



U P D A T E

St. Lucie County

February 15, 2008

**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. Direct inquiries to Ja' Net Pentz, Executive Assistant St. Lucie County 2300 Virginia Avenue Fort Pierce, FL 34982 772.462.1453 pentzj@co.st-lucie.fl.us

Board of County Commissioners Special Meetings & Workshops Scheduled

- The Board of County Commissioners will hold the February Informal Monthly Meeting on Tuesday, February 26, 2008 at 1:30 p.m. in Conference Room #3.
- The Board of County Commissioners will hold the Strategic Planning Session on Wednesday, March 12, 2008 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on Thursday, March 13, 2008 from 8:00 a.m. to Noon at Tradition Town Hall.
- The Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council will hold a Joint Meeting on the Taylor Creek Charrette Master Plan with the Board of County Commissioners, City of Fort Pierce and St. Lucie Village on Monday, March 24, 2008 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- The Board of County Commissioner will hold the March Informal Monthly Meeting on Tuesday, March 25, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. in Conference Room #3.

St. Lucie County Fair Scheduled

The 43rd Annual St. Lucie County Fair will begin on Friday, February 22, 2008, and run through Sunday, March 2, 2008, at the St. Lucie County Fairgrounds. The Fairgrounds is located at 1501 West Midway Road in Fort Pierce. For more information, please call 464-2910 or visit www.stluciecountyfair.org.

New York Mets Spring Training

The opening day for Spring Training home games for the New York Mets at Tradition Field will be Friday, February 29, 2008, at 1:10 p.m. versus the St. Louis Cardinals. Be sure to catch all of the action by calling 871-2115 or visit www.traditionfield.com.

Frontier Florida Festival

Hang out at a cow camp, crack a cow whip, chew the fat with the Florida Cracker Trail riders, story tellers and historians, and enjoy a fun-filled frolic at Frontier Florida Fest on Saturday, February 23, 2008, from noon until 4 p.m. The event will be held at Museum Pointe Park in Fort Pierce. Admission is free. For further information for both visitors and vendors, please contact the St. Lucie County Historical Museum Education Department at (772) 462-1891.

St. Lucie County Celebrates Fitness with “Step Up, Florida!”

St. Lucie County's Parks and Recreation Department in cooperation with the St. Lucie County Health Department and Lincoln Park Main Street will celebrate health and fitness with the annual “Step Up, Florida!” program on Monday, Feb. 18 from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Designed to create awareness about the importance of physical fitness and being active, a host of activities will be held at the Lincoln Park Community Center, 1306 Ave. M in Fort Pierce, including soccer games, Frisbee activities, a bounce house, a bicycle rodeo and more. The event will also include a dramatic expression poetry and dance celebration in honor of Black History Month. A community walk will be held from Avenue D and 13th Street to the Lincoln Park Community Center with registration beginning at 8:30 a.m. and the walk taking place at 9 a.m. For more information about the “Step Up, Florida!” event, call the St. Lucie County Health Department at (772) 873-4925 or Lincoln Park Main Street at (772) 462-2481.

Hattitude Luncheon To Honor the Late Zora Neale Hurston

Hats, hats, and more hats, a fashion show, music and a silent auction will be featured at the 3rd annual Hattitude Luncheon in memory of the late Harlem Renaissance author Zora Neale Hurston. The luncheon is Saturday, February 23 from 2 to 6 p.m. at the Koblegard Student Union at Indian River Community College on the Main Campus in Fort Pierce. As part of the 4th annual "Zora Fest! The Harlem Renaissance," the Hattitude luncheon recognizes Hurston's love of hats, with guests asked to wear a hat to the luncheon. Reservations are \$30 per person and can be made by calling the St. Lucie County Cultural Affairs Council at (772) 462-1767.

Upcoming Events at the Oxbow Eco-Center

The Oxbow Eco-Center, St. Lucie County's environmental learning center, has several events scheduled for February, including birding for beginners, children's activities and weekly hikes.

- In cooperation with the St. Lucie Audubon Society, the Oxbow will be offering a six-part "Birding for Beginners" series. Three classroom sessions accompanied by three field trips make this a well-rounded birding experience. The lectures will be held Feb. 26, March 4 and March 18 with field trips taking place March 1, 8, 15. The cost is \$30 per person. Classes meet on Tuesdays from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Field excursions occur on Saturday mornings. To register or for more information, contact Wren Underwood at underwoe@stlucieco.gov or (772) 785-5842.
- Guided hikes continue at the Oxbow every Saturday at 10 a.m. Join an Oxbow naturalist as they lead visitors along a series of trails, discussing the plants and wildlife that live in the different habitats along the North Fork of the St. Lucie River.
- The Ribbon Cutting for the New St. Lucie River Exhibit at the Oxbow Eco-Center will be on Thursday, March 6, 2008 at 3:30 p.m. For more information, please call 785-5833.

Oxbow Eco-Center Hosts "Step-Up, Florida!"

The Oxbow Eco-Center will provide several opportunities to be physically active in the great outdoors on Saturday, Feb. 16 from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. as part of "Step Up, Florida!" In partnership with the St. Lucie County Health Department, the Oxbow will host activities as part of "Step Up, Florida!" – a statewide initiative promoting physical activity and healthy lifestyles to Florida's citizens and visitors. Activities for the day include: short kayak trips on the North Fork of the St. Lucie River from 9 – 11 a.m. at White City Park, guided nature and birding hikes at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. along the Oxbow's trails and geocaching at 11:45 a.m. and 2 p.m. Staff will be on hand to provide information about St. Lucie County's many natural places. Visitors may also participate in self-guided hikes and scavenger hunts throughout the day. A schedule of events can be found on Oxbow's website www.stlucieco.gov/erd/oxbow. These activities are free and open to everyone. The Oxbow is located at 5400 N.E. St. James Drive, Port St. Lucie (across from the Publix Shopping Center). For more information call the staff at (772) 785-5833 or visit www.stlucieco.gov/erd/oxbow.

St. Lucie Clerk of Court Relocates to New Offices

With the completion of the new \$12 million Clerk of the Court Building in Downtown Fort Pierce, several divisions within the St. Lucie County Clerk of the Court Office will be relocating Feb. 15-18. The 57,000-square-foot building will house more than 120 Clerk of the Court employees that have been displaced at various locations throughout St. Lucie County since the 2004 hurricanes. The new facility will include the following divisions: Administration, Circuit Civil, Court-Related Administration, Family Support, Felony Court, Guardianship, Indigency/Collections, Information Technology, Microfilm, Misdemeanor, Probate, Recording/Office Records, Research, Small Claims and Traffic Cashiers. The Jury & Witness and Domestic Violence divisions will remain at the Main Court House on 218 Second Street, Fort Pierce; however, the Domestic Violence will relocate from the first floor to the third floor. The Finance Division will remain on the second floor of the County Administration Building, 2300 Virginia Ave., Fort Pierce. Juvenile Court will remain at 435 N. 7th Street, Fort Pierce. Family Court, Mental Health and Marriage Licenses will relocate from the Orange Blossom Business Center on Okeechobee Road to 2400 Rhode Island Ave., Fort Pierce. The Recording/Official Records, Small Claims and Traffic divisions at the South County Annex, 250 N.W. Country Club Drive, Port St. Lucie, will remain at that location. For additional information regarding the relocation of the Clerk's divisions, please call (772) 462-6900. Or for a detailed list of which divisions have moved and what floors they are located on visit: <http://www.slcclerkofcourt.com/directoryinfo.htm>

Joseph E. Smith, District 1 • Doug Coward, District 2 • Paula A. Lewis, District 3
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