



**HOLLY HILL HISTORIC  
PRESERVATION  
SOCIETY, INC.  
Museum**  
1066 Ridgewood Ave.

**Mailing Address:**  
PO Box 250704  
Holly Hill, FL 32125

Phone:  
386- 252-2339

Email:  
hhhistoricsociety@yahoo.com

**WE'RE ON THE WEB!**  
[www.hollyhillhistoricsociety.com](http://www.hollyhillhistoricsociety.com)



***Like us on Facebook!***

**Staples**

**Reward Program**

You can support the Holly Hill History Museum when you shop at Staples Office Supply. Before you make a purchase, tell the cashier to donate the Rewards Program Points to **386-252-2339** (our phone number) and they will be awarded to the Museum for its future purchases.

### **Inside this issue:**

HistoryCon	1
Mr. Peanut	1
Pot Luck Pics	2
Yard Sale Success	2
Boxcar Visitor	2
Car Crash Damage	2
Museum Growth	2

Holly Hill Historic Preservation Society, Inc.

# HHH Newsletter

Holly Hill History Museum

**Volume 6, Issue 2**

**April-June 2019**

## **MOAS HistoryCon 2019**

Holly Hill Museum was represented in our booth by Barbara Koehler, Betty Cronin & Rentha Flowers. On display was our mannequin dressed in an Army Corps of Engineers uniform which matched the uniform in the accompanying long photo taken in the Welch area in 1943.

It provided a marvelous opportunity to share some of Holly Hill's history with other local area museums and a lot of visitors. One of the visitors

brought us copies of some Popular Science magazine articles written by Smokey Yunick to compliment our display on Smokey in our Museum.



## **Mr. Peanut featured in Florida Times-Union Newspaper**

The Holly Hill History Museum was contacted recently for an article in the Jacksonville Florida Times Union Newspaper. The regular column answers questions by its readers. The museum provided photos and history. The following is a reprint of the article we thought you would enjoy. Share your memories of Mr. Peanut with us.

**Dear Call Box: There was a tall Mr. Peanut statue on U.S. 1 that I used to see when I was heading south with my grandmother. It always stood out in my mind. Does anyone else remember it, and could you tell me where it was? J.A., Jacksonville**

**Dear J.A.:** The Planters Mr. Peanut store with its towering 54-foot sign was a landmark on U.S. 1 in Holly Hill, a suburb of Daytona Beach. From 1958 to 1970 the snazzy monocled legume with his top hat and sleek black cane was a star attraction for tourists and residents.

"That Mr. Peanut sign was an iconic thing in Daytona Beach," said Kathy Kelly, former assistant managing editor of the Daytona Beach News Journal.

It has been one of the most popular topics on a Facebook site titled "I grew up in Daytona Beach!" Hundreds have commented on the huge logo at Ridgewood Avenue (U.S. 1) and Ninth Street. They also recall someone dressed as Mr. Peanut who walked in front of the store and waved at passing cars.

"As a child, he freaked me out, and I would hide in my parents' backseat when we would pass the store with him out front," one woman wrote.

"For a while he scared me, but when my parents took me right up to him, he shook my hand and bribed me with peanuts," said another. "I became his buddy."

A third person said she kept yelling, "the nut man, the nut man," until her parents made her stop.

They recalled the heady aroma that added to the store's appeal, and they recalled buying chocolate-covered peanuts, Spanish peanuts, peanut clusters, hot roasted peanuts and pistachios. The nuts were scooped out of stainless steel pans that were kept under hot lamps in a glass case. And they recalled such novelty items for tourists as straws and utensils.

For much of Mr. Peanut's reign, U.S. 1 was the main north-south corridor in Florida. In 1970, however, the shop was sold and converted into Wiggins Bros. Grocery by 1971. The roughly four-story sign was retained, but Mr. Peanut, with permission from Planters, was converted into a grocer with an apron, said Dean Wiggins, son of the late owner. As the business changed hands through the years, the sign was painted different characters, including a guy in a tux and an artist with an easel and brush. Finally, it was demolished in 1997. [sstrickland@jacksonville.com](mailto:sstrickland@jacksonville.com)



## Museum Hours



**Tuesday thru Saturday  
12 – 4 pm**

**To make an appointment or delivery  
please call Rentha at 407-221-6216**

## Upcoming Events

### Society Board Meeting

Discover what the Society and Museum are doing and provide your input.  
**April 30, 2019 Tuesday 2 pm**

### 2019 Tour of Homes Planning Meeting

Give your input on our big annual fundraiser. Volunteer to be a greeter.  
**April 30, 2019 Tuesday 2:30 pm**

### Board of Directors Change

Dean Wiggins is now Treasurer & Martha D. Lunsford is Director At Large.

### Gift Shop Open

Did you know we have a Gift Shop? It has lots of new items: art, books, collectables and a cordless trimmer. All the great items can be purchased during museum hours. Help us raise funds for our programs. Item donations accepted.

## Museum Wish List

Visitors  
Volunteers  
New Members  
Bottled Water

### Holly Hill Historic

### Society Depends on You

Please make sure your annual dues are paid. Thank you to all who renewed this year. We invite you to attend our programs and visit the Museum often. It's FREE. Members & Volunteers are always needed.

## Holly Hill Historic Preservation Society Mission

This Corporation shall establish, maintain and conduct programs to preserve and protect the historical, cultural and natural resources of the Holly Hill area and shall promote the development and use of these resources through a program of public education for the betterment and improvement of the community.

## Garage Sale Raises Funds to Benefit Museum

Thank you to all our volunteers who made our garage sale a huge success! Thanks to those who donated items to sale. The sale afforded time for all of the participants to visit & get to know one another better. Union Church had a sale at the same time which created greater traffic for both of us.

## Boxcar Promoter Visits Museum

John Stevens and wife Linda from Atlanta visited our Merci Boxcar. He operates a Merci Boxcar website [www.mercitrain.org](http://www.mercitrain.org). He has visited all 43 of the surviving boxcars in the country. He shared his research and stories with the Society.



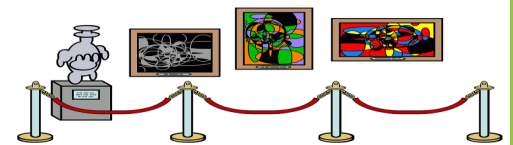
## New Display Cabinet Donated by City

The City donated a display case to the Museum. Our Museum continues to grow to be able to show our many items for viewing. You can help us set up new exhibits.



## Hall Art Gallery Coming Soon

The City is allowing the Museum to use the main hallway of the Annex to display historic photos and more in the previously unused space.



## New Museum Sign Wrecked

Last April the southernmost historic City Hall lamp pillar was destroyed by a van. This year is was our newly installed Museum sign by our building. Fortunately it was quickly repaired by the City. The pillar is still pending to be rebuilt.



## State of the County Luncheon



The Holly Hill Historic Society was well represented at the Volusia County State of the County luncheon.

Thank you to members who attended and promote historic preservation. Above: the Sandberg's at the Ocean Center

## Potluck Dinner Enjoyed by Society

The Holly Hill Historic Society gathered to feast & visit in January. President Flowers presented the past years accomplishments and this years goals. Watch for the dinner next year!!

