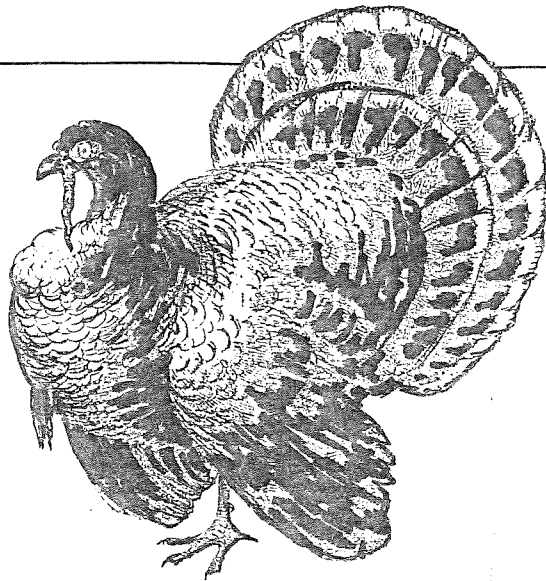


MUSEUM NEWS

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HAPPY THANKSGIVING !

The use of the word "turkey" to describe a "lemon" has become widespread in modern American idiom.

"From being a term applied to a play or motion picture that is a failure the term has expanded to be applied to almost anything that is a failure." While many ethnic groups have served as the butt of jokes and the object of derision in particular periods of our history, the Turks alone have generally been a constant target for derision.

The country of Turkey has done much to enrich American language, from the name of the bird on the Thanksgiving table to the young Turks of liberal ideas.

But a linguist who once taught English in the Mideast nation notes that some of the words are not exactly appropriate and many do not cast the Turkish people in a favorable light.

Even the name of the awkward-looking native American birds who came to serve as holiday fare was a misnomer passed along by the founding fathers, says Dr. Kevin McCarthy, a University of Florida English Professor.

Early Americans mistakenly identified the American bird with an African bird, the turkeyhen, so called because this bird had originally been brought into Europe by way of Turkey," McCarthy said "But the name Turk or Turkey has long been associated with cruel, inhuman behavior and has often been used as a descriptive part of our speech in derogatory phrases." he added.

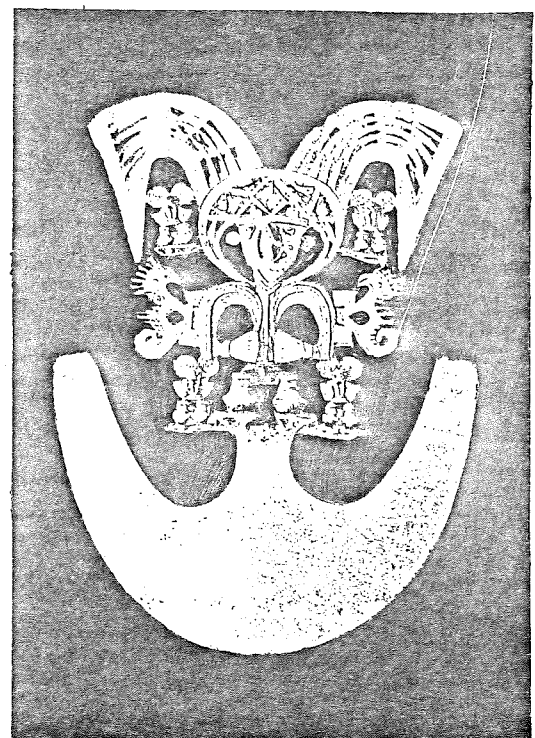
It all might have started with the Crusades, when Christian pilgrims were sometimes mercilessly slaughtered by Turks.

The Oxford English Dictionary documents the use of "Turk" as "a cruel, rigorous or tyrannical man, anyone behaving as a barbarian or savage..." as early as 1536, well before English settlements in the New World."

DIRECTOR VISITS BOGATÁ

Collier County Museum Director, Mary Manion, was selected to participate in the Partners of America Cultural Program. Partners in America has been active for the past 17 years in exchanging ideas, professionals and information to member nations active in the organization.

Ms. Manion visited Bogotá Columbia



South America. Jim McLaughlin an anchorman for WINK-TV also was selected to attend.

Bogotá is the capital of Columbia and located 8,669 feet above sea level. The language was mainly Spanish with some English spoken. Some specialties of Columbia are coffee, precious gems, copper and gold.

The Gold Museum of Bogotá was admired during the 10 day trip. Examples shown were of the exquisite art of the advanced pre-Columbian civilizations. Not only were the gold pieces used as bodily adornment and ceremonial figures, some were for household use or to offer to their gods in return for rain and fertile fields.

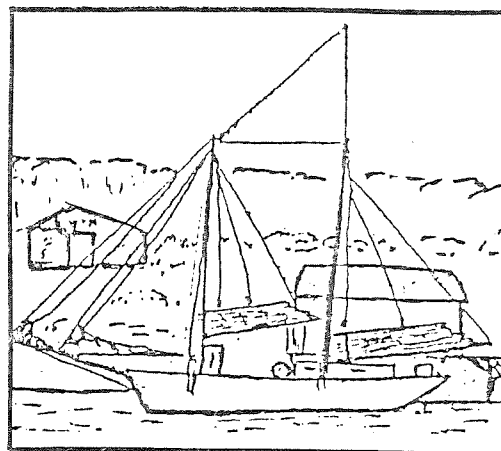
Imaginative legends site the rich places, perhaps the best known is the one of the ceremony which bear the name El Dorado, in the Lake of Guatavita.

This lake is some six miles from the town of the same name and is about 10,000 feet above sea level. It is two and a half miles in circumference and 120 feet deep.

It was here that there took place the ritual described by Friar Pedro Simon in these words:

"...They take two cords long enough to span the lake and pass them over from one side to the other, where they cross is the center or middle of the lake, where the military officers and the person who was to make the offering went on rafts made of reeds bound together or tree trunks like a sort of boat in which three or four persons could ride, according to their size, the same sort of raft they use to cross rivers where there are no bridges. On these then, they came to the middle of the water and there with certain words and rituals they threw in the offerings, great or small, according to their needs and possibilities, and so some were of great value and the Chief Guatavita, arrived, his body sparkling with gold dust. At the exact moment the sun rose from behind the mountain, the Chieftain immersed himself in the water to bring the ceremony to its

end. Thus came the story told by the indians in the city of Quito, and the name the Spaniards gave to the province of El Dorado."



The Bertie Lee in front of George Jr.'s trading post.

On Exhibit: **ROB STORTER and PENELOPE TAYLOR**

Beginning November 1st at the Collier County Museum will be an exhibit by Penelope Taylor Photography: "Directions" with Paintings by Rob Storter.

The women involved in the "phototalk" exhibition by Penelope Taylor were selected from the many families who moved to Naples before 1945. Their long residency in this area gives them a unique perspective from which to view our present-day community and comment on the future of an area they have helped to settle.

Also on display will be the paintings by Rob Storter, an 88 year old lifetime resident. Rob Storter's primitive style of art depicts the life he lived and worked in this community. Storter has a book which is available at the Museum Gift Shop called "Cracker in The Glades." It is a portrait of Rob Storter, fisherman and his family and features illustrations by Storter.



ANCIENT WHALE DISCOVERY...

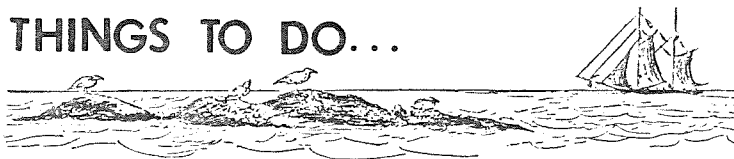
Field teams from the Florida State Museum will soon be quietly entering the waters of a local creek for a rendezvous with a 5 million year old whale that has emerged through the silty sands of the creek bottom and the proverbial sands of time.

The recent discovery by Chris Crider occurred while he was snorkeling in the local creek and sifting the bottom sands for various fossil remains. At this point, the whales skull and 11 vertebrae are uncovered and the ancient whale is estimated to be 49 feet in length.

Florida State University officials are excited about the find, saying that this is not only one of the largest ancient whale finds of this type, but since they are usually unearthed during phosphate strip mining operations, the fossilized skeleton remains are rarely found intact as in Lee County specimen.

The baleen whale, a species of toothless whales of the suborder Mysticeti, is so named for the horny elastic material that hangs in a fringed, parallel, platelike sheets from the upper jaw of the whale and serves to strain the minute plankton and small sea animals on which they feed. The fossil remains of the whale are located on private property and will be excavated with the help of the 3-M Corporation. 3-M Corporation will be donating their new "scotch-cast" material - a quick setting material that makes casts while wet which will be used to wrap the fossil remains as they are removed from the creek bottom and will protect the fossil remains until they can be properly prepared for exhibit at the museum.

THINGS TO DO...



If you are looking for an interesting place to spend an afternoon try the Fort Myers Historical Museum. The museum is open to the public daily except Mondays. The hours are 9:00am -4:30pm Tues. thru Fri. and 1:00-5:00 pm on weekends. Admission is \$1.00 for adults and 50¢ for children and well worth it! It is located in the old ACL Depot on Peck St (off Anderson Av) In 1971, 67 years of railroad passenger travel ended as the Peck St. Depot was closed. The City of Fort Myers soon purchased the property and plans were begun to establish a museum. Donations by area residents and businesses provided the funds to restore the building and set up the museum.

On display are objects that helped build this area - the cane cutters, axes and railroad equipment - as well as historic photographs and traveling exhibits.



Florida State Fiddlers Convention

The 2nd Annual Florida State Fiddlers Convention will take place on November 12 & 13 at Alachua Florida. For information on registration write to Florida State Fiddlers Association 1645 SW Rocky Point Road, Gainesville, Florida 32608.



If you would like to be placed on our mailing list to receive copies of the Museum News, please fill out and return this form to:

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3301 East Tamiami Trail
Naples, Fl. 33942

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