



U P D A T E

St. Lucie County

August 15, 2006

**A Monthly Update
of Current Events
and Happenings
within St. Lucie**

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This update is published monthly by the St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners' Public Information Office.
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Board of County Commissioners Special Meetings & Workshops Scheduled

- The Environmental Resources Department and the Surfrider Foundation will be holding a restoration planting day on Saturday, August 19, 2006, beginning at 8:30 AM at the County's Blind Creek site located on South Hutchinson Island.
- There will be NO Board of County Commissioners meeting on Tuesday, September 5, 2006, due to the Election.
- The Board of County Commissioners will hold the Preliminary FY 2007 Budget Public Hearing on Thursday, September 7, 2006, at 6:00 PM in the County Commission Chambers.
- The Florida Association of Counties Regional tour will be on Thursday, September 14, 2006, at 10:00 AM in the County Commission Chambers.
- The Board of County Commissioners will hold the Final FY 2007 Budget Public Hearing on Thursday, September 14, 2006, at 6:00 PM in the County Commission Chambers.
- The Board of County Commissioners will hold an Art In Public Places Sculpture Dedication on September 18, 2006, at 10:30 AM in front of the Old Civic Center.
- The Board of County Commissioners will hold a Workshop with the University of Florida Officials on Monday, September 25, 2006, at 2:00 PM in Conference Room 3, at the Roger Poitras Annex.
- The Board of County Commissioners day meeting scheduled for September 26, 2006, will be held at 6:00 PM.
- The Board of County Commissioners will hold an Art In Public Places Sculpture Dedication on September 29, 2006, at 10:30 AM at the Walton Road Annex.
- The Board of County Commissioners will host a Ribbon Cutting for the Weldon B. Lewis Park on Thursday, October 19, 2006, at 2:00 p.m.
- There will be NO Board of County Commissioners meeting on Tuesday, December 26, 2006, due to the County's observance of the Holiday.

"Oral History Project"

The WQCS/Indian River Community College "Oral History Project" Story Van (a fully-equipped mobile recording studio) will be at the St. Lucie County Historical Museum on Saturday, September 23rd from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. In conjunction with the Museum's special exhibit "Away All Boats - Amphibious Attack from Fort Pierce," WQCS Oral History Project Specialist Janie Gould will conduct 30-minute interviews of both civilians and soldiers' memories of "Fort Pierce Fights Back - the Home Front Histories of WW II." If you would like to schedule an interview, please contact Anne Sinnott, museum educator at (772) 462-1891 or e-mail sinnotta@stlucieco.gov.

St. Lucie County Marine Center

In cooperation with the Smithsonian Marine Center, the St. Lucie County Marine Center is celebrating its five year anniversary on August 30, 2006. The Marine Center features aquariums and a touch tank with over 8,000 gallons of marine life, which includes, clown fish, hermits crabs, snook, starfish and seahorses. Admission is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children. Tuesdays are free admission. For more information, please contact the Marine Center at 772-462-FISH. The Marine Center is located at 420 Seaway Drive in Fort Pierce.

River Park Marina Renovations Underway

On August 1, the Board of County Commissioners awarded Bid Number 06-052 to the low bidder, Summerlin Seven Seas, in the amount of \$148,696.75 for the purchase and installation of riprap, fishing dock, boating docks, landscaping and signs for the River Park Marina. The Board of County Commissioners also approved the use of Park "B" Impact Fees in the amount of \$30,000 to assist with the expansion of the parking area to accommodate boat trailers. Construction is scheduled to begin later this year.

Special Needs Shelter

The new special-needs shelter/auditorium will be completed by May 2008. Construction on the project should begin in early 2007. The 60,000-square-foot two-story building will be at the Lawnwood Stadium Complex and will include a gymnasium/auditorium that doubles as the shelter, kitchen, laundry room, restrooms and showers and Parks and Recreation offices. Amenities include a kitchen, laundry room, 56 women's restrooms, 32 men's restrooms and 14 showers. The special-needs shelter/auditorium will be able to hold 750 people during a storm emergency or 2,000 for community events. The estimated cost of the special-needs shelter/auditorium is \$12.1 million dollars.

White City Drainage Improvement Project

On August 1, the Board of County Commissioners approved Work Authorization No. 5 for Roadway and Intersection Design for the White City Drainage Improvement Project for Citrus and Seager Avenues with LBFH, Inc., in the amount of \$84,220. This includes conceptual plans, probable construction costs, grant application preparation, surveying, wetland delineation, and 30% construction plans.

Investment for the Future

On August 1, the Board of County Commissioners approved the purchase and installation of two public display signs for the Administration Complex and approved the use of Central Services Project Reserves in the amount of \$15,000. Installation of this system will enable visitors to easily find locations they wish to visit within the complex; a far more advanced and improved system compared to the current diagram used for this purpose. Total costs associated with the purchase and installation of the public display sign system is \$15,000.

Indian River Lagoon License Plate Program

On August 1, the Board of County Commissioners approved the submittal of a grant application for funding from the Indian River Lagoon License Plate FY 2006 Grant, in the amount of \$39,776 for the purposes of purchasing and planting native plants at Blind Creek and for the purchase of a water circulating device to be employed at Impoundment 10B. Staff proposed using \$109,000 in funds from a previously applied-for, upland exotic removal grant at Blind Creek from the Treasure Coast Upland Invasive Exotic Working Group as the local cost share. The total project cost is estimated to be \$148,776.

Upcoming Events at the Oxbow Eco-Center

Guided Canoe/Kayak Tours ~ Join an Oxbow naturalist for a leisurely paddle down the St. Lucie River. Fee is \$10 per person. Children 5 - 7 are free. Reservations and prepayment is required. For more information, please call (772) 785-5842.

Morningside Library Events

Current Events Discussion Group ~ Every Wednesday from 1 to 3 p.m.

Manga Youth Book Discussion Club ~ Every Monday from 3:45 to 5 p.m.

Monday Musings Book Discussion ~ Every second Monday of the month at 3 p.m.

Tuesdays with Maureen Book Discussion ~ Every first Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. All discussion groups are open for drop-ins. Call 337-5632 for more information.

Joseph E. Smith, District 1 • Doug Coward, District 2 • Paula A. Lewis, District 3
Frannie Hutchinson, District 4 • Chris Craft, District 5

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