

Did You Know...

Seminole Sun Dance

Hundreds of people danced down the center of Clematis Street during the inaugural Seminole Sun Dance in March 1916. Created to foster civic pride and provide economic stimulation to downtown West Palm Beach, it effectively expanded the tourist season which until then typically ended with the Washington Birthday Ball in February. The three-day event featured dancing, pageants, and parades. By 1919, participants could win \$15 cash awards for being the best dressed couple wearing Sundance colors, the best dressed as a Seminole male or female, and “fancy” dress. Members of the Seminole Indian Tribe performed traditional dances, marched in the parade, and sold hand-made goods during the affair. The last Seminole Sundance was held in March 1950.



Information from the files of the Historical Society of Palm Beach County.



Alfar Creamery

Alfar Creamery was founded in 1930 by Alf R. Nielsen, former president of Palm Beach Creamery Company. A \$125,000 plant was built at 456 Flamingo Drive. The vice president of Alfar Creamery was A.E. Parker of Bertana Farms. The creamery purchased milk from local dairies such as Pennock Plantation (Jupiter), Boynton Dairies of E.L. Winchester and Bertana, and E.E. Clark Dairy of Kelsey City (Lake Park). Local residents received fresh milk delivered in the white Alfar Creamery trucks daily. Nielsen's creamery merged with the local Lake Worth Boutwell Dairy in 1963 becoming Alfar-Boutwell and the fourth largest independently owned dairy in Florida. Boutwell Dairy was owned by William Boutwell who invented the process to make half and half. In

1965, Alf and Gordon Nielson bought the company from the three Boutwell family members George, his brother Arthur, and sister June for a million dollars. Within a few years, the company was sold to Orlando area T.G. Lee Dairy. By the 1970s, dairies in Palm Beach County were gone, the land too valuable for agriculture. Many have since been developed into residential and business centers.

Information from the files of the Historical Society of Palm Beach County and *The Palm Beach Post*.

The History behind the Name:

Apoxee (Ah-po-ee) Park: This City of West Palm Beach park is located about one mile north of the intersection of Okeechobee Boulevard and Jog Road. Apoxee is a Miccosukee word for “Beyond Tomorrow.”

Metal-ka-oska: This Seminole name for Lake Osborne translates to “thank you for the shining spirit fresh water lake that is there.” Lake Osborne, once larger than it is today, was named for a pioneer family. Before 1925 the spelling of Osborn was without an “e” however someone added an “e” to the name in 1925.

Plumosus City: This small town incorporated in 1929 along Center Street in Jupiter and was named for the *Asparagus Plumosus* (Asparagus fern) that was grown in ferneries in the area. The town was founded by disgruntled Jupiter residents because of high city taxes and a “speed trap.” Plumosus City encompassed the area of Center Street north to the Loxahatchee River and real estate property west of Delaware Boulevard and a sizable portion of Pennock Point. In 1959 the State Legislature abolished Plumosus City. What was once this small town of over 37 inhabitants now lies within the Jupiter city limits.