

Behind The Scenes

This column is written when it is not possible nor desirable to list the credits and present the background information for each article on its own title page in the "Legacy." Therefore, it is with these purposes in mind that the following synopses appear.

Baseball was the unchallenged national pastime in 1915 when Broward County was created. For well over a generation thereafter, when sports were involved, baseball ruled the hearts of local residents.

On May 9, 1925, the sports editor of the "Miami Herald" chronicled on page 1C the ebb and flow of organized baseball on the lower southeast coast of Florida, beginning in 1914. This article is reprinted herein. The name "Cap" Will J. Reed, mayor of the City of Fort Lauderdale at the time when this article appeared, must be indelibly enshrined when county baseball is mentioned. His guidance and support of the early Fort Lauderdale Tarpon baseball teams is legendary and deserves to be commemorated in a county hall of fame.

Governor Napoleon Bonaparte Broward needs no introduction to "Legacy" readers. But, there is a vast number of Broward County residents who still know nothing about the man after whom this county is named. His multifaceted career before he became Florida's governor in 1905 is highlighted in this first excerpt from his "Autobiography," published in 1904 during his successful gubernatorial bid. The story of his astonishing life is in the Horatio Alger tradition.

In 1940 Broward County boasted a population of 30,794 people who were congregated in an area of 1,212 square miles. They huddled in seven small communities and the environs along the Atlantic coast and the Davie hamlet. With the exception of the latter area, no community was more than five miles from the coast. Therefore, it was only within those communities that there had been any permanent transformation of or damage to the indigenous plant life. In an abstract that has been re-printed from a 1980 "Florida Scientist," Volume 43, Issue 1, Bryan Steinberg has mapped and described the vegetation of the Atlantic Coastal Ridge of Broward County from the earliest, i.e., 1940, imagery available. The accompanying maps are invaluable because they show the indigenous vegetation prior to the recent waves of development.

On April 5, 1925, the "Miami Herald" printed on page 10C a description of the Hillsboro Lighthouse, located near the Hillsboro Inlet. Fifty-four years later, on February 10, 1979, this lighthouse was placed on the National Register of Historic Places. This structure, which saved numerous lives and vessels and probably prevented as many shipwrecks, is operated now by the United States Coast Guard.

School teachers rarely receive the recognition that they deserve while still active in the profession. Kudos is given after retirement or death. The article contained herein by Myra M. Marshall falls between the latter two alternatives. Now ninety years of age, Mrs. Marshall lives with relatives in Tallahassee where she had received most of her higher education. Her "Reminiscences" is taken from PIONEER WOMEN IN EDUCATION, published in the early 1960s by the XI Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma and is reprinted with their permission. Much of the mathematics that thousands of Broward County students learned was at the feet of this talented woman. If such is possible, she made mathematics simple and understandable for those with little mathematical ability.

Black citizens have contributed materially to the development and progress of Broward County. Near the top of their accomplishments stand those of Minnie and Isidore Mizell. They arrived in Dania in 1910 and, with their numerous children, continue to participate in community affairs. Almost one hundred years old at the time of the interview, Mr. Mizell has recalled events of the early 1900s as if they had occurred only yesterday. The "Legacy" is proud to salute the Mizells for their exemplary citizenry and unusual longevity.

IN MEMORIAN

GARSON KAUFFMAN

1907 — 1982

It was early in 1979 when Garson Kauffman was appointed to the Historical Commission.

During his brief but active role as a commissioner, he served as vice-chairman. Not only did he serve all Broward County residents in this capacity, but he also worked in behalf of several civic and charitable organizations. He will be missed by many.

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