

CITY OF TAMARAC
TAMARAC HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Presents



48th ANNUAL

PIONEER DAY

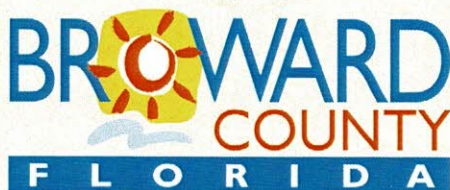
• HONORING BROWARD'S PIONEER SPIRIT •

TAMARAC COMMUNITY CENTER
8601 W Commercial Blvd, Tamarac, FL 33351

BROWARD.ORG/HISTORY

Congratulations!

*to the men and women who have been
selected as Broward County Pioneers*



*From the Broward County
Board of County Commissioners*

District 1
Nan H. Rich
Mayor

District 4
Lamar P. Fisher

District 7
Tim Ryan

District 2
Mark D. Bogen

District 5
Steve Geller

District 8
Robert McKinzie

District 3
Michael Udine

District 6
Beam Furr
Vice Mayor

District 9
Hazelle P. Rogers



presents



48th ANNUAL

PIONEER DAY

• HONORING BROWARD'S PIONEER SPIRIT •

HOSTED BY

THE CITY OF TAMARAC

48th Annual Pioneer Day Celebration
Tamarac Community Center,
8601 W Commercial Blvd, Tamarac, FL 33351
Saturday, November 9

TAMARAC



The City For Your Life



Broward.org/History



Since the first Pioneer Day in 1973, more than 2000 local residents and organizations have been recognized.

This year, we are honored to have the City of Tamarac as our host community as we take time to reflect, honor and recognize Broward's residents of note.

We reflect on our past history, people, events and milestones. We celebrate our common heritage, history and culture which bind us together as residents; communities; and as a County Family. We honor those who have contributed in many meaningful ways to our growth and life, place and collective story. And lastly, we take time to recognize that the past is alive and very much a part of us, as we cannot succeed in the Future without recognizing that we have a real and living past.

I want to congratulate each Pioneer and special Award recipient today for having made an impact. Thank you for not letting us forget and for showing that what is "Old comes back as New" and what is "New gets Old." We should never forget who we are, where we came from and what we've done to build a better Broward County.

Sincerely,

Nan Rich

Senator Nan Rich
Broward County Mayor





Welcome to Tamarac!

We're thrilled to have you join us as we celebrate Pioneer Day 2024! It's an honor to host this year's festivities and to recognize the remarkable history-makers who have shaped our community and all of Broward County.

We are incredibly proud of this year's honorees. Your dedication and achievements have made an enduring mark—not only in your local communities but throughout the county. You carry forward our past with pride and inspire future generations to keep building on it.

Here in Tamarac, we are fortunate to have our own champion of history, Barbara Tarnove, President of the Tamarac Historical Society. With over 15 years of commitment to Our City, Barbara has helped our community stay connected to its roots, making sure Tamarac's history is celebrated, preserved and shared with all.

As we reflect on Tamarac's rich history, rooted in growth and community spirit, we celebrate the passion and commitment of those who paved the way. We're dedicated to preserving Tamarac's legacy as we look toward a bright, thriving future.

Thank you for celebrating with us, and congratulations again to each of our honorees—you make us proud!



Michelle J. Gomez
Mayor, City of Tamarac

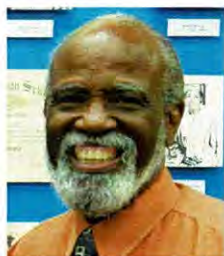


TAMARAC

The City For Your Life

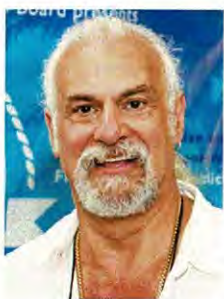
BROWARD COUNTY

HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD



DEREK T. DAVIS, Chair (Miramar)

Davis is the former Curator of the Old Dillard Museum in Fort Lauderdale, developing cultural and educational programs at a historic schoolhouse listed on the National Register of Historic Sites, built as the first public school building for blacks in Broward County. His work includes organizing exhibitions, administering musical concerts, managing collaborations with cultural organizations, facilitating policies and procedures for non-profit fundraising organizations, conducting tours, overseeing website development and managing the museum staff. As a high school student during the period of racial protests in the late 1960s, he wrote a play, "Black Search for the Future" that was lauded, videotaped by Channel 10 and viewed all over South Florida. He's worked for The Miami Herald, the Black Archives History and Research Center, the African American Research Library, and Broward County Schools. He received his Bachelor's Degree in Mass Communications from Florida Atlantic University. Appointed by former Commissioner Dale V.C. Holness, Derek Davis serves as a Member of the Board and fills the professional category of Conservation or Curation.



JEFFREY SCHWARTZ, Vice Chair (Parkland)

Jeff Schwartz is the President of the Parkland Historical Society. In this capacity, he was directly involved with creating and burying the Parkland time capsule, scheduled to be opened on the city's 100 year anniversary. He initiated the city's historical marker program, identifying and marking sites as well as educating public visitors, and was critical in getting the city's first book on the History of Parkland, Florida, written and published. A world traveler, he has been to almost 100 countries, for both work and personal enjoyment. He received his Bachelors of Geology from City University New York, York College, and followed up with a Lamont Doherty Geological Observatory Fellowship in Geophysics at Columbia University. Appointed by Commissioner Michael Udine, Jeff Schwartz serves as a Member of the Board and fills the professional category of Historic Preservation.


DANIEL J. STALLONE Member (Davie)

Daniel Stallone is the Town of Davie's Police Code Compliance Official, where he oversees the Code Compliance Division and enforces the Town's Code of Ordinances, municipal codes and regulations in land use. Daniel holds a Bachelor's degree in Geology from the University of Dayton, Ohio; a Master's degree in Public Administration from Florida Atlantic University and a Juris Doctorate from Nova Southeastern University. Currently, he is completing his Dissertation

for a Ph.D. in Conflict Analysis and Resolution. He is also completing an online Bachelor's degree in Anthropology with the University of Florida. Appointed by Commissioner Steve Geller, Mr. Stallone serves as a Member of the Board and fills the professional category of Historic Preservation Planning and Land Use.


**CYNTHIA STRACHAN SAUNDERS,
 Member (West Park)**

Cynthia Strachan Saunders is a vocalist, songwriter, actress, community historian, curator of local community history and author. As a vocalist known as "Jus' Cynthia", her debut CD is a collection of smooth jazz and contemporary songs. Her debut book, a pictorial and written oral history of the first decade of Carver Ranches, stemmed from her grandparents, who were original pioneers of the area. She currently owns,

occupies, and maintains the first Broward County-designated historical site and operates a community history museum on the site. Cynthia has added "Author" to her list of sobriquets with Promises from the Palmetto Bush, the Genesis of Carver Ranches. Appointed by former Commissioner Barbara Sharief, Cynthia Saunders serves as a Member of the Historic Preservation Board and fills the professional category of History or Folklore.

The BROWARD COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD collects, arranges, records, preserves and maintains in its archives, museums, libraries, historical artifacts, data, and all other objects and material illustrative of and relating to the history and archaeology of Broward County and of Florida.

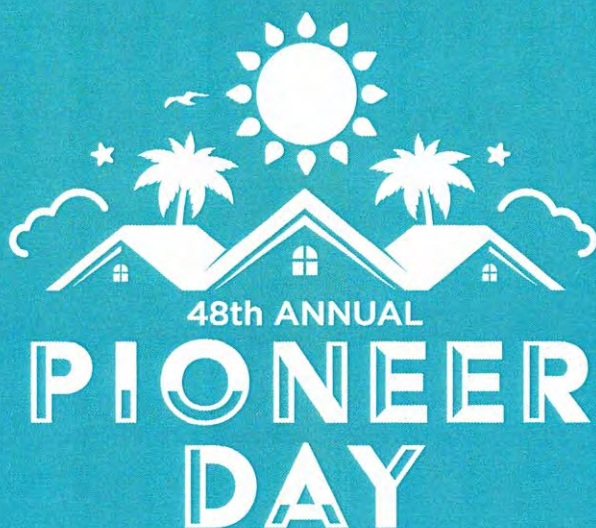
**KIM WEISMANTLE, Member (Davie)**

Kim Weismantle, a Davie native, is the Education Director at the Old Davie School Historical Museum. After earning a Bachelor's in Recreation and Leisure Management and a Masters in Public History from FSU, she has showcased Davie's history through exhibits and programs at the Old Davie School Historical Museum since 2013. Her contributions include developing a historic walking tour, initiating the ODSHM Oral History Project, publishing "Images of America: Davie" in 2021, and welcoming over 5,000 students annually for the interactive Step Back in Time field trip program. Kim is dedicated to the ongoing research of west Broward's twentieth-century history, including the Everglades, agricultural changes, and Davie's evolving community. In 2023, she was appointed by Commissioner Lamar P. Fisher to the Historic Preservation Board, filling the professional category of historic preservation.

**ANTHONY ABBATE, Member (Fort Lauderdale)**

Anthony Abbate is a Professor at Florida Atlantic University's School of Architecture and former Associate Provost for the Broward Campuses. An NCARB-certified architect in Florida and New York, he holds a Master of Architecture from Washington University and a Bachelor of Science in Architecture from the Catholic University of America. Abbate has received several accolades, including the 2014 William G. McMinn Award for Outstanding Architectural Education, the Arango Design Award in 2000, and Washington University's Distinguished Alumni Award in 1995, along with 25 awards from the American Institute of Architects.

He has served as chair of the Broward County Cultural Council, the City of Fort Lauderdale's Sustainability Advisory Board and the Beach Redevelopment Advisory Board (BRAB). He is also a past president of the Rotary Club of Fort Lauderdale. Currently, he serves on the boards of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce and Hispanic Unity of Florida. Appointed in 2019 by Commissioner Tim Ryan, he also serves as a member of the Board in the Licensed Architect category.



OUR 2024
PIONEER
HONOREES

DR. RAMONA LA ROCHE



RAMONA LA ROCHE, Ph.D. examines Cultural Heritage Informatics through librarianship, critical community archives, arts, and genealogy related to coastal Florida, low country South Carolina, Barbados, and other Caribbean territories. Her digital humanities work includes virtual reality projects like the Harlem Renaissance virtual reality traveling exhibit and "Threads: An Interactive Map Exploring Broward's Black History".



In addition to her responsibilities as the head of Adult Information Services at the African American Research Library and Cultural Center, Dr. La Roche has also acquired the Love-Thornell vintage photographs, and processed the Alan Bell BLK LGBTQ magazine and African American Success Academy collections.

A former Institute of Library and Museum Services (ILMS) Cultural Heritage Informatics Leadership (CHIL) Fellow recipient, Dr. La Roche attended University of South Carolina's School of Library and Information Science in Columbia, South Carolina. She's an art K teacher, an author, an accomplished photographer and multimedia artist.

*Nominated by African American Research
Library and Cultural Center (Pictured)*



AFRICAN AMERICAN RESEARCH LIBRARY AND CULTURAL CENTER

60,000 sq ft jewel, only the third of its kind in the U.S. A main library and a unique children's library with more Black history books and books written by Blacks than any other facility in the country. The auditorium and exhibit areas provide opportunities to exchange ideas and cultural values as well as promote an understanding and appreciation of the contributions of persons of African descent. Read more at aarlcc.broward.org

LOUISE YVONNE REID SUMLIN-GARVIN



MRS. SUMLIN-GARVIN graduated from Dillard High School in 1958. Following her early retirement from Bell South, Mrs. Sumlin-Garvin attended Florida Atlantic University to earn a degree in education. Additionally, Mrs. Sumlin-Garvin was a Licensed Life, Health, and Annuity Insurance Agent in the state of Florida.



During Yvonne's early years, her parents purchased property and built the first house in the third addition of Washington Park in Ft. Lauderdale. In the community, Mrs. Sumlin-Garvin served as President of the Women's Missionary Society at Williams Memorial CME Church for over ten years.

Mrs. Sumlin-Garvin served as BSO's District 5 Community Council Vice President, Correspondence Secretary for Washington Park Civic Association, and Youth Director. Her dedication was evident in her role as a neighborhood campaigner, where she played a vital role in collaborating and initiating the push for Washington Park neighborhood improvement through the Washington Park Neighborhood Enhancement and Preservation Plan.

*Nominated by
Broward Municipal Services District (BMSD)*

BROWARD MUNICIPAL SERVICES DISTRICT

Broward Municipal Services District or BMSD, is defined as the unincorporated areas of Broward County, which includes the communities of Roosevelt Gardens, Broadview Park, Boulevard Gardens, Washington Park, and Franklin Park. The BMSD area is not served by any of the County's 31 cities; instead County acts as the municipal government for the BMSD. Read more at [BMSD.Broward.org](https://www.broward.org/BMSD)



DR. KITTY OLIVER



DR. ELOISE "KITTY" OLIVER is a veteran South Florida journalist, author, professional jazz singer, and professor of creative nonfiction, memoir writing, and oral history. Since the 1970s she has been documenting our local history, and exploring cultural diversity, race, and ethnicity through her work.



Dr. Oliver was born on December 16, 1947 in Jacksonville, Florida. She attended college at the University of Florida and studied English. She graduated in 1969 and moved to Broward County in 1970. She has a Master of Fine Arts degree in Creative Writing from Florida International University, and in 2009 she completed a Ph.D. in Comparative Studies focusing on race and ethnic communication at Florida Atlantic University.

From 1971 until 1990, Kitty Oliver worked as a reporter and columnist for the Miami Herald where she chronicled the history of the Black community in South Florida, including Provident Hospital, Dr. Von Mizell and Dr. James Sistrunk, Eula Johnson, and Samuel Morrison.

Dr. Oliver continues to conduct community oral history field work and is a member of the Oral History Association. As the director of the Race and Change Initiative at Florida Atlantic University, she has produced the radio webcasts "Voices of Race and Change" and "Voices of Race and Change: The Younger Generation."

*Nominated by
Broward County Libraries Special
Collections*

BROWARD LIBRARY SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Broward County Libraries maintain special collections and archives including but not limited to, documents, photographs, artifacts, artwork and rare books. Collections' materials can be viewed online and in-person by appointment.



DAN HOBBY



DAN HOBBY's passion for history was sparked early, as family vacations often included visits to every battlefield and historic site his father could find. In 1979, Dan moved to South Florida and became the Executive Director of the Fort Lauderdale Historical Society, a role he held for 20 years. During this time, the historic Sample-McDougald House was undergoing preservation efforts, and Dan was appointed Executive Director of the Sample-McDougald House Preservation

Society and the Pompano Beach Historical Society.

Under his leadership, the house was relocated from Dixie Highway to its current site on NE 10th Street in Pompano Beach, where it now serves as a historic museum.

An educator, historian, and philanthropist, Dan has authored six books on local history, including *Images of America: Fort Lauderdale* (with Susan Gillis), *Lighthouse Point: The First Fifty Years*, *Pompano Beach: A History of Pioneers and Progress*, and *Images of America: Coconut Creek*. He has also written numerous articles on local history for various publications.

Dan has been a resident of Coconut Creek for 44 years, where he lives with his wife, Brenda, and where they raised their children, Corynn and Danny. Over the years, he has served on several boards in Coconut Creek, including the Youth Sports Advisory Board, the Redistricting Board, the Economic Development Board, and the Library Board.

*Nominated by
City of Coconut Creek*

COCONUT CREEK

The city took its name from the coconut trees, that were planted in the area by early developers. Robert E. Bateman, one of the developers, named Coconut Creek after combining the names of Miami-Dade County's village of Indian Creek and the Miami neighborhood of Coconut Grove.



Sample-McDougald House is a 4,700 square foot historic home built in 1916.

CHARLES (CHARLIE) VEGA

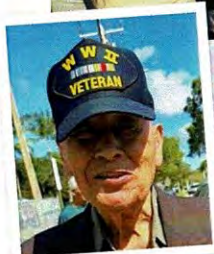


CHARLIE VEGA is a longtime member of the Broward 10-13 Club, a nonprofit fraternal organization consisting of all ranks of police officers from the New York City Police Department. He is also a member of the Organization of Retired New York City Police Officers (Tamarac) and a previous active member American Legion Cooper City Fl



He loves family, friends, telling stories and dancing. Not that long ago, you would find Charlie and his wife Lucy dancing away at the Broward 10-13 Club dinner dance nights. Kindness, love and dancing was their thing together.

Today at 96yrs old you may still find him dancing when the music is on at the Cooper City Community Center.



Nominated by City of Cooper City

COOPER CITY

The City of Cooper City is a municipal corporation created by Special Act of the Florida Legislature on June 20, 1959. Located approximately fifteen miles southwest of Fort Lauderdale, this 8.5 square mile bedroom community has the fourth highest median household income in Broward County. With an estimated population of 30,074, the average age of residents is 32.5 years.



With three elementary schools, one middle school and one high school, as well as several private and religious-affiliated schools, and an abundance of parks, recreational facilities and programs for all ages, Cooper City has long been known as an excellent place to "grow families".

BRIAN WALSH, SR.



BRIAN WALSH SR. is an exceptional candidate for the Coral Springs Pioneer of the Year award, distinguished not only by his role as the owner of Wings Plus but also by his unwavering dedication to the community. A retired law enforcement officer, Walsh has seamlessly channeled his commitment to public service into his business, consistently supporting

public safety through various fundraisers and activities.

His service on the Community Redevelopment Agency Board underscores his understanding of the importance of economic development and growth in Coral Springs. Operating his family-owned restaurant for 36 years and residing in the Cypress Glen community since 1987, Walsh has made a profound and enduring impact on the city. His Coral Springs locations include Wings Plus Sample Road, which opened in 1988, and Wings Plus Ramblewood, which opened in 1998. His entire family is involved in the business, reinforcing his deep-rooted connection to the city he holds dear.

Nominated by City of Coral Springs

CORAL SPRINGS

More than 55 years ago, successful Fort Lauderdale builders, James S. Hunt and Joe Taravella of Coral Ridge Properties, had the vision to create a planned city from the ground up that they named Coral Springs.

The first land purchase was for \$1M for 3,860 acres of green bean crops and cattle fields. To draw interest in the land that was sometimes considered "too far out", they constructed a covered bridge and recruited talk show host Johnny Carson for a land sale BBQ.



KATHERINE EILEEN KAY



KATHY KAY was born and raised here in Dania Beach with sisters Diana and Helen. Kathy, a former Tomato Day Princess (aged 10 years old) worked as a cashier at the T&T Grocery Store, where she would meet her husband Ted Kay, before attending University of South Florida and the University of Miami Medical Tech School.

Kathy's great Grandfather was the 'Founder of Dania' Andrew Christian 'AC' Frost, a Danish-born pioneer who moved to South Florida in 1899. AC Frost went on to incorporate the community under the name Dania, which reflected the Danish origin of most of its settlers at that time. By 1917 the Frost family, led by Kathy's grandfather Martin C (MC Frost), would help establish Dania as a prominent tomato grower and exporter, as swamplands were rapidly replaced by vegetable farms.



"As the great-granddaughter of Andrew Christian Frost, I was encouraged to work for the betterment of the community. Participation in community events and volunteerism was the way to do this. There were many examples of Dania Beach memories with my family." - Katherine Kay

*Nominated by City of Dania Beach /
Dania Beach Historical
Society & Museum, Inc.*

DANIA BEACH

Dania Beach is Broward County's first city. The historic roots of the first city in Broward County date back to the 1880's, when 12 Danish families moved from Chicago to settle there in 1898-1899. Three years later, 30 Danes were recruited from Oconto, Wisconsin to colonize the settlement, and the first home was built by A.C. Frost, for whom a park is now named. When the Town was incorporated in November 1904, its 35 residents changed the name from Modello to Dania.



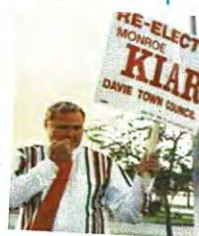
Frost proudly displays the American flag in 1918 before his Dania home. With him are all his children and grandchildren including Kathy Kay's mother Jeanette Frost Eby.

MONROE DAVID FRANKLIN KIAR



MONROE DAVID FRANKLIN KIAR moved from New York in the 1970s to pursue his dream of becoming an attorney. He and his family then relocated to Davie in 1984 where he started a partnership. Monroe still resides in the same home today, which he fondly calls Davie Oaks. In 1987, Monroe became a Town of Davie Council Member, Vice Mayor, and Mayor for ten years. During his time on the Town Council, Monroe played a significant role in creating recreational trails, preserving

land, constructing fire stations and parks, and promoting sustainable growth.



Following his tenure on the Town Council, Monroe served as the Town's Attorney for seven years. Subsequently, Value Adjustment Board of Broward County hired him as their Special Magistrate and then attorney. Monroe takes pride in his three children (Casey, Marty, and Marc), all of whom hold occupations in public service. Monroe also has two daughters-in-law and five grandchildren. Now retired, Monroe enjoys volunteering with local organizations and spending time with his family. He is committed to being a lifelong resident of Davie and grateful for the opportunity to make a lasting impact on the community he loves.

Old Davie School Historical Museum

*Nominated by
The Town of Davie*

DAVIE

The wilderness of the Everglades slowly gave way to farmland as the dredging of canals began in South Florida. In 1908, Robert Parsell (R.P.) Davie purchased 28,000 acres of land in the Everglades and organized an experimental farm to demonstrate the possibilities of the new farmland, enticing pioneers from around the world. This included a group of Americans returning from the Panama Canal Zone, who called their settlement 'Zona'. In 1914 the new residents voted together on the name 'Davie' after the original developer and the Davie Experimental Farm.



JEFF FISK



"The first time I visited Broward County was in 1961. My father's oldest brother, James Fisk and family had moved to Hollywood. Our family vacationed in Sebring and Hollywood every year until moving to Deerfield beach in 1967.

Deerfield beach was a sleepy little town with a lot of vacant land just waiting for a 7-year-old boy to explore. My interest in history started when I was about 5 years old and moving to Broward county piqued my historical inquisitiveness. I asked a lot of questions and have heard many stories over the last 57 years.



The summers when restaurants and motels would board up every spring are long gone, but I can still picture that in my mind. The many farms and ranches that have been replaced with shopping centers and sub divisions are fresh in my memories.

This was and is a wonderful place to live and sharing our history hopefully gives our recent residents a sense of historical depth that i cherish so much"

- JEFF FISK

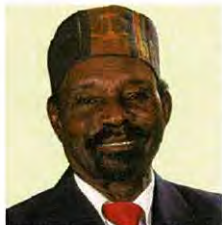
*Nominated by
The Deerfield Beach Historical Society*

DEERFIELD
BEACH

The Town of Deerfield was incorporated on June 11, 1925, a year that also saw the opening of the first public library, which was serving a population that had climbed to 1,300 residents. In 1939, the name of the town was changed to Deerfield Beach and the population numbered about 1,800. Although primarily an agricultural community until the late 1940s, after WWII tourists began to discover Deerfield's scenic oceanfront.

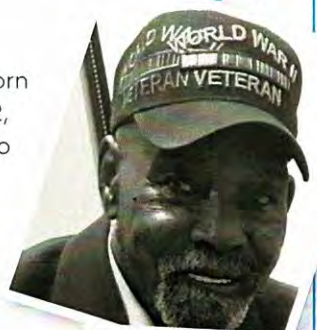


GEORGE BURROWS



GEORGE L. BURROWS, SR. was born in Fort Lauderdale on November 12, 1926. The 6th of 14 children born to Bahamian immigrants his parents worked a farm in Deerfield, to make a living and provide food for the family. George attended Old Dillard School located right

across from his home on 10th Avenue. After serving in the US Marine Corp and completing his electrical vocational education at Bethune-Cookman college, he returned to Fort Lauderdale in 1948 to establish the Burrows Electric Company, which continues to operate today under the leadership of his youngest daughter Sonya Burrows.



In 1949 George along with several other black entrepreneurs founded the Fort Lauderdale Negro Chamber of Commerce, where he served as Vice President under Roy Mizell until 1991, before being serving as President until the age of 89. Mr. Burrows served under the appointment of Governor Reubin Askew on the State of Florida Electrical Advisory Board, was a life-time member of the NAACP, a member of Phi Beta Sigma fraternity, a member of the Masonic Lodge and an active member of St. Christopher's Episcopal Church. He has been a role model and mentor to many young men and women, and he has lived his entire life making a difference in Fort Lauderdale and Broward County. George has received numerous awards down through the years for his service and dedication to community.

Nominated by City of Fort Lauderdale

FORT
LAUDERDALE

The City of Fort Lauderdale is named for a Second Seminole War fortification built on the banks of the New River in 1838. The city was incorporated in 1911, and in 1915 was designated the county seat of newly formed Broward County.





DIANE MARIE KING



DIANE MARIE KING moved from Central Florida to Broward County in 1978 when State Road 84 was a two lane road and Broward Mall had its grand opening. Her entire professional career and volunteer activities have been in service to the community.

She earned her B.A. in Psychology at FAU in 1980, and worked with the Florida Department of Children and Families, and Broward County's Community Care for the Elderly. After coordinating Accessibility Services and V.A. Benefits at Broward College, she changed her career path from Social Services to Librarianship, earning her M.A. in Library and Information Science in 1991. She worked with Broward County Library for a total of 25 years.



For 2 years, she was a Media Specialist with Broward County Schools. When she was a Stay at Home Parent, she was a Room Mom and classroom volunteer, and a Director with her local Friends of the Library. After retiring early in 2020, she has devoted her research skills to the Genealogical Society of Broward County, the Florida State Genealogical Society, and is a volunteer with 'Find a Grave'.

Nominated by the Genealogical Society of Broward County

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF BROWARD COUNTY

The Genealogical Society of Broward County had its beginning in 1967 when five people attended an organizational meeting. Rapid growth began in the mid-1970's with the Bicentennial and with Alex Haley's novel ROOTS, putting emphasis on history and family history.



By the late 1970's, the Society had over a hundred members and was meeting in a courtroom of the Broward County Courthouse. In 1977 the Genealogical Society of Broward County was chartered as a non-profit cultural organization.

ROSITTA E. KENIGSBERG



To know **ROSITTA KENIGSBERG**, is to know her work. During the past 43 years, Ms. Kenigsberg has been invited to speak at numerous events, programs, conferences, institutes, and assemblies at home and abroad.



For a decade, from 1984 -1994, Rositta spearheaded the effort which finally resulted in the passage of the State of Florida Statute 1003.42 which was signed into law in April 1994. This funded legislation that she drafted mandates Holocaust Education for all Florida students from K-20 and provides teacher training and resources. For over two decades, Ms. Kenigsberg has been a leading advocate nationally and internationally to secure Long-Term Home Health Care for the Aging Holocaust Survivor.

The Kenigsberg family on the CBS game show Family Feud: a show they passionately watched from their Hallandale Beach home

She has been recognized by the Urban League of Broward County for "extraordinary achievements in social justice and race relations" and was presented with the Margaret Roach Humanitarian Award.

Nominated by City of Hallandale Beach

HALLANDALE BEACH

Hallandale Beach, like most of Broward County, had no permanent European-descended population until the end of the 19th century. Seminole Indians, in settlements that lay inland of the Atlantic shore, hunted in the area and gathered coontie roots to produce arrowroot starch. The northern edge of Hallandale Beach (along Pembroke Road) still features noticeable hammocks, points elevated above sea level in the distant past. The city is named after Luther Halland, the son of a Swedish worker for Henry Flagler's Florida East Coast Railroad.



STEVEN TOTH



"My grandparents, Elvis Dickens and Charlotte Dickens, moved to Hollywood in the early 1930's and purchased 10 acres of land for \$2500. They were farmers and had a flower shop on Pembroke Road from the 1930's to the 1970's. My mother Sandra Dickens Toth was born at Doctor's Hospital on Van Buren Street in 1940 and died in the same building in 2016. It is now Kindred Hospital South Florida.

My mom and aunts went to Hollywood Central Elementary and South Broward High School. I went to McArthur High School and worked at Record Haven across the street.

My wife and I have lived in Downtown Hollywood since 1989. Our home since 1998 in the Parkside area was built in 1925. We were at the 2 Live Crew show when Nick Navarro busted them in Hollywood. The county lost the case.



I have been involved in music as a singer/songwriter since 1999 and have made 7 full length albums. I have written songs about the "East Coast Railway" and have an instrumental song titled "Tour de Hotown" as an ode to my bicycle rides to Dania Beach Pier and back. From the shore to the Sportatorium, from county line to county line I have either played baseball, golfed or rode my bicycle around every neighborhood. All in my 60 years of existence in Broward County." - STEVEN TOTH

*Nominated by
Hollywood Historical Society*

CITY OF HOLLYWOOD

From its formal incorporation by adoption of a municipal charter on November 28, 1925, the City of Hollywood has transformed itself. Beginning as an undeveloped tract of pine forests, palmetto plants, and tangled undergrowth interspersed with tomato farms and low lying marshland, it has become the second-most populated city in Broward County and the ninth largest city in the State of Florida.



JOAN GARRETT



In 1976, her sons grown, **JOAN GARRETT** and her husband, Bill, relocated to Poinciana Street Lauderdale-by-the-Sea (LBTS). She now has 5 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren. She worked a whole range roles in the town, from the Police Department to the Parking Department, ultimately becoming Supervisor until retirement in 2012 at age 78. Following her retirement, Joan joined the LBTS Citizens on Patrol (COP) and now, aged 90, she is now a Lieutenant in COP.



For over 20 years Joan has collected thousands of toys for children who might not otherwise have been visited by Santa. Each year she collects hundreds of toys from the donation stations and transports them to 4 Children's Sake and Community Unity charities. Until Covid 19 arrived, Joan also volunteered at the Emergency Room at Broward Imperial Point Hospital where she assisted patients. Today Joan is a happy and fun-loving Mom, Grandma, Great Grandma and friend; and at 90 years of age, she continues to live her life to the fullest!

Nominated by the Town of Lauderdale-By-The-Sea

LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA

The Town of Lauderdale-By-The-Sea traces its roots to the 1920s. In February 1924, developer William F. Morang, a Boston businessman, purchased and platted the property of Lauderdale-By-The-Sea from Henry S. Moody and John C. Gregory.



Incorporated on November 30, 1927 Lauderdale-By-The-Sea strived to maintain its small charm and ocean views by severely limiting building heights in 1973, which it still does to this day. Recognized by the Florida Legislature in 2016 for its near-shore coral reefs and efforts to promote scuba diving, the town is known as Florida's Beach Diving Capital.

SHERYL ANN DICKEY



SHERYL ANN DICKEY vacationed in Broward County during the Christmas and New Year Holidays 1991-1992 and fell in love with the area. While working for the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority in Ohio she saw an advertisement from the City of Fort Lauderdale requesting resumes for the position of Economic Development Director and applied. She got the job! She held that position for nearly 2

years before joining the Blockbuster Park team of the late Wayne Huizenga Sr.

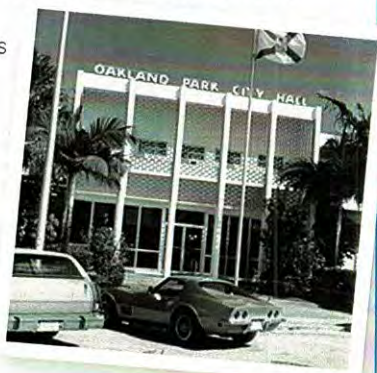


By 1995 Dickey Consulting Services was established as a public outreach/community engagement, economic development, and project management firm. In 2010, Ms. Dickey developed and built Midtown Commerce Center a 11,792 SF Silver LEED building for her business as well as arts, cultural and other creative industries. DCS has since provided infrastructure services to federal, state and municipal governments (transportation, water and wastewater, resiliency and housing) for going on 30 years.

A community activist for the Sistrunk Boulevard area and a member of Saint John United Methodist Church since 1992

Ms. Dickey has numerous recognitions and awards for her social and civic achievements.

Nominated by the City of Oakland Park



OAKLAND PARK

Located in the geographic center of eastern Broward County, bustling Oakland Park claimed 27,000 residents by the early 1990s.

Incorporated first as the City of Floranada in 1925, and four years later, as the City of Oakland Park. Fifty years ago, Oakland Park was overwhelmingly rural and contained just 815 residents; cows and hogs still strayed on to the city's primitive roads. Today Oakland Park has a 2024 population of 44,092.

CHRISTINE HUNSCHOFSKY



As a mother of two sons **CHRISTINE HUNSCHOFSKY** joined the Parkland/Coconut Creek MOMS club and later served on their board and contributed reports to Parkland Life Magazine - events that played a significant role in her wanting to serve in an elected position in Parkland.

After serving on several city committees, in 2013 she won her first election to the city commission and became mayor in 2016. Hunschofsky was at the helm of the City of Parkland during one of the worst school shooting massacres in the country resulting in the deaths of 17 students and staff members at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School.

In 2020 she was elected to the State of Florida House, and today represents District 95 which includes Parkland, Coconut Creek, Margate, and parts of Coral Springs. The first Parkland resident to have that position, her years of dedication in service to her Parkland community in multiple leadership capacities and her incredible devotion to Broward County and its residents make her an exemplary choice as a Broward County Pioneer.

*Nominated by City of Parkland and the
Parkland Historical Society*

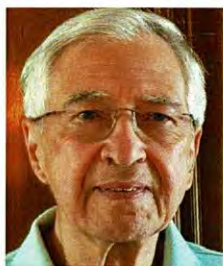
PARKLAND

In the early-1960s, Bruce Barnett Blount, from Mississippi, inherited land in the northwest corner of Broward County from his parents. He had a vision to form a city on a portion of the land he owned, even though in 1963 Parkland had about 22 citizens and a total of nine homes.



In the late 1970s Narco Realty developed the land called Parkland Lakes Planned Unit Development (also known as Cypress Head), and built a \$75,000 City Hall ("Old" City Hall at Holmberg and Park Side Drive). Parkland became ready for the housing boom in 1982, when an upgraded Holmberg Road was extended further west, with traffic circles and traffic lights.

GEORGE KOREN



Born on July 1, 1944, in Albany, New York, **GEORGE KOREN**'s family relocated to Broward County, specifically Hollywood, Florida, while George was serving in the United States Air Force from 1962 to 1974, where he was honored with two Air Force Commendation Medals. He also pursued higher education through the University of Maryland and received equipment and supervisory training at the



Non-Commissioned Officer Academy.

Following his military service, George embarked on a 28-year career with AT&T, where he played a crucial role in managing communications for Air Force One. He helped establish temporary communications for disaster recovery efforts in the Southern Area. Notably, he contributed to the restoration of communications after Hurricane Andrew devastated South Florida in 1992. George retired from AT&T as an "AT&T Pioneer."

*Nominated by
City of Pembroke Pines*

PEMBROKE PINES

The City's name, Pembroke Pines, is traced back to Sir Edward Reed, a Member of Britain's Parliament for the County of Pembroke in 1874, who purchased and farmed land in the 1880s which today occupies much of what is now the nearby city of Dania Beach. The road put through his land came to be known as Pembroke Road. In 1943 Henry D. Perry, a dairy farmer, sold 640 acres of his land to the United States Navy for a flight training field that is known today as North Perry Airport. Broward County acquired the airport from the Navy in 1950 and a steady growth from families and retired servicemen began in Pembroke Pines.



JENNIFER MCGONIGLE-COLLINS



JENNIFER MCGONIGLE-COLLINS began her 31 year career as an interpreter in Tampa, returning to Plantation as an interpreter and teacher where South Plantation High School was the first Broward school to offer Sign Language classes. She married her husband Mike at St. Gregory's Catholic Church and started a family, raising two children in Plantation, with both also attending her childhood schools.

"I believe my living in the City of Plantation and the schools I attended, helped me establish deep roots in the community. The schools played a significant role in shaping my educational and personal development. My parents were my support as I attended St. Gregory's Catholic Church and played softball with the Plantation Athletic League (PAL) with my dad as my coach every year, fostering my athletic skills and friendships."

- Jennifer McGonigle-Collins



*Nominated by
Plantation Historical Society*

PLANTATION
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

In 1974 a small group of woman formed the Plantation Historical Society (PHS) to preserve the history and archives of our community. The first meeting was held in Genevieve Veltri's home and she was elected as the first President. Since 1974, the Plantation Historical Society has dedicated its time and resources to preserving the City's history. The group has educated and enlightened residents and visitors from around the world about our history and those who have worked to make Plantation, "Your Place in the Sun." We are always searching for dedicated individuals to be part of this exciting journey of studying the past and documenting the present for future generations.



WALTER WILLIAM CLARK, JR.



WALTER WILLIAM CLARK, JR. has always been a leader in the Pompano Beach community. Upon graduating from high school and college, he dedicated his life to helping others especially the youth.

He served as head basket ball coach for six years at Blanche Ely High School. He would often volunteer his time assisting the little league athletic teams. He dedicated a lot of time also working in church serving on

the deacon Board.

In addition, he worked very hard with his Fraternity's non-profit foundation delivering turkeys to families and toys to needy children. He is always willing to pray and serve. Currently, he volunteer with bus duty at his daughter's successful daycare center tendering to the children of the community. He is truly a community PIONEER.

Nominated by Pompano Beach Historical Society

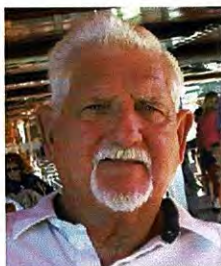
POMPANO BEACH

Pompano Beach celebrated the 100th anniversary of its incorporation on July 3, 2008. It is the second oldest city in Broward County, and the fifth oldest in all of South Florida. Only Key West, West Palm Beach, Miami and Dania Beach became municipalities earlier than Pompano (the "Beach" came later).



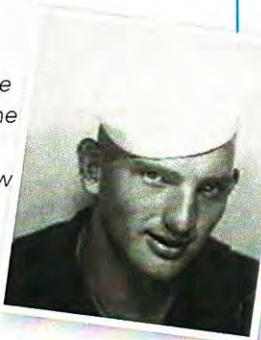
Other than Key West, which by the 1820s was already an important port and city, the towns of southeast Florida came into being because of the railroad. In 1896, Henry Flagler decided to extend his Florida East Coast Railway south from West Palm Beach to Miami, opening up land that heretofore had been a virtual wilderness.

ROBERT H. PARKER



ROBERT PARKER bought property in Sunshine Ranches in 1969, and in following years several of his Electrician friends bought property here and helped each other build their homes.

"We moved in the house in 1974 and have lived here ever since. We named our home "The Oleo Ranch". One of the cheaper spreads - if you are over 50, you will know what that means." - Robert H. Parker



Bob was on the Executive Board of Local 349 Electrical Union for about 30 years. He volunteered to help our Council to put out their flyers to make our Town Council one of the best in Broward County. If anyone was sick or in the hospital, he would either go see them or make sure he called to see how they were.

Bob loves to cruise around Sunshine Ranches and pick up all the trash and cans that people would throw out to keep our area clean. Everybody knows him. When he was unable to do it anymore, everyone always asked if he was ok. He also volunteered for 30 years to handle the membership of SRHA.

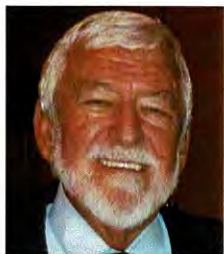
Nominated by Town of Southwest Ranches

SOUTHWEST
RANCHES

In the fall of 1996 a proposed bill was introduced to the Broward County Legislative Delegation requesting to annex all the unincorporated area now known today as Southwest Ranches. Hundreds of citizens from the Southwest Ranches area, called for the right to form their own city, to avoid annexation into Pembroke Pines and to preserve its semi-rural lifestyle.. As a result of this grassroots effort, the State Legislature passed a bill in the 1997 session calling for a vote of the citizens of Southwest Ranches which became the County's 30th incorporated place in March 2000.



ROBERT LATIMER



"I was born in Detroit and grew up in St. Clair Shores, Michigan. My parents were from Scotland and encouraged me to learn the bagpipes when I was 10 years old. I was a member of the St. Andrews Pipe band, Pipe Sargent of the Clan McRae Pipe band and then in Florida I was Pipe Sargent in the Ft. Lauderdale Highlanders and Pipe Major of the Police Pipe and Drum Corp.

After graduating high school, I was drafted to join the Navy due to the Vietnam War and spent 4 years in the service. My wife and I married in 1968 and have been married for 56 years. After the service I worked at Detroit Edison before working for Florida Power and Light for 28 years. While in Michigan, I joined the American Legion and was commander in 1979. I have been a member for 51 years.



We moved to Sunrise, Florida in July of 1980 where I have been the official bagpiper for the city, playing at Memorial Day, Veterans Day and 911 ceremonies. I am a member of the Veterans Advisory Board and an active member of the Florida Mustang club from 1993, serving as the Treasurer and then President. I have also been a member of Our Savior Lutheran Church for the last 44 years. I started my Masonic affiliation in 1987, becoming a York Rite Mason, Scottish Rite Mason, Grotto member and a Mahi Shriner. In Scottish Rite I went through the chairs and am a Past Master Kadosh (President). In the Grotto I went through the chairs and am a Past Monarch. In the Shriners I also went through the chairs and am a Past Potentate."

- Robert Latimer

Nominated by City of Sunrise

SUNRISE

The City of Sunrise was incorporated in 1961 by Norman Johnson - an innovative developer whose model homes attracted buyers to what was then the remote western edge of Broward County. In 1971, the City, by referendum, changed its name to the City of Sunrise. Through annexation, Sunrise eventually expanded to its current boundaries - encompassing more than 18 square miles and with a population of 92,000+.



BARBARA TARNOVE

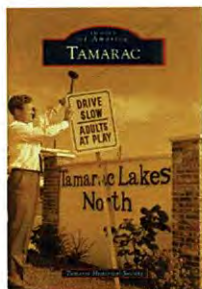


BARBARA TARNOVE is a graduate of Paramus High School in Paramus, New Jersey and studied Secondary Education/History at Fairleigh Dickinson University. She has lived in Tamarac for 35 years, and is a former VP Director of Planning Cosmetics and Fragrances and Replenishment at Macy's.



Today Barbara is the President of the Tamarac Historical Society and has been the only president in the fifteen years the society has been in existence.

She wrote and published *Tamarac (Images of America)* and continues to be a great resource on our City's history, supporting all events with historical information such as Tamarac's 50th and 60th anniversaries, Fire Rescue 40th, 50th anniversary and the 40th anniversary of the Tamarac Library. She is a past Chairman of the City of Tamarac's Charter Review Board, and is chairman of the Park and Recreation Advisory Board. She also maintain all records, and databases for the Tamarac Veterans Honor Wall.



Nominated by The City of Tamarac and the Tamarac Historical Society

TAMARAC

Officially incorporated on July 19, 1963, the City of Tamarac was founded by developer Kenneth E. Behring. Mr. Behring's vision was to offer the convenience of a condominium with the privacy of a single-family home for active retirees. The first neighborhood he built was Tamarac Lakes, located on the eastern side of the city. The new homes were one-story, one- or two-bedroom homes that surrounded a common clubhouse which provided a great deal of social activities for the residents. New neighborhoods such as the Mainlands and Woodlands followed as the Behring Corporation was able to purchase more land.



EDWARD SMITH, JR.

EDWARD SMITH JR., is a retired United States Postal Service mail carrier, with 35 years of experience delivering mail in Miami, Florida. He was an accomplished boy scout leader for many years in Carver Ranches. He was role model and life coach to many young men and women in his community. He enjoyed participating in many local events in his community and church, enjoys dancing and being around friends and family.

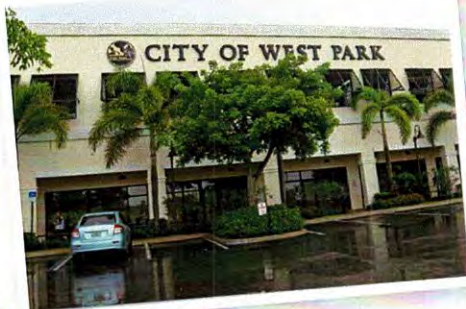


Edward Smith Jr. Has been a resident of the Carver Ranches neighborhood, now officially the City of West Park, for 65 years arriving in 1960. His community involvement includes the boy scouts of America, Carver Ranches Homeowner's Association (West Park) and was a City of West Park Senior Program attendee.

Nominated by City of West Park

WEST PARK

The City of West Park is Broward County's newest city. The previously unincorporated neighborhoods of Carver Ranches, Lake Forest, Miami Gardens, and Utopia embarked on the road to incorporation in 2004, after the Florida Legislature approved House Bill 1491, which provided for an election on November 2, 2004. Following a vote of 3,400 to 956 for incorporation, West Park was on its way to becoming Broward County's 31st city.



RICHARD W. ROTHE

**RICHARD ROTHE**

attributes being drafted into the army at age 20 as a turning point in his life. This experience fostered a desire to serve in leadership positions, which he fulfilled in his 30-year career with the City of Wilton Manors

Manors, both as an employee and as a member of the City's volunteer fire service (see photograph, Richard on far left).



As an employee he worked in a variety of progressively higher position with the Parks and Facilities Department until he retired in 2003 as the Parks and Recreation Director. During that time, he also served as the Director of Emergency Management and as the Fire Chief.

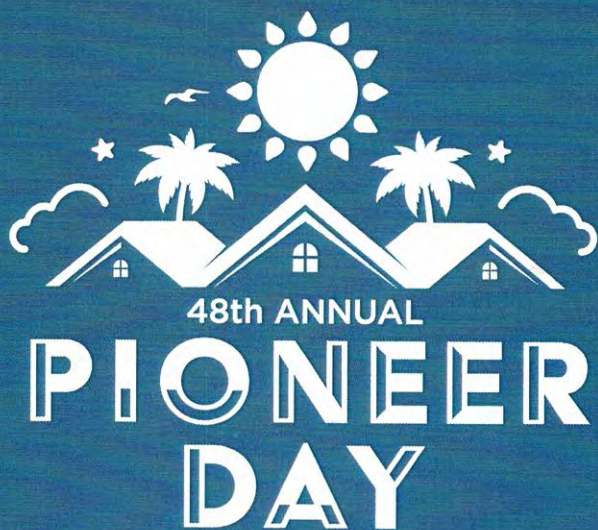
During his tenure, Richard was involved in several major and innovative projects, and was instrumental in running the fireworks shows held at Mickel Field for more than fifteen years. When the City of Wilton Manors began negotiating the contract with the City of Fort Lauderdale for its provision of fire and rescue services, Richard served as the contract administrator. Richard was also instrumental in gaining public support for passage of a \$3 million dollar municipal bond for parks land acquisition, improvements to parks, and recreation capital facilities. His role as contract administrator later evolved to include building a new City Hall and acquiring Richardson Historic Park and Nature Preserve.

Nominated by the City of Wilton Manors and Wilton Manors Historical Society

WILTON MANORS

Before it was named Wilton Manors, the area in which Wilton Manors is now located was known as Colohatchee. The name Wilton Manors was created by a land developer from Georgia in 1925. Ned Willingham led the early development of the town, and Wilton Manors was officially incorporated as a municipality in 1947.





HISTORIC
PRESERVATION
AWARDS
2024

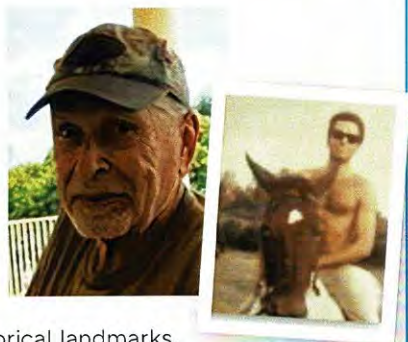
GARY KAUFMAN

GARY KAUFMAN moved from West Virginia to Davie almost 70 years ago. He takes great pride in the town he considers to be his hometown.

Gary enjoys sharing his many memories, particularly of his involvement in Davie's agricultural community, working at various historical landmarks, playing a part in developing the town by contributing to canal excavation, investing in land, involvement in commercial ventures, part-time work at a tree farm, and entertainment activities such as participating in quick-draw competitions as part of a western-themed show at the Davie Rodeo Arena.

Gary relishes spending quality time at his cattle ranch with his family, including his pride and joy, son (Jason), and his two grandchildren. Davie's rural and country atmosphere is something he cherishes and motivates him to do his favorite thing, work outdoors. Despite the passage of time, Gary still feels a deep connection to Davie and is nostalgic whenever he drives through the town.

*Nominated by the
Town of Davie*



JUDGE CLAYTON NANCE AWARD

The Judge L. Clayton Nance Award has been presented by the Broward County Historical Commission since 1979. Among the past recipients of this award are several prominent local historians, preservation activists, newly created museums, educational organizations, and cultural sites. The Fort Lauderdale Naval Air Station, Ah Tha Thi Ki, the African-American Research Library, the Old Davie School, Broward County Urban River Trails and the Women's History Coalition are among past award winners.

Circuit Court Judge L. Clayton Nance (1924-1979) was devoted to the study of local history. He spearheaded a drive to create a county-level commission to protect and promote local heritage and, in 1973, the Broward County Historical Commission was founded. From 1972 to 1979, he served as the official advisor to the Commission. He oversaw every facet of Commission activity, from Pioneer Days to the stocking of the research library and amassing of the Commission's map collection. Judge Nance was also the first public defender in Florida and the first public defender elevated to the Circuit Court.

MERRILL ROMANIK



MERRILL ROMANIK was the architect overseeing the recent restoration of the historic Coca Cola Building (pictured) in downtown Fort Lauderdale under SRS Architectural firm.



Among the firm's well know local commissions are city halls for Palm Beach Gardens, Pembroke Pines, Lauderhill and Weston; the Pompano Beach Fire Administration; Temple Beth Am; Atlantic Village; Marathon Library; Miramar Pineland Park Nature Center; Fort Lauderdale Aquatic Complex; Mount Olive Baptist Church; West Broward Cultural Ctr; SGI Florida Nature and Culture Center; Southside Cultural Arts Center (preservation); Holocaust Documentation and Education Ctr (preservation); Dania Beach Library and many educational, parks, commercial, institutional, and residential projects in South Florida.

*Nominated by
City of Fort Lauderdale*

HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD SPECIAL AWARD

Traditionally this award is presented to a person or group who has contributed to the mission of the BCHC and does not qualify under the other award criteria. Other Awards not always given out every year include:

HISTORIC CONTRIBUTOR AWARD JULIA SNOW JONES AWARD

Given in 2005 only to a person who persistently battled on behalf of historic preservation issues

F. K. WALKER AWARD

Memorial Award in memory of Annette Van Howe

ARCHEOLOGIST'S AWARD (1998 only)

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

APPRECIATION AWARD

VOLUNTEER AWARD (one year only)

CO-SPONSOR AWARD

EDWARD DIETRICH
& DAVID CLANCY

the Deerfield Beach Historical Society nominates **EDWARD DIETRICH** and **DAVID CLANCY** for their guidance in the complete restoration of the DFB Pioneer Cottage as it transitions to a Black History Museum.

Their ingenuity, skill and attention to detail have guided the complex restoration process through dealings with architects, the permitting processes, the state funding process all while preserving the integrity of the 100-year-old cottage.

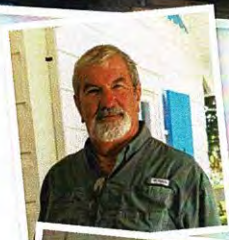
Ed Dietrich, whose family has been in Deerfield Beach since the 1940's, is also heading up the massive restoration of the 100-year-old Historic Butler House and Museum. David Clancy was born and raised in Palm Beach and Broward County. He is a GC by profession and his passion is proper historical restoration. The process involves the same details of restoration that are being faced in the Pioneer Cottage project but the House restoration is a much larger and involved project.

The DFB Historical Society is deeply grateful to these two outstanding and dedicated individuals and would love to see them recognized by the Broward County Historical Preservation Board for their efforts.

*Nominated by
Deerfield Beach Historical Society*

STUART P.
MCIVER
HISTORIAN'S
AWARD

The Historian's award was started in 1992 and traditionally this award is presented to a person or group who has contributed to the mission of the BCHC and does not qualify under the other award criteria.



Top: Deerfield Beach
Pioneer Cottage

Center: Ed Dietrich

Bottom: David Clancy

DAN HOBBY

Dan Hobby's nomination is in recognition of his significant contributions to promoting local history, his published historical works, and his dedicated involvement with Broward County Historical Societies.



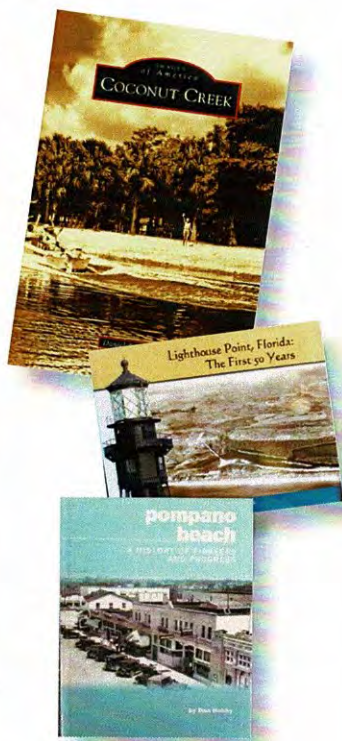
The City take pride in the fact that such a famous local historian calls Coconut Creek home and were thrilled when Dan volunteered to present the history of our City to a live audience at the well-attended, City of Coconut Creek Ambassador Program.

Nominated by City of Coconut Creek

DR. COOPER C. KIRK AWARD

The Dr. Cooper C. Kirk Memorial Award has been presented by the Broward County Historical Commission since 1992. Most past winners of the Kirk award have published significant works on local history or been leaders in local history setting fine examples of historical research following the tradition set by Dr. Kirk who, starting in 1972, served as the first Broward County Historian.

A sought after lecturer on local history Kirk was a tireless researcher. His work on Major Lauderdale, for whom the City of Fort Lauderdale was named, was published in book form in 1982 as *William Lauderdale: General Andrew Jackson's Warrior* which earned him wide acclaim. The Cooper Kirk award was first given in 1992. It is traditionally presented to those involved in writing or supporting efforts regarding local history.



CITY OF TAMARAC & TAMARAC HISTORICAL SOCIETY

In appreciation for their hosting Pioneer Day 2024 and in recognition of the City of Tamarac's recent 60th year anniversary. The City has long demonstrated support for preserving its local history that includes supporting the programs of an 15-year old historical society.

Having just celebrated the 60th anniversary of our incorporation, the City of Tamarac looks forward to a bright future filled with growth and prosperity, driven by the hard work and expertise of our municipal departments.

Tamarac Fire Rescue continues to provide emergency response and community education. Parks and Recreation fosters an environment where the community can come together. The Community Development Department plans, facilitates, and maintains smart growth.

Financial Services responsibly manages our tax dollars.

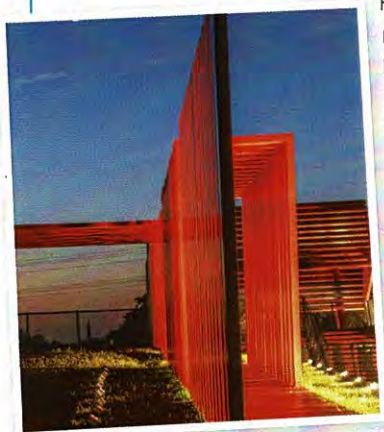
Information Technology keeps the city connected, while the City Clerk's Office ensures residents are well informed.

The Building Department upholds safety and sustainable building codes and standards. Human Resources ensures our employees have the tools and resources they need to do their jobs effectively.

The City Manager's Office leads the way, driving the six strategic goals that guide our operations, ensuring Tamarac remains a great place to live, work, and thrive.



*Above:
Waters
Edge Park is a serene
oasis that offers a perfect
blend of natural beauty
and modern amenities.
This picturesque park is
a favorite destination for
residents and visitors alike.*



*Above: Sunset Hammock, a
monumental environmental public
art commission by Margi Glavovic
Nothard, located in Sunset Point Park, Tamarac, Florida raises awareness about the critical role of the Everglades
within the ecological balance of South Florida. Sunset Hammock incorporates the adjacent wetland with a Sunset
community park and includes an educational children's art program in collaboration with Young at Art Museum. This
project has been awarded an NEA Our Town Grant.*

PIONEER DAY: OUR BROWARD LEGACY

THE PIONEERING SPIRIT, lauded throughout the illustrious history of our country, can never be commended too strongly. There aren't too many places today where one can sit and hear a first-hand account of what the area was like with only a handful of settlers. Yet many in Broward County can still recall what it was like when its one-million-plus population was one-tenth that number. That's what Pioneer Day is all about. It's a celebration of those who can say "I remember when."



County Commissioners, 1915, Broward County, Florida. State Archives of Florida / Florida Memory

And, someday, some of the newer residents may be able to recount, in that same spirit, "I remember Broward County's first Pioneer Day." Shortly after the Broward County Historical Commission was formed in November 1972, Commission Member Sue Phillips suggested that the group establish an annual Countywide fair or show, honoring pioneer residents. It would permit the historical societies and other civic-oriented groups to exhibit their historical and educational materials.

The desired result, of course, was to share information about the area's history and heritage with Broward's residents. With the help of the Mental Health Association of Broward County, the First Annual *Broward County Pioneer Day* was held May 5-6, 1973, at the American Heritage School in Wilton Manors. Featuring the Seminole Indians, 3,000 people turned out for the premier *Pioneer Day*. *First published in Broward Legacy Magazine*

