

## Vote ends dispute over growlers

**For Hometown News**  
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MARTIN COUNTY — After nearly three years of dispute between craft brewers and distributors, the Florida Legislature voted last month in favor of a bill that would legalize 64oz growlers, a refillable, sealable container that allows customers to preserve craft beer for several days. To celebrate, The Crafted Keg is hosting a special craft beer tasting, American Craft Beer Freedom Fest, on Friday, July 3 from 4-10 p.m. Enjoy samples of free beer from a variety of breweries, live music, food from local restaurants, giveaways, and finally the

opportunity to take home a growler of your favorite draft beer.

Before the legalization of the 64oz growler, enthusiasts could only purchase a 32oz or 128oz size, but it was illegal to fill the popular 64oz growler. This law seemed unnecessary to many beer businesses, including The Crafted Keg.

Owner, Matthias Piasecki, was compelled to get involved in the dispute against the ban on the 64oz growler. Late last year Piasecki became a trailblazer by bringing the ban to the attention of the court when he and his attorney, Mark Miller, filed a lawsuit against the state of Florida claiming the growler

ban was unconstitutional. In May 2015, the courts heard their case and ruled in favor of Piasecki and overturned the ban on the 64oz growler. The law takes effect July 1, just days before The Crafted Keg will hold their celebration, American Craft Freedom Fest.

"We are so pleased to have played an integral part in the legalization of 64oz growlers. We want to share our excitement by inviting the public to a beer tasting celebration," said Assistant Manager Max Piasecki. "Come celebrate with us at our first annual American Craft Beer Freedom Fest on July 3, and join The Crafted Keg as we celebrate this victory. This is a great opportunity for craft

beer enthusiasts, and anyone curious about craft beer, to taste our wide variety of unique beers."

The Crafted Keg is a full-time growler bar supplying the best-crafted beers, wines, ciders and sodas from throughout the world while providing an experience and atmosphere unlike any other. They invite you to come sample a beverage, enjoy live entertainment, and take advantage of their specials or refill a growler.

Connect with The Crafted Keg at [facebook.com/TheCraftedKeg](https://www.facebook.com/TheCraftedKeg) or [twitter.com/TheCraftedKeg](https://twitter.com/TheCraftedKeg). For more information, call 772-600-8218 or visit [www.thecraftedkeg.com](http://www.thecraftedkeg.com).

# The Stuart News

An edition of  
The Treasure Coast  
NewsPress Tribune

TREASURE COAST NEWSPAPERS

TCPalm.com

Friday, July 3, 2015

\$1.00

## CELEBRATE from 1D

For more information, contact Main Street Fort Pierce at 772-466-3880 or visit [www.mainstreetfortpierce.org](http://www.mainstreetfortpierce.org).

**Port St. Lucie Freedomfest:** Another long running event is Port St. Lucie's Freedomfest which has been going on for more than 20 years. The celebration begins 2 p.m. Saturday at the Civic Center, 9221 S.E. Civic Center Place, and includes a full day of food, fun and live bands. Admission and parking are free. For more information, call 772-878-2277 or visit [www.cityofpsl.com](http://www.cityofpsl.com).

**MARTIN COUNTY  
American Craft Beer**

**Freedom Fest:** The Crafted Keg at 555 S. Colorado Ave. in Stuart will be celebrating more than Independence Day this weekend.

The bar will host an American Craft Beer Freedom Fest from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. Friday in honor of a law that took effect July 1 legalizing 64-ounce growlers, refillable jugs allowing customers to preserve craft beer for several days.

The Crafted Keg sued the state for the right to sell beer in half-gallon containers.

The fest will include samples from a variety of breweries, live music, food, giveaways and a chance to take home a growler of your favorite beer.

For more information call 772-600-8218 or visit

[www.thecraftedkegstuart.com](http://www.thecraftedkegstuart.com).

**Stuart Stars and Stripes:** Enjoy this family friendly festival at the waterfront Flagler Park, 201 S.W. Flagler Ave., in Historic Downtown Stuart 3 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Saturday.

There will be beverages, a kids corner, vendors, a bounce house, pony rides and face painting. VIP tickets are \$30 for people under 21 years old and \$50 for people 21 and older.

This includes a private air-conditioned lounge, reserved seating for the fireworks display, all you can eat and an open bar for beer and wine.

For more information, call 772-370-2030 or visit [www.lyrictheatre.com](http://www.lyrictheatre.com) or the Stars and Stripes Facebook page.

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## Quick Read



### CELEBRATE THE GROWLER

The Crafted Keg at 555 S. Colorado Ave. in Stuart will be celebrating more than Independence Day this weekend. The bar will host an American Craft Beer Freedom Fest from 4 to 10 p.m. **FRIDAY** in honor of a law that took effect July 1 legalizing 64-ounce growlers. The fest will include samples from a variety of breweries, live music, food and giveaways. Information: 772-600-8218 or [www.thecraftedkegstuart.com](http://www.thecraftedkegstuart.com).

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Wednesday, July 1, 2015

## LOOKING AHEAD

**American Craft Beer  
Freedom Fest: Crafted Keg**  
"fought the man, ended the  
ban" on growlers. 4-10 p.m.  
July 3. The Crafted Keg, 555 S.  
Colorado Ave., Stuart. Ages:  
21. 772-600-8218; [http://  
www.thecraftedkegstuart.  
com/](http://www.thecraftedkegstuart.com/).