It has been in the works for more than twenty years, and now it is finally becoming a reality.

Ground broke recently for the new Federal Building and United States Courthouse, which will be located on the southwest corner of Orange Avenue and U.S. 1 in Downtown Fort Pierce.

See story p6
Fort Pierce Coffee
With The Mayor

Mayor Bob Benton Invites You To Join Him
For Coffee, Community News, Special
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Anne Satterlee Steps Down as President of Main Street Fort Pierce

by Jon Ward

The Roman god Janus is always portrayed as a head with two faces, as Janus was the god of beginnings and endings. It’s the reason that January, named after the deity, is the first month of the year, as it also marks the close of the preceding one.

So it is with many things. The close of one thing always marks the beginning of another.

As Main Street Fort Pierce marks the close of their twentieth year and looks forward to their twenty-first, it also marks the close of the strong and experienced guidance of Anne Satterlee as President of the Main Street Board of Directors and anticipates the onset of Britt Reynolds assuming the mantle of leadership.

Beginning in 1993, while working at the then-Harbor Federal National Bank, Anne has contributed over sixteen years of her volunteer time to Main Street, serving as President for the past three years. Very few members of the Main Street fraternity can boast of such a term of service to our community. Honored by her addition to Main Street’s Board in 2002, Anne made an indelible contribution that led the Board to elect her as President in 2006.

Anne’s dedication to this community also led her to join the administrative staff of the City of Fort Pierce in 1999. Former Harbor Federal Chairman Mike Brown, Sr. still refers to her as “his favorite banker,” even though Anne took her hand out of the till over ten years ago. Initially serving as City Manager Dennis Beach’s Assistant, Anne handled a wide variety of important roles for the City, including assuming responsibilities for coordinating annexation activities, planning all communications and public relations issues, overseeing media relations and, when the City’s first Director of the Redevelopment Agency left, Anne assumed the role of Acting Director, in addition to her other duties. Her official title at the City is now Communications and Marketing Manager, but everyone that knows Anne realizes that the title hardly covers her myriad of responsibilities. With the recent temporary physical challenges of City Manager David Recor, Anne was able to step into the breech again and serve as Acting City Manager, ably maintaining the ship of state on an even keel.

It’s a role she was prepared for since her youth, as Anne’s mother is the locally-legendary Lillian Webb of Norcross, Georgia, a now-absorbed suburb of Atlanta, where the Mater Familias served as the multi-termed Mayor of that City, as well as terms on the County Commission, also serving as the Chairperson of that august body. And, as they say, the Georgia peach don’t fall far from the tree.

With the beginning of their twenty-first year at hand, it’s time to welcome incoming President Britt Reynolds and wish him luck for his administration. All who know his predecessor, Anne Satterlee, know that Britt has some pretty dainty shoes to fill.
Main Street and Downtown Business Association

Calendar

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

Friday, May 1: Friday Fest — 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.; Corona presents Mariachi Pancho Villa; Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880, www.mainstreetfortpierce.org

Friday, May 1: Hibiscus Offshore Big 3 4th Annual Fishing Tournament Captain’s Meeting; 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 6: Main Street Fort Pierce Annual Meeting — 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.; Platts/Backus House; free to the public.

Thursday, May 7: Annual Law Week Reception & Student Art Contest — 5:30 p.m.; In front of St. Lucie County Courthouse, 218 South Second Street.

Sunday, May 10: Music on the Plaza at Marina Square — Noon to 4:00 p.m.; 979-6176, www.bluebirdproductions.com

Wednesday, May 13: ArtWalk — 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.; Downtown Business Association, 465-7080.

Friday, May 15: Coffee with the Mayor — 8:00 a.m. Historic City Hall; Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880, www.mainstreetfortpierce.org

Friday, May 15: Main Street Fort Pierce Spring Downtown Stroll Wine Tasting; Main Street Fort Pierce 466-3880

Thursday, May 21: Main Street Fort Pierce Spring Trunk Show; Platts/Backus House; Main Street Fort Pierce 466-3880.

Friday, May 29: Classic Car Cruise-In — 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.; Downtown Business Association, 465-7080, www.fortpierce-fl.com

Weekly Events

Ft. Pierce Farmer’s Market — Saturdays, 8:00 a.m. to Noon; Marina Square on Melody Lane; Market Manager, 940-1145.

Arts and Crafts Show & Sale — Saturdays, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; north of downtown Fort Pierce Library, 460-5124.

Fort Pierce Bike Night — Thursdays, 6 to 9:30 p.m.; 2nd Street, Downtown Fort Pierce; Yellowtail Grill, 466-5474.

Fort Pierce Jazz Jams — 7:00 p.m.; Fort Pierce Community Center; $2 Admission; Fort Pierce Jazz & Blues Society, 460-5124.

Downtown Fort Pierce Library

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

Manatee Observation and Education Center

For information, please call 466-1600, ex. 3333 or visit www.manateecenter.com.

St. Lucie County Historical Museum

For information, please call 462-1795 or visit www.st-lucie.lib.fl.us/museum.

Sunrise Theatre

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

Backus Gallery & Museum

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

April 15 – May 16: Encounters — Art can stimulate. Art can inspire. When you experience the works in this show, expect to meet the unexpected. Artists include Witha Lacuesta, Lenore McNamara, Luke Steadman and Scott Woodward.

Heathcote Botanical Gardens

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

Fort Pierce Police Athletic League

For more information, please call 370-6162, ppearson@fppd.org

Event Spotlight

WHO: Main Street Fort Pierce

WHAT: Spring Downtown Stroll Wine Tasting

WHEN: Friday, May 15

INFO: 772-466-3880

WHO: Main Street Fort Pierce

WHAT: Main Street Fort Pierce Trunk Show

WHEN: Thursday, May 21

INFO: 772-466-3880
The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA), which constructs, manages, and preserves government buildings, has had plans for a new federal courthouse to be built in Fort Pierce since 1994. Over the years, setback after setback delayed the project, including budget cuts, the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the economic downturn.

“As long as we’ve been fighting to get this courthouse, I don’t think it could have come at a better time,” said Fort Pierce Mayor Bob Benton, referring to the state of the depressed economy, and what the project is going to do for Downtown Fort Pierce.

The courthouse project will be a beneficial injection to Downtown Fort Pierce’s economy. The project will create jobs for local residents, and is already bringing many people here from several areas of the state. Visiting workers are paying for housing and supporting Downtown restaurants and businesses. Given the current economic times, this extra influx of people will provide a tremendous boost for Downtown. Furthermore, at a time when property values have fallen, the federal courthouse is expected to cause the surrounding property values to increase.

The courthouse will serve as a vital anchor to Downtown’s expansion west of U.S. 1, bringing attorneys’ offices, restaurants, retail, and other positive activity.

One issue of concern for the site had been public parking. As space was an issue, GSA’s site plan only provided onsite parking for judges and government employees who will work at the courthouse. While there is on-street parking nearby, Mayor Benton believes that the City of Fort Pierce’s public parking garage, located across the

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Fred Fee (1888-1939) • Frank Fee (1913-1983)
street at City Hall, helped convince GSA to go ahead with their plans to build the courthouse.

Fort Pierce and the Treasure Coast have come a long way in regards to the new federal building. Federal court cases were heard in a courtroom at the former Downtown post office on Orange Avenue until the mid-1990s, when federal court facilities were moved to the former Southeast Bank Building. Despite the fact that court facilities in the former Southeast Bank Building weren’t as cramped as they were in the former Downtown post office, many federal court cases continued to be heard at the Paul G. Rogers Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse in West Palm Beach.

Dr. Dannahower served as Fort Pierce’s mayor from 1965-66, and from 1984-96. While he was mayor from 1984-96, Port St. Lucie was developing as the Treasure Coast’s largest city, and formidable efforts were underway by some to move the St. Lucie County Courthouse and State of Florida facilities to Port St. Lucie. As mayor, Dr. Dannahower led efforts to keep important public facilities in Downtown Fort Pierce, and also led uphill efforts to have a federal building built here. He remained a vital force in those endeavors after he left office.

Dr. Dannahower recalled former St. Lucie County Commissioner Judy Culpepper as a deciding vote to keep St. Lucie County Courthouse facilities in Downtown Fort Pierce.

Continued on page 10 …
Now & Then: Alisari Clothing Store

by Camille S. Yates

Jone (pronounced Johnnie) Broder was a fashion diva. After modeling in New York, she moved to Fort Pierce and opened **Alisari Boutique** in downtown Fort Pierce’s P.P. Cobb Building. That was 40 years ago. Now, another diva, Maria Creel, owns Alisari. “Jone was a trendsetter,” says Creel. “She was a beautiful, unique, warm person … always helpful.” The two ladies met in 1987 while Creel worked as Assistant Manager at the **Pettit Sophisticates** store in the Orange Blossom Mall. “We hit it off like there was no tomorrow,” says Creel.

**Alisari** began as a clothing boutique specializing in petite fashions. As Creel explains, “Jone was a very small person, under 5 feet tall and a size two, but she was a giant when you met her.” Uniqueness of the store, including its name, set it apart from the other shops in Fort Pierce. **Alisari** is named after Broder’s two daughters, Alisa and Sari.

Now, **Alisari** carries clothes of all sizes, not just petites. The shop is chock full of clothing, jewelry, handbags, and shoes. “I carry lines
that are exclusive to this area,” says Creel. Walk in and you will find clothes by designers such as Joseph Ribkoff, Komarov, Nic + Zoe, and Not Your Daughter’s Jeans. Sizes range from 2 to 24.

Also unique to the shop is the large assortment of wigs. “People use wigs for a variety of reasons,” says Creel. “They are used not only for medical reasons, but also for fashion — to get a stylish look to go along with a stylish outfit.” She has wigs for women, men, and children.

Although Alisari Boutique has moved several times, from Avenue A to Orange Avenue, the friendliness and specialized service hasn’t changed. Creel bought the business from Broder 12 years ago. When asked why she chose to keep her business in Fort Pierce, Creel exclaims, “I love this downtown. I live here and I want to work here. The best thing is the waterfront and the Sunrise Theatre. Having the Sunrise Theatre … that’s big!” Creel is happy to carry on the tradition of style that her friend Jone Broder left her with.
The Dr. Clem C. Benton Building, which houses facilities for the State of Florida, was built on the northwest corner of U.S. 1 and Avenue C as a result of Dr. Dannahower’s tenacity, when there were possibilities of locating that facility in Port St. Lucie.

The two blocks where the Dr. Clem C. Benton Building and Fort Pierce City Hall are located used to be some of Downtown’s most blighted areas, and putting public facilities on those blocks helped to enable the area’s revitalization.

“We were able to keep major facilities in Fort Pierce,” Dr. Dannahower said about the St. Lucie County Courthouse, the Dr. Clem C. Benton Building, and other important public facilities. “Losing those facilities would have been disastrous to Downtown Fort Pierce, and its success today might not have become a reality.”

Though the hard work of many local, regional, and national officials has finally paid off, Mayor Benton and Dr. Dannahower both credit former U.S. Congressman Tim Mahoney for circumventing politics and finding the federal funds to allow the courthouse to finally become a reality.

The existing site where federal court cases are heard is owned by Fort Pierce Utilities Authority (FPUA) and
is located a block west of where the new courthouse is being built. FPUA plans to sell the building when operations begin at the new courthouse facility. Mayor Benton speculates that the FPUA-owned building, with existing courtrooms, might be a good site for expansion of the crowded St. Lucie County Court system.

Finally, a long-awaited piece of the puzzle that will make Downtown Fort Pierce more prosperous is in the process of being put in place. Downtown’s public buildings like the St. Lucie County Courthouse, the Clerk of the Circuit Court Building, the Dr. Clem C. Benton Building, and Fort Pierce City Hall have helped revitalize the area, and soon the federal courthouse will help to revitalize another city block and contribute to Downtown Fort Pierce’s development west of U.S. 1. The project is expected to be completed by November 2011.
Tourist in Our Own Town

In November, Karin Jones and Becky Springsteen joined together to collaboratively work on a grant funded by Citi Group through the St. Lucie County Education Foundation. They were delighted when they found out in December that they were awarded the funds and were ready to move forward with their project. The purpose of the project was to give students a better understanding of the rich history and resources their community has to offer. The “Tourist in Our Own Town” is an original idea that allowed us to work together creating an awareness in our students that is both rich and meaningful. We took our students from flipping pages of textbooks to gathering knowledge through firsthand experiences. These teachers feel strongly about creating ownership in their students with regards to their town. They are hopeful that their students will return to the downtown area with their families to utilize all that this beautiful and historical town has to offer!

Tourist in Our Own Town

Authored by: Daniela Hernandez and Alexis Langel from Mrs. Springsteen’s fourth grade class & Jaime Hilaire and Minnie Murray from Mrs. Jones’ fourth grade class.

It was a terrific Tuesday as we loaded on the bus and took off for our “Tourist in Our Own Town” trip. Our first stop was the marvelous Manatee Center. When we got off the bus I noticed the river gleaming in the sunlight like a diamond. As we entered the Manatee Center we were greeted by Leslie who is the education director. She presented a wonderful presentation and we learned a multitude of fascinating facts about manatees and their habitats.

Our next stop was at the historic Sunrise Theatre. Sue cheerfully greeted us at the entrance and welcomed us in with a friendly smile. She shared the history about the Sunrise. The Sunrise was originally built in 1923 by a man whom everyone called “Pop Koblegard.” Pop even had his own apartment on the third floor which is so super cool! The Sunrise closed in 1983 but just a few years ago the community joined together to reopen this historic performing arts venue. Marty, who is the technical director, showed us the sound board, the orchestra pit, the fancy green rooms, and we even got to stand on the stage! It was so exciting to know that we stood on the same stage as Billy Cosby!

Later that day, we took what our teachers call a “working lunch” at the Jetty Beach. When we got there our teachers started unpacking scrumptious Subway subs. As we ate our lunch we learned about the marine life in our oceans from two experts from the Smithsonian. The weather was breezy and the sun made the ocean sparkle! This sure was a quintessential spot for having lunch!

Finally, we ended our journey at the Historical Museum. As we arrived to the Museum our teachers told us that we had a scavenger hunt paper in our folders. We love scavenger hunts! As we all filed into the museum we disbanded in all directions to complete our historical scavenger hunt. We saw the P.P. Cobb Store, learned the history of early native Indians, and saw examples of Fort Pierce’s early fishing industry. Our brains were just busting at the seams with all that we learned!

As the day came to a close we hopped back on our bus and filled out our KWL charts and made notes about all the interesting things we learned throughout the day. When we got back to school most of us felt feeble from our exciting tour in our own town! Next time we can be the tour guides!
Fender and Minton, PA, Open For Business in Downtown Fort Pierce

by Camille S. Yates

A chic, boutique law firm has just opened in downtown Fort Pierce on the south side of Orange Avenue. Two friends, Tanya Fender and Ashley Minton, have joined forces to provide professional and personal legal services ranging from criminal defense, dependency, family law, and small claims. Both ladies worked as attorneys in the Public Defender’s Office. “When we met and got to know each other, we formulated a plan to start our own firm,” explains Fender. “There was no choice, but to locate in downtown Fort Pierce,” says Minton. “I love the street (Orange Avenue) and the people are so nice.”

Although Minton and Fender are recent acquaintances, their husbands, Christopher Minton and David Fender, have been friends since elementary school. Ashley Harber Minton was born and raised in Fort Pierce. She first graduated from Lincoln Park Academy and then earned her Bachelor’s Degree at the University of Florida. While attending the University of San Diego Law School, she worked for the Public Defender’s Office and the Alternate Public Defender, working with all levels of cases, including murder. After receiving her Juris Doctorate, she moved back to Fort Pierce, and accepted a position with the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit Office of the Public Defender. There, she worked in the misdemeanor felony divisions and handled appellate cases.

Tanya Roberts Fender grew up in Sebring, Florida and attended Sebring High School. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from the University of North Florida, with a minor in Business and then her Juris Doctorate from Florida Coastal School of Law in Jacksonville, Florida. During law school, Fender worked with indigent clients in the areas of family law, guardian-ship, wills, bankruptcy, and credit disputes. She and her Fort Pierce native husband, Chris, moved to Fort Pierce 4 years ago. While Fender was an attorney at the Public Defender’s Office, she handled juvenile, misdemeanor, felony cases and appeals.

Main Street Fort Pierce is glad to have this dynamic female duo, known as Fender and Minton, PA, become one of its downtown Fort Pierce business owners.
Downtown Hero: Linette Trabulsy

by Beth Williams

While Linette Trabulsy has done her share of traveling (even living two years in Kuwait as a teenager while her Dad served as the junior national basketball team coach) Fort Pierce has always been home. Born in the old Fort Pierce Memorial Hospital, she grew up in her hometown attending St. Anastasia Catholic School and Westwood High School. She’s a graduate of Indian River State College and the University of Florida. She left Fort Pierce to work in Tampa and then Santa Fe, New Mexico but found her way back to the Sunrise City in 1998 and became a well known champion of our changing downtown and county.

“When I moved back home, I found Doris Tillman and the rest is history,” says Trabulsy who worked with the Main Street team until 2003 when she accepted the public information position with St. Lucie County. “My time at Main Street was a great time in my life and most everything we worked on was fun, successful, and meaningful. I made friends that still have a special place in my heart, especially Doris Tillman and Joanne Davis Blandford. They are like sisters to me!”

Trabulsy’s most memorable Main Street project was the city’s Centennial Celebration in 2001. “We were able to celebrate and honor our history and showcase our
town to people all over the state. It was a tremendous opportunity and something I am very proud to have been a part of."

As the county’s public information officer from 2003 to 2006, Trabulsy was instrumental in communicating to residents during the hurricanes of 2004. “Looking back I think St. Lucie County did a pretty darn good job of communicating to our residents, the media, and other agencies while in the midst of historic back-to-back hurricanes,” she says. “I was honored to work with such dedicated people at the county and because of that experience, I formed some very important relationships. “Trabulsy also points out that as a result of the first storm she now has a photo of herself with President George Bush who visited the city following Hurricane Francis.

Today Trabulsy is the spokesperson for South Florida Water Management District and serves both Martin and St. Lucie Counties. “I’d have to say my most rewarding role at the District is working with the schools teaching children about water conservation. It’s a wonderful chance to reach out to kids with that message that is so important to their future.” Through her outreach program, Trabulsy says the District is developing little “Be Water Smart” ambassadors who are eager to share the message with their parents and other adults.

Her ties with Main Street are still very strong and Trabulsy is the driving force behind the upcoming ‘Extreme Yard Makeover’ which will transform the grounds of the Platts/Backus house into an attractive Florida-friendly outdoor space. “When complete, the yard will not only serve as a beautiful entrance to the historic house and neighborhood, but will act as a demonstration site for visitors and residents to learn and understand the importance of water conservation and how to create their own Florida-friendly landscape,” says Trabulsy.

Linette and her husband Carl’s two children, Ryan, 9, and Kyle, 7, are “Main Street babies” having been born during her tenure with the organization. “I look forward to the day when my boys bring their children downtown to Friday Fest, attend a show at the Sunrise Theatre, or just stop by the Main Street office to eat M&M’s with Doris Tillman,” she says. “Main Street will always have a special place in my heart and I’m just happy that I had the opportunity to play a small role in the history of this great organization and our wonderful city.”
Iron Chef winner, Robert Shurger, serves as the Executive Chef for the Tiki Bar, Cobb’s Landing and Blue Water restaurants. Chef Robert oversees the daily operations of the culinary department, planning and implementing the ever-changing menus, forecasting budgets and training employees on safety awareness, company policies and purchasing and receiving of items used in the food and beverage production services.

Before joining these restaurants Chef Robert served as the Executive Chef for the Ginn Company, starting in Port St. Lucie with The Tesoro Club, and contributing to the success of Mahogany Run in St Thomas Virgin Islands, Ginn Sur Mer (Old Bahamas Bay) in West End, Bahamas, Bella Colina and Reunion in Orlando Florida, and the Little Harbor Club in Harbor Springs, Michigan, where at each property he oversaw all aspects food and beverage production. Shurger also held the executive chef position at the Ausable Club in the Adirondack Mountains in upstate New York. Shurger studied under Chef Tod Feit of the Club at Admiral’s Cove in Jupiter, Florida, serving as Executive Sous Chef for five years. Chef Tod was instrumental in preparing him to become an Executive Chef.

Shurger states, “I actually began my career in 1984 in a Restaurant called Shooters of Boynton Beach, where I fell in love with the world of Culinary Arts.”

In his earlier career, Chef Shurger has worked for some of the country’s top properties such as the Ritz Carlton Palm Beach, and in Atlanta, the Four Seasons Resort, Palm Beach where he studied under Chef Hubert Des Maris, who he attributes his style and approach to creating exceptional quality and flare for the dishes he creates.

Shurger’s professional philosophy is to create a harmonious work environment and an atmosphere of continuous learning and to instill a sense of pride through accomplishment. He aims to maintain a high level of integrity to every dish his staff prepares for customers and guests, never compromising culinary arts traditions or standards.

A Massachusetts native, Shurger received an associate’s degree in Culinary Arts from the Florida Culinary Institute in 1993. He is a member of the American Culinary Federation. In his spare time, Shurger enjoys fishing, golfing, reading and working with outreach programs benefiting underprivileged children and the homeless.
Spring Beer and Wine Stroll

by Pam Gillette

Spring is here and back by popular demand is the Main Street Fort Pierce, Roy's Liquors and Budweiser's 19th Annual Spring Beer and Wine Tasting Stroll sponsored by National City Bank, now a part of PNC. Friday, May 15, 2009, the streets of downtown Fort Pierce will come alive as local businesses open their doors, partner with local restaurants, and allow Main Street Fort Pierce to present this annual event inside their businesses. Come enjoy a spring evening, walking through shops, tasting special wines and strolling through beautiful Downtown Fort Pierce.

Roy's Liquors will be supplying a variety of wines for your tasting at 5 merchant stops: Brush Strokes Gallery Art & Frame, Chaney's House of Flowers, Lafferandre Gallery, Picture Perfect Frame Shop & Gallery, and the Sunrise Theatre. The Sunrise Theatre will also provide mini back stage tours for your enjoyment. Dermatech Day Spa will be the location for Budweiser sampling.

Restaurants partnering with these local businesses are Brewers Café, Café la Ronde, Cobb's Landing, Miramar Sports Bar & Grill, Pot Belli Deli and Yellowtail Grill. Restaurants will be open after the wine tasting for your dining pleasure.

Registration for the wine tasting will be held in front of National City Bank, at 100 S. Second Street, Fort Pierce. National City Bank, now a part of PNC, is the proud sponsor of this year's event. You can sign up for the wine tasting by either calling the Main Street Fort Pierce office at 466-3880 to reserve a ticket or just come by National City Bank to register the night of the wine tasting.

Main Street Fort Pierce, Roy's Liquors and Budweiser's 19th Annual Spring Beer and Wine Tasting Stroll is Friday, May 15, 2009 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in downtown Fort Pierce. Tickets for the Spring Stroll are $40.00 per person. Tickets include complimentary wine or beer tasting, light appetizers at each business, a commemorative wine glass, a $10 coupon good towards any purchase at Roy's Liquors located at 720 South U.S. 1 in Fort Pierce and coupons from a variety of downtown merchants.

Sponsors at time of print for this event include: Budweiser, National City Bank, now a part of PNC, and Roy's Liquors. For more information or to reserve a ticket, please call the Main Street Fort Pierce office at (772) 466-3880.
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 years, we have worked to repair streets and sidewalks, upgrade storefronts, renovated the Sunrise Theatre, Old City Hall and the Platts Backus House, sponsor charrettes to design 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 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 rejuvenate 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.
• New and renewing members are randomly selected to receive a free T-shirt. You may be a winner!
• You will receive the monthly subscription to Main Street Focus magazine and links to Focus On-Line.
• Members are listed on our On-Line Membership page.

As a member of Main Street 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

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<td>Headline Sponsor ($1,000)</td>
<td>Main Street Student Membership ($15)</td>
<td>Main Street Small Business Membership (less than 10 employees) ($100)</td>
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<td>Patron Sponsor ($500)</td>
<td>Main Street Friend Membership ($25)</td>
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<td>Main Street Family Membership ($50)</td>
<td>Main Street Large Business Membership (51 or more employees) ($500)</td>
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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.

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Extreme Yard Makeover! The Process Begins…
Main Street Fort Pierce, South Florida Water Management District and Others Partner to Create a Florida-friendly Landscape at the Platts/Backus House

by Linette Trabusly

The designs are complete, the land clearing is done and efforts are currently underway for the installation of the new, Florida-friendly landscaping at the historic Platts/Backus House in downtown Fort Pierce. In an effort to beautify and renovate the landscape at the newly refurbished office of Main Street Fort Pierce, several community partners have collaborated to transform the current garden area of the Platts/Backus House into an attractive Florida-friendly outdoor space perfect for gatherings, visiting and gazing.

In March and April, the South Florida Water Management District, St. Lucie County UF/IFAS Extension Office, the St. Lucie County Master Gardeners and Main Street Fort Pierce hosted a series of three free Brown Bag Lunch seminars to help residents and visitors learn how to improve water efficiency in their own yards. The seminars, including sessions on rain barrels and rain gardens, native plants and wildflowers, improving water efficiency in your landscape and “right plant, right place,” were held at the Platts/Backus House. Guests were treated to wonderful, informative sessions and had the added bonus of participating in door prize drawings for generously donated tickets to the Sunrise Theatre in downtown Fort Pierce.

As progress continues, many other people have offered their help in transforming this yard, including artist Anita Prentice. Plans for the renovation of the old “tub” that Beanie Backus had as a “pond” in the

Continued on page 21 …
Jill Powers

Chaney’s
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front yard included the refurbishment of the old tub with a decorative mosaic design. Who else would you call, but Anita Prentice, when you need the most beautiful mosaic work done? And of course, Anita didn’t hesitate to help.

To date, the partners who have helped with the Extreme Yard Makeover include: Wachovia Foundation, South Florida Water Management District, Conkling and Lewis Construction, Land Design South, Treasure Coast Irrigation and Landscape, Inc., Hunter Industries Incorporated, City of Fort Pierce, Lewis and Associates/Hap Lewis, Earth Works, Fort Pierce Utilities Authority, St. Lucie County Sheriff’s Office, Burkhardt Construction, the St. Lucie County UF/IFAS Extension office and most recently, Rusty Norvell of Rusty Norvell Concrete Pumping Service has agreed to pump the concrete needed for the project.

With outdoor irrigation accounting for up to half of household water use in South Florida and predictions of continuing dry conditions, there are easy ways to conserve water to help protect our region’s most valuable resource. Even with watering restrictions, residents can maintain a drought-resistant landscape and this demonstration site will show every person how!

Landscape irrigation remains restricted to two days a week for all of St. Lucie County. For more information on Florida-friendly landscapes, visit www.savewaterfl.com. For more information about the historic Platts/Backus House, visit www.mainstreetfortpierce.org.
St. Anastasia Hosts “Run for the Son” 5K Race

St. Anastasia Catholic School will host its first 5K race — Run for the Son — on Saturday, May 16 at 8 a.m. in downtown Fort Pierce. Runners and walkers alike will race through downtown, over South Beach Bridge and back in an effort to raise scholarship funds for students attending the 82-year-old school located in Fort Pierce.

“We hope to raise enough money to offer scholarships to families who might need a little extra help during these difficult economic times,” said Kevin Hoeffner, the school’s Principal. “St. Anastasia Catholic School has been a pillar of this community for nearly 85 years, with it’s beginnings in the downtown area. We continue to offer a quality, Catholic education to generations of Treasure Coast residents and we invite everyone to join us in celebrating our Church and School community by participating in this event to support our efforts in providing an exceptional educational opportunity for the children of our area.”

Run for the Son 5K race/walk will begin at the Fort Pierce Community Center located at 600 North Indian River Drive. The fee to participate in the race is $15 pre-registration, $20 day of race, $10 students ages 11-19 and kids under 10 can participate free in the Kids Fun Run. Prizes will be awarded in several categories and divisions. The registration fee includes a race though downtown, a Kid’s Fun Run, t-shirt, goodie bag, breakfast, door prizes, fellowship and FUN! This first-time event is sanctioned by the Sailfish Striders and hosted by the St. Anastasia Parent Advisory Council. Sponsorship opportunities are available. Registration forms are available online at www.stanna.org.

Located at 401 South 33rd Street in Fort Pierce, the St. Anastasia Catholic School and Church Community believes each student is a unique child of God, called to achieve excellence by nurturing the mind, body and spirit in the image and likeness of God. St. Anastasia is fully accredited by the Florida Catholic Conference, an agency recognized by the State of Florida to accredit Catholic Schools and is a member of the National Catholic Educational Association. St. Anastasia Catholic School serves 670 students in grades Pre-K through 8th grade and is one of 21 schools in the Diocese of Palm Beach. For more information about the school or the race, call (772) 461-2232 or visit the website at www.stanna.org.
Here’s my menu for Mother’s Day. These are quick, fun treats sure to bring a smile to your mom’s face and warm her heart. Set a nice place at the table with flowers, a pretty place mat and your best dishes. Maybe even a candle. Have fun showing your mom the best Mother’s Day ever!

**Dora’s Egg Casserole**

6 eggs, beaten  
1 8-ounce carton of sour cream  
½ teaspoon salt  
¼ teaspoon white pepper  
1 small can of diced chilies  
½ pound cheddar cheese, shredded  
1 small jar green chili salsa  
½ cup sour cream

Combine eggs, sour cream, salt and pepper. Spray a casserole dish with PAM. Place cheese and the chilies in the bottom of the casserole dish. Top with egg mixture. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes. Top with green chili salsa and sour cream. Serve warm. Serves 6.

**Tropical Fruit Salsa with Cinnamon & Sugar Tortilla Chips**

½ cup finely chopped strawberries  
½ cup finely chopped mandarin oranges (drained)  
1 large kiwifruit, peeled and finely chopped  
1 4 oz. can crushed pineapple (drained)  
¼ cup thinly sliced green onions  
¼ cup finely chopped yellow pepper  
1 teaspoon lime or lemon juice  
(Note: you can add chopped fruit like apple, mango, oranges, etc.)

3 flour tortillas  
Butter/Pam  
Cinnamon & Sugar

Mix together salsa ingredients and cover and chill for 6 hours. Heat oven to 350 degrees. Spread tortillas with butter/Pam and cinnamon & sugar. Bake until browned. Cool and cut into 8 wedges each. Serve alongside the salsa. Makes 2 cups.
Barbara Miller’s Waiting Watercolor Wins People’s Choice Award

The Lafferandre Gallery is pleased to announce the winner of the People’s Choice Award for “The Women of St. Lucie County” show. The general public was asked to vote for their favorite piece in the exhibit from April 6 through April 11th. With forty-three pieces on display, Waiting by Fort Pierce resident Barbara Miller was chosen as the people’s choice. Barbara receives a cash award and certificate. This was Barbara’s first year exhibiting and marks a return to watercolor painting for her.

The show includes both amateur and professional artists, however it is designed to encourage amateur artists to come out and show their work. The show is always exciting with a broad mix of two-dimensional and three-dimensional art.

Once again, the Lafferandre Gallery will donate a portion of the proceeds to Big Brothers Big Sisters of St. Lucie County. This is their way of giving back to a community that has given them so much.

The work will be on exhibit and for sale through the month of April. The Lafferandre Gallery is located at 205 North Second Street in historic downtown Fort Pierce. The Gallery is open Monday through Friday from 10 to 5 and Saturday from 10 to 3. For more information call 772 489-4255.

Please Take a Minute to Join Today!
(See p. 18 for more information.)

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The Missoula Children’s Theatre Summer Camp Program

The Sunrise Theatre will host three separate week-long children’s summer programs in conjunction with the Missoula Children’s Theatre (MCT): King Arthur’s Quest, The Princess and the Pea and Rumpelstiltskin.

All camps begin at 10:00 a.m., but unlike last year, the Sunrise Theatre’s MCT Camp will go until 4:00 p.m. for all students. For those children who are not rehearsing, there will be arts and crafts, story time, and other activities, that are age-appropriate and just plain fun!

Pre-registration for the roles to be cast are required, with a maximum of 64 students participating in each of the programs. The cost for each week-long program is $50 per child. Students, grades 1st through 12th, are encouraged to participate. No advance preparation is necessary. Assistant Directors will also be cast to assist with the technical aspects of the production.

Each show can utilize a maximum of 60 cast members, ranging in age from those entering 1st grade through 12th grades, plus an additional four Assistant Directors. The dates, times, synopsis and breakdown of each shows is below:

**King Arthur’s Quest** — camp June 22nd – June 26, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.; public performance, Friday, June 26th at 7:00 p.m.; tickets $10.

King Arthur, of legend and song, strode across Medieval England with courage and confidence … or did he? What if the troubles of his kingdom threatened to overwhelm him? Watch the Damsels in Distress sound the warning of trouble. Witness the Lady of the Lake as she produces the sword in the stone. Hide with the Camelotians when the Ghost of Arthur’s Father visits the castle. See the Giant tower over the questing knights. Cheer for the King when he makes friends with the terrible dragon. Listen in as Morgan le Fey and Mordred propose a better plan. Join the Knights and Squires of the Round Table as they try to do the right thing. Hope for the best outcome as your favorite characters of Camelot — Arthur, Guinevere, Merlin, Taleisin, The Raven and Lancelot — wrestle with the challenges faced by their people. Follow the original twist on this familiar story as it weaves its way through a landscape full of surprises!

60 Cast members plus 4 ADs: 18 students entering 1st Grade through age 7; 26 students ages 8 – 12; 16 students ages 13 – 18; 4 assistant directors (typically ages 12-18).

Continued on page 26…
The Princess and the Pea — camp August 10th – August 14th; 10:00 – 4:00 p.m.; public performance, Friday, August 14th at 7:00 p.m.; tickets $10.

Envision a kingdom of snow where the residents are Winter Wind Workers, Blizzard Bringers, Icicle Sharpeners and Snow Smoothers, ruled by the Storm King and the Snow Queen. Add to that a Prince looking for a proper Princess to share the throne. Now imagine the Princess and her friend the Pea living in a kingdom of green rolling hills and running rivers with her subjects, The Flower Gardeners, River Runners, Green Shoot Growers and Tree Barkers. Her parents, King Size and Queen Size, do all they can to keep things running smoothly. Who knows, maybe the dancing Dust Bunnies can help? Although the two kingdoms think they have nothing in common, (except maybe a pesky Jack Frost that freezes anything and everything), the peace-loving Leprechauns prove otherwise. Throw in some Phony Princesses and you have a real fiasco! This ain’t your grandma’s Princess and the Pea. We think you will enjoy its twists and turns.

60 Cast members plus 4 ADs: 20 students entering 1st Grade through age 7; 21 students ages 8 – 12; 19 students ages 13 – 18; 4 assistant directors (typically ages 12-18).

Rumpelstiltskin — camp August 17th – August 22nd; 10:00 – 4:00 p.m.; public performance, Friday, August 22nd at 7:00 p.m.; tickets $10.

Missoula Children's Theatre presents Rumpelstiltskin, an original adaptation of the classic children's story. A strange little gnome appears from here, there and everywhere. He will spin your straw into gold … for a price. If his price is too steep, you must guess his name … Rumpelstiltskin! Join in the fun of Festival Time and help Clara guess the mischievous little gnome’s name. You will also encounter a Jester, Villagers, Wizards, a Queen, a King, Knights and a band of busy little Bees. This heartwarming tale of mischief and friendship answers more questions than just “What is that little man’s name?”

60 Cast members plus 4 ADs: 18 students entering 1st Grade through age 7; 22 students ages 8 – 12; 20 students ages 13 – 18; 4 assistant directors (typically ages 12-18).

The Missoula Children's Theatre's residency in Fort Pierce is brought to you by the Sunrise Theatre. For pre-registration information, call 772-461-4775.

About Missoula Children's Theatre (MCT): The Missoula Children's Theatre (MCT), the nation's largest touring children's theatre, has been touring extensively for 35 years now from Montana to Japan, and will visit nearly 1,300 communities this year with 47 teams of Tour Actor/Directors. A tour team arrives in a given town with a set, lights, costumes, props and make-up, everything it takes to put on a play...except the cast. The team holds an open audition and casts 50-60 local students to perform in the production. The show is rehearsed throughout the week and two public performances are presented on Saturday. All MCT shows are original adaptations of classic children's stories and fairytales . . . a twist on the classic stories that you know and love. Also included in the residency are three enrichment workshops presented by the Tour Actor/Directors. Creativity, social skills, goal achievement, communication skills and self-esteem are all characteristics that are attained through the participation in this unique, educational project. MCT’s mission is the development of life skills in children through participation in the performing arts.

The Missoula Children's Theatre is based in Missoula, Montana, and also runs many local programs. These include musical theatre day camps and performing arts classes for local children, a summer residency Performing Arts Camp for students from around the world and the MCT Community Theatre which creates an arena for local talent of all ages to participate in large-scale productions and attracts audiences from western Montana. For students interested in a career in the performing arts, MCT has developed NexStep Prep—The Academy for Musical Theatre—providing high school students an affordable opportunity to train and study with well-known professionals in the field of music, dance and acting to prepare for college. For information, email nextstep@mctinc.org. For more information regarding the Missoula Children's Theatre, please contact us: Missoula Children's Theatre · 200 North Adams · Missoula, MT 59802 · 406.728.1911 · www.mctinc.org · tour@mctinc.org.
Summer Adventures to be Treasured

by Lesley Vincent-Ryder

Summer is almost upon us. The anticipation of lazy days along the Treasure Coast fills the minds of many. School will soon be out and our beaches will be packed with tourists and locals of all kinds searching for fun in the sun. Amid the surfers, sun tanners, waders, and sand castle builders you will find only a few that are experiencing the real beauty of our beaches.

There’s more to the beach than surf and sand. Shells, colored glass, sea beans, egg sacs and all sorts of natural treasures await your discovery on Florida’s beaches. Beachcombing is the practice of meandering along the seashore and picking up whatever catches one’s eye. In years gone by, beachcombing was often practiced by those who were down on their luck or otherwise had little means and were looking for items to use or sell. Today, however you can find young and old searching the beach for little treasures to collect.

One’s first thought of beachcombing is shell collecting, and searching for that elusive “perfect” shell. Our beaches offer a wide variety of shells that differ with tides, storms, and the time of day. It may amaze you to know that shells are made by only one group of animals. Seashells belong to the kingdom Mollusca. Most Mollusks are soft fleshy slug like creatures that make hard external skeleton type structure to help protect them. Mollusca can be found in both salt and fresh water, as well as on the land (snails). In the oceans, this hard structure is known as a seashell.

Hunting for seashells is one of the most popular of all beach activities, but don’t limit your family fun to just doing things on the beach. Your child can take part in the Manatee Observation and Education Center’s action-packed summer camp program and have a summer to remember. Our camps not only offer fun in the sand, but each session is unique. “My First Day Camp,” which runs from June 15th – 18th is for ages 3 – 6, and is a new camp offered for preschoolers who will have their first experience in camp. From 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. campers will enjoy both indoor and out activities including arts, crafts, play and story time. The fee for this camp is $80 per student.

“Art in Nature Camp” is a longtime favorite and will be offered in 2 sessions this year, June 22nd – 26th and July 6th – 10th. Both sessions are for ages 7 – 12, and will take place from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. with field trips to several natural areas, incorporating what the campers experience into a variety of arts & crafts projects to take home. The fee is $175 per week.

“Estuary Explorers Camp” is another new camp being offered and runs from June 29th – July 2nd for ages 6 – 9. It will take place from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and will allow campers to experience the great outdoors through hiking, field trips, nature games and more. The fee is $150.

“Nature Adventure Camp” has been a hit for years and runs from July 13th – 17th. It is for ages 7 – 11 and its activities will include water safety, wildlife observation and exploring a diverse variety of Florida habitats, through hikes, field trips, nature games and more. The fee is $175.

Another addition to the Manatee Center camp schedule will be the all-new “Make it Mosaic Camp.” It will be held July 20th – 24th, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., and is for ages 7 – 12. Campers will learn to transform nature’s treasures into colorful mosaics and art pieces to take home and enjoy.

“Outdoor Adventure Camp” is sure to be a hit with the slightly older campers ages 10 – 13. It will run July 27th – 31st, from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and the fee is $175.

Additional information and registration for all of our camps and other monthly activities is available by calling 772-466-1600 x 3071 or online at www.manateecenter.com.

Give your child the “perfect” summer memory by sending them to one of the Manatee Observation and Education Center’s fun and educational summer camps.
Summer on the Waterfront

by Dan Dannahower

This summer’s busy schedule of events on and around our local waterfront kicks off this month with a very busy first weekend in May. Additional events run all through the summer and provide a variety of activities for boaters, fishermen and other water sports enthusiasts. Main Street Fort Pierce, the Fort Pierce City Marina and your local tackle shops are all good sources of information for what’s coming up.

The Fort Pierce City Marina hosts its annual Boat Show/Waterfront Festival May 1st through 3rd. A large number of boats will be on display, everything from dinghies to family boats to cruising yachts. Marine vendors, food and much more make for a great time whether you’re in the market for a boat or just want to come out and browse the grounds.

Concurrent with the Boat Show, the Hibiscus Children’s Center hosts its annual Offshore Big Three fishing tournament the same weekend.
This long running tournament helps support the *Children’s Center* and is a local favorite. Weigh in is Saturday at the marina with lots of excitement and prizes in numerous categories.

*Friday Fest* on the 1st and the *Farmers Market and Craft Bazaar* on Saturday will add to all the activity around the downtown waterfront and marina. I’ll report some results from the tournament and boat show happenings next month.

On the fishing front not a lot has changed. The winds of spring continue to bring us many days of choppy conditions and the fronts roll through on a regular basis. As goes the weather so goes the success of local fishermen. Check our local tackle shops for the best info. My most recent personal try at “wetting a line” resulted from a visit by my son and his family who live in Colorado. The morning was fairly nice but a front was on the way. By the time we got the whole gang in the boat and on the water the wind had come up, temps were dropping and the river got quite choppy. Clouds rolled in and our big fishing trip quickly turned into a short boat ride followed by numerous threats of mutiny unless we returned to dry land and warmer conditions.

It blew the rest of that week so no attempt was made to return the boat to the water. We did however go to “plan B” and fished some at night from a dock when the winds had lain down. A number of fish were caught including trout and drum and one wily snook was lost when he outsmarted his captor by wrapping around a piling. Watching the weather and having a backup plan can turn a ruined trip into success!

Good luck and have fun on and around the water this summer!
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