



Volume 17, No. 6

January, 2022


FOCUS

The Official Monthly Newspaper of Main Street Fort Pierce



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Mayor Linda Hudson invites you to join her for Community News, Special Announcements, Complimentary Coffee, Orchid Island Juice, Breakfast Treats, and more!

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year!

by Britt Reynolds



Every new year brings new adventures, experiences and opportunities. This is also true for the business owners and patrons of downtown Fort Pierce. We gained several new unique businesses in 2021. Vacant storefronts were replaced with boutiques, salons, art galleries, eateries and personal service businesses. Each small business enhances our downtown and creates a vibrancy that attracts more entrepreneurs. We encourage all of you to support the new and established merchants of downtown Fort Pierce. Let's make a 2022 resolution to strengthen our local economy by supporting the employees and merchants that have invested in our community as frequently as possible.


Fort Pierce is one of south Florida's oldest communities. What drew early residents of the area to establish Fort

Pierce was its access to the waterfront. The public has easy access to the Indian River Lagoon all along our downtown area. There are many adventures to be had with local businesses and non-profits that take place on the water. Fishing charters, dolphin and marine life tours, kayaking, paddle boarding, and boat rentals offer visitors and locals the chance to experience the beauty and bounty that our local waterways possess. Enjoy all our area has to offer by getting out on the water as much as possible this year.

There are several aquariums, museums and performance venues in and around downtown. If you are here for the season or have visitors in town, these are great places to visit. Check out St. Lucie County's online visitor's guide and the St. Lucie County Chamber's **Seven Gables Visitor Center** for information about our local attractions.

Exciting changes are coming this year to the Port of Fort Pierce and with the **King's Landing** development. These will both bring new opportunities and businesses to our area that will enhance yet embrace the historic footprint established long ago. One of the greatest aspects of our downtown is that it continues to evolve to keep up with the present and ensure its future, yet it maintains the charm that connects it with its past.

Come eat, shop and play in beautiful, historic downtown Fort Pierce in 2022! ♦



Volume 17, No. 6 January 2022

Publisher Main Street Fort Pierce Inc.
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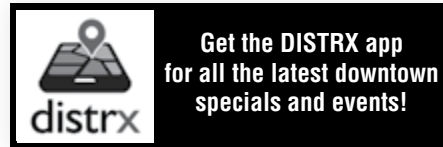
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Calendar

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



MONTHLY EVENTS

January 7, Friday: FRIDAY FEST AT MARINA SQUARE — 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.; live music; FPUA displays; 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.

January 17, Friday: ARTWALK — 5 to 8:00 p.m.; Various studios and shops open throughout the downtown area; artstlucie.org.

January 21, Friday: COFFEE WITH THE MAYOR — 8:00 a.m. at the **Fort Pierce Yacht Club**, 700 N. Indian River Dr.; **Sponsor – Waste Management**; 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

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Facebook/Sailfish Brewing Company

Pierced Cider
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cobbs-landing.com

Bottom's Up Public House
facebook.com/bottomsuppublichouse

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

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429-6266 • ManateeEducationCenter.org

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462-2787 • www.st-lucie.lib.fl.us/
Page to Screen Book & Film Discussion Group for adults; e-mail johnsonjen@stlucieco.org for more information.

SUNDAY DOWNTOWN CHURCH SERVICES

Current service times may be effective by Covid-19 please call or lookup online for current information.

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

Opening days/hours may be altered due to Covid-19 restrictions. Please call or check online for current 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

JANUARY 3: FRUITCAKE TOSS DAY

JANUARY 6: TAKE DOWN THE CHRISTMAS TREE DAY

JANUARY 9: LAW ENFORCEMENT APPRECIATION DAY

JANUARY 11: LEARN YOUR NAME IN MORSE CODE DAY

JANUARY 13: NATIONAL RUBBER DUCKY DAY

JANUARY 15: MARTIN LUTHER KING'S BIRTHDAY

JANUARY 27: NATIONAL CHOCOLATE CAKE DAY

JANUARY 28: NATIONAL LEGO DAY

JANUARY 31: NATIONAL HOT CHOCOLATE DAY

Fort Pierce Utilities Authority Celebrates 50 Years

Fifty years ago, the citizens of Fort Pierce voted by referendum to create **Fort Pierce Utilities Authority**. We are so excited to celebrate our history, success and all of the accomplishments achieved thanks to our employees, customers, partners and our community. At the start of our fiftieth year, FPUA also welcomes in a new Director of Utilities, Mr. Javier Cisneros. Under his leadership, along with our incredible and dedicated team, we are certain that FPUA will continue to grow and succeed. FPUA is thrilled to celebrate this milestone anniversary and the chance to look back at some of our important moments in our history. We will share these moments with you in posts and bill inserts.

One of the latest transformations for the company was the creation of our current FPUA logo. The colorful new logo represents each utility offered by FPUA, the environment, and



recognizes the community that we are very proud to be a part of. We also incorporated it into our 50th Anniversary logo.

We have plans to host some fun events throughout the year, including customer appreciation events designed to encourage our community to come and learn more about FPUA. In February, FPUA will be part of the **Manatee Center's Nature Fest Celebration** on February 19th, and will host the **Florida Municipal Electric Association (FMEA) Lineman Competition** on February 26th. This will be the first-ever lineman competition held in Fort Pierce! Come out to see the competition and learn more about lineman and what they really do. It's fun for the whole family!

Stay tuned to www.FPUA.com, our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/TeamFPUA, and monthly bill inserts to learn about upcoming events and where to join us. This milestone provides us with plenty to celebrate!

Happy New Year & Happy 50th FPUA! ❖

2022 Florida Lineman Competition

Join FPUA as we host the FMEA **Florida Lineman Competition** on Saturday, February 26, right here in Fort Pierce! There will be exciting competitions throughout the day including events such as the Vertical Human Rescue, 4KV Crossarm Change Out, and Transformer Change Out! A special kids area will have games and activities,

photo opportunities and more. Best of all, admission is free!

Save the date so you won't miss this exciting competition! Event date is Saturday, February 26 at 8:30 a.m. Competition will be held on the grounds surrounding the **Fenn Center** with parking at the **Fenn Center**, 2000 Virginia Avenue, in beautiful Fort Pierce. ❖



Mayor's Message **Welcome 2022 and Celebrations to Come**

by *Linda Hudson, Mayor, City of Fort Pierce*



One hundred years ago, Fort Pierce and Florida were booming with growth and tourists. The great Florida Land Boom was in full swing. By 1926, the Florida Land Boom was a Bust, due to over speculation, and the destructive 1926 Miami and the 1928 Okeechobee hurricanes.

In 1921, the Fort Pierce Inlet was open and Fort Pierce celebrated then, as well as in 2021 on its 100th Anniversary. Fishing and recreational boating were making Fort Pierce attractive to tourists and residents. The deep-water Port of Fort Pierce, with commercial shipping, began to operate.

Fort Pierce is on the rise again. One-hundred years later, the Port of Fort Pierce has as its star tenant, Derecktor Fort Pierce. In 1947, Bob Derecktor, newly home from the War in the Pacific, was ready to build boats. Derecktor, now known as the go-to superyacht refit enterprise on America's East coast, will celebrate the company's 75th Anniversary in 2022.

Kings Landing has some more approvals to face, but it promises to be a successful development, including a hotel, condominiums, retail and restaurants, on the seven-acre parcel that once was the city's electric power plant. In 1911, Fort Pierce voters approved a referendum to build a power plant, and electricity came to Fort Pierce on Thanksgiving Day, 1912. The downtown power plant was decommissioned in 2008. In 1972, the voters approved creating an independent governing board of five members, appointed by the City Commission, except for the mayor, who is automatically a Fort Pierce Utility Authority (FPUA) Board member. In 2022, the FPUA will celebrate its 50-year anniversary as a separate entity, currently supporting the tax base of Fort Pierce at about \$ 6 million annually. FPUA also offers water, waste water, natural gas and broadband communication services, known as FPUAnet Communications.

Other celebrations anticipated in Fort Pierce in 2022 include the Smithsonian Marine Station in Fort Pierce, celebrating its

50th Anniversary. In its early years, much of the work was carried out on a retrofitted US Army surplus barge acquired in 1973 and docked at Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute, which also celebrates its 50th year of ocean science and research in 2022.

The Coast Guard Auxiliary in Fort Pierce, known as Flotilla 58, located at 1400 Seaway Drive, will celebrate its 80th Anniversary of serving the boating public of Fort Pierce and St. Lucie County. It remains steadfast in providing direct support to the Coast Guard and the boating community, including boating and vessel safety education and support.

One-hundred years ago, Fort Pierce was playing its part in the Florida land boom and it may seem that history is repeating itself a century later, with the growth of residential construction and new businesses locating in St. Lucie County. Let's hope we learn from the lessons of the past so our "Boom" does not end in a "Bust." ❖



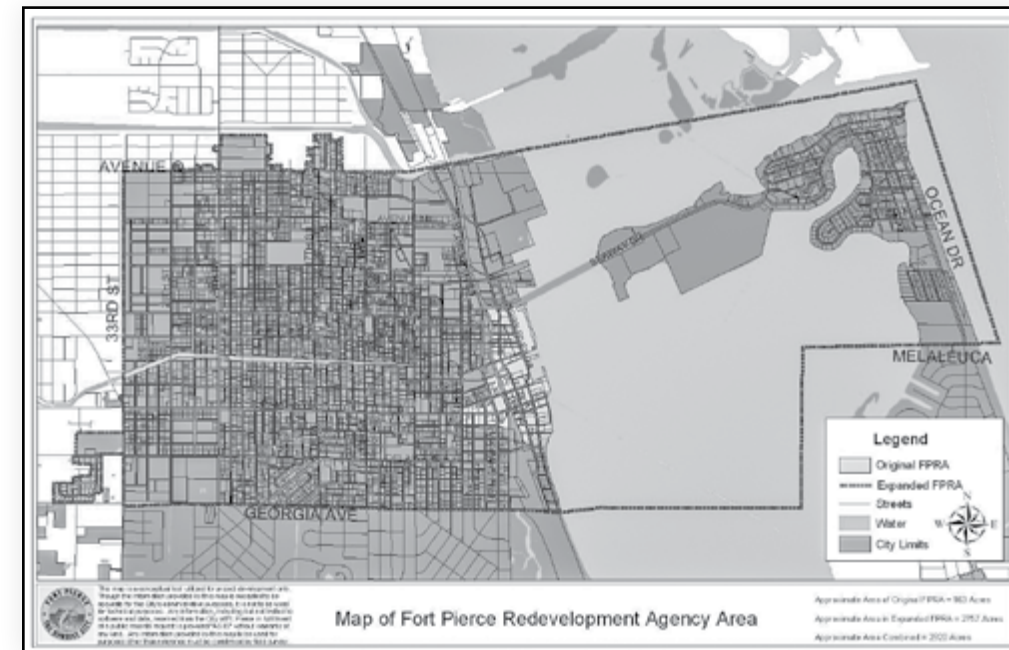
The City of Fort Pierce Launches FPRA *Commercial Interior Uplift Grant*

The City of Fort Pierce is pleased to announce the launch of the *Fort Pierce Redevelopment Agency (FPRA) Commercial Interior Uplift Grant*. The pre-application period is now open until January 19, 2022. This incentive program is available to businesses throughout the FPRA District. The program provides matching funds to commercial property owners and businesses for interior upgrades with a focus

on projects that remedy degraded building systems and extend the economic viability of the building. The goal of the program is to eliminate functional obsolescence, remove deterioration, and improve the "energy efficiency" of existing buildings in the FPRA District, with an emphasis on bringing these buildings up to current building codes and making them more viable for occupancy.

The grant offers financial assistance in the form of a reimbursable matching (50%) grant up to \$10,000. To be eligible the building must be located within the FPRA District and be commercially zoned. To apply and for a complete list of eligibility requirements, please visit: <https://choosfortpierce.com/969/FPRA-Incentive-Program>

To request a paper application in person or in the mail, or for more information about the *Interior Uplift Grant* program, please call 772-467-3786 or email fpra@cityoffortpierce.com. ❖



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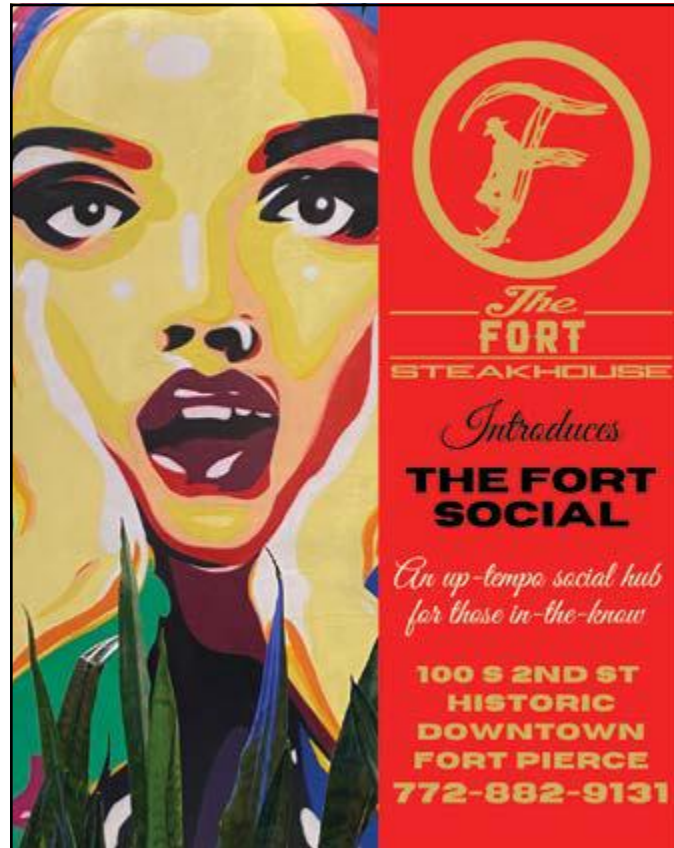
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The A.E. Backus Museum & Gallery's Favorite "Getaway" Returns Sunday in Key West Luncheon & Auction – January 30, 2022

The A.E. Backus Museum & Gallery announces a thrilling return to its *Sunday in Key West Luncheon & Auction* event, Sunday, January 30 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Pelican Yacht Club, 1120 Seaway Drive, Fort Pierce. This is the beloved winter escape Treasure Coast regulars relish for a fun feast, exclusive and special items for both silent and live auctions, and surprising door prizes, all with the playful allure of Key West. All proceeds benefit the Backus Museum.

Reserved seats are \$75 per person, with tables of eight available to plan an easy, fun and treasure-filled getaway with your friends. Space is limited, so act now! Please call (772) 465-0630 or visit BackusMuseum.org to reserve your seats.

While the Museum was unable to hold this event last year, it is pleased to work again with the Pelican Yacht Club for a delicious repast and unmatched views of the Indian River Lagoon for the perfect setting. Many of the signature delights of the



feast are courtesy of Nelson Family Farms, our generous sponsor.

Sunday in Key West begins as in the past at 11:30 a.m., but this year is scheduled to conclude at 2:00 p.m. With careful coordination, the event's activities been honed and focused to enhance the excitement. The exciting live auction will feature many exclusive, one-of-a-kind items and sought-after experiences to bid on and to enjoy. The stealthy silent auction also returns, a select

cache of door prizes, and participating attendees will have a chance to win their own treasure, a one Troy ounce gold coin, to be given away at the event.

Starting January 2, individuals wanting to plan a fun getaway today, can call (772) 465-0630 to reserve their seats! Seats can also be purchased online at BackusMuseum.org. Space is limited; all reservations should be made no later than January 26. *Sunday in Key West* is an event benefitting the A.E. Backus Museum & Gallery. ❖



Vendor Profile: Denis Gauthier Paints the Town

by Henry Szmyt

The *Jazz Market* is a routine feature in downtown Fort Pierce every Saturday, weather permitting and sometimes "not permitting". As you can see in the above picture, the Society performers dropped the sides on their tent and "soldiered on" through the occasional sprinkles.



One of the "regulars" at the *Jazz Market* is Denis Gauthier showcasing one of his paintings with a happy customer. You might find it interesting where Denis found the inspiration for this painting? It's the Jupiter lighthouse in Jupiter Florida.

Denis is a happy transplant from Quebec and a perfect gentleman. When he speaks to you in his accented English, you will be addressed first as Madam or Monsieur. Denis is an accomplished artist. He graduated from l'Ecole des Beaux-Arts de Quebec in 1972 and received his license to teach Plastic Arts from the School of Dramatic Arts in Quebec. His works were shown at 18 expositions held in Quebec, Montreal, Toronto, and Florida. As you will see he finds inspiration for his paintings in many places. Denis resides in Fort Pierce, and he mentioned that he has several years left on his passport before he has to re-apply for a new one.

I would venture that he views the Florida climate as superior. In the past he expressed an opinion that in the summer he paints his caricatures as an optimistic realist, whereas in the winter months he paints as a pessimistic surrealist. Denis describes his style as impressionist with rapid and broad

strokes and brilliant colors. Impressionism was started in late 1800s by Monet, Renoir, Degas, and others, rebelling against the detailed and stogy classism style. Denis uses palette knife to lay down the paint, again a perfect tool and technique to create painting in an impressionism style. So where does Denis find his inspirations? Lately all over Florida, look at these few examples.

As you can see, Denis is well acquainted with Florida attractions and landscapes. He mentioned that he had a "grand time" painting while at South Beach in Miami, I don't doubt it. He also painted the Vero, Stuart and Fort Pierce theaters. He just finished the picture of **Sunrise Theater** the day I spoke with him. He had it in the morning, but by the time I got to the market it was gone, my loss. Denis also paints special pieces for customers on commission. If you wish to be immortalized, come down to the market and talk to Denis. ❖



New You in the New Year – Better Your Community... Volunteer

by Wren Underwood, Manatee Center Program Coordinator

Welcome to 2022! This new year, consider joining the 63 million Americans who volunteer their time at non-profit organizations. Volunteers play a crucial role in assuring non-profits meet their missions and accomplish their goals. Furthermore, volunteerism provides some pretty significant benefits to the volunteers as well, including:

Grow your Knowledge... Keep your brain sharp, open new avenues of learning, and build up your resume by learning new skills and information.

Build your Network... Expand your social circles by making new contacts and friends.

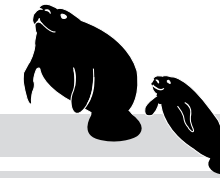
Better your Community... Strong nonprofits create opportunities, increase charitable giving, and make our communities richer by improving quality of life.

So, what are you waiting for? Get out there and give back! And if manatees, the coastal environment, wildlife, or Florida

ecosystems are important to you, please consider joining the ManaTeam at the **Manatee Observation & Education Center (MOEC)**. Located in downtown Ft. Pierce, MOEC provides environmental awareness and education to Treasure Coast residents and visitors alike. With over 50,000 visitors each year, the **Manatee Center** is a valuable asset to area schools, home-school families, tourists and residents. Like many non-profit organizations, the **Manatee Center** simply could not operate without dedicated volunteers. They are the heart and soul of the **Manatee Observation & Education Center** as the organization is completely volunteer run.

MOEC volunteers operate the **Vanishing Mermaid Gift Shop** and handle Exhibit Hall admissions. They provide tours, interpretive demonstrations, education, and general customer service to all visitors. Additionally, volunteers collect scientific data on manatee numbers and behavior in Moore's Creek. And they are invaluable when it comes to hosting MOEC's many community events!

This wide range of volunteer opportunities at MOEC attracts a diverse group of volunteer staff of all ages and backgrounds. To learn more about MOEC's volunteer program or to join our *ManaTeam*, please contact Wren Underwood at volunteer@ManateeEducationCenter.org or (772) 429-6266 option #4. ❖



The Manatee Center January Events

MOEC is open Tuesday–Saturday 10 a.m.–5 p.m. and Sunday 12 p.m.–4 p.m.

Saturdays, January 8, 15, 22 and 29 at 9 a.m.

Guided Kayak Trip

Look for wildlife, get up close and personal with mangroves, learn about the Indian River Lagoon on an easy ninety-minute paddle led by a MOEC naturalist. Great for intermediate kayakers who want to learn more about the Indian River Lagoon. The fee for this program is \$30 per person and includes kayak, paddle & safety gear. *Registration is required.* Call 772-429-6266 option #3 or e-mail Education@ManateeEducationCenter.org for more information or to register.

Thursday, January 6th at 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

Homeschool Workshop: Flowers and Pollination

For just \$4 per child, you can bring your homeschooler for some hands-on education programming led by MOEC's Education Coordinator, Candy Wickham. This month's topic is Flowers and Pollination. Registration is required – these programs fill up. Call 772-429-6266 option #3 or e-mail Education@ManateeEducationCenter.org for more information or to register.

Wednesday, January 12th at 11 a.m.

ManaTales Storytime and Crafts: "Wishing Stars"

Free with admission and led by the Manatee Center Educator.

Friday, January 14th at 12 p.m.

Protecting our Rivers

Lunch & Learn — led by Jenny Tomes, the Utility Marketing Coordinator of Port St. Lucie Utility Systems. In her role, Tomes educates and informs Treasure Coast residents about water conservation, as well as protecting our water distribution and wastewater collection systems. You'll also learn about the St. Lucie River/C-23 Water Quality Project and things you can do to protect our waterways. Bring your lunch and bring a friend; in the Manatee Center's outdoor classroom. *Free Event.*



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DAR Recognizes 2021 Historic Preservation Award Recipients

Cora Stickney Harper Chapter, NSDAR, recognized their 2021 DAR historic preservation award winners in a ceremony held November 9 at **Meadowood Golf & Tennis Club**.

Stan and Jean Synkoski, the owners of **500 Orange Avenue**, received the *2021 DAR Excellence in Historic Preservation Certificate and Medal*.

The Old Fort Pierce Post Office at 500 Orange Avenue was built in 1935 by the Works Progress Administration. The post office was designed by Louis A. Simon in a Mission Revival style. In addition to serving as a post



office, the building also held civic functions for the City of Fort Pierce, and portions of the building were used for armed services recruitment and the FBI's local headquarters. The building was added to the *National Register of Historic Places* for its architectural significance in 2002.

The Synkoskis purchased the building from the City of Fort Pierce in 2017 and immediately began restoration efforts. Reusing and repurposing as much of the original historic material as possible, the renovation process took

three years. This successful adaptive reuse now anchors the *Peacock Arts District*, as an event center. The Synkoskis commitment to preserving, repurposing and revitalizing this important community landmark exemplifies the economic benefits inherent in historic preservation, including job creation and spurring further investment in the area.

Jean Ellen Wilson received the *2021 DAR Historic Preservation Recognition Award* for her tireless efforts researching and documenting local Fort Pierce history. Wilson has authored ten books

and numerous articles, she has recorded oral histories, is responsible for establishing the **Adams – Cobb Cultural Center** in downtown Fort Pierce, and volunteers with the **St. Lucie Historical Society and Museum**. Wilson earned the award for her decades of commitment to preserving Fort Pierce history.

To learn more about the vast array of women and their millions of hours of volunteerism through today's DAR, visit www.dar.org/TodaysDAR. ❖



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Sights & Sounds on 2nd Parade Winners

- 1ST PLACE FLOAT:** Fort Pierce Woman's Club
 - 2ND PLACE FLOAT:** Manatee Observation Education Center
 - 3RD PLACE FLOAT:** Florida Coast Equipment
 - 1ST PLACE EQUESTRIAN GROUP:** Turn-n-burn 4H Club
 - 2ND PLACE EQUESTRIAN GROUP:** Trails and Tails 4H Club
 - 3RD PLACE EQUESTRIAN GROUP:** Angel Appy Acres
 - 1ST PLACE BEST DANCE/CHEER GROUP:** True Crew Dance Co.
 - 2ND PLACE BEST DANCE/CHEER GROUP:** Dynamic Dancing Divas
 - 3RD PLACE BEST DANCE/CHEER GROUP:** M&M Sweeties Baton Twirlers
 - 1ST PLACE BEST COMMERCIAL ENTRY:** Cobb's Landing
 - 2ND PLACE BEST COMMERCIAL ENTRY:** HW Road Construction
 - 3RD PLACE BEST COMMERCIAL ENTRY:** A & J Custom Pools LLC
 - 1ST PLACE BEST DECORATED VEHICLE (Non-float):** Seacoast Bank
 - 2ND PLACE BEST DECORATED VEHICLE (Non-float):** Crystal Clear Pool Services
 - 3RD PLACE BEST DECORATED VEHICLE (Non-float):** Sauls Family
 - 1ST PLACE BEST MUSIC PERFORMANCE/MARCHING BAND:** Fort Pierce Central High School Marching Cobras
 - 2ND PLACE BEST MUSIC PERFORMANCE/MARCHING BAND:** Fort Pierce Westwood Marching Panthers
 - 3RD PLACE BEST MUSIC PERFORMANCE/MARCHING BAND:** Future Generations SLC Drumline
 - 1ST PLACE BEST GOVERNMENTAL/PUBLIC AGENCY ENTRY:** St. Lucie County Clerk & Comptroller
 - 2ND PLACE BEST GOVERNMENTAL/PUBLIC AGENCY ENTRY:** St. Lucie County Sheriff
 - 3RD PLACE BEST GOVERNMENTAL/PUBLIC AGENCY ENTRY:** St. Lucie Board of County Commissioners
 - 1ST PLACE BEST ST. LUCIE SCHOOL ENTRY:** Key Club International of Fort Pierce Central
 - 2ND PLACE BEST ST. LUCIE SCHOOL ENTRY:** Lasala's Dojo School of Martial Arts
 - 3RD PLACE BEST ST. LUCIE SCHOOL ENTRY:** Fort Pierce Westwood Key Club
- Downtown Window Display Winners**
- 1ST PLACE:** Chaney's House O' Flowers
 - 2ND PLACE:** Notions & Potions
 - 3RD PLACE:** Studio 34949



Continued on page 19...

Happy New Year at the Downtown Fort Pierce Farmers Market

New Year is here! The *Downtown Fort Pierce Farmers Market* is bustling with business at Marina Square in historic Fort Pierce. Moving past the doldrums of the Covid pandemic, the Market is again a beehive of activity. 2022 is already proving to be a fabulous year.

The activity at the Market is amazing. Joined by a host of new vendors, the long-time standards have all returned. The weather is the usual “chamber of commerce” glorious sunshine and balmy breezes. The combination is spectacular. Vendors and patrons are taking advantage of the opportunity to enjoy the open space of our waterfront market.

What would a farmers market be without farmers? Among our favorite vendors are our farmers and produce purveyors. Our farmers include **Aunt Zorada** from Vero Beach, along with **Gibbons Organics**, **Broken Plow** and **AE Family Farm** of Fort Pierce. Fresh produce and fruit are available from **Daniel Produce** and **Produce Buddies**. We’re adding several new local farmers in the near future. The bounty of locally grown fresh vegetables and fruits is amazing! Check out the nutritious and delicious offerings available at *Downtown Fort Pierce Farmers Market*.

Start the morning with fresh coffee or tea from **David’s Coffee** or **Rio Coco** or take some home to brew from **Cottage Garden Teas**. Add your favorite pastry from **Importico’s Bakery**, **Gina’s Bake Shop**, **Little Bake Shop**, or **Granny Gail’s**, or maybe an acai bowl from **Fresh Fusion** or **Poke Smash**. **Grandma’s Granola** makes delicious home-made granola — eat as is or take it home. For something heartier, check out the menu from **Chef Kev’s Yum Yum**, or **Tony’s Gyro’s**. **Faith’s Lunch** has delicious Jamaican patties and curries for breakfast or lunch. Authentic Maryland crabcakes are made to order at **B-More Crabcakes**. Or maybe create your own picnic — bread with cheese from the **Cheese Shoppe** or topped with **Macy’s** smoked fish dip. Oh, the possibilities are endless.



If you’re shopping for beef, check out our local **Adam’s Ranch Beef**. And **Local Seas Fisheries East** brings a tempting selection of delights from the sea each week, including stone crab claws, shrimp, hogfish, conch, rock shrimp, and more. **Wolf Spirit** has added shrimp tacos in addition to their fresh shrimp.

To round out your menu, pour on the sauce from **Brenda’s Mix-a-lotta**. She’s got award winning recipes sure to please. Truly delicious original blend wet Seasonings are so versatile in your jerks, curries, and pasta. Check out **Wicked**

Good Spices for all exotic spices and herbs, along with old fashioned ginger drops and herb blends. You’ll find what you need and maybe what you hadn’t thought of!

And the band plays on. While strolling through the Market, browsing the wares, couples are dancing up a storm near the band, while lone customers enjoy dancing in the aisles. The energy is fantastic!

The flowers are in full bloom at **Party Flowers**; bouquets to go are most beautiful. **Connie’s Plants** offers gorgeous indoor and outdoor specimens. **Lavender Lady** has delightful lavender eye pillows along with many other soothing lavender products.

Weekly staples include locally harvested honey from **Gruwell’s** and more exotic honeys from **Holman House Honey**. **Native Armor** gives your immune system a boost with locally produce elderberry products. And **Oils Originals** is a dependable standby for therapeutic oils.

Of course, not to be forgotten, are the pure pleasures. **We Be Poppin’s** vast array of fresh popped corn, and **Doc’s Popcorn** can’t be beat for that old fashioned flavor pleaser. **Kat’s Southern Twang** offers a huge selection of her own jams, jellies, and pickles.

Dog Days Barkery offers specialty home-made treats for your canine buddies. **Gina’s Bake Shop** also has dog treats, and **Gibbons Organics** has fresh and dried catnip for your feline friends.

Continued next page ...

Sights & Sounds on 2nd Parade Winners

... continued from page 17



Quench your thirst with fresh squeezed lemonade from **Lemonade Shake-Ups**, or perhaps a refreshing smoothie from **Seaside Smoothies**. **Al’s Family Farms** is back with local fresh squeezed orange juice as well as fresh citrus.

The *Downtown Fort Pierce Farmers Market* is pleased to serve the residents and visitors to Fort Pierce. Now in its 25th year, the faces have changed but the spirit is the same — to

provide the community with fresh foods and horticultural products and to encourage commerce, entertainment and trade in Downtown Fort Pierce.

Join us every Saturday, from 8 til 12 noon, rain or shine. Marina Square on the waterfront in historic Fort Pierce. It’s a Saturday morning tradition! Follow us on Facebook and Instagram or check out our website www.fortpiercefarmersmarket.com. ❖

Love, JAZZ Community: Easiest Resolution Ever!

by Don Bestor

The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over and expecting a different result, yet you and I seem to do it every year, don't we? Every year, as we're gobbling up the final crumbs of the Christmas cookies and licking out the last few drops of holiday eggnog from the container in the back of the refrigerator, we vow that this will be the year we become perfect. We'll give up all of our bad habits, learn how to meditate and be present in each and every second, and maybe even discover something that will make us both rich and famous. It is our annual descent into temporary insanity, and thankfully, it usually only lasts a few days before we realize that we may have been a bit too ambitious when we made our New Year's resolutions.

Why am I publicly confessing to the same insanity that you, your neighbor, and your long lost cousin seem to fall victim to and are secretly ashamed of all year long? It's easy. I want to give you a chance to be kind to yourself, give yourself a little latitude, and still feel some excitement and success at the beginning of this bright, shiny new year, 2022! Sure, you can promise you'll single-handedly find a cure for cancer and lose that pandemic poundage while you also learn to do deep meditation, but let's be honest...you're trying to eat an elephant in one bite, and it just isn't fair to

you. So this year, stop making unrealistic goals that you fall short of achieving in two weeks and then spending the rest of the year beating yourself up. This year, why not make one resolution you can keep that will be fun for you, help the community, and bring you closer to achieving joy in the present moment a whole bunch this year? This year, why not consider becoming a member of the **Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society** or sharing a membership with someone special who deserves to experience happiness, friendship, and enthusiasm, just like you? You don't have to go to any meetings or even give up any calories. In fact, you can still enjoy Squid Game and the Tiger King marathons, if that's what you're into, but taking that one tiny step and gifting yourself with a membership to the **Fort Pierce Jazz and**

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Your membership, which will set you back a whole lot less than last year's unused gym membership, less than a cup of Dunkin' a day for a month, and about the same as that meditation app you forgot you put on your phone and never opened, will give you a chance to hear professional music locally 52 weeks a year (often multiple times each week). And that's not all; you'll be helping support high school seniors who want to continue their music education with scholarships, too. But wait! There's more. You'll be helping

to support America's original art form, and you'll be helping to bring live, jazz musicians into our schools through master classes and mentoring opportunities that will ensure a strong, diverse, and music-filled future for generations to come. All that, and you don't have to a single crunch or add another piece of exercise equipment/clothes hanger/dust gatherer to your home. Happy New Year, indeed!

If you'd like to learn more about **Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society**, or if you'd like to share the gift of membership with someone to show your own appreciation and love without having to endure the humiliation of squeezing into anything Spandex®, please exercise your fingers by finding us at www.jazzsociety.org, or call us today at 772-460-JAZZ. ❖

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TREASURES OF THE PAST

100 years ago this month as reported in the Thursday, January 12, 1922 edition of the Miami Herald

Fort Pierce May Light Boulevard Indian River Drive has chance to increase its class by progressive movement

That the thickly settled Indian River boulevard from Ft. Pierce, south to Walton, a distance of 12 miles, may be electrically lighted is believed an early possibility, if the citizens residing along the highway and the City of Ft. Pierce are able to reach an agreement on the proposition.

At the last meeting of the city council a committee representing interested residents of the river front asked if the city would consider the proposition of furnishing the current provided a sufficient number of the users could be secure to make it worthwhile. The committee presented no definite proposition, but the result of the discussion was the promise of the committee to ascertain, as soon as possible, the number of prospective patrons of the proposed service. The city promised to assemble data relative to the cost of installation and upkeep of the service.

The poles and wire probably would be erected by the citizens, the city only furnishing the power. When the city's 500 K.W. addition to the present municipal plant is completed, giving a total plant capacity of close to 1,000 K.W., there will be ample current for both the city and the suburban districts, it is expected.

The committee of riversiders appearing before the council was composed of C.H. Taylor, Charles Fisher and R.W. Leonard, Mr. Taylor acting as chief spokesman. The river front section is thickly settled, there being many pretty homes along the highway. The furnishing of electric current would provide them many conveniences.

Ice Plant to Double Fort Pierce Concern Will Have Capacity of 80 Tons a Day

The new 40-ton addition to the plant of the St. Lucie Ice Company should be ready for operation within the next two weeks, it is declared. Nearly all the heavy work has been completed and there remains only the finishing touches. Installation of the new unit will provide the plant with a capacity of eighty tons of ice daily. The unit will manufacture raw water ice for use in refrigeration purposes, the icing and re-icing of cars of fruit and produce. Fort Pierce is the north and south bound re-icing point of the American Fruit Growers' Express. R. Whyte of Fort Pierce and Miami is the head of the St. Lucie Ice Company which has had a plant here for a number of years.

100 years ago this month as reported in the January 12, 1922 edition of the Tampa Tribune

Fort Pierce Has A Daily Newspaper News-Tribune Enters the Larger Field – First copy brings \$1

The first issue of the daily edition of the Fort Pierce News-Tribune came from the press Monday afternoon. Its reception greatly pleased publishers and from all reports it is presumed its life will be fully ninety days, to complete advertising contracts. How much longer depends on the people who created the demand for its publication. Several applications were made for the first copy but H.E. Hill of the Florida Photographic Concern had bought and paid for it early in the day, the purchase price being \$1. It was learned that Mr. Hill bought the first copy of the Fort Pierce Tribune, edited by A.K. Wilson, and that he also bought and preserved a copy of the first issue of the Fort Pierce

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news, edited by Charles S. Emerson. The first copy of the press was bought by S.S. McCarty.

It created quite a sensation to see real newsies leaving the office with papers crying "Daily News-Tribune, 5 cents," and then to see the people on the streets buying them. The present issue carries eight pages and issued by the News Printing Company, edited by L.F. Chapman with C.S. Miley, news editor

75 years ago this month as reported in the Sunday, January 26, 1947 edition of the Miami News

Fort Pierce Hotel Reopens Feb. 15

Fort Pierce's largest hotel, the New Fort Pierce, is scheduled to reopen about Feb. 15 after having been closed to the public since 1942, when it was taken over by the Navy.

Work of renovating and reconditioning the building, which has been unoccupied for the past year except for caretaker service, is virtually complete.

H.B. Stolz, one of the owners of the hotel, said it would be operated on a year-round basis.

Stolz, who is secretary of Sunrise Products, Inc., operators of a local canning plant, and Edward T. Hinman, New York operator of extensive farming interests, bought the hotel last spring from the Schill Properties, Inc.

The hotel has 136 guest rooms, together with several ground-floor shops.

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Four Questions Every Effective Business Plan Should Answer

by U.S. Small Business Administration

A great business plan can impress potential investors and pave the way for your business's success. Use these four key questions to guide you as you create yours.

Every successful business starts with a solid business plan. A business plan is a foundational document that lays out who you are as a company and where you are headed. It not only helps you set and track goals, but it also makes a case for why banks and prospective investors should offer you funding.

While a variety of formats exist, there are a few universal elements and insights that all business plans should include. In honor of National Write a Business Plan Month, review your business plan and make sure it answers the following questions:

What does your business do? It's important to explain precisely what your business does, elevator pitch-style. For example, describing your clothing store as a "mid-priced boutique selling locally-sourced clothes and jewelry for women in their 30s and 40s" tells a potential investor much more than simply calling it a "women's clothing store." Being descriptive can help you gain additional clarity about the vision of your business.

Who is your target customer? You'll want to make sure your business plan outlines in detail who your target customer is, getting specific in terms of demographics. This step may require you to do some extra market research, but it will pay off in showing potential funders that you do your homework. Market research may also help you determine if you need to enhance your digital footprint. Has the COVID-19 pandemic affected the way your target customers shop? Do they prefer to order online or visit a physical location? You should be proactive in answering these questions.

How will you make money? Of course, from a big-picture perspective, you'll make money by selling your products or services.



But the details are just as critical. Banks and potential investors will want to see financial projections and pricing plans. If your business is brand-new, they'll want to know whether you

have existing funding sources in place or if you're starting from scratch. It will also be important to outline the costs of running your business. Learn more about funding your business here.

What niche are you filling? What sets you apart from the competition? Within the Business Model Canvas framework, this is your "Unique Value Proposition" (UVP). With a UVP, the Business Model Canvas asks business owners to consider what specific need they are meeting for their customers. Answering these types of questions will allow you to take a step back from your business and validate why someone would choose you over a competitor — and help you explain to potential funders why they should choose you over your competitors, too.

For more tips on how to write a business plan, take our free How to Write A Business Plan course. You can also consult business planning experts at SBA resource partners like SCORE, Women's Business Centers, Small Business Development Centers, and Veteran Business Outreach Centers for free feedback on your business plan. ❖

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Tucked in Cozy

by Lisa Jill Allison, Lisa Jill Allison Art Gallery



Sometimes in life, things cannot be unseen. I have, through media exposure and through personal experience seen lots I would wish to unsee. I am truly saddened at the level of inhumanity the human race is capable of, on a very intimate family level to the global arena. Dark memories and awareness do seep to the surface unexpectedly and I am conscious to "change the channel," as there is no need to see them again. I endeavor not to dwell on the unsettling and to, instead seek out the lovely. Parts of life are just that, lovely. The first morning smell of coffee, doggie snuggles wrapped in toasty ruffled covers, belly laughing at a good joke, all so very lovely. I am now, much to my delight, swirling in a cascade of lovely as I settle into my new home.

It is true, profoundly unsettling life experiences have, at times, left me exhausted and fragile. Here comes the tucked in cozy part. Through the love and support of many, by the grace of God, and with my tenacious spirit, which I proudly inherited from my mom, I have landed in a cozy spot, here in Fort Pierce. The flowers in my yard are nodding in approval of their new setting. My fresh walls are happily hung in painting after painting; serene landscape, to cheery floral to a large red and black rabbit. My furniture stands carefully arranged and ready to host whoever comes to enjoy. There is a deep contentment I feel as I settle in and unwind.

Never did I think these words would pass my lips, but right now, there is no place like home. I revel in the routine, the predictability, the sameness around me. As my body settles into the space, my spirit soars and, much to my delight, so does my creativity! It amazes me how, when some concerns or areas of necessary activity, like moving yearly in the past, are removed, that my mind chooses to fill the void with wonderful new things. Horses and more horses, much different than my

usual subject matter, are galloping through my mind and, with splashes of color, are trotting from the brush and palate knife onto the canvas. Cats, fluffy to sleek, calico to tabby, coax me to draw up their vision then capture it through paint. Moose, deer and elk ask to be portrayed. This is a lovely turn of events to have the uncertain replaced with more certainly and to have the extra energy ask to be used in a creative fashion.

I do realize, throughout all this process, that it is partially circumstances but also, to a large degree, mindset that brings on this shift. I should still have plenty to worry about at the moment. This is uncertain times for everyone. This has been very challenging times for an artist, an "unnecessary" business. Health concerns still loom, prices are up and supplies may be slimmer. Yet, in my new nest, amongst my eclectic possessions, with my now old dog, I feel contentment, security and blessed beyond comprehension. My body has a familiar place to call home, unwind and get cozy in. My heart has appreciation for the path getting here and my mind rejoices at the extra place for expanded creativity.

It's with welcome arms, that I greet the coming Fall, Winter and Spring and all the visitors to Fort Pierce that this will bring. Business wise the gallery loves it and human wise I love it as well. I will meet people from all over the globe, engage in conversations, some just fun and light and I will engage in conversations of great significance. I will hear about someone's victory over addiction and will help them chose a piece of art to commemorate this milestone. Someone will commission me to do a piece for a wedding or anniversary present and someone will come in to show me their beautiful new child that was just a belly bump last time we saw each other. What a wonderful gift of a sense of being tucked in cozy before the start of season. With a feeling of being rested and of renewed exuberance I feel creatively and emotionally ready, willing and able to embark on the next flurry of activity. So, please do come by the gallery, share experiences, play with art and spread the lovely cozy feeling throughout our town and beyond. ❖

Tripletail is on the Menu in January

by Captain Bo Samuel, Pullin Drag Charters

It's a new year so time to put the fishing in high gear! From the Indian River Lagoon to the Fort Pierce Inlet, and out into the Atlantic, our local waters provide abundant opportunities to enjoy some exceptional fishing. It's the perfect way to enjoy the outdoors, make a salty memory, and put dinner on the table!

One of my favorite fish to target in January is the Atlantic Tripletail. The tripletail is a pelagic, aggressive feeding and fighting fish that gives a great battle and a great meal. They get their name from the fact that the dorsal, caudal, and anal fins are so close together they appear to look like three tails.

Look for these fish around floating debris, buoys, and crab trap markers. Shrimp and crab are favorite baits for tripletail but they will also go for small baitfish and artificial lures. Use light tackle and a small weight with 30-pound fluorocarbon. They are known for their runs and jumps and can really pull drag so be ready for a fight and have a dip net close because they can be hard to land. Florida Fish and Wildlife states tripletail must be at least 18 inches long and the limit is two per angler per day.

If your New Year resolutions include some fun fishing adventures, come see me at **Little Jim Bait & Tackle**, a popular place for food, drinks, music, ice, and tackle. It's always great to start the year *Pullin Drag!* ❖



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Roots and Recipes IV

Grandma Helen's Stuffed Cabbage



Home is a place where you can be creative and yourself around your friends and family. Some of my greatest memories come from when I was a little girl and I got to spend most weekends at my grandparent's house with my younger brother. We would invent games, draw on my grandmother's special pad of paper, carefully play with all her precious figurines, and most of all cook.

At my grandparent's house is where I felt most connected to my roots. In this small 2-bedroom house in Miami I learned to cook several Hungarian dishes that I still enjoy today. Two of my favorite dishes Grandma Helen taught me how to cook are Chicken Paprikash with Galuska, and Stuffed Cabbage. Galuska is a dumpling made of flour, eggs, water and salt. I especially remember her making these dumplings and never measuring anything out. When I asked her what the measurements were, her response would always be, "Until it looks like this." I was amazed at how

everything always tasted delicious when she didn't even measure. After we cooked, we would always sit around the small dining room table to eat our meal. We could not leave the table unless we had second, or third helpings. Good thing I loved everything she made.

When I got married, and had my own family, I continued cooking these delicious foods for them. I taught my daughters how to make these special Hungarian recipes and they particularly love the stuffed cabbage. It's such a versatile recipe, one daughter even made it her own by swapping turkey for the beef/pork mixture. I hope my young grandsons love this dish as much as we do, and I hope you love it, as well.



Recipe

- 1 head cabbage
- 1 Tbsp. oil
- 1 onion chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, crushed
- 1 tsp. paprika
- 1 cup uncooked rinsed white rice
- 1 lb. ground beef
- ½ lb. ground pork
- 1 tsp. salt
- ½ tsp. pepper
- 1 egg beaten
- 1 can sauerkraut
- 2 8-oz. cans, or 1 15-oz. can of tomato sauce
- Sour cream for garnish

Bring a large pot of water to a boil. Cook cabbage in boiling water until outer leaves pull away easily from the head. Separate leaves, cut off hard ribs, and let cool. Reserve 1-½ cups cooking water.

Heat oil in a skillet. Add onion, garlic, and paprika. Cook until translucent.

Mix beef, pork, egg, rice, salt and pepper in a large bowl. Place an oversized golf ball-sized amount of the beef mixture on each leaf towards the bottom. Tuck over the leaf to cover the beef mixture and then fold in each side. Then roll up like a burrito.

Place rolls seam-side down in a large pot. After you get one layer, add a layer of sauerkraut, then a layer of tomato sauce. Repeat these layers until you're out of cabbage rolls.

Pour some water in the pot until it is ¾ of the way full. Bring to a boil, then cook on medium heat for 45 minutes to an hour. Make sure you check the temperature of the rolls to read 155° F for beef/pork, or 165° F for turkey.

Serve cabbage rolls with mashed potatoes, and garnish with lots of sour cream, extra sauce, and a sprinkling of chopped fresh parsley if desired.

Recipe from My Roots is a collaboration with the St. Lucie County Public School's Career and Technical Education Program. Each month, Recipe from My Roots will feature a recipe from a student in the program and will highlight the significance of the recipe to that student.

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