I am a ghost of Fort Pierce past
and there are places I want to show you
and people that I’d like you to meet.

There are many secrets hidden
in the old walls in Downtown Fort Pierce
and my ghostly friends are looking forward
to revealing themselves to you.

Come, take a walk with me . . .

See “Ghostwalk” story page 21
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TRUSS PLANTS - Ft. Pierce, Melbourne

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While some individuals have seen the results of rebuilding and improving Fort Pierce over the past 12 years, others may not have been involved with the partnerships that were forged to afford us with what we have today. Leading the charge was former Fort Pierce Mayor Eddie Enns and the City Commission at the time. While the City was developing unique financing methods for the much needed public projects, residents, business owners and other stakeholders welcomed the proposed changes to the overall downtown environment and played a large role in the process.

Significant and meaningful partnerships were formed among residents, business owners, City, County government, Fort Pierce Redevelopment Agency, Fort Pierce Utilities Authority, Main Street Fort Pierce and other governmental agencies that transformed the City into a major planning activity. With initiative and vision, the various partners in the process worked together amicably for the common goal, and consensus was attainable. It seems today that some individuals have lost sight of where we have come from in just over a decade and find ways to criticize and demoralize the efforts of many that have turned the City around.

I argue we have much to offer the residents of Fort Pierce, St. Lucie County and the Treasure Coast, with projects that have transformed the landscape of Fort Pierce. Twelve years ago, who would have thought of residential living in downtown? The Renaissance on the River project will have condominiums and retail all in walking distance of the downtown library, City Marina, Sunrise Theatre, restaurants, shopping and entertainment. If the visionary partnerships formed in the past had not supported the public investment in Fort Pierce at the time of Mayor Enns, we would not have projects such as the Renaissance today.

Even with public and private investment, it is a partnership, and has to coexist to be successful. It may be easier to criticize the hard work that has gone into the City, but it was not a decision taken lightly to make positive economic and esthetic changes in our community. If Eddie Enns were here today with us, he certainly would be proud of the continuing strides the City is making today.
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Calendar

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

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

Wednesday, October 10th: DBA ARTWALK — 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Downtown Business Association 465-7080.

Friday, October 19th: Coffee with the Mayor — 8:00 a.m.; Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880.

Wednesday, October 24th: Ghosts of Fort Pierce Past Walking Tour — 6:00 p.m.; Main Street Fort Pierce 466-3880.

Friday, October 26th: Classic Car Cruise In — 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.; Downtown Business Association, 465-7080.

FRIDAY FEST — 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Fort Pierce Farmers' 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

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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.

Florida: More Than Meets the Eye – September 29th to October 20th.

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.

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October 2007
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Family Photo Day with Diane Dultmeier; Saturday, October 6. 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.

Free Friday! Free admission 10 a.m. — 5 p.m., Friday, October 12th.

Holiday Garland and Greenery Sale pre-orders accepted October 1 — November 5 for fresh cut mountain greenery garlands and wreaths. Greenery delivered Nov. 26 to Dec. 1.

Halloween Haunted Forest in partnership with the Fort Pierce Police Athletic League. Come in costume and explore Heathcote’s Haunted Forest! Tuesday and Wednesday October 30th & 31st, 6 p.m. — 9 p.m.; $5 per person.
As a parent of two children and Leader of the city, I know how important youth involvement in the community is. I spend numerous hours speaking and conversing with youth through my own children, recreational activities and committees. One can agree that by empowering our youth of today with knowledge, and leadership qualities we will continue to see positive growth and progress in our community and within their future. One of my many goals as Mayor of Fort Pierce, has been to encourage and facilitate our youth in becoming involved in our community. The creation of the Fort Pierce Youth Leadership Council extends the invitation and opens more doors for students to become involved and gain knowledge of not only how business and government works, but also how community involvement and problem solving skills promote success. Young people are our greatest resource and by teaching and empowering them to be tomorrow’s leaders, we can ensure progress in our growing community.

The City Commission has been very supportive in my request to form this Youth Leadership Council. The council will consist of fifteen Fort Pierce resident students from our local High Schools and College. Membership will be selected by the Commission and given to those determined to make a difference. We will focus and discuss issues such as education, after school activities, local sports, summer programs, as well as crime prevention and/or violence in the surroundings. With their constructive assistance, and the commissions problem solving abilities we hope to make progress towards improving
these aspects of life in Fort Pierce. I feel by giving our children every opportunity to succeed while here at home, they can help others as well as themselves to aspire to something great. My ultimate goal in this Council is to build a relationship between our youth and our leaders, because even though our youth can not vote in our elections, they have valuable input and have the right to be involved and offer their solutions.

In addition to this Council I have the privilege of working with two local youth groups consisting of over forty students from Saint Lucie County. These two groups deal with similar issues concerning the environment, education, teen violence, gangs and after school activities. They address the problems associated with the issues and suggest solutions they feel would actually spur progress. By compiling input from both sources I'm determined we can make advancements in our community. I have also included and have worked with our youth in the design of the skate park to be constructed. The creation of this entity has allowed youth to be constructive and enjoy being productive in a safe atmosphere. I hope that progress won't stop here. By continually meeting with youth and students, I will be able to stay in touch with what is going on in their lives, and learn what is needed to promote their welfare and the best for our community.

With my youngest son off to college, I see even more how important our youth are. I hope with increased involvement from others, we can succeed in bringing the community closer and continuing the ongoing progress, beginning with our youth.

I encourage our youth to pick up an application, and become involved. Knowledge is power. Applications are available at the Mayors Office, Fort Pierce City Hall.
In Memory of a Special Downtown Hero: Doris Blair

by Anne Satterlee

“How you think is everything. Always be positive.” That is exactly what Doris Blair did throughout her life, work and community. While undergoing chemotherapy for cancer, Doris continued to go into work and meet with clients and assure deadlines were being met. Her courage and positive spirit is one that will be sorely missed in our community, but not forgotten, when you think of Doris Blair, a.k.a., Blair Advertising.

Originally from the Bronx in New York City, Doris moved to Fort Pierce in 1979 after working on Madison Avenue in advertising for over 30 years. It was here that she founded her own advertising agency, Blair Advertising in the historic P.P. Cobb building in downtown Fort Pierce. As you know, the P.P. Cobb building is not your typical office building and the allure of funky, historic and located in downtown made perfect sense to Doris and what she set out to do best … giving her time and talents to the community.

Having a bird’s eye view from the second floor of the historic Cobb building, Doris and her staff watched all the lightening speed changes that were occurring in Fort Pierce during the early 1990s. The waterfront area and newly installed roundabout at Indian River Drive steered the once declining business district into a thriving downtown with economic and cultural opportunities. As downtown redeveloped and revitalized, so did the agency. Blair worked on the 2001 Fort Pierce Centennial Celebration with Main Street Fort Pierce and developed several marketing pieces for the Sunrise Theatre for the Performing Arts.

Volunteering was second nature for Doris and you could always find her bringing her competent, professional and talented skills to numerous volunteer efforts, whether it was for United Way, the Jazz and Blues Society, Rotary or Boys and Girls Club of St. Lucie County. She was selected by the United Way of St. Lucie...
County for several awards for their Circle of Honor and she sponsored a gifted and enrichment NIE program for Lakewood Park Elementary students’ artwork. She recently received an Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Community from the St. Lucie County Chamber of Commerce.

A consummate professional, Doris’ commitment to her business was second only to her family. She took special interest in her nieces and nephews and found great joy later in life with her husband, Jack Blair, her stepchildren and her many grandchildren. Those fortunate enough to have known Doris will remember her warmth, class, professionalism, personal responsibility and above all the positive attitude she maintained throughout her life. “Think success, not failure. Doris was a believer and has left an indelible mark in our community and she will be long remembered.

Blair Advertising Remains a Strong Marketing Force with Addition of New Owners

by Anne Satterlee

Doris Blair knew who would be a perfect fit to purchase Blair Advertising. After twelve years helping businesses and organizations expand on the Treasure and Space Coasts, she made sure her dedication to personal service would carry forward when she handed over the reins of Blair Advertising in June, 2007, to George and Erica Byfield. They purchased the agency from Doris and were able to work with her before her death to develop a transition period. Doris wanted to see the agency continue after her death and see her staff and clients continue to thrive and prosper.

Indeed it will with the dynamic duo of the Byfields, who are both from Jamaica and New York where they met while traveling on an airplane. For the past three years, the Byfields have been living and working in Lakeview, Florida and read with interest the Blair Agency sales notice as a chance to work in a historic downtown with the best advantage of all — on the water! After meeting Doris, they knew this was a right fit and their passion about business would bring out the best in new and existing clients with the agency.

The advertising world has changed dramatically in the last five years. It is the Byfield’s integrated approach to find creative ways businesses can leverage their resources with new media, custom publishing, and direct delivery to reach customers with marketing. With a passionate, unconventional, bold approach, it is their goal to identify strengths with their clients needs and give them a workable yet comfortable marketing effort.

In addition, Blair Advertising has a new managed services division, which allows growing companies to expand their marketing capabilities by using the agency’s full range of creative services rather than incurring the cost of hiring additional personnel of their own. Erica Byfield, agency President, is a product and business development specialist.
Treasure Hill

By Patty Reynolds

You never know where the next jewel will turn up on our famed Treasure Coast. It is often in the most unlikely of places. Lloyd Properties, Ltd purchased a historic parcel north of town in August 2004. Built in 1926 for a Bulgarian philharmonic director from New York at a cost of $86,000 it sits on one of the highest point in the county, commanding sweeping views of the Indian River and on to the Atlantic Ocean. In the late 1940s the home was sold and renamed the Pleasant View Inn.

Through the years it has been host to a number of prominent owners and guests. Gloria Swanson owned the property for a short time in the mid 1940s. It is rumored that Joe Kennedy was her guest there. They say Al Capone stopped by on his way home to Miami and tales are still told of Germans using the mansion as a base for espionage during the Second World War.

Just weeks after Vincent Lloyd purchased the building hurricanes Frances and Jeanne blew through, devastating the old structure.

Two years of extensive renovations were carried out and in the process pieces of old wooden paneling were removed. Hidden behind them was a 30-foot mural likely painted by local artist A.E. “Beanie” Backus and dating back to one of the Inn’s most vibrant periods.

Evangeline and Bert Sagy purchased the Inn on March 28th, 1947, and began profitable careers as proprietors of this trendy tavern. The Inn became a

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fashionable place to go for an evening filled with first rate music and food. While rumors have it that there were more amenities than advertised in the News Tribune, those stories remain unconfirmed color attributed to an already engaging establishment.

When I called my mom and asked for her memories of PVI, as the Inn was known in the early ‘50’s she recalled the lively atmosphere and above all the Sagy’s hospitality. Bert was a talented musician and would stroll down the staircase playing his gypsy violin. Ma Sagy, as everyone called her, wore artfully applied stage make-up and dressed the part of a Hollywood glamour queen. She had a strong voice and Mom likened her to a brunette Mae West. Ma’s signature song was a Bessie Smith’s blues tune, “A Good Man Nowadays, is Hard to Find.” Often changing the lyrics around on the last line, she shaped a much bawdier rendition of this famous song!

Into this festive atmosphere Beanie Backus came to join his friends for a drink and an evening of entertainment. Was he commissioned to paint the mural, or might it have been a bit of old fashioned bartering — an original painting from a local talent, in exchange for a bar tab in the evenings? Whatever prompted the painting, we are all the beneficiaries of the diligence Vincent Lloyd put into preserving the treasure and of R.L. Davenport’s, of Brush Strokes Art Gallery and Frame in downtown Fort Pierce, painstaking attention to detail as she restored the painting to its original splendor. While working on the painting R.L. left all

Continued on page 16 …
with extensive experience helping corporations and non-profits identify new markets and opportunities and had worked with universities and government entities including Arlington County, Virginia and San Diego County, California, to name a few. She also worked in London, England for the UBS Warburg Investment Bank and with the University of Cambridge in England.

Agency Vice President and CEO, George Byfield has extensive product development and media integration experience with a focus on delivering results through direct response, radio and television, special events management, online media, publishing and collateral development. In the past, he has implemented and managed branding projects for *Staples*, *Business Week Media*, *Simon & Schuster Publishing*, *Holiday Inn* and the *Detroit Tigers*. He also worked with *Trinity Design* on Wall Street in New York as the project manager for the Lower Manhattan 9/11 Redevelopment Projects and St. Paul’s Chapel Revelations from Ground Zero.

If daily business demands aren’t enough, the couple has two children, Christian, 8 months and Charles, 6 years. George enjoys Jazz and volleyball along with any activity on the water! With their positive outlook and enthusiasm, *Blair Advertising* will certainly grow and afford new and existing clients new areas to promote and growth their business. *Blair Advertising* is your marketing partner.

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Lincoln Park Main Street – One Year Later

by John Culverhouse

It is hard to believe that an entire year has passed since Lincoln Park was designated a Main Street community. Though many communities applied, Lincoln Park was one of only two designations made in 2006, and even more remarkable, it made Fort Pierce one of only two Florida cities to have two Main Street designations.

Lincoln Park Main Street marked the occasion of its one-year anniversary with a party at the Fort Pierce Community Center on August 24th. They celebrated the accomplishments of the past year and what is to come.

Many positive changes have occurred in the past year. In our August, 2006 issue, Main Street Focus reported on several improvement projects that were in the works for Avenue D and the Lincoln Park area. The multi-million dollar Human Development & Resource Centre, a project between Indian River Community College and the Fort Pierce Redevelopment Agency, is under construction and the Jasper Dempsey Building at North 17th Street and Avenue D is near completion. September 1, the Lincoln Park Farmer’s Market will resume once again, and will be held Fridays from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at North 13th Street and Avenue D.

The Lincoln Park Main Street President is Havert “Coach” Fenn. Coach Fenn, a former Fort Pierce City Commissioner and Saint Lucie County Commissioner, has served in public life for many years and has played a major role in many projects that have created positive changes in our area. The ambitious Board of Directors and growing volunteer base are made up of community leaders and activists who put in many hours of their time and hard work into this great cause. The program has two full-time staff members, Elise Rollins and Rosalyn Gaulden.

The Four-Step Main Street approach includes: organization, design, economic restructuring, and promotion. The Lincoln Park Business Association acts as the economic restructuring branch and is closely allied with Lincoln Park Main Street. The Organization Committee brings government and community leaders together to strategize how to raise money for various Main Street community programs, projects and improvements.

Continued on page 14 …
Reggan Ellis is the Chairman of *Lincoln Park Main Street*’s Organization Committee, and has been a *Lincoln Park Main Street* volunteer since day one. His roots in Fort Pierce go back a long way. His father, Willie B. Ellis, was the first Fort Pierce Police Officer to give his life in the line of duty while protecting and serving the people of Fort Pierce. The Willie B. Ellis Police Substation at Avenue D and Means Court was named in his honor.

“When I see a national program like *Main Street* want to be a part of our community, it makes me very happy,” said Reggan Ellis. “It is very enriching and fulfilling to see everyone from around the community sit down at the table and work together to make a difference.”

Efforts that *Main Street* staff and volunteers put into improving the community are not easy tasks. Most have full time jobs in addition to numerous daytime community meetings and activities. Once the workday ends at 5:00 p.m., the *Main Street* team meets together to strategize and address community needs.

One of *Lincoln Park Main Street*’s greatest successes has been their summer camp that was held this summer for the area’s youth. The summer camp promoted positive, healthy interaction amongst some 300 campers and *Main Street* staff and volunteers. Camp activities included arts and crafts, and learning the tricks and trades of gardening. Campers planted, maintained, and cared for vegetable plants such as...
tomatoes, okra, and peppers. The produce from these plants are almost ripe, and though summer break is over, many campers will return to pick the crops and then sell the vegetables at the **Lincoln Park Farmer’s Market**.

Elise Rollins, **Lincoln Park Main Street** Program Manager, says that creating a positive atmosphere for children will keep them off the streets and away from delinquent behavior like gang involvement. Furthermore, redevelopment cannot be promoted in an area where high crime occurs. The camp has also created more community interest. Many parents of campers have joined **Main Street** as members and have become part of the growing **Main Street** volunteer base.

Great things continue to happen in Lincoln Park. New homes have been built in the area and many existing homes have been renovated. Improvements to the **Granny’s Kitchen** and **Miracle Ribs** restaurants are coming soon. An improved **Betts Building** — a project between the Fort Pierce Redevelopment Agency and the Saint Lucie Historical Society, and an improved **Lincoln Theatre** — a project between the Fort Pierce Redevelopment Agency and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Committee are also planned.

The national **Main Street** program brings resources and components to create positive changes in communities across the country. Rollins says the program has shown Lincoln Park that they are not alone.

“**Lincoln Park Main Street** designation has given people a new vision, that change is possible and will occur,” she said. “It has changed the perception of the Lincoln Park area outside and within.”

With partnerships between **Main Street**, the City of Fort Pierce, community organizations, concerned citizens, property owners and residents, great changes will continue to occur in Lincoln Park, as reflected by a persistent community determined to make a difference.
that she could of the original, sections which can be readily identified by the age cracks giving character to Beanies brushstrokes.

Home today to the Treasure Coast Antique Mall, the mansion on the hill is open for business once again. Stop in and visit, admire the long hidden mural and take a stroll through the beautifully restored Inn. Don’t forget to look for treasures; you never know when you’ll come across a piece of history that you just can’t live without. In addition to background for this story, I found a letter written in 1876 that I plan to research, hoping to reunite it with a descendent of the writer. I also bought an old wooden needle holder just like the one my grandmother stored her needles in. For $12.00 I came home with some great memories and two small treasures of my own.
Office Products & Services Relocating after Forty One Years

by Carol Johnson

A local landmark next to the railroad tracks at 208 Avenue A will no longer be there starting October 26, 2007. However, the folks at Office Products & Services (OPS) are not leaving for good. They will still be a fixture in downtown Fort Pierce, but will be moving to their new location, the former J.C. Penney building, at 136 North 2nd Street. You may already know that they have been using that location as a warehouse for the past several years. When asked what prompted the move, part owner Robert Tillman stated that it was a “no-brainer.” OPS has been leasing the Avenue A property since 1966, and they own the one on North 2nd Street. So, it was decided that a consolidation of merchandise from both buildings and a move to the one that they owned would be the smart thing to do. Also, the 22,000 square foot North 2nd Street building offers ample space to house all of OPS’s departments.

Robert’s father, Sprucy Tillman, began this thriving local business in 1951. At that time it was named Fort Pierce Typewriter Company and was located on Orange Avenue. What started with typewriter repair later evolved into typewriter sales and service, then office supplies were added to the inventory. As more sophisticated office equipment was developed, OPS realized the need for further expansion. They now have a full service department, offering both warranty service and repairs for a variety of office equipment. OPS also employs an interior design team to help businesses choose the best office furniture for their needs and provide help in designing office and cubicle space for more efficient use.

Robert manages OPS and Sprucy now serves as a consultant, still coming to work every day in lieu of retirement. Other members of the Tillman family serve as part of the sales force and design team. All together, there are 25 employees including those at the Vero Beach location and a satellite location in Lake Worth.

For business people in St. Lucie, Martin, Indian River and Okeechobee Counties who would rather shop online, OPS offers a website, www.offproser.com, where they can place their order and have it delivered right to their door. Even though there are national chains in the area that offer similar products, the edge that OPS has is product knowledge and personalized service offered by employees with several years of experience. From assembly of office furniture to help in adjusting your office chair, the personal touch given to these and many other areas sets OPS apart from the competition.

One thing that customers will miss this year is Pam Dickson’s unique contribution to the personal appeal of OPS. Pam, who by the way is Robert’s sister, sets up a Halloween Village every year that she and other employees painstakingly assemble. This diorama, which is approximately six-foot high and just as wide, has become a yearly tradition that started out as 2 small buildings in her living room. Pam felt that it would be something others might enjoy, so she brought it to the store, and the rest is history. It has now grown to be both an animated and stationary display which boasts circling bats, cackling witches, a character that travels around pumping a hand cart and of course disembodied howling and mad laughter. Their October 26th move will not allow enough time to assemble the display this year. But rest assured, Pam is already planning for next year and promises it will be just as good as it has been in the past.

In the meantime, whether your travels take you to downtown Fort Pierce or if you prefer to shop online, you can rely on Office Products & Services to supply whatever you might need. Their move at the end of October won’t affect business in any way, since they’ll only be closed for one day to relocate the telephones and computers. And, like Robert says, it’s a “no-brainer” that you can count on their personalized service to continue for years to come.
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Exhibit opening is Wed., Oct. 10th from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. and is open to the public. Exhibit runs through Oct. 20th.

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Artwalk is Back

by Bob and Leslie Lafferandre

They say everything old is new again, and Artwalk is no exception. Always held on the second Wednesday, the event in Historic Downtown Fort Pierce was started as Artwalk because of the numerous galleries downtown at the time. While it has undergone some changes in recent years, the name has now been officially restored to Artwalk and it will be starting up again on Wednesday, October 10 with some new twists and more fun. It has always been a time when all of the galleries and stores open their doors from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. for an extended evening of shopping and fun. The restaurants are open as usual for your dining pleasure.

The Hot Sauce Boys will be starting the year off with their entertaining ways, just as they have for years at Artwalk. Leonard Wheeley will also be performing with his new group, 33 1/3 (formerly “Vision”). Look for them as you stroll from store to store. There will be a chance to win free gift certificates in each participating store — simply stop by and fill out a ticket in each store you would like to win a gift certificate in. Special promotions and sales will be going on in the stores throughout town.

As the season progresses, the Downtown Business Association of Fort Pierce, which hosts the event, plans to have some different activities, contests, themed nights and a variety of different entertainment to make Artwalk more fun than ever before. Artwalk really defines the DBA motto of “Shop, Dine and Enjoy.”

Artwalk — the second Wednesday of every month from October through May.
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I am a ghost of Fort Pierce past and there are places I want to show you and people that I’d like you to meet. There are many secrets hidden in the old walls in Downtown Fort Pierce and my ghostly friends are looking forward to revealing themselves to you.

Come take a walk with me on Wednesday, October 24, 2007 as we stroll through the streets of Downtown Fort Pierce. I will introduce you to the railroad worker and listen for the sounds of the train pulling into the depot. Oh look there is Annie Hogg, wife of the man who built the original Cobb building and general store.

Did you know that Fort Pierce was named after Colonel Benjamin Pierce, who established the original Fort that was used as army headquarters? I am sure one of the soldiers will come for a visit and tell you about the past.

AE “Beanie” Backus also known as the “Dean of Florida Landscape Painters” will make an appearance. He will explain how he painted his beautiful landscapes and how he inspired Alfred Hair and the Highwayman painters. Did you know that Beanie was first employed as a painter of theatrical signs, posters and displays during the Depression at the Sunrise Theatre?

I will take you into the Sunrise Theatre on our tour of Downtown. Rupert Koblegard created a stir when he completed the largest vaudeville theatre on Florida’s East Coast in the 1920s. But from the time it opened it was the place to go and many Hollywood stars such as Sally Rand and Tom Mix performed on the stage.

Fort Pierce has many landmarks, the Raulerson Building, the Boston House, the courthouse and many characters that inspired our rich history. So come take a walk with me! Wednesday, October 24, at 6:00 p.m. for the Main Street Ghost of Fort Pierce Past walking tour. $5.00 per person donation for the walk; children under 5 are free.

I promise you that my ghostly friends will arrive and return you back to the days of blacksmiths, livery stables, and general stores. They will divulge many secrets and entertain you with tales of their past.

For reservations or more information, call the Main Street office @ 466-3880.
Remembering the Ashleys

by Patty Reynolds

Fall in Florida lacks the sharp bite of a northern autumn, but we hold our own with haunted happenings, ghoulish delights and ghostly wanderings.

As Main Street’s workday bustle is replaced with the early evening laughter of restaurant regulars and theater patrons, shadows lengthen and daylight fades. Later still, a soft river breeze trails silently down sleepy streets. In these hushed moments do the spirits of unsettled ghosts flit past moonlit signs and quiet storefronts, eternally searching for truth and understanding?

If so, the notorious Ashley Gang may be inclined to roam the byways of our small town.

With many thanks to Mrs. Ada Coats Williams for her thorough research capturing and preserving their story in her book Florida’s Ashley Gang; and additional appreciation to Mrs. Sally Glassburn, who on very short notice allowed me access to the records of the Stuart Heritage Museum, let me take you back to 1911 and the rough and ready folks populating our Treasure Coast.

Ninety-six years ago a well liked and respected man met an untimely end. DeSoto Tiger, new father of little Flora and husband to Ada Micco, was a trapper and the son of Cow Creek Seminole Leader, Tom Tiger. It was his sad misfortune to cross paths with a local lad named John Ashley. Were DeSoto and John trapping partners, as news accounts of the time suggest? Or, was it a chance encounter — as proposed to Mrs. Williams, by elderly Medicine Man Frank Shore — that led poor DeSoto Tiger to an early grave? Could John Ashley have been telling the truth when he said it wasn’t murder, but self defense that caused him to shoot and kill the trapper? By the time the Supreme Court “nolle prossed” him, basically reversing John’s conviction in the murder of DeSoto Tiger, Ashley had racked up a string of offenses that sealed his fate. Whatever the truth, DeSoto Tiger’s death set off a chain of events that culminated in the controversial end to the Ashley Gang.

More than the story of an outlaw gang, this is the tale of an old Cracker family and the times they lived in. Born and raised in Florida, John’s parents Joseph (Julius W.) and Lugenia married in 1880 and set up housekeeping in Key West. Sometime between 1885 and 1904, the family moved to Fort Myers and then across the state, settling near Pompano. In 1911 they moved once again, this time to what is today south Martin County, but was at the time north Palm Beach County.

By now the family had grown to include five boys and four girls: Julius Edward (Ed), born December 20, 1880;
William Sidney (Bill), born May 18, 1883; Mary Alice, born September 2, 1885; John Hopkins, born March 19, 1888; Robert Harris (Bob), born August 24, 1892; Lola Rebecca, born April 12, 1894; Eva Jeanette, born January 10, 1897; Franklin Zetlis (Frank), born December 16, 1899; and Daisy May, born May 5, 1904.

Neighbors counted Joseph a friend and the family settled into their new community. Seven of the children still lived at home and Daisy, Frank and Eva attended the Stuart School. Mary and Bill lived nearby with homes and families of their own. Mary, now Mrs. West A. Mobley had three children; Leato, Hanford and John, while Bill and his bride Bertha were parents to three year old Walter.

Bill was especially well liked by the Seminole Indians. He often joined them hunting and trapping otters for their hides. John was also an avid outdoorsman, spending his time camping and trapping. Perhaps it was his brother Bill’s close association with the Seminole trappers that garnered his acceptance into their circle, but that alliance came to an abrupt end on December 29, 1911, when the dredger cutting a canal from Lake Okeechobee to the Atlantic Ocean pulled up the body of DeSoto Tiger, complete with a bullet hole through his head.

John was the last person seen with DeSoto and the logical suspect. One story suggests that while the two men set out to sell pelts together, John arrived in Miami alone, where he sold the hides for $1,200.00, quite a sum in those days.

When John was arrested he admitted to killing DeSoto, but claimed self-defense. After one mistrial and a change of venue, John broke free of his captors during a transfer from jail to courthouse. Following his escape, a failed attempt to hold up a Florida East Coast Railway train foreshadowed the bank robbing, bootlegging and pirating John would turn to. Landing in and escaping from jail became a pastime that John, his brothers and a few “associates” excelled in. Dubbed the Ashley Gang,
they made a name for themselves up and down the Treasure Coast. Some accounts paint a picture of John as the Robin Hood of the South, and others color him a common outlaw.

The truth must surely lie somewhere in between. The Ashleys often helped those who were down on their luck. The children were well mannered and courteous. Growing up in those days required keen survival skills. John was a crack shot, a reputation built on feats such as laying a bottle on its side, shooting through the mouth and out the bottom, all without chipping the glass opening. Like many southern boys he must have grown up with a healthy sense of self-confidence and it seems that much of the grudge that arose between the Ashley Gang and the law came from John’s taunting of the officers charged with bringing him in.

Disarming the men who came to arrest him and sending them back with the message “Tell Baker not to send any more chicken-hearted men with rifles, or they are apt to get hurt” did nothing to endear John to the Sheriff, even if he did return the men’s weapons later by way of a friend.

John Ashley and Sheriff Baker developed a feud that became personal with John sending the Sheriff a bullet and a message that he had another just like it with the Sheriff’s name on it. The Sheriff sent back word that one day he would wear John Ashley’s glass eye as a watch fob.

Was he more Robin Hood or Al Capone? It has been said that when they planned to rob the Pompano Bank, Joel Tracy, a member of the team, hired a taxi to drive him to the outskirts of town. When they stopped, the rest of the outlaws joined him to enjoy a picnic lunch and a bit of target practice. When they were ready to go, they left the taxi driver tied safely to a tree and let him know where to find his car when they were done using it to rob the bank. Before leaving, John gave the driver a rifle bullet instructing him to give it to Sheriff Baker.
and to tell the Sheriff the Gang would be waiting for him in the Everglades.

Tales of the Ashley’s generosity abound. Stories of money or groceries left for those most in need. Of a gang who instead of looking for violence, eluded pursuers, disarming and releasing them when possible - including at least one man sent to kill John. He disarmed the man, gave him five dollars and sent him on his way.

But the end was near and the bullet sent via the taxi driver was the last straw for Sheriff Baker. In February of 1924, he sent a posse to a still run by the Ashleys. The posse opened fire, and John's father Joe was killed. John shot and killed Sheriff Baker’s cousin, Deputy Fred Baker. After the raid on the still, tensions escalated between the Sheriff and the gang.

The showdown came November 1, 1924 on the Sebastian Bridge, just 28 miles north of Ft. Pierce. With information and four deputies provided by Sheriff Baker, St. Lucie County Sheriff J.R. Merritt and two of his men stopped the gang as they pulled up to the bridge. When the smoke cleared, four men were dead and many questions remained.

John Ashley, Ray Lynn, Hanford Mobley and Clarence Middleton ran out of time that night and the Ashley Gang was no more, but their death brought the birth of a new legend, one of whispered accusations. Were the men killed in a shoot-out while trying to escape, or were they handcuffed and murdered in cold blood? The bodies were brought back to Fort Pierce, and laid out for all to see in front of Fee's Hardware Store and Mortuary on Second Street. There were those who claimed they saw handcuff marks on the dead men's wrists.

Lugenia Ashley's grief is hard to imagine. Rakish highwaymen or outlaw bandits, these were her boys; son, grandson, and friend, she surely wept for them all. With more than her share of heartache she went to the small family plot by her home. She had now lost a husband, four children, and two grandchildren. Eldest son Ed and youngest son Frank lost to the sea; husband Joe cut down by the posse just months earlier; middle son Bob killed nine long years before in a gunfight, desperately trying to save his brother John from a death sentence in the Miami jail. Daughter Lola's baby son lost the year before, resting in the grave next to Bob. Adding the loss of John and grandson Hanford, must have been unbearable, but in true Southern fashion she put a staunch face forward and went on. Ray Lynn, whose family did not claim his body, was also buried with the family as a true and loyal friend.

From that day onward, a debate raged about what really happened in the dark of the night by the old wooden bridge. When all hope of learning the details seemed lost, a deputy who had been on the scene that night came forward. Requesting that the full story not be told as long as any of the deputies involved were alive, he opened his memories to Mrs. Ada Coats Williams. His wishes were honored and not until the last deputy passed away in 1983 did she share his story with us.

So how did it end? Were they resisting arrest, or were

Continued on page 24…
they handcuffed and executed? To find out and to learn more about this colorful and steadfast pioneer family, turn to Mrs. Williams’ book, then join us on our annual Main Street Ghost Walk, Wednesday, October 24, 2007! Hear more eerie history at the St. Lucie County His-
torical Museum on Friday, October 26 & Saturday, October 27 from 7–9 p.m., when they present Haunted History at the Museum, two nights filled with Halloween spirit (and spirits) including a flashlight walk through the “Boo”seum.
Local Partnerships Work to Improve Water Quality in the Indian River Lagoon & St. Lucie River

By Linette Trabulsy

The Martin/St. Lucie Service Center of the South Florida Water Management District was established in 1995 for the purpose of working closely with local government agencies, as well as business and community groups, on water resource issues vital to the Treasure Coast area. Some resources available through the Martin/St. Lucie Service Center include assistance with local surface water permits and environmental resource permits; outreach and educational information about local projects, including restoration efforts for Ten-Mile Creek, the St. Lucie Estuary and the Indian River Lagoon; and information about planning efforts for the water supply of the Upper East Coast. We also provide water quality and environmental information about the Indian River Lagoon and St. Lucie Estuary and assist with District initiatives to restore water quality in the area.

One of the most important programs coordinated out of the Service Center is the St. Lucie River Issues Team Funding Initiative. The St. Lucie River Issues Team Funding Initiative, sponsored by State Senate President Ken Pruitt, is made up of members representing 17 different agencies and organizations working together to prioritize issues, procure federal and state funding and implement projects that have quantifiable results and a positive effect on both the St. Lucie Estuary and the Indian River Lagoon. The funding comes from the State Legislature, as well as federal funding sources, with a 50% match from the project’s sponsor — usually local governments. Throughout the programs’ existence, many projects have been initiated, constructed and co-funded by the City of Fort Pierce, Fort Pierce Utilities Authority and St. Lucie County. The South Florida Water Management District, specifically the Martin/St. Lucie Service Center, serves as the administrator of the funding.

Downtown Fort Pierce is fortunate to be located directly on the Indian River Lagoon. The Lagoon, which includes the St. Lucie Estuary to the south, is considered the most ecologically diverse estuary in North America and is home to more than 4,000 plant and animal species, including many endangered, rare or threatened species. It also provides many recreational and tourism opportunities, as the Indian River Lagoon and St. Lucie Estuary combined have an economic impact of over $1 billion in terms of recreational use, fishing, ecotourism and increased land value.

Since the Issues Team program’s inception in 1999, many projects within the City of Fort Pierce and the downtown area have been constructed leading to direct water quality benefits for the Indian River Lagoon. To date, the Issues Team’s recommended projects in the downtown area and the South Beach area have received over $12 million for projects.

Some examples of projects include: Moore’s Creek drainage improvements; Taylor Creek bank erosion improvements; South Beach drainage improvements; and Paradise Park and Harmony Heights stormwater/drainage improvements.

For more information about the Issues Team, contact the South Florida Water Management District’s Martin/St. Lucie Service Center at (800) 250-4100 or visit the District’s website at www.sfwmd.gov.
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.

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

Main Street Membership Levels

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

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

I would like to become a Main Street volunteer.

Name:_____________________
Company/Organization:_____________________
Street Address:_____________________
City / State / Zip:_____________________
Phone:_____________________
Email:_____________________

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.

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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.
How Does FPUA Supply Electricity?

By Camille Yates

Many people in Fort Pierce might assume that all of the city’s electricity comes from our **H. D. King Power Plant** in downtown Fort Pierce, especially since this plant has been producing electricity for 96 years. But less than 10 years ago, *Fort Pierce Utilities (FPUA)* chose to combine its resources and began to purchase its power from an efficient, statewide power system called the *Florida Municipal Power Agency (FMPA)*.

In 1996, **FPUA**’s management team knew that the cost to produce electricity for Fort Pierce from the **H. D. King Power Plant** would continue to rise. As the plant got older and less efficient than newer power plants, it made sense to look at other alternatives. **FPUA**’s goal has always been to provide its customers with reliable power at the lowest price possible. As a result, **FPUA** decided to become a shared owner of **FMPA** rather than spend millions on upgrading the existing plant.

In 1998, **FPUA** officially joined the FMPA All-Requirements Project which serves the wholesale power needs of 15 Florida cities. All-Requirements enables municipal utilities of all sizes to become owners — not just customers — of an efficient statewide power system. Members receive power from a diverse group of power plants and purchased power generation. In addition to being a part-owner in the All-Requirements Project, **FPUA** also is a part-owner of **Florida Power and Light’s St. Lucie Nuclear Plant**.

**FMPA** owns several different generating units around Florida, and also buys power from a number of different power generating facilities at the lowest possible cost. The Agency is currently building a new power generation facility at the **Treasure Coast Energy Center (TCEC)** near Fort Pierce. This high-efficiency natural gas-fired power plant will generate **300 megawatts**, enough electricity to serve approximately 60,000 homes in Florida. When the **TCEC** begins commercial operation in May 2008, **FPUA** will begin to decommission its **H. D. King Plant** and the existing staff will move to and operate the **TCEC**. **TCEC** will be one of the lowest emission plants in Florida providing low-cost power to **FMPA**’s members, including Fort Pierce.

With a diversified power mix, **FMPA** avoids putting all its “eggs in one basket.” This practice allows **FMPA** to keep its wholesale rates stable and relatively inexpensive for a long time. At the end of this year, however, two of **FMPA**’s power contracts, which have provided below market power costs, will expire. **FMPA** has worked hard to replace the expiring purchased power contracts with the most economical and environmentally-friendly options available. They are also utilizing their existing assets to their maximum potential to keep costs down.

**FPUA**’s base electric rate incorporates the costs to operate the electric system, including maintaining the lines and all equipment, as well as a small portion of power costs. In addition to the base rate, **FPUA** uses the Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) to account for fluctuations in the purchased power market. The PCA represents what **FPUA** has to pay for power over and above what is included in the base rate. It fluctuates over the year, and is passed on to the customer, which is why customers see an increase or decrease in the PCA. When costs go down, the PCA goes down. When costs go up, the PCA goes up.

Since **FMPA**’s rates are going up due to the loss of two below market power-purchase contracts and capital expense for **TCEC**, **FPUA** will have to pass that increase on to customers by raising its PCA. **FPUA** does not profit from PCA increases. To lessen the financial impact on its customers, rather than raise the PCA all at once, **FPUA** will gradually increase it over the next several months. For more information about the PCA or **FMPA**, go to www.fpua.com or call 466-1600, Ext. 3900.
Season is Starting at the Lafferandre Gallery

It’s all about the paws and claws at the Lafferandre Gallery this month. Ceramicist Cynthia Zmetronak is the featured artist. Her whimsical cat and dog themed pottery has always been popular with pet lovers. From her pet food bowls to her people food dishes, she creates something for everyone who has a warm spot in their heart for pets. She will be there in person to kick off the Artwalk season on Wednesday, October 10th to answer questions and talk about her pottery. Along with the pet theme, local watercolorist Joan Delozier will have a few of her dog portraits on display — in time to order one of your favorite dog for the holidays. It’s not too early to be thinking about gift shopping.

As the season progresses, Leslie and Laff are busy lining up some great shows — some new and some favorites back for encore viewing. That describes November — popular local artist George Rowe, a gallery favorite, will be back with his new oil paintings from the past year. This year the Lafferandre’s have collected a number of different Christmas tree ornaments for the holiday season. They plan to add some different activities and some new focus to the gallery later this fall. It promises to be another season of entertaining fun.
Manatee Center Opens for 12th Season

by Jann Widmayer

The staff and volunteers at the Manatee Observation and Education Center have had a very busy summer. We’ve been working on new displays, had successful volunteer recruitment events and developed new educational and outreach programs. We monitored about 12 manatees that swam up Moore’s Creek, west of US1 and enjoyed a wonderful time in the water next to the Clem C. Benton Building. Concerns were voiced because the water levels in the creek can drop quickly and no one wanted the manatees to become trapped. Natural instincts prevailed and the manatees swam out with the tide, much to the relief of all concerned. The Florida Manatee won another victory as the FWC delayed the downward listing of the manatee as an endangered species for at least another three months while they continue to evaluate collected data.

Continued on page 32 …
Now, it is October and the Manatee Center has opened the doors for its 12th season. We invite you to come in, see the new displays, visit with our wonderful, knowledgeable volunteers and look for manatees. And, don’t forget to check out the Vanishing Mermaid Gift Shop. It is time to start shopping for the holidays and you can find many new and unique gifts there. Also, look for the photos of ‘Mini Moe’s’ travels. He is our miniature mascot at the Center and has been spotted around the world, in such places as Bonaire, Colorado and the Biosphere. He really gets around! Be sure to ask how you can have your own photo of Mini Moe posted. Our popular Indian River Lagoon Wildlife Boat Tours are continuing to run Tuesday through Saturday at 1pm. To reserve your tickets, call the gift shop at 460-6445.

We have many other events planned for the season and encourage you to pick up our events brochure at the Center. Kayaking tours, canoe trips, Naturalist classes, Brown Bag Lunch Lectures, children’s programs and Photo Safari Workshops are just a few of the fun-filled events we have planned. We are hosting a special reception on the evening of October 18th. It is a combination event, showing off the Center’s new displays and also the dedication of a plaque given in memory of our good friend and partner, Grace Kedziora, affectionately known as the ‘Turtle Mother’. The public is invited to this special occasion.

The Treasure Coast Manatee Foundation is also back in full swing, planning our fundraising events for the season. The ever popular Evening of Jazz will be held in January and our Bayou Blast is scheduled for April. Be on the lookout, both in the Center and on our website, www.manateecenter.com , for more information about these events.

We are excited about this season at the Manatee Center and look forward to having you visit. The hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10-5 and Sunday, 12-4. For additional information, call us at 466-1600, ext 3333 or visit online at www.manateecenter.com.
Diva Recipes! Tailgating

I will be the first to admit that I am not a football fan. I’ll watch it if I have to and can even talk intelligently about it to a certain degree, but I am not a fan. To me, a football game is just a good excuse for a party — preferably a tailgate party.

Grilled and smoked dishes are very common at a tailgate party, but the most popular dish is Chili. It is easy to make ahead of time — or even on site — and is hot and filling, which can be important if you are tailgating on a cold day. Top your chili with chopped green pepper, chopped onions, shredded cheddar cheese, and a dollop of sour cream and you have warm, comfort food.

**Tailgating Chili**

1/2 pound bacon, finely chopped  
2 pounds sirloin, 1/4-inch cubes  
1 onion  
2 Tablespoons garlic  
2 Tablespoons chili powder  
1 teaspoon cumin  
1 teaspoon oregano  
3/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper, or to taste  
4 cups beef stock or canned beef broth  
2 large can crushed tomatoes  
Salt & pepper to taste  
2 16-ounce cans chili beans  
Corn meal to thicken

Garnish:  
Sour cream  
Chopped green pepper  
Chopped onions  
Shredded cheddar cheese

Cook bacon in a large stock pan until browned. Drain. Discard all but 2 Tablespoons drippings.

Return the pan to medium heat. Add the sirloin and onion to bacon drippings and cook, uncovered, stirring often, until the meat loses all red color, about 20 minutes.

Add garlic into the casserole with the beef. Stir in the chili powder, cumin, oregano, and cayenne pepper and cook, stirring constantly, for 5 minutes.

Add beef stock and crushed tomatoes. Taste and correct the seasoning; adding salt if needed. Use corn meal to thicken, stirring one Tablespoon at a time. Continue to simmer, stirring often, for another 30 to 45 minutes, or until the meat is tender and the chili is reduced to desired consistency.

To serve, ladle into bowls and garnish each serving with green pepper, onion, cheddar cheese & sour cream.  
*Serves: 8-10.*
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Examinations by
Dr. Shannon Clark Leitenbauer, O.D., F.A.A.O.
Sunrise Theatre: Robert Cray Band

For thirty-plus years Robert Cray has laid down track of good-time, uptown, low-down blues. He’s won five Grammy’s and been nominated for 11 more, inspired critics to praise his soulful vocal and instrumental artistry, earned respect from his peers, and sent young guitarists running back to the woodshed.

What he hasn’t done is work this magic on a full-length concert CD, where the fires that drive him onstage turn on disc as well. Not, that is, until now.

On The Robert Cray Band: Live From Across The Pond, the first release on Cray’s own Nozzle Records imprint, the celebrated triple-threat singer, guitar slinger, and songwriter presents the best moments from his week-long run at London’s Royal Albert Hall in May 2006, opening for friend and mutual admirer Eric Clapton.

From classic titles (“Phone Booth”) to highlights from his latest releases (“Poor Johnny”), whether addressing timeless themes of heartache and romance (“The Things You Do To Me”) or this morning’s headlines (“Twenty”), Cray delivers on a promise he’s been making since his first trip into the studio.

That promise — to record himself and his band when inspired by their fans at the instant of performance — pays off on Live.

Aside from their musicianship, the key to Cray and his band is their history. Through more than a thousand gigs plays around the world, they’ve locked in a sound that’s elegant and direct, searing and smooth.

You can catch Cray and his band on Sunday, October 21, 7:00 p.m. at the Sunrise Theatre in historic downtown Fort Pierce. Tickets are available on our website at www.sunrisetheatre.com.
Gary Roberts Nursery & Landscape Expands Services

Gary Roberts Nursery & Landscape, Inc. has been awarded the title of a Certified Concrete Paver Installer Company by the Interlocking Concrete Pavement Institute (ICPI) of Washington D.C.

Gary “Bud” Roberts and Charles Aube from Gary Roberts Nursery & Landscape, Inc. attended a two-day concrete paver training session which covered subjects such as soil characteristics, soil compaction and compaction equipment, edge restraint systems, base materials, and selection of pavers and patterns. Upon completion of the training a comprehensive exam was given, and both men were awarded the distinction of Certified Concrete Paver Installer.

“We are proud to offer Brick Paver installation to help compliment our service line. It is a growing industry and a perfect match for our landscape business. And of course, we want our quality in brick pavers to be commensurate with our landscape proficiency, as exemplified by our certified professional classification in every aspect of our service offerings which include growing, landscape designing, installation of plants and now installation of pavers,” comments Gary Roberts, owner of Gary Roberts Nursery & Landscape, Inc. Visit www.garyrobertslandscape.com and www.icpi.org for more information.

Local Store Owner Featured in National Magazine

Susan Barette, owner of Beads and Baubles in Historic Downtown Fort Pierce is featured in the October issue of Bead and Button, a national publication for beading enthusiasts. Featured is a necklace she made using glass beads made by famous Italian glass artist Luigi Cattelan.

Every year, Susan invites Luigi Cattelan, an Italian Murano bead maker with a rich family history over to her store to demonstrate how he makes his beads. Luigi’s family has been making beads in Italy since the 1300s. Luigi is most noted for his chevron beads, which he makes the same way as it was in the 1800s. Luigi was knighted as a Cavalier of the Republic of Italy in 2005 for his contribution to the country.

Luigi’s beads are just one of the many treasures that can be found at Beads and Baubles. Susan carries an array of beads and jewelry making equipment and teaches numerous classes. Stop by and pick up one of the monthly class schedules.

Beads and Baubles, located just north of Avenue A on N. Second Street is just one of the many fun stores the historic district has to offer. For more information, contact Susan at 772 468-0207 or at beadsandbaubles@bellsouth.net.
Classic Car Cruise In
by Leslie Lafferandre

Classic Car Cruise In held from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. the last Friday of every month in Historic Downtown Fort Pierce has become an institution already. If you haven’t been to a “Cruise In” you are missing out on a whole lot of fun. With over two hundred cars last month on display, it was an awesome display of hot rods, antiques and muscle cars, guaranteed to bring back memories of days gone by.

To help fuel those memories, there are live bands playing on the street corners. This month “Sha-Boom” and “Flashback” will be playing the nostalgic tunes this month. Feel free to dance in the streets as you stroll down memory lane and view the variety of vehicles lining the streets. Moroso Auto Sports will be bringing some specialty cars down to perform and add to the fun.

Most stores, galleries and restaurants are open late, so come on down and shop, dine and enjoy on Friday, September 28th. Brought to you by the Downtown Business Association of Fort Pierce and sponsored by Budweiser, Morosa Auto Sports, the Tribune and the City of Fort Pierce, the Classic Car Cruise In is the place to wind down the month the last Friday of every month. For further information call 772 618-0989 or check out the DBA website www.fortpierce-fl.com.
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