IVY STRANAHAN, "LITTLE WHITE MOTHER TO THE SEMINOLLES"
FEATURED FOR MARCH 8 PROGRAM

The Historical Society will meet March 8, 2004, at 6:30 p.m. at the Boynton Beach City Library. The agenda includes election of Officers for 2004-05, two new three-year Directors, and two new three-year Trustees.

The program for the meeting is Judy Gail, local actress, activist, and storyteller who will portray Ivy Stranahan, 1881-1971, who, as Ivy Julia Cromartie, was the first schoolteacher of Fort Lauderdale. After marrying Frank Stranahan, the proprietor of Stranahan Trading Post, Ivy dedicated her life to the Seminoles, teaching their children to read, communicating for them with the Federal government, persuading them to move to the land designated for them to build homes, start business ventures that enabled them to live independently and with dignity, and to send their children to school.

As president of the Florida Equal Suffrage Association, she was a leader in the fight for women to vote. She founded the Fort Lauderdale Audubon and Historical Societies, the library, parks, schools, hospitals and more. Called the Battling Belle of Broward, she said "People probably want to call me Poison Ivy," but instead, she is remembered as The First Lady of Fort Lauderdale.

The Public is invited—attendance is free. For further information call Voncile Smith, 734-5653.

"SETTLEMENT OF BOYNTON, FLORIDA," as TOLD by H.B. Murray, First Settler"

[The following items are from a manuscript donated by Mr. and Mrs. Andrew N. Huston from material on file in the Palm Beach City Historical Society in the Flagler Museum. Special thanks to Callie Rousseau Brown for providing it.]

"I came to Boynton in the fall of 1895 at the invitation of Major N.S. Boynton, head of the Order of Maccabees and whom I had met while I was secretary of the local lodge at Port Huron, Mich.

Major Boynton had become interested with Congressman W.S. Linton, of Michigan, in establishing colonies of northern people on the lower east coast and bought with Linton and later from him the land on Boynton Beach on which he built the Boynton Hotel, Linton promoting the Townsite of Linton which afterwards became Delray.

When I arrived there were a few tents and one or two small houses. I took charge of the construction of the hotel and when Fred Dewey opened up and put on sale in 1897 tracts of muck land and lots in the original townsite west of what afterwards became the Dixie Highway, I bought two tracts of 2 1/2 acres each and two lots in the townsite. Frank Cox had the first store and was the first postmaster.

The east coast canal was opened in 1895 providing transportation with Lake Worth and the north. George C. Butler and Franklin Sheen surveyed the farmland and the Townsite of Boynton. We raised vegetables for home use and for sale in a small way. Fred Dewey was the original developer of the townsite and Major Boynton set the orange and grapefruit groves on the east side of the canal about the time he finished the hotel. Until the railroad and the canal were opened for business in 1895, the only means of transportation was by the beach and

1920—CITIZENS MEET TO INCORPORATE

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT
Fain Weems, chair of the Nominating Committee, will present the following slate of candidates for election at the March 8 meeting. Nominations may also be presented from the floor.
President, Voncile Smith; Vice-President for Programs, Harvey E. Oyer, Jr.; Vice-President for Membership, Clair Weems; Recording Secretary, Betty Thomas; Corresponding Secretary, Gloria Gregory; Treasurer, Sue Beamam; Directors until 2007, Gloria Turner, Curtis Weaver; Trustees until 2007, Janet DeVries, Marion Weems. All members who have paid dues for 2004 who attend the meeting are eligible to make additional nominations and to vote.

PROGRAM CALENDAR
Monday, April 12, 2004, 7:00 p.m. Boynton Beach City Library, Darcie MacMahon, Exhibits Coordinator, Florida Museum of Natural History will present a discussion and slide presentation on FORT MOSE: Free Black Town on the Spanish Frontier. Free Admission. Public welcome.

Sunday, May 16, 2004, 5:00 p.m. Boynton Woman’s Club Building, Annual Meeting and Covered Dish Supper in conjunction with The Mizner Foundation. Installation of New Officers.

TBA Field Trip to Scottish Rite Temple to view mural painted by late nationally recognized artist Bernard Thomas. Discussion of his work to be led by his widow Betty Thomas and his daughter Sarah Bollenbacher.


VISIT THE LITTLE LEAGUE BRICKS AT THE 1913 SCHOOLHOUSE
The brick pavers purchased by the Boynton Beach Historical Society to honor the East Boynton Beach Little League National Champions of 2003 are planted in the courtyard on the front east side of the 1913 Schoolhouse Museum between the clock and the bell. They read as follows:
[12" X 12" Paver (1)]

BOYNTON BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY HONORS THE PLAYERS AND COACHES OF THE EAST BOYNTON BEACH LITTLE LEAGUE TEAM AS THE 2003 NATIONAL WORLD SERIES CHAMPIONS
[4" X 8" Pavers (14)]

MICHAEL BROAD #15
PITCHER
SHORT STOP

RICHIE DEJESUS #22
THIRD BASE

CODY EMERSON #16
PITCHER
FIRST BASE

JORDAN IRENE #14
OUTFIELD
INFIELD

PATRICK MULLEN #9
LEFT FIELD

R.J. NEAL #5
OUTFIELD

MATT OVERTON #7
RIGHT FIELD

RICKY SABATINO #1
INFIELD

BENNY TOWNSEND #13
OUTFIELD

DEVON TRAVIS #2
2nd Base

ANDREW WEAVER #18
CATCHER

KENNY EMERSON
MANAGER

JOE IRENE
COACH

TONY TRAVIS
COACH

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH TO CELEBRATE 100 YEARS IN 2005
The Boynton Beach First United Methodist Church was organized in 1905. The members are preparing a history and need photographs, clippings, anecdotes, and personal recollections pertaining to the history of the church. If any reader has information about the Church’s past you would be willing to share (we can scan copies and return originals to you if you like), please contact Voncile at 734-5653 or drop them by the Church office.

CHURCH HISTORIES SOUGHT
There is a surprising shortage of information about the various churches that have served the Boynton area. The archives of both the Boynton Beach Historical Society and the Historical Society of Palm Beach County contain little information. Churches have played a crucial role in the development of the City, and the Boynton Beach Historical Society would like to preserve more information about them. Please check with your denomination to see what you can do to help fill this void and contact the Historical Society if you have information.

MEMBERSHIP ADDENDUM: 2004
Thanks to all of you who have sent in memberships for this year. We will publish the names of those who have joined since January in the next issue of The Historian. If you would like to join, a membership form is on the outside mailing sheet. Fill it out and mail it with your check in the amount of the membership you designate.
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Boynton Beach Historical Society memberships are for the calendar year, January 1 to December 31. If you are not now a member and would like to join, complete the form below and return it with your check for the type of membership you desire payable to The Boynton Beach Historical Society, P. O. Box 12, Boynton Beach, Florida 33435-0012.

**BOYNTON BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM, CALENDAR YEAR 2004**
**WORKING TOGETHER TO PRESERVE BOYNTON BEACH'S HERITAGE**

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Yes, I would like to serve on the following committee(s)          Archives/Preservation        Program/Planning        Mailings  
Telephone    Hospitality    Membership    Public Relations    Seeking Sponsors    Minority History

Fundraising    Other (Specify)
