



Volume 16, No. 2 September, 2020

FOCUS

The Official Monthly Newspaper of Main Street Fort Pierce



... and it was a fun-filled summer after all,
at the Manatee Observation and Education Center

story p14



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Appreciating What We Have in Beautiful, Historic Downtown Fort Pierce

by Sue Dannahower



The COVID-19 pandemic is challenging us in ways we could never have predicted six months ago. In these trying times we need to remember it will not be this way forever. We need to recognize what we are doing well and appreciate what we have.


Main Street Fort Pierce continues to move in a positive direction. We have been hosting *Virtual Coffee with the Mayor*. Join us September 18th on Facebook Live. In May, our new website went live. Visit us at www.mainstreetfortpierce.org.

October will be a busy month. October 24th is our *Fall Golf Tournament* and the *Annual Ghosts of Fort Pierce Past, Historic Walking Tours* are scheduled for October 28th and 29th.

On November 14th, we will hold our *26th Annual Reverse Raffle* which will be virtual. Stay tuned for more details.

We continue our commitment to downtown businesses and restaurants. We are promoting online shopping, posting hours of operations on our Facebook page and website. ❖

Please support our local small businesses by shopping and dining in beautiful Historic Downtown Fort Pierce.



MAIN STREET FOCUS FORT PIERCE

Volume 16, No. 2 September 2020

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All About Sea Scallops (on Zoom) Fundraiser

Sunday, September 20, 2020 | 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.
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Host, Sue Dannahower, caterer and President of *Main Street Fort Pierce* will teach you simple and easy gourmet meals that you can cook at home in 30 minutes or less. This episode will include a scallop appetizer and meal.

Register on our website www.mainstreetfortpierce.org > Events; or call *Main Street Fort Pierce* at (772) 466-3880. Class size is limited to 20. Stay tuned for more cooking episodes presented by Sue.



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Mayor's Message **Fort Pierce Supports Residents and Businesses in Pandemic**

by Linda Hudson, Mayor, City of Fort Pierce



The *City of Fort Pierce* and the **Fort Pierce Utilities Authority** (FPUA) have been working on dual missions since the Coronavirus began — continue to provide excellent essential services and offer support to residents and businesses.

The *City of Fort Pierce* offered grants for residents and businesses to help with COVID-19 revenue losses. In conjunction with *Treasure Coast Food Bank*, *Boys and Girls Club*, **GraceWay Village**, **St. Matthews Missionary Baptist Church** and others, our city served free food to residents in a variety of venues. On August 15, the City partnered with *Treasure Coast Food Bank* and *Children Services*

Council at **Percy Peek Gym** for a drive-through food giveaway that also included back-to-school supplies. Fort Pierce offered ten days of free testing at Ilous Ellis Park. The *Florida Community Health Center* has been offering free drive-through testing at its Delaware Avenue site.

Our city remains committed to keeping all residents and visitors safe during pandemics, hurricanes and any other kind of challenge we must face. St. Lucie County enacted a requirement for face masks. In a message on August 7, the *St. Lucie Health Department* encouraged all residents to continue limiting mass gatherings, washing hands, staying home while sick and face coverings, because these mitigation efforts are working.

The FPUA has kept its drive-through window open but closed the building and took other steps to protect the health of customers and employees. The FPUA developed a plan to help customers prevent disconnects with several strategies, including placing customers on a zero-interest payment plan, and emphasizing the availability of direct financial assistance through *Mustard Seed Ministries*, *ALPI* and *St. Lucie County CARES Act* funds.

The *City of Fort Pierce* and FPUA continue to move the business of the city and the utility forward through regularly scheduled meetings, with social distancing and citizen input in person or via written communication. We continue to keep our citizens informed on COVID-19 developments.

Our city is experienced in preparing for, enduring, and recovering from hurricanes. Fortunately, we did not have a visit from Hurricane Isaias, but for every hurricane, we keep you informed and work with St. Lucie County to open shelters for all citizens, including special needs and pets. Our staff physically surveys all part of the city to make sure to minimize flying debris and other dangers. Law enforcement throughout the county are on duty 24/7 and are the first on the scene after winds subside to evaluate damage and ensure safety of the streets.

Thank you to our city residents, businesses and to our city and FPUA staff for working to keep us all safe. ❖




Mayor Linda Hudson invites you to join her for Community News, Special Announcements, Hosted by First Wave Coffee, Orchid Island Juice, with Breakfast Treats, and more!

Friday, September 18 at 8:00 a.m.

Main Street Fort Pierce on Facebook LIVE

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Fort Pierce Yacht Club, Main Street Fort Pierce, Orchid Island Juice Company, First Wave Coffee and The City of Fort Pierce. Call Main Street Fort Pierce for more information at **772-466-3880**.

A.E. Backus Museum & Gallery Call to Artists

The Annual Juried Art Exhibition "The Best of the Best" is Accepting Entries beginning September 9th at the A.E. Backus Museum & Gallery

The **A.E. Backus Museum & Gallery's** annual juried art exhibition, "The Best of the Best," is accepting artist applications by advance appointments on Wednesdays to Sundays until 3:00 p.m., beginning on Wednesday, September 9th through Friday, October 2, 2020. The application is open to amateur and professional artists with a \$30 entry fee per work. A full prospectus with guidelines and application is available to download from the Museum's website at www.BackusMuseum.org or it can be picked up starting September 9th at the Museum located at 500 North Indian River Drive in Historic Downtown Fort Pierce, Florida. Artists may enter their work in "The Best of the Best" by submitting into one of four media categories: oil and acrylic paintings, watercolor (including gouache and tempera), varied techniques (which includes mixed media, pastel, pencil, pen & ink, printmaking, graphics, collage and computer generated works) and three-dimensional. A full description of all of the categories along with presentation checklist is available in the prospectus.


There are new entry procedures related to the ongoing public health situation. Artists are required to sign up online for an entry appointment in advance, in order to limit the number of people on site and protect the health of our staff and visitors. Each 15-minute entry appointment will accommodate one artist entering up to three (3) works of art; artists wishing to enter more than three works may sign up for additional entry appointments. Artists can access the online appointment

schedule with all entry information at www.BackusMuseum.org/juried-shows. The juried exhibition "The Best of the Best" will open the 60th Season of the **A.E. Backus Museum & Gallery** and will be on view October 10th through November 13th, 2020. At this time, due to pandemic concerns and subject to developing state guidelines, we may not be able to host an opening reception event. The Museum will announce accepted works and awards prizes on October 10th, the day the exhibition opens.

The **A.E. Backus Museum & Gallery** is a community-based, 501(c)3 not-for-profit arts institution that relies on your support. Contributions during this challenging period will lessen the financial impact on the Museum, and can be made securely online at www.BackusMuseum.org/donate. Gifts can also be made as an ongoing monthly donation, as a way to extend contributions and provide steady support in this uncertain time.

PLEASE NOTE: The Museum will be closed from August 10th to September 8th for pre-season maintenance. The Museum will re-open September 9th to October 2nd with special pre-season hours: Wednesday – Saturday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sunday noon to 3 p.m.; closed on Monday and Tuesday. The Museum will then be closed October 3rd to 9th for exhibition installation. Admission is \$5 per person; AARP, AAA, and Veterans with appropriate ID receive a \$2 discount. Students with school ID, children under 18 and active duty military are always free. ❖

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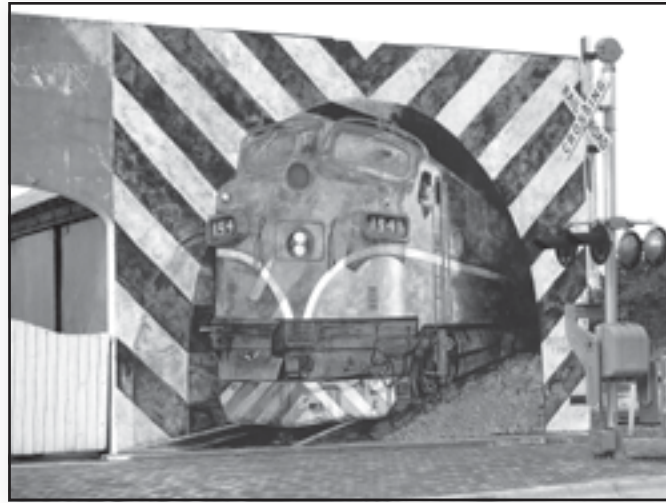
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VERO BEACH - FORT PIERCE

Murals of Fort Pierce: "Night Train"

The "Night Train" was commissioned by the Fort Pierce Mural Society and was paid for by **East Coast Lumber**. Artist Blue Sky (aka, Warren Edward Johnson) chose this subject in this entirely appropriate location right beside the actual railroad tracks. During the unveiling ceremony, a train roared by unexpectedly, blaring its horn which created much drama and speculation from the crowds as to how the artist had planned such an event.



The building with the "Night Train" dates to the 1890s when Henry Flagler brought the railroad down the east coast of Florida from Jacksonville to Fort Pierce. The

railroad allowed growers and fisherman access to northern markets. Passengers could travel faster and in a much more comfortable manner on what they called the "Orange Blossom Express."

The mural originally had a light that came on when it was dark. Years later it was taken out because folks thought a real train was roaring down the tracks. The "Night Train"

was recently restored by artist, Ronald "Ziggy" Bennett in July 2020.

Today, trains still use the tracks but only for transporting goods. There are no passenger trains. There is a train museum north of here on the other side of Seaway Drive. ❖

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Christopher Gunkel Virtual Art Show

by Sue Dannahower

Main Street Fort Pierce is holding a *Virtual Art Show* on their new website. Christopher Gunkel is the first of many artists to be featured on our new *Main*

Street Fort Pierce website. His artwork will be on display through mid-September. Christopher Gunkel is a career fine art painter, wall art artist and an accomplished muralist. He



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works mainly in acrylics painted on board or canvas. Christopher paints sea and landscapes of our local Treasure Coast, savannas, and marine life. His portraits and lifestyle art leans toward an impressionistic style. He uses color and style to tell a story or provoke imagination. View Christopher's artwork at www.mainstreetfortpierce.org. If you would like to see his work in person, you can call *Main Street Fort Pierce* at (772) 466-3880 to make an appointment. ❖

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MAIN STREET FORT PIERCE GOLF TOURNAMENT

SAVE THE DATE

October 24, 2020
 at Gator Trace Golf & Country Club



- ~ Four Person Team Shotgun Start: 8:30 a.m.
- ~ \$100.00 per Player @ \$350.00 per Team
- ~ Fees include: Continental Breakfast, 18 holes of Golf, Buffet Lunch, & Door Prizes Putting Contest, Closest to the Pin, Longest Drive, 50/50 Raffle, Raffle Prizes

For More Information call Michelle Cavalcanti
 at 772-466-3880 or michellec@mainstreetfortpierce.org
Proceeds to benefit Main Street Fort Pierce

Manatee Observation & Education Center
GUIDED KAYAK TOURS 2020
 on the Indian River Lagoon



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 beginners and anyone who wants to learn more about the Lagoon.

\$30 per person Registration Required
 + state park entrance fee (\$4 - \$6 per car)
Tour takes place in FP Inlet State Park.

Includes kayak, paddle & safety gear.

Please call or e-mail to register:
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Education@ManateeEducationCenter.org

Sept. 5, 10:30am • Sept. 12, 10:30am



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Become A Member

It Takes All of Us to Make Our Historic Downtown Prosper and Grow!



Main Street Fort Pierce wants to invite you to become a part of the renaissance of our Historic Downtown area. Over the past twenty-nine years, we have worked to repair streets and sidewalks, upgrade storefronts, renovated the Sunrise Theatre, Old City Hall and the Platts Backus House, sponsor charrettes to design a downtown "Master Plan," built the Manatee Observation and Education Center and so much more! Annually, Main Street Fort Pierce sponsors over 30 events — most which are free of charge.

Yet there is still so much more to be done! We need you to be involved in our continued planning for the area. Become a member and support Main Street financially. We rely on the participation and the voluntary annual dues from our members to accomplish our goals and complete our projects.

Whether you own a downtown business or you just love Historic Downtown Fort Pierce, we need your energy and support to continue to rejuvenate our community's heart and soul.



Why Main Street Fort Pierce?

- Downtown Fort Pierce is an important employment center.
- The area is a reflection of the community image.
- Locally owned businesses keep profits in town and support other local businesses and community projects.
 - A vibrant downtown creates a feeling of "hometown pride" and sense of place.
- The downtown district is a public gathering area, where parades, special events, and celebrations are held in a unique setting.
- Community character and historic integrity cannot be recreated.

What are Membership Benefits?

- Your membership dues are an investment in the future of Historic Downtown Fort Pierce, helping us to sponsor improvements and events throughout the year.
- Members receive advanced notice and invitations to special events.
- You will receive the monthly subscription to *Main Street Focus* magazine and links to *Focus On-Line*.

As a member of *Main Street* you are automatically aligned with others who want to preserve the past and influence the future of Fort Pierce. You can belong to Fort Pierce *Main Street* at one of eight different membership levels, starting at just \$15.

Main Street Membership Levels

Benefactor Levels

- Headline Sponsor (\$1,000)
- Patron Sponsor (\$500)

Community Levels

- Main Street Friend Membership (\$25)
- Main Street Family Membership (\$50)

Corporate Levels

- Main Street Small Business Membership (less than 10 employees) (\$100)
- Main Street Medium Business Membership (11-50 employees) (\$250)
- Main Street Large Business Membership (51 or more employees) (\$500)

Please Take a Minute to Join Today!

Complete the form below and join our growing group of committed members. By joining Main Street Fort Pierce, Inc., you are supporting the economic well being of the entire community.

Name: _____ Membership Level: _____

Company/Organization: _____

Street Address: _____

City / State / Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____



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Three Easy Ways to Join!

- 1 – Call Main Street Fort Pierce at (772) 466-3880
- 2 – Visit our Website at www.mainstreetfortpiece.org, click the membership link
- 3 – Fill out the membership form and mail to:

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122 A.E. Backus Ave.
Fort Pierce, Florida 34950

City of Fort Pierce Offers 2020 Census Gift Card Giveaway

For the next 43 days, the **City of Fort Pierce** has issued a challenge to encourage residents to complete the 2020 Census for a chance to win a \$25 gift card.

Residents who have not yet completed their 2020 Census by mail, phone or online, are eligible to enter the weekly drawing. Before the September 30, 2020 deadline visit <https://my2020census.gov/>, and follow the survey steps to complete the 2020 Census. Once the survey is done, send a screenshot of your census confirmation page or send your confirmation number by e-mail to: 2020census@cityoffortpierce.com.

A winner will be selected every Friday through September 30, 2020 and announced the following Monday on social media. Currently 49% of our residents have responded, but

together we can do better. Take the census today and *make Fort Pierce count!*

About the Census: Why is being counted important? Whether you are new to the community or a long-term resident, a renter or a homeowner, a U.S. citizen or not, you are our neighbor, and together *we all count!*

Did you know that approximately \$675 billion in federal funding is distributed to communities each year? If we do not register with the U.S. Census our city gets less in federal funding.

The \$25 gift cards are sponsored by a Fort Pierce business owner, who wishes to remain anonymous. For more information, please visit: www.cityoffortpierce.com or call 772.465.4170. ❖



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Fort Pierce Yacht Club

by Diane Korbey

July 18 to 26 was the 13th Treasure Coast Waterway Cleanup, of which the **Fort Pierce Yacht Club** has played a role for many years. This year presented challenges posed by COVID-19 and therefore changes were made in how the cleanup was organized. It has become a virtual cleanup, with no pickup or drop-off stations and spanning several days to give participants a choice.

Several boaters from the **Fort Pierce Yacht Club** took out other members and guests and went to their chosen location for cleanup and reported their finds on the *Treasure Coast Marine Industries Association* website. Others walked the waterfront by our club while still others walked north beach to pick up debris there. Preliminary numbers show Saint Lucie County picked up 2.10 tons of trash with 251 volunteers. Some unique items reported were 5- and 10-dollar bills, 10lb weight, a 50-foot garden hose, reading glasses and a jar full of seeds. Thanks to all who participated!

Did you miss the event? Now that the waterway cleanup has gone virtual it can be done all year long. If you are out with your friends boating or walking, just collect garbage along the way and enter what you collect into www.tcwaterwaycleanup.com. The data counts are reported to the city and MIA. FPYC can now show community spirit all year long by collecting garbage and entering the data. We will try to organize more cleanups when the weather cools down.

It has been our pleasure to host the **Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society** on the second and third Tuesday of the month. We have moved the event in-doors due to the heat and evening showers but still have room to socially distance. From the reaction of the attendees, people are anxious to once again be at these treasured concerts by local musicians. Join us for the 7 p.m. downbeat through October! Masks are required to attend these events. *Keep the music playing!* ❖



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Say “Bone Sigh” Bonsai!

by *Holly Theuns, Heathcote Botanical Gardens*

Fort Pierce is home to the largest collection of tropical bonsai on permanent display in the United States! Right here at **Heathcote Botanical Gardens** at 210 Savannah Rd. A man in the Garden told me a story of being at the National Bonsai and Penjing Museum at the U.S. National Arboretum in Washington D.C. and complementing the docent giving their tour on the beauty of their bonsai collection. The docent replied, after asking the man where he was from, that Fort Pierce was home to his favorite bonsai collection — the one at Heathcote Botanical Gardens. That local man was on his first visit to the Bonsai Gallery when he told me this story.

In 2009, Bonsai Master James J Smith (1925-2016) gave 100 of the best tropical bonsai from his collection to **Heathcote Botanical Gardens**. The deal was that the Garden had to create an appropriate “home” for the collection. And they did. Local landscape designer Sam Comer designed the award-winning garden which features winding paths with the bonsai resting on pedestals of Florida capstone mined from western Okeechobee County. Specially designed fountains add the sound of water which both masks the street noise and creates a tranquil setting. Vertical pipes which mimic the fountain structures divide the garden in such a way that each of the trees can be appreciated individually. It’s a beautiful garden!

Architect Peter Moor planned the design for the Gallery’s Bonsai Pavilion using a combination of traditionally Japanese elements and native Florida plants and building materials. “It’s where sushi meets fried mullet!” says Peter Moor.

Bonsai exist only because regular trees, not genetically dwarfed plants, have been trained as bonsai. Each tree is grown for many years to develop certain characteristic, and when it is ready, transplanted into a shallow pot. To survive in such

a minimal environment, they must be given copious amounts of water and fertilizer and trimmed constantly to maintain their shape.

Heathcote’s Bonsai Ficus Exotica was accepted for display in the *Flower and Garden Festival* at the World Showcase – Pavilion at Epcot. That tree was seen by over two million visitors during the 12-week festival in spring-summer of 2019.

Make a plan to come and see the Bonsai Gallery at **Heathcote Botanical Gardens** and if you come when our bonsai curator Tom Kehoe is in the Gallery you may have your bonsai questions answered by an expert.

The rest of the Garden is pretty special too. Once you have seen the Bonsai Gallery take a walk and tour the Rain Forest. Plan to sit a minute in the Reflecting Garden and look for the Anita Prentice mosaiced Panda Bear in the Children’s Learning Landscape. He’s blue and white and they call him Cobalt.

Heathcote Botanical Gardens is a five-acre garden laid out as themed garden rooms, and home to the largest collection of tropical Bonsai on permanent display in the United States. The Gardens are open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and well-behaved leashed dogs are welcome. There is an admission charge: \$8 for adults, \$6 for seniors over 65, \$3.00 for children ages 6 to 12, Children under 6 are free, as are members, Veterans with ID, and American Horticultural Society’s Reciprocal Admissions Program. Mark your calendar for the 2020 *Garden of Lights* every Friday and Saturday night



between Thanksgiving and the first weekend in January 2021. **Heathcote Botanical Gardens** is located at 210 Savannah Rd. in Fort Pierce, FL. The website is www.heathcotebotanicalgardens.org and phone number is 772-464-4672. ❖

Manatee Center Summer Camp, Recap 2020

by April Frederick, Education Coordinator

How do you safely engage children in outdoor learning in the midst of a global pandemic? The staff at the **Manatee Center** found ourselves asking just that question as a state-wide shutdown kept many businesses shuttered, employees at home and students learning online. Following the Centers for Disease Control's Suggestions for Youth and Summer Camps, we developed a plan to provide kids an opportunity for more green time and less screen time this summer.

We reconfigured our traditional travel camps, transforming from full-day travel camp to half-day camps with walking field trips only, but maintaining our themed and hands-on education approach. Each week-long camp was offered in a choice of either morning or afternoon sessions. The sessions were lim-

ited to just twelve campers each and all activities were designed to take place outdoors. Further, in addition to their regular summer camp shirts, all **Manatee Center** campers received a fun manatee snout face mask to wear during seated or closer-contact activities.

The camps were popular from the start. We initially offered three weeks of camp, adding a fourth week after those quickly filled up. Each week was filled with nature games, activities, and exploration, science labs, art projects and some feet-wet free time in the Indian River Lagoon. During the first week, *Eco-Explorers* campers learned all about how nature works by delving into food webs, habitats, the water cycle and biodiversity. During week two, *Ocean Adventures* week, we focused on



A Message from the Manager: The *Main Street Fort Pierce Fish Fence* is one of our favorite local arts-and-environment features, and we were grateful to have the opportunity for our campers to contribute again this year. In total, 132 campers and counselors have contributed to the *Fish Fence* so far, plus two local artists who led art classes for us last summer. When introducing this activity to our campers (see cover photo), we teach them to celebrate community and take pride in the beauty of their surroundings. We walk them to the bridge adjacent to the **Manatee Center** and look together at the fish fence from

afar, thinking of all the people who have contributed to its beauty so far. And we encourage them to share the activity with their parents, so that they can return to admire their painted fish in its place among the hundreds of other contributions that our community has made to this fence. Summer 2020 posed some interesting challenges, to say the least. But we can see beauty all around and are happy to share these values with our campers. We are grateful to have the opportunity to share this project with our campers and to work alongside *Main Street Fort Pierce* in celebrating the environment through art. ❖

marine ecosystems beginning with the properties of water, then exploring adaptations in ocean predators and marine mammals and learning about the importance of estuaries like our Indian River Lagoon. During *Wild Discovery — Real Florida* week, campers learned about Florida reptiles and amphibians, endangered species, and owls and wading birds, with fun activities like a *Bird Beak Buffet* and an owl pellet lab. During week four, *Eco-Discovery*, we investigated connections in nature with activities about predators and prey, invasive and native species, and diversity in the Indian River Lagoon. Friday of each camp week was the day for giving back to the earth with a *Trash Dash* clean-up. Throughout the four weeks of summer camp, MOEC campers collected more than 200 pounds of trash along the Indian River Lagoon, in Veterans Memorial Park and in the marina square area! We even participated in the *Treasure Coast Waterway Clean-up* in July!

The **Manatee Center** was happy to be able to provide this opportunity for children to get outdoors and socialize in a safe setting this summer. The COVID-19 crisis has disrupted our lives, leaving many feeling lost and fearful. Our normal routines have been thrown out of whack and parents working from home and children schooling online have made for a very long spring. Summer camp — playing in the sun, learning new skills, seeing old friends and making new ones — gives kids a sense of returning to normal. **Manatee Center** staff and volunteer counselors are proud to be a part of that, especially this summer. ❖



The Manatee Center September Events

Saturday, September 5th at 10:30 a.m.
 and **Saturday, September 12th at 10:30 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 beginners and anyone who wants to learn more about the Lagoon. Tours start at Fort Pierce Inlet State Park. The fee for this program, per session, is \$30 per person and includes kayak, paddle and safety gear (state park entrance fee of \$4-\$6 per car not included). *Registration is required.* Call (772) 466-1600 ext. 3337 or e-mail Education@ManateeEducationCenter.org for more information or to register.

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

St. Lucie County Preserves

Lunch & Learn — St. Lucie County contains beautiful preserves and natural areas for you to explore. Join us as we learn all about the St. Lucie County Preserves recreation opportunities and general information from Amanda Thompson, Senior Lands Stewardship and Outreach Coordinator for St. Lucie County's Environmental Resources Department. Log in to [Facebook.com/ManateeCenter](https://www.facebook.com/ManateeCenter) for this special Facebook LIVE presentation.



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Jeremiah is a community leader. Jeremiah has served on many boards and committees throughout the community and will continue to use his experience for a better city.

Jeremiah is dedicated to a safe community. Crime has dropped in recent years and Jeremiah is committed to improving the city in which we live.

Jeremiah fights for fiscal responsibility in tough decision-making times. Jeremiah works to adequately fund the City's Police department and provide resources to the many dedicated officers who have sworn to protect us.

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- Assistance of up to \$4,000 is available to eligible residents in St. Lucie County through CARES Act funding. Call the Information line at 772-465-1705 or visit www.recoverstlucie.com for application assistance.

Connect with FPUA Customer Service

- Customer Service Call Center - 772-466-1600, x3900 - Available Monday - Friday, 9 am-5 pm
- Email Customer Service at cs@fpua.com
- Drive-thru window at 206 S. 6th Street is open Monday - Friday, 7:30 am-5 pm.

Find us at www.fpua.com or [Facebook.com/TeamFPUA](https://www.facebook.com/TeamFPUA)

Downtown Fort Pierce Farmers Market – Halfway Through Summer at the Market

How time flies when you're having fun! Halfway through summer and The **Downtown Fort Pierce Farmers Market** is the place to be on Saturday mornings. Fresh fruits and vegetables, fresh baked pastries and artisanal breads, fresh and frozen seafood, fresh plants and shrubs, fresh squeezed lemonade, and best of all fresh air and sunshine!

Locals from all around the Treasure Coast, as well as vacationers from all over the world, have found the **Downtown Fort Pierce Farmers Market** and continue to come every week for their dose of hometown quaintness. Unique products, like locally made elderberry syrup from **Native Armor**, beeswax figure candles from **Gruwell's Buzzzz On In Apiary**, delicious authentic crabcakes from **B-More Crabcakes**, homemade dog treats from **Dog Days Barkery**, lavender sachets and eye pillows from **Lavender Lady**, or amazing exotic mushrooms from the **Mushroom Guyz** are just some of the items to be found every week at the Market.

The hometown charm of historic downtown Fort Pierce is the setting for the **Downtown Fort Pierce Farmers Market** at Marina Square. The **City Marina** right next door, along with the beautiful seawall is the perfect spot for a Market. Strolling through the vendors, enjoying a cup of freshly made coffee and a delicious pastry, visiting with friends old and new, watching the marine life along the seawall are all delights for the young and not so young. The scene is ever-changing — one week dolphin play in the lagoon, then bait fish are jumping ahead of tarpon and other predators, or pelicans make their spectacular dives while seagulls and pigeons playfully beg for treats.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner, or the ingredients for a home cooked feast, are available from several vendors. Seafood, poultry, vegetables, fruits, spices and seasonings, combined with the cook's talent make for a delectable meal.

Beautiful native and exotic plants enhance any home décor. Connie's array of beauties at **Chung Smith's Plants**, and potted

herbs and other small plants from **Palm Queen** are perfect for the home garden or gifts to friends.

With the precautions for Covid-19, all vendors comply with guidelines set by CDC and the City of Fort Pierce. Patrons are encouraged to maintain social distance as well as properly wear masks when shopping at the Market. Of course, an outing to the **Downtown Fort Pierce Farmers Market** includes fresh air and sunshine for free! Gorgeous Florida sunshine, healthy living!

Halfway through summer and going strong, the **Downtown Fort Pierce Farmers Market** continues to be a Saturday morning tradition! From 8 a.m. till noon, rain or shine, the Market provides a dose of wholesome fun for the whole family. Follow on Facebook and twitter and check out www.fortpiercefarmersmarket.com for more information. ❖



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Love, JAZZ Community: Try to Remember

by Don Bestor

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

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

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

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

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



TREASURES OF THE PAST

100 years ago, this month...

The 19th amendment, which gave women the right to vote in the United States, completed the ratification process on August 18, 1920. Here are a couple local articles from September, 1920 about the 1st general election women would be able to cast their ballots.

From the September 18, 1920 edition of the Miami Herald:

“21 Plus” Doesn’t Go with St. Lucie County Registration Officer

This “twenty-one plus” idea doesn’t “go” with the registration officers of St. Lucie County.

They are requiring the ladies to give their exact ages, stating that until instructions to the contrary are received from the secretary of state they will be compelled to register women under the same terms as men, who are required to give their exact ages...

From the September 13, 1920 edition of the Palm Beach Post:

Women Not Anxious

Women of Fort Pierce are showing very little activity in registering for the November general election, less than a dozen having registered here up to Friday morning. Whether they are holding back through timidity or lack of interest, or are planning a grand “coup d’état” by later registering en masse, remains to be seen. But certain it is that unless they get busy pretty quick and register, they won’t cut much ice in the election either way. Registration closes October 9. County Registrar Ed Edge is ready for the women any time during the usual business hours.

75 years ago this month as reported in the Wednesday, September 19, 1945 edition of Miami, FL

Freak ‘Twister’ Hits Naval Barracks

St. Lucie County’s citrus and tomato crops came through the weekend storm without any damage of consequence, nor was there any other damage in this area from the tropical “disturbance.” But a “twister” that sneaked up Sunday afternoon in the wake of the storm leveled six 125-man barracks buildings and a mess hall on the U.S. naval amphibious training base here. No one was injured, as the camp that the twister hit was unoccupied. There was no estimate of damage available.

The twister ripped in from Indian River and cut a 100-yard swath on a curving path through a portion of the base. It was the first “twister” in the memory of even old-timers. Highest wind velocity attained in the weekend storm was around 50 miles an hour. Rainfall was 5.30 inches over the 48-hour period. Personnel of the navy base was evacuated to the mainland and housed in school buildings and churches. The Red Cross evacuated 28 families from trailer camps and low-lying areas along the riverfront, and also housed overnight a number of “refugees” from south coastal points who were fleeing from the storm.

50 years ago this month as reported in the Tuesday, September 22, 1970 edition of The Palm Beach Post:

Fort Pierce Businesses Seek Downtown Mall

If downtown businessmen have their way, Fort Pierce will be able to boast a downtown mall, complete with landscaping, by Christmas.

Joseph Corso, president of the Downtown Business Association, told the Fort Pierce City Commission last night some of a group

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of businessmen’s plans for the mall and asked permission to begin construction immediately.

Mayor Dennis Summerlin congratulated Corso on his work on the project, but the commission asked Corso to return next Monday night for a public hearing on the mall plans.

The Plans as Corso sketched it out last night, call for converting at least Second Street into a pedestrian thoroughfare from Avenue A to Orange Avenue with trams leading into the area from a parking space about a block away.

Other ideas Corso mentioned include new outside lights to be erected in place of the streetlights in the area, painting the streets in gay colors, and music to be piped into the area.

25 years ago this month as reported in the Friday, September 8, 1995 edition of The Palm Beach Post:

5.8 Inches of Rain Falls in 2 Hours

A surprise thunderstorm caused flash flooding in Fort Pierce on Thursday afternoon, shutting down several streets in the middle of rush hour and knocking out power to more than 3,000 customers.

The storm dumped 5.8 inches of water on the city in two hours, starting about 3:30 p.m. Flooded streets delayed school bus routes and winds tore off a portion of the roof of the Colonnades condominium complex on Hutchinson Island...

...Utilities workers were able to restore power to about 1,000 customers within a couple of hours, but many parts of the city were facing a night without electricity because workers were unable to reach some of the flooded areas.

The rains caused Moore’s Creek to overflow its banks, leaving 3 to 4 feet of water in some streets near the creek. Several canals that usually drain into the creek overflowed, spreading the flooding south and west.

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Kilmer Library Adpts to Changing Requirements for Patrons

The downtown **Fort Pierce Kilmer Branch of the St. Lucie County Library** is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. with the following safety restrictions:

Per State requirements, building occupancy is limited. When the limit is reached each new entrant will need to wait until someone exits the building.

Per County policy, anyone who enters the library will have their temperature taken with a no-touch infrared thermometer and be asked three questions related to possible COVID-19 exposure. Those with COVID-19 symptoms or possible recent exposure will not be permitted to enter the building.

Per County policy, anyone who enters the library will be required to wear face protection as defined by the CDC. Additional information about this policy can be found on the County's website.

Computer use is limited to one 45-minute session per day and a library card is required to use a library computer.

Due to limited occupancy requirements, most seating has been removed and patrons are encouraged to limit their time in the building to one hour so others can enter.

Patrons are strongly encouraged to practice social distancing and wear masks.

Please return items to the outside returns.

Book drops at all branches are now open 24 hours a day.

Curbside pickup of holds is available at all branch locations except for the **Pruitt Campus Library** from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. In order for an item to become available for pickup, a hold must be placed on it with a St.



Lucie County Library card and the person the item is for must have received a call or email notice from Library staff letting them know it's available for pickup. Holds on items can be placed through the online catalog (<https://stlu.ent.sirsi.net/>) or by calling the library during current service hours.

Patrons must have a library card to place a hold. To obtain a library card:

Cards can be obtained in person at Kilmer and Lewis branch libraries, or by calling any branch except **Pruitt Campus Library** between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Please have your contact information handy when you call, along with a pen and paper you can use to write down your account number if you'd like to use it immediately to check out ebooks. Your new card will be mailed to you.

After placing an order and when the items become available, the patron will receive a phone call with instructions on when and where to pick them up.

Please do not use the curbside library if you are feeling sick in any way.

After receiving a call or email that items are available for pickup, patrons should pull up to the front door of the branch location and call the phone number posted out front to let Library staff know they've arrived.

Only items placed on hold will be available for curbside pickup.

Staff are available by phone for general information, along with help accessing online books and audiobooks, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday at all locations except for **Pruitt Campus Library**. ❖



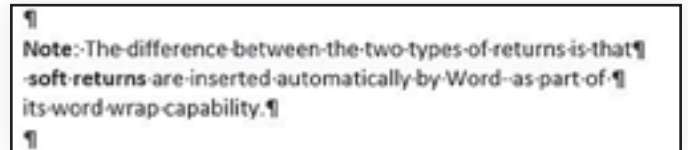
Microsoft Tips & Tricks

by Sue Dannabower

SEARCH & REPLACE - PART 3

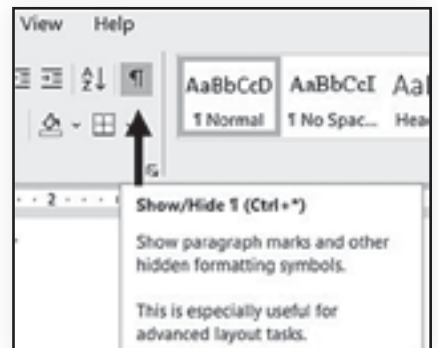
Search and Replace allows you to remove a word, phrase in a document or special character..

Scenario: You inherit a document that has hard returns at the end of each line.



View hard returns:

Click the Hide/Show button on the Home Ribbon. Hard returns are the paragraph symbol and the dots are spaces. Click again to turn off Hide/Show. You want to remove



the ¶ which is the hard return. On the Home Ribbon, click Replace. Click in Find What: Click the More >> Button. Click the Special Button; the menu will display options. Click Paragraph Mark and a ^p will be inserted. Then Click Replace All or Replace and Find Next.

Happy computing. ❖

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St. Lucie Cultural Alliance Welcomes New Member Janet Bird Fuller; the Opening of a New Gallery *Whirled Inc. Gallery*

by *Laura Louise Tingo*

Janet Bird Fuller's artistry is showcased in her magnificent, eclectic collection of steampunk mixed media and found object artist works. A second-generation artist from Fort Pierce, Fuller, surrounded by art at home, was already painting and cartooning at an early age. Her father, a police sketch artist, is credited for initially sparking and fostering Janet's creative interest.



Artist/owner of the new Whirled Inc. Gallery, Steve Fogle

"He taught me a lot over the years," Fuller said. "I used to paint and cartoon, but then I got bored, so I stopped for a while." Fuller recalls, without hesitation the year that her creativity was re-booted, when in 2011 while driving by a trash-heap, she saw, "...some interesting pieces," and thought, "Now that would make great art." In 2012, Fuller realized her first professional exhibit and has been exhibiting ever since.

Fast-forward to present day, Fuller is exhibiting her diverse and dynamic collection of works made from recyclable materials at the new **Whirled Inc. Gallery**, 129 N. Second Street, in Fort Pierce. "Janet's artwork and my artwork go very well together," said Steve Fogle, artist and the owner and operator of **Whirled Inc. Gallery**. "She has

great work here and really is an incredible artist."

But it is more than that to Fogle. This new gallery has been his creative 'brainchild' for almost two decades. "Janet is a great friend and she really encouraged me," he said. "She is extremely generous... "She is a fixture of the art community and very important to the art community here."

The gallery, nestled along the artsy Second Street corridor of Downtown Fort Pierce, is the second in a series of spots that Fogle has opened to support local artists. **Whirled Inc. Gallery** offers artists the cultural avenue to vie for a chance to showcase their works in stunning variety, along with, "a little of everything," Fogle said. Jewelry boxes, flower vases, photography, paintings, sculpture and greeting cards are among the offerings.

"I am trying to make it a one-stop gallery," he said. Fogle is accepting artists with, "the right fit," for his 'funk ton of cool' platform and invites artists to begin the conversation by sending a photo. "Your art has to hit me," he said.



Janet Bird Fuller



Janet Bird Fuller



Janet Bird Fuller

Fuller exhibited her work at the prestigious **Seriously Mixed Media** gallery for four years, before meeting Fogle in 2018 and starting a successful collaboration with him.

“Steve is just wonderful,” she said. “Previously, he solely exhibited his work, then I joined him, and now he features an array of great artists.” Prior to meeting Fogle, Fuller owned and operated a gallery in 111 Orange Avenue, but the building was sold, rent became cost-prohibitive, and over 40 artists lost their studios.



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Next, she showed her work at the **Art House**. “It was like New York City Gallery,” Fuller recalled, “it was absolutely beautiful.”

Early in her career Fuller found support in the local arts agency, she said. Through an ‘emerging artist program’ she was matched up with a professional artist, learned how to promote her work, build a website, and get involved in the local arts community. Fuller now enjoys the benefits of artist membership with the **St. Lucie Cultural Alliance**. When asked what advice she would give to artists who are starting out, she offered a similar path. “Hook up with people who know what they are doing,” she said. “I thought being an artist was staying home and creating awesome art, but there is so much more to being a working artist.”

Fuller cheers mentorship and colleague support of fellow professionals as helpful in showing emerging artists the ropes and ways to, “untangle numerous misconceptions.”

Fuller also encouraged all artists to support each other, attend gallery openings, and to get to know the local cultural community. “Janet loves Fort Pierce and is a very big part of it, said Fogle, adding that she, knows almost every artist.

To learn more about the **St. Lucie Cultural Alliance** and the benefits of membership, please visit ArtStLucie.org, e-mail: info@artstlucie.org or call 772-462-2783.

To see Janet Bird Fuller’s work, visit **Whirled Inc. Gallery**, located at 129 N 2nd St, Fort Pierce, FL 34950, or call 772.966.2105, or visit www.whirledincgallery.com. ❖





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Be Alert About E-mail Phishing Scams – Bad Actors Seeking to Take Advantage Through “SBA Loan Application”

by Keith A. Bluestein on August 13, 2020 and first published on www.sba.gov



In the wake of emergency assistance available to help small businesses in response to the Coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19), the SBA is urging disaster loan applicants seeking federal aid to be alert to phishing campaigns and scams. These malicious actors are impersonating the SBA and its Office of Disaster Assistance to collect personally identifiable information (PII) for fraudulent purposes.

The SBA is particularly concerned about scam emails that are targeting applicants of the SBA’s Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program asking them to verify their accounts using a third-party online platform to collect personally identifiable information.

Watch Out for Phony E-mails Asking for Your Information

Any e-mail communication from the SBA will come from e-mail accounts ending in sba.gov, and nothing more.

Look out for e-mails that use the SBA logo in their phishing e-mails and phony schemes.

These may be attempts to obtain PII, access personal banking accounts, or to install ransomware or malware on your computer.

The SBA will never use a third-party platform to: actively seek PII; search a third-party platform for or by PII, or; “follow” public users proactively without a waiver.

Government Employees Do Not Charge for Recovery Assistance

Additionally, federal agencies that provide disaster recovery assistance will never ask for a fee or payment to apply for financial assistance, and government employees do not charge for any recovery assistance provided.

Tips to Keep an Eye On

The presence of an SBA logo in an e-mail or on a webpage does not guarantee the information is either accurate or endorsed by the SBA.

Help protect your identity and privacy by never providing your full name, date of birth, social security number, address,

phone numbers, e-mail addresses, case numbers, or any other PII in public-facing comments or responses to third-party e-mails.

Loan applicants who receive e-mail correspondence asking for PII are cautioned to ensure that any application numbers referenced in the e-mail are consistent with your actual application number.

Do not click on any links or open any attachments, which are often used in phishing e-mail scams.

The best way to avoid being scammed is to safeguard your information like money in the bank. Always be vigilant in protecting your personal information and data assets. If you suspect an e-mail is associated with a fraud scam targeting the SBA, report it to the Office of Inspector General’s Hotline at 800-767-0385 or online at <https://www.sba.gov/COVIDfraudalert>.

You can learn more about scams and fraud schemes on the SBA’s website at www.sba.gov/COVIDfraudalert.

Loan applicants who have questions about SBA’s Economic Injury Disaster Loan program may call the Disaster Customer Service Center at 1-800-659-2955 (TTY: 1-800-877-8339) or send an e-mail to disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. ❖

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by Sue Dannahower

Pork Loin vs. Pork Tenderloin

Pork loin and pork tenderloin are not cut from the same part of the animal, and in fact, they look really different — pork tenderloin is thin and small, while a pork loin is wide enough that you can cut steak-like pieces from it. How you cook it, though, is the main difference. Pork tenderloin is best quickly cooked over high heat, while pork loin lends itself well to slow-roasting or grilling methods.

Flavor Combinations: Use one of the spice rubs in your pantry, here are a few suggestions for how to use them. All you need are pork, spice rub, and a deglazing liquid for making the pan sauce.

-  A spicy rub with pepper, garlic, maybe some chipotle + Apple Cider, Apple Juice or Cranberry Juice
-  Chicken Seasoning + Chicken Stock
-  Steak Seasoning + Red Wine or Beef Broth
-  Rosemary or Thyme Blends + Dry White Wine, Dry Red Wine, Beef Broth or Chicken Stock



September Fishing Report 2020... and Snook Season



by Captain Bo Samuel

September means one thing for anglers — it's snook season! These elusive, aggressive line-siders are highly prized and highly targeted for their great fight and their great taste. They are easily recognized by the distinctive black lateral line that extends onto the tail and you could say they are a Florida celebrity.

These fish can be found around bridges, docks, and jetties with fast moving currents. My favorite live bait for line-siders is mullet, pilchards, threadfins, or mojarra but they will hit artificials as well. Be sure to keep the drag tight since these fish are smart enough to run and break your line on nearby structures. Once you get that hit, set back, and let the fun of a great battle begin.

Snook season opens at 12:01 a.m. on September 1st through December 14th, the second legal season of the year. During the open season, anglers with a saltwater fishing license and a snook stamp can keep one "in-the-slot" snook per day. The slot limit is between 28 inches and 32 inches from the chin to the tip of the tail, total length. Closed seasons are important for snook to keep the population healthy and abundant especially during cold snaps and when they are spawning from May to September. It is important to return these fish to the water as



quickly as possible so take your photos fast and practice proper catch-and-release techniques for those outside the slot. Snook cannot be commercially harvested or sold.

More information and regulations can be found at your local bait and tackle shop like **Little Jim Bait & Tackle** which also offers great music, great food, and great company. If you want to join the "line-sider life", come see me at **Little Jim Bait & Tackle** and let's get *Pullin Drag!* ❖

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Recipe Corner

by Sue Dannahower

Seared Pork Tenderloin with Mushroom & Pea Risotto

Pork Tenderloin

2–3 pound pork tenderloin

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Pat the pork dry and season with salt and pepper. Patting the meat dry helps the salt and pepper to stick. In a heavy oven proof skillet, sear the pork on all sides until golden brown. Pork will still



be raw in the middle. Add any herbs and spices to pork and place in preheated oven. Roast the pork for 15 to 20 minutes or until an internal thermometer inserted into the thickest part registers between 145 and 150 degrees F. That will mean that the pork will be juicy and slightly pink in the middle. If you're not a fan of the pink, cook a little longer, but be careful not to overdo it.

Make a Quick Pan Sauce: For the juiciest pork tenderloin, make a quick pan sauce using the same skillet you cooked the pork in. Add about 3/4 cup of liquid. You could use apple cider, wine, chicken stock, vegetable stock or even beef broth. Cook that liquid until reduced by half then swirl in a tablespoon of butter. Pour over pork.

Mushroom & Pea Risotto

- 1 tablespoons, olive oil
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1 cup Arborio Rice
- 4 cups chicken broth
- 1/2 cup white wine
- 1 cup parmesan cheese, shredded
- 2 cups frozen peas
- 3 cups mushroom, sliced, sautéed in 1 Tablespoon butter

In a heavy three-quart saucepan, sauté onion in olive oil over medium heat, until onion is soft. Add Arborio rice and sauté two minutes until grains are coated. Add wine and stir constantly on medium heat until wine is absorbed. Add hot broth, 1 cup at a time, stirring after each addition until broth is absorbed, about 20–25 minutes. The risotto should be creamy, add more liquid if a creamier texture is desired. Add in frozen peas and sautéed mushrooms. Stir for two minutes. Remove from heat, stir in cheese, and serve immediately. *Serves 4 to 6.*



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Beach Bowls Brings Healthy Treats to Downtown Fort Pierce

On August 14th, a grand opening ribbon cutting was held for **Beach Bowls** in downtown Fort Pierce. This fun, new business is located at 217 Avenue A and is open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. everyday. The owner of **Beach Bowls**, Michael Croke, came up with the idea to start his own business when he could not find a local açai bowl café. “There was nowhere to get one so I started making them at home and giving them away to my friends and family and eventually they were so good everyone told me it’s time to open up shop,” said Croke.

Beach Bowls specializes in açai bowls and smoothies. Michael sources the highest quality açai (a berry from South America that is known as a superfood), fruits and other ingredients that are combined to make delicious, healthy meals. Some of the ingredients come from Nelson’s market and from local honey harvesters.

Michael was excited to open locally. He says, “We love the downtown community and it was the perfect place to start business and keep downtown Fort Pierce healthy and energized.” If you are an açai bowl connoisseur or become one after trying Michael’s delicious bowls or smoothies, **Beach Bowls** has a reward system that gives a free choice of bowl or smoothie after 10 purchases.

“At **Beach Bowls**, we use the highest quality açai and specifically customize your bowl to your needs,” says Croke.

Check out **Beach Bowls** today at 217 Avenue A or visit them on Facebook at officialbeachbowls; Instagram at officialbeachbowls or their website, www.beachbowlsfortpierce.com. ❖



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