



Volume 14, No. 8

March, 2019

FOCUS

The Official Monthly Newspaper of Main Street Fort Pierce

Ben Smith
Automotive Group

PRESENTS

MAIN STREET FORT PIERCE

SANDY SHOES



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Entertainment Schedule
see page 17

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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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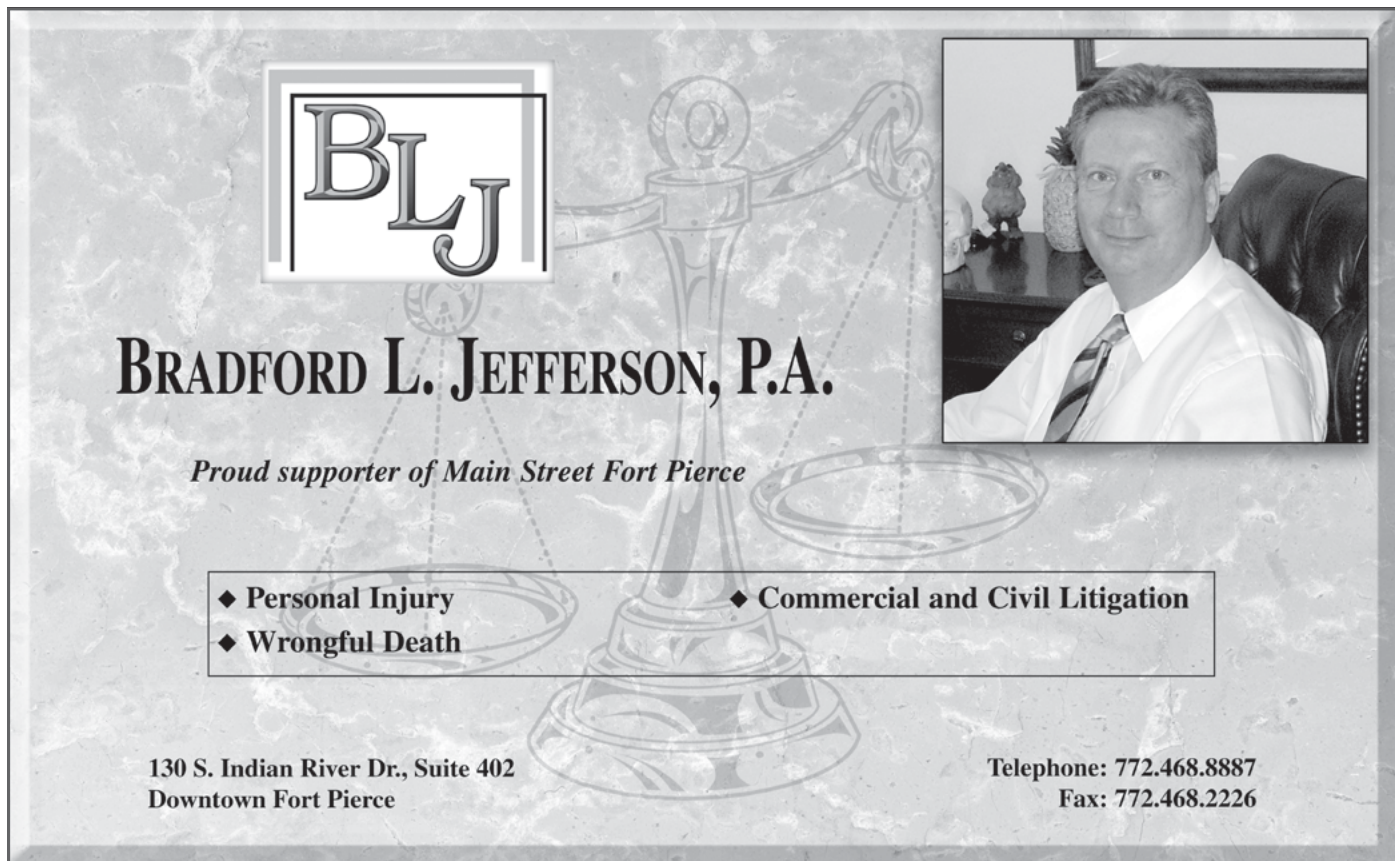
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Sandy Shoes Seafood & Brew Festival in Historic Downtown Fort Pierce

by Sue Dannahower



Our annual *Bev Smith Automotive Group's Sandy Shoes Seafood & Brew Festival* will take place on Saturday, March 23rd. Mark your calendars today! There is something for everyone — live music, food vendors, contests, food demonstrations, crafts, plenty of children's activities and more. The *Sandy Shoes Festival* dates back to the 1950s in this area, and thanks to **Bev Smith Automotive Group**, it ranks among the most original and oldest (yet updated) festivals along the Treasure Coast.


In May, *Main Street Fort Pierce* will begin its 31st year as a nationally- and statewide-recognized *Main Street* organization. With a focus on preserving the historic nature of the original

commercial center of Fort Pierce, our program has worked with local government, investors, small business owners, artists, and others to bring a resurgence of life back into downtown. Our accomplishments are many, including our largest efforts: the renovation of the **Sunrise Theatre**, **Historic City Hall** and the **Platts/Backus House**. When we first started, our main objective was to bring people (customers, business owners, residents, investors, etc.) back into the downtown area. Today, we continue to organize over 30 events a year that unite our community together while showcasing our beautiful, historic downtown.

I encourage *you* to become involved in downtown Fort Pierce by joining *Main Street* as a member. Your membership dollars help us continue the progress in downtown Fort Pierce. Call the office at (772) 466-3880, and we'll sign you up *today!*

Would you like to volunteer? We have many positions available both in the office and during our events. You can write for the *Focus* magazine, answer phones at the office, help with children's activities at our events, or volunteer on event-planning committees including our annual fundraiser — the *Reverse Raffle* in August. Whatever it is you enjoy doing, we can always use your help.

Please support our local economy — *shop and dine downtown!* ❖



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Calendar

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



Get the DISTRX app for all the latest downtown specials and events!

MONTHLY EVENTS

March 1, Friday: FRIDAY FEST — 5:30 to 9:00 p.m. at Marina Square & Melody Lane; Live music by **Daniel Keith Band**; Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880; www.mainstreetfortpierce.org.

March 5, Tuesday: FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION HISTORY: Planes, Trains & Automobiles (and Steamboats Too!), Presented by **Steve Noll** — 2 p.m.; free to public at **Sunrise Black Box Theatre**; sponsored by **Main Street Fort Pierce** and **A.E. Backus Museum & Gallery**; call 772-466-3880 or 772-465-0630 or visit www.backusmuseum.com to register.

March 5 & 12, Tuesdays: YOUR COURTS UP CLOSE — free 4-night event; learn more about how the Judicial system works for you! Meet judges, attorneys and more; have questions answered; reserve your spot at yourcourts@circuit19.org or call 772-807-4370, www.circuit19.org.

March 7, Thursday: HISTORIC TROLLEY TOURS — 10:00 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.; in Historic Downtown Fort Pierce; Reservations required, \$10 per person; Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880; www.mainstreetfortpierce.org.

March 9, Saturday: HISTORIC TROLLEY TOURS — 1:00 p.m. & 2:30 p.m.; in Historic Downtown Fort Pierce; Reservations required, \$10 per person; Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880; www.mainstreetfortpierce.org.

March 9, Saturday: 5TH ANNUAL CATTLEMEN'S DANCE AT THE ADAMS RANCH — 6 to 10 p.m.; to benefit the **Sunrise Theatre Foundation**, www.sunrisetheatre.com.

March 16, Saturday: ST. PATRICK'S DAY ON SECOND STREET BLOCK PARTY — 2 p.m. to midnight; www.sailfishbrewingco.com or www.2ndstreetbistro.com.

March 15, Friday: COFFEE WITH THE MAYOR — 8:00 a.m. at **Fort Pierce Yacht Club**; sponsored by **Fort Pierce Jazz & Blues Society**; Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880; www.mainstreetfortpierce.org.

March 15, Friday: ARTWALK — 5 to 8:00 p.m.; Various studios and shops open throughout the downtown area; seriouslymixedmedia.com, artconnectionfp.com.

March 19, Tuesday: PATRICK SMITH'S FLORIDA is a Land Remembered, Presented by Rick Smith — 2 p.m.; free to public at **Sunrise Theatre**; sponsored by **Main Street Fort Pierce** and **A.E. Backus Museum & Gallery**; call 772-466-3880 or 772-465-0630 or visit www.backusmuseum.com to register.

March 23, Saturday: Bev Smith Automotive Group Presents the SANDY SHOES SEAFOOD & BREW FESTIVAL — at Veteran's Memorial Park; 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Main Street Fort Pierce, 466-3880; www.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, www.jazzsociety.org.

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

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

SUNDAY DOWNTOWN CHURCH SERVICES

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

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

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

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

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

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

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

Bud Adams Gallery of Historical Photographs
772-462-1795

2nd Floor of P.P. Cobb Building
Open Fridays and Saturdays
8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Downtown Fort Pierce Library
772-462-2787 • www.st-lucie.lib.fl.us

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

Fort Pierce Police Athletic League
772-370-6162 • www.fortpiercepal.com
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Fort Pierce RiverWalk Center
772-489-6473 • www.cityoffortpierce.com

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

Heathcote Botanical Gardens
772-464-4672 • heathcotebotanicalgardens.org

Manatee Observation & Education Center
772-466-1600 x3333 • www.manateecenter.com

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

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

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

Join Officials from Cork, Ireland & Fort Pierce for the St. Patrick's Day GAA Exhibition Games

The City of Fort Pierce will welcome officials from the other side of the pond at a special Irish *St. Patrick's Day GAA Exhibition* to be held at **Lawnwood Stadium**, located at 1302 Virginia Avenue, at 11 a.m. on Sunday, March 10th.

The GAA is the *Gaelic Athletic Association* which was founded in 1884 to promote and organize Irish sports of “hurling” and “Gaelic football.” Over the years, both of these sports have developed internationally and are played by males and females, both young and old.

These games will be on display during this event as well as Irish dancers, music and a parade of activities preceding the games. There will also be a “Key to the City” ceremony which will take place between the City of Fort Pierce and the City of Cork, Ireland. In attendance to accept the key, will be Lord Mayor of Cork, Mick Finn, with Fort Pierce Mayor, Linda Hudson presenting it.

The games will be played as an inaugural tournament for the Fort Pierce trophies which will be presented after the event. All are welcome to attend this special celebration of Irish heritage and culture. ❖



Second Annual Fort Pierce Blessing of the Fleet Scheduled for March 9th

Join us as we kick off a safe boating season at the second annual *Fort Pierce Blessing of the Fleet* on Saturday, March 9 at 11:00 a.m. in the Intracoastal Waterway.

The *Blessing of the Fleet* is a time-honored tradition where vessels are blessed to mark the beginning of a safe boating season. From powerboats to sailboats, canoes to kayaks and riverside spectators, this tradition is for you! Help us celebrate Fort Pierce's historic waterfront during this unique event. The procession will begin at the Turning Basin and parade east toward the Fort Pierce Inlet. Each boat will be blessed as it passes the Coast Guard vessel.

Everyone is invited to a free community barbecue following the parade with marine safety booths, demonstrations by the U.S. Coast Guard and live music starting at 12:00 p.m. at South Causeway Park (414 Seaway Drive, Fort Pierce). The small craft blessing (kayaks, jet skis, etc.) will take place from the shore of South Causeway Park at 1:00 p.m.

This event is made possible thanks to a partnership between the **City of Fort Pierce**, **St. Andrew's Episcopal Academy**, **Freedom Boat Club** and the **United States Coast Guard Station**, Fort Pierce.

Online registration is required for fleet blessing participation. Please visit: www.LoveFortPierce.com for more information.

For additional information, contact the City of Fort Pierce at 772.467.3031. ❖



To the Wearing of the Green — St. Patrick's Day Around the World and in Fort Pierce

by Britt Anderson

We all know about St. Patrick's Day and probably have downed a pint o' two of the green beer, but what do we really know about Saint Patrick? He was born in Scotland in 387 and died in Ireland in 493 (though some sources put his death as 460 or 463). He was born to a Roman family and while his father was a priest, he claimed no religious inclination at an early age. At 16, he was captured by the Irish and sold into slavery where he tended sheep and it was during this time that he turned to Christianity according to his writings in "Confessio" (one of two of his only writings). He also became familiar with the details and language of Druidism. After 6 years, he fled his captivity to Britain, by ship. In the ensuing years, he spent time in Europe (countries as we know them had yet to be formed) and with religious leaders, was ordained in the priesthood and was given the mission of "gathering the Irish into the fold" by Pope St. Celestine.

By all accounts, he returned to Ireland in 433 to begin his mission. It is shortly thereafter that he performed his miracles. What follows is a short version of those miracles, greatly oversimplified by me.

1) A confrontation occurred between St. Patrick and his "forces" and the "king/chieftain" of a local druid clan, in which the king/chieftain's body was turned to stone until he converted to Christianity.

2) In the second miracle, a fire was set and the king/chieftain (a different one) could not put it out until St. Patrick — to



the astonishment of all — rode through the flames and they were no longer. He was recognized for his mercy and piety. There is some question as to the Saint's financial dealings and about wealthy woman but we must consider the times in which he lived, pre-middle ages. There is no doubt that he established the Roman Catholic Church in Ireland and drove out or converted the older druid segments. One of his most enduring teachings was the use of the shamrock to illustrate the trinity: it's

three leaves on a stem representing God the Father, Jesus his Son, and the Holy Spirit. However, most of what we know of St. Patrick has come down to us by later scholars and clerics in the 16th and 17th centuries.

St. Patrick's Day is observed on March 17th, the supposed date of his death. In Ireland, it is a day both of solemnity and a holy day of obligation as well as a celebration of Ireland itself. It is celebrated in many other countries as well as in the United States where there are 34.7 million U.S. residents with Irish ancestry; more than seven times the population of Ireland itself.

The first St. Patrick's Day parade in the U.S. was in 1762 when Irish soldiers serving in the English military marched in New York City. Parades, shamrocks, Irish soda bread, corned beef and cabbage have also become associated with the St. Patrick's Day celebration. By all references, green beer was first poured in the Bronx in 1914 but the "downing of the Shamrock" (beer in which a shamrock has been placed), has no date to which it can attached. The coloring of lakes and streams and

Last Chance to Get Brunch & Raffle Tickets for the 23rd Annual Backus Brunch & Painting Raffle

In the tradition of A.E. "Bean" Backus, who knew the best way to bring people together was with great art and wonderful food, the **A.E. Backus Museum & Gallery** invites you to join us for the 23rd Annual "*All You Should Eat*" **Backus Brunch** on Sunday, March 3rd from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon. Brunch tickets are \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door, rain or shine. The annual raffle drawing for an original Backus painting, valued at \$25,000, will be held at 12:30 p.m., with raffle tickets available for \$25 each, 3 for \$60, or 6 for \$100. Brunch and raffle tickets are available online, by phone, or by visiting the Museum during regular hours.

The **Backus Brunch** is the modern translation of an authentic *Florida Cracker* breakfast, with many extras to enjoy. The signature menu items are fresh-fried mahi-mahi, creamy scrambled eggs laced with cream cheese and other secret ingredients, southern-style biscuits, and cheese grits. But your palate will be even happier to know that there's also sausage, pancakes, biscuits — with the Summerlin Family secret recipe for sausage gravy — fresh-squeezed **Nelson Family Farms** orange juice, Plant City strawberries, and, naturally, mimosas and Bloody Marys.

... continued from previous page

other objects can be attributed to the inventiveness of other Irish-Americans.

Here in Ft. Pierce, we are not willing to let this holiday go unnoticed. This year, because the 17th falls on a Sunday, we will be celebrating on Saturday, March 16th, which will give everyone time and no excuses for religious celebrations on Sunday. **Sailfish Brewery** and **2nd Street Bistro** are creating their **3rd Annual Block Party on 2nd Street** to celebrate and all the stores on the block will be joining in for one huge party. The street will be for pedestrians only. The party is for all ages, fun for the kids, and pampering for the adults. There will be a stage

Each year, the highlight of the event takes place at 12:30 p.m. with the raffle drawing for an original painting. This year, the painting is beautiful 30" x 24" scene, St. Lucie River (1968), oil on canvas, valued at \$25,000. This striking vertical scene captures the fragile grandeur of our local ecosystem and is a magnificent reminder of the importance of our natural environment. Only 2,500 tickets will be available, so odds are exceptionally good to win if you participate. You need not be present to win, but you do need to buy a ticket, and the more you buy, the better your chances.


While enjoying the **Backus Brunch** or waiting for the raffle, you can also delight in the final day of the special exhibition, *Artists of Color: Place, Race, and Vision of the Florida Highwaymen*. The exhibition will be on view until 4:00 p.m., March 3, 2019.

Don't miss the **Backus Brunch** — a delicious tradition! The **Backus Brunch** is an event benefiting the **A.E. Backus Museum & Gallery**, and generously sponsored by **Sunrise Ford** and **Nelson Family Farms**. ❖

for live music, a vendors' village for arts and crafts, and two pub bars serving, of course, green beer and other beverages. Corned beef sandwiches, corned beef and cabbage, Shepard's Pie and other specials will be available. There is no charge to attend. *String Assassins* will be playing from 3 to 5 p.m.; *The Humdingers* from 6 to 8 p.m.; and the *Rivertown Band* from 9 to 12 p.m. This will be a great way to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. **Main Street Fort Pierce** salutes both the **2nd Street Bistro** and **Sailfish Brewery** for making this event happen.

Top o' the day to you all and may you have fair winds and following seas at your back. ❖

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Arbor Day Foundation Names Fort Pierce Tree City USA

Fort Pierce was named *Tree City USA* by the *Arbor Day Foundation* in honor of its commitment to effective urban forest management. The City of Fort Pierce has received this prestigious designation for 30 consecutive years.

Fort Pierce achieved *Tree City USA* recognition by meeting the program's four requirements: a tree board or department, a tree-care ordinance, an annual community forestry budget of at least \$2 per capita, and an Arbor Day observance and proclama-



tion. "This award was made possible by the Fort Pierce Tree Board and all of their hard work throughout the year," said Paul Bertram, Urban Forester.

"Everyone benefits when elected officials, volunteers and committed citizens in communities like City make smart investments in urban forests," said Matt Harris, chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. "Trees bring shade to our homes

and beauty to our neighborhoods, along with numerous economic, social and environmental benefits."

Trees are assets to a community when properly planted and maintained. They help to improve the visual appeal of a neighborhood, increase property values, reduce home cooling costs, remove air pollutants and provide wildlife habitat, among many other benefits.

This year, the City of Fort Pierce will celebrate Arbor Day with a tree planting ceremony in the

roundabout at Avenue Q and 17th Street. The ceremony will take place on Saturday, March 2nd at 9 a.m. in conjunction with the *Keep Fort Pierce Beautiful Great American Cleanup*.

The *Tree City USA* program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters. More information on the program is available at arborday.org/TreeCityUSA. ❖

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"America's Got Talent" – Grandma Lee to Raise Laughs and Funds for Local Charity

There's something inherently funny about an old lady using the art of misdirection to throw you off of what you think she was going to say and get you laughing. Grandma Lee made it to the finals on NBC's "America's Got Talent" and has since been touring the U.S. doing her stand-up routine at ven-

ues, on radio and TV. On March 15, Ft. Pierce audiences will get a chance to see Grandma Lee as she performs at the **Black Box** at the **Sunrise Theatre**. Grandma Lee isn't afraid to speak her mind and take audiences off guard with her outrageously insightful humor. She'll be helping *United Against Poverty* of St. Lucie County raise funds for their programs that empower people to lift themselves to economic self-sufficiency. UAP is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

The comedy night also has other big names attached to it like Spike Yoder and Phill Isme who have appeared at The Comedy Zone and The IMPROV clubs throughout the USA. Casey Peruski and Spaz from Casey N Spaz Comedy will MC the night and entertain with comedy and giveaways. The night will end with a live auction that includes smart TVs, XBOX 1, and a combo of other great items including a cruise for two.

Seating is limited and tickets can be found at SunriseTheatre.com or by calling the box office: (772) 461-4775. Grandma Lee with Spike Yoder, Phill Isme, Casey Persuski and Spaz will be at the **Sunrise Theatre Black Box** on Friday, March 15th at 7 p.m. Admission pricing is \$27-\$80 (special package available). ❖

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Join Us at the 2019 Bev Smith Automotive Group's Sandy Shoes Seafood & Brew Festival

Bev Smith Automotive Group is once again the Title Sponsor for the *Sandy Shoes Seafood & Brew Festival*. The traditional, historic event, now celebrating its 61st Anniversary, will be held in beautiful downtown Fort Pierce. Frank Gonzalez and **Bev Smith Automotive Group** are excited to rejoin forces with *Main Street Fort Pierce* and **Above Average Entertainment** to bring you this memorable event and encourage everyone to come out and have a great day. Frank says "Great food, fun and entertainment will be on the agenda, so make certain that you mark your calendars for this exciting event!"

The **Bev Smith Automotive Group**, which includes **Bev Smith Toyota** in Fort Pierce, **Bev Smith Kia in Fort Pierce** and **Bev Smith Kia of Stuart** have long enjoyed a good

reputation of quality vehicles and excellent service on the Treasure Coast. With three award-winning locations and a staff of over 235 employees, customers can expect red-carpet treatment from the moment they enter any of the showrooms. All three dealerships have a 5-star hotel appearance, friendly staff to greet customers and nearby lounges to allow service patrons to relax while waiting for their vehicle to be serviced by experienced certified technicians. There are special amenities for those that like the comforts of home, such as a continental breakfast and complimentary refreshments throughout the day, big screen HD TVs, free WiFi and plush, comfortable chairs for customer's convenience and pleasure. A shuttle service is also available Monday to Saturday. The three dealerships also boast a large fleet of readily-available rental vehicles with competitive



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Contact information: Topher Gutmann (212) 221-1203; Info@flythewhale.com or www.flythewhale.com. *Welcome to Fly The Whale!*



Continued on page 14 ...

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SANDY SHOES ... continued from page 13

To register for a Fly the Whale seaplane ride visit: www.flythewhale.com, \$75 for 15 minute ride; 5 flights every 1 hr.; 15 minutes beginning at 10 a.m. – 10 a.m., 11:15 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 1:45 p.m., 3 p.m.

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Paul Jacquin & Sons supports the continued efforts of *Main Street Fort Pierce, Inc.* Some of our downtown Fort Pierce projects include: restoration work at the **Sunrise Theatre**, the **St. Lucie Battery & Tire** building, the Old Fort Pierce Hotel building, the **Fort Pierce Marina** support building, and the **Backus Museum & Gallery** expansion.


Explore our online portfolio at www.pjsi.com or call us at (772) 465-2475 to discuss your construction needs.

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March 23, 2019 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Free Admission

www.sandyshoesseafoodandbrew.com

Live music, craft beer, variety of food, crafts, seaplane rides, competitions, food demonstrations, children's activities, and more all along the beautiful Indian River Lagoon in historic downtown Fort Pierce. Main Street Fort Pierce would like to acknowledge and thank all of the sponsors who make this festival possible.



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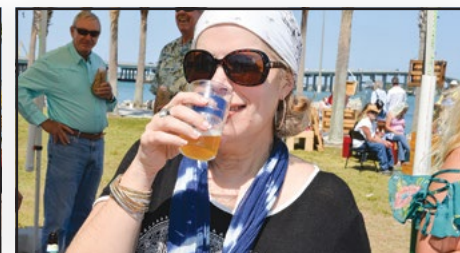
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schedule of events

- 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Chowder Cup Competition
- 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Kids Zone Activities
- 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Arts & Crafts Show
- 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Local Celebrity Food Demonstrations Sponsored by Seacoast Bank
- 1:30 p.m. Local Celebrity Food Demonstrations Sponsored by Seacoast Bank
- 2:00 p.m. Citrus Squeeze-Off Sponsored by Paul Jacquin & Sons, Inc
- 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Craft Beer Tasting Sponsored by Southern Eagle (wristbands \$20 presale by calling call 466-3880 or visit event website to purchase; \$25 the day of event)

Entertainment

- 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., Main Stage Fort Pierce Jazz & Blues Society
- 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m., Main Stage The Doo Wop Guys
- 2:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., Main Stage Checkmate Band
- 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Craft Beer Stage The Little Things
- 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., Main Stage The Humdingers

Free Parking is available along AE. Backus Avenue, Second Street, the Fort Pierce City Parking Garage between Avenue A and Orange Avenue off US Highway 1, and the St. Lucie County Parking Garage south of the Sunrise Theatre. Handicap DROP OFF and limited Handicap parking will be at the Manatee Center Parking Entrance. Trolley will be available for pick up at parking areas until 7:00 p.m.

For more information, sponsorship or volunteer opportunities on the Seafood Festival call the Main Street Fort Pierce office at 772-466-3880 or e-mail Michelle at michellec@mainstreetfortpiece.org.

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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	Community Levels	Corporate Levels
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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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- 1 – Call Main Street Fort Pierce at (772) 466-3880
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- 3 – Fill out the membership form and mail to:

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

Marching Into Spring at the Downtown Fort Pierce Farmers' Market

Here it is already — March! Things are buzzing along at the Downtown Fort Pierce Farmers' Market! Winter visitors are returning to find the Market better than ever, and those new to the area are delighted to find one of the best farmers' markets in the country. Local residents already know what's here year-round.

Crowds of patrons have decided the only thing to do on a Saturday morning is stroll through Marina Square at the Fort Pierce Marina to enjoy the sights and sounds of the Downtown Fort Pierce Farmers' Market.

Munching the morning away and shopping for the week has become the norm for residents and visitors alike. Whether grabbing breakfast bowls from **Tony's Delight**, **K-Malou's** shrimp and grits, paella from **Costa Azul**, **Fresh Fusion's** acai bowls, delicious pastries from **Importico's**



Bakery and washing it down with fresh ground and brewed coffee from **Barefoot Gourmet** or **Treasure Coast Coffee Traders**, or fresh-squeezed orange juice from **Ace High Farms** or **Al's Family Farms**, there's never a chance to be hungry.

Shopping for the weekly pantry fill up is easy when choosing fresh produce, especially when perusing locally grown from **Aunt Zorada**, **Pure Produce**, and **G and C Produce**, certi-

fied organic locally grown from **Gibbons Farms**, fresh mushrooms by the **Mushroom Guyz**, or the more exotics not locally produced from **Tony's Produce**.

Locally-produced chicken and eggs from **AE Family Farms**, and healthy beef, lamb and pork that **Okeechobee Farms** procures from instate sources, and fresh, frozen wild shrimp from **Anytime Seafood** are a delicious addition to your meals.

Importico's offers fabulous baked breads, **Little Bake Shop** brings delicious sweet breads and cookies, **3 Angels Cheesecake** has oh-so-good cheesecakes, **Gina's Bake Shop** teases the taste buds with an enormous assortment of delightful treats, and **Granny Gail's** has several vegan breads and cakes.

Rounding out the pantry is **Lucky Onion Dips**, **Brenda's Sauces**, **Kat's Southern Twang Jellies, Sauces and Pickles**, **Lola Tortola Sugar and Spice** herbs and old-fashioned seasonings, and a wonderful assortment of domestic and imported cheeses from **The Cheese Shoppe**. **Macy's Smoked Fish Dip** and **TC Seltzer** complete the menu.

No wonder the **Downtown Fort Pierce Farmers' Market** has been voted in the top five in the nation! The marina is adjacent to the park and the sea wall gives a front row view of the Indian River Lagoon. Feed the fish and watch the dolphins and manatees as the seagulls and pigeons vie for any tidbit thrown in their direction. Children of all ages love the sights.

A *Saturday Morning Tradition* for 22 years! Come join the fun every Saturday morning from 8 until 12, rain or shine. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram or check out the web at fortpiercefarmersmarket.com. ❖



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Around Town

Two Libraries — 35 Authors — 5th Annual Local Authors Book Fair

The St. Lucie County Library's 5th Annual Treasure Coast Authors Book Fair will present the diverse work of authors residing in the counties of St. Lucie, Martin and Indian River. The Fair will take place at the Kilmer and Lewis Branch Libraries on Saturday, March 30, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Authors at the Kilmer Branch: Matthew Brant Bailey, Victor Begg, Jon U. Bell, Bryan Blake, Fred Berri, Bill Gable, Paul "Paulie" Gavoni, Jim Harding, Carol Kieffer, Yashi Nozawa, W.H. Short, and Dennis Sommers.

For more information please contact Jennifer Johnson at 772-462-2199 or johnsonjen@stlucieco.org.

Kilmer Downtown St. Lucie County Extension Service Master Gardener Lecture Series

3/1/19 @ 1:00 p.m. *Master Your Garden: Explore Native Plants*
3/8/19 @ 1:00 p.m. *Master Your Garden: Butterfly Gardens*
3/15/19 @ 1:00 p.m. *Master Your Garden: The Joy of Herb Gardening*
Contact: 462-1660, sl-mg@ifas.ufl.edu.

Thursday Evening Book Discussion Group at Kilmer Branch

First Thursday of the month @ 6:00 p.m.
March Book — *Salvage the Bones* by Jesmyn Ward
Contact: Jennifer Johnson, 462-2199, johnsonjen@stlucieco.org.

Page to Screen — A Book & Film Discussion Group for adults

Friday, March 22: *The Glass Castle* (2017). Based on the 2006 book *The Glass Castle: A Memoir*, by Jeanette Walls. A woman reflects on her unconventional upbringing at the hands of her artsy, nonconformist parents. Rated PG-13, 127 minutes.

Susan B. Kilmer Downtown Library Branch Children's Programs

Rhythm & Rhyme Toddler Story Time

Early literacy through rhymes, stories, movement & more.
1st, 2nd, 3rd & 5th Friday of the month @ 10:30 a.m.
This program is most suited for children ages 2 to 3.
462-2812, pernag@stlucieco.org.

Storytime Jam Reading & Rhythm

Kids ages 3 to 5; clap, dance, sign & listen to stories.
1st, 2nd, & 4th Wednesday of the month @ 10:30 a.m.
462-1615, pernag@stlucieco.org.

Kilmer Downtown Branch March Lectures

3/2/19 @ 3:00 p.m. *The Truth About Sharks and Rays*
3/5/19 @ 3:00 p.m. *The Navy SEALS in Fort Pierce*
3/14/19 @ 1:00 p.m. *The Ghosts and Legends Behind Irish Verse*
Contact: Jennifer Johnson, 462-1615, johnsonjen@stlucieco.org.

Great Expectations Book Discussion Group (walk-ins welcome)

3rd Thursdays of the month @ 10:00 a.m.
March — *The Line Becomes a River* by Francisco Cantu
Contact: 462-2787, newtond@stlucieco.org.

Genealogy Family Research

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon;
Tuesday, 3/5/19 @ 1:30 p.m. — Navigating through Ancestry.com.

S.T.E.A.M. Storytime

Kids ages 2 to 5; come explore the world of science with stories and a science demonstration. Learn about weather, rainbows, color, motion and more.
3rd Wednesday & Friday of the month @ 10:30 a.m.

SenseSational Storytime

2nd Saturday of the month @ 3:00 p.m.

Family Movie: Smallfoot

3rd Saturday of the month @ 2:00 p.m.

Open Air Puppet Theatre

4th Saturday of the month @ 10:30 a.m.

Love, JAZZ Community: Are They Crazy?

by Don Bestor

Every year, *Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society* pulls out all the stops and offers a full week of concerts and live musical events, and most of them are absolutely free. What? Are they crazy? Not totally. The members of *Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society* are just crazy in love with music and the chance to live in this beautiful piece of paradise we all call home. To show their gratitude, they put together a week's worth of awesome, live professional music to share with the Treasure Coast and help spotlight our beautiful and historic downtown Fort Pierce. And all you have to do is show up to join in the fun and festivities of **Jazz Week 2019**.

This year's **Jazz Week** kicks off on Sunday, March 24th with a free **Waterside Blues Concert** at Melody Lane in beautiful and historic downtown Fort Pierce with rock-infused blues of the *Rusty Wright Band*. Wright, who's played with Buddy Guy, Nancy Wilson of Heart, Stevie Ray Vaughan Drummer Chris Layton and so many others, will have Melody Lane smoking with his guitar wizardry and stage presence.

As always, the party starts at 1 p.m. with a set from the *Jazz Ensemble*, then kicks into high gear at 3 p.m. when the *Rusty Wright Band* takes the stage. Bring your lawn chairs and umbrellas but leave the bottles at home; we'll have plenty of food and drinks available on site that afternoon.

Just when you've recovered from meeting Mr. Wright, on Tuesday, March 26th, a jam session with *Steve Ahern* will take place at the **Sunrise Black Box Theatre**. Because there are limited seats available, you'll want to reserve your seats and come early for this awesome addition to **Jazz Week**.

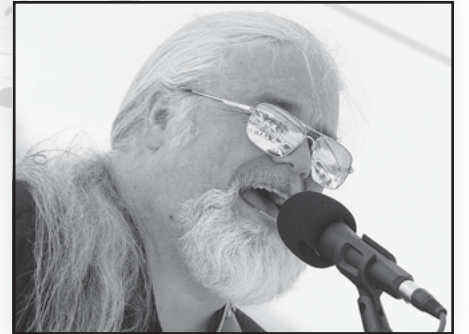
Wednesday, the 27th, is *Latin Swing* day with a free concert on the waterside from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in downtown Fort Pierce, with live music and plenty of room for dancing. Then, we'll give you time to finish out your work day or catch a quick catnap, then we'll bring on FDO — the Big Swingin' Band, which is nearly 20 pieces of awesome musicianship and a whole evening of tunes you can dance to. We'll close down Second Street, so you'll have plenty of room for Dancin' in the Streets, and if your happy feet are feeling lucky, take a chance at our swing and Latin dance contests. And the whole evening is free because, well ... that's what we do!

Thursday, March 28th, is the *Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society's Performance Ensemble* appearing on the waterside at Melody Lane from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.,

so grab a friend and have an afternoon to remember with all your favorite songs from the Great American Songbook.

But save some energy for Friday, March 29th, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., and we'll give you a taste of the blues; but we're keeping the artist a surprise for now. Both the Thursday and Friday concerts are absolutely free, but no one will ever mind if you make a small donation to help fund the music scholarships we provide to talented Treasure Coast students preparing for a career in music.

Valentine's Day may be over, but there's still a gift from the heart and a whole lot of love heading in your direction thanks to the annual week jam-packed with music, fun, and festivities we've come to know as **Jazz Week**. If you'd like to learn more about *Fort Pierce Jazz and Blues Society*, want to know how to join (to get super discounts on upcoming events and activities), volunteer, or snag a copy of our schedule, call 772.460. JAZZ (5299), or visit us online at www.jazzsociety.org. ❖



Small Business Solutions: Mentoring: the Missing Link to Small Business Growth and Survival

by *Kathleen McShane, SBA Official*



As a former small business owner and entrepreneur, I know first-hand the support, resources and access to networks and financing that entrepreneurs need. While there are many businesses that experience success, the fact remains that only half of all small businesses survive more than five years (source: SBA Office of Advocacy); and about 10–12 percent of all employee-based firms close each year. There is growing evidence, however, that connecting a business with a mentor can change this statistic.

Having a mentor can change the playing field for a small business. Research has shown us that small businesses that receive mentoring early in the development of the business achieve higher revenues and increased business growth. A survey by the UPS Store found that 70 percent of small businesses that received mentoring survived more than five years — double the survival rate of non-mentored businesses. The same survey found that 88 percent of business owners with a mentor said that having one was invaluable.

When Lorena Cantarovici first set her sights on entrepreneurship, she attended a workshop run by a SBA Denver Small Business Development Center that helped her develop her first business plan. Lorena's love for hand-crafted empanadas turned into a thriving small business. Early on, she got counseling from the SBDC on accounting, marketing, legal issues and

risk management. As demand soared, her business grew and she was able to move from a converted kitchen in her garage to a storefront.

Because starting a business can be overwhelming, a mentor can help to navigate the complex challenges that often come with being a business owner. There are many factors involved in business startup, from applying for licensing to securing financing. And those factors can have an impact on turning one's passion into a profitable business. Getting guidance from someone who has been there themselves as an entrepreneur or business owner can be an added asset. In addition, there are resources available to provide business owners with the knowledge and guidance that are key to business growth, development and survival.

Having a business mentor can yield many benefits and provide the expertise that you might not have. A mentor can help you avoid common pitfalls through their real-life experiences. And a mentor can help establish you as a lifelong learner.

The SBA's experienced volunteer mentors can provide meaningful business advice, some at no cost. Lorena is a great example of entrepreneurship, and a symbol of the many ways the SBA supports entrepreneurs as they start and grow. She was even honored as the *SBA's Colorado Small Business Person of the Year* in 2017.

There are several SBA resources in the community committed to making your small business a success.

Working with a mentor or counselor from SCORE, a Small Business Development Center, Women's Business Center or a Veterans Business Outreach Center can help with all aspects of starting, growing or expanding your business.

SBA's sources of Mentoring and Counseling:

Women's Business Centers (WBCs) are part of a nationwide network that provides business training, counseling and other resources to help women start and grow successful businesses. Tied closely to the SBA, WBCs are also able to advise women about business financing such as SBA loan programs. If you are interested in selling to the U.S. government, WBCs can also provide guidance and training resources to help you get started and navigate the process.

Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs) help entrepreneurs realize their dream of business ownership, and SBDC counselors can help businesses remain competitive in an ever-changing global economy. Business owners can access free one-on-one counseling and low-cost training. Some of the counseling and training topics

available include marketing, regulatory compliance, technology development and international trade.

SCORE is the nation's largest network of volunteer business mentors. These business executives share real-world knowledge at no cost and fit your busy schedule. SCORE mentors are available as often as you need in person, via email or over video chat.

Veterans Business Outreach Centers provide entrepreneurial development services such as business training, counseling and resource partner referrals to transitioning service members, veterans, National Guard & Reserve members and military spouses interested in starting or growing a small business.

About the Author: Kathleen McShane, SBA Official. As the Assistant Administrator for the Office of Women's Business Ownership, Kathy McShane is responsible for overseeing Women's Business Centers throughout the country. These centers offer counseling, training and mentorship to women who want to launch or expand their business. She provides advice, assistance and support to promote, coordinate, and monitor the efforts of the Federal government to establish, preserve, and strengthen women-owned business. Prior to joining the SBA, she was CEO and Founder of Ladies Launch Club, a company that provided guidance to women who wanted to launch a business.

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Florida Humanities Council

Florida Humanities Speaker Series

The A.E. Backus Museum & Gallery in partnership with Main Street Fort Pierce, Inc. are pleased to present the following *FREE* Florida Humanities Speaker Series topics:



Tuesday, March 5, 2019 – 2:00 p.m.
Florida Transportation History: Planes, Trains, & Automobiles (& Steamboats too!)
 PRESENTED BY STEVE NOLL
 Location: **Sunrise Black Box Theatre**
 117 South 2nd Street, Fort Pierce

Florida's history as territory and state can be told through the changing methods of transportation designed to move people and goods both to Florida and within Florida. Examining the changing transportation networks in the state, this presentation shows how Florida moved from a backwoods frontier to one of the most important states in the union. Tying transportation history to social history, this presentation moves from the Bellamy Road of the 1820s to the modern transportation issues facing Florida in the 21st century.



Tuesday, March 19, 2019 – 2:00 p.m.
Patrick Smith's Florida is a Land Remembered
 PRESENTED BY RICK SMITH
 Location: **Sunrise Theatre**
 117 South 2nd Street, Fort Pierce

This program isn't a "book lecture" or a "talk"; it is a visual storytelling produced and presented by famed author Patrick Smith's son, Rick (Patrick, Jr.), a professional media producer. Rick has created over 50 video clips, special visual and sound effects, music and more to bring his presentation to life. It has been shown over 240 times in venues all over Florida, to rave reviews. Rick will discuss his late father's body of work and why he decided to write about society's underdogs. Using video records of his father, you'll learn how Patrick Smith researched A Land Remembered for over two years before he could write it, and he'll share his thoughts about the "real" Florida.



Tuesday, April 2, 2019 – 2:00 p.m.
Alligators in Florida Culture
 PRESENTED BY JEFF KLINKENBERG
 Location: **A.E. Backus Museum & Gallery**
 500 North Indian River Drive, Fort Pierce
 Few states have a relationship with an animal in the way that Florida does with the alligator. Whether it's a school mascot, being wrestled at a tourist attraction, or sunbathing on a golf course, these reptiles are ubiquitous to our state. After hearing Jeff Klinkenberg's lecture, and watching his accompanying video, you'll agree that there can be no Florida without alligators. Hey, keep your hands inside the canoe.

These lecture series are free to the public. Please call **Main Street Fort Pierce** at (772) 466-3880 (Monday – Friday); or the **A.E. Backus Museum** at (772) 465-0630 (Wednesday – Sunday) to reserve a seat. You can also register by visiting www.backusmuseum.com.



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by Sue Dannahower

Microwave Cooking Tips

Having a hard time with peeling fruits like tomatoes and peaches? Just place these fruits in the microwave on high heat for 30 seconds. Have it cool down for two minutes after heating. Once it cools, you will see the skin gradually peeling by itself. The rest will be simple.



Want foamy milk for your hot beverages? Simply pour fresh milk about halfway in the jar. Close the lid and shake the milk until it becomes frothy. Remove the lid, place the jar in the microwave, and heat it high for 30 seconds. Once done, you can scoop the milk and place it on top of a hot drink.



Peeling garlic skin can be tiresome, especially when you do not have the time. Just have a clove of garlic stay in the box. Set the heat on full for 15 seconds. The moisture will stay on the skin, thus making the skin easy to peel.



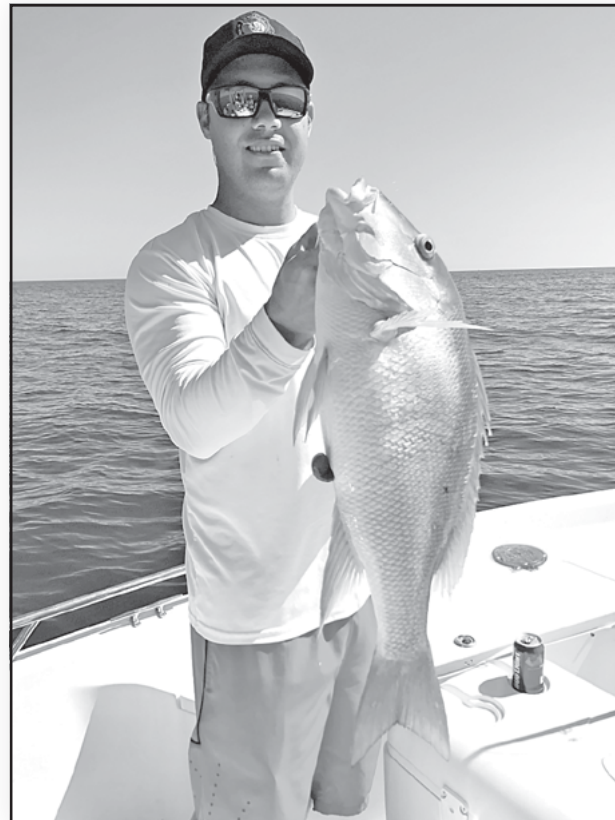
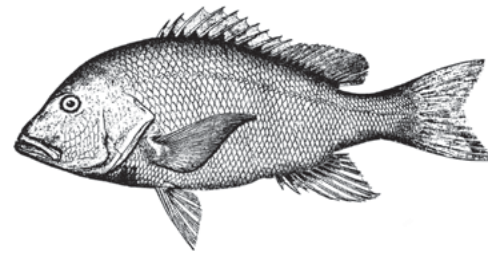
March Fishing Report: The Treasure Coast

by Captain Bo Samuel, Pullin Drag Charters

There's more than one reason why we are called the Treasure Coast! Inshore, the bite is good for snook, trout, and redfish along the flats, docks, and bridges from high slack tide to the outgoing tide. For many anglers, snook fishing is the main focus and bait fishing with pilchards is a good bet to catch one of these prized linesiders. When targeting snook, make sure you have your drag set tight as these fighters are good at breaking off around pilings, docks and other structure. As the water continues to warm up, the snook action will increase. Fishing the Indian River can also produce black drum, flounder, and tripletail. Sheepshead are still around the inshore reefs and live shrimp will definitely give some steady action.

Offshore bottom fishing is great for snapper, usually chewing on the reef in about 60–90 foot. Bottom fishing with cut-bait or live can see a variety of big snapper in the boat like mangroves, lanes, and mutton. While anchored, it's a great idea to put a flat line out behind the boat for a chance to hook kingfish, cobia, or even a sail.

For fishing regulations, check your local bait and tackle shop or myfwc.com. If you're looking for that pot of gold, it's in the water! Happy St. Patrick's Day on the Treasure Coast and *keep Pullin Drag!*



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Recipe Corner

by Sue Dannahower

Easy Breakfast Ideas

Eggs are a staple of my diet, and while I eat plenty for lunch and dinner, they're still most often seen on my breakfast table. Versatile, affordable, with a nice dose of protein to kick off your day, it's no wonder that eggs are more closely associated with American breakfasts than almost any other food. Here are a few quick and easy breakfast ideas.

Mexican Egg Casserole



- 1 dozen eggs, beaten
- 1 16-ounce carton of sour cream
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ¼ teaspoon white pepper
- 1 small can of diced chilies
- 1 pound cheddar cheese, shredded
- 1 jar green chili salsa

Combine eggs, sour cream, salt and pepper. Spray a casserole dish with PAM. Place cheese and the chilies in the bottom of the casserole dish. Top with egg mixture. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes. Top with salsa. Serve warm. *Serves 6 to 8.*



Egg Ramekins

- 6 slices bread, crusts trimmed
- 12 slices bacon
- 6 eggs

Fry bacon until crisp. Butter the bottom of a muffin tin. Rip crust off bread. Press a slice of bread into the muffin tin. Crumble 1/6 of the bacon on top of the bread. Crack an egg on top. Bake 15 minutes at 350 degrees. *Serves 6.*



Mexican Cheese Bars

- 1 pound Cheddar cheese, shredded
- 1 pound Monterey Jack cheese, shredded
- 1 large can chili peppers, drained and chopped
- 1 6-ounce can evaporated milk
- 6 eggs

Mix cheeses and put half on bottom of 9 x 12 pan. Layer peppers on top of the cheese and put on rest of cheese. Beat milk and eggs, pour over top. Bake one hour until light brown at 350 degrees. Cool one hour before cutting into squares. *Serves 8 to 10.*

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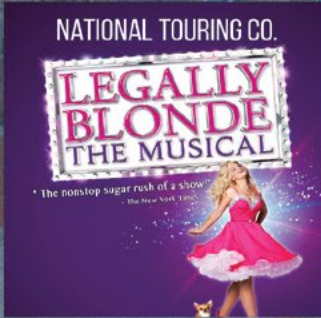
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MARCH 14TH



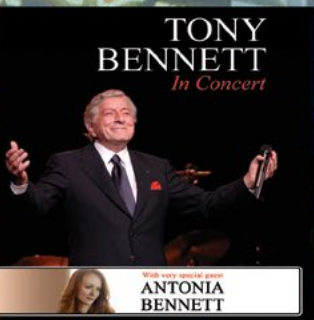
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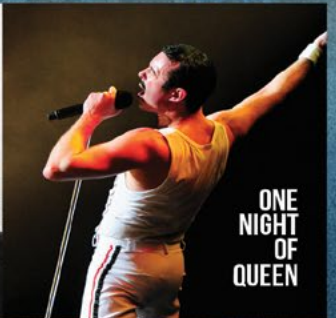
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