

A. E. BACKUS MUSEUM & GALLERY

500 North Indian River Drive

Fort Pierce, Florida 34950

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

IT'S TIME FOR THE BIG GAME - Backus Bingo is Back!

Fort Pierce, FL - May 24, 2019 - You won't want to miss Fort Pierce's favorite summer safari, the annual Backus Bingo luncheon on Friday, June 7 from 11:30 am – 2:30 pm at the Pelican Yacht Club, 1120 Seaway Drive, Fort Pierce, Florida. Reservations are \$40 per person, with tables of 8 available for friends to organize their own expedition. Space is limited; to reserve your seat, come by or call the Museum at (772) 465-0630. You can also email info@BackusMuseum.com with your contact information to get the ball rolling on your reservation today!

This year's Backus Bingo participants will enjoy a great time with exciting games, amazing prizes, a luncheon feast fit for man and beast, cash bar, with lots of fun and thrills for all. The afternoon's celebrations will include five games of bingo plus a grand prize game. We will also have unique and treasured door prizes, with a cash grand prize award of \$200. The fun-filled annual event is organized by the Museum's beloved volunteer Board of Associates (the BOAs), who know how to throw an amazing party.

Join us for an afternoon of fun, make new friends and wear your favorite jungle-inspired or animal print outfit and accessories. Plan your safari today by calling (772) 465-0630 to reserve your seat!

"Backus Bingo" is an event benefitting the A.E. Backus Museum & Gallery. The Supporting Sponsor of "Backus Bingo" is HBK CPAs & Consultants, with additional support from Grimes Heating and Air Conditioning.

On view at the A.E. Backus Museum & Gallery through June 21, 2019 is the favorite yearly photography competition, *Through the Eye of the Camera*. The exhibition focuses on the best works of photography as art, with cash awards for prize-winning work, and visitor voting for the People's Choice award. For more information on the exhibition or the Museum, please visit www.BackusMuseum.com.

About the A.E. Backus Museum & Gallery

With a recently added, multi-million dollar expansion, the A.E. Backus Museum & Gallery houses the nation's largest public presentation of artwork by Florida's preeminent painter, A.E. "Bean" Backus (1906-1990), and is home to the state's only permanent multimedia exhibition on the Florida Highwaymen.

With a career spanning more than 70 years, Backus was the first Florida-born artist to build his professional renown by painting the landscape and scenes from daily life of his native state. He was fortunate to have known great success during his lifetime, with paintings hanging in the businesses and the private collections of many of Florida's most prominent citizens. A renowned humanitarian who abhorred the racist attitudes and segregation that engulfed the region, Backus taught and mentored the group of entrepreneurial African American artists who became known as the Florida Highwaymen. Their inspiring story is part of the A.E. Backus legacy.

In addition to preserving and perpetuating the artistic and humanitarian legacy of Backus, the Museum organizes and hosts changing exhibitions from artists of national and international acclaim. It was voted "Best Museum 2018" in Indian River Magazine's annual "Best of the Treasure Coast," where it was described as "a fabulous place to visit."

Regular Hours are: Wednesday – Saturday, 10 AM to 4 PM; Sunday, 12 Noon to 4 PM (closed Monday-Tuesday). Admission is \$5 per person; AARP, AAA, and Veterans with appropriate ID receive a \$2 discount. Students with school ID, children under 18, active duty military, and current members are always free. During the regular season, the first Sunday of the month is Free Admission Day.

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