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# FOCUS

The Official Monthly Newspaper of Main Street Fort Pierce

## Stars *Over* St. Lucie 4th of July Celebration



NICOLE, RAIKI, BELLA, EMMA AND EVER BLANCO. PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARIYANN KETCHAM

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## The Fort Pierce Yacht Club Around Downtown

by Robynn Holland, Community Liaison

The Fort Pierce Yacht Club, in addition to being a boating and social club, has as a goal to be actively involved in the community. As an all-volunteer club the success of the FPYC is dependent on the involvement and volunteerism of the membership. We are very proud of the various ways our membership is involved in the community, not only with the FPYC but with many other organizations in the City of Fort Pierce.

**Donations to FPPD Courageous Kids Program:** Volunteers from the FPYC participated in the April *Main Street Friday Fest* by serving drinks from 5-8:30 p.m. Through this effort, tip money was raised. The FPYC is donating the "tip" money to the FPPD Courageous Kids Program for supplies for their summer program. The FPYC Foundation is also in conversation with the FPPD for ways the Foundation can support the *Courageous Kids Program* during the summer and throughout the school year.

**Congratulations to Commodore Forest Blanton, Cefee with the Mayor, Volunteer of the Month:** Forest Blanton, the Commodore of the FPYC, is serving his second term and while he is at the helm of the



FPYC Commodore, Forest Blanton and Ernie Small, Director of the TCYSF.

FPYC he still finds time to volunteer for other programs. At the May meeting of *Coffee with the Mayor*, Forest Blanton was recognized as the *Volunteer of the Month*. The *May Coffee with the Mayor* was sponsored by the *Treasure Coast Youth Sailing Foundation* and Forest was cited for his volunteer efforts with the TCYSF. Forest serves as the Vice President of the TCYSF. Since Forest was off on a sailing adventure, his lovely wife, Kathy accepted the award for him.

**Donation to Main Street Fort Pierce:** *Main Street Fort Pierce* is very important to the economic growth and stability of downtown Fort Pierce and the FPYC has been a longtime supporter, both with donations and participation in *Main Street* programs. In May, Commodore Forest Blanton presented a check to Doris Tillman for membership renewal and sponsorship of the *Main Street/City of Fort Pierce Annual Fourth of July Celebration, Stars Over St. Lucie. Stars Over St. Lucie* includes spectacular fireworks which can be seen from many



FPYC Commodore, Forest Blanton and Doris Tillman, Main Street Fort Pierce Manager.

venues around the city and is a favorite outing for the community. We thank all that are involved for making this a special time in our city.

**16th Annual Treasure Coast Waterway Cleanup,** *Saturday, July 22, 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.:* Commodore Forest Blanton is the FPYC contact person for this annual event. For many years the FPYC has been a cleanup/check in site and has had good membership participation. Both the FPYC and the FPYC Foundation are sponsors for this event. We encourage all that live in the Treasure Coast area to register to participate at <http://www.treasurecoastcleanup.com/register-here.html> Here you will find all the details needed for registration. Clean up week is Saturday, July 15th - Sunday, July 23rd. You can go out by yourself, with a group, on a boat or clean up on the shoreline. Commodore Blanton will be manning the FPYC check-in site, along with other members of the FPYC so if you need a place to start, please come join us.

**Memorial Day:** *Memorial Day* is a very special day at the FPYC as they honor the men and women who died while serving in the U. S. military. This year, Mathew Marques, a student at Lincoln Park Academy, played taps during the ceremony. He did an outstanding job and added greatly to the ceremony. In addition to Mathew, we appreciate the many volunteers of the FPYC who made this *Memorial Day* remembrance possible.

**100th Anniversary of the Sunrise Theater:** Congratulation to the *Sunrise Theater* on their *100th Anniversary*. The *Sunrise Theater* has a very unique history and has been a part of the City of Fort Pierce since the "roaring twenties." The *Sunrise Theater* website states: "Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the *Sunrise* opened its doors on August 1, 1923 as the largest theatre on Florida's East Coast between

Jacksonville and Miami. It quickly became the center of all St. Lucie County's cultural activities. The theatre closed its doors on September 8, 1983, due to the decline of the downtown area and a refusal to convert to multi-screen operation. In 1988, *Main Street Fort Pierce* was established and soon realized the need for the *Sunrise Theater* as a center for local, national and international world class performing arts presentations. *Main Street Fort Pierce* began an effort to save the historic theatre. In 1997, the *Sunrise Theater* was purchased by the St. Lucie Preservation Association Inc., and today, after reopening on January 6, 2006, the theatre is completely renovated to its original splendor with state-of-the-art sound and lighting systems and is owned and operated by the *City of Fort Pierce*."

Make plans to attend *The Sunrise Theater Spookoosy*, the *Sunrise Theater Centennial Celebration*, Saturday, July 29th, from 7-11. To learn more about being a sponsor or buy tickets go to: <https://www.sunrisetheatre.com>. It will be a night to celebrate with fun, laughter, music and friends. Hope to see you there! ♦



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