



One Voice

Summer in St. Lucie...



Summertime, and the livin' is easy in ST. LUCIE COUNTY! In this edition of **One Voice**, you'll read about many of the fun, exciting things your tax dollars support during these hot months. For our kids, the local pools will be open all summer and so will our library branches! Encourage your children to exercise their brains this summer either before or after that swim. Our staff on both fronts are prepared to keep your boys and girls engaged and safe!

Also, if you haven't had an opportunity to do so, take some time this summer to enjoy the arts ST. LUCIE COUNTY has to offer. Enjoy a visit to the St. Lucie County Historical Museum on Seaway Drive, follow the Zora Neale Hurston Dust Tracks Heritage Trail, or watch local students perform in the St. Lucie County School District's Summer Musical Annie at Port St. Lucie High School in June. I was exposed to the arts in elementary school and my life was transformed! I believe that the best way to make our society better is if we make ourselves better. Enjoy all that is ST. LUCIE COUNTY this summer!



Honoring the Honorable

Its legacy began way back when St. Lucie County was still swarming with mosquitoes and most people got from here to there on horseback or by foot. For 95 years, Mount Moriah Primitive Baptist Church has been serving the spiritual needs of St. Lucie County residents. In March, members celebrated their longevity with a banquet honoring local leaders, who Pastor Leon Wilson describes as "Community Armour Bearers working in the trenches to make a difference in our community."



Mt. Moriah honored Commissioner Smith and four others with awards.

Commissioner Smith was among those honored at the grand event, along with longtime St. Lucie County School Board Member Samuel Gaines, Ft. Pierce City Commissioners R. Duke Nelson and Rufus "Butch" Alexander, and St. Lucie County Supervisor of Elections Gertrude Walker. On receiving the award, Commissioner Smith stated "I feel unworthy to have received an award of this magnitude, and appreciate the consideration."



Fun in the Sun

The countdown to summer break is on! As the school year winds down, you may be wondering what in the world to do with your kids all summer. The St. Lucie County Parks and Recreation Department has some ideas for you! Here is a list of summer camps that are available in our area:

All programs run May 30th—August 4th

- Central HS Summer Camp** 1101 Edwards Road 772.462.1792
- Lincoln Park Summer Camp** 1306 Avenue M 772.462.1788
 - Youth ages 5-11 years old
 - Monday—Friday 7:30a—5:30p
 - Two weekly field trips, local and non-local
 - \$45/wk per child, plus field trips
- Lincoln Park Teen Camp** 1306 Avenue M 772.462.1788
- Maravilla Park Teen Camp** 2622 Oleander Blvd 772.462.1792
 - Youth ages 12-14 years old
 - Monday—Friday 7:30a—5:30p
 - Two weekly field trips, local and non-local
 - \$45/wk per child, plus field trips

COOL OFF IN THE POOL...

Open Space Pool - Ave M & 13th Street
462-1903

Paradise Park Pool - 2020 Juanita Avenue
Both pools will open for the summer season Memorial Day weekend.

*Pool rates: \$2.00/day for county residents

*Month, 3-Month and Annual Passes available



Spotlight on: Drowning Prevention

It's summer in Florida, and it's HOT! Pools and the ocean provide heat relief for many, but before you sport your bathing suit, grab your towel and head for the water, here are some facts to consider:

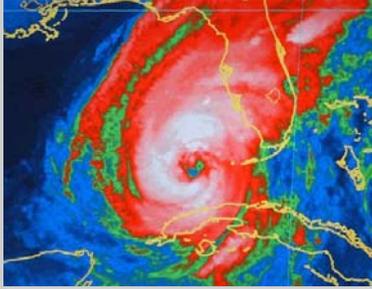
- Drowning is the leading cause of death in children under the age of 5.
- For every child that drowns, four others are hospitalized due to near drowning.
- More drownings and near drownings occur in the summer months than any other time of year.

The good news is that **DROWING IS PREVENTABLE!** Here are a few tips offered by the Health Department that will help keep you safe while you're splashing this summer:

- * Always swim with a buddy
- * Swim near a lifeguard if possible
- * Do not swim if you are sick or fatigued
- * Do not dive head first into shallow water or where you don't know what's under the surface
- * Get out of the water immediately if you see lightening

For additional tips and information, go to:
www.stluciecountyhealth.com/waterwise.pdf

Sights on Storm Season...Will YOU Be Ready?



October 23, 2005—Hurricane Wilma barrels through the Gulf on her way to St. Lucie County!

It may feel to you like Hurricane Season just ended...and here we go again! The 2006 Hurricane Season begins on June 1st, and now is the time to start getting prepared. You can begin by getting together a **Disaster Supply Kit**, which should include: water (1 gallon per person for 3 days), food (enough for at least 3 days), blankets, clothing, medicines/first aid kit, toiletries, flashlight & batteries, battery operated radio, and cash. It also helps to have a **Family Disaster Plan**— locate a safe room in the house, determine escape routes and places to meet, determine an evacuation plan and be ready to leave if you are ordered to evacuate (be prepared to wait in traffic!), and have an out-of-state friend act as a contact for your family members. Now is also the time to **Secure Your Home** - make sure your roof, straps, shutters, doors and garage doors are secured or retrofitted to meet current requirements. And finally, devise a **Pet Plan** - stock up on pet food, keep a collar with an ID on it for each pet, and know

in advance what you will do with your pet if you need to evacuate. For more tips on Hurricane Preparedness, visit www.floridadisaster.org.

Important Numbers

Commissioner Joe Smith

(772) 462-1410

carins@stlucieco.gov

Ft. Pierce City Hall

(772) 460-2200

SLC School Board Office

(772) 429-3600

State Representative

Richard Machek

(772) 595-1391

State Senator

Ken Pruitt

(772) 344-1140

Governor Jeb Bush

(850) 488-7146

jeb.bush@myflorida.com

US Representative

Alcee Hastings

(202) 225-1313

US Senator

Bill Nelson

(202) 224-5274

US Senator

Mel Martinez

(202) 224-3041

The White House

(202) 456-1414

Beat the Heat...READ!



What is a summer activity that doesn't require sweating or swimming? Reading! The St. Lucie County Library System (www.st-lucie.lib.fl.us) is ready and willing to help students spend their summer vacations in air-conditioned style. Check out programs like "Waggin' Tales" and "Bookfeast", or simply stop by your local branch and pick up a book. Here are the summer hours for District 1 Libraries:

Ft. Pierce Branch

Mon - Wed 9:00a - 8:30p

Thur & Fri 9:00a - 6:00p

Sat 9:00a - 5:00p

Sun 1:00p - 5:00p

Hurston Branch

Mon & Fri 9:00a - 5:00p

Tue, Wed & Thur 9:00a - 8:30p

Sat (closed 12p-1p) 9:00a - 5:00p

Sun CLOSED

Breaking Ground



St. Lucie County's Clerk of the Court will soon be getting a new home, thanks to Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne. Employees have been displaced throughout the county since the 2004 storms, when several of their buildings were severely damaged. In April, local leaders met for a groundbreaking ceremony on the 57,000 square foot facility, which will be located at the corner of Indian River Drive and Atlantic Avenue in downtown Fort Pierce. The \$12 million project is being constructed by David Brooks Enterprises of Palm Beach Gardens and will include 2,500 square feet of retail and restaurant space. The project is expected to be complete by late 2007.



Artist's rendering of the new Clerk of the Courts Building in downtown Ft. Pierce

Meeting Schedules

County Commission:

6p - 1st/3rd Tues of every month

9a - 2nd/4th Tues of every month
Administration Bldg.

3rd Floor

2300 Virginia Ave

Ft. Pierce City Commission:

7p - 1st/3rd Mon of every month

City Hall

100 North US 1

School Board:

6p - 2nd/4th Tues of every month

School Board Office

4204 Okeechobee Rd.

Lincoln Park Business Assoc.:

7p - 2nd Wed of every month

Willie B. Ellis Police Substation

1220 Avenue D

Questions or comments about our newsletter?

Do you have an issue you'd like for us to discuss in the next newsletter?

Maybe an event you would like announced to the community?

Call or email Carin:

462-1410 or

carins@stlucieco.gov