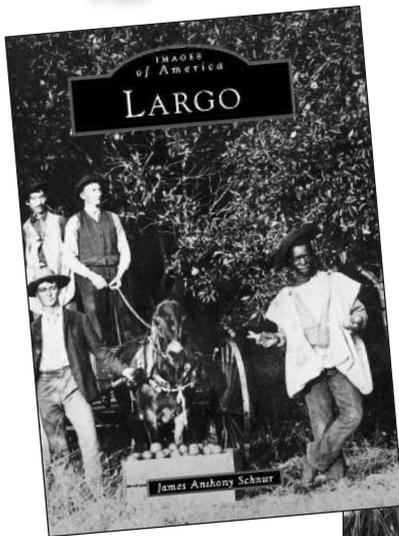


New Book Captures the Images of Largo and Benefits Heritage Village



During the summer, a representative from Arcadia Publishing contacted Heritage Village. Known for its popular soft-cover photographic histories, Arcadia expressed

considering notable trends during the past century. From its early years as "Citrus City" to its time as the "Fair City" with the annual county fair, Largo became a focal point for agricultural excellence along the Pinellas Peninsula. While St. Petersburg and Clearwater experienced the land boom of the early 1920s, citrus, crops, and livestock from the Largo area nourished the region's expanding population during the years before World War II.

By the 1950s, Largo's expansion and urbanization

transformed groves into subdivisions. Retirees and mobile home parks replaced truck farmers and fruit stands in the "Clean Air Capital." As Largo entered the new century, the "City of Progress" grew into the third most populous city at the crossroads of Florida's most densely populated county.

an interest in publishing a book on the history of Largo as part of its "Images of America" series.

Jim Schnur, an officer in the Pinellas County Historical Society, spent the summer and early fall writing the narrative and researching the photographic resources in the Archives and Library at Heritage Village. He completed his manuscript in October.

Slated for release in March 2011, the book's five chapters trace the history of settlement and development in the Largo area through the rich photographic archives at Heritage Village and other local libraries. Largo has served as an important center of agricultural and business activities since the arrival of the Orange Belt Railway in 1888. The opening chapter captures images of pioneer families and early settlements before Largo's incorporation in 1905.

The other four chapters examine Largo's history by



Jesse Ancil and Mary Adona Walsingham at their booth during an early Pinellas County Fair

Pines and Palmettos: A Portrait of Largo, Florida as a narrative history to commemorate Largo's centennial. Many of the docents and volunteers at Heritage Village also belong to other local historical societies, including our neighbors at the Largo Area Historical Society. We appreciate their support and patronage at the Village as well.

Revenues from the new *Largo* book will benefit Heritage Village. Schnur has directed Arcadia to send all of the author's royalties directly to PCHS so these funds can play a small but important role in supporting the Village.