

TAMAGRAM

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF TAMARAC, FLORIDA

MAY | JUNE | 2021

BRIGHTER DAYS AHEAD

Tam-A-Gram is the official publication of the City of Tamarac, Florida.

Reader questions and comments are welcome. Please send your comments to:

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You may also email your comments or questions to the Public Information Office at PIO@Tamarac.org.

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TAMARAC



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IMPORTANT NUMBERS

MAIN NUMBER	(954) 597-3500
ADA Coordinator/Accessibility.....	(954) 597-3600
Voice	1 (800) 955-8770
TTY	1 (800) 955-8771
Citizen Hotline.....	(954) 718-1800
(Activated During Emergencies)	
Building Services.....	(954) 597-3420
Building Inspections, Building Permitting	
and Inspection Results	
City Clerk's Office	(954) 597-3505
City Manager's Office.....	(954) 597-3510
PIO (Media).....	(954) 597-3523
Community Development	(954) 597-3530
Code Enforcement.....	(954) 597-3425
Business Revenue.....	(954) 597-3537
Financial Services.....	(954) 597-3550
Purchasing.....	(954) 597-3570
Customer Service	(954) 597-3590
Fire Rescue (Non-Emergency)	(954) 597-3800
Human Resources.....	(954) 597-3600
Job Line	(954) 597-3615
Risk Management.....	(954) 597-3613
Mayor and Commission.....	(954) 597-3460
Parks & Recreation.....	(954) 597-3620
Community Center.....	(954) 597-3620
Caporella Aquatic Complex.....	(954) 597-3660
Caporella Fitness Center	(954) 597-3661
Social Services	(954) 597-3642
Transit/Shuttle Bus	(954) 597-3649
Police/BSO Tamarac District (General).....	(954) 720-2225
(Non-Emergency)	(954) 764-4357
Public Services.....	(954) 597-3700
Engineering.....	(954) 597-3712
Recycling & Trash Hotline	(954) 597-3740
Utilities (Water)	(954) 597-3750
Billing Inquiries	(954) 597-3590
Utilities (Leaks, Breaks, etc.).....	(954) 597-3750
Water Treatment Plant.....	(954) 597-3775
(Also used for after-hours utilities emergencies.)	
SERVICE PROVIDERS:	
Florida Power & Light.....	(954) 797-5000
Waste Management.....	(866) 684-3142
Comcast Cable.....	(954) 252-1937
Library (Tamarac Branch)	(954) 765-1500
Post Office (Tamarac Branch).....	(954) 722-3152

Brighter Days Ahead

Can you see the glow on the horizon? With the expanded eligibility for the public to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, we anticipate brighter days ahead. We can once again anticipate the joy of learning, working, worshipping and socializing together - without the aid of computers and mobile devices. A full year of the life-altering worldwide COVID-19 pandemic took a lot from us - millions of lives, time, celebrations of milestones, jobs, wages and personal connections. Yet, we tapped into inner strength we never knew we had, explored new talents and hobbies, and found innovative ways to do business, go about our daily lives, and connect with family, friends and neighbors. Preserving some degree of “normalcy” throughout this ordeal has been the City’s top priority. As we approach the end of the tunnel, with a redefined “normal,” Tamarac vows to preserve the positive practices we’ve learned about remaining efficient and connected, while physically apart.

The doors of City Hall closed to the public on March 17, 2020. Still, behind those doors and on local streets, 399 full- and part-time City employees remained hard at work to ensure continuity of the services, programs and initiatives that define our experiences as the Tamarac community. From March 2020 to March 2021, the City of Tamarac hosted 505 virtual adult recreation programs and four major virtual special events. Within that time period, the City also received 6,121 virtual requests for building permits through our Electronic Plan Review System. Back in May 2020, Tamarac created four COVID-19 relief grant programs that supported 419 local households, distributing nearly \$2 million in funds received through the CARES Act and the Florida Housing Finance Corporation to date. To keep area businesses and non-profit organizations afloat, the City used \$260,000 in CARES Acts Funding to award 26 Tamarac

Small Business Stabilization Grants. For our community’s health, Tamarac Fire Rescue added COVID-19 testing and vaccinations to their regular duties. Your City never stopped working for you!

How connected to Tamarac have you felt through this process? Were your calls and emails answered with the usual ease? Were socially distant recreational opportunities abundant and easily accessible? Did Tamarac’s social service offerings enable you to manage unexpected challenges? Did we maintain adequate communication, through tools and platforms familiar to you? Which new public service approaches introduced during the pandemic would you like to preserve? We’d like to hear from you. Your input is important to us, and can be shared through a short online survey available at www.Tamarac.org/CommunicationsSurvey.

So, what’s next? Where do we go from here? Only time will tell. But for now, let’s continue to keep each other safe, by getting vaccinated, wearing masks, staying socially distant when necessary and adhering to safety guidelines prescribed by the CDC. As we navigate this uncharted path toward a new normal, know that Tamarac, “The City For Your Life,” remains at your service, as we continue fostering the highest quality of life for our entire community.





A Message From Mayor Michelle J. Gomez

It was a pleasure to commemorate Vietnam War Veterans Day on March 29th and to honor those who served. We thank you for your service and look forward to hosting this event annually. I am excited to celebrate all of our heroes for their service and sacrifice this year at the City of Tamarac's upcoming Memorial Day ceremony. Please see the story in this issue for details. If you are a local veteran interested in having your name listed on our Veterans Honor Wall, you can call (954) 597-3621 to learn more.

I am delighted to partner with Girl Up, Kiwanis of Tamarac, and The Beauty Initiative to organize a Feminine Hygiene Product Drive. We welcome donations of individually wrapped tampons, pads and other feminine hygiene products, which will be accepted through May 17th, to help women and girls in need. The Kiwanis Club will distribute the collected items during its Christmas in July event. Donation boxes will be available from

2 - 5 p.m., Monday - Friday, at Tamarac Park, 7501 N. University Dr., and by appointment at the Tamarac Community Center, 8601 W. Commercial Blvd. Donation boxes will also be available at Millennium 6 - 12 Collegiate Academy, J.P. Taravella High School and Piper High School. To schedule drop-offs, please call (954) 597-3626.

Although the light at the end of the tunnel is getting brighter as we get through this pandemic, we still need to maintain safety protocols and continue wearing facial coverings. Please help protect our wonderful planet and wildlife by cutting the strings on your disposable face masks before throwing them away in a proper trash receptacle to reduce litter and pollution.

Happy Cinco de Mayo, V-E Day, Mother's Day, Eid Mubarak, Memorial Day, Flag Day, Women Veterans Day, Juneteenth and Father's Day!

2021 Vietnam War Veterans Day Event





A Message From Vice Mayor Elvin Villalobos, District 3

One of my top priorities is fostering an environment of governmental responsiveness to residents and the business community alike. That means we must assess, adapt to and anticipate the evolving needs of our community.

As an example, the Building Department recently improved and simplified processes for residents and contractors seeking Tamarac building permits. For instance, while staff pre-screens permit applications, they don't immediately deny and return incomplete and incorrect permit applications. Instead, they now forward the checklist items to the plan reviewers who add their comments. This keeps the permit in motion and allows the applicant to receive all comments via one review instead of two. In addition, if an inspection fails, inspectors will now return the same day if corrections are made. These impactful adjustments save time for everyone involved and show our community that customer service quality matters. To top it off, helpful videos are now being added to www.Tamarac.org/Building.

Scan this QR code with your smart device to watch a Building Department video.



2021 Vietnam War Veterans Day Event

Memorial Day marks the unofficial start of summer. More significantly, it serves as a somber tribute to veterans who gave their lives to protect our freedom. The City is hosting a Memorial Day ceremony on May 31st. This year, I personally challenge you to reflect on the contributions of women veterans, who are often under-represented in remembrances.

Donate blood in honor of veterans at my Sundaes on Saturday event, from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. on May 29th, at the Tamarac Sports Complex. In addition to free sundaes from 1 – 2 p.m., there will be a live DJ, games, activities and a food truck.

After that, I look forward to Independence Day. As you gear up for the Fourth of July and summer fun, visit the links below for important safety tips.

Stay safe and please contact me anytime at (954) 597-3460.



FIREWORK SAFETY

National Safety Council

www.Tamarac.me/FireworkSafety



SWIMMING SAFETY

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

www.Tamarac.me/SwimmingSafety



GRILLING SAFETY

National Fire Protection Association

www.Tamarac.me/GrillingSafety



A Message From Commissioner Marlon Bolton, District 1

Like the vast majority of you, I'm hoping for that day soon when we can walk along the beach, experience our Tamarac parks, go to our favorite restaurant, exercise at the gym or simply visit the local barber shop or salon without fear of being at risk of the Coronavirus. The Florida Department of Health continues to lower the original age requirement to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. My hope is that we all will be able to be vaccinated soon and to once again enjoy life as it was.

I am honored that I was recently able to announce the opening of a vaccination site here in Tamarac. I am also honored to spearhead an initiative that encourages our residents and businesses to remain vigilant in stopping the spread of COVID-19 and continuing to practice social distancing.

I hosted my Second Annual Medical Marijuana Summit in April. I was proud to be joined by the Florida Commissioner of Agriculture, Nikki Fried, as well as Daniel Sparks, Trulieve's Director of Compliance, David McPherson, Primerica Financial Services' District Leader, and City staff for this engaging discussion covering trends in the medical marijuana industry, local and state requirements for dispensaries, and available financial products for these businesses. For more information on Tamarac's first medical cannabis dispensary, please see page 15 of this magazine.

In April, I was greatly saddened by the loss of Congressman Alcee Hastings, who represented Florida in the U.S. House of Representatives for more than 25 years. He

was an iconic leader, a great mentor and a friend who passionately advocated for those he served. My deepest condolences to his family and loved ones.

The month of May boasts the celebration of Memorial Day, which commemorates all men and women who have died while serving in the military for all of us.

How will you honor the fallen this year? I hope you will join us either in person or virtually for the City's Memorial Day ceremony. Let me know what else you are doing to remember our fallen veterans by sending me an email at Marlon.Bolton@Tamarac.org.



Commissioner Marlon Bolton and the late Congressman Alcee Hastings.



A Message From Commissioner Mike Gelin, District 2

COVID-19 vaccinations are finally underway. This gives us hope that the end of the Coronavirus pandemic is on the horizon, and a return to normalcy is something we can now envision. According to President Joe Biden, almost all Americans will have access to the vaccine within a 5-minute drive of their home. This is great news for our nation and community!

The Tamarac Commission is working with local, state and federal officials to ensure timely delivery of vaccine-related information and resources to our residents. Visit www.Tamarac.org/Vaccine for updates.

One of my goals as a City Commissioner is transparency with residents about funds spent and decisions we make on your behalf. So, each month, I summarize several hours of Commission meeting discussions and debates in a five- to seven-minute video overview being shared on the City's YouTube channel and social media pages.

Each month, I host the "Community Chat With Commissioner Gelin," a virtual talk with community experts about various events and activities that impact our City. In April, Tamarac resident Doris Span joined me to chat about her drive and initiative to keep Tamarac safe, by introducing the Vision Zero program. Vision Zero is a strategy to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries, while increasing safe, healthy and equitable mobility for all. Watch it now on the City of Tamarac's official Facebook page.

I am proud to partner with the Level Up Cycling Movement and the Broward Sheriff's Office to host "Bike With Mike," Tamarac's first mass community bike ride. This two-day event kicks off Saturday, May 22nd, with competitive cycling rides early in the morning and a community ride at 10:30 a.m. Visit www.Tamarac.org/SpecialEvents to register for this great event for the entire family. I look forward to seeing you there!



Commissioner Mike Gelin (yellow shirt) pictured with members of the Level Up Cycling Movement.



A Message From Commissioner Debra Placko, District 4

Now that it is easier to obtain a COVID-19 vaccine, many of us may be looking forward to getting out and about more. Please continue to wear a mask and keep social distancing in mind as you go about your daily routine. Though vaccines are now available to adults and older teens, we are not completely virus-free. Looking forward to a summer vacation? Me too! To make that happen, let's commit to remaining vigilant about protecting ourselves and each other from the spread of COVID-19.

Our Tamarac schools will soon benefit from a new City board. We have approved an Education Advisory Board to help enhance our schools. If you are interested in being part of this board, application details will soon be available online.

I am incredibly pleased that we will have our Memorial Day ceremony in-person this year. Honoring the veterans who gave their lives

for us is one of the most moving holidays. This year, masks and social distancing will be required. I look forward to seeing each of you at our in-person Memorial Day ceremony, so that together we may express our gratitude to those who served.

Did you know that before the pandemic, I began organizing the Tamarac Women in the Military group? The goal of this group is to assemble and become acquainted with other women who once served in our nation's armed forces, and now desire to serve our City. Due to the pandemic, group members who were identified never had an opportunity to meet, but I look forward to connecting with this group soon.

One last thing, I am now on Instagram and Facebook! Please feel free to follow me. If you aren't a social media user, I can always be reached at Debra.Placko@Tamarac.org or (954) 597-3460.



Tamarac City Commission Meetings

Join us for Regular City Commission meetings at 7 p.m. on the following dates:

May 26th

June 9th

June 23rd

Meetings will be held in person in the Commission Chamber at Tamarac City Hall, 7525 NW 88th Ave. Face coverings and social distancing are required for in-person attendees. All Regular City Commission meetings are streamed live at www.Tamarac.org/Meetings and on the City of Tamarac's Facebook page, @Tamarac.Florida.

This schedule is subject to change. Commission workshop meetings and special meetings may be added. For updates, you can subscribe to our "calendar - City of Tamarac Public Meeting" notifications at www.Tamarac.org/StayConnected, visit www.Tamarac.org/Meetings or call the City Clerk's office at (954) 597-3505.

A Historic Response

Locally and across the nation, significant progress has been made in COVID-19 vaccination initiatives, the largest immunization effort in U.S. history.

Early on, Tamarac's elected officials reached out to the Florida Department of Health about hosting a vaccination site, as did Tamarac Fire Rescue (TFR). During the initial rollout, when supplies were limited, TFR supported efforts by other organizations, such as one to vaccinate more than 1,000 Holocaust and Bay of Pigs survivors in the tri-county area.

Fortunately, vaccine supplies increased. On March 22nd, the City launched a vaccination site at the Tamarac Community Center. The site operated through April in partnership with the Florida Department of Health. In the first two weeks alone, more than 600 people were vaccinated right here in Tamarac.

"Everything went extremely well, and the customer service was excellent," said Robert Schaefer, a Tamarac resident who received his vaccination at the City's site. "The site was well-run, and the staff was so professional, I even referred a friend."

As of April 30th, more than half of Broward County's residents age 16+ have received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose.

We've made good progress, but there is still much work to do. The CDC says getting vaccinated is one of the best ways to protect yourself and slow the spread of COVID-19.

If you have questions or concerns, visit www.Tamarac.org/Vaccine for information.



Hurricane Preparation

Early forecasts predict an active hurricane season in 2021. While the season officially starts June 1st, named storms have formed in the Atlantic in May for the last six years. As a result, the National Hurricane Center will begin issuing its 2021 Tropical Weather Outlooks on May 15th.

With the possibility of May storms and an active hurricane season, it's critical to create a plan, prepare early and stay informed. Here are some useful tips and resources to get started.

Plan

Create your emergency plan well before any storm threatens. Make sure to consider the needs of all your household members. Don't forget your pets!

Even though Tamarac is not in a mandatory evacuation zone, you may choose to leave if a hurricane threatens. If so, your first choice should be to stay with out-of-town family or friends, or in a hotel. Give yourself ample time to travel safely. Broward County's hurricane shelters are a safe option, if needed.

Review your insurance policies before hurricane season begins. Remember, while Tamarac

isn't in a mandatory evacuation zone, certain sections of the City are in flood zones. Make sure you understand what's included in your policies and that you have adequate coverage. Many insurance companies won't issue new policies or change existing ones once we're in the path of a hurricane.

Prepare

Before hurricane season, stock-up on supplies, including medications, needed by all household members to avoid last-minute crowds and supply shortages. Visit www.Ready.gov/Build-a-kit for suggested provisions.

Remember, in case of post-storm power outages, it's best to have gas in your car and cash on hand.

Finally, don't wait until the last minute to trim trees. This should be completed far enough in advance for proper debris disposal. Avoid trimming trees when a hurricane threatens, as debris could become dangerous projectiles.

Stay Informed

Storm tracking has greatly improved over the years, but storm paths, speeds and intensity

Honoring America's Heroes

Please join us as we pay tribute to those who gave their lives to protect our freedom at this year's Memorial Day ceremony. The event will take place at 10:30 a.m., Monday, May 31st, at Veterans' Memorial Park, 7825 Southgate Blvd. It can also be viewed live at www.Tamarac.org/TV and the City's Facebook page, @Tamarac.Florida. Facial masks and social distancing are required for in-person attendees.

This year's ceremony will include a Presentation of Colors by the Tamarac Fire Rescue Honor Guard, the national anthem performed by Chantal Deshaies, and a keynote address by Lieutenant Commander Benjamin S. Sorensen, who is currently a Department Head for a Navy Reserve unit at the U.S. Southern Command. He also serves as a City of Fort Lauderdale Commissioner in his civilian capacity.

The event will conclude with a laying of the wreath by Tamarac Mayor Michelle J. Gomez.

can change rapidly. Even small changes can have a big impact. During hurricane season, be sure to monitor local news and weather announcements to stay informed.

For City hurricane updates, sign up for Tamarac's CodeRED emergency announcements by texting "TamaracCodeRED" to 99441, or visiting www.Tamarac.org and clicking the red "Emergency Notifications" button on the home page. You can receive automated phone calls, emails and text messages.

The City also shares hurricane updates at www.Tamarac.org, through Citywide email notices and on Facebook, Nextdoor, Instagram and Twitter. Subscribe to City emails by clicking the purple "Stay Connected" button on the home page, entering your email address, then selecting the "City at-large" list.

For additional tips on storm preparation, visit www.Tamarac.org/EmergencyManagement.



IMPORTANT NUMBERS:

TAMARAC:

Hurricane Hotline	(954) 597-3800
Recorded Updates	(954) 718-1800
CodeRED Registration	(954) 597-3800 www.Tamarac.org
Utilities Emergency	(954) 597-3750
<i>After Hours Only</i>	(954) 597-3775
Volunteer Desk	(954) 597-3620

BROWARD COUNTY:

Hurricane Hotline	311 or (954) 831-4000 TTY (954) 831-3940
Emergency Management	(954) 831-3900
Special Needs Shelter Registration	(954) 831-3902 TTY (954) 831-3940
Vulnerable Population Registration	(954) 831-4000 TTY (954) 831-3890
Pet-Friendly Shelter	311 or (954) 831-4000

OTHERS:

Emergency	911
Florida Power & Light	(800) - 4OUTAGE
Waste Management	(866) 684-3142
BSO Non-Emergency	(954) 764- 4357
FEMA Hotline	(800) 621-3362 TTY (800) 462-7585

More Help is on the Way

We expect 2021 to be a year of recovery. While we are making progress in the fight against COVID-19, some people and businesses continue to lose income or still struggle to recover from previous losses.

So far, Tamarac has used funds from the CARES Act and the City's General Fund to offer assistance programs and grants to eligible residents and small businesses. For residents, this included assistance with housing bills, home repairs and internet connectivity. Additionally, we offered grants

to eligible small businesses and launched "Shop Local" and restaurant promotion campaigns to encourage support of Tamarac's mom and pop businesses and dining establishments.

Now, Tamarac expects to receive approximately \$5 million in stimulus funds in the coming months from the new American Rescue Plan.

Stay tuned for announcements about our plans and programs to further stimulate economic recovery in our City.

Construction Corner

Here's a look at construction and development projects currently underway or coming soon to Tamarac!

Private Development

- Bailey Square apartment complex, southeast corner of Rock Island Rd. and Bailey Rd. (NW 62nd St.)
- Tamarac Self Storage, 8251 W. McNab Rd.
- The Enclaves at Woodmont community, sales office at 7910 NW 79th Ter.
- Hidden Trails community, sales office at 4802 NW 48th Ter.
- Eden West multi-family community, northeast corner of McNab Rd. and Pine Island Rd.
- Alazhar School redevelopment, 7201 W. McNab Rd.
- Tamarac Exchange Center, 6899 N. Hiatus Rd.



Fairfield Inn & Suites

- Fairfield Inn & Suites, 6800 NW 88th Ave.

Major City Projects

- New Tamarac Sports Complex Concession Building, 9901 NW 77th St.
- Mainlands Sections 1 - 5 Traffic Calming Project, NW 47th St., NW 41st Ave. and NW 46th St.
- Installation of artistic playground fence at Waters Edge Park, 7508 NW 61st St.

Public/Private Partnerships

- Tamarac Village, north side of Commercial Blvd., between Pine Island Rd. and NW 94th Ave.

Dunkin' Gets A New Look, Safety Upgrades

Looking for a fresh cup of brew? In March, the Dunkin' located in University Commons celebrated the opening of its renovated store with a ribbon cutting.

Located at 7450 W. McNab Rd., the remodeled eatery features a modernized look, drive-thru and safety upgrades to keep guests and employees safe.

In addition to fresh coffee and tasty donuts, Dunkin' serves a variety of frozen drinks, breakfast sandwiches, bagels, muffins, snacks and more seven days a week, from 5 a.m. - 8 p.m.



Think Twice About Recycling Glass

Tamarac and many other cities around the country no longer accept glass for curbside recycling. Why? If glass breaks when comingled with other materials, it can cause contamination and make it dangerous to process the batch. Plus, there isn't a big demand currently for recycled glass or many local processors. The cost of shipping and processing glass is significant. In fact, it costs more to recycle glass than to treat it as solid waste.

The good news is that Tamarac's residential garbage goes to the Waste-to-Energy Plant, where it's incinerated and converted to electricity. The material is never landfilled and provides clean and cost-effective electricity.

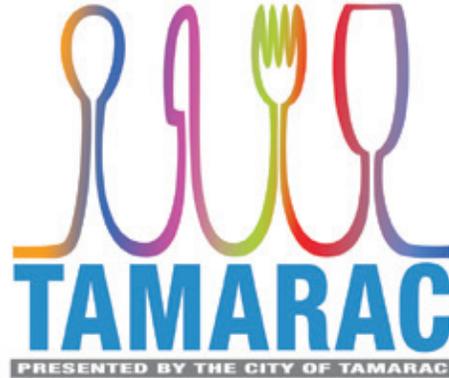
NOT TO BE RECYCLED

The following items are not accepted in Tamarac's curbside recycling program:

- Glass
- Plastic bags
- Anything with liquid or food residue, including pizza boxes
- Shredded paper and small items
- Scrap metal
- Electronics and small appliances
- Textiles, bedding, rugs or carpet
- Non-recyclable plastic
- Styrofoam and polystyrene
- Yard waste, wood or construction debris
- Diapers and biohazardous materials like needles and medical waste
- "Tanglers" – hoses, chains, extension cords, etc. They can wrap around recycling equipment and shut down an entire recycling facility!

SPRING & SUMMER 2021

Savor The Flavors



INTRODUCING

TASTY TAMARAC

Our First Annual People's Choice Competition



Support your favorite Tamarac restaurants by tasting their signature appetizers and voting to help them win the coveted title of **Tastiest of Tamarac!**

VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE APPETIZER

Chefs representing American, Asian, Caribbean, Italian & Latin cuisines compete for **Tastiest Appetizer**, a trophy & bragging rights and YOU get a chance to win restaurant gift certificates, just for participating!

Presented by:
TAMARAC
The City For Your Life



For more information go to:
www.FlavorsOfTamarac.com
or call (954)410-3177

Tamarac Community Connects at Socially Distant Black History Month Celebration

In February, Tamarac hosted a series of events observing Black History Month, culminating with our Black History Month Celebration.

This multi-faceted event featured the Mayor and City Commission honoring local Black leaders, live poetry by Rebecca “Butterfly” Vaughn, performances by Delou African Dance Ensemble, vocals by Rochelle Lightfoot, cultural art displays and a powerful virtual presentation by Katrina Jones, Diversity and Inclusion Leader at Amazon Web Services.

Radio personality Shelby Rushin emceed the celebration, which could be attended in-person or watched virtually. If you missed the fun, check out the video at www.Tamarac.me/BHM.

Congratulations to the following Black leaders who were honored at this event!

The Honorable George Odom, Jr., Judge, 17th Judicial Court of Florida

Gerry and Pamela Streete, Treasurer and Board Member, African American Cultural and Social Club of Kings Point

The Honorable Hazelle P. Rogers, Mayor, City of Lauderdale Lakes

Brother Elvis and Ann Creese, Help for the Homeless, Eliathah Seventh-Day Adventist Church

William McCormick, MBA, Founder and CEO, Americlaims Billing, Inc.

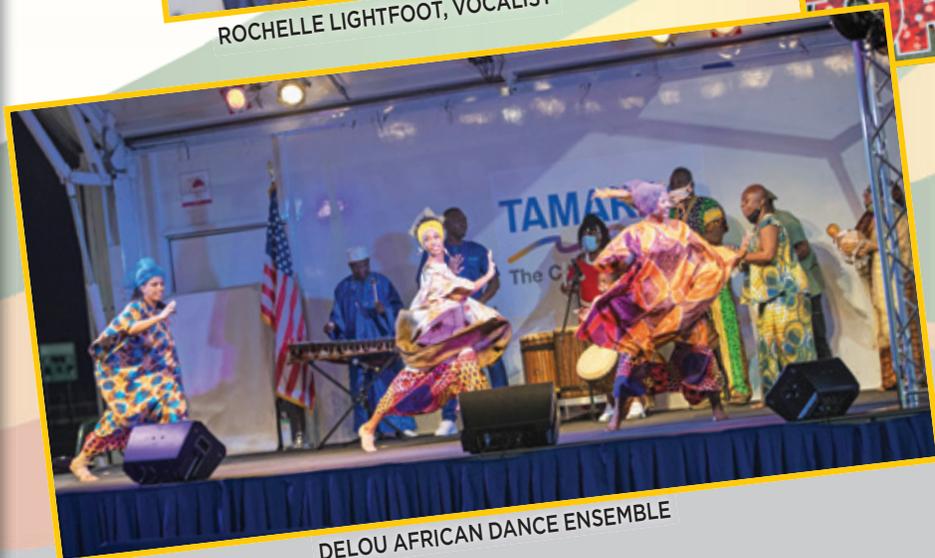
Burnadette Norris-Weeks, Esq., Attorney, The Law Offices of Austin Pamies Norris Weeks Powell, PLLC



ROCHELLE LIGHTFOOT, VOCALIST



TAMARAC MAYOR AND COMMISSION



DELOU AFRICAN DANCE ENSEMBLE



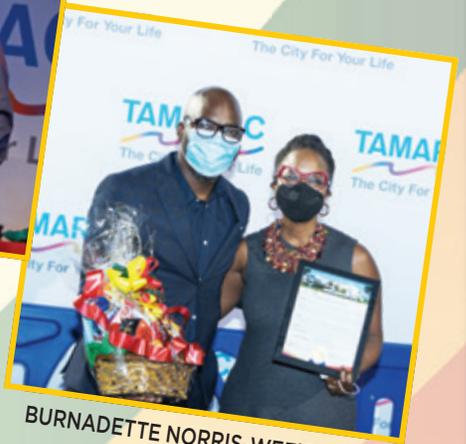
SHELBY RUSHIN, RADIO PERSONALITY



THE HONORABLE GEORGE ODOM, JR.



GERRY AND PAMELA STREETE



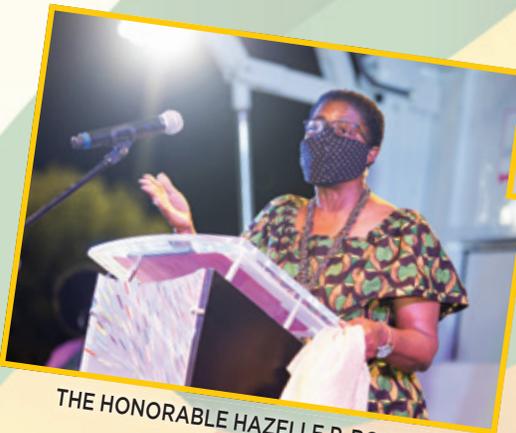
BURNADETTE NORRIS-WEEKS, ESQ.



WILLIAM McCORMICK, MBA



BROTHER ELVIS AND ANN CREESE



THE HONORABLE HAZELLE P. ROGERS



DELOU AFRICAN DANCE ENSEMBLE



REBECCA BUTTERFLY VAUGHN, SPOKEN WORD ARTIST

Public Art Update

Tamarac's public art not only beautifies our City, it also gives it character and boosts community pride. It inspires thought and conversation, and makes Tamarac a more appealing place to build a business, build a family and build a life.

From the whimsical to the magnificent, progress is being made on several significant public art projects.

Tamarac's new Fire Station 36 will soon have the biggest Dalmatian in Broward County watching over it. Plans are underway to install a 16-foot concrete dog sculpture designed by artist Celso Gonzales. It will be accessible to the community, providing the perfect place for a fun photo opp. This new Tamarac icon will be named by the winner of an essay contest for Tamarac fourth and fifth graders. The results will be shared in a future issue of Tam-A-Gram. This sculpture is expected to be installed this fall at Fire Station 36, 7499 NW 72nd St.

The second installment of **Inspiration**



Ascending Heart by Clayton Swartz

Way, the City's museum without walls, is now complete. Located on Nob Hill Road, between McNab Road and Commercial Boulevard, Inspiration Way offers 12 new sculptures that are compelling to both residents and visitors. Each sculpture is for sale, with 25% of the proceeds going into the City's Public Art Fund. This exhibit will be on display until Spring of 2022.

Local tax dollars are not used to fund the City's public art. Tamarac's public art program is paid for by developer fees and sometimes grants. These initiatives, led by the City's Public Art Committee, add beauty and charm to our vibrant City.

TS Aquatics Making a Splash

Tamarac-based TS Aquatics, one of the most diverse competitive swim clubs in the region, recently received a \$5,000 Community Impact Grant from SA Swimming and the USA Swimming Foundation.

Head Coach Andre Bailey says TS Aquatics will use the grant to subsidize costs for members that need financial assistance, to attract new members and to hire an additional highly experienced coach.

"We are grateful for this grant, which will ultimately help us to serve more kids," said Coach Andre. "Competitive swimming teaches many lessons that go beyond the pool. The TS in our name stands for total swimmer, and that's what we care about. In addition to athleticism, our

program develops character, self-discipline, organization and teamwork, which benefit our members throughout their lives."

The club practices at the Caporella Aquatic Complex, and locations in North Lauderdale and Lauderhill. Operating in multiple locations helps them follow COVID-19 protocols and reach more kids.

TS Aquatics completed a fantastic season, placing 7th out of more than 60 participants at the Florida Gold Coast Senior Championships in Pembroke Pines. The club is looking for its next crop of up and coming star swimmers. Could that be you? Free tryouts are on Monday - Friday, between 5 - 7 p.m. Email TamaracSwimming@Gmail.com or visit TSaquatics.com for more information.

Tamarac's First Medical Cannabis Dispensary Now Open

Medical cannabis, which has been shown to benefit patients with various conditions including anxiety, epilepsy and Tourette syndrome, was legalized in Florida in 2016. In 2019, the City Commission voted to allow dispensaries in Tamarac. Now, the first Tamarac-based dispensary has opened its doors, allowing residents with medical cannabis prescriptions to fill them within City limits.

In February, **Trulieve**, Florida's first and leading medical cannabis dispensary, moved into the 4,345-square-foot former Bank of America building at 5900 Rock Island Rd. The facility includes a consultation room, beautiful glass product displays and a secured temperature-controlled product storage area.

While appointments are not required, medical cannabis cardholders must scan their ID before entering the dispensary. After entering, cardholders can choose

from various medical cannabis products containing THC (tetrahydrocannabinol) or CBD (cannabidiol), including tinctures, topical creams, edibles, smokables and vaporizers.

If you're interested in learning more about medical cannabis, Trulieve's board-certified professionals are happy to answer any questions. Trulieve is open Monday - Saturday, from 9 a.m. - 8 p.m., and every Sunday from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Call (954) 751-3981 or visit www.Trulieve.com to schedule a virtual consultation.



Tamarac Joins Cities for Citizenship

Tamarac is a community comprised of diverse people from many nations. In March, to further the City's commitment to maintaining an inclusive and equitable environment for all, Tamarac became the 100th partner to join the Cities for Citizenship (C4C) network, to help eligible foreign-born residents attain U.S. citizenship.

"In Tamarac, we celebrate our multicultural community members and support their unique needs. We prioritize the importance of citizenship and strive to create an environment where residents can pursue citizenship ambitions with ease," said City Commissioner Mike Gelin, who was inspired to champion this initiative as the son of Haitian immigrants.

"U.S. citizenship provides many rights and responsibilities, including the right to participate in our democracy through

voting," said Mayor Michelle J. Gomez. "We are excited about this opportunity to further assist residents on the path to citizenship in our wonderfully multicultural community."

Founded by the cities of Chicago, New York and Los Angeles, over the past six years, C4C's national impact has included:

- Providing citizenship-related information to more than 2.8 million people.
- Assisting almost 60,000 people with citizenship applications.
- Helping more than 38,000 people receive financial information and services through a C4C partner.

Stay tuned for information about local initiatives in the coming months.

Food Trucks Roll Into Tamarac

If you're tired of cooking, food trucks provide a fun and affordable opportunity to try new cuisine, while adding a little variety to your diet. Soon, you'll start seeing more of them in Tamarac. Here's the scoop!

Food trucks are not only popular, they provide opportunities for existing restaurants during the pandemic, as well as for other entrepreneurs and chefs. That's why the City Commission passed an ordinance to ease rules governing food trucks, making it more palatable than ever to operate them here in Tamarac.

We know many restaurants are challenged with providing indoor dining services while following social distancing guidelines. Operating food trucks can allow them to keep up sales, while maintaining social distance. In addition, food trucks have relatively low startup costs, providing economic opportunities for chefs and other entrepreneurs getting started in the food industry.

Under the new guidelines, Tamarac will require anyone selling, preparing or dispensing food from a truck to have a Zoning and Location Review Mobile Food Vendor Permit, which must be prominently displayed. Mobile food vendors must also have a business tax receipt for each food truck they operate. Trucks in which food is cooked will be inspected by Tamarac Fire Rescue every six months.

Fortunately, there is no cost to the applicant for the required zoning and location review, inspection or business tax receipt.



Food trucks can only operate in allowed zones of the City during the designated times, Tuesday - Thursday, 9 a.m. - 10 p.m. For additional information on requirements and restrictions, mobile food vendors can call the Community Development Department at (954) 597-3530.

Green Scene

Tips to Conserve Our Natural Resources and Recycle the Right Way.



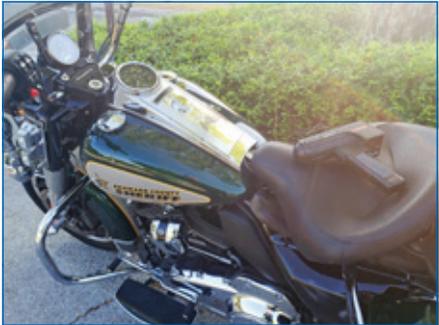
- **Quality and Cleanliness are Key.** The demand for recyclable materials has declined in recent years. Now, it's more important than ever to maintain the cleanliness and quality of our recycling stream. This mindfulness keeps our program's costs down and ensures materials have a useful second life. For tips and a current list of recyclable materials, visit www.Tamarac.org/Recycle.
- **Stop the Flow.** To reduce water use, turn your faucet off after wetting your toothbrush, razor or washcloth. Turn it back on when you are ready to rinse.

In the Know About Tamarac's Traffic Flow: An Update From BSO

Innovative and strategic development continues to drive new businesses and residents to Tamarac...along with their vehicles. Sgt. Michael Pianelli, Supervisor of the Broward Sheriff's Office (BSO) Traffic Division in Tamarac, provides insight into why roadway safety must remain at the forefront of our minds.

In 2020, BSO's Tamarac District responded to 4,920 traffic-related service calls.

discreetly placed in the roadway to identify high-speed zones without alerting drivers.



Have you ever noticed BSO's signboards and speed trailers? Placed along the roadside, they display the speed of passing vehicles, providing a friendly reminder for drivers to slow down. Speeders who encounter BSO deputies equipped with radar and laser speed gauging devices aren't as lucky and often receive costly traffic citations. If you happen to get pulled over, for the safety of yourself and the deputy, simply pull into a turning lane or the first available parking lot to avoid hindering traffic flow.

"The BSO-Tamarac Traffic Division is fully invested in community safety," said Pianelli. "We're not just here to give traffic tickets, but also to educate and serve as a resource to those we serve."

For traffic questions or concerns, contact Sgt. Pianelli at Michael_Pianelli@sheriff.org or (954) 247-6005.

TOP 5 TAMARAC TRAFFIC INCIDENTS	
INCIDENT TYPE	TOTAL NUMBER OF INCIDENTS
Accidents	1,413
Traffic Stops	1,357
Traffic and Parking Complaints	903
Accidents with Injuries	440
Reckless Driver Reports	422

Pianelli, a 24-year BSO veteran, tells us rear end crashes are the most common traffic incidents in Tamarac. To prevent them, he urges us to avoid tailgating to keep a safe distance from other vehicles.

Speeding...we all know it's dangerous and should be avoided. In Tamarac, BSO uses technology to combat this roadway safety challenge. Traffic analysis computers are

Free Educational Opportunities

Are you interested in FREE educational opportunities that will help enhance your professional skills, advance your career and achieve your potential? Tamarac partnered with Broward College's Broward UP program to offer free virtual classes to help residents do just that. Visit www.Broward.edu/BrowardUp for a list of upcoming classes and registration details.

When applying online, Tamarac residents should select Sherman Gant, Broward College Case Manager. He is the assigned success coach for Tamarac participants in the Broward UP program.



CAPORELLA AQUATIC COMPLEX AND FITNESS CENTER

Caporella Aquatic Complex amenities include a 25-meter heated swimming pool with zero-depth entry, a slide and a children's water sprayground. The complex also offers a 3,000-square-foot fitness center, locker rooms and outdoor picnic tables. Call (954) 597-3660 for admission fees and information.

POOL HOURS

As part of our current safety procedures, the pool is open in sessions to allow social distancing and time to sanitize between sessions.

Monday – Saturday: Session I: 10 a.m. – Noon
 Session II: 1 – 3 p.m.
 Session III: 4 – 6 p.m.

Sunday: Session I: 10 a.m. – Noon
 Session II: 1 – 3 p.m.

SLIDE AND SPRAYGROUND

Monday – Friday: 4 – 6 p.m.

Saturday: Session I: 10 a.m. – Noon
 Session II: 1 – 3 p.m.
 Session III: 4 – 6 p.m.

Sunday: Session I: 10 a.m. – Noon
 Session II: 1 – 3 p.m.

TAMARAC SWIM TEAM

TS Aquatics offers a competitive swim team program for children, ages 5 – 18, at the Caporella Aquatic Complex. Free tryouts are held Monday – Friday, 5 – 7 p.m. Read more about the club on page 14 of the magazine!



The Caporella Fitness Center offers a friendly, non-competitive workout environment with a variety of free weights, machines, treadmills, elliptical cross trainers, recumbent lifecycles, stationary bikes and more. On your first visit, our qualified staff will show you around and help you get familiar with the equipment. For more information, contact the Caporella Aquatic Complex at (954) 597-3661 or visit www.Tamarac.org/Parks.

Annual Fitness Center Membership Fees:

Adult Membership:	\$150
Senior/Military/Vets Membership:	\$135
Teen Membership (16 – 17 years old):	\$95
Teen Membership (13 – 15 years old):	\$65

Three-month and six-month membership options are also available for adults, seniors, military and veterans.

WEEKLY IN-PERSON YOUTH CLASSES

*To register or for additional information, including costs, visit <https://Webtrac.Tamarac.org>.
 Classes and schedules are subject to change.*

BALLET TAP AND JAZZ

Saturday | 10 a.m.

\$50 residents; \$60 non-residents

CHEERLEADING AND HIP HOP

Saturday | 11 a.m.

\$50 residents; \$60 non-residents

GYMNASTICS

Saturday | 11 a.m.

\$50 residents; \$60 non-residents

FAST TRACK

Monday – Friday | 3 – 6 p.m.

\$120 residents; \$150 non-residents

WEEKLY ONLINE ADULT FITNESS CLASSES

To register or for additional information, including costs, visit <https://Webtrac.Tamarac.org>.
Classes and schedules are subject to change.

TRANSFORM 60 WITH MIKE

Tuesday | 6 p.m.

This 60-minute class utilizes a variety of cardio and strength-building exercises that will help transform your fitness routine.

ZUMBA WITH MARIA

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday | 9:30 a.m.

Zumba moves create a calorie-torching, strength-training dance fitness party featuring targeted body-sculpting exercises and high-energy cardio work with Latin-infused music.

BOOTY BARRE WITH CAROL

Tuesday | 6 p.m.

Booty Barre can be described as a dance-inspired aerobics class combining low-impact exercises with elements of Pilates. These exercises help to reshape the glutes, plus tone and sculpt the lower half of the body.

YOGA WITH CAROL

Tuesday | 7 p.m.

Yoga helps restore the mind, renew the body and prevent injuries. Each pose helps lengthen muscles and the connective tissues that surround the joints.

TAI-CHI WITH MARK

Wednesday | 6:30 p.m.

Tai Chi uses slow, gentle movements and breathing techniques and is said to improve cognitive functioning, including the ability to focus, multi-task and make decisions.

ZUMBA WITH ELDA

Wednesday | 7:15 p.m.

Zumba moves create a calorie-torching, strength-training dance fitness party featuring targeted body-sculpting exercises and high-energy cardio work with Latin-infused music.

BALANCE AND RECOVERY WITH GAZELLE

Wednesday | 6 p.m.

These classes provide a high- and low-impact workout, including aerobic and anaerobic exercises that strengthen muscles and improve the cardiovascular system.

BODY SCULPTING WITH GAZELLE

Thursday | 6 p.m.

These classes provide a high- and low-impact workout, including aerobic and anaerobic exercises that strengthen muscles and improve the cardiovascular system.

YOGA WITH BETH

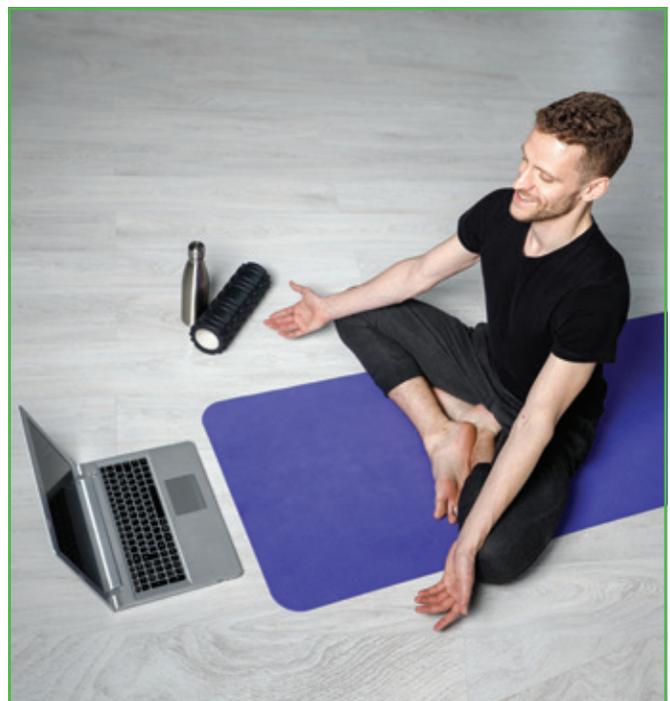
Thursday | 7 p.m.

Yoga helps restore the mind, renew the body and prevent injuries. Each pose helps to lengthen muscles and the connective tissues that surround the joints.

BODY SCULPTING WITH MIKE

Friday | 6 p.m.

These classes provide a high- and low-impact workout, including aerobic and anaerobic exercises that strengthen muscles and improve the cardiovascular system.



WEEKLY SENIOR CLASSES

TAI CHI/QIGONG WITH MARK

Monday | 9 a.m., Friday | 8:30 a.m.

Tai Chi, which uses slow, gentle movements and breathing techniques, may help improve cognitive functioning, including the ability to focus, multi-task and make decisions. Qigong, another gentle type of exercise, is composed of fluid movements repeated several times to stretch the body and build an awareness of how it moves through space.

KICKBOXING LITE WITH MARK

Monday | 10:30 a.m.

Senior kickboxing class that helps improve coordination, flexibility and core strength.

JAZZERCISE WITH WARREN

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday | 10 a.m.

Jazzercise is a 60-minute dance-based group fitness program. This class features a fusion of dance, resistance training, Pilates, yoga, kickboxing and Latin-style movements set to popular music.

YOGA WITH BETH

Monday | 12:30 p.m., Wednesday | 10 a.m.

Mat yoga for all levels.

SIT AND FIT WITH DEBBIE

Monday, Wednesday, Friday | 11:30 a.m.

This creative, chair-based workout utilizes props from home, including weights, water bottles, pillows or balls, neckties, towels and belts.

CREATIVE WRITING WITH JANIE

Tuesday | 10 a.m.

If you enjoy writing short stories, poetry or even your personal history, please join our creative writing workshops.

MAT YOGA AND MEDITATION WITH DEBBIE

Tuesday | 11:30 a.m.

Mat yoga class with the last 10 minutes of class dedicated to meditation.

CARDIO GOLD WITH DEBBIE

Tuesday | 12:45 p.m.

Join Debbie for a low-impact, heart-pumping class suitable for most beginners or experienced fitness fans. It includes a warm-up and series of balance, stability, flexibility and strength exercises. Participants learn new body awareness and can use light hand weights and a chair as tools.

ABSOLUTE BEGINNERS LINE DANCING WITH HELAINE

Wednesday | 1 p.m.

Beginner line dancing class for those with no experience.

INTERMEDIATE LINE DANCING WITH HELAINE

Wednesday | 2 p.m.

30-minute class for experienced line dancers.

CHAIR YOGA WITH DEBBIE

Thursday | 11:30 a.m.

Chair yoga class. All levels welcome.

SPANISH FOR BEGINNERS WITH NATACHA

Thursday | 12:30 p.m.

Spanish class for beginners.

CLAY WORKSHOP WITH MICHELE

Friday | 10:30 a.m.

Classes will consist of participants working independently on various projects. Participants will schedule time with the instructor to pick up clay for projects and to drop off finished projects to be fired.

CHAIR YOGA AND MEDITATION WITH DEBBIE

Friday | 12:45 p.m.

Chair yoga class with the last 10 minutes of class dedicated to meditation on Fridays. All levels welcome.

55+ SENIOR PROGRAM: REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

- Visit <https://webtrac.Tamarac.org>.
- Choose "Login," whether you have an existing account or not.
- Current and former members must enter a username and password. If you have forgotten your username or password, please select the appropriate option.
- New patrons will need to create a new account. Once logged in, please choose "Memberships" and then the "55+ Senior Program."

Classes and schedules are subject to change.
For information, visit www.Tamarac.org/Parks
or call (954) 597-3620.

SOCIAL SERVICES

Call our information and referral line at (954) 597-3642 for more information on these and other social service programs that may be available in Broward County.

INDIVIDUAL COUNSELING

Free limited sessions for Tamarac residents only. Call counselors Lakshmi at (954) 655-7040 or Jessica at (954) 317-9460 to make an appointment. Please leave a message with your name and phone number; your call will be returned within 24 hours.

FREE HEARING SCREENING

Hear for Good, Inc. will provide free hearing tests with a board-certified doctor of audiology and discount hearing aids through its nonprofit foundation. Pricing on hearing aids is based on income. Please call (954) 597-3642 to make an appointment.

SHINE COUNSELOR

Have questions regarding your Medicare/Medicaid insurance? SHINE is a free, unbiased and confidential counseling service that assists current and prospective Medicare beneficiaries, their families and caregivers, under a grant from the Florida Department of Elder Affairs. SHINE's trained volunteers provide counseling on Medicare, Medicaid, Medicare Advantage Plans, Medicare Supplemental Insurance, prescription assistance, long-term care insurance/planning, Medicare fraud, waste and abuse. Call (954) 745-9779.



TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Door-to-door paratransit service is available to people with disabilities and those over age 60 with no other transportation. For additional information, please call (954) 597-3649.

Tamarac also offers two free community bus routes to locations across the City. They are the Red and Red Extension Transit Routes. Schedules are available at www.Tamarac.org/439 and City facilities. To track the buses in real-time, download the Ride Systems app and select Ride Tamarac.



VIRTUAL VITA/BROWARD TAX PRO SERVICES

Virtual tax preparation services are now available online at www.VitaTaxesFree.org. The site provides clear and concise instructions on its virtual tax process and a list of needed documents. This safe and secure site will guide taxpayers through questions. Taxpayers are requested to upload all pertinent documents to initiate the tax preparation process. Services are available in English, Spanish and Haitian Creole. Call (954) 678-6882 for information, referral and support on general tax questions.





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The New Colony West Clubhouse Opens for Business in May 2021!



Colony West Clubhouse

Whether you're enjoying a meal with friends and family or celebrating a milestone event, create memories to last a lifetime at the all-new clubhouse at Colony West, officially opening in late May. Tamarac's newest hot spot features a 3,200-square-foot banquet hall and The View restaurant, where the future always looks bright.

For more information, visit www.ColonyWestGolfClub.com or call (954) 721-7710.