The Holiday Spirit is Alive in Downtown Fort Pierce

by Beth Williams

I can officially say, ‘Happy Holidays!’ December is always a busy month in beautiful historic downtown Fort Pierce. The fantastic shops and restaurants are bustling with holiday shoppers who are looking for unique gifts for family and friends. We always want to encourage our readers to ‘step away from the computer keyboard’ and do your shopping locally. When you spend money downtown you are supporting our economy and helping to strengthen jobs and our community as a whole.

We have our 25th Annual Sights and Sounds on Second Street Festival and Parade on December 8th. In honor of Main Street Fort Pierce’s 25th anniversary of service to the district, our theme is a Silver Christmas Jubilee. This is a wildly popular event and brings out thousands of people to line the parade route and cheer on the many unique floats and entries. The fun starts at 1:00 p.m. with entertainment, food, arts and crafts, and a visit by Santa at 1:30 p.m. The parade kicks off at 4:30 p.m. We hope you’ll come downtown and make a day of it!

We’ve had a big year at Main Street Fort Pierce and really appreciate all of the support and participation by so many individuals and businesses. Our events have been bigger and better than ever and I think the organization – because of you – has had an incredible 25th year! Thank you for your continued support of our mission to ensure that Fort Pierce remains one of the best places to live, work, and play!

If you aren’t a member, let me invite you to join today! If you are a member, please consider giving a membership to someone you love this holiday season. It’s a great way to support MSFP and encourage others to be involved.

On behalf of the entire Board of Directors, I want to wish you and your loved ones a very joyous holiday season!

Beth Williams
President

2013 – 2014 Officers, Board of Directors & Staff

Wednesday Fort Pierce Green Market & Food Co-Op at Marina Square/Cass End of Orange Ave., 10 a.m. til Sunset

S3 Cash Back after any purchase from any vendor/patio

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Calendar

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

Downtown Fort Pierce Library
For information, please call 462-3876 or visit www.cityoffortpierce.com

Manatee Observation and Education Center
For information, please call 466-1850 or visit www.manateeobserver.com

A.E. Backus Museum
For information, please call 466-0640 or visit www.backusmuseum.com

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

ST. LUCIE COUNTY REGIONAL HISTORY CENTER
For information, please call 462-1795 or visit www.slicounty.org/history

ST. LUCIE COUNTY MARINE CENTER
Please call 462-3474 for more information or visit www.slcocounty.com/marine_center

SUNRISE THEATRE
For information, please call 461-4775 or visit www.sunrisetheatre.com

605 North Indian River Drive, Fort Pierce; Classes include: Jazzercise, Zumba, Zumba Gold, Duplicate Bridge, Anuasa Style Yoga, Ballroom Dancing, Belly Dancing, and Line Dancing.

DOWNTOWN FORT PIERCE LIBRARY
For information, please call 462-2976 or visit www.cityoffortpierce.com

FORT PIERCE POLICE LEAGUE ATHLETIC CIRCLE

For information, please call 370-8160 or www.fortpiercelocal.com

Volunteers needed for Ft. Pierce Police Athletic League. Persons interested in teaching the fundamental of sports, mentoring and tutoring should contact Paul Pearson or Gabe Gonzales 772-469-0606.

FORT PIERCE JAZZ & BLUES SOCIETY

For information, please call 462-9229 or visit www.jazzsociety.org

ART MUNDO

For more information, please call 766-0021 or visit www.artmundo.org

Note to Readers: The last issue of the Focus, the November 2013 issue, was incorrectly labeled “October 2013” throughout. I’d like to say it was a computer glitch, but it was just my mistake! I apologize for any confusion this may have caused. — Sue Roberts

Historic Downtown Fort Pierce Trolley Tours

by Sue Dannahower

Main Street Fort Pierce recently had over 570 people attend its yearly Ghosts of Fort Pierce Past Historic Walking Tour on October 30th. We had numerous cancellations before and after the event inquiring why we couldn’t offer this event more often. Because this is a special Halloween event we want to keep it unique. Main Street wanted to offer the public something similar on a regular basis. An idea emerged to create a monthly tour through historic downtown Fort Pierce by trolley. Trolley tours are a popular attraction in towns and cities all over the world. They are a great way for visitors and locals to learn history and details about a community. In December, Main Street Fort Pierce will roll out the first ever Historic Downtown Fort Pierce Trolley Tour. Thanks to Mayor Linda Hudson, the City Commissioners and local sponsors, Main Street is excited to offer these tours. On December 11, Main Street will be conducting two tours, one at 11:00 a.m. and another at 12:30 p.m. Tours will be approximately one hour in length, starting and ending at the City Hall. The cost will be $5 per person. The trolley seats 30 people per tour. Main Street plans to run the tours monthly during the season.

The December sponsors are Eddie and Colleen Becht. The Becht’s are big supporters of downtown and both have businesses located here. Eddie is a local attorney and City Commissioner. Colleen is a watercolorist who has a Studio at 219 North 2nd Street that is open by appointment. Her website is www.ColleenNashBecht.com.

If you are interested in sponsoring this event, please call Main Street Fort Pierce (772) 466-3880 or Sue Dannahower (772) 618-0155. For more information or to register please call Sue Dannahower (772) 618-0155 or e-mail Sue_Dannahower@bellsouth.net.

December 6, Friday — 5:30 to 9:00 p.m.; Special Appearance from Santa 5:30 to 8:00 p.m.; Music & Entertainment by Hundraings: Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880; www.mainstreetfortpierce.org

December 7, Saturday — Calendar Gala at the US Navy LDT/SEAL Museum — 6 to 9:00 p.m. Art Mundo, 466-1010, www.artmundo.org

December 8, Sunday — Advent Lessons & Carols, St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church Parish Choir — 4:45 p.m. Prebles, 7:00 p.m. Lessons; St. Andrew’s, 210 S. Indian River Dr., Ft. Pierce; Rinelli’s Yellowtail — www.artmundo.org@gmail.com, 766-0021, www.artmundo.org

Tuesday — 7:00 p.m.; tickets $35/45; Fort Pierce Trolley Tour

MANTEO OBSERVATION AND EDUCATION CENTER

For information, please call 466-1800; ex. 3335 or visit www.manateeobserver.com

Wednesday, December 4 — 7:00 p.m.; tickets $30/45; Fort Pierce Trolley Tour

Thursday, December 5 — 7:00 p.m.; tickets $30/45; Luncheon at the A.E. Backus Museum

Friday, December 6 — 7:00 p.m.; tickets $35/45; The Nutcracker; Saturday, December 7 — 8:00 p.m.; tickets $39/33; An Evening with Sinbad

Saturday, December 8 — 7:00 p.m.; tickets $35/32/30 ($15 student tickets); A Christmas Carol, Presented by South Florida Dance Company

Friday, December 13 — 7:00 p.m.; tickets $35/45 ($40 day of show), $50 VIP w/5 p.m. reception, $35/35 (Groups of 25 or more); The Double Twisted Tail by Rev. & First Lady Lee

Saturday, December 21 — 7:00 p.m.; tickets: $35/30/25 ($20 age 12 & under); the State Ballet Theatre of Russia presents The Nutcracker

Historic Downtown Fort Pierce Trolley Tour on December 11th, offered by Main Street Fort Pierce.

Eddie and Colleen Becht will sponsor the first Historic Downtown Fort Pierce Trolley Tour on December 11th, offered by Main Street Fort Pierce.

Main Street Fort Pierce
Jetty Park meets the Indian River Inlet on South Beach, is the latest addition to the City of Fort Pierce’s parks to get a new look. By some accounts, Jetty Park is the most beautiful spot on the Treasure Coast. The park benches with colorful mosaics by artist Anita Prentice, the gazebos, and the swings, provide the visitor with a comfortable park visit. Whether you go there for the fishing or the peace and quiet, you’ll be entertained by the panoply of boats going into and out of the inlet and the kiosks telling the story of the role Fort Pierce played in World War II.

Maravilla Park has part of its open space dedicated as Maravilla Dog Park. Located at Oleander and Maple Avenue, there are separate small and large dog areas, and a third “common” area with picnic table and seating for humans. The east end of the park is devoted to four-legged visitors; the west end for human activity, like baseball, tennis and playground equipment. Jetty Park and Maravilla Dog Park join the other first-class parks in Fort Pierce. Here are just a few:

South Causeway Park, east of South A1A Bridge, for swimming and barbeque pits;

Jaycee Park, S. Ocean and Melaleuca, for swimming, boating, children’s playground, basketball and tennis courts, picnic pavilions and barbeque pits;

Northwest Pioneer’s Park, 29th and Avenue M, for basketball, barbeque pits and pavilions.

Moore’s Creek Linear Park, 10th and Avenue C, for basketball, playground or walking and peaceful bird watching along an Indian River tidal creek.

Sunrise City Parks Shine the Light on Outdoor Enjoyment

Mayor’s Message
by Fort Pierce Mayor Linda Hudson

Indian River Memorial Park, located along Indian River Drive between Moore’s Creek and Seaway Drive, has several park elements, including the Fort Pierce Yacht Club, the Manatee Center, Seven Gables House and the Backus Gallery. In 2014, a portion of the park will receive a major facelift when the City creates a true Veterans Memorial Park surrounding the Riverwalk Center.

For information on the more than 30 parks located in the city limits of Fort Pierce, please visit http://cityoffortpierce.com/pd/PW_CityParks_10032013.pdf.
Spice up the Holiday Season with Tickets to the Historic Sunrise Theatre

by Anne Satterlee, Public Relations & Development Director, Sunrise Theatre

The Historic Sunrise Theatre is excited to present their December line-up. From the Hungarian State Folk Ensemble to Jack Hanna’s Into the Wild Live complete with animals, we have something to please everyone. In addition, the New Year rings in show business legend Neil Sedaka, Sponsored by Humana, on January 3, 2014.

The Hungarian State Folk Ensemble featuring a full company of singers, dancers and musicians, regarded as one of the greatest folkloric dance ensembles in the world begins the month on Wednesday, December 4 at 7 p.m. Their rich and colorful repertoire entitles the Ensemble to be regarded as one of the top touring groups in the world!

Actor and Comedian Sinbad returns to the Sunrise stage with his “hit’em in the face” style of comedy that kept audiences laughing in the aisles for over the past two decades. Ranked by Comedy Central as one of the top 100 standup comedians of all time, Sinbad has built a loyal following by taking audiences’ painful trials and tribulations of daily life, throwing them back in their faces, and causing an uproar of comedic hysteria. Take a break from Christmas shopping and enjoy some laughs on Saturday, December 7 at 8 p.m.

The Nutcracker performed by the Nureyev State Ballet Theatre with a company of 60 distinguished dancers performs leaps and spectacular turns in this time-honored traditional ballet. This is the holiday performance for families with magical toys, falling snow, growing Christmas trees, and astounding ballet moves. Celebrate ballet and the beauty of the holidays with The Nutcracker on Thursday, December 26 at 7 p.m.

America’s favorite zookeeper, Jungle Jack Hanna brings his Into the Wild Live to the Sunrise stage on Sunday, December 29 at 3 p.m. Jungle Jack’s live show features many of his favorite animal friends, as well as fascinating and humorous stories and footage from his adventures around the world. Everyone from the youngest child to the oldest adult is entertained and inspired; sponsored by Animal Emergency & Referral Center.

With Christmas and New Year done, you can relax and enjoy an evening with singer, songwriter, composer, pianist and author Neil Sedaka. With an impressive fifty-year plus career, Sedaka is known for songs that have become a part of people’s lives and can instantly take you back to special moments like, Calendar Girl, Breaking Up Is Hard To Do and Laughter in the Rain. Don’t miss one of the greatest musicians of our time, Neil Sedaka, Sponsored by Humana on Friday, January 3 at 8 p.m.

For tickets and membership information, call the Box Office at 772.461.4775 or online at www.SunriseTheatre.com for a comprehensive listing and description of all events booked to date.

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Holiday Art Extravaganza at A.E. Backus Gallery & Museum

by Kathleen Fredrick

’Twas the Day After Christmas …

’Twas the day after Christmas, my husband’s a louse.
The best thing bought was an ugly red blouse.
Hubby shopped at the mall, with the throngs and the hoard.
With the gifts I received, I quite simply am bored.

The shops had their sales with bargains galore
Black Friday or Monday, it’s all such a bore.
There are gadgets and wadding and tech things to buy
They promise you discounts, but we know it’s a lie.

I told him I wanted something no one else had
If he’d made a real effort, my heart would be glad.
I said “think out of the box, take the plunge, jump right in”
An unusual gift is hardly a sin.

But no, for him, he marched straight down the line
Some perfume, a sweater and a bottle of wine.
I am miffed; I admit it, just more of the same
His holiday purchases were frankly quite lame.

Shop local I say, for a treasure or two
There’s original art at the Museum for you.
Choose from jewelry and paintings, things of glass and of clay
There’s so much to choose, it will blow you away.

Fifteen artists created the selection you’ll see
A gift for each person to stash under the tree.
Sip a toddy, have a nosh, the Open House is for all
Skip the mall, come on down, buy some art, have a ball.

(The author expresses her sincere apologies to Clement Clarke Moore who penned the famous poem “A Visit from St. Nicholas” in 1822)

The A.E. Backus Museum & Gallery invites the public to attend its two-day Holiday Open House on Friday, December 6, 5 to 8 p.m. and on Saturday, December 7, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Holiday Open House kicks off the Museum’s five-week-long Holiday Art Extravaganza, on exhibit from November 27 to January 10, 2014. During the Open House everything in the Museum, including original artwork by the exhibiting artists, vintage Florida Highwaymen paintings and even original A.E. Backus paintings are 10% off. With a purchase of $50 or more, not including sales tax, Open House customers will receive a free A.E. Backus lithograph print, valued at $75. (One free gift per customer per day.)

The Holiday Art Extravaganza has an impressive lineup of artists including: fused glass by Susan Cannon of Sylva, NC; Florida-inspired pottery by Martin Cushman of Mt. Plymouth, FL; grand visions in photography by Sean Dowie of McIntosh, FL; “Plastiquarium” – imaginative recycled sculpture by David Edgar of Charlotte, NC; Florida landscapes by Tim Forman of Ft. Lauderdale, FL; wading birds of hand-forged steel and glacial stone by Francis Fargo of Osoyo, MN; flora-inspired pottery by Mia Lindberg of Jensen Beach, FL; collage assemblage and textiles by Joyce McAdams of Edge-water, FL; fused glass and beadwork jewelry by Andrea Mel lon of Fort Pierce, FL; imaginative mosaic home furnishings by Anita Prentice of Fr. Pierce, FL; wearable art as handcraft ed jewelry by Suzanne Ritter of Port St. Lucie, FL; small visions in oil by George Rowe of Ft. Pierce, FL; painted quilts by Bernie Rowell of Candler, NC; hand-painted ornaments by Jackie Schindehette of Ocala, FL; tropical oils on canvas by Patricia Sorg of Bradenton, FL; watercolors by Michael Weber of Ft. Pierce, FL; fragmented landscapes in oil by Harry Wonka of Hendersonville, NC, and many more.

The A.E. Backus Museum is open Wednesday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday, Noon to 4 p.m., and is closed on Monday and Tuesday. It is located at 500 N. Indian River Drive, along the waterfront in downtown Ft. Pierce. During the City Marina construction project, public parking is available across the street from the Museum as well as in the park behind the Museum. During regular hours, admission is $2. Children, students with a valid I.D. and active duty military are free. The first Sunday of every month is family day and admission is free. Founded in 1960 as the Fort Pierce Art Gallery, and renamed following Backus’ death in 1990, the Backus Museum boasts the nation’s largest exhibition of original works by A.E. “Bean” Backus. Original vintage paintings by the Florida Highwaymen are also on exhibit and available for purchase. The A.E. Backus Museum is a not-for-profit, visual arts facility. All donations are tax-deductible. For more information about exhibitions, upcoming events or becoming a member of the Museum please contact the Museum at 772-465-0630, info@backusmuseum.com. Visit our website www.backusmuseum to shop online and to view our season schedule.
Sponsored by City of Fort Pierce, Ocean Chiropractic & Health Center, Seacoast National Bank and Waste Management

by Pam Gillette

Let the “Silver Bells” ring on Sunday, December 8, as Main Street Fort Pierce and the Sunrise Kiwanis kick off the 25th Annual Sights & Sounds on Second Festival and Parade in Historic Downtown Fort Pierce. This year’s theme is “Silver Christmas Jubilee.”

Main Street Fort Pierce is excited to celebrate 25 years. To celebrate its accomplishments, past and present board members will be the Grand Marshals of the 25th Annual Sights & Sounds Christmas Parade. The City of Fort Pierce, Main Street Fort Pierce and local citizens have worked very hard to create a beautiful downtown and the Sights & Sounds on Second Festival and Parade is the perfect time to showcase the community to visitors and friends.

Main Street Fort Pierce has a day full of activities planned that will appeal to all ages. The day begins with a church service hosted by Common Grounds Vineyard Church. The festival will hold an outdoor Sunday Service at 10:30 a.m. The public is welcome to join them at the intersection of Orange Avenue and Second Street.

The festival, sponsored by Ocean Chiropractic & Health Center, Seacoast National Bank, and Waste Management, will begin at 1:00 p.m. with entertainment by Sunrise City Community Chorus & Friends. The chorus will perform a variety of songs and sing a welcome song for Santa’s arrival. The chorus will perform at 1:00 p.m. with entertainment by Sunrise City Community Chorus & Friends. The chorus will perform a variety of songs and sing a welcome song for Santa’s arrival. There will be special appearances by Ronald McDonald, Pierce the Pelican, McGruff the Crime Dog, and Santa Claus.

Immediately following the parade will be the annual lighting of the Holiday tree. The tree is located in the roundabout at Avenue A and Indian River Drive. The Fort Pierce Jazz & Blues Society will be at the roundabout playing holiday jazz music before and after the tree lighting. After the tree lighting, stay around for the “The Holiday Lights Spectacular” in Marina Square on Melody Lane. “The Holiday Lights Spectacular” is presented by the City of Fort Pierce. The light show consists of over 100,000 lights synchronized to holiday music and is a must-see for both locals and out-of-town guests. The lights and music will run from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. daily until January 5, 2014. “Silver Christmas Jubilee” is a special time and we hope you and your family will join us for the festival and parade. For more information call Main Street Fort Pierce at 772-466-3880 or visit www.mainstreetfortpierce.org.

Free Parking:
• City Parking Garage (Orange Avenue & Depot Drive)
• Country Parking Garage (2nd Street & Boston Avenue)
• Parking Lot (South Indian River Drive between Orange Avenue & Avenue A)
• Parking Lot (North Indian River Drive between AE Backus Avenue & Avenue D)

After the tree lighting ceremony, St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church Parish Choir will present “Advent Lessons & Carols” at 6:45 p.m. St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church is located at 210 S. Indian River Drive. The concert is free and open to the public.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
10:30 a.m.
Common Ground Vineyard Church Open Air Service
1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Sights & Sounds Festival Featuring Arts & Crafts
Expanded Children’s Area
Downtown Shopping & Restaurants
1:30 pm to 3:30 p.m.
Santa Arrives
Community Entertainment
1:00 p.m.
Sunrise City Community Chorus & Friends
1:40 p.m.
Star City Dance
2:00 p.m.
Urban Fire Dance
2:45 p.m.
South Florida Dance Co. presents a scene from “A Christmas Carol”
3:30 p.m.
Mrs. P’s Dance & Acrobat Studio
4:30 p.m.
Sights and Sounds Parade Begins

The parade begins at Tickle Tummy Hill on North Second Street and continues on Second Street to Orange Avenue. Then the parade turns north through the roundabout and back to the River Walk Center.

The parade is sponsored by the Fort Pierce Sunrise Kiwanis.

Lighting of the Christmas Tree following the parade
Holiday Lights Spectacular following the tree lighting
“The Holiday Light Spectacular” will have over 100,000 lights synchronized to holiday music and will play at Marina Square from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. until January 6, 2014.

“The Holiday Light Spectacular” is sponsored by the City of Fort Pierce.

Following the parade...
St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church Parish Choir presents Advent Lessons & Carols
6:45 p.m. Prelude “790”
Lessons St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church
210 S. Indian River Dr. Ft. Pierce, FL 34950
Free and Open to the Public

For more information or a Parade application please call Main Street at 772-466-3880 or e-mail mainstreet15@aol.com.

Note to Businesses:
Jennifer Trefelner, the Arts & Entertainment reporter for Scripps Treasure Coast Newspapers will be doing live coverage of our Sights & Sounds Parade on Sunday, December 8th via social media. If you are on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram, please send me an e-mail to mainstreet15@aol.com, so we can compile a database for her to utilize at the event.

Sponsors for this year’s event are:
THE CITY OF FORT PIERCE,
CLEAR CHANNEL MEDIA & ENTERTAINMENT,
COCA-COLA BOTTLING COMPANY,
OCEAN CHIROPRACTIC & HEALTH CENTER,
PARK’S RENTAL, RELIABLE POLY-JOHN,
SEACOAST NATIONAL BANK,
WASTE MANAGEMENT ST. LUCIE NEWS TRIBUNE,
Merchant Windows will be judged after the parade. No application needed.

Let’s celebrate its accomplishments, past and present board members will be the Grand Marshals of the 25th Annual Sights & Sounds Christmas Parade. The City of Fort Pierce, Main Street Fort Pierce and local citizens have worked very hard to create a beautiful downtown and the Sights & Sounds on Second Festival and Parade is the perfect time to showcase the community to visitors and friends.

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Captain Bobs
(772) 465-2209
Cobb’s Landing
(772) 460-9804
Impromptu Bakery Cafe
(772) 429-3475

Krazy Fish
(772) 995-3566
Lorenzos Italian
(772) 460-5445
Pot Belli Deli
(772) 460-4088
PP Cobbs General Store & Deli
(772) 467-7700
S & S Takeout
(772) 461-8255
Sailfish Brewing Company
(772) 462-8697
Second Street Bistro
(772) 328-7431
Sunrise Nutrition Studio
(772) 428-9183
Thai Pepper Restaurant
(772) 577-9699
The Cake Lady
(772) 242-8287
Tiki Bar & Restaurant
(772) 464-9858
Uncle Carlos Gelato
(772) 622-4401
Yellowtail Restaurant
(772) 466-3474

Salons & Spas

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Blown Away
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Bange Salon
(772) 460-9900
Creative Color & Hair Designs
(772) 460-9900

Paradise Hair & Nails Salon
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(772) 466-0099
Salon de Ana Bernal
(772) 460-2555
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(772) 814-4003
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(772) 465-3233
Studio 207
(772) 468-1005
Yuens Hair Styling
(772) 460-1755

Galleries & Museums

A.E. “Beanie” Backus Gallery & Museum
(772) 465-1050
Art Mundo Center for Creative Expression
(772) 766-0020
D. Rhodes Art Studio
(772) 461-7512
Highwaymen Gallery
(772) 467-9590
Manatee Observation & Education Center
(772) 466-1600

Dermatech Day Spa
(772) 467-0607
Diane’s Hairlines
(772) 460-3064
Jans Trendsetter Salon
(772) 467-1100
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Exercise & Dance

One Yoga Planet
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TrysT Downtown
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Anytime Fitness
(772) 460-2348

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

Please Take a Minute 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.

Name: __________________________ Membership Level: __________________________
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Three Easy Ways to Join:
1 – Call Main Street Fort Pierce at (772) 465-3300
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 223 A.E. Backus Ave. Fort Pierce, Florida 34950
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(800) 777-8021  www.fortpiercebuickgmc.com

Spotlight on... 
Stop by and meet the new General Manager, Kevin Hester. Kevin recently moved here from Jacksonville, Florida. He is a retired Navy Officer with 20+ years of military service. He currently resides on Hutchinson Island with his wife, Helen. Kevin has over 15 years of experience in the Automotive Industry serving in every aspect of dealership operations. He is completely dedicated to his people and to ensuring that his customers are completely satisfied.

Let Fort Pierce Buick GMC serve all your automotive needs in St. Lucie and Treasure Coast Counties.

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Fort Pierce Buick GMC
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AWD Premium 1	$36,933

New 2013 Buick LaCrosse
FWD Leather	$32,163

New 2013 Buick Regal
Turbo Premium 1	$24,333

New 2013 Buick Verano
4dr Sdn	$23,100

New 2013 GMC Yukon XL
2WD 4dr 1500 SLE	$44,167

New 2013 GMC Yukon 2WD
4dr 1500 SLE	$38,471

New 2013 GMC Terrain FWD
4dr SLT w/SLT-1	$31,844

New 2013 GMC Terrain FWD
4dr SLT w/SLT-1	$31,652

New 2013 GMC Terrain FWD
4dr SLT w/SLT-1	$31,844

New 2013 GMC Sierra 2500HD
Ext Cab Long Box 4WD	$31,975

New 2013 GMC Sierra 2500HD
Ext Cab Long Box 4WD	$31,975
Downtown Fort Pierce Farmer's Market: Faith’s House of Orchids

by Matt Hurley

Orchids are grown for the astonishing beauty and variety of their flowers. The most beautiful are the gorgeous South American cattleyas; with their often huge, sparkling, rosy-purple and mauve blooms; these are the aristocrats of the orchid world. Others have an altogether different appeal; these are the strangely weird, sometimes evil-smelling species, which are found among the bulbous phylums in particular. Other orchids have delightfully fragrant flowers. In between these two extremes are numerous delightful orchids of unlimited charm and desirability. Amazingly, there are over 26,567 known varieties of orchids with many more yet unnamed species to be discovered.

One of the premier vendors at the Downtown Fort Pierce Farmer's Market is Faith’s House of Orchids which offers a wonderful selection of orchids to add to your collection. Faith’s House of Orchids specializes in growing Cattlya and Denbrobriums and Vandas. According to Faith, she started her first orchid as a Christmas present and it wasn’t long before the “hobby” had taken over most of her property and had blossomed into a full time business. Faith’s business has grown into a family affair with the support of her husband, Bob, and daughter, Penny and is a valuable asset to the growth of her business. She is proud to have been with the market since its conception and looks forward to continuing the tradition. Faith’s House of Orchids is very appreciative of her customers who over the years have come from all over the country and most return again and again. Faith says proudly that her business is a source of encouragement as she started the business and later became a partner in the venture. Faith’s business has been with the market since its beginning and looks forward to continuing the tradition.

Faith’s House of Orchids

by Pam Gillette

Chic and Shore Things

Becky Demanuel loves to travel and has been to many exotic places. Many of these places inspired her and she holds fond memories of them deep in her heart. A truly inspiring and interesting woman, she has brought her love of the beach and creative style to Fort Pierce. Becky came to South Florida 52 years ago and spent most of her business career in Human Resources. Since then she has gradually moved north until she found Hutchinson Island and paradise in our town. Becky has always been drawn to the ocean and to the beach. Her new home on the island inspired her to bring her talents to others.

“I began crafting my own beach-inspired decor using the abundant resources around me; mussels, sea shells, coral and driftwood. The more I made the more encouragement I got from friends and family so I realized the time had come to share my creations with the world. It was time to open a store of my own and share a life long passion for home decorating, hand crafting and expert shopping,” Becky says. Becky began sharing her seaside treasures at the Treasures in the Trunk (now Treasures in Town) in downtown Fort Pierce. Opening a small boutique filled with her own hand-crafted and artisan-created home décor had always been a life long dream of Becky’s, so when she saw a vacancy in downtown, she decided to take a leap of faith and open Chic and Shore Things.

Chic and Shore Things is a shabby chic boutique that has unique seaside-inspired home décor and furniture. The quaint shop has a cottage look with natural elements, pastel whites and a coastal appeal. The shop has a large selection of nautical, coastal treasures and seaside accessories. Her inventory includes small items like picture frames and jewelry to larger pieces like tables and chairs all at affordable pricing.

Becky loves to go antique shopping and find unique items. She uses her creativity to turn them into one-of-a-kind treasures that you don’t see everywhere. Becky has many talented friends that help her make many of the items in the shop as well as featuring some local artists with unique coastal styles.

When you walk into Chic and Shore Things you are immediately greeted by Bella, Becky’s companion, a cute long-haired Chihuahua. Wanting to give back to the community, Becky created Bella’s Boutique. All sales from Bella’s Boutique are donated to the St. Lucie County Humane Society.

Chic and Shore Things will be hosting a special Holiday Open House on Saturday, December 7, 2013 from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. The public is invited to attend this special occasion. If you make a purchase during the event and throughout the holidays, you may pick a snowflake for a holiday surprise.

Chic and Shore Things is located at 205 North 2nd Street in Fort Pierce. Phone them at 772-342-7505 or visit them on their website at www.chicandshorethings.com. Hours of operation are Tuesday through Friday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturdays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Join the e-mail list to be informed of special evening openings and art classes. Chic and Shore Things will be open on Sunday, December 8th, for the Sights and Sounds on Second Festival and Parade. “Chic and Shore Things — the new place to shop for your seaside cottage in downtown Fort Pierce.”
McCurdy & Co. Realty in Historic Downtown

Joanne McCurdy opened McCurdy & Co. Realty in July 2013 to offer Treasure Coast residents and investors the best service possible for all of their real estate needs. Located in the beautiful Renaissance Building in historic downtown Fort Pierce, McCurdy & Co. Realty has over 25 years of experience in helping clients buy and sell real estate.

Joanne McCurdy grew up in New Jersey and moved to St. Lucie County in 1974. She was licensed in real estate in 1986 and quickly discovered her love for the business. Joanne started her Real Estate career locally with Hoyt C. Murphy then moved on to various corporate companies, continuing her real estate education and earning various designations. More recently, she worked with RE/MAX during which time she became a Broker and received the RE/MAX Hall of Fame award.

Joanne McCurdy is proud of McCurdy & Co. Realty. She calls it a “boutique office offering outstanding customer service with exceptional personal attention for all clients.”

The company has eight seasoned experienced agents: Joanne Fitzgerald, Sales Associate; Angela Geller, Sales Associate; Amanda Geller, Sales Associate; Charles Hayek, Sales Associate; Merilee Landrigan, Sales Associate; Stacy Moody, Sales Associate; Nichole Rube, Sales Associate, and Al Bernetti, Broker Associate. Each agent is totally committed to the business and is there to serve all of your real estate needs.

Rachel McCurdy Willems has joined the team introducing the company to social media and high technology advances, including a top-notch website and Facebook page.

Joanne and her associates live on the Treasure Coast and believe in giving back to the community. Joanne currently serves on the local Board of Realtors as a Director and also on Governmental Affairs as a Liaison to the Fort Pierce Mayor and St. Lucie County Schools’ Superintendent. She serves various charities, but her heart is with the local March of Dimes. Joanne and her agents support a variety of local charities including Castle, Children’s Home Society of FL, the Sunrise Theatre, Teen Anglers, Big Brothers, Big Sisters, and local schools.

McCurdy & Co. Realty specializes in the Treasure Coast with waterfront properties, residential, commercial and land listings. The company services include: property listings, sales, leases, rentals, property management, and consulting. They are also experienced in foreclosures and short sales.

McCurdy & Co. Realty is located at 171 Melody Lane in Fort Pierce. Office hours are Monday through Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sundays by appointment: office, 772-242-8436, website www.mccurdyrealty.com.
Wildfire Clay Studio Now a Co-Op as Well as a Classroom

by Sue Dannahower

Wildfire Clay Studio opened its doors a little over a year ago at 225 Orange Ave in Historic Downtown Ft. Pierce. Owner, Eileen DiTullio, is currently a ceramics teacher at Lincoln Park Academy and had many requests from adults for a place to learn how to make pottery. “I will retire in a little less than 3 years and have been stockpiling equipment for about 10 years. This was a perfect space for a studio so I decided to rent the building as a teaching studio and also a place for me to do my own work.”

A year later, the studio is bustling with activity as it changes from a teaching studio to a co-op, as well as a classroom. “There are 9 members who have committed to being a part of the co-op for a year. Wildfire Coop members include Eileen DiTullio, Ellen Mancini, Bridger Abernethy, Diane Eibl, Vicky Beck, Griell Gaunil, Retta Rohm, Betty Brown and Marilyn Weise. They have access to the studio and equipment 24/7 and are in and out at their leisure creating their own artwork. “Many of these people started at the beginning in my class and are now confident enough to work on their own. We all share the responsibilities of cleaning, firing, and a love for all things clay. It is truly what I envisioned when opening up last year,” says DiTullio.

Currently, three classes are offered on Tuesday from 9 to 11:30 a.m. and 5 to 7:30 p.m., and also on Wednesday from 3 to 5:30 p.m. The members of Wildfire Clay Studio are currently the guest artists in the Galley Gallery of Art Mundo at 111 Orange Avenue through the month of November and you can see or purchase their work there. On December 7, 2014 there will be an Open House at the studio from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The community is invited to tour the facility and purchase a one-of-a-kind holiday gift for that special someone. Each piece is made with pride and there is quite a variety of artwork. Three of the members are former students of Eileen’s and have been making pottery for over 10 years, others have their training in universities and other areas of the country, and the rest are “home grown” at Wildfire. Stop by on your way to the Farmer’s Market and see what our local pottery community is doing.

Membership In Art Mundo Has Its Benefits

by Holly Theuns

Member’s Show
Would you like to see your artwork hung in a gallery setting? Invite your friends to an art show opening reception? Well, it is possible to do so at Art Mundo’s Member’s Show, held every year in January. Each member is invited to submit three pieces of art. There is no entry fee and any medium is accepted. The drop-off day for this show is Thursday, January 2nd, 2014, from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the Underground at Art Mundo. If you are not already a member, why not bring your work and join? You can also renew your membership during drop-off. An individual membership costs $30 and is good for one year.

The Art Mundo Member’s Show opening will be on Wednesday, January 8th, 2014 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Plan on attending the opening and viewing all of the artwork produced by very accomplished friends and neighbors. It is amazing how much talent there is in our small town. The exhibit will on display until February 5th, 2014.

Pink Flamingo Parade at December’s Art Walk
A flock of pink yard flamingoes in front of Colleen and Eddie Becht’s 2nd Street house has inspired Art Mundo to gather more flamingoes and ask people to decorate them and bring them back to Art Mundo for the December Art Walk on December 11th. The halls will be decked with decorated flamingos and everyone will be asked to cast a vote for their favorite with a People’s Choice Award. The pink flamingos are the perfect accompaniment to the December “Keep Fort Pierce Funky” Art Show. This show promises to be a hoot — be sure to come to the December Art Walk and check it out. Check the website www.artmundu.org for the schedule of upcoming classes.

Art Mundo is a center for creative expression located at 111 Orange Avenue in Historic Downtown Fort Pierce. The Center is open Tuesday through Friday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Please visit our website www.artmundu.org to find out about upcoming shows, calls to artists, classes and special events. Our phone number is 772-466-1010.
And the Winners at the Main Street Halloween Golf Tournament Are...

The “ghastly” 5th Annual Halloween Golf Tournament held at Gator Trace Golf Club was a great success to benefit Main Street Fort Pierce. We want to thank all our wonderful volunteers, teams and sponsors, including Budweiser, the Law Firm of Hoskins, Turco, Lloyd, & Lloyd, Ocean Chiropractic & Health Center, Waste Management of Florida, and Wada Wash Car Wash.

1st Place Team Gillette: Gary Gillette, Kenny Gillette, Kyle Holman & Sid Jerger

2nd Place Team Ocean: Julian Conde, Brad Deiner, Eric Frohls & Josh Huette

3rd Place Team Forwinds: Robert Allen, Kalib Guettler, Heath Ogle, & Travis Steckling

Winner of the Pumpkin Patch Putting Contest, Kalib Guettler with Gary Gillette.
Going into the holidays we tend to have too much of everything — sugar, alcohol, processed foods (especially those Christmas cookies) and most of all stress. And of course there’s that common expression, too much of anything is not good!

As I get older (and wiser, ha ha) I have noticed there is a concern about taking in too much supplementation and more recently nutrition from juicing. I do find that theory strange considering so many people will consume a combination of medications, artificial sweeteners, artificial colors and processed food without question.

To answer the title question, no it’s not possible to get too much nutrition. I recently embarked on a juice cleanse and I was so surprised at how many people were concerned about how much I was juicing. Where were they when I was stuffing my face with pizza! I hope it is because they know how powerful and healing fruits and vegetables are.

In just three days of juicing my energy is through the roof, my mind is clearer than it has been in months and my stomach feels sooo good. My annoying bumps on my arms also vanished. I am supplementing with probiotics, enzymes, spirulina and cell food. These are staples in my diet that I probably will take forever.

I always try to do a program before suggesting it to others. Some people embarking on a juicing program experience a detox reaction or “healing crisis.” Please educate yourself on how much to juice and what is best for your body type. Or call me! Happy Holidays!
**Boat Parade December 14th**

by Dan Dannahower

The 23rd Annual St. Lucie Holiday Boat Parade will take place on December 14th. A number of decorated boats will depart the Fort Pierce City Marina at 6 p.m., travel east out the inlet to the vicinity of Mangrove Matties, and then return the same way. Viewing opportunities are best around South Causeway Park or any of the restaurant venues that are along the south shore of the inlet. Festivities that accompany the parade kick off at 4 p.m. at South Causeway Park and include music, food, drinks and a visit from Santa. For more information visit miatc.com.

A number of local popular fishing tournaments will also occur over the next few months. Winter is sailfish time off the Treasure Coast and several large tournaments focus exclusively on catch and release Billfish in our Atlantic waters. Year after year, hundreds of sailfish are caught and released during these tournaments, which typically run three or four days. Check with your local tackle shops or the Fort Pierce City Marina for specifics about these tournaments.

Winter is also a time of frequently changing weather on our local waters. Fronts roll through almost weekly and bring with them rough seas, high winds and rain. Between these fronts we get a lot of calm, smooth days with very pleasant temperatures. The fish bite can be very good and is often affected by these changing weather conditions. Be sure to get a good weather briefing and a check of sea conditions if venturing offshore. Local marinas and tackle shops will have a good idea of what it’s like out there or what might be coming. Stay safe and have fun fishing our local waters!

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**Red Velvet Cake**

by Sue Dannahower

My mother-in-law Lucia Dannahower made this cake every Christmas and for my birthday. This is my favorite cake because the frosting is not overly sweet. For Christmas she would decorate the cake with festive silver “dragrees.” (Dragees are the edible silver balls that adorn cakes, cookies, cupcakes, etc.)

**Cake**

- ½ cup shortening
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 Eggs
- 2½ cups cake flour
- 1½ cups sugar
- 1½ teaspoons vinegar
- 2 ounces red food coloring
- 2 teaspoons cocoa
- 1 cup butter milk
- Cream together shortening and sugar, add eggs. Make a paste of the cocoa and red food coloring and add to the creamed mixture.
- Mix salt and vanilla with buttermilk. Add flour and buttermilk mixtures alternately to the creamed mixture.
- Cook milk and flour together until thick, stirring constantly. Let cool to room temperature. Cream the butter and sugar together. Add to the cooled flour-milk mixture. Mix thoroughly. The frosting should look like whipped cream when done.

**Frosting**

- 5 Tablespoons flour
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup butter
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 cup milk
- Mix salt and vanilla with buttermilk. Add flour and buttermilk mixtures alternately to the creamed mixture. Mix soda and vinegar together and fold into the mixture. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Bake in two 9” layer cake pans for 30 minutes.
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