



"Women are stronger together!"

February 2026 Newsletter

SOS! HELP NEEDED!

As mentioned in past newsletters, some of our volunteers are participating in the Treasure Coast Night to Shine at the Fenn Center in Fort Pierce on Friday, February 13th. This is an annual prom for teens and adults with special needs. It is an inspiring and fun event. Each guest is assigned a "buddy" who stays with them for the entire evening to make sure they have fun and are safe. It seems that there is a waiting list of participants because there are not a sufficient number of "buddies" who have signed up. If you have been thinking about this but have not signed up, please go to www.tcnighttoshine.com to do so. The deadline for the buddy sign-up is this coming Wednesday, February 4th. If you are participating in this event, please let Janet Maffucci know (mrsjfooch@gmail.com) so that she can look for you that evening.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE

On January 14th, the eleven members of the Executive Committee met for a Day of Retreat at IRSC. Away from the distractions of the outside world, we devoted ourselves to the work of Impact 100 St. Lucie. Now that we have reached 100 members and are in our eighth year of granting, we will be spending the next several months formulating our strategic plan and updating our marketing and advertising materials with an eye toward reaching the next level, whatever that may be. If anyone has expertise in these areas and would like to help out, please contact Janet Maffucci (mrsjfooch@gmail.com). Thank you!

IMPACT 100 ST. LUCIE'S WISH LIST

As mentioned in December's newsletter, Impact 100 St. Lucie is looking for a social media person to promote us online and hopefully take us to the next level. If you have any expertise in this area and might be willing to help, please contact Janet Maffucci to discuss what this might entail.

We will also be looking for members who would be willing to be a liaison for new members to our organization to help them feel welcome and comfortable. More information will be coming on this next month.

SAVE THE DATES!

- February 4th, 2026-Wine tasting event at Pierce Public Market
- March 19th, 2026-Breakfast at Lucie Seward's home with a guest speaker
- April 29th, 2026-Potluck dinner at Heathcote Botanical Gardens.
- October 24, 2026-2026 Award Celebration and Annual Meeting. Please put that date on your calendar now!
- December 4th, 2026-Holiday luncheon at Casa Pasta

GIVE BACK SATURDAYS

Sixteen of our members showed up at Graceway Village on Saturday, January 10th, to sort clothes for the children's boutique. In less than two hours, we were able to sort 1351 pounds of donated clothing. Great work, ladies! Thank you to Janie Tighe, Ellen Contreras, Diane Leary, Ruth Stromak, Diane Stark-Kennedy, Carol DeLoach, Janet Maffucci, Margaret Hurley, Kathy Sanders, Patty Tweardy, Judy Salmon, Gwen Cunningham, Laura Stanton, Becky Fisher, Merilee Landrigan and Lisa Derryberry for their efforts that day.



Upcoming volunteer opportunities:

- February 7th-Heathcote Botanical Gardens
- February 13th, 2026-4:30 to 8:30 PM-A Night to Shine at the Fenn Center in Fort Pierce-Be a buddy for a special needs teen or adult at this prom-themed event. Go to tcnighittoshine.com to register by February 4th.
- March 7th-Food Bank
- April 11th-Mustard Seed (tentative)
- May 9th-The UP Center

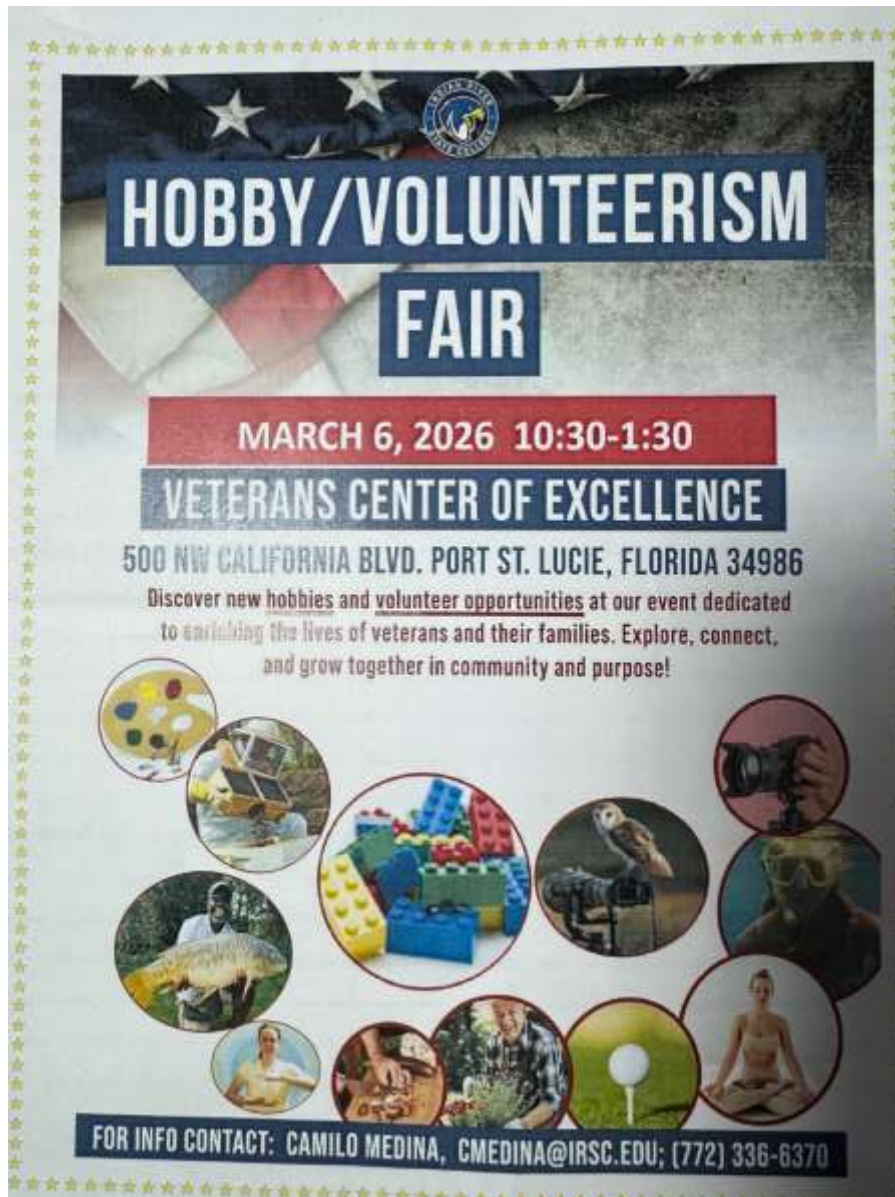
MEMBERSHIP

A huge thank you is due to Laurene McEneny and her committee for the planning and execution of a delightful evening for PGA Village residents and their guests with the purpose of introducing the women to Impact 100 St. Lucie. Roxy Brown was the featured speaker and clearly touched everyone with her story of the creation of CareBag and how winning Impact 100 St. Lucie's award in 2022 has helped propel her organization to great heights. It was a memorable evening.

The good news is that our membership for 2026 now stands at 55, with 18 of those memberships being new members. That means that over sixty of last year's members have not yet renewed. We ask those of you who have not yet renewed to do so sooner rather than later, if you can, to help us plan for the grant awards before the end of the membership drive. Thank you.

OPPORTUNITY FOR VETERANS

While meeting at IRSC recently, the Executive Committee was made aware of an upcoming event there for veterans. If you are a veteran or know someone who is, please spread the word about this Hobby/Volunteerism Fair.



The poster is framed by a decorative border of small yellow stars. At the top, an American flag is partially visible. The main title "HOBBY/VOLUNTEERISM FAIR" is in large, bold, white letters on a dark blue background. Below the title, the date and time "MARCH 6, 2026 10:30-1:30" are in white text on a red background. The location "VETERANS CENTER OF EXCELLENCE" is in white text on a dark blue background, followed by the address "500 NW CALIFORNIA BLVD. PORT ST. LUCIE, FLORIDA 34986" in blue text. A paragraph of text describes the event: "Discover new hobbies and volunteer opportunities at our event dedicated to enriching the lives of veterans and their families. Explore, connect, and grow together in community and purpose!". Below this text is a collage of circular images showing various hobbies: painting, fishing, building with Legos, photography, bird watching, gardening, and yoga. At the bottom, contact information is provided: "FOR INFO CONTACT: CAMILO MEDINA, CMEDINA@IRSC.EDU; (772) 336-6370".

**HOBBY/VOLUNTEERISM
FAIR**

MARCH 6, 2026 10:30-1:30

VETERANS CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

500 NW CALIFORNIA BLVD. PORT ST. LUCIE, FLORIDA 34986

Discover new hobbies and volunteer opportunities at our event dedicated to enriching the lives of veterans and their families. Explore, connect, and grow together in community and purpose!

FOR INFO CONTACT: CAMILO MEDINA, CMEDINA@IRSC.EDU; (772) 336-6370

MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS



Binnie Luciano

By

Ellen Contreras

A Heart for Service, Community, and Collective Impact

Binnie Luciano first learned about Impact 100 St. Lucie through a sailing friend in Annapolis who had been involved with the organization years earlier. At first, she admits she thought Impact 100 might be an exclusive group that she wouldn't be able to be a part of. That assumption quickly changed when she was invited by Gwen Cunningham to attend a luncheon and hear about the organization's mission and the tangible impact of its grants. Seeing women come together to collectively fund meaningful change in their communities inspired her to get involved. Binnie felt warmly welcomed by this inclusive group.

Before relocating to Florida, Binnie enjoyed a long and fulfilling career, spanning thirty years, as an educator in Alexandria, Virginia. After retiring, she and her husband embraced adventure, spending years sailing along the East Coast and through the Bahamas. Over time, their travels evolved into other types of adventures including river cruises and immersive experiences that allow for deeper connections with people and places. That same appreciation for connection and community continues to guide her life today.

Binnie is deeply engaged in her local community. She leads a book club, manages her community library, and has volunteered at the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens for more than fifteen years. She especially enjoys meeting people from all walks of life and believes volunteer work is a wonderful way to stay connected and give back.

Binnie is enthusiastic about the ripple effect Impact 100 St. Lucie grants have on local nonprofits, not only providing funding, but also boosting credibility and visibility within the community. Her advice to women considering membership is simple: attend a meeting and see the impact firsthand.

She also emphasizes that involvement looks different for everyone. Even those who may not have time to serve on committees are making a meaningful contribution through collective giving. "Writing a check is not 'just' writing a check," Binnie shared. "It creates real change for the organizations we support and for our community."

Thank you, Binnie, for your generous heart and your openness and for sharing those qualities with Impact 100 St. Lucie.

Be sure to visit our website (www.impact100SL.org) and our Facebook page.

Impact 100 St. Lucie Executive Committee Members

Cris Adams, Secretary
Gwen Cunningham, Treasurer
Canieria Gardner, Vice President
Marsha Jones
Janet Maffucci, President ♦mrsjfooch@gmail.com ♦914-424-6728
Veronica Montoya
Kavitha Rao
Judy Salmon
Diane Stark-Kennedy
Ruth Stromak
Dr. Lillian Torres-Martinez

Executive Committee Members Emeriti

Debbie Butler Linda Chastain Becky Fisher Lisa Floyd
Patricia Garcia-King Bunny Webb Melanie Wiles

WE THANK OUR SPONSORS!





I'll Have What She's Wearing Boutique

1339 NW St Lucie West Blvd
Port St Lucie





90% OFF
EXPIRES 12/31/2023
SEE BACK FOR DETAILS
AND RESTRICTIONS APPLY

Excludes all sale items and previous offers.
Not valid on gift cards and taxes.
May require code per customer.




WHITE GLOVE
 MOVING. STORAGE & DELIVERY

When Quality Matters

- Local/Long-Distance Moving
- Climate Controlled Storage
- A+ rated/Voted Most Trusted Mover
- Complimentary Survey 772-778-4750

WWW.WHITEGLOVEUSA.COM



IMK1852