



CENTENNIAL

Journal

Issue 9 • November - December 2021



Dr. Frank A. Cassell

*From
The
Chair*

By the beginning of November 1921 the new Sarasota County government was struggling with a number of problems. Most importantly, the Manatee County Commission withheld tax funds that should have been turned over to the Sarasota County leaders, forcing the layoff of many newly hired county employees. At the same time, the Chief Judge of Manatee County refused to turn over records of cases now the responsibility of the Sarasota County judiciary. This sniping and sabotage continued for many months until finally settled by a state court.

The Sarasota Commissioners also faced the massive damage to public property by an October hurricane. But on the plus side, the Commissioners made progress on a local road-building effort, and with help from Charlotte County blocked efforts by Manatee to alter the planned route of the Tamiami Trail away from southwest Florida. It was a display of the muscle these two new counties could now wield in state politics.

The Centennial celebration continues with a wonderful art show at Uptown Art Gallery at 1367 Main Street in Sarasota featuring paintings of historical structures by Marlane Wurzbach. The demand for children's centennial coloring books designed by the Friends of the Sarasota Parks has been so great that additional copies have been printed. Many hundreds of people have used our auto tours app to visit historical sites throughout Sarasota County. And the final event of the county library system's One Book/ One Community Program will be my lecture on Bertha Palmer and her family. It will be held at the Selby Library on November 8. Kathryn Chesley in her role as Bertha Palmer will make an appearance. Check out the calendar on our website sarasotacountycentennial.com for information on this and other centennial activities.

The Centennial Steering Committee has given much thought to the legacy of the celebration. Certainly the educational impact of our efforts and those of the county will be important. Perhaps one of these effects will be to stir greater and more effective opposition to the destruction of our architectural inheritance. Marlane Wurzbach's paintings are reminders of how many historically significant structures have been lost to the wrecking ball. In other initiatives the Steering committee has taken steps to preserve the auto tour program and our wonderful website created by Don Bayley that is jam-packed with historical information. Progress is also being made in erecting historical markers in Venice and Sarasota permanently memorializing the founding of Sarasota County.

The Steering Committee hopes each of you has a wonderful holiday season.

Dr. Frank A. Cassell, Chair

Sarasota County Centennial 2021 Steering Committee

**Sarasota County
Centennial 2021
Steering Committee**

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Newsletter Staff

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Betty Intagliata

Contributors

Don Bayley, Frank Cassell

Graphic Designer

Evelyn Nelson

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SARASOTA COUNTY AUTO TOURS



**SARASOTA COUNTY
AUTO TOURS**

Sarasota County Centennial App Now Has 9 Auto Tours!

WHAT:

Celebrate the Centennial of Sarasota County with a FREE smartphone Auto Tour App for iPhones, Androids and iPads. 9 unique FREE auto tours can be accessed at the driver's leisure with expert historical narration and turn-by-turn directions.

WHO:

Created by the Sarasota County Centennial Committee, these tours are made possible and free to download thanks to several generous sponsors including: Williams Parker Attorneys, Mabry Carlton Ranch, Collins Interiors, Paver Development and Friends of the Sarasota County Parks.

WHEN:

The App and Tours can be accessed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week through the Apple App and Google Play Stores. Search: "Sarasota County Auto Tours"

WHERE:

9 Unique tours include: Bee Ridge, Vamo to Laurel, Phillippi, Englewood, Fruitville to Miakka, Bayfront, Venice, Downtown/5 Points and Courthouse Area!

WHY:

Celebrate the 100th Birthday of Sarasota County in a COVID safe and convenient manner! Hear about the history and interesting stories about the amazing people who developed Sarasota County.

HOW:

Visit <https://www.sarasotacountycentennial.com> to learn more about the Auto Tours and learn how you can celebrate the Centennial of Sarasota County.

PARTNER PROFILE

The History of the Sertoma Club of Venice

Sertoma Club of Venice was chartered on Dec. 18, 1976 and celebrates 45 years of community service this year, 2021. Since its inception, club members have volunteered for community projects, raised funds to support community efforts, and managed the Sertoma Speech Clinic. The very first fundraiser was “Cops vs Freaks” softball game. The club received its first “Gold Club” status from Sertoma International for sponsoring the first co-ed Venice High School Club, the Ser teens. Our second “Gold Club” award and gold jacket was awarded to Wayne Hall, the 1984 Sertoma Club President. The local organization, which is the largest Sertoma Club in the world, began as a men’s club comprised of many members of the business community. The club helped start La Sertoma, later known as Women’s Sertoma Club, whose members were mostly wives of the men in Sertoma Club of Venice.

One of the earliest projects, spearheaded by Todd Bernius, was the construction of Pinebrook Park Fitness Trail in the 1980’s. Similarly, the club participated with other service clubs in the area to create amenities at Service Club Park on the beach.

Under the leadership of Bob Anderson, club members volunteered weekly to run the concession stand at Chuck Reiter Park as a fundraiser. One of the first events at the new Venice Airport Festival grounds was the Sertoma’s Spring Fling consisting of Country music. Other early activities included the “Couch Potato Olympics” which consisted of such grueling events as billiards and bowling. Still today, Sertoma sponsors a bowling team thanks to Jan Lugar.

Another early community project and fundraiser created by Sertoma was selling hamburgers at the Sun Fiesta. In the 1990’s, Women’s Sertoma took over the organization of the October event, but the club continued its support by selling Burgers in Paradise and participating in the Bed Races. In the 1990’s Dr. Bob Bishop, DVM, organized the first Venice High School Student Scholarship committee that eventually morphed into the Student and Educator of the month/year

program. Dr. Bishop also spearheaded the creation of a competitive fishing tournament that lasted several years as a fundraiser open to the community at large and offered cash prizes. In 1991 Sertoma received a Bronze Sponsor plaque and certificate from the Sarasota County Police Athletic League for the support Sertoma gives the League. In 1992 the Volunteer Center South gave Sertoma an award for dedication to volunteering. That same year, Sertoma received a plaque from the YMCA for Sertoma’s support of their gymnastics program. Still in 1992, Sertoma received a plaque for their support and sponsorship of the Venice Vikings Warriors Cheerleaders. Late in 1992 Sertoma received a Certificate of Recognition as a “Safe City” from the Sarasota Board of Education Adult and Community Education Center.

Themed Holiday parties were fairly regular in the late 1990’s and early 2000’s, such as “PJ’s” with “CJ”, Wild West Round Up, Poker games, “Togas” and more. Sertoma members always believed in “Work Hard, Play Hard”, and “if you are not living on the edge, you are taking up too much space!”

In 1993, the club accepted its first female member, Kathy Dailey, who at the time was the assistant city manager in Venice. She opened the door for women’s participation in the club. Women now make up about half the membership. Also in 1993, the Sertoma Club received a “Silver Triangle” plaque for their support of the South County Family Young Men’s Christian Association. Kathy Turner, then communications director for Bons Secours Venice Hospital, became the first woman to serve as president in 2003, clearing the path for future leadership by women in the club.

Over the years, there have been many projects/fundraisers for the enjoyment and betterment of the community. Sertoma used to sponsor golf tournaments on a regular basis including three years of night golf tournaments with glow in the dark golf balls and a few years with “Goofy Golf”. During the 1990s, club members created huge

Christmas cards on plywood and exhibited them in front of the South County YMCA during the holiday season.

When this custom ended, around 2001, the club-initiated Breakfast with Santa, also at the YMCA. This free event, open to all children in the community, continues today. Members cook and serve pancakes and other breakfast items. For many years, member Richard Appel dressed as Santa and posed for a photo with each child, which was available for the family to take home when the child left. In 2001 Sertoma participated in wheelchair basketball and Relay for Life.

About the same time, club member Bob Vedder became involved in the creation of Rotary Futures, a resource center helping Venice high school seniors get through the college seeking and application process. Mr. Vedder received the financial support of the Sertoma Club in 2001 for this endeavor, which still helps many young people find opportunities. In its 20 years, Rotary Futures has found over \$100 million in scholarship money – each year Sertoma Club of Venice will give scholarships to VHS students through the Rotary Futures Program.

In 2002, Terry Redman met with the Venice High School principal and staff at their “start of the school year inservice” to propose the Students and Teacher of the Month program. The program honors the success of a male and female senior and a teacher from the high school at a club meeting and a news release is sent to the media. The school administration provides the names of the honorees, while a member of the club arranges the details. On Sept. 5, 2002, then Club President, Kelly Caldwell, and Mrs. Barb Farrar from VHS presented our first two students with a Sertoma Club of Venice Student of the Month Awards. Each year ends with Students and Teacher of the Year awards at the high school’s annual awards event. Missy Montgomery is responsible for this duty now. With Don Hay’s leadership, also in 2002, Sertoma was awarded second place in the Venice Christmas Boat Parade. From 1990 to 2006 the Sertoma Club of Venice sponsored a Little League baseball team. All 12 players and coaches wore their Sertoma shirts and hats.

Around 2009, during the Great Recession, the city announced it would not be able to fund Fourth of July Fireworks. C.J. Fishman gathered the troops at the Sertoma Club to do something about it.



That began an annual fundraising effort, where members stand in public places, usually in front of a grocery store or two, to ask the community for donations. Fishman called this “shaking the jugs” for fireworks. The club raised \$10,000 annually to add to the city’s \$15,000 contribution for the patriotic event that takes place at the beach.

In 2011, the Sertoma Honor Walk, named by member Bill Willson, was created to remember deceased Sertomans, Sertoma Club’s Presidents, VHS State Champions and to honor non-Sertomans who make an outstanding contribution to the community. Engraved pavers continue to be installed on the Walk, located along the Venice Waterway Park, behind Publix on the Island.

A more recent project with the schools is the Buddy Bench program. Sertoma member Buck Buckmaster and other volunteers have placed Buddy Benches outside elementary schools, where children befriend each other.

Other significant donations have been made toward scholarships, programmable robots, an ice machine for the Challenger Baseball program, playground at Venice Elementary school and more. These funds were raised from events like Comedy Night in the Venice Art Center.

These activities require stuff, so finding storage is always paramount. In 2021, the club moved its belongings to a new storage area thanks to Tom Trammell, Don Hay, John Hinshaw and other volunteers.

Favorite fundraisers have taken place year after year. Early casino nights, the Wild West Poker Tournament, and reverse raffles were held at the Venice Yacht Club, Mission Valley Country Club, and other venues. Being very community minded,

Sertoma members have spent years on road, beach and park “clean ups”.

In 2005, led by Don Hay, the club started the annual Wine Fest (now called the Wine Feast), a wine and food tasting event held in a tent in front of Wine and Coffee, downtown Venice, which co-sponsors the event. It kicks off Sun Fiesta on the Thursday before Sun Fiesta weekend and has become a well anticipated event in Venice. Most Sertomans will remember the flatbed truck/plywood stage that was built in Blalock Park for the first Sun Fiesta. For 2021 Sandi Raasch is the Chairperson for this community fundraiser. Also, around this time, Sertoma members were “ushers” for a community circus that was on the property that is now Tuscan Gardens.

Sherrey Welch spearheaded the first hilarious Unfashionable Fashion Show in 2011 and for a few years thereafter. Ed Taylor was responsible for Sertoma holding the annual Nokomis Beach Bash for a few years, co-sponsored by Budweiser. Don Fisher got the club involved in his passion, Suncoast BBQ and Bluegrass Bash, a fundraiser for Suncoast Foundation for Handicapped Children, an annual event that has received national attention.

Some events have been just for fun and membership bonding. Among those happy memories is the 2003 cardboard boat races at the YMCA pool, where members raced the ‘boat’ they built from cardboard and duct tape in Jim Clinch’s garage.

The Kevin Lingard Memorial Short Rod Fishing Tournament takes place around Snake Island in the spring. Pignic has taken place at various times throughout the club’s history. In the early days, it was held along a stretch of the Myakka River and later at Tom Trammell’s farm. It was another fun idea from Don Hay. And who could ever forget the annual Politically Incorrect Christmas lunches, where members were in store for many hilarious and of course, inappropriate surprises during skits planned by Jim Clinch, Mick Gardner and Rick Tacy.

More recently, Kelly Olliver organized what is hoped to be the first of many “Feast with

Us” events, another community fundraiser sponsored by local restaurants.

In 2004, club members, Jim Clinch, Don Hay, Bob Klingbeil and Andy Richardson formed the Cry’n Shames, a rock band that donates its tips from concerts to the Sertoma Club. After Richardson passed away, Brett Stephens joined the group. Other former club members, such as Marie Wilson, have played in the band at various times. The band is a community favorite.

In 2016, 2018, and 2020, Sertoma participated in the Giving Partner/Challenge sponsored by the Community Foundation of Sarasota County and the Patterson Foundation, with Terry Redman overseeing Sertoma logistics. On Nov. 5, 2016 Sertoma celebrated 40 Years In Venice at the Mission Valley Country Club.

Kit McKeon keeps track of all the Sertoma volunteer hours, which is a challenge with all the members and projects/programs. In 2021, Laura Benson, Sertoma Treasurer,



Sertoma Speech Clinic, Anna Carter is helping Brynn Fouche.

received the President’s Award for all her volunteering and accounting skills.

All of this takes a back seat to the heart of Sertoma Club’s purpose, the Sertoma Speech Clinic. Sertoma Club of Venice started the Sertoma Speech Clinic in the late 1980s and continues to provide funding so no child is denied therapy because the parents can’t afford it. It was first located in the Grace United Methodist Preschool. Connie Oleen

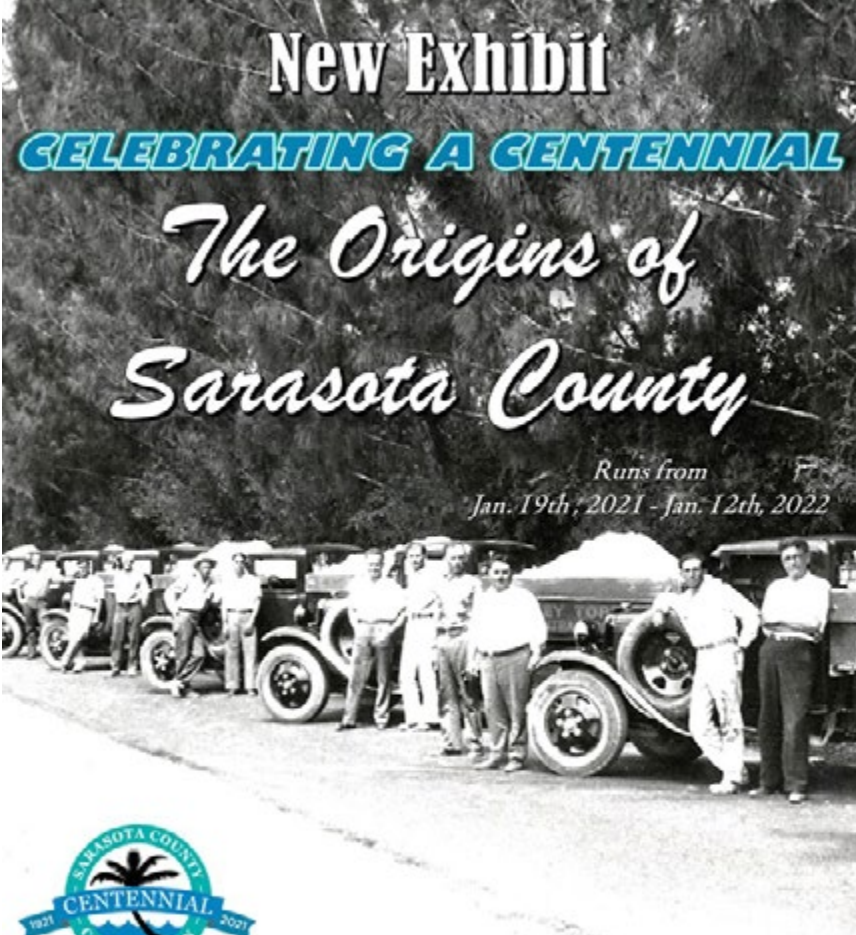
was the first speech-language pathologist contracted to run the clinic. Shirley Boone took over from Oleen the following year.

When Boone gave birth to twins in 1990, David Ursel took over the clinic. What started serving five children quickly grew and the facility moved to the South County YMCA, with much help from club member and former YMCA CEO, Ken Modzelewski. A few years ago, it moved again, this time to 800 Gulf Shores Boulevard in the Children First building, with Don Fisher making it possible. David Ursel still runs the facility with the help of speech pathologist Anna Carter (wife of Sertoma member, Adam Carter).


While in Venice High School, David was a member of Sertoma's Serteen. Lynn Joyner, Courtney Green and Billy Rhodes supervise the two therapists and guide the program. Special thank you to Sertoma member Pam Johnson, City of Venice Marketing and Communication Officer for her assistance in creating/editing this Sertoma Club of Venice history.

Over the past 45 years we have met at Smittys, Landmark, Purples, Left Coast Seafood, Venice Airport/Suncoast Café, Allegro Bistro and Venezia Hotel. Again, putting our funds and energy back into our community.


Sertoma Club of Venice meets Thursdays at noon. For more information about the club see www.VeniceSertoma.com Much of what is written above was produced from Sertoma Club of Venice Member's memories!




New Exhibit
CELEBRATING A CENTENNIAL
The Origins of Sarasota County
Runs from
Jan. 19th, 2021 - Jan. 12th, 2022



Venice MUSEUM & ARCHIVES
351 Nassau St. S.
Venice, FL 34285
941-486-2487

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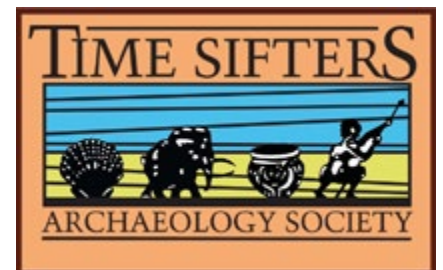


Become A Partner

We invite you to view "A Special Invitation" to join the celebration on our website: www.sarasotacountycentennial.com or on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uo9U5fbm0PM>

Join Our Partners

In every issue we will feature some of our Partners.





THE ROAD WE TRAVELED TO SARASOTA COUNTY

NOVEMBER 9, 2021 • 7:00PM - 8:00PM • FREE

Come meet the people who played a large part in the separation of Sarasota from Manatee County in this presentation of the play, The Road We Traveled to Sarasota County.

Meet Mayor A.B. Edwards as he follows the inroads made by Bertha Palmer and subsequently, her family members, along with landowners, J.H. Lord and Owen Burns as they struggled with the social and political issues of the day.

Follow the journey of the workers of the town as they maneuver over the ruts and pathways to get products to markets. Listen to the concerns of the citizens as they ponder editorials in Rose Wilson's Sarasota Times newspaper over the issues of maneuvering out of Manatee County and carving out a new County called Sarasota.

The play will be shown on Tuesday, November 9, at 7:00pm at the Crocker Memorial Church, 1260 12th Street, Sarasota, FL. The actors will be present as well as Kathryn Chesley, the writer and director (pictured) along with Frank Cassell, from whose book the facts were taken.



Upcoming in 2021...

NOV 9
7PM
TUE

The Road We Traveled to Sarasota County...*Crocker Memorial Church, 1260 12th Street, Sarasota*

Come meet the people who played a large part in the separation of Sarasota from Manatee County in this presentation of the play, *The Road We Traveled to Sarasota County*. Meet Mayor A.B. Edwards as he follows the inroads made by Bertha Palmer and subsequently, her family members, along with landowners, J.H. Lord and Owen Burns as they struggled with the social and political issues of the day.

Follow the journey of the workers of the town as they maneuver over the ruts and pathways to get products to markets. Listen to the concerns of the citizens as they ponder editorials in Rose Wilson's Sarasota Times newspaper over the issues of maneuvering out of Manatee County and carving out a new County called Sarasota.

NOV 20
10AM-5PM
SAT

Sarasota Open Air Fine Art Show...*Phillippi Estates Park, 5500 S. Tamiami Trl, Sarasota*

High quality fine art and fine craft shows where all work is original and personally handmade by the artist present at the show. Juried by art professionals based on originality, technique/execution and booth appearance. Hot Works fine art and fine craft shows are voted in the top 100 art shows in America!

Discover Sarasota Tours Celebrates Three-Year Anniversary!

Discover Sarasota Tours celebrates its third year in business by offering its Annual Trolley Bash—Retro Style with a fundraiser for the Sarasota Historical Society on **Thursday, November 4 at 4:30 PM**.

"2020 and 2021 have been a real challenge for us as a tour company," says CEO Tammy Hauser. "Thank goodness for our ChillMobile ice cream truck, loyal customers, amazing staff, and this generous beautiful community that helped us make it to our third anniversary." To celebrate, Discover Sarasota Tours has planned a host of fun activities for the Bash for all of its customers and friends.

Food truck Big Blue will be on hand serving a menu of gourmet grilled cheese sandwiches; The ChillMobile will offer ice cream treats including Boozy Pops; The Discover Sarasota Tours Tiki Bar will be serving beer or wine; and the Vintage Sarasota Gift Shop will offer special discounts for guests. Tour guides will be in costume, and you will meet the newest member of our fleet family of vehicles, Dolly The Trolley! Finally, the program will include nationally known author and presenter on all things retro, Mod Betty, who will be highlighting Florida retro buildings in her presentation.

Net proceeds from the event will be donated to

the Sarasota Historical Society to help repair the foundation of Crocker Memorial Church. "We are so happy to support this important Sarasota organization's preservation efforts. The Crocker Memorial Church and the Bidwell Wood House are key stops on several of our tours," said Tammy Hauser.

The Trolley Bash begins at 4:30 and runs until 6:30 in the parking lot of Discover Sarasota Tours at 1826 4th Street in the historic district with FREE ample parking for guests. Tickets are \$20 and include all activities (with donation to the Historical Society) but are limited to 250 guests and require a reservation. Book online at discoversarasotatours.com/trolleybash.

In the upcoming 2022 season, several new tours will be added:

Leading Ladies of Sarasota, a historical tour of Sarasota led by Kathryn Chesley who plays a rotating cast of Sarasota's founding mothers: Bertha Palmer, Rose Wilson, Mable Ringling and Marie Selby. **Wednesdays at 10AM November-May.**

Murder Mystery Trolley, an interactive theatrical show featuring a fun whodunit mystery to solve.

Discover Sarasota Tours Celebrates Three-Year Anniversary! *continued*

December 2021. Will Run **Saturday Nights at 8 PM.**

Art Studio Tour of local artists' studios. **February 2022.**

Wine & Chocolate Love Tour – week of Valentine's Day with Kathryn Chesley playing the founding women of Sarasota with a stop for wine and chocolate tasting.

Dine-Along Trolley is a progressive dinner tour stops at three local restaurants—for appetizer, main course, and dessert. **March 2022.**

Will Rogers – Special Engagement (led by Steve McAllister), highlights the Sarasota connections of the humorist known as “the Cowboy Philosopher,” with Steve McAllister leading the tour in character as Rogers. **April 2022.**

Ongoing tour themes below:

- Amish Experience – led by Kendra Cross
- Art Crawl Trolley – led by Jerome Chesley
- Boutiques & Bubbles Shopping Tour – led by Tammy Hauser or Kendra Cross
- Circus History Tour – led by Bob Collins
- City Sightseeing Tour – led by Frank Motz, Pat Canavan, Kathryn Chesley, Jon MacDonald, Steve McAllister
- Haunted Sarasota – led by Kaylene McCaw and Daniel Pelissier
- Holly Jolly Trolley – led by Jenny Aldrich
- Sunset Happy Hour City Tour – led by Jon

MacDonald

- Psychic Sundays – led by Michael Newton-Brown
 - Public Art Tour – led by Jerome Chesley
 - Rainbows & Unicorns – led by Jenny Aldrich
 - St. Paddy's Hooley on the Trolley – led by Steve McAllister
 - Siesta Beach City Tour – led by City Guides
 - Tiki Trivia Trolley Tour – led by Steve McAllister
- Book online at: discoversarasotatours.com.

WAIT...
There's More

Watch two programs by two great re-enactors portraying two different women who both supported the split from Manatee County and creation of a Sarasota County during the 1920s. To see each video program you simply go to: veniceareahistoricalsociety.org. Click on “Education.” Video will pop up right away.

Re-enactor is Kathryn Chesley. She portrays an ardent supporter of the split from Manatee County and creation of a Sarasota County...this was Rose Wilson, who ran the only newspaper in Sarasota in the 1900's. This video program began on April 20th and will continue for awhile.

Re-enactor Kate Holmes portrays “Bertha Palmer” and tells of Bertha and her family's strong support for a split from Manatee County and creation of a Sarasota County. This video program begins on May 18th and will continue for awhile.

We hope you enjoy these wonderful re-enactors.. while learning about two personalities involved in the creation of Sarasota County!

Farm to Table Event Supports Healing Through a Taste of Historic Florida

Resilient Retreat is a new and innovative nonprofit with a mission is to help those impacted by trauma and abuse. The organization provides free evidence-based programs to survivors of abuse, first responders and helping professionals, to heal the impacts of trauma on the mind, body and spirit. To help them secure funding for their programs, they are hosting an al fresco farm to table dining experience. "Creating a Farm to Table fundraiser was a natural fit for Resilient Retreat as we are currently building a retreat center on 84 acres of conservation land in Sarasota and one of the features of the property is a beautiful vegetable and flower garden," says Lisa Intagliata, Executive Director of Resilient Retreat. "The garden will provide produce that will be used for meals during the retreats and will also be used for participant programs like nutrition and cooking classes. Nutrition plays an important role in dealing with psychological trauma. Eating a healthy diet can reduce the negative effects of stress on your body. A healthy diet builds a solid, more enduring foundation for your body by reducing oxidation and inflammation."

Featured chefs include Christopher Covelli of Sage, Darwin Santa Maria of Almazonica Cervceria, Greg Campbell of Pier 22 and Jim Angus of Atria Café. Chef Tommy Klauber, Honorary Chair of the event, is helping to coordinate the menu with these local top chefs.

In doing research for the event, Tommy learned that Resilient Retreat was a partner of the Sarasota County Centennial Celebration this year, so the decision was made to pay tribute to the culinary history of Florida and the food from our region. A theme was born and the chefs are using inspiration from the book *A Culinary History of Florida: Prickly Pears, Datil Peppers & Key Limes* by author Joy Sheffield Harris. Dishes will be based on the local Florida cuisine and will include things like smoked

short ribs with key lime prickly pear chutney, croquettes, bread with bee pollen butter and guava flambe and Seminole Pumpkin crepes. Vegetarian guests will enjoy a fresh vegetable terrine among other vegetarian friendly options. Herbs, microgreens and other food items will be incorporated from Resilient Retreat's garden as well as from local farms and ranches such as Blackbeard's Ranch, Strickland Ranch and Kameda Farms and will include local beef, honey, guava jelly, sage, rosemary, oregano, lemon grass, Thai basil, sunflower microgreens and more. "Resilient Retreat's inaugural Farm to Table event is a unique event, new to Sarasota where local top chefs and guests are coming together to support abuse survivors and first responders/helping professionals," says Tommy Klauber. "It's more important now than ever before that we support mental health resources for these individuals."

The Farm to Table event takes place on Sunday, November 14, 2021 at 4:00pm at the Resilient Retreat property located at 13010 Fruitville Rd. in Sarasota. Ticket prices are \$325 per person. Proceeds benefit Resilient Retreat's mission to empower survivors of trauma to thrive through self-care and community. Tickets and sponsorships can be purchased at <https://www.resilientretreat.org/farmtotable/>.



RESILIENTRETREAT

About Resilient Retreat: Resilient Retreat was founded in 2018 to empower survivors of abuse and those that experience trauma in the workplace, like first responders and helping professionals, to thrive through self-care and community. In October 2020, Resilient Retreat began construction on a new 84-acre retreat center at 13010 Fruitville Road, Sarasota, FL 34240. Upon completion in 2022 Resilient Retreat will be

Farm to Table Event Supports Healing Through a Taste of Historic Florida

able to further expand its capabilities and capacity to offer healing services to the community, including modalities like neurofeedback, yoga, meditation, massage, time in nature, gardening, nutrition and support groups as well as enhancing self-care skills through workshops on healthy cooking, journaling, and other beneficial activities. In addition to the free and confidential day programs currently being offered, once retreat construction is complete, peaceful multi-day retreats focused on healing the entire person will be added to provide participants with the necessary tools to not only survive after trauma, but to thrive. For more information about the services of Resilient Retreat, please visit www.ResilientRetreat.org or call 941 343.0039.

Non-Profit of The Year Sarasota



HAVE A PRIVATE SHOWING OF THE SARASOTA COUNTY VIDEO

The Historical Society of Sarasota County has filmed the play The Road We Traveled to Sarasota County, written by board member Kathryn Chesley. This program is now available for other organizations to use. It tells the story of the people and the events that helped to create Sarasota County. Using actors from the community, the play was staged and filmed. The run time is 1 hour and 6 minutes.

Any organization can use the film to highlight the centennial without a charge; however, the Historical Society would appreciate a donation to their organization so that we can upkeep the two historic buildings in our care.

Organizations can contact Linda Garcia, at 941-364-9076 or email her at hsosc1@gmail.com to get the link for the presentation.

How Sarasota County Came To Be

SarasotaCountyCentennial.com

Be sure to visit our website to watch the video of Dr. Frank Cassell sharing the story of how Sarasota came to be, its break from Manatee County and the people involved.

PARTNER PROFILE



Just a slice of Jack Dean

I grew up in Sarasota in the late 50s and 60s. In 1953 my family had a home on Arlington Street & Tuttle Steet. The entire the street was a dirt road. I remember, at the time in the 60's, the bridge to Siesta Key on Stickney Point Road swiveled by a Bridgetender. He would put a pipe in the center and walk around in a circle until the bridge was where it needed to be. The Fire Department would call the Bridgetender to make sure the bridge wasn't open so they could send a fire truck or ambulance and not have to wait.

Sarasota is home to some of the most interesting people. One of Sarasota's pioneers was Earl Blackburn. Earl made the best swamp cabbage around. It was made from the heart of a cabbage palm which Earl and his trusty hatchet could get to center of in a mere 60 seconds. This was typically a 10-to-15-minute process for others.

In the late 50's and early 60's my grandmother, Evelyn would take me fishing at the old Ringling Causeway that was low to the water. It was never a question of catching fish, rather how may you wanted to catch. Back then a fish we liked to catch and eat was the silver trout.

In the early 60's I would go to Point of Rocks on Crescent Beach on a Saturday morning and camp on the beach overnight. I would spear fish and cook my catch on an open fire

right on the beach. Over the weekend I'd be lucky to see 20 to 30 people on the beach.

At the Sarasota County Fair in the 60's or 70's, Tommy Houser ran the fair and owned Adam & Houser Hardware in downtown Sarasota. We would have a Pioneer Picnic at the fair each year put on by the Rotary Club. To attend, you had to be a resident of Sarasota for 50 years or more. Earl Blackburn was always asked to make the swamp cabbage and I would help him cook so I could attend before my time. You would always get to see the old Pioneer families like the Blackburns, Albrittons, Hawkins, Stickney's and the Underhills. It was so much fun to hear all the old stories.

The Circus Arts Conservatory has been in Sarasota for about 25 years. I was lucky enough to get involved with Pedro Reis and Dolly Jacobs a few years after starting their not for profit. Their intention was to keep Circus Arts alive and growing in Sarasota. I was fortunate to have been a part of their Board of Directors during their tremendous growth and the eventual taking over of Sailor Circus.

When I was 19 years old, I had an opportunity to get into the flooring business. I went t work for Miami Rug Company in Fort Lauderdale. When they opened a store in Sarasota, it gave me the opportunity to move back. This is my 53rd year in the flooring business, 44 of which being self-employed. I sold my business in 2019 to my son-in-law and daughter to keep the legacy going. I still work with them devoting 30-35 hours a week with them. I always tell people, if I didn't do this for a living, I'd do it as a hobby. In the last year, we moved our business to the International Trade Center in Sarasota. The address is:

164 Sarasota Center Blvd, Sarasota 34240.
Phone: (941) 217-4943. We are holding a Holiday Party on December 3,2021 for the Centennial 2021 Committee members at 4:30 PM.

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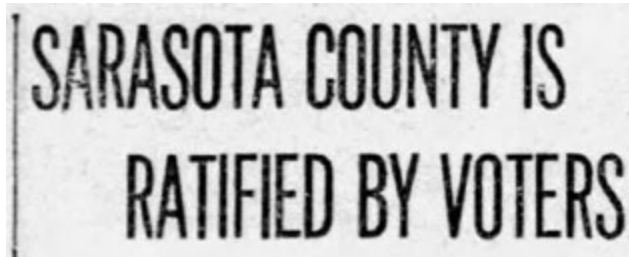
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*Tampa Tribune
June 16, 1921*

In 1921 the citizens of the Sarasota district won their battle for independence from Manatee County to become Florida's 62nd county. This year in 2021, the entire Sarasota County community including Sarasota, Venice, North Port, Longboat Key, Osprey, Nokomis, Englewood, Newtown, Miakka, and Laurel is celebrating our 100th birthday. Representatives of local historical organizations have formed the Sarasota County Centennial 2021 organization to plan events and raise awareness regarding this important anniversary.

Thanks to people like you, the Sarasota County Centennial will be a historic event to remember. We invite you to be a sponsor of this very important community initiative! Your contribution will help support the entire Centennial effort, including the community events, history programs and a website to share all of the various opportunities for the community to participate. You or your business will be promoted through our marketing efforts online and in print.

Please view our levels of sponsorship. Go to our website sarasotacountycentennial.com or print and fill out the Application on the last page to secure your sponsorship. Friends of the Sarasota County History Center dba Sarasota County Centennial 2021 is a 501(c)3 charitable organization. Your contribution is tax-deductible to the extent provided by law.*

Your support is critical to celebrating this once in a lifetime milestone!