



Volume 15, No. 2 September, 2019

FOCUS

The Official Monthly Newspaper of Main Street Fort Pierce



Over 500

Fish on the Fence

Will be Unveiled September 19th

See Story on page 7

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WITH THE MAYOR



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Enjoy Your 3-Day Weekend (and *Everyday*) in Downtown Fort Pierce

by Sue Dannahower



For a lot of people, Labor Day means two things — a day off and the end of summer. But what is the true meaning of Labor Day? Labor Day is a day set aside to pay tribute to working men and women. It has been celebrated as a national holiday in the United States and Canada since

1894. The three-day Labor Day weekend can be a great opportunity to step out, recharge your batteries and spend some quality time with your family. It is also an opportunity to enjoy the many attractions and activities Fort Pierce and St. Lucie County have to offer.


Here are a few that I've had the opportunity to participate in.

Activities: Salty's Watersports & Boat Rentals has jet skis, pontoon boats, kayaks and more. Ride horses on the beach

with **Tours on Horseback; Dolphin Watch** will take you and your family around the Indian River Lagoon in search of dolphins and other wildlife. Enjoy our Saturday **Downtown Farmers Market; Summer Crush Vineyard & Winery** is featuring the *Beatle Guys*. Enjoy local brew at the **Sailfish Brewing Company** and **Pierced Ciderworks**.

Museums: Fun museums for the entire family include **A.E. Backus Museum & Gallery, Heathcote Botanical Gardens, Manatee Observation & Education Center**, the **UDC Navy Seal Museum**, the **Smithsonian Museum**, and the **St. Lucie County Regional History Museum**.

Fort Pierce offers numerous beaches, golf courses, fishing charters and more! So, have fun in the sun and remember your hat and sunscreen. Stay local and relish your last long summer weekend. ❖



MAIN STREET FOCUS FORT PIERCE

Volume 15, No. 2

September 2019

Publisher	Main Street Fort Pierce Inc.
Editor	Joanne Blandford
Advertising Director	Main Street Fort Pierce Inc.
Graphic Design	Susan M. Roberts
Contributing Writers	Britt Anderson, Joanne Blandford, Sue Dannahower, Pam Gillette, Michael Howard, Mayor Linda Hudson, Anne Satterlee, Holly Theuns, Doris Tillman
Photography	John Culverhouse, Mary Ann Ketcham

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Calendar

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



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specials and events!**

MONTHLY EVENTS

September 6, Friday: FRIDAY FEST — 5:30 to 9:00 p.m. at Marina Square & Melody Lane; Live music with **Category 5 & the Storm Horns**; Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880; www.mainstreetfortpierce.org.

September 19, Thursday: FISH FENCE HOOKING PARTY — A Main Street Fort Pierce Community Design Project; 5:30 to 7 p.m.; (See story on page 7); Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880; www.mainstreetfortpierce.org.

September 20, Friday: COFFEE WITH THE MAYOR — 8:00 a.m. at the **Fort Pierce Yacht Club**; *September's sponsor — Honor Flight of Southeast Florida*; Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880; www.mainstreetfortpierce.org.

September 20, Friday: ARTWALK — 5 to 8:00 p.m.; Various studios and shops open throughout the downtown area; seriouslymixedmedia.com, artconnectionfp.com.

UPCOMING MAIN STREET EVENTS

October 4, Friday: FRIDAY FEST — 5:30 to 9:00 p.m. at Marina Square & Melody Lane; Live music with **River Dawgs**; Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880; www.mainstreetfortpierce.org.

October 4, Friday to October 6, Sunday: U.S. NATIONALS FIREFIGHTER COMBAT CHALLENGE — **Manatee Center** and **Backus Museum & Gallery** parking lot; 480 North Indian River Drive; www.firefighterchallenge.com.

WEEKLY EVENTS

Wednesdays: Wednesday Green Market & Food Co-Op — rain or shine 12:00 to 6:00 p.m., Downtown Marina Square; 971-8480.

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

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

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Pierced Cider
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Cobbs Landing
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SEE BACK COVER FOR UPCOMING SHOWS

Tuesdays: Jazz Jam at the Sunrise Black Box Theatre — 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.; 460-5299; www.jazzsociety.org.

MANATEE OBSERVATION & EDUCATION CENTER

429-6266 • www.ManateeEducationCenter.org
Tuesdays @ 2:00 p.m.: Fin-Tastic Fish Feeding — come meet the fishes in the Center.
Wednesdays @ 2:00 p.m.: Tide Pool Touch Tank — touch and hold the urchins, conchs, and more.
Thursdays @ 2:00 p.m.: Meet the MOEC Reptiles — touch and hold Diego the corn snake and turtles
Fridays @ 2:00 p.m.: Seahorse Snack Time — watch the MOEC seahorses eat and play.
Saturdays @ 2:00 p.m.: Fin-Tastic Fish Feeding — come meet the fishes in the Center.

SUNDAY DOWNTOWN CHURCH SERVICES

Common Ground Vineyard Church — 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.; 460-5414, www.commongroundvineyard.com.

First United Methodist Church — 9:30 a.m.; 464-0440, www.umatter2Godandus.com.

Fort Pierce Haitian United Methodist Church; 940-6728, www.haitianmethodist.org.

Notre-Dame Mission Catholic Church — 8 a.m. & 9:30 a.m.; 466-9617, www.notredamecc.com.

St. Andrews Episcopal Church (founded 1893) — 8 a.m. & 10:15 a.m.; Sunday School for all ages at 9:00 a.m.; adult Bible study at 9:15 a.m., nursery provided; 461-5009 www.mystandrews.org.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

A.E. Backus Museum
772-465-0630 • www.backusmuseum.com

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Downtown Fort Pierce Library
772-462-2787 • www.st-lucie.lib.fl.us
Page to Screen Book & Film Discussion
Group for Adults
September 20th – *The Light Between Oceans*
October 18th – *House of Sand and Fog*
November 15th – *The Children Act*
Email johnsonjen@stlucieco.org for more information

Fort Pierce Jazz & Blues Society
772-460-5299 • www.jazzsociety.org

Fort Pierce Police Athletic League
772-370-6162 • www.fortpiercepal.com
Volunteers needed: 772-466-0606

Fort Pierce RiverWalk Center
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Fort Pierce Jazz & Blues Society
772-460-5299 • www.jazzsociety.org

Heathcote Botanical Gardens
772-464-4672
heathcotebotanicalgardens.org

Manatee Observation & Education Center
772-429-6266 • www.ManateeEducationCenter.org

National Navy UDT-SEAL Museum
772-595-5845 • www.navysealmuseum.org

St. Lucie County Marine Center
772-462-3474
www.stlucieco.gov/marine_center

St. Lucie County Regional History Center
772-462-1795 • www.stlucieco.gov/history

September 11, Wednesday: CEECEE ROSS LYLES 9/11 MEMORIAL RECOGNITION — 10 a.m.; Liberty Garden, 600 Indian River Drive; 772-467-3000.

Firefighter Combat Challenge Comes to the Manatee Center

by Rachel Tennant, MOEC Manager

The **Manatee Center** is proud to welcome the *U.S. Nationals Competition of the Firefighter Combat Challenge* this October 4th to 6th. Join us for a special *Family Day* event open to the public on Saturday, October 5th. From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. that day, enjoy free admission to the **Manatee Center** as well as an assortment of crafts, educational games, and guest exhibitors bringing hands-on activities for a day of family fun. There will also be hourly fish feedings and special visits from *Moe the Manatee* mascot that you don't want to miss. *Family Day* is open to the public, and you do not need to be a *Firefighter Combat Challenge* participant to join.

Manatee Center activities will be geared toward fun for kids and family, alongside the U.S. Nationals challenge happening in the **Manatee Center** parking lot area. The *Firefighter Combat Challenge* also brings with it a special *Kids Firefighter Challenge*, complete with stair climb slide, tunnel, hammer-slammer, and fire hose!

Visit the **Manatee Center** website at www.ManateeEducationCenter.com to learn more about the *Firefighter Combat Challenge* and *Family Day*. If you would like to get involved or bring your family-friendly vendor tent to this event, contact MOEC Manager Rachel Tennant at rtennant@fpu.com.

The **Manatee Center** is grateful for the opportunity to bring this event to you alongside the *Treasure Coast Sports Commission* and *St. Lucie County Tourism*, and grateful to all of our volunteers who make this possible. If you are interested in volunteering either in the exhibit hall, gift shop, or back office, please contact MOEC Volunteer Coordinator Trish Parker at Volunteer@ManateeEducationCenter.org. And remember that all purchases at the **Vanishing Mermaid Gift Shop** support the **Manatee Center** and our mission. ❖



Mayor's Message **Ten Reasons Coffee With the Mayor Is a "Must"**

by Linda Hudson, Mayor, City of Fort Pierce



Here are at least ten reasons why *Coffee with the Mayor* (CWTM) is a "must" for people who love Fort Pierce. You may have more.

CWTM is hosted by *Main Street Fort Pierce*, whose mission is "to preserve, promote and build on historic and natural treasures of our downtown waterfront community."

The **Fort Pierce Yacht Club** never disappoints in showcasing the waterfront and providing a welcoming venue for all who attend CWTM. Sponsors have the opportunity to inform, educate and promote their products and services. CWTM sponsors include businesses, non-profits, faith and service organizations. **Natalie's Orchid Island** juice, along with coffee and donuts, help start the day off right.

Starting promptly at 8 a.m., lasting one hour, on the third Saturday of the month, September through May, CWTM allows employees to attend and still go to work.

The *Gold Hammer Awards* are presented at CWTM. Sponsored by **East Coast Lumber**, these awards help feature new and rehabilitated construction.

CWTM is the place where *Neighborhood Gem* awards are presented to recognize residents who have done an outstanding job in keeping their yards and homes beautiful.

Fort Pierce and St. Lucie County are known for community collaboration and action. Volunteers are recognized every month at CWTM, most chosen by the sponsoring organization.

City of Fort Pierce staff, including public works, public safety and others, are encouraged to interact with the community in a social setting.

The community comes together to share the positive news about Fort Pierce. CWTM was the brainchild of former Mayor Eddie Enns, who envisioned the event to be one that would uplift the community and make us all proud to live here.

I have many favorite moments at *Coffee With the Mayor*. One was when the Fort Pierce Police Department had roll call at CWTM and introduced themselves. Other favorites include music programs produced by the *Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues*

Society and *Bluebird Productions*. *Southeast Florida Honor Flight* starts CWTM season off this September 20. Don't forget to bring tissues, because Shamsheer Singh, M.D., always travels with a contingent of WWII and Korean veterans, who remind us all of the sacrifices made for our freedom. ❖



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The Fish are Going on the Fence September 19th!!



by Holly Theuns

By the time you read this article, there will be 500+ one-of-a-kind hand-decorated fish ready to go up on the Fish Fence! The *Hook the Fish Party* is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 19th. And *you* are invited! Meet at the chain link fence surrounding the old King Power Plant site on 2nd Street, right next to Tickle Tummy Hill.



There will be food and drink for sale, and music. And we will all hook 500+ fish on the fence. Half the fish will be swimming towards Downtown Fort Pierce and the other half will be swimming towards Edgartown — and in the middle, a commemorate *Fish on the Fence* photo-op wave. I can't wait to see all of the fish on the fence!

The festivities will continue when Fort Pierce Mayor Linda Hudson says a few words at the “Fish Fence” after *Coffee with the Mayor* on Friday, September 20th. The 20th is *Art Walk* night so the party will continue from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. as everyone strolls the fence to admire all of the fish and look for the one they painted. I envision a lot of selfies being taken once the fish artists find “their” fish. Use #FishontheFence or #FortPierceFishFence when you post on social media.



Here is a little background on *Main Street Fort Pierce's Fish on the Fence* project. This project gained statewide recognition for our own *Main Street* as the state of Florida's Main Street of the month for August. *Fish on the Fence* is a community grass roots program, spearheaded by *Main Street's* Design Committee and including participation by children's summer campers from the **Manatee Observation and Education Center** and **Lindsay School for the Arts**. During Fort Pierce's monthly *Art Walk*, held the 3rd Friday of every month, painting parties were held by downtown galleries and



businesses — **Fort Pierce Yacht Club**, **Seriously Mixed Media**, the shops at **Pierced Harbor**, **Notions and Potions**, **Art Connection**, **Pelican Mosaics** and **Swig of Color**. Employees of the City of Fort Pierce jumped in creating 25 fish at **Swig or Color** during the August *Art Walk*. *Friends of Main Street* have hosted painting parties at their homes and community spaces. It is not an exaggeration to say 400+ different people painted these fish.

community spaces. It is not an exaggeration to say 400+ different people painted these fish.

Fish have been cut from plywood and primed by students from the **Port St. Lucie High School** shop classes and trustees at the St. Lucie County Jail. All funds that were used to purchase supplies and all labor to create the fish has been donated. Paint and supplies have been donated by **The Paint House** and **Ace Hardware**. Local artists have donated their time — Anita Prentice, Chris Gunkel and Mary Myers and all the artists at **Swig of Color** have acted as artist mentors to some of the groups. This is truly a community project created by

Main Street Fort Pierce to fill a need to brighten up an empty block until the new **King's Landing** development project takes shape on the old King Power Plant site.

If you are reading this before September 19th it is not too late to get in on the fun and help hook fish on the fence. I'm betting that 500 unique, individually decorated fish will be enough to make a big splash on the chin link fence on 2nd Street between downtown and Edgartown. If it's early September and you want to host a fish painting party there may still be time; call us. If you have questions about the *Fish on the Fence Fish Hooking Party*, please contact *Main Street Fort Pierce* at mainstreet@mainstreetfortpierce.org and we will hook you up! Everyone is invited and no reservations are necessary. Hope to see you there! ❖

Island Vibes Were Flowing at the 25th Annual Reverse Raffle

The *25th Annual Reverse Raffle Live & Silent Auction*, held on Saturday, August 17, 2019 was a resounding success. *Main Street Fort Pierce* wishes to thank all the board members, committee members, and volunteers who gave their time to help make this event a fun filled evening. Thanks also to all the businesses who donated silent auction gifts, sponsor dollars and services for the *Island Vibes*-themed party.

We are stronger together. Since this nation began, the heart of every community was its downtown. Social trends of the latter half of the 20th century took people and businesses away from the traditional social and economic centers. The *Main Street Program* was created by the *National Trust for Historic Preservation* in the late 1970s to revive downtown commerce and save historic properties nationwide. Fort Pierce was awarded its own *Main Street* program in 1988.

All proceeds of the *Reverse Raffle* benefit the projects of *Main Street Fort Pierce, Inc.*, a 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation.

Past projects include the restoration of the **Historic City Hall** building, the **Sunrise Theatre**, and grant management of the **Manatee Observation & Education Center** building project. The most recent and current restoration project is the **Platts/Backus House** in the historic Edgartown neighborhood.

Along with major restoration projects that have spurred further reinvestment over the past 30 years, *Main Street Fort Pierce* continues to organize and run reoccurring street festivals and community events for the purpose of bringing people back downtown.

When the need arises, please consider supporting these local businesses that support our local community:

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Event photos continued on page 10 ...



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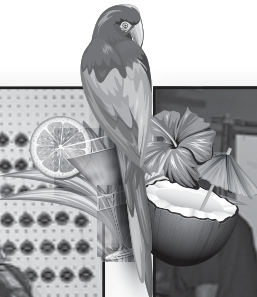


St. Lucie Property Appraiser Michelle Franklin, Malcolm Rowand, SLC Commissioner Linda Bartz



Doris Tillman, Sharon Engel, Anne Satterlee and Sandi Leonard

ISLAND VIBES ... continued from page 9



Dana McSweeney, Britt Reynolds and Michelle Miller



Bill and Kathy Donovan



Garry Dundas bids!



Julia & Erik Melville



Chris Dzadovsky and Sue Dannahower



Paul & Sue Dasso, Elizabeth Borelli and Christi Mollet





Congratulations to Ron Engel,
winner of the 2019 Reverse Raffle grand prize!



Ingrid Van Hekken, Robyn Hutchinson, Patty Kuta, and Nancy Ingle



Naomi & Mike Reals



Tish Stevens, Graham & Rita Stikelether



Joey Trefelner, Hank Fee and Jeremiah Johnson



Michelle Carter, Tommie McDermid, Patty Kuta, and Robyn Hutchinson



Mark Todaro, Donna Sizemore, Jerry Earley, Theresa Pulido, Sunny Booker,
Bobby Knowles, and Anne Satterlee

It's Not too Late to Renew, Join or Upgrade Your Sunrise Theatre Membership for the Exciting 2019/20 Season!

by Anne Satterlee, Director of Marketing, Sunrise Theatre

With summer winding down and fall just around the corner, it is not too late to take advantage of the **Sunrise Theatre's** 14th Season 2019/20 line-up and become a Sunrise member today! The **Sunrise Theatre** is the gem of the Treasure Coast for nearly 97 years and is truly "your community" theatre. The **Sunrise Theatre** relies on the generous support of its members to continue to bring in unique, star-studded shows that are unlike anything else you'll find on the Treasure Coast. Memberships begin at \$75 and are tax-deductible! This year's line-up has been announced and is on sale to current members now, but more shows will be announced in September and as a member, you'll be able to purchase tickets first before the public.

Members matter so we can all continue to enjoy the **Sunrise Theatre's** intimate venue, national touring shows, comedy acts, country stars, legacy acts and more. These shows help boost the local economy, so supporting the **Sunrise Theatre** benefits the entire community. Last year, over 51 percent of the **Sunrise's** ticket sales came from counties north and south of Fort Pierce, serving over 85,000 patrons and guests annually. The **Sunrise Theatre** has an overall economic impact of \$32 million annually in our community. Supporting the arts helps this historic venue continue to benefit the economy and quality of life in St. Lucie County. The arts are an important factor used by many business owners and individuals when deciding to locate to a community — they want to move into a healthy city with a vibrant



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The **Sunrise Theatre's** commitment to providing affordable ticket prices to a wide variety of outstanding entertainment, children's educational programs, quality programming for seniors, and a wide vari-

ety of community outreach events is possible in part because of the membership, donations and corporate partnerships. With your help and support, by renewing or becoming a member, the **Sunrise Theatre** can continue to bring you quality entertainment, experiences and services to you while at the same



time giving much needed vitality to our historic downtown. That's why your membership is truly vital to our mission and financial well-being.

Beginning our 14th season, the Fort Pierce city-owned and operated, member supported, volunteer-assisted orga-

nization, with over 600 members and 200+ volunteers continues to grow every season. So what are you waiting for? Sign up by going online to www.sunrisetheatre.com or contact the box office at 772.461.4775 and learn about the full table of benefits for each level. You will be glad you did! ❖



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Derecktor Ft. Pierce Spruce up Spoil Islands, Stretch of Highway

Derecktor Ft. Pierce put trash in its place July 27 as part of the *12th Annual Treasure Coast Waterway Cleanup*.

A group of nine volunteers from **DFP** did their part to thoroughly clean two of Fort Pierce's more popular spoil islands and a stretch of highway along North Causeway Drive near Stan Blum Boat Ramp.

The small, but mighty group removed 250 pounds of trash in three hours, a haul that included: two plastic 55-gallon

drums, a large beach umbrella, a pop-up canopy frame and beach chairs. The group also filled a couple oversized trash bags to the brim with everything from plastic bags and pieces of Styrofoam to aluminum cans and glass bottles.

"**Derecktor Ft. Pierce** is proud to support environment efforts like this in our community," Justin Beard, Marketing Manager at **DFP**, said. "Our group made a difference today and we had a great time working together as a team." ❖



Employees from Derecktor Ft. Pierce volunteered during the 12th Annual Treasure Coast Waterway Cleanup on July 27. From left, Justin Beard, Tiffany Graves, Cliff DeFreitas, John Karwacki, Dorrel Campbell, Cesar Suau-Bardet, Daniel Cantor, Manuel Mercado and Robert MacKeen



PHOTOGRAPHY BY JUSTIN BEARD

The small, but mighty group removed 250 pounds of trash in three hours, a haul that included: plastic 55-gallon drums, a large beach umbrella, a pop-up canopy frame and beach chairs. The group also filled a couple oversized trash bags to the brim with everything from plastic bags and pieces of Styrofoam to aluminum cans and glass bottles.



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Fort Pierce Yacht Club's 12th Year as Waterway Cleanup Sponsor

Since 2008, **Fort Pierce Yacht Club** has assisted in the *Treasure Coast Waterway Cleanup* sponsored by **Marine Industries Association of the Treasure Coast (MI-ATC)** and organized by **April Price Associates**. During these past 12 years, 9,500 volunteers have cleaned up 125 miles of the waterfront from Martin to Indian River County. The effort has resulted in the removal of 82 tons of trash.

As part of its ongoing commitment to the quality of our waterways, the **Fort Pierce Yacht Club** has volunteered to serve as a distribution center for tools for the clean-up event every year. Opening at 8 a.m. on July 27 this year, it served nearly 75 participants by providing supplies of trash bags, gloves, and pick-up sticks as well as distributing t-shirts and boat burgees. The Club stayed open for the better part of the day to retrieve the participants' 800 pounds of trash, categorize it, and dispose of it. And on August 3rd, the **Fort Pierce Yacht Club** opened its facility again for the volunteers thank you event.

In addition to assisting the community as a Fort Pierce hub for the event, Club members joined the clean up forces. The Club's paddling group joined up with **Lisa's Adventure Club** to collect trash along their paddle route; several club member's boats went out to spoil islands to collect trash; a team cleaned the waterfront from the bridge south to Moore's Creek; and another team was out at sunrise to clean the jetty. What did they find? Cigarette butts with filters, plastic cigar tips, beer bottles and cans, juice containers, plastic straws and plastic stirrers, plastic wrappers and packaging, plastic bags of all sizes, and yards and yards of fishing line (hooks, line and sinkers!) are the most typical. The most unusual has been mattresses, truck tires, and soiled baby diapers.

I was part of the jetty clean-up team. It was so rewarding to have a 7-year-old girl watch what we were doing and join our team; then Joyce, a woman who grew up here and was now living in south Florida, joined us; then several people came by to thank us. Driving back over the bridge to the club, we counted at least 30 people carrying trash bags and picking up debris. It is an amazing community effort! Each year that we have done the clean-up, the amount of trash collected is less and less. That means that the community is doing its part in trash removal when using the waterfront. Thank you! Let's hope that **April Price Associates**, **MIATC** and the **Fort Pierce Yacht Club** will be able to discontinue these clean-up efforts soon! ❖



A New Era for the Port of Fort Pierce

In April, Derecktor Shipyards entered a 75-year franchise and lease agreement to develop and operate a superyacht repair and refit facility at the Port of Fort Pierce.

“This is a big moment in the history of our company,” Paul Derecktor, President of Derecktor Shipyards, said after the signing. “This yard lets us bring in a whole new range of boats. It’s a new market for us and, in large part, a new market for the U.S. We see great things ahead for Derecktor, for Fort Pierce and for the people of St. Lucie County.”

The new yard, known as Derecktor Ft. Pierce, will offer unique benefits to superyacht owners and crew: direct deep-water access from the Atlantic Ocean, unobstructed overhead access, a level 12-acre asphalt apron, full machine, pipe, wood, paint and electrical shops, as well as a 1,500-ton mobile hoist and two drydocks (3,500 tons or larger).

These benefits, combined with the reputation, expertise and history of Derecktor, make for a yard offering what no other can. Complete build-out for Derecktor Ft. Pierce is projected to take several years, although dockside operations will commence soon and hauling within the next year.

Meanwhile, Derecktor Ft. Pierce is ramping up its community involvement through volunteerism. A small group of volunteers recently removed 250 pounds of debris from two spoil islands during the 12th Annual Treasure Coast Waterway Cleanup and supported the 3rd Annual Treasure Coast Youth Sailing Foundation River Raft Regatta, which provides local youth with opportunities to learn how to sail.

More ships coming to Fort Pierce for service, means more opportunities for businesses to thrive.

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Derektor Ft. Pierce hopes to partner with businesses in Downtown Fort Pierce as a way to connect crew and workers to local resources.

Local businesses interested in partnering with Derektor Ft. Pierce should contact Tiffany Graves, Administrative Assistant and Yacht Concierge, at 772-595-9326 or email tgraves@derektor.com. For more information about Derektor Shipyards, visit www.derektor.com. ❖



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Derecktor Ft. Pierce Wins Top Honors at TCYSF River Raft Regatta

Ursula and King Triton set aside their differences and joined forces during the *3rd Annual River Raft Regatta* in Fort Pierce on August 1.

The unlikely, yet powerful duo, played by **Derecktor Ft. Pierce's** Tiffany Graves and Justin Beard, respectively, paddled their way to a first-place finish in the Kayak Division and took home Best Costume honors for their Little Mermaid-themed outfits.

Organized by the *Treasure Coast Youth Sailing Foundation*, the *River Raft Regatta* challenges competitors to build their own raft and race it around a short course in Fort Pierce's City Marina. Other competitors included: **Freedom Boat Club**, **Salty's Water Sports**, **Fort Pierce Police Department**, and a small fleet of rafts powered by youth from *Fort Pierce Police Department's Courageous Kids* program.

Proceeds from the event will be used to provide summer sailing camp scholarships to the *Fort Pierce Police Department's Courageous Kids* program. While at sailing camp, the children will learn the basics of sailing, teamwork and how to enjoy the beautiful lifestyles involving water activities.

"This event provides an amazing opportunity for youth in our community to develop a passion for sailing and the water," Justin Beard, Marketing Manager at **Derecktor Ft. Pierce** said. "Even though Ursula and I have had our differences in the past, we did surprisingly well navigating the course!"

Founded in 1947, **Derecktor Shipyards** has since become a worldwide leader for excellence in the construction, repair and refit of yachts, commercial and military vessels. Today, four **Derecktor** facilities span the East coast of the U.S. from Maine to South Florida, offering vessel owners and operators everything from marina space to megayacht construction. For more information about **Derecktor Shipyards**, visit www.derecktor.com or email jbeard@derecktor.com. ❖



Linda Hudson, Fort Pierce City Mayor, and Charlie Hayek, TCYSF Board President, celebrate victory with Ursula, Tiffany Graves, and King Triton, Justin Beard, at the TCYSF 3rd Annual River Raft Regatta.



Ursula, Tiffany Graves, and King Triton, Justin Beard, race to victory in their Derecktor built canoe during the TCYSF 3rd Annual River Raft Regatta.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY JUSTIN BEARD



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Labor Day

by Britt Anderson

In the United States, *Labor Day*, the first Monday in September, has been an official federal holiday since 1894. Individual states had celebrated *Labor Day* at different times, and internationally, *International Worker's Day* is celebrated on May 1st — the date of an ancient European holiday chosen by the Second Internationale of socialist and communist parties and to celebrate the Haymarket Affair in Chicago on May 4, 1886. Whenever celebrated, it is in celebration of the trade unions and labor movements.

September was chosen in the U.S. as a midpoint between the 4th of July and Thanksgiving holidays. There were contesting factions, one wanting marches and picnics, the other favored political activity. Then President Grover Cleveland backed the former, but as *Labor Day* has evolved it has become a little of both. Senator James Henderson Kyle of South Dakota introduced a bill after the Haymarket riots, stating in part, "Nothing is more important to the public weal than that the nobility of labor be maintained. So long as the laboring man can feel that he holds an honorable as well as useful place in the body public, so long will he be a loyal and faithful citizen Workingmen should have one day in a year particularly their own. Nor will their employers lose anything by it. Workingmen are benefitted by a reasonable amount of rest and recreation. Whatever makes a workingman more of a man makes him more useful as a craftsman." This legislation was followed shortly by the 8-hour day and the 40-hour work week.

On a nonofficial basis, *Labor Day* now designates the end of the summer season, shopping deals, the beginning of the school year, the beginning of fall sports and the last time one should fashionably wear white. Things continue to change.

So, one asks, how does all this national and international background affect *Main Street Fort Pierce*? In the late 1800s, Fort Pierce was an agricultural community of approximately 300. St. Augustine was a small settlement and even Tallahassee wasn't very big. (I'm not going to go into the land grant and homestead legislation which affected Florida and the rest of the nation; it's beyond the scope of this article although such legislation affected the availability of land.) Fort Pierce had been the site of a fort during the earlier Indian Wars and was named after the brother of a president. The town was serviced by steamships for its growing fishing, cattle, and pineapple

groves (orange groves came after the hurricanes and freezes when pineapples could be more profitably grown in Cuba.) Given its economy and even the port Fort Pierce was hardly a likely spot for the trade union movement.

Then enter, stage right, from the north — Henry Morrison Flagler, with an interest in creating a Mediterranean Riviera on the Florida East Coast. With that interest and the money from his time with John D. Rockefeller at Standard Oil, he created a railroad to bring passengers to his new Riviera: first in St. Augustine, then in West Palm and finally extending his railroad to Miami and Key West.

The trains were run by union men. The original rail lines in Florida were a mix of cars pulled by horses and oxen over short routes and rails sometimes made of wood. Flagler's Florida East Coast Rail Road pulled them together to create one big rail line on standardized track. When the line arrived in Fort Pierce in February of 1894, it was extended 57 miles south to West Palm in a little over a month. I doubt that Flagler adhered to a 8-hour day or a 40-hour week to achieve that goal. The workers, not necessarily the ones who ran the trains but rather those who built the rail beds and laid the track "faced wild animals (bears, wild cats, wild boars, panthers, alligators, crocodiles and fighting insects)." They lived in shacks, tents and boarding houses.

Fort Pierce was the midway point between Jacksonville and Miami, so it became the spot for crew changes; a round house and towers for fueling and the taking on of water were soon built. Early on, there was little housing for workingmen and/or their families and many were sleeping on the streets or on barges in the Indian River estuary. By 1906 there were five hotels in town, boasting great fishing, hunting, good food and hot- and cold-running water at \$2.00 to \$2.50 per day. The passenger and freight trains came and went, and the Labor Movement arrived in Fort Pierce. It existed and flourished through wars and hurricanes until the strike of January 23, 1963. The workers' demands included a pay increase, the retention of a second person in the engine car and the continuation of passenger cars.

While the Fort Pierce Station was destroyed in 1967, the strike didn't end until 1975, the longest railroad strike in U.S. history. There was violence and sustained sabotage. There were long legal battles and much recrimination. According to the Miami AP, "[This] has consisted of shooting into trains,

The Manatee Center September Events

Summer hours: From July through September, MOEC is open Thursday to Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Friday, September 13th at 12 p.m.

Bats

Lunch & Learn — Join us for a free presentation at the **Manatee Center** to learn about bats, just in time for Fall! Bring your lunch and bring a friend. *Free event.*

Recurring Programs

Thursdays, 2:00 p.m. — *Meet the MOEC Reptiles* — and witness Diego the corn snake eating.

Fridays, 2:00 p.m. — *Seahorse Snack Time* — watch the MOEC seahorses eat and play.

Saturdays, 2:00 p.m. — *Fin-Tastic Fish Feeding* — come meet the fishes in the Center.



dynamiting bridges and locomotives, tampering with switches and placing obstructions on the tracks to derail trains.”

Today we still have the freight lines and the cut off line to the **Tropicana** facility and Okeechobee. Amtrak has bypassed Fort Pierce. But the new line being built by Virgin could still be a possible linkage for Fort Pierce to its former railroad status: where the townspeople waited for the trains in a celebratory mood and followed the Post to P.J. Cobb’s General Store to pick up their mail. Mail boxes are still there and serviced daily by the U.S. Postal Service. You can still get a bite to eat and something to drink at the General Store, 100 Avenue A (it’s good food). So, as we celebrate this Labor *Labor Day*, let us not forget the struggles of those who built not only the Florida East Coast Railroad but this community as well.

As always wishing you fair winds and following seas. A special thanks to the staff and volunteers of the **St. Lucie County Regional History Center**. They do an incredible job and opened up their library for hours of my research. Stop by if you can; it’s well worthwhile. ❖



by Sue Dannahower

Microplane: You Need this Tool

With so many kitchen tools available these days, it’s often confusing about what to use when. It seems there’s a tool for everything. With little spare drawer space, we try to stick to essentials that can be used again and again.

A **microplane** is super useful. Whether grating garlic, topping your favorite pasta with a pile of Parmesan, or looking for a hint of citrus, the **microplane** is your go-to tool. Here are some uses.

Citrus — If you’re looking to add some extra citrus to a dish, zest will do the trick. This tool gives a modest shave, avoiding the bitter pith. Use



lemon and lime zest for cooking, and orange or lemon for baking. Add a touch of orange zest to your whipped cream.

Ginger — If you’ve ever tried to chop or mince ginger, you may have gotten a bit frustrated, as the fibers make it a bit tricky. Just peel the skin, and grate the ginger along the **microplane**, and you’ve got yourself an irresistible (and fresh) ginger paste.



Garlic — I love freshly minced garlic, but don’t always have the patience to chop. When you’re in a pinch, grate the garlic along the microplane, for a super delish garlic paste that packs flavor.

Hard cheese — This is the perfect tool for grating a block Parmesan cheese on a bowl of pasta.

Paws-N-Claws Foundation Tour Event

Adams Ranch is a fourth-generation, family-owned-and-operated cattle business in St. Lucie, Madison, Okeechobee, and Osceola Counties with the headquarters in Fort Pierce, Florida. Founded in 1937, the ranch today encompasses approximately 40,000 acres of Florida pasture and continues to lead the way in new initiatives to preserve the beauty and quality of the land for generations.

The Braford Cattle are raised on a completely vegetarian diet with no antibiotics, and no hormones, ever, to provide you with healthier tender beef. To get a taste of what life is like on the ranch, the *Paws-N-Claws Foundation* is offering you a wonderful opportunity to be a ranch hand for a few hours and explore the beautiful acres of land that is called **Adams Ranch**.

This fundraiser is to help support the *Paws-N-Claws Sandi Paws Pet & People Parade* held in November each year at Marina Square in downtown Fort Pierce. You can experience the life of a cowboy or cowgirl by reserving your seat in the guided



tour bus and enjoying a hearty cowboy style breakfast at **Adams Ranch**. The cost is just \$30 per person and benefits the *Paws-N-Claws Foundation*.

Go to www.pawsnclawsfoundation.org to reserve your space and pay online with a deadline date of Friday, September 13th.

The morning begins early at 8 a.m., and you will be able to eat breakfast first or take the tour bus first. The tour bus will be driven by

an Adams family member who will provide you with a powerful history of the Adams family and point out the ranch's cattle.

So, put on your cowboy/cowgirl boots and bring your appetite to enjoy this morning adventure. Seating is limited, so reserve your place soon This is also a great gift for anyone interested in wildlife and nature! The *Paws-N-Claws Foundation* is a non-profit organization. Our mission is to promote pet adoption, pets for veterans, and reduce pet euthanasia. Go to our website for more information. ❖

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Call to Artists – Enter to See if You Will be “The Best of the Best” for 2019!

The Annual Juried Art Exhibition is Accepting Entries beginning September 11th at the A.E. Backus Museum & Gallery

The **A.E. Backus Museum & Gallery’s** annual juried art exhibition, “The Best of the Best,” is accepting artist applications during regular Museum hours Wednesdays to Sundays until 3:00 p.m., beginning on Wednesday, September 11 through Saturday, September 28, 2019. The application is open to amateur and professional artists with a \$30 entry fee per work. A full prospectus with guidelines and application is available to download from the Museum’s website at www.BackusMuseum.org or it can be picked up starting September 11th at the Museum located at 500 North Indian River Drive in Historic Downtown Fort Pierce.

New this year, the Museum is holding a free Entry Workshop to give artists guidance on understanding the rules, tips on acceptable framing and presentation, and help to avoid common submission problems. This workshop will be held on Saturday, August 24, from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. Those who attend the free workshop will receive a “bonus entry” — they will be able to submit their second entry into the competition free.

Artists may enter their work in “The Best of the Best” by submitting into one of four media categories: oil and acrylic paintings, watercolor (including gouache and tempera), varied techniques (which includes mixed media, pastel, pencil, pen & ink, printmaking, graphics, collage and computer generated works) and three-dimensional. A full description of all of the categories along with frequently asked questions is available in the prospectus.

The juried exhibition “The Best of the Best” will be on view October 4 through November 15, with the *Season Opening Reception* on Saturday, October 12, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. The Museum will announce accepted works on October 4, the day the exhibition opens. Prizes awarded by the jury will be announced on October 11, before the opening reception.

About the A.E. Backus Museum & Gallery: With a recently added, multi-million dollar expansion, the **A.E. Backus Museum & Gallery** houses the nation’s largest public presentation of artwork by Florida’s preeminent painter, A.E. “Bean” Backus (1906-1990), and is home to the state’s only permanent multi-media exhibition on the Florida Highwaymen.

With a career spanning more than 70 years, Backus was the first Florida-born artist to build his professional renown by painting the landscape and scenes from daily life of his native state. He was fortunate to have known great success during his lifetime, with paintings hanging in the businesses and the private collections of many of Florida’s most prominent citizens. A renowned humanitarian who abhorred the racist attitudes and segregation that engulfed the region, Backus taught and mentored the group of entrepreneurial African American artists who became known as the Florida Highwaymen. Their inspiring story is part of the A.E. Backus legacy.

In addition to preserving and perpetuating the artistic and humanitarian legacy of Backus, the Museum organizes and hosts changing exhibitions from artists of national and international acclaim.

Please note: the Museum will be closed from August 12 to September 10 for pre-season maintenance. The Museum will re-open September 11 to 28 with special pre-season hours Wednesday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday 12 noon to 4 p.m.; closed on Monday and Tuesday. Admission is \$5 per person; AARP, AAA, and Veterans with appropriate ID receive a \$2 discount. Students with school ID, children under 18 and active duty military are always free. ❖

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Small Business Solutions: 8 Ways to Find Your First Customers

by Rieva Lesonsky, published on www.sba.gov



Here are some smart strategies you can use to identify and attract those critical first customers. No matter what industry you're in, every startup business owner has the same burning question: "How will I get my first customers?" Here are some smart strategies you can use to identify and attract those critical first customers.

✓ **Make a list.** As you've done the groundwork to launch your business, you've undoubtedly met some people who could be potential customers. For instance, these could include people you surveyed in a focus group or connected with on social media. Put them on a list of prospects. B2B startups can put businesses they've interacted with on the list. You can also do some homework online to find companies that are likely buyers for what you sell and add them to your list.

✓ **Look for referrals.** Ask everyone you know if they know someone who might buy what you're selling. You never know where a great referral will come from, so alert your social media connections, neighbors, former co-workers, even your distant cousins that you're looking for customers. Enlist your spouse, friends and other connections to help brainstorm ideas for first customers, too.

✓ **Work your network.** Find out what local business networking groups exist for your industry and attend some of their meetings. Focus on sharing how you can help others, not so much on how they can help you. Connecting with other business owners is a great way to sniff out prospects, whether you sell B2B or B2C.

✓ **Show it off.** Exhibit at trade shows that attract your target customer. For instance, if you're starting a wedding planning business, a bridal trade show would be an ideal place to rent a booth. Just make sure you're ready to deliver when a customer places an order or makes a purchase.

✓ **Attend industry events.** If you're selling B2B, you don't necessarily have to pay for a booth to benefit from a trade show

or industry conference. You can just go to meet people (be prepared with key marketing materials such as business cards or sales sheets, of course). Don't try to pitch people with a hard sell; instead, focus on building connections with people who could be helpful in your new business. Then contact them when you're back in the office and start building a relationship.

✓ **Team up with other business owners.** Find another entrepreneur whose products or services are complementary, rather than competitive, with yours and ask about connecting you with prospective clients. If you're starting a pool cleaning business, for example, see if local lawn-care companies know of any clients whose pools are looking shabby, and ask for a referral.

✓ **Build an online presence.** Get your website up and running (even if it's just a simple site) and use search engine optimization (SEO) to get found when people search online for what you sell. Your first customer could very well come from a search engine.

✓ **Spread the word on social.** Starting up your social media accounts before your business officially launches is a great way to generate excitement about your grand opening, products or services. Use social media advertising to target people who meet your target market criteria and get them to follow you for updates. Encourage them to spread the word to their friends, and so on, and so on.

Once you've got that first customer, treat them like gold. Make sure they're satisfied and work to keep their business. As you build a history with your first customers, turn them into brand advocates to help attract more customers and gather customer testimonials you can use to promote your business.

Rieva Lesonsky is CEO and President of GrowBiz Media, a media company that helps entrepreneurs start and grow their businesses. Follow Rieva at [Twitter.com/Rieva](https://twitter.com/Rieva) and visit SmallBizDaily.com to sign up for her free Trend-Cast reports. She's been covering small business and entrepreneurial issues for more than 30 years, is the author of several books about entrepreneurship and was the editorial director of Entrepreneur magazine for over two decades. ❖

Love, JAZZ Community: Try to Remember

by Don Bestor

Whether or not you've seen the Broadway musical, *The Fantasticks*, you've probably heard the show's most famous song lyric, "Try to remember the kind of September when life was slow, and oh, so mellow." It's a song reminiscing about those days of yore when we didn't realize just how wonderful and full our lives were — before we started searching for something more.

Whenever September rolls around and signals the start of the new school year, many of us can't help but think about the new school years of our past — those first days when we went to school sporting a new outfit we'd laboriously crafted to help us instantly transform into the person we wanted to be that year — the new and improved us. And one of the most exciting parts of the new school year was the return of the football games, the marching band, sock hops, school dances, and all that wonderful music!

If we're lucky, we were blessed to have caring, passionate music teachers in our past who ignited in us a love of music. Ask any one of the professional musicians who is part of the **Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society**, and you'll hear a story of a musical mentor who helped turn an interest in music into a rewarding and lifelong career. That's right, the same musicians who provide you with a full evening of music every Tuesday evening at the **Sunrise Black Box Theatre** for just a few dollars, also graced the stage with Tony Bennett, the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra, the Four Tops, Nelson Riddle, Bobby Darin, The Supremes, Neil Sedaka, Guy Lombardo, Peter Cetera, Styx, Sting, and Sister Sledge? But before they performed with

superstars, they were mentored by a teacher or another musician. Knowing the value of that kind of mentoring, members of **Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society** regularly donate time and talent to mentor students throughout the Treasure Coast.

On any given day, volunteer members of **Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society** are sharing their love of music through performance, master classes, one-to-one tutoring of tomorrow's musical superstars, and supporting the arts in a wide variety of ways. Whether they are musicians or just music appreciators, **Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society** welcomes volunteers who are passionate about music and community and want to help support the arts in our community.

Whether you're a year-round resident or sun-loving snowbird, if you've been looking for a volunteer opportunity to help give back to the community, meet new people, and fill your time with something fun and valuable, why not give **Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society** a call today at 772.460.JAZZ? We'll work together to find a volunteer spot that's perfect for you, fits your schedule, and allows you to share your talents and your love of music with others. Volunteering is good for your physical and mental health, and music — well, we all know how music "soothes the savage beast," so why not find a way to improve your health and your life while enjoying great music and learning the stories behind your favorite musicians and songs? If you'd like to volunteer or learn more about **Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society**, contact us at Fort Pierce Jazz or visit us online at www.jazzsociety.org. ❖

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SNOOK SEASON STARTS!



by Captain Bo Samuel, Pullin Drag Charters

It's September, and to anglers all along the Treasure Coast that means snook season starts! September 1 through December 14th is the span of the second season of the year to catch these highly-prized fish. Linesiders, due to the distinctive black lateral line, must be no less than 28 inches and no more than 32 inches, so catching one within the slot provides even more



challenge. The limit is one per angler, per day. Those caught outside the slot requirements should be returned to the water as quickly as possible to ensure survival. Commercial harvest has been prohibited since 1957.

Snook can be found around bridges, docks, mangroves, and jetties with fast-moving currents. These aggressive predators like to face the current which brings the bait fish right to them. The best bait choice is live mullet, pilchards, threadfins, or mojarra but they will hit artificials and shrimp, too.

Use a spinning reel combo with 40-pound fluorocarbon leader and keep the drag tight since these fish are smart and will run to break the line on nearby structures. Once a snook is hooked, be prepared for a show and a great battle.

Remember, a snook stamp is required. For more information and regulations, visit myfwc.com or your local bait and tackle shop.

Snook season greetings to all and keep Pullin Drag! ❖

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Recipe Corner

by Sue Dannahower

Love Your Broccoli!

I Love Broccoli. Here are a few of my favorite Broccoli Salads.

Broccoli Olive Salad

- 2 bunches broccoli, cut into florets
- ½ cup onions, chopped
- ½ cup green olives, sliced
- 2 Tablespoons mayonnaise

Cut broccoli into 2" florets. Blanch in water until tender; 4–5 minutes. Drain. Mix all ingredients together and chill.
Serves 8.

Broccoli Cashew Salad

- 1 head broccoli
- 1 red onion, sliced thin
- 1 bunch green onions, sliced thin
- 1 red pepper, sliced thin
- ½ cup parsley, chopped
- ¼ cup currants
- ¼ cup cashews, dry roasted
- ½ pound bacon, cooked, drained, crumbled
- Miracle whip to moisten

Cut broccoli into bite-size pieces. Mix all salad ingredient together. Fold in Miracle Whip until all vegetables are lightly coated. *Serves 10.*

Broccoli Sunshine Salad

- 1 bunch broccoli, cut into bite size pieces
- ½ pound bacon, fried & crumbled
- ½ cup sunflower seeds
- 4 Tablespoons onion, minced

Marinate:

- 1 cup mayonnaise
- ¼ cup vinegar
- ¼ cup sugar
- 8 teaspoons milk

Whisk together the marinade ingredients and toss with salad. Cover and refrigerate for 2 hours. *Serves 8.*



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