When the Sunrise Theatre opened for the first time on August 1, 1923, the auditorium was overflowing with guests, eager to see the glamorous new theatre and show their support for what many regarded as a progressive addition to the thriving city. The gala evening began with a parade through the city led by the Fort Pierce Band. Inside, the entertainment continued with a solo performance by a local soprano and organ music performed by J. W. Coolidge, cousin of then Vice President Calvin Coolidge. After the musical performances, the audience settled in to a presentation of The Famous Mrs. Fair, and the Charlie Chaplin comedy, The Vagabond.

When the Sunrise Theatre opened for the second time 72 years later on January 14, 2006, the evening's activities were again spectacular. Ladies and gentlemen lined the sidewalks eager to get their first look at the restored 1,200-seat performing arts venue. Tickets for the celebration, which featured pop singer Dionne Warwick, sold out just three hours after going on sale December 14, 2005.

See story page 20...

“It isn’t just about culture. It isn’t just about the arts. It’s about creating an engine for downtown development, tourism, growth, jobs, and a whole new image for this community.”
— David Jenkins, Executive Director Sunrise Theatre
Bent Creek—where Lennar and U.S. Home are breaking new ground in luxury and value. With Lennar's Everything's Included® Homes, you'll find thousands of dollars in luxury upgrades, at no additional cost. At the same time, U.S. Home’s Design Studio gives you the opportunity to customize your home around your unique wants and tastes.

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A New Year Brings New Opportunities

It seems that just a short time ago we were all dealing with the effects of Hurricane Jeanne, Frances, Wilma, etc. and how significantly our day-to-day routine changed. Now we are seeing rebuilding, new construction and a myriad of new public projects taking place right before our eyes throughout the City of Fort Pierce.

For the past nine years, I have worked at the City of Fort Pierce and I have seen the spirit of the community rise to the occasion through many positive changes that have transformed our “diamond in the rough” historic waterfront community. Residents of Fort Pierce participated in the planning charrettes that formed the template for the numerous public projects.

A hopeful and positive energy guided the last eight years of work by residents, business owners, City staff, Downtown Business Association, Mayor and City Commissioners and others into what we have today. We all envisioned a beautiful waterfront City that was vibrant with retail, dining, events and full of historic elements. We all knew we had the “right stuff” and together we could revitalize Fort Pierce. It happened and we are expanding to new limits with downtown housing, retail and now the Sunrise Theatre. This may sound like a “love fest,” well it really is. This is a great place to be and the individuals that worked hard to revitalize Fort Pierce had to love living and working here to make it better for all – so live and love your historic Fort Pierce!
MAIN STREET and DOWNTOWN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Calendar

Dine, Shop and Enjoy beautiful, historic Downtown Fort Pierce

❖ FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3 ❖
Friday Fest - 5:30 until 8:30 PM
Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880

❖ WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8 ❖
2nd Wednesday Walkabout – 5:00 until 8:00 PM
Downtown Business Association, 465-7080

❖ FRIDAY & SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3 & 4 ❖
Love Letters
Sunrise Theatre, 461-4662

❖ TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14 ❖
Leslie Gore / Bobby Vee
Sunrise Theatre, 461-4662

❖ FRIDAY & SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17 & 18 ❖
Cece Winans
Sunrise Theatre, 461-4662

❖ FRIDAY & SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24 & 25 ❖
Jazz Festival
Sunrise Theatre, 461-4662

❖ FRIDAY, JANUARY 20 ❖
Coffee With The Mayor
Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880

Weekly Events

❖ SATURDAYS ❖
Ft. Pierce Farmer's Market – 8:00 AM until Noon
Marina Square on Melody Lane
Market Manager, (772) 940-1145

❖ THURSDAYS ❖
Fort Pierce Bike Night – 6:00 PM until 9:30 PM
2nd Street – Downtown Fort Pierce
Yellowfin Grill & Raw Bar, (772) 468-7071

❖ THURSDAYS ❖
Weekly Jazz Jam Sessions – 7 PM until 10 PM
Fort Pierce Community Center
Fort Pierce Jazz Society, 772-460-5299

Restaurant Entertainment

❖ THE ORIGINAL TIKI BAR - 772-461-0880 ❖
Sunday Afternoons 3:00 PM until 7:00 PM
Music by “Barely Broken”

❖ GOVERNOR’S GRILL - 772-466-6900 ❖
Tuesdays – “Open Mike Night” 9 PM until Closing
Wednesdays – “Blues Night at the Grill” 8 PM
Thursdays – “Ladies Night” 10 PM until 12 AM
Friday Evenings – Live Music
Saturday Evenings – Live Jazz with Matrix

~Event Spotlight~

WHO: Ft. Pierce Jazz Society

WHAT: Jazz Week

WHEN: Events begin Friday, February 10 until Saturday, February 25

WHERE: Various Locations (see page 33)

INFO: 772-460-5299
Website: www.jazzsociety.org
Backus House Restoration Benefits From Realtor Fundraiser

By Joanne Davis

Now that the Sunrise Theatre is complete, Main Street Fort Pierce is ready to focus its attention on its next project: the restoration of the Backus House. Once restored, the two story wood-frame house will serve as a permanent home for Main Street and will open to the public.

Community supporters are already coming out to help raise money for the project. Dottie Harden is one such supporter. Dottie became involved with the Backus House project before its purchase. She was the realtor that sold Main Street the property. Immediately after the sale, she began brainstorming ideas to raise funds for its restoration.

In November, she organized a very successful realtor reception with support from the local banking and realtor community. The first person she asked to help was local realtor and community supporter Pat Murphy, president of Hoyt C. M. Murphy. Oculina Bank also jumped onboard to help sponsor the event. Dottie's efforts continued and thanks to the following sponsors, the Backus House fundraising had a wonderful boost. Platinum hosts included: A1 Realty, All Florida Realty Services, Dottie Harden, Stone Real Estate, Inc. Gold Hosts included: Beach Front Mann Realty, Blair Advertising, Century 21 Preferred, the Dannahower Family, Doris White Realty, Inc., First American Title Company, Harbor Town Marina, Joyce L. Calvert, Realtor, and Sunrise City Realty.

Local restaurants and corporations also donated items to enhance the evening's activities. Archie's Seabreeze, Crazy Nick's, Pot Belly Deli, the Ramp Raw Bar, the Tiki Bar, Al's Bait & Tackle, Dave's Diner, Goodfellas Grille, Mama Rita, Pizzoodles, and Sam's Club all donated a large variety of food. Café la Rhode, Beverly Butt, Beads & Baubles, Alisari, Bruno Chocolates, Karen Chite, Mary Grace Civiello, Harbor Wear, Parties & Petals, and Harbor Interiors donated beautiful gifts for the silent auction.

The night of the event went smooth with help from Sue Dannahower, Beverly Butt, Karen Chite, Peggy Haluska, Page Haverty, Rita Lindsey, Mary Margaret Mees, Dee Stradling, Sara Walpole and especially Patty McGee. Patty McGee once owned the Backus House and is the current owner of Archie's Seabreeze. She also held a fundraiser for the Backus House recently.

Through help from supporters such Dottie and the businesses listed above, Main Street and other organizations can continue to improve the community we all live in.
There's a new restaurant in Fort Pierce! Cobb's Landing, overlooking the Fort Pierce City Marina, and adjacent to the downtown waterfront area, offers a new and different dining option for Fort Pierce residents and visitors. Owned and operated by local brothers Colin and Ian Lloyd, the restaurant offers an inviting and comfortable place to gather for lunch, dinner, or cocktails.

The owners chose the pineapple as an inspiration, not only for the logo and decor in the restaurant, but also for the values that the pineapple symbol represented in Old Florida: welcome, good cheer, sociability, and friendship.

The "cracker style" building has been renovated inside and out, and the new kitchen is outfitted with state of the art equipment. The kitchen is the creative headquarters for the Cobb's Landing Chef, Bob Thesz, formerly of The Lemon Tree Restaurant in Vero Beach. Chef Thesz has been diligently working to create a menu that offers unique and fresh selections for every taste. Wood grilled Certified Angus beef and fresh seafood, along with homemade sauces and side dishes combine to offer meals to satisfy a wide variety of tastes. Daily specials, homemade soups, sandwiches, salads, and appetizers round out the varied and appealing menu offerings.

Pat Thesz, partner and wife of Chef Thesz, has trained the staff with the goal of offering unparalleled service with a personal touch. Pat wants the customer to recognize those values represented by the pineapple symbol from the minute they walk in the door.

The responsibility of creating this beautiful new restaurant fell to Diego Larroude and Donna Burke, well known in the area as managers of The Original Tiki Bar & Restaurant. Their hard work has resulted in this impressive addition to the many other fine businesses that operate in beautiful downtown Fort Pierce.

Hours: Monday through Thursday 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.; Friday and Saturday 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Address: 200 North Indian River Drive, Fort Pierce. Phone: (772) 460-9014.

Enjoy the outside dining room “Under Shade” for casual lunch and dinner overlooking Ft. Pierce’s beautiful marina!
On Exhibit February 1 – February 18, 2006
“Women on the Cutting Edge”
The Gallery presents Books beyond Belief by The Take
Cover Art Chix Group of the Treasure Coast; Feminine
Reflections in Oil by Lisa Cook of Leesville, SC; Focus on
Flowers in Watercolor by Witha Lacuesta of Viera, FL; A
Day in the Life in Oils by Virginia Ferrara of Coral
Gables, FL; Contemporary Glass Jewelry by Sandy
Freshour of Fort Pierce and Transcendental Wearable Fine
Art by Amy Zerner of East Hampton, NY.

“The Art of Dressing Well”
March 25, 2006
11:00 at Neiman Marcus on Palm Beach
Join a select group of 50 fashion divas for a gourmet
luncheon and fashion show of the latest spring couture
styles. In store trunk shows and a free makeover by Laura
Mercier add to the festive mood of a wonderful
afternoon. This elegant event sells out early so book today. Tickets $100
per person.

18th Annual A.E. Backus Art Festival
Saturday, March 4 – Sunday, March 5, 2006
Over 75 artists, musical performances and tasty food
grace the Gallery’s oak shaded grounds for this two-day
art extravaganza.
Backus Brunch & Painting Raffle
Sunday March 5th:
Brunch served from 9:00 a.m. to Noon
Drawing for Backus original painting: 12 noon

“Barefoot and Blue Jeans – An Evening
with Carl Hiaasen”
Saturday, April 1st,
5:00 p.m.
Held at the Historic Sunrise
Theatre & the Backus Gallery.
Miami Herald columnist and
Florida’s most popular author
comes to Ft. Pierce for an evening
of conversation, laughter and fun.
Join his many fans at the newly
Continued on page 8...

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... continued from page 7

restored Sunrise Theater for this once in a lifetime opportunity. Following his performance at the Sunrise Theatre, 200 fortunate Hiaasen aficionados will gather at the Gallery to party with Hiaasen for an evening of the finest Florida fare, flowing libations and live music. Ticket prices and availability will be announced soon.
Premier Artisans Return for the 18th Annual A. E. Backus Fine Arts Festival

The tree-lined Indian River Memorial Park will be transformed into a cultural oasis the first weekend in March to host the 18th Annual A. E. Backus Art Festival. Despite another active hurricane season, the Backus Board and its dedicated volunteers have rallied to return this once-a-year premier event to our community.

Friday, March 3rd kicks off the festival weekend with WPSL/WSTU’s 6am-9am live “Breakfast with Birchfield” broadcast from the Gallery. Friday evening, the Gallery hosts the “Tribute to Backus” Opening Reception. Exhibiting artists, festival sponsors, “Friends of the Gallery” and patrons of the arts mix and mingle amidst the “Tribute to Backus” gallery exhibit, enjoy the Gallery’s famous appetizers and party to dance music played by the Gallery’s official house-band, Rapture. This “Tribute” exhibit honors the 100th Anniversary of A.E. Backus’ birth. It is a unique exhibition of 75 privately-owned original Backus paintings loaned to the Gallery by Florida Atlantic University as well as other generous collectors. A special feature of the “Tribute” will be a mock-studio display in the Gallery. The Gallery’s collection of photographs, Backus’ personal mementos and furnishings from his home will combine to give the visitor a bit of the bohemian flavor of the old Studio days when Jazz blared from the old phonograph and a steady stream of artists, musicians, collectors and locals came to visit with Backus.

The open-to-the-public, free admission festival begins on Saturday, March 4th from 10am to 5pm and continues Sunday, March 5th from 10am to 4pm. This year marks the 18th anniversary of the Backus Art Festival. “The goal of the festival committee is to nurture this event into one of the premier outdoor art events on the east coast of Florida and we are well on our way with a record number of requests from artists and artisans anxious to be confirmed into the show,” affirmed Wheeley.

A new feature this year, for the pleasure of festival attendees, will be a wine and beer booth presented by famed wine connoisseur, Keith Anderson, of Roy’s Liquors. Beer devotees can choose from a selection of interesting beers and wine aficionados can select from a variety of vintage.

The Backus Art Festival encompasses something for everyone. Children will enjoy a free “Chalk Creation Station” for their artistic expression and will be entertained by a roving magician and a balloon animal creator. Over seventy fine artists and artisans will display all mediums of art during the two-day festival. Additionally, exhibiting artists will dazzle festival-goers with live demonstrations in a wide variety of artistic techniques on both Saturday and Sunday. This is a wonderful opportunity to gain an understanding of the variety of artistic techniques employed by the outstanding Festival artists.

In addition to the Festival grounds being surrounded by premier art exhibits of every medium, teenagers and adults will enjoy concerts on the Gallery’s courtyard and throughout the Festival grounds.

The public is encouraged to register for the Chalk Walk Competition. Street painting and pavement artists have long been a tradition in Europe, with traveling artists living off the proceeds from contests and donations from admirers of their work. “The Chalk Art Street Painting Contest is now in its fourth year in Fort Pierce,” said Sandy Evoy, Chalk Art Chairperson.

Continued on page 10...
For energy to stroll the grounds and “shop till you drop” Festival guests will find six food vendors in the food court. Sally Richeson, Food Vendor Chairperson, is quick to point out, “offerings range from hot dogs and hamburgers, a full Mediterranean Café, Kettle Korn, BBQ, Fresh Salads, Caribbean fare and much more.” “We aim to please every palate, though it probably isn’t a great venue for the calorie conscious,” Sally laughingly points out.

Sunday morning’s “All You Should Eat Backus Brunch,” sponsored by Sunrise Ford and generously supported by Nelson Family Farms, continues a rich tradition at the Festival. The brunch, prepared and served by Backus Gallery Board members, is fashioned after the “Cracker” breakfasts of old, Bean Backus’ favorite breakfast fare. Mouth-watering fresh, fried fish, scrambled eggs, sausage, grits, biscuits & gravy, pancakes, fresh fruit, and juices are just some of the culinary brunch features. This popular eating extravaganza, which begins at 9am and lasts until 12 noon or until the food runs out, whichever comes first, draws hungry hoards from across the Treasure Coast. Last year the Gallery Board fed over 650 happy brunches. Tickets are $15.00 for adults and $5.00 for children under 12. Tickets are only available at the Brunch. The Fort Pierce Jazz Ensemble’s finger popping tunes affirm the relaxing ambiance for the morning’s brunch.

Following the “All You Should Eat Backus Brunch,” Festival guests will find out who has won the one-of-a-kind original 1987 original A. E. Backus painting, “Spring on the St. Lucie,” valued at $25,000. Only 2,500 $20.00 tickets are available and you do not need to be present to win. An additional $1,500 in prizes will be given away. Interested individuals are encouraged to make their purchases now since tickets are usually sold out before the weekend of the Festival. Tickets may be purchased by phone, 772-465-0630 or via email, info@backusgallery.com.

“For the third year,” inserted Kathleen Fredrick, Backus Gallery Executive Director, “we are so pleased to offer the ‘Pass It On Award’ in the philanthropic spirit of Backus’ Uncle Reg. Uncle Reg paid for Backus’s only formal art training, two semesters of art school at Parson’s School of Design in New York City,” Kathleen
continued. “In the hopes of assisting worthy students in furthering their education, the A. E. Backus Gallery & Museum offers cash awards to the most outstanding high school seniors currently enrolled in visual arts courses in St. Lucie County. Unique to our program, we also award prizes to their overworked art instructors!” beamed Mrs. Fredrick. Evaluation is based upon the quality of artwork presented in the application packet, a written application, community involvement and teacher’s recommendation. Scholarship winners will be announced on Friday, May 19th, 2006, at the Opening Reception for the “St. Lucie County High School Exhibit.”

“Bean Backus is known for his incredible generosity with both his talent and money. He taught countless artists, mentored legions and paid for the college tuition of dozens of aspiring students. In like spirit, we appreciate the generosity of our dedicated sponsors,” confirmed Jane Bachelor, Publicity Chairperson. “This festival embodies all that Backus stood for and would be proud of today. This first-class art festival draws residents and visitors from across the region as well as attracting tourists from across the country. Attendance last year set a new record and, from all accounts, we will surpass that for this year’s Festival. We expect attendance of over 10,000 at our now bigger-and-better-than-ever Festival,” said an enthusiastic Bachelor. “We hope everyone will join us the first weekend in March for a great time.

For more information about the Art Festival, Brunch, or tickets for the Backus painting, call the Backus Gallery at 772-465-0630.
Spousal treks to the store have never deviated far from our caveman ancestry. The man knows he needs a shirt; he sets out to “kill” (or purchase) that shirt and haul it back to his cave (women like to call it home).

Women are still “nut and berry gatherers!” Sure her man wants to kill his shirt, but the woman must go from nut to nut (usually belts) and berry to berry (usually slacks). After all, man cannot survive on a shirt alone! The woman will always get back on the path, with her man, but he’s leaning against some tree (or store, longing to enter for a liquid refresher) while waiting impatiently for her to “get focused!”

“You said we were only going out for a shirt,” he grunts. She agrees, smiles, looks a bit seductive and bats her eyes over at the berries (purses) under the bush next to him.

Male and female shopping behaviors are innate. We must not try to understand these differences. They are well known, much written about, shopping (hunting) rituals and the process is not going to change!

Enter to this prologue February, Historic Ft. Pierce and Valentine’s Day. Love and romance means, yes, men, you must go shopping.

There’s a new adventure for couples that will modernize (warning: not change) shopping. Male and female hearts and heads, though, can actually combine for a productive (man’s view) and successful (woman’s view) day of hunting and gathering “together!”
A few days ago I ran into a good friend, and her shopping lifestyle made me realize that the historic setting of our own downtown holds the first key to this shopping evolution.

Our marital couple of adventurous shopping is Jeanne and Buster Johansen. Jeanne has a long time Ft. Pierce heritage with father Howard Brenner who was born and raised here, moved away for a while and returned to meet Jeanne’s Mom from Old St. Lucie Village.

The tale of this shopping evolution came about when Jeanne and I met for dinner one Thursday evening, at Pizzoodles. We were thoroughly enjoying all the people, stores, lights and activity of the evening while sitting at their sidewalk café-type tables. Jeanne started telling me how she and Buster never go to a mall. “Buster refuses to go,” Jeanne calmly stated. (I’ve analyzed that’s because the enclosed mall does not present that environmental atmosphere innate to the male’s caveman instincts to forge through the wilds of the great outdoors. (Okay, so there are sidewalks now to eliminate his need for a machete to cut a path.) Jeanne continued by stating she was wearing an all Alasari outfit (a wonderful women’s clothing and accessory shop in downtown Fort Pierce), “Maria has my ‘wish list’ and Buster knows he can just walk in and be assured he will arrive home with the perfect outfit for me!” Her lightweight, sage-colored cotton shirt and top are Florida-wear in perfection.

Jeanne said she and Buster did all of their Christmas shopping in Ft. Pierce; three hours and they were done and met afterwards at the Tiki Bar restaurant for dinner. What? Both male and female completed their massive Christmas shopping task in three hours... oh, now my envy level was kicking in. She went on to say she finds all her classic clothes from Rosslows too. What surprised me was she also found a 3-piece blue and white motif salt and pepper set and a nautical style clock that opens for a man to place his loose coins! She also spoke of Rosslow’s “ship collection.” In her business, as a Real Estate agent, Jeanne

Continued on page 15...
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1902 1902 2005 2005
buys clients a gift of “art” from downtown and RL & Jim Davenport’s Brushstrokes Gallery & Frame Shop is one of her favorites. She’s a regular at Lafferandes too. For Jeanne, she’s currently collecting “Mermaid pictures” from Picture Perfect and said there’s another whole story behind her “Butterfly Stories” which you must ask Loretta, the owner, about.

By this time my pen was in a flurry of taking notes. I had to share her excitement for our downtown shopping area: I had found the quintessential Ft. Pierce shopping couple!

“Buster and I walk into town from our home and we often see Vicki and Edgar Straefier riding their bicycles to the Saturday morning Farmer’s Market on Melody Lane’, Jeanne continued. Then she told me the best part of her personal story.

Although they knew one another from church, Buster and Jeanne officially met on February 3 at the Backus Gallery. It’s a classic: man meets woman, man drags woman to his cave and woman drags man back out to shop... and he enjoys it! Love and romance actually can come together—and still include shopping! Perfection!

Happy Valentines Day to all!

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Lee, who is senior vice president, leads our Fort Pierce commercial lending team. During his 20-year local banking career, he has helped countless local companies meet their financial needs. A member of the Treasure Coast Builders Association and the Fort Pierce Rotary Club, Lee understands this area – and this area's businesses.

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**Question:** What is considered vintage jewelry?

**Answer:** The general rule is that a piece of jewelry must be at least 50 years old to qualify as authentic vintage. (Newer pieces of a certain period get by with the qualifier “Retro.”)

Whether one fancies Granny Brooches, Art-Deco Arm Candy or Edwardian Diamonds, pieces rooted in the past offer a window to a world where individuality and craftsmanship took precedence over trends—a romantic notion that strikes a refreshing chord in today’s mass-market world.

**Question:** What is vintage jewelry made of?

**Answer:** An item doesn’t have to be of great monetary value to be precious, and vintage jewels speak of past revelries, emanating the mellow glow unique to precious metals. The best of the authentic, older pieces are one of a kind and carry secrets of a unique past. Many pieces are made of 14k, 18k, and platinum, especially in today’s market. At Sweet’s Jewelers, one of the most popular vintage pieces is the antique-reproduction Slide Bracelet. You can start with one slide, or as many as you like.

Some things do improve with age! Sweet’s Jewelers is celebrating their 80th birthday this year! Same location, locally owned and operated by the Noelke Family since 1926, at 209 Avenue A in Ft. Pierce, 461-4686.

How many times have you found yourself with a tough question? Now you can “Ask A Professional.” Send your questions to Main Street Focus “Ask A Professional.” We’ll ask one of our Main Street professionals to reply, and we will publish the answers right here in the Focus—where we can all learn from them.
“I think it's a sign of the community's support for the theatre's opening as well as Dionne Warwick's popularity,” says Main Street Manager, Doris Tillman. “A lot of people are very excited about seeing our vision coming to life for the Sunrise Theatre and downtown Fort Pierce.”

And well they should be.

Just as the original owner of the theatre, Rupert “Pop” Koblegard, envisioned the theatre as a community center, bringing entertainment and a sense of unity to the city of Fort Pierce and the Treasure Coast, today theatre supporters see the Sunrise Theatre for the Performing Arts as a catalyst for the downtown area, attracting new cultural opportunities, visitors and businesses. Restoring the theatre to its former glory—and beyond—has been a nine-year, $12-million community project.

A Spectacular Night with Renowned Vocalist Dionne Warwick

Landmark Event for Sunrise Theatre’s Grand Re-Opening

by Thondra Lanese
Planning the celebration befitting such a community accomplishment fell primarily to theatre Executive Director, David Jenkins, and Special Projects Director, Linda West. The highlight of the evening was a musical performance by five-time Grammy Award winner Dionne Warwick. Billboard magazine’s #2 all-time charting female vocalist is known for such hits as “Walk On By,” “I Say A Little Prayer For You,” and “Do You Know The Way To San Jose.”

Reverend Jerome Rhyant opened for Warwick. The locally renowned vocalist is also pastor of Love Center Regeneration Ministries in Fort Pierce. Other activities are in the planning stages.

Tickets for future performances are available at the theater box office at 117 South Second Street in Fort Pierce, by calling 772-461-4884, or online at www.sunrisetheatre.com.

“The Magnificent Sunrise Theatre... is one of the finest, if not the finest, theatre buildings in the state. It has remarkable patronage, being practically filled every night, and often oversold. It has justified Mr. Koblegard’s most optimistic confidence absolutely. It is an ornament to the town and a brilliant example of the city’s inevitable progress.”

— Fort Pierce News Tribune, 1924
Offshore Opportunities are Plentiful in Ft. Pierce Waters

by Dan Dannahower

Ever catch a really big fish? A 20, 30, or 50 pounder, maybe even bigger? For Fort Pierce area residents and visitors an opportunity to do just that is right in our own backyard, the Atlantic Ocean. From bottom fishing for grouper and snapper to trolling for dolphin and sailfish, the ocean waters just to our east offer unlimited opportunities for anglers. Bring home some fillets for the grill, fight and release a trophy sailfish, or land a kingfish that’s headed for the smoker. These are just a few of the many experiences just waiting for those willing to give it a try.

There are several ways one can go about chasing that “big one that didn’t get away.” If you own a boat or have access to one, a number of local tackle and bait shops are available. They can provide a wealth of expertise on tackle, lures, baits, fishing methods and much more. Let their knowledge help you improve your odds and have a great ocean experience with friends or family.

Another option is a day on a “party boat.” For a reasonable fee you can get out on the ocean, bottom fish for a number of species with other folks who want to catch a big one, and enjoy the salt air and sunshine. One example is the “Captain Lew,” which leaves the Fort Pierce City Marina around 8:30 and returns in the late afternoon.

Fishing was once a necessity and a way of life in early Fort Pierce but now it is a popular sport among local and visiting anglers.

For the premier experience and your best bet catching a “trophy,” try one of the many local sport fishing charter boats. A bit pricier, around $950 for a full day, these expert guides can provide you with the ultimate offshore experience, and the fee can be split by up to six people. They are professionals in tune with the pulse of where the hot fishing is. Their living and their reputation rest on the success of your experience and they work very hard to provide you with the best they’ve got.

Just one example of the great charter talent available right here in Fort Pierce is Captain Glenn Cameron of the Floridian, who was willing to give me some help writing this article. Glenn has been guiding sport fishing charters for 21 years and takes pride in showing his anglers the best offshore experience possible. Well known throughout the local fishing community, Glenn

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runs charters 7 days a week most of the year, does some Bahamian fishing in the summer, and competes in many tournaments along the Treasure Coast. He has numerous wins, most recently taking $75,000 of the $135,000 purse in the 3rd Annual Fort Pierce Billfish Derby! Glenn reports that every month has a different kind of fishing that’s hot, making the chance of a great fishing experience available year round. Floridian charters can be contacted at 464-8739, and a number of other charters are available in your yellow pages or at the Fort Pierce City Marina.

Give it a try! Whether you hire a charter, join the party boat, or go on your own with a friend, offshore fishing in “Fort Pierce waters” can be an awesome experience. Whether you land that 50 pound cobia or just see some flying fish, turtles and crystal blue water, you won’t be disappointed!
Since January 15, 1938 the city of Fort Pierce has owned the Fort Pierce City Marina. On that date, the Chamber of Commerce transferred ownership of the “Yacht Basin,” which had been built under the oversight of a Chamber Yacht Basin Committee, to the city. Management and operation of the new Yacht Basin became the charge of the City Commission and City Manager. Interestingly, at the December 22, 1937, city commission meeting, a comprehensive report on the upcoming handover of the Yacht Basin estimated monthly revenue of $110.70 for eleven yachts for five months of the year with the other seven months unable to be estimated! Humble beginnings for what is now a thriving, state of the art marina serving a wide range of local and transient boaters.

Research produced little information on the marina for the 25 year period from the beginning of the City’s entry into the business through the early 1960’s. Fast forward to 1963, the marina is still there, owned by the city, and obviously has grown and added services over the years. From this point forward the marina has had a number of ups and downs, struggling to become a premier facility but never quite getting there.
In the early 60’s the marina was leased to an individual who operated it for the city. It was in fairly bad disrepair and the City Commission and Mayor developed a plan to take the marina out of the lease and refurbish it. They also purchased more submerged land in order to grow the marina. The purchase included a stipulation that the submerged lands had to be used for marina purposes within 5 years. Other projects took priority, the newly purchased submerged lands were never developed and eventually the purchase reverted back to state ownership.

In the late 60’s the marina was being rebuilt once again when a rift developed between city officials overseeing the project and the city’s engineer. Sighting poor construction and likely short life-span, the engineer refused to sign off on the project and eventually left his job with the city over this disagreement. Unfortunately for the marina his predictions would be born out and by the early 80’s the docks and roofs were literally falling apart.

In 1984 Mayor William R. Dannahower and the City Commission took...
Happenings at the Library

What is Waggin' Tales?
It is a reading program designed to help children increase their reading skills. Children will read to a therapy dog for a period of 20 minutes. Our volunteers will assist the children as necessary in learning to read. Children may bring in their own books to read or one will be selected by the volunteer.

Computer Classes
"Basic Windows and the Internet" Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 9:15-10:45 AM. For additional information please contact Reference Services at 772.462.2187.

Children's Programs
Pre-K Jamboree for Ages 4-6 years, Wednesdays 1:00-1:45 PM.
Toddler Time for Ages 18 months–3 years, Fridays 10:00-10:30 AM.

Great Library Book Club
1st and 3rd Thurs. 10:00 a.m., Ft. Pierce Branch Library. Call Beverly Klemenc, Adult Services Librarian for more information.

Lakewood Park Book Discussion Group
First Mondays at 3:00 p.m., Lakewood Park Branch Library. Call Mary Beth Pickney, Branch Manager, for more information.

Free Monday Movies @ your Library
Every Monday at 2:00 PM. Classics, Literary based, Foreign and Suspense films. Ft. Pierce Branch Library.

Young Adult Book Club
Third Saturdays of the Month. Sponsors lively discussions including favorite fantasy novels, mysteries, renaissance literature, Florida history, writing workshops. For readers 9 years old and up. Get a schedule at the Ft. Pierce Branch! 772-462-2787.

"Featured" Local and Florida Author Book Signings
Authors vary locations and times; please check with the library to see who will be visiting next.

Treasure Coast Writers' Guild
Guest Speakers. Interested in publishing, marketing or locating editors for your writing? 4th Fridays at 2:00 PM.
notice of the marina’s condition and the fact that a permit to rebuild wasn’t being used. They also recognized that more slips were needed. Once again a lengthy re-permitting process was begun and over the next few years the marina was re-vitalized. The popular floating dock system east of the seawall was added at the end of this process in the late 80’s. The marina was once again leased to an individual who built the popular Tiki Bar and operated the marina for a number of years. The lessee passed away and once more the city retracted it’s lease and began a cleanup.

Since then the marina has been operated by the city and has continued to grow. Suffering a long history of ups and downs, rebuilds and disrepairs and most recently 3 major hurricanes, the marina seems poised to become a model facility. Fort Pierce, long neglected and now on the verge of being “on the map” is wisely developing its “Yacht Basin” to be one of the premier marina facilities on the Inter-Coastal Waterway. Thanks to the Fort Pierce City Commission of 1937 for taking ownership of what would become this fine facility. Kudos to those who are working hard to ensure our marina continues the high road and contributes to the specter of downtown Fort Pierce as a premier waterfront experience.
Meet Main Street Focus Volunteer, Art Boyd
by Thondra Lanese

Along the way Art discovered a talent for photography and began taking wedding pictures. Looking for a way to expand his photography skills with new subjects, he offered his services to Main Street Focus where he photographs many of our downtown events.

Everyone is so down to earth and friendly. Favorite Main Street Fort Pierce Activity: One of my favorites is attending the Farmer's Market. However, I believe my new favorite activity will be attending shows at the Sunrise Theatre.

Other Volunteer Positions With Main Street Fort Pierce: So far just photographer. But who knows what the future holds.

Other Civic/Charitable Activities: I also volunteer at my church with different activities throughout the community.
Downtown Hero: Michelle Miller

by Sue Dannahower

Michelle Miller is our featured and very deserving Downtown Hero this month. If you know her or meet her around town, please give her a thank you and a pat on the back for her tireless contributions to Main Street Fort Pierce and the entire community.

Michelle is a role model with a perfect combination of humility, spirit, and commitment to community. She is all about family, friends, and helping her community grow and improve itself.

Main Street is a fortunate benefactor of Michelle’s limitless energy. She has been volunteering for Main Street events for over 12 years. Two years ago she became a member of the Main Street Board of Directors. She sat on the committee for December’s “Sights and Sounds on Second” Festival for seven years. This year’s event was a huge success for the entire community and attendance surpassed all expectations. Michelle has also co-chaired the “Reverse Raffle & Silent Auction” for the past two events. This very popular fund raiser and social event set records in 2005 for both attendance and profits! The list of her accomplishments goes on but clearly when Michelle throws herself into a project, Main Street is sure to be on the winning side.

Amazingly, Michelle also serves on the Boards of First Peoples Bank, Port St. Lucie Hospital, the Fort Pierce Area Council and the School Advisory Committee for F.K. Sweet. She was appointed by the Governor to the Early Learning Coalition, whose function is to provide administration for quality child care to economically challenged families and to oversee Florida’s Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten program.

When asked how she finds the time for all this community service, she said “I just do.”

Michelle also has a full time day job. She owns and is an agent for Miller Insurance, LLC since 2002. She has been in the insurance business for 12 years and specializes in Group and Individual Health Insurance and personal lines of products that include disability, dental, life and long term care.

Michelle considers herself a Fort Pierce native. Born in Palm Beach, she moved to Fort Pierce at age 7. She graduated from Fort Pierce Central and continued her education at Indian River Community College and then earned an undergraduate degree from Florida Atlantic University. She has two daughters, Ashton, age 17, and Brandi, age 9.

Michelle is currently working on her next big projects, “Taste of St. Lucie,” “Night of the Stars,” and “Sandy Shoes.” Clearly, Main Street Fort Pierce and our entire community benefit greatly from Michelle’s tireless giving and commitment. We salute her as this month’s Downtown Hero! Thanks Michelle.
Kristen Dannahower gave a genuinely personal gift this past holiday season when she donated 14 inches of her hair to Locks of Love. The University of California, Sacramento student had her hair harvested by Ana of Salon de Ana Bernal located in Fort Pierce’s Historic Arcade Building.

Kristen is a Master program student at the University of California in Sacramento and works for the California Water Board. She was inspired to cut her hair for Locks of Love after a cousin donated her hair a few years ago. She was also ready for a new, professional look which received through Ana’s skilled hands. After the donation Kristen looked like a new person and her beautiful locks will be given to others who need it.

Locks of Love is a non-profit organization, founded in 1997, who provides prosthetic hairpieces to children suffering from long-term medical hair loss. The prostheses they provide help to restore self-esteem and confidence, enabling the children to face the world and their peers.

Interested donors in Fort Pierce can contact Salon de Ana Bernal at 468-2555. For more information log onto www.locksoflove.org.

Not only did Kristen get a professional look but she also helped children through the Locks of Love program.
Blair Advertising Celebrates 10 Years as a Successful Marketing Firm In Downtown Fort Pierce

by Kathleen McKee

From the bright lights of New York City to the easy going pace of southern Florida, Doris Blair has seen it all. Her experiences have helped her run a top notch marketing firm inside one of the most historic buildings in downtown Fort Pierce. This year marks the 10th Anniversary of Blair Advertising, which started out as Comet Creative, Inc. in January of 1996.

Doris began her marketing career on New York City’s Madison Avenue, where she worked with BBDO, E. B. Wilson, Inc., and Benton & Bowles. She was part of the creative/production teams for DuPont, Black & Decker, General Foods, Manufacturers Hanover Trust, and numerous other accounts. Concentrating on traffic and production, Doris gained an in-depth understanding of the planning and procedures that put work through an agency on time and on budget. She relocated to Florida in 1979, where she continued her career as an executive with Myers & Associates. Doris later formed a marketing services business which merged with what is now Blair Advertising.

Blair Advertising’s staff has grown to eight employees: President, Doris Blair; Traffic Manager, Catherine Feidler; Office Manager, Elizabeth Center; Art Director, Virginia Thomas; Production Artist, Steve Fuschini; Public Relations Specialist, Robin Dannahower; Media Planner, Ally Berry; and VP, Creative Director, Thondra Lanese. The combination of creative talents ensures marketing success for any client.

Members of the Blair Advertising Agency, left to right: Catherine Feidler, Ally Berry, Ginni Thomas, Doris Blair, Thondra Lanese, Elizabeth Center, Steve Fuschini, and Robin Dannahower. 

Continued on next page...
Oakland Park—What a Difference Neighborhood Associations Make Our Downtown Neighbors, Part Two

by Leslie Olson

Oakland Park is a success story told in baby carriages and property values. Just as much of Ft. Pierce declined in the late 20th century, so did Oakland Park. In the time period between 1994 and 1997, there were 6 home sales in Oakland Park, with a bargain basement average price tag of $44,750.

These years provided the catalyst for the reawakening of Oakland Park. In the years leading up to 1997 the neighborhood was under tremendous stress. Many long time residents feared their own neighborhood due to crime. Jo Ann Molinia, President of Oakland Park Neighborhood Association says “When we moved here in 1998, a friend told us Pop (my husband was alive then) and I would be murdered in our sleep. I did really look outside before I went outside for my newspaper every morning. We had lots of police support and called 911 often to report prostitution and gangs.” Fortunately, two residents, Charlie Bicht and Jim Jones, had the vision to band together and formed the Oakland Park Neighborhood Association in 1997. “I think that was the turning point” says Mrs. Molinia.

The neighborhood has become famous for its Candlelight Tour of Homes, held at the end of each year. This is the Association’s annual fundraiser, which buys period mailboxes and lampposts for members to install in their yards. “2005 was our biggest tour yet—368 people walked through homes at $15 each, so now we can buy more lampposts”, smiles Mrs. Molinia.

Again, property values are telling. Fourteen properties sold in Oakland Park between 2004 and 2006 are averaged a sale price of $191,800. You’ll be lucky to come across a home for that price now. Homes on the market currently range from the low $200's to two homes listed at $599,900.

Jo Ann Molinia grins. “It is a wonderful place to live and now we have young people moving here to raise their families. How delightful to see them pushing those baby carriages.”

...continued from page 31

In addition to working for an accomplished, award-winning marketing firm, Blair’s employees frequently volunteer their time and skills to help many different organizations in the community. Main Street Fort Pierce, the Sunrise Theatre, and the Main Street Focus have all benefited from Blair Advertising’s commitment to the community.

Blair Advertising continues to thrive in downtown Fort Pierce with its creative team and their leader, Doris Blair.

Doris Blair, President

Michelle Hughes
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Jazz Week 2006 “A Tribute to Ray Charles”

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10

8:00 p.m. - **performance by the Jovino Santos Neto Quintet**. The show will be held Friday Feb. 10, 2006, at the Sunrise Theatre. The admission will be $10.00 and will start at 8:00 p.m. To learn more about this Brazilian Jazz Group, we invite you to visit their website [www.jovisan.net](http://www.jovisan.net) for bio information. Tickets can only be purchased at the Sunrise Theatre Box office or on line at [www.sunrisetheatre.com](http://www.sunrisetheatre.com).

Location: The Sunrise Theatre
Admission: $10.00

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11

8:00 p.m. - **“My Jazzy Valentine.”** Romantic Valentine concert featuring one of the unsung heroes of jazz singing, Andy Bey... a commanding interpreter of lyrics with a wide vocal range and a big, rich, full voice.

Location: Fort Pierce Magnet School of the Arts, 1100 Delaware Ave.

Admission: $18.00 at door (Discounted advance tickets are available for $15.00 – FPJ & BS members are $12.00.) Dinner and flower arrangement package will be available – details TBA.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18

4:00 p.m. - **Mardi Gras-style Parade** complete with revelers and marching bands begins in historic downtown Fort Pierce and ends at the Fort Pierce Community Center with a Mardi Gras party, gumbo and costume competition, food and beverage, 50/50 raffle, live music and dancing.

Admission: FREE!

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. - **Brown Bag Lunch Concert Series** featuring the Lou Sanzaro Quartet.

Location: Ft. Pierce Library, downtown branch
Admission: FREE!

Lunch: $7.00 Per Person.

Various times: Workshops in area schools.

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328 South Second Street, Suite B, Fort Pierce, FL 34950
7:00 p.m. – Monday Night Jazz Jam featuring the Turk Mauro Quartet.
Location: The Fort Pierce Community Center, 600 Indian River Drive.
Admission: $10.00

Location: Ian's Tropical Grille, 927 N US 1, Fort Pierce
$95.00 per person (including tax and gratuity)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. – Lecture: “How to Appreciate Jazz” presented by Tommie Gibson.
Location: Bldg T, Rm 131 @ IRCC in Fort Pierce
Donation: $ 5.00 – Students free

11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. – Brown Bag Lunch Concert Series featuring the Doug Royce Quartet.
Location: Ft. Pierce Library, downtown branch
Admission: FREE!
Lunch: $7.00 Per Person.

Various times: Workshops in area schools.

6:30 p.m. – Dinner, Wine Tasting, and Jazz featuring vocalist/violinist Nicole Yarling, with special guest Bill Porter and the FPJS Ensemble.

Location: Ft. Pierce Library – downtown branch
Donation: FREE!

12:30 p.m. –1:20 p.m. – Lecture: “The Art of Jazz Singing” presented by Nicole Yarling.
Location: Bldg. T, Rm 117 at IRCC in Fort Pierce.
Donation: $5.00; students free

TBA – String Workshop presented by Nicole Yarling.
Location: Lincoln Park Academy

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

11:30 a.m. -1:30 p.m. - Brown Bag Lunch Concert Series featuring the Ossie Wright Quintet
Location: Ft. Pierce Library - downtown branch
Admission: FREE!
Lunch: $7.00 Per Person.

12:30 p.m. -1:20 p.m. - Lecture: “The Art of Jazz Singing” presented by Nicole Yarling.
Location: Bldg. T, Rm 117 at IRCC in Fort Pierce.
Donation: $5.00; students free

7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. – Concert featuring vocalist/violinist Nicole Yarling with special guest Bill Porter and FPJS Ensemble
Location: Pt. St. Lucie Yacht Club, 500 SE Prima Vista Blvd., PSL
Donation: $8.00
**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23**

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. - Brown Bag Lunch Concert Series featuring the 16 piece Fort Pierce Big Band
Location: Ft. Pierce Library - downtown branch
Admission: FREE!
Lunch: $7.00 Per Person.

Various times: Workshops in area schools.

11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. - Lecture: “The Genius of Ray Charles” presented by Ossie Wright.
Location: Bldg. T, Rm131 @ IRCC in Fort Pierce
Admission: $5.00; students free

TBA – String Workshop presented by Nicole Yarling.
Location: Lincoln Park Academy

7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. - Concert presented by the FPJS Ensemble featuring vocalist/violinist Nicole Yarling with special guest Bill Porter.
Location: Ft. Pierce Community Center in Fort Pierce
Donation: $8.00

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24**

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. - Brown Bag Lunch Concert Series featuring Bossa-Jazz featuring Cezar Santana.
Location: Ft. Pierce Library, downtown branch

TBA – String Workshop presented by Nicole Yarling.
Location: Lincoln Park Academy

TBA – Concert by the Lincoln Park Academy Orchestra featuring violinist Nicole Yarling.
Location: The Fort Pierce Magnet School of the Arts, 1100 Delaware Ave., Fort Pierce
Admission: to be determined.

TBA – Blues In The Schools Workshop
Presenter and location to be determined

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. - Lecture: “The World's Longest Running Blues Radio Show” presented by Vern Melvin.
Location: Bldg. T, Rm 131, @ I.R.C.C. in Fort Pierce
Donation: $5.00; students free

TBA – Matinee concert performance for St. Lucie County School students presented by the Bill Porter Orchestra.
Admission: Free!

8:00 p.m. - Evening Concert presented by the Bill Porter Orchestra, “Big Band Era Tribute Concert.”
Location: The Sunrise Theatre in downtown Fort Pierce
Admission: $20.00 & $30.00

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25**

8:00 p.m. - “Tribute to Jazz Masters Concert - A Tribute to Ray Charles” featuring David (Fathead) Newman and 3 other members of the original Ray Charles Orchestra including Cynthia Scott, Marcus Belgrave and Leroy Cooper.
Location: Sunrise Theatre in downtown Fort Pierce
Admission: $20.00 & $30.00

VIP Passes which include admission to all events of Jazz Week except Wine tasting, Dinner and Jazz at Ian’s Tropical Grille on 2/21/06 are available for $200.00. For advance tickets or sponsorship information contact Darryl Bey at 772-460-JAZZ(5299) or email info@jazzsociety.org.

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Run at Sunrise... the Sunrise Theatre that is!

Seventh Annual Sunrise Theatre 5K Run/Walk
Premier Sponsor - "The Tribune"

Saturday, February 18, 2006 - 7:30 a.m.
"Bridge Run" Registration 6:45 - 7:15 a.m.
Race starts and ends in front of the Sunrise Theatre

All proceeds benefit restoration efforts of the Sunrise Theatre

Register on-line at: www.active.com

Entry Fee:
$20.00 before January 26, 2006
$23.00 on race day
ENTRY FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE

Second Annual Sunrise Bridge Challenge: Run BOTH the Bridge Buster 5K (1/14/06) and the Sunrise Theatre 5K (2/18/06). Times will be combined and "Special 10K Awards" given for 1st in each age category. Save $4.00 and register NOW for both races for only $36.00. Call 772/466-4181 for more information.

COURSE INFORMATION
Cruise through the scenic area of historic downtown Fort Pierce, a neighborhood of history, and a picturesque waterfront view of the beautiful Indian River, as you run across the South Causeway Bridge.
Timing, Results and USATF course certified by:

Sailfish Striders
Stuart, Florida

Make Checks Payable to: Sunrise Theatre, Inc.
Mail completed entries to: Sunrise Theatre 5K Run/Walk, 210 South Depot Drive, Fort Pierce, FL 34950
For more information: Call: Sandi Hellstrom at 772/466-4181, The Sunrise Theatre at 772/461-4884, Mike Melton at 772/334-3469, or email: Sunrise5K@aol.com. For directions to race and other information: www.sailfishstriders.com.

Directions: Take I-95 or the Florida Turnpike to Fort Pierce exit 5970. Drive east on 5970 to U.S.1. Turn left onto U.S. #1 and then turn right (east) onto Orange Avenue. Follow Orange Avenue two blocks to Second Street. The Sunrise Theatre is located at 115 South Second Street. Follow signs for parking (do not park on Second Street between Atlantic Avenue and Orange Avenue). Ample parking will be available!

Awards (Runners)
Overall Male/Female
Masters Male/Female
Top 3 in these Age Groups
Walkers Welcome!!!
ALL WALKERS RECEIVE FINISHERS RIBBON
T-SHIRTS TO THE FIRST 150 PAID PARTICIPANTS
Water and post-race refreshments provided for all participants

ENTRY FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE. Incomplete or unsigned entry forms will not be accepted.
Waiver of Responsibility: In participating in the "Seventh Annual Tribune Sunrise Theatre 5K Run/Walk", I, for myself my executors, administrators, and assigns, do hereby release and discharge the Tribune and The Sunrise Theatre and all cooperating businesses and organizations from all claims of damages, demands, actions and whatsoever, in any manner arising or growing out of my participation or that of my child in this event.

Signature: ___________________________ Date: ___________________
(If under the age of 18, signature of parent or guardian is also required)
Fort Pierce Utilities Recycles to Help Ocean Reefs

Fort Pierce Utilities (FPUA) is teaming up with St. Lucie County to provide reef relief in local Atlantic Ocean waters. Recently resurrected in 2005, the County’s artificial reef program deployed over 780 tons of concrete and steel materials last year on the ocean floor to establish artificial reefs.

In its effort to continuously upgrade infrastructure, FPUA routinely replaces older equipment such as concrete light poles. “The excess light poles that FPUA had in storage are ideal to use in creating artificial reefs,” explains Jim Oppenborn, St. Lucie County’s Artificial Reef Coordinator. According to Oppenborn, the County has collected over 600 tons of recycled materials and is waiting until March to deploy these resources in the ocean. The county is targeting an 863-acre area just offshore of Hutchinson Island. The reef program fits well with FPUA’s mission of enhancing the quality of life in the community. “Recycling our excess materials to benefit ocean ecosystems is just one way that FPUA can show its commitment to making life better in Fort Pierce,” says Camille S. Yates, Community and Corporate Relations Manager. “We enhance the local economy by improving habitat that fish, turtles, and other marine life use. More people will visit the area if we have healthy ecosystems... that encourages tourism.”

Fort Pierce Utilities is a municipal utility whose mission is “to provide our customers with economical and friendly service in a continuous effort to enhance the quality of life in our community.” Fort Pierce is one of more than 2,000 communities in the United States served by a community-owned electric utility, and one of very few who also provide water, wastewater, natural gas, and Internet services. Public utility systems are owned by the people they serve. All benefits from our locally controlled utility remain right here in the community.
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Tuesday - Tiki Haze $5.00
Wednesday - Sunrise Margarita $5.00
Thursday - Calypso Cooler $5.00
Friday - Tiki Punch $3.00
Saturday - Goombay Smash $5.00
Sunday - Bucket of Beers $10.00

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Friday, Saturday & Sunday
Fort Pierce Tribune’s People’s Choice Award for Best Happy Hour

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“We overlook nothing . . . except the beautiful Indian River”
Shop In Downtown Fort Pierce For All Of Your Restaurant & Kitchen Needs

by Kathleen McKee

When you turn east on Orange Avenue off US 1, look to your right. St. Lucie Restaurant Equipment Sales & Service is located just before the railroad tracks with an array of kitchen items—cutlery, eating and baking utensils, dishes, pots, pans, and a multitude of wares that are kitchen related. One of the many interesting items is a butane burner that is easy to use and completely safe for indoor use. What a great accessory for the kitchen when the power goes out or if additional cooking equipment is needed for the kitchen or patio.

St. Lucie Restaurant Equipment also offers commercial equipment to many businesses in the area—including ice machines. The business also has used supplies and equipment. The repair of restaurant equipment is an important feature available and repairs can be done on site at the restaurant location.

Nick and Lynn Giovannetti are the owners of St. Lucie Restaurant Equipment Sales and Service. They took over the business six years ago. It has been in the same location since 1986. They stated the renewal of downtown Ft. Pierce has had an immense impact on their business.

Nick and Lynn Giovannetti, owners of St. Lucie Restaurant Equipment Sales and Service in Downtown Ft. Pierce.

The interesting items for sale in the Restaurant Equipment store are available to all shoppers, not just commercial sales. Nick and Lynn welcome all to stop in and look around. Store hours are Monday through Friday 9 to 5 and Saturday 9 to 1. For further information call 772-466-0651 or stlucierestequip@cs.com.

Original Tiki Bar & Restaurant Plans for Quick Recovery After Fire

Owners Thankful for Quick Response

A small fire occurred in the kitchen at the Original Tiki Bar and Restaurant on Sunday, January 22, 2006 at 4:00 pm. The fire was limited to a portion of the wall in the kitchen. Wait staff and kitchen employees smelled smoke and quickly dialed 911; flames were never visible to anyone in the restaurant and the fire was extinguished quickly. The restaurant was evacuated in an orderly manner and many patrons waited around to view the outcome. There were no injuries reported.

Despite the small size of the fire, the restaurant was expected to be closed for at least a week so that necessary repairs and inspections could be made. Owners Ian Lloyd and Colin Lloyd praise the efforts made by the fire department and Tiki Bar staff in handling the fire. Both Ian and Colin look forward to serving patrons in the very near future, and invite hungry or thirsty patrons to visit Cobb's Landing, directly to the west of the Tiki Bar while the Tiki Bar remains closed.
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