

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

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.



RETURN FORM BY EMAIL OR MAIL TO: Broward County Historic Preservation Board c/o Rick Ferrer

Email: hpb@broward.org or rferrer@broward.org

Mailing Address: Urban Planning Division

1 N. University Drive, Box 102, Plantation, FL 33324

2024 PIONEER DAY NOMINATION AND BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION FORM

In selecting a nominee for Broward County Pioneer, please include as a primary consideration the individual's contribution to his/her community. Length of residence in Broward County should not be the basis for selection. Please include sufficient biographical information and 2 photographs of the nominee (1 current; 1 'historical').

Nominating Entity (Including email, phone number):

Pioneer's Name:

Pioneer's Mailing Address (Including city, state, zip):

Pioneer's Telephone and Email:

Pioneer's Place and Date of Birth:

Date of arrival in Broward County; if born elsewhere:

Spouse/Domestic Partner Name (if applicable):

Child(rens) Name(s) (if applicable):

Mother's and Father's Names:

Education:

Memberships/Hobbies/Volunteerism:

Reminiscences of the Pioneer’s Life in Broward County:



Don D'Arminio
COMMISSIONER

Chris
COMMISSIONER

Paul Bracchi
COMMISSIONER

Paul Roll
COMMISSIONER

WHEREAS, the City of Wilton Manors recognizes the significant contributions and leadership of Richard Rothe, whose life of service began at the age of 20 when he was drafted into the United States Army, which he attributes as a pivotal moment that inspired his dedication to community service and leadership; and

WHEREAS, Richard Rothe dedicated 30 years to the City of Wilton Manors, rising through progressively responsible positions within the Parks and Facilities Department, later reorganized as the Parks and Recreation Department, including serving as Director of Emergency Management and Fire Chief, culminating in his retirement in 2003 as the Parks and Recreation Director; and

WHEREAS, Richard was involved in several major, innovative projects that enriched the City’s sense of community and environmental stewardship, including the “Town That Lost a Ton” initiative, the Wilton Manors 10K Race, the Island City Canoe Race, and the Wilton Manors Waterway Cleanup, each contributing to the quality of life in Wilton Manors; and

WHEREAS, Richard was a vital member of the Volunteer Fire Department, playing a key role in organizing and managing the annual fireworks displays at Mickel Field for over fifteen years, bringing joy and celebration to generations of Wilton Manors residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, Richard was instrumental in negotiating the City’s contract with the City of Fort Lauderdale for fire and rescue services and served as the contract administrator, ensuring the continued protection and emergency responsiveness of Wilton Manors; and

WHEREAS, Richard’s leadership was pivotal in gaining public support for a \$3 million municipal bond for the acquisition and improvement of parks and recreation facilities, including the development of the Richardson Historic Park and Nature Preserve; and

WHEREAS, Richard attributes his success to the exceptional team of City Managers, elected officials, and inter-governmental partners with whom he worked, acknowledging the collaborative spirit that allowed the City to thrive under his guidance; and recognizes that his accomplishments would not have been possible without the steadfast love and support of his family, including his wife and children, as well as the community of Broward County, which provided the foundation for his life and career;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE CITY OF WILTON MANORS that Tuesday, October 22, 2024 is hereby recognized as:

“RICHARD ROTHE DAY”

in the City of Wilton Manors, Florida, and urge all citizens to join in recognizing and celebrating the outstanding service, leadership, and dedication that Richard Rothe has provided to our City for over three decades.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Wilton Manors to be affixed this 22nd day of October, 2024.

Scott Newton
Mayor