"July 4th means happiness, celebration and freedom."

—Bryn Vrana, age 9

St. Andrew’s Episcopal Academy
This is the time of year when we all feel a little extra pride in our community and our country. Fort Pierce has a long history of patriotic service and we invite you to join the celebration.

Many people know that Fort Pierce was a Navy base during WWII, but our military history dates to an even earlier time. In 1838 the U.S. Army, under the leadership of Lt. Col. Benjamin Pierce, brother to Franklin Pierce, 14th president of the United States, built a fort to defend the territory during the Second Seminole War.

Many of our notable citizens have served our country during times of conflict, including George Backus, Lewis Hoskins, Norman and Phillip Kingsley Platts, Richard and Thomas Summerlin, among many others who all served in the Army during WWI.

In addition to serving as a Navy base during the Second World War, Fort Pierce Inlet State Park was the birthplace of the U.S. Navy Frogmen who evolved into the elite group we know today as the Navy Seals.

But it wasn’t all combat and fatigues; our parents have fond memories of the old community center on the corner of Orange Avenue and Indian River Drive, home of USO dances during the war. They tell me it was run by the mother of actress Joanne Dru and actor Peter Marshall who was best known for hosting Hollywood Squares. Marshall even did a stint at a radio personality here in Fort Pierce just after the war.

While not an active blogger myself, while researching our patriotic past, I came upon this blog about old Fort Pierce posted by Lucie Rivers:

“I remember when the whistle at the power plant blew at noon to signal it was time for lunch and to allow one to check the clock’s time. I remember when the stores closed on Wednesday afternoon so we could go fishing. I remember when you knew everyone you met on Second Street on Saturday.

About the noon whistle — Mrs. Miller, my teacher, told us that on Armistice Day, when World War I ended, the whistle blew at 11:00 o’clock and brought everyone into the street to give thanks.”

Reading her reflections made me think that while this may be a “remember when” piece, downtown still has that hometown feel.

The Fourth of July festivities are just the beginning of all that our town has to offer in the month of July. Stroll our downtown shops, visit the farmers market, have lunch al fresco, then enjoy a gelato — but more importantly, get involved!
**MAIN STREET FOCUS**

**Vol. 4 No. 12**

**July 2009**

**Calendar**

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

**Friday, July 3:** Friday Fest — 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880, www.mainstreetfortpierce.org

**Saturday, July 4:** Stars Over St. Lucie & Jam-Fest 09 48th of July Celebration — 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880.

**Wednesday, July 8:** Artwalk — 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Downtown Business Association, 466-7080, www.fortpierce-fl.com

**Friday, July 31:** Classic Car Cruise-In — 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Downtown Business Association, 466-7080, www.fortpierce-fl.com

**FLORIDA GIRLS AND BOYS**

**July 11 – October 31:** Florida Girls and Boys and their Toys: Journey back through time this summer and recapture the “magical” history of toys and the way children have played with them. On July 11 the Center will be hosting Summer Family Fun Day from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. as the opening for this exhibit. Bring the family for a day full of hands-on historic toys, games, crafts, contests, food vendors, face painting and more.

**HEATHCOTE BOTANICAL GARDENS**

**July 30 – Preparing, Cooking, & Eating a Mid-Day Tea Party. Love to cook? Love to eat? You’ll love this class as you prepare yummy foods for a Tea Party. Not only will you cook the foods but also learn where food comes from and do cool experiments to see what the labels on food boxes really refer to.**

**July 11 – Music, Instruments, and Puppets in the Garden. Join Music in Motion Specialist, Debbie Mock, as she engages you with her delightful musical presentation. Make your own musical instrument, learn sign language, sing along and have lots of fun!**

**July 15 – Science Fun: Rockets, Balloons, Hovercrafts, & Super Bubbles. Come experience the mysteries of science with hands-on experiments and get resources for summer fun at home.**

**July 9 – Discover How Plants and Animals Live Together. Use binoculars and magnifying glasses to discover how plants and animals live together in the environment. Learn how plants grow & how worms feel when they wiggle. Make a journal to record your discoveries all summer long.**

**JULY 16 – Kids Saving the Earth the “GREEN” Way. How can you make a difference? Find out the many cool ways kids can save the earth – not only learn how but also why! Plant your own flowers to grow at home.**

**July 22 – Music, Instruments, and Puppets in the Garden. Join Music in Motion Specialist, Debbie Mock, as she engages you with her delightful musical presentation. Make your own musical instrument, learn sign language, sing along and have lots of fun!**

**July 23 – Music, Instruments, and Puppets in the Garden. Join Music in Motion Specialist, Debbie Mock, as she engages you with her delightful musical presentation. Make your own musical instrument, learn sign language, sing along and have lots of fun!**

**ST. LUCIE COUNTY REGIONAL HISTORY CENTER**

**For information, please call 462-1891 or visit www.stlucie.lib.fl.us/museum**

**WEEKLY EVENTS**

**Fi. Pierce Farmer’s Market — Saturdays, 8:00 a.m. to Noon, Marina Square on Melody Lane, Market Manager, 945-1145.**

**Arts and Crafts Show & Sale — Saturdays, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., north of downtown Fort Pierce Library, 460-5214.**

**Fort Pierce Bike Night — Thursdays, 6 to 9:30 p.m., 2nd Street, Downtown Fort Pierce; Yellowtail Girl, 466-5474.**

**MANATEE OBSERVATION AND EDUCATION CENTER**

For information, please call 466-1600, ext. 3333 or visit www.manateecenter.com

**SUNRISE THEATRE**

For information, please call 461-4775 or visit www.sunrisetheatre.com

**BACKUS GALLERY & MUSEUM**

For information, please call 465-5820 or visit www.backusgallery.com

**HEATHCOTE BOTANICAL GARDENS**

For information, please call 464-4672 or visit www.heathcotebotanicalgardens.org

**FORT PIERCE POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE**

For more information, please call 370-6182, ppearson@fppd.org

For more information, please call 370-6182, ppearson@fppd.org
Save the Date: Reverse Raffle on August 15, 2009

by Pam Gillette

Howdy Cowboys and Cowgirls! Main Street Fort Pierce is rustling up the gang for the 16th Annual Reverse Raffle, Live & Silent Auction. This year’s theme is “Showdown at the Sunrise.” So grab your partners, search your closet for your best cowboy/cowgirl attire, and join us at the Sunrise Theatre for the biggest showdown on the Treasure Coast.

What is a Reverse Raffle you ask? A Reverse Raffle begins with 300 numbers. The first number and every 50th number called, up to 250, win $100.00. The last 10 numbers all win a prize starting at $100.00 and ending with the grand prize of $2000.00. So bringing up the rear and staying on the board is where you want to be.

Only 300 tickets will be sold for the raffle. Each ticket is $80.00 and entitles the ticket holder to one number, admission for two cowpokes, light grub, 2 free drinks at the saloon, live country music, dancing, and a fabulous live & silent auction. Tickets are limited, advanced ticket purchase only, and no tickets will be available at the door. So don’t drag your boots, this is one event you won’t want to miss.

“Showdown at the Sunrise” will be held on Saturday, August 15, 2009, at the Sunrise Theatre at 117 S. Second Street, Fort Pierce. The doors will open at 6:00 p.m. with registration and the silent auction. The raffle begins at 7 p.m. as the excitement begins counting down the numbers to the grand prize winner. The Long Branch Saloon will be providing the band on the Sunrise Theatre stage.

Look for more details in the August edition of the Main Street Focus.

The Reverse Raffle is a fundraiser for projects and goals of Main Street Fort Pierce, Inc. For more information or to purchase a ticket, please call Main Street at (772) 466-3880.
The Art Mundo Center
by Sue Dannahower

The Art Mundo Center for Creative Expression, a not-for-profit community arts education organization, has moved into its location in downtown Fort Pierce, in the former SunTrust building. "We are delighted to be in the heart of the art district in the downtown area, and have received a wonderful reception from the downtown community," said Art Mundo co-founder Sherry Horton. Art Mundo, incorporated in August 2008, obtained its 501(c)3 status in January of this year. Its first educational event was a series of workshops, Discover the Artist Within, held in conjunction with the Backus Museum's annual Tribute to Backus exhibition this past March. The original concept was for classes and workshops to be held at various venues around our community, while raising funds to find and secure a location. Then, thanks to the vision and generosity of Leo Henriquez, developer of the Renaissance Center and owner of the former SunTrust building, Art Mundo found a home on the bottom floor of the newly renamed ArtBank! This 4,000-square-foot location is now available for artists to rent studio and exhibit space. "Since SunTrust Bank moved to their new location in the Renaissance building in June 2008, I had been looking for a good use for the space in the former bank building that would serve the local community and the City of Ft. Pierce," said Leo Henriquez. "I learned about Art Mundo, and after meeting with them, I realized that their idea was a great use for our building. The ultimate idea is to have a full Art Center building in downtown Fort Pierce, and so far Art Mundo is heading that way."

Soft exhibitions are planned for the wide halls and open spaces. Art Mundo will oversee operations at the ArtBank and plans to sponsor its educational offerings at this location. Classes are scheduled to begin June 27 and open studios will be held every Wednesday evening beginning June 17. Upcoming courses and workshops will include drawing, ceramics, basket making, mixed media and collage, papermaking, painting (oil, acrylics, and watercolor), fiber arts, woodworking, book arts, sculpture, jewelry making, weaving, photography, printmaking and fine handcrafts. A professional series for artists is also planned with instruction in matting and framing, Photoshop skills and marketing. Arts programs especially for children and school exhibits are also part of Art Mundo's plans for the future. All class and event schedules will be posted at www.art-mundo.blogspot.com. Art Mundo's aim is to provide a supportive and engaging environment for people of all ages and backgrounds to create, study and present art. The organization is looking forward to the opportunity to provide a central resource for the arts community, and envisions the ArtBank as an additional cultural draw to historic downtown Fort Pierce for residents and visitors alike. Art Mundo, in conjunction with the ArtBank, intends to compliment the already thriving art community in the Treasure Coast area, with a broader reach planned for the future. "This venture has the potential of becoming an art center like the Torpedo Factory of Alexandria, Virginia," said Art Mundo co-founder Deena Wynne. "We are excited to be a part of this endeavor with Leo Henriquez."

At this time, several of the studio spaces have been rented and there are still a variety of spaces, varying in size and cost, still available. Currently, the ArtBank, located at 111 Orange Avenue is open Thursdays from 12:00 noon until 5:00 p.m. and by appointment. Call 216-2067 or 201-1605 for more information. The ArtBank will also be open during the downtown Art Walks on the second Wednesday of every month.
Officer Marty Ortiz a Welcome Face for Downtown Fort Pierce
by Beth Williams

Fort Pierce Police Officer Marty Ortiz has been a familiar face in our community for the past decade as a member of the local force. But since January of this year, he’s enjoyed a new assignment that makes him a vital part of our historic downtown district. Officer Ortiz is now known by local businesses as “the downtown police officer.”

“I enjoy meeting the people,” says Ortiz of his new role. “The merchants in the downtown area are the best! I do most of my patrol on foot so that the people in the area are able to easily get with me if they have any questions or problems.”

For Ortiz, a typical day includes checking parking areas and greeting the business owners as they arrive to open their doors in the morning. “My presence downtown is to deter criminal activity and ensure businesses and their customers are safe,” said Ortiz. “I think that police presence makes a great difference in how safe people feel walking around and working downtown. It also puts visitors that come to the downtown area for events at ease.”

Officer Ortiz says he benefits from his role downtown as well. “I have met several artists downtown. I have a big interest in woodcarving and have been a carver since I was a child,” he said. “With the assistance of local artists I have been able to hone my skills and grow as a wood carver.” Specifically he says Don Rhodes has been a great influence. “Mr. Rhodes is a local Fort Pierce artist who paints and carves and has been in business on Avenue A for over 40 years. He’s been a wonderful help to me.”

Officer Ortiz was born in the Bronx, New York and relocated to Port St. Lucie in 1990. He worked for the Florida Department of Corrections and then joined the Fort Pierce Police Department in 1999. He served as a road patrol officer until 2008 when he became a Field Training Officer. His transfer to the Community Response Bureau in 2009 resulted in his appointment as the downtown officer. Marty and his wife have a 5-year-old son.
Asset Auction Services Finds a Welcoming Home in Downtown Fort Pierce
by Pam Gillette

An auction does one of two things: "An auction gathers a group of buyers to compete for a rare item or it sells junk cheap, if you don’t make it into the first category, by default you fall into the second category," said Leonard Wheeley.

Leonard Wheeley, and his wife Martha, moved to the Treasure Coast in 1983. The Wheeley’s were impressed with Fort Pierce and the warmth of the community, so they made their home on South Beach and live there today with their son. Leonard teaches guitar and violin on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Academy of Music in Downtown Fort Pierce and has been on the A.E. Backus Gallery & Museum Board for 13 years.

Leonard is very involved with local charities. His outgoing personality and great speaking voice make him the perfect choice as emcee for many events. After discovering his talent in 1999, he started as an amateur auctioneer. He soon began hosting many charity events for the A.E. Backus Gallery & Museum, local churches and schools, the Treasure Coast Food Bank, the Sunrise Theatre, the St. Lucie Education Foundation, the Red Cross and Main Street Fort Pierce.

In 2004, Leonard attended the Missouri Auction School. He then sat for the state exam and became a licensed auctioneer and a certified appraiser. After working several years as a roving auctioneer Leonard decided to start an auction house. His thoughts of Downtown Fort Pierce are that Fort Pierce feels “more metropolitan in stature but not in size,” and that is why he wanted to have his business downtown. He soon became friends with Lana McCain and Barbie Sykes owners of Next 2 Nothing, a consignment shop. Both businesses focus on the selling of client’s treasures, so when the space became available next door, he knew it was the perfect fit for the auction house.

On April 13, 2009, Asset Auction Services opened the doors and on April 25, 2009, held its first auction. Asset Auction Services specializes in collectibles, antiques, and fine contemporary furniture, but Leonard is quick to say that they will take anything. Asset Auction Services sells everything by directing items to appropriate sales spots whether it goes to another specialized auction house, eBay or a tag or consignment sale. Asset Auction Services works on a percentage. Fees are collected after the sale.

Asset Auction Services is now holding weekly auctions. The location is 208 Avenue A in downtown Fort Pierce and an auction is held every Wednesday night, opening for preview at 5:00 p.m. with the auction beginning at 7:00. The cost to get in is $1.00 for a first time visitor and free to returning buyers. You can also preview items at auctions by going to www.auctionzip.com, type in your zip code and find all of the auctions within the radius you direct. Click on the auctions on the displayed calendar to see that auction’s site. To go directly to Leonard’s Asset Auction Services site, enter #15249 in the upper right corner marked auctioneer ID on the auctionzip.com home page. There you will see photos of this week’s lot list.

So what is going on at Asset Auction Services the rest of the week? Leonard is still thinking of many possibilities and welcomes new opportunities. The space has approximately 1,500 sq. ft. and Leonard is open to renting out the space for meetings or charity functions. He wants to operate a business that will help other people make money. To accomplish this Leonard believes the three most important things in this business are seller’s trust, buyer’s satisfaction and laughter.

Now think for a moment, do you have some valuable treasures just lying around? Do a little searching through your closets and attics and find those hidden gems. Asset Auction Services is a green business.

Asset Auction Services

Our business is to make money for you.

Leonard Wheeley
Auctioneer/Appraiser

Auctions every Wednesday night at 7:00 p.m.

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Fort Pierce, FL 34950
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Our Historical Independence
by Camille S. Yates

In 1775, British colonists living in North America decided that they were fed up with England’s King George III and acts passed by the British Parliament. “Taxation without representation!” That was the battle cry of the 13 colonies that were forced to pay taxes to England, but with no representation in Parliament. In 1765, ten years earlier, Parliament passed the Stamp Act to raise revenue for Britain. This act required the colonists to purchase and use specially stamped (water marked) paper for all official documents, deeds, mortgages, newspapers, and pamphlets. Violators would be prosecuted in vice-admiralty courts, without juries. Revenues derived from the act were intended to pay part of the cost of maintaining a permanent force of 10,000 British troops to prevent hostilities between the colonists and the Indians of the western frontiers.

Then, in 1767, Parliament passed the Townsend Acts. These Acts imposed taxes on lead, glass, tea, paint, and paper that Americans imported from Britain. In order to rescue the British East India Company from bankruptcy, Parliament also passed the Tea Act in 1773, reducing the tax on tea shipped to the colonies so that the company could sell it in America at a price lower than that of smuggled tea. The colonists, however, refused to buy the English tea. They viewed the Tea Act as another violation of their rights — to be taxed without representation. Colonial merchants also feared that the act would allow the East India Company to monopolize the tea trade and put them out of business. Known as the Boston Tea Party, a group of citizens, many disguised as Indians, swarmed over British ships in the Boston harbor and dumped the cargoes of tea into the water.

Because of the colonist’s hostility, Parliament, in 1774, passed a series of laws designed to punish the province of Massachusetts and demonstrate Parliament’s sovereignty. These were the Coercive Acts, dubbed by the colonies the Intolerable Acts. The Boston Port Act closed that city’s port to trade until its citizens compensated the East India Company for the destroyed tea. The Massachusetts Government Act altered the colony’s charter by permitting the Crown rather than the House of Representatives to appoint the Governor’s Council and by restricting town meetings to once a year and only for electing town officials.

A frustrated Virginia assembly called for a meeting of representatives from the 13 colonies and Canada to consider joint action against Parliament’s encroachments on colonial rights. The meeting, known as the First Continental Congress, took place in Philadelphia in September 1774; it consisted of representatives from all 13 colonies except Georgia.

On June 11, 1776, the colonies’ Second Continental Congress meeting in Philadelphia formed a committee with the express purpose of drafting a document that would formally sever their ties with Great Britain. The committee included Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, Roger Sherman and Robert R. Livingston. The Declaration of Independence is a justification of the American Revolution, citing grievances against King George III. It is also a landmark philosophical statement, drawing on the writings of philosophers John Locke and Jean Jacques Rousseau. It affirms that since all people are creatures of God, or nature, they have certain natural rights, or liberties, that cannot be violated.

The establishment of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, marked the beginning of the Revolutionary War, which eventually led to freedom from British rule. On July 8th the Declaration had its first public reading in Philadelphia’s Independence Square. Twice that day, the Declaration was read to cheering crowds and pealing church bells. Even the bell in Independence Hall was rung. The “Province Bell” would later be renamed “Liberty Bell” after its inscription.

This year, the Fourth July falls on a Saturday. Before you start your celebration, stop by Melody Square to see the patriotic light display and don’t forget to party with Main Street on Friday, July 3rd at Friday Fest.
Giving Thanks for All Blessings, Especially Our Freedom

by Camille S. Yates

During the Fourth of July holiday, we celebrate in many ways, including gathering with friends and family to give thanks for our freedom. It was 116 years ago when people living in the downtown Fort Pierce area officially gathered to create a place of worship, even before Fort Pierce was incorporated as a city. St. Andrew's Episcopal Church was founded in 1893, and as the church's Rector, Rev. Father John Liebler says that they are thankful to be located in historic downtown Fort Pierce and proud of the city's rich past. Many of Fort Pierce's founding fathers were also founding members of St. Andrew's.

The first church building, a "Carpenter's Gothic" structure, was built in 1901, when the City of Fort Pierce was incorporated. Prior to moving to its current location on Indian River Drive, St. Andrew's was on Pine Street until 1917. The first church building, housed many generations of St. Andrew's parishioners until the construction of the current sanctuary was completed in 1959. Stained glass windows from the original church were removed and placed in the new church. St. Andrew's donated the original church structure to Holy Apostle's, a mission in Satellite Beach, Florida, and they floated the historic church building on a barge up the Indian River.

As an expression of its dedication to the Fort Pierce community, the church opened St. Andrew's Episcopal Academy in 1970. This Pre K - 8th grade school is located in downtown Fort Pierce next to the church. Head of School, Gary Pierce, along with the school's teachers, emphasize a rigorous curriculum to develop students with a passion for lifelong learning and intellectual curiosity. Students are immersed in an atmosphere of ethical behavior, social conscience, caring and integrity. The whole student is challenged — emotionally, intellectually, spiritually, socially and physically. Graduates of St. Andrew's Academy are prepared to lead lives that make a positive difference in their community and the world at large. They also know how to give thanks for all blessings.

As we give thanks for our freedom, let's hear and see what some St. Andrew's Academy students think about the Fourth of July.

Jack Vrana
Age 4
"The Fourth of July is fireworks."

Carli Stiner
Age 14
"Freedom is never given, it is won."

Elizabeth Robinson
Age 8
"Fourth of July means we celebrate the birthdays that are in July."

Natalie Miller
Age 9
"What the 4th of July means to me is that people celebrate their lives."

Wyatt Martin – Age 10: "I think the Fourth of July means liberty and justice. I also think it is about fireworks."

Lindsay Doss – Age 8: "I think that the Fourth of July means that we should all respect the flag. It also means we go to my grandparents house for dinner. Then, we go on the porch because it's time for fireworks! Been! Been! Been!"

Stars Over St. Lucie & Jamfest ‘09 4th of July Celebration

On Saturday, July 4, 2009, come join the City of Fort Pierce, Christian FM and Main Street Fort Pierce, Inc. as we present "Stars over St. Lucie" & "JamFest ’09" a 4th of July Celebration at Veteran's Memorial Park, 600 N. Indian River Drive, Fort Pierce, FL, 34950 from 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. There will be a variety of arts and crafts, food vendors, and children activities.

Main Street Fort Pierce has partnered with Christian FM to join two great events into one - "Stars over St. Lucie" & "JamFest ’09". Christian FM will bring the best of the Battle of the Bands to the amphitheatre stage all afternoon beginning at 1:00 p.m. Then at 5:30 p.m., E.S.P will take the stage followed by a dazzling fireworks show at 9:00 p.m. sponsored by the Fort Pierce Redevelopment Agency.

"Stars over St. Lucie" & "Jam Fest ’09" a 4th of July Celebration is sponsored by the City of Fort Pierce, The Fort Pierce Redevelopment Agency, Budweiser, Clear Channel Communications, Coca-Cola, the Long Branch Saloon, Reliable Poly John, St. Lucie Tribune, Main Street Fort Pierce and Christian FM.

This is a community event and FREE to the public.
New Explorers Post Works Hard to Help Community

by Beth Williams

A group of enthusiastic youth from our community have joined together to form a new Fort Pierce Explorers Post under the guidance of Officer Adrienne Martella and others from the city’s police department. The Explorers is a youth leadership program centered around law enforcement and is open to any teenager at least 14 years old.

In addition to the age requirement, teens must have completed the 8th grade, have no major crimes on a criminal background check, maintain a 2.5 grade point average, and be motivated to learn and participate in group activities. “We’ve already established some leadership positions in the Post and are seeing the kids take on these positions and lead others,” said Officer Martella. “We have 15 kids participating at this point.”

Explorer activities include learning the history of law enforcement, learning how to conduct traffic stops, weapon safety and learning how to use law enforcement weapons, conducting building searches, learning defensive tactics and handcuffing, learning proper radio procedures and tactical movements, working on physical fitness, participate in camping trips, and competing in annual law enforcement competitions.

“We have attended the Mega Show Challenge which is held once a year at the St. Lucie County Fair Grounds,” said Martella. “At the Challenge all of the Explorer Posts compete in law enforcement activities including felony traffic stops, domestic disturbances, crime scene investigations, air soft pistol event, drill and ceremony, and a physical fitness challenge.” Martella said that because their Post was newly formed they were not quite ready to compete but did attend and participate. “The Explorers received a ribbon for participating in the event and will wear it proudly on their dress uniforms,” said Martella. “The event really opened the eyes of our Explorers as to what it takes to become a strong Post. We’ve already started to prepare for next year’s challenge so that our Post will compete with confidence.”

The Explorers have already begun making a contribution to the community by helping out at local events such as Taste of St. Lucie, Friday Fest, and the downtown car show.

For information on becoming a member of the Fort Pierce Explorers, contact Officer Martella at 468-1805 extension 8367 or e-mailing her at amartella@fppd.org.
Andy Ingle: Downtown Hero
by Camille S. Yates

Andy Ingle is a veteran. He has provided laborous and unfaltering service and has seen years of action in, well — Fort Pierce. That's right. Andy is a veteran volunteer for Main Street Fort Pierce as well as many other organizations in the Treasure Coast area. Fourteen years ago, at the encouragement of his wife and Main Street Board member, Nancy Ingle, Andy started serving cold drinks at Friday Fixt. Since he has a passion for cooking, he also began helping at a food booth creating epicurean delights such as grilled shrimp kabobs and other grilled meats.

Ingle recalls back to the time when he had a successful corn cooking booth at the Sandy Shoe Festival. With an eye for quality, coupled with cost savings, Ingle drove to Belle Glade to buy corn, picked fresh from the fields. He had a friend who owned a huge corn cooker that held 4 bushels of corn. When asked who cooked the corn, Ingle smiles and says, "This cooker was so big that, once you got the water boiling, you put all of the corn, still in the wood crate, into the cooker. Once it was done, customers grabbed the colbs and shelled them right there." Ingle goes on to explain that the most expensive part of the whole operation was the melted butter. Put it into a huge offce and people to dip their corn into.

When asked why he likes to volunteer for Main Street, he says that he and his wife, Nancy, are "doers." We both enjoy doing things," Ingle explains. "Volunteer work is rewarding. It is good for the community and is an all around wholesome experience." Andy Ingle is not only generous, but he is also a man of many tal- ents. As an Adjunct Professor at Indian River State College (IRSC), he teaches Auto Cad and Viz, both highly technical software programs that produce comprehensive 3D modeling, animation, and rendering solutions used by architects, design- ers, engineers, and design visualization specialists. In 1994, Ingle started a business which specializes in virtual reality, taking an architectural plan and creating walk-through tours of commercial structures. This allows designers to better see how to improve their plans. For instance, Ingle can take a 6-story office building and virtually place it outside to see where shadows might fall on the building at cer- tain times of the day. This scenario allows building designers to see where mold problems might occur, among other things.

Ingle has spent time providing virtual reality plans for many organizations. Almost 15 years ago, he did a render- ing of the proposed Manatee Center and has provided dig- ital models for most of the newer buildings at IRSC. He has generously donated his expertise to the Council on Aging and the Hibiscus Children's Center by providing them with virtual reality depictions of their proposed buildings.

Ingle uniquely combined his passion for being on the water with his love of helping the community by founding the Hibiscus Children's Center Offshore Big 3 Fishing Tournament. The Hibiscus Children's Center mission is to rebuild and repair the lives of abused and neglected children and to take them to a whole new place. Much brighter place filled with hope, laughter and smiles. Ingle helps raise almost $50,000 per year for these kids.

In his spare time, Ingle likes to invent. His talents seem endless. He has a bar code for his Barbecue Sauce called Andy's Rag's to Riches and hopes to put it on shelves of stores, soon. He has also invented a cosmetic product designed to exfoliate and soften skin. Bahamas Finger Sand uses crushed argonite sand to clean fingernails. For those who like the look of Pecky Cypress wood, which is now very rare, Ingle has invented a machine to produce "High-Grain" wood. The lumber is sandblasted to remove portions of the wood that is soft and leaves the harder, grain portions of the wood.

As a gifted artisan, Ingle met Nancy while creating a huge landscape painting in the parking lot of their apart- ment complex. After they hit it off and were married, they pursued artwork together creating stained glass. Then, Ingle moved on to making landscape etchings on glass and, also, turning recycled bottles into wind chimes. Now, he is creating glass and copper sculptures of underwater scenes making his own fish molds and firing them in his kiln.

For those who like Margaritas, check out Ingle at the next Friday Fest. Apparently, he makes a mean one. For all that Andy Ingle does for Fort Pierce, and the surrounding community, he is one heck of a Downtown Hero!
National City-Harbor Foundation Awards
Sunrise Theatre and City of Fort Pierce Receive a $20,000 Grant Toward Renovation of the Multipurpose “Black Box Theatre” Space

This month, the Sunrise Theatre, located in historic downtown Fort Pierce, along with the City of Fort Pierce, received $20,000 the National City-Harbor Foundation to go towards the renovation of vacant space within the theatre complex.

With completion estimated in late October 2009, the new 210-seat multipurpose “Black Box Theatre” space would complement the main Sunrise Theatre stage, by enabling the theatre and community groups/organizations to present programs and events (e.g., weddings, galas, fundraisers, comedy, theatre, music, etc.)

The $20,000 check was presented Monday night, May 18, 2009, to the Sunrise Theatre Foundation who then turned it over to the City of Fort Pierce/Sunrise Theatre.

About The National City-Harbor Foundation

The National City-Harbor Foundation is a charitable giving arm of the PNC Financial Services Group, Inc. (NYSE:PNC, www.pnc.com). The group is one of the nation’s largest diversified financial services organizations providing retail and business banking; specialized services for corporations and government entities, including corporate banking, real estate finance and asset-based lending; wealth management; asset management and global fund services. PNC completed the acquisition of National City Corporation on Dec. 31, 2008 and conversion of National City to PNC will take place over the next two years.

About The Sunrise Theatre Foundation

The Sunrise Theatre Foundation’s primary mission is to enrich the lives of children through the performing arts. The Foundation is committed to being the preeminent force behind providing the necessary resources that showcase the importance of the performing arts to children of the Treasure Coast, through Arts Education and Outreach programs within the theatre itself, and within the various communities in the region.

In furtherance of its primary mission, the Sunrise Theatre Foundation seeks to help promote a community where young students can experience the power of live entertainment:

• Where art and ideas can be brought directly into the classroom to educate and inspire children about the performing arts;
• Where artists and teachers can help shape an appreciation of the art inside and outside of the classroom;
• Where children of all cultures, races and ethnic backgrounds can interact in meaningful ways through the performing arts; and
• Where individuals, organizations and foundations can support their belief in the value, significance and vital worth of the performing arts in our local community by encouraging and providing arts-related education for all area students.

The Sunrise Theatre Foundation’s secondary mission is to help to support the capital needs of the region’s premier performing arts hall, the Sunrise Theatre, in specific instances that are deemed to be appropriate by the Foundation’s Board of Directors.

The Sunrise Theatre, 117 South 2nd St., Fort Pierce, Florida. Contact: Renee Page, Director of Marketing, (772) 461-4775 and online at www.sunrisetheatre.com.

Fourth of July Appetizers by the Diva Devour

Guadalajara Salsa
We first tasted this salsa at our local Mexican restaurant in Parker, Colorado. The waiter wouldn’t write down the recipe but told us what was in it. The results are very close and oh so yummy!!! You MUST order tri colored tortilla chips from Cobb’s Landing (460-9014) in Historic Downtown Fort Pierce to accompany the salsa. Their fresh chips are the best!

14-ounce can petite diced tomatoes, chopped very fine
11-ounce can tomato juice
4-ounce can green chilies, chopped
Tablespoons red onion, minced
Tablespoons cilantro, minced
Tablespoons lime juice
Tablespoon jalapenos, chopped
teaspoon paprika
teaspoon ground cumin
teaspoon each salt, pepper and cayenne

In small bowl, mix all salsa ingredients and refrigerate for 2 hours. Serve with Tortilla Chips. Makes 2 cups.

Artichoke and Bacon Dip
This is one of the best artichoke dips I’ve ever had. I think you will agree!

½ pound Swiss cheese, grated
½ pound bacon, fried, drained and crumbled
2-ounce jars marinated artichoke hearts, drained and chopped
1 bunch green onions, sliced thin
⅓ cup Parmesan cheese, grated
Mayonnaise, to moisten
1 loaf round bread

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Sunrise Theatre Looks Forward to a Spectacular Season
by Renee Page, Sunrise Theatre Marketing Manager

The Sunrise Theatre’s past two seasons were record-break- ing, with a nearly 50% increase in attendance over the first year of operation. If you were fortunate enough to be one of the 40,000+ people to visit the Sunrise Theatre last season, you might have seen Charlie Daniels, Willie Nelson, America & Christopher Cross, Ron White, Art Garfunkel, Melissa Man- chester, Englebert Humperdinck and of course, Bill Cosby. Or maybe you were able to get a taste of “New York and Old Broadway” with one of national touring companies of Cats, Movin’ Out and Hairspray. Broadway” with one of national touring companies of Cats, Movin’ Out and Hairspray.

Last year was truly memorable … not to mention measurea- ble. The Sunrise Theatre had (and will continue to have) a remarkable economic impact on the City of Fort Pierce. In a little over 3 years, over 96,000 people have visited the Theatre, and a great percentage of the Sunrise Theatre patrons were also patrons of downtown or local businesses.

Sunrise Theatre’s Box Office Manager, Shiree Fajardo, and staff receive many inquiries for restaurant recommendations, both prior to and after a show. When large groups attend a show, they often want to eat at a nearby downtown restaurant as part of a planned evening or afternoon lunch for a matinee performance.

The 2009/2010 season proves to be even more spectacular than last year with the likes of Kenny Rogers, the Village Peo- ple, Barrage, Natalie McMaster, Chris Botri, 2009 Grammy Award winners Cherryholmes and Steve Lawrence, to name only a few. The Sunrise Theatre season would not be complete without a Broadway series and this year’s shows include Camelot, Cabaret, Tap Dogs, and The Wedding Singer should only a few. The first camp of the season, My First Day Camp, was geared towards introducing the youngest of nature lovers to all of the wonders of the out- doors. Campers, ages 3-6, spent the morning hours enjoying games and activities learning the importance of sharing, listening and cooper- ating. Indoor and outdoor adventures had the little campers enjoying activities and projects such as bug collecting, seed planting and lagoon creature discovery! Estuary Explor- ers, aged 6-9, enjoyed full days of wet and wild exploration! Who knew learning about nature could be so fun! The camps scheduled for this month offer older campers exciting experi- ences that join fun with learning about our envi- ronment. To view the July camps and to sign up your child, log on to www.manateecenter.com. Summer doesn’t slow things down when it comes to enjoying nature on your own, either. This is the time to enjoy the water that surrounds us. Whether swimming in the ocean, fishing, boat- ing or kayaking, there is much to explore. July and August is the time of year when shorebirds and sea turtles are nesting on the beaches. If you’re enjoying an evening stroll along the beach, be sure to watch out for young sea tur- tles hatching and making their way to the ocean. August is also when the first blocks of blue-winged and green-winged teal arrive to winter on Florida lakes and wetlands. The lagoon and ocean are full of oppor- tunities for boaters and fisherman to enjoy nature’s beauty and bounty, but be sure to avoid injuring resident manatees and dolphins that inhabit our waters.

Let’s not forget activities for the land lovers. There are plen- ty of biking and hik- ing trails to enjoy in the wonderful parks around the area. The

**Things are Heating Up at the Manatee Center**

*by Jann Widmayer*

As the summer heats up, so does the activity at the Manatee Center. Although the Center is open only Thursday through Saturday (10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.) during the months of July through September, it doesn’t mean that the activities slow down. Summer months mean summer campers, and lots of them. We have added sev- eral new and exciting camps to choose from this year. The first camp of the season, My First Day Camp, was geared towards introducing the youngest of nature lovers to all of the wonders of the out- doors. Campers, ages 3-6, spent the morning hours enjoying games and activities learning the importance of sharing, listening and cooper- ating. Indoor and outdoor adventures had the little campers enjoying activities and projects such as bug collecting, seed planting and lagoon creature discovery! Estuary Explor- ers, aged 6-9, enjoyed full days of wet and wild exploration! Who knew learning about nature could be so fun! The camps scheduled for this month offer older campers exciting experi- ences that join fun with learning about our envi- ronment. To view the July camps and to sign up your child, log on to www.manateecenter.com. Summer doesn’t slow things down when it comes to enjoying nature on your own, either. This is the time to enjoy the water that surrounds us. Whether swimming in the ocean, fishing, boat- ing or kayaking, there is much to explore. July and August is the time of year when shorebirds and sea turtles are nesting on the beaches. If you’re enjoying an evening stroll along the beach, be sure to watch out for young sea tur- tles hatching and making their way to the ocean. August is also when the first blocks of blue-winged and green-winged teal arrive to winter on Florida lakes and wetlands. The lagoon and ocean are full of oppor- tunities for boaters and fisherman to enjoy nature’s beauty and bounty, but be sure to avoid injuring resident manatees and dolphins that inhabit our waters.

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Why You Should Consider Long-Term Care Insurance
Submitted by Jim O’Connor, CFP®, CIMA®, Financial Advisor, Vice President

The majority of us will require assistance with health and personal needs. Long-term care, whether provided at home or in a nursing home, can be very expensive. The average cost of one year in a nursing home is nearly $74,000; round-the-clock home care can be much more.

Unfortunately, many people are not prepared for these expenses, partly due to increasing life expectancies. Half of couples age 65 and over can expect one spouse to live past 90. And living longer does not always mean living healthy. When you cannot perform two of the six Activities of Daily Living (bathing, eating, dressing, toileting, continence, transferring), long-term care insurance can provide for paid assistance.

Neither the government nor your health insurance will cover your long-term care needs. Medicare provides little, if any custodial care. Medicaid, which is a government provision for long-term care, your financial program could be depleted by health care expenses. Whether you want to preserve your estate for your heirs or simply have enough to pay these expenses without exhausting your assets, you should consider long-term care insurance.

“We insure our homes against the slight risk of losing them in a fire, and our autos against the somewhat higher risk of damaging them in an accident. These risks pale beside the magnitude of need of care as we age, which is greater than 1 in 3, according to one major insurer.2 “Unless you have made provision for long-term care, your financial program could be thrown into chaos by large, unanticipated costs.”1 If life insurance is your protection against living too long, we need long-term care insurance to preserve your estate.

In addition, we are a generation that overspends and undersaves. Many people do not invest enough for retirement, much less plan how to protect those assets from being consumed by long-term care needs. No one wants to labor a lifetime to accumulate assets only to see them depleted by health care expenses. Whether you want to preserve your estate for your heirs or simply have enough to pay these expenses without exhausting your assets, you should consider long-term care insurance.

“Considering long-term care insurance is your protection against living too long that is, before you have impoverished yourself down to $2,000 worth of assets in most states.”1 Furthermore, Medicaid until you have impoverished yourself down to $2,000 is no longer excluded the value of your personal residence from your net worth. In addition, it will “look back” five years for possible asset shifting among relatives.

In addition, we are a generation that overspends and undersaves. Many people do not invest enough for retirement, much less plan how to protect those assets from being consumed by long-term care needs. No one wants to labor a lifetime to accumulate assets only to see them depleted by health care expenses. Whether you want to preserve your estate for your heirs or simply have enough to pay these expenses without exhausting your assets, you should consider long-term care insurance.

“What should you look for in a policy? Be sure the policy covers in-home care; most of us would prefer to stay in the comfort of our own home. For every person in a nursing home, there are four more being cared for in their homes.”2 In-home care may include home health aides and personal care attendants for help with hygiene, dressing and managing medications. Homemaker services may be available for help with meal preparation, laundry and light house cleaning.

Adult day care programs are usually covered, as is hospice care in the event of terminal illness where special care at home or in a facility is required. Substantial discounts may be available for shared policies that couples buy together.

Check the policy to determine if care providers can be independent, rather than affiliated with a home care agency. That way, even friends and neighbors may be able to provide unskilled services.

Be sure that assisted care facilities for Alzheimer’s are not excluded, and that you can have private duty nursing care in a nursing home if desired. A good policy will have built-in inflation protection, providing annual benefit increases. Once coverage begins, some policies waive premiums.

You must select several required options: What do you want the monthly benefit to be? Most people choose between $3,000 and $5,000. In a good policy, the amount you do not use one month stays in the pool of available funds, thereby extending the life of the policy.

For your needs, how long will your elimination period be before benefits kick in? All policies have an elimination period — the amount of time you must pay expenses yourself before your coverage begins. E.g., 30, 90 or 180 days, which is like a deductible. The longer the elimination period, the lower the premium will be.

Considering long-term care needs requires us to look far ahead. Since premiums are based on age, the younger you are, the less expensive the premiums can be.

Premiums are also flat — but rate increases have been made on some policies. Consumers should examine the history of rate increases made by companies they are interested in for long-term care. A financial advisor can help you select the coverage you need and determine a financially strong insurance company with a good track record.

Long-term care insurance provides a financial “safety net” to help preserve financial independence, choice and dignity in advance of any unforeseen circumstances or crises. It can be a thoughtful way to protect rather than strain family relationships when the time comes for you to need care.

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Summer on the Water
by Dan Dannahower

We’re well into our summer season. Boating, fishing, beach-going, picnics, the list goes on and on. The summer weather pattern is upon us. Bright calm mornings and hot stormy afternoons are the norm. We missed the usual spring weather of calm days and moderate temperatures and went straight from the winds and fronts of winter to the heat and storms of summer. Something about summer brings out all the boaters, fishermen and water sports enthusiasts. Our inland and offshore waters and beaches offer a large variety of summer activities for those who enjoy the outdoors and the water.

The Indian River Lagoon offers great fishing by boat or from the bridges and seawalls. Trout, redfish and snook fishing have been good on the flats and in the turning basin. Drum, sheepshead, snapper and other bottom fish can be taken along rocky ledges or from seawalls and other shore locations. A number of parks and beach accesses are available for those who want to picnic, take a dip or just sunbathe near the water. River sightseeing and manatee and dolphin watching tours are available as are guided river fishing trips.

For the offshore enthusiast the waters of the Treasure Coast are well known for great fishing and diving. Fishing for kingfish and dolphin has been good with some wahoo, cobia and others being taken. Bottom fishing for snapper, sea bass and grouper is always popular. Lobster season opens in August and always draws a large crowd of divers seeking the delicious bottom crawlers. For those who don’t own a boat numerous charters are available for chasing the big game fish. Party boats offer an inexpensive way to spend a day on the ocean bottom fishing for a variety of delicious local fare.

Two recent offshore trips with my friends Ed and Gail Lewis aboard their boat Renegade resulted in a number of kingfish and some sea bass but no dolphin, wahoo or cobia. One very large cobia tricked us and got away after a 20 minute battle and a lot of excitement. That’s why it’s called fishing rather than catching! But it’s always fun and you never know what you might catch, or not!

Our second trip ended in a very miserable and scary ride home through a line of thunderstorms. Ensure you are aware of the weather forecast and what to watch out for. Know when to head for shore or the dock. Our summer storms can contain lightning, high winds and rough seas. Common sense and a little knowledge of the weather can keep you safe and ensure a fun trip. Boaters, be sure your safety equipment is up to date and in good condition. Go to myflorida.com for a number of links to boating and fishing regulations, safety and weather tips, etc.

Whatever your preference, get out and enjoy our wonderful water resources. Have a great time in the Treasure Coast outdoors and stay safe!
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