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Gasparilla, mid to late 1950s

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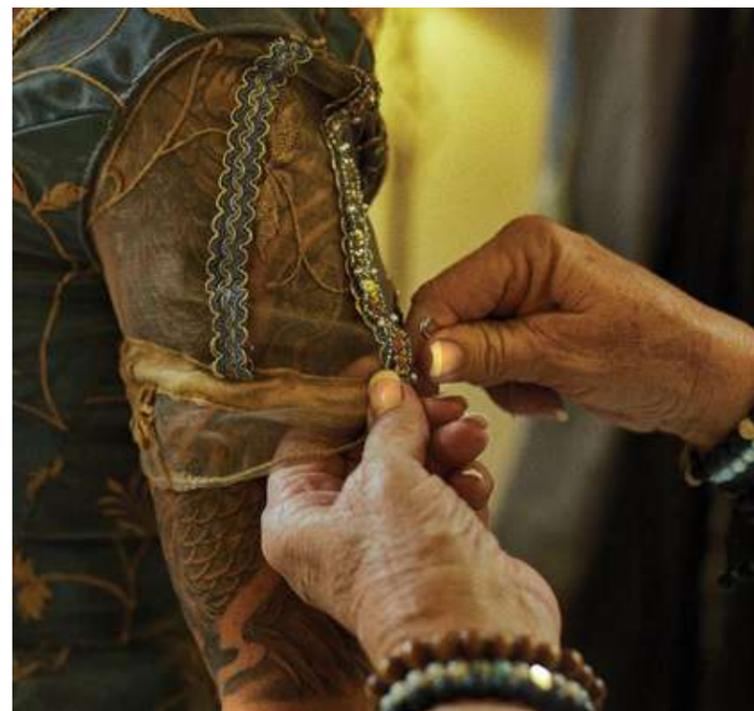
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The Gallery: Florida Sunset By Jason Middlebrook

About the Cover

January/February 2022



Gasparilla is Tampa's most treasured tradition, celebrating its 106th year. This month's cover showcases the elaborate handiwork of the talented team at South Tampa Trading Co., who pour their hearts into transforming hundreds of Tampanians into the finest of pirates and princesses for the day. **_DESIGN > JERRY POMALES** **_PHOTO > GABRIEL BURGOS**



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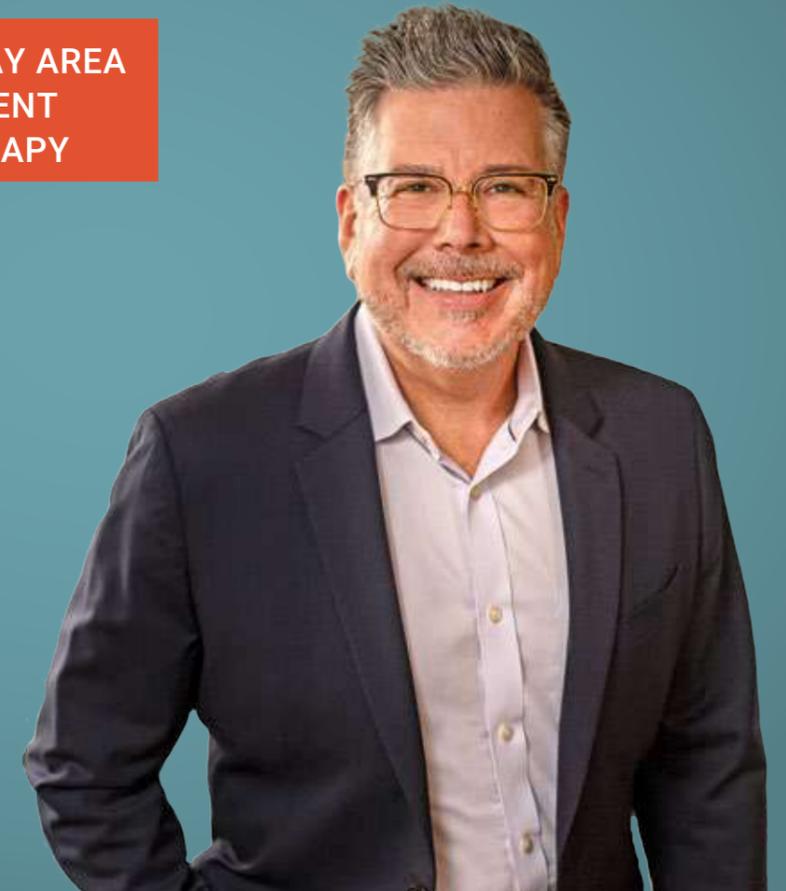
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GROUP PUBLISHER'S LETTER

A SALUTE TO FRESH STARTS

Happy 2022, everyone!

Did 2021 fly by for anyone else? As we step into 2022, we're presented with an opportunity to catch up on all the delayed moments of the past few years. One dozen months lie ahead teeming with potential. Out with the old and in with the new.

The return of Gasparilla solidifies our restoration of a sense of normalcy with the Children's Parade Jan. 22 and the Pirate Invasion and Parade of Pirates Jan. 29. As the third largest parade in the country, the Parade of Pirates' average crowd size is half a million people. The combined events bring in over \$40 million to the Tampa economy.

Even if you've spent your entire life in Tampa, you're bound to learn a few things from local historian Rodney Kite Powell in his historical summary of Gasparilla on Page 50.

One thing I've learned is that while we can't control much of what happens around us, it's the little things that get us through, like dressing up and celebrating Gasparilla. It brings us together to smile, laugh, collect insane amounts of beads and create lasting memories.

With that in mind, TAMPA Magazines sends you a salute to fresh starts. Change is good for the soul. We're hoping the New Year brings you good health and abounding happiness.

Our sights are set on a bigger, better new year.

Shawna Wiggs, Group Publisher
Shawna.Wiggs@TampaMagazines.com

FOR OUR ADVERTISERS: Our March issue offers home and real estate discounts. We also have an Annual Health Checklist and Best Steakhouses feature. Email me for information at Shawna.Wiggs@TampaMagazines.com.



From left to right (standing) Nicholas LaFalce, C.Paige Andringa, Andrew Ghekas, and Townsend Belt.
From left to right (sitting) Barbara Luikart, John Landkammer, John Anthony, Stephenie Anthony, Frank LaFalce, and Scott Stephens.

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b. Brooklyn-based OddFellows Ice Cream Co. opened in December 2021 in Hyde Park. c. Internationally renowned British artist Lucy Sparrow will kick off a month-long felt exhibit Jan. 20 in Water Street Tampa.



a. Pendry Hotel, a five-star hotel topped with residences, is in the works on Tampa Riverwalk with plans to open in 2024.

01. FRENCH CUISINE COMING TO WATER STREET TAMPA

Boulon Brasserie is planned to open this summer on the ground floor of Water Street Tampa's Thousand & One office tower. The French restaurant, bar and cafe will serve breakfast, lunch and dinner. Expect locally sourced ingredients, fresh-caught seafood and modern twists on classic French pastries. Behind the new concept is Tampa-based Next Level Brands, the parent company of Forbici Modern Italian.

02. VISIT TAMPA BAY CLOSES STRONGEST FISCAL YEAR

Visit Tampa Bay set its new record in tourism development collections as it closed out its fiscal year this fall. The local tourism marketing nonprofit reported \$38.4 million in year-end hotel collections, a 7% increase from the previous year. Hotel occupancy for the fiscal year closed out at 61.8%, a 13.15% increase since 2020. Early signs indicate continued success this fiscal year.

03. TAMPA RIVERWALK TO ADD LUXURY HOTEL, RESIDENCES

A five-star hotel topped with residences is in the works at Tampa Riverwalk's center. Pendry Tampa plans to open in 2024, the new California-based brand by Montage International announced this fall in partnership with South Florida-based Two Roads Development. Plans include 220 hotel rooms, 207 residences with one to three bedrooms starting in the \$900,000s, a restaurant, rooftop pools and 11,000 square feet of meeting space.

04. TWO NEW ICE CREAM JOINTS OPEN

Two small-batch ice cream shops arrived in December 2021. Brooklyn-based OddFellows Ice Cream Co., with recipes by James Beard Award-Nominee Chef Sam Mason, opened in Hyde Park. Tampa-based Chill Bros. Ice Cream added its third location in the city at South Tampa's Epicurean Hotel, which also houses Chill Bros.'s new production facility.

Courtesy of Pendry Hotel (a.), OddFellows Ice Cream Co. (b.) & LIV SMITH, @sewoursoul (c.)



b.



c.

05. WATER STREET TAMPA ANNOUNCES FINAL TOWER IN PHASE 1

Water Street Tampa will round out its first phase of development with Asher apartment tower at 1050 Water Street, Strategic Property Partners announced in December. Pre-leasing begins in January with move-ins slated for March. SPP partnered with Philadelphia's Method Co. to bring its high-end extended stay concept, ROOST Apartment Hotel, inside Asher, opening in Spring.

06. INTERNATIONAL ARTIST TO EXHIBIT FELT SUPERMARKET

Internationally renowned British artist Lucy Sparrow will kick off a month-long immersive exhibit Jan. 20 in Water Street Tampa. Her most ambitious project, Tampa Fresh Foods will feature 50,000-plus felt creations in a supermarket made entirely of felt, presented by the Vinik Family Foundation in partnership with Art Production Fund. Visitors can build felt Cuban sandwiches and shop the temperature-controlled cigar humidor.

07. TAMPA NAMED 2ND BEST LARGE COLLEGE CITY IN U.S.

WalletHub ranked Tampa the second-best large college city in the U.S. and No. 12 among colleges of all sizes for 2022. Austin, Texas, took the top spot. WalletHub compared over 400 cities, grouped by size, based on 30 factors related to academic, social and economic growth potential. Large cities were considered those with more than 300,000 people.

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Tampa Confidential

Local Knowledge



Pete Lackman

CAPTAIN OF YE MYSTIC KREWE OF GASPARILLA

ABOUT ME

I'm completing a two-year term as captain and chief executive officer of Ye Mystic Krewe of Gasparilla, which puts on Tampa's signature annual event, Gasparilla.

My father, George Lackman Jr., was involved with the krewe since the mid-'50s; he built the pirate ship when he worked at Tampa Ship Repair and was the sailing master for 35 years. My son, George Lackman III, just joined this year.

When I'm not playing pirate, I'm a certified public accountant, a sailor and an old car guy.

MY LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

The best shop for Gasparilla pirate costumes and accessories is South Tampa Trading Company. For your beads, Buccaneer Beads is the big bead warehouse. For the hardcores, check out Pirate Fashions.

The ultimate lodging options for visitors during Gasparilla are in Hyde Park in SoHo (South Howard Boulevard) or in any of the hotels downtown — because you can walk to the parade. Your ideal hotel to watch the invasion from is the Westin Tampa Waterside on Harbour Island; get an end suite for the best view.

Out-of-towners looking to experience the local dining scene during Gasparilla may want to grab coffee at Buddy Brew, breakfast at Goody Goody or the Tampa Convention Center (where the key ceremony is), lunch at a food truck along the parade route, dinner at Bern's Steak House and drinks at the Epicurean's EDGE rooftop bar.

The prime spot to watch the Gasparilla parade is from the east side of Bayshore Boulevard because there are less crowds there. Bring a chair or a bench to set up a few rows back if you want to stand on it and see more. A bicycle is the easiest way to get around. 

Photography by Gabriel Burgos

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20.

BARTENDER TALES
by Kathryn Deen

24.

2022 HOTTEST BARS
& DRINKS
by Leah Garcia

BARTENDER TALES

Bartenders: They're the unsung heroes of fancy Friday night meals and Sunday Funday bar hops. The right ones elevate your mood and delight your palate. Bartenders pour themselves into their drinks and their customers. (We've all had that bar visit that turned into a therapy session, right?) Meet a few of Tampa's most committed bartenders and discover their stories behind the bar.

Story By Kathryn Deen Photography by Gabriel Burgos



AUSTIN EARLE

Bar Manager at *Ciro's Speakeasy*

Favorite drink: Negroni

Notable celebrity served: basketball star LeBron James, who ordered three bottles of the most expensive Beaulieu Vineyard cabernet

His story: Tampa native Austin Earle put in a couple years at a sandwich shop after graduating high school. In 2014, when a friend invited him to work at *Ciro's Speakeasy* in South Tampa, he jumped at the exciting opportunity.

Not yet 21 and with no experience, Earle started as a bar back. With the help of several mentors and books, Earle immersed himself in craft cocktails. He worked his way up to bartender then bar manager in just seven years.

"Now I'm a craft cocktail wizard," he says. "I love to educate the customers, as well as the team."

Earle oversees a staff of 20 people, comes up with the entry passwords and creates the menu. One of his favorite parts of the job is also the most challenging: coming up with new drinks. He strives to impress with the look, taste, name and story behind each cocktail.

He has built a repertoire of about 20 original recipes that each took months to perfect. His favorite, Little Foot, is a bitter-style daiquiri inspired by a bar in Puerto Rico.

One day, Earle aspires to own his own bar and publish a cocktail recipe book.

tampamagazines.com

DANIELLE PAVLIK

Bartender at *Ulele*

Favorite drink: Aperol spritz

Notable celebrity served: Tampa Bay Buccaneers quarterback Jameis Winston, who ordered a dirty martini and a Manhattan

Her story: The power of suggestion drew Danielle Pavlik to the bar. The former Carrabba's server started working at *Ulele* five years ago and was approached to become a bartender.

Lo and behold, she discovered her niche. Pavlik thrives in the hustle and bustle of one of Tampa's most popular waterfront restaurants, hopping between indoor and outdoor bars.

"The more I did, the easier it got," she says. "You're always evolving and learning as you go."

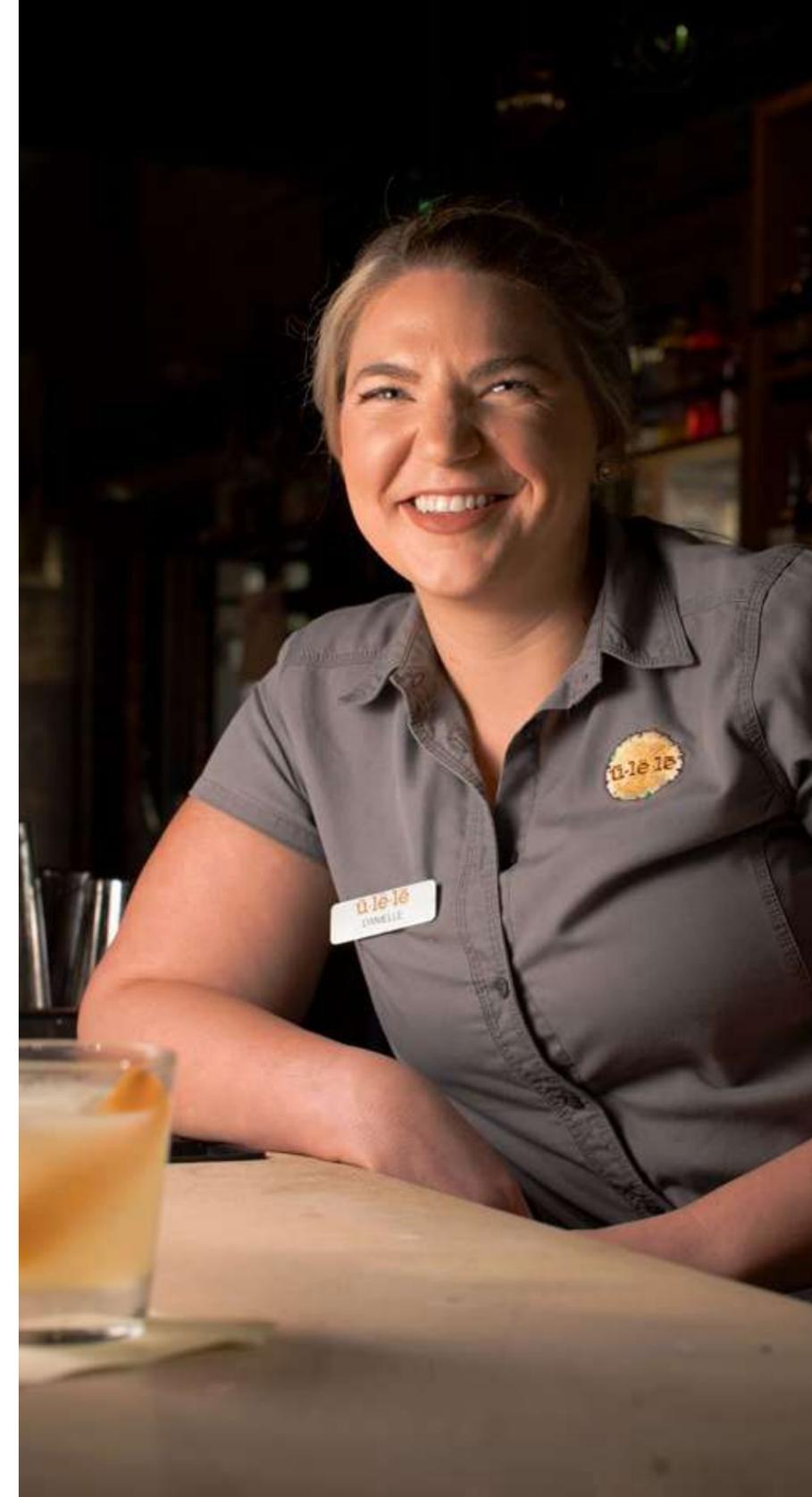
Having learned the food and drink menus inside out, Pavlik confidently recommends pairings, including with beer or seltzers made on site. She also created her first cocktail for the menu, Tocobaga Tart, a vodka-based twist on lemonade.

"It was a lot of fun," she says. "There's a lot of work that goes into it to make sure it fits for everyone."

Pavlik embraces the challenge of working during chaotic, high-volume events like Gasparilla and the Super Bowl, delivering on speed and quality while interacting with customers from across the country.

Her outgoing personality and witty humor has drawn plenty of regulars, and even sparked some friendships.

"You create this bond with people," she says. "The guest interaction is the most rewarding part."





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CHUCK MISCHO
Bartender at Westshore Yacht Club

Favorite drink: cosmopolitan

Notable celebrity served: rockstar Gregg Allmann, with Cher at the time, snuck vodka grapefruit cocktails at a private party

His story: After 40 years, Chuck Mischo has proven that bartending can be a successful career.

Mischo proudly put two children through college and private schools, thanks to his dedication.

"You can make any job a good job and bartending isn't just a job," Mischo says. "Some people say, 'You've changed my whole day today,' and that's the best. If I hear that, bartending never gets old."

Mischo got his start at Bern's Steakhouse in the '70s while finishing his advertising degree at the University of South Florida. With no previous experience, he received extensive training during five years with Bern's.

The bulk of his career came at his next stop, Ruby Tuesdays in the Tampa Bay Center. Mischo spent about 30 years there, until it closed. He also tended at private parties.

Mischo debated retiring, but a friend suggested he consider part-time work at Westshore Yacht Club. Mischo has tended bar there for the last couple years one night a week. His regulars reserve seats and call it Thursdays with Chuck.

The keys to Mischo's success are quality ingredients, an appealing drink presentation and a heart for people.

"I try to make people feel comfortable and show that I care," Mischo says. "I remember something about them so they're not just a stool. And of course, I remember what they drink." 

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2022 HOTTEST BARS & DRINKS

STORY > LEAH GARCIA PHOTOS > GABRIEL BURGOS

If you're seeking libations, look no further than Tampa. With a history soaked in imported Cuban rum and underground speakeasies, it's no wonder that Tampa has become home to popular bars and top-notch cocktails.

A drink is more than just the sum of its ingredients — it's about the experience it evokes. Similarly, bars are more than just places to kick back beverages. They are places to excite the senses and savor the evening. TAMPA Magazines rounded up some longtime favorites and new spots around town that are keeping the tradition of spirit-filled innovation alive. Thirsty yet? Read on for Tampa's hottest bars and drinks of 2022.



YEOMAN'S CASK AND LION

A fun, cheerful atmosphere with great dining and entertainment awaits you on your next visit to Yeoman's Cask and Lion. A modern English pub, you'll encounter decor that is quintessentially British with a touch of Tampa flair.

Featuring an English-themed menu, Yeoman's offers creative cocktails such as The Queen's Crush and Shakespeare's Mule alongside an impressive list of local and foreign beers.

"Yeoman's has become a melting pot for the city and a destination that folks want to return to even after a game," says Marc Brown, president of 23 Restaurant Services. "We provide high-quality food, a vibrant, fun atmosphere and entertainment like billiards and shuffleboard."

"We're very excited to announce the launch of our brand new Topgolf Swing Suite, opening in January of 2022," he adds. "The Swing Suite includes not only golf, but also baseball, hockey, and much more."

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b.

THE LOUNGE BY MEAT MARKET

Located in the heart of Hyde Park, The Lounge by Meat Market is Tampa's premier destination for an exclusive nightlife experience.

"Experience multi-sensory cocktails crafted within our mixology program," says Kyle Ewing, director of Meat Market's Private Lounge. "Each drink is thoughtfully developed with our guests in mind, taking into consideration the upscale atmosphere and refined palate of those joining us in The Lounge."

For dining, the all-inclusive Chef's Tasting Menu offers five to seven courses freshly prepared by the chef de cuisine. Sophisticated and intimate, The Lounge is an unforgettable experience of dining, libations and live music for those who enjoy the finer things in life.

1606 W. SNOW AVE | TAMPA
(813) 280-1113 | MEATMARKET.NET

c.

c.

M.BIRD

Chic, sophisticated and offering unparalleled views of the city skyline, M.Bird is the ultimate Tampa rooftop destination. Situated above historic Armature Works in The Heights, M.Bird features shareable plates, an impressive rum list and handcrafted cocktails.

"During the week, it's the perfect spot to enjoy a chill vibe and conversation with friends," describes Matt Pingol, bar manager at M.Bird Tampa and beverage director for Three Oaks Hospitality. "Thursday through Sunday, we have DJs and a more upbeat party vibe."

Menus are switched up seasonally and the cocktails are known for being approachable and made with fresh, house-made ingredients.

1903 MARKET ST. | TAMPA
(813) 296-2702 | MBIRDTAMPA.COM



e.



e.

DAVIDOFF OF GENEVA

Davidoff of Geneva has been Tampa's premier destination for a refined cigar experience since 1911. A luxury cigar boutique and lounge, Davidoff offers a wide selection of top-notch cigars along with high-end libations in a lively upscale atmosphere in Westshore.

With an impressive assortment of premium cigars and renowned brands from around the world, Davidoff boasts 5,000-plus square feet of elegant, humidified space, multiple lounges with seating indoors and out, and full bar service with over 100 spirits.

"We invite you to visit Davidoff Tampa for the ultimate cigar and bar experience," General Manager Thomas DeAddio says.

4142 W. BOY SCOUT BLVD. | TAMPA
(813) 513-7560 | DAVIDOFFTAMPA.COM

d.

HAIKU

Haiku is Tampa's hottest new Asian Fusion eatery and lounge. A creative vision from Phoenix Hospitality Group, Haiku joins Eden Nightclub and SweetFish restaurant, as part of the owners' vision to revitalize Tampa's downtown core.

"Haiku brings Izakaya-style cuisine and a modern Asian vibe to downtown Tampa," explained Asad Yusopov, who co-owns Haiku with Kevin Stowe. "Izakaya is a type of informal Japanese bar that serves alcoholic drinks and small plates."

An elevated dining and nightlife experience awaits you at Haiku's restaurant and lounge. Featuring an innovative Asian-inspired menu and two bars offering sake, rare bourbon and handcrafted cocktails, Haiku is open for dinner Wednesday through Sunday.

808 N. FRANKLIN ST. | TAMPA
(813) 644-5787 | HAIKUTAMPA.COM



d.

f.

COPPER SHAKER

Locally owned and operated in Ybor City, Copper Shaker is a craft cocktail bar and kitchen focused on gourmet, shareable appetizers and classic, contemporary craft cocktails in a relaxed, fun environment.

"We're bringing something different to Ybor — elevated product, service and atmosphere," notes Copper Shaker General Manager Juya Ebrahimi. "We've got the best cocktails served by the friendliest staff and the most amazing food."

Copper Shaker focuses on cultivating a knowledgeable, friendly staff to accommodate bourbon-trail veterans and newcomers alike to the craft scene. Its goal is to make every guest feel like a local.

1502 E. 7TH AVE. | TAMPA
(813) 542-1642 | COPPERSHAKER.COM



f.

h.



h.

CASTILE RESTAURANT AT THE HOTEL ZAMORA

Far from traditional hotel dining, Castile Restaurant at The Hotel Zamora on St. Pete Beach offers a diverse culinary and beverage menu showcasing the best of the Bay's waterways.

Castile is where traditional meets modern American cuisine. An expansive menu with shareable plates, seasonal offerings and daily chef specials like Kobe A5 Wagyu, in house dry-aged select cuts, and artistic seafood plates, offers something for everyone.

The bar showcases refreshing craft cocktails, a seasonally rotating selection of fine wines, draft and bottled beer, and an impressive bourbon and whiskey collection.

Guests can enjoy intracoastal views indoors, or on the terrace. The restaurant features daily specials such as Service Industry Night Mondays, Tapas Tuesdays and Whiskey Wednesdays. Live music is offered on weekends.

"The ambiance at Castile sets us apart," Director of Food and Beverage Austin Ramsey says. "What you see, what you hear and what you taste are all the amazing things we strive to create for all guest experiences."

3701 GULF BLVD.
ST. PETE BEACH | (727) 456-8660
THEHOTELZAMORA.COM

g.

g.

MANDARIN HEIGHTS

Refined cocktails, classic recipes and innovative creations are on the menu at Mandarin Heights in Seminole Heights. An unassuming exterior gives way to a trendy, mid-century-modern lounge with lush greenery, florals and the Instagram-famous Mandarin Heights bathtub.

"Mandarin Heights is an escape in the heart of Seminole Heights," says Morgan Zuch, director of spirits at Seed and Feed Hospitality.

"People come here to get a mind-blowing cocktail, take photos with friends and enjoy the unique '60s and '70s Palm Springs vibe."

With a new menu every week, you never know what you'll discover. Like jazz? Catch Whiskey Wednesdays for live jazz and a \$6 Old-Fashioned.

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34.

COASTAL OPULENCE

by Kathryn Deen

Home + Garden

Home Design

COASTAL OPULENCE

Bay views and Georgian design cues come together on a sprawling Davis Islands estate that exudes timeless luxury.

Story By Kathryn Deen

ARCHITECT: Thomas Everett Lamb

BUILDER: Windstar Homes

INTERIOR DESIGNER: Thomas Everett Lamb

PHOTOGRAPHER: Mark Borsch

In Memory of Thomas Everett Lamb

"Tommy was an incredibly talented, kind and witty person. He had a heart of gold and was loved by so many. He will be sorely missed, but his legacy will live on in his many beautiful homes he has created during his celebrated career."

— David Lesser, principal and co-owner of Windstar Homes

Perched atop a sprawling Davis Islands estate, a Georgian-style mansion with a strong coastal influence delights residents and visitors.

At over 20,000 square feet, it's evident that spaciousness was a priority for the homeowners, who have a large family. They sought to build a welcoming residence to comfortably accommodate visiting children and grandchildren far into the future as their family grows. The homeowners worked closely with local renowned architect and interior designer Thomas Everett Lamb and award-winning builder Windstar Homes to bring that vision to life.

"It was a real collaboration and a very organic process," says David Lesser, principal and co-owner of Windstar Homes. "The client was extremely involved in every aspect of the project and that transferred into a spectacular finished product."

The former house was demolished on the double lot to erect the new



a.



b.



c.

Courtesy of Mark Borsch

a. & b. Outdoor focal points of the sprawling Davis Islands estate include a large pool, pavilion and bocce ball court at the water's edge. c. Spanning over 20,000 square feet, this Georgian-style mansion features 10 bedrooms, 15 bathrooms, five kitchens, seven fireplaces, a four-car garage and several covered balconies and loggias among three stories.

Home + Garden

Home Design

d. A breathtaking entry foyer features a sophisticated curved staircase, an ornate, dazzling chandelier and a sea-inspired teal wall. e. This main display kitchen features a large island for cooking and welcoming seating. The door on the right connects to the catering kitchen, while the one on the left leads to the garage. f. The indoor and outdoor spaces were designed to seamlessly flow. A retractable glass wall opens up this breakfast cafe to for easy access to a covered outdoor sitting area.



d.



e.



f.

owners' dreams into 10 bedrooms, 15 bathrooms, five kitchens, seven fireplaces, a four-car garage and several covered balconies and loggias among three stories.

"The home has every feature one could imagine," Lesser gushes.

A cheery, pastel yellow exterior with a white roof and trim gives way to an interior dominated by sea-inspired hues of teal and dark wood with white accents; marble floors; ornate, dazzling chandeliers; and vibrant paintings of coastal scenes.

Courtesy of Mark Borsch



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Home + Garden

Home Design



g.

"There are a lot of authentic, classic Georgian design cues infused with some modern creature comforts and design elements that create a very distinctive residence," Lesser says. "All of the appointments and detailing selected for the home are classic and timeless."

Numerous activity areas can easily entertain several dozen people at a time. Outdoor focal points include a large pool, pavilion and bocce ball court at the water's edge, an outdoor kitchen with a pizza oven, and a basketball court. Another enviable feature, a rooftop skydeck offers 360-degree views of Tampa's iconic downtown skyline and sparkling Bay. Inside, guests can enjoy the luxuries of a game room, fitness center, wine cellar and movie theater.

"The theater is off the charts," Lesser remarks. "It has a starry ceiling like you see in Rolls-Royces."

Careful consideration was given to how the indoor and outdoor spaces flowed.

Courtesy of Mark Borsch



h.

g. Each of the 15 bathrooms is distinct. This one prominently features the home's teal color scheme and gives direct access to the balcony. h. Simple yet elegant, the main gallery flaunts classy molding and marble floors.

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Home + Garden

Home Design



i.

j.

"There's a real synergistic relationship between the interior and exterior spaces of the home," Lesser says. "They connect seamlessly."

For instance, a wall of glass can easily disappear between a breakfast cafe and a covered outdoor sitting area. An outdoor kitchen sits just off the main kitchen and the full-time chef's kitchen, perfect for entertaining.

"The chef's kitchen, also known as a dirty kitchen, is definitely in vogue," Lesser notes. "People are noticing how convenient it is to put all your pots and pans and dirty dishes there while you're entertaining because guests gravitate toward the kitchen. It gives you a great ability to entertain and have the caterers out of your way."

Another popular feature of convenience, whole home automation controls all the home's lighting and window treatments with the touch of a button.

Lesser credits the homeowners' involvement, designer Lamb's creative genius and Windstar's innovative abilities and quality for the success of this timeless coastal gem. 

Courtesy of Mark Borsch

i. The home movie theater features an eye-catching starry ceiling and is located next to a game room, kitchen and bar. j. Inside the main display kitchen, a curio cabinet shows off fine glassware and adds color and texture to the room.

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Nicole Nations Hogue, APRN-C (pictured)

TOP 5 TRENDING TREATMENTS THIS NEW YEAR

BY FACES OF SOUTH TAMPA



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Make 2022 the year to focus on you! Check out these top five trending treatments this new year from the experts at Faces of South Tampa and say hello to your most confident self.

1. MORPHEUS8

The only full-body fractional technology for collagen remodeling, Morpheus8 combines microneedling with radiofrequency to “morph” and contour the skin. The new body tip delivers 67% larger and up to 75% deeper treatments. “It’s been a major hit because it delivers amazing results,” says Faces nurse practitioner Nicole Nations Hogue, APRN-C. Since debuting Morpheus8 in 2019, Faces has become one of Florida’s most prolific providers of Morpheus8 treatments.

2. BABY BOTOX

Take the new, more natural approach to Botox® Cosmetic with Baby Botox. “Gone are the days of the frozen forehead,” Nations Hogue says. Experience a subtle lift and brow shaping with the bonus of mattified skin. This approach maintains natural movement while warding off and preventing harsh wrinkles.

3. SCULPTRA® COLLAGEN STIMULATION

Collagen stimulator Sculptra® Aesthetic enhances your face’s angles, similar to makeup contouring. Plus, it can be used wherever you have lost structure or volume, including the cheeks, jawline, temples, chin and buttocks. “It works subtly and gradually for a more youthful-looking appearance,” Nations Hogue says.

4. NATURAL-LOOKING LIPS

While lip augmentation is here to stay, patients are backing away from the overly plumped look. “Instead, they’re seeking a hydrated, defined, natural pout,” Nations Hogue adds. Drug companies are aiding in the demand as they create lighter, thinner facial fillers. Faces has the Bay Area’s Most Experienced Lip Enhancement Experts and National Trainers.

5. TREATMENT & SKIN CARE COMBO

You know that woman with enviable skin? Her secret is most likely a commitment to regular, highly effective aesthetic treatments combined with a diligent physician-grade skin care regimen. Start with a series of Intense Pulse Light Photofacials to correct dark skin pigment, broken blood vessels, wrinkles and scarring; then follow with monthly HydraFacials® and periodic AQUAGOLD® fine touch™. “Say hello to a lasting glow,” Nations Hogue says.



ERASABLE INC.



Left to right: Kristen Capo, APRN, Alyssa Malin, APRN, Nadia Pile, MD, Andrew Walter, MD, Loretta Zanetti, APRN, Ashley Diekow, LE, Lizvette Rivera, MA, Lauren Smith, LE.



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That's because the CoolSculpting® procedure targets stubborn fat safely and effectively, without surgery or downtime. This fat reduction treatment is the only FDA-cleared procedure to use controlled cooling to safely target and eliminate diet- and exercise-resistant fat. The results are proven, noticeable, and lasting. The CoolSculpting® Elite system has advanced technology that allows the ability to treat multiple areas at once, saving both time and money.

CoolSculpting® technology safely delivers precisely controlled cooling to gently and effectively target the fat cells underneath the skin. The treated fat cells are crystallized (frozen), and then die. Over time, your body naturally processes the fat and eliminates these dead cells, leaving a more sculpted you.

Erasable Medical Spa and Aesthetic Institute is one of the first practices in the Tampa area to offer the new CoolSculpting® Elite system. They customize treatment plans to address each patient's problem areas. Additional sessions may further enhance results. Individualized treatment plans are tailored to your body, your goals, and your budget.

"We pride ourselves not only on delivering results with the latest technology, but providing a patient experience from start to finish that is personalized and unique," says Loretta Zanetti, co-founder, nurse practitioner, and former Lieutenant Colonel in the US Army.

Experience the difference at Erasable, where you can relax in its exclusive CoolSculpting® Sapphire Suite. Enjoy Netflix on the flat screen TV, hop on WiFi and get some work done on your laptop or even enjoy a meal courtesy of Uber Eats, all while you wait in comfort for your treatment to complete. Afterward, you can typically return to work and normal activities immediately.

BOOK YOUR FREE CONSULTATION AND LEARN MORE ABOUT ERASABLE'S COOLSCULPTING® FINANCING OPTIONS AND OFFERS TODAY.

Five-Star Review

"I had such a great experience. They talk through every single process. Makes you feel very comfortable. And the ladies are very professional. I would recommend this Spa a thousand percent. Beautiful job ladies." Elisa T.



Erasable Inc. Body Contouring Patient

CoolSculpting® is FDA-cleared to treat visible fat bulges in 9 areas of the body. Some common side effects include temporary numbness, discomfort, and swelling.



Elevate Medical Spa is using cutting-edge technology and medical artistry in a luxurious atmosphere to help clients elevate their beauty and confidence.

From the moment you walk through the door, you can expect an experience that is truly elevated from the rest. Whether you're visiting the luxurious new South Tampa location or their sister location in Plant City – Elevate is a one stop shop for all your aesthetic needs.

Elevate offers a wide range of non-invasive cosmetic procedures. Injectable services include Botox, Dysport, Filler, Kybella, Sculptra, and more. Hydrafacials, microneedling, dermaplaning, and customizable facials are provided by the talented esthetician. Elevate also offers a range of skin revitalizing treatments, laser hair removal, and body contouring using the latest BBL Hero and MOXI laser from Sciton.

"We have the latest Sciton laser with two modalities – BBL and MOXI. The combination treatment of these two procedures can take 10 years off the skin and give you that youthful glow," says Elevate Founder and Owner Tristan Baron. "BBL focuses on color and tone correction for sun damaged skin, hyperpigmentation, rosacea, and redness. MOXI is Sciton's latest technology, resurfacing the texture of the skin. It targets pores and fine lines, giving you that youthful, airbrushed finish."

Elevate is the first in Tampa to have the MOXI laser and with virtually zero downtime and no skin type restrictions, MOXI is one of the most sought-after new procedures of the year. MOXI delivers stunning results to clients of any age and skin type!

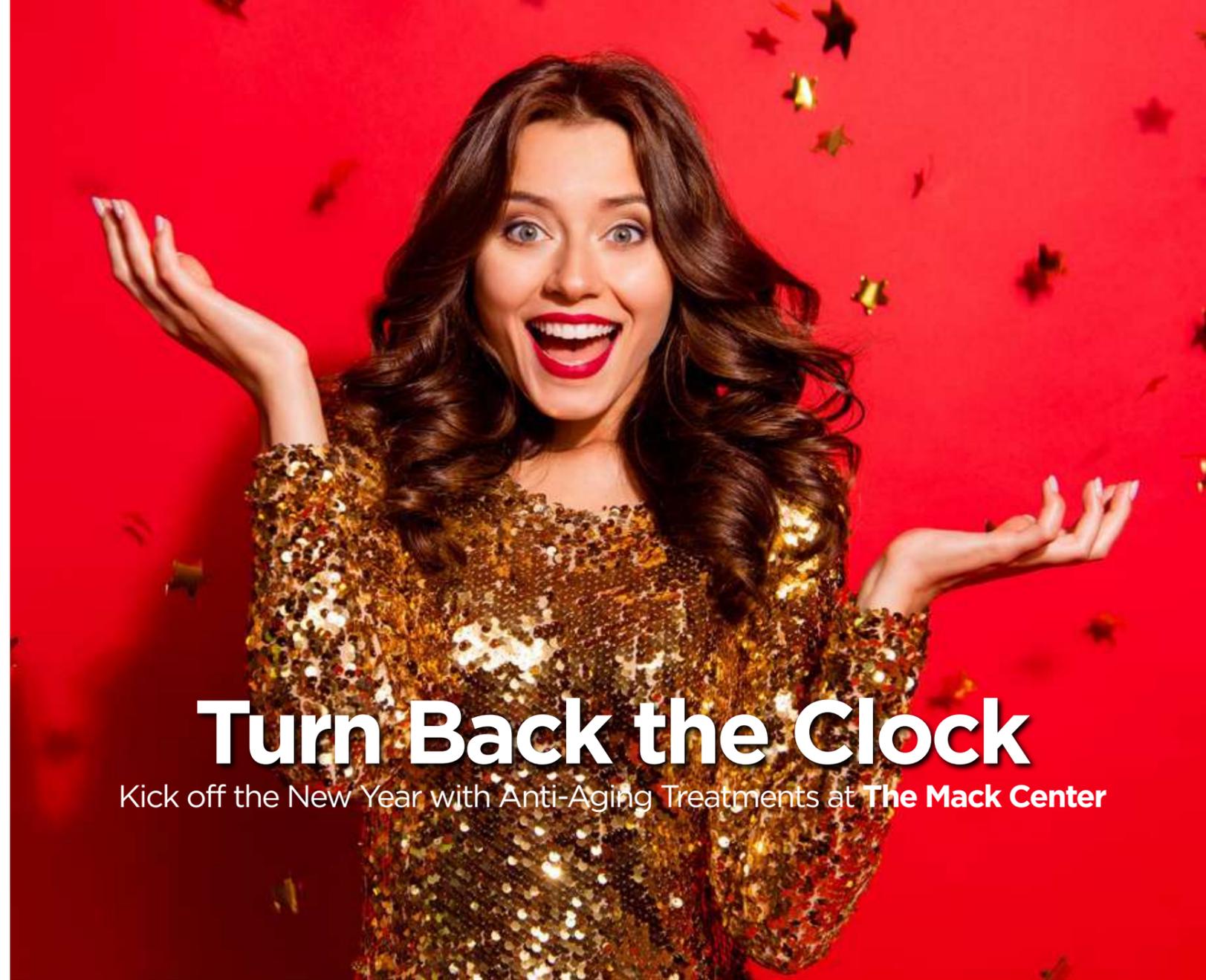
"We welcome you to come see one of our four expert NP injectors with a combined 25 years of experience," Baron says. "For the first quarter of 2022, special 'New Year New You' laser pricing will ensure 2022 will be your best-looking year yet!"

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While BBL will enhance your buttocks, you must have the right body type to achieve a balanced look. It all comes down to the ratio between your rib cage and hips. The goal after body contouring is to have a super tiny waist while highlighting your beautiful curves.

Some clients want to have a **VIXEN** look and require two rounds of fat transfer about six to nine months apart, depending on the look desired.

The key is to find a cosmetic surgeon with the experience to help you achieve your body transformation. If you are interested in the **VIXEN** Brazilian Butt Lift, contact Tampa Surgical Arts to schedule a consultation.



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For **WOMEN** in 2020, the leading surgical procedures were liposuction, breast augmentation and tummy tucks.



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Sources: Statista; Journal of Plastic, Reconstructive & Aesthetic Surgery



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A TREASURED HISTORY:

THE STORY OF GASPARILLA, TAMPA'S MOST PRIZED TRADITION

Story by Rodney Kite-Powell

Tampa's most prized tradition was sparked 118 years ago and continues to be shrouded in some mystery. Gasparilla, the city's most popular annual event, centered around a pirate-themed parade, resulted from a conversation seeking to spice up an existing parade.

It all started in the newsroom of the now-defunct *Tampa Morning Tribune*, where Society Page Editor Louise Francis Dodge sought to energize the city's annual May Festival. George W. Hardee, a New Orleans native who worked in Tampa for the U.S. Customs Service, suggested that they add a Mardi Gras-style element and incorporate a mythical pirate, Jose Gaspar. Hardee spoke with several young, local businessmen and organized a new social club, Ye Mystic Krewe of Gasparilla (YMKG).

On April 23, 1904, the *Tribune* ran a story on the return of an ancient band of pirates. On the eve of the May Festival, the krewe's pirate ship, the Octopus, was sighted about 40 miles down the coast. A word of warning accompanied it: "Anyone sitting up to see the arrival will be summarily shot by order of the Pirate-Chief."

a. The C. L. Hackley passes through the opened Lafayette Street Bridge (now Kennedy Boulevard) for the "invasion" on Feb. 6, 1922.
b. Pirates are pictured in the mid- to late-1950s. c. Pirates stand on the deck of the krewe's first ship in the early 1950s.

The pirates, about 50 YMKG members, made their appearance two days later, but rather than pillage and plunder, they joined the May Festival parade in costumes from New Orleans, many on horseback. That day, May 5, 1904, Tampa witnessed the first invasion of Ye Mystic Krewe of Gasparilla. The parade was a hit, as was the krewe's coronation ball held two days later at the Tampa Bay Hotel (now the Henry B. Plant Museum).

Dodge and Hardee get credit for creating Gasparilla, and Hardee and the krewe more so for crafting Gaspar's backstory (including giving him the first name Jose and a death date of 1821). But the idea of a pirate named Gasparilla (or some variant) goes way back. Despite its long history, there is no definitive origin of the name. It is believed that it first appeared on maps of Florida in the 1770s. The Bernard Romans map of 1774 may be the earliest appearance (Boca Gasparilla, or Gasparilla Pass), but some sources allude to an unidentified map printed in 1772 that also identifies the place name. The best hypothesis is that the name comes from a Spanish priest,



Courtesy of Burgert Brothers Collection, Tampa-Hillsborough Public Library System (a.) & Tampa Bay History Center Collection (b. & c.)

A TREASURED HISTORY:
GASPARILLA

d.
e.

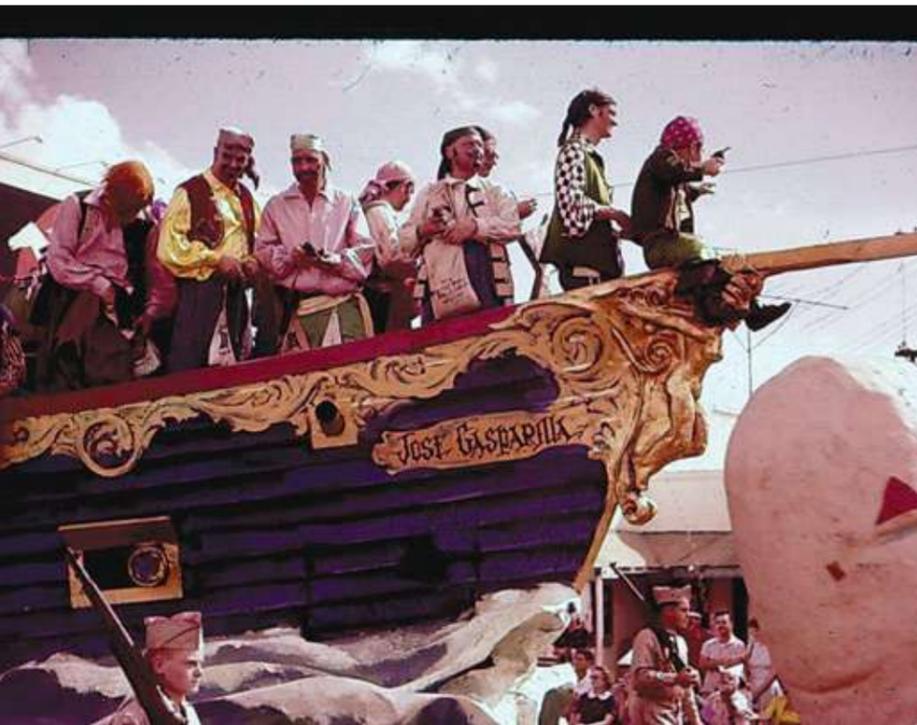


who lived on what is now Gasparilla Island, and went by the name Gaspar.

The leap from priest to pirate happened about 120 years later, likely to draw tourists to southwest Florida. The early story had as many contradictions as it did creators. Juan Gomez was among the ones most often identified as a creator or perpetuator of Gaspar's story. His own story – that he lived to the age of 122 – is far-fetched enough to believe. He claimed to be a member of Gaspar's crew, appearing in stories of hidden treasure. Though it is much more likely that he was exercising his imagination, his stories became part of the Gasparilla legend.

Another man with a wild imagination also contributed to the legend. Tampa mystic and conman Luis de Ricardo was arrested and put on trial in 1901 for swindling three local ship carpenters out of a few hundred dollars so they could talk to spirits who would reveal the buried treasure of a Spanish pirate named Gasparilla. As it turned out, there were no spirits and there was likely no treasure, but there was a conviction. Ricardo ended up in jail for fraud.

Ye Mystic Krewe of Gasparilla returned to invade Tampa in 1905 and 1906, with the fledgling parade coinciding with the new South Florida Fair in November. The parade vanished until February 1910, highlighting Tampa's Panama Canal Celebration. The following year, 1911, marked the first time Ye Mystic Krewe "invaded" the city by ship, with cannons blazing to clear the way. The scope of



f.
g.



Courtesy of Tampa Bay History Center Collection



h.

d. Ye Mystic Krewe of Gasparilla's Royal Chamberlain D. Collins Gillett accepts the key to the city from Tampa Mayor Donald B. McKay in 1915. e. & f. Gasparilla is shown in the early 1960s near the intersection of Franklin and Platt streets (now Channelside Drive) downtown. g. A dragon float makes its way through the parade in the late 1950s near Tampa Bay Hotel (University of Tampa). h. Several social events were part of the overall Gasparilla season. Pictured is a 1924 invitation to the annual Pirates Ball, one of the more important gatherings held before the invasion and parade.

the parade has vastly increased over the years, with elaborate coronation parties, more krewes and additional parades, but the original idea remains.

The Gasparilla invasion has returned almost every year since 1910. There have been a few interruptions, though. The two longest disruptions were the result of global conflict, namely World War I and World War II. Another pause, in 1991, came when another street carnival, Bambaleo, briefly replaced the annual pirate celebration. The most recent break came in 2021 due to COVID-19.

The present-day parade has a national corporate sponsor and is as much a marketing tool for the Bay area as it is a celebration of a mythical pirate. However, children still jockey for the best position to catch beads and coins, and crowds throng to the waterfront to catch a glimpse of the Jose Gasparilla II and the accompanying flotilla. The city and its citizens continue to turn the city over to a band of pirates, even if only for a day. TM

BEHIND THE SCENES: THE MAKING OF GASPARILLA

Story By Kathryn Deen Photography By Gabriel Burgos

It takes a village to put on Tampa's signature event. After all, Gasparilla features the largest boat parade and third largest annual parade in the U.S. (after Macy's and the Rose Bowl), attracting half a million attendees and pumping over \$40 million into the economy per year. Here's a behind-the-scenes look at what goes into bringing this 106-year-old Tampa tradition to life.

Thousands of people help make it happen, and it all starts a year in advance. The day after one Gasparilla ends, planning for the next one begins. Ye Mystic Krewe of Gasparilla (YMKG), the organization inspired by the legend of pirate Jose Gaspar, heads up the plans, which include a Children's Parade (Sat., Jan. 22), Pirate Invasion and Parade of Pirates (Sat., Jan. 29).

"Gasparilla is pure Tampa: historic but ever-changing, sometimes crazy and always fun," Mayor Jane Castor says.

The Children's Parade is the largest in the nation, attracting a quarter million attendees per year to the alcohol-free event. A week later, YMKG members set sail from Ballast Point for the Pirate Invasion on the Jose Gasparilla II; about 750 boats accompany the ship on the 90-minute journey to the Tampa Convention Center, where the pirates have a key ceremony with the mayor. Shortly after, the Parade of Pirates begins, traversing Bayshore Boulevard to Downtown Tampa, with about 70 krewes participating.

At Gasparilla's helm is YMKG's captain and executive director, supported by a board of directors, executive officer and

a. The invasion is shown in 2020. b. A festive Gasparilla participant is pictured in 2019 at the Tampa Convention Center.



GASPARILLA

The Making Of Gasparilla

six staff members. (Learn more about this year's captain, Pete Lackman, on Page 16.)

"Gasparilla celebrates the rich diversity of culture that we have here in Tampa," Lackman says. "It's really about the community and having half a million people out there having a great pirate time. It's the most fun you can have playing a pirate."

The krewe works with several key agencies to ensure a safe, productive event, including Tampa Police Department, Tampa Fire Rescue, Tampa Special Events, Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office, U.S. Coast Guard, and Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

Meetings are held quarterly starting in the summer and then increase in frequency to monthly, weekly and even daily as Gasparilla nears. Safety is a top priority for the 11,000 parade participants. Seven security personnel surround each parade unit (117 this year) to ensure a clear path. A fence runs the entire length of the 5.4-mile route on each side and takes about a month to set up, along with bleachers. And safety measures aren't just taken for people.

"Because we want to be good stewards of the Bay, we have a contracted marine engineering company that puts on a manatee protected species watch," Lackman says.

A ZooTampa marine scientist keeps a sharp lookout from a helicopter, and thankfully, there has never been an issue. YMKG also coordinates with a plethora of sponsors and vendors, as well as eight beverage stations along the adult parade route that bring in about \$115,000 for charity.

A unique challenge each year is adjusting the parade route. New buildings and street lights may pop up and must be evaluated to see if floats can navigate around them or if the course needs to be tweaked.

With so many attendees eating, drinking and throwing beads, Lackman is always amazed at how pristine the parade route looks the next day, commending Tampa's Solid Waste Department.

A lengthy list of logistics each year, it's incredible how thousands of people come together to make Gasparilla such a success, on its 106th year and counting.

c. & d. The invasion, the largest boat parade in the U.S., is shown in 2020. e. Chris Rivers uses his mechanical expertise to build and maintain floats for Ye Mystic Krewe of Gasparilla. f. Tim Rivers puts his artistic skills to work on the floats. g. Hewett Rivers, pictured on the ground, specializes in woodwork. He and his sons Tim, left, and Chris are seen touching up their latest float for Gasparilla.



c.



d.



e.



f.



g.

A FAMILY OF FLOAT BUILDERS

Colorful, creative masterpieces make their way down Bayshore Boulevard for the event of the year — Gasparilla's Parade of Pirates.

Several of the handmade floats stealing the spotlight are the pride of a special father-son team on Ye Mystic Krewe of Gasparilla's staff: Tampa natives Hewett, Christopher and Timothy Rivers. Together, they've built five floats and revamped or repaired over a dozen others. Hewett works wonders with the woodwork, while son Chris masters the mechanics and son Tim delights in the design.

"It's family," Tim says. "We respect each other."

Their creations include a pirate cove with a jail, a pirate castle parapet, a happy pirate, a kraken and perhaps the crowd favorite, the skull and crossbones, complete with a smoke feature.

Building a new float is no small task. It starts with concepting on the computer and approval by the krewe. Then, the Riverses bring it to life on top of a hay wagon. They use a variety of materials, mostly wood and fiberglass, sometimes foam and plaster. They even make their own fiberglass plugs and hand pull the molds. The laborious process takes an average of eight to nine months per float.

"We spend a lot of hours working side by side," Chris says. "We enjoy what we do."

They describe it like a puzzle. Not only are they making something aesthetically stunning; they also are accommodating bathrooms and structural support for about 30 to 70 members. The entire float may weigh several tons. Balance is key, and of course, safety is a priority. Handrails are installed and everything gets double checked — hitches, tires, brakes and the like.

Hewett started working for the krewe part time in the late 1980s and became its full time warehouse supervisor in 1993. A former homebuilder, his skills easily translated to floats. Chris, a former automotive and marine mechanic, started part time with the krewe in 2003 and went fulltime in 2006. Tim, a natural artist, became part time with the krewe in 2008 and fulltime in 2011.

"It runs in the family," Hewett says. "There's a special bond when you work with your sons." 

KREWE LIFE

Story By Kathryn Deen Photography By Gabriel Burgos

Tampa is rife with krewe life. People with common interests gather in these social and philanthropic membership organizations and have a blast along the way. After all, where else do adults have an excuse to go all-out in costume beyond Halloween?

While krewes exist around the country, they are prevalent in Florida, with around 130 krewes running. The krewe scene is especially thriving in Tampa, says Gregg Heggeland, president of the Inter-Krewe Council, which has about 70 krewe members from the Bay area and Panhandle.

"This is such a unique way of creating groups to support the community," says Heggeland, a member of the 1st U.S. Volunteer Cavalry Regiment — Rough Riders. (The krewe was founded in 1978 to memorialize the accomplishments of the regiment and President Theodore Roosevelt.)

Locally, the public may be most familiar with krewes as the lively groups in themed outfits seen on elaborate floats at Gasparilla's Parade of Pirates, organized by Ye Mystic Krewe of Gasparilla. (Read about the making of Gasparilla costumes on Page 62.)

"It really is like being a rock star onstage," Heggeland says. "You have all these people yelling and screaming for you for beads."

Gasparilla may be the largest, but it isn't the only krewe-run parade in town. Other popular productions include the St. Patrick's Day Parade, put on by the Rough Riders; and a Knight Parade, hosted by the Knights of Sant Yago. But there's much more to krewe life than throwing throngs of beads to screaming fans. They host numerous socials and fundraisers, raising thousands of dollars for charity.

"These parades are our celebration for what we do throughout the year," Heggeland says.

The Inter-Krewe Council's membership is diverse.

While commonalities include a costume and theme, charity support and dues collection, they vary vastly within those confines. Ye Mystic Krewe of Gasparilla is the oldest, established in 1904, while some were recently created. Their sizes range from 20 to nearly a thousand members. Some are co-ed, while others are all male or all female. Many accept members year-round, while others have a membership timeframe or are no longer accepting new members. Members may be several-generation participants or the first in their family to participate.

The theme is what really sets a krewe apart. Some are organized by nationality, while others are grouped by common interest (pirates!), profession, history and/or charity.

Inter-Krewe Council Secretary Karen Burns is a founding member of Sirens of the Golden Sabre, a small, all-female group founded in 2000.

"We attend each other's events and support each other," Burns says. "There's a lot of diversity and inclusion among the different krewes and within each krewe as well."

Burns and Heggeland implemented the council's Krewe University a couple of years ago to help krewes navigate insurance, vendors, the pandemic and other topics.

"The goal is to collaborate and share ideas and best practices," Heggeland says.

Interested in joining a krewe? Heggeland recommends checking out the Inter-Krewe Council's web directory at interkrewe.com and attending some events to find the best fit. There's typically an application process and may include a background check, letter of reference/sponsor and probationary period. interkrewe.com



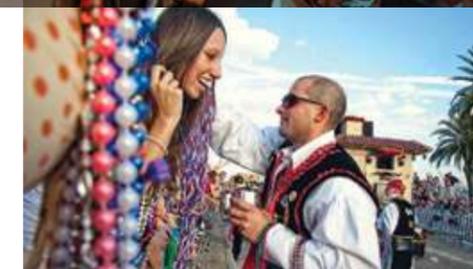
a.



c.



b.



d.

a. A member of the Crewe of De Soto participates in Gasparilla's Parade of Pirates. b. An aerial view of the parade. c. Members of the Krewe of the Conch Republic, from left, Greg Yurcus, Ryan McDonald and Chip Whitaker. d. A member of the Gaucho Association of Tampa hands out beads during Gasparilla.

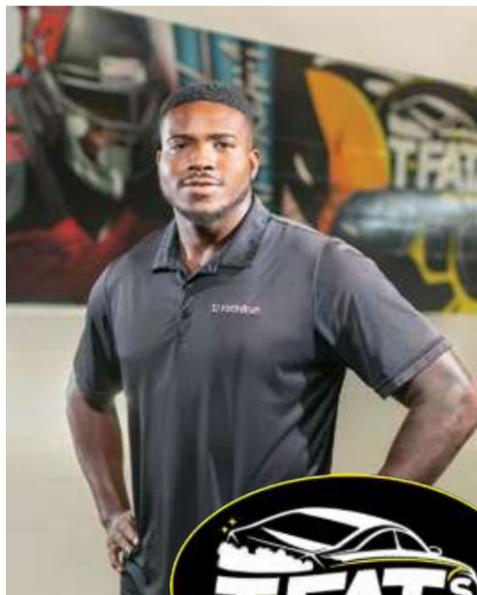
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Purely Tampa

Iconic Places, Faces and Spaces Shaping Tampa's Identity

MADE IN TAMPA

62.

OUTFITTING PIRATES &
PRINCESSES

by Kathryn Deen

Purely Tampa

Made in Tampa

OUTFITTING PIRATES & PRINCESSES

How South Tampa Trading Co.'s Handmade Costumes Make Gasparilla — And Tampa — Shine

Story by Kathryn Deen Photography by Gabriel Burgos

The clock is ticking at South Tampa Trading Co. It's Nov. 23, 2021, nearly two months until Gasparilla, the annual Tampa tradition that fuels the store's sales. Jeff Dervech walks in to order a parade costume; he is a new squire in the Krewe of the Knights of Sant' Yago, one of the local social clubs.

His presence sets off a flurry of activity. Store owner Anne Bartlett rattles off Dervech's family members' names and his krewe's colors and styles. Her team springs into action. Tape measures encircle him, swatches of blue fabric and silver lace fly out of the back room. Bartlett rattles off words like "castling," "rows of trim," "knight braids," "collar" and "cuffs." Dervech is new to it all and he trusts their expertise.

"Everyone gets their costumes from here," Dervech says.

Bartlett has designed around three thousand outfits for Gasparilla since opening South Tampa Trading Co. seven years ago on Dale Mabry Highway. Dervech's will be one of about 500 her team is making this year alone. She knows the drill: Measure in extra room around the arms for ease of bead throwing. Add pockets to hold IDs and credit cards. And make it look amazing because this is Tampa's most celebrated, photographed day.

"The rule is you have to find me at Gasparilla and get your picture with me,"

she tells him. "I have great pictures with everyone."

Bartlett missed this organized chaos last year. COVID-19 sent her Gasparilla orders to a screeching halt when the parade was canceled. Her team pivoted to sewing face masks and was met with high demand. They have sold over 29,000 masks so far, shipping to 48 states.

"There was a time you couldn't get them anywhere, so we were sewing as fast as we could," Bartlett says. "For a while, we were working 20-hour days. It was wild, but it was fun."

While she is happy to help out, handmade costumes are what make Bartlett come alive the most, and she couldn't be more excited for Gasparilla's return.

"It's nice to be back in the swing again," she says.

Walking into South Tampa Trading Co. is like entering a classy pirate wonderland. About 30 trading partners sell specialty items in the store, such as skulls, embroidery, hats and wreaths. They also sell beads in bulk. When Google mislabeled it a souvenir shop, Bartlett made lemonade out of lemons, adding a section of touristy items, such as snow globes, rum cakes and cookbooks.

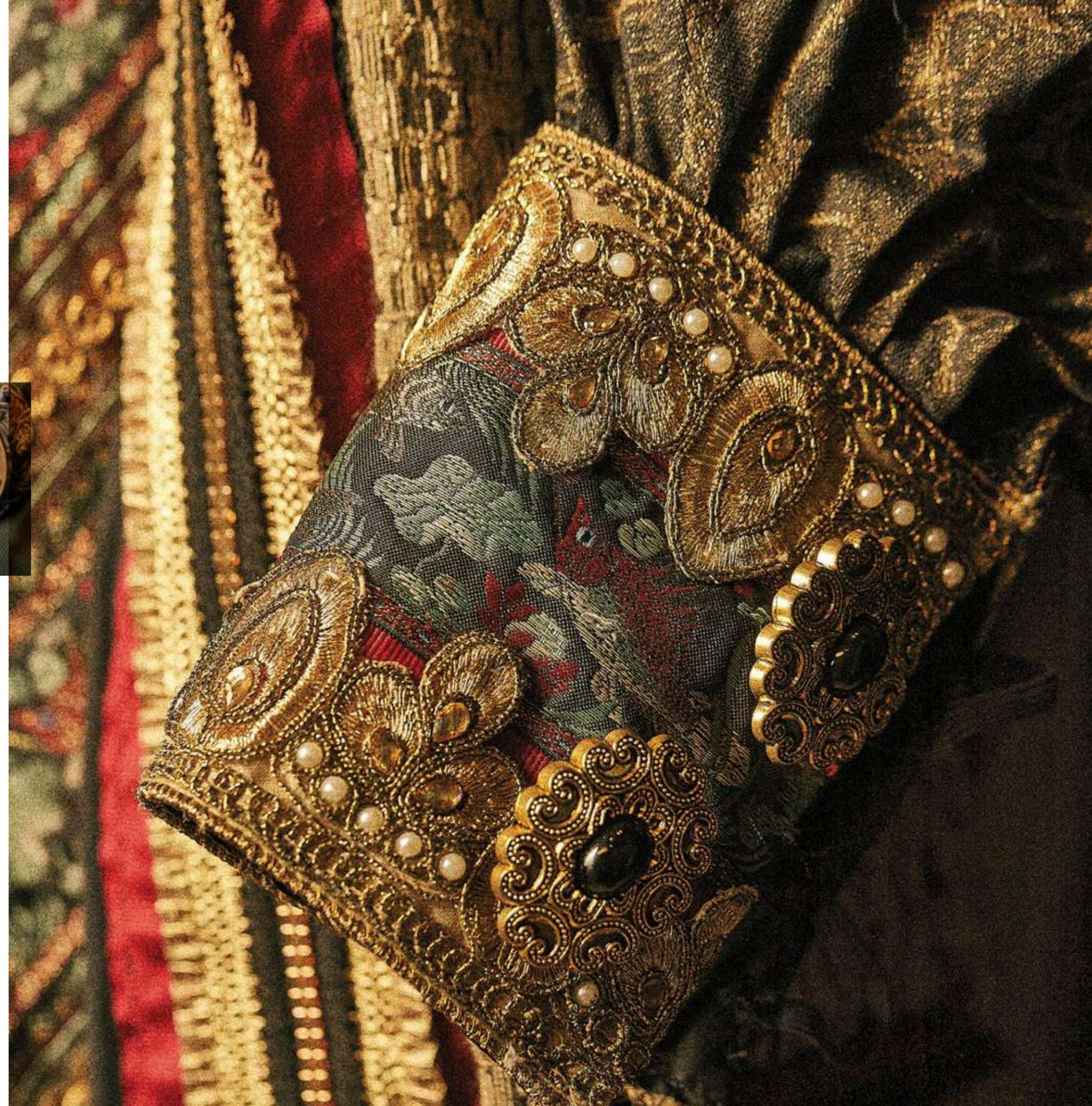
While some ready-made costumes and semi-custom outfits are available, what sets the store apart is its fully



a. A custom button for Ye Mystic Krewe of Gasparilla adorns a costume created by South Tampa Trading Co. b. This Gasparilla outfit showcases the intricate, detailed handiwork of the seamstresses, who may spend upward of 150 hours on elaborate orders like this one.

a.

b.



Purely Tampa

Made in Tampa



c.

customized ensembles. In the back is Bartlett's playground of fabrics, trims, buttons and sequins. Her eyes light up as she talks about designing costumes and working with her team of seamstresses to bring her plans to life.

"I help people become what they dreamed they could be," Bartlett says. "Whether they want to dress as a goddess, a pirate queen, a Voodoo chef, a knight, a king, a cancan dancer, Teddy Roosevelt or simply want to cut loose and walk Bayshore Boulevard dressed as a pirate — we can help them realize those dreams, step outside themselves, have fun and make great memories."

Creating costumes is in Bartlett's blood. Her mother, aunts and grandmothers were skilled sewists. When her sons started participating in high school madrigal dinners (Renaissance theater dinners), she became the choir's go-to costume maker.

"One of my friends sewing with me said if you like this, you should join a krewe," Bartlett recalls.

Intrigued, Bartlett joined Ye Loyal Krewe of Grace O'Malley in 2008. Its members wear 16th-century Elizabethan ball gowns, much to Bartlett's delight, and she has collected over 20 outfits.

As more krewe members asked her to make their costumes, she determined there was enough demand to open a store. South Tampa Trading Co. has since become many krewes' go-to costume shop. In fact, Bartlett estimates



d.



e.

c. & d. Seamstress Cindy "Anna Rosa" Dauck works on outfits for Gasparilla. e. Custom handiwork creates one-of-a-kind, quality costumes at South Tampa Trading Co.

Purely Tampa

Made in Tampa



f.

f. South Tampa Trading Co. completes an average of 500 Gasparilla costume orders per year. g. Anne Bartlett opened the store in 2007. About 30 trading partners sell specialty items, most of which are pirate themed.



g.

having made outfits for over 30 krewes.

Seamstress and krew member Cindy “Anna Rosa” Dauck says, “Each krew wants to have a unique look and be recognized from far away. The best part is seeing them in it showing off.”

Prices range from a couple hundred dollars to upward of six thousand dollars. After all, an elaborate costume could require 150 hours of labor over the course of a month. Bartlett’s main challenge is finding seamstresses.

“Sewing is a dying art and there’s not that many people who do it anymore,” Bartlett says. “We’re willing to teach people. It’s very specialized, what we do. It’s very unique.”

The handiwork is intricate to say the least, with tedious applique work, custom trims and individually sewn stones and metals. It’s about making each person look their best, but it’s also more than that, Bartlett says.

“The heart of Gasparilla is really civic pride and wanting to share that with a lot of other people,” Bartlett says. “We are keepers of that history. It is a thing that has shaped this city.” 

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Moving Tampa

Meet the People Behind Tampa's Ongoing Evolution

BUSINESS

STARTUPS

+ PHILANTHROPY

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THE INTERVIEW:
STEVE BONNER,
SEMINOLE HARD ROCK
HOTEL & CASINO TAMPA
by Kathryn Deen



Photography by
Gabriel Burgos

Moving Tampa

InterView

STEVE BONNER

PRESIDENT OF SEMINOLE HARD ROCK HOTEL & CASINO TAMPA

I come from the great state of Texas. I was born and raised there, and my parents still live in the first house they ever bought, just east of Waco. While I grew up in Baylor University Bears territory, I attended college at Texas A&M University. When I grew up, I wanted to be a marine biologist. I was always intrigued by oceanography and marine organisms.

What led me to my current job is my previous work relationship with Seminole Gaming CEO Jim Allen. Jim was working as general manager at a casino in Colorado and I was the shift manager. He went on to open many other casinos, but it was when he came to Florida that he gave me a call to come work with him. I was on the next plane.

My business philosophy is simple: always happy, never satisfied. I treat people with honesty and respect, while continually exhibiting integrity. Additionally, I always push myself to try to achieve my objectives. I believe my best quality is being a good listener, which shows someone that you respect them and their ideas. Building that respect is the key to good leadership.

The most rewarding part of my job is seeing people succeed and grow within their careers. Also, it's important to be able to give back to the community. Simply stated, the culture that we instill at Seminole Hard Rock Tampa should reflect what we do in the Tampa Bay community. The most challenging part of my job is dealing with everything that Seminole Hard Rock Tampa is involved with. We have so much happening each and every day, both internally and externally, that requires my utmost attention. You also have to be able to adjust and handle any new issues that may arise.

The pandemic taught me, from a business perspective, plenty of things that I hope I never have to use again. Personally, it taught me the depth about how much people really care and how much they will do to help others. The sheer emotion that was brought out from so many different people with different perspectives are all valid and need to be respected. It was very eye opening.

When describing the Tampa Bay area, I say it's a melting pot with a very diverse community. There's always a place to go and it's an incredible pro sports town with the Rays, Bucs and Lightning. It's a pleasure going out anywhere.

I would describe Gasparilla as an unbelievable spectacle. I don't think you can clearly describe the event to someone

who has never attended. You have to see it for yourself. My favorite memory of Gasparilla is seeing just how huge an event it is. I've only been to two, but one of my memories was getting off the Seminole Hard Rock Tampa float at our VIP tent and having to walk to Ybor City from Bayshore Boulevard because I couldn't get an Uber. Gasparilla was my first real major event after I relocated to Tampa Bay.

When I travel, the one thing I always do is try the local food. One of the best meals I've had outside of the country was in South Africa. My favorite place to visit is probably Colorado. I lived there for 10 years and I like to go back to visit my place in the mountains on the river. While I really like to travel, I don't get to do it as much as I would like.

Most people would be surprised to know that I am an avid hunter and fisherman. Both activities are very relaxing. My most surprising hobby is cigars. After all, Tampa Bay is the cigar capital of the world.

The biggest honor of my life has been my family, children and friends. Working for the Seminole Tribe has been a privilege and an honor for nearly 20 years. 

2022 TAMPA TOP LAWYERS LIST

Choosing an attorney is an important investment. No matter the legal matter you're facing, it will likely involve a significant amount of your time, energy and money. To help you find the best options in the Tampa Bay area, TAMPA Magazines asked the nearly 8,000 attorneys practicing in Hillsborough and Southern Pasco counties to nominate the peers they believe to stand out from the rest. Tampa Bay attorneys chose 192 of their peers from 79 practice areas as this year's Top Lawyers.

WHO CHOOSES THE LAWYERS?

Fellow lawyers do. In October, we mailed nearly surveys to the aforementioned active attorneys registered with the Florida Bar. We asked each one to nominate the peers they believed to be the best local lawyer in each category, then return the anonymous survey in a prepaid return envelope or complete the survey through our secure online process. We tallied the votes from those surveys to compile the following list. If there was no clear winner in a particular practice area, we did not include it on this list.

WAS MY ATTORNEY LEFT OFF THE LIST BECAUSE HE OR SHE DOES NOT ADVERTISE IN TAMPA MAGAZINES?

No. Only lawyers who are nominated by their peers are eligible to be on the list. The Top Lawyers list is not influenced by TAMPA Magazines' advertisers.

Congratulations to this year's Top Lawyers and thank you for all that you do to serve the community.

THE LIST BEGINS ON THE NEXT PAGE. IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE LIST, GET TO KNOW SOME OF THE ATTORNEYS IN THE BAY AREA BY READING THEIR PROFILES.



Eric Thiel
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Raymond "Tom" Elligett
Appellate Practice



Erik Johanson
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Stephenie Biernacki Anthony
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Inventory & Reorganization



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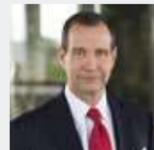
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Criminal Defense/
General Practice



John Lauro
Criminal Defense/
White Collar



Christopher Hersem
DUI-DWI Defense



Andrew Diaz
Eminent Domain-
Condemnation Law



Blake Gaylord
Eminent Domain-
Condemnation Law



Roberta Watson
Employee Benefits
(ERISA) Law



Cynthia Sass
Employment Law (Individuals)



Alicia Schumacher
Employment Law
(Management)



Benjamin Briggs
Employment Law
(Management)



George Gramling
Environmental Law



Scott Tozian
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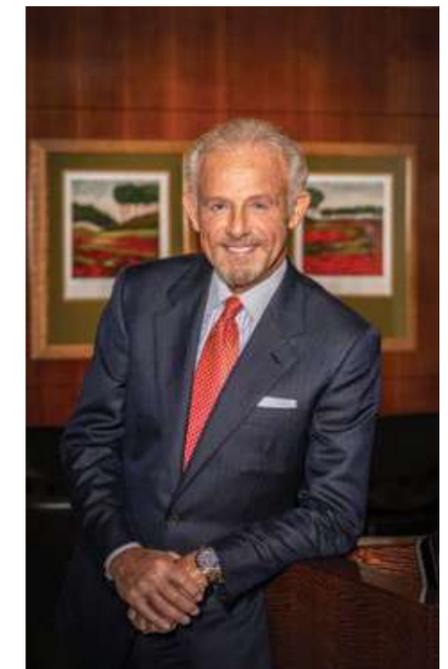


Jeanne Tate
Family Law (Adoption)



The Yerrid Law Firm Congratulates Steve Yerrid On Being Voted by His Peers as the 2022 Top Lawyer in Three Categories

The Yerrid Firm congratulates its founder on being named the **Top Lawyer Winner** in three separate categories: **Medical Malpractice, Personal Injury Litigation, and Product Liability Litigation**. As one of America's best trial lawyers, Mr. Yerrid has dedicated his career to delivering justice to his clients. In addition to his accomplishments in the courtroom, Mr. Yerrid is a dedicated philanthropist, donating millions to worthy causes in the Tampa Bay area and beyond through The Yerrid Foundation. We are proud to work with him every day.



C. STEVEN YERRID

Member, National Trial Lawyers Hall of Fame
Member, Florida Boxing Hall of Fame
Former Adjunct Professor at
Stetson University & Georgetown Law
Over 300 verdicts and settlements of
\$1 million or more

Catastrophic Injury
Wrongful Death
Product Liability
Medical Negligence
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For over 25 years, Josh Burnett has been fighting for his clients and seeking the best possible results in the face of unimaginable tragedy and catastrophe. The founder and president of Burnett Law, P.A. focuses his practice on helping regular people seek justice after life-altering injuries.

"I'm committed to doing the best I possibly can for my clients and pursuing the maximum recovery for them," Burnett says.

His dedicated, personal investment in each case has not gone unnoticed. Burnett has earned Martindale-Hubbell's AV Preeminent Peer Rating for Highest Level of Professional Excellence, which is the top rating for legal ability and ethical standards.

Burnett has extensive experience in personal injury and wrongful death cases resulting from motor vehicle accidents — with a particular emphasis on accidents involving semi-trucks, motorcycles, golf carts and pedestrians. He also represents individual victims of real estate fraud, construction defects and wrongful claim denials by homeowners insurance companies. He is a former member of one of the country's largest sinkhole litigation law firms.

Burnett has wide-ranging litigation experience — from representing banks and international corporations in commercial litigation matters to representing individuals and their families. Having been on both sides of the courtroom, Burnett strives to implement the most effective strategies in seeking the best outcomes for his clients.

"I gain tremendous satisfaction when I am able to help my clients receive justice so they can start to get their lives back on track," he says. "I enjoy representing those who need someone in their corner to fight for what is right."

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Jeffrey "Jack" Gordon is a highly skilled trial attorney who has twice been selected as a Leading Attorney of the Southeastern United States in *Forbes* magazine. He has been named for inclusion among Florida's Legal Elite and recognized as one of the Top 100 SuperLawyers® in Florida and one of the Top 50 SuperLawyers® of Tampa Bay.

Five times Board Certified in Civil Trial Law by the Florida Bar, Gordon is also certified by The National Board of Trial Advocacy as an expert in both Civil Trial Law and Civil Pre-Trial Litigation. He is AV® rated Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell. Gordon has also earned National Board Certification as an expert in Medical Malpractice Law by the American Board of Professional Liability Attorneys.

Gordon has been elected to membership in the American Board of Trial Advocates and is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*. He earned 2014 and 2015 National Litigator Awards and is a lifetime member of the Million Dollar Advocates Forum, having garnered multiple seven-figure jury verdicts and settlements. For seven years running, Gordon has been named to TAMPA Magazines' Top Lawyers list for medical malpractice by his peers and Maney|Gordon Trial Lawyers is recognized by U.S. News and World Report as a Best Law Firm in the country.

Gordon focuses his practice on fighting negligence by helping clients hold medical professionals accountable for their mistakes — especially common in the hospital emergency room, Gordon says.

"Misdiagnosis is the most common mistake we see in the ER," Gordon explains. "By holding doctors and hospitals accountable, we can help make medical care safer for everyone."

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Kathryn "KC" Hopkinson is a highly skilled labor and employment attorney based in Tampa. Since 2013, Hopkinson has been representing individuals and businesses of all sizes in Tampa and throughout the state. She has received multiple honors from her peers and prestigious legal organizations in Florida and nationally.

Hopkinson helps those in need of counsel in several areas, including internal investigations, sexual harassment, age/gender discrimination, national origin/race discrimination, disability discrimination, wrongful termination, contract writing/negotiations, HR management, policy manual writing/updates, arbitrations/mediations, appeals, and general business/corporate management.

Aside from her legal pursuits, Hopkinson is an active member at Hyde Park United Methodist Church where she volunteers in the Children's Ministries and with the Cold Weather Shelter for the homeless. Hopkinson also volunteers with Selah Freedom, promoting sex trafficking awareness. Hopkinson is an avid reader, traveler and yoga instructor.

Hopkinson's awards and recognitions include being named a Woman of the Year by Orlando Style Magazine (2021); a Tampa Attorney of the Year by Tampa Style Magazine (2021); a Super Lawyers "Rising Star" every year since 2016 (only the top 2.5% of attorneys in Florida receive this distinction); and a "Top 40 Under 40" Labor and Employment Lawyer by the American Society of Legal Advocates (2017-'20) (less than 1.5% of lawyers are selected nationally).

In addition, Hopkinson is a member of the Florida Bar Association, Hillsborough County Bar Association, American Bar Association, Florida & Hillsborough County Associations for Women Lawyers, Federal Bar Association, and the National Employment Law Institute.

Regardless of a company's size or an individual's need, Hopkinson can help resolve their legal issues and disputes.

EDUCATION: University of Tampa; law degree from Stetson University in 2012

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All attorneys fight for their clients, but as Marc Matthews sees it, few things compare to a trial attorney's ability to give voice to the voiceless in their legal battle against a powerful insurance company.

"We always keep in mind that this is our client's only injury case," Matthews says. "Our clients put their trust in our team to obtain every penny that they deserve, to help them cope with their injuries for the rest of their lives. We do not take that responsibility lightly. At the end of the day, we are helping people when they need us the most."

Matthews' efforts to help others in his community don't stop when he leaves the courtroom. Outside of his practice, Matthews sits on the Board of Directors of the Jackson in Action 83 Foundation and Palma Ceia Little League, and he was the Chairman of the Board of the Ryan Nece Foundation for the last three years. He also supports the Sidewalk Stompers, a non-profit helping to create safer sidewalks and crosswalks for children.

"I truly appreciate the time I spend with charities and nonprofits because I get to work with positive people trying to make our local communities better for everyone," Matthews says. "I have always believed in the saying that 'it takes a village.' My day doesn't end when I leave the office or the courtroom – sometimes it feels like it is just getting started. We are always looking for ways to contribute to the world around us."

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Tampa native Shazia Sparkman is the founder and managing attorney of Sparkman Law, P.A., a boutique matrimonial and family law firm in South Tampa. She advocates for clients in all types of complex family law matters, with a specialized focus in children's issues.

"I am privileged to be in such a unique role in the lives of our clients as we intimately help them navigate the most tumultuous of times," Sparkman says.

Sparkman and her team are passionate about children's well-being in high-conflict divorce and custody cases and work to provide positive, unique resolutions to family crises that keep children's best interests at heart, while improving and enriching the families' lives.

Sparkman is one of the area's top parental alienation litigators and is skilled at restoring the constitutional rights of parent-child relationships. Known for working closely with her clients and fiercely advocating for them in the courtroom, Sparkman delivers an unmatched, unique legal representation experience to her clients. She recently expanded her practice to offer her talent and highly specialized knowledge via personalized consulting services in parental alienation cases throughout the country.

Sparkman Law is also heavily involved in a number of charities focused on children and community development throughout Tampa, such as the Heart Gallery of Tampa, former active member and sustainer of the Junior League of Tampa, the Salvation Army, Redefining Refuge, the Easter Seals of Tampa, and the Children's Cancer Center, year after year.

Fueled by her role as a mother first, Sparkman immensely values the privilege of serving as a lawyer and community volunteer to make her immediate community a place where she can be proud to raise her three children.



ALAN S. GASSMAN

TRUST AND ESTATES

Alan S. Gassman is a Board Certified Trust and Estates lawyer in Clearwater. Gassman is the founder of the law firm Gassman, Crotty and Denicolo, P.A., an eight-lawyer firm focusing on the representation of high net worth families, physicians and business owners in estate planning, taxation and asset structuring.

Gassman was inducted into the Estate Planning Hall of Fame of National Association of Estate Planners and Council in 2021, earned his Accredited Estate Planner Designation and was listed in Best Lawyers in America®. Gassman publishes new material often. You can find his up-to-date video library on estate planning and charitable giving by researching "Alan Gassman YouTube." Enroll in his free Saturday webinar series by emailing info@gassmanpa.com or see past videos on his YouTube channel. Gassman co-founded the Sara F. Gassman Charitable Foundation in 2008, providing piano lessons for students in need.

EDUCATION: University of Florida (UF), LL.M., Taxation, 1983; UF, J.D. with honors, 1982; Rollins College, B.A. with distinction, Business Administration and Accounting, 1979



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NICHOLAS G. MATASSINI

PERSONAL INJURY/CRIMINAL DEFENSE

Nicholas G. Matassini is board certified in criminal trial law and his local practice specializes in personal injury, wrongful death and criminal trial and appellate litigation.

Matassini, named Best Lawyer in various criminal defense categories over the past several years, is the managing partner of a family-run firm founded locally in 1976. He practices law with his wife, Christina, and the firm's founder, Nick Sr.

"The Matassini family is dedicated to providing outstanding legal advocacy throughout Tampa and Central Florida," he says.

His awards and recognitions include Tampa Bay Magazine Best Lawyer (Criminal Defense, DUI/DWI Defense); Board Certified in Criminal Trial Law since 2012; AV Preeminent Peer-Review Rated by Martindale-Hubbell; Member, Tampa Bay Trial Lawyers & Florida Justice Association; Life Member, Hillsborough County & Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers; and Best Law Firms, U.S. News & World Reports, 2021.

Matassini also serves on the Legal Committee at St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church.

EDUCATION: South Texas College of Law, J.D., 2003; University of South Florida, B.A., History, 1999



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DAVID P. MITCHELL

CONSUMER LAW

By the time David Mitchell's clients call him, many are at their wits' end.

"I help everyday people fight back against debt collectors and telemarketers," Mitchell says. "When you are on the receiving end of excessive robo-calls, it can become disruptive to your life."

Voted onto TAMPA Magazines' Top Lawyers list in the consumer law category for seven consecutive years by his peers, Mitchell helps put an end to the calls and harassment.

"Oftentimes what the collectors are doing is illegal," Mitchell says. "We know how to prosecute the companies and how to make these companies pay for improper practices."

Mitchell has helped both debtors and non-debtors across the nation hold debt collectors, banks, and student loan, mortgage, credit card and health insurance companies accountable for their conduct. He also represents healthcare providers and patients who have been the victims of improper insurance write-downs and claim denials.

EDUCATION: B.S.B.A., University of Florida; J.D., Stetson University College of Law; M.B.A., Stetson University



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CHRISTINA ANTON GARCIA

MARITAL & FAMILY LAW

Christina Anton Garcia is an award-winning Tampa Bay attorney with over 14 years of experience practicing exclusively Marital and Family Law.

Garcia has demonstrated professional achievement and garnered countless honors in her industry, including being recognized by Super Lawyers for many years and earning a 10 out of 10 rating on Avvo.

A fourth-generation Tampa native and active member of the community, Garcia leverages legal knowledge and extensive experience to provide clients with the highest level of representation. Garcia combines energy, conscientiousness and dedication with legal knowledge and experience to achieve the best possible outcome for her clients, whether in the collaborative process, the courtroom or a mediation setting.

EDUCATION: J.D., University of Florida (UF) Levin College of Law; B.S. and B.A., UF



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AMIR GHAENZADEH

PERSONAL INJURY

Amir Ghaeenzadeh is a persuasive litigator with proven success in personal injury cases, having won against large corporations.

He helped found Amethyst Law Group, a full-service law firm with offices in Tampa and Miami named after a protective, healing gemstone.

"I am passionate about protecting my clients," Ghaeenzadeh says. "I alleviate stress and anxiety by bringing resolutions to their injuries and compensations for their losses — so they can focus on healing."

His recognitions include 2021 Best Truck Accident Lawyers in Tampa and Miami by Expertise.com and 2021 Top 10 Florida Personal Injury Attorney Under 40 by the National Academy of Personal Injury Attorneys.

He brings a unique perspective, previously serving as an insurance defense attorney.

EDUCATION: J.D., Florida Coastal School of Law; B.S., University of South Florida



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Jay P. Lechner is an accomplished, Florida Board certified labor and employment attorney. In 2019, he founded Lechner Law, recognized by the U.S. News & World Report as a 2022 "Best Law Firm" in Tampa for Employment Law, Labor Law and Litigation — Labor and Employment. He represents individuals and businesses in all types of workplace disputes.



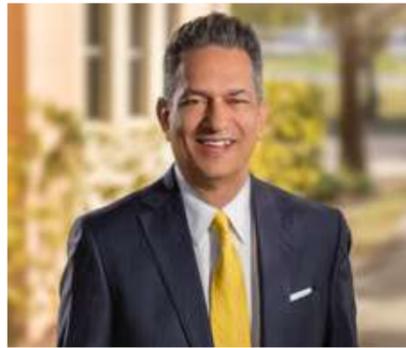
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ED SUAREZ
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For more than 30 years, Eddie Suarez has fought for his clients in courts across the United States and Florida, placing a high value on discretion and protecting reputations.

Suarez has earned local and national recognition for his trial skills and careful construction of individualized, unique litigation strategies.

Suarez has built a highly skilled and talented legal team that includes Diego Pestana and Rachel May-Zysk, who Suarez describes as “incredibly gifted and driven lawyers.” They represent businesses, corporate officers, and clients in a wide variety of complex matters, including False Claims Act/Qui Tam, healthcare fraud, and mail and wire fraud defense. Additionally, The Suarez Law Firm defends clients charged with non-white-collar felonies and misdemeanors in both state and federal courts.

EDUCATION: B.S., Florida State University; J.D., Florida State University College of Law



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G. MICHAEL NELSON
 CORPORATE, BUSINESS &
 BANKING LAW

Michael Nelson is who other lawyers turn to for help with a case — more than 80 percent of his business comes from attorneys. Thanks to his 35-plus years of experience and specialization in complex business litigation, Nelson is an expert at helping resolve the stickiest of legal quagmires.

“Lots of times clients need to be saved from themselves,” Nelson says.

A Tampa native, Nelson and his partners opened a legal center in Downtown Tampa, which is home to lawyers with a variety of specialties and areas of practices.

Active in the local community, Nelson is a mentor of the Shrine and volunteers corporate and pro-bono legal services.

Nelson is also licensed to practice law in Washington, D.C.

EDUCATION: University of Florida, B.S.; Cumberland Law School, J.D.



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Players + Pursuits



10 OF THE BEST BOATS FOR GASPARILLA

The Gasparilla Pirate Fest is back for 2022, bigger than ever. While the parade on land is epic in its own right, there's nothing like the Pirate Invasion with the square-rigged pirate ship, Jose Gasparilla II, cruising majestically up Seddon Channel to dock at 1 p.m. Jan. 29 at the Tampa Convention Center.

The Jose Gasparilla II will be festooned with hundreds of pirates on deck and in the rigging, while a vast flotilla of about 750 private boats and yachts escort her.

Following are 10 excellent boats that will not only provide viewing platforms for the Pirate Invasion, but family pleasure year round.

Argggghhh, Matey! Come aboard!

Eye Catcher

— Hussar 920 Explorer Max

At 32 feet, the Hussar 920 Explorer Max offers exceptional space for viewing the parade from the cockpit, with its modular seating that can be rearranged, as well as its enclosed cabin for all-weather protection. Two cockpit tables plus an inside dinette handle all the munchies for your outing, and an optional sunroof opens the pilothouse for alfresco enjoyment. For overnighting, there is a double berth in a private cabin as well as a convertible dinette, and the enclosed head includes a shower. Power is provided by a pair of 250-horsepower outboards, giving a top speed of 60 miles per hour. Available at Hussar Yachts

Story by
Chris Caswell

Courtesy of Hussar
Yachts (main image)
& Chris Burgos
(thumbnail)



a.

Gasparilla Parade Boating Tips

The U.S. Coast Guard and local police will be enforcing a safety zone from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Jan. 29, when boaters must stay farther than 50 feet from the parade vessels, stay out of restricted zones and observe all “no wake” zones.

Jet skis and vessels without mechanical propulsion are prohibited from the parade route, and all boats over 65 feet not in the parade must use the alternate waterway through Sparkman Channel. Skippers are requested to monitor VHF Channel 16 for safety messages.

All spectators on boats are reminded that it is against Florida law to throw any items into Tampa Bay or coastal waterways and, in particular, this means beads often thrown during the parade.

The Waterway Sports Foundation reminds all boaters to wear life jackets at all times, especially when the parade waters are crowded and rough. The foundation also recommends learning the parade route beforehand and having a map of the restricted zones handy.

Finally, every boat should have a designated sober skipper who agrees not to imbibe during the outing. Not only does this prevent accidents, but the various patrol authorities will be watching like hawks. Consider yourself warned.

Courtesy of Nautical Ventures (a.), Bertram Yachts (b.) & Marine Max (c.)

Players + Pursuits

BOATS FOR GASPARILLA

a. Wild Looking — Axopar 28 Cabin

The Axopar 28 from Finland is a traffic stopper, with its plumb bow and rakish styling. Walk-around decks on each side of the pilothouse lead to seating in the bow, and the cockpit can be fitted with seating or left open for fishing. Surrounded by large windows, the pilothouse provides protection from rain or sun, with doors on each side. Twin helm seats are behind an uncluttered dashboard, with a bench seat behind and access to the aft cabin with twin bunks and toilet. More than just looking hot, twin outboards to 250 horsepower back up the 28s visual promise. Available at Nautical Ventures

b. The Legend Returns — Bertram 28XC

From Tampa-based Bertram Yachts is the 28XC that mines new territory for this legendary yacht builder. Not only is it a 28-foot bowrider with twin consoles, it is also outboard powered. Wrap-around seating forward will be prime territory for parade watchers, while the spacious cockpit has fold-down seating, a sunpad and room for up to 12 people. Anglers and divers will love the side-opening cockpit door, while families will appreciate the mini galley with grill, plus the stand-up, enclosed head in the console with electric toilet, sink and shower. Power is from twin Mercury 300-horsepower Verado outboards. Available at Bertram Yachts

c. Unsinkable Molly Brown — Boston Whaler 230 Outrage

New from a distinguished builder is this 23-foot, center-console boat that combines performance (up to 54 miles per hour!) with its traditional unsinkable hull for peace of mind far offshore. The cockpit was designed by and for anglers, with ample seating forward and large lockers in the floor and under the seats. A handy workstation keeps tackle tidy and provides aft-facing seating, too. Options include an integrated T-top for sun protection (a no-brainer) plus premium navigation and fishfinding electronics. Rated with a 10-person capacity, the 230 is parade ready and, surprisingly, the console conceals a stand-up head for all-day outings. Outboards to 350 horsepower. Available at MarineMax



b.



c.

Players + Pursuits

BOATS FOR GASPARILLA



d. Pure Tradition — Chris-Craft Calypso 24

America's boatbuilder since 1874, the Chris-Craft legend continues with the Calypso 24, a stylish bowrider. The companion seat converts to forward or aft viewing or into a sunpad, while the aft bench seat folds out of the way. A hull door allows direct access to the water, and a mini-galley with sink and slide-out Yeti cooler is behind the skipper. Forward, U-shaped seating is reached through a fold-out windshield door. The port side console includes a head and sink. Options can tailor the Calypso for families or fishermen. Single Mercury or Yamaha outboards to 400 horsepower provide plenty of go. Available at Chris-Craft

e. Sporty Water Toy — Cobalt R8

At just under 28 feet, this big day boat is the next generation of a larger R Series from Cobalt. It features higher sides (safer for kids), plus roomy seating areas in the bow and cockpit areas. The companion seatback reverses for all-around viewing, the rear bench seat hinges to face aft and a rumble seat unfolds from the sunpad. Twin Garmin monitors include a chartplotter to follow the parade route, and a private compartment features a head and sink for all-day boating. Standard power includes both MerCruiser and Volvo Penta sterndrives up to 430 horsepower. Available at Tom George Yachts

f. Just Like Tom Sawyer — Cypress Cay Pontoon

An interesting alternative to boat ownership is Freedom Boat Club, where a one-time entry fee and monthly dues give you a wide variety of choices, such as the Cypress Cay pontoon boat. This pontoon boat, with twin pontoons in a catamaran layout, is extremely stable and family friendly. In essence, it is a floating living room with several couches and lounges, a folding Bimini top for shade and easy water access for swimming. The Freedom Boat Club offers pontoons and other craft, including center consoles. The club takes care of all maintenance, storage, insurance and repairs. Available at Freedom Boat Club

g. Fishing War Wagon — Grady-White Canyon 376

A saltwater fishing machine, this 37-footer has a roomy interior with all the amenities for families, including a stand-up head with toilet and shower, and a double berth. Designed for anglers, the Sea-V hull slices easily through ocean swells (and boat parade wakes) easily. One feature perfect for the Gasparilla is the outdoor galley with barbecue grill, fridge and sink. Triple helm seats are shaded under the T-top, while wrap-around seating is forward. A 5-kilowatt generator is standard and can power air conditioning both in the cabin and at the helm. Outboard power options range up to triple Yamaha 425 horsepower four-strokes for up to 60 miles per hour. Available at Quality Yachts

h. Champagne & Caviar — Prestige 590 S

The Prestige 590 S seems a stylish, sporty, express cruiser, but with a carefully camouflaged flybridge with sunpad. Designed by Vittorio Garroni, this is Euro styling at its best with light from banks of windows in the salon, and the flybridge position allows for an electric sunroof into the salon. Perfect for the Gasparilla is the on-deck galley that opens directly to the cockpit seating. An owner's suite spans the accommodation deck with two more guest cabins and two full heads with showers. Power from twin Cummins diesels with easy-to-handle Zeus pod drives allow cruising at up to 23 knots. Available at Galati Yachts

i. Offshore Adventure — Tidewater 320CC

Built by and for anglers, the Tidewater 320CC combines craftsmanship and performance in a beefy, twin-outboard-powered center console that has everything from dual, aerated live-bait wells to oversized fish boxes. The flaring Carolina bow keeps everyone dry, while the console features a berth for sleeping as well as an electric head. A walk-through transom door makes access easy, and forward wrap-around seating provides parade viewing. The fiberglass T-top shades dual helm seats, and the tackle station has drawers and a sink. Aft, a bench seat folds flush into the transom. Twin Yamaha 300s or 350 horsepower for up to 60 miles per hour. Available at Family Boating



g.

h.

i.

Resources

Axopar, Nautical Ventures, (727) 339-5920 / **Bertram Yachts**, (813) 527-9899, bertramyachts.com
Boston Whaler, MarineMax, (727) 536-2628, marinemax.com / **Chris-Craft**, (941) 351-4900, chriscraft.com / **Cobalt, Tom George Yacht Group**, (727) 732-6128, tgyg.com / **Freedom Boat Club**, (727) 916-1485, freedomboatclub.com / **Grady-White, Quality Boats**, (727) 530-1815, qualityboats.com / **Hussar Yachts**, (813) 467-6747, hussaryachts.com / **Prestige, Galati Yachts Tampa**, (727) 334-0151, galatiyachts.com / **Tidewater, Family Boating Centers**, (813) 884-1395, familyboatingcenters.com

d.

e.

f.

Courtesy of Chris-Craft (d.), Tom George Yachts (e.), Freedom Boat Club (f.), Quality Yachts (g.), Galati Yachts (h.) & Family Boating (i.)

THE GALLERY

Curated by Margaret Miller

Director of the University of South Florida Contemporary Art Museum | Graphicstudio | Public Art



FLORIDA SUNSET, 2021

Artist Jason Middlebrook and his team installed this 952-square-foot mosaic mural in November 2021 at Tampa International Airport's new Blue Express Curbside atrium. *Florida Sunset* offers viewers an immersive experience that embodies the biodiversity of Florida, with scaled-up native flowers, insects and a snowy egret. The mural took a year to fabricate by hand in Middlebrook's studio in Hudson, New York. Graphicstudio, the acclaimed print atelier on USF's Tampa campus, has collaborated with Middlebrook to produce unique wall sculptures and prints in the past. graphicstudio.usf.edu

Courtesy of Will Lytch

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