The Sandy Shoes Festival will be held on Saturday, March 22, at Veteran’s Memorial Park, 600 North Indian River Drive in Fort Pierce, from 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

What a way to spend a spring day but in beautiful downtown Fort Pierce!

Come join family and friends as we kick off our shoes, dig our feet in the sand, and enjoy a great day of music, food and fun!

See story on page 13 …
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Just recently, the Fort Pierce Police Athletic League hosted the 2008 State Boxing Championship in their newly renovated, donated space by the Fort Pierce Redevelopment Agency (FPRA) on North Second Street. With “oohs” and “ahhs” from other state boxing officials and clubs that participated in the event, it was exciting to see that Fort Pierce has a community facility that is appreciated and welcomed by residents and visitors alike.

The Police Athletic League (PAL) is instrumental to our community by providing safe, education and recreational for our youth. In addition to boxing, Fort PAL provides a children’s play area in the large facility complete with trampoline, boxing ring, weightlifting gym and stage for theatrical performances. Master Officer Paul Pearson is an integral part of the PAL organization and is to be commended on his efforts over the years. Paul is a regular at Friday Fest who helps the PAL group with their food booth at our monthly event.

It is important to realize that through the city’s redevelopment agency, not only does it build structures like the new parking garage and the R. Duke Nelson Human Development Resources Centre, but it supports the efforts of volunteerism in organizations like PAL, Main Street Fort Pierce, Downtown Business Association, etc. that better our community. Main Street was afforded a grant from the FPRA to renovate the historic Platts/Backus house that will soon become our office. Through partnerships with non-profit groups, the redevelopment agency assists in developing and enhancing our cultural, historic and economic vitality that benefits the entire city. On way to look at the agency is that it’s not just buildings, but a whole lot more with partnership and an important tool to the city’s redevelopment efforts for residents to reap the rewards.
We Can Put Your Energy On A Budget

If you are like most people, you want to know what your bills are going to be so that you can plan ahead. That’s especially important around summer time. When you enroll in Fort Pierce Utilities’ (FPUA) free Budget Billing program, you will know exactly what your monthly energy bills will be.

Each month we bill you the same amount based on your prior year’s energy usage. We even monitor your usage patterns and will make an adjustment to your monthly amount, if necessary. Once you are on Budget Billing, your account may not be delinquent.

To sign up for Budget Billing, call 466-1600, Ext. 3900, or go to the Customer Service heading at www.fpua.com.

Fort Pierce Utilities
www.fpua.com
Friday, March 7:  Friday Fest — 5:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m.; Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880, www.mainstreetfortpierce.org.

Wednesday, March 12:  DBA Artwalk — 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.; Downtown Business Association, 465-7080.

Friday, March 21:  Coffee with the Mayor — 8:00 a.m.; Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880.

Saturday, March 22: 8:00 a.m.; Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880.

Friday, March 28:  Classic Car Cruise-In — Friday, March 28:

For information, please call 462-2787 or visit www.manateecenter.com.

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

Friday, March 14:  “I Wanna Be An Astronaut;” 6 to 10 p.m.; learn about space, rockets and astronauts. Be a real crew member, make a rocket blast off, color pictures, play games, eat space food and more. $20 per child per activity ($5 discount each additional in family) includes activities, dinner and movie. “Wannabe Nights” open to children 7 – 11 years.

Turbo Workout Class:  Tuesdays, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. and Thursdays 5:30 to 6 p.m.; musically choreographed exercise routines for men and women, incorporate Tae Bo and Pilates; $40 for four-week session; first class is free.

Floor Acrobatics and Tumbling Class:  Beginner class for boys and girls 6 – 10; basic floor tumbling moves, improving strength, flexibility, coordination; Mondays 4 to 5 p.m.; $25 per month; first class is free.

Pre-teen/Teen Exercise & Tumbling Class:  Children 11 years and up; exercise routines, tumbling techniques; Mondays, 7 to 8 p.m.; $25 a month; first class is free.

Tumbling for Tots:  Children 3 – 4 years; basic tumbling techniques incorporated through the use of music and dance expression; Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 to 11 a.m.; $20 a month; a free introductory session Tues., Feb. 26, 10 a.m.
“Souvenirs of Downtown”
En Plein Air - Paint Out
Sponsored by: Main Street Fort Pierce, Inc.
An Art and Outdoor Event April 24 through April 26, 2008
Plein Air Artist: RL Freeman Davenport
Painting: Indian River Drive

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Close to Historic Downtown Fort Pierce
Fort Pierce Public Investment is Paying Off!

by Fort Pierce Mayor Bob Benton

All stages of public investment can be seen throughout our Fort Pierce community. Here is a status report! The R. Duke Nelson Human Development & Resource Center, a partnership between Indian River Community College, The Boy's & Girl's Club of St. Lucie County and the City of Fort Pierce, is one of the biggest investments in the Lincoln Park area to date. It will serve the citizens well, with resources to further education, assistance and personal development. Phase 1 has opened and Phase 2 will open later this year.

Reconstruction of Seventh Street from Georgia Avenue to Orange Avenue is complete, complementing the grand opening of a private investment project, the Citrus Avenue Professional Building. This beautiful project by RK Davis Construction is the new location for the Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines and Frank accounting firm.

Seventh Street from Orange Avenue to Avenue D is currently under construction. This project will connect and spur redevelopment of the Seventh Street and Avenue D area.

The downtown parking garage, though delayed, will be complete any day now. The Fort Pierce Police Department is the first tenant of the office space located on Orange Avenue, making a presence in the downtown area.

The reconstruction of Atlantic Avenue from Second Street east, to Melody Lane and Orange Avenue from Indian River Drive to Melody Lane should be completed by April. This road work will compliment the opening of the St. Lucie County Clerk of Courts building and the largest private investment in downtown Fort Pierce in 50 years, the Renaissance on the River. The Renaissance on the River is a mixed use project with residential, office and retail space, available for ownership.

On the beach, reconstruction of A1A is currently underway from Gulfstream Drive south to the city limits. Rebuilding our beach parks from JC Park to Causeway Park is a work in progress.

Fort Pierce has a lot to be proud of. As we work hard for the betterment of our community and invite public investment we continue to bring in private business and jobs. Fort Pierce's future continues to be bright!
The Meaning of March
by Camille S. Yates

“March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb.” “Beware of the Ides of March.” These are quotes that most of us have heard, but do we know the true meaning behind them?

The first quote may have something to do with the weather in March. All that’s known, for sure, is that the saying first appeared in English literature in 1624. Shakespeare notes that the daffodils of early spring can “take the winds of March with beauty.” Most people can relate that March starts out cold and ferocious, like a lion, but it may end up warm and gentle like a lamb.

Some say that the phrase may have its origins with the constellations Leo, the Lion, and Aries, the ram or lamb. It has to do with the relative positions of these constellations in the sky at the beginning and end of the month.

The second expression, “Beware of the Ides of March,” is not referring to weather. Years ago, the ides were a way of expressing a time on the calendar. In the complicated world of the Roman calendar, there were 45 public festivals as well as the ides of each month, days which were sacred to Jupiter. In March, May, July and October, the ides fell on the 15th.

Julius Caesar established the Julian calendar, which is the basis of our current system, using 365 days a year and 366 in a leap year. In the old lunar calendar, the Ides had been the day of the full moon, but by Caesar’s time it was simply the midpoint of the month.

In modern times, the term Ides of March is best known as the date that Julius Caesar was assassinated in 44 BC. William Shakespeare retells the story in his play, Julius Caesar. The term, “Beware of the Ides of March,” has come to be used as a metaphor for impending doom.

There are other significant occurrences in March that are worth mentioning. March 17th marks the day of remembrance of Saint Patrick. St. Patrick was born in Britain to wealthy parents near the end of the fourth century. He is believed to have died on March 17, around 460 A.D. When he was sixteen, Patrick was taken prisoner by a group of Irish raiders who were attacking his family’s estate. They transported him to Ireland and held him captive for six years, but he escaped after hearing a voice from God saying that it was time to leave Ireland.

After escaping to Britain, Patrick reported that he experienced a second revelation—an angel in a dream tells him to return to Ireland as a missionary. Soon after, Patrick began fifteen years of religious training. After his ordination as a priest, he was sent to Ireland with a dual mission to minister to Christians already living in Ireland and to begin to convert the Irish.

After his death, the Irish held St. Patrick’s Day as a religious feast. Since St. Patrick’s Day falls during the Christian season of Lent, Irish families would traditionally attend church in the morning and
celebrate in the afternoon. Lenten prohibitions against the consumption of meat were waived and people would dance, drink, and feast on the traditional meal of Irish bacon and cabbage.

Finally, the month of March is noteworthy for the vernal equinox — the first day of spring, which falls on March 20 – 21st. At this time, the center of the Sun will spend a nearly equal amount of time above and below the horizon at every location on Earth. As a result, night and day should be nearly the same length. The word equinox derives from the Latin words aequus (equal) and nox (night). In reality, the day is longer than the night at an equinox.

For thousands of years, people have recognized the vernal equinox with rituals and traditions celebrating the spring season, mainly because their food supplies would soon be restored. The date is significant in Christianity because Easter always falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the vernal equinox. It is also probably no coincidence that early Egyptians built the Great Sphinx so that it points directly toward the rising Sun on the day of the vernal equinox.

Downtown Fort Pierce is a perfect place to celebrate March’s traditions. The waterfront on Melody Lane is an ideal spot to enjoy the coming of spring, especially during a Saturday Farmer’s Market. Also, Second Street will be bustling during St. Patrick’s Day. So, mark your calendars and enjoy these time-honored activities.
The third annual Cowboy Golf experience will be held on Saturday, April 19 at The Adam’s Ranch, located west of Fort Pierce. Bud Adam’s cows have been mowing the greens and fertilizing the fairways just for you! The lure of the cowboy heritage brings curious folk to the Adam’s Ranch course to experience first hand the old west. This event brings “cowboys” and not so serious “golfers” together for some good old fashion FUN!! Golfers represent a full spectrum of talent, from Buckaroo Duffers to Ace-High Pros.

In this unique golf tournament, where clubs are optional, the green keepers are cows, and the holes are tin cans, toilet seats, horseshoes and assortment of other “cowpoke” type objects. Cowboy golfers can carry up to three clubs or other type of putting devises. The greens are exceptionally tough with its cow grass, some of it six inches high with a little sage brush for good measure. This may be the only course in the world where golfers can declare a lost ball while putting! Some shots chase down rabbits; some fall down varmint holes. Putting on this vast pastureland is a challenge. Cows don’t know the difference between greens and fairways, and they trample both areas with equal enthusiasm, leaving cow pies to attract any type of boot! It ain’t the PGA!

Continued on page 12 …
**TOP TEN THINGS WE LOVE ABOUT COWBOY GOLF**

10. A game you can play no matter what the weather.
9. Low greens fees.
8. Best place to find “my kind of people.”
7. Requires touch and talent over technology.
6. No pressure to buy new sticks.
5. The only dress code is “cowboy.”
4. Getting there often will take you off the beaten path through beautiful countryside.
3. No referees, striped shirts or whistles blowing — just ball in the hole in the fewest strokes.
2. Extreme unlikelihood that a pompous announcer speaking in hushed tones will be describing the play.
1. Every game has a chance of being, in Bill Murray’s immortal words, “A Cinderella Story.”

*Bud Adams*
... continued from page 10

Of course there are prizes! And, after the big tournament, your taste buds will savor an old fashion western barbecue and Silent Auction. Join us for a Hog Killin’ Time!

Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. and golf begins at 9:00 a.m. A team consists of four cowpoke and/or cowgirls, but if you don’t have a team of your own, come on out and we’ll hook you up with one. The tax-deductible donation is $100 per Cowpoke. Fees include 9 holes of Cowboy Golf, a Goofy Goody Bag, Breakfast Grub, and a BBQ lunch. Extra BBQ Tickets, for family and friends, are $25/adults; $10/Children under 12. For more information or to sign up please call Main Street Fort Pierce at 772-466-3880.
Get Some Sand In Your Shoes At The
2008 Sandy Shoes Festival

Presented by Main Street Fort Pierce, Inc. and The Tribune

by Pam Gillette

Kick off your shoes and sink your feet into the sand. Spring is in the air, the weather is beautiful and everyone wants to be outside. Combine all of these facts and its time for the Sandy Shoes Festival. The Sandy Shoes Festival brings to our community the ideas and values of Fort Pierce past. The festival is a local tradition that was started in 1957 and brings music, local business competitions and fun back to the tourists and residents of our community.

Starting off the day at 11:30 a.m. will be the Iron Chef Competition, sponsored by the Tribune. Taking its lead from the popular Food Network show, invited local chefs will be given the same ingredients and time to prepare memorable dishes for the judges. The chefs will be judged on taste and presentation and the right to be called the Top Chef in St. Lucie County for the day.

Back by popular demand is the Grapefruit Squeeze-Off, sponsored by Riverside National Bank. This is always an exciting event and due to the history of the citrus industry in St. Lucie County, it has always been a staple of the Sandy Shoes Festival. Pat Alley will be on hand to emcee the competition between local banks, schools, and community leaders as they squeeze grapefruits for the top prize — community bragging rights.

If music is our love, the Sandy Shoes Festival will have a variety of music for all ages. Starting at 11:00 a.m. and ending at 9:00 p.m., Main Street Fort Pierce will provide music at 3 stage areas. The Community Stage, sponsored by Long Branch Saloon, will provide local bands and karaoke during the day from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., the amphitheater stage will provide music from 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., and the Backus Gallery & Museum/Manatee Center parking area will have a DJ from 11:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. sponsored by Southern Bike Night.

Southern Bike Night has joined with Main Street Fort Pierce this year to sponsor the Sandy Shoes Festival Poker Run. Southern Bike Night is an organization that provides communication to bikers on the many motorcycle events in South Florida. Southern Bike Night & Big Easy Media Productions work closely with many charities to help promote their fundraising events and get the word out about these clubs and organizations. Main Street Fort Pierce is excited about the partnership with Southern Bike Night and the additions they will bring to the festival.

The Sandy Shoes Poker Run will begin at 10:00 a.m. at the Backus Gallery & Museum/Manatee Center parking area.
with the Blessing of the Bikes by the Christian Motorcycle Association, followed by breakfast. Registration is at 11:00 a.m. and the first bike out immediately follows. The last bike out will take place by 12:00 p.m. Bikes start arriving back at the festival at 3:00 p.m. for the completion of the poker run, music and entertainment. Stay tuned to www.southernbikenight.com for more details on the Poker Run.

New this year to the Sandy Shoes Festival is The Busch Beer/Bass Pro Shops Mobile Marketing Experience sponsored by Southern Eagle Distributing. The Busch Bass Pro Mobile Exhibit is an interactive mobile display featuring fun, outdoor-themed activities created for the enjoyment of consumers 21 years of age and older. Busch sampling is also available (where legal).

Adult consumers can have fun and experience the virtual outdoors when they visit the Busch Bass Pro Mobile Exhibit. They can try their hand at a number of interactive, electronic gaming areas. Anglers can even test their casting proficiency from a virtual dock. So if fishing and hunting are your passion, come and experience the Busch Bass Pro Mobile Exhibit.

Along with the competitions, poker run and the Busch Bass Pro Mobile Exhibit, the Sandy Shoes Festival has much more to offer. Each year our arts and crafts section increases to bring the public a wide variety of handmade crafts and merchandise to choose from, as well as the non-profit organizations that are there to promote their organizations and provide activities. The St. Lucie County Historical Society will be there with books and merchandise on the history of our county and maybe even a glimpse as to the beginning of the Sandy Shoes Festival.

Don’t forget the children! Main Street Fort Pierce has teamed up with Paragon Entertainment to bring inflatable balloon activities to the festival. Paragon will have a 22-foot-high dual-lane slide, a bounce house and obstacle course. For more information on the inflatables:
www.paragonentertainment.com. Also available for the kids are our giant sand box and coloring wall, face painting, pony rides and more.

Main Street Fort Pierce will have plenty of food to choose from at the festival. The food variety includes Greek, Caribbean, barbecue ribs & chicken, seafood, Americana, and various snack items.

The Sandy Shoes Festival will be held on Saturday, March 22, 2008 at Veteran’s Memorial Park, 600 North Indian River Drive, Fort Pierce, FL from 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

What a way to spend a spring day but in beautiful downtown Fort Pierce. Come join family and friends, as we kick off our shoes, dig our feet in the sand, and enjoy a great day of music, food and fun.

For more information, sponsorship or volunteer opportunities on the Sandy Shoes Festival call the Main Street Fort Pierce office @ 466-3880.

The Main Street Fort Pierce and Tribune Sandy Shoes Festival sponsors as of print date include: Major Event Sponsor — Comcast, Scripps Treasure Coast Newspapers & Southern Eagle Distributing – Budweiser; Main Event Sponsors — Clear Channel Communications (WAVE Country 92.7, OLDIES 103.7, STAR 94.7), Coca-Cola Bottling Company, Lawnwood Regional Medical Center and St. Lucie Medical Center; Community Stage Sponsor — Long Branch Saloon; Iron Chef Competition Sponsor — The Tribune; Grapefruit Squeeze Off Sponsor — Riverside National Bank; Poker Run Sponsor: Southern Bike Night. Special thanks to: the A.E. Backus Gallery & Museum, the City of Fort Pierce, the Manatee Observation & Education Center, the Seven Gables House and St. Lucie County Parks and Recreation.
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Beads & Baubles Presents Venetian Bead Master
Luigi Cattelan from Murano, Italy

by Sue Dannahower

Beads & Baubles owner, Susan Barette, travels all over the world buying unique beads. During her travels she met Luigi Cattelan and asked him to visit Fort Pierce. He did, loved our town and is now returning for his 4th visit.

Luigi will be giving demonstrations at Beads & Baubles on March 5-8, 2008. There will be a public open house on Friday, March 7, 2008. This is the only place in the United States where Luigi gives his demonstrations. His trunk show will include blown beads, trade beads, chevrons, foils and figurines.

About Luigi Cattelan: Born and raised in Murano (Venice) Italy, Luigi comes from a family of glass masters, dating as far back as the 15th Century!

For Luigi, glass and bead making is not a novelty but rather a way of life. It’s in his blood, his culture, his ancestry, and it’s in his economy where he has lived his whole life, in Murano, the island where the art of blowing glass originated approximately 500 years ago.

Surrounded by glass artists and craftsmen, furnaces, factories, glass stores, and glass lingo, it was only a matter of time before he would follow the family tradition and work within the glass industry.

For 20 years, Luigi worked as the director of production in the oldest glass factory in Murano: the Societa’ Veneziana Conterie founded in 1893. Due to foreign competition, the factory, which produced chevron and seed beads, was forced to close down in 1992. It was then that he decided to use his experience and skills into making beads on his own.

He has since launched the chevron bead back into the Italian and African markets. Using the compositions of glass from the S.V.C., as well as, from his grandfather and great-grandfathers, Luigi is the only remaining Muranese who continues to produce chevron beads. And if that’s not enough, where “one man’s junk is another man’s treasure”, Luigi, while forging through old warehouses and factories on the island, has come upon many kilos of old and rare chevron cane, which he then makes into beads. It is these beads that remind him of the past, an innate appreciation and understanding that he values dearly, a respect to the memory of the Muranese glass masters who went before him.

Beads & Baubles is proud to present this world-renowned Venetian bead master to Fort Pierce. For more information please contact Susan Barette of Beads & Baubles at 772-468-0207 or stop by the store located at 203 North 2nd Street in Historic Downtown Fort Pierce.
What is En Plein-Air Painting?

En plein air is a French expression which means “in the open air” and is used to describe the act of painting outdoors. To paint plein air means to take one’s canvas and easel outside to discover the beauty that surrounds us. The artist is painting real life through their own eyes, at that certain point in time and bringing that moment to the canvas for the public to see.

Artists have been painting outdoors for a long time, but it takes a special artist to capture the essence of time in the outdoors. Artists need to challenge themselves, to observe and absorb what is in front of them, block out the elements and channel the feelings of what inspired them to stop at this place and record this view into history.

The beginning of plein air painting was founded in the nineteenth century. The Impressionist painters believed that you should trust your eyes and paint the effects of light on the objects. They believed that light could be conveyed by color and to prove this they took their canvases, easels and paint tubes outdoors, where the impressionist vision soon became a truthful expression of outdoor life.

Plein air painting changed the way the art world looked at the outdoors. Today plein air painters continue to think that painting outdoors is a special part of their art.
are challenged to capture the light and colors of a particular place and time. This allows them to show the public the outdoors treasures hidden right before their eyes.

**What is “Souvenirs of Downtown?”**

“Souvenirs of Downtown” is a plein air paint out in Downtown Fort Pierce. “Souvenirs of Downtown” will be sponsored by *Main Street Fort Pierce* in conjunction with the kick off of their 20th year and the opening of the Platt’s/Backus House.

*Main Street Fort Pierce*, along with the assistance of Plein air painters Ellen Fischer and RL Freeman Davenport of *Brush Strokes Gallery*, invited artists into the historic downtown Fort Pierce area. The artists will arrive and start painting on Thursday, April 24, 2008 and paint through Saturday, April 26, 2008. Paintings will be available for purchase throughout the 3 days and at the Souvenirs Bash on Saturday afternoon.

“Souvenirs of Downtown” is a wonderful chance to see a professional artist at work. Artists will be painting in different locations around the downtown area from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Thursday, April 24 and Friday, April 25 and then from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 26. The public is invited to come watch the artist paint and interact with them about their artwork. If you enjoy art, this is the opportunity to purchase quality work by well known Florida Artists and also assist in the renovation of the 110 year old Platt’s/Backus House. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of every art piece painted during the paint out will go to the restoration and preservation of the Platt’s/Backus House.

On Saturday, April 26, 2008, *Main Street Fort Pierce* will conclude the 3-day event with a Souvenir’s Bash. The Souvenir’s Bash will be held from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Platt’s/Backus House, 122 AE Backus Avenue, Fort Pierce, FL. Tickets for the Bash are $20.00 per person and include: opportunity to meet the artists and purchase the artwork painted during the event; opportunity to get a sneak preview of the Platt’s/Backus House prior to the Grand Opening; live music, appetizers, beverages.

*Main Street Fort Pierce* encourages you to be part of “Souvenirs of Downtown” our newest event and the many other projects and goals of our organization. Your support will be make a difference in the historic preservation and revitalization of our community and pave the way to preserving our unique heritage.

Come join us April 24 thru April 26, 2008 for “Souvenirs of Downtown” En Plein Air – Paint Out and Souvenir’s Bash. For more information on the event and/or tickets for the Souvenir’s Bash call the *Main Street* office at (772) 466-3880.
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Comming to Sandy Shoes Festival March 22nd.

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"Nobody Knows Hutchinson Island &
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Artists and crews have begun installing 30 different, large-scale sculptures throughout St. Lucie County as part of the WOW 2 (With Out Walls) art exhibit. Sponsored by the St. Lucie County Cultural Affairs Council’s Art in Public Places program and the Fort Pierce Redevelopment Agency, this unique outdoor exhibit will be on display throughout the year at various locations in the county.

Consisting of 33 artists from all over Florida, the group includes eight women and three African American sculptors, who have loaned existing works, as well as created original pieces for this exhibit. Some of the sculptures stand as high as 15 feet and are made of heavy concrete and steel, weighing several hundred pounds.

The installation process for many of these sculptures requires the use of cranes and forklifts and as many as a dozen people. “It’s great to have these wonderful works of art throughout the community and the Cultural Affairs Council greatly appreciates city and county staff assisting with the installation. Most importantly we appreciate the artists’ participation in one of Florida’s largest sculpture exhibition,” said St. Lucie County Cultural Affairs Director Jody Bonet. “This is really an interesting group of sculptors. I’ve never seen a more diverse group for a show,” said John Hayes, St. Lucie County Art in Public Places consultant. “Some of these artists I found in the woods, literally.”

These impressive sculptures will be placed at various public places throughout St. Lucie County, including libraries, parks, boat ramps and government buildings. Several pieces will be located on public property in the cities of Fort Pierce and Port St. Lucie, including both city halls.

St. Lucie County’s Cultural Affairs Council will hold a grand opening for the exhibit on Friday, April 4 at Fort Pierce City Hall, followed by a day-long symposium on Saturday, April 5 at City Hall, the Sunrise Theatre and Indian River Community College in Fort Pierce. St. Lucie County’s first WOW exhibit took place in 2004 and featured roughly 40 pieces by artist David Hayes. One of those pieces is on permanent display in front of Fort Pierce City Hall facing U.S. 1.

“What’s so unique about this exhibit is that it...
features a large number of works by people from all over the state with a huge diverse background, as opposed to a collection of works by a single artist,” added Hayes. Artists participating in WOW 2 include: Jorge Blanco of Sarasota, Felicia Carlisle of Pensacola, Duncan Chamberlain of Sarasota, Pat Cochran of Fort Pierce, David Combie of Orlando, Robert Coon of Vero Beach, Michael Cottrell of Jacksonville, Bob Fetty of New Smyrna, Valerie George of Pensacola, Susan Gott of Tampa, Jenny Hager of Jacksonville, Charles Hook of Tallahassee, Dennis Howland of Tallahassee, Dennis Koval of Sarasota, Deborah Lagrasse of Tallahassee, Andy Lite of Tallahassee, Jim Luciano of St. Lucie County, Harry Messersmith of Deland, BJ Noelke of Jacksonville, Ade Ofunniyin of Gainesville, Onabmiero of Gainesville, Yaw Osayin of Gainesville, Ginny Peich Street of Vero Beach, Bill Platt of Orlando, Anita Prentice of Fort Pierce, Vickey Randall of Sarasota, John Raulerson of Tallahassee, Chris Scala of Orlando, Terry Thommes of Stuart, Enzo Torcoletti of St. Augustine, Lance Vicory of Jacksonville, John Wilton of Deland and John Wolfe of Deland.

The 30 pieces of artwork for this exhibit were selected out of nearly 140 different sculptures. Once all of the artwork is installed, Hayes and staff members from both Fort Pierce and St. Lucie County will be putting together informational maps and brochures about all 30 sculptures.

For more information about St. Lucie County’s WOW 2, contact the St. Lucie County Cultural Affairs Department at (772) 462-2548 or St. Lucie County Art in Public Places Consultant John Hayes at (772) 462-3095.
Anita Prentice to Unveil 4th in Zora Series

by Sue Dannahower

Anita Prentice will unveil her forth portrait of Zora Neale Hurston at Picture Perfect on March 12th for March’s Artwalk. The new portrait is called “A Word is Worth a Thousand Pictures.” In this new piece Zora is surrounded by her many books, plays and articles as if a patchwork quilt envelopes her. Anita says, “Memories of my Grandmother’s quilts and southern stories told, are my inspiration. Zora’s stories make one feel the importance of keeping the “down home” stories alive. For me as a visual artist, Zora’s stories are so multi-textured; one actually sees the stories unfold as her words take you. Once you start reading Zora, pictures come alive.”

The first three portraits are “Jump At de Sun” Zora’s face surrounded by her favorite flowers under a bright sun. The second portrait is “Mystique” where Zora is playing a conga in Haiti where she studied hoodoo. The third portrait is “The Crow Dance” which features Zora dancing on a red piano while crows fly above her head. All of these portraits are rendered in frescoed mosaics using stained glass. The first three mosaics will be hanging at the St Lucie Historical museum from Mid March until mid April to commemorate Zora Fest 2008.

The new Zora portrait will be at Picture Perfect until mid April as well. The originals are not for sale but prints of all four portraits will be for sale at Picture Perfect which is located at 122 2nd Street in Historic Downtown Fort Pierce. For more information call 772-461-0410. Hours of the Artwalk are 5p.m. - 8p.m. Also included in Anita’s show will be new works, originals for sale, furniture, landscapes, and fish mounts.
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Cirque Odyssey Comes to March Friday Fest

“Testing the limits of the human body and challenging what the mind believes is possible, it is an amazing cornucopia of daring skill, grace, strength and agility. The excellent fitness and beauty of the performers, with magnificence and physical prowess, is even more enhanced by the brilliantly colorful and ingenious design of original hand-made costumes. Each act tells a story, each character is key to that story and each detail is refined to create the spellbinding scenario of this clever production. This high-energy show, with its colorful and cutting edge suspense is perfect for audiences young and old.”

Cirque Odyssey will be making a special appearance at the March Friday Fest. Between the hours of 5:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. on Friday March 7, 2008, members of the cast of Cirque Odyssey will have spot performances at Friday Fest. Come and join us at Friday Fest, March 7, 2008 for a sneak preview of Cirque Odyssey.

Cirque Odyssey will be at the Sunrise Theatre on Sunday, March 16, 2008, for two shows at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets are $38.00/$33.00. For more information call the Sunrise Theatre at 461-4884.

Brush Strokes Gallery March Show Features Kassandra L. Taylor

Longtime Fort Pierce resident and Master Diver Kass Taylor has a profound love of the ocean. She has observed its awesome beauty over the years in Fort Pierce and around the world. The ocean provides inspiration for many of her paintings. Ms. Taylor also finds excitement in the Florida landscape, clouds, and sunsets, light and colors made intense with the humidity. She enjoys learning the media she works in and has experimented over the years to become intimately familiar with the media she uses, usually oil and acrylics. Kass shares her passion for painting by teaching. She has taught since 1979 at Ocean Village and also teaches in Palm City and Stuart. Her paintings are found in many local homes and institutions.
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New St. Lucie County Clerk of Court Building Opens

With the completion of the new $12 million Clerk of the Court Building in Downtown Fort Pierce, several divisions within the St. Lucie County Clerk of the Court Office officially moved in over the weekend of February 15 – 18.

“My staff and I look forward to moving into our new building. Our ability to provide services to the public will be greatly enhanced now that we are in one location,” said Clerk of the Court Ed Fry.

The 57,000-square-foot building will house more than 120 Clerk of the Court employees that have been displaced at various locations throughout St. Lucie County since the 2004 hurricanes. The new facility includes the following divisions: Administration, Circuit Civil, Court-Related Administration, Family Support, Felony Court, Guardianship, Indigency/Collection, Information Technology, Microfilm, Misdemeanor, Probate, Recording/Office Records, Research, Small Claims and Traffic Cashiers.

The Jury & Witness and Domestic Violence divisions will remain at the Main Court House on 218 Second Street, Fort Pierce; however, the Domestic Violence will relocate from the first floor to the third floor. The Finance Division will remain on the second floor of the County Administration Building, 2300 Virginia Ave., Fort Pierce. Juvenile Court will remain at 435 N. 7th Street, Fort Pierce.

Family Court, Mental Health and Marriage Licenses will relocate from the Orange Blossom Business Center on Okeechobee Road to 2400 Rhode Island Ave., Fort Pierce. The Recording/Official Records, Small Claims and Traffic divisions at the South County Annex, 250 N.W. Country Club Drive, Port St. Lucie, will remain at that location.

Designed by Edlund -Drittenbas-Binkley (EDB) Architects of Vero Beach and built by David Brooks Enterprises of Palm Beach Gardens, the new Clerk of the Court Building is located 201 South Indian River Drive, Fort Pierce. An official ribbon cutting to celebrate the opening of the Clerk of the Court Building is scheduled for April 9 at 4:00 p.m., followed by the Downtown Business Association’s ArtWalk.

Funding for the new Clerk of the Court Building comes from Impact Fees, Sales Tax Bond, a FDOT Intermodal Grant, the 2004 General Fund, 2004 Capital Budget 316 and FEMA.

For additional information regarding the relocation of the Clerk’s divisions, please call (772) 462-6900. Or for a detailed list of which divisions have moved and what floors they are located on visit: http://www.slcclerkofcourt.com/directoryinfo.htm

Sunrise Theatre Performances

March 2008
The Magic of Ireland, Sunday, March 2
The Smothers Brothers, Wednesday, March 5
The Best of MOMIX, Sunday, March 9
African Footprint, Wednesday, March 12
Natalie MacMaster, Friday, March 14
Cirque Odyssey, Sunday, March 16
The Four Tops, Wednesday, March 19
John Pizzarelli Quartet, Wednesday, March 26

April 2008
Ballet Hispanico, Wednesday, April 2
One Night of Queen, Sunday, April 20

For more information, visit www.sunrisetheatre.com or call (772) 461-4775.
Ft. Pierce is getting a much needed facelift, and along with the improvements a number of family-owned restaurants, like the Tropical Wave, are turning up in the downtown area. The Tropical Wave is a small but comfortable little place a couple blocks from the waterfront. It will make you feel like you’re spending an evening in the islands. The chef is said to have worked at the Breakers in Palm Beach before venturing out on his own at Tropical Wave. They are open for dinner and boast live entertainment Thursday evenings.

Appetizer selections include crabmeat stuffed mushrooms, cracked conch and a killer quesadilla that is stuffed with chicken, bacon, tomato, pepperoncini and cheddar cheese. Their Southern Corn-Okra soup is a clearly house favorite.

If you want authentic island cuisine try their signature dishes:

- **Legumes** – stew beef mixed with smashed vegetables.
- **Lambi** – Conch served with green peppers, onions, carrots and gravy.
- **Poulet** – Chicken leg quarters sautéed with green peppers, onions and mushrooms served with gravy.
- **Griot** – Fried pork with plantains, rice and beans.

Other entrees include:
Shrimp Creole – Blackened shrimp, with tomato, green & red pepper, onion, corn, black beans served over yellow rice topped with melted cheese.

Tropical Wave Snapper – Lemon, butter, onion, green pepper, fresh mushrooms, a splash of Chablis wine and covered with mozzarella cheese and a special crumb topping.

New York Strip Steak – Hand sliced black angus beef, char-grilled to perfection, topped wth a tasty chasseur sauce.

Chicken Sorrentino – Tender chicken breast sautéed with eggplant, topped with mozzarella, served atop a bed of spinach with a delicate blush sauce.

Entrees are served with fresh rolls, fresh vegetable of the day, herbed mashed potatoes or rice pilaf.

Conclude your dinner with a mouth watering dessert; Chocolate Indulgence, White Chocolate Raspberry Key Lime Pie or the Orange Sunshine Cake. You won’t be disappointed.

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**Recipes by the Diva**

**Salmon with Cucumber-Dill Sauce**

I recently made this recipe for a wedding — the guests consumed 12 pounds of this heavenly tasting fish. You MUST try this recipe — it made a salmon lover out of me!

**Rub**

Rub
1/4 cup dried dill
1/4 cup packed brown sugar
2 teaspoons coarse salt
2 teaspoons freshly ground pepper

**Mop**

Mop
Remaining Rub
1 cup cider vinegar
1/4 cup vegetable oil

3 to 3-1/2 pounds salmon filets
Cucumber-Dill Sauce

The night before, combine the rub ingredients in a small bowl. Massage salmon filet with about two-thirds of the rub, reserving the rest for the mop. Place the salmon in a plastic bag, remove the air from the baggie and refrigerate it overnight.

Remove salmon from the refrigerator and let stand at room temperature for 30 minutes. Preheat the grill to 200-220 degrees.

Stir the remaining rub together with the mop ingredients in a small saucepan and warm the mixture over low heat.

Transfer the salmon to the grill, skin side down, placing fish as far from the fire as possible. Cook for 55-65 minutes, mopping it after 10 and 30 minutes. The salmon should flake easily when done. Serve hot or chilled.

**Cucumber-Dill Sauce**

Blend dill, cucumber, and lime juice. Whisk in mayonnaise and sour cream. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Serves 10.
As Fort Pierce Main Street begins its 19th successful year, it is undertaking an aggressive Membership Drive. “The Next Big Thing” campaign took off in May, 2006. Please consider becoming a Main Street Member.

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

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

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

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

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

Main Street Membership Levels
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- Student .............................................. $15.00
- Friend .............................................. $25.00
- Family ............................................. $50.00

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

- I would like to become a Main Street volunteer.

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Main Street Fort Pierce, Inc., a 501©3 not-for-profit corporation, has encouraged and participated in the revitalization efforts of downtown Fort Pierce for the past 19 years. The efforts of many have paid off. Downtown Fort Pierce is now recognized as one of the most desirable locations to live and work on the Treasure Coast, as well as, in the state of Florida.

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

The success of Main Street Fort Pierce over the past 19 years is due to the faithful commitment of current and past members of the Main Street board of directors, the City of Fort Pierce, local community organizations, local businesses, and general public support. Currently, the program consists of fourteen volunteer board members and two full-time employees. During its existence, Main Street Fort Pierce has held approximately twenty-six downtown promotional events each year, educated public school children about the history of the area, won numerous local, state, and national awards, restored historic buildings including the Sunrise Theatre, recruited businesses to the downtown area, held downtown charrettes to encourage the public participation in revitalization efforts, created outdoor art programs, and helped fund an award winning image campaign along with the Downtown Business Association, the Community Redevelopment Agency, and the City of Fort Pierce.
Clint Walker, owner of the **Fishing Center of St. Lucie**, originally started his business in November, 2004, at the Seaway Drive/US1 location then moved to his new location last September at 300 South US 1. He and his friendly crew, Captain Charlie Conner and Brennan Smith, are on deck with excellent service specializing in fresh & saltwater bait and tackle, big game, boat outfitting, custom rods, rod & reel repair, and fishing & hunting licenses.

Feather jigs (Red Tail Hawks) bounced slowly along the bottom around the inlet and bridges can also help you hook up on a snook. Deep diving plugs, like Yozuri and Rapala lures, can be trolled around inlets and jetties. Along docks and flats, use top water lures in the early morning hours and switch to suspending lures later in the day.

**QUESTION:** What else can help me be successful?

**ANSWER:** There are many influences on fishing. Moon phases, tides and barometric pressure are just a few conditions that can affect the fish. It can be very confusing. A couple of simple things to remember are:

1. Moving water is more productive. The first part of the outgoing tide is very popular to fish. We provide free tide charts to help you plan your trip.
2. Full moons are good to fish at night. Fish are generally more active at night during these times and can help you be in the right place at the right time.

**QUESTION:** How can I find out where I should fish?

**ANSWER:** Your local tackle shop, like us here at the **Fishing Center of St. Lucie**, can provide lots of useful information on how and where to fish. Daily reports from local anglers can help you target the areas that have been most productive each day.

**QUESTION:** Where can I fish for snook?

**ANSWER:** The habitat of snook includes inlets and jetties, along with wrecks offshore. Bridges and seawalls are notorious for holding many fish this time of year. The flats and docks inshore will also hold their share of snook. Another sometimes overlooked area is around the spillways that feed into the river. As baitfish move along the coast, the surf can also have snook cruising along the beaches. Snook are predator fish and tend to be in areas that will provide good opportunities at ambushing baitfish.

**QUESTION:** How do I fish for snook?

**ANSWER:** There are a large variety of ways to target snook. Live bait is probably the most popular way to snook fish. Larger shrimp and pinfish fished around bridges, seawalls and jetties can give you an advantage.
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**FEATURES:**
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**DIMENSIONS:** 42’ X 25' (1,050 Sq. Ft.)

**CREW SIZE:** One full-time crew member

**DESIGN:** The Spark – St. Louis, MO
Fishing Update

by Dan Dannahower

The Ides of March. A pivotal weather month for our neck of the woods. Usually we see a number of blustery days, a few end-of-winter fronts pushing through and some nice days mixed in between. We begin the transition to spring which brings a multitude of beautiful days with light winds, pleasant temperatures and great fishing conditions. March can be a fickle month but even if she shows her us her “weather attitude” you can be sure good things are soon to come.

Every month of the year, the Treasure Coast offers some good fishing opportunities of one sort or another. Thus far, this winter has been typical. The cold fronts from up north have been rolling through on a regular basis. Conditions on both offshore waters and in the Indian River Lagoon go from nice to choppy to downright rotten and back to nice again. Constant change is the name of the game and requires keeping a good eye on the weather.

Through February, the fishing reports have also been fairly typical for this time of year. Trout and redfish can be caught on the flats in the lagoon. The bite comes and goes a bit with the passage of fronts and resultant temperature, pressure, and chop conditions. D.O.A. shrimp lures or live shrimp on popping corks work well and seem to produce the most action. When temps are cooler try deeper holes and along ledges where fish tend to gather to avoid the cooler water of the shallows. When water temps are warm the grass flats and sandbars in shallower water will hold fish. The snook bite has been decent around structure such as docks, bridges and pilings around the turning basin and inlet.

Offshore action has also been up and down. Dolphin, kingfish and other pelagic are being taken by trolling in 70 to 120 feet of water. Sailfish are being caught from 120 to 200 feet. Bottom fishing has been good lately for snapper and sea bass. Be sure to get a good weather briefing and know your capabilities before heading out to the deep blue. We can still have some very rough sea conditions for the next month or two.

Our local tackle shops are your best bet for expert advice on what’s biting, where to go and how to rig up for the species you’d like to pursue. We also are blessed with a number of offshore and inshore professional charter captains who can put you on the fish and help you improve your own fishing skill and techniques. Check with your tackle shop or one of our local marinas to set a date with one of these local pros for a great day on the water.

Good luck and good fishing!!!
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