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1902 1902 2007
Kids Meet Culture in Fort Pierce

\[\text{Anne Satterlee, President}\]

It seems like only a short time ago that the Sunrise Theatre was readying itself for the January 2006 opening night with the legendary Dionne Warwick performing to the sold out crowd of Treasure Coast residents, visitors and supporters of the project. The excitement of the renovation project by St. Lucie Preservation, Inc., a.k.a. Main Street Fort Pierce ‘reopening’ the 1923 historic theatre was a cultural and economic boost to our community.

In the first year of operation, the 1,200 seat theatre had over 75 events with over 65,000 people coming through the doors with a positive economic impact on St. Lucie County in excess of over $5.2 million dollars. The Sunrise Theatre is owned and operated by the City of Fort Pierce with the mindset that it is a ‘community’ theatre which affords all types of programming to patrons, young and old.

In October, the Sunrise Theatre hosted over 1,400 St. Lucie County 4th and 5th graders to an educational musical program, Caribbean Sounds Show. The Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society organized the event with underwriting from the Fort Pierce Redevelopment Agency. The program described some of the history of the Caribbean islands of Trinidad and Tobago and where steel drums originated.

Interestingly enough, there is a strong anti-gang message in this presentation. The musicians tell the children about how the Caribbean drum clubs actually turned into gangs, with lots of street fighting and violence whenever there was a public gathering and eventually all drums were outlawed. Naturally, the kids understand the gang theme and commiserate with drums being outlawed and enjoy hearing about how the locals discovered how to make drums from old 50-gallon drums, etc. It was a wonderful program with lots of music and lots of information for the younger audience. Of course, audience participation was encouraged with clapping and singing.

I was told by Jon Ward, Director of the Fort Pierce Redevelopment Agency, that as the children came into the theatre lobby that there were many “oooohs” and “ahhhhs” along with remarks such as, “Is this a mansion?”, “awesome” and “This is the coolest building that I’ve ever seen.” It is refreshing to know that these young people are experiencing this type of cultural exposure in our community. No, they don’t have to travel to West Palm, Orlando or Vero Beach, but right here in Fort Pierce! I hope they will remember their musical program at the Sunrise and want to return in the years to come. These young people are the future of our community and the Sunrise Theatre.
Main Street Fort Pierce

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.

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

Corporate:
- Small Business (less than 10 employees) ...$100.00
- Medium Business (11 - 50 employees) ...$250.00
- Large Business (51 or more employees) ...$500.00
- Patron (all others) .......................... $500.00
- Sponsor ........................................... $1,000.00
- I would like to become a Main Street volunteer.

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Email:_____________________________

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

Main Street Fort Pierce, Inc., a 501©3 not-for-profit corporation, has encouraged and participated in the revitalization efforts of downtown Fort Pierce for the past 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.

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.
Main Street and Downtown Business Association

Calendar

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

Friday, November 2nd: Friday Fest — 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.; Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880.

Wednesday, November 14th: DBA Art-walk — 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.; Downtown Business Association, 465-7080.

Friday, November 16th: Coffee with the Mayor — 8:00 a.m.; Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880.

Friday, November 16th: 17th Annual Fall Wine Tasting — 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.; Historic Arcade Building; Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880.

Friday, November 30th: Classic Car Cruise In — 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.; Downtown Business Association, 465-7080.

Sunday, December 2nd: 19th Annual Sights and Sounds on Second Celebration; Festival, Parade, & Tree Lighting Ceremony — 1:00 p.m. until Tree Lighting Ceremony; Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880.

Weekly Events

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

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

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

Fort Pierce Jazz Jams – 7:00 p.m.; Fort Pierce Community Center; $2 Admission Fort Pierce Jazz & Blues Society (772) 460-5299.

Restaurant Entertainment

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

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

Fort Pierce Community Center Activities

For information, please call 462-1792.

Downtown Fort Pierce Library Activities

For information, please call 462-2787.

Manatee Observation and Education Center

For information, please call 466-1600, ext. 3333.

Sunrise Theatre

For information, please call 461-4775.

St. Lucie County Historical Museum

For information, please call 462-1795.

Backus Gallery & Museum

For information, please call 465-0630.

26th Annual Four County Juried Show: “The Best of the Treasure Coast,” October 24 — November 24, 2007. The Four County Juried show includes work by some of the best artists in Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee, and St. Lucie counties.


Heathcote Botanical Gardens

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

November 2007

Holiday Garland and Greenery Sale pre-orders accepted Oct. 1 – Nov. 5 for fresh cut mountain greenery garlands and wreaths. Greenery delivered Nov. 26 – Dec. 1.

Free Friday! Free admission 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Friday, November 9th.

Family Photo Day with Diane Dultmeier, Saturday, November 10th. Professional portrait session fee of $150 will be donated directly to Heathcote. Includes a gallery slide show presentation of your images and one 8x10 classic print of your choice. The portrait session and 8x10 are valued at $295.

New Main Street Patrons:
Grand Bank & Trust of Florida
Sally & Jack Chapman

New Main Street Members:
Craig Mundt
George Bergalis
It’s that time of the year once again when we take time out of our busy schedule to spend time with our families and friends in celebration. We enjoy reminiscing about highlights and pitfalls that have occurred during the past year. It’s that time of the year when we are thankful. We are thankful that our prayers to keep hurricanes away have been answered and our families are safe and healthy.

We are thankful for the season when the influx of northern visitors leave their cold climates and snow to enjoy our sunshine, beaches, & golf courses. Our local economy depends on this time when the Sunrise Theatre season is in full swing, restaurants bustle, and shoppers ring in the cheer of the cash registers.

We are thankful that parking will be abundant in the downtown as the parking garage will be open in December for your convenience.

We are thankful that Fort Pierce is shining once again since the twin sisters, Frances and Jeanne visited our area with devastation. We have new businesses and new projects working on completion for a new and exciting year to come.

We are thankful for the full schedule of events in Fort Pierce that make our city a fun place to live. You can make your time memorable by visiting Bike Nite, Friday Fest, The Backus Gallery, Coffee with the Mayor, The Classic Car Show, Art Walk, the Farmers Market and many more events Fort Pierce has to offer!

To the locals, thank you for your support of downtown, your smiles, and the hospitality you have given. To our visitors, relax, have fun and spread the word about the rebirth of our great Sunrise City!
September 2007 Mayor’s Gold Hammer Winners Announced

September began the 10th year of Coffee With the Mayor at historic City Hall. Featured at the monthly community gathering in September was the announcement of the winners of the Mayor’s Gold Hammer Award. The award, presented twice a year by Mayor Robert Benton, recognizes the efforts of resident and business owners in the Fort Pierce community that have significantly improved their home or business through new construction or rehabilitation efforts. Individuals can nominate projects throughout the year and obtain a form from the City Clerk’s office at City Hall, 466-2200, or on-line at www.cityoffortpierce.com. The next awards will be presented in March, 2008.

Winners of the coveted Golden Hammer receive a gift certificate from East Coast Lumber & Supply and a recognition sign for their home or business.

And the winners are:

Tessa Head – Signature Salon
Commercial Improvement
108 South 17th Street, Fort Pierce

Jasper Dempsey – Apartment Building
Commercial Improvement
1606 Avenue D, Fort Pierce

Doug Davis / Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines & Frank – Citrus Avenue Professional Building
New Construction
600 Citrus Avenue, Fort Pierce

Joanne McCurdy
Residential, Land, Commercial
909 W. Midway Road
Fort Pierce, Florida 34982
Direct: (772) 216-2821
Direct Office: (772) 429-3588
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Daniel D. Fuller, MAI
President
St. Cert. Gen. REA
#RZ567

November 2007
Do you simply drink wine, or do you taste wine? Anyone can drink wine, but can you recognize and distinguish a wine’s characteristics? Wine tasting socials give people the opportunity to sample a variety of wines and to learn about tasting techniques, terms and etiquette.

Ever wonder why some wines complement certain foods so well? Many people enjoy wine with their meals. What some people don’t know, however, is that wine can actually complement food, highlighting specific flavors and making the dish seem more complex and appealing.

Do you ever feel a sense of anxiety when matching food and wine? With so many bottles to choose from, a person can easily become overwhelmed. However, you shouldn’t be concerned about choosing the wrong bottle. You will not ruin your dinner by simply choosing a bottle that doesn’t pair perfectly with your food. When you are unsure about your choice, simply go with a wine you personally enjoy.

Whether you are a wine connoisseur or just starting to learn about wine or you are just interested in tasting a variety of wines, the 17th Annual Fall Beer and Wine Tasting is the place to be. The wine tasting will be held at the Historic Arcade Building at the corner of US 1 and Orange Avenue in Fort Pierce. On Friday, November 16, 2007 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Main Street Fort Pierce, Southern Eagle Distributing and Roy’s Liquors will be there to provide you with an opportunity to explore specialty beers and fine wine. Come learn from the people who know the products and are ready and willing to answer all of your questions.

Publix has teamed up with Boar’s Head and will be on hand to demonstrate different cheese and salami that are perfect compliments to the wine provided by Roy’s Liquors.

Publix will also have a table to showcase their artesian bread, available at their local store in the Sabal Palm Plaza.

Pot Belli Deli will open their doors for you to wander into their restaurant and sample a variety of appetizers. Lawnwood Regional Medical Center and Heart Institute chefs will serve food that is a favorite with the specialty beers provided by Budweiser. Other appetizers will be available along with music to enhance the night.

Marie Creel will be there to bring you Fashions by Alasari. Models will stroll the halls of the Arcade Building wearing the latest fashions by designers Nie Zoe, Cape Madras, and more. Alasari’s is located at 209 Orange Avenue and the boutique specializes in wigs, spirited clothing, fashion jewelry, lingerie, and Sari cosmetics.

Main Street Fort Pierce is looking forward to an enjoyable evening of wine and food tasting. The event is open to the public. Tickets are $40.00 per person and include entrance in to the event, a commemorative wine glass and a $10 coupon good towards any purchase at Roy’s Liquors located at 720 South U.S. 1 in Fort Pierce.

Tickets are available by calling the Main Street office at 466-3880. Sponsors of the 17th Annual Fall Beer & Wine Tasting are: Alasari Boutique, Lawnwood Regional Medical Center & Heart Institute, Pot Belli Deli, Roy’s Liquor and Southern Eagle Distributing.
GaGa Girls Christmas Salon Show

by Sue Dannahower

The GaGa Girls, Ginny Piech-Street and Anita Prentice, will be hosting a Christmas Salon Show to benefit Main Street Fort Pierce. “The show is retro, very retro. Early on in Europe and the United States artists would be hosted in the homes of patrons to sell their art,” Ginny explains.

Anita and Ginny are bringing salon shows back in vogue here on the Treasure Coast. Hosted at the home of patrons Dan & Sue Dannahower the show promises to be a stellar event. The gals will be offering a large selection of colorful and unique works. Ginny is an artist, painter & sculpture. Anita is a mosaic painter. They have been working together for over seven years. Anita says, “We want to make people laugh, want to find humor in art and uplift people.”

The GaGa Girls are devoted to giving back to their community. Some of the causes they support include:
Main Street Fort Pierce, John Carroll High School, St. Lucie County Education Foundation, Sunrise Theatre, A.E. Backus Museum & Gallery, Hibiscus House, Alzheimer’s and Breast Cancer.

They support the arts, especially local artists, and host their “Got Art” initiative, which is an Artist’s Swap (artists bring their unused materials and swap with other artists without having to put out cash).

“We also do something called “GaGa Contraposta.” It’s just a hand out that comes out sporadically. It’s sort of a GaGa philosophy, attitude adjuster, thought provoker, hand out,” states Piech-Street.

For more information on the Christmas Salon Show or for directions please call Sue Dannahower at 772-618-0155, Saturday, November 17, 2007, 3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

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- Reducing the crime rate to the lowest level in 30 years
- Working to improve our quality of life – promoting the business community, bringing in Newberry Fields Commercial Shopping development, developing the Treasure Coast Education and Research Park
- Continuing the relocation of the sewer plant: Decommissioned the King Power Plant
- Leader in building the Skate Park
- Completing the new parking garage in record time
- Planning responsible growth for the future
- Moving forward with building of the Federal Courthouse
- Working to keep our Court system in Downtown Fort Pierce
- Establishing a Youth Council
- Saving Lives with the purchase of Thermal Imagers
- Continuing our Sheriff & City COP Program (Citizens on Patrol)
- Completing projects such as Georgia Avenue Corridor, Avenue D, Sunrise Blvd., A1A Reconstruction
- Replacing deteriorating water, sewer infrastructure
- Working with State and Federal Officials to keep Fort Pierce with a voice in Tallahassee and Washington
- Working with St. Lucie County and Port St. Lucie Officials to make St. Lucie County a place you can be proud of
- Legislated 4 stories, 45’, 8 units per acre on the island
- Finalizing the Comprehensive Plan Rewrite

GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENTS...

- Current Mayor of Fort Pierce - 4 years
- Fort Pierce City Commissioner, District 2 - 8 years
- St. Lucie County Fire Commissioner - 8 years
- Treasure Coast Regional Council - 5 years
- Metropolitan Planning Organization - 2 years
- Fort Pierce Utilities Board - 4 years
- Florida League of Cities - 12 years
- Fort Pierce Planning Board - 6 years
- St. Lucie Board of Adjustment - 3 years
- Treasure Coast League of Local Governments - 4 yrs.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENTS...

Member of:
- Southern Kingfish Association
- Florida Atlantic University Advisory Board
- Treasure Coast Youth Sailing Foundation
- Hundred Club of St. Lucie County
- St. Lucie County Education Foundation
- Backus Gallery
- Main Street Fort Pierce
- Rotary
- Surf Rider Foundation
- Westside Baptist Church
- Manatee Education Center
- Fort Pierce Sport Fishing Club

AWARDS AS YOUR MAYOR...

- 2005 City of Excellence Award - FL League of Cities
- Your Hometown Hero - Riverside Bank

FAMILY...

- Wife: Donna - 26 years
- Sons: Kadri & Kori

A VOTE FOR BENTON IS A VOTE FOR PROVEN LEADERSHIP!

PD. POL. ADY. APPROVED by BOB BENTON - PD. for by CAMP. ACCT. of BOB BENTON - MAYOR
Nearly two weeks after Dwight Eisenhower became President, and Fort Pierce’s Dan McCarty was elected Florida Governor, the *St. Lucie Historical Society, Inc.* was established in November 1952. David Fee was the organization’s first president, and membership dues were a whole $1 per year. One month after the organization’s beginning, the Society had signed up 61 charter members.

Harold Holtsberg, a lifelong Fort Pierce resident, has been involved with the *Historical Society* for nearly 14 years. He serves on the Society’s board of directors and is a past parliamentarian. He is no stranger to community service, as he is a former president of the Fort Pierce Jaycees and participated with the Jaycees in *Sandy Shoes Festivals* during the festival’s heyday. The weeklong *Sandy Shoes* was “one of the real winter events in Fort Pierce,” recalled Holtsberg. *Sandy Shoes* brought the community together with a parade, beard-growing contest and other contests and fun events that the community looked forward to all year long.

Holtsberg sees quite a contrast in the Fort Pierce he knew growing up and the Fort Pierce of today. “When I was a kid, Second Street was the main street,” he said, adding that there wasn’t a whole lot more to Fort Pierce than Second Street and U.S. 1. “Whenever you went downtown, you knew everyone walking by.”

Holtsberg recalled that until television, activities were limited. For entertainment, people would listen to the radio and go to the beach in the summertime. “It was a great era and a great area,” he reminisced. “Back then, things were slow and life was easy. There was no rush like there is today.”

Today, the 423-member *Historical Society* is keeping this area’s historical charm alive. The Society, a non-profit organization, raises money through its membership dues, gift shop and fundraisers to support the *St. Lucie County Historical Museum*, historical preservation, scholarships, and awards at St. Lucie County’s annual history fair.

The *Historical Society* isn’t just talking about preserving history — they are doing something about it. They are in the midst of restoring two historic buildings in St. Lucie County and other projects are being planned. The first project, White City’s Jorgensen House, was built in 1904 and was the home of two St. Lucie County Commissioners. The Jorgensen House faced demolition, as it sits onsite of a future development at Sunrise Boulevard and Weatherbee Road in Fort Pierce. The *Historical Society* raised $140,000 to save the historic Jorgensen House, including a $25,000 grant from the St. Lucie County Commission, and a $25,000 grant from the developer of the project at Sunrise and Weatherbee. They have already moved the house to its new location at the White City Improvement Club, where they are restoring the house to its original look.

Continued on page 14 …
The Society is also restoring the historic Betts Building on Avenue D in Fort Pierce. The building was built by Bobby Betts in 1953 and was in a prime location while Lincoln Park was the thriving cultural hub of Fort Pierce's African-American community. The Betts Building housed the area's grocery store and was just down the street from the Lincoln Theatre. With the help of the Fort Pierce Redevelopment Agency, the Betts Building will be restored to its original charm, and will house offices and historical archives for the Historical Society on the second floor, with plans for retail on the first floor. The restored Betts Building will be in good company with other Fort Pierce Redevelopment Agency projects on Avenue D, such as the Moore's Creek Linear Park, the Human Development & Resource Center and the Lincoln Theatre.

Though the Society is in the midst of historical renovations, ironically they find themselves without a home. They have run the Pineapple Patch gift shop at the St. Lucie County Historical Museum for years, but when the museum needed the extra space this past year, the Society moved out. Though the organization wants to set up its offices and shop in one or more of its restored buildings, they need a place to go in the meantime. While they wait, they will sell books, maps and other historic memorabilia at the downtown Fort Pierce Farmer's Market on Saturday mornings, and at their monthly membership program meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month at the Fort Pierce Elks Club. Society members get discounts on certain items.

Fort Pierce native Cynthia Putnam Crankshaw is the organization's treasurer. She has been involved with the Historical Society since she returned to Fort Pierce in 1981. She helped move two houses, established the Memorial Garden at the St. Lucie County Historical Museum, and helped organize summer history camps. She also helped create the Binney Oak Preserve and the UDT-Seal Museum. She wants her children to have an interest in local history, and hopes they will continue to preserve it as their family has done over the years.

“I would like to think my children would follow in those same steps of historical preservation my father and grandmother gave 55 years ago when they, along with 60 others, became charter members of the St. Lucie Historical Society,” she said.
Over the years, the Society has published books on local history, including *A Portrait of St. Lucie County, Florida*, by Lucille Rieley Rights. Last year, they released a second edition, with an update by Cynthia P. Crankshaw. Christmas, 2006, they released a special edition of *The Christmas Shell*, by Ada Coats Williams. The Society is about to release the third, revised edition of Kyle Van Landingham’s *The Pictorial History of St. Lucie County, 1565-1910*.

Van Landingham’s third edition will make its debut when the Society celebrates its 55th Anniversary with a *Pioneer Ball*, to be held Saturday, November 17 at the Pelican Yacht Club in Fort Pierce.

“The *Pioneer Ball* commemorates the Society’s 55th Anniversary by honoring both our County’s ‘founding pioneer families,’ their descendants and the ‘new pioneer families’ whose collective unwavering pioneering spirit transformed a wilderness into the place we are all proud to call our home,” said Brad Culverhouse, President of the *St. Lucie Historical Society, Inc.* “Their courage and entrepreneurial ingenuity earned for them and for each of us and for our children the opportunity to attain our own piece of the American Dream.”

The *Pioneer Ball* will begin at 6:00 p.m. with cocktails and a silent auction, followed by dinner at 8:00 p.m. Other happenings at the Ball include a historical dance revue performed by a professional dance troupe that will showcase historical dances like the minuet, and Swingtime. An 18-piece big band orchestra will play big band melodies until midnight. To add an authentic flair, the dress will be “pioneer formal,” which is “anything from blue jeans to white tie or any combinations thereof.” Tickets are $100 per person and reservations are required by November 9. For reservations or more information, call 772-461-8020 and leave a voicemail if necessary.

**Did You Know …**

- Present-day St. Lucie County was incorporated in 1905 from the southern part of Brevard County.
- Okeechobee County was incorporated in 1917 from western portions of St. Lucie County, along with portions of Palm Beach and Osceola Counties.
- Martin and Indian River Counties, both incorporated in 1925 were among the last counties created in Florida. Indian River County was created from northern portions of St. Lucie County, while Martin County was created from portions of St. Lucie and Palm Beach Counties. Facing an uphill battle, a deal was made to name the county after Governor John W. Martin. The bill passed, and the rest is history.

Want to learn more local history? Contact the St. Lucie Historical Society: 772-461-8020.
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Fort Pierce Area Council Awards Community Appearance Award to Historic Gates Building

The St. Lucie County Chamber of Commerce’s Fort Pierce Area Council recently presented Mr. Flip Gates with the Fort Pierce Area Council Community Appearance Award for the third quarter of 2007 for his recent renovation project of the Gates Building located at 307 Orange Avenue.

The 1925 Mediterranean revival style building, designed by architect William Hatcher for Mr. C.B. Gates, served the need for commercial space in booming downtown Fort Pierce during that time and decades later, while many buildings were demolished, the Gates building survived. In 2005, Mr. Gate’s grandson, Flip Gates found the original sketch of the building and began restoration of the structure to the Hatcher design.

Mr. Gates had the opportunity to fully restore the Gates building to its original quality. Fortunately there was sufficient original material to restore and reconstruct missing architectural elements. Ramon Trias, president of the Fort Pierce Academy of Town Design and historic preservation consultant for the project moved his office to the building upon completion. The front of the building was designed to accommodate storefronts with the back area of the building, a former stable and garage, was redesigned for professional office use.

Mr. Gates took a hands-on role in the project, as the day to day project manager and coordinator. Chuck Enns, a downtown businessman, was the general contractor. The original heavy timber structure was exposed and restored. Dropped ceilings were removed and contemporary alterations were designed to complement the existing original features of the historic building.

“The 1920s were a time of vision and quality and I think we should do even better today,” states Mr. Gates. “Everyone has the opportunity to make a difference every day and I plan to continue working to make downtown better.”
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Citrus Avenue Professional Building Opens, Ushering Westward Downtown Development

by John Culverhouse

A new state-of-the-art office building recently opened for business, giving Citrus Avenue and South Seventh Street a new flair of rejuvenation. The two-story Citrus Avenue Professional Building houses the CPA firm of Berger, Toombs, Elam, Gaines, and Frank on the second floor. Doug Davis, President of Richard K. Davis Construction Corporation, is looking for tenants to occupy the first floor. The building, in close proximity to the future site of the new Federal Building & United States Courthouse, is built in a “new urbanism in a Mediterranean style with strong street presence.” The City of Fort Pierce and Fort Pierce Utilities Authority are completing major road improvements along South Seventh Street, which include repaving, sidewalks, decorative street lighting and underground utilities.

St. Lucie Chorale

by Ginger King

Founded in 1994 by Artistic Director Allen S. Rosenberg, PhD, the St. Lucie Chorale has entertained thousands of people over the past 13 years. The mission of this community organization is to present concerts of the highest quality, to perform major choral works with orchestra, and to educate and inspire greater interest in choral singing. Going into its 14th season, the Chorale boasts approximately 70 members and works with professional orchestras and soloists.

The Chorale has combined with the Masterworks Chorus of the Palm Beaches to present the rousing Haydn Lord Nelson Mass in Palm Beach and Martin County. Each season the Chorale offers concerts throughout the Treasure and Gold Coast including Palm Beach Atlantic College, St. Christopher’s Hobe Sound, Indian River Community College, The Blake Library, St. Andrew’s in Ft. Pierce and many others.

The first concert of this season is at St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church in Fort Pierce on Saturday, December 8 at 7:30 p.m. An international concert is scheduled for Wednesday, March 19, 2008, at the Maltz Jupiter Theatre in Jupiter. Performing with the St. Lucie Chorale will be Konzert Chor 73 from Rain- gen/Duesseldorf, Germany. On the program will be Rossini’s Stabat Mater and Rosenberg’s Waldron Requiem written in 2005. Tickets for both events are $25 and available by calling 772-460-9009.
Un-Wrap the Magic of Christmas

by Leslie Lafferandre

The theme this year for 19th Annual Sights and Sounds on Second Christmas Program on Sunday, hosted by Main Street Fort Pierce, is “Un-Wrap the Magic of Christmas.” The various events it encompasses promise to be more fun than ever and entertaining for the young and young at heart.

On December 2nd the celebration begins with the Common Ground Vineyard Church holding a Sunday service to kick off the festivities. Then, the 19th Annual Sights & Sounds Holiday Festival will begin at 1:00 p.m. on Orange Avenue and North Second Street in Historic Downtown Fort Pierce. Activities during the Sights & Sounds Festival include: entertainment by children's groups, the official grand entrance of Santa Claus by fire engine, children's crafts, games, balloon bounce houses, pony rides, arts & craft vendors, food vendors, and much more. A returning feature to this year's Sights & Sounds Festival is snow! Last time Main Street brought in the snow, the kids made snowmen, snowballs, and learned what fun snow can be.

The Sights & Sounds Christmas Parade will begin at 4:30 p.m. The parade begins at Tickle Tummy Hill on North Second Street continues along Avenue A, Indian River Drive, and Orange Avenue. Bring your chairs and stake out your piece of sidewalk for a parade side view. Sponsored by the Fort Pierce Sunrise Kiwanis, the parade is always a highlight of the Sights & Sounds event. The Kiwanis are looking for interested individuals, businesses and organizations to participate in the parade. All entries must be decorated with a Christmas or holiday theme. This year's theme is “Un-Wrap the Magic of Christmas.” Photo certificates will be given in several categories. Anyone interested in participating is this year's Sights & Sounds on Second parade can call (772) 466-3880 for an application.

Immediately following the Holiday Parade will be the Annual Lighting of the City of Fort Pierce's Community Christmas Tree located at the Avenue A and Indian River Drive Roundabout. Mayor Bob Benton and Santa Claus will need everybody's help to illuminate the 28-foot tree. This is always a wonderful hometown celebration to kick off the holiday season.

The City of Fort Pierce will also unveil “The Holiday Light Spectacular.” The light and sound show will have over 100,000 lights synchronized to holiday music and will begin at Marina Square after the tree lighting ceremony. The holiday lights and music will run from 6:00
to 9:00 p.m. every night until January 1, 2008. This awesome display gets better every year and is guaranteed to fill you with Christmas spirit.

Downtown Fort Pierce is gearing up for the holiday season and ready to help you unwrap some magic as well. The stores are stocking up for the holiday shopping season and starting to decorate and create some awesome window displays. You can avoid the mall madness, save on gas, and find great gift items right here in Fort Pierce. Late night shopping hours are planned to let everyone take advantage of our local shops.

For more information on the festival or for a parade application call the Main Street Fort Pierce office at 772-466-3880.

Sunrise Theatre Performances

November
Ballet Folklórico de Mexico, Saturday, November 17
Tango Buenos Aires, Wednesday, November 21
3 Redneck Tenors, Saturday, November 24
Glen Campbell Christmas, Sunday, November 25
Anuna: Celtic Origins, Tuesday, November 27

December
Jose Feliciano, Tuesday, December 11
Peter Pan: The High Flying Musical, Thursday, December 6
“A Christmas Carol,” Sunday, December 23

January
Four Bitchin’ Babes, Saturday, January 12
Preservation Hall Jazz Band, Tuesday, January 15
Robin Trower, Wednesday, January 16
D. L. Hughley, Sunday, January 20
Doc Grober & the Mudcats, Saturday, January 26
Vienna Boys Choir, Sunday, January 27

For more information, visit www.sunrisetheatre.com or call (772) 461-4775.
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Downtown Hero: Mary Jo Tierney

by John Culverhouse

It takes several people working together to make a positive difference in the community, from city leaders to concerned citizens and generous philanthropists. One such philanthropist has made the Treasure Coast a better place through her support of local arts, community, and charitable organizations. Her generous support of these organizations, both financially and through participation, makes Mary Jo Tierney this month’s Downtown Hero.

When Mary Jo was just six years old, she moved to Fort Pierce from Wilmington, Delaware. She grew up here, and after graduating from John Carroll High School she left to attend the University of Florida. Once she finished college, she started working for Today newspaper in Cocoa, Florida. Later, she went back to Gainesville and earned her Masters in Journalism from the University of Florida.

She then returned to Fort Pierce in 1977, where she worked as a reporter until 1988. She reported for the Miami Herald and then the Palm Beach Post, based in the Saint Lucie bureaus for both newspapers.

After her daughter was born, Mary Jo began working with her husband, Jim Sneed, at Sunrise Ford. Today, Mary Jo runs the dealership, a role she has had since 1994 when Sneed passed away.

Sunrise Ford has had solid ties with Fort Pierce since it opened its first dealership downtown 75 years ago. Though they have moved south to accommodate customers in Fort Pierce and Port Saint Lucie, their commitment to this community remains solid. Sunrise Ford has been a Main Street Fort Pierce supporter and a sponsor of the A.E. Backus Gallery, Sunrise Theatre and the Manatee Center. Sunrise Ford has also been involved with the St. Lucie County Education Foundation, the St. Lucie Fair Association, the Restoration House, Learn to Read, and the Fort Pierce Jazz Society — just to name a few. Their involvement does not stop there. They also support Little League teams, fishing tournaments, charity golf events, and other community events.

Doris Tillman, Main Street Fort Pierce Program Manager, says that Mary Jo’s support of Main Street, the Sunrise Theatre, the Manatee Center and the Backus Gallery has been strong and commendable.

“She is very quiet about her support, but she is always out there.”

Mary Jo and her fiancé enjoy spending time with good friends, fishing, snorkeling, and “just cruising around the Indian River” when they have spare time.

Mary Jo has always enjoyed Fort Pierce. She enjoyed the beach growing up, and recalls a thriving downtown Fort Pierce in the 1950s and 1960s. She has fond recollections of spending Saturday afternoons downtown during its heyday when everyone shopped there and caught shows at the Sunrise Theatre. She is glad to see historic downtown Fort Pierce come alive again and is glad to be able to contribute to the city’s comeback.

Mary Jo is thankful that the community has supported Sunrise Ford for the past 75 years and that Sunrise Ford is a family-owned dealership and can therefore donate to the community as they see fit.

“I feel most of the causes I support improve the quality of life for many in St. Lucie County,” Mary Jo said. “Whether it is enabling a teacher to buy extra school supplies or teaching an adult to read.”

Mary Jo’s daughter is also a John Carroll graduate and currently attends college. Should she return after graduation, Tierney wants her to enjoy Fort Pierce as she does, as she wants everyone to enjoy the area.

Mary Jo continues, “I want St. Lucie County to continue to be a great place to grow up, raise a family and be in business.”

“Her loyalty and devotion to give back to the community she grew up in has been tremendous,” Tillman said.

“DOWNTOWN HERO

Become a Member of Main Street Fort Pierce

Today! Call 772-466-3880.

See page 4.
50 Ways To Be Water Smart

by Linette Trabulsy, South Florida Water Management District, Martin/St. Lucie Service Center

There might be “50 Ways to Leave Your Lover,” but I bet you didn’t know that there are “50 Ways Save Your Water!” You’re thinking, “Wait … it’s been raining so much, why do I need to conserve water?”

Saving Florida’s water resources is everyone’s responsibility. Water conservation may seem unnecessary in a state surrounded by water, but not all of that water is available for drinking or irrigation. Water conservation is the most important action we can take to sustain our water supplies, meet future needs and reduce demands on Florida’s fragile water-dependent ecosystems such as lakes, streams and the Everglades.

With that in mind, here are 50 Ways To Be Water Smart:

**Saving Water Outdoors**

1. Don’t overwater your lawn — no more than once a week in the winter or twice a week in the summer. A good rain eliminates the need for watering for up to two weeks. Buy a rain gauge (or stop by the Martin/St. Lucie Service Center of the South Florida Water Management District to get a free one)! Most of the year, lawns only need one inch of water per week.

2. Plant it smart. Xeriscape landscaping is a great way to design, install and maintain both your plants and irrigation system.

3. Water lawns during the early morning hours when temperatures are lowest to reduce evaporation.

4. Position sprinklers so water lands on the lawn, not on paved areas.

5. Install irrigation devices that are the most water efficient for each use. Micro and drip irrigation and soaker hoses are examples of efficient devices.

6. Check sprinkler systems and timing devices regularly to be sure they operate properly. The St. Lucie Soil and Water Conservation District has an Urban Mobile Irrigation Lab that will test your sprinkler system for free. Call 461-4546 for info!

7. Raise the lawn mower blade to at least three inches, or to its highest level. A higher cut encourages grass roots to
grow deeper, shades the root system and holds soil moisture.

8. Avoid over fertilizing your lawn. Applying fertilizer increases the need for water. Apply fertilizers which contain slow-release, water insoluble forms of nitrogen.

9. Use mulch to retain moisture in the soil. (Help preserve native cypress forests by selecting other types of mulch such as treated melaleuca.) Mulch also helps control weeds.

10. Plant native and/or drought-tolerant grasses, ground covers, shrubs and trees. Once established, they don’t need water as frequently and usually will survive a dry period without watering. They also require less fertilizer or herbicides. (Get a free copy WaterWise: South Florida Landscapes — a comprehensive plant guide with landscaping tips and lists of Florida-friendly plants by contacting the Martin/St. Lucie Service Center of the SFWMD).

11. Use a broom or blower instead of a hose to clean leaves and other debris from your driveway or sidewalk.

12. Use a shut-off nozzle on your hose. When finished, turn it off at the faucet instead of at the nozzle.

13. Do not leave sprinklers or hoses unattended. A garden hose can pour out 600 gallons or more in only a few hours.

14. Avoid purchasing recreational water toys which require a constant stream of water.

15. Consider using a commercial car wash that recycles water. If you wash your own car, park on the grass and use a hose with an automatic shut-off nozzle.

16. Avoid installing ornamental water features (such as fountains) unless they use recycled water.

17. If you have a swimming pool, consider a new water-saving pool filter. A single backflushing with a traditional filter uses 180 to 250 gallons of water.

In Your Home

18. Never pour water down the drain when there may be another use for it. Use it to water your indoor plants or garden.
19. Make sure your home is leak-free. Check your water meter when you are certain that no water is being used. If the meter reading changes, you have a leak!

20. Repair dripping faucets by replacing washers. One drop per second wastes 2,700 gallons of water per year!

21. Retrofit all household faucets by installing aerators with flow restrictors.

22. Check for toilet leaks by adding food coloring to the tank. If you have a leak, the color will appear in the bowl within 30 minutes. (Flush immediately to avoid stains.)

23. If the toilet handle frequently sticks in the flush position, replace or adjust it.

24. Install a toilet displacement device to cut down on the amount of water needed for each flush. (Don’t use a brick! There are devices available at most hardware and home centers). Consider low-volume toilets which use less than half the water of older models.

25. Take shorter showers. (Or shower together!) Replace your showerhead with an ultra-low-flow version.

26. Place a bucket in the shower to catch excess water to water plants.

27. In the shower, turn water on to get wet; turn off to lather up; then turn the water back on to rinse off. Repeat when washing your hair.

28. Operate automatic dishwashers and clothes washers only when they are fully loaded or set the water level for the size of load you are using.

29. When hand washing dishes, save water by filling two containers – one with soapy water, one with rinse water containing a small amount of chlorine bleach.

30. Store drinking water in the refrigerator. Don’t let the tap run while you are waiting for water to cool.

31. Do not use running water to thaw meat or other frozen foods. Defrost food overnight in the refrigerator, or use the defrost setting on your microwave.

32. Kitchen sink disposals require lots of water to operate properly. Start a compost pile as an alternate method of disposing of food waste.

33. Do not waste water waiting for it to get hot. Cap-
ture it for other uses such as plant watering or heat it on the stove or in a microwave.

34. Consider installing an instant hot water heater on your sink and insulating your water pipes.

35. Think twice about installing a water-to-air heat pump or air-conditioning system. Newer air-to-air models are just as efficient and do not waste water.

36. Don’t let water run while brushing your teeth, washing your face or shaving. (My favorite!)

37. Install water softening systems only when necessary. Turn softeners off while on vacation.

38. If you have a well at home, check your pump periodically. If the pump kicks on and off while water is not being used, you have a leak.

39. Avoid flushing the toilet unnecessarily. Dispose of tissues, insects and other similar waste in the trash rather than the toilet. (My kids’ favorite!)

40. Follow water conservation guidelines and ordinances in your community.

41. Report water losses (broken pipes, open hydrants, errant sprinklers, etc.) to the property owner, local authorities or the SFWMD.

42. Promote water conservation in community newsletters, on bulletin boards and by example. Encourage your friends, neighbors and co-workers to “be water smart.”

43. Patronize businesses which practice water conservation, such as restaurants that only serve water upon request.

44. Encourage your employer to promote water conservation in the workplace.

45. Encourage your school system and local government to help develop and promote a water conservation ethic.

46. Support projects that will lead to an increased use of reclaimed waste water for irrigation and other uses.

47. Support efforts that promote water conservation among tourists.

48. Conserve water even when someone else is footing the bill, such as when you are staying at a hotel.

49. Participate in public water conservation meetings conducted by your local government, utility or water management district.

50. Try to do one thing each day that will result in saving water. Every drop counts!

For more information on water conservation, contact the Martin/St. Lucie Service Center of the SFWMD at (800) 250-4100 or visit us online at www.sfwmd.gov/conserve.
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Yacht Club

On Saturday, Sept. 22nd, members of the Fort Pierce Yacht Club and the Pelican Yacht Club came together for the first time to participate in the Pass & Review and Blessing of the Fleet ceremony. While the day was overcast, the spirits of the participants were bright as the time-honored ceremony was played out once again.

This maritime tradition began many centuries ago in Portugal and by the twentieth century, had spread throughout the world with annual celebrations taking place at yacht clubs from Alaska to Australia.

Some 20 yachts ranging from 26 feet in length to 45 feet participated in the program. As the yachts passed the reviewing tent with flags flying, a cannon firing, along with a salute by Flag Officers took place. As the yachts moved forward, they received the blessing from a local clergyman for safe sailing in the year ahead.

The on-the-water ceremonies were followed by a reception and dinner in the dining room at the Pelican Yacht Club.

In all, approximately 120 members of the two clubs participated in this program. Commodore Mike Brown Jr. of the Pelican Yacht Club and Commodore George Lange of the Fort Pierce Yacht Club anticipate that this ceremony will become an annual event in the future.

Fort Pierce Jazz & Blues Society Offers Performances for Children

The Fort Pierce Jazz & Blues Society announces two fantastic shows being presented to introduce almost 5,000 local school children to the historic Sunrise Theatre in Fort Pierce and offer them an exciting introduction to music. Caribbean Sound performed on October 4, 2007 and JazzReach will appear November 15, 2007. Caribbean Sound is known for their educational programs with an emphasis on the history and background of steel drums and Caribbean music; JazzReach's educational programs are as entertaining as they are educational.

This is the largest undertaking by the Fort Pierce Jazz & Blues Society to reach children about cultural arts. The program has received funding from The National Endowment for the Arts, Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, Children's Services Council of St. Lucie County, The City of Fort Pierce, BMI Foundation, Inc., and Publix Super Market Charities. Additional costs have been covered by the proceeds from the Saturday morning Fort Pierce Jazz & Blues Society Craft Market. For additional information please call 772-460-JAZZ(5299) or email info@jazzsociety.org.
Fort Pierce Utilities Helps Ocean Reefs & Local Environment

by Camille S. Yates

Fort Pierce Utilities (FPUA) is committed to not only increasing awareness of the local environment by sponsoring the Manatee Observation and Education Center, but it also has other ongoing projects that provide benefits to local natural areas. FPUA has teamed up with St. Lucie County to provide reef relief in local Atlantic Ocean waters. Recently resurrected in 2005, the County’s artificial reef program has deployed over 5,900 tons of concrete and steel materials on the ocean floor to establish artificial reefs.

In its effort to continuously upgrade infrastructure, FPUA routinely replaces older equipment such as concrete light poles. “The excess light poles that FPUA had in storage are ideal to use in creating artificial reefs,” explains Jim Oppenborn, St. Lucie County’s Marine Resources Coordinator.

The reef program fits in well with FPUA’s mission of enhancing the quality of life in the community. “Recycling our excess materials to benefit ocean ecosystems is just one way that FPUA can show its commitment to making life better in Fort Pierce,” says Bill Thiess, Director of Utilities. “We enhance the local economy by improving habitat that fish, turtles, and other marine life use. More people will visit the
area if we have healthy ecosystems that encourage tourism.”

FPUA also encourages local businesses to be environmentally friendly by handing out “Environmental Steward” awards to industrial customers who pre-treat their effluent. The goal of FPUA’s pretreatment program is to prevent pollutants from entering the Hutchinson Island Water Reclamation Facility that are not compatible or will interfere with its operation. The program also protects the public health and welfare of the community.

In addition to providing incentive awards, FPUA also samples and monitors industrial wastewater. They monitor commercial areas for high-strength or toxic wastewater discharges. “Some examples include excessive

Continued on page 34 …
Chicken — it’s what’s for dinner! At least it was for me last week. Our dinner was several to-go boxes of fried chicken, fried fish, conch fritters and hushpuppies from Down South Chicken & Seafood.

The chicken was an inspiring, delectable version of the southern variety. It is available in dark, white or mixed pieces and, my favorite, chicken tenders. There’s also fried farmed raised catfish, butterfly shrimp, conch fritters, seafood poppers and so much more. We went with combo dinners which come with fries, rolls and a choice of beverage.

For a bit extra you can include a tasty side of fried okra, fried corn, or hushpuppies. I love their hush puppies, little balls of sweetly spicy cornmeal. Mr. Diva and I decided that the cole slaw was one of the best recipes we’ve eaten – slivers of green & purple cabbage and shredded carrots tossed with just the right amount of tasty dressing.

It took a few minutes for the meal to be ready because they cook everything as ordered, which makes it fresh and flaming hot when it’s served. While I waited I had a friendly conversion with owner Vernon K. Dixon II. He explained the history of Down South Chicken & Seafood and his various ventures.

I waited until I got home to taste test. Sure
Vernon McKenny Dixon, II is the son of Vernon and Keilier Dixon. He is the oldest son of six siblings. Vernon, often known as Ken, graduated from Fort Pierce Central. While in high school he started his first business, carwash detailing. His first customer was Carrie Benton. This business venture was short lived because he had his eyes on bigger and better things.

At the age of 16, he opened **Beepers Unlimited**. Shortly after starting this business he graduated from high school. After graduation, he continued to run **Beepers Unlimited** and attend classes at **Indian River Community College**. After three years of running a successful company, Mr. Dixon decided to sell his customer base and move to St. Petersburg, Florida.

While there he lived with his sister, Levette and attended classes at **St. Petersburg Junior College**. Although college was important to Mr. Dixon he felt it was not for him at that particular time of his life. He wanted to own a fast food franchise. Initially, he thought **McDonalds** was the place for him, so he introduced himself to a local franchise owner of **McDonalds** in St. Petersburg. He told him of his dreams and asked if he could work in his restaurant to learn the business. He wanted to learn everything from cooking to food to running the office.

At the age of 21, Mr. Dixon opened his first franchise, **Popeyes Chicken & Biscuits** in St. Petersburg. Several years later he opened a second restaurant. Business was great and Mr. Dixon was happy with his choice, but he wanted to diversify his investments. So he started looking into real estate. He purchased a 4 unit town house in St. Petersburg and commercial property in Fort Pierce.

After several years of running **Popeyes** and his rental property, he decided to sell and move back to Fort Pierce. He wanted to revitalize his hometown. In 2000, he opened **Cartoon Carwash, Flamingo Laundromat** and **Church's Chicken** on the corner of U.S. 1 and Avenue D at the old Greyhound Bus Station. Recently, Mr. Dixon closed **Church's Chicken** and opened **Down South Chicken & Seafood**, which is in the process of being franchised. The menu consists of farm-raised catfish, conch fritters, fried shrimp, fried okra, fried corn-on-the-cob and Southern-style fried chicken.

Although, Mr. Dixon has had a very successful business career, he has not forgotten where he came from and that is the reason why he continues to give back to his community. He is the sponsor of a local Pop Warner Football team, member of Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Business Partner with various elementary schools in St. Lucie County, Member of the Chamber of Commerce, Board Member for the Lincoln Park Business Association and Board Member of the Love Center.
... continued from page 31

grease discharges at restaurants or ink discharges at printing/silk screening establishments,” explains Mark Mathis, FPUA’s Industrial Pre-treatment Coordinator. “Excessive grease discharges may lead to sanitary sewer line blockages and cause sanitary sewer overflows. These overflows could release raw wastewater into the surrounding environment, possibly into lakes or streams,” he says.

The employees at FPUA, and the work that they do, continue to make Fort Pierce a better place to live.
Ask A Professional – Tobacco Emporium

**QUESTION:** What is the recommended temperature and humidity for your cigars?

**ANSWER:** Your cigars can be kept indefinitely in a humidor by controlling the temperature at close to 70 degrees and 70% relative humidity. Even if a cigar becomes dry it can be re-humidified so long as it has not been handled carelessly.

**QUESTION:** What is a “long fill” cigar as opposed to a “short fill?”

Short fill or “mixed” uses chopped leaves, stems and other bits of the plant. Short fill are easy to identify when smoked since they often burn hotter and leaves bits of leaves in your mouth. Long filler uses higher quality whole leaves throughout the cigar. Long fill should burn evenly and consistently.

**QUESTION:** What makes a cigar?

**ANSWER:** The wrapper is the outer leaf from the widest part of the plant; it lends much to the cigars character and flavor, but not entirely. Its color is often used to describe the cigar as a whole. A darker wrapper tends to be sweeter, while lighter wrappers usually have a drier taste. The filler, which dictates the taste, is a wrapped up bunch of leaves of various strengths inside the wrapper. The binder is an elastic type leaf used to hold together the bunches of filler leafs. The combinations of these elements of a cigar make each brand and type of cigar taste different.

**FYI:** The size of a cigar is measured by the ring gauge (diameter in sixty fourths of an inch) and its length in inches.

**FYI:** Whether a cigar is mild, medium or full-bodied does not have anything to with quality.

Cigar smoke, rarely inhaled, tastes of tobacco with hints of other tastes. Cigarette smoke, which is inhaled, the tobacco flavor is less noticeable than the sensation from the smoke. You will hear a cigar enthusiast describe the flavor while smoking a cigar with words such as coffee, cocoa or chocolate, nutty, woody, spice, etc. Many things affect the scent of cigar smoke, such as tobacco type, and quality of the cigar, added flavors, age, and humidity and whether is a hand rolled vs. machine made and more.

Dr. Sigmund Freud an avid cigar smoker is to have said “… sometimes a cigar is just a cigar.”

The expression “close but no cigar” comes from the practice of giving cigars as prizes in games involving good aim at fairgrounds.

Rudyard Kipling said in his poem, *The Betrothed:* A woman is only a woman: but a cigar is a smoke.”

*Tobacco Emporium is locate at 223 Orange Avenue, 461-0655; tobaccoemporium@aol.com; open Monday – Saturday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; open late for Sunrise Theatre events, Bike Nite, and Friday Fest. Special orders are wel-comed. Ask for information about Our new Cigar Club membership and events.*
City Marina Renovations Rolling Along

by Dan Dannahower

It’s time for an update on our highly touted Fort Pierce City Marina. City government and the marina manager, Dean Kubitschek, are adding a number of improvements to ensure that our facility continues to be popular and convenient for both local and transient boaters. Some of these improvements are overdue maintenance, some are mandated safety upgrades, some are damage mitigation from the storms of recent years and others are just good common business sense. All totaled they add up to continued improvement of an already great facility—good for our downtown and good for the boating community.

First on the list is a replacement of the marina’s fuel storage tanks and upgrade of the fuel delivery system. Double-walled fiberglass storage tanks are mandated by law to be installed by 2009. Two years ahead of the deadline, our marina has a new 20,000 gallon tank in the ground and due to be in use in the near future. The new tank system holds 13,000 gallons of diesel and 7,000 gallons of gasoline. Additionally this project includes a major upgrade to fuel lines, pumps, and delivery locations. The new system will provide for two dedicated fueling stations and also allow fueling of many boats right at their slips rather than at the fueling station. New, larger fuel lines and a faster system overall will greatly reduce the time required for fueling, particularly on some of the larger vessels, some of which could take up to 3 hours on the old system!

Big improvements to the marina store and office are under way. An ATM machine that faced the river and was seldom used has been removed creating space for store offices that used to reside behind a counter in the store. The result is removal of the large sales counter from the store, 35% more retail space inside the store and a relocation of the stores entrance to the north facing the Tiki Bar which should create an increase in traffic for the store. Relocating the office staff from behind the counter to the new space created by the ATM removal gives the
employees talking on the radio with boaters an unobstructed view from the south bridge to the power plant. This helps the staff give visual guidance to boaters coming into and out of the marina.

An approximately six-week contract with CK Marine is currently underway to dredge the marina and Moore’s Creek. Although spot dredging was done after the storms, a full restorative dredging has not been accomplished for a very long time. This project will bring the entire marina and Moore’s Creek to operating specs for an extended period of time.

In the near future a project to replace the seawall from the marina south along Melody Lane should get under way. Part of FEMA’s storm mitigation for the city, this project will be 90% funded by FEMA, 5% by the state and 5% by the city. Also in the works is a FEMA funded “marina protection” project that is currently in the permitting process. I will report on the progress of this project in the future as details become available. The city is also just getting started on improvements to the “Fisherman’s Wharf Marina” near south bridge and news on that project will be forthcoming.

As you can see there’s a lot going on at the city marina. One of the anchors of our downtown area and a preferred venue for many boaters, our marina continues to improve and add to the value and ambiance of downtown Fort Pierce.
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