FOR YOUR EYES ONLY
23rd ANNUAL REVERSE RAFFLE
LIVE AND SILENT AUCTIONS

See page 5
The Air National Guard Band of the South performed in Fort Pierce, twice. On Sunday, July 2nd they performed at the Sunrise Theatre and on July 4th at Stars Over St. Lucie our annual Fourth of July celebration. Thousands of folks delighted in their performance. Thanks to Main Street Manager, Doris Tillman, for bringing in such amazing talent.

On August 19th, we have our annual fundraiser at the Pelican Yacht Club. The Reverse Raffle Live & Silent Auction is always a sellout. Only 250 will be sold, tickets are $100 per couple. This year our theme is from the James Bond movie, For Your Eyes Only. The password (don’t tell anyone — it’s a secret) is “A View from the Roof.” You must have the password to enter! Get your ticket early so you don’t miss out. Call Pam Gillette at (772) 466-3880.

We love our volunteers. If you would like to help with the Reverse Raffle or any of the other 30+ events we do annually, please call us at (772) 466-3880.

Support our local businesses, shop & dine in Historic Downtown Fort Pierce! ✨
**MONTHLY EVENTS**

- **August 4, Friday:** FRIYDAY FEST — 5:30 to 8:00 p.m.; Depot Drive parking lot behind City parking garage.
- **August 5, Saturday:** 6:30 p.m. — Epic Presents: Impact, A Community Concert and Awards Show.
- **August 12, Saturday:** 8:30 p.m. — Comedy Corner Presents: Dean Napolitano/Fasci Malki/Dave Aguilar.
- **August 13, Sunday:** 3 p.m. — Sunrise Theatre Presents Free Summertime Movies: Hidden Figures.
- **August 20, Sunday:** 3 p.m. — Sunrise Theatre Presents Free Summertime Movies: Star Wars IV: A New Hope.
- **August 27, Sunday:** 3 p.m. — Sunrise Theatre Presents Free Summertime Movies: Grease.

**WEEKLY EVENTS**

- **Wednesdays:** Wednesday Green Market — 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.; Depot Drive parking lot behind City parking garage.
- **Saturdays:** Pierce Harbor Flea Market — 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.; Depot Drive parking lot behind City parking garage.
- **Sundays:** Swingin’ Saturdays: Fort Pierce Jazz & Blues Society, 460-5299; north side of the Downtown Fort Pierce Marina Square; 971-8480. Rain or Shine 12:00 – 6:00 p.m., Downtown Fort Pierce, 772-460-5299.
- **Tuesdays:** Jazz Jam at the Sunrise Black Box Theatre — 7:00 – 10:00 p.m.; 460-5299.
- **August 5, Saturday:** 6:30 p.m. — Epic Presents: Impact, A Community Concert and Awards Show.
- **August 12, Saturday:** 8:30 p.m. — Comedy Corner Presents: Dean Napolitano/Fasci Malki/Dave Aguilar.
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**LIVE MUSIC DOWNTOWN**

- www.allthingstreasurecoast.com
- Saltfish Brewing Company
- Facebook/Saltfish Brewing Company
- The Original Tiki Bar
  - www.tikibarandrestaurant.com
- Cobbs Landing
  - www.cobblers-landing.com

**COMMUNITY INFORMATION**

- A.E. Backus Museum
  - 772-465-0630
  - www.backusmuseum.com
- Downtown Fort Pierce Library
  - 772-462-2787
  - www.st-lucie.lib.fl.us
- Fort Pierce Jazz & Blues Society
  - 772-460-5299
  - www.jazzsociety.org
- Fort Pierce Police Athletic League
  - 772-370-6162
  - www.fpplateleague.com
- Fort Pierce RiverWalk Center
  - 772-489-6473
  - www.cityoffortpierce.com
- Heathcote Botanical Gardens
  - 772-464-4672
  - www.heathcotebotanicalgardens.org
- Manatee Observation & Education Center
  - 772-429-6266
  - www.manateeeccenter.com
- St. Lucie County Aquarium
  - 772-462-3474
  - www.stlucieco.gov/aquarium
- Sunrise Theatre
  - 772-461-4775
  - www.sunrisetheatre.com
- The Indian River Room
  - www.IndianRiverRoom.com

**FOR YOUR EYES ONLY**

**23rd ANNUAL REVERSE RAFFLE LIVE AND SILENT AUCTIONS**

by Pam Gillette

**FOR YOUR EYES ONLY**

By invitation from Main Street Fort Pierce and her Majesty’s Secret Service, you are cordially invited to attend the 23rd Annual Reverse Raffle Live & Silent Auction held on Saturday, August 19, 2017.

**MISSION**

“Your mission — if you choose to accept it” — is to attend the hottest party of the summer starting at 6:00 p.m. at the Pelican Yacht Club. Look for the secret code on your ticket to get you in the door for an evening of light appetizers, music, dancing, a fabulous live and silent auction and martinis shaken, not stirred.

**ACTIVITIES**

Black Jack tables, cigars from Rizzo’s Tobacco Emporium, dancing, and tarot card readings will enhance your evening. Take a Shot Photo Booth will be on hand at the event to capture your memories. So … come ready to party and dance into the night as DJ Jeff Brown plays the hits.

The Indian River Room will display an array of silent auction items awaiting your bids. This is where the pulling of the reverse raffle numbers begins at 6:30 p.m. and the live auction will commence at 8:30 p.m. The live auction will have some of your returning favorites — Disney Family Vacation, Reverse Raffle committee dinner, mosaic by Anita Preston, and an original painting by Colleen Nash Becht. Some exciting new items will be on hand and an original painting by Lisa Jill Allison.

**REVERSE RAFFLE**

For those of you who do not know what a Reverse Raffle is: A Reverse Raffle begins with a set amount of numbers. The first number wins $100 and then every 25th number called wins $50. The last 10 numbers all win money starting at $100 and ending with the grand prize of $2,000.

Each ticket is $100 and entitles the ticket holder to one raffle number, admission for two, and a View to Kill. Tickets are limited, advanced ticket purchase only, and no tickets will be available at the door. We sold out last year so get your tickets early!

Continued on page 6 …
The Reverse Raffle is the major fundraiser for Main Street Fort Pierce and we could not put on this event without the help of our sponsors. We are proud of the businesses supporting this year's Reverse Raffle and would like to introduce you to our special sponsors.

**DIAMONDS ARE FOREVER SPONSOR**

LARRY NEESE ROOFING & CONSTRUCTION, LLC

Our homes and businesses are not eternal in their design; they require updates to accommodate aging, changing trends, building codes and technology. Our team and associates are equipped with years of experience and a keen awareness of current trends and technology. We can build or renovate your home or business to add that additional layer of style and grandeur … Imagine Design Build!

Larry Neese, LLC is your local custom construction professionals. We are state certified general and roofing contractors. Our focus is on our clients’ needs and we provide a superior personalized boutique experience in a world of low quality production. From exterior facelifts, interior embellishments and outdoor leisure, your project has a team dedicated to your vision.

Sunrise Ford's first dealership was located in downtown Fort Pierce at the foot of the Citrus Avenue overpass, and during its 85 years in business it continues to have strong ties to downtown. Sunrise Ford is located at 5435 US Hwy 1 in Fort Pierce. Phone: 772-461-6000; website: www.sunriseford.com.

**CASINO ROYALE ENTERTAINMENT SPONSOR**

**SUNRISE FORD**

Sunrise Ford has been a strong supporter of Main Street Fort Pierce since its inception. Over the years, the dealership has sponsored a myriad of activities and is especially proud of its financial support of the Sunrise Theatre renovation in 2006. The theatre’s ornate second floor bar — the oldest permitted bar in Florida — was donated by Sunrise Ford.

Sunrise Ford's is your local custom construction professionals. We are state certified general and roofing contractors. Our focus is on our clients’ needs and we provide a superior personalized boutique experience in a world of low quality production. From exterior facelifts, interior embellishments and outdoor leisure, your project has a team dedicated to your dream, style and budget. When you are ready to make your imagination become a reality, your team awaits.

Larry Neese, LLC is proud to sponsor this year's Reverse Raffle. Our beautiful downtown is growing into such a great place to spend time and support the local economy. The entertainment and local business culture has become such a huge part of the success and our desire to see it continue is why we feel so strongly about supporting what we feel is the best “Main Street” there is. Enjoy this amazing evening, friends. Phone: 772-361-6580; website: www.larryneese.com.

**GOLDFINGER SPONSORS**

Custom Air Systems, Inc. has provided quality air conditioning and heating service to Treasure Coast residents since 1974. Our licensed and factory-trained staff specializes in the installation and repair of a variety of appliances, including heaters, air conditioners, refrigerators, washers, dryers, microwaves and more. With 40 years of experience, the technicians at Custom Air Systems have the knowledge, tools, and dedication to handle any heating or air conditioning project.

Custom Air Systems services Indian River, Martin, St. Lucie, and Southern Brevard counties. When you’re in need of quality heating and air conditioning service, trust the experienced professionals at Custom Air Systems. Call today for a free estimate at 772-335-3232; website: www.customaironline.com.


Marina Square in Downtown Fort Pierce

Come out to Celebrate & Honor our Armed Forces, Fire Fighters & Law Enforcement Officers, and to remember our 9/11 Patriots

30+ Vendors • Live Radio Mighty Michael Music Doggie Fashion Show • K-9 Demonstrations First Responders Dance-Off • ROTC Drill Squad Pet Obstacle Course • Bounce House • Face Painting Zumba Demonstration • Pet Parade Prizes

A portion of the proceeds benefits Military Kids & the Adopt-A-Pet Programs

For more information or participation call 772-971-0001 or 772-595-1888

Continued on page 11 …
Expanding in Downtown Fort Pierce – The Cake Lady
by Britt Anderson

As a newcomer to Fort Pierce I’m discovering that the The Cake Lady is a haven for all. My senses come alive just walking into her shop — nose, mouth, and stomach all anticipating a bite of delight that keeps the locals coming back for more. In fact, the demand for The Cake Lady’s products and services precipitated a recent expansion of her store in downtown Fort Pierce.

One of the factors to the success of this business is Staci Dunn — the heart, soul, and owner of The Cake Lady. She truly enjoys her career and her community. She loves being by the marina and in the heart of everything that happens: the market; the festivals; the daily routines of the people who stop by her shop or just pass by; and in helping make each and every occasion special. You design a cake or have an idea and Staci will find a way to make it happen.

While pursuing a career in business and home schooling her children, Staci used baking as therapy and added a dose of love and laughter as well. It pervades the atmosphere of The Cake Lady. She baked her first cake for her son’s 5th birthday and hasn’t stopped since. Her kitchen at home was full of cake pans, molds and an assortment of equipment to accommodate her passion. While self-taught, Staci has taken master’s classes and travels frequently to work with other well-known cake artists and award winners. She’s also scheduled to be seen on the Food Network. Check for show dates as there will be a party!

Staci started baking at home and selling at the Downtown Fort Pierce Farmers’ Market. She then began space-sharing with a local restaurant and moved on to a 1,000-square-foot space of her own next to where she is now located at 205 Orange Avenue. The new location more than doubled the space she previously worked in and provides for a much larger kitchen and studio space.

The studio is special to Staci. Hundreds of children occupy the space during camps set up throughout the year. The walls are filled with pockets for special tools and molds and each child or “student” gets his/her own “tool” kit and a special hat with their name. The camps cost $150 a week and all supplies are provided. Children learn by doing, have fun in the process and are able to take home their yummy creations. It’s a win-win for all! In addition to the fun summer camps, Staci runs a 3-day Halloween, Thanksgiving, Gingerbread, and Christmas Camp in the fall.

Staci caters to the adult crowd as well with her “learn & wine” sessions, popular for girl’s nights out and can create classes for any type of group interested. The adult group rate is a very affordable $35 per person.

Staci has an incredible imagination that extends to her specialty cakes for weddings, parties, graduations or any special occasion. The flavor and design of each cake is created to perfectly match your desires. In addition to cakes, Staci also has a confections menu with petit fours, chocolate covered fruits and 40+ other tasty items. If you have an idea, she will make it happen. Her son, Aaron Dunn, shares the chief baker role with her and together they have created over 80 different flavored cupcakes, making 10 to 15 flavors fresh daily.

Staci also makes a point to support other activities that benefit Fort Pierce so you may find her cupcakes at many events around town. Anyone in uniform — military, police, or other first response individuals receive a free monthly cupcake and a 10% discount on cakes to order. She’s also active in the Fort Pierce Chamber of Commerce and has been nominated this year for their Business of Excellence in the Hospitality Division.

The Cake Lady is open Tuesday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.; on Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Monday by appointment. Drop in at the store at 205 Orange Avenue and enjoy a repose from your day with a great cup of coffee and an incredibly delicious cupcake. For more information or to place an order, visit www.thecakeladybakes.com or call Staci at (772) 242-8128. The Cake Lady is a proud sponsor of this year’s Reverse Raffle – “For Your Eyes Only” and you can enjoy her special cupcakes at the dessert table.
**Become A Member**

**It Takes All of Us to Make Our Historic Downtown Prosper and Grow!**

Main Street Fort Pierce wants to invite you to become a part of the renaissance of our Historic Downtown area. Over the past twenty-six years, we have worked to repair streets and sidewalks, upgrade storefronts, renovate the Sunrise Theatre, OK City Hall and the Ratts Backus House. A sponsor committee has designed a downtown "Master Plan," built the Manatee Observation and Education Center and so much more! Annually, Main Street Fort Pierce sponsors over 30 events — most of which are free of charge.

Yet there is still so much more to be done! We need you to be involved in our continued planning for the area. Become a member and support Main Street financially. We rely on the participation and the voluntary annual dues from our members to accomplish our goals and complete our projects.

Whether you own a downtown business or you just love Historic Downtown Fort Pierce, we need your energy and support to continue to revitalize our community’s heart and soul.

**Why Main Street Fort Pierce?**
- Downtown Fort Pierce is an important employment center.
- The area is a reflection of the community image.
- Locally owned/businesses keep profits in town and support other local businesses and community projects.
- A vibrant downtown creates a feeling of "hometown pride" and sense of place.
- The downtown district is a public gathering area, where parades, special events, and celebrations are held in a unique setting.
- Community character and historic integrity cannot be recreated.

**What are Membership Benefits?**
- Your membership dues are an investment in the future of Historic Downtown Fort Pierce, helping us to sponsor improvements and events throughout the year.
- Members receive advanced notice and invitations to special events.
- You will receive the monthly subscription to Main Street Focus magazine and links to Focus-Oh-Line.

As a member of MainStreet you are automatically aligned with others who want to preserve the past and influence the future of Fort Pierce.

You can belong to Fort Pierce Main Street at one of eight different membership levels, starting at just $15.

**Main Street Membership Levels**

- **Benefactor Levels (≥$1,000)**
  - Headline Sponsor (≥$1,000)
  - Patron Sponsor (≥$500)

- **Community Levels**
  - Main Street Friend Membership (≥25)
  - Main Street Family Membership (≥50)

- **Corporate Levels**
  - Main Street Small Business Membership (less than 10 employees) (≥$100)
  - Main Street Medium Business Membership (11-50 employees) (≥$250)
  - Main Street Large Business Membership (51 or more employees) (≥$500)

**Please Take a Minutes to Join Today!**

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 Fort Pierce**

**Three Easy Ways to Join:**
1. Call Main Street Fort Pierce at (772) 461-3600.
2. Visit our Website at www.mainstreetfortpierce.org, click the membership link.
3. Fill out the membership form and mail to:
   Main Street Fort Pierce
   122 A.E. Backus Ave.
   Fort Pierce, Florida 34950

Name: __________________________
Membership Level: __________________________
Company/Organization: __________________________
Street Address: __________________________
City / State / Zip: __________________________
Phone: __________________________
Email: __________________________

**Ocean Chiropractic & Health Center**

Visit Ocean Chiropractic & Health Center and enjoy a renewed sense of health and well being for an improved quality of life. This Fort Pierce wellness center offers drug free chiropractic care for chronic pain, as well as treatment for auto accidents, slip & falls, workers’ compensation and school, sports, employment and DOT physicals. In addition, they provide massage therapy and weight loss programs. Dr. Carter is certified in the Webster Technique and is accepting new patients from newborns to geriatric.

Dr. Bradley Deiner, DC, Dr. Jennifer Carter, DC and their staff are here to help you achieve optimum health through chiropractic. Dr. Deiner is a graduate of Life University and Dr. Carter is a graduate of Palmer College of Chiropractic. Ocean Chiropractic actively supports St. Lucie County Special Olympics, Ft. Pierce PAL and Main Street Fort Pierce. Follow Ocean Chiropractic & Health Center on Facebook and get daily health and exercise tips. To contact them for an appointment, call 772-461-3600. Ocean Chiropractic & Health Center is located at 805 Virginia Ave, #10 in Fort Pierce. Check out their new office in Vero Beach located at 1800 43rd Ave. in Vero Beach; 772-569-3000; website: www.oceanchiropracticandhealth.com.

**Superior Event Rentals**

Superior Event Rentals is your premier event rental company on the Treasure Coast. Established in 2006, (formally All in Fun, LLC.) Superior Event Rentals is a locally-owned, veteran-owned, family-owned-and-operated company. Superior Event Rentals provides rentals for any and all occasions. With an inventory consisting of tents, table, chairs, linens, custom lighting, dance floors, bars and much more, there is no event too big or too small. Since 2006, Superior Event Rentals has been community oriented by donating goods and services totaling over $100,000 to local charities on the Treasure Coast. Superior Event Rentals prides itself on helping our clients “Make Memories One Event at a Time.” Phone: 772-337-1500; website: www.superioreventrentals.com/.

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**Ocean Chiropractic & Health Center**

**Visit Ocean Chiropractic & Health Center and enjoy a renewed sense of health and well being for an improved quality of life. This Fort Pierce wellness center offers drug free chiropractic care for chronic pain, as well as treatment for auto accidents, slip & falls, workers’ compensation and school, sports, employment and DOT physicals. In addition, they provide massage therapy and weight loss programs. Dr. Carter is certified in the Webster Technique and is accepting new patients from newborns to geriatric.**

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Okeechobee Farms and Whole Life Pastured Meat Now Offers Seafood

by Brenda Gibbons

This summer, Okeechobee Farms and Whole Life Pastured Meat will begin selling local, wild-harvested Florida seafood on Saturday mornings at the Downtown Fort Pierce Farmers’ Market. They’ll offer just-caught product, brought directly from local fishing boats to Market customers.

Patrons will now have a choice of both fresh and local “surf and turf” at vendor Steven and Maya’s Okeechobee Farms and Whole Life Pastured Meat. For the past six years, the company has brought its 100% grass-fed beef directly from the pasture, to the processor, to their customers at the Downtown Fort Pierce Farmers’ Market.

Okeechobee Farms stresses the “locally grown” aspect of its business, and maintains all its farms within a 200-mile footprint in South Central Florida. Here, the animals are pasture raised, slaughtered, dry-aged, butchered, packaged, frozen and distributed to ensure that customers benefit from the best meats, both nutritionally and ecologically.

Okeechobee Farms is also committed to advancing clean, healthy eating and living. The 100% grass-fed beef is always dry-aged for 14 to 21 days, and since dry-aging is costly, only Premium Quality meat is dry-aged. Okeechobee Farms beef cattle are Black Angus, a heritage breed perfectly suited for life on Florida pasture and the 100% grass-fed beef program.

Okeechobee Farms vendors will be happy to share grilling and cooking tips for both the beef and fish they sell. They remind customers that there’s less fat and moisture in dry-aged, grass-fed beef cuts, and steaks will cook slightly faster than commercial meat. The company suggests the keys to cooking grass-fed beef steaks is to keep the meat moist, use slightly lower heat, and take the meat off the flame before it gets to medium. “There’s no better steak than a properly BBQ’d, dry-aged, 100% grass-fed beefsteak!”

Stop by Okeechobee Farms at the Downtown Fort Pierce Farmers’ Market for a delicious, nutritious difference in meat and seafood. Steven and Maya are a wealth of information on sustainable farming practices, always encouraging everyone to make a change to a healthier lifestyle.

Make the Downtown Fort Pierce Farmers’ Market a part of your Saturday morning tradition. Rain or shine, the Market is open year round from 8 until noon every Saturday at Marina Square in Fort Pierce.

We’ll see you there. It’s a Saturday morning Tradition!

❖
Venice Main Street is Florida’s July Main Street Program of the Month

Secretary of State Ken Detzner recently announced the Venice Main Street program been designated the July 2017 Florida Main Street Community of the Month. Communities are selected based on their developmental achievements and participation in the Florida Main Street Program. Venice Main Street, which started in 1988, has resulted in the development of nearly 1,000 jobs, 300 businesses and 31,000 hours of volunteer support. Remodeling and rehabilitation of the historic downtown buildings resulted in $133.7 million of investment and construction of new compatible structures led to $76.7 million in investment.

“Venice is one of our oldest Main Street organizations and its impact on the community is reflected in all of its great successes,” said Secretary Detzner. “Venice is home to many community events, concerts and fairs, and has become a model for Main Street programs in Florida.”

Venice, Florida: The area that today is Venice was settled more than 12,000 years ago by Native Americans. The historic district of Venice is significant for closely following John Nolan’s 1924 – 1929 plan that incorporated emerging city planning and zoning concepts of the early 20th century. Nolan was a pioneer in the American City Movement. His plan for Venice was influenced by many different ideas from the City Beautiful, Progressive and Garden City Movements. Venice still adheres to Nolan’s plan in making development decisions today.

Along with the neighboring city of Sarasota, Venice became the winter headquarters of the Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Circus in the 1960s, which boosted the population and brought international visitors in search of warm weather and some carnival fun. As a vacation destination, Venice Main Street boasts a variety of restaurants, bars, breweries and shops, many set in historic buildings. Venice boasts architecture common to the rest of Florida and has numerous historic homes and buildings that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Oscar Scherer State Park is nearby for those who enjoy the outdoors and want to bird watch, hike or kayak. The Venetian Waterway Park runs between Venice’s downtown and the Caspersen Beach nearby and is popular with walkers, joggers, bikers and Segway tours. The city is also known as the “Shark’s Tooth Capital of the World” and hosts a yearly festival to celebrate the thousands of shark’s teeth that wash up on shore every year.

Venice Main Street organizes a cornucopia of arts, community and music festivals. These include two juried art shows, three craft festivals, events for all major holidays, free Friday night concerts, two blues festivals and many more events. The Venice Main Street calendar is bursting with ways to get involved in the community almost every day of the year. For more information about Venice Main Street, visit http://www.visitvenicefl.org/. To learn more about the Florida Main Street program, visit floridamainstreet.com or facebook.com/FloridaMainStreet.

About Florida Main Street: Florida Main Street is a program administered by the Division of Historical Resources under the Florida Department of State, which currently oversees 45 communities throughout the state. By implementing the National Main Street Center’s Four-Point Approach®, Florida Main Street encourages economic development within the context of historic preservation through the revitalization of Florida’s downtowns – the communities’ heart and soul. Since the program’s inception in 1985, the Florida Main Street programs have cumulatively created 24,604 jobs, 7,337 new businesses and produced $2.5 billion in reinvestment.
Fort Pierce was Honored to Host Two Performances by the Air National Guard’s Band of the South in July

Mr. Vincent Barry, Army, South Pacific; Dr. Singh, Honor Flight Program for the Veteran’s of WWII; Pete Peterson, Air Force, Celestial Pilot; Mr. Richard Ramsey, Navy, USS Nevada; Mr. Matt Campbell, Navy, South Pacific; Mr. Scottie Smith, Air Force, B17 Pilot, 25 bombing missions over Germany; Mr. Juanito Rohan, Army, Europe during WW2.

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Do You Need a Green Card?

2017 Notice of Proposed Property Taxes (TRIM Notices) are mailed mid-August. Please review this important information. We welcome you to contact us if you have any questions.

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1664 SE Walton Road, Ste. 219, Port St. Lucie
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PHOTOGRAPHY BY WENDY DWYER
PHOTO BY JOANNE BLANDFORD
Small Business Solutions: Rethinking Insurance Coverage

by Barbara Weltman, Guest Blogger, www.sba.gov

Like most small businesses, you probably can’t self-insure (pay for losses out of pocket) because you can’t afford the risk for substantial financial exposure. You need insurance. But you may not have the type or amount of coverage that is necessary for your protection at this time. Most small business owners routinely renew policies year after year without thinking about how changes in their business affect their risk exposure and coverage needs. Here are some areas to reexamine before you automatically renew as well as other areas for which new coverage may be needed.

Vehicle Insurance: If you have a vehicle used 100% for business, such as a truck or van, likely you have a commercial policy. Just check on the extent of coverage that’s currently on the policy when you renew.

But if you use your personal vehicle for business driving (not counting commuting which is personal) and have a personal policy, reexamine before you automatically renew as well as other areas for which new coverage may be needed.

Workers’ Compensation: You probably know that business driving is only occasional, your personal policy may not cover you if you get into an accident when driving for business. You might have to pay out of pocket for damages to your vehicle, as well as injuries — personal and property — to a third party.

If business driving is only occasional, your personal policy may be fine. But if you use the vehicle primarily for business (driving to customers, worksites, or between multiple work locations; hauling tools and equipment; making deliveries; driving by “nonlisted drivers” such as employees), get a commercial policy — even though it may cost more.

Health Insurance: Do you provide coverage for your staff? Do you have coverage for yourself and your family? Here are some points to keep in mind:

Watch enrollment deadlines for coverage in 2018. Currently, open enrollment for individual coverage runs from November 1, 2017, through December 15, 2017 (it may be later for certain state-run plans). For those already enrolled in Medicare, the annual enrollment period to change coverage for 2018 runs from October 15, 2017, through December 7, 2017.

There is a new health care option for small employers (fewer than 50 full-time and full-time equivalent employees) that do not have a health plan, called a qualified small employer health reimbursement arrangement (QSEHRA). This allows a small employer to reimburse employees for their individually-obtained coverage up to a set dollar limit (in 2017 it’s $4,950 for self-only coverage or $10,000 for family coverage, prorated for part-year coverage). Thus, you can help employees pay for their coverage on a tax-free basis; your payments aren’t subject to payroll taxes.

Basic Business-Owner’s Policy: A business owner’s policy (BOP) provides coverage for your property (equipment, inventory) and liability coverage (for injuries to third parties). When your policy comes up for renewal:

Determine the level of coverage you require now. If you’ve added expensive machinery, for example, you may want to increase your coverage.

Shop around. There are many terms and conditions in each policy (such as deductibles and exclusions), and these can affect cost. Compare coverage under different policies to see whether you’re (1) getting the coverage you expect and (2) paying the best price for the coverage you need.

Depending on the nature of your work, be sure that the policy is tailored to your needs. For example, an Artisan and Service Contractors Policy covers the unique risks of tradespeople who perform their services at customers’ locations. Also consider adding coverage to any BOP for data breaches, which provides funds for notifying and indemnifying customers and employees who are victimized when your company is hacked. A BOP does not cover flood damage, so depending on your location, you may need separate flood insurance. This is available through the National Flood Insurance Program.

Other Coverage: The types of insurance discussed earlier aren’t the only policies you may want or need. Some other examples:

Business interruption insurance. This helps you pay your bills if a storm or other event closes down your facility. Depending on the policy, it may also cover some lost profits.

Errors and omissions coverage. This usually is for professionals (“malpractice coverage”) to provide protection against errors and negligence in the performance of services.

Product liability insurance. If you are a manufacturer, wholesaler, or distributor, you may want coverage in case your products cause injury to others.

Cost: Making insurance decisions may come down to cost: you may want it but can you afford it (or afford not to have it)? You can buy coverage online or through an insurance agent (a person who typically represents one company) or an insurance broker (who represents multiple insurance companies and can provide you with a formal review of your risk exposure and potential solutions). Whether you decide to work with a broker, who is paid a percentage of the premiums so it doesn’t cost you anything, depends on how much time you have to do your own legwork and how knowledgeable you are about insurance.

About the Author: Barbara Weltman, Guest Blogger — Barbara Weltman is an attorney, prolific author with such titles as J.K. Lasier’s Small Business Taxes, J.K. Lasier’s Guide to Self-Employment, and Smooth Failing as well as a trusted professional advocate for small businesses and entrepreneurs. She is also the publisher of Idea of the Day® and monthly e-newsletter Big Ideas for Small Businesses® and host of Build Your Business Radio. She has been included in the List of 100 Small Business Influencers for three years in a row. Follow her on Twitter: @BarbaraWeltman.
Love, JAZZ Community: Hot August Nights
by Don Bestor

“Pack up the babies, and grab the old ladies, and everyone go, ‘cause everyone knows…” Just when you thought it was so hot in Florida you might literally melt, Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society appears on the horizon, almost like a mirage. The cool jazz and exhilarating blues only enhance to chilling, restorative powers of the ice cold drink in your hand, and before you know it, the music has transported you to your happy place, and a hot August night in Florida is something to be savored and thoroughly enjoyed. And that’s exactly what Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society had in mind when it started hosting live, professional jazz and blues jams all summer long in St. Lucie County.

With a full bar available and a cover charge that won’t empty your wallet, Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society has your live entertainment needs covered all summer long with opportunities every week for great music. You can even play or sing along if you’d like to feel like a superstar, too. The summer Jazz Jam schedule is a little different than during the regular year, so feel free to mark your calendar, or clip and save these dates, so you won’t miss a single note.

In historic downtown Fort Pierce in August, you can catch Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society’s Jazz Jams at the Sunrise Theatre Black Box on Tuesday, August 8th and August 22nd. In September, the Black Box will feature Jazz Jams on Tuesday, September 5th and 19th, and in October on the 3rd, 17th, and a special Halloween Ghouls Night Jazz Jam on October 31st.

But if you’re hankering for some jazz and blues on a Wednesday evening, the Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society has that covered, too, with fab jazz jams on Wednesdays, August 2nd, 16th and 30th, September 13th and 27th, and October 11th and 25th at the beautiful Fort St. Lucie Botanical Gardens. You see, there is always an amazing local opportunity for you to enjoy live music played by the pros who have rubbed shoulders and performed with the likes of Duke Ellington, Mel Tormé, Martha Reeves, Clarence Clemons, Peter Cetera, the Drifters, Aretha Franklin and Sting. Maybe that’s one more reason why it’s called the Treasure Coast.

Sure, it’s hot in the summertime in Florida, but here in St. Lucie County, we’re fortunate to have terrifically talented musicians willing to share their passion for music all year long to keep you vital, vibrant, and very happily tapping your toes or dancing along. And each time you support Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society, whether it’s at the weekly jazz jams, the special, free Waterside Blues concerts, at Jazz Week performances, or at the weekly Jazz Market adjacent to the Saturday morning Fort Pierce Farmer’s Market, you can smile, knowing you’re helping this group provide much-needed scholarships for talented young musicians hoping to carry the torch and the arts forward in our community and beyond. What a great investment with a return of a lifetime of music to act as the soundtrack to your memories.

If you’d like to volunteer or learn more about Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society, contact us at Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society Shack on the River. Call (772) 468-JAZZ (5299) to register, or register online at www.jazzsociety.org.
Fort Pierce Military Base

Few Florida communities felt the impact of World War II as much as the Fort Pierce. We hosted a major military training base. In 1943, the Navy commissioned its newest amphibious training base in Fort Pierce, and tens of thousands of young men would eventually prepare for combat on our town’s sunny shores. Fort Pierce become a major military post with a national reputation. It also became the training site of some of the most elite units of the armed forces, including the Scouts and Raiders, U.S. Army Rangers, and the legendary “frogmen.” Learn more about this at the Navy Seal Museum on North Hutchinson Island.
Boating Freedom

by Michael R. Howard

Aptly named, the new Freedom Boat Club of Fort Pierce offers the ideal way to enjoy boating in our beautiful Indian River Lagoon and offshore to the far reaches of the Gulf Stream. If you want the pure enjoyment of boating and all the pleasures of being on the water, but without all the other hassles and costs, Freedom Boat Club is your answer.

Reserve your boat online, show up and go. It’s that easy and the perfect way to avoid the other classic hassles we all dislike such as fueling, maintenance, insurance, storage, trailering, cleaning, boat registration, dock and ramp reservations, repairs, etc. All these additional demands dampen the enjoyment of boat ownership and deprive you of valuable time out on the water with family and friends. Freedom Boat Club offers you an alternative, a detour from all these hassles, and a direct line to your boat for fast access to the water.

Owners Don and Ann Spaeth opened this new business in September and have already exceeded their membership goal for the year. Their fleet of boats grows as well and includes a variety of Deck Boats, Cobias, Hurricanes, center console offshore fishing boats, and pontoons, to enjoy your own peaceful, eco-tour on the river.

Ann clearly understands the need for this unique boating opportunity in Fort Pierce. “This is the perfect location for this type of boating experience. Few other places offer such quick access to the ocean like our Fort Pierce inlet. It’s both wide and safe and everyone knows the fishing is excellent here and the Gulf Stream is extra close offshore.” Ann further added, “The new Fort Pierce Marina is outstanding and very helpful and supportive of our efforts. They’ve offered us ample space at Dock G, right beside the main entrance adjacent to the Manatee Center. Perfect for member access and parking.”

To reserve your boat, you must be a member of the Freedom Boat Club. But membership is easy, with a variety of plans to fit your family or business needs. A membership here also entitles you reciprocity with 130 other Freedom Boat Clubs across the nation and Canada, with a special amenity location in the Keys. There are even clubs at Great Lake locations and other inshore lakes. Many locations offer sailboats and kayaks. It’s truly a national and international way of boating.

Safety and training are key components of the boat club with several U.S. Coast Guard trained captains on staff to help get the beginner out on the water safely. They provide all your safety equipment and always have dock hands present to get you underway safely; and
Tech Bytes:
Display Settings

by Michael Lewis, Mike's Downtown Computer Repair

One of the most common problems people encounter when using a computer is not being able to see the screen properly. Many computers have their screens set to a much higher resolution than they need due to advancements in screen technologies. Windows 10 attempts to use automatic screen scaling to tackle this problem. However, sometimes users may need to override these settings. To change display settings in Windows 10, right click the desktop and select display settings. Once display settings opens you can adjust brightness, scaling, layout and even resolution. Keep in mind the larger the resolution the smaller the screen items will appear. You can experiment to see what’s best for you.

Good luck and safe computing!

Mike's Downtown Computer Repair is located at 209 Orange Ave. Suite E in Fort Pierce; phone (772) 448-8153, cell (772) 480-3427.

Cooking Fish

by Sue Dannahower

A general rule for baking or broiling fish is 10 minutes per inch of thickness at 400 to 450 degrees F, turning the fish halfway through the cooking time. This rule does not apply to microwave cooking or frying. Fish less than 1/2-inch thick do not have to be turned. If fish is cooked in a sauce or foil, add five additional minutes to the cooking time. Seafood with low fat content — like grouper, flounder and tilapia — should be basted when cooking with a dry heat method such as broiling and baking. Fish is done when the flesh becomes opaque and flakes easily at the thickest part. Most fish will continue cooking for one to two minutes after being removed from the heat, so plan for this in the cooking time.

Freedom Boat Club of Fort Pierce

If you’re looking for the perfect way to get out on the water, here or at any of the many other locations across the country, look no further than the Freedom Boat Club of Fort Pierce. They’re easy to find on the second floor of the P.P. Cobb Building at 100 Ave. “A” suite 2C in Fort Pierce. They’re always eager and ready to accommodate your needs and desires for that perfect boating experience. Free yourself from those boat ownership anchors with a membership at Freedom Boat Club at Fort Pierce.

They can be contacted at 772-882-8353 or 845-235-6724 and their website is www.FreedomBoatClub.com. E-mail Don or Ann at dspaeth@freedomboatclub.com or visit them on Facebook and Instagram. The business is open seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., with more flexible for members.

Someone is always there to meet you on your return. Simply tie up, hand them the keys and the rest is theirs. You don’t even have to worry about that embarrassing rental logo on the side of the boat; they aren’t there. Pets and guests, whichever you prefer most, are also welcome on your boat. And the marina provides their floating dock to facilitate handicap access.

There’s always an important social aspect with boaters and the club has fully embraced this. Every month the company hosts special socials, parties or trips for its members. These are great opportunities to “mix and mingle with other members who share your boating passion.”

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Lemon Dill Grouper

½ cup lemon juice
½ cup water
4 Tablespoons butter
1 chicken bouillon cube
1 Tablespoon dill
2 filets grouper (or a mild white fish)
Paprika

In skillet combine lemon juice, water, butter, bouillon and dill. Heat until bouillon is dissolved. Add fish, cover, and simmer 10 minutes or until done. Sprinkle with paprika. Serves 2.

Snapper with Crab Stuffing

8 fillets snapper (or a mild white fish)

Stuffing
1 can of crabmeat, lump
4 slices of bacon, diced
½ cup onion, chopped

Cook bacon, onion, and celery until tender. Put hot mixture into blender and chop coarse. Pour contents of blender into a large bowl. Stir in crabmeat and the remaining ingredients. Divide stuffing into 8 equal portions. Place fish fillets into a greased baking dish. Top each fillet with the stuffing 1/8th of the stuffing. Pour lemon juice on top. Bake for 30-40 minutes or until fish is done and the stuffing is brown. Serves 8.

Florida Summer Seafood

Clear Waters

by Captain Bo Samuel, Charter Captain of “Pullin Drag”

This time of year, in our Treasure Coast area, the south current brings crystal clear water in from the Florida Keys. As the Gulf Stream pushes clearer water closer to shore, local and out-of-town divers are watching for the best conditions for catching lobster. Many anglers are divers as well and Fort Pierce is known to attract crowds of divers for the greatly anticipated opening of the spiny lobster (crayfish) season, August 6 through March 31st. These lobsters can be found in the shallow waters of the river and deeper waters off shore.

Most reefs will have lobster at least at the beginning of the season although the “bugs” can get hit pretty hard during mini-season at the end of July, especially with good visibility. If you find one spiny lobster there are more in the area. Gloves and wetsuits are advised so the rocky reefs and sea urchins don’t cut you up. The lobster carapace must measure at least 3 inches in length. Offshore, the kingfish bite has been on fire! Either free line or a slow troll with live bait and treble hooks to see the best action. There is also a decent amount of mahi still moving through the area. Inshore and near the coast you can find large schools of tarpon and Jack Crevalle ready to eat most anything. You should use a big spinning reel with a lot of line because both of these options offer a good fight and will pull a lot of drag.

If your sport is fishing but you want some lobster, trade some scales for tails and enjoy a great lobster dinner! Boiling the tail in Old Bay spices and then dipping in a buttery garlic sauce is simple and tasty. Complete rules and regulations can be found at your local bait and tackle shops or on-line at myfwc.com. Get out on the water and keep Pullin Drag! ❖
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