

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWS UPDATE

By Marlyn Kemper

BLACK HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF BROWARD COUNTY (*Mary Smith, President*)

During this year's *PIONEER DAYS* exposition the Black Historical Society of Broward County was awarded a red ribbon in the historical awards category for exhibits. Maybelle C. Allen, Florence Poitier Ali, Reverend and Mrs. Bester Anderson, Glennie Williams Charlton, John Clark, Viola Davenport, Fredrica Anderson Glass, Oscar Floyd, Susie Dumas Jackson, Sylvia Loretta Ferguson Poitier, Clementine Black Smith, Isiah Snellings, Lloyd Thomas, Kathleen Cooper Wright, and the family of Fannie Allen Jackson were selected honorees by the Society for *PIONEER DAYS 1977*.

Plans are under way to refurbish and convert the Clarence Walker Elementary School at 1001 Northwest Fourth Street in Fort Lauderdale into a museum and cultural center. Walker Elementary School, once known as Dillard High, was the first school building for blacks in Fort Lauderdale and was named in honor of principal Clarence Walker, a prominent black educator.

BROWARD COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC. (*Wilma Williams, President*)

At *PIONEER DAYS 1977*, a committee under Chairman Fred Battson put up a display for the society which was awarded a plaque for the most educational exhibit.

During the society's meeting on October 14, 1977, Dr. Raymond Williams, Chairman of the Department of Anthropology at the University of South Florida in Tampa and President of the Florida Anthropological Society, spoke on the subject of conservation archaeology and cultural resource management.

Work on Interstate 75 in Broward County has been halted by discovery of a burial place called Cherry Camp which holds the remains of an Indian who lived on the edge of the Everglades more than 500 years ago. Cherry Camp is situated just north of State Road 84 east of U.S. 27, directly in the path of the

superhighway. Along with the intact ancient grave at Cherry Camp, bulldozers doing preliminary digging for Interstate 75 have uncovered other artifacts indicating the spot is more important than formerly believed. Shell tools usually found only along the Florida coast also have been found at Cherry Camp, indicating that the Indians who lived at the site may have had contact with coastal Indians such as the Caloosa who may have lived in South Florida as long as 3,000 years ago. A decision regarding the fate of the Cherry Camp site will be made when officials of the Florida Department of Transportation and State Division of Archives, History and Records meet.

A small segment of Interstate 75 was rerouted in July to protect the seven acre burial ground in southwest Broward known as Peace Camp. That site is just north of Griffin Road and east of U.S. 27.

BROWARD GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY (*Harry L. Young, Jr., President*)

Meetings are slated for the fourth Thursday of every month to help members in lineage research. Cemetery, census, baptismal, and marriage records contain valuable information on residents interested in researching and preserving family genealogies.

BROWARD COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION (*Mr. F. K. Walker, Chairman*)

The Broward County Historical Commission is pleased to announce the appointments of Elizabeth S. Bolge as Executive Director and Ralph Megna as Administrative Assistant. Mr. Megna will continue to serve as Editor of *Broward Legacy*. Plans are now

Marlyn Kemper is the public information officer for the Broward County Historical Commission. She has authored several historical works, including a revision of the Standard History of the Medical Profession of Philadelphia (1976).

under way to expand the Historical Commission's library services and to create additional exhibits for the Museum display area.

An estimated 85,000 persons attended the fifth annual *PIONEER DAYS* extravaganza on Saturday, October 1, 1977, and Sunday, October 2, 1977, at Port Everglades. The event was co-sponsored by the City of Pompano Beach, the Pompano Beach Historical Society, Inc., and the Port Everglades Authority, under the auspices of the Broward County Historical Commission. Mrs. Jeanette Good was the General Chairperson.

In keeping with this year's theme of county agriculture, the Broward County Agriculture Extension Service created a 16- by 32-foot garden showing various kinds of warm weather vegetables and trees native to the area. Ninety-seven civic, cultural, educational, municipal, and religious organizations entered displays and exhibits documenting the county's dynamic growth and development. There was also a crafts' corner and entertainment along with sign language lectures and touch demonstrations for handicapped individuals. Vessels on display included the Coast Guard cutter *Dauntless*, the U.S.S. *Richard L. Page*, a destroyer, and the submarine U.S.S. *Sunflower*. Seventy-nine pioneers and a host of civic leaders were honored at the opening day ceremonies and during the awards' presentation. As in years past, admission was free.

CORAL SPRINGS HISTORICAL SOCIETY (Brenda Marinace, President)

The Coral Springs Historical Society designated Joseph Taravella, co-founder of Coral Ridge Properties, and Wilfred Neale, a member of the Board of Supervisors of the Sunshine Drainage District and of Coral Springs' first elected city commission, as honorees for *PIONEER DAYS 1977*. On display at the festivities was a series of photographs of the originators of the Coral Springs Historical Society. Membership in the society has tripled since its incorporation in 1976.

Members meet the third Wednesday of every month at 8:00 P.M. in the Coral Springs Cultural Building at 10800 West Sample Road. This year's programs focus on antique collecting, techniques for making reproductions, and furniture refinishing. Members are encouraged to bring their favorite antiques to meetings. A prize is awarded to the person presenting the most unique item.

Plans are under way to create dioramas documenting the city's development for display in a museum to be located in the Coral Springs Cultural Building.

Members continue to help the Broward County Parks and Recreation Department refurbish the home

of William and Margueritte McLean located in the 91-acre Tradewinds Park.

DANIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY (Lillian McMillan, President)

At this year's Pioneer Days festivities, Clyde Aycock, Will J. LaBree, Viola Sidney, Odis Devert Studdard and Gussie and David Sokolow were designated by the society as honorees. In keeping with the agricultural theme of the exposition, society members created a display highlighting the value of tomatoes to the local economy throughout Dania's early development.

This exhibit was recreated for Dania Days, a ten day celebration from November 4, 1977, through November 13, 1977, marking Dania's seventy-third birthday. Society members served old-fashioned tomato sandwiches and revived the tomato fights at the Dania Days fete. Highlighting Dania Days was a parade on November 12 in which a group of Dania pioneers participated by riding in an antique car. Dania Days activities were coordinated by the Dania Chamber of Commerce and took place at the Jai Alai Fronton parking lot and in Frost Park.



Plans are underway to rehabilitate Dania School for use as a community center. This photograph appears courtesy of Mrs. Lillian McMillan.

Dania Historical Society members continue to participate in the campaign to save and restore Dania Elementary School at 301 South Federal Highway. The school, also known as Dania High and South Broward High, was originally built sixty-four years ago and rebuilt after the September 1926 hurricane. In 1971, ground was broken for a new Dania elementary school and that year marked the closing of the building. To generate local interest in the project, society members will help out at the Save Our School booth at Dania Days.

DAVIE HISTORICAL SOCIETY (J. Kenneth King, President)

The Davie Historical Society was the recipient of an award for displaying the most historical exhibit at the fifth annual *PIONEER DAYS*. The exhibit included

a mural documenting Davie's development created by professional artist Betty Harvey and society members Anna E. Hammer, Barbara McCall, Delores Bobbin, and Ruthie Ostrander. Anna Freitag Borresen, Althea Jenne, and Carrie Lenz Hansen Williamson were designated by the society as honorees for the exposition.

DEERFIELD BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY (Juli Brugnoli, President)

At this year's *PIONEER DAYS* exposition, the Deerfield Beach Historical Society was the recipient of the Judge Nance Award "for outstanding performance in the restoration and preservation of the Old Deerfield Elementary School." Joanna Dietrich Wanzenberg and Mary Mowry were in charge of the project. The refurbished structure contains an authentic classroom complete with inkwells, blackboard, desks, pictures of World War One heroes, upright piano, and memorabilia from the 1920s. It is also home for a civic meeting hall with historical exhibits. Built in the 1920s, the schoolhouse was also used as a City Hall. A profile of "the old schoolhouse" by Joanna Dietrich Wanzenberg appears in the April 1977 issue of *Broward Legacy*.

The society conducts guided tours of "the old schoolhouse" at 250 Northeast Second Street and Pioneer House in Pioneer Park the first Sunday of every month from 2 P.M. to 4 P.M.

Upcoming programs slated for Society members include talks on antiques, glassware, and "apple annie dolls"; a brunch and fashion show featuring clothes from the 1920s and 1930s; and a multi-media slide presentation documenting Broward's growth and development.

FORT LAUDERDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC. (Russell M. Gardner, President)

On September 29, 1977, Dr. Thelma Peters, President of the Florida Historical Society, presented a slide documentary and discussed her latest publication, *Lemon City, Pioneering on Biscayne Bay, 1850-1925*, at a meeting sponsored by the Fort Lauderdale Historical Society in the auditorium of the Landmark First National Bank of Fort Lauderdale.

Among the new exhibits on display at the society's new headquarters at 219 Southwest 2 Avenue is the 0 scale bascule lift bridge built by Fort Lauderdale physician Dr. Robert F. Wilhelm. The model, which won the Gold "Best in Show" Award at the National Model Railroad Association's Chicago national model contest, was entirely built by Dr. Wilhelm from scratch except for the rail, motor, gear boxes, pinion gears, and some nut-bolt-washer castings. The real-life bridge was located on the Florida East Coast Railway in Fort Lauderdale. Dr.

Wilhelm back-dated the model to its 1930-1950 appearance when it had a bridge tender and was operating by a gas engine rather than electricity.

HALLANDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC. (Betty Jo Moffitt Cunningham, President)

Society members received the Broward County Historical Commission's F. Kenneth Walker Award for their display during the *PIONEER DAYS* exposition at Port Everglades. Betty Jo Moffitt Cunningham, Virdretha Eaton, Faye Neal Stetser, W. H. "Dub" Williams, and Joe Woods were designated as honorees by the society for the festival.

The first book published on the history of Hallandale is now on sale at the Bank Of Hallandale and Trust Company, 801 East Hallandale Beach Boulevard; Barnett Hardware, 100 East Hallandale Beach Boulevard; Hallandale Chamber of Commerce, 2100 East Hallandale Beach Boulevard; House of Books in the Diplomat Mall; Hallandale City Hall, 308 South Dixie Highway; and the Hallandale Historical Society at 485-0505. The book, written by Bill McGoun, is 147 pages long and costs \$6.24.

HOLLYWOOD HISTORICAL SOCIETY (Kenneth J. Spry, President)

During *PIONEER DAYS*, the Hollywood Historical Society created a replica of a Joseph Wesley Young sales office. Chairman of the exhibit entitled, "The Selling of Lots in Hollywood, 1923-1924-1925," was Myrtle Gray, Young's bookkeeper from 1924-1928. Society Secretary Pat Smith received a plaque in recognition of her outstanding work as Chairperson of *PIONEER DAYS 1976*.

At the society's meeting on October 12, 1977, Chapman Smith of the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce's Central city Task Force spoke on downtown Hollywood redevelopment.

A montage of 115 historical photographs arranged by Pat Smith and Micki Aderholt is currently on display in the Historical Society Room at the Art and Culture Center, 1301 South Ocean Drive, Hollywood.

OAKLAND PARK HISTORICAL SOCIETY (Edward Bailey, President)

At the fifth annual *PIONEER DAYS* exposition at Port Everglades, the Oakland Park Historical Society was the recipient of the Judge Nance Award "for outstanding and valuable and faithful service in promotion, production, and participation in *PIONEER DAYS* in consecutive years" and a first place blue ribbon exhibit award in the historical category. Society member Midge Turpen received a plaque "for her all around support, administrative assistance, and personal efforts in promotion of the Broward County Historical Commission programs in all areas of heritage."

On November 28, 1977, at 7:30 P.M., the Oakland Park Historical Society held its first meeting in its new headquarters at 3867 Northeast Sixth Avenue. The landmark, a house once occupied by the city's first mayor, Joseph Dewey Hawkins, and the city's first paid fire chief, Edward Bailey, has been remodeled and refurbished by society members and converted into a historical museum. Proceeds from a rummage sale sponsored by the Women's Club of Oakland Park, a \$10,000 grant from the City of Oakland Park, and donations from business, clubs and service organiza-



The Oakland Park Historical Society has recently dedicated this frame house as a museum for its city. Photograph by the Broward County Historical Commission.

tions secured by society member Dean Yates helped to defray expenses.

PLANTATION HISTORICAL SOCIETY (Dorothy O'Hare, President)

Ginny Allen and Jean Hanes, charter members of the Plantation Historical Society, were honored at the "Woman of the Year" luncheon sponsored by the Plantation Woman's Club. Mrs. Allen and Mrs. Hanes compiled a history of Plantation during the bicentennial year. Copies have been placed in all elementary schools in the city and in the Plantation library.

The Plantation Historical Society has been selected by the city administration to coordinate the twenty-fifth anniversary celebration of Plantation as a chartered city. Plans for the program include a block dance around City Hall and a horse show in New Horse Ring followed by a family picnic in Horse Ring Park. All pioneer residents will be honored at a special church service to be conducted in Plantation Community Church, the first church in Plantation. The service will be followed by a concert performed by the Bicentennial Band of Plantation Middle School and a reception hosted by city officials. Highlighting the festivities will be the placement of a time capsule in the ground under the cornerstone of City Hall.

Society members have created a museum documenting the history and growth of Plantation in a room formerly used by the municipal court in the Plantation City Hall at 400 Northwest 73rd Avenue. The museum is open every Wednesday afternoon from 1 P.M. to 4 P.M.

POMPANO BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC. (Thomas W. Johnston, President)

Record crowds attended the fifth annual *PIONEER DAYS* festival co-sponsored this year by the Pompano Beach Historical Society, Inc. Since Pompano Beach was the host and honored city, the show's general theme was Broward's agricultural heritage and early arts and crafts. During the exposition, the historical society was the recipient of an award for having "the most historical exhibit."

Society members collected antiques, artifacts, and other memorabilia for the society's third annual antique show on November 25, November 26, and November 27 at the Pompano Beach Recreation Center. Mrs. Henrietta D. McClellan, a member of the Greater Pompano Beach Board of Trade and Pompano Beach Chamber of Commerce, coordinated the event. A resident of Broward since 1948, Mrs. McClellan owns Heritage House Antiques and was designated an honoree by the society at *PIONEER DAYS 1977*.

SEMINOLE TRIBAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC. (Joe Dan Osceola, President)

The twentieth anniversary celebration of the organization of the Seminole Tribe of Florida held on Saturday, August 20, 1977, at the Seminole Indian Village at State Road 7 and Stirling Road. The July 1977 issue of *New River News*, published by the Fort Lauderdale Historical Society, Inc., printed the "Narrative History in Miniature of the Seminole Indians of Florida" by Mrs. Frank Stranahan and featured a pictorial salute to the Seminoles by Dr. James L. Glenn in honor of the anniversary celebration. There was no admission charge for the fete which featured entertainment, craft displays, homemade barbecue, and a program highlighting the creation of the tribal council and tribal incorporation on August 21, 1957.

The Seminole Tribal Historical Society was the recipient of a white ribbon in the historical category for exhibits at *PIONEER DAYS 1977*. Betty May Jumper and Reverend Bill Osceola were designated as honorees by the society for the festival.

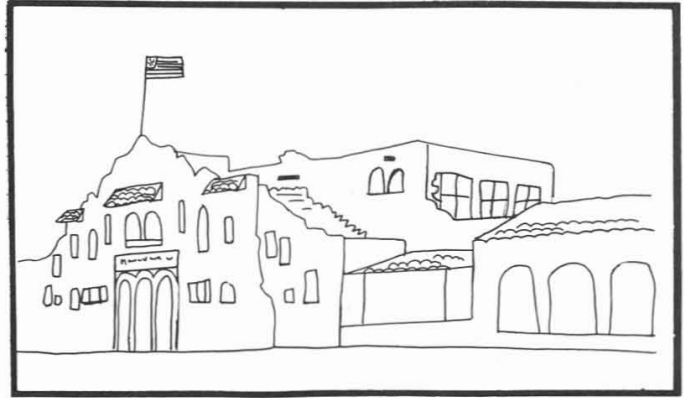
WILTON MANORS HISTORICAL SOCIETY (Diane Thompson, President)

An oral history of Wilton Manors continues to be accumulated. At the general meeting in November, this year's pioneers, honored at the festival at Port Everglades, were presented with honorary lifetime memberships in the society. The group includes Virginia Bell Hartman, Wallington (Duke) Hartman, Arlene Henerlaw Saxer, and Charles Saxer.

**THE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF NOVA UNIVERSITY
JUNIOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY (Dr. Leonard A.
Tomasello, Advisor)**

Members of the University School of Nova University Junior Historical Society have the distinction of belonging to the first junior historical society created in the state of Florida. During the bicentennial year, the youngsters produced a coloring book based on historic sites in Broward County. The seven- to eleven year-old artists drew their pictures from old photographs.

The special bicentennial project was the idea of Dr. Leonard A. Tomasello, a sometimes artist himself and Director of Lower House II and the Middle House at the University School. Landmarks featured in the publication include the Davie General Store, Fort Lauderdale High School, Dresden Apartments, Broward County Courthouse, and Dixie Highway Bridge. Copies of the coloring book are two dollars and may be ordered from the University School, 7500



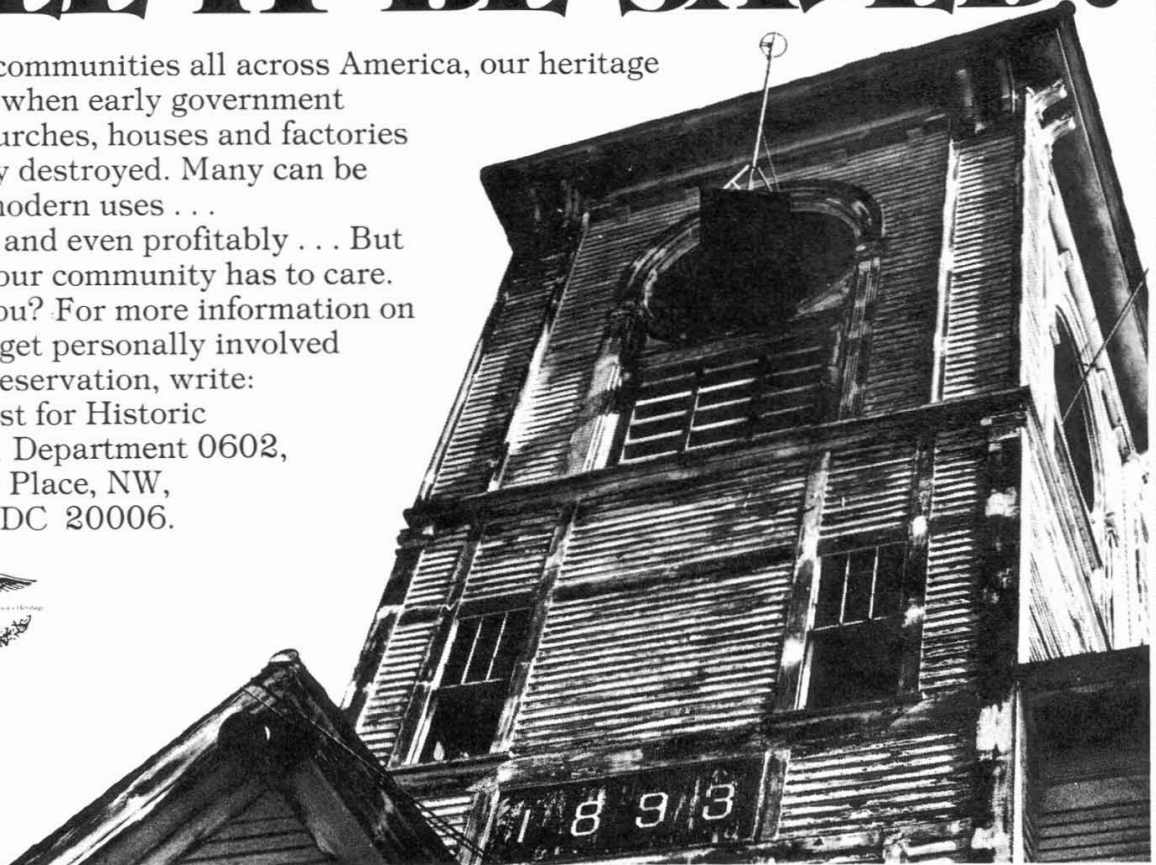
A page from the Junior Historical Society's coloring book.

Southwest 36 Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33314, or by calling 583-6185.

Junior Historical Society members plan to conduct interviews with pioneer settlers and document local historic sites during the current school year.

WILL IT BE SAVED?

In cities and communities all across America, our heritage is being lost when early government buildings, churches, houses and factories are needlessly destroyed. Many can be adapted for modern uses . . . economically and even profitably . . . But someone in your community has to care. How about you? For more information on how you can get personally involved in historic preservation, write:
National Trust for Historic Preservation, Department 0602, 740 Jackson Place, NW, Washington, DC 20006.



The National Trust is making available a set of these public service announcements for use in local publications. If your society or agency would like to use one in your newsletter or magazine contact the Historical Commission.