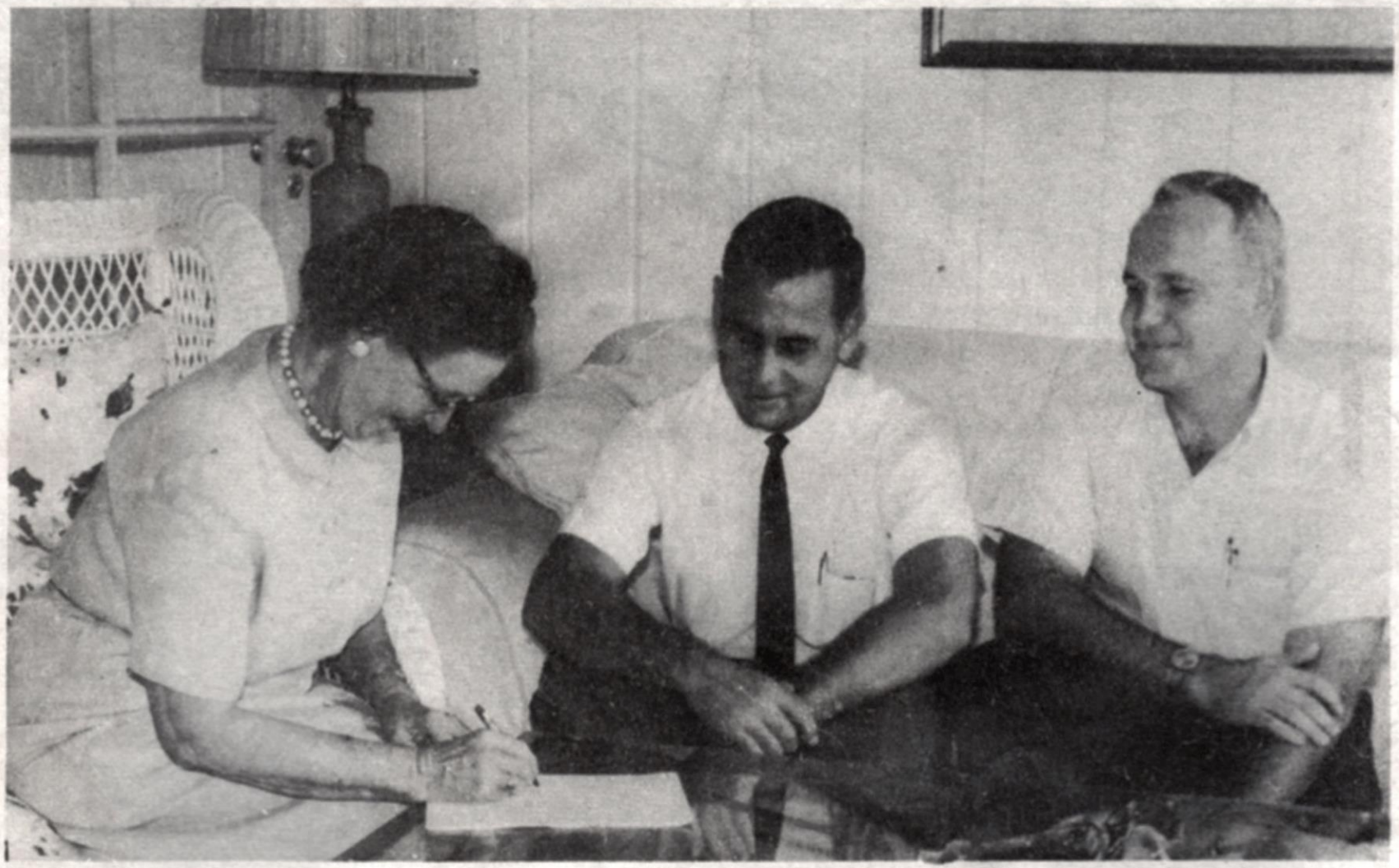

DELRAY BEACH
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
and HERITAGE GARDENS



FIRST CHARTER MEMBER—Mrs. Ethel Williams, who came to this area in 1896, signs the charter of the Delray Beach Historical Society. Mrs. Williams was elected president. Waiting their turn to sign are vice-president Roy Diggans, and treasurer William Gwynn. Mrs. Dorothy Bauer was elected secretary.

Charter Signing:

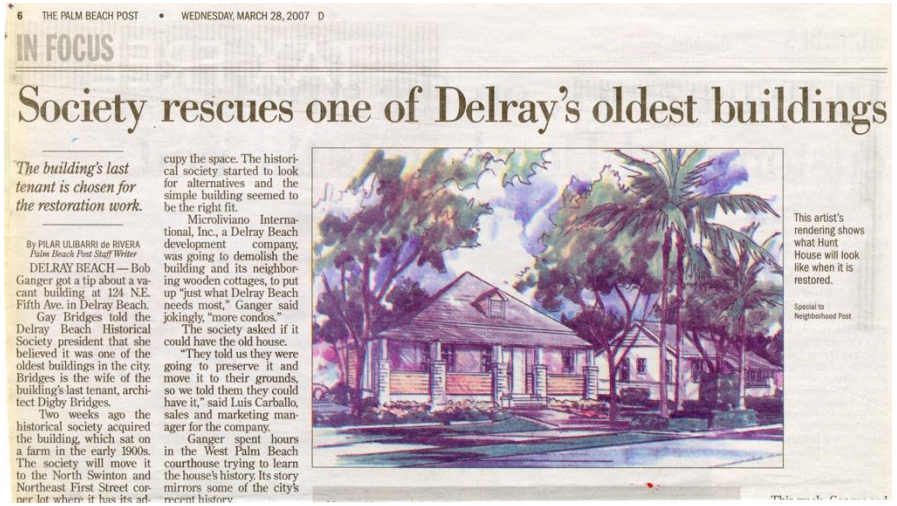
1964

PARTNERS FOR 39 YEARS!









6 THE PALM BEACH POST • WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28, 2007 D

IN FOCUS

Society rescues one of Delray's oldest buildings

The building's last tenant is chosen for the restoration work.

By PILAR ULIBARRI de RIVERA
Palm Beach Post Staff Writer

DELRAY BEACH — Bob Ganger got a tip about a vacant building at 124 N.E. Fifth Ave. in Delray Beach.

Gay Bridges told the Delray Beach Historical Society president that she believed it was one of the oldest buildings in the city. Bridges is the wife of the building's last tenant, architect Digby Bridges.

Two weeks ago the historical society acquired the building, which sat on a farm in the early 1900s. The society will move it to the North Swinton and Northeast First Street corner lot where it has its ad-

cupy the space. The historical society started to look for alternatives and the simple building seemed to be the right fit.

Microliviano International, Inc., a Delray Beach development company, was going to demolish the building and its neighboring wooden cottages, to put up "just what Delray Beach needs most," Ganger said jokingly, "more condos."

The society asked if it could have the old house.

"They told us they were going to preserve it and move it to their grounds, so we told them they could have it," said Luis Carballo, sales and marketing manager for the company.

Ganger spent hours in the West Palm Beach courthouse trying to learn the house's history. Its story mirrors some of the city's recent history.

This artist's rendering shows what Hunt House will look like when it is restored.

Special to Neighborhood Post

CITY OF DELRAY BEACH

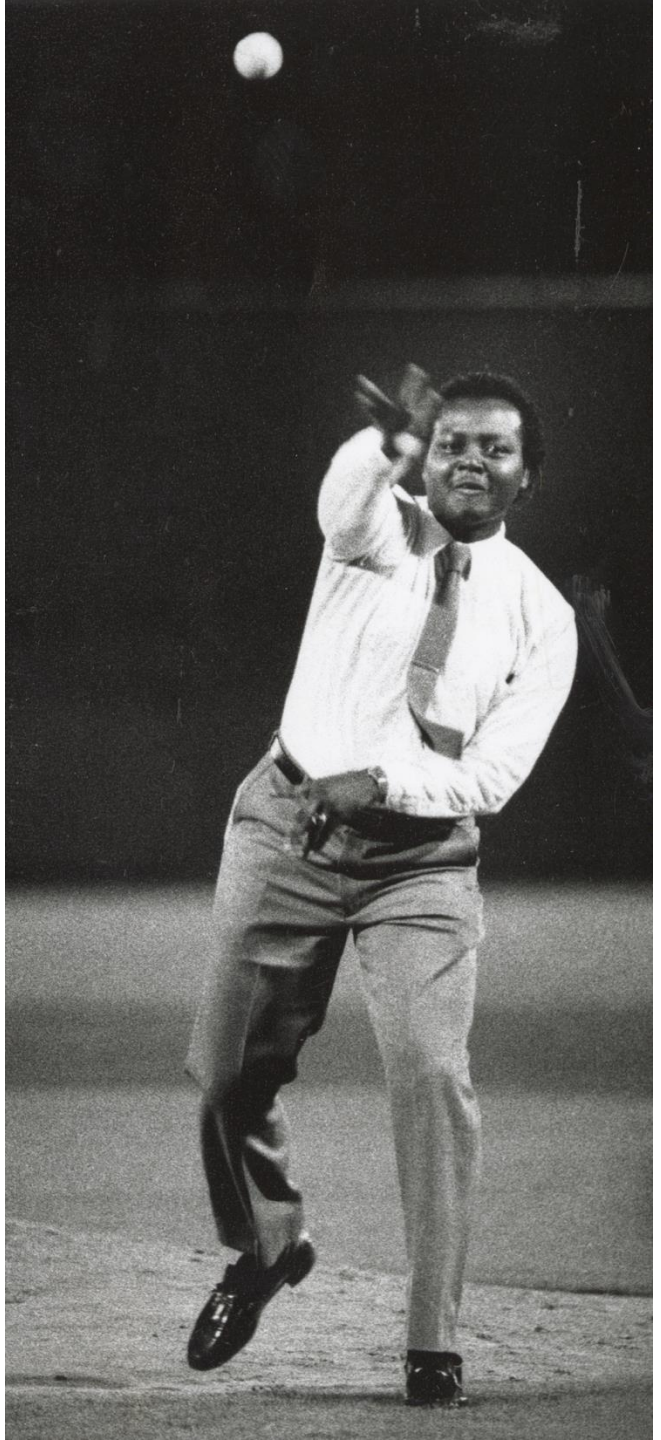
DELRAY BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY and HERITAGE GARDENS
























SHARKS




Jordan
Jordan's



MY

nature

JOURNAL



Partly Cloudy
little rain

location:
Delray Beach
historical
society


Hunt


WOMEN OF DELRAY
THE LADIES IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION OF DELRAY BEACH
STROOM


AGRICULTURE: Still Number One
DELRAY'S
STAFF ONLY




HOPE FAMILY REUNION
RECLAIMING THE PAST
KEEPING THE LEGACY ALIVE
I ♥ DeLray
STAFF












3






DELRAY BEACH CRA


F EMPIRES
0-1783
AGE OF RELOCATION
1828-1848
REBELLION & REMOVAL
As American Indians debated strategies for defending their lands, they formed new strategic alliances. Within the Creek tribe of the southeastern United States, a faction known as the Red Sticks joined a pan-Indian movement to reject assimilation and take up arms against Americans.
On August 30, 1813, they attacked Fort Mims, killing as many as 500 Americans and sympathizers. The painting to the left shows Menawa, one of the foremost Red Sticks leaders.
BLOOD & HUBRIS
1784-1855
THE FIRST SEMINOLE WAR
After the War of 1812, Seminole Indians gathered in Pensacola and, with foreign support, conducted scattered attacks in Georgia. In retaliation, General Andrew Jackson led several invasions into Spanish Florida to destroy Seminole resistance and re-capture slaves. In 1821, he was hailed a hero.
Although this conflict became known as the First Seminole War, Andrew Jackson later called it an "Indian and Negro War," noting how closely the Seminoles and runaway slaves worked together. At the war's end, thousands of Indians and African-Americans fled for southern parts of the peninsula.
THE SECOND SEMINOLE WAR
In 1830, one year into his presidency, Andrew Jackson signed the Indian Removal Act and began an extended period of removal known as the Trail of Tears.
A NATION DIVIDED
1855-1865
FLORIDA: A SLAVE STATE
When Florida gained statehood in 1845, it joined the Union as a slave state. At the time, the population of Florida consisted of 35,500 whites, 33,950 slaves, and 560 "free Negroes." Most of the population stretched across the northern edge of the state, from St. Augustine to Pensacola.
Wealthy cotton plantation owners in the northern areas of the state controlled the political landscape. Determined to preserve the institution of slavery, they intimidated political adversaries and censored abolitionists.
Slavery in Florida looked much like slavery in the rest of country. Violence, rape, and humiliation were the norm.
SECEDING FROM THE NATION
By 1860, tensions ran high as the white American population debated the role of slavery in the Union. Republican candidate Abraham Lincoln never appeared on the ballot in Florida. On January 10, 1862, just a few weeks before Lincoln's inauguration, the state of Florida seceded from the Union, along with several other Southern states.
THE WAR COMES TO FLORIDA
Florida's small population only sent 15,000 men to the Confederate army. The Confederate supporters at home focused on providing food to the South and offering support for blockade runners.
The two armies fought small skirmishes within Florida's borders, until 1864 when the Battle of Olustee brought major fighting to Lake City. The Union's army included the 8th U.S. Colored Infantry, one of many all-black regiments that fought for the Union. Fighters on both sides of the battle remarked that they had never seen anything as horrific as the bloodshed at Olustee.
As the war dragged on, support for the Confederacy dwindled. By 1865, Tallahassee fell to the Union army. The war was over. 620,000 lives were lost, and the whole country lay wounded.

DELRAY BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BBQ BIRTHDAY BASH!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9th, 2024

4:00PM - 8:00PM

DBHS Campus at 3 NE 1st Street, Downtown Delray Beach

Join us as we celebrate the Society's 60th and Cason Cottage's 100th!

- Backyard BBQ with all the fixins!
- Beer, Wine, Soda, & Birthday Cake
- Live Bluegrass/Dancing!
- Vintage Yard Games
- Raffles, History Exhibits & Storytelling

$45 | Person

$35 | DBHS Members

$15 | Youngins 16 & under

ALL ARE WELCOME!

RSVP REQUIRED

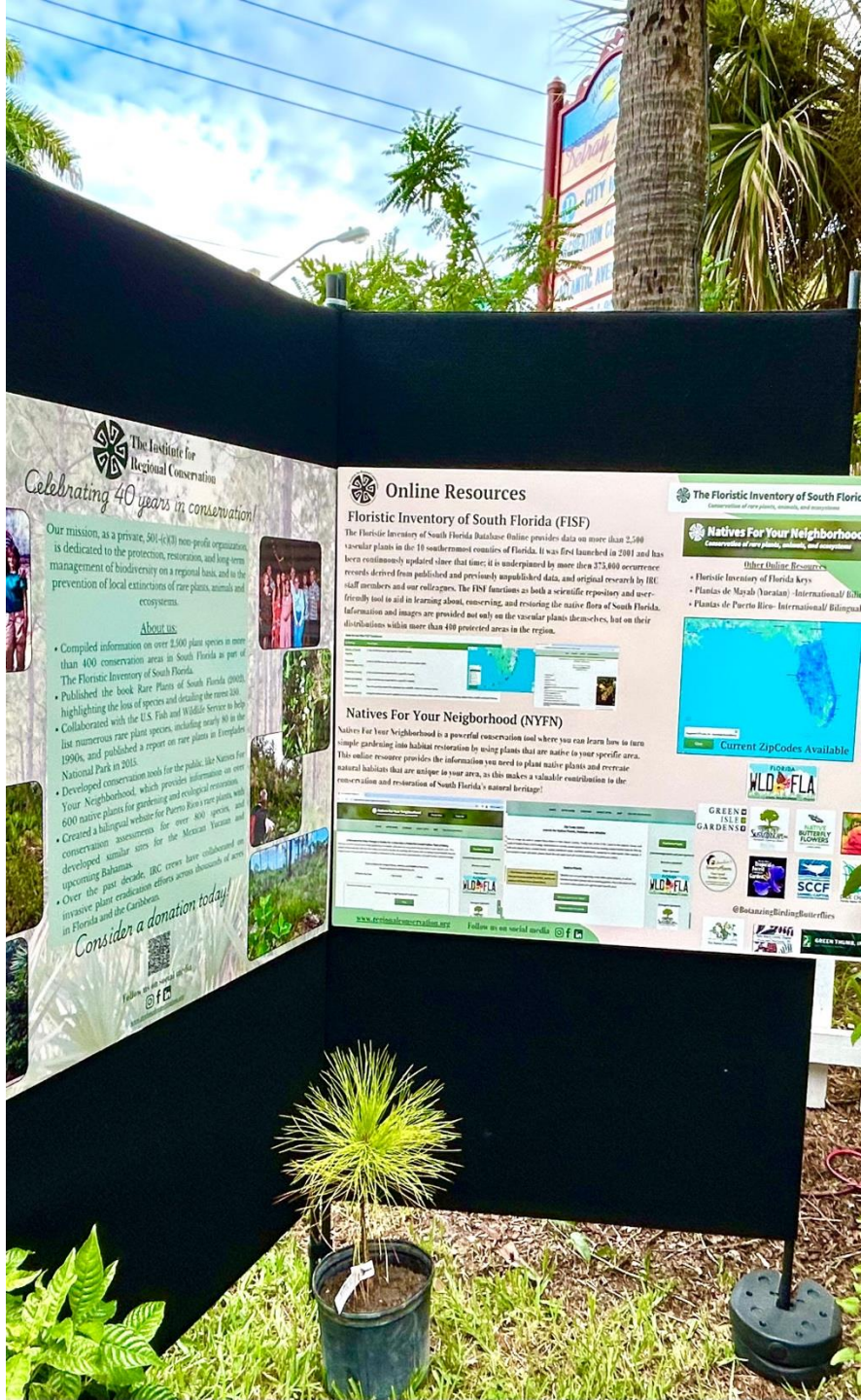
561.274.9578

DELRAYBEACHHISTORY.ORG



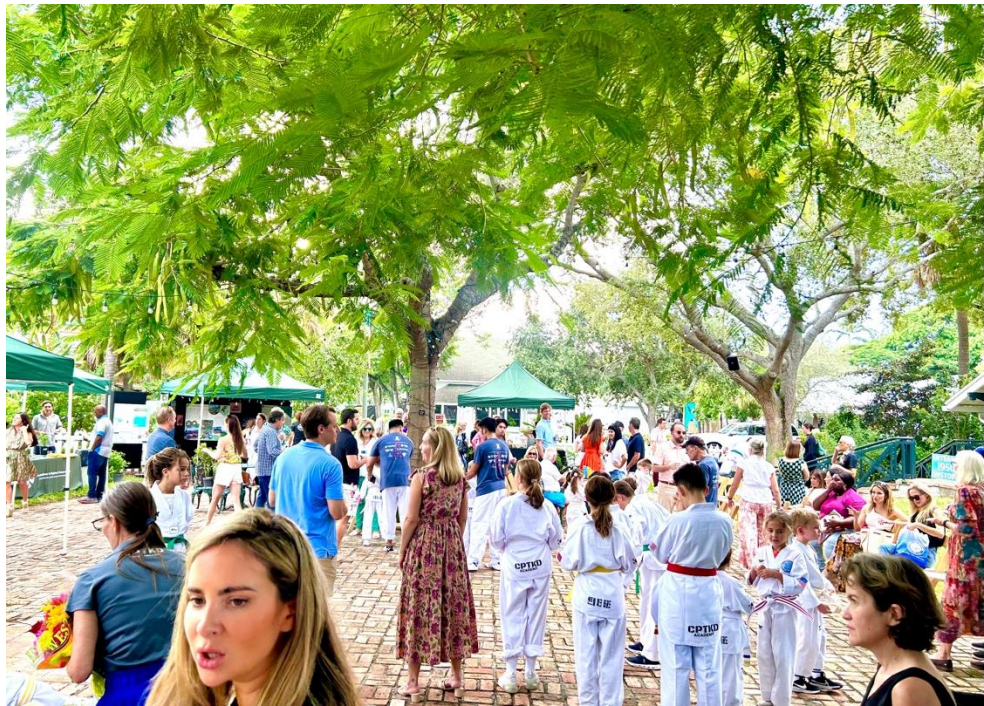

Happy Birthday
DAD!
Pineapple Birthday Cake
prepared with love by
two fat
COOKIES
DELRAY · BEACH


Restoring the Gold Coast
Awarded the Impact 100 Grant in 2019, the Restoring the Gold Coast (RGC) program was officially constructed. RGC is on a mission to revive the vibrant coastal ecosystems of southeastern Florida, transforming beach dunes into powerful defenses against climate change and storms. Since 2022, RGC expands to restoring entire barrier islands and waterways, enhancing native plant populations and engaging more local communities. By uniting local efforts through volunteer-driven restoration projects, RGC not only fights erosion but also inspires everyone to be part of the solution to climate change and environmental restoration!
Coastal Ecosystem Conservation
A biologically diverse beach dune is a healthy, resilient defense against sea level rise, climate change, and storms. These dunes support hundreds of species, including sea turtles and birds, while capturing sand to prevent erosion. They also protect beaches vital to tourism and property values. Restoration efforts provide essential habitat for butterflies, migratory birds, and other wildlife affected by habitat loss and coastal squeeze from rising sea levels.
Get involved:
Check out our events page on our website for upcoming volunteer events!
Find us on social media!
www.regionalconservation.org
Pine Rockland Initiative
PRI was founded in 2005 with an emphasis on providing support to private owners of pine rocklands, especially for invasive plant control, with primary funding from the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). Over the years it has grown and evolved to become a multi-faceted program with many funders and collaborators.
Methods
• Restoration Plans
• Repair ecosystem functions
• Mechanical methods as fire analogs
• Rare plant monitoring
• Direct seeding and planting
• Invasive species removal
• Community outreach
What is a
Pine Rocklands a
ecosystem that exist
parts of the Bahamas
home to many rare
including 11 federal
federally listed plant
plants and regionally
IRC are also present.
characterized by
sometimes covered wit
soil, a canopy of South
diverse understory a
including a wide range o
grasses.
Get involved:
Check out our events page on our website for upcoming volunteer events!
Find us on social media!
www.regionalconservation.org


The Institute for Regional Conservation
Celebrating 40 years in conservation!
Our mission, as a private, 501-(c)(3) non-profit organization, is dedicated to the protection, restoration, and long-term management of biodiversity on a regional basis, and in the prevention of local extinctions of rare plants, animals and ecosystems.
About us:
• Compiled information on over 2,500 plant species in more than 400 conservation areas in South Florida as part of The Floristic Inventory of South Florida.
• Published the book Rare Plants of South Florida (2005), highlighting the loss of species and detailing the rarest 200.
• Collaborated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to help list numerous rare plant species, including nearly 80 in the 1990s, and published a report on rare plants in Everglades National Park in 2015.
• Developed conservation tools for the public like Natives For Your Neighborhood, which provides information on over 600 native plants for gardening and ecological restoration.
• Created a bilingual website for Puerto Rico's rare plants, with conservation assessments for over 600 species, and developed similar sites for the Mexican Yucatan and upcoming Bahamas.
• Over the past decade, IRC crews have collaborated on invasive plant eradication efforts across thousands of acres in Florida and the Caribbean.
Consider a donation today!
Follow us on social media!
www.regionalconservation.org
Online Resources
Floristic Inventory of South Florida (FISF)
The Floristic Inventory of South Florida Database Online provides data on more than 2,500 vascular plants in the 16 southernmost counties of Florida. It was first launched in 2001 and has been continuously updated since that time; it is underpinned by more than 375,000 occurrence records derived from published and previously unpublished data, and original research by IRC staff members and our colleagues. The FISF functions as both a scientific repository and user-friendly tool to aid in learning about, conserving, and restoring the native flora of South Florida. Information and images are provided not only on the vascular plants themselves, but on their distributions within more than 400 protected areas in the region.
Natives For Your Neigborhood (NYFN)
Natives For Your Neighborhood is a powerful conservation tool where you can learn how to turn simple gardening into habitat restoration by using plants that are native to your specific area. This online resource provides the information you need to plant native plants and recreate natural habitats that are unique to your area, as this makes a valuable contribution to the conservation and restoration of South Florida's natural heritage!
The Floristic Inventory of South Florida
Natives For Your Neighborhood
Other Online Resources:
• Floristic Inventory of Florida Keys
• Plantas de Mayab (Yucatan) -International/ Bilingual
• Plantas de Puerto Rico- International/ Bilingual
Current ZipCodes Available
www.regionalconservation.org
Follow us on social media!
@BotanizingBirdingButterflies


The Institute for Regional Cons
Conservation of rare plants, animals, and ecos
Pine Rockland Initiative


Barbie
THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS
THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS
Tickets
Tickets




Land of Sunshine and Dreams: 1950s Delray Beach!
EXIT
TECHNOLOGY: And So It Began




Welcome!


THEODORE PRATT
SOUTH FLORIDA WRITER
TAYLOR HAGOOD


St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Walk in Love
WELCOME!
The DELRAY BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Heritage Lecture Series Presents
"Women Politicking Politely:
Breaking Boundaries"
With Kimberly Voss
PhD, Professor of Journalism
University of Central Florida


DREAM EASY
GUT HEALTH
ORGANIC HERBAL TEA BAGS
HEART HEALTH
ORGANIC HERBAL TEA BAGS
FASTING
GUT HEALTH
ORGANIC HERBAL TEA BAGS








The Colony




OLD ROCK
community GREENING


communitygreening.org


communitygreening.org
FLORIDA FOREST SERVICE

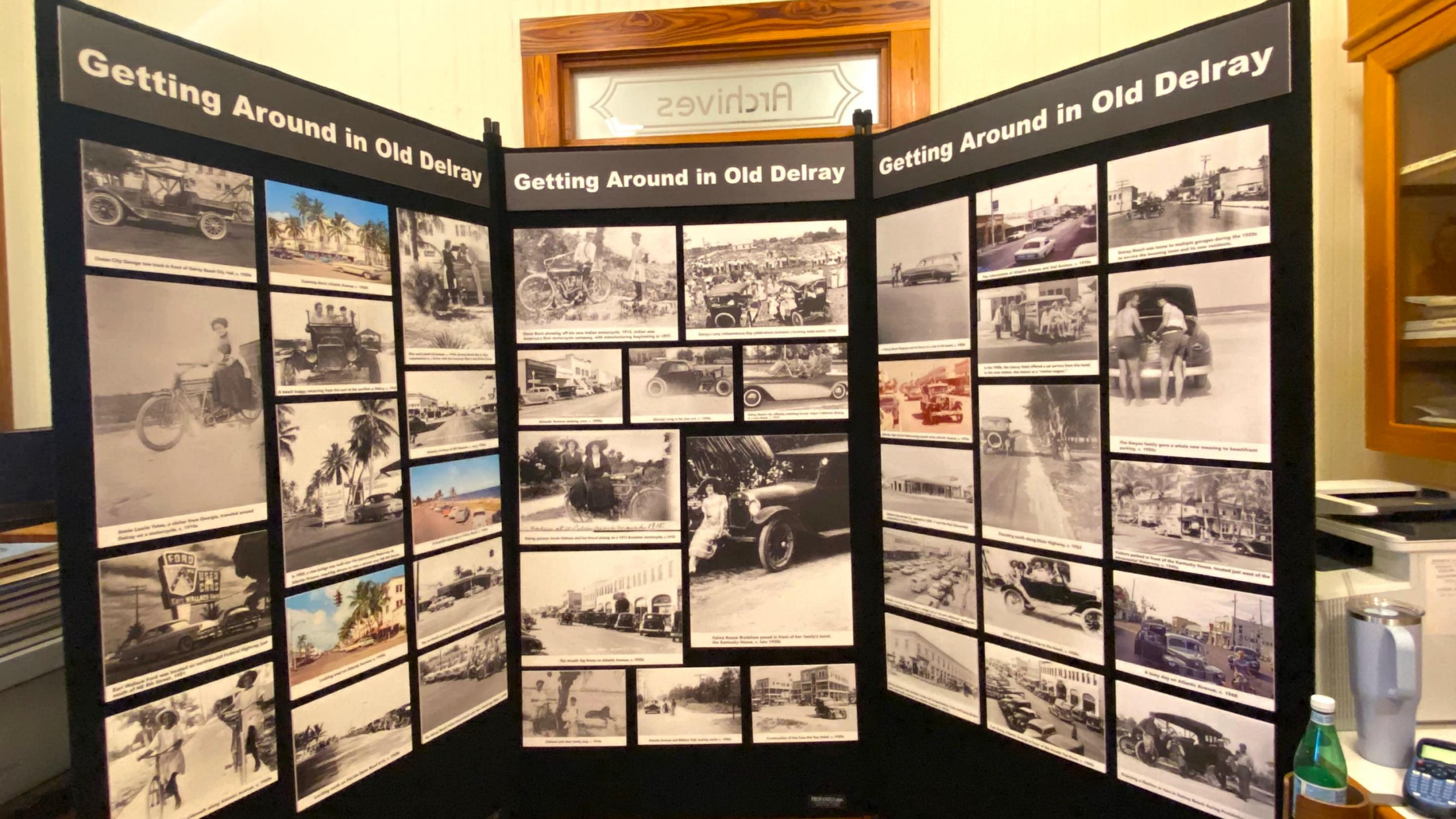

y Beach History
"100 Years of School Spirit!"
Delray Beach History
"1 Years o
ATLANTIC
ATLANTIC
"We Are The Eagles"
SPORTS
Action photo of Jeff Alexander (left) and Bill Woolbright (right), Seacrest Seahawks Basketball Team, c.1950's.
1960 Miss Carver High School Emerald Holiday.
Homecoming at Carver High School 1960.


Delray Beach History
"100 Years of School Spirit!"
Delray Be


Delray Beach History
"100 Years of School Spirit!"
Delray Beach History


ting Around in Old Delray
Getting Around in Old Delray




Getting Around in Old Delray
Getting Around in Old Delray
Getting Around in Old Delray
Archives


LOVE & SELF-CARE NOW
#GirlTrek
WE WALK FOR HEALTHIER BODIES, FAMILIES & COMMUNITIES!
#GirlTREK
JOY & HEALING NOW


PEACE
LOVE
HOPE
KINDNESS
PEACE BEGINS WITH ME


Delray Beach Historical Society
DELRAY BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY and HERITAGE GARDENS
Become a
MEMBER o
SPONSOR!
"Let's preserve our history together!"
Nancy
Ashley
WELCOME
Greater Delray Beach Chamber of Commerce
& NEW FRIENDS!
SCAN ME
TONIGHT SPONSORED BY


Land of Sunshine and Dream
ATOMIC AGE
The COLD
DELRAY BEACH
FLA. - THE OCEAN CITY
SORRY


s: 1960s Delray Beach!
MUSIC
FESTIVAL


The DELRAY BEACH
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

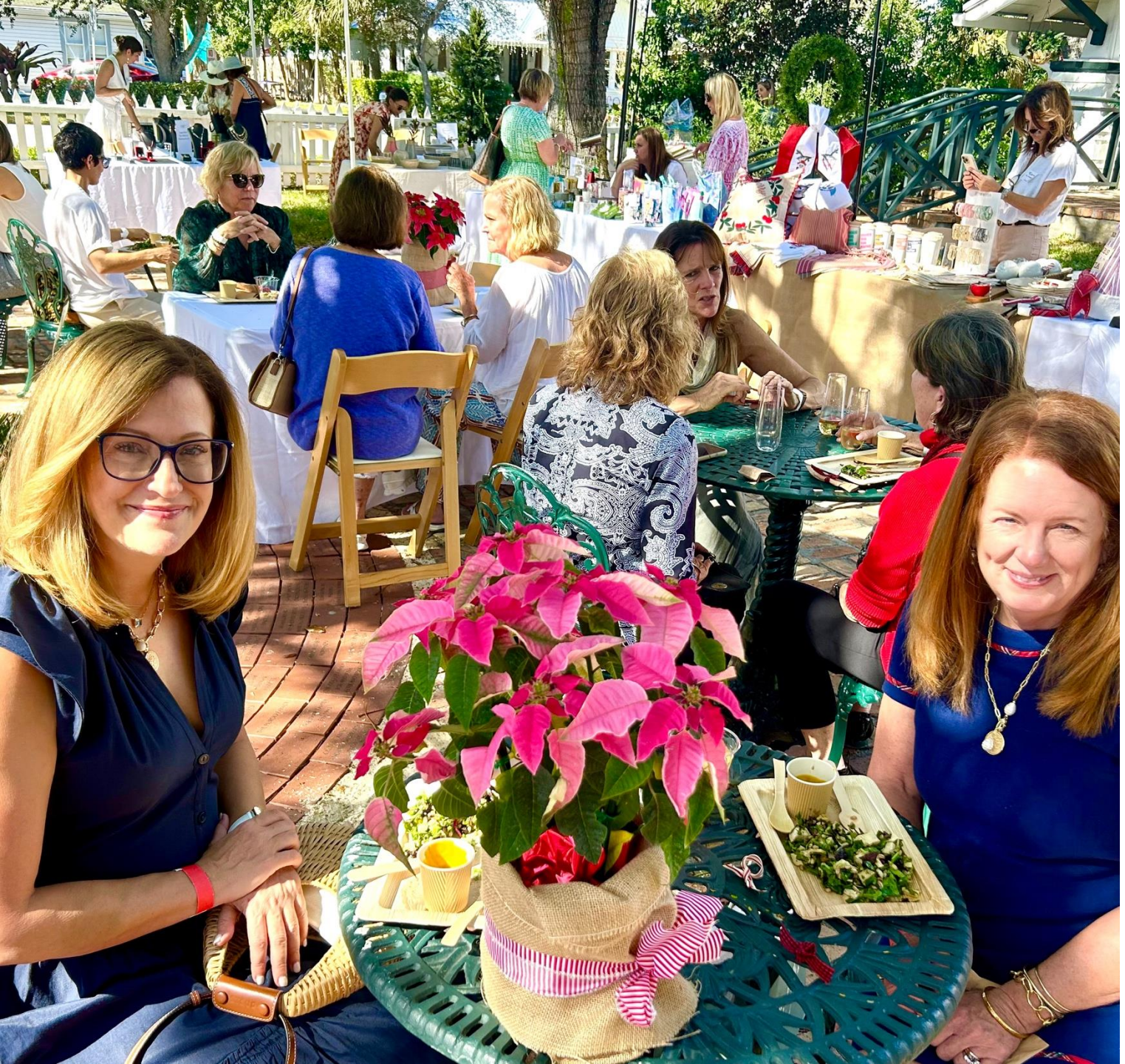

Kirsten


Become a
MEMBER or
SPONSOR!
"Let's preserve our history together!"
The Gladiola Legacy
Delray Beach, Florida


GLADIOLA HEADQUARTERS
10 ..... $20
20 ..... $35
All proceeds benefit
the DBHS Educational Heritage Garden
& Educational Programming.
Thanks for your support!


GLADIOLA HEADQUARTERS
Grow Delray Beach History in your own backyard!
10 ..... $20
20 ..... $35
All proceeds benefit the DBHS Educational Heritage Garden & Educational Programming.
Thanks for your support!






TERN


N Swinton
95
TERN
STUDIO






Tammy Fender
Holistic Skin Care




Elijah


STAFF ONLY




The Delray Beach Historical Society
LEGACY BRICK PROGRAM
PHASE II UNDERWAY!
TWO SIZES AVAILABLE TO ORDER
Honor or memorialize a parent, family member, pet, graduate, veteran, best friend, your company, a special event in your life, or a favorite quote.



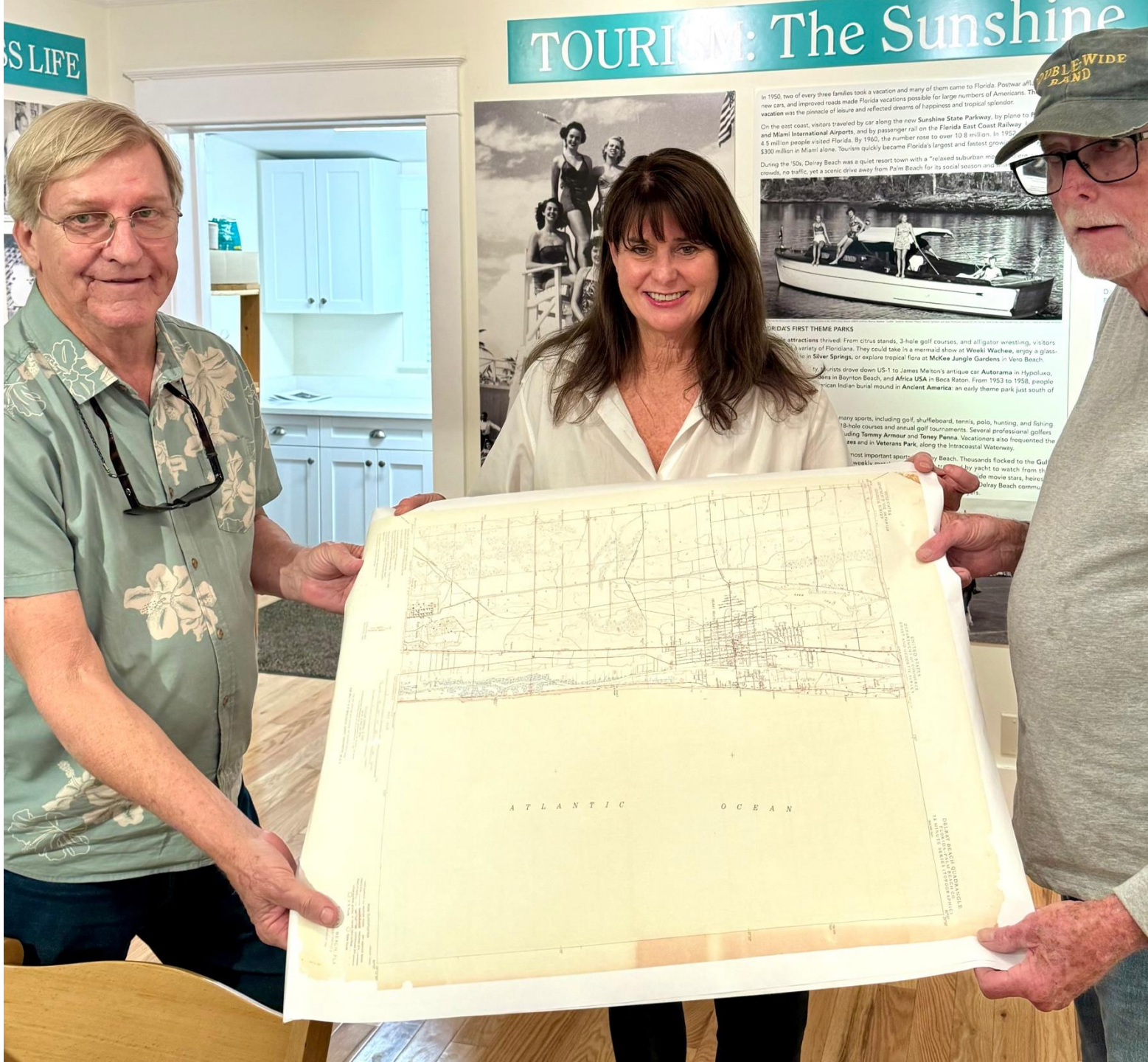



Delray Beach Historical Society


CZUR
City of Delray Beach
Historic Architecture
Walking Tour
DELRAY BEACH DIRECTORY 1976
GRACEY BROS.
Thursday, March 24, 1932
Friday, March 25, 1932






TOURISM: The Sunshine
ATLANTIC OCEAN


AUTOMOBILE REVOLUTION
"Autopia," or American car culture, is synonymous with the 1950s. When Americans moved to the suburbs, automobiles became both necessities and status symbols for the upwardly mobile. As the population boomed, so did the number of cars. In 1950, there were 52,666 registered motor vehicles in Palm Beach County. By 1958, there were 126,222!
In 1956, President Eisenhower introduced the Interstate Highway Bill. This established 47,000 miles of interconnected highways, including four in Florida: I-4, I-10, I-75, and I-95. Highways made it easier and faster for people to navigate interior Florida and allowed coastal towns to flourish.
ADVANCES IN AGRICULTURE
DDT (Dichloro-diphenyl-trichloroethane) was one of the most widely used pesticide chemicals in the U.S. During World War II, the U.S. produced large quantities of DDT for control of diseases, like typhus and malaria. After 1945, agricultural and commercial usage of DDT became popular, especially in Florida.
DDT, although detrimental to the environment, made life in Florida more palatable. Farmers sprayed DDT near crops and livestock to prevent illness. Individuals could spray their lawns and plants. Drive-in theaters offered mosquito foggers to fend off hungry insects. By destroying the mosquito, people were able to raise their families in Florida without worrying about mosquito-borne illnesses.
HEALTHCARE
board games, or listen to the radio.
Air conditioning was important for businesses too. Motels and restaurants touted air-conditioned facilities for their visitors, and hotels stayed open year- round.
FLORIDA
DEEP
Florida Felt
After World War II, Florida's population boom transformed the Sunshine State from a sleepy backwater of three million to an international mecca of more than 18 million, and it has not let up.
Between 1950 and 1958, Florida's population increased by 63%. Due to the "baby boom," there were 98.4% more school-aged children. The influx of retirees also contributed. Gains in residents aged 65 years and older increased by over 90%, as compared to 23.4% in other parts of the country.
The state's housing demands jumped 77%, resulting in a housing shortage, especially for the middle class. This changed how homes were built, what materials were used, and what homes looked like, creating a distinct postwar landscape.
In 1950, the population of Delray Beach was 6,312. By 1960, it nearly doubled to 12,230 and only grew from there. By the end of the 1970s, Delray's population hit over 30,000.
According to a study conducted by the University of Florida in 2019, Florida's post-war single-family houses and neighborhoods are significant historical, cultural, and architectural resources. They reveal the ambitious work of builders, farmers, business owners, artists, and activists to make Florida both a place to live, and a vision of a brighter future.


DELRAY'S BUSINESS LIFE
TOURISM: The Sunshine Beckons
CATTLE STATE
THE REIGNING GLADIOLA
BUSINESS LIFE
AMUSEMENTS IN PARADISE
ATLANTIC AVENUE
FLORIDA'S FIRST THEME PARKS
La Croix


PURE LEAF
GEORGE H. McMURRAIN
DELRAY BEACH
Farms
George H. McMurrain achieved success both, as a farmer and as a civic leader in Delray Beach. He was a Pioneer Agribusiness-man and was one of the first large-scale successful bean growers in Palm Beach County. He grew green beans and bell peppers. His farm on the Rangeline (SR 441) is now the Pero Farm. George excelled as a civic leader, serving as Director of the Farm Bu-reau, Vice Chairman of First Bank and Trust for 30 years and on the Lake Worth Drainage District Board of Supervisors for 33 years. He and Esther have four chil-dren George McMurrain Jr., Barbara McMurrain Marshall, Marlene McMurrain McKay and Tom McMurrain.
George and Esther McMurrain reviewing irrigation operations.
George McMurrain Jr. and George McMurrain inspect the green bean harvest
George, Marlene, Tom and Esther McMurrain sit on a bench at the packing house
George Jr., Esther and George McMurrain
Barbara McMurrain Marshall as a Clubette queen contestant 1953
Marlene, Barbara, Grandmother Sophie Chapman, George Jr. in Uniform Sitting, George, Tommy, Esther
George McMurrain
Bathurst
This display provided by Bill Bathurst, to honor his family's agricultural heritage in Delray Beach

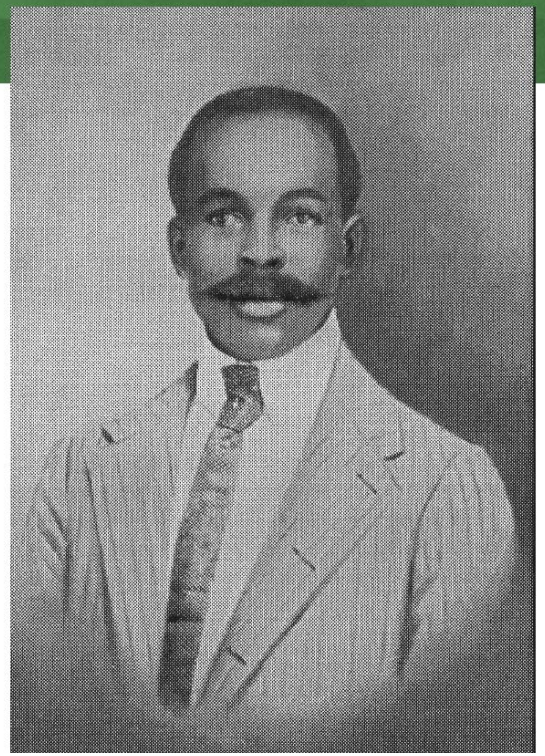

α7R III
C3
MENU
AF-ON
AEL
CH1
CH2
REC
2:14
1/30
F2.8
ISO AUTO




DBHS
Est. 1964


私は
神!!
神隼人!!
これから先
きさまに地獄を
見せる男だ!!

Celebrating Juneteenth and the the Life of George H. Green, a Delray Beach Pioneer



By Kayleigh Howald

Juneteenth, or Freedom Day, commemorates the official end of slavery in the United States. Although enslaved people were declared "legally free" with the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863, it was not implemented or recognized in Confederate-controlled areas, such as Texas and Florida.

When 2,000 Union troops arrived in Galveston Bay on June 19, 1865 – over two years after the Emancipation Proclamation – the army announced the over 250,000 enslaved Black people in Texas were finally free. In Florida, slavery was officially abolished on May 20, 1865 when General Edward M.

A Good Walk Unspoiled: A History of the Delray Beach Golf Club



Prohibition in the Sunshine State: South Florida's History of Temperance and Rebellion, 1896-1934



Shining Bright: The Delray Beach Historical Society Turns 60!










NATIVE
NATIVE

















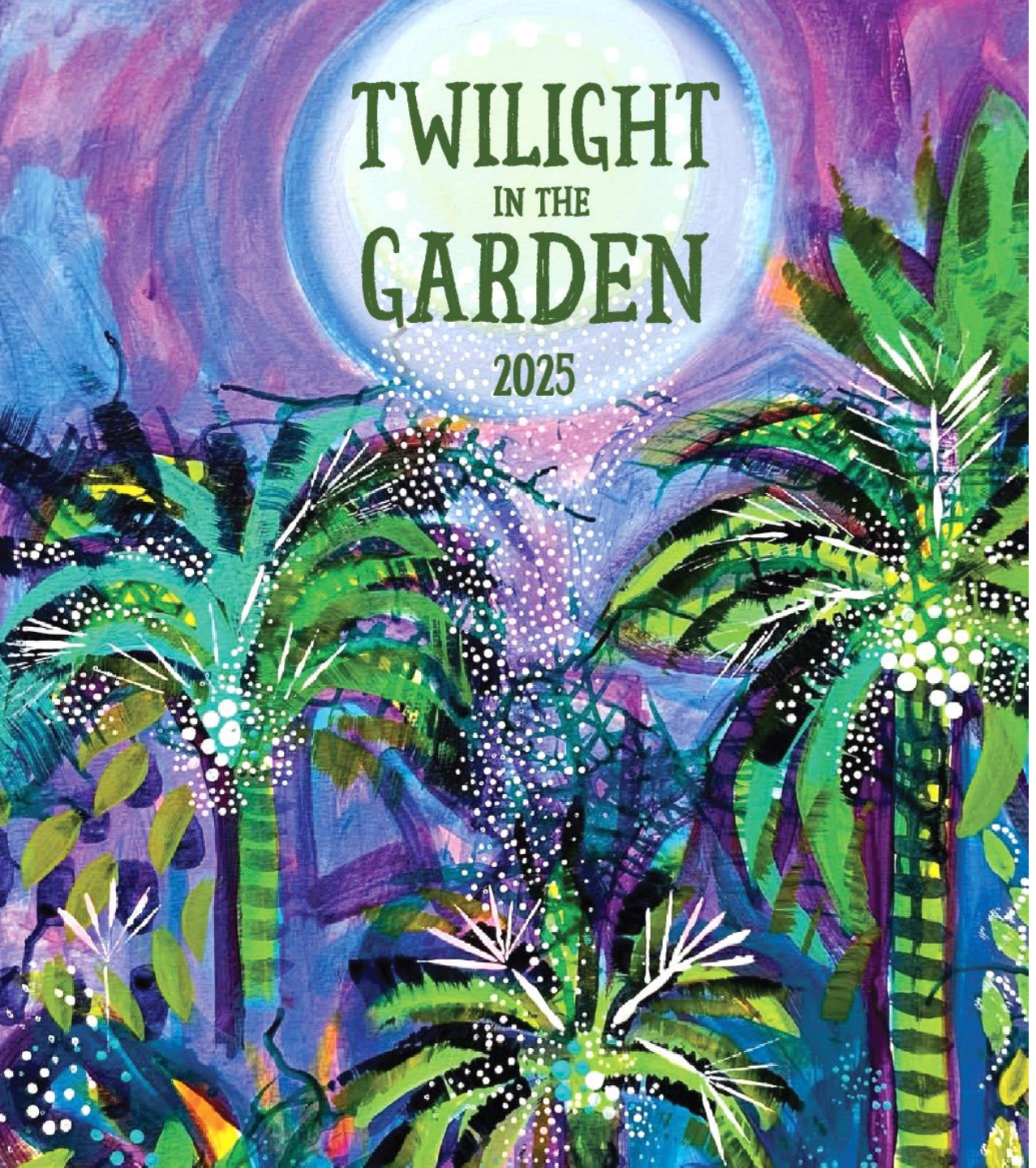











TWILIGHT
IN THE
GARDEN
2025



WHY WE DO IT.

- Our mission: to collect, preserve and share our history.
- Local history curriculum is being minimized in schools; Delray needs green space & gardens to open dialog about sustainability.
- To engage the next generation in historic preservation.
- To elevate civic and social connectivity, inclusion, sense of pride and community.
- To contribute to Delray as a nationally recognized arts & culture destination.
- To foster appreciation for Delray's family histories, unique assets, cultural heritage, natural environment and historically designated landmarks and neighborhoods.

THE YEAR AHEAD!

- New history exhibits – Offsite Pop-ups and On-site.
- Maintaining the Expanding City Archive & Preservation Projects.
- Maintain the Heritage Garden; Heritage Lectures and Garden Lectures Series.
- Historical Backroads Documentaries & Oral Histories.
- “Celebrating our Neighborhoods” Series, expanding our membership; expanding fundraising strategies.
- History Lectures, Events, Workshops, Camp, Walking Tours and History Happy Hours.
- NEW Campus Signage Package.
- Heritage Garden Interpretive Stations & Touring Map + Revitalization of our Gift Shop.

HOW WE DO IT.

- We gained 117 new members this year; we expanded our sponsorship donations.
- We are growing our database of visitors and contacts.
- We raised over 60% of our budget through memberships, sponsorships, appeals, small grants, program entrances and fundraisers; 40% was granted through the City + CRA.
- Increased outreach to partners, other nonprofits; utilizing our campus to introduce and foster historic preservation and Florida native garden benefits.
- Dedicated and passionate staff, board and volunteers.
- Adherence to our mission; we have grown steadily over the last ten years, while serving the community.

If we have met your expectations, we are respectfully seeking a total funding amount, at our current level, of $100,000 for 2025-2026.


111
DELRAY BEACH
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
and HERITAGE GARDENS