

# TIMEINES

## FRIENDS OF THE COLLIER COUNTY MUSEUM

Summer 2002

3301 Tamiami Trail East Naples, FL 34112 Arthur R. Lee, editor Volume VIII, No. 2

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Donna Ridewood, *Manager*  
Virginia Saalman, *Assistant*

*Immokalee Pioneer Museum at Roberts Ranch*  
Donna Ridewood, *Manager*  
Carolyne Cole, *Assistant Manager*

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Tamiami Trail E, Naples, FL 34112.

## STATE FUNDS RANCH HOUSE WORK

### *The Glorious Fourth!*



See story on Page Three

## ABBOTT NAMED TO FRIENDS' PRESIDENCY

The Friends of the Collier County Museum organization is going into the busy fall season with a new president, Charles Morgan Abbott, who had been a vice president and who was named at the July board meeting to succeed James S. Underwood, resigned.

In another change vice president Peter M. Blackford assumed the post of interim secretary as extra additional duty, replacing Ray Carroll, who had asked to be relieved of his duties. Pam Brown has been named to the vice president slot vacated by Abbott.

## 2003 Archaeology Month Switch: Observance Will be in Marco Island

Collier County's observance of state-wide Archaeology Month will be quite different than in years past.

While various public institutions such as libraries and schools will continue, as in the past, to observe the month with poster and book displays and distribution of book marks and reading lists, the County Museum's observance will have a different venue—Marco Island—and program.

To start planning for the event,

### Grant Opens New Phase In Building Restoration

Another step has been taken in the process of transforming the Roberts Ranch holdings into a major part of the county museum system.

The Immokalee Pioneer Museum has received a grant of \$92,028 from the State of Florida's Division of Historical Resources, Department of State, to continue restoration of the ranch's family home, which was built in 1926. Many of the ranch's 15 buildings were restored the past year with State and County funding.

Roberts Ranch is one of Collier County's premier historical resources and one of Florida's best and last examples of an authentic turn-of-the-century cattle ranch and pioneer homestead. It is at Roberts Avenue and State Route 29 and is open Thursday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.; admission is free. For information call Carolyne Cole at 658-2466. The Museum plans to be fully restored and operational by 2005.

the Naples Museum's education curator, Dave Southall, met with directors of the Marco Island Historical Society and the Southwest Florida Archaeological Society as they decided to stage a major event on what they hope will be the site of a new museum, a vacant tract of county-owned land adjacent to the county library. He agreed to the Naples museum providing substantial support in the form of tents, re-enactments, and other exhibits.

See Archaeology on Page 3

## Getting Acquainted: DAVENPORT = PUBLIC SERVICE

Like most members, Claudia Davenport comes to her new post as a director of the Friends organization with a background rich in civic and humanitarian experience, but, unlike many, as a native Floridian.

Another characteristic that was to mark her life is a drive to find ways of expressing herself in addition to her main work or study. In her high school years at Jacksonville, where she was born, she played in the local symphony orchestra. Similarly, during her years at the University of Miami, she worked as a land use technician.

College was followed by four years each of teaching at Miami and Ocala high schools, after which she entered a family business. At Jacksonville, the family seat, she worked with the Urban Gardening Program.

In Everglades City, where she took over another family business, she became chair of a planning and zoning committee. Her leadership in developing a comprehensive plan won her the Outstanding Citizen of the Year Award for 1989.

She later worked on the Enterprise Zone Committee and played a significant role in procuring a Historic Preservation Grant to restore the Old Laundry as the Museum of the Everglades; a new wastewater and effluent reuse system, and funding of a water conservation plan. She also served as a director of the Everglades Area Chamber of Commerce, Volunteer Fire Department, Betterment Association, Western Gateway Volunteer Ambulance Service, and the Museum.

She was appointed to the governing board of the Big Cypress Basin by Governor Lawton Chiles in 1993, and to a second term in 1996, during which she was vice chair. The board helped persuade the governor and cabinet to reassess Southern Golden Gates Estates to determine buy-out prices in line with current tax assessments.

She sold her business interests in Everglades City in 1996 and retired, but soon found a cure for restlessness by working with the Federal Census 2000,

## Planning Well Underway for 2002 Edition Of Old Florida Festival; You Can Help!

### UNUSUAL GLADES SCENES ON VIEW

Beautiful, spectacular, and unusual facets of South Florida's swamps and coastal waterways can be seen at the Museum of the Everglades in Everglades City until Sept. 28. The photo

prints are the fruit of over five years of filming by Cameron Gillie, Naples

Daily News photojournalist, who has earned numerous state and national awards for the excellence of his environmental photojournalism.

Settings for his images include Corkscrew Sanctuary, Big Cypress National Preserve and the Wilderness Waterway. "Most of south Florida's natural wonders lay far beyond the reach of the average resident or tourist. The swamps and wild areas can be uninviting places... My photographs provide the viewer the opportunity to see those places without soggy shoes or a single mosquito bite," Gillie comments.

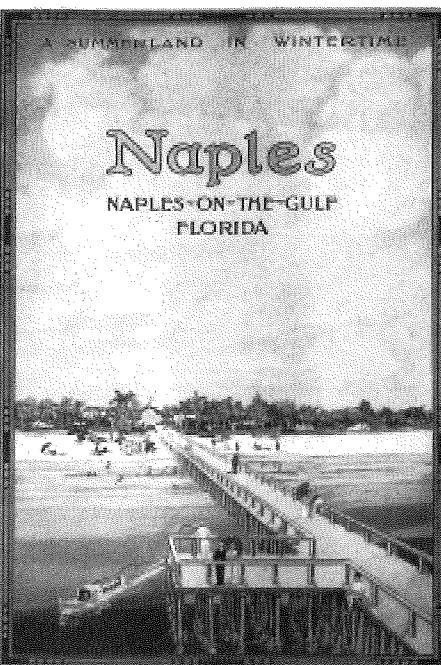
The museum is in the Old Laundry Building in Everglades City, recently listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Its permanent collection consists of paintings, drawings, and artifacts going back to the early days of Collier County (of which Everglades City was once the county seat), including construction of the Tamiami Trail, a major undertaking which joined the east and west coasts of south Florida for the first time.

Museum hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For information, call Virginia Saalman at 695-0008.

### FLAGPOLE FOR MUSEUM

Members of the county Ex-Prisoners of War chapter and other veterans helped arrange installation of a flagpole in front of the Collier County Museum June 25. The Museum's Colonial Guard assisted at the ceremony.

## New Folders Attract Residents, Visitors To Three Museums



The Collier County Museum has published a trio of attractive folders to acquaint tourists, as well as local residents, with the glimpses of the county's history and pre-history its three facilities offer.

Especiallly imaginative is a complimentary historic postcard showing Naples pier as it was in 1926 and bearing the legend "Welcome to Naples, Southwest Florida's Premier Beach Resort since 1889." The postcard is detachable from a folder relating a bit of the city's history and inviting visitors to visit the county's three museums, in Naples, Everglades City and Immokalee.

The Immokalee Pioneer Museum at Roberts Ranch is the subject of another folder, which contains a number of photographs of the ranch and its surroundings during the days when cowboys handled up to 5,000 head of cattle.

The third, "Unmask the Past," has an attention-getting reproduction of a Calusa ceremonial mask on the cover, and describes holdings of the Naples museum with its guided tours, special programs, gift shop, Bruce and Anne Haldeman Library, and the self-guided stroll through a couple thousand years of history and pre-history.

## Archaeology from Page One MOVE WILL REQUIRE IMPROVISATION

tors and other logistical help. Assistance also will be provided by the Southwest Florida Archaeological Society. The weekend of March 22 and 23 was decided on for the event and the organization committee is launched on a series of monthly planning meetings.

Events will be planned to capitalize on the Island's long aboriginal occupation, with living sites in the Caxambas area older than 3,000 years before present, a village site on Horr's Island dated at more than 5,000 years old, and the world-famous Cushing excavation at the Island's north end, a century ago.

Staging the two-day event on what currently is an open field with no facilities such as electricity, sewer or water, will pose a number of problems, but organizers believe that the resultant publicizing of the area's rich past will merit the extra effort. The Naples museum has promised support, drawing on its own facilities and those of the Roberts Ranch museum at Immokalee.

A major change will be required of the Craighead laboratory of the Southwest Florida Archaeological Society. In the past it has arranged displays within its permanent building, but in 2003 it will be necessary to improvise demonstrations at the site.

### Scientific Report Cites Craighead Lab Work

Several Collier County archaeological sites figure in a description of a major prehistoric feature on the Florida east coast, the Joseph Reed Shell Ring, in the current issue of *The Florida Anthropologist*, a publication of the Florida Anthropological Society. Lead author is Michael Russo, who has investigated Horr's Island and other sites.

Local sites discussed include shell rings at Bonita Springs and Horr's Island; Mulberry Midden, northeast of Naples, Heineken Hammock east of Naples, and Caxambas on Marco Island. Analytical work for all except Coxambas was done at the Craighead laboratory on the Museum grounds.

## Photo on Page One MUSEUM CREW HAS A BANG-UP FOURTH

In 1776, John Adams, who later became the 2<sup>nd</sup> president of the new United States of America, said of July 4: "Let it be forever observed with parades and the firing of guns." President Adams would have been proud of the spirit and volume contributed last month by the Museum crew and Friends members.

Drifting white clouds of gunsmoke and the ragged clatter of flint lock musket volleys thrilled the crowds that lined the streets of Naples for the annual Independence day Parade. The noisy passage of the Collier County Museum's float brought cheers when the viewers caught sight of the 18 patriots all authentically dressed as Revolutionary War soldiers and their families.

Dressed as colonial soldiers were: Museum Director Ron Jamro, Curator Dave Southall, Friends of the Museum President Charley Abbott and his two sons, Travis and Forest. Other soldiers were: Marcelo and T.J. Smith, Museum regulars Josh Blankenship and Henry Blackford, and Grace Erheart. Representing colonial families were: Friends Board member Denyse Mesnik and two children, Rachael and Joshua; Marcela and Arial Smith, Felicity and Anson Smith, and Mary Southall.

### Scientific Report Cites Craighead Lab Work

Russo compared design of the local shell rings, dated between 4400 and 4100 years before present (B.P.), with the Joseph Reed feature. The other sites' pottery was of interest because of their early dates. The Caxambas site dated at 3155, 3375, and 3400 B.P. At Mulberry Midden such pottery dated at 3390 and 3430 years B.P. Of Heineken Hammock, Russo described as "well reasoned" the authors' declining to accept a carbon 14 date for technical reasons and accepting a later date of 2500 B.P. as more reasonable. Russo cites the Mulberry Midden date as "derived from sound contexts that accepted chronologies do not otherwise take into account."

## **The Futures Market: YOUR DATEBOOK FOR UPCOMING MONTHS**

**NOVEMBER** 2 and 3: The 14<sup>th</sup> annual Old Florida Festival, County Museum at Naples.

**Nov. 22:** Farm-City Barbecue at Immokalee Pioneer Museum at Roberts Ranch.

**JANUARY** 1 through 31: Art Exhibit: *The Marriage of Art and Architecture*: Ronald Shelley, Illustrator; Museum of the Everglades, Everglades City. Reception Sunday, January 5 2-5

**JAN.** 14 through May 19: Exhibit: *The Everglades: Exploitation and Conservation*: County Museum at Naples. Reception Friday, Jan. 24, 5-7 p.m.

**FEBRUARY** 1 through 28 Exhibit: *The Florida Highwaymen*, Collier County Museum, Naples.

**Feb.** 1 through 28, Art Exhibit: *The Opalescent Romantic and Healing Light of Southwest Florida: The Art of Phyllis Pransky*, Museum of the Everglades, Everglades City.

**MARCH** 3 through 29: Art Exhibit: *Local Spirit, Local Artists*; Museum of the Everglades, Everglades City.

**APRIL** 26 Event: Celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of the Tamiami Trail and the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Collier County.

For more information: Jennifer Perry, public relations, 239-793-8393; [www.colliermuseum.com](http://www.colliermuseum.com).

## **Now, About Shopping**

The Museum shop has Cracker notecards and envelopes, the *Cracker in the Glade* book and other nifty gifties. Members get a 20% discount.

And if what you want isn't at the shop, click on [www.shopformuseums.com](http://www.shopformuseums.com) and choose your favorite retailer. The Museum gets a cut of the profit from every sale, and participants are upscale shops.



### **COLLIER COUNTY MUSEUM**

3301 Tamiami Trail E

Naples, FL 34112

Hours: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mon. - Fri.

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

Phone: (239)774-8476 FAX (239)774-8580

Volunteer Coordinator: (239)793-8393

### **Guide to MUSEUMS OF COLLIER COUNTY**



### **MUSEUM OF THE EVERGLADES**

105 West Broadway

Everglades City, FL 34139, POB 8

Hours: 10 - 4 Tuesday - Saturday

Phone: (239)695-0008

FAX: (239)695-0036

### **FRIENDS OF THE MUSEUM**

Address: 3301 Tamiami Trail E.,

Naples, FL 34112

Phone: (239)774-8724

e-mail: [friends@colliermuseum.com](mailto:friends@colliermuseum.com)

Gifts: [giftshop@colliermuseum.com](mailto:giftshop@colliermuseum.com)

Monthly meetings: Second Thursdays

Place: Museum Library; Time: 6 p.m.

**Admission to all Museums: Free**

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Naples, Florida 34112

