

March 11

Pinellas by the Decades 1952-1961

“Trailer Parks Replacing Trees, with New Suburbs Built to Please”

Urbanization transformed Pinellas during the 1950s, as new developments replaced old groves and farmlands. “Home rule” brought political power to the local level, while cold war industries fueled the vibrant economy.

April 15

Pinellas by the Decades 1962-1971

“Civil Rights, Wrong Turns and New Directions”

The civil rights movement led to challenges to desegregate schools, businesses, and public accommodations. An expanding population transformed the environment in ways that harmed estuaries and led to the end of many dredging projects.

May 13

Pinellas by the Decades 1972-1981

“Annexation, Expansion, and Regional Challenges”

Municipal boundaries continued to expand as the Tampa Bay region became a popular area for tourism and settlement. Battles over water resources, the expansion of infrastructure, and “condomania” gripped the peninsula.

June 10

Pinellas by the Decades 1982-1991

“Building Bridges and Aspiring for the Major Leagues”

During this decade, many new bridges – physical and social – spanned the county and across Tampa Bay. The new Sunshine Skyway and the Bayside Bridge promoted regional connections, while the pursuit of a major league baseball franchise sparked lively debates.

July 15

Pinellas by the Decades 1991-2012

“Pinellas Past, Present, and Future”

This final program traces significant themes addressed in earlier lectures.