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A Newsletter of Expanding & Preserving Our Cultural Heritage, Inc.  
170 N.W. 5th Ave., Delray Beach, FL 33444

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170 N.W. Fifth Avenue ~ Delray Beach, Florida ~ 561.279.8883 [www.spadymuseum.org](http://www.spadymuseum.org) Summer 2006 • Volume 2 • Number 3

## Spady Living Heritage Day Will Bring Back Traditions

Making lye soap over a hot pot, cooking collard greens, jelly making, making dolls out of corn wrappings and "putting up" seasonal foods will be on display at The Spady Museum's Living Heritage Day on September 24, 2006. This event will be from noon to 6 p.m., and admission is free.

Kicking off Delray Beach's Heritage Month, the Spady Museum welcomes the artists of Renaissance Park in Marianna, as they come to Delray Beach for the first time to bring the traditional old ways back to life.

Demonstrations will include shining shoes, making grass brooms and cooking fried bread and cracklin. Exhibitors will also discuss syrup processing, turn-of-the-century hand tools and life on the farm following the turbulent times after slavery. All interactive exhibits will be held on the grounds of the museum, 170 NW 5th Avenue. Food and activities for children will be available.

"It will be a day-long celebration of African-American ancestry in Florida and promises to be a history lesson in fun for the whole family," said Daisy Fulton, museum executive director. "The event is designed to illustrate how African Americans lived off the



Broom making will be one of the skills from years gone by that will be featured at Spady Living Heritage Day set for Sept. 24 from noon to 6 p.m. at the Spady Museum.

land and protected themselves during the Civil War era. It's going to be a snapshot of folk life and culture around that time. Hopefully, people will obtain a better appreciation of what went on and feel some kind of connection."

Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties is sponsoring the September event, which is a precursor to and will lay the groundwork for a larger, two-day Living Heritage event slated for 2007.

The 2007 Spady Living Heritage Days event is partly being sponsored by a grant recommendation of more than \$20,000 from the Palm Beach

County Cultural Council. The museum grant is part of more than \$4 million in funds earmarked by the council for 76 non-profit cultural organizations around the county.

The Spady Museum grant was determined after Fulton and other representatives discussed plans for Spady Living Heritage Days in front of PBCCC members. The council grant should be made available to museum officials by Oct. 1, 2006.

"We're particularly excited about it because this is the first year we've qualified for a mid-size grant," she said.

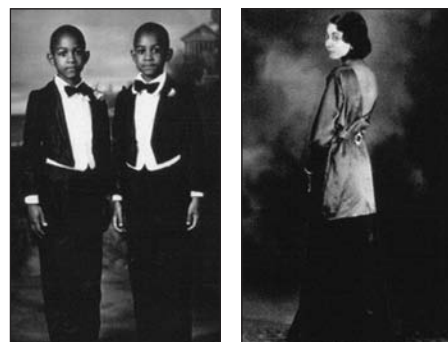
## Museum Features P.H. Polk Photography Exhibit

A collection of more than 30 photographs taken by preeminent African-American photographer P.H. Polk during his 50-year career as the official photographer of the Tuskegee Institute will be featured in a special exhibit at the Spady Cultural Heritage Museum from September until the end of the year.

"We are very pleased to have the opportunity to display the works of this very significant African-American photographer," said Brandy Brownlee, museum educator at the Spady Museum. "These prints are a reflection of people back during a period of time that some may remember and they also picture many associated with the Tuskegee Institute, in Tuskegee, Alabama, including George Washington Carver."

Those who visit the exhibit will discover that the photographic testimony to southern African-American life represents three themes, African-American rural farm workers; studio portraits of the 1930s affluent black families and individuals, and portraits of Tuskegee Institute school associates.

No matter what the subject, Polk is credited



The works of photographer P.H. Polk will be on display at the Spady Museum now through the end of the year. An invitation-only reception for members and guests is set for Sept. 14.

with photographing all with the same careful attention to light, background, environment and composition. The resulting images are important for both their aesthetic vision and historic value.

To celebrate the opening of the exhibit, the Spady Museum will be hosting a Sept. 14 invitation only VIP reception featuring Paul R. Jones, the private collector of the exhibit. It is through the generosity of Jones, along with support of the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts that the exhibit is possible. The VIP reception will begin at 4:30 p.m. and is open to members and honored guests.

**Join EPOCH and The Spady Museum**

The Spady Museum offers annual memberships for

<input type="checkbox"/> Youth - \$10	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual - \$35	<input type="checkbox"/> Family - \$60
<input type="checkbox"/> Organization - \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> Patron - \$500	<input type="checkbox"/> Associate - \$1,000
	<input type="checkbox"/> Supporter - \$2,000	

Lifetime Memberships are also available

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Please Mail to: Spady Museum, 170 NW 5th Ave. Delray Beach, 33444

## Community Leaders to be Honored at Starlight Gala

Four retired football coaches, who have had an impact on the lives of hundreds of youngsters during their more than 30 years together, will be among a select group of community leaders to be honored during the Spady Museum's Starlight Gala on Oct. 14.

For more than 30 years, Walter Stephens, Robert Preston, Major Graham and Rev. Matthew Mitchell, Jr. served as coaches for the highly successful Delray Rocks 125-pound team, which has produced many college and NFL players. The four will be recognized along with other community leaders. These include:

- Perry DonFrancisco, founder of Boston's on the Beach and a strong community leader.
- Mary Ann Ferguson, co-founder of Bar and Ferg's



Mildred George and Joycelyn Patrick are serving as committee chairs for the Starlight Celebration, Oct. 14.

Academy, the first African-American Christian academy in Delray Beach.

- Eddie and Yvonne Odom, founders of the Delray American Little League, and community leaders.
- Virginia Snyder, former private investigator, writer, author and community leader.

• Rev. JWH Thomas, Jr., Pastor Emeritus of St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church and the "community pastor." Serving as co-emcees for this year's Starlight Gala, which is expected to draw more than 300 people, are City Commissioner Jon Levinson and Tania Rogers of News Channel 5, WPEC-TV.

For sponsorship or ticket information, call 279-8883.

### STARLIGHT GALA

**What:** Starlight Gala  
**When:** Oct. 14, 2006 at 6 p.m.  
**Where:** Delray Tennis Center  
**Highlights:** This year's gala will feature dancing, live auction, 2006 honorees and a live band.  
**Tickets:** \$100 per person.

## From the Executive Director



Daisy Fulton

What a wonderful – and busy – summer this has been.

One of the highlights, of course, was the Carver High School reunion in July and the opportunity we had to work with the event's organizers to help bring back some great memories and create new ones.

For many of us, the tour was an opportunity to remember good times at Carver High School and for those who were returning from out of the area, a chance to see how much has changed.

In honor of the reunion, the Spady Museum hosted an exhibit featuring several outstanding former students who have gone on to successful careers in a variety of fields.

Our thanks goes out to everyone who helped to make the trolley tour and the exhibit a success.

This has also been a busy summer as we get ready for the opening of the P.H. Polk exhibit and for two of our biggest events of the year, Spady Living Heritage Day in September and our Starlight Gala in October.

We're looking forward to the Living Heritage Day at the Spady Museum where visitors will have a chance to participate in activities celebrating the days of yesteryear.

The summer has also been a busy time for our gala committee, which has been working together for several months to ensure the event continues in the great tradition begun last season.

Our thanks goes out to each member of the committee for their hard work.

Finally, we hope all of you will join us in welcoming Denise Williams to the staff of the Spady Museum.

As our new program assistant and volunteer coordinator, Denise is responsible for assisting with the development of museum programs, outreach, public programs, VIP receptions, cultural partnership initiatives and volunteer program.

Stop by and say hello to Denise and check out all the exciting things happening at the Spady Museum.

## Spady Museum Receives Grants from Two Community Groups

The Spady Cultural Heritage Museum was recently awarded two major grants that will help fund a documentary about African-American High Schools in Palm Beach County and help enable the museum to continue providing exhibits and youth programs.

A \$12,500 grant received from the Lost Tree Village Charitable Foundation will be used to help offset the production costs of the documentary, which will chronicle the role of African-American high schools during the years prior to the integration of Florida schools in the early 1970s.

"We're very appreciative of the support from the Lost Tree Village Foundation," said Daisy Fulton, executive director of the Spady Museum. "The project it is funding is very significant county-wide because these schools touched the lives of many students."

The Lost Tree Village Charitable Foundation is a philanthropic organization located in North Palm Beach dedicated to building a stronger community and improving the quality of life. Since it began more than 25 years ago, the Foundation has contributed several million dollars to a variety of organizations serving Palm Beach County.

The Spady Museum also received financial support from the Quantum Foundation, which is dedicated to advancing access to health care and education for the residents of Palm Beach County.

A \$10,000 grant from the Quantum Foundation will be used to help defray some of the day-to-day operating costs of the museum. The museum plans to raise matching funds to complement the Quantum Foundation grant.

"As a result of this grant and matching funds we're hoping to raise, we'll be better able to move funds from our operating budget into programming for our Kids Cultural Club and for our exhibits," Fulton said.

For more information about ways to support the Spady Museum, call 561-279-8883.

## Kid's Cultural Club



Youngsters participating in the Spady Museum's Kid's Cultural Club got some help with back to school supplies thanks to Office Depot, which provided 300 backpacks to the Spady Museum. Representing the Spady Museum at a ceremony earlier this summer were Educational Program Director Charlene F. Jones, fourth from the left and Executive Director Daisy Fulton, second from the right. Also on hand were Kids Cultural Club participants Keyshawn and Kantrell Marshall.

## Neighborhood Tour, Carver Exhibit Help Rekindle Fond Memories

The official reunion had begun a few days earlier but for many returning students of Carver High School, the reunion with the community they grew up in took place during a three-hour trolley tour of the old neighborhood.

Coordinated by the Spady Cultural Heritage Museum working with the organizers of this summer's Carver High School reunion, the tour attracted more than 100 people, including former students and in some cases their children.

"It brought back a lot of memories and stirred a lot of conversation," said Vera Farrington, EPOCH president, who along with other tour guides Ruth Pompey, Col. William Condry and Mary Alford helped bring remembrances to life.

For some there were tears and for others there was joy. A group in one of two trolleys used for the tours broke out into the Carver High School cheer as they approached the school.

"People were making comparisons and reliving the old days," Mrs. Farrington said. "They were just thrilled to relive memories."

Following a tour of old neighborhoods, returning students had a chance to visit an exhibit at the Spady Museum featuring a collection of items including football trophies and prom dresses as well as stories about successful graduates.



## Two Historical Organizations Unite with Citywide Trolley Tours

The Spady Museum and Delray Beach Historical Society will take riders on a tour of Delray with a focus on historical districts and specific neighborhoods.

The 90-minute "Ride & Remember Trolley Tours of Delray Beach" will be aboard the South Florida Trolley system with interactive narration from people who grew up and grew with Delray Beach.

Designed to provide a comprehensive look at the city's culturally diverse history, the tours are the result of continued cooperation between the Spady Museum and the Delray Beach Historical Society.

"What makes these tours unique is the partnership between the Spady Museum and the Delray Beach Historical Society and the fact that they will focus on a different theme each month," said Karen Preston, executive director of the historical society.

The first tour, which will focus on the West Settlers District and Old School Square, is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 9 at 10 a.m. and leaves from the Delray Beach Community Center on Northwest First Ave. Tickets are \$15 per person and \$12 for Spady Museum and Delray Beach Historical Society members. For more information, call 561-279-8883.

### Ride & Remember Tours

Among the themes that will be covered on the Ride & Remember Historic Trolley Tours are:

- West Settlers District and South Old School Square Historic District
- North Historic District and East Atlantic Avenue
- Historic Churches Tour
- Architecture Tour
- Beach Tour
- Museum Tour

## Visitors Find Cemetery Has Unique History

While narrating a recent trolley tour of Delray Beach neighborhoods, EPOCH President Vera Farrington discovered that little is known about the history of the Delray cemetery.

Mrs. Farrington, combining information from a book written by Lora Sinks Britt and her own knowledge, put together the following history of the city's cemetery.



Vera Farrington

In the early days the dead were being buried anywhere in the town where relatives could dig deep enough without encountering the water table. Sometimes it was in the family's yards. The Ladies Improvement Association, which later became the Delray Beach Women's Club, saw this as a problem and petitioned Henry Flagler's Model Land Company for land suitable for use as a cemetery in one common area. They were awarded 2 1/2 acres of land on the current site.

City engineers helped with providing a proper drainage system and easing the difficulty of relocating graves to the cemetery area. This was difficult because of poor, or in some cases nonexistent, markers. Nevertheless, the white bodies were relocated on the south area of the site and blacks in the north area, each with a legible marker of the person's name as best as possible. They named the cemetery Pine Ridge. The women sold each lot for \$1.99 and \$5 for a family plot. They used the money to beautify the white section of the cemetery. Each black family was responsible for clearing and beautification of their deceased family member's grave. The black citizens complained but the practice continued.

In 1995 the city took over the operation of the cemetery, which was renamed Delray Beach Memorial Gardens. Today the cemetery is completely integrated, and basically uniform in appearance. The older white crypts were painted and are painted periodically. The cemetery has expanded to 38.7 acres and has a mausoleum. It also has a water fountain that is dedicated to the one and only female mayor Delray ever had, Katherine Strong. The original entrances are on Southwest Eighth Avenue, but the main entrance is now on Southwest 10th Street.