



U P D A T E

St. Lucie County

October 15, 2008

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

In this Issue:

- Special Meetings & Workshops Scheduled
- Ribbon Cutting
- 2nd Annual Treasure Coast Green Conference
- Splash Park
- Historical Museum
- George E. LeStrange Natural Area
- Fairwinds

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 an Informal Monthly Meeting on Tuesday, October 28 at 1:30 p.m. in Conference Room 3.
- The Tuesday, 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 Board of County Commissioners will hold an Informal Monthly Meeting on Tuesday, November 25 at 1:30 p.m. in Conference Room 3.
- The Tuesday, December 23 Regular Board of County Commissioners Meeting has been canceled.

Havert L. Fenn Center Ribbon Cutting

The Board of County Commissioners would like to invite the public to attend a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on Thursday, October 16 at 1:30 p.m. Following the Ribbon Cutting there will be an Open House until 9 p.m. For more information, please call 462-1517.

2nd Annual Treasure Coast Green Conference

St. Lucie County will host the 2nd Annual Treasure Coast Green Conference, which is set for Thursday, Oct. 23 from 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. at the new Havert L. Fenn Center in Fort Pierce. Co-hosted by the U.S. Green Building Council - South Florida Chapter Treasure Coast and Palm Beach Branch and the City of Port St. Lucie, this conference works to inspire businesses and government to take a creative, comprehensive approach to development that works with the natural environment, enhances regional economies, and results in healthy, resource-efficient communities. St. Lucie County is committed to taking the lead on creating a green Treasure Coast, and this year's conference promises to raise the bar by:

- bringing a fresh line-up of high-impact speakers with new and innovative ideas,
- focusing on creative, practical projects that are green and profitable, and
- providing more meaningful networking opportunities.

The new location at the brand new Havert L. Fenn Center, located at 2000 Virginia Ave., incorporates numerous green features which will be highlighted. The green facility also provides for a greater number of participants and room for exhibit booths to showcase green products and services. For more information, visit www.treasurecoastgreen.com.

Splash Park Now Open at Ravenswood Pool

The new Splash Park at Ravenswood Pool is now open. Featuring a variety of water-soaking structures, this new 4,800-square-foot splash area is open for children of all ages. Located directly behind the pool, the Splash Park is open during open swim hours everyday and will keep the same yearly operating schedule as the pool. Admission into the splash park cost \$1, in addition to the regular pool entrance fee of \$2 for county residents, \$3 for non-county residents and \$1 for seniors. In addition to the new splash park, Ravenswood received nearly \$1 million in improvements, including three new shade structures/pavilions, a new ticket booth and classroom, expanded parking lot and office area. Designed by Edlund • Dritenbas • Binkley Architects and constructed by Barth Construction, the project was funded with Investment for the Future funds and Park Impact Fees, which were collected in the Port St. Lucie zone. For more information about the splash park call the St. Lucie County Aquatic Division at 871-2183 or stop by the Ravenswood Pool, 200 Ravenswood Lane, Port St. Lucie.

St. Lucie Historical Museum Presents Haunted History

The St. Lucie County Historical Museum presents Haunted History: Night at the Booseum on Friday, Oct. 24 and Saturday Oct. 25 from 7-9 p.m., located at 414 Seaway Drive. Come learn about the darker side of our area's history when the museum becomes the "Booseum" for the Third Annual Haunted History Program. Encounter the ghosts of pirates who roamed our shores. Meet the Seminole wolf-man. Explore the legend of Dr. Weedon and the cruel fate of Osceola. Find out what spirits still haunt the Boston House. Learn why some of the soldiers of old Fort Pierce never left the area and what bizarre creatures terrorized our early settlers. What lengths did some people go to in order to ensure that they were not buried alive? Learn about the history of the macabre and past traditions of All Hallows Eve. Visitors can also enjoy a few "tricks and treats" including candy, cider, donuts, giveaways, games and hayrides. Admission is \$3 per person for ages 6 and up. Due to content, this program is not recommended for small children. Visitors are encouraged to come in costume. For more information call Brynn Batsche at (772) 462-1891 or email at batscheb@stlucieco.gov.

St. Lucie County Opens New 94-Acre George E. LeStrange Natural Area

The St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners recently opened its latest nature preserve; the George E. LeStrange Natural Area. Located at 4911 Ralls Road, off of Selvitz Road, this 94-acre preserve features a mile-long hiking trail through pine flatwoods and a floodplain forest. The site features a large man-made lake that used to be an old sand mine. A canoe launch is available for people to paddle and fish the lake, but due to the steep slopes swimming is prohibited. Fishing is allowed on the lake, but "catch-and-release" rules apply, and only electric motors are permitted. Named after Mr. George E. LeStrange (1912-1962), a local outdoors and an avid fisherman, it is not uncommon to see Bald Eagles and Ospreys flying around the lake. Purchased with assistance from the Florida Communities Trust's Florida Forever Program, this site will eventually connect to several miles of proposed trail along Ten Mile Creek and the North Fork of the St. Lucie River. St. Lucie County's Environmental Resources Department (ERD) has completed 21 of the 24 natural areas projects that have been acquired through the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Bond approved in 1996. Roughly 7,200 acres have been acquired. Upcoming projects include: Hackberry Hammock and Citrus Hammock. These sites are open from dawn until dusk and managed and maintained by St. Lucie County's Environmental Resources Department. For more information call the ERD staff at 462-2525 or visit www.stlucieco.gov/erd.

Fairwinds Hosts Two-Person, Four-Ball Golf Tournament

Fairwinds Golf Course will host the St. Lucie County Two-Person Team, Four-Ball Golf Tournament Nov. 1-2. Format for the amateur tournament includes a stroke-play qualifier on Saturday and 9-hole, match play on Sunday. The cost to enter the tournament is \$200 with checks made payable to St. Lucie County Amateur Golf Association. Sorry no credit cards will be accepted. The deadline to enter is Oct. 24 at 5 p.m. All entries received prior to Oct. 17 may play one practice round after noon between Oct. 20-31 for the cart fee only. Applications are available online at www.stlucieco.gov/fairwinds on the "Events" page or by calling Fairwinds Golf Course at 462-2722. Fairwinds Golf Course is an award-winning public course managed by St. Lucie County's Parks and Recreation Department, located at 4400 Fairwinds Drive, Fort Pierce (one mile south of Indrio Road on U.S. 1 on the west side of the highway). For more details on the golf course call 462-1955. To reserve a tee time call the automated reservation line at 462-4653.

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

St. Lucie County Public Information Office • 2300 Virginia Avenue • Fort Pierce, FL 34982
772.462.1453 • pentzj@stlucieco.gov

