



U P D A T E

St. Lucie County

June 15, 2008

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

In this Issue:

- Special Meetings & Workshops Scheduled
- Burn Ban
- Recovery Plan
- Juneteenth
- Library Events
- Historical Museum
- Oxbow Events

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 June 24 Regular Board of County Commissioners Meeting and the June 24 Informal Meeting have been canceled due to lack of quorum.
- The Board of County Commissioners will hold an Informal Monthly Meeting on Monday, June 30 at 2 p.m. in Conference Room 3.
- The Board of County Commissioners Budget Workshops will begin Monday, July 7 and run through Thursday, July 10 in Conference Room 3.
- The Board of County Commissioners will adopt a proposed budget millage during the Regular Meeting on Tuesday, July 15 at 6 p.m. in the County Commission Chambers.
- The July 22 Regular Board of County Commissioners Meeting and the July 22 Informal Meeting have been canceled due to lack of quorum.
- The August 26 Regular Board of County Commissioners Meeting and the August 26 Informal Meeting have been canceled due to lack of quorum.
- The Board of County Commissioners will hold the Preliminary Budget Public Hearing on Thursday, September 4 at 6 p.m in the County Commission Chambers.
- The Board of County Commissioners will hold the Final Budget Hearing on Thursday, September 18 at 6 p.m. in the County Commission Chambers
- The November 4 Regular Board of County Commissioners Meeting has been canceled due to the General Election.
- The Board of County Commissioners will hold the Annual Reorganization Meeting on Tuesday, November 18 at 9 a.m. in the County Commission Chambers.
- The December 23 Regular Board of County Commissioners Meeting has been canceled.

Burn Ban

St. Lucie County officials want to remind residents that the county-wide burn ban remains in effect. In conjunction with the St. Lucie County Fire District and Florida Division of Forestry, St. Lucie County is continuing the burn ban. The county's drought index is currently 521 out of 800. The burn ban applies to all non-permitted, outside burning and fireworks. Agricultural burning will be permitted on a case-by-case basis as authorized by the State Division of Forestry. The St. Lucie County Fire District continues to utilize its Task Force Response Team, which includes two brush trucks, one fire engine, one tanker, one battalion chief and a Division of Forestry plow. As in previous years, the county will continue to monitor the situation on a daily basis and take additional steps as needed until the drought index is once again satisfactory.

St. Lucie County Seeks Rental Properties for Recovery Plan

St. Lucie County is looking to improve its stock of available housing following a natural disaster such as a hurricane. There is nothing more traumatic for victims of disaster than the loss of their home and personal belongings. Finding shelter quickly provides stability for individuals and families during a time of great uncertainty. Having housing resources readily available can provide disaster victims with safety and peace of mind. With the goal of assisting residents to be able to recover faster following a disaster, the St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners approved a County Housing Disaster Plan last year. The Disaster Plan clearly indicates the steps to assist residents and includes a list of rental properties or developments that offer units at or below 120 percent of fair-market value. If you own units that meet this criteria, please call St. Lucie County's Community Services to register your properties at (772) 462-1777 or visit www.stlucieco.gov/community. St. Lucie County also utilizes local real estate agents to locate immediately available rental properties after a storm.

St. Lucie County Celebrates Juneteenth with Three Days of Activities

The St. Lucie County Cultural Affairs Council will celebrate Juneteenth with a variety of activities June 19 – 21, including storytellers, drumming, lectures, poetry reading, interpretive dancing and more. Juneteenth is the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States. For more details about the St. Lucie County Cultural Affairs Council's "Juneteenth" events, call (772) 462-1767 or visit: www.stlucieco.gov. Residents are encouraged to donate canned goods to the Treasure Coast Food Bank during the week of June 16-21, as part of the "Juneteenth" celebration. The donations will be collected at the St. Lucie County Historical Museum, 414 Seaway Drive, Fort Pierce. These programs are sponsored by Buffalo Soldiers Bikers, Lincoln Park Community Center, African-American History Society, George & Associates Contractors, Sarah's Memorial Chapel, Toby Philpart, Bling Magazine, Inc., City of Fort Pierce, Fort Pierce Redevelopment Agency, St. Lucie Children's Services Council, St. Lucie Historical Museum, St. Lucie County Cultural Affairs and Winn-Dixie – Fort Pierce.

St. Lucie County Libraries Host Summer Programs

Throughout the summer, all St. Lucie County libraries will feature free entertainment by magicians, musicians and storytellers. Starting Saturday, June 14, anyone can join in the fun, including toddlers, children, teens and families. Some of the presenters include: Sean Driscoll – a gifted storyteller, actor, and musician; Mr. Brian and The Boppets - songs and stories with amazing life size puppets; Steve Knight and his Nifty Puppets - ventriloquist, puppeteer, comedian and entertainer; Suzy Hammer as Salty Sue The Pirate Lady - she brings music and tales of the sea and rich pirate lore from Florida; and Puppets To Go – an updated version of the "Frog Prince." For more detailed information, please contact one of the following libraries:

- Fort Pierce Branch, 101 Melody Lane, Fort Pierce, (772) 462-1616
- Lakewood Park Branch, 7605 Santa Barbara Drive, Fort Pierce, (772) 462-6870
- Morningside Branch, 2410 Morningside Blvd., Port St Lucie, (772) 337-5632
- Port St. Lucie Branch, 180 S.W. Prima Vista Blvd., Port St. Lucie, (772) 871-5450
- Zora Neale Hurston Branch, 3008 Avenue D, Fort Pierce, (772) 462-2154

St. Lucie County Historical Museum Walks On The Wild Side With Bud Adams

Take "A Walk on the Wild Side" this summer at the St. Lucie County Historical Museum. This special natural history exhibit, featuring the Florida wildlife photographs of local cattle rancher and environmentalist Bud Adams, opens Tuesday, June 17 at the Museum, 414 Seaway Drive, South Hutchinson Island. An open house and reception, with a slide show program presented by Adams, will be held Sunday, June 22 from 2-4 p.m. at the Museum. "A Walk on the Wild Side of St. Lucie County" features 30 of Adams' large color photographs depicting the native wildlife thriving in harmony with the cattle being raised on the Adams Ranch. The Museum's collections of mounted animal specimens and fossil remains of Florida's prehistoric past will also be highlighted. The exhibit runs through Sunday, Aug. 17, and will be complemented by special Florida wildlife programs. The St. Lucie County Historical Museum also features 16 permanent exhibits depicting the history of the people, places, lifestyles and livelihoods of St. Lucie County. The 1908 Gardner House is also featured. Museum hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. and Sunday from noon – 4 p.m. A modest admission is charged: \$4 for adults, \$3.50 for seniors over 65 and \$1.50 for children 6-17 years. Children under 6 are free. Group rates and guided tours are also available by appointment. For further information, please contact Anne Sinnott, museum educator at (772) 462-1891.

Upcoming Events at the Oxbow Eco-Center

Join an Oxbow naturalist for a leisurely paddle down the St. Lucie River on June 21 at 9 a.m. Fee is \$15 per person. Children 5-7 are free. RSVP & prepayment is required. For more information, please call 785-5833.

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

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