



Recent uploads to [martindigitalhistory.org](http://martindigitalhistory.org):

## HSMC Local History Photograph Collection

We're making our way through our latest collection of photographs from the Historical Society of Martin County. This collection has featured some very rare and interesting images. This last month, we've uploaded items from binders marked "People," filled with portraits of people from all walks of life. We've also tried to research some basic histories of the individuals to accompany the images.



Stuart Sailfish Tournament, Sunrise Inn, 1958.

If anyone knows who these women are, let us know!



Children surround William Louis Bartling (1867-1958) at a party for his 91st birthday. Bartling claimed he was shipwrecked near the House of Refuge in about 1903. While he lived in several places afterward, including Jensen Beach, by 1954 he had lived in a shack near the Gilbert's Bar House of Refuge so long, he was considered a fixture. When the county purchased the lifesaving station from the U.S. Coast Guard in 1954, one of the agreements was that the county take care of Bartling, and he was allowed to continue to live in his shack near the House of Refuge land. He died in a fire in 1958.



E. A. Menninger owned the Stuart News (originally the Stuart Daily News) from 1928 to 1958. Menninger earned the moniker "Flowering Tree Man" after writing many books and articles about tropical and subtropical flowering trees and vines. Menninger was the driving force behind the creation of many of the public parks in our area, including Stuart's Memorial Park and Jonathan Dickinson State Park.



Myrtle Dyer, 1974

Myrtle Mabel Dyer (1900-1992) at the annual meeting of the Early Settlers of Lower Indian River meeting. Dyer was a graduate of FSU and Palmer College of Chiropractic. She took over Dyer's Dry Goods (established 1914) in 1925 and managed it until 1980, when it closed.

We also have photos of Mabel from the McNabb-Dyer Collection, donated by Heidi McNabb.



*Mr. Cleveland  
Mrs. " "  
Mr. Bessey - at Reston*

- At The Railroad Station -  
MRS. CLEVELAND PRES. CLEVELAND  
MR. BESSEY



Emma Poole

Emma Christie Poole, daughter of Willie Arthur Christie and Alice Mackey Christie, longtime residents of Sewall's Point, Florida.

Recent uploads to the website:

# Stuart Heritage Museum Schools Collection



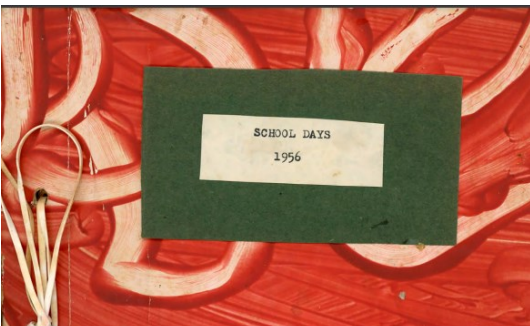
The "schools" box at Stuart Heritage Museum was a treasure trove of photos, newsletters, reunion information, and other materials, chiefly on Stuart High School/Martin County High School, but other schools as well.



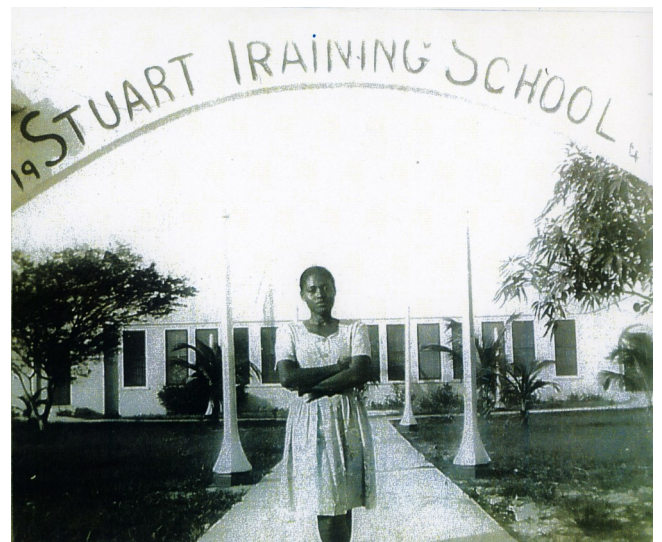
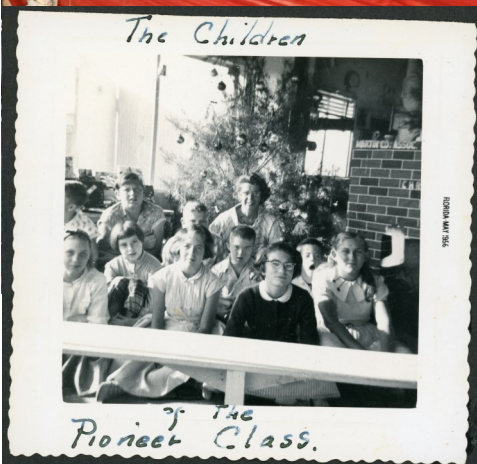
Teachers Dora Lowery and Mrs. Dumich loading second graders onto the Atlantic and Pacific train for a trip to a nearby town. Mrs. Lowery (1892-1983) taught second grade in Martin County Schools for almost 40 years.



Included in this collection are copies of the Martin County High School newspaper *The Southwind*, from the late 1940s through the early 1960s.



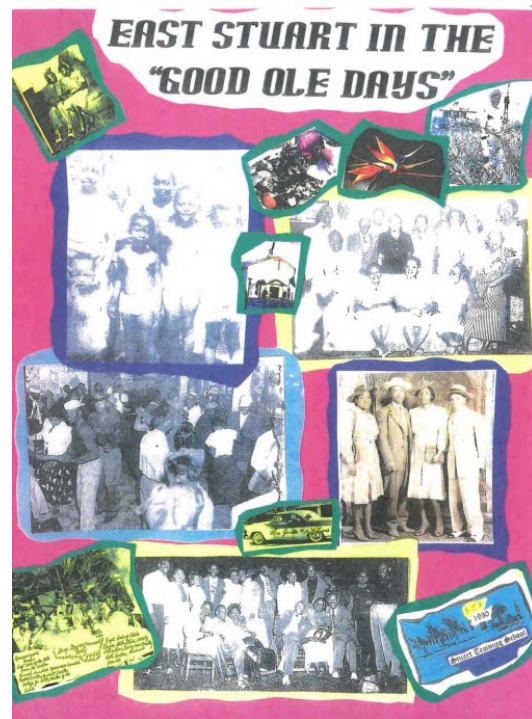
The Pioneer Class was a school for children with intellectual disabilities in Port Salerno. The school's name was changed to "Pioneer School" in September 1963. Copies of this handmade book were made by teacher Irene Willma for students and sponsors.



Recent uploads to the website:

## Willie Jay Thompson Collection

Willie Jay Thompson (3 December 1938 – 28 March 2020), award winning educator and founder of the East Stuart Community Choir and the East Stuart Historical Society, was devoted to sharing the history of the Black communities of Martin County, collecting stories, writing histories, and giving presentations. At the time of his death, he was working on a book on the history of East Stuart. Included on the website are excerpts from his compiled work and research papers.



Coming soon:

## Black Heritage Initiatives Funeral Brochure Collection

### What is the Martin Digital History Project?

The mission of Martin Digital History (MDH) is to encourage the appreciation of Martin County's unique history by collaborating with community members and local organizations to collect, present, and interpret relevant digital content. This project, orchestrated by the Martin County Library System, is the result of the planning teamwork of several far-sighted community members and organizations, including Sandra Thurlow, Historical Society of Martin County, Black Heritage Initiative, Stuart Heritage, The Library Foundation of Martin County, and many others. It is open for public participation.

- This newsletter will attempt to keep all informed about the project, including new participants and accessions, plans, events, etc. Subscribe at: [martin.fl.us/library-events-newsletters](https://martin.fl.us/library-events-newsletters)
- More information: [martindigitalhistory.org](https://martindigitalhistory.org)
- Feedback, comments, questions? Contact the archivist: Georgen Charnes, [gcharnes@martin.fl.us](mailto:gcharnes@martin.fl.us)