It’s Carnival Time!
18th Annual Main Street Fort Pierce
Reverse Raffle

page 10
It’s hard to believe that summer is almost over. Seems that it just started! But we’ve been busy at Main Street getting ready for our annual Reverse Raffle. This is truly the best party in the county and you are invited to join us — but you have to buy your tickets now! This year’s Mardi Gras-themed event has a limited number of tickets, so call the office today to make sure you don’t miss the fun. Check out the article in this edition of the Focus to get all of the details.

We’ve also been busy working on completion of the grounds and courtyard at the Platts/Backus House, Main Street’s home. On June 22nd we hosted a “Dig It” party and broke ground on this important landscaping project. You’re going to hear more about our “This Place Matters” campaign as we look to our supporters to help us finish the details of this Fort Pierce landmark. We’ll keep you posted as we make progress on this enhancement to our downtown district.

As we look to the coming months, Main Street’s dedication to bringing residents and visitors downtown to enjoy our historic district remains as strong as ever. You can count on us to continue to produce the greatest and longest running street party — Friday Fest — designed to provide fun for the whole family. We have a special event coming up in September where we’ll roast Mayor Bob Benton and Tax Collector Bob Davis — sure to be a knee-slapping, hilarious evening! We’ll host the annual Ghost Tour, a great way to learn about the community, and of course the spookiest golf tournament in St. Lucie County with a Halloween theme.

As Main Street Fort Pierce works hard to keep a focus on our historic district, your support of events, membership, and sponsorship is key to our success on behalf of the community. If you aren’t a member, I hope you’ll join today. If you are, please share your enthusiasm for Main Street’s efforts with friends and encourage them to join.

I hope to see you at the Reverse Raffle on August 18th and at our many events that celebrate this great city and historic district. Thank you for your support!
Come Find Real Treasures at the Backus Museum’s Annual Sale

by Robin Dannahower

As the old saying goes, one man’s trash is another man’s treasure. There will be plenty of riches to be found at the Backus Museum’s 2012 Another Man’s Treasure Sale.

The event, in its fourth season, will be held on Saturday, September 8, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. A preview party and sale for members only will be held on Friday, September 7, from 5 to 7 p.m. If you’re not a current member, no need to worry — you can join or renew at the door for a first chance at finding prized or valuable items.

Kathleen Fredrick, the A.E. Backus Museum’s executive director, said, “People wait all year for this sale. It has become legendary along the Treasure Coast. Our board of directors and members donate incredible items for this event. In past years we’ve had collector’s quality Stickley furniture, hand-painted china and beautiful gold and silver jewelry donated. People have become accustomed to saving the very best items they want to contribute for the Backus Museum’s Treasure Sale — and this year is no exception. We are expecting the best sale ever.”

Items featured in this year’s sale include original works of art, antiques, furniture, household items and collectables of all kinds (no clothing). New to the sale for 2012 is an area for haute couture accessories! Items featured in this area are made from high-quality, expensive materials and often carry designer labels or names.

There is still time to donate items if you are interested. Please call the museum at 772-465-0630 to schedule a drop-off, or for larger items you can arrange for pick-up. All proceeds are tax-deductable and benefit the A.E. Backus Museum, which is a not-for-profit organization.

The A.E. Backus Museum & Gallery is located at 500 North Indian River Drive in Historic Downtown Fort Pierce. Visit backusmuseum.com for more information.
Changes for the Downtown Business Association

by Deb Cohen

The Downtown Business Association (DBA) of Fort Pierce has gone through some changes this summer. The DBA’s President, Joe Testa, proceeded to obtain new sponsors for the popular Classic Car Cruz In. Barrie Robertson from Bonehead Motor Company is one of the new sponsors for this event. Barrie will also start to display his motorcycles on Avenue A outside his downtown location. Jeff Richey, owner of Affordable Auto Body and Restoration, is another new sponsor of the car show. Affordable Auto Body is located on South Market Street in Fort Pierce. Mike Klabin of M & R Customs, which builds custom hot rods, is also helping the DBA by sponsoring the Cruz In. M & R Customs is located in Vero Beach. Export Cars and Trucks Corp., where our DBA president, Joe Testa, works, is contributing as well. Don Rinelli, owner of Rinelli’s Yellow Tail, continues his support. We appreciate all of our new and established sponsors and thank them kindly for their generosity. The Classic Car Cruz In is the last Friday of the month from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. and has been a big success this summer. Come on out and join us for this wonderful event.

Bike Nite is still roaring on Thursday nights. Don Rinelli says it is always well attended by bikers from all over the Treasure Coast. The DBA is looking for sponsors and vendors for this event. Please contact our President, Joe Testa, at 772-828-8967 if you are interested or have any questions.

Our newest event, Treasures in the Trunk Antiques and Art Fest is growing rapidly. It is held the third Saturday of each month from 8 a.m. to noon on Second Street in downtown Fort Pierce. Sunrise Ford is now a sponsor and we appreciate their support. Antique dealers, artists and authors gather to share their collectibles and works of art with everyone.

As we move out of summer and into fall, the Downtown Business Association of Fort Pierce is busy organizing the “The Great Pumpkin Party.” It will be held on Wednesday, October 24, 2012 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Second Street in downtown. This is the same night as the Ghost Walk put on by Main Street Fort Pierce.

We are looking for sponsors to have a Halloween-oriented activity for the children. Monetary donations are needed to cover the cost to make this party happen and to purchase pumpkins for the children who attend. The Great Pumpkin Party has a Costume and Pumpkin Decorating Contest. Prizes are given to the winners which are furnished by Fort Pierce area businesses. The committee will stuff about 200 trick-or-treat bags with coupons and brochures that local businesses wish to supply. Please contact Deb Cohen, DBA Secretary, at 772-528-2513 or e-mail debido818@comcast.net to volunteer. The DBA of Fort Pierce would like to make the 2012 Pumpkin Party better than last year. This is special for the children of our community so they can have wonderful childhood memories like we do.

In closing, the members of the Downtown Business Association of Fort Pierce would like to thank all who attend and participate in our events. You are the ones that make our downtown great!
Kingdom Christian Bookstore Comes to Downtown Fort Pierce

by Pam Gillette

At a time when many businesses are closing their doors, Michelle and Otis Tukes are opening theirs at 207 Avenue A in Downtown Fort Pierce. Kingdom Christian Bookstore is a dream of Michelle and Otis and they are happy to be part of downtown Fort Pierce.

I asked them why they chose Downtown Fort Pierce and Otis was quick to say “Location, location, location . . . we were looking for a place that was in the center of everything and a place for all faiths and races to come to.” Both Michelle and Otis are evangelists. They see the bookstore as a way to serve the Lord and make a difference in the community in a positive way.

Michelle and Otis have been married for two years. They have no children, but they have a 2-year-old Yorkshire Terrier named Gabriel who happily greets you upon arrival at the bookstore. Kingdom Christian Bookstore opened on Tuesday, May 29, 2012. The store carries Christian books, bibles, hats, t-shirts, ties, watches, music and electronic bibles. If you can’t find what you are looking for in the store, they will be happy to special order your request. The store has plans for additional items in the future and they are looking forward to serving the community.

Kingdom Christian Bookstore is open Tuesday through Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and closed on Sunday and Monday. They are located at 207 Avenue A in downtown Fort Pierce and can be contacted by calling 772-465-7999 or by e-mail at kingdomchristianbooks@aol.com.
It’s a magical night when masks are all the rage, last becomes first, and the fun feels like it will never end. However, if you want to be part of this Mardi Gras Carnival crew you’ll have to act now because there are only 250 tickets sold for Main Street’s Annual Reverse Raffle and with prizes up to $2,000, they go fast.

The Pelican Yacht Club on Seaway Drive will open the doors at 6 p.m. with registration and an incredible silent auction, accompanied by the Dixieland sounds of the Rowdy Roosters and an atmosphere decked out for the finest Mardi Gras celebration ever. Now in their 18th year of hosting the craziest and most exciting reverse raffle anywhere on the Treasure Coast, the crew you’ll have to pull all the stops to make Saturday, August 18th a memorable place this time around.

Main Street Fort Pierce Reverse Raffle – It’s Carnival Time

by Wendy Dwyer

The Reverse Raffle is a fundraiser for projects of Main Street Fort Pierce, Inc., which helps rejuvenate the local community through development, activities, awareness-building and improving the economy of historic downtown Fort Pierce. It takes many partnerships to assist Main Street in its goals for downtown and this kind of crazy party would not be possible without some pretty terrific sponsors.

Thank you to the sponsors of the 18th Annual Reverse Raffle Mardi Gras – Carnival:

Mardi Gras – Carnival Sponsor: Seacoast National Bank
Queen Mystique Sponsors: Lynch, Johnson & Long, CPAs
Ocean Chiropractic & Health, Southern Eagle Distributing, St. Lucie News Tribune, and Waste Management Inc.


The party will start at 6 p.m. for registration and a chance to check out our auction items. The official countdown will begin at 6:30 p.m., but remember, a limited number of tickets are available, so reserve yours today by calling Main Street Fort Pierce at (772) 466-3880, or check them out online at www.mainstreetfortpierce.org.

Main Street Fort Pierce would like to introduce the Main Sponsors of the 18th Annual Reverse Raffle Live & Silent Auction. Please support the businesses that support our community.

SEACOAST NATIONAL BANK

Since 1926, Seacoast National Bank has been your bank, your neighbor and your friend. We’ve been right here — living, working and growing alongside the communities we serve. Today our offices stretch from Palm Beach County north through the Treasure Coast and into Orlando, and west to Okeechobee and surrounding counties.

Seacoast is one of the last community banks left, proud and strong. Some might say it is old fashioned — but this is who we are — a local bank in the communities we serve and proud of it. We exist today to learn and understand the needs of our customers and communities and then work hard to take care of those needs.

We believe in old fashioned integrity and trust; we try to do what is right every single day. We have combined these old fashioned values with modern conveniences to be the very best. Local decision makers with local phone numbers are always available to our customers. That, together with just the right amount of technology, helps you manage this part of your life.

We look to the future filled with confidence and anticipation. We’re here to stand by you as you take your next step forward. We believe in you.

Everything we do is based upon core beliefs that are summarized in our “4 Promises.”

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

We love what we do, and it shows. If you bank with us, thank you very much. If you don’t, please give us a try. You won’t be disappointed.

Please visit us at SeacoastNational.com or stop by one of our branches and discover the true meaning of customer service.

Lynch, Johnson & Long, LLC CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

For the last twenty-six years the accounting firm of Lynch, Johnson & Long, LLC has provided outstanding service to our clients because of our dedication to the principles of professionalism, responsiveness and quality of our work. By combining our expertise, experience and the energy of our staff, each client receives close personal and professional attention. Our firm specializes in tax planning and preparation, accounting and auditing, business consulting, bookkeeping and payroll services, estate and trust planning, IRS/states/ local representation, financial planning and QuickBooks advisory services.
Ocean Chiropractic & Health Center is located at 805 Virginia Avenue, Suite 10, in Fort Pierce.

SOUTHERN EAGLE DISTRIBUTING

Main Street is proud to have partnered with Southern Eagle on their events for over 20 years. In 1984, Peter Busch moved to Fort Pierce to take up ownership of Southern Eagle Distributing. At that time, the business consisted of a small warehouse and office with 28 employees. By 1991, Busch had completed a $4.5 million expansion project and today has over 160 employees. Peter Busch, his family, and his executives believe giving back and help provide a better future for our families and the residents of Fort Pierce and the Treasure Coast. We are located at 603 North Indian River Dr., Suite 300 in beautiful downtown Fort Pierce. We will be happy to answer your questions, as they impact both your tax and financial situations.

Almost as old as the city it serves; the St. Lucie News Tribune began publication in December of that year, followed in 1905 by the Fort Pierce News. The two weekly papers merged in 1920 and became the News Tribune. The newspaper continued to grow with the area and became a daily after 1926. After a succession of owners, the paper was purchased in 1969 by Freedom Communications. In 1987, the publication of a second edition, the Fort St. Lucie Tribune was begun to serve the rapidly growing south-county city. Known as St. Lucie County’s best-read newspaper, the Tribune continues to concentrate primarily on St. Lucie County coverage. The paper was acquired by E.W. Scripps Co. in April 2000 and now forms part of the Scripps Treasure Coast Publishing Company, in conjunction with sister publications in Stuart and Vero Beach. It was renamed the St. Lucie News Tribune in February of 2009.

The St. Lucie News Tribune has always been supportive of the community it serves and has been a strong supporter of Main Street Fort Pierce. Through sponsorship and editorial coverage the St. Lucie News Tribune continues to be there for Main Street.

ST. LUCIE NEWS TRIBUNE

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... continued from page 11

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City of Fort Pierce
2012 Treasure Galleon Historic Preservation Awards

The City of Fort Pierce recently presented over 30 awards of recognition to individuals, businesses and organizations that have given new life to their community through preservation. These efforts include citizen attempts to save and maintain important landmarks, as well as architects, craftspeople and developers whose exemplary work restores the richness of the past. The awards were presented by the City's Historic Preservation Officer, Leslie Olson on May 31, 2012 at the Sunrise Theatre's Black Box in the following categories:

**Commercial Rehabilitation — Exterior Rehabilitation**
- Exemplary Achievement: Whimsy Boutique, 521 North 2nd Street
- Meritorious Achievement: 405 South 7th Street
- Honorable Mention: Granny's Kitchen, 901 Avenue D

**Residential Rehabilitation — Exterior Rehabilitation**
- Exemplary Achievement: 1505 Boston Avenue, Philip Grindley
- Exemplary Achievement: 532 N. 2nd Street, Matt Hurley and Keith Lustig
- Meritorious Achievement: 532 N. 2nd Street, Robert Shoemaker

**Infill Redevelopment — New Construction High Architectural Quality Design**
- Exemplary Achievement: 520 N. 11th Street, Cook and Menard Architecture

**Non-Profit Rehabilitation — Exterior Rehabilitation to a Historic Structure**
- Exemplary Achievement: 1234 Avenue A, Lincoln Park
- Main Street & Fort Pierce Redevelopment Agency
- Meritorious Achievement: 1007 Avenue D, First Born Church of the Living God

**Adaptive Reuse — Adapting an Historic Structure for a Different Type of Use than the Current Use**
- Exemplary Achievement: 407/409 N. Second Street, Hill Photography Studio, Charlie Hayek
- Exemplary Achievement: 301 S. U.S. 1, Emporium Antiques, Linda Kroon;
- Exemplary Achievement: 315 S. 7th Street, Cook and Menard Architecture

**Interior Rehabilitation, Commercial — Adherence to Standards on the Interior of a Commercial Rehabilitation**
- Whimsy Boutique, 521 N. 2nd Street;

**Interior Rehabilitation, Residential — Adherence to Standards on the Interior of a Residential Rehabilitation**
- 716 S. 10th Street, Kara Wood and Randy Morris

**Green Preservation, Commercial — Rehabilitation/Restoration of Historic Structures Using Green Technologies**
- Exemplary Achievement: 148 N. Depot Drive, S&S Takeout Restaurant
- Meritorious Achievement: 117 S. 2nd Street, Sunrise Theatre

**Unwrapping — Restoring a Component of an Historic Structure which has been Covered**
- Exemplary Achievement: 518 N. 2nd Street, removing shingles to reveal original bevel clapboard
- Meritorious Achievement: 315 S. 7th Street, re-opening an enclosed front porch

**Preservation Education — Neighborhood Organization and Education of Historic Preservation Through Annual Candlelight Home Tour: Oakland Park**

**Organizational Achievement — A Group Dedicated to the Goals of Historic Preservation**
- Making a Significant Contribution to the City
- Non-Profit: Edgartown Working Group, community organization to pursue zoning change in historic district
- For-Profit: Cook & Menard Architecture, portfolio and history of historic rehabilitation projects

**Weekend Warrior — Owner-Occupant Who has (nearly) Single-Handedly Learned the Art of Historic Preservation**
- Robert Shoemaker, 532 N. 2nd Street

**Cultural Landscapes — Historic Preservation’s Lifetime Achievement Award for Historic Preservations Efforts**
- Bud Adams, PP Cobb Building, Adams Ranch, documentation of historic cultural landscapes through photography

**Most Improved Block — Residential**
- Most Improved Block — Commercial
- 2012 Treasure Galleon Historic Preservation Awards
- 2nd Street, Cedar to Avenue E, Edgartown Historic District
- Orange Avenue & 5th Street

Photos by Annie Kate Jackson, Historic Preservation Board Member
It has been an honor to serve as your Mayor of Fort Pierce.

I ask for your support in the upcoming primary election for St. Lucie County Commissioner District 1, Republican, on August 14, 2012.

Please invite your family and friends to vote Bob Benton!

Approved by Bob Benton and paid for by Bob Benton Campaign account.
Officer Robert Stagner says that each dog saves hundreds of man hours. He said, “A dog has 180 million sensory detectors in their nose, which makes them pick up smells no human would be able to find. This ability allows the dogs to find a target in a quarter of the time it would take an officer.” This is an important tool to the officer and the public when searching for a missing person.

A trained dog is usually in service for about six to eight years, which bring me to the heart of this article. K9 Officer Bingo, K9 Officer Rex and K9 Officer Hannah are starting to age and they are looking forward to retirement. The Fort Pierce Police Department is currently looking to purchase two to four new canines, but with budget cuts and increasing costs, this valuable asset to our community is struggling to survive.

The average cost to purchase and train a police K9 dogs is around $10,000. The dogs then go to the handler where they reside in the officers’ homes. Additional costs to the canine unit are to the police vehicle. The car must be rigged to “Hot & Pop.” This feature allows the officer to free the dog from the vehicle if the car overheats or if the officer is in need of the K9’s assistance. The cost to outfit the vehicle is around $15,000. As you can see, the costs are high.

To continue this valuable service to the community, the Fort Pierce Police Department is looking for caring and generous individuals to help the Canine Unit. If you are interested in making a charitable donation to the support the replacement of the aging K9 officers, please send a check to: “Fort Pierce Police Department Charitable Contribution Fund,” Re: K9 Unit, and mail to the Fort Pierce Police Department, Attn: Stephanie Smith, Fiscal Manager, 920 South US Highway #1, Fort Pierce, FL 34950.
Call to Artists for The A.E. Backus Museum’s 2012 Juried Art Show

Cash Prizes, Ribbons & People’s Choice Award

This year’s juried exhibition will be organized around the wide-ranging theme Celebrating America. Artwork exhibited in the show will celebrate our country’s heritage, culture, landscapes, environment, values, people or ideals.

Applications can be downloaded online at backusmuseum.com. Entries will be accepted between September 18th – 21st and September 25th and 29th, 2012. Exhibition dates October 5th to November 17th, 2012. Entries accepted in four categories: Watercolor, Oil & Acrylic, Varied Techniques (Mixed Media/Pastel/Pencil/Monoprint/ Graphics/Collage/Other) and Three Dimensional.

Sponsored by Seacoast National Bank. Season Opening Reception: Friday, October 12, 6 – 8 p.m. Members and invited guests are free; non-members $20.

Artist Puts Dreams In Action

Living with Down Syndrome has never stopped Katie Henderson, an emerging artist, from achieving her dreams. Ms. Henderson and her mentor, Anita Prentice, share how Katie achieved her dream to have her own business and open her studio with members of the ARC of Indian River County (www.arcir.org). ARC provides support and services to persons with disabilities, enabling individuals to lead self determined lives.

The ARC of Indian River County toured the “Emerging Artist Exhibit” and studios of Art Mundo in Fort Pierce on July 5th. As a VSA teaching artist, Ms. Prentice directed the tour where people with disabilities have the opportunity to learn through, participate in, and enjoy the arts. A special feature of the tour included a presentation by Ms. Henderson.

Ms. Henderson inspired the group to find their dream and make it happen. Katie’s love for fashion spurred her to train herself how to draw. Using fashion design sketchbooks, Ms. Henderson traced illustrations of posing models until she began creating freehand images. Ms. Henderson’s medium is professional artist markers and colored pencils. She is experimenting with watercolors and pastels while studying with Lymn Baltera at the Visionary School of Fine Arts in Stuart.

Ms. Henderson opened her business, Miss Katie’s Creations (www.misskatiekreations.com) in September 2011. Miss Katie’s Creations offers unique gifts created from Ms. Henderson’s original artwork. From wearable art, to note cards, you will escape from the ordinary with her custom designed gifts for yourself, family, and friends.

In February 2012, Ms. Henderson held her first gallery show at Osceola 32 in Stuart. Her work is currently on exhibit at the Lighthouse Art Gallery in Tequesta as well as Art Mundo. She has had several original drawings purchased by private collectors in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Florida, Indiana, Ohio, and Texas. Her works have been exhibited in several juried fine arts shows. Café Katie Gallery (Ms. Henderson’s own studio) held its Grand Opening on July 13 at Art Mundo, coinciding with the Opening Reception of the “Emerging Artist Exhibit” in the Underground Gallery at Art Mundo. Ms. Henderson is one of the five artists participating in this exhibit. Art Mundo is open to the public Monday to Friday 1 – 5 p.m., and on Saturdays 10 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Miss Katie’s use her art to encourage and inspire individuals with disabilities to achieve their dreams. She donates a percentage of her sales as well as original artwork and giclée prints to charitable causes. She currently is raising funds through raffles and sales to support officers / board members of the Treasure Coast Down Syndrome Awareness Group to attend their regional self-advocacy conference.

Getting the Best Results from Lifestyle Changes

by Angel Lugo, Anytime Fitness Manager and Personal Trainer

Everyone comes to the gym with the best intention of getting into better shape or health. For the most part, we start with an exercise program and work out diligently for our best results. As the months go by, we realize that all the work we have put in has not given us the results we want. What’s missing?

We can get some results with exercise alone, but it’s just as important to incorporate a nutritional plan. As the expression goes, we are what we eat. With all the options available, you should have no problems finding a plan that will work for you.

When I speak with new members or my clients, I ask them, what are you willing to change? Review meal plans that interest you, and decide which will work for you. Remember, you want something that becomes a lifestyle of eating.

Moving forward, keep your exercise program fresh and incorporate that meal plan. Remember, nutrition and exercise go hand in hand.

As a note, Anytime Fitness of Fort Pierce will have Weight Watchers meetings every Tuesday starting Tuesday July 17, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. Stop in for a free meeting.

Anytime Fitness of Fort Pierce is located at 111 Orange Avenue, Fort Pierce, 772-461-2348.

The Ancient Healing Benefits of “Oil Pulling”

by Joanne Augusto, Owner, Nutrition World

Oil pulling is an ancient healing method that goes so far back that the time of its origin is unknown. Dr. Karach, a Ukrainian physician, made it popular again by announcing his belief that oil pulling could treat cancer at an oncology conference. Dr. Karach made many amazing claims as simple as healing all forms of dental issues to healing cancer.

I was very skeptical at first but the subject interested me enough to keep researching. There were thousands of testimonials that verified its legitimacy. When I first began to do the oil pulling I only lasted a few minutes. Now, weeks later, I can go for twelve minutes. I have noticed my gums look healthier and my teeth are whiter. I can’t wait to see what the future brings. If you would like to try it here are the simple steps.

1. Take one tablespoon of sesame oil and place it in your mouth. The oil pulling to treat receding gums (or any other disorder) should be performed first thing in the morning, before breakfast, and on an empty stomach.

2. Swish the oil around in your mouth slowly, as though you were rinsing with mouthwash. Suck the oil and “pull” it through the teeth, over and again. This will thoroughly mix the oil with saliva. Continue pulling the oil through the teeth for 10 – 20 minutes.

3. Spit the oil out when it has become thin and white. If the oil is yellow and thick, you have not performed the oil pulling long enough. Continue until it has changed color and texture, for the greatest benefit to your receding gums.

4. Rinse the mouth thoroughly with water to ensure that all the bacteria is removed from the teeth, tongue, and receding gums. Rub the gums with clean fingers to ensure you haven’t missed anything, and to stimulate circulation.

5. Repeat the oil pulling process up to three times per day, for 10 – 20 minutes each time, to speed the healing of receding gums. Always perform the procedure prior to meals, and on an empty stomach.

6. Clean the sink basin thoroughly with an anti-bacterial soap, if you spit into the sink. You may wish to spit into the toilet, to avoid this. Be aware that the oil is filled with toxins and bacteria.

Nutrition World is located at 200 North 2nd Street, Fort Pierce, (772) 464-3598.
I recently went to On the Edge Bar & Grill with a couple of friends. We had their PEI Mussels for an appetizer. They were so good that I had to have the recipe. “Thanks!” to Chef Mark Cozine.

1 ounce canola/olive oil mixture
2 slices raw bacon, chopped
1 pound Prince Edward Island (PEI) Mussels
2 cherry tomatoes, halved
2 ounces sherry
2 ounces heavy cream
1 tablespoon butter

Heat a medium saucepan, add oil, sauté the bacon until just done, then add the tomato halves. Add the mussels, cook until they just start to open. Add the sherry, flame and reduce for approximately 2 minutes. Add the heavy cream and reduce for another 2 minutes. Add butter, stir to melt. Plate and serve with fresh French bread.

Recipe from Chef Mark Cozine, On the Edge Bar & Grill, located at 1136 Seaway Drive, South Hutchinson Island, (772) 882-9729.
Chuck Gomez, known as Pure Produce at the Downtown Farmers’ Market of Fort Pierce, sells healthy produce so that customers will know the true meaning of “pure produce.”

Gomez and his wife, Mayta, have adopted as their slogan “Future Hydroponic Food Production Today.” Hydroponic growing is done without soil and that’s what pure produce does on its acreage in Micco, a small community in South Brevard County. There the Gomez family produces tomatoes, cucumbers, lettuce, herbs, and peppers, all from seeds obtained from Europe.

“My produce tastes fresh,” said Gomez, “not like the American produce that is grown to last, but loses its flavor. In Europe, customers shop every morning; their produce is fresh and healthy. I try to give my customers this European advantage.”

“The Fort Pierce Farmers Market is one of the best markets because the locals support vendors all year long. But the cream comes with the snow birds.” Gomez participates in markets in Brevard and Indian River, as well as the Fort Pierce Farmers’ Market.

Hailing from New England, Gomez has spent most of his adult life in Florida, putting to use his degree in oceanography at the marine institute in Key Biscayne. After 28 years of farming, he states simply, “I love the science of it; I’m proud to grow food.”

The Downtown Farmers’ Market of Fort Pierce is a year round Saturday morning tradition, 8 a.m. to noon, at the waterfront between the Marina and the Library.

For more information please contact the Market Manager at 772-940-1145 or visit the website at http://ftpiercefarmers-market.com/ or on Facebook.
Outdoor Update: On the Waterfront in Fort Pierce

by Dan Dannahower

The Fort Pierce City Marina restoration project is well underway. The chain of spoil islands that will protect the marina from future storms is being constructed. Several large barges and cranes are hard at work hauling rock and structure from the parking lot at Moore’s Creek to the site just offshore from the marina. Soon we will have a protective barrier of highly engineered islands and a number of new docks extending east from the marina seawall. These improvements will add a number of new slots for boats, protect those new docks from hurricane damage, and provide a multitude of new structure for marine life. Check out the marina’s website for updates, photos and progress reports.

Summer fishing offshore and on the lagoon has been typical. Kingfish, cobia, and dolphin are all being caught. Bottom fishing offshore is always changing but catch reports lately have one or another species being caught. Fishing for trout, redfish and bottom fish in the lagoon has generally been good. As always the pros at our local bait and tackle shops and marinas have the day to day knowledge of what’s biting and where to catch them. Support our local businesses and have an enjoyable time on our local waters!

Ed Lewis with a 33-pound cobia. Author, Dan Dannahower with a string of black sea bass.

Fort Pierce City Marina Sponsors Youth Fishing Clinic

On June 28th the Fort Pierce City Marina and various local sponsors hosted the Youth Fishing Clinic at the Fort Pierce River Walk Center. The clinic was held from 9:00 a.m. to 2 p.m. and was attended by 136 youth and 44 volunteers from the Fort Pierce Police Athletic League (PAL) and the Lincoln Park Community Center.

Supported by grants from Fish Florida and the Children’s Services Council of St. Lucie County, each attendee was able to receive a rod and reel, tackle box with tackle, a colorful fishing clinic t-shirt, a dog tag, and a brown bag lunch. “Skill Stations” were set up inside the Fort Pierce River Walk Center to enlighten attendees on casting, knot tying, fishing tackle, good angler fishing etiquette, and helping the habitat. Attendees baited their hooks and practiced their new hobby outside the River Walk Center after they visited the Skill Stations.

The objectives for the Youth Fishing Clinic were to encourage outdoor activity and to positively influence the lives of at-risk youth. It is a proven fact that kids who spend time outdoors have less stress, better concentration, more creativity and higher self-esteem than those who spend a majority of their time inside. Additionally, the Fort Pierce City Marina utilizes displays, presentations, clinics, and other opportunities to help achieve its ongoing objective to teach and promote public awareness and the protection of marine life and coastal habitats, particularly to Florida’s youth.

The sponsors of the Youth Fishing Clinic include: the Fort Pierce City Marina, Treasure Coast Boat Rentals, White’s Tackle, Fort Pierce Lady Deep Sea Fishing, DeBrooks Fishing Corner, Southern Kingfish Association, Fort Pierce Sportfishing Club, Publix, Wal-Mart, Seacoast National Bank, Cobb’s Landing / Bluewater Beach Grill / Original Tiki Bar, Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission, and Marine Clean-up Initiative, Inc.
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Front View

Home of the Handcrafted Pineapple Mojito
THURSDAY
AUG 23 - 7PM
There's a lot of history packed into the Rock'N'Blues Fest tour. Brothers Johnny and Edgar helped keep hard-rockin' blues alive throughout the mellow rock/disco 1970s. Along with releasing his own albums, Johnny worked with Muddy Waters on three of the blues master's albums, including the Grammy-winning Hard Again in 1977.

TUESDAY
SEPT 25 - 7PM
Ian Anderson, the artistic genius who wrote and recorded Jethro Tull's Progressive Rock classic album Thick As A Brick, only now, 40 years later, takes his original album and this follow-up recording, Thick As A Brick 2 (TAAB2), to the Sunrise Theatre. According to Anderson, some of the music is pretty straight-ahead which you can just kind of groove to, and some things work without your being too cerebral about it. But audiences should enjoy the overall concept and elements of Folk, Classical and Jazz Music. Don't miss it!