



Volume 16, No. 11

June, 2021

FOCUS

The Official Monthly Newspaper of Main Street Fort Pierce

Ready for Summer
in Historic
Downtown
Fort Pierce



PHOTOGRAPHY BY ANDREA PHILLIPS

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Become a Member of *Main Street Fort Pierce*

by Britt Reynolds

Main Street Fort Pierce is officially back in action! Last month we hosted our *Annual Meeting, Friday Fest, Coffee with the Mayor* and our golf tournament. After a year of canceled events, it feels great to be able to host these public celebrations once again. We have a lot planned for the remainder of the year so tune in to our website, Facebook page and the monthly *Focus* newspaper to keep informed.

We are excited to announce that *Main Street Fort Pierce* was chosen as a recipient for a grant from the *Daughters of the American Revolution*. Our friends at the local *Cora Stickney Harper Chapter* sponsored the grant for restoration of the exterior of the **Platts/Backus House**. **R.K. Davis Construction** generously agreed to provide the required matching donation and **Home Depot** is donating the needed paint.

Main Street Fort Pierce bought the **Platts/Backus House** in 2005, shortly before the restoration of the **Sunrise Theatre** (another *Main Street* restoration project) was completed. The **Platts/Backus House** is significant both for its history and for


its location. It was built by the first resident doctor and the first superintendent of St. Lucie County Schools, Dr. Clyde Platts and his family. It was later purchased by Florida Hall of Fame Artist, Albert "Bean" Backus. It served as his home and studio from 1960 until his death in the early 1990s. Its location, on the corner of A.E. Backus Avenue and 2nd Street, sits at the edge of the historic Edgartown neighborhood just north of downtown Fort Pierce. The restoration of the **Platts/Backus House** led to the restoration of other historic Edgartown homes including the fun and eclectic hangout, **Pierced Ciderworks** (which was once the home and studio of Harry Hill & family – the photographer that captured hundreds of photos of Fort Pierce just over 100 years ago).

We thank all those involved with this grant and with the work that will be done to help maintain this important historic structure. We would also like to thank all of the sponsors that pitched in to bring *Friday Fest* back, help us raise money at the golf tournament and the members and volunteers that support our efforts. It takes all of us — organizations, businesses, local government, downtown supporters, etc., to make our community thrive.

Father's Day is coming up this month. After the year of being apart, a great gift would be getting together to celebrate in downtown Fort Pierce. There are multiple restaurants, entertainment venues, and specialty retail shops to choose from. Gift cards for personalized local experiences and/or gifts are also a wonderful way to show appreciation for dad.

Come check out the new *Friday Fest* layout on June 4!

See you downtown! ♦



MAIN STREET FOCUS FORT PIERCE

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Contributing Writers Britt Anderson, Joanne Blandford, Michelle Cavalcanti, Michael Howard, Mayor Linda Hudson, Anne Satterlee, Holly Theuns, Doris Tillman, Laura Louise Tingo
Photography Mary Ann Ketcham, Valerie Krupa

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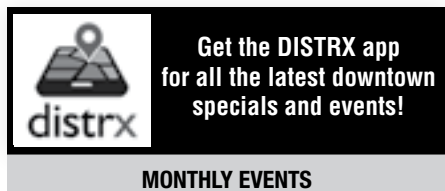
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Calendar

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



MONTHLY EVENTS

June 4, Friday: FRIDAY FEST AT MARINA SQUARE — 5 to 8:30 p.m.; Music by the *Big Coque Band*, sponsored by Cobbs Landing and Little Jims restaurants; **Please remove all vehicles from the permitted Friday Fest road closure area (Marina Way & Melody Lane) by 2:00 p.m.**; Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880; mainstreetfortpierce.org.

June 18, Friday: DOWNTOWN POKER STROLL — 4 to 8 p.m.; Downtown Fort Pierce; Hosted by The Cake Lady; see story on page 5.

June 18, Friday: ARTWALK — 5 to 8:00 p.m.; Various studios and shops open throughout the downtown area; artstlucie.org.

JULY

July 2, Friday: FRIDAY FEST AT MARINA SQUARE — 5 to 8:30 p.m.; Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880; mainstreetfortpierce.org.

July 4, Sunday: STARS OVER ST. LUCIE 4TH OF JULY FESTIVAL & FIREWORKS — Hosted by Main Street Fort Pierce, Sponsored by the *City of Fort Pierce*; *Main Street Fort Pierce*, 466-3880; mainstreetfortpierce.org.

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, jazzsociety.org.

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

LIVE MUSIC DOWNTOWN

Sailfish Brewing Company
Facebook/Sailfish Brewing Company

Pierced Cider

Facebook @piercedcider

Cobbs Landing

cobbs-landing.com

Bottom's Up Public House

facebook.com/bottomsuppublichouse

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772-461-4775 • sunrisetheatre.com

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

MANATEE OBSERVATION & EDUCATION CENTER

429-6266 • ManateeEducationCenter.org

SUNDAY DOWNTOWN CHURCH SERVICES

Common Ground Vineyard Church; 460-5414, commongroundvineyard.com.

First Church; 464-0440, firstchurchfp.org.

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

Notre-Dame Mission Catholic Church; 466-9617, notredamecc.com.

St. Andrews Episcopal Church (*founded 1893*); 461-5009 mystandrews.org.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

A.E. Backus Museum

772-465-0630 • backusmuseum.com

Bud Adams Gallery of Historical Photographs

772-462-1795
2nd Floor of P.P. Cobb Building

Downtown Fort Pierce Library

772-462-2787 • st-lucie.lib.fl.us

Fort Pierce Jazz & Blues Society

772-460-5299 • jazzsociety.org

Fort Pierce Police Athletic League

772-370-6162 • fortpiercepal.com
Volunteers needed: 772-466-0606

Fort Pierce RiverWalk Center

600 North Indian River Drive
772-489-6473 • cityoffortpierce.com

Fort Pierce Jazz & Blues Society

772-460-5299 • jazzsociety.org

Heathcote Botanical Gardens

772-464-4672
heathcotebotanicalgardens.org

Manatee Observation & Education Center

772-429-6266 • ManateeEducationCenter.org

National Navy UDT-SEAL Museum

772-595-5845 • navysealmuseum.org

St. Lucie County Marine Center

772-462-3474
stlucieco.gov/marine_center

St. Lucie County Regional History Center

772-462-1795 • stlucieco.gov/history

JUNE 3: FIRST U.S. SPACEWALK

JUNE 4: DONUT DAY

JUNE 5: WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

JUNE 6: D-DAY

JUNE 6: NATIONAL YO-YO DAY

JUNE 7: NATIONAL CHOCOLATE ICE CREAM DAY

JUNE 13: NATIONAL JUGGLING DAY

JUNE 13: NATIONAL LOBSTER DAY

JUNE 14: FLAG DAY

JUNE 14: POP GOES THE WEASEL DAY

JUNE 15: FLY A KITE DAY

JUNE 18: NATIONAL GO FISHING DAY

JUNE 19: JUNETEENTH

JUNE 20: FATHER'S DAY ←

JUNE 25: NATIONAL CATFISH DAY

JUNE 26: NATIONAL CHOCOLATE PUDDING DAY

JUNE 30: METEOR DAY

JUNE 25: AFRICA DAY

JUNE 25: NATIONAL WINE DAY

JUNE 31: MEMORIAL DAY

DAR Awards Historic Preservation Grants – Platts/Backus House

The **National Society Daughters of the American Revolution** has awarded their 2021–2022 *Historic Preservation Grants*. *Main Street Fort Pierce* was awarded a grant in the amount of \$4,725. The funds will be used towards restoration of the exterior of **Platts/Backus House** in Fort Pierce. The grant application was sponsored by the Cora Stickney Harper Chapter, NSDAR, in Fort Pierce and announced at the *Main Street Fort Pierce* annual meeting on May 5.

The Cora Stickney Harper Chapter, NSDAR, was also awarded a grant in the amount of \$250 to be used towards restoration of the bronze plaque marking the site of Fort Pierce which was originally placed by the Chapter in 1925.

The *DAR Historic Preservation Grant* program is an extremely competitive program. This year saw almost 150 applications requesting a combined total of more than \$900,000, nearly four times the \$250,000 total grant allocation.

To learn more about *DAR Historic Preservation* grants for your 501(c)(3) organization, and the vast array of women and their millions of hours of volunteerism through today's DAR, visit www.dar.org/TodaysDAR, or fssdar.org/CSH and Contact the Regent.



Britt Reynolds President, Main Street Fort Pierce; Lisa Potter Registrar & Historic Preservation Committee Chair, Cora Stickney Harper Chapter, NSDAR; Pat Bloomquist Vice-Regent & Regent-elect, Cora Stickney Harper Chapter, NSDAR; Linda Gallup Regent, Cora Stickney Harper Chapter, NSDAR; Nancy Ryder Chaplain-elect, Cora Stickney Harper Chapter, NSDAR. — Photo Courtesy Main Street Fort Pierce

Downtown Fort Pierce Poker Stroll – Texas Hold'Em

The *Downtown Fort Pierce Events Committee* is holding its first, of hopefully many, **Poker Strolls** on Friday, June 18th from 4–8 p.m., hosted by **The Cake Lady Custom Cakes**.

Each player will “ante up” and receive a map of all participating businesses (Dealers). Just stop in, show your official wristband and be dealt a card. Entries to win “the pot” are given for each hand. For example, the best hand, known as the “Royal Flush,” will receive 10 entries; a “three of a kind” would win seven tickets. The worst hand, or “the low hand,” only receives 1 ticket. The number of entries awarded is based on the 10 best Texas Hold'em poker hands.

Each player will receive a “cheat sheet” of the 10 best hands to make, so even those with no previous poker experience can enjoy the game.

Participation is just a \$5 “buy in” per person and the more players we have, the *bigger the pot!* Winner will be announced

live on The **Cake Lady Custom Cakes** Facebook page at 9 p.m. that night.

Players can “ante up” at **Chaney's House O'Flowers** located at 139 N. 2nd Street or at **The Cake Lady Custom Cakes** shop at 205 Orange Avenue. Visit enough businesses to build a hand, or visit them all to make the best possible hand from the cards your dealt. Once you have created your best hand, return to **The Cake Lady** to “show your hand” and receive your entries.

Some of the participating shops are, **The Cake Lady Custom Cakes**, **Chic & Shore**, **Notions & Potions**, **Legits Barber Shop**, **Varsity Sports**, **Whirled Inc.**, **2nd Street Bistro**, **Ocean Realty**, **Sailfish Brewery**, **Lorenzo's Italian Restaurant**, **Casa Azteca**, **Wasabi Thai Restaurant** and **Chaney's House of Flowers**. More business are “dealing in” daily. ♦

Mayor's Message Highwaymen License Plate Beautifies Fort Pierce

by Linda Hudson, Mayor, City of Fort Pierce



The Florida Highwaymen will have their own license plate with our help and support. This new Florida specialty plate must sell 3,000 in advance (by October 2022) before the plate becomes a permanent option.

A group of African-American artists based around Fort Pierce, in the 1960s and 1970s, became known as the *Highwaymen* because they sold their speedily-painted Florida landscapes out of their vehicles along the Florida highways. Poinciana trees (pictured

on the license plate), Florida backcountry, the Atlantic and the Indian River Lagoon, are all hallmarks of a Highwayman painting. Under the tutelage of Lincoln Park Academy art teacher

Zanobia Jefferson, and later famed Florida landscape artist A.E. "Beanie" Backus, Alfred Hair became one of the best known *Highwaymen* artists, this group of traveling art salesmen. There are 26 original *Highwaymen* in the *Florida Artists Hall of Fame*; Backus is also there, as well as Zora Neale Hurston, famed anthropologist and author.

The annual use fees from the sale of the *Florida Highwaymen* license plate will be distributed to the City of Fort Pierce and will go toward local school art programs and the creation of a *Highwaymen Museum and African-*

American Cultural Center on Avenue D in Fort Pierce. Doretha Hair Truesdell, who was married to Alfred Hair, when he was killed at the age of 29 in 1970, currently lives in Fort Pierce, is an artist and supports the *Highwaymen* license plate. Truesdell and artist, Anita Prentice, collaborate on selling their art annually under the sponsorship of *Main Street*.

Florida began using motor vehicle plates to raise money for a particular cause with the 1987 Challenger plate, which raised money for a memorial to the space shuttle astronauts. The state currently offers more than 120 specialty plates; the

number fluctuates as the plates drop below the 1,000 registrations needed to stay in print and others join the list once they generate the 3,000 requests needed before the state will offer a plate.

To get a specialty license plate, drivers pay an annual fee between \$15 and \$25 on top of registration costs. The extra money goes to organizations dedicated to the cause the plate promotes. The organizations may not spend more than 10% of funds on administrative and promotion costs. The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles said as of April 2021 there were 1.7 million specialty plates on Florida vehicles.

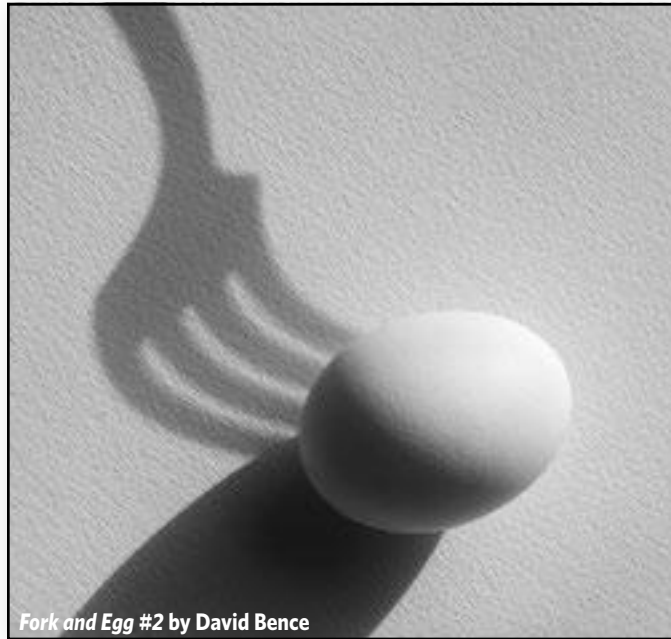
Order your plate here: <https://myfloridaspecialtyplate.com/highwaymenorder.html>. ♦



Main Street Fort Pierce Annual Meeting and Celebration, May 5, 2021



Backus Museum Announces the Artist Awards for the Annual Juried Exhibition *Through the Eye of the Camera*



Fork and Egg #2 by David Bence

This year's Through the Eye of the Camera exhibition features 103 of the year's best photographs from professional and amateur photographers alike. The exhibition will be on view May 7 through June 18, 2021 at 500 North Indian River Drive in Historic Downtown Fort Pierce.

This year there were 72 artists who submitted 179 entries in one of four new categories: (1) Animal subjects; (2) Flora & Landscape subjects; (3) People/Portrait subjects; or (4) Open, for subjects that are not included in the three major categories. There are no longer categories for how images are captured, manipulated, or how they are presented. In addition to Best of Show, Director's Choice, People's Choice, and 1st/2nd/3rd in the category awards, there is a new "Best Black & White Photograph" and "Best Film / Traditional RAW Photograph" awards.

The top 8 award winners for 2021 are:



The Relic by Mark Smith



Eagle Ray Rising by Richard West



Mommy Loves Me Best by Maureen Mackenzie

OUR PHILOSOPHY

For a Bonsai Tree to thrive, its roots and crown must be meticulously nurtured and groomed.

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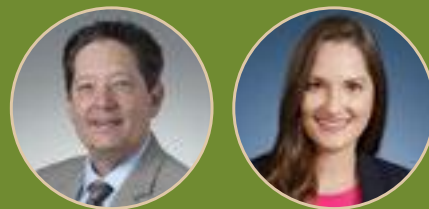
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BEST OF SHOW – "Orange Splash" by Manuel Carel, Port St. Lucie.

FIRST PLACE ANIMALS – "The Gift" by Joe Campanellie, Palm Coast.

FIRST PLACE FLORA & LANDSCAPE – "The Way" by Susan Pantuso, Fort Pierce.

FIRST PLACE PEOPLE/PORTRAIT – "The Relic" by Mark Smith, Port St. Lucie.

FIRST PLACE OPEN – "Fork and Egg #2" by David Bence, Vero Beach.

BEST BLACK & WHITE PHOTOGRAPH – "Running Free" by Joe Campanellie, Palm Coast.

BEST FILM/TRADITIONAL RAW PHOTOGRAPH – "Golden Pod Series #7" by Jim Swallow, St. Petersburg.

DIRECTOR'S CHOICE – "Easy Breezy" by Chris Schumacher, Vero Beach.

During the exhibition on view through June 18, visitors are invited to share their own vote for their favorite work on display. The results will be counted for the annual "People's Choice Award" given at the close of the exhibition.

"This year's competition is a triumphant return," says Museum executive director J. Marshall Adams. "In 2020 we were never able to issue the April call to artists due to the pandemic. With no physical exhibition possible, we did our pivot to a

Continued on page 10 ...

BACKUS ... continued from page 9

social media project called #EyeAmCreative. That was fun, but it's exciting to get back to presenting a full exhibition for people to safely enjoy."

The competition is fierce for this exhibition and every year cash prizes are awarded for the most compelling pieces selected by the judges. Each year a new jury panel is assembled to provide a fresh perspective on the competition. This year's judges include:

Zora Carrier, Ph.D. Executive Director, Florida Museum of Photographic Arts | Tampa. Zora Carrier is an accomplished art educator. She received her Ph.D. in Education from Comenius University in Bratislava, Slovak Republic in 1989. In 2002, she co-founded and was director of Gallery Art Factory in Prague, Czech Republic, a not-for-profit institution presenting modern and contemporary art. In 2006, she founded the Open Concept Gallery in Grand Rapids, Michigan, where, as director, she managed art projects and art education programming. Before becoming the Director of the Florida Museum of Photographic Arts, Carrier consulted on educational opportunities.

Mike Hinkle Principal, Krahinkle Photography Group | Fort Pierce. Mike Hinkle became interested in photography in the 1970s, working at **Corso's Jiffy Photo Center** in Fort Pierce. He eventually purchased the store with his partner Jon Kral in 1977, and continued the business as one of Florida's oldest independent photography stores until his retirement in 2020. For more than forty years, Hinkle has been a knowledgeable expert instructing in the use of and selling photographic equipment, teaching classes, setting up demonstrations for schools, camera clubs, and law enforcement agencies ... all the while trying to find time to snap a few photos in between.

Jayanti Seiler Professor of Photography, Southeast Center for Photographic Studies | Daytona State College. Jayanti Seiler received her Master of Fine Arts Degree in Photography from the University of Florida and her Bachelor of

Fine Arts from the Rhode Island School of Design. Seiler has been a professional photographer for over 20 years, and she is an Associate Professor at Daytona State College in Florida. Her work has gained national and international recognition at the Southeast Museum of Photography, the Museum of Contemporary Art Georgia, Workspace Gallery, Chiang Mai University Art Museum, Harvard University, and in The New York Times LENS.

For a complete list of all photos selected for this year's exhibition, please visit BackusMuseum.com.

All dates and programming subject to change; please check the website for any updates or cancellations.

Please note that at press time we are unable to plan for traditional exhibition opening receptions due to mass gathering limitations during the coronavirus public health crisis.

Regular Season Hours through June 18 are: Wednesday – Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Sunday, 12 to 4 p.m. (closed Monday-Tuesday). Admission is \$5 per person; AARP, AAA, and Veterans with appropriate ID receive a \$2 discount. Students with school ID, children under 18, active-duty military, and current members are always free. Visitors are asked to wear face coverings and practice social distancing for the safety and comfort of guests, staff, and volunteers. ❖



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Owner

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nick@rainsinsurance.com

VERO BEACH - FORT PIERCE

Fort Pierce Yacht Club News

by Diane Korbey, Commodore

What a privilege it is to live in a community with a Class A inlet! Personally, my husband and I did not give it much thought when we relocated to Fort Pierce, but we quickly learned that the benefits to us were monumental. First, so many sailing friends came to visit us as so many of them entered Florida through the Fort Pierce Inlet — five years before re-locating here, we re-entered the U.S. after eight years of cruising the Caribbean through the Fort Pierce Inlet from the Bahamas. And then the benefit of being able to use offshore waters with ease. Now that we are here almost 20 years, we use the Inlet for recreational purposes a couple of times a month for offshore sailing and racing. And as we transit the Intracoastal Waterway and observe other inlets along Florida's east coast, we have realized how very privileged we are.

When confronted then with the opportunity as a yacht club to celebrate this great gift, it occurred to us that the **Fort Pierce Yacht Club's** greatest contribution would be to encourage other boaters to become more active on our waterways by enabling them with knowledge of sailboat racing, and sail and power cruising. We commenced our celebration with offering the community an update on the U.S. Sailing Racing Rules, a workshop meant to encourage all to under-



stand the rules and through that understanding, join in this wonderful sport, enhanced by our ability to race offshore by the existence of the Fort Pierce Inlet. We attracted several members of our community anxious to take advantage of this opportunity. **Fort Pierce Yacht Club** offers community-wide sailboat racing monthly, generally held the third weekend of each month. Check our Facebook page or www.fortpierceyachtclub.com for details.

For those less inclined to race sailboats, we offered a workshop where all attendees could share information on Cruising Florida, north to the next major ports of St. Augustine, Jacksonville and then Charleston, across the Okeechobee to the west coast cruising areas, and then east and north back to Fort Pierce. Again, armed with knowledge shared, we hoped to encourage more boaters to leave their docks. The fishing tournament celebrated another recreational benefit of the Fort Pierce Inlet: who has not loved watching the outgoing competitors in the periodic tournaments held locally?

Thanks to all who realized 100 years ago that connecting our city to the ocean was a priority so that we today not only share the enormous economic benefits but also its recreational value. ❖



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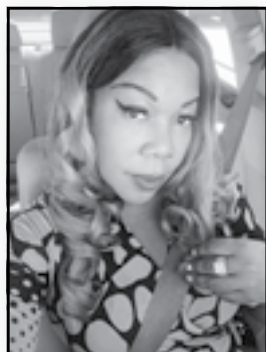
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Patricia Patterson is a Fort Pierce native that believes in self-reliance and after the birth of her daughter, she left her law firm job and used her experience and knowledge to start a home-based business. “I had business signs made and stuck them in my yard. I made business cards and put them everywhere. I wanted to be home with

my daughter for those first two important years.” Patricia, a degreed paralegal and licensed realtor, used some of her business savings to open an office in the historic **Arcade Building** (now called **Kraaz Square**). It wasn’t always easy but Patricia’s motivation and entrepreneurial spirit kept her client list growing.

Patricia and her three siblings were raised in Fort Pierce. Her parents worked hard to provide their children with all the necessities and many wants. She was a daddy’s girl and always wanted to make her parents proud. She attended Fort Pierce Central High School where she was a flag-girl in the FPC marching band. After high school, she attended the Fort Pierce Police Academy “LE50.” Once she completed the police academy, she attended Indian River Community College where she sustained high honors and earned her legal assisting degree. From there she went on to attend FAU in Boca Raton for Paralegal Studies. “My dad, Eugene Patterson Jr., (R.I.P.) was so proud of me. The joy in his eyes after I received my degree was unforgettable.”

She worked for several law firms before opening her own business providing legal document services for clients including help with wills, trusts, custody, child support, health care surrogates, Power of Attorney, bankruptcy, immigration, and notary services. In

2018 she expanded her skills. “Becoming a realtor has always been on my bucket list.” In August 2018, she became a Realtor with Keller Williams of Port St. Lucie. Her logo is “A Florida Native selling Florida Homes.”

Her office in **Kraaz Square** is a charming location where she can help her clients with their document and/or realty needs in a professional and private space. It is also a convenient location, being in the heart of downtown Fort Pierce and right around the corner from the Clerk of Courts office and the St. Lucie County & Federal Courthouses.

Patricia encourages other entrepreneurs as the former owner of the **Arcade** building, Robert “Bob” Brackett encouraged her. “The few talks we had really encouraged me to keep up the fight when I was about to give up. He always reminded me that **Waste Pro** started in the same small office where I am. I don’t even know if he knows how much I appreciated those kind words.” To other entrepreneurs she offers this advice — “I believe that certain people are cut out for certain things, and if you feel it in your gut, go for it! It does get tough, but the strong survive.”

What began as a way to be with her young daughter has grown into a career for Patricia. “I truly believe opening my own business was one of the best decisions I ever made.”

TAPS Multi Services is located at 101 N US 1, Ste. 112 and is open Monday to Thursday 10a.m. to 4 p.m.; Fridays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; and Saturdays by appointment only. For more information, visit Tapsmultiservices.com and/or Patriciapatterson@kw.com. Facebook page, Patricia Patterson, Realtor; Instagram, Patricia Patterson, Realtor; LinkedIn, Patricia A. Patterson; Realtor.com, Patricia A. Patterson, Realtor.

TAPS Multi Service “You name it, we can prepare it!” Phone 772-461-9524; Fax: 772-461-9527; Email: tap-paralegalserv@bellsouth.net. ❖



Boys and Girls Club Brings Fishing for Futures to the Manatee Center

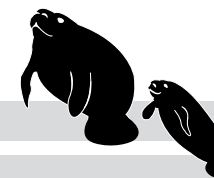
by Rachel Tennant, MOEC Manager

The Boys and Girls Club **3rd Annual Fishing for Futures** tournament will be held at the **Manatee Observation and Education Center** with emphasis on a free *Family Day* event open to the public. On Saturday, June 12th, the Boys and Girls Club will host an in-shore and off-shore fishing tournament that serves as a fundraiser for St. Lucie County Boys and Girls Clubs. From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. that day, enjoy free admission to the **Manatee Center** as well as an assortment of crafts, educational games, and guest exhibitors like the Children’s Museum bringing hands-on activities for a day of family fun. *Family Day* is open to the public, and you do not need to be a tournament participant to join.

The mission of the Boys and Girls Club is to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens. The mission of the **Manatee Observation and Education Center** is to promote understanding and responsible actions for the protection of the Treasure Coast’s fragile ecosystems and their inhabitants. Together these two organizations will bring a fun and educational fundraiser to Downtown Fort Pierce, empowering our local youth with hands-on environmental education.

This partner event represents an effort by the **Manatee Center** to connect with our community and reach as many local community members — kids and adults alike — as possible. We emphasize hands-on environmental learning with a full-time educator dedicated to bringing environmental education to camps and schools, as well as hosting camps and schools at the Center.

The **Manatee Center** is grateful for the opportunity to bring this event to you alongside the St. Lucie County Boys and Girls Club, 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 Wren Underwood at Volunteer@Manatee-EducationCenter.org. And remember that all purchases at the **Vanishing Mermaid Gift Shop** support the **Manatee Center** and our mission. ❖



The Manatee Center June Events

*** SEASON HOURS IN EFFECT:
MOEC IS OPEN TUESDAY TO SATURDAY
10 A.M.–5 P.M., SUNDAY 12 P.M.–4 P.M. ***

Friday, June 11th at 12:00 p.m.

Ocean Science for a Better World: Celebrating 50 Years of Discovery

Lunch & Learn — Join us for a free presentation at the Manatee Center led by Dr. Jim Masterson, of Florida Atlantic University’s Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute. You’ll learn about Harbor Branch’s history, collections, and education.

Bring your lunch and bring a friend. *Free Event.*

Saturday, June 12th

Fishing for Futures Tournament and Family Day at the Manatee Center! Join us for a special Boys and Girls Club fundraiser and free family day with free admission to the Manatee Center plus hourly activities, crafts, and family-friendly exhibitors from

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. *Free Event.*



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Links Formed Between Local Business Owners & St. Lucie Public Schools to Provide Future Opportunities for Both

by *Aliesha Seitz*

St. Lucie Public Schools partnership with *Main Street Fort Pierce* goes back to the first *Kitchen Krawl* connecting downtown Fort Pierce businesses to the high and middleschool culinary programs. Nine culinary teachers toured eight restaurants: **Importico Bakery**, **Uncle Carlo's Gelato**, **Taco Dive**, **2nd Street Bistro**, **Subway**, **Sunrise City Café**, **The Bradford** and the **Cake Lady**.

Doris Tillman and Michelle Cavalcanti organized the whirlwind tour after school with kitchen tours, sampling flagship dishes, hearing historical tidbits, and moving on to the next stop. The group was thrilled to see Fort Pierce Central and Westwood West Prep culinary graduates in action, one as hostess and one as a downtown restaurant owner!

Teachers loved the fast-paced event, hospitality shown, making connections, hearing each restaurant's story and employment needs. Restaurants loved hearing that students learn culinary skills and take the ServSafe Industry Certification exam before graduating high school.

The partnership continues with future collaborations planned for local students' cultural recipe book highlighting herbs and unique, cultural recipes. Teachers are merging the recipe book into their cultural, ethnic cooking units taught in the last nine weeks of school. Look for more to come next year on *Main Street Fort Pierce* students' cultural recipe book. ❖



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PHOTOGRAPHY BY ANDREA PHILLIPS



A Huge Welcome to the Fort Pierce Trader's Market

by Lisa Jill Allison, Lisa Jill Allison Art Gallery



I have loved the 111 Orange Avenue building for years. She has been my solace, my creative space, my confident during life

changing events and my grandson's first exposure to the world of art. She, the **One Eleven Building**, has played many roles in her downtown Fort Pierce life, having a mighty long life at that. The history of The **One Eleven Building** is worth a Google search.

Now, much to my delight and to the delight of all those who love interesting, healthy, diverse items and experiences, The **One Eleven Building** will be the new home of the **Fort Pierce Trader's Market**. With lofty ceilings and, I might add, a great view of **Lisa Jill Allison Art Gallery** above on the mezzanine, and with huge translucent marble walls that are delightfully tickled by the sun, and a decor to revel in, fine-tuned by the owner Daniel Cedeno, you will immediately have your senses excited for the experiences unfolding.

This will be an exciting new venue for downtown Fort Pierce. I have been here for 30 plus years and cannot remember a one-stop dining and shopping experience like this. I am so very excited to skip many trips to the grocery, to be able to truly support local, and to never cook again! I have personally experience Daniel Cedeno's expertise in the kitchen. Healthy, perfectly seasoned and diverse are thoughts that come to mind. Now, let's hear the details directly from the "man with the plan."

So, Daniel, what will you carry?

We will open up as a small grocery store and café, focusing on local, organic, and healthy products. Our fruits and produce are sourced from a variety of Florida farms, including some here on



the Treasure Coast. We'll have a plenty of protein options from beef to fish, all responsibly sourced and, as always, local and organic. Browsing through our aisles you'll find all the basic necessities and then some, but with more options for all types of diets. What we're really excited about is all the local products we'll have the opportunity to showcase. These are products that I have personally been testing and trying out. They're super local, and if you see them on our

shelves, they are or do whatever they say they are or do: Native Armor, HHH Organics, The Farmer and The Baker, Collab Farms, Hani Honey, Christina's Clean Creations, Epic Bread Company, and Mini Sun Kitchen just to name a few. In the grocery store we have a café that will mirror the products you see in our store and offers a fusion menu serving breakfast, lunch, and dinner with items like sweet potato waffles, classic breakfast sandwiches, quinoa stir fry, tuna nachos, burgers, grilled skewers, curried sausage, Korean BBQ ribs, etc. Included in all the fun is our merch store where we will carry beach towels, bathing suits, t-shirts, hats, sunblock and everything else you might need to have fun on beautiful beaches that are only five minutes away. Everything in our store will be available to order online for pick up or delivery.

What will your hours be?

We will be open 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday to Friday and 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

How does this play into community interaction?

Having opened our first business in downtown Fort Pierce almost two years ago, we have already the great pleasure to be a part of this community. We get involved in as many community functions, meetings, charities, and projects as our schedules allow and for many reasons our desire to do so only grows. So, with the new project we are super excited to not only be involved but maybe even host events for the community to enjoy.

What will the back space on 2nd Avenue be used for?

The "back area" which actually has its own entrance with a different address but is connected to what is considered to be the front entrance to the **One Eleven Building**, which gets its name from the address of that front entrance, 111 Orange Avenue in Fort Pierce. We plan to finish construction on that address and open the connection to the grocery side sometime next year and it will be a multimedia center again focusing on health and local community. You'll be able to sign up for Yoga, Pilates, and Zumba classes here and also rent the space out for small parties or corporate events.

Tell us a little bit about your family history and who you are partnering with.

We're all about family here at **Fort Pierce Trader's Market**. There are four owners of this company and most of us have known and done business with each other for 20 years or so. Jorge Cedeno and his son Daniel Cedeno, who is the Executive Chef are two of the owners along with JP Burke and Sylvia Soto. All of the owners are hands-on with this project, meaning they will have working manager roles in this store, so you can expect to see them there when you are shopping. We all have a critical skill that contributes to the operation of the business which is why this was such a no-brainer for us to work together. Daniel who has worked in kitchens for the last decade and then some, comes most recently from a company

called Restaurant Partners Inc, where he worked his way to becoming Executive Chef at one of the properties they managed and gained most of the skills he uses today to run his three business in downtown Fort Pierce, which are **Main Street Ice Cream** (opening this month), **Glass Culture**, and **Fort Pierce Trader's Market** (opening this coming June). Daniel considers it a true blessing to have had both his past experiences with his previous employer and his most recent experiences with his own companies. Born in New Jersey and moved to Florida when he was nine years old, Daniel considers himself a Florida local. Jorge Cedeno (Daniel's father) and his wife are both from Chone, Ecuador and this region is where Daniel pulls a lot of his flavors from. Daniel says "it's great base of flavors to start with, mix with other region's flavors and create amazing fusion dishes."

Please share one sentence that sums up your feelings on this store/café in Fort Pierce

We are super excited and humbled at the opportunity to provide something for the community and in sense by the community.

Finally, what is the contact information for Fort Pierce Trader's Market?

We're **Fort Pierce Trader's Market** on Facebook and Instagram and our phone number is 772-241-5112.

Once again, all I can say, is does it get any better than this?! ❖




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Love, JAZZ Community: It's Who You Know

by Don Bestor

If we have heard it once, nearly all of us have heard it at least a hundred times, "It's not what you know, it's who you know" that matters. And while "what you know" is, indeed, an important part of being a success in life, there is no denying

that having a connection or two along the way is a huge help. If you think back on your own life, you can probably think of at least a few times when you landed a job interview or important gig simply because you were connected by a friend, relative, or friend of a friend. From the moment we are born, being connected is a basic human need. The members of Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society understand that need for making connections, and they also understand the importance of sharing those connections with others. That's part of our mission as a group;



not only do we connect with other seasoned, successful, professional musicians from around the country, we help connect aspiring young musicians with them, too.

Every year, in an effort to help young musicians develop

and grow in their passion for music, our members traverse the entire Treasure Coast, visiting high school music programs, working with music directors, and sharing our time, talent, and connections with the next generation of world-class musicians. We set up master classes, work one-to-one with aspiring, young musicians, and do our best to mentor and help make those critical connections that help build dreams, inspire goals, and launch careers. Each of us at Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society benefited from musicians who came before

us, and we know our responsibility is to pay it forward and share those gifts with others, too.

The last year has been challenging for all of us, and music programs have been hit especially hard by the Coronavirus pandemic. With schools being closed and virtual learning being the norm, many music programs in the area had no choice but to temporarily shut down. Of course, that means there were no in-person master classes, one-to-one lessons, or opportunities for us to provide face-to-face mentoring and help encourage important connections. Now that things are beginning to edge back towards normal, we want to redouble our efforts to help young musicians on the Treasure Coast, but we need your help.

If you know a high school music director, band or choir director, or music teacher in St. Lucie, Indian River, or



Martin Counties, we'd love for you to help us renew our own connections with them. We'd love to offer our skills as professional musicians, mentors, and connectors to help inspire the next generation. Please take a moment right now to call or email us with the name and contact info of a music education professional in your area who might welcome a visit from a group of seasoned, professional musicians willing to share skills, tips, and connections.

It won't cost you a penny, but it could change the life trajectory of an aspiring young musician just as the connection who helped you get that killer job interview helped alter yours. You can reach us by phone at 772.460.JAZZ (5299) or via email at info@jazzsociety.org. Thank you for paying it forward, sharing your time, and helping make that critical connection. ♦



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TREASURES OF THE PAST

100 years ago this month as reported in the Tuesday, June 14, 1921 edition of the Miami Herald

Two Yachts Being Built at Ft. Pierce

Backus and Son, local boat builders, have contracted for the construction of a 45-foot and a 38-foot yacht, actual work being now under way on the latter. The 38-foot yacht is being built for W.A. Weihe of West Palm Beach for party fishing purposes in the waters of that section. It will be on the sea skiff pattern, with raised deck cabin, powered with 100-horse power engine. The 45-foot craft, which is also to be used for party fishing purposes, is to be built for R.H. Magwood of Miami. It will be of the raised deck cruiser design, powered by twin 40-horse power engines and valued at about \$7,000 when completed. Though Backus and Son build many boats and sea skiffs, such large yachts are rather unusual, and the fact that they are able to turn them out complete and ready for use is a distinct credit to their shop and to the town.

100 years ago this month as reported in the Tuesday, June 14, 1921 edition of the Tampa Times

“Can Tourists” Taboo Fort Pierce has Failed to Set Aside “Camping Ground”

“Tin Can” tourists will be without a place to camp here next winter unless the municipal authorities set aside a site to take the place of the ground used last year. The owner of the site has withdrawn the camping privilege because, he said, he found his property in an insanitary condition. The opinion is expressed in some quarters that if another camp site is provided it should be maintained under the constant supervision of a man appointed for the purpose.

75 years ago this month as reported in the Sunday, June 30, 1946 edition of the Miami Herald

Fort Pierce Ready to Install Meters

Parking meters are soon to be installed in Fort Pierce. Contract for the machines was awarded by the city commission several months ago, the standards have already arrived, and the 300 meters are expected shortly. Meanwhile, streets are being marked off for the installation.

50 years ago this month as reported in the Saturday, June 26, 1971 edition of the Orlando Sentinel

Big July 4 Events Due In St. Lucie

The biggest, loudest, most exciting Fourth of July in the history of St. Lucie County has been promised by Noel Kersey, publicity chairman for the Jaycee’s celebration here and the Port St. Lucie Junior Woman’s Club.

It all begins with the annual Soap Box Derby parade July 3 through downtown Fort Pierce at noon.

July 4 trial runs begin at 12:30 p.m. at the 7th Street race course and at 1:30, the final parade.

At 2 the official race begins, with entries from as far away as Jacksonville and West Palm Beach. There are girls entered for the first time in history – four of them.

At Jaycee Park on Fort Pierce south beach a fish fry begins at noon and will continue until 8 p.m., with games and a dunking machine operating from noon to 3 p.m.

Richard Johnson, the world champion water skier from Cypress Gardens, will put on a spectacular water show at 3:30. He takes a Delta Wing kite up to 1,000 feet and gives a demonstration performance. Jaycee chairman Ed Lounds said this is Johnson’s last appearance in this country before taking off on a European tour.



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More games are scheduled from 5 p.m. to dark, with a bike race and a color TV giveaway featured. The awards banquet for the soap box derby winners follows at 6 p.m.

The traditional grand climax will be a \$2,000 fireworks display at the Jaycee Park at dark, under the direction of Fred Ebner.

25 years ago this month as reported in the Sunday, June 23, 1996 edition of the Palm Beach Post (page 363)

Revitalizing Community Gives CEO Big Returns

After a full day at Harbor Federal Savings Bank in Fort Pierce, CEO Michael Brown Sr. was heading to a meeting of Mainstreet Fort Pierce. From there, he planned to rush over to a meeting of the county school board. The next night, he had a meeting of investors interested in improving downtown Fort Pierce. Then Saturday, he offered to help out with the chamber of commerce’s fishing tournament.



“If you sit around and wonder why things aren’t better,” says the 55-year-old banker, “you get what you deserve.”

Sitting around is foreign to Brown. His volunteer activities include serving on the boards for the St. Lucie County Chamber of Commerce and the Florida Bankers Association. He’s a lector at St. Anastasia Catholic Church. He ran Jeb Bush’s campaign in St. Lucie County and started a group to encourage investment in downtown Fort Pierce. As president of Mainstreet Fort Pierce, he devoted more than 20 hours a week for the past year toward improving his community.

Of his many activities, Brown gets the most satisfaction from his membership on the board of Neighborhood Housing Services. The public and private alliance revitalizes blighted neighborhoods in Fort Pierce. Brown takes pride in his group’s success in transforming a block along Atlantic Avenue.

“It was a bad neighborhood with a crack house,” Brown says. “We turned it into a substantially improved residential neighborhood.”

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Understand Your Finances and Grow Your Business

Take advantage of SBA tools to meet your small business's financial goals

by Mark Madrid, Associate Administrator, SBA Office of Entrepreneurial Development, published on www.sba.gov



Understanding your finances is key to small business success. With small businesses across America still recovering from the impacts of the pandemic, financial literacy is more important now than ever.

Financial Literacy Month was first established in 2004 to encourage Americans

to learn about finance best practices and to boost their financial well-being. It can also serve as a reminder to take stock of your overall financial outlook and set finance-related goals — whether that's to obtain a loan, increase your revenue, or learn more about business taxes. Chances are, there's an SBA resource that can help you take the next steps toward achieving your goal.

To highlight three immediate educational resources to tap into, please consider the following:

A local business advisor — SBA resource partners can also help you get a clearer picture of your finances. One topic many small business owners work with resource partners on is preparing to apply for a small business loan. Resource partners can help you review your business plan, organize tax return documents and bank statements, and complete other important tasks before your loan application is sent to your lender.

Free online classes — For training on any small business topic, the SBA's Learning Center and new Ascent platform provide readily available expert insights. An essential course for early-stage businesses is the *Financing Your Business* course. This course outlines various funding options, including loans, grants, venture capital, and crowdfunding, and concludes with a downloadable worksheet to help you assess your own financial needs.

Financial advice for every area of life — SBA is a proud member of the Financial Literacy and Education Commission,

and fully supports the well-being of all individuals and small business employers. While special projects like Money Smart for Small Business (MSSB) (a joint curriculum of SBA and FDIC) provides an introduction to topics related to starting and managing a business, the FLEC-sponsored website MyMoney.gov is full of financial literacy resources for students, retirees, and more.

SBA-Guaranteed Loans and Lender Match

SBA-guaranteed loans are often an ideal funding option for small business owners who are creditworthy but don't qualify for conventional financing. SBA works with participating lenders to reduce their risk, increasing the likelihood your loan will be approved with the terms that work best for you.

If you decide SBA-guaranteed loans are a good fit for your business, SBA makes it easy for you to connect with lenders via our Lender Match tool. Lender Match is SBA's free online referral program that connects small businesses with more than 800 participating SBA-approved lenders.

To get started, just answer a few questions about your business. Then, you'll receive an email with contact information from lenders who have expressed interest in your loan. From there, you'll be able to compare rates, terms, fees, and more. Visit www.sba.gov/lending-programs/loans/lender-match to get started.

Community Navigators being launched soon!

In the immediate future, we are expanding our reach through an even more expansive network of business coaches, called "Community Navigators." Navigators will accelerate information, education, training, and mentoring for small businesses in rural, underserved, and tribal communities. Please stay up-to-date by visiting sba.gov/navigators.

Whatever your financial goals for your business, SBA is here to help you get to your next step with personalized guidance and tested tools and resources. Learn more at sba.gov. ❖



Summer Fishing Tips

by Bo Samuels, Captain of Pullin Drag Charters

Summer is here again and as the weather warms up so does the fishing, especially for snapper and mahi. Mangroves, lanes, and muttons are plentiful on the offshore reefs in 50–100 feet, but you can also target them along the mangroves and at cuts with good current. Frozen bait will work but live bait is best and since they are aggressive feeders, it's ideal to use a chum bag. Whether live bait or some cut-up frozen, keep bait on the bottom with enough weight and be ready for some action. Mangroves must be 10" total length, lanes must be 8" total length, and muttons must be 18" total length to keep for dinner. All three have a year-round season.

For mahi mahi, or dolphin fish, it's best to troll using fresh ballyhoo, naked or skirted, at about 80 foot or more. Weed lines and floating structures are great places to find the mahi and since they are schooling fish, if you catch one be ready for more as the school should be close by. Once you get one hooked, hold on tight and be prepared for some acrobatic runs and jumps. Hopefully, all you need to do after that is decide how to cook it up back on land.

This month the *Treasure Coast Lionfish Safari* should be held at Causeway Cove Marina. Check their Facebook page for details.



Thanks to everyone who fished the **Inlet 100th Anniversary Fishing Tournament** last month and thanks to **Little Jim Bait & Tackle** for hosting it! I was glad to be a sponsor along with **Little Jim, ZF Custom Rods**, and the **Backcountry Fishing Association**.

Time to go fishing! Call me and let's get *Pullin Drag*!

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Recipes from My Roots

Makawoni au Graten (Haitian Macaroni and Cheese)

A few years ago, while attending a National *Main Street* Conference in Seattle Washington we visited a center where a multi-cultural group of women started a Café by blending dishes from the many countries they were from. I purchased a cookbook and shared it with Dana Caputo who is the Program Specialist for Career and Technical Education with the St. Lucie Public Schools. *Main Street Fort Pierce* has worked on several projects with the school Culinary Programs. Meeting virtually with the teachers, we decided to create a multicultural cookbook using students' recipes. As the cookbook project comes together for Fall 2021, we are sharing some student recipes from their family culture and the student's feelings about the recipe. We hope you enjoy an excerpt from Recipes from *My Roots*!

—Doris Tillman, Director, *Main Street Fort Pierce*

Rich Lajeune is a student at Fort Pierce Central High School and participates in the Culinary Program. Rich's recipe is Makawoni au Graten, Haitian Macaroni and Cheese. Rich tells us, "Home means a lot to me; it brings

closure knowing that you are in a safe environment with people who know you and are similar in a way to you. People who come to mind are my family. Peppers and onions come to my mind as well. Places that come up are in Broward and Miami, as I have family ties there and many Haitians populate those areas. A time I felt most connected to my roots was during Haitian Independence Day with my family. I was in Broward with my cousins, aunts and uncles. We were playing Haitian music, eating Haitian food and just having good quality time with each other. I identify with Haitian spaghetti, macaroni, griot (pork), and rice and chicken. I identify with them the most because of how they make me feel and the vivid memories of me eating them ever since I could remember. A specific memory I have with Haitian macaroni was one that was made recently. A couple months ago my aunt and cousins came over to celebrate my birthday, until that point, I was always picky, so I never wanted to try macaroni because of the peppers and onions and other things. But I decided to stop being picky and try it and that was a choice I did not regret!"

Recipe from www.LoveforHaitianfood.com

- 2 (16oz) packs of rigatoni or penne pasta
- 16 cups of water
- 1½ teaspoons seasoned salt
- 2 tablespoons of butter
- 2 (12 oz) cans evaporated milk
- ½ cup finely chopped onions
- 1/3 cup finely chopped bell peppers
- 1 garlic clove (crushed)
- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 2 cups grated parmesan cheese
- 3 cups Gouda (Dutch) cheese

In a large pot, salt the 16 cups of water & bring to a boil. Once boiling add pasta and allow it to cook for 10–15 minutes or until al dente. Drain and set pasta aside. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.

In the same pot, on medium heat, saute butter, garlic, onions, and bell peppers for 1–2 minutes or until visibly tender.

Add pasta to sauteed ingredients, along with 1 can of evaporated milk and mix well. Then add seasoned salt, mayonnaise, 1 cup grated parmesan, 2 cups gouda and remaining can of evaporated milk to pasta, continue to mix. Salt to taste.

Pour pasta mixture into a 15-inch x 10-inch x 2-inch rectangular baking dish, sprinkle remaining cup of Parmesan and Gouda cheese on top layer. Place pan on the middle rack in oven uncovered and bake for 45 minutes to 1 hour or until top is golden brown. Let sit for 10 minutes before serving.



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