

**EVERGLADES SOCIETY FOR
HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

Dedicated to our Unique History

P.O. Box 46, Everglades City, FL, 34139
ESHP@hotmail.com • www.ESHP.org

The **TOWN CRIER** newsletter is issued periodically to keep ESHP members and the public informed of our activities. We welcome news and feedback.

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Everglades Society for Historic Preservation, Inc. is a registered 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation. The Society is concerned with the preservation of all historic sites, structures, documents, artifacts, and memories within the Everglades area.

DIRECTORS

Connie Barker, Helen Bryan, Hydie Friend (Vice-President),
Patty Huff (President), Hannah Ineson, Donald Kim,
Elaine Middelstaedt (Treasurer), Marya Repko (Secretary)

ESHP MEMBERSHIP

(renewable each January 1st except for Lifetime categories)

- Individual (\$25) Family (\$40)
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TOWN CRIER

**EVERGLADES SOCIETY
FOR HISTORIC
PRESERVATION**

Newsletter

MARCH 2023
VOLUME 18, NUMBER 3



Happy 150th Birthday, Mr. Collier

We celebrated Barron Collier’s big birthday during our Annual Members’ Meeting on March 10th with an audience of 40 people, some of whom became new members.

President Patty Huff gave an update on what ESHP has been doing and Marya Repko talked about the life of the great man who founded our County in 1923 when he was just 50 years old and already a multi-millionaire.

It was an enjoyable event with delicious cake, champagne, and a successful raffle. Our thanks to the Lighthouse Club at Everglades Isle for providing the venue and to Kathy Brock who donated beautiful orchid plants that she grew herself to help raise funds.

March is Women’s History Month

We owe a thank-you to **Tommie Barfield**, the “Queen of Marco”, who pushed the legislation in Tallahassee that created Collier County. She was also the first Superintendent of Schools.

Another prominent local woman was **Mamie Smallwood** who started the road from Everglades to Chokoloskee. Unfortunately, World War I intervened and work stopped on what is now Plantation Parkway.

Women played a large part in pioneer life but are generally not appreciated for the hardship they endured back when there was little infrastructure in our wilderness.



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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Saturday, March 25: Art-in-the-Glades

10am-1pm, McLeod Park

Saturday, April 29: Tamiami Trail 95th Anniversary

Museum of the Everglades, 10am-2pm

Parade, Laundry-Cart Races, Lunch, Birthday Cake

See www.colliermuseums.com or phone (239) 252-5026

Monday, May 8: Collier County 100th Anniversary

Everglades City Hall, 10-11am

See www.colliermuseums.com

BOARD MEETINGS

Our Board of Directors meets on the first Monday of the month. The next meeting is on **April 3**, at 9:00 a.m. in the Visitor Center. Members are welcome to attend and contribute ideas. For info, phone Patty at (239) 719-0020.

ESH P MEMBERSHIP

We have 89 members. **Help us reach the magic number of 100 by joining!** Just fill in the form on the back of this newsletter and send it to us with a check. To avoid the annoying annual renewal hassle, become a Lifetime member.

Welcome to new members:

Mike & Wanda Collins, Chokoloskee
Dr. Judy Tomlin, Everglades City
Marlene Sonderfan, Chokoloskee
Ana & Robert Fischer, Everglades City
Gary & Anna Gilbert, Marco Island



MUSEUM OF EVERGLADES

The Third Thursday Talk at 2:00pm on **April 20** is titled "Trailblazing the Trail" and describes how a group of intrepid men struggled to drive through the swamp and jungle from Naples to Miami in 1923 to prove that a road was needed.

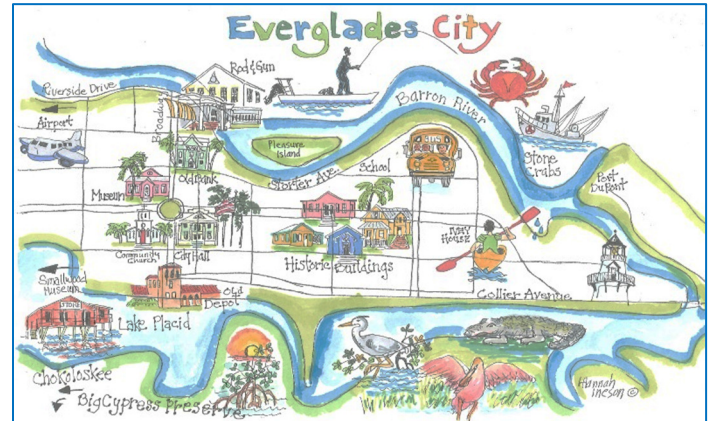
The Museum, the little pink building at 205 West Broadway, is open Tuesday through Saturday, 9am to 4pm. Admission is free. For info, see www.colliermuseums.com or phone the Museum at (239) 252-5026.

News from Naples

Historic Palm Cottage is planning its grand re-opening on **Tuesday, April 4**, after extensive hurricane repairs and will offer free house tours during that week in the afternoons.

Before that, Chester Keene will present the last Chickee Chat of the season on **Friday, March 31**, in the Norris Garden.

For information, see www.napleshistoricalsociety.org or phone (239) 261-8164.



New Director

At our Board meeting on March 6, we unanimously invited **Hannah Ineson** to join us as a Director. It is a fitting recognition of how much she has contributed to ESH P with her talents as an artist.

Besides the logo on this newsletter and her sketch of the Bank of Everglades building, she donated the image for the whimsical map of ECity on our tote bags (*see above*) and for the Centennial tile. Both are available for sale to benefit ESH P at the Visitor Center.

Visitor Center



The Everglades Area Visitor Center & Trail Town Headquarters is the coral-colored building at **207 West Broadway**. Stop in for a chat and see the work of our talented local artists which is for sale there.

It is staffed by volunteers but, as our snowbirds fly to their other homes, we will need more help during the summer. If you can spare a few hours and enjoy talking to people, phone Connie at (419) 350-6650.

CENTENNIAL (1923-2023) BANNERS

Have you noticed that the solar lamp posts on Collier Avenue, Broadway, and Copeland Avenue South all have banners on them depicting historic buildings and events?

Besides celebrating the County's 100th year, we are recognizing that the little town of Everglades was named the County seat at the same time. Of course, it had been settled about 50 years before that by William Smith Allen and then the Storter family, among others.

To sponsor a banner and be recognized in the accompanying booklet, contact Patty at (239) 719-0020.

