREET BOARD VICE PRESIDENT

Employment or Position in the Community: Owner, Earthworks of the Treasure Coast, Hydroseeding, Grading, Excavating.

Number of Years serving on the Main Street Board: I don’t know exactly. It has been over 10 years.

Best Memory or Favorite Thing about Main Street: Best Memory – The Reopening of the Sunrise Theatre. Growing up in town the Sunrise offered a great escape on weekend afternoons. I can still taste the McDonalds fries we bought just to get the wrapper (which was your pass for a free Saturday Matinee). Being part of the team that brought the Theatre from a state of complete disrepair to the warm and inviting center of downtown entertainment we enjoy today is truly a highlight of my time with Main Street.

Favorite thing about Main Street – Our commitment to the ongoing redevelopment of Fort Pierce. How cool is it to take part in preserving your own hometown?

Special Comment by Board Member: I enjoy traveling, meeting new people and seeing new things, but there’s no place I’d rather come home to. I’m proud to say Fort

Continued on page 12 …
Pierce is my little corner of the world and I look forward to continuing the work we’ve begun, making our town the kind of place people want to return to again and again!

**Suzanne (Sue) Payne Dannahower, Main Street Board Secretary**
- Employment or Position in the Community: Owner of Computer Training Concepts.
- Number of Years serving on the Main Street Board: On the Board for 1 year, however I have been a volunteer for 2 years prior.
- Best Memory or Favorite Thing about Main Street: My favorite events are the Reverse Raffle and the Sandy Shoes Festival.
- Special Comment by Board Member: I would encourage anyone interested in our historic downtown to volunteer for one of our many events.

**Dave Miller, Main Street Board Treasurer**
- Employment or Position in the Community: VP Finance of Knights Armament Company.
- Number of Years serving on the Main Street Board: Don’t know; approximately 10 years.
- Best Memory or Favorite Thing about Main Street: Cowboy Golf is a great new event which attracts a whole group of new friends. With the beautiful Adam’s Ranch providing the locations for course designers Bobby Knowles and Bucky Walters. It provides a great fun filled day and we don’t have to take orders from Doris.
- Special Comment by Board Member: What a read (the Focus)! I never know what I will read next.

**Pat Alley, Main Street Board Member and Past President**
- Employment or Position in the Community: Riverside Bank, President Fort Pierce & Executive Vice President.
- Number of Years serving on the Main Street Board: I think it has been 15 years.
- Best Memory or Favorite Thing about Main Street: Main Street has restored the hometown I remember growing up in. To be a part of that is an honor.
- Special Comment by Board Member: Main Street Fort Pierce is a chance to give something back to Fort Pierce, also to provide wonderful memories for family and friends.

**Eddie Becht, Main Street Board Member**
- Employment or Position in the Community: Attorney.
- Number of Years serving on the Main Street Board: 3 – 4 years.
- Best Memory or Favorite Thing about Main Street: Watching Tom Kindred setting up Friday Fest by himself on Second Street.
CHRIS CRAFT, MAIN STREET BOARD MEMBER

- Employment or Position in the Community: St. Lucie County Commissioner.
- Number of Years serving on the Main Street Board: 6 years.
- Best Memory or Favorite Thing about Main Street: Centennial Celebration.
- Special Comment by Board Member: Main Street Fort Pierce is about our people, our city and our history. It's the most satisfying board that I have had the pleasure to serve.

PAM CULLY, MAIN STREET BOARD MEMBER
AND PAST PRESIDENT

- Employment or Position in the Community: I have worked for Harbor Federal as Public Relations Coordinator for the past six years and will be retiring from Harbor as of April 1st. I served as president of the Main Street board and the St. Lucie Preservation board for three years and sat on the Sunrise Theatre board when the theatre was being renovated. I am also presently serving as a board member of the Fort Pierce Utilities Authority.
- Number of Years serving on the Main Street Board: I have served on the Main Street Board since 1996 or 11 years.
- Best Memory or Favorite Thing about Main Street: I truly enjoy being a part a part of this great group of people who come together the first Wednesday of each month. Each person brings with them a special talent or capacity to benefit Main Street. Each board member contributes their share of the work in one way or another for our events and projects.
- Special Comment by Board Member: I wish to thank Doris Tillman and the staff at Main Street Fort Pierce for the many hours and years of service to Main Street and the City of Fort Pierce. Only a few know how many hours Doris put into making the Sunrise Theatre a reality along with so many other projects the City has seen in the past 12 or more years.
- My fond memories are of being dog-tired after an event or project but having the feeling of success and satisfaction. Projects such as painting the outside/inside of the first old Main Street office on Depot Drive; picking up trash after Friday Fest many years ago on Second Street; cleaning out the Sunrise Theatre after it was purchased; standing in the heat, pouring down rain, or cold at Friday Fests while selling T-shirts, beer or cokes; going to an annual national Main Street conference; working at the Reverse Raffle, Sights & Sounds Festival, Sandy Shoes Festival, and enjoying the early morning out at the Adams’ ranch at the first Cowboy Golf event last year.
- To me the most satisfying project was the completion of the Sunrise Theatre. From cleaning out the theatre after we purchased it to sitting in the theatre the night of the grand opening was a very powerful feeling.
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- It always amazes me how before one project even comes to an end she already has her mind clicking away on something new!

Continued on page 14 …
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**BRENDA EAVES, MAIN STREET BOARD MEMBER**

- Employment or Position in the Community: Main Street Board Member.
- Number of Years serving on the Main Street Board: 2 years.
- Best Memory or Favorite Thing about Main Street: My best memory was when I assisted with the State Main Street Conference. It was an honor to help host the event. I was able to meet lots of other Main Street organizations and to learn how other Main Streets operate.
- Special Comment by Board Member: The Main Street Focus is a unique magazine that directly focuses on Fort Pierce. It makes a positive difference and tells you lots of information about Downtown Fort Pierce.

**NANCY INGLE, MAIN STREET BOARD MEMBER AND PAST PRESIDENT**

- Employment or Position in the Community: Safety/Training Coordinator, Ft. Pierce Public Works (City employee for over 26 years).
- Number of Years serving on the Main Street Board: First tenure, 1993 to 2002; returned last year — I couldn’t stay away!
- Best Memory or Favorite Thing about Main Street: There are too many special memories to list, but I will say that one that stands out is how we used to sit in the Sunrise Theatre after Friday Fest, with a clamp light, counting money, talking about how it would look one day. Now, when I sit in the Theatre, I look around in awe, thinking “Wow, we did it!”
- Special Comment by Board Member: Once you've joined the Main Street family, you're always a part of it. I'm so proud to be involved with this organization. We work hard to reach the goals we set, and we have a good time doing it.

**MICHELLE MILLER, MAIN STREET BOARD MEMBER**

- Employment or Position in the Community: Insurance Agent, Miller Insurance.
- Number of Years serving on the Main Street Board: On the Board for 3 years and a volunteer since 1994.
- Best Memory or Favorite Thing about Main Street: I was raised west of Fort Pierce and I have seen the dramatic changes that have occurred in downtown mostly because of the tireless efforts of Main Street. I loved going down to the Tiki, through downtown during...
Christmas time and seeing all that has changed. Sitting by the water and seeing the light show, listening to the music and seeing the children play, was one of my favorite memories.

*Special Comment by Board Member:* Main Street has done an awesome job, faced many objections and much opposition, but through it all, Main Street, and Doris have held true to the vision. The result is evident; a downtown that has started to blossom and create interest from all over. We should be proud of the accomplishments that have been made and continue to support future advancement of Main Street’s vision for Fort Pierce.

**Wanda Sapp, Main Street Board Member**

- **Employment or Position in the Community:** Branch Manager of Downtown Fort Pierce National City (Harbor Federal).
- **Number of Years serving on the Main Street Board:** Newly Appointed.
- **Best Memory or Favorite Thing about Main Street:** Friday Fest is my favorite, however I expect the Cowboy Golf will be a favorite as well.

**Eugene Sereg, Main Street Board Member**

- **Employment or Position in the Community:** Deputy Sheriff, St. Lucie County, working with the School’s Resource Unit.
- **Number of Years serving on the Main Street Board:** 17 years.
- **Best Memory or Favorite Thing about Main Street:** My best memories are starting the Christmas Parade and pushing for the Christmas tree downtown and being the Parade Marshall for the Fort Pierce Centennial Parade and organizing that parade.

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Gloria Roa Bodin has been on the board of Main Street for over 17 years.

**Wanda Sapp** is Main Street’s newest board member.

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*Continued on page 17 …*
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**BETH WILLIAMS, MAIN STREET BOARD MEMBER**

- Employment or Position in the Community: Director of Public Relations, Lawnwood Regional Medical Center & Heart Institute.
- Number of Years serving on the Main Street Board: 3-4 years.
- Best Memory or Favorite Thing about Main Street: Main Street has made a significant impact on the atmosphere and reputation of downtown Fort Pierce through high profile, fun events that capture the attention of a broad range of residents and visitors. I feel great pride in our community and Main Street.
- Special Comment by Board Member: I feel honored to be on the board of Main Street and to work with individuals who are so enthusiastic and committed to the betterment of Fort Pierce. Of all the community efforts I’m involved with, this one ranks at the top of my “fun things to do” list.

As you can see, Main Street is honored to have this group of individuals serving on our Board of Directors. Each person brings their unique personality and style to our Board, as well as their commitment to the betterment of Downtown Fort Pierce.

Main Street Fort Pierce would like to send a special thank you to all of our Board members past and present. For without you we would not have been able to accomplish everything we have done in the past or be able to reach all of the goals we have for the future. Thank You Board Members!

**Become a Member of Main Street Fort Pierce Today! Call 772-466-3880.**

See page 26.
Highwayman, James Gibson, Honored During Florida’s Fourth Annual Heritage Month

by Sue Dannahower

A Celebration of Florida’s Spirit

During March 15 through April 15 Florida celebrates Florida Heritage Month. This celebration was started by the Department of State to encourage a better understanding and appreciation of Florida’s history and culture. The offices of Governor Charlie Crist and Secretary of State Kurt S. Browning plan a month-long tribute to heighten awareness of our state’s rich cultural heritage by celebrating its historical sites, museums, libraries, and the visual and performing arts, which flourish in the state of Florida.

Celebrate Florida Heritage Month!

During this time, residents and visitors will have special opportunities to experience and celebrate the wealth of historical sites, cultural activities, and literary programs throughout the state. This will encourage an understanding and appreciation of Florida’s commitment to supporting historic preservation, arts and culture, and libraries as important fiscal tools that create economic vitality, quality of life, and community pride.

James Gibson’s Work Selected as 2007 Commemorative Poster

The poster image is a detailed portion of a painting entitled “Road Less Traveled.” Mr. Gibson has dedicated his work to painting the unique Florida landscape, scenes he grew up with, mangrove swamps and palms, bogs and sunsets. He is best known for his trademark, the Royal Poinciana tree. His artwork is rooted in the memory of
Florida's natural beauty. To acquire copies of the Florida Heritage Month commemorative poster, contact Nivea Malave at nimalave@dos.state.fl.us or (850) 245-6519.

**Florida Heritage Awards**

Florida Heritage Awards are presented to citizens whose lifelong devotion to arts has enriched the state’s cultural legacy. The Florida Heritage Awards honor Florida's most significant and influential tradition bearers for authenticity and excellence.

**2007 Arts Recognition Award, Mr. James Gibson, Florida Highwaymen Artist.** Mr. James Gibson was born on January 1, 1938 and has been a resident of Florida nearly all his life. Well known as one of the earliest Florida Highwaymen artists, he sold paintings from the trunk of his car in the 1950s. He began taking painting lessons at age 18, detoured briefly to study biology at Tennessee State University, and finally returned to his first choice of becoming a working artist. He has since dedicated his work to the Florida landscape, painting the scenes he grew up with - mangrove swamps and palms, bogs, and sunsets — all of the things that make Florida's landscapes unique. Two of his paintings were featured in the Steven Spielberg movie *Catch Me if You Can*. He has donated numerous hours to charity work in the interest of early childhood development; traveled with former First Lady of Florida, Columba Bush to promote art in the school systems; was awarded the title of Ambassador of Art by the State of Florida in June 2005, and was chosen by First Lady Laura Bush to make an ornament for the White House Christmas tree. Mr. Gibson's paintings also graced Florida's Executive Office for more than three years. His works are not only motivated by personal gratification, but also his strong desire to contribute to his community and further enhance the arts in young minds across the state.

**Previous Heritage Month Posters**

- **2006 Poster**
  **“Five Flags/Florida”**
  *by Xavier Cortada*

- **2005 Poster**
  **“In Ages Past”**
  *by Christopher Still*

- **2004 Poster**
  **Inaugural Florida Heritage Month Poster**
  *by Romero Britto*
Come on out and see April 28th at Adams Ranch! Last year Ft. Pierce Main Street presented the first Annual Cowboy Golf Tournament and BBQ. Unsure what to expect from this early endeavor, our pioneering golfers represented the full spectrum of talent on the links. From rank duffer to seasoned pro there was universal hilarity as team after team teed off from a bale of hay and into a toilet seat.

It was a rousing success and we immediately made plans to do it again. Not privy to the secret strategy of the Cowboy Golf Committee, I can’t say what new devious and devilish design was developed to test your golfing ability, but I know it will be a once in a lifetime opportunity to show your stuff!

Pebble Beach and Augusta National may have their own stringent dress code, but Main Streets’ Cowboy Golf duﬀs to its own drummer — overalls, hats, and boots will carry the day. With prizes for the “Best Dressed Cowboy/Cowgirl,” “Closest to the Pin,” “Longest Findable Drive” and whatever else the committee dreams up, you don’t want to miss the fun.

Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. and Golf begins at 9:00 a.m. A team consist of four Cowpoke, but if you don’t have a team of your own, come on out and we’ll sneak you in with one. Registration is $100.00 per player and includes nine holes of Cowboy Golf, a Goofy Bag, Breakfast Grub, a Barbeque lunch and admission to the good old Ho-Down following the tournament. Extra BBQ tickets are available for non-golfers, friends, and family for $25/adult $10/children.

And speaking of non-golfers, here’s true confession #102 — I don’t golf. When I was young my dad owned a golf club repair shop, Coleman Golf,
MARDI GRAS
FORT PIERCE-STYLE
"COWBOY GOLF & BBQ"

at Adam's Ranch

The Most Fun You Will Ever Have With A Golf Club!

Saturday, April 28, 2007

Four Cowboy Team ♦ Shotgun Start:
9:00 AM ♦ $100.00 per Cowboy
Fees include: 9 holes of Cowboy Golf, Goofy Bag, Breakfast Grub, BBQ and Ho-Down

☐ Full Team (four Cowpokes)  Team Name__________________________
Cowboy/Cowgirl 1__________________  Cowboy/Cowgirl 2__________________
Cowboy/Cowgirl 3__________________  Cowboy/Cowgirl 4__________________

☐ Single Cowpoke (you will be put with a team)

Registration begins at 8:00 AM ♦ Cowboy Golf begins at 9:00 AM

Music, Games, Lunch

Best Dressed Cowboy/Cowgirl, Closest to the Pin, Longest Findable Drive

Clubs limited to: 3 Irons

Come dressed in your best cowboy golf attire!

50/50 Raffle and Raffle Prizes

Please send this form by fax or mail to Main Street Fort Pierce, Inc. 122 A.E. Backus Avenue ♦ Fort Pierce, FL 34950
Phone: 772-466-3880 ♦ Fax: 772-466-3917 ♦ E-mail: MAINSTREET15@aol.com

(Make Check Payable to: Main Street Fort Pierce, Inc.)

Name: ____________________________
Address: ____________________________
City, State, Zip: ____________________________
Phone/Fax: ____________________________

Extra BBQ Tickets: Adults ($25.00): __________  Children ($10.00): __________
Proceeds from the tournament will benefit the restoration of "The Backus House". All donations are tax deductible. Thank you for supporting Main Street Ft Pierce.
on US1 & Avenue D. After his death my mom remarried and I grew up with another Dad who golfed, and watched golf, and talked golf. And I still say, I’d rather watch paint dry.

But, I wouldn’t miss this for anything. Whether you are a newcomer seeing a bit of “old Florida” for the first time or a native Cracker enjoying the Florida you grew up in, this is one event you’ll talk about and remember long after you’ve left the day behind.

Visiting Adams Ranch feels like coming home. No matter where home may be, it’s that universal sense of contentment you feel when you walk in your old front door. Hammocks of oak trees broken by stretches of open space and the ever present pine tree lend a timeless sense of peace and tranquility. The dove’s haunting call echoes through the air above the water lapped sides of knurled cypress knees evoking images of canoes gliding silently through early morning mists.

Surely these are among the qualities that caught the attention of Alto Adams Sr. leading him to purchase a tract of “worthless” St. Lucie County land for a mere $1.25 an acre. Mr. Adams was born in 1899 and raised on a farm in North Florida. The first graduate of the University of Florida College of Law to become Justice (1940) and Chief Justice (1949) of the Florida Supreme Court, he was a man with many talents and interests. Landowner, Justice, Author and Environmental Advocate his legacy continues to enrich our community today.

Although law was his chosen vocation, Alto Adams, Sr. kept close ties with the land, establishing the ranch in 1937. His love of animal husbandry and land management lives on in his son Alto “Bud” Adams, Jr., who partnered with his dad in 1947 to form the cattle operation, Alto Adams & Son. At that time there were an estimated 1600 cows, valued at $40/head.

In 1963 the ranch was incorporated as Adams Ranch, Inc. with ownership shared by Alto Adams, Jr., Elaine Adams Harrison and their children. The ranch continues to be a true family affair, with each subsequent generation passing on an appreciation for, and understand of, the land. Today you’ll find the fourth generation of Adams ranchers joining their parents and grandparents in daily operations.

Cattle ranching reaches into the soul of our Florida heritage. Ranches protect wildlife, wetlands, and landscapes that are much unchanged since the days of Jonathan Dickinson and his small band of weary shipwreck survivors. In an era of machinery and automated everything, ranch work is still performed by blue jean clad men rising early to saddle horses and work cows in the Cracker tradition.

Dedicated to environmentally sound ranch management the Adams Ranch protects birds, fish, and small predators allowing them to maintain the natural checks and balances of this unique Florida ecosystem without the use of pesticides. With such prestigious awards as: the Florida Cattlemen’s Association’s Environmental Stewardship Award, the National Cattlemen’s Foundation’s Cattle Business of the Century Award, and the Florida Historical Society’s Pioneer Award for Promotion of Florida History and Conservation of State Natural Resources to their credit, Adams Ranch is a leader in responsible land management.

To preserve this rich environment for future generations Bud Adams joined Florida’s Rural Lands Stewardship Program and has been working with St. Lucie County to reach an agreement that would preserve about 12,000 acres of the most significant natural areas of Adams Ranch. Once established this stewardship easement would allow the continual agricultural use of the property, maintaining the ranch’s cultural heritage as well as the employment and tax base that benefits St. Lucie County today.

From the web site of Family Lands Remembered I’ll leave you with some thoughts to ponder shared with us by Bud Adams:

“You will not save the environment by destroying the food supply.”

“A profit cannot be starved into a cow.”

“Land must be conserved and replenished, because you can’t make something out of nothing.”

“You need to treat your employees like family — only better.”

“No one takes care of the land like the owners.”

“You cannot complain about your children, if you understand genetics.”

“I have not lived in Florida all my life — yet.”

For more of Bud’s words of wisdom and information about the program, log on to their website at www.familylandsrmbere.com.

Hope to see you enjoying Adams Ranch at Cowboy (and girl) Golf — April 28th 2007!

For more information or sponsorship opportunities, call Main Street Fort Pierce at 772-466-3880. Proceeds from the tournament will benefit the restoration of the Backus House and Main Street Fort Pierce.
Helping Your Business Save On Utility Costs

Money Saving Tips from Fort Pierce Utilities

Office Equipment
Use Energy Star models of computer equipment, faxes, and copiers.
Use multiple use devices or all-in-one devices (fax/printer/copier) where applicable.
Use shared network printers instead of individual desktop printers.

Water
Switch to low-flow toilets or install toilet-tank fill diverters.
Check and repair all leaky toilets and sinks.
Check and replace all defective sink aerators to save water.
Install flow restrictors on sink faucets to reduce hot water costs.

Lighting
Replace flickering, dim, and burned-out bulbs; if possible, replace with lower wattage or energy-saving bulbs.
Install timers or photoelectric cells to control exterior lighting.
Install occupancy switches or motion detectors in stairwells, copy rooms, break rooms, restrooms, and hallways when feasible.
Paint dark walls/ceilings a lighter color to maximize the effect of existing lighting.
Downtown Hero: Common Ground Vineyard Church

by John Culverhouse

Going to church for some people might include getting dressed up and heading to the sanctuary for worship service, giving donations, and heading home. If this is your notion of church — you haven’t been to Common Ground. Common Ground Vineyard Church, located at 600 Atlantic Avenue, is a one of a kind church in Saint Lucie County. You may not find a bunch of suits worshipping within their walls, but what you will find is a congregation comprised of people from all walks of life.

Pastor Todd Smith started Common Ground in 1996, based on a church he had started in Panama City. Common Ground is part of the Vineyard Christian Fellowship family of churches, which espouses caring for hurting people, the poor, and people who are seeking purpose or direction in their lives. Pastor Smith created a ministry in international missions, and he has always had compassion for those who are hurting and in need of a helping hand.

“We welcome casual dress during our services,” he said. “We focus on worship, restoration and healing in an atmosphere that promotes relationship. We are a multi-cultural and sub-cultural church. Many races, economically challenged, business folks, and regular families all make up our congregation.”

One of Common Ground’s main priorities is outreach. They find their niche helping needy communities within Saint Lucie County through their Rock Road Jail Ministry, New Horizons Chapel Ministry, and Family Counseling Ministry, just to name a few. Common Ground doesn’t just stop with helping the needy. Their invaluable support of downtown, its events, and Main Street Fort Pierce make Common Ground Vineyard Church a Downtown Hero.

Common Ground helps Main Street with many of its events. Each year they loan their sound system and run the stages for the Sights and Sounds holiday parade, and they have a booth at Friday Fest almost every month. One year, Common Ground collaborated with Main Street on an Easter event. Doris Tillman, Manager of Main Street Fort Pierce, Inc., said that Pastor Smith and his congregation have a good attitude about helping others and it doesn’t matter what Main Street asks for, they are always there to help.

“Common Ground started as a store front church in downtown Fort Pierce years ago,” she said. “Even though they have moved, they stay active in what happens downtown and are very supportive of Main Street Fort Pierce, Inc.”

When Common Ground came to Fort Pierce eleven years ago, they were located on Orange Avenue and then moved to Second Street, where they were amidst the downtown renaissance. Their current location on Atlantic Avenue allows them to accommodate their growth, and to remain active and participate in events downtown.

Common Ground deems outreach as a blessing in the community. Their goal is to help make this area a better place to live, work, and play through their community outreach. Despite the difference they are making throughout the community, they remain modest. Pastor Smith notes that Common Ground maintains great relationships with many churches in the area and that “each church can embrace their distinct role in their community and work together.”

“Common Ground sees the potential in Saint Lucie County and in Fort Pierce,” he said. “We may never be able to pass legislation or pave a road to make a difference, but if we can bless a resident and give them hope, then we are working with the community to achieve an awesome goal!”

Every year Common Ground Vineyard Church holds a service in the streets of Downtown Fort Pierce before the start of the Sights and Sounds Festival. Dozens of their congregation participate each year in the Sights and Sounds Parade.
As Fort Pierce Main Street begins its 18th successful year, it is undertaking an aggressive Membership Drive. “The Next Big Thing” campaign took off in May, 2006. Please consider becoming a Main Street Member.

Membership in Main Street Fort Pierce is open to anyone interested in helping preserve our unique heritage. Our goal is to encourage and assist in keeping Downtown Fort Pierce a vibrant shopping and business district for future generations.

We invite you to share your expertise and contribute toward making Fort Pierce Main Street a success in historic preservation and revitalization. Donations to Fort Pierce Main Street, a 501(c)3 corporation, are tax deductible.

Membership Benefits:
- Subscriptions to Main Street Focus and Website Links to Focus On-Line
- Advance Notice and Invitation to Special Events
- Membership to St. Lucie County Preservation Association
- Listed on our On-Line Membership Page (Corporate & Private)
- Networking & Volunteer Opportunities

When residents support and appreciate the business district, the businesses flourish. When the businesses flourish, the residents in the neighborhood prosper as well. We are all neighbors investing in each other’s success.

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.

**Main Street Membership Levels**

**Private:**
- Student .......................... $15.00
- Friend .......................... $25.00
- Family .......................... $50.00

**Corporate:**
- Small Business (less than 10 employees) .......................... $100.00
- Medium Business (11 - 50 employees) .................... $250.00
- Large Business (51 or more employees) ..................... $500.00
- Patron (all others) .......................... $500.00
- Sponsor .......................... $1,000.00

- I would like to become a Main Street volunteer.

Main Street Fort Pierce, Inc. • 122 AE Backus Ave., Fort Pierce, FL 34950
For information call 772-466-3880 • www.mainstreetfortpierce.org

Main Street Fort Pierce, Inc., a 501©3 not-for-profit corporation, has encouraged and participated in the revitalization efforts of downtown Fort Pierce for the past 18 years. The efforts of many have paid off. Downtown Fort Pierce is now recognized as one of the most desirable locations to live and work on the Treasure Coast, as well as, in the state of Florida.

The Main Street program was created by the National Trust of Historic Preservation in the early 1980s. The program was designed to revitalize the historic commercial districts that were threatened to extinction by urban sprawl. The four-step Main Street approach is used by over 1,600 communities across the United States and its model has been studied internationally.

The success of Main Street Fort Pierce over the past 18 years is due to the faithful commitment of current and past members of the Main Street board of directors, the City of Fort Pierce, local community organizations, local businesses, and general public support. Currently, the program consists of twelve volunteer board members and two full-time employees. During its existence, Main Street Fort Pierce has held approximately twenty-six downtown promotional events each year, educated public school children about the history of the area, won numerous local, state, and national awards, restored historic buildings including the Sunrise Theatre, recruited businesses to the downtown area, held downtown charrettes to encourage the public participation in revitalization efforts, created outdoor art programs, and helped fund an award-winning image campaign along with the Downtown Business Association, the Community Redevelopment Agency, and the City of Fort Pierce.
National City: Making Banking Simple for Lives that Are Not

by Mike Brown, Sr.

After the wonderful welcome National City received from hundreds of our friends and neighbors, it is no surprise that the bank has found a home in Fort Pierce. And hopefully you had the opportunity to celebrate with us National City’s arrival on Saint Patrick’s Day.

We are excited about our partnership, and the holiday weekend proved to be the perfect time to step out as National City and show-off our new signature color — green. We did so with a bit of fanfare by raising the curtain on our new name and spotlighting our main branch in our new color.

The weekend also offered National City the perfect opportunity to reach out to, and celebrate with, the Fort Pierce community as the title sponsor of the Downtown Business Association’s “Celebrate the Green” event. As I mentioned last month, National City, like Harbor Federal, believes in local investment — and local involvement — everything from rejuvenating neighborhoods and businesses through investment from our Community Development Corporation to sponsoring a renowned rock group like “Starship” for the enjoyment of all our friends and neighbors.

In the days and weeks since our unveiling, we’ve enjoyed wonderful compliments from our customers. They are discovering the same level of unmatched financial service and personal care they grew to love as a member of the Harbor Federal family, as well as, taking advantage of National City’s full suite of financial products and services.

National City offers a wealth of options for our customers, helping them attain financial goals, whether that is homeownership, building a nest egg, managing retirement savings, and so much more. Furthermore, National City is always re-evaluating its products, ensuring that its financial tools are making banking simple for lives that are not.

Take, for example, National City’s new free checking accounts. Possibly the most competitive free checking in the industry, the accounts include rebates for other banks’ ATM fees, no ATM fees for transactions at non-National City ATMs, free checks and no minimum balance requirements.

National City is also committed to being the best bank for small business. Getting small business owners the financing they need is a priority to us, which is why National City is consistently ranked among the Top 10 Small Business Administration lenders in the country. We’re also the leader in supporting women business owners. In fact, National City is in the midst of a five-year campaign to lend $3.5 billion to women business owners.

Obviously, I’ve only scratched the surface. To find out more, I encourage you to visit your nearest National City branch, or log on to www.nationalcity.com.

It’s an exciting time, and National City — once Harbor Federal — is proud to bring a renewed commitment to our communities.
A Beacon to the Past – Avenue D’s Historic Betts Building

by John Culverhouse

In 1953, Bobby Betts built a mixed-use building complex at 1217 Avenue D. Lincoln Park was the thriving cultural hub for Fort Pierce’s African-American community, and Avenue D was Main Street. In its prime, the Betts Building featured Bobby’s Grocery Store on the first floor. Upstairs, rooming houses housed local residents. The location was fantastic. Residents were minutes away from great restaurants and businesses, and just down the street, they could catch a movie at the Lincoln Theatre.

Today, not much remains of the abandoned Betts Building or Lincoln Theatre.

The City of Fort Pierce is taking a firm role in revitalizing the Lincoln Park Historic District. Jon Ward, Director of the Fort Pierce Redevelopment Agency (FPRA), says that a city is an entire collection of built environments that, when knit together, form the framework of our society. The FPRA has an aggressive approach for rejuvenating all facets of neighborhoods from homes and businesses, to street improvements. Regarding Avenue D, it isn’t just street improvements, or one particular building, but it is “the whole, reconstructed and reinvigorated Avenue that will be greater than the sum of its parts,” Ward said.

The St. Lucie Historical Society recognizes the need for historic preservation in Lincoln Park. The Historical Society purchased the Betts Building with the FPRA’s assistance. The project is estimated to cost the Historical Society and the FPRA $1.4 million, and is expected to be finished in about two years. Once the restoration is accomplished, the Betts Building will house the Historical Society’s offices and archives, as well as archives from the African-American community. These archives include public papers of notable local residents from the area who have served in both public and private life.

“The Saint Lucie Historical Society, Inc. is proud to partner with the Fort Pierce Redevelopment Agency and participate in the epic revitalization of the Lincoln Park Historic District,” said Brad Culverhouse, President of the Saint Lucie Historical Society, Inc. “The Betts Building played a vital role in the commercial and cultural life in this community, and we look forward to commemorating this history.”

The Historical Society is no stranger to historic preservation projects. Recently, the Historical Society raised over $145,000.00, including a $25,000.00 grant from the Saint Lucie County Commission, to save the historic Jorgensen House located in White City. The Jorgensen House, which was built before Saint Lucie County was formally established, housed two former Saint Lucie County Commissioners. An upscale housing development is being constructed where the Jorgensen House sits, so the Historical Society raised enough money to move the house from its current location to a historic site in White City.

Fort Pierce recently became the second Florida city to earn a second Main Street designation. The Lincoln Park...
Main Street program will assist the Lincoln Park Business Association in rejuvenating and improving area businesses. Main Street Fort Pierce realized great success in Downtown Fort Pierce with the help of its dedicated staff, volunteers, and support from the community and the City of Fort Pierce. Lincoln Park Main Street possesses the same dedication and determination from the City, the community, and its staff and volunteers. With the help of the FPRA and community organizations coming together to rehabilitate this historic area, the same success will be attained as with downtown and Main Street Fort Pierce.

“We are overjoyed to see this historic rehabilitation taking place,” said Elise Rollins, Lincoln Park Main Street Program Manager. “The Betts Building was owned by an old family, and it is wonderful that the building will be saved.”

Jon Ward agrees. “The Betts Building renovation is important in that its restoration eliminates a gaping hole in the immediate built continuum along the Avenue,” said Ward. “It creates a destination for an entire group of citizens that might not otherwise visit the Avenue, a group whose contribution to the area is entirely positive and a force for good in rebuilding it.”

The restored Betts Building will not only celebrate history, but its mere existence will serve as a reminder of days past and the historical buildings that once existed in the vicinity of the Betts Building. Dr. Samuel S. Gaines, owner of Stone Brother’s Funeral Home, served for 34 years on the St. Lucie County School Board and was the longest serving school board member in the state of Florida. Dr. Gaines remembers the area’s rich past, and the historical building that stood just east of the Betts Building.

“That was the Caynon building,” Dr. Gaines recalled. “It was built by the first Black City Commissioner, Jackie Caynon. Mr. Caynon lived upstairs and the downstairs housed a hang-out for the young teens known as ‘Twinks’.

Other recollections included a beauty parlor that was next to the Betts Building and was operated by several different ladies. One of the ladies was Lilla D. Duval Hodgins, sister of Pat Duval, who was St. Lucie County’s first Black Deputy.

Historic preservation is becoming trendy throughout Fort Pierce. Florida is young, historically speaking; however commemorating history gives a community a sense of belonging and pride. When the restoration of the Betts Building is combined with the Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Committee’s efforts to restore the Lincoln Theatre, several façade improvements along the Avenue, a reconstructed Means Court, the existing Police sub-station, and the Moore’s Creek Linear Park project – just to name a few – the vibrant Lincoln Park Historic District will flourish once again.

“It shows that the City and the public are joining in partnerships, such as the one that the FPRA has fashioned with the Historical Society, to rebuild the Avenue with sustainable resources that will make a fundamental change in the perception of our city,” said Ward. “It means that we care enough to do something about it. That’s the real value. We care.”
The Women of St. Lucie County

by Leslie Lafferandre

Once again it is time for the local women to come forward with their skills. This is the fifth annual exhibit put on by the Lafferandre Gallery and is a multi-medium exhibit by women artists who reside in St. Lucie County, thus it is called “The Women of St. Lucie County”. While it includes both amateur and professional artists, it is designed to encourage amateur artists to come out and show their work. The show is always exciting with a broad mix of 2 dimensional and 3 dimensional art.

This year, more women than ever have applied to exhibit and the Lafferandre’s are hoping to have enough space to include it all. New this year is the People’s Choice Award. Everyone coming to view the work is invited to vote for their favorite piece of artwork in the exhibit, and the artist creating the piece with the most votes will receive the award.

Every year the Lafferandre Gallery donates a portion of the proceeds to charity and this year they have once again chosen Big Brothers Big Sisters of St. Lucie County as the charity. It is a natural blend as the women enrich the cultural life locally, and Big Brothers, Big Sisters does so much to enrich the lives of the children here locally.

Continued on next page…
Everyone is invited to come out to the opening of the show and meet the group of creative women behind it all. The exhibit opening is April 11th from 5 pm to 8 pm to coincide with Second Wednesday Walkabout. The Laf-ferandre Gallery is located at 205 North Second Street in historic downtown Fort Pierce. They are open Monday through Friday from 10 to 5 and Saturday from 10 to 3. For more information call 772 489-4255.

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Darryl T. Bey
From the outside, the Captain's Galley looks like a neighborhood restaurant should, a building that exudes comfort and charm. Inside is more of the same. We are greeted by Marie, a very sweet, sincere lady who genuinely seems to like what she does. All in all, this is a great and relaxing atmosphere to hunker down for good conversation and food with friends or family.

The food! Oh my gosh, the food. Absolutely the freshest in town! Look for the thickest omelettes (they call them “overstuffed inside and out”), the best tasting eggs, outstanding home fries smothered in marinated onions, pancakes made from a special homemade recipe (these are a MUST – my absolute favorite), fresh squeezed orange and grapefruit juice, and the coffee is the smoothest around. You’ll be asking for non-stop (free) refills!

The Captain’s Galley specialties include Eggs Benedict, Eggs Florentine, and Biscuits & Gravy. All of these specialties are available in full or half sized portions. They boast eight varieties of omelettes under $7.95, including the DiA-blo (sausage, cheese & salsa) and Granny’s Griddle (ham, peppers, cheese & potatoes). Their crisp Waffles ($4.95 – $6.95) come in an extensive assortment; Belgian, pecan, banana, apple, blueberry and strawberries & whipped cream. For the younger bunch try the Mickey Mouse Pancakes ($1.95) or my daughter’s favorite Pigs in a Blanket ($6.95).

For lunch try a fresh salad topped with chicken, grouper or fried oysters ($8.95). If you’re in the mood for a burger try the classic Blackened Galley Burger Supreme, served with cheese, lettuce, tomato, pickle, French fries and creamy coleslaw ($7.45). Galley luncheon specials include: The Catch (Fresh Broiled Grouper), The Combo (Fried Shrimp & Grouper Fingers) or Char grilled or Blackened Dolphin. Most specialties are $7.95.

Twenty-four years ago owners, Dennis Horvath and his sister Deena opened the original Galley in downtown Fort Pierce (on the Cobb’s Landing site). Two years later, hungering (literally) for a larger facility, they built the current building at the corner of Seaway Drive and Indian River Drive.

Kathy Bender, head wait person, has been with the Galley for over 13 years. She proudly states, “you’re not just a customer here, you are our GUEST. We strive to be efficient, entertaining and to recognize our frequent guests.” Kathy trains the “Galley Girls” in the Captain’s Galley’s tradition of hospitality.

The Captain’s Galley is open Tuesday - Saturday from 7:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. (breakfast and lunch). Breakfast only is served on Sundays from 7:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. The Galley is closed on Monday.
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Fred Fee (1888-1939)  •  Frank Fee (1913-1983)
Watch for more stroller traffic downtown. Music Together in Downtown Ft. Pierce has arrived, and the children are coming!

This semester, the class offerings and locations are expanding. “In our first semester, we were able to offer three classes at One Yoga Planet in the Second Street Station building. This semester we will offer seven classes and expand our offerings to include classes at the First United Methodist Church at the corner of Orange Avenue and 7th Street. “One Yoga Planet is doing so well, and offering so many great classes, that Music Together needed to find additional space to offer more class times.” says center director, Leslie Olson.

Spring semester’s classes will be offered on Wednesdays at One Yoga Planet (behind Java Charlie’s) at 11:15am, 1:15pm and 3:45pm. Classes will be offered at First United Methodist Church on Thursdays and Saturdays at 9:30am and 10:30am. Classes begin April 11th.

Registration for the spring semester is now open. Tuition for the 10-week semester for a new family with one child is $160, with discounts for additional siblings. The tuition includes 2 CDs with beautiful recordings of the spring song collection, a songbook filled with family activities and illustrations, and a short book on musical development in young children.

Music Together, an international early childhood music program established in 1987 and based in Princeton, NJ, is a solidly researched, well-developed program based on the philosophy that all children, and all people, possess musical intelligence.

In a Music Together class, twelve children (ages birth through five years) and their parents (or grandparents!) meet for 45 minutes each week for ten weeks with director, Leslie Olson to experience and experiment with original, traditional and culturally diverse songs in varied tonalities and meters. The program is a music and movement approach to early childhood that encourages experience rather than learning of information about music. Families are encouraged to attend class together, so younger and older children in the same family can learn music and movement activities to enjoy at home. Parents also enjoy the class because their skills and appreciation increase, too.

Because parents are the best teachers for their children, Music Together classes encourage active participation from all adults, regardless of how they perceive their musical ability. “I help the parents create a buffet of music and movement activities that their children can choose from, depending on their development” says Leslie Olson. Parents can then take the music home and incorporate it into home life.

Jennifer Houck, mother of 8-month old Ridgely, has been in class for five weeks and notes how the modeling crosses over to home: “I think the exposure to the Music Together class and the different types of music has contributed to her active participation of musical experiences at home. She actually “sings” herself to sleep by humming and loves listening to her daddy play the guitar.”

“There are many musical and developmental reasons to do this with your kids” says Leslie “but the very best is that it’s 45 minutes every week of pure, one-on-one fun and discovery with your child every week. And how great is that?”

For more information on Music Together in Downtown Ft. Pierce, or to register for spring semester, call Leslie Olson at (772) 519-2105 or email musictogetherftp@bellsouth.net.
Fishing Update

by Dan Dannahower

The weather continues to be a primary factor for Treasure Coast fishermen, especially for those who want to venture offshore. As of this writing we’re still in the cycle of fronts pushing through from the north bringing with them windy choppy conditions. Ocean conditions and wave heights are constantly changing, demanding a careful check before venturing outside.

There are nice days mixed with the bad and the action has been reasonably good on both top water and bottom fishing. Mixed catches of Cobia, Wahoo, Kingfish, and some Sailfish have been reported over the last month or so. Bottom fishermen are reporting a good Grouper bite on the deeper reefs and the Snapper action is picking up, typical for this time of year. Closer in there are still schools of Bluefish and Mackerel around the inshore reefs.

Fishing the lagoon has been good with a variety of species being reported every week. Trout fishing on the flats has picked up with a number of nice catches on live shrimp and soft plastic baits. A few redfish are being taken, mostly to our north but they are very spooky of any boat noise. Sheephead are abundant near any structure like pilings and bridges. Snook are on and off in the turning basin and a few grouper are still being caught in...
the turning basin and inlet. Jacks and ladyfish are still to be found just about anywhere you might fish.

Seems there’s something for just about every type of fisherman thanks to the great diversity of our Indian River Lagoon right here on our front doorstep. Remember you need a license to fish from a boat and many species have bag limits and/or size limits. By the time this goes to press we should be getting into what many consider the nicest weather of the year with lots of glassy days on the river and flat seas to encourage you to get out and “wet a line.”

Good luck and good fishing.
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