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Sarasota County History Center launches Web site

Bertha Palmer, one of Sarasota County's most prominent historical figures, is featured in a new Web site developed by the Sarasota County History Center.

The Web site, www.scgov.net/historycenter, features links to hundreds of historical photographs, summaries of manuscript collections, and information on the area's history. Information on current exhibits at the Sarasota County History Center Museum, 701 North Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, also appears on the site

Arriving from her home in Chicago in 1910, Palmer helped establish Sarasota County as a destination for people seeking refuge from cold northern winters. She also maintained homes in Rhode Island, Paris and London. Traveling in the circles of the elite and wealthy, Palmer attracted her friends and business associates to Sarasota County.

"Bertha Palmer is responsible for so many advances in Sarasota County," said Lorrie Muldowney, preservation specialist with the Sarasota County History Center. "She was a visionary in business, farming, agriculture and sustainability. In a time when women did not have the same rights as men, Bertha Palmer was a leader that helped make Sarasota County what it is today."

The Sarasota County History Center collects information and artifacts related to the county. The History Center Museum at the Historic Chidsey Library Building is located at 701 N. Tamiami Trail in Sarasota, sharing the building with the Visitor Information Center. Permanent and rotating exhibits of the area's history are on display in the museum.

For more information contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000 or visit the Web site at

www.scgov.net/historycenter.

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