

Scenic Watch



Covering
News From
May
2019

700 hundred new trees planned:
"The new St. Pete Pier is now
getting trees"



Photo: From article in FLAPOL

"The new St. Pete Pier is getting its first touches of nature this week. The city began planting the first of 700 trees throughout the district..."



Fun Festivals
and Events

Central

Th Sept 27
Bandshell concert series,
Daytona Beach
May 31-June 1
Silver Spurs Rodeo,

The first round of tree planting is happening in the marketplace area of the new pier district. That area is in front of the St. Petersburg Museum of History and north to about Spa Beach.

When completed, it will include several stalls for vendors including both food and retail as well as tables and chairs and shaded tent areas.

The palm trees will line the corridor, creating a tropical feel.

'You'll feel like you're on vacation walking through the Pier District,' the city wrote in a post accompanying the video...

-- Janelle Irwin Taylor, FLAPOL

[Read entire article](#)

Florida Scenic Highways: "District Five Byways Workshop"



Photo: Florida Scenic Highways

"Volunteer recruitment and retention was the theme for the day at the third annual District Five Byway Workshop held at the Florida Department of Transportation/District Five offices in Deland on March 28th.

Kissimmee
June 1
Art Stroll and Gallery Walk, New Smyrna Beach
June 1
First Saturday Jam, Barberville
June 1-14
Savor Sarasota Restaurant Week, Sarasota
June 1-30
Bite30, Orlando
June 2-23
Sarasota Music Festival, Sarasota
June 8
Fly In/Drive In Breakfast, Titusville
June 8
World Oceans Day Family Festival, Sarasota
June 8
Second Saturday St Petersburg ArtWalk, St Petersburg
June 8-9
St Armands Circle Craft Festival, Sarasota
June 8-9
Summerfest, Clermont
June 13
Alive After 5, Sanford
June 14-15
Opa! Palooza, Tarpon Springs
June 15
Cruisin' Downtown DeLand Classic Car Show, DeLand
June 15
Art Walk, Sanford
June 17
Climb to the Moon, Ponce Inlet
June 20
Sunset at the Zoo, Sanford
June 21-22
Celebrity Mascot Games, Orlando
June 21-23
St Pete Pride Festival, St Petersburg
June 20
Sunset at the Zoo, Sanford
June 22
Wine Walk and Art Walk, New Smyrna Beach

This day-long workshop served as an opportunity for byway organizations and others involved with the Florida Scenic Highways Program to engage, learn and have fun.

Claudia Calzaretta, the District Scenic Highways Coordinator welcomed the 30+ participants with a review of the many accomplishments that the District's byways have completed over the last 18 months. She then reviewed her DSHC work plan for the upcoming year and finished her general session with a review of the exciting findings of the Scenic Sumter Economic Impact study.

Much of the remainder of the morning was spent listening to guest speakers that touched on the day's theme of 'volunteerism', including Nancy Heller with the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) who discussed a partnering opportunity that can place retired people with not-for-profit organizations to train and provide paid volunteer support to the byway organizations...

For further information on this Workshop, to get a copy of these presentation materials, or anything else associated with District Five Byways, please contact Claudia Calzaretta."

-- Florida Scenic Highways

[Read entire article](#)

Legal: Potential impact on FL's city sign codes; Restrictions on the number of signs per yard at risk

June 28-July 7
Sarasota Powerboat Grand
Prix Festival, Sarasota
June 29
Night in the Islands,
Tarpon Springs

South

May 30-June 12
Summer Sizzle SWFL
Restaurant Week, Naples
June 1
24th Annual Loveland
Show, Venice
June 1
Naples Pride, Naples
June 1
Battle in the Bay Dragon
Boat Festival, Marathon
June 1
MiMo on the Beach
Walking Tours, Miami
June 1
Wheelin' Dealin' Food
Truck Festival, Fort
Lauderdale
June 2
Sunday Jazz Brunch, Fort
Lauderdale
June 3-14
Fantastic Film Makers
Summer Camp, Fort Myers
June 4
Lighthouse Storytime and
Crafts, Jupiter
June 5
Founder's Day at
Whitehall, Palm Beach
June 5,19
Jupiter Lighthouse Sunset
Tour, Jupiter
June 8
Wynwood Artwalk, Miami
June 8
Supercar Saturdays
Florida, Fort Lauderdale
June 12
Casual Bike Ride, Venice
June 12-16
American Black Film
Festival, Miami
June 14
Yappy Hour, Fort Myers
June 14-15



Photo: Will Warasila, New Yorker

"The small city of Bel-Nor, Missouri is at least temporarily blocked from enforcing a local law that restricts homeowners from displaying more than one sign at a time on their property, under a federal appeals court ruling issued on Monday.

Lawrence Willson, who owns and lives in a single-family home in Bel-Nor, sued the city in January 2018, alleging the ordinance trammled his free speech rights and other constitutional protections. The city cited him because he had three signs in his yard.

One said 'Black Lives Matter,' another 'Clinton Kaine' and the third 'Jason Kander U.S. Senate.' Each of the signs is about 18 by 24 inches, according to Tony Rothert, legal director for the American Civil Liberties Union of Missouri, who is representing Willson.

"In our view, a one-sign restriction is too restrictive of speech," Rothert said by phone on Monday.

He went on to describe yard signs as an important form of speech with a 'communicative value that is unmatched' in other mediums.

- Full Moon Kayak Tour,
North Miami
June 15
- Downtown Hollywood
Artwalk, Hollywood
June 15
- Florida Keys Community
College Swim Around Key
West, Key West
June 15-16
- Downtown Venice Craft
Festival, Venice
June 16
- Jupiter Lighthouse
Moonrise Tour, Jupiter
June 20
- Third Thursday Art Walk,
Islamorada
June 20
- Alive After Five, Punta
Gorda
June 21
- National Seashell Day
Celebration, Fort Myers
June 22
- JAH Cultural Festival,
West Palm Beach
June 22-23
- Redland Summer Fruit
Festival, Homestead
June 28-30
- Mystery Fest, Key West
June 29
- FATVillage Artwalk, Fort
Lauderdale
June 29
- SummerJazz on the Gulf,
Naples

North

- Thru June 23**
Kings, Queens, and
Castles, Ocala
- Thru June 16**
Edgar Degas The Private
Impressionist, St
Augustine
- Thru-Sept24**
Bands on the Beach,
Pensacola
- Thru 31-June 1,3**
Billy Bowlegs Pirate
Festival, Fort Walton
Beach

'It's different than buying a billboard, or taking out an ad in the paper, or even writing a letter to the editor, to put what you believe in front of your home,' Rothert said.

The city has argued that its ordinance is 'content-neutral' and regulates all sorts of signs in the same way, and is therefore not subject to heightened legal scrutiny. It has cited traffic safety, especially preventing distractions for drivers, as a main consideration with the sign restrictions...

A federal district court last March denied Willson's motion for a preliminary injunction, which would have prevented Bel-Nor from enforcing the law, at least while the court case played out.

But a three-judge panel for the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals has now reversed that decision.

In an 11-page ruling, the court said Willson is likely to succeed on the merits of his free speech challenge under the First Amendment against the local government ordinance and sent the case back to the lower court for further proceedings.

A Bel-Nor police officer in June 2017 left Willson a written warning that by displaying his three signs he was violating part of the city code, according to the complaint Willson filed in federal district court.

The code, at that time, limited residential property to one 'political advertising' sign and said 'political signs' had to be removed within 15 days after an election."

-- Bill Lucia, Route Fifty

[Read entire article](#) in Route Fifty. NOTE: Due to an unusual ad strategy this article's complete and detailed content can be easy to miss. There is a small link to go past the full width ad and continue reading.

[Read article](#) in New Yorker about art installation in

June 1-Sept 7

Rock the Docks Live
Concert Series, Destin

June 1

Wellborn Blueberry
Festival, Wellborn

June 1

Drake's Raid, St Augustine

June 1

First Weekend Union
Garrison, Amelia Island

June 1

First Saturday Militia
Muster and Training at
Fort Mose, St Augustine

June 1

Guided Tour at Kanapaha
Botanical Gardens,
Gainesville

June 1

Watermelon Festival,
Chiefland

June 2

Florida Safari, Ocala

June 6

Fiesta All Krewe Ball,
Pensacola

June 7

First Friday Art Walk, St
Augustine

June 7

First Friday Garden Walk,
Palm Coast

June 8

Artrageous Artwalk,
Fernandina Beach

June 8

St George Island Mullet
Toss, St George Island

June 9, 23

Blues Angel Music Blues on
the Bay Concert Series,
Pensacola

June 14-15

Junior Anglers
Tournament, Pensacola

June 14-15

Watermelon Festival,
Monticello

June 15

Battle of Bloody Mose
Anniversary
Commemoration, Fort
Mose Historic State Park

June 17

Schooner Freedom Full

June 17

Schooner Freedom Full

June 17

Schooner Freedom Full

photo above.

"Central Florida City Moves to Crack Down on Snipe Signs"



Photo: Dave DeJohn, Spectrum News

"The street advertisements known as snipe signs can be found littering many major roadways, and officials in Tavares are moving to crack down.

The city has won several beautification awards, and officials don't want the signs ruining that.

Tavares spokesman Mark O'Keefe said the city's Code Enforcement officers remove the signs, only to see them go right back up again. At a meeting recently, City Administrator John Drury and City Council members discussed the issue with police officials and decided to step up enforcement by citing chronic offenders.

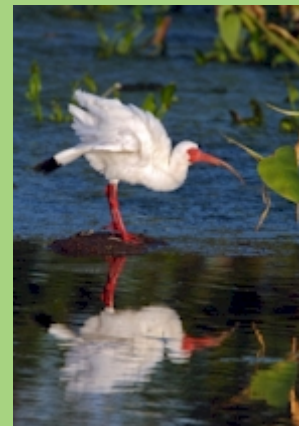
'Snipe signs scattered throughout your whole community are not very attractive, and so we're looking at bringing the enforcement up to the next level to curtail the number of snipe signs that are rampant throughout Tavares,' Drury said then.

So now they are having police issue \$100 fines to repeat offenders.

'The citizens of Tavares and the public

Moon Sail, St Augustine
June 19-23
Emerald Coast Blue Marlin
Classic, Destin
June 20-29
St Augustine Music
Festival, St Augustine
June 20-23
XIV Pan-Am Taekwon-Do
Games, Ocala
June 22-23
Western Dressage Horse
Show, Ocala
June 26-30
International Billfish
Tournament, Pensacola
June 28
River Rhythms, Ocala
June 28-29
Panhandle Watermelon
Festival, Chipley

[For many more events and details please visit the Orlando Times Travel Calendar here](#)



administration have noticed an ever increasing litter problem created by these items called snipe signs,' O'Keefe said.

Antwan Brown, who owns a lawn care business, has seen his share of roadside debris, including plenty of snipe signs.

'Sometimes the paper comes off of them, and then you're stuck with the metal piece in the ground or (they) wind up laying down on the ground. Then when you're not paying attention, trying to get the job done real fast, the metal part ends up shooting out into traffic and now you got a problem,' Brown said..."

-- Dave DeJohn, Spectrum News

[Read entire article](#)

"'Let us have the flags': Santa Rosa County sign crackdown upsets small businesses"



Photo: Gregg Pachkowski, Pensacola News Journal

"Santa Rosa County has been cracking down on unlawful snipe and feather signs in front of businesses.

Santa Rosa County Commissioners were at a near

deadlock Monday about whether to pull back enforcement of the county's feather sign ordinance, which has angered small business owners as the revamped code enforcement department has implemented a crackdown in recent weeks...

The problem is that although the ordinance regarding feather signs has been in the county books for decades, it hasn't actually been enforced until last month. Multiple small business owners who have been using feather signs for years told commissioners they were surprised to learn they were prohibited.

Eric Vines, who owns a small business called Cellular Nerd, said he was visited by code enforcement and asked to remove his signs. He called the ordinance 'misleading' and said the rules 'don't make any sense.'

District 2 Commissioner Bob Cole said it wasn't the board's intent to hurt small businesses when it opted to strengthen the code enforcement department in January, and added that 'it's my fault for perhaps not reading the code long and hard enough.'

'Derelict vessels, derelict automobiles, derelict housing, tattered signs, and the snipe signs that are on public property ... in the public right of way, were my concerns,' Cole said. "It certainly wasn't to involve businesses and hurt businesses..."

But County Attorney Roy Andrews and County Administrator Dan Schebler warned against ceasing to enforce all sign ordinances, saying it could open up a "Pandora's box" and lead to rampant sign usage throughout the county.

'To me, this is about what do we want Santa Rosa County to look like?' Schebler said. "

-- Annie Blanks, Pensacola News Journal

[Read entire article](#)

