

Jan. 20, 2012

**Media contact:** Curt Preisser, 941-861-5884; cell 941-650-2883; [cpreisser@scgov.net](mailto:cpreisser@scgov.net)

**Project contact:** Amanda Dominguez, 941-650-1089; [adominqu@scgov.net](mailto:adominqu@scgov.net)

## Oral Histories Project explores real life gulf coast experiences

The popular Sarasota Oral Histories Project will be presented from 6-8 p.m., Friday, Jan. 27 at the Mildred Sainer Pavilion, 5313 Bay Shore Road, Sarasota, by Sarasota County Environmental Services, the Sarasota County History Center and students of New College.

The audio-visual presentation tells the stories of native and long time gulf coast residents, along with vintage photographs from the time periods in the stories. Residents were interviewed by students of New College who served as interns for Sarasota County.

“By preserving the memories of longtime residents and highlighting the important relationships that Floridians have with Florida’s natural resources, natives and newcomers can begin to understand Florida’s history,” said Amanda Dominguez, environmental specialist, Sarasota County Environmental Services. “It’s one thing to read about our history in books or see it on TV, it’s another to actually hear the stories from people who were there.”

An outdoor reception will follow the presentation where visitors can meet the students and learn more about the interview subjects.

For more information, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000 and ask about the Sarasota County Oral Histories Project.

-end-