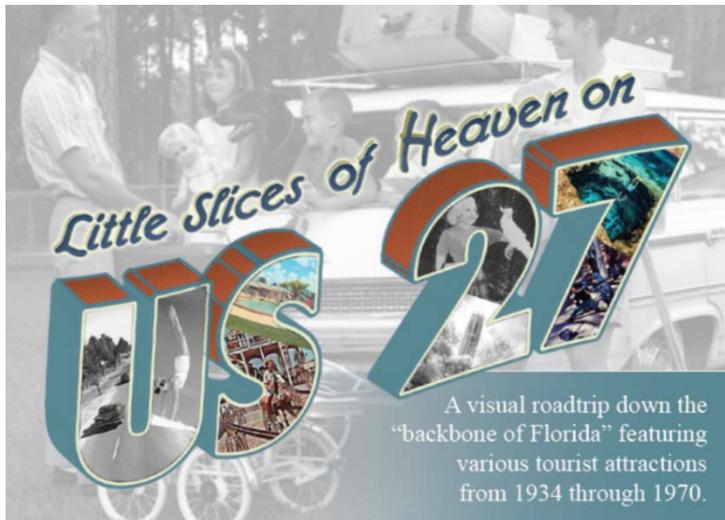


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New Tourism Exhibit at Lake Wales Museum

Featuring old-Florida tourist stops along US Highway 27



LAKE WALES, Florida – The Lake Wales Museum will host a new exhibit, **"Little Slices of Heaven on US 27,"** from July 10 – August 11, 2018.

Featuring old Florida tourist destinations along the state's interior US Highway 27, this exhibit is a road trip down memory lane. Following the development of US 27 in 1926, which runs from Miami to Fort Wayne, Indiana, it was designated the Claude Pepper Memorial Highway by the State of Florida, who was a long-time US Senator and congressman. US 27 was the state's principal highway for travelers to and from Florida. US Highway 27 is now one of the country's oldest, historic highways.

"US Highway 27 is the backbone of Florida's interior, and its history is intertwined with Polk County and the old-Florida tourism industry of the mid-twentieth century," states, Bartholomew Delcamp, curator of the Lake Wales Museum.

The "Little Slices of Heaven on US 27" exhibit will highlight the unique tourist attractions which developed over the 20th century in Florida spanning 500 miles throughout the middle of the state from Tallahassee to Miami. Tourists and travelers made their way along the highway, stopping at funky attractions, animal shows, natural springs, citrus grove stands, famous restaurants, hotels and other quirky destinations. The exhibit is a visual road-trip through bygone Florida with photos, videos, memorabilia, artifacts and art on loan by Florida artists and area historical museums.

"It's quirky, fun and what Florida summers are all about - hopping in the car for the day and finding little roadside treasures along the way," says Jennifer D'hollander, director of the museum."

The exhibit is produced by the South Florida State College Museum of Florida Art and Culture, where the debuted last month. It is now traveling throughout the state of Florida, and the Lake Wales Museum is the first stop. The exhibit is sponsored in part by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Highlands County TDC.



About the Lake Wales Museum

The Lake Wales Museum features historical exhibits, train cars, educational programs and group tours, and is open Tuesday – Saturday from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Admission is free. Parking is free and the first floor is accessible for persons with disabilities, wheelchairs and strollers. For more information contact the Lake Wales Museum, 325 S Scenic Highway, Lake Wales, Florida 33853; 863-676-1759 or visit www.cityoflakewales.com/439/Depot-Museum.