

# FIELD MANOR NEWSLETTER

HISTORIC 19TH CENTURY HOMESTEAD AND GROVE ON THE INDIAN RIVER LAGOON



By Korinn Braden, Executive Director

Photo by Tony Balzanto

**Greetings from the homestead! This is generally the time of year when things slow down around Field Manor. I am here to let you know, that is not the case this year! We had a yard sale at the end of June which allowed us to make room in the Packing House to continue creating our new exhibition space, we have hosted a celebration of life as well as a birthday party, and a film crew has been here for the last couple of days. In less than two weeks we will be hosting a local artisan marketplace. We are really excited for this event to highlight the many talented artists our area has. Tours of the historic home as well as Field Manor as a venue are on-going and we love it! Both Gwen and Lauren have hit the ground running, coordinating the tours as well as working on our social media accounts. And as the vice president of the Museums of Brevard, myself and other directors are working on a comprehensive brochure about museums and cultural attractions around Brevard County.**

**And something else that hasn't slowed down is the enthusiasm of our volunteers. In the last month Jani has planned a kitchen garden inspired by European and early American kitchen gardens, along with new volunteer Tanya. Our Seminole pumpkins and peppers are thriving, while we will have to wait and see about our sweet potatoes. I have to commend these ladies for working outside this time of year. Darren helps with both experience and advice, as well as his mad tractor skills. Kim continues to plough (no pun intended) through the Packing House, truly making it what we envisioned. He has an uncanny eye for picking artifacts and building exhibits. Next time you stop by, we would love to show you around.**

**Later in the month will be sponsoring and hosting a visit from a Brevard County Parks and Recreation summer camp group. We are happy to have them stop by for the day to experience Field Manor and its unique story.**

**It is never too early to plan a good time so we would like to announce the date of 6th Annual Oyster and Fish Fry, which is 9 October. We hope to partner with Treasure Coast Seafood again, as well as a new partner to be announced. We are currently looking for Sponsors and Supporters and Volunteers. If you are interested, contact us at [fieldmanor@gmail.com](mailto:fieldmanor@gmail.com) or call us at; 321.848.0365.**



## Packing House Progress

Packing houses along the Indian River Lagoon dotted the landscape in the late 1800s until the early 2000s.

The 2004 hurricane season brought three hurricanes to Florida, as well as critters that slowly decimated the citrus crops throughout Florida. Our packing house was used from 1900-1930s, when the Mims Citrus Co-Op came about. Since then it has been used for storage and Darren's office.

Our efforts are to not only clean and organize the space, but to use it as an exhibition space - an extension of the museum. In the last month cabinets have been cleaned out and categorized. Areas have been cleared so we can begin setting up vignettes, telling even more of the Field family story. We are so looking forward to showcasing our wonderful Queen Ann (not Queen Anne) stove from the turn of the 20th century as well as a Singer sewing machine, as well as the numerous agriculture related items, such as three 22' citrus ladders, a citrus sorter chute, as well as an entire citrus sorter.

Of course the historic home is the show-stopper but the Field family would not have been able to build the original home and its four additions without hard work. The packing house space will let us tell that story. And we're sure it is a story you will want to hear and see. Our goal is to have it open to the public by the New Year. Thank you again, Kim!

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## Celebrating local artists and creators on Saturday, 24 July, 10A-3P

These last days of summer are quickly passing and we thought it would be a good idea to gather local artists and enjoy a day under the pavilion on the Indian River Lagoon. Fourteen artists will be featured. Lawn games will be set up and as always, we encourage you to bring a blanket or chairs and a picnic lunch to enjoy on the riverfront.

Email: [events@fieldmanor.org](mailto:events@fieldmanor.org) or call: 321.848.0365 for more information.

750 Field Manor Dr.

Merritt Island 32953

\*weather permitting\*





## AROUND THE HOMESTEAD

Despite the heat, Jani has been hard at work with her crops. We were able to harvest enough datil peppers to make a lovely pepper vinegar, our blackberry bush went nuts this year and we made blackberry jelly with fresh thyme, we harvested four pineapples, and we were able to salvage two Seminole pumpkins!

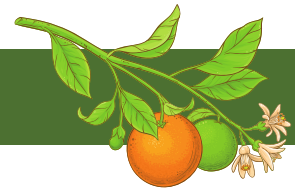


Kim's work continues in the packing house. Every time I walk in there, something new catches my eye. He has the wonderful vision of someone who has installed exhibits, with a wry sense of humor. Next time you're here, ask to see Splinter.



This month we welcomed a new volunteer, Tanya. She and her husband moved to Merritt Island from Canada and she has a background in Archaeology and the translation and transcription of letters. We appreciate all of her work with the WW II letters of Ed Field.





## FIELD MANOR WISH LIST

**EDUCATION:**  
GROUP LEADERS  
GROUP HELPERS  
CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT  
CURRICULUM GUIDELINES  
CURRICULUM RESOURCES  
RESEARCH  
**ARCHIVES:**  
WRITTEN MATERIAL  
COLLECTIONS  
RESEARCH  
WW II LETTERS  
**GROVE:**  
CULTIVATION  
HISTORIC GARDENS  
PLANT PROPAGATION  
RESEARCH  
WEATHER ISSUES  
WATER ISSUES  
GROUND TESTING  
**HOUSE:**  
CLEANING  
FLOWER GARDENS

A ROOF TO SHADE DRIVER ON TRACTOR  
A GOLF CART THAT WORKS  
A TRUCK OR OTHER PULLING DEVICE  
AN ELECTRIC POLE SAW  
PRESSURE WASHER  
RAIN BARRELS FOR DOWNSPOUTS  
ELECTRICAL WIRING FOR THE PACKING HOUSE TO BRING IT TO CODE  
RAILINGS FOR THE PACKING HOUSE  
A SIGN BY THE ROAD WITH LETTERS WE CAN CHANGE  
WATER TANK

**THANK YOU MR. MIKE TELESCA OF MERRITT ISLAND FOR THE  
KIND DONATION OF A PINK ROSE CHINA SET!**

*Are you an architect or construction company looking  
for a new and different project? We have a wonderful  
Packing House from 1900 that could use some help.*

DOCENTS  
TEACH HISTORY!  
WE ARE CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR  
DOCENTS TO CONDUCT TOURS OF  
THE HOME FOR FIELD TRIPS, DAILY APPOINTMENTS,  
SPECIAL EVENTS,  
AND FUNDRAISERS.