Historic Platts / Backus House Ready for Finishing Touches

by Beth Williams

Great things are happening at Main Street Fort Pierce! After a lot of hard work in restoring the Platts/Backus House, the grounds are getting an extreme makeover! I've never been so happy to navigate through a construction area as I was last month when I stopped by the house. Workers were installing sidewalks and building the framework for what will be a beautiful area for outdoor events.

This historical house serves as the office for Main Street but it also offers a great meeting place for local not-for-profits, private events, and public receptions, art shows and more. The landscaping project will put the finishing touches on ensuring this landmark is a source of pride for the downtown district for decades to come.

Through the generosity of local businesses and individual donors, we've been able to undertake this mammoth task but there's still more to do and you can be a part of this historical location — literally! If you would like to become a permanent part of the Platts/Backus House while helping to enhance the aesthetics of the property, you can purchase an engraved decorative brick for just $100. Whether you'd like your name on the brick, a loved one, or even someone in the community you want to honor as having made a significant impact on historical preservation, this is a great way to support a worthwhile project and become a part of our community's history.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I want to thank you for your continued support of Main Street and the positive impact the organization continues to have on our historic downtown district. If you are a member, thank you! If you aren’t a member, I encourage you to complete the membership form in this edition of the Focus and send it in today!
Saturday, September 15: Treasures in the Trunk Antiques and Art — Second Street in Downtown Fort Pierce; 1:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.; ½-mile north of downtown Fort Pierce; Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880, www.mainstreetfortpierce.org.

Friday, September 21: Coffee with the Mayor — City Hall; 8:00 a.m. to Noon; Historic City Hall, 8:00 a.m.; www.sunrisetheatre.com.

Saturday, September 22: BOB & BOB Riusol — To honor Mayor Bob Benton and Indian River Drive home of Sue & Dan Dannahower; 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.; first of three shows in series (see article in this issue of Focus); contact Art Mundo at 766-0021 for reservations.


Sunday, September 23: Salsa Fest by the Water — 8th Annual Treasure Coast San Juan Festival & Business Expo; 1:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.; www.praha.org or call 772-216-0285.

A.E. Backus Museum is “Celebrating America”

This year, the A.E. Backus Museum’s juried art exhibition will be organized around the wide-ranging theme Celebrating America. The show on view October 5 to November 17, 2012, will be the museum’s opening exhibition for the 2012 – 2013 Season. Artwork exhibited in the show will, in some way, celebrate our country’s heritage, culture, landscapes, environment, values, people or ideals.

The exhibition is sponsored by Seacoast National Bank.

Celebrating America

ANNUAL JURIED ART EXHIBITION
Celebrating America
October 5 to November 17, 2012
Season Opening Reception — Members FREE
Friday, October 12, 2012, 6 – 8 p.m.
Guests $20

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

ST. LUCIE COUNTY MARINE CENTER
Please call 464-3474 for more information or visit www.heathcotebotanicalgardens.org.

HEATHCOTE BOTANTICAL GARDENS
For information, please call 464-6672 or visit www.heathcotebotanicalgardens.org.

ST. LUCIE COUNTY MARINE CENTER
Please call 464-3474 for more information or visit www.heathcotebotanicalgardens.org.

FORT PIERCE POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE

The Three Minute Film Festival
March 15 to May 9, 2013
Opening Reception — Members FREE
Friday, March 15, 2013, 6 – 8 p.m.
Guests $10

THE EYE OF THE CAMERA: JURIED PHOTOGRAPHY SHOW
May 16 to June 16, 2013

NEW THIS SEASON
The Three Minute Film Festival
May 16 – June 16, 2013

OPENING RECEPTION FOR THE PHOTO SHOW & FILM FESTIVAL
Friday, May 24, 2013, 6 – 8 p.m.
Members FREE / Guests $10

Backus Brunch & Painting Raffle Drawing
Sunday, March 3, 2013, 9 a.m. – noon

FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT — ARCHITECTURE OF THE INTERIOR
March 15 to May 9, 2013
Opening Reception — Members FREE
Friday, March 15, 2013, 6 – 8 p.m.
Guests $10

SEASON OPENING RECEPTION
Friday, October 12, 2012, 6 – 8 p.m.
Members and Invited Guests Free
Non-members $20

TRIBUTE TO BACKUS WITH STUDENTS OF BACKUS
January 16 to March 8, 2013
Opening Reception — Members FREE
Friday, January 18, 2013, 6 – 8 p.m.
Guests $10

SUNDAY IN KEY WEST
Sunday, January 27, 2013, noon – 4 p.m.
Brunch & Auction at the Inn at Ocean Village

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

Fort Pierce Bike Night — Thursdays, 6:00 to 9:30 p.m.; 2nd Street, Downtown Fort Pierce, Yellow Tail Grille & Raw Bar, 486-7071.

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

The Jazz Market — Saturdays, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; ¼-mile north of downtown Fort Pierce Library; Jazz & Blues Society, 460-5299, www.jazzsociety.org.

FORT PIERCE RIVER WALK CENTER
For information, please call 498-6473 or visit cityoffortpierce.com.

DOWNTOWN FORT PIERCE LIBRARY
For information, please call 462-2787 or visit www.stlucie.lib.fl.us.

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

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

Dine, Shop and Enjoy Beautiful, Historic, Downtown Fort Pierce!
Susan Hunt Appointed Director of Marketing & Development for Sunrise Theatre for the Performing Arts

Main Street Fort Pierce would like to welcome Sue Hunt to Downtown Fort Pierce. On July 25, 2012 the Sunrise Theatre announced that Susan Hunt had been appointed as Director of Marketing and Development for the Sunrise Theatre. Sue brings with her over 25 years of destination marketing expertise," said Executive Director, John Wilkes. "With Sue as part of our team, we look forward to reaching out to additional target markets, expanding our membership programs and partnerships with public, private and corporate patrons and sponsors."

Sue Hunt was raised in New Jersey and grew up acting and singing in school plays. Living close to and working in New York she was drawn to and fell in love with the theatre. So when the opportunity came to work at the Sunrise Theatre Sue was excited and thrilled to be part of the theatre experience.

Sue is a graduate of Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey. Her many accomplishments include: Northeast District Marketing Manager for Tanger Outlet Centers, Greensboro, North Carolina; Northeast Group Marketing Manager for Compass Retail, Inc., Atlanta, Georgia; Principal of Premier Marketing, a public relations, marketing and advertising firm in Red Bank, New Jersey; and Corporate Director of Marketing for New Plan Excel Realty Trust, formerly the nation’s largest Real Estate Investment Trust.

At New Plan Excel Realty Trust Sue oversaw the marketing, public relations and tourism programs for over 400 shopping centers. In 2003, Sue moved with her golden lab (Sunshine) and cat (Hemingway — Ming for short). She became the General Manager at Vero Fashion Outlets and then later moved to the Indian River County Chamber of Commerce as the Director of Tourism.

Sue is joining the Sunrise Theatre at the start of a new season. This is a great opportunity for her to bring all of her experience and knowledge to help promote membership and community partnerships. "Sue is a strategic, outside the box creative thinker with over 25 years of marketing and public relations experience," says Wilkes. "She is a welcomed addition to Sunrise Theatre." The Sunrise Theatre continues to bring quality shows to the community with each season going beyond the previous year. Sue is happy to be part of the team that brings these wonderful events and she is looking forward to promoting our beautiful theatre to surrounding communities.

The beautifully restored, intimate 1,200-seat Sunrise Theatre Main Stage and accompanying 210-seat Black Box Theatre, located in Historic downtown Fort Pierce, presents national touring Broadway shows, musical and comedy acts, ballet and opera companies with full orchestras, country stars and classic rock icons. In addition, the Sunrise presents a series of Arts & Education Outreach programs to over 10,000 students each year at no cost to students in the four-county region, in conjunction with the Sunrise Theatre Foundation.

For more information on the Sunrise Theatre, how to become a member, or the upcoming new season schedule, go to their website at www.sunrisetheatre.com.
What is more fun than attending city or county government meetings, campaigning for public office or taking care of just one more complaint from the public? Well, the “Bob and Bob” Roast will certainly be the most memorable experience you and the honored roastees, Fort Pierce Mayor Bob Benton and St. Lucie County Tax Collector Bob Davis will have in and out of office. The “Bobs” have graciously accepted Main Street Fort Pierce’s offer (or arm twisting) to be roasted at the upcoming fundraiser for the not-for-profit organization on Saturday, September 22, 6 p.m., at the Fort Pierce Pelican Yacht Club. The evening will feature dinner, music, a silent auction and a public display of praise, outlandish true and untrue stories and heartwarming tributes from colleagues, friends and family.

The event will showcase Bob Benton who is finishing his second four-year term as Mayor of Fort Pierce where he previously served as City Commissioner and Planning Board Member beginning in 1989. Benton, a resident of the City for more than 40 years and self proclaimed Jetty Rat, is dedicated to serving the community and is currently running for St. Lucie County Commission District 1. Benton will encounter some other elected officials that evening turning up the heat as he gets a little toasty over the grill by the likes of the Honorable Judge Cliff Barnes and St. Lucie County Commissioner Chris Craft.

If things aren’t hot enough, native son and twelve year veteran St. Lucie County Tax Collector, who is not seeking reelection, Bob Davis gets his turn over the hot coals when local Certified Public Accountant, J Gaines, and retired Indian River State College Professor, Charles “Chuck” Kitzmiller, take the fork to him. With Davis’ local upbringing, service in the U.S. Army during Viet Nam, his active role in the Fort Pierce Exchange Club for over 20 years and his many trips with Mel Liebman, you will not be able to stop laughing when the night is over.

For 24 years, Main Street Fort Pierce, Inc. has been privileged to work with both Bobs in the community and it is an honor that the organization can say farewell and thank you at the “Bob and Bob” Roast for the accomplishments the Bob’s have attributed to our City and County. Tickets are $100 per person and sponsorships are available by contacting the Main Street Office 772-466-3880.

Has your job been affected by the shrinking economy?

Need help deciding what to do with the assets in your retirement plans from a former employer? During these challenging economic times, it’s more important than ever to find the right strategy for you and your beneficiaries. Call today, and together we can explore all of the options for your retirement savings.

Wells Fargo Advisors
Financial Advisors
331 South 2nd Street, Fort Pierce, FL 34950
772-465-4000 800-706-1103 Fax: 772-463-5981
Wells Fargo Advisors is the trade name used by the advisory services group of Wells Fargo & Company.
Wells Fargo Advisors, its associated broker-dealers, and the advisory services group of Wells Fargo & Company are separate affiliates of Bank of America Corporation.

County Commission District 1. Bob will encounter some other elected officials that evening turning up the heat as he gets a little toasty over the grill by the likes of the Honorable Judge Cliff Barnes and St. Lucie County Commissioner Chris Craft. If things aren’t hot enough, native son and twelve year veteran St. Lucie County Tax Collector, who is not seeking reelection, Bob Davis gets his turn over the hot coals when local Certified Public Accountant, J Gaines, and retired Indian River State College Professor, Charles “Chuck” Kitzmiller, take the fork to him. With Davis’ local upbringing, service in the U.S. Army during Viet Nam, his active role in the Fort Pierce Exchange Club for over 20 years and his many trips with Mel Liebman, you will not be able to stop laughing when the night is over.

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Family Histories to be Recorded by St. Lucie County Regional History Center

by Jean Ellen Wilson, Librarian, St. Lucie County Regional History Center

Every family has stories to tell and a committee of the St. Lucie Historical Society wants to hear yours. The plan is to collect family stories and family photos to use in a special family exhibit at the Regional History Center in 2013.

Committee members are already recruiting story tellers and capturing their memories on video. Louis Forget’s family history was intertwined with the early years of St. Anastasia’s Church. His ancestor, Joseph Archambault, came here in 1912, making this year the 100th anniversary of that family in St. Lucie County. Harold Holtsberg is another descendant of a family marking a hundred years here in 2012. His grandfather opened a store on Second Street in 1912. Later, in 1919, his father, Fred Holtsberg, opened a grocery store downtown.

These interviews tell us so much more than a family’s story; together they will tell the history of our area. The dozen videos we have recorded so far add warmth and emotion to the local history found in books and newspapers. They also contain some surprises that will make for an exciting exhibit. Interviews already on tape include Bert Birran, Richard and the photographs, in cooperation with the Treasure Coast Genealogy Society, we will have available a family tree of a good many pioneer families.

Committee members working on the project include Nancy Bennett, Lucille Rights, Jean Ellen Wilson, Linda Hudson, Robyn Hutchinson and Anne Sinnott.

If you are interested in helping, call or come by the St. Lucie County Regional History Center at the east end of the South Bridge. The History Center’s telephone number is 772-462-1799. The Center, manned by Historical Society volunteers, is open Wednesday through Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Sunday 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., and is closed Monday and Tuesday.

by Kathleen Fredrick

Every small town has at least one — someone who is friendlier, kinder and more generous than the rest of us. Those who know them can see that they just aren’t quite like the rest of us … they are better. I am fortunate to have known two such people in Fort Pierce, A.E. “Bean” Backus [1906 – 1990] and Robert “Bobby” Varn [1955 – 2012]. I feel truly lucky to have known them and I am a better person for it.

On June 18, 2012, you might not have noticed it but the lights dimmed a bit in St. Lucie County. One of the brightest beacons of human kindness, generosity and good works slipped away from us unexpectedly. Bob Varn was killed in a lawn mower accident, while mowing grass that was not even on his property. Nonetheless, Bobby thought it needed mowing so he set out to mow it. That was the last good deed he would ever do.

Bobby was always taking care of things that needed doing. Where people were hungry, he set up his grills and started cooking. When funds were needed, Bobby was the first to donate generously and lend a hard working hand. Countless charity auctions were thrilled to boast a Bobby Varn BBQ for their live auction items. He was a fixture at St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church, serving as an acolyte for just about as long as anyone can remember. He wanted to become an ordained Episcopal Church, serving as an acolyte but he couldn’t quite find the time to doiong the ordination work, or just have fun. You can be certain that if Bobby was there, laughter went with him. Maybe he learned that from Bean Backus whose reputation for getting wobbly lives on. And so will Bobby’s.

Lest we be tempted to remember Bob or Backus as saints, I feel truly lucky to have known them and I am a better person for it. Perhaps Bobby learned that from Bean Backus whose generosity lives on, as seen in the lives of the countless artists he inspired and people he helped. And so will Bobby’s.

Bobby wasn’t afraid to laugh at himself. He loved a good joke and resisted the temptation to take himself too seriously. Bobby was a true individual. He was comfortable with himself and he never really seemed to care what others thought about him, again like Bean Backus, whose unique style, openness to others and devil-may-care disregard for social norms changed the lives of many. And so will Bobby’s.

Bobby was a longtime member of the board of directors of the A.E. Backus Museum. The records are a bit sketchy but it looks like he served as a director for over 10 years. If you came to the Backus Brunch, Bobby fried the fish. If you came to the steak dinners, Bobby grilled the steak. If you came to the Pioneer Festival, Bobby cooked the pork. When you came to an opening reception that was Bobby’s, you enjoyed his smoked salmon or smoked chicken wings. If raffles needed setting up or tearing down, just ask Bobby. Bean Backus gave to the community by founding the museum, Bobby gave to the community by helping to keep the museum going. And their legacies will live on.

Both Bobby Varn and Bean Backus defined their success not by how much money they had in the bank or what kind of car they drove but by how many lives they touched and how much they could give of themselves. Bobby Varn gave in a hundred different ways. As Father John Liebler said at Bob’s funeral “there are a lot of holes in a lot of organizations that need filling.” Sarah’s Kitchen, Heathcote Restoration House, Main Street, St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church and the A.E. Backus Museum all have huge holes left by the loss of Bobby Varn. Perhaps you would like to give back by filling one of those holes in the organizations he supported and help Bobby’s legacy of caring live on.

Kathleen Fredrick is the Executive Director of the A.E. Backus Museum. Contact information for Bobby’s causes: A.E. Backus Museum, 772-465-0630, e-mail to director@backusmuseum.com; Heathcote Botanical Gardens, 772-464-4672, e-mail to info@heathcotebotanicalgardens.org; Main Street, 772-466-3880, e-mail to mainstreet15@aol.com; Restoration House, 772-468-7900; St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church, 772-461-5009; Sarah’s Kitchen, 772-466-9617.
Hill, Barth & King LLC Re-Elects CEO

Hill, Barth & King LLC (HbK), Certified Public Accountants and Business Consultants, is pleased to announce that Christopher M. Allegretti, CPA has been re-elected as the firm’s Managing Principal and Chief Executive Officer (CEO). Allegretti also serves as Chairman of HBKS’ Wealth Advisors (HBKS).

Allegretti has also been re-elected to another four-year term on HbK’s Executive Committee. In his capacity, Allegretti is responsible for providing the direction and the resources needed to achieve HbK’s goal of continued value added service to its clients. He is constantly seeking innovation and the newest technological resources to help all of HbK’s offices work together towards the same vision and goals.

Chris received his Bachelor degree in Accounting from Edinboro University. He is a member of many Professional Associations including the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), where he also received a Certificate of Achievement in Personal Financial Planning, the Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants (PICPA) and the Ohio Society of Certified Public Accountants (OSCPA). He is also an Advisory Board Member of the Jobs and Prosperity Task Force, Board Member of Method CPA, an Advisory Board Member of Schwab Advisor Services and is featured and quoted throughout the recently published book, Leading an Accounting Firm: The Pyramid of Success, by Troy Waugh. Chris is an active member in the community as he has served on many boards and has coached both Crawford County Youth Hockey and Vernon Youth Baseball.

HbK ranks as the 82nd largest public accounting firm in the nation. HbK has over 280 professional and support staff members who serve clients in 12 offices located throughout Ohio, Pennsylvania and Florida.

HBKS Wealth Advisors was recently named one of the Top 100 Registered Investment Advisors of 2012 by Wealth-Management.com. Currently, HBKS has over 3,000 personal, corporate and institutional clients, for whom they manage approximately $1.3 billion in financial assets.

Main Street Fort Pierce

would like to thank the sponsors and attendees of the Mardi Gras-themed 18th Annual Reverse Raffle and Silent Auction held on Saturday, August 18th.

This year’s winner is Ray Walker.
Historic City Hall was built in 1926 and was used as Fort Pierce's city hall until 1983. The beautiful Mediterranean-style building was set to be demolished before concerned citizens, the City of Fort Pierce, and Main Street Fort Pierce renovated the building in 1995. The renovations kept the Mediterranean-style architecture with the barrel-tiled roof, the ornate decorations, the arched windows, high ceilings and the original Dade County Pine wood floors. If you look at the medallion at the very top of the building, you can see a sunrise and water. That is representative of the nickname of the city of Fort Pierce — The Sunrise City. The project was funded with grants through the Bureau of Historic Preservation and matching funds totaling over $480,000. Today the building is used as an office downstairs and a rental hall upstairs.

The Manatee Observation and Educational Center was a partnership between Main Street Fort Pierce, the Florida Inland Navigation District, and the City of Fort Pierce.

When I became involved with Main Street Fort Pierce ten years ago I thought that Main Street was Friday Fest. Since that time I have come to realize that Main Street is more than the multiple events the organization puts on; it is about taking pride in your community and making a difference in places that matter.

So what is Main Street? According to the Main Street Center website, when we talk about Main Street®, we are talking about real places doing real work to revitalize their economies and preserve their character. For over the past 30 years the National Trust Main Street Center has overseen the development of a national network of coordinating programs that today includes 1,200 Main Street® programs under 37 statewide programs, seven citywide programs, and two regional programs. These coordinating programs help cities, towns, and villages revitalize their downtown and neighborhood business districts.

Main Streets work by following the Main Street Four-Point Approach® — Organization, Promotion, Design, and Economic Restructuring. These tools enable communities to revitalize downtowns and neighborhood businesses while maintaining the unique local history of the area. The Main Street movement has transformed the way people think about the revitalization of their communities.

The Main Street programs are a part of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Recently the National Trust started a campaign called “This Place Matters.” The importance of this campaign was to let people share with others across the nation places that matter to them; while preserving places and stories for future generations.

“This Place Matters” campaign has already attracted thousands of individuals and organizations across the country. Our Main Street is an award-winning program with many accomplishments. Over the past 24 years, Main Street Fort Pierce has made the difference in some historical places and we would like to share these places that matter to us with you.
Main Street Fort Pierce managed the grant and helped raise $150,000 in private donations. Upon completion of the project the Manatee Observation and Educational Center was turned over to the Fort Pierce Utilities Authority who oversees and operates the Center. The value of this project was over $350,000 and today the Center sees over 75,000 visitors per year.

The Historic Moore’s Creek Bridge is located on Second Street in downtown Fort Pierce. The bridge was built in 1925 by the Luten Bridge Company and is listed as a registered historic site. The bridge is locally known as “Tickle Tummy Hill” due to its high arch compared to its relatively short single span and funny feeling in your tummy when you go over the bridge. The bridge is constructed of reinforced concrete. In 1997, Main Street Fort Pierce worked with the City of Fort Pierce to obtain a grant for the restoration of the Tickle Tummy Hill Bridge from Department of Transportation valued at $150,000.

The Sunrise Theatre was built by Pop Koblegard as a vaudeville theatre in 1923. It was the largest Vaudeville theatre built on the east coast of Florida from Jacksonville to Miami. In the 1940s it was converted to a silent movie theatre. Main Street purchased the building in 1997 and in 1999 purchased the entire property. After $2.7 million in government funds, and over $2 million in private donations, the Sunrise Theatre reopened in January 2006 with an amazing performance by Dionne Warwick.

Main Street Fort Pierce donated the Sunrise Theatre to the City of Fort Pierce who has now taken over the daily operations.

The places above matter to Main Street Fort Pierce. The National Trust for Historic Preservation says; “This Place Matters” has enabled us to move toward a future full of more meaningful, sustainable communities that have the power to inspire people to protect our history. We want to make sure that all of our communities are inspiring people all across the nation. Do you have a historic place that matters to you?

Check out the various things you can do on this page to become part of the campaign — and the movement — http://www.preservationnation.org/take-action/this-place-matters/. Let’s strive to keep important historic places alive for our future generations to learn from and enjoy.

On June 22, 2012, Main Street Fort Pierce broke ground on the courtyard and landscaping project with a “We Dig You” party. In July 2012, construction began on the courtyard and landscaping of the house. The project should take approximately three months to complete. Due to rising costs, Main Street has just fallen short of the funds needed to complete the landscaping project. So Main Street has started a brick campaign to raise the remaining dollars. Be part of the landscape by buying a personalized brick for $100.

“This Place Matters” — it is just three little words, but this simple slogan means a lot to the people who work hard to protect, improve and cherish the places that matter most to them. All across the nation, people are coming together to promote awareness of our unique and irreplaceable historic sites and landmarks.

The Sunrise Theatre is a shining jewel to downtown Fort Pierce’s economic, social, and cultural well being.
Seminole American Indian, Elgin Jumper, Visits Downtown Fort Pierce

by Plythe Gibbons

When is the last time you spotted a Seminole Native American in Historic downtown Fort Pierce? Some folks who grew up in Fort Pierce back in the 1940s and 50s can recall seeing the Seminoles in their colorful jackets and skirts shopping at the stores in downtown. For many years it was not an unusual occurrence.

Today, very special guest, Elgin Jumper, attends the Treasures in The Trunk Art Fest event (which is held every 3rd Saturday of the month.) Elgin is a Native American Seminole artist and author. He is a member of the Seminole Tribe of Florida and of the Otter Clan and travels several hours to come to the Treasures in the Trunk Art Fest where he sets up his easel and paints Plein Air. He also showcases his book and CD of his poetry called, Nightfall. We welcome Elgin back to Treasures in the Trunk Art Fest on September 15th to paint and share his books from 8 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Susie Cassens and Plythe Gibbons are the creators and coordinators of the event with the Ft Pierce Downtown Business Association hosting it. The sponsors of Treasures in the Trunk are Treasures of Fort Pierce and Sunrise Ford. This event was created to bring a special kind of clientele to our area and circulate the people through downtown Fort Pierce. It is a venue for antiques, artists, and authors (antiques/collectables/vintage). Susie and Plythe are also working with the city to add a volunteer historian that will give a brief history tour on the downtown trolley that gives free rides on Saturday mornings.

For more information and a vendor application, log onto www.treasuresoffortpierce.com, call 772-332-3176, or e-mail treasuresintherunk@gmail.com. Treasures in the Trunk Art Fest is a unique gathering of antiques, artists, and authors located on Second Street between Avenue A and Orange Avenue in downtown Fort Pierce. Treasures in the Trunk takes place from 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. and will be cancelled if raining.

Indian River Magazine Inc. is owned by Enns and fellow Fort Pierce native Allen Osteen. Enns had a 25-year career as a newspaper editor and reporter and Osteen is the president of East Coast Lumber & Supply, the oldest continuously operating business on the Treasure Coast. The magazine company is based inside the historic East Coast Lumber building at 308 Ave. A in downtown Fort Pierce.

Their goal in publishing Indian River Magazine is to give readers a closer connection to their community by highlighting the history and unique environmental qualities of the region. Named for the Indian River, the waterway that courses through the Treasure Coast, the magazine is distributed throughout Martin, St. Lucie and Indian River counties. The magazine’s writers and photographers live in the communities they cover and are among the leading journalists in the region.

In 2007, Indian River Magazine Inc. began publishing specialty magazines, beginning with the playbook for the Sunrise Theatre, the largest performing arts theater on the Treasure Coast. The playbook, which publishes every September, is now in its fifth year. The magazine company also produces the St. Lucie Travel Guide each winter for the St. Lucie Tourist Development Council, Fort Pierce Magazine every February, and the St. Lucie Business Guide for the St. Lucie County Chamber of Commerce every summer.

Publisher Gregory Enns, right, and Associate Publisher Allen Osteen founded Indian River Magazine in 2006.

Magazine Company Got Start in Fort Pierce

Founded in Fort Pierce in 2006, Indian River Magazine Inc. now produces five magazine titles that serve St. Lucie County. These include the company’s flagship Indian River Magazine, which publishes five times a year, and annual issues of Fort Pierce Magazine, the St. Lucie Business Guide, the St. Lucie Travel Guide and the Sunrise Theatre playbook. “We got a big job start at a Main Street Coffee With the Mayor when we first formed the business,” said Gregory Enns, president of the company and publisher of the magazines. “We told folks what we were doing and they came on board as advertisers. Many of those same people continue to advertise with us today.”

Indian River Magazine Inc. is owned by Enns and fellow Fort Pierce native Allen Osteen. Enns had a 25-year career as a newspaper editor and reporter and Osteen is the president of East Coast Lumber & Supply, the oldest continuously operating business on the Treasure Coast. The magazine company is based inside the historic East Coast Lumber building at 308 Ave. A in downtown Fort Pierce.

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Candida albicans is a yeast that normally resides in the body in the digestive tract and vagina. If probiotic bacteria are killed by antibiotics or if the immune system becomes weakened, Candida yeast may grow unchecked. Some alternative practitioners believe that overgrowth of candida albicans yeast in the intestines is responsible for a yeast syndrome that results in symptoms such as fatigue, headache, mood swings, sinus congestion, depression, poor memory and concentration, and cravings for sweets.

Here are some of the causes of Candida: use of oral contraceptives, steroids, anti-acid medications, or frequent or long-term use of antibiotics; high-sugar diets; pregnancy; smoking; food allergies and intolerances; diabetes.

The Candida Diet. Some alternative practitioners use diet to address Candida overgrowth. People with Candida overgrowth follow certain diet guidelines:

✓ Avoid sugar. Sugar promotes the growth of yeast. This includes fermented foods such as bread made with yeast, cheese, tomato paste, mushrooms, and beer.

The length of time on a Candida diet depends on the length of time one has had symptoms and the severity of the symptoms. The general level of health is another important factor to alternative practitioners when recommending a treatment plan. People who do respond to the diet often report that it takes a minimum of four weeks before any improvement is noticeable. For many, it may take months. Once there is sufficient improvement in symptoms, practitioners suggest slowly reintroducing foods from the restricted list back into the diet.

There are many supplements that can help with your journey to better health. I use Garden of Life probiotics, Enzymedica Digest Fungal defense.

Wells Fargo Mural is a Tribute to Vibrant Fort Pierce History

Reminiscent of times gone by, snapshots of turn-of-the-century Fort Pierce come alive through a Wells Fargo mural located on the outside of its 501 Orange Avenue store. The mural, which has now become a local attraction, showcases Fort Pierce’s rich history and vibrant traditions through visuals from the early 1900s.

“Our Fort Pierce mural is a reflection of Wells Fargo’s commitment to its customers and the Treasure coast community,” said Area President, Derek Jones. “As Wells Fargo celebrates 160 years, we are proud to connect with the local community and to provide this visual tribute to its rich and storied past.”

Located at the Wells Fargo store directly across the street from the new Federal Courthouse, the work of art portrays historic images of everyday life and scenic landscapes in Fort Pierce coupled with archived Wells Fargo images. Measuring 43 feet wide and 15 feet tall, the mural is complemented by a legend display that provides a description of each historical image along with accreditation of the source. The images featured in the Fort Pierce mural were provided courtesy of the Florida Photographic Concern Collection, Saint Lucie County Regional History Center and Wells Fargo corporate archives.

A portrait of a railroad crew of the Florida East Coast Railway dating back to 1900 is one of the featured pieces. Also included are other photographs such as a 1906 picture of the dry goods counter at P.P. Cobb and a 1910 photo of children wading on the shores of the Indian River.

Also noteworthy is an image of celebrated folklorist and author, Zora Neale Hurston who resided and was buried in Fort Pierce in 1960. And a photo of renown photographer Henry Hill in the office of his studio located in Fort Pierce. Henry Hill was the photographer of Henry Flagler and nearly all photographic documentation of St. Lucie County is accredited to him.

Wells Fargo Mural is a Tribute to Vibrant Fort Pierce History

Throughout Florida there are more than 140 community murals located in Wells Fargo stores. All of them include local images of historical landmarks, lifestyle scenes of pioneering families and founders, ethnic communities, maps and documents along with archival Wells Fargo images.

“Wells Fargo is a part of each community we serve. Our Mural Program is just another way that we remain connected,” concluded Jones.
Florida Gardening Experts: Master Gardeners

by Linda Hudson, Board Member, Downtown Farmers' Market of Fort Pierce

If you want to learn to be a Florida gardener and share what you learn with others, St. Lucie County Master Gardeners is the place for you. After initial qualifying interviews, Master Gardeners attend weekly education courses, taught by University of Florida faculty, from January to March. To be a Master Gardener, you need an interest in gardening and a commitment to share your knowledge with others through outreach and education. New Master Gardeners have experienced mentors for support and are required to volunteer at least 75 hours the first year. After the first year, the requirement drops to 35, but most Master Gardeners give many more hours.

Master Gardeners work under the direction of the University of Florida’s Institute for Food and Agricultural Services (IFAS) and its extension agent. Details about the program can be obtained by calling Kate O’Neill, 462-1660.

St. Lucie County Master Gardeners raise money through plants sales for scholarships and for funding their outreach and educational activities. Master Gardeners, trained volunteers in Florida-specific growing of any kind, can be found at the Downtown Farmers’ Market of Fort Pierce every other Saturday, from September to May.

Master Gardeners President, Carole Williams, promotes Florida Friendly practices and encourages growing native hardy plants that can thrive in Florida’s seasonal rainy and dry months.
Join Art Mundo for “Art on The Drive” at the Dannahower’s House

by Holly Theuns

The beautiful Indian River Drive home of Sue and Dan Dannahower will be the location of Art Mundo’s third show in a series of fund raising events called Home is Where the Art Is. These events allow community-minded, art-loving people to enjoy a lovely evening with friends, tour the art collection of local collectors and hear the stories of how these particular works came to be in their collections. Sue and Dan collect the work of local artists and have work by Colleen Nash Becht, Anita Prentice and Ginny Piech Street to name just a few.

Sue will be preparing a sumptuous Italian Buffet Dinner, including an antipasta appetizer, her famous homemade meatballs, and a decadent dessert. Beer and wine will flow and there will be live entertainment poolside. The event is being held on Saturday, September 15th, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tickets are $35 per person and advance reservations are required.

This series of fund raisers by Art Mundo allows the community to support one of their local non-profit organizations while enjoying an evening that forgotten pleasure — the dinner party. To quote Doug Macon, Art Mundo Fund Raising Chair and the host of the inaugural Home is Where the Art Is, “It’s way more fun than writing a check.”

To purchase tickets to this event please visit Art Mundo’s website at www.artmundo.org, and go to the events tab to complete a paypal transaction. If you have questions or need additional information please call the office at 772-766-0021 between 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Please join Art Mundo for Art on The Drive at Sue and Dan Dannahower’s on Saturday, September 15th — Viva Italia!

Recipe Corner
by Sue Dannahower

Perfect Pan-Seared Sea Scallops

Over the past 6 months I’ve released (not lost, because I don’t want to find it again) 40 pounds, 20 more to go. My new eating habit has changed the way I cook. Seared Sea Scallops are my new favorite source of protein. Chef Ben Lewis (seafood expert & former chef at 12A Buoy) at Pelican Seafood Company gave me his secret to the “Perfect Pan Seared Sea Scallops.” They also have wonderful seasoning for your scallops.

1. Fresh (Dry) Sea Scallops
2. 1/4 Cup Vegetable Oil*
3. Season with Salt & Pepper or Blacken Seasoning (also Pelican Seafood has good seasonings)

Place scallops between two paper towels and gently pat dry. Season both sides.

In a cast iron skillet heat oil over medium-high heat. Once the oil is hot, lay the scallops in gently. Cook 3 minutes per side. Use tongs to flip the scallop over. Let rest 5 minutes and enjoy!

* Olive oil and butter tend to burn at higher heat.

Scallops — Wet or Dry?

Wet scallops are commonly treated with the preservative phosphates which make them absorb water, they weigh more thereby costing more. The water evaporates during cooking and shrinks scallops leaving them smaller, dry and tasteless. Also, added water does not allow scallops to brown properly.

Dry scallops are all wild and natural. They are not treated with any chemicals. They are harvested directly from the ocean, shucked on deck, then immediately frozen on the boat to capture their quality. Dry scallops caramelize naturally during cooking to a golden brown color.

Scallops are rich in minerals such as calcium, iron, potassium and magnesium. They are also a good source of B-complex vitamins as well as vitamin E. At 26 calories per ounce they are a great source of lean protein.

Shopping for Cast Iron Skillets

Cast iron is durable, maintains a constant temperature while cooking, and distributes heat evenly. I use my cast iron when I don’t want to fire up the grill. It works well for hamburgers, meatballs, tenderloin, seafood, pork chops and so much more. Also, meat does not stick. Purchase cast iron skillets and other home gourmet supplies at St. Lucie Restaurant Supply, 301 Orange Avenue in Fort Pierce, (772) 466-0651, or StLucieRestaurantSupplies.com.
Sunrise Theatre
117 South 2nd Street, Historic Downtown, Fort Pierce, FL

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