



**City of North Port**  
City Manager's Office

**Interoffice Memorandum**

**To:** Pete Lear North Port City Manager  
**From:** Josh Taylor Communications Manager/PIO  
**Date:** May 8th, 2019  
**RE:** History Timeline and Hall of Fame

Staff has researched examples of other local government history timelines and hall of fames presented in locations such as City Hall and Administration complexes. Attached you will find a few examples.

Obviously, a big part of this project will be the location of such a display. An opportunity may be available as Neighborhood Development Services is currently set to present a plan for remodeling the first floor of City Hall, for functional purposes, in their 2020 annual budget. Perhaps it is possible to implement the display into the new configuration. Staff recommends the Commission weigh in on this issue including, location, how a possible design would look, and be managed.

While a location and design style are chosen, it is staff's recommendation that the Commission task the City's newly formed Historic and Cultural Advisory Board to come up with way of identifying significant points in the City's history to be included in the wall. We also recommend that the advisory board come up with a Standard Operating Procedure for identifying and nominating individuals for the City of North Port Hall of Fame. The board may want to consider nominating a handful of individuals initially followed by an annual selection of one or two.



# HALL OF FAME EXAMPLES











# COLLEGE OF MEDICINE WALL OF FAME





# 2010 BUSINESS, ARTS & DESIGN ALUMNI WALL OF FAME





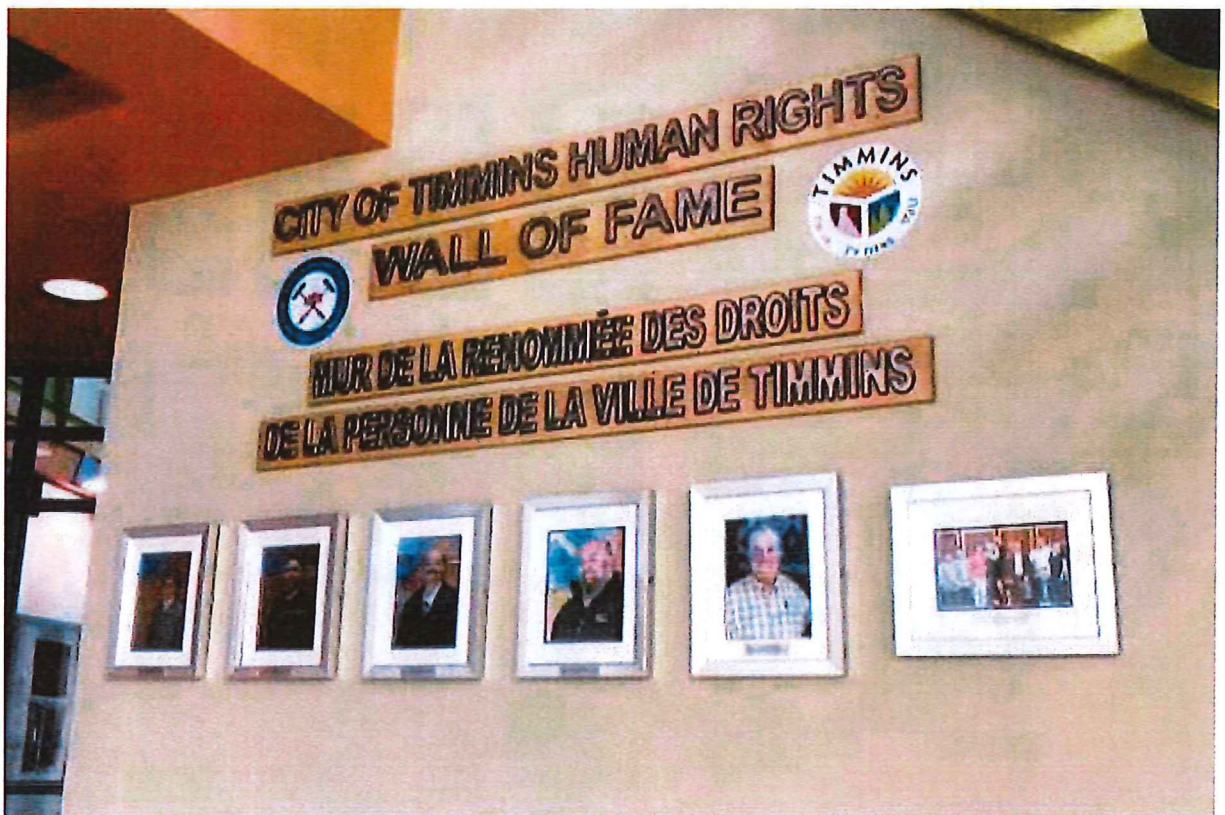














# **TIMELINE EXAMPLES**



















# SARASOTA COUNTY EXAMPLE



The Labor Day Regatta, sponsored by the Sarasota Yacht Squadron, has been an annual event in Sarasota since 1945.

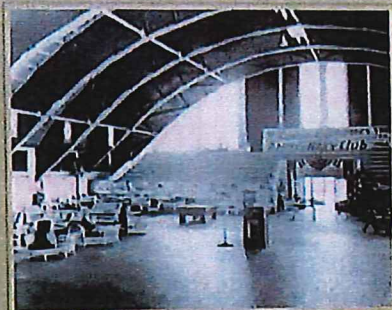


The Sarasota County Municipal Council District began in late 1945 to help along the municipal population in check.

1947

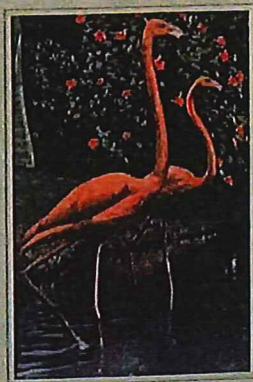


A new style of architecture was developed, which became known as the Sarasota School of Architecture.



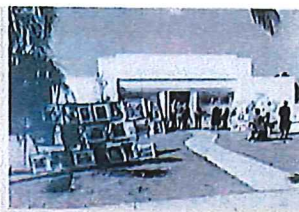
The Sarasota Municipal Auditorium was used as an Army-Navy Club during World War II.

1944



Sarasota Jungle Gardens opened on New Year's Eve.

1940



The Labor Day Regatta, sponsored by the Sarasota Yacht Squadron, has been an annual event in Sarasota since 1945.

1949



Sarasota County of Florida



"Mac" and his friends were a popular sight at the end of Sarasota County, giving the top story producing power to Florida.

1946

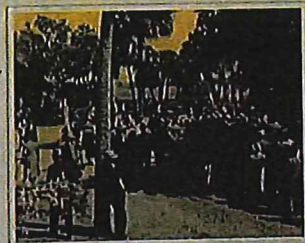


The U.S. Army built the Sarasota Army Air Base and the Venice Army Air Base between 1942 and 1945. Today both bases are the sites of the Sarasota Bradenton International Airport and the Venice Municipal Airport.

1942



Started in 1934, Myakka River State Park was built by crews from the Civilian Conservation Corps. It was formally dedicated on February 18.



The City of Sarasota's first public library was built with funding from the Chickley family and the Sarasota Jaycees. This new facility housed the library that had been operated by the Sarasota Woman's Club since 1918.

1941



The 1940s brought great change to Sarasota County as the United States entered World War II. The U.S. Army established two air bases, which at the end of the war left Sarasota with two modern airfields. Also, the late 1940s brought a building boom not seen since the 1920s.

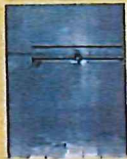
1940-49





The New Key Bridge was the first bridge built to a location named in Sarasota County.

1917



These boats are how the first goods came to Sarasota.

1914



The first known frame house.

Florida Henry Fingers arrived in Sarasota and eventually owned 50,000 acres of land in the Sarasota-Seminole region. His main income came from agriculture and cattle. Dr. Fingers' wife, the National Avenue Railway extended their tracks from Venice to Venice.

1910



Queen Beatrix came here on a fishing vacation and started to help build Sarasota from a small fishing village into a vibrant city. The business side of the largest businesses in Sarasota and how both Queen Beatrix and the El Verano Hotel.

1916



The photograph, photograph, and photo of the first group of people in the history of the city of Sarasota.



1915

The Sarasota Woman's Club was instrumental in bringing the first school and a public library to the city.



During the 1890s, a lot of people in the city of Sarasota were building houses. This house was built in 1898 at the intersection of the city of Sarasota and the city of Venice.

1918



William H. Whitaker, owner of the first hotel in Sarasota, built the first hotel in Sarasota in 1912. The hotel was built on the site of the first hotel in Sarasota in 1912.

1912



John Hamilton College built a new school building in 1905, which was the first school building in Sarasota. The school was built on the site of the first school building in Sarasota in 1905.

1905



C. A. Wilson published Sarasota's first weekly newspaper, the Sarasota News, in 1899. The newspaper was published in Sarasota in 1899.

1899



"Sarasota News" was the nickname for Sarasota's first railroad. It was constructed by John Hamilton College to bring the business of the Florida Mortgage and Investment Company. The railroad only had a couple of years.

1892



Sarasota's first mobile telephone, "Mobile," made three trips a week from Tampa carrying passengers, supplies and mail.

1895

John Cullen came to Sarasota Bay in 1895 as part of a surveying team that laid out the first lot for the city of Sarasota. He and his wife, Anne, helped found the Methodist Episcopal Church.



John Hamilton College, representing the Florida Mortgage and Investment Company of New York, arrived in Sarasota. The first business in Sarasota's first year and laid out the first golf course. College also built the first hotel in Sarasota in 1895, which was the first hotel in Sarasota in 1895.

1886



John and Rebecca Knight visited in Venice-Palm Beach. The Knight family ranch eventually grew to 20,000 acres of land.

1868



John and Ellen White and their family moved to Venice. They planted citrus groves and started digging their produce to nearby markets. They also ran the White House Hotel.

1867



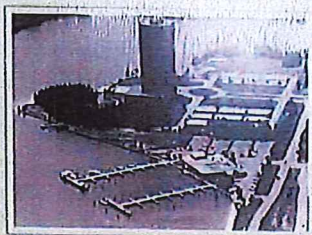
William H. Whitaker arrived in 1843 as the first settler in Venice. He was the first settler in Venice in 1843.

1843

Sarasota in the mid to late 1800s was a nearly empty wilderness area. At the conclusion of the Second Seminole War in 1842, the U.S. government opened Florida lands south of Gainesville to settlers. Beginning with William H. Whitaker in 1843, pioneers began to venture into untamed territories and make it their own. The Webbs, Higel and Knight families, along with many others, laid the foundation of what would become the Sarasota County of today.

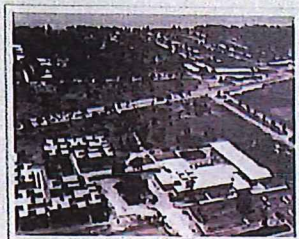


The new Sarasota Post Office located on Ringling Boulevard was dedicated on April 3. Designed by Bob Shaw in style is an example of the Sarasota School of Architecture.



Plymouth Harbor, located on Coon Bay, was sponsored by the First Congressional Chapter, a nonprofit organization.

1965



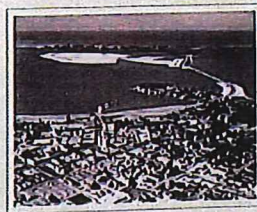
The dormitories on the campus of New College were designed by famed architect I.M. Pei. The challenge was to create an environment for learning in an area largely known for its climate of leisure.



Hester Johnson was Englewood's longest serving postmaster, holding that post for 19 years. She brought weekend mail service to Englewood with a home delivery system.

1961

After New College was incorporated, the school purchased the Charles Ringling Mansion for classrooms and offices.



The Aerial Corporation dredged Bird Key by dredging to allow for a new subdivision.

1960



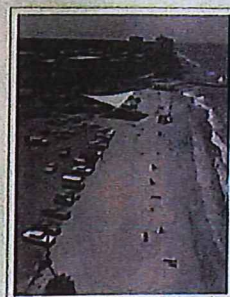
1967



The Venice Public Library first started by the Venice-Nokomis Woman's Club in 1924, moved to its new home.



National Airlines inaugurated its New York-Sarasota jet service on February 15. It was the first jet service out of the Sarasota-Bradenton Airport.



The Venice Beach Pavilion was nicknamed the "Flying Handkerchief" because of its hypothetical, parabolic roof.

1964

Herb Lubell, located just south of Pine Hammock Road on U.S. 41, was Sarasota County's new theme park with 16 different attractions.



Sarasota County bought Santa Key Beach and built the Venice Key Pavilion to provide beach facilities for the public.



1962



Opened to the public on October 25, the Quik Library was made possible by donations of land by a building from Mr. and Mrs. Wyllys in Quik. The Venice Bay Women's Club Library and Sarasota County Government also gave financial support to help build the library.



Warm Mineral Springs Spas & Resort, located near the City of North Port, was built in the "20-Mile Forest Mineral Springs" with a temperature of 87 degrees.

Sarasota County continued its rapid growth during the 1960s decade. The population of the county jumped from 77,000 in 1960 to 120,000 in 1970. Educational opportunities grew with the establishment of New College in Sarasota and new libraries in Englewood and Venice. The landscape changed dramatically with the dredging of Bird Key in Sarasota Bay and the building of the West Coast Intercoastal Waterway in Venice.

1960-69



