

The Palm Coast Historian

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Editor: Kay Stafford

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Following is a continuation of our “Beginning ...” series which appeared in the Summer/Autumn 2012 issue of THE HISTORIAN. Palm Coast has a storied past that we’d like to share with those who were not part of it.

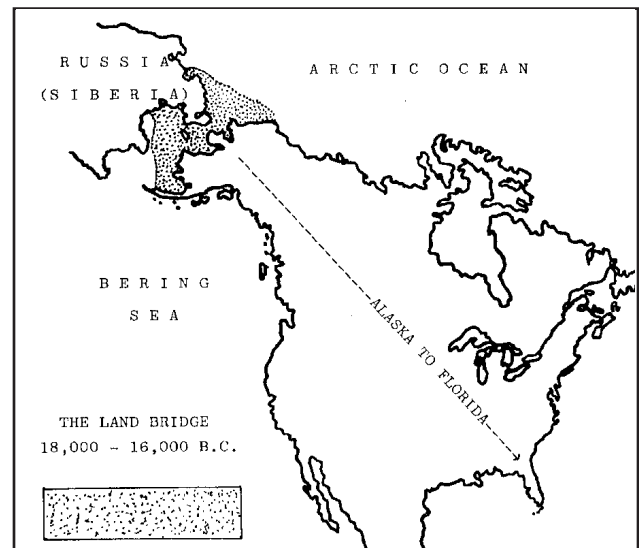
Florida Indians Before the European Exploration

by Art Dycke, City Historian

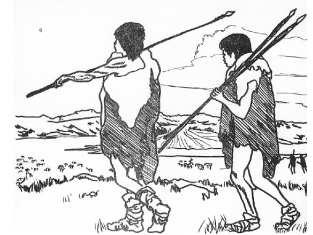
The Summer/Autumn 2012 issue of **THE PALM COAST HISTORIAN** started with the title “**BEGINNING I: PRE-HISTORY – NO DINOSAURS IN PALM COAST: THE EARLIEST ARCHAEOLOGY OF FLAGLER COUNTY.**” In this first chapter, the timing and variety of our community’s early animal inhabitants were examined from their beginnings until their remains started to intermingle with those of humans. I will quickly review our geological and climatic timeline before beginning the examination of our area’s first transitory human inhabitants, our local aborigines (original people), or perhaps “Native Americans,” who were somehow misnamed as being Indians.

We started with a Florida rock 3 billion years ago, added underwater life-forms 500 million years ago, missed 150 million years of dinosaurs, found a fossilized aquatic turtle from 120 million years ago, and were still completely under water 55 million years ago while some of North America was experiencing an 80-million-year “Age of Mammals.” Florida then did emerge from the ocean 25 million years ago and saw the beginning of the Pleistocene epoch (our last “Ice Age”) 2 million years ago, watched our peninsula land area widen with the gradual retreat of the oceans 500,000 years ago, found remains of a giant sloth that lived here 130,000 years ago – and we think the first humans touched the North American continent approximately 35,000 years ago.

Archæologists believe that the first Floridians, called Paleo-Indians, arrived here approximately 15,000 years ago (sometime between 18,000–16,000 BC), having spread throughout the United States after their arrival from Asia 50,000 years ago via a “land bridge” between Siberia and



Alaska. Here they hunted and coexisted with an unusual variety of Pleistocene mammals such as giant ground sloths, horses, bison, llamas, giant armadillos, huge tortoises, peccaries and several types of elephants and relied in part on the ocean coastal regions for food and other resources. (from FLAGLER: THE EVERYTHING COUNTY, an educational aid by Naomi Otterbein.



Global warming continued all over the earth from 10,000 years ago to about 6,000 when it stabilized worldwide into today’s approximate geographic and climatic conditions. As glaciers melted and receded northward the Great Lakes were created in the north, the pines gave way to leafed trees in the east, a great grassland prairie covered the midwest and most of the west be-

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Florida Indians Before the European Exploration *(from pg 1)*

came a desert. In Florida, the rising sea levels caused coastal flooding and slowly, inexorably, the ocean and the gulf crept up and covered large parts of the state.

About 11,000 years ago mammoths, mastodons, horses, and great bisons suddenly became extinct here. Many had believed this to be the result of over hunting, but most now believe that the rapidly warming climate associated with the end of the Ice Age brought about dramatic changes in land and water levels, new varieties of flora and fauna, and gradual cultural changes in our human inhabitants whereby Paleo-Indians evolved into the more structured society that characterized the Timucuan Indians that met and were named by the first European visitors to Florida about 500 years ago.

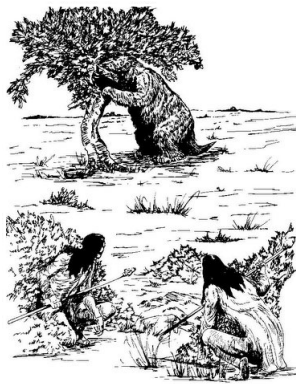
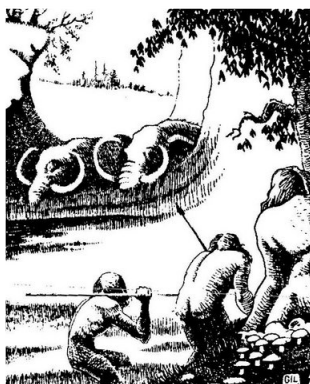
The following paraphrasing, quotations, and illustrations are from local author and present-day historical consultant Dana Ste. Claire's book TRUE NATIVES: THE PREHISTORY OF VOLUSIA COUNTY, published by the Museum of Arts and Sciences in Daytona Beach. Ste. Claire provides a named period timeline for the Indians' cultural presence in our area. I highly recommend your reading this entire 50-page book. It includes an invaluable chapter for present-day students entitled, "VISITING

St. Claire lists "Prehistoric Culture Periods in Volusia County" as 12,000-15,000 BC – Paleo-Indian, 7000 BC – Early Archaic, 5000 BC – Middle Archaic, 4000 BC – Mount Taylor, 7000 BC – Late Archaic (Orange), 1000 BC – Transitional, 500 BC – Early St. John's, AD 800 – Late St. Johns, AD 1500 – Timucuan Indian (post contact with overseas cultures), AD 1800 – Seminole Indian. You must read his book if you have any serious interest in this area's archaeological history.

I will highlight a very small fraction of our TRUE NATIVES' cultural growth before European contact. Paleo-Indian stone spear points, first produced circa 10,000 BC, have been found in use locally. By 7,000 BC, Earth's climate change and rising sea level forced coastal Paleo-Indians to move inland to local estuaries and areas along the St. Johns River and its tributaries, where they established year-round settlements and permanent villages by approximately 4000 BC. Fish and freshwater shellfish became a staple of their diet. A visit to the Tick Island historic site near DeLeon Springs would be educational about this period. Around 2000 BC, Orange period pottery, some of the oldest in North America, was produced in the St. Johns River settlements. By 500 BC the area and its local estuaries had many stable complex villages whose inhabitants were well fed on snails, mussels, and clams, leaving enormous residues of shell mounds such as Turtle Mound (75 feet high at one time, it could be seen by ships at sea ... "the largest shell midden in the nation") in Canaveral National Seashore.

According to the ITT Comprehensive Land

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VOLUSIA COUNTY'S PREHISTORIC PAST: A SELF-GUIDED TOUR" and an extensive bibliography.

**Author's note: Although we all know that for the sake of this narrative Palm Coast is the "center of the universe," we must remember that Flagler County was part of Volusia County until 1917.*

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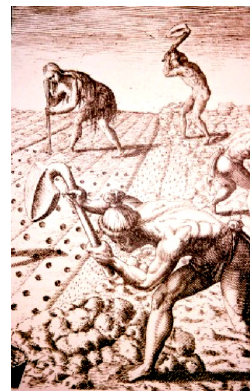
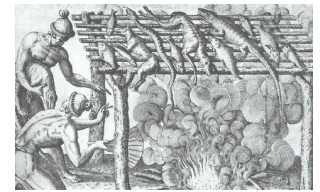
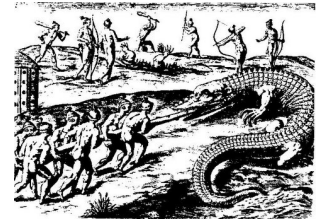
According to the ITT Comprehensive Land

Florida Indians Before the European Exploration *(from pg 2)*

Use Plan – 1974, Volume 4, “HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY,” there are 14 “known and suspected prehistoric sites” in our area including middens at Marineland and Washington Oaks State Park. I have a picture of myself examining a small midden near my home in Grand Haven that was discovered by Mr. Ste. Clair. A midden is defined as, “a deposit of shell, debris, or other byproducts of human activity.” It is indeed a garbage heap and yet there is much to be learned about the lives of the people of older societies from their garbage heaps. Historian Ste. Claire tells us that these shell middens were widely depleted in past years for use as construction material for roads and railroad beds. It is part of the charm of his book that he decries the loss of valuable historical information for such mundane purposes.

European contact was made in Florida during the late St. John’s period. The Timucuan Indians in Volusia County were named that by early European explorers. Our local tribe was the Surruques. The works of the French artist Jacques LeMoyne in 1564 provide historians with invaluable information about the lifestyle of the Timucuan. “When European explorers touched the shores of the New World in the late 15th century,

they quickly discovered that they were not alone. The Americas were already inhabited by a diverse and widespread population of native peoples. The Europeans were treated to a colorful procession of decorated natives emerging from the forests. The “Indians,”



so called because the Europeans thought they had landed in the Asian Indies, came adorned in animal skins, stuffed bird head-dresses, and an abundance of jewelry, including died fish bladder earrings. The Florida native custom of tattooing oneself from head to toe with rich blues, reds,

and blacks must have been striking for these first European tourists.”

In 1605 a Spanish captain sent by the governor of St. Augustine found the Timucuan village of Nocoroco at the present site of Tomoka state park in Ormond Beach. The museum and statues there are worth a visit. In THE HISTORY OF FLAGLER COUNTY, John A. Clegg tells us, “Of the five principal tribes in Florida in the 16th century, the Timucuan were the largest and most powerful tribe. They were located largely on the East Coast between the mouth of the St. Johns River and Cape Canaveral. The Timucuan, who numbered about 14,300, were divided into local tribes and the Surruques lived among the tall pines, the fertile land, the hammocks, and the clear lakes of the present Flagler, St. Johns and Volusia counties. As the result of wars, destruction, and slavery, the Timucuan were very few in numbers by



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Florida Indians Before the European Exploration *(from pg 3)*



1821. Their lands were occupied by the tribe of Yamasses from Georgia, which together with other mixed tribes became known as the Seminoles.”

The Spanish, French, and English settlements in this area will be discussed in the next issue of **THE PALM COAST HISTORIAN**. Why not join the Palm Coast Historical Society and be the first to receive a continuation of **THE PALM COAST STORY?**

The Summer/Autumn 2012 issue of **THE PALM COAST HISTORIAN** presented **BEGINNING II: ITT/LEVITT AND PALM COAST, The Beginning of Palm Coast – 1968**. The chapter described the Lehigh Cement plant, its closing and purchase by ITT on January 2, 1969, with a subsequent announcement on June 16 that the land would become part of a massive “20,000-acre residential complex for northeast Flagler county.” A brief description of “as we were in 1969” ended with the summary that the area to be developed was little more than “a pine-covered swamp.”

The “Palm Coast Story” now continues with a description of two years of building and construction.

Building Palm Coast Infrastructure: 1970 and 1971

We began **THE PALM COAST STORY: A PERSONAL HISTORY** with a chapter entitled, “**ITT/LEVITT AND PALM COAST, 1968–69**” in the Summer/Autumn 2012 issue of **THE PALM COAST HISTORIAN**, pages 7-14. There follows some highlights and additional information regarding those years:

My personal public records search found the first notation about a land transaction between ITT Rayonier and Lewis Wadsworth dated August 1, 1968 with these and other land purchases turned over to ITT by January 1970. On May 15, 1970 ITT/Levitt Development Corporation began recording “restrictive covenants and easements” on the lands that were going to be developed first. (Art Dycke (AD) Winter/Spring **HISTORIAN** 2012, pages 1 and 2).

ITT’s subsidiary Rayonier deeded tens of thousands of acreage in Flagler and St. Johns counties to a sister subsidiary called Ray-Florida. Ray-Florida and numerous shell corporations bearing native American titles purchased more land from about 34 other owners, including

the pioneering Wadsworth family and Lehigh-Portland Cement Company. ITT amassed about 90,000 acres in Flagler and St. Johns counties. Dr. Norman Young of ITT/Levitt Development Corporation announced that a new city eventu-



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Building Palm Coast Infrastructure: 1970 and 1971 (from pg 4)

ally populated by 750,000 residents will be built in Flagler County. Construction of the first Palm Coast homes (models) and drainage system began. (Source: NEWS-JOURNAL [N-J] May 21, 1995 [reprinted from earlier account]).

“1969–70. Met with sales representatives of new Palm Coast community, just beginning. Nothing there but a welcome tent and a few model homes under construction, but they have big plans.” (Joe and JoAnn Coaster, fictional characters in ITT’s The PALM COASTER (TPC) magazine

We will now continue the “story” with highlights of the construction and marketing of the ITT development by reprinting the first front page of the local newspaper of the new year.

The Flagler Tribune

January 1, 1970

REVIEW OF FLAGLER 1969 ITT-Rayonier Announces Levitt Project

After learning last January that ITT/Rayonier had purchased the Lehigh properties, the people of Flagler County waited until June to hear the announcement that ITT/Levitt would build a new residential recreation complex to include most of the northeast section of Flagler County. The complex will include motels on the ocean, golf courses, marinas and thousands of residences with park or waterfront settings. An office was opened at the old Lehigh plant site. Complements of engineers, surveyors and architects have been busy drawing plans for the huge complex. Work was begun on land clearing during December. ITT/Levitt has acquired additional properties from L.E. Wadsworth, Claude Varn, and Ed Johnson Estate as well as other parcels in the northeast Flagler area and around the airport. Dr. Norman Young, president of ITT, is expected to make a more detailed announcement of plans at a chamber

of commerce luncheon sometime in January.

1970 HIGHLIGHTS

Palm Coast land sales began. Atlantis Development Corporation was formed under ITT/Levitt to provide water and waste water services in Palm Coast. Flagler county’s population was 4,454 (N-J). Homesites went on the market beginning in June 1970.

At that time the local sales office (presently Adult Education center) was located along Highway A1A north of Hammock Dunes bridge.

The construction of the welcome center and model home area set the pace for the years ahead by providing quarters where visitors could visit an attractive exhibit center and tour the model homes. The official opening of the welcome center was held in October, with Claude Kirk, Florida’s governor at that time, as the guest speaker. He was greeted by ITT executives from New York and Miami, chambers of commerce officials, and residents of Flagler, Volusia, Putnam, and St. Johns counties. Tours were conducted by air, water, and land during the festive day. In the same year the first issue of THE PALM COASTER was published to keep people informed of the progress here. The publication at that time was four pages in length with stories about events and pioneers of the early community. (TPC)

The Flagler Tribune

June 4, 1970

EDITORIAL

Things are happening!

For several years we have been saying that things were going to happen in Flagler county. We did not know what, when, or where; we just knew that Flagler county was a land of opportunities.

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Building Palm Coast Infrastructure: 1970 and 1971 *(from pg 5)*

Then, last June, ITT-Rayonier announced that Levitt Development Company, a subsidiary unit of ITT-Levitt, would build a whole new community complex on the newly acquired Lehigh site.

Many of us heard the announcement with a degree of skepticism. Sure, we knew that Levitt was the largest and most reputable homebuilder in the country. But who would want to build a home in the pine woods off Kings Road? Why, even the homesteaders had all moved away from this area. Others of us said it would probably be just an investment deal whereby individuals could put their money in land during the inflationary period. Others said it would be another low income retirement center.

Some of the business people agreed that the project probably would be developed, but they feared that local governing bodies would not do anything to keep pace. That, not only would there be no gain economically from the project, but our two cities might become the slum area if we did not keep pace.

Now, after one year, we can really see that things are happening. The Kings Road is being paved. A four-laned street is being constructed right out in the middle of the woods. A golf course is cleared and under construction. A dredge is opening waterways for waterfront lots and filling a site on the oceanfront for a 150-room Sheraton hotel.



Original ITT sales office located on A1A in present-day adult education training center

FIRST BUYER

Dr. Young congratulates prominent Floridian, Lewis Wadsworth, after signing the contract for the purchase of the first Palm Coast homesite. Mr. Wadsworth's 4-year-old grandson looks on.



Many lots were sold even before the sales campaign got underway. Model houses are under construction. And 10 model homes will be constructed before the end of the year. A sales office has been opened on A1A. Helicopter rides and limousine tours are being arranged. Sales offices have been opened in several states and others will be opened in nearly every state in the union. Full-page advertisements have already appeared in the newspapers.

Dr. Norman Young, president of Levitt Development Corporation and a man of unlimited talent and industry, told a press conference in Daytona Beach, "You just can't imagine the enthusiasm we feel in the New York office about the Palm Coast project".

♦♦♦

Already our local economy is feeling the benefits of these yet incomplete projects. Many of our local people have already found employment. Restaurants are enjoying the patronage of many employees. Rental units are taken as fast as they become available. Home sales have increased. Several businesses report an increase in sales over last year.

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Building Palm Coast Infrastructure: 1970 and 1971 *(from pg 6)*

And things have only begun to happen in Flagler County.

John A. Clegg

The Flagler Tribune

October 8, 1970

EDITORIAL

History repeats itself in Flagler County

Students of history soon learn that events come in cycles, which is another way of saying that history repeats itself. And this is true in Flagler County.

Over 100 years ago Kings Road was the main highway running up and down the east coast of Florida. It was the only inland travel route. The earlier settlements had been made along the rivers and were accessible mainly from the sea. There were plantations along the Matanzas River at the north end of what is now Flagler County and Bulow plantation at the south end of Bulow Creek. There was no intracoastal waterway to connect the various coastal plantations.

The answer to inland transportation was the Kings Road, which was built by the English in 1765. The highway, which lies just east of the present I-95 in Flagler, was the center of the early settlements in Flagler County. Along the highway where the settlements of the Virgil DuPonts, Tidwells, the Durrances, Braddocks, Eatmans, the Pellicer grant, and the Hernandez Plantation.

The St. Joe plantation produced indigo and sugar cane and had a sugar mill which was operated by slave labor. It was so named because of an earlier mission called St. Joseph having been located there. To travel into the hinterlands of Flagler, a road branched off at St. Joe to go to Espanola, which was the next oldest settlement in Flagler history, and later it connected with St. Johns Park.

On the old Kings Road were located a trad-

ing post, post office, and Duke's station where horses could be changed or rested en route.

Then Kings Road faded into history. New roads were built. The people moved to areas more likely to sustain a livelihood. St. Joe became a turpentine camp. The Kings Road became sand ruts traveled largely by turpentine wagons and hunting parties. And the only residents left were the DuPonts. But look what is happening today – a huge new city is being built on the Kings Road. Thousands of people will soon be moving back into the area. The Kings Road is now paved. The old St. Joe site is now the site of an observation tower where you can look out over the ocean. Instead of a cane patch is a new golf course. Instead of a trail leading to Malla Compra and Bella Vista plantations is a four lane street. Instead of ditches to irrigate the fields are fingers of canals to carry the pleasure craft of the new crop of vacationers and affluent retirees.

Yes, history is repeating itself in Flagler County. This month will mark the grand opening of the beautiful new Palm Coast, which takes the place of St. Joe on the old Kings Road.

John A. Clegg

ITT published the following partial list of land purchasers and their home towns in 1970: Eva Acker, Charlotte, NC; Arthur Baker, New Haven, CT; Donald Bendickson, Vienna, VA; Dorothy Cahill, Stony Brook, NY; Harold Catron, Stone Mountain, GA; Halina Ellis, Greenfield, MA; One Ennis, Joliet, IL; Dobbye T. Farrar, Goodlettsville, TN; Alan Gilbert, Garden City, NY; John Heiss, Bowie, MO; Lloyd Isaacson, Kennewick, WA; Henry Joyner, Atlanta, GA; P. Patel, Silver Springs, MD; Katherine Stroupe, Decatur, AL; H. Susmuth, Tappan, NJ; Van Sternberg, Washington DC; Richard Wilson, Bucyrus, OH and Winifred Wilson, Gainesville, FL

Governor Claude Kirk cut the ribbons and of-
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Building Palm Coast Infrastructure: 1970 and 1971 *(from page 7)*

ficially opened the million dollar center complex of Palm Coast last Thursday. After the brief opening ceremonies, the governor, accompanied by officials of ITT/Levitt, toured the information center and took the elevator up to the observation tower where he had a panoramic view of the development of Palm Coast.

Governor Kirk was then escorted to a huge tent where he made a major address. The governor toured the completed model homes which are located behind the sales information center. The decorating motifs are Mexican, Mediterranean, French, and Contemporary, each of which highlights the ascent of gracious living at Palm Coast.

The governor was serenaded by the Bunnell High School band as his motorcade arrived at Palm Coast.

Dr. Norman Young, president of Levitt Development Corporation, described the Palm Coast project to the hundreds of visitors which included civic, governmental, and business leaders from the state. Dr. Young told of the "unique total environmental community." He described the pro-

posed marina, completed golf course and said the oceanside motel would be under construction by this time next year.

A "county fair" luncheon was served under the specially constructed tent on the spacious lawns.

During the day the guests toured the model homes, visited the information center, took boat tours of the finger lakes and Intracoastal Waterway and plane rides to get a complete view of the development.

The Chamber of Commerce held a breakfast at Flagler Beach Pier Restaurant Thursday morning where more than 50 members and guests enjoyed talks by Dr. Norman Young and Congressman Bill Chappell. Dr. John M. Canakaris presided over the breakfast meeting.

1971 HIGHLIGHTS

1971 was a year of anticipation and preparation for the coming residents and amenities. The number of homesite purchasers more than tripled that year, from 2500 to more than 8000. Meanwhile, the subdivision improvements were in full swing. On August 2, construction began on the first private homes for the pioneers who would be arriving in early 1972.

The amenities were likewise taking form. The first nine holes of Palm Coast Golf Club opened for play September 4. The championship course was designed by noted golf course architect William Amick. The official opening of the first nine holes took place November 10, with a match between Central Florida VIPs and the press. Flagler County's Dr. John Canakaris shot a low gross of 81 to win the top prize, a new set of golf clubs. Sportswriter Frank Matey had the low net individual score and received a new golf bag and carry all.

There were more projects developing in the community. Land was cleared adjacent to the beach for the Sheraton Palm Coast Resort Inn; the yacht club and basin were underway; the waterways were proceeding ahead of schedule and

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The Flagler Tribune

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1970

PALM COAST GRAND OPENING TODAY

The Flagler Tribune

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1970

PALM COAST IS OFFICIALLY OPENED



the Palm Coast

Aug/Sept, 2006

Yesteryear

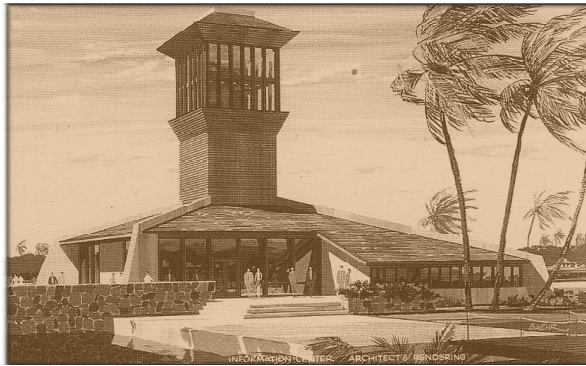
by Art Dycke, Palm Coast Historical Society



First Building in Palm Coast by Art Dycke, City Historian

In January of 1969, ITT/Rayonier first announced the purchase of the land that was to become Palm Coast and, later that year, ITT/Levitt completed an infrastructure for the first 20,000 acres to be developed. In a February, 1970 progress report to the Flagler Chamber of Commerce, Dr. Norman Young projected the completion of a sales/model center, a golf course, and homes for the residents by the end of the year.

The Welcome Center at Palm Coast was the first building erected in our community. It was the centerpiece of the official grand opening of the "Unique Total Environmental Community of Palm Coast" that took place on October 29, 1970.



The building served as a hub for all sales activities, contained a variety of audio-visual materials, and was surrounded by pleasant walkways leading to a dozen model homes. The most outstanding feature of the dramatic structure was an elevator-accessed 64-foot-high observation tower that provided panoramic views of the surrounding woods, lakes, streams, Intracoastal Waterway and Atlantic Ocean. It

presided over the golf course, models, canals, and early home construction that was to become the 'core area' of Palm Coast.

At first there were no public roads at the site. Earliest visitors came from Route A1A to a small dock on the east side of the ICW and proceeded by boat to the welcome center on the main canal. When the prospective buyers arrived, they were taken to the top of the tower to view the endless pine forest that was to become Palm Coast. Much of the land was sold sight unseen from a platted map for as low as \$3,500. The sales person located a property by pointing in a direction away from the tower and telling the buyer, "It's out there somewhere..."

The welcome center was the only public building in Palm Coast for almost two years after the earliest Pioneers' occupied their homes in January, 1972. ITT soon allowed the sales center to be used as a place of worship for religious organizations. In later years, the building, models, boat docks, and road access were updated. The center hosted a continuous stream of visitors and buyers who heard the theme song, "Here Comes the Sun" and received their first look at an area being advertised as being possibly "the perfect place to live." Much of the tremendous growth in Palm Coast through the early 1990s came from the sales generated at the welcome center. It was sold after ITT left the community in 1995 and the building was torn down.

This is the first page of an ITT continuing publication from which I have learned much about the development of our community.

the Palm Coaster

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 1

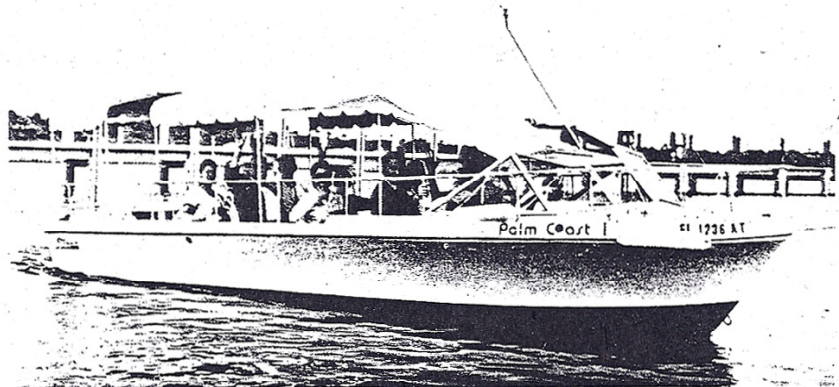
NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1970

WELCOME ABOARD

In common with the visitors in the photograph, we at the editorial offices of the PALM COASTER are about to set sail on a voyage. A look at the masthead will tell you that this is Volume 1 Number 1, and if you've ever started anything in your life, (and who hasn't?) whether it be the baking of a cake, a business of your own, or the first day at a new school, you know there is a special kind of excitement connected with the event.

As our first order of business, we'd like to try to set down the reasons for the Palm Coaster: The basic reason is you -- to keep you informed of the progress being made at Palm Coast, to keep you current with the activities both in and around the Palm Coast area so that you might have an even sharper impression of the community you have become a part of and to give you a forum where you can express your thoughts and viewpoints on matters of concern to all of us. For, as you know, from the very beginning, Palm Coast was going to be a very special kind of community.

When Dr. Norman Young, President and Chief Executive Officer, ITT Levitt Development Corporation, first announced the plans for the development of Palm Coast he said, "Every element of our new community has been planned with special emphasis on harmonizing aspects of the environment. This includes a variety of intensive ecological studies. Among these are studies on water supply, water pollution control and the elimination of stagnant water from the canals. (See story page 3.) "We have also conducted transportation studies," said Dr. Young, "and have planned for ease and freedom



The Palm Coast I, with a full complement of visitors sails up the Inland waterway for a tour of the Palm Coast territory.

of movement. We have reserved acreage for parks and recreation. We are developing a tree preservation and landmark saving program."

"We are going to try," Dr. Young concluded, "to make Palm Coast a symbol of what the future can hold for Americans in a planned community."

What we at the Palm Coaster will do is take the essence of Dr. Young's remarks and relate them to the most important factor in any community — you, the people. Palm Coast, under the creative management of ITT Levitt will fulfill the dreams and aspirations of the community planners. Our job is to keep you informed and to further enhance your sense of and responsibility to the community you have joined.

In an age when the air we breathe, the water we drink and the food we eat have all become potentially dangerous, the need for a community where the noise pollution level is non-existent, where the

air is pure and clear and the water sparkling fresh becomes more than just a luxury — it becomes an urgent necessity.

As one wanders through the thousands of acres that make up the physical territory of the Palm Coast one cannot help being impressed by the unspoiled forests of pine, palmetto, hibiscus and palm trees. Or ignore the beauty of the sparkling waters of the lakes, lagoons, streams, bays and inlets created by the inland waterway; or the restless sense of life projected by the rush of the Gulf Stream. You cannot come away without being impressed by the beauty, the peace, the softness of the air and the incredible quiet.

The challenge is to create within this environment a total environment — an environment which involves people as part of the land itself.

That, in perhaps too many words, is the challenge we accept at Palm Coast.

Building Palm Coast Infrastructure: 1970 and 1971 *(from page 4)*



PIONEER HOSTESS

First Palm Coast Hostess, Kay McCullar, greets guests with a big smile as they arrive by boat at the Palm Coast Exhibit Center

planning continued for the industrial, commercial and shopping area. In support of this activity, the number of ICDC employees grew from five in early 1970 to 500 by the end of 1971. Recognizing the importance of education for present and future generations, ICDC, donated 40 acres to the Flagler County School Board on December 1 for the future high school, which was changed to a 56-acre parcel located where the present Flagler Palm

Coast High School is now located. (PC).

The first Palm Coast road, Casper Drive, and the first nine holes of a golf course were constructed; U.S. Justice Department forced ITT Corporation to divest itself of Levitt and Sons because of anti-trust concerns regarding ITT's recent ownership of the massive Hartford Insurance Company; ITT formed ITT Community Development Corporation to develop Palm Coast; Flagler County adopted its first subdivision regulations. (N-J 1995 summary).

“Construction began on our new homes; played my first nine holes of golf at new course; shot a 37, and on the second hole” (fictional Joe and Joanne Coaster in 1989 Palm Coaster).

The January/February 1971 issue of THE PALM COASTER extended a hearty welcome to new neighbors from throughout the United States

who had become “part of the family” in the previous year. The couples and their state of origin follow:

Arkansas – Dr. & Mrs. Earl McClendon,

California – M/M Charles White,

Connecticut – M/M Fredrick Gibbs, M/M Edwin Ives, M/M Lloyd Rinehart, M/M Frank Wargo,

Florida – Mrs. Diana Butler, M/M Thomas Farrell, M/M Arthur Rubenstein, M/M Floyd Tingley,

Georgia – M/M J. Anderson, M/M William Brewer, M/M M. Kilpatrick, M/M Eugene Wilson,

Illinois – M/M Richard Ink, M/M E. Swartz,

Indiana – M/M Thomas Mooney, **Kansas** – M/M Floyd Chase, **Maryland** – M/M William Benjamin, M/M Harry Drinis, M/M M. Glicksman, M/M William Joneses, M/M L. Kelly, M/M William Parker, M/M Malcolm Uhl, M/M William Vogel,

Massachusetts – M/M William Lewis, M/M Charles Murad,

Missouri – M/M Joel Kamil,

New Jersey – M/M John Gardella,

New York – M/M Harold Burke, M/M Salvatore Celona, M/M Nicholas Cronin, M/M Edward Mulhern, M/M F. Willards,

Ohio – M/M Gordon Swick,

South Carolina – M/M Charles Ozmore,

Tennessee – M/M Clifford Flaherty, M/M Sherman Hammontree,

Texas – M/M C. Moore,

Virginia – M/M James Agresta, M/M W. Bearden, M/M F. Delucias, M/M B. Montrief, M/M Paul Shrenk, Jr., M/M Jere Whittington.

The Flagler Tribune

March 25, 1971

EDITORIAL

Y'all Are Still Welcome

“STAY UP NORTH, Y'ALL” is the title of an

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Building Palm Coast Infrastructure: 1970 and 1971 *(from pg 11)*

editorial appearing in the EVENING REVIEW, an Ohio newspaper, which was forwarded to us by one of our many out-of-town subscribers who is a former resident of Flagler Beach. The Ohio editorial goes on to say that some Florida officials have announced that Florida does not extend the welcome mat to any more senior citizens unless they are in the \$15,000-a-year income category.

The editorial pointed out that this new Florida policy would shatter the dreams of countless Americans who had planned to spend their final years in Florida....The opinion of one man....we just disagree with his premise that the senior citizens are a burden to the state of Florida by causing our welfare rolls to rise...

Flagler County, particularly Flagler Beach, has many retirees or, as they call themselves, senior citizens. We are happy to have them. Most of them own their own homes and pay taxes just like the rest of us. They buy groceries, have bank accounts, and support our churches and civic organizations. They are a real asset to our communities.

Palm Coast will bring many more retirees to our county. We understand that a high percentage of the lots being sold will be future homes of retirees. We would assume from the selling price of lots and anticipated cost of home construction that these retirees will have a rather high retirement income. We welcome them to join our community, whatever their retirement income may be.

Since we have many readers outside Flagler county, we hope you will tell your friends, that, in spite of what some unthoughtful official may have said unofficially, we still welcome you to Flagler County.

So, y'all, pack your bags and come on down south.

John A. Clegg

The March/April, 1971 issue of THE PALM

COASTER featured an article entitled, "INTERIOR DECORATIONS FOR THE NINE MODEL HOMES AT PALM COAST COMPLETED." They are the Ponce deLeon, the De Bary, the De Soto, the San Marcos, the San Remo, the Santa Rosa, the Del Mar, the Boca Rio, and the Andalusia. The Palm Coast Historical Society has full color photos of interiors and exteriors of all these first homes. Visit us during our posted hours of operation if you are interested.

The May 20th issue of THE FLAGLER TRIBUNE carried the headline, "ITT/LEVITT DEFENDS PALM COAST AS BEING ECOLOGICALLY SOUND." A public statement had been made the previous week by Joel Kuperberg, director of Florida Internal Improvement Fund, stating that dead end canals in other real estate developments had ended up with such dirty stagnant water that they were unfit for human contact. This agency had control of the access canals that enter the Intracoastal Waterway and they asked ITT not to build as many canals as they had planned. The office of Dr. Norman Young issued the following public statement, "We have marshaled the best scientists and engineers in the area of canal development and hydro dynamics. These experts have indicated to us that our program is one which is enlightened, both from an ecological and environmental standpoint. We agree fully with Mr. Kuperberg that areas in southern Florida had less than adequate information going into their canal designs. They, however, were not the beneficiaries of the kind of scientific data that we have had. Our experts in addition have learned from the errors in southern Florida and are using these lessons to set up a modern program without the errors of former developments. We will continue, therefore, our scientific research and monitoring programs to maintain high quality water levels."

ITT's May/June 1971 issue of THE PALM COASTER headlined, "NEWS MEDIA APPLAUD PALM COAST'S ECOLOGY PLANS." "In the June 28

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Building Palm Coast Infrastructure: 1970 and 1971 *(from pg 12)*

issue of TIME, THE WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE, Palm Coast, of the many builders and developers in the state of Florida, was singled out for praise for its efforts to minimize ecological impact. "ITT Development Corporation, a subsidiary of the largest U.S. home building company, is developing Palm Coast, the nation's biggest 'new town.' A gargantuan project," the magazine describes, "it will in 20 years plunk 750,000 people onto 100,000 acres of now uninhabited coastland near St. Augustine. Levitt spent nearly \$1 million on environment planning to achieve a community whose residents will live in virtually pollution-free neighborhoods connected by canals.

"Housing density," the magazine declares, "will be 2.5 homes per acre, less than that of Beverly Hills. Another area of potential pollution 'optical pollution' is discussed in the TIME article. Dr. Norman Young, a psychologist who heads the Palm Coast development, aims to eliminate the 'optical pollution' caused by rows of identical homes. He is using many architectural styles and requiring others who build in Palm Coast to do likewise."

TIME then goes on to cite the effort being made to combat the pollution of noise, "Noise pollution will be eased by siting residential areas far away from major highways." On the subject of automobile exhaust pollution, the magazine points out the following, "To reduce auto exhaust pollution, shopping and commercial centers will be placed within walking or biking distance of most residents."

With regard to another potential source of pollution – industry, TIME made the comment, "Industry will be mostly light; factory builders must submit strict pollution-abatement plans before starting construction."

DUN'S REVIEW, in a full-page story, described the plans to develop Palm Coast as, "the most grandiose city planning scheme since Pierre Charles L'Enfant laid out Washington."

As an indication of the care being taken by

ITT/Levitt to preserve the ecological balance of the area, DUN'S REVIEW cites the following statistic, "To interdict pollution before it appears, it has spent \$1.2 million to preserve Palm Coast's crystalline waters and eliminate ecological eye-sore. Ultimately," the magazine pointed out, "it will cost Levitt some \$652,700 million to work the land."

The CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR wrote, "Sewage in the first section of 20,000 acres will be purified and recycled, the effluent being used to irrigate an 18-hole golf course." It cites another aspect of the ecology of the Palm Coast, the trees. "Trees have to be one of the most visible items on the property. In many housing developments from one coast to the other, many sturdy old sentinels have fallen victim to the bulldozer approach." "The trees are going to stay." Dr. Young is quoted as saying.

In this same issue, THE PALM COASTER extended a hand of welcome to its newest neighbors just 80 miles away, DISNEY WORLD AND MICKEY MOUSE! The entertainment extravaganza was scheduled to open on October 1, 1971, built on approximately 27,400 acres (which ITT pointed out to be approximately one-fifth the size of their Palm Coast).

The PALM COAST PROGRESS column stated, "We're happy to report that the first nine holes of the Palm Coast Golf Club opened for play on Saturday, September 4, in time for the start of the Labor Day weekend. The furnishings and inventory are now in stock in the clubhouse, which is complete with all landscaping and parking facilities. The exciting course is a creation of the noted golf course architect, William Amick. Mr. Amick has designed 15 courses in the state of Florida alone. Tiffway grass has been used throughout because it's designed to give each ball a perfect lie. A softer Bermuda hybrid grass, Tidwell was chosen for the greens because it effectively holds the ball on a true course. Beautiful overall design,

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Building Palm Coast Infrastructure: 1970 and 1971 *(from pg 13)*

treacherous trees, water hazards, and well-placed sand traps make the Palm Coast course one of the best and most challenging in all of Florida. Membership or use fees and charges are established. This is the first of a number of courses planned for Palm Coast.”

Palm Coast’s new golf pro. “The services of Bubba Williams, 38-year-old golf pro from Jacksonville, have been retained. Bubba is Palm Coast’s new golf professional. He joins the Palm Coast club after four successful years as head golf pro and manager of the Dunes Golf and Country Club in Jacksonville. Jim McGloin is manager of the new Palm Coast Golf Club. He will also be manager of the yacht club when it is completed in 1972. Jim has an extensive background of active participation in business, sports, and recreational activities. He will be available to answer any questions you might have concerning membership and facilities at the new clubs.”

August 2, construction began on the private homes for the first pioneer “Palm Coasters.” This is another exciting milestone in our story. These are the first of close to 200 private homes that will be built and ready for delivery in early 1972. Yacht club complex plans have been received. We hope to start construction at the Inland Waterway site in early September. When ready sometime in 1972, the Palm Coast Yacht Club complex will undoubtedly be the social harbor for residents. Complete with launching ramps, swimming pool, tennis courts, cocktail lounge, and restaurant, it will be a congenial clubhouse for your pleasure and relaxation. Membership and use fees or charges are to be established. Two additional model homes will be completed and ready for inspection in early November. This brings the total of model homes in the Palm Coast exhibit center to 11. We are proud to announce that every aspect of planning and construction in the development of Palm Coast continues on schedule.

There follows a list of Palm Coast project employees in 1971 provided by Connie Horvath. They are Dan Cooper, project director; Connie

Horvath, personal secretary; John Barton, chief engineer; Jean Tanny, engineers secretary; Zev Cohan, engineer; Dan Fussell, Dan Wilcox, Jim Rochester, John Stepp, Dale Peiger, Tom Walker, chief draftsman; Betty Colbert, Marie Frisch, Cliff Turner, George Kozak, Jim McGloin, golf director; Hal Burroughs, Linda Fryer, John Mischle, and Fred Worthington.

The 1971 holiday issue of THE PALM COASTER yielded the following: Seasons Greetings from Dr. Norman Young, including the news, “as our second holiday season at Palm Coast approaches, we can look with pride to the accomplishments of the past year. Within that time, we have grown from a family of 2500 to one of over 8000 home-site owners. We have opened new areas for more friends to join us and have started the building of the first of our new homes, which will be occupied in early 1972. This seems an appropriate time to thank you for helping to make this new way of life possible by joining with us in this dynamic pioneering adventure.”

The official opening of the first nine holes of the Palm Coast Golf Course took place on November 10 with a golf match between central Florida VIPs and the press. The event got underway with a signal from Dr. Norman Young, president of ITT Community Development Corporation (ICDC), for a shotgun start (with a real shotgun?)

Author’s note: there will be a chapter devoted to the history of the Palm Coast Golf Course later in THE PALM COAST STORY.

PALM COAST PROGRESS reported that ground has been broken and construction begun on the Palm Coast Yacht Club complex. Footings for the clubhouse have been poured and masonry work is underway. ***This complex, as noted in the last PALM COASTER, will be complete with launching ramps, swimming pool, tennis courts, cocktail lounge, and restaurant. The complex is scheduled for completion in the summer of 1972.*** Major work on the practice fairway is com-

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Building Palm Coast Infrastructure: 1970 and 1971 *(from pg 14)*

plete. Play will begin in early December.

It's an exciting time at Palm Coast as construction proceeds on the private residences. Many of the first 204 pioneers homesite owners stand by daily to watch their new homes being built.

Roads are being laid out and the first large group of houses are taking shape. By January 1972, the first Palm Coast residents will move in.

To time travel with our pioneers, please turn to photos on the last page.

The City of Palm Coast: 2001 – Year Two

Providing residents with essential government services and promoting the community's economic growth were two major goals the city's second year. As a result of joint meetings of Palm Coast City Councilmen and Flagler County Commissioners, the county turned over many parcels of land to the city benefiting fire, public works, recreation and parks, and the location of new schools by the board of education. At the same time the city began studying the acquisition of its water sources. It stimulated economic growth by approving a \$1 million expansion of its leading employer, Palm Coast Data, the Outback steak house, Albertson's food chain store, and the residential development called Arbor Trace.

In other highlights of the year, Jon Netts was elected to the city council, a proposal was made for a 9/11 memorial, the African American Cultural Society constructed a building, the council debated the start of a center for the arts, the mayor proposed a Flagler League of Cities, and former ITT Community Development Corporation president, Alan Smolen spoke out against building a RaceTrac gas station and Walgreens drug store on the site formerly occupied by a church on land provided by the corporation.

There follows a year-end summary of year two that was written by Mayor James Canfield as a report and press release at that time. I am reproducing it here in its entirety. In my opinion, it illustrates the foresight, vision, and wisdom of a man who had worked tirelessly to establish a city government for a community he knew and loved and then began intelligent planning for an illustrious future.

A report to the community by Mayor James V. Canfield

I thank the publishers of The Flagler Times for offering sufficient news space to carry this article. This report expresses the author's personal views. The other members of the City Council and the City staff may not agree with all that is written.

The city's first year

2000 could be characterized as an organizational year. During year one, we hired a manager, a law firm, an auditor, and staff; adopted an official city seal; opened an office at the Community Center; passed basic ordinances; passed the first budget; and acted as our own planning board. We had a number of controversial issues during our first year: the moratorium on development, the adoption of parkway buffers, and the approval of an apartment complex at Pine Lakes and Belle Terre north intersection.

What follows is my review of the major issues confronted by the city during its second year. The issues are presented in no particular order of importance.

Our Central Park

Probably Palm Coast's most significant achievement of 2001 was the acquisition of 50 acres of environmentally sensitive land. These acres, which would have been commercially developed if the city hadn't moved quickly to obtain them, will become our linear, or central, park. This land lies between Palm Coast Parkway East and Palm Coast Parkway West near the Hammock Dunes Bridge. The city plans to develop a foot bridge over the St.

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The City of Palm Coast: 2001 – Year Two *(from pg 15)*

Joe canal, which runs through this land.

The total cost of the 11 parcels that made up the 50 acres was \$7.39 million. Flagler County provided \$1.46 million from its ESL fund toward the purchase price, and the state provided \$4.44 million from the Florida Community Trust. Palm Coast budgeted the remaining \$1.49 million, raising these funds from an optional garbage tax rebate.

The acquisition of the 50 acres for a city park was quite an accomplishment for a city in only its second year. I thank my fellow City Council members for their foresight in protecting this land. I traveled to Tallahassee to appear in the appeal for state funds. Palm Coast's appeal was successful because of the expertise of our staff. Kudos to Richard Kelton, city manager; Al Hadeed, legal advisor; Dale Arrington, development services director; Bill Butler, landscape architect; and Jerry Full.

Water company purchase

Florida Water Services provides Palm Coast's drinking water and wastewater services. In February, the city council voted to study the advantages and disadvantages of purchasing the Florida Water Services' Palm Coast system. The water company quickly responded that the system was not for sale and that it was prepared to take legal action against such a feasibility study. In a reply letter, I termed the response "unacceptable" and said it reflects a "corporate arrogance seldom found in a public utility." The city council voted to fund the study. It appeared that legal action would follow.

A few months later, the water company's parent corporation decided to sell all of its holdings in Florida. Currently, the parent corporation is negotiating with the Florida Government Utility Authority (FGUA) to sell its 150 Florida systems. There was a December 15 deadline for the sale. The deadline has been extended to January 15, 2002. If the sale happens, Palm Coast will join the FGUA and have the right to purchase the Palm Coast system in two years.

Flagler County has attempted to place conditions on Palm Coast's purchase of the water system. This attempt may lead to legal action. It is noteworthy that, when ITT offered to sell its water company to the county a few years ago, the county declined. The county is concerned because the city would have the right to charge non-city residents more for water than it charged city residents. I believe this problem could be resolved with an inter-local agreement and the county should not try to force something on Palm Coast that the county does not force on any other county/city.

Why is the city interested in buying the water system? For me, there are two reasons: (1) to ensure that our residents pay the lowest possible price for a gallon of water and (2) to aid us in our economic development efforts. Water cost is one of the basic issues in industrial/commercial relocation.

RaceTrac Gas Station

First Baptist Church, planning to expand at a larger location on Palm Coast Parkway near Pine Lakes Parkway, decided to sell its five-acre property on the median of Palm Coast Parkway across from Palm Harbor Shopping Center. Initially, the buyer-developer planned to put a second Walgreen and a few other stores on the property. At that point, there was little opposition to the sale. Controversy started when the developer substituted a 20-pump RaceTrac gas station for the few other stores planned for the property.

Those in favor of allowing the gas station argued that the city needs a source of cheaper gas and the resulting tax revenue. Those opposed to the gas station argued that the city already has too many stations and needs to preserve Palm Coast Parkway. While I would like to preserve Palm Coast Parkway and feel that, since the arrival of Albertson's, the city has competitive gas prices, the city cannot stop someone from building something that is permitted under our zoning plan. Although I would like gas stations to be at least a

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The City of Palm Coast: 2001 – Year Two *(from pg 16)*

certain distance apart, e.g., one mile, that is not a requirement of the zoning plan we inherited from the county. The city needs to adopt a comprehensive plan that will address this issue. Fortunately, such a plan is being written. Unfortunately, the RaceTrac gas station site is currently being surveyed for construction.

Seminole Woods/Quail Hollow issues

Residents of the city's two most southern sections complained about a variety of issues during one city council meeting including slow response times to fires, hunting in the area, lack of cable access, use of city streets for student big-rig tractor trailer training, lack of a Palm Coast sign on I-95 exits 91 and 92, and the need for a stoplight at Seminole Woods Parkway and SR 100. In the words of one of those residents, William Grady: "Our tax dollars are going north. We are not getting what we pay for." The city council instructed the city manager to review the complaint and to try to rectify the problems. A special meeting will be scheduled to bring residents up to date on the city's progress on these issues.

Additionally, Quail Hollow residents signed a petition urging the council to deny a zoning change that would allow multi-family buildings on 45 Quail Hollow acres. The second reading of that ordinance was put off until January to allow the staff to create a plan for a 100-foot agricultural buffer between those acres and adjacent one-family buildings.

Economic development

There are city residents who do not want to see any industrial or commercial growth. The attitude of these individuals is that they came here to retire and pursue existing recreational opportunities such as golfing, fishing and playing tennis. While I believe that Palm Coast is a great place to spend one's retirement, the city is not merely a retirement community. The city has, and will continue to have, younger residents who need jobs, schools, police and fire protection, recreation, sidewalks and street improvements.

Currently, the city is issuing 150 one-family home building permits a month. Every house that is built for less than \$100,000 creates a demand for city services that exceeds the revenues generated by that house in property taxes or sales taxes. How can the city raise the needed extra revenue? Impact fees charged to new-home builders is one part of the solution. Our local builders have been very cooperative in understanding the recent increase in impact fees. Impact fees alone, though, are not enough.

Palm Coast is the fastest growing city in the state of Florida. Our current population is about 35,000. At our current rate of growth, we will be at 50,000 by the next census. As our population grows, our school enrollment will increase and new schools will be needed. If Palm Coast does not find an industrial/commercial tax base, we will have to raise property taxes. If we keep increasing the property taxes, Palm Coast will no longer be as attractive a place to spend one's retirement.

Palm Coast has to find a way to remain a great place to spend one's retirement while also providing the services needed by its younger residents. This is a real challenge for the years ahead. No small Florida city has been able to accomplish this dual mission in recent history. Hopefully, our City Comprehensive Plan will provide the structure we need.

City and county relationship

Overall, cooperation between Palm Coast and Flagler County was good in 2001. In March, there was a joint meeting between the members of the city council and the county commission. The joint meeting ended amicably. We agreed to try for an annual meeting.

During 2001, the county transferred 500 acres to the city for park and other uses, provided more than \$1 million for the city's acquisition of environmentally sensitive land, and pressed for the I-95 Matanzas overpass. Additionally, the county transferred to the city all the roads that both start-

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The City of Palm Coast: 2001 – Year Two *(from pg 17)*

ed and ended in the city, which amounted to 50 miles of roads. Further, the county agreed on an even split of budgeted-but-unspent first-year operational funds.

While the city and county have enjoyed a pleasant relationship, there are outstanding issues where agreement may not be easily reached: double taxation, fire protection duties, the airport land, and water system ownership.

Sheriff's Palm Coast precinct

In May, Sheriff James Manfre held a ribbon-cutting ceremony to officially open the new Palm Coast precinct in the Palm Harbor Shopping Center. The new precinct, which contains a lobby, a crime-stopper office, an interview room, a break room, a classroom, and a civilian patrol room, is open on weekdays from 9 AM until 5 PM. Lt. Mark Carmon is the commander. In addition to the sheriff's expenditures, the city budgets \$750,000 for the law enforcement program. Palm Coast residents seem satisfied with the new services.

Matanzas I-95 overpass

Palm Coast made only one request of the state general budget in 2001: a two-lane road with a bridge over I-95 to connect Old Kings Road and Palm Harbor Parkway on the east side of the interstate with Matanzas Woods Parkway on the west side. This project is necessary for at least two reasons: (1) Palm Coast residents should have an additional evacuation route to I-95 and (2) traffic to and from a new high school, which is on the drawing board for that area, should be made as safe as possible.

The county gave this \$5 million project a high priority. A design appropriation of \$270,000, which would have started the project, was included in the original state budget. Governor Jeb Bush vetoed the appropriation. State Senator Jim King, State Assemblyman Doug Wiles, and State Assemblywoman Joyce Cusack were instrumental in getting the design funds allocated in the original budget. They have promised to fight for the funding in the next budget

I have been asked many times what is the bridge being constructed over I-95 north of Old Kings Road. That is an animal crossing funded by the federal government. It seems a shame that tax money can be found to build a crossing over I-95 for animals but not for humans.

The 2001-2002 budget

Palm Coast's first budget had a property tax rate of 3.15 mills. The current fiscal year budget (October 1, 2001-September 30, 2002) has a millage rate of 4.00. An increase was necessary to adequately provide the full range of city services. Also, the 4.00 rate provides a reserve of a half-million dollars under the current budget that will reduce the need to borrow funds for future capital improvements. The 4.00 millage rate matches the figure used in the consultant's pre-incorporation feasibility study. Unless some extra ordinary expense develops, this rate should remain the same for the next two years.

The best way to judge a city's priorities is to look at its budget. The nature of this report, however, prevents a detailed budget analysis. A copy of the 37-page 2001-2002 City Budget can be obtained by calling city hall (447-4255).

City goals for 2002

During December 2001, the city council spent two days developing priority goals for 2002. The city manager and staff participated in the effort. It was agreed that the following goals will be used to evaluate the city manager's performance for the year: improve street maintenance, eliminate the pot hole backlog, adopt the criteria for road surfacing plans, eliminate city dirt roads, continue to acquire environmentally sensitive land when funding is available, expand recreational facilities and programs, and better respond to residents' complaints. Additional goals



Awaiting road repair

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The City of Palm Coast: 2001 – Year Two *(from pg 18)*



Awaiting swale repair

include planning for a new city hall complex, starting an economic development program, and improving the city's drainage system.

The City Council

Palm Coast's first city council consisted of myself and city council members William Venne (Seat 1), Jerome K. Full (Seat 2), James F. Holland (Seat 3), and Ralph Carter (Seat 4). Seats 2 and 4 were up for reelection in September.

In the race for Seat 4, Ralph Carter was reelected to a full four-year term. Councilman Carter ran unopposed, which is a testament to his public support and the general confidence in his contributions to our new city. In the race for a full four-year term for Seat 2, Jon Netts defeated Councilman Full.

Jerry Full was a champion of culture and an active environmentalist. We will miss his knowledge of our community's brief history and his ability to 'turn a phrase.' I hope Jerry will continue to be active for the causes he so fervently defends. Initial deliberations indicate that Councilman Netts will bring a degree of technical expertise to public works issues.

As chairman of the council proceedings, I would like to note that Palm Coast can be proud of its council members. While we will never always agree, as the occasional 3-2 vote indicates, debate is always respectful. There is no rancor. Each member of the council wants to make Palm Coast the best city possible. There are no personal political ambitions and certainly no one is in it for the money. As mayor, I estimate that I make about 25 cents an hour. My colleagues, who are equally devoted, make less.

The fire protection issue

In the past year, Palm Coast budgeted to open a new fire station south of SR 100 to serve residents in that area. Flagler County budgeted to open a

new fire station at the airport, a mile from the Palm Coast station. The lack of cooperative planning on this vital issue made both entities look foolish to the taxpayers.

In June, the county decided to spend \$1.7 million from its landfill bond money, which is reserved for fire protection, to purchase a 1998 helicopter. The cities in Flagler County said that they should have been consulted about spending landfill money. The county claimed a legal right to make a unilateral decision. The helicopter will cost \$1.1 million. An additional \$400,000 will be spent to equip the helicopter with firefighting and medical emergency equipment, and \$250,000 will be reserved for a helicopter repair fund. The cost of daily helicopter operation (7 AM to 7 PM) will be \$350,000 per year. Some Palm Coast residents believe that it would have been cheaper to lease the helicopter now at Flagler Airport's pilot training school during emergencies.

During 2001, Palm Coast will plan for the opening of a fire station in the Matanzas Woods area, while the county will plan for an opening of another station in the Hammock. There are three certainties regarding this issue. First, the city has a legal mandate to provide fire protection for its residents. Palm Coast is happy with its fire department and there is no intention to turn this duty over to the county. Second, the county will continue to expand its fire department. Third, we will all face the threat of wildfires again this summer.

The time for cooperative dialogue is now. Speaking as president of the newly-formed Flagler County League of Cities, I addressed the county commissioners in December and asked them to participate in resolving this city/county problem.

Final thoughts

There are few things in city government that carry a 100 percent guarantee. I will make, however, a few predictions: the Club House Drive walkway will be completed, hopefully early in the year; the yellow lines requested along Frontier Drive will

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The City of Palm Coast: 2001 – Year Two *(from pg 19)*

be done; potholes will be filled faster; parkway grass will be cut better; Palm Coast will continue to be the fastest growing city in the state; the city council will have a special meeting with Seminole Woods and Quail Hollow residents; and parkway curbs will be cleaner next year.

A reminder – city council meetings are televised. If you cannot make a meeting, you can watch it the next day at 6 PM on Channel 2. Meetings are the

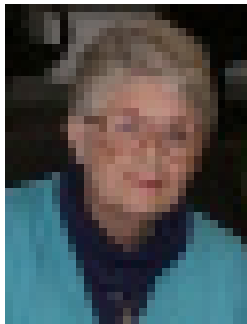
first Tuesday at 6:30 PM and the third Tuesday at 9 AM. If you want to make a complaint via email, go to www.ci.palm-coast.fl.us (now inactive).

Thanks to Dick Morris and the chamber of commerce for putting together a terrific Flagler/Palm Coast Holiday Festival. The festival illustrates that there is great potential for working together.

Happy New Year!

Getting to Know You: An introduction to ...

Kay Stafford



Kay has been recording secretary of the Palm Coast Historical Society since its formation late in 2000, a providential decision since she had lost her husband of 45 years the prior Labor Day. THE HISTORIAN was born in those early days with the late Mary Ann

Canfield as its first editor and Debby Geyer succeeding her. Kay's first foray into HISTORIAN editing was the October-December 2008 issue.

Her background equipped her well for these two assignments.

A native of Lakewood, OH, she graduated from Lakewood High School in 1944 and immediately became receptionist for a 6,000-employee manufacturing plant in Cleveland, leaving it to follow her soldier husband to his station in Seattle. She calls her daughter Judi her "souvenir of Seattle." (Next time there she bought a hat.)

A mostly stay-at-home mom until her divorce, Kay became an engineering secretary at Cadillac Tank Plant in 1951. In 1954 she met her second husband, Carl, married in '55, then "retired" in '57. Retirement was not destined to be an idle period; instead, they went through a home study and became foster parents of newborns. In one year they had four infants who needed to be given up

to their adoptive parents just about the time they starting sleeping more than three hours at a time.

In December 1961 the family moved to Sylvania, OH and four months later Kay became secretary to the director of personnel administration and the director of public relations of a multi-plant manufacturer of automotive electrical replacement products, Electric Autolite, which later became Prestolite. It was a division of a New York-based corporation which included Mergenthaler Linotype (printing equipment), Converse (athletic shoes), Marshalltown Manufacturing (gauges) etc. Before she retired in 1986, Kay was secretary to the vice president of corporate planning in the parent company.

Volunteering has always been important to her. She became active in her church, Palm Coast United Methodist, and edited their newsletter, THE MESSENGER, for more than a decade. Ramona Wiatt, a former pastor's wife, became the first director of RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program) and recruited Kay to edit their new publication, THE GOLDTIMER, which she did for almost 20 years. She also served on RSVP's advisory council. For the past six years, she has volunteered at the library and, as a district officer of United Methodist Women, published their TRUMPET SOUND for four years.



LIFETIME MEMBERS

GUNTER & GINNY ARNDT

JAMES CANFIELD

MIKE & KRISTI CHIUMENTO

ART & LOUISE DYCKE

ROBERT EVANS

DEBBY GEYER

ANNE HOWELL

TERI PRUDEN

CHARLOTTE SIEGMUND

IN MEMORY OF

CAPT. WILLIAM E. DONNELLY,
JR. (USN RETIRED)

*email the society at:
info@palmcoasthistory.org*

*mail us at
P.O. Box 352613, Palm
Coast 32135*

*email city historian at
artpchistory@bellsouth.net*

*visit us at
Activity Room B,
James F. Holland
Memorial Park,
18 Florida Park Dr.*

City Historian

Art Dycke

Society Officers – 2013

Jim Canfield, President

Robert Evans, Vice President

Carol Lemieux, Treasurer

Norma Kendrick, Executive Secretary

Kay Stafford, Recording Secretary and

HISTORIAN Editor

Eileen Carter, Corresponding Secretary

Society Directors

Art Dycke, Patricia Eldridge,

Norma Kendrick, Ed Moore,

Jack Pitman, Bill Venne,

Debbi Geyer (Honorary)

Society Chroniclers

Betty Buchanan, Peter Kroeger,

Gladys Moore, Yerdis Trexler

A Full Gamut of Volunteer Opportunities

You've read THE PALM COAST HISTORIAN and now you're intrigued with the idea of taking a more active part in this organization that's enlightening citizens about the community's past. Your own professional and personal background equip you in a special way to provide help in the following areas: Data entry (Past Perfect software), inventory, scanning, identifying photos, filing, and photographing items such as framed pictures, trophies, maps, etc.

Or you might be that rare individual who's had experience with grant application and research. We really need you.

Like working with your hands? You'd like to build map holders and exhibits? You would experience instant gratification as you see your project take shape. Please consider this.

More on the cerebral side, we need a volunteer to shine a light on the historical society via the news media or contacting local organizations with information about us. We're also looking for a "story teller" who would like to bring our past to life in the HISTORIAN.

Furthermore, we promise you a great group of people to call your new friends.



Scan this code with your smartphone/device to go to our website

Society Mission
The collection, preservation, and dissemination of material related to the history of the City of Palm Coast and its people



The City of **Palm Coast** Historical Society

Membership Form – 2014 (please print)

First Name/s _____ Last Name _____

Street Address _____

Mailing Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

E-Mail Address _____

(you will be notified of meetings/Historical Society information via e-mail)

Single membership – \$15 Family – \$20 Lifetime – \$200 Renewal New Member

Payable to The City of Palm Coast Historical Society Mail to Palm Coast Historical Society
P.O. Box 352613
Palm Coast FL 32135

Contributions to The City of Palm Coast Historical Society are deductible for Federal Income Tax purposes.

All members receive **The Palm Coast Historian**

Art's Corner

by Art Dycke, Palm Coast Historian

City of Palm Coast Historical Society volunteers and officers worked throughout this summer putting our extensive holdings back into recognizable order after our move into our new home in activity room B in Holland Memorial Park. We are all still “dancing as fast as we can” in preparation for the official grand opening of the society in January 2014 as described in the “from the President” message on page 24.

Last year I represented the PCHS at the first Flagler Heritage Festival held on December 1 at the Flagler County Fairgrounds. Our Palm Coast historical slide show had been well received and when the invitation for a two-day event this year came from Heritage Crossroads and Flagler County Tourist Development Council, I looked forward to again being part of an expanded celebration of our area’s historical heritage at John Siebel’s Black Cloud Saloon and Campground. Unfortunately, it was not to be for me because that was the weekend of the wedding of my granddaughter in the hills of South Carolina. Fortunately, Steve Jones, Jack Pitman, and Peter Kroeger stepped up and assured PCHS presence at this year’s festival. Peter adjusted the timing on the historical slide show and provided all the projection equipment, and Steve set it up and watched over it both days of the festival. “Way to go Steve!” Thank you very much. Jack stopped in both days. He has also been visiting other area historical societies to aid us in planning the future of our own.

We owe a great debt of gratitude to Jim Canfield and Bill Venne for all their work with the city and Flagler County Tourist Bureau to secure a publicly accessible home for the society and some grant funding. Jim also doubles as a carpenter teaming up with Norma Kendrick and Carol & Don Lemieux to set up office furniture from Staples.

Gladys Moore and Betty Buchanan have just finished compiling all issues of THE PALM COAST

HISTORIAN in chronological order. These are available at the society office and in the reference section of the Flagler Public Library.

Despite a serious crash and subsequent loss of material on an external hard drive, our “saint” and “genius” editor, Kay Stafford (see profile on page 20), has produced another monumental 24-page issue of THE HISTORIAN and a supplement on the history of the Irish Social Club of Palm Coast. Please visit the website created by Peter Kroeger and watch it develop as material is updated.

We welcome back our cataloger and volunteer coordinator Patricia Eldridge and wish our membership chair, Eileen Carter, a speedy recovery from a recent disability. I know that many new memberships would help her feel much better.

Yerdis Trexler is continuing her cataloging of our extensive audio-visual collection and Steve Jones is helping sort out many negatives that we received from his former employer, ITT Corporation.

I had a great time at an early Palm Coast slide presentation I made to St. Thomas’ men’s breakfast group recently. A number of participants have been in Palm Coast years longer than I and we all enjoyed swapping stories.

Following is a brief description of our Founders Day celebration October 28 when we previewed our Holland Park home to the public and featured the story of the city’s incorporation. Participants were given a tour of our headquarters, plus an eight-page reprint, “HOW PALM COAST BECAME A CITY.” They then viewed the exhibits and slide show. The exhibit consisted of 12 boards of newspaper headlines showing the long path taken by Palm Coast residents to eventual incorporation on December 31, 1999, five enlarged pictures and story boards of the votes and first elected officials, and four volumes of “all originals or copies of everything that had ever been written about the incorporation of the city of Palm Coast” that had been fastidiously put in chronological order and preserved in plastic sleeves by volunteer Robert Evans. We welcome Jane Culpepper as our new-
(to pg 24)

from the President:

I hope you'll be able to attend the Palm Coast Historical Society's Annual Meeting Tuesday, January 21. The "Grand Opening" ceremony of our Holland Park office will be the same day.

Invitations are being sent to Palm Coast City Councilmen, Flagler County Commissioners, Tourist Development Council members as well as PCHS members. The day will serve as a public "thank you" to the elected and appointed officials who have supported the society with grants during the past year. It is our opportunity to show them how we have used the funds.

The day will start in Activity Room A at 7:30 AM with coffee and donuts for city council members before they leave for their regular meeting in the community center. An exhibit focusing on the beginning of Palm Coast, prepared by Art Dycke and Norma Kendrick, will be open in Room A until 12 NOON, to re-open at 1:30 PM. Room B, the society's work area, will also be open for visitors until noon. At 2:30, Art will make a brief presentation about the exhibit, and our annual meeting will start in room B at 3. 2014 officers will be elected and, as president, I will present a "State of the Society."

You will receive additional information on the grand opening and annual meeting in December.

Jim Canfield

Art's Corner (from pg 23)

est lifetime member.

A slide show entitled "IN THE BEGINNING" covered Palm Coast history from archæology to 1969. President Jim Canfield then discussed the society's future and looked forward to a grand opening in January 2014.

Thanks to Ed Moore, Jack, Steve, and others assisting in the cleanup. We thank the NEWS-JOURNAL's Aaron London for his preview article and reporter Julie Murphy who came to interview

us before the event and stayed till the end, for an outstanding presentation of the Palm Coast Historical Society Founders Day, including a picture of our executive secretary, Norma Kendrick, which appeared in the NEWS-JOURNAL the very next day! (We are out of space. Otherwise, we would have reprinted it.)

There is an election, a grand opening, and an exciting year ahead for the Palm Coast Historical Society.

Present members, please renew – and urge your friends to visit us at the grand opening.

Days of Yore – 1971



More early photos in next issue.