5th ANNUAL
Souvenirs of Downtown
Plein Air Paint-Out

WHEN: APRIL 18 – 20
WHERE: HISTORIC DOWNTOWN FORT PIERCE

See inside for details...
April Events in Historic Downtown Fort Pierce

by Beth Williams

Well I’m just bubbling over with enthusiasm for our beautiful downtown — all it has to offer year-round and especially during the month of April.

First, I have to give a big plug to the Sunrise Theatre and the incredible talent this city treasure is bringing to our community. As a “boomer” I have to admit that I’m still stuck in the 70s when it comes to my favorite music and the Sunrise treated me to a fantastic flashback last month. Roger Hodgson, lead singer for Supertramp gave an incredible performance, using a voice that hasn’t aged and sharing a musical talent that goes beyond impressive. I was amazed that while there was an excellent turn-out for the concert, there were still vacant seats. When asked by John Wilkes who was there for the first time, a good 80% of the audience raised their hands. And a significant portion of those folks came from as far away as Miami and Fort Lauderdale to enjoy Roger’s new tour. I know we will continue to enjoy first class shows at the Sunrise and I believe that our economy will benefit by attracting visitors to those shows. I just hope we see more “sold-out” concerts because more locals realize how much fun it is to take a short ride downtown to see favorite acts — both current and from our old glory days! Thanks, Sunrise, for a fantastic Thursday evening in our historic district!

Now, to what’s coming in April — one of my all time favorite Main Street events — the 5th Annual Plein Air Paint-Out. In this month’s Focus you’ll get all of the details you need to enjoy this unique event. The Plein Air offers three days of both local and visiting artists set up throughout the downtown district painting our favorite spots. During free public receptions on Thursday and Friday night (April 19th & 20th) the artwork is displayed and available for purchase with a portion of the proceeds benefiting Main Street Fort Pierce. Please join us for this three-day event and take home a beautiful painting!

One last thing — Colleen Nash Becht has donated a beautiful watercolor to be raffled the last night of the Plein Air. Tickets can be purchased at $10 each or three for $25. Not only can you have a shot at winning one of the area’s most talented artist’s handiwork, you can help Main Street Fort Pierce in our efforts to continuously provide fun, family events and further improve historic downtown Fort Pierce!
**MAIN STREET AND DOWNTOWN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**

**Calendar**

Friday, April 6: **Friday Fest** — Music & Entertainment by Moon Shadow. 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.; Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880, www.mainstreetfortpierce.org.

**Saturday, April 7:** **Oyster Fest** — 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; www.PierceOysterFest.com or 772-285-1646. (See page 13.)

**Wednesday, April 11:** Art Wednesday at Art Bank — Art Mundo Open Studio, 111 Orange Avenue; Artmundo.org@gmail.com, 766-0021, www.artmundo.org. 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., The ArtBank at 111 Orange Avenue; Artmundo.org@gmail.com, 766-0021, www.artmundo.org.

**Friday, April 20:** **Coffee with the Mayor** — Sponsor: Graceway Village; Historic City Association, 828-8967, www.historiccityassociation.com; 766-0021, www.artmundo.org. 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.; The ArtBank at 111 Orange Avenue; Artmundo.org@gmail.com, 766-0021, www.artmundo.org.

**Friday, April 27:** **Art Mundo Open Studio** — 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.; 1/4-mile north of downtown Fort Pierce, library, Jazz & Blues Society, 466-5299, www.jazzsociety.org.

**St. Lucie County Regional History Center**

For information, please call 462-1795 or visit www.stlucieco.gov/history.

**“Legendary Sites in St. Lucie County” at the Regional History Center.** 414 Seaway Drive on South Beach. Wednesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

**FORT PIERCE RIVER WALK CENTER**

For information, please call 489-6473 or visit cityoffortpierce.com.

**DOWNTOWN FORT PIERCE LIBRARY**

For information, please call 462-2787 or visit www.st-lucie.lib.fl.us

**ST. LUCIE COUNTY MARINE CENTER**

Please call 462-3474 for more information or visit www.stlucieco.gov/marine_center.

**HEATHCOTE BONTANICAL GARDENS**

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

**A.E. BACKUS MUSEUM**

For information, please call 465-0630 or visit www.backusmuseum.com.

**March 28 – April 28:** **Material Matters**

**FORT PIERCE JAZZ & BLUES SOCIETY**

For more information, please call 460-5299 or visit www.jazzsociety.org.

**ART MUNDO**

For more information, please call 466-0021 or visit www.artmundo.org.

**FORT PIERCE POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE**


**Karen Kane Interiors**

**Decorating • Wallpaper • Windows • Accessories • Gifts**

Bed, Bath & Kitchen

201 North Second Street

465-2574

**Coastal Living Realty of Florida**

558 Seaway Drive, Suite B, Hutchinson Island, Florida

3/4 mile north of downtown Fort Pierce. Second Street became a sea of green as Irish music was played and the jig was performed in many different ways. A “Pot of Gold” was raffled off which was filled by the local merchants with gold $1 coins, gift certificates, Sunrise Theatre tickets and much more. All had a wonderful time being Irish that day with Irish themed food, crafts, and games. Bike Nite remains a weekly tradition every Thursday evening. This event always has a roaring turnout. We would like to thank Rinelli’s Yellow Tail for sponsoring and we are happy to have such a terrific amount of bikers that attend.

To close the month, on March 30th, we held the Classic Car Cruz In. We are very thankful to have Roger Dean Buick GMC sponsor this event. The Classic Car Cruz In is our most family-attended event. We have generations come together to enjoy cars from all decades. Every car owner has a story to tell about their automobile and pictures are welcomed. It is so nice to see families together enjoying downtown and spending quality time together. Let’s continue to make our community a place for all to want to visit.

**Karen Kane Interiors**

**Decorating • Wallpaper • Windows • Accessories • Gifts**

Bed, Bath & Kitchen

201 North Second Street

465-2574
The public is invited and encouraged to come watch the artists paint and interact with them about their artwork. Stop by the Platts/Backus House and pick up an artist booklet to check the map to see where your favorite artist is painting. While at the Platts/Backus House join us for a series of art demonstrations provided by artists from Art Mundo. Schedules for the different demonstrations are listed in the Art Mundo article in this month’s Focus.

All the paintings by these well known Florida artists will be on display at the Platts/Backus House immediately upon completion. If you liked the painting you saw produced, you will have the opportunity to purchase the artwork. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of every piece painted during the paint out will go to the preservation of the 117-year-old Platts/Backus House. So not only are you getting a piece of history created before your eyes, but you will be saving another piece of history.

On Thursday, April 18th and Friday, April 19th, Main Street Fort Pierce will hold a free public art reception to showcase and sell the pieces created during the Plein Air. The receptions will be held from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m at the Platts/Backus House, 122 AE Backus Avenue, Fort Pierce. The public will have the opportunity to meet the artists, purchase artwork painted during the event, and listen to live music.

Main Street Fort Pierce encourages you to be part of “Souvenirs of Downtown” and for you to welcome each of the artists who are coming to our town to capture these special moments. Your support will help make a difference in the historic preservation and pave the way to preserving our unique heritage.

Come join us April 17th through April 19th, 2012 for “Souvenirs of Downtown” En Plein Air – Paint-Out. For more information on the event call the Main Street office at (772) 466-3880. Souvenirs of Downtown is sponsored by Southern Eagle Distributing and St. Lucie News Tribune.

5th Annual Souvenirs of Downtown, Plein Air Paint-Out
by Pam Gillette

Art comes from the beauty of life. Whether it is a colorful landscape, a historic building, or a vibrant flower used as inspiration, an artist can capture that ever changing light and mood to create extraordinary pieces of artwork. That is what makes Plein Air (to paint in the open air) so unique and Main Street is proud to bring Plein Air painting back to Fort Pierce.

Our diverse group of Plein Air artists will arrive in Fort Pierce on Wednesday, April 17, to begin capturing the scenes and inspirations of the downtown. This year’s artists participating in the 5th Annual Souvenirs of Downtown – Plein Air Paint-Out, are as follows: Kirsten Andreason, Colleen Nash Becht, Judith Bettendorf, Adriana Scalamandee’ Bitter, Carol Boye, Judy Burgarella, Petey Cox, Charles Dickinson, Sue Dinnemo, Ellen E. Fischer, Duane Hatfield, Dorothy Hudson, Richard Kelly, Carol Kerpp, Michael V. LasaCasas, Lori McNamara, Harry McVay, Diane Mesagno, Dawn K. Mill, Dawn E. Miller, Sally Browning-Pearson, Marlene E. Purnam, Jackie Schindehette, Lee G. Smith, Barbara May Smythers, and Emily Timmrl.

Main Street is happy to have the returning artists and would like to welcome our new artists to the event. Each year the artists bring their own perspective on the unique historic buildings, the waterfront and the community, to capture a souvenir for you to keep. We believe that Souvenirs of Downtown has become a destination event and one that the artists want to return to year after year.

New this year to the event is “No Boundaries Day” painting on Wednesday, April 17th from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The artists will be able to paint in any area of their choice. This will provide a variety of artwork that we have not seen at our Plein Air and showcase other aspects of Fort Pierce. On Thursday and Friday the artists will return to the downtown Fort Pierce area, painting from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

120 S. Indian River Drive
Suite 405-B
Fort Pierce, Florida 34950
(772) 489-8868

1000 SE Monterey Commons Blvd
Suite 101
Stuart, Florida 34996

• Accounting & Auditing
• Business Advisory
• Tax Services
• Information Technology
• Human Resources

130 S. Indian River Drive
Suite 405-B
Fort Pierce, Florida 34950
(772) 489-8868

1000 SE Monterey Commons Blvd
Suite 101
Stuart, Florida 34996

• Personal Financial Planning
• Asset Management Services
• Estate Planning
• Retirement Planning
• Pensions & Financial Education
• Protection Planning

Offices in Florida, Ohio and Pennsylvania

HbK REALTY
1414 S. US 1
Stuart, Florida 34994
(772) 287-2000

RESIDENTIAL
COMMERCIAL
RENTALS
PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

ABC
REalty
414 Seaway Drive, Fort Pierce
(772) 465-5100

PANDORA
UNFORGETTABLE MOMENTS

St. Lucie County
REGIONAL HISTORY CENTER
414 Seaway Drive, Fort Pierce
Museum Hours:
Wednesday to Saturday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Sunday, 1 – 4 p.m.
Phone (772) 447-2195
Fax (772) 447-2197
www.stlucie.org/history

Pineapple Patch Gift Shop
Featuring a Variety of Gifts & Books

Rosinho’s
HISTORIC DOWNTOWN FT. PIERCE • 772-465-1373

Karen Gelack
Realty
(772) 529-6774

Doverly But\nReal\r
(772) 475-7336

Working Together
Sets Us Apart

HILL, BARTH & KING LLC
Certified Public Accountants & Business Consultants
hbkepa.com

HbK
HbK REALTY
HbK SORECE FINANCIAL INC
Sound Financial Planning, President Asset Management
hbkfinancial.com
Colleen Nash Becht is a full-time watercolorist with a studio in Fort Pierce, Florida. She studied Fine Art at East Carolina University in Greenville, North Carolina, then returned home to Fort Pierce to pursue her many interests. As recently as eight years ago, Colleen rediscovered her passion for painting and swiftly developed an individual expression through watercolor.

Colleen Nash Becht

– Local Artist Gives Back to Main Street

by Pam Gillette

Colleen Nash Becht — Local Artist Gives Back to Main Street

Chelonia Mydas
by Colleen Nash Becht

Let our experience drive your portfolio

Your Financial Advisor can help you create a map, based on where you are today, where you want to be in retirement. To help you follow that map and manage the journey, we employ and directly manage your assets, making the complex job of managing your wealth less stressful and more productive. Our clients are our first priority. Call today to learn more.

200 North Andrews Avenue
Fort Pierce, FL 34947
772-784-6400
www.hoskins.com

Personal Injury / Auto Accidents
Social Security Disability
Bankruptcy

Hoskins Tarca
Lloyd & Lloyd

Nursing Home Care
Hospice Care
Alzheimer’s & Dementia Care
Medication Reminders
Personal Care

Chelonia Mydas

by Colleen Nash Becht

8 MAIN STREET FOCUS April 2012

Colleen Nash Becht — Local Artist Gives Back to Main Street

by Pam Gillette

Chelonia Mydas
by Colleen Nash Becht

Let our experience drive your portfolio

Your Financial Advisor can help you create a map, based on where you are today, where you want to be in retirement. To help you follow that map and manage the journey, we employ and directly manage your assets, making the complex job of managing your wealth less stressful and more productive. Our clients are our first priority. Call today to learn more.

200 North Andrews Avenue
Fort Pierce, FL 34947
772-784-6400
www.hoskins.com

Personal Injury / Auto Accidents
Social Security Disability
Bankruptcy

Hoskins Tarca
Lloyd & Lloyd

Nursing Home Care
Hospice Care
Alzheimer’s & Dementia Care
Medication Reminders
Personal Care

Chelonia Mydas
by Colleen Nash Becht

Colleen Nash Becht is a full-time watercolorist with a studio in Fort Pierce, Florida. She studied Fine Art at East Carolina University in Greenville, North Carolina, then returned home to Fort Pierce to pursue her many interests. As recently as eight years ago, Colleen rediscovered her passion for painting and swiftly developed an individual expression through watercolor.

Colleen Nash Becht

by Pam Gillette

Chelonia Mydas
by Colleen Nash Becht

Let our experience drive your portfolio

Your Financial Advisor can help you create a map, based on where you are today, where you want to be in retirement. To help you follow that map and manage the journey, we employ and directly manage your assets, making the complex job of managing your wealth less stressful and more productive. Our clients are our first priority. Call today to learn more.

200 North Andrews Avenue
Fort Pierce, FL 34947
772-784-6400
www.hoskins.com

Personal Injury / Auto Accidents
Social Security Disability
Bankruptcy

Hoskins Tarca
Lloyd & Lloyd

Nursing Home Care
Hospice Care
Alzheimer’s & Dementia Care
Medication Reminders
Personal Care

Chelonia Mydas
by Colleen Nash Becht

Colleen Nash Becht is a full-time watercolorist with a studio in Fort Pierce, Florida. She studied Fine Art at East Carolina University in Greenville, North Carolina, then returned home to Fort Pierce to pursue her many interests. As recently as eight years ago, Colleen rediscovered her passion for painting and swiftly developed an individual expression through watercolor.
Colleen knew she had “the gift” and credits her husband for always being there to support her. She began showing her watercolors at the Lafferandre Gallery in downtown Fort Pierce and the rest, they say, is history.

Colleen continues to paint a variety of subject matter, striving to keep her work fresh and alive. She enjoys working with close-up images which indicate strong color, light and shadow. Her unique style and perspectives have insured that her work has found quick recognition with a strong demand for its ownership, both locally and nationally. It is her use of color and contrast which has become the signature in her award-winning exhibitions, both locally and nationally. It is her use of color and contrast which has become the signature in her award-winning exhibitions, both locally and nationally.

Colleen has several exhibitions each year in a variety of galleries. At the present time, her work is hanging at the mainstreffortpierce website at www.mainstreffortpierce.org. We accept cash, check, PayPal, or Visa/MC/Discover. Purchase your tickets TODAY!

Donating this painting is my way of saying “Thank You” to Main Street Fort Pierce. Thank you, Colleen, for all you do for Main Street Fort Pierce.

The Art Mundo Center for Creative Expression is a non-profit community arts education organization, located in historic downtown Fort Pierce at the ArtBank on 111 Orange Ave. If you have never been to Art Mundo you are in for a treat. The Underground provides a variety of art studios and art galleries, while offering a curriculum of art and craft classes year round.

This April, Art Mundo is joining forces with Main Street Fort Pierce to present a variety of art demonstrations at the Platt Backus House during Main Street’s Plein Air event to showcase a variety of artists and artistic mediums. Please join us from 12 noon – 4 p.m., Wednesday, April 18th to Friday, April 20th to see art in the making. There will be classes in wood burning, wood carving, bead weaving, painting, screen printing, encaustic, mosaic, scroll saw, cartooning and painted paper collage. In addition to the demonstrations there will be drawings for art prizes and information on Art Mundo.
First Annual Fort Pierce Oyster Festival

Oysters are great to eat, and growing them in the Indian River Lagoon is even better for its ecosystem. Come be a part of this critical cycle of life and join us for the first of what will become an annual event. The Fort Pierce Oyster Festival will take place on Saturday, April 7th. This festival will feature music, family fun, arts & crafts, as well as educational exhibits on marine ecosystems, marine items, boats, seafood and fresh oysters. The fun will begin at 10 a.m. and continue until 8 p.m.

“Our oyster restoration projects in St. Lucie County have been very successful and the majority of the shells are being collected from area restaurants,” says Dean Kubitschek, manager of the Ft. Pierce City Marina and one of the event organizers. “Oyster restoration will also be a key component to the rebuild of the marina. We will be focusing on these projects at this event and the shells from the oysters eaten at the festival will be collected to be used for both the St. Lucie County project which is directed by Jim Oppenborn and the new islands being constructed for the marina. Patrons get to eat oysters and the lagoon gets the shell!”

The festival will include various components of fun. The Sunrise Theater will be overseeing the entertainment. The Manatee Center will be running the children’s activities. The Ft. Pierce Yacht Club will be holding a marine flea market. Fort Pierce Authentic Tours will be promoting eco-friendly things to do in the region and will be one of the benefactors of the event along with Sea-Life Habitat Improvement Project, Inc. (SHIP).

Sponsors, vendors and volunteers are welcomed. For more information on this year’s festival contact April Price at (772) 285-1646 or go to our web site at www.FtPierceOysterFest.com.

Sea-Life Habitat Improvement Project, Inc., is a 501(c)3 public charity and is dedicated to sinking a large Navy-type ship for an artificial reef and the enhancement to our artificial reef systems on the Treasure Coast of Florida.
The Humane Society of St. Lucie County Treasure Coast BBQ Championship

Do you consider yourself a BBQ enthusiast or do you just enjoy eating tasty BBQ? If the answer is yes, come and participate in the first Treasure Coast BBQ Championship on May 12th, hosted by the Humane Society of St. Lucie County. The event is sanctioned by the Florida BBQ Association for serious BBQ enthusiasts. The event anticipates drawing competitors from all over the state of Florida and South Georgia.

The BBQ competitors will meet the evening prior to the public event on May 11th for the “Cook’s Cocktail Reception.” A dessert competition at 6 p.m. that evening is open to the public to enter for prizes and trophies. BBQ competitors and visitors will enjoy the beautiful scenery along the Indian River in Fort Pierce at the Veteran’s Park / Riverwalk Center at 600 N. Indian River Drive.

Thousands of dollars will be given away in prize money, providing competition in both the “Professional” and “Backyard” divisions on May 12th at 11 a.m. The fun kicks off with live music, cold beverages, carnival-style games and treats. Animals from the Humane Society will be available for adoption. Best of all, event attendees can enjoy tasty BBQ chicken, pork, ribs and brisket from vendors or be a judge the competition BBQ in the “People’s Choice” contest. This event is free to the public.

The BBQ competition is hosted by the Humane Society of St. Lucie County to help raise funds for additional housing in Port St. Lucie. The Fort Pierce shelter, opened since 1956, currently receives an average of 600 – 800 animals each month from animal control and residents of St. Lucie County, Fort Pierce and Port St. Lucie.

To sign up for the BBQ as a competitor, to sponsor, or for more information on the festivities, visit the Humane Society of St. Lucie County’s website at www.HSSLC.org, or call 772-696-2095.
2012 Mardi Gras Parade, sponsored by the Fort Pierce Jazz & Blues Society. Main Street Fort Pierce wins first place float!

St. Patrick’s Day

Photos by John Culverhouse

Art Reception

Photos by John Culverhouse
Ontologi.e – A Unique Boutique Offering Chic Not Sheep!

It’s Friday night and you’re ready to start celebrating the weekend. You get dolled up and head out to your favorite spot. But, when you walk in the door, you realize you’re not the only “you” there. There “she” is wearing your top! Talk about a disappointing evening.

Ladies, we are not sheep! We should not all be wearing the same thing, just because we’re limited on places to buy. To get unique quality styles at strangely affordable prices, check out the cute boutique just across from the library in Ft Pierce.

Jeff and Talia Fairbanks opened Ontologi.e more than three years ago. They say, “We still hear ’did you just open?’ or, ’we come to the Saturday market all the time, but have been afraid to come in because it looks expensive — but it’s not!’ But from those that do frequent us, we’re hearing, ’I feel like you did the shopping for me. All I have to do is come in and get what I want this week.’” Because we limit our selection and duplicates and we hand pick items that fit the needs and tastes of our special clientele, you won’t find yourself wading through meaningless options. And because we buy direct instead of through resellers, we can offer everyday prices. We like to blend elegance with a touch of edginess. It isn’t just for young skinny girls — it’s for women who want to have fun and feel good doing it.

So, the next time you are walking around town, be “you” and stylish at the same time. Unique pieces come in frequently. And, if you are in need of something specific, we will learn about you and your style to bring in items that work just for you. We feel you!

Ontologi.e, unique personal style in fashion, home, and accessories; www.feelontologie.com; 121 Melody Lane, Ft. Pierce; phone (772) 781.0943.

Fort Pierce Mayor Robert Benton Awards Golden Hammer Winners

City of Fort Pierce Mayor, Robert J. Benton announced the winners of the Mayor’s Golden Hammer Award on Friday, March 16, at Historic City Hall in Downtown Fort Pierce at the monthly Coffee with the Mayor.

Winners are: Town Star (top photo), intersection of Okeechobee Boulevard and 25th Street – Commercial Improvement; Chris & Janice Hodge (center photo), 1622 Thumb Point Drive – New Construction Residential; and Daniel M. Deiulio (bottom photo), CPA, 908 Sunrise Boulevard, Commercial Renovation.

The Award recognizes the efforts of residents and business owners in the Fort Pierce community that have significantly improved their home or business through new construction or rehabilitation efforts. The Gold Hammer Award is presented in March and September. Nomination forms are available in the Mayor’s Office at City Hall or the city’s website http://www.cityoffortpierce.com/pdf/goldenhammer.pdf throughout the year.

The award is sponsored by East Coast Lumber and Supply Company. Each category winner receives a $100 gift certificate from the sponsor and a sign displayed in front of their home or business.
Rains Insurance Partners with Marcia Baker

Insurance industry veteran Marcia Baker brings her financial and insurance industry expertise to Rains Insurance. Baker will help the Downtown Fort Pierce-based insurance agency through its high growth period and help expand its role in the community.

Rains Insurance, a growing independent insurance agency offering a wide range of personal and business insurance products, has partnered with Marcia Baker to expand its role in the community and continue through their high growth period as of February 1, 2012. In her new position, Baker will work directly with Rains Insurance founders Nick and Hyman Rains.

“Marcia has outstanding credentials and is a great fit for this important position within our agency. As a small company, we recognized that we needed someone like Marcia to grow our business. Her community involvement, financial and leadership experience as well as her expertise in the insurance industry will serve us well,” explained Nick Rains.

“I am very pleased to join Rains Insurance and add my 35 years of experience in the Insurance Industry as well as my 25-year record of community involvement in Fort Pierce to this growing agency, said Marcia Baker.

About Rains Insurance: Founded in 2008, Rains Insurance was started by local businessmen Hyman and Nick Rains, whose vision of opening a small community based insurance agency with nationwide capabilities stressing creative, versatile, and affordable insurance coverage designed and tailored to each client's needs continues to define the company. Over the past 3 years, Rains Insurance has expanded to 2 locations on the Treasure Coast and has accumulated over 1,000 clients in this short time span. The company plans to open additional locations throughout Florida and continue to provide the best possible customer service to their current and future clients.

Would You Like Vibrant Health?

by Joanne Augusto, Owner Nutrition World, Downtown Fort Pierce

For many years, people would ask me about organic products and if they were really worth the extra money. I was unsure at times of the integrity of different companies’ claims until Jordan Rubin the founder of Garden of Life, created Beyond Organic.

I was thrilled to learn this, since I have avoided most animal products with concerns of their effect on my health. Having two young children I would love to grab a package of hot dogs without the guilt.

Two weeks ago a friend handed me a package of beef hot dogs that she thought I would like. I couldn’t believe it met with my very long list of requirements. No pesticides, chemical fertilizers, hormones, antibiotics or GMOs, and the animals are roaming free on 8,000 organic pastures in the Ozarks and treated humanely. After enjoying the hotdogs I also enjoyed the amazing Amasai drink, which is a cultured drink that is a cross between kefir and yogurt. Even if you can’t digest dairy this is an entirely different experience. The low heat processing allows it to be full of enzymes and cultures. I can handle an ounce of milk but I drank an entire 16-ounce bottle without an issue.

There are many companies that have strived to meet all of the requirements to label their products organic. Unfortunately, they fall short in some areas. Industrial Organic feed their animals grain instead of grass, they use high heat processing, they fall short in some areas.

There are many companies that have strived to meet all of the requirements to label their products organic. Unfortunately, they fall short in some areas. Industrial Organic feed their animals grain instead of grass, they use high heat processing, and add synthetic nutrients.

Beyond Organic was founded based on this idea: that everyone should have access to the healthiest food and beverages on the planet. No longer would “grass fed” be solely the province of those lucky enough to be near a local farm or willing to drive to an out-of-the-way store. For too long, healthy buzzwords like “organic” have belonged to the select few who can find it and afford it. Beyond Organic will change that. For the first time ever, the healthiest foods and beverages will be available to anyone, regardless of where — or how — they live.

Stretching across 8,000 acres of pristine land in the Ozarks and continued among 140 acres of pure spring-fed mountain property in North Georgia, Beyond Organic is a new company on a mission to change your diet, change your life, and change your world.

Beyond Organic is the passion project of owner Jordan Rubin, who believes that we have lost our connection to the land. Where our ancestors used to drink water from unblemished springs and eat food they could grow themselves, today we rely on chemical-laden tap water and food processed to an unrecognizable form. Jordan’s vision is to alter that dynamic by reconnecting individuals to the ultimate source of health — food and water from land preserved by nature.

Nutrition World is located at 200 North Second Street in Fort Pierce; (772)464-3598; www.joanneaugusto@mybeyondorganic.com.
Downtown Heroes – Mike and Janie Hinkle of Jiffy Photo

Film was in. The year was 1977 and Mike Hinkle and his partner photographer Jon Kral had just purchased Jiffy Photo, a 20-year-old business started by Joe Corso. In the last 35 years much has changed in the photo industry. For Mike and Janie Hinkle, however, many things are still the same. Jiffy Photo is still in its South US 1 location, cameras still line the shelves (although most are digital now), bags, accessories and equipment are stacked to the ceiling, and memories are still turned into photographs on a daily basis from both film and digital files. In addition to the smaller prints, wide format printing has been added both on paper and on canvas. Now it’s 2012 and digital is in. Jiffy can scan to slides to DVD. VHS tapes and 8 mm reel films are preserved by being transferred to DVD as well. Old photos are digitally restored to their original beauty and can be printed in any size and framed on site.

New to the scene in the last seven years is a complete frame shop, with both custom and very affordable readymade options. The Hinkle’s, both photographers, felt the need to offer their photography customers a one-stop shop for printing and framing. With an interior design background, Janie eventually wanted to offer framing for other fine arts, and began accepting water colors, oils, acrylics, prints, and just about anything else that goes into a frame. The challenge was, and still is, to keep the quality high and the price reasonable.

Mike and Janie are a wonderful example of small business owners who give back to the community they represent. Please support these local downtown heroes next time you are in the market for camera supplies, framing, film processing, art supplies, or one of the other many services and products that Jiffy Photo has to offer.

Spring & Summer Adventures at the Manatee Center

by Brandi Vancy, The Manatee Observation and Education Center

“April hath put a spirit of youth in everything.”
—William Shakespeare

Do you miss the carefree days of childhood? Running around playing with your friends — tag, kickball, hopscotch and more! You may have even been captain of a pirate ship or a princess in a grand castle. This April, the Manatee Center will help you reconnect with your inner child and embrace the spirit of youth!

The Manatee Center has adventures for kids of all ages. Explore the lagoon by taking the Indian River Lagoon Wildlife Boat Tour. This tour is 90 minutes of carefree enjoyment. Enjoy your time on the water as you look for manatees coasting through the waters and dolphins at play. Discover the Indian River Lagoon with a guided kayak tour. You may even see a manatee up close! For the more adventurous, rent a kayak and go out on your own. Plan your adventure today at the Vanishing Mermaid Gift Shop or call (772) 460-6445.

What child doesn’t enjoy a special treat? While at the Vanishing Mermaid Gift Shop, treat yourself! Choose from our great selection of items from gifts and housewares to toys and souvenirs. We even have select items discounted by 10 – 70%. Each week more items will be added to the clearance area with even deeper discounts. You can also shop on line at www.ManateeGiftsGalore.com. Mention this article and get 10% OFF regularly priced merchandise.

Don’t forget to include your kids in on the fun. The Manatee Center’s Summer Camp registration is officially open. Register before May 1st, and save $10 OFF each camp. Become a “Family Member” of the Manatee Center and save an additional $15 per camp. And don’t forget sibling discounts. There are seven different camps (one each week, June 18th through August 6th). Each week-long camp has a different environmental theme and is geared to a different age group.

Join us at the Manatee Observation and Education Center let your inner child free. For more about upcoming events, camps, programs, and general information, visit www.ManateeCenter.com or call (772) 466-1600 X3071. You can also become a fan of the Manatee Center on Facebook and receive upcoming event information.

Spring, Summer and the Manatee Center
THE ONLY THING EASIER THAN SWITCHING TO SEACOAST IS STAYING WITH SEACOAST.

With so many banks scaling back their checking options, lending and other services, maybe it’s time to switch to Seacoast. As a community bank with deep roots in the neighborhood, we promise to deliver the customer-friendly services, products and technology that will make you actually want to bank here. Imagine that.

We promise to:
- Get you comfortable with the right products
- and the right team to serve you
- Make your day-to-day banking simple
- Resolve out-of-the-ordinary items responsively
- Invest in you and your community

Visit your local branch and meet us in person. You’ll feel comfortable here. You’ll like our people and you’ll appreciate how hard we’ll work to earn your business. That’s a promise.

Seacoast NATIONAL BANK

1.800.706.9991 SeacoastNational.com

Win this Original "Colleen Nash Becht" Watercolor “Chelonias Mydas”

Tickets are $10 each or 3/$25
PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS TODAY

Call Main Street Fort Pierce 772-465-3880
Visa, Mastercard, or Discover
www.mainstreetfortpierce.org

PayPal
Drawing to be held April 20, 2012 at 7:30 pm
During the 30th anniversary Downtown Fort Air Paint Out Reception
Platts/Backus House - 122 A. E. Backus Avenue

DMHB CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

DIBartolomeo, McBeo, Hartley & Barnes, PA
Established 1945

Accounting & Tax Services

Please visit our website at DMHBPA.net

Two Locations to Serve You on the Treasure Coast

Fort Pierce
461-8833
For 461-8833
2222 Colonial Road
Suite 200

Port St. Lucie
875-1952
For 875-1952
439 SE Port St. Lucie Blvd
Suite 115

Get your Tickets Today

SUNRISE THEATRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

B.B. KING
Sunday, April 1 at 7pm

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11 at 7PM

One Night of Queen Saturday, April 21 at 8pm

ZIGGY MARLEY
WILD AND FREE TOUR

SUNDAY, MAY 6 at 7PM

Located in Historic Downtown Fort Pierce
For a complete list of shows visit us online
(772) 461-4775
SunriseTheatre.com

24 MAIN STREET FOCUS APRIL 2012
Farmers’ Market Awarded “Snail of Approval” Award
by Linda Hudson, Downtown Farmers’ Market of Fort Pierce

The Downtown Farmers’ Market of Fort Pierce received the “Snail of Approval” award at its 15th Anniversary Celebration, Saturday, January 21, 2012. The award, presented to the Market by the Gold and Treasure Coast Slow Food Chapter, recognizes the Market’s contributions to the quality, authenticity and sustainability of the food supply of the Gold and Treasure Coast regions. The Gold Coast is the southeastern metro urban area including Palm Beach, Broward and Dade Counties. The “Snail of Approval” award has been given to farms, ranches, fishing fleets, restaurants, food and beverage artisans, retailers and municipalities who have made a significant contribution to the goals of Slow Food USA. Slow Food is an idea, a way of living and a way of eating that links the pleasure of food with a commitment to the community and the environment. Gold and Treasure Coast Slow Food members celebrate local food and the people who grow, harvest, and prepare it. As a non-profit member-supported association, Slow Food was founded in 1989 to counter the rise of fast food and fast life, the disappearance of local food traditions and people’s dwindling interest in the food they eat, where it comes from, how it tastes and how our food choices affect the rest of the world.

Find Gold and Treasure Coast Slow Food Chapter on Facebook and find Slow Food advocate, Sal Varri and Varri Green Farms at the Downtown Farmers Market of Fort Pierce Saturdays, 8 a.m. to Noon, at the waterfront, between the library and the marina, in Marina Square. Enjoy live music and breakfast or lunch along the seawall or at the picnic tables. Park free at the Manatee Center and River Walk Center, or the parking garage behind city hall. The Farmers’ Market is a Saturday morning tradition in Fort Pierce.

Fundraisers to Benefit Summerlin Family
by Dale van der Lagt, Co-Owner of Sentiment

If you’ve lived in Fort Pierce for a long period of time, you more than likely have met or heard of the Summerlin Family. As a member of a pioneering family of St. Lucie County, Herman Summerlin has given much to his community. For most of his adult life, through fish fries and BBQ’s, he has helped raise money for charitable causes. After the 2004 hurricanes destroyed much of the Fort Pierce City Marina, Herman worked closely with Fort Pierce City Marina Manager, Dean Kubitschek, to rebuild the docks inside the marina. Since that time, Herman has also helped maintain the docks, as well as the navigational signs.

On Saturday evening, February 25th, the historic century-year-old home, in which Herman was born and where he and his wife Karen resided, burned down. The two were fortunate to survive the fire but are now without their home, where more than a hundred years of family memories were made. With much love and support, their beloved community has come together to put on a Reconstruction Benefit.

The Reconstruction Benefit for Herman & Karen Summerlin will be held on April 28th at the St. Lucie Village School House from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. Tickets are being sold for $10 per plate. The benefit includes door prizes, 50/50 drawings, awesome raffle prizes, and a silent auction. There will be live music and plenty of delicious food! Updates can be viewed on facebook.com/titled Herman and Karen Summerlin Benefit Event.

For more information please call 772-672-8500 or stop by at Sentiment. “Where the Thought Does Count,” 205 Orange Avenue in Fort Pierce; www.sentimentcounts.com; e-mail — sentimentdowntown@yahoo.com.
Fort Pierce City Marina – Changes on the Way

by Dan Dannahower

We’ve been talking about and anticipating the rebuild of our city marina for several years now. Talk is finally turning to action and we’re about to see this long anticipated project get underway.

The development of the marina project began after the hurricanes of 2004 which devastated the Fort Pierce City Marina. Hurricane Frances and, then a few weeks later, Hurricane Jeanne destroyed all the floating docks that had extended east from the seawall into the lagoon. Many boats were destroyed and a massive cleanup got the marina back to an operational condition with around half the dockage that existed before the storms. Since that time a new concept to restore the docks east of the seawall has been created, studied, engineered and developed. Years of preparation have gone into a new concept that is about to be created right here at our own marina and may become a model for marinas throughout the state.

Soon we will see a number of spoil islands being created to protect new docks east of the seawall. Starting from approximately in front of the library and going east, then turning south, these islands will provide a natural barrier for new docks east of the seawall. They will be planted with natural materials such as mangroves and will provide natural habitat for the sea life in the lagoon. New docks will be constructed inside the protection of these islands and will allow the marina a huge increase in dockage for our very popular marina.

As with any major construction project, this one will not come without some pain. The parking area and boat ramps at the north end of the marina, which service the Backus Museum and Manatee Center will be used for staging the material for building the new spoil islands. The walkway along the river east of that area may be affected and other downtown areas may see some affects from staging heavy equipment. Not an ideal condition but necessary for the construction of this project.

Hopefully after a little inconvenience while this project gets completed we can be proud of a new and first class marina that sets the bar for eco-friendly projects around our state.

The Columbia’s Original “1905” Salad™

by Sue Dannahower

After a “girl trip” to the Columbia Restaurant in Sarasota this is my new favorite restaurant. This salad is a meal in itself. Read all about this small restaurant (5 total locations) at www.columbiarestaurant.com.

Salad Ingredients

12 cups romaine lettuce, broken into 1½” × 1½” pieces
3 ripe tomato, cut into eighths
1½ cups baked ham, julienned 2” × 1/8”
1½ cups Swiss cheese, julienne 2” × 1/8”
1 cup pimiento-stuffed green Spanish olives
1½ cups Romano cheese, grated
6 tablespoons Lea & Perrins Worcestershire Sauce®
2 lemons

“1905” Dressing

4 teaspoons dried oregano
1/3 cup white wine vinegar
Salt and pepper to taste

Mix olive oil, garlic, and oregano in a bowl with a wire whisk. Stir in vinegar, gradually beating to form an emulsion, and then season with salt and pepper. For best results, prepare 1 to 2 days in advance and refrigerate. Serve 8.
THE FUTURE LOOKS GREEN

WASTE MANAGEMENT IS EXCITED TO BE JOINING THE FORT PIERCE COMMUNITY.

Our local leadership team is committed to our communities – offering outstanding customer service, innovation and a passion for community partnership.

FOR US, BEING YOUR DISPOSAL ALTERNATIVE IS JUST THE BEGINNING.

Whether it’s through recycling or creating energy from ordinary trash, we are working to create smarter solutions for what used to be considered waste.

By choosing Waste Management as your waste services provider, you are helping to create a brighter future for everyone. Thank you for being part of the solution.