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Medical Injectors Pictured Left to Right:

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Jennifer Puleo, APRN, MPH • Nicole Hogue, APRN-C • Lindsey Taylor, APRN-C

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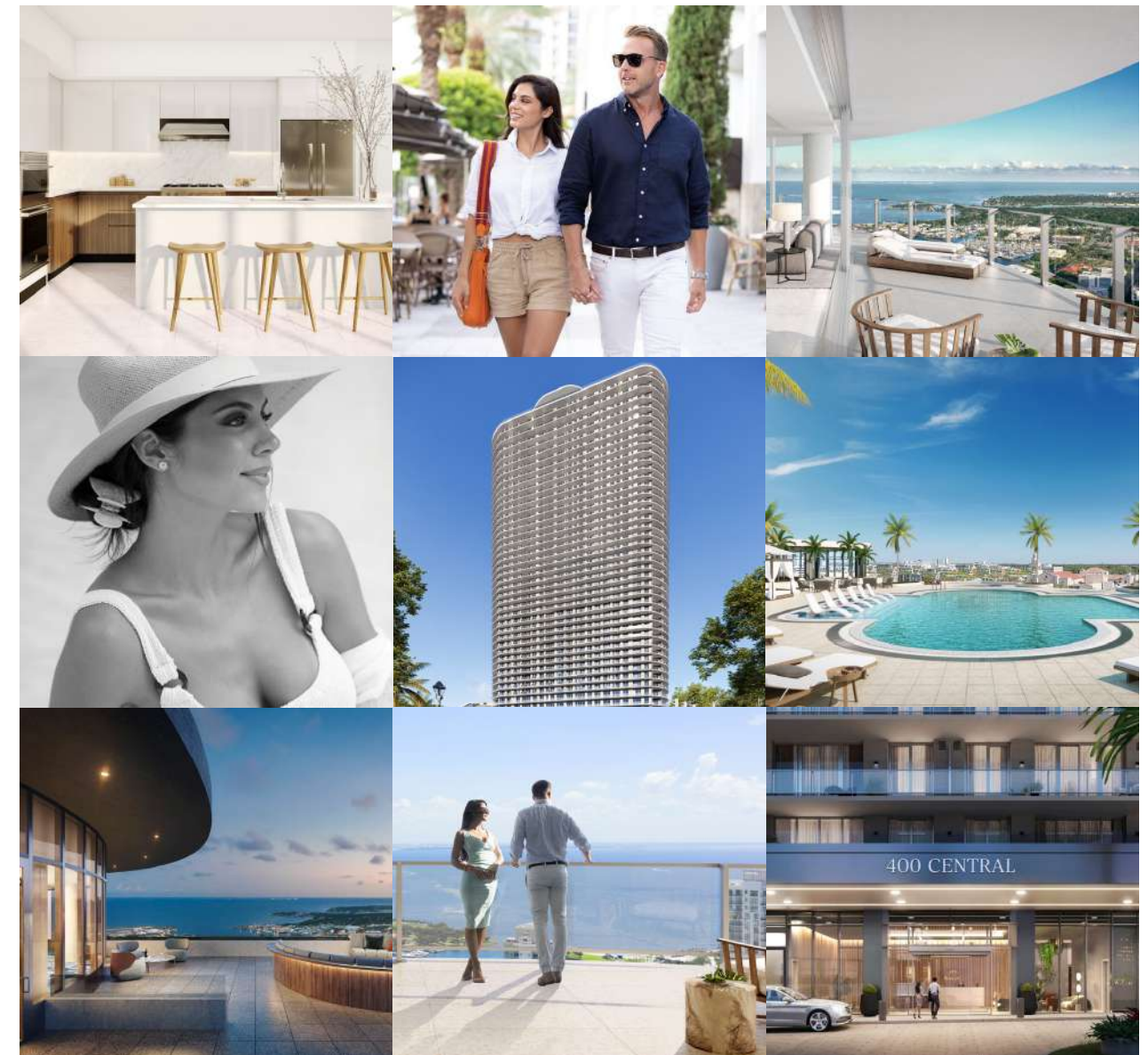


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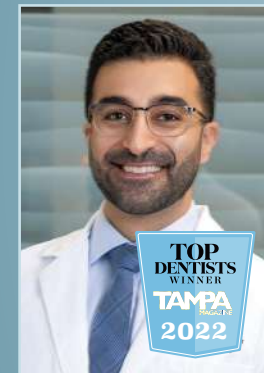
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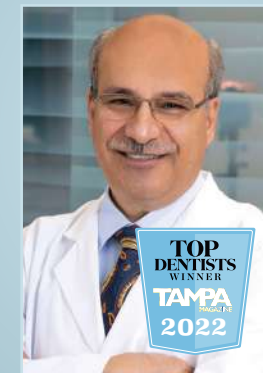
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“Laura With Bun” By Jaume Plensa

About The Cover
October 2022



Developer Darryl Shaw is leading the charge in revitalizing Ybor City. We are delighted to feature him on our cover at Hotel Haya, one of his many successful projects, in front of an authentic Venetian plaster wall by artist Ron Francis. With Shaw at the helm, the best could be yet to come for Ybor. **_DESIGN > JERRY POMALES _PHOTOGRAPHY > GABRIEL BURGOS**



54 The American Cigar



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GROUP PUBLISHER'S LETTER

THE BEST OF THE BEST

One question I often get asked by friends in other states is why new transplants continue to flock to Tampa Bay, even after pandemic restrictions have ended nationwide. Still arriving heavily from locations like New York, New Jersey, California and Illinois, migration to Florida in the first months of 2022 exceeded 2021 levels, according to the New York Post.

There is a simple and powerful reason: This is an ideal place to live. We have a surplus of good jobs, along with a relatively low cost of living. Our lack of state income tax is attractive to highly paid executives. But those economic advantages only tell part of the story. Many new Tampa Bay residents quickly come to love what warms the hearts of the native-born: Tampa Bay's natural beauty and ample outdoor activities nestled right next to the waterfront.

Each issue we explore the history of our area, along with ways newcomers are making their mark. This includes stories on entrepreneurs like Darryl Shaw, who was born in South Africa and made his fortune building a national veterinary chain.

Shaw's focus is now set on redeveloping Ybor City and he has ownership in a significant amount of land there — most notably, he's planning a 30- to 40-acre neighborhood called Gas Worx. You'll hear nothing but praise for Shaw and we discovered for ourselves how gracious he is when he agreed to a photo shoot in the streets of Ybor City in the midst of a 100-degree summer day.

He chose Hotel Haya as our meeting spot, which comes as no surprise considering he was part of the team responsible for bringing the boutique hotel to Ybor City in 2020. Fast forward to 2022 and Hotel Haya was voted the winner for Best Hotel on our Best of the City list. Flip to Page 73 to see all of the winners. An impressive 222,782 votes were cast (limited this year to one IP address per day) and I loved seeing everyone support their favorite businesses by encouraging others to vote.

Packed full of things we love about our city, this edition is our biggest yet — and we hope you'll agree when we say it just might be our best too.

Shawna Wiggs_Group Publisher
Shawna.Wiggs@TampaMagazines.com

FOR OUR ADVERTISERS: Our December Best Restaurants & Holiday edition offers discounts for food, restaurants, holidays, entertaining, financial/banking/advising and architecture. The space reservation deadline is Oct. 28. Email me for information.



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Front Desk

Check In With Tampa Bay

01.



Story By Leah Ching

01. THE SALTY DONUT IS COMING TO TAMPA

The popular Miami-based chain specializes in chef-made, small-batch craft donuts in various fun flavors, also offering vegan and gluten-free options. Openings are planned for a retail shop in Hyde Park Village and a commissary kitchen in Seminole Heights, likely in 2023.

02. SELFIE STUDIO OPENS IN ST. PETERSBURG

Strike a pose. The Social Warehouse opened in September as Downtown St. Petersburg's first selfie studio. It features interactive photo and video experiences, professionally lit rooms and themed walls that change seasonally. #BringYourFriends

03. SIP & DRY TO EXPAND

St. Pete's blow dry bar and makeup salon, Sip & Dry, offers blowouts, waxing and makeup treatments

accompanied by an Instagram-worthy free drink and optional bottle service at your chair. A second location will launch in Water Street Tampa later this year.

04. TAMPA WELCOMES FIRST CAT CAFE

Two recent University of Tampa graduates opened the city's first cat cafe, Cats & Caffeine, this summer on Henderson Boulevard in South Tampa. All cats were rescued and are up for adoption in partnership with Cat Lover's Inc. Beverages by Blind Tiger Coffee Roasters are for sale.

05. FLORIDA AQUARIUM TO GET \$40 MILLION FACELIFT

Aquarium lovers, rejoice. As the largest capital project in the aquarium's 27-year history, three new exhibits are on the way with one scheduled to open next year. Get excited for the additions of California sea lions, African penguins and puffins.

Courtesy of The Salty Donut (01.), The Social Warehouse (02.) & Sip & Dry (03.)

06. BOLAY FRESH BOLD KITCHEN ARRIVES IN SOUTH TAMPA

This marks the 24th location for the health-focused chain. Signature "Bols" and other healthy, gluten-free fare are now available at the Dale Mabry outpost, also the first Bolay to include a drive-through. Nearby locations opened in St. Petersburg and Brandon last year.

07. DAVE'S HOT CHICKEN TO OPEN TAMPA FLAGSHIP

Franchisees for the Nashville hot chicken chain will open a location near the University of South Florida in the space that currently houses Mojo Books & Records. Negotiations are underway for Bradenton and Brandon locations, with opening dates to be announced.

08. GOOD FORTUNE COMES TO STATION HOUSE IN ST. PETE

The concept comes from Hunger Thirst Group and includes a sushi bar, an Asian-fusion menu, a creative cocktail and sake menu and a karaoke room. The restaurant boasts late hours with a late-night menu.

09. BONES & BURGERS BRINGS RIBS TO INTERNATIONAL PLAZA

Romacorp Inc., the parent company of Tony Roma's, has chosen the food court at Tampa's International Plaza and Bay Street as the location for its inaugural Bones & Burgers, a fast-casual, quick-service restaurant. It will serve Tony Roma's ribs, premium burgers and burger bowls.

10. BOTH SIDES OF THE BAY ARE RECOGNIZED FOR DOG-FRIENDLY CITIES

St. Pete is America's most dog-friendly city, according to a study published by SmartAsset. Also impressive, Tampa ranked third with Tucson, Arizona, coming in between them. Some of the metrics included dog parks, pet stores, veterinarian offices and dog-friendly restaurants. 

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Tampa Bay Confidential

Local Knowledge

Interview By Leah Ching Photography By Gabriel Burgos

JUSTIN CABALLERO

PRESIDENT OF REVIVE KITCHEN & BATH

ABOUT ME

I'm from Baton Rouge, Louisiana. I got my degree at Ole Miss (the University of Mississippi). My dad moved to Tampa in 2012 to invest in real estate after the housing market crash. Once I was introduced to Tampa I was sold. This city is on the rise and has so much to offer.

I grew up in the real estate and construction industry from a young age because of my father. This is a family business that I was raised around and that I want to one day raise my kids in as well.

MY LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

When it comes to remodeling supplies, ProSource is a terrific place to select all your tiles and flooring needs. We have a contractor's account with them and their designer is a great asset to our team.

For home decor, Dwell is a wonderful furniture store with in-stock options. I got my large living room couch from them and it's incredible.


Hyde Park is my favorite Tampa neighborhood. It's just a beautiful, positive environment and you can walk to Bayshore, which is amazing.

I get an Angel Food smoothie from Smoothie King for lunch almost every day.

For a night out on the town, find me at WTR (at The Godfrey Hotel). They're bringing the best DJs to Tampa right now.

My favorite fine dining restaurants are Meat Market, Eddie V's Prime Seafood and On Swann.

For a great boat day, Publix subs are essential. I have a 27-foot Sea Ray. It's laid out well for entertaining. I'll go to John's Pass sometimes.

My favorite Tampa Bay hidden gem is an island called Hurricane Pass off the coast of Palm Harbor with beautiful waters that not many people seem to know about. It's just south of Honeymoon Island. 



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TAMPA BAY FINE DINING GUIDE

Story By Leah Ching Photography By Gabriel Burgos

Fine dining elevates mere cooking to culinary art. Chefs ignite gastronomy, creativity and skill to dream up dining experiences for guests to savor. In Tampa Bay, a mixture of audacity and innovation in the kitchen meld with an atmosphere of elegance and sophistication to create an impressive array of venues for fine dining. We've curated these selections to satiate the gourmand in you.

a.



a.

HAVEN

This dining concept from the masterminds behind Bern's puts shareable plates at the forefront of the menu — eclectic and carefully constructed.

"At Haven, we pride ourselves on constantly evolving and progressing," executive chef Chad Johnson says. "Whether it's a dish focusing on a seasonal ingredient or the newest whisky from a small distillery, we always have something new and fresh to offer our guests."

Artisanal charcuterie and cheese selections and a boast-worthy wine list are a treat for the tastebuds at this contemporary restaurant.

2208 W. Morrison Ave., Tampa
(813) 258-2233 | haventampa.com



b.

b.

CRU CELLARS

With three popular locations, Cru Cellars boasts a sleek, contemporary, sophisticated atmosphere.

"The amazing wine selection and focus on unique and small-production bottles makes Cru Cellars an exciting place," owner and sommelier Jennifer Bingham says. "Cru's Wine Spectator award-winning cellar and dedicated wine team encourage curiosity with new wines."

Beyond wine, Cru's chef-designed menu consists of elegant small plates, entrees and indulgent desserts.

Locations in Armature Works, Palma Ceia & Westshore Marina | crucellars.com

c.

MEAT MARKET

A sexier, more glamorous take on the traditional steakhouse, Meat Market is where Tampa goes for an upscale night out.

"Meat Market Tampa offers a vibrant, sophisticated dining experience for lunch, brunch, happy hour and dinner," Meat Market COO Sebastien Tribout says. "Our extensive menu choices include daily chef's creations."

Among its popular selections are signature steaks, a raw bar and Instagram-worthy cocktails. The Lounge by Meat Market adds an elevated, private nightlife element.

1606 W. Snow Ave., Tampa
(813) 280-1113 | meatmarket.net

c.

d.

FLEMING'S PRIME STEAKHOUSE & WINE BAR

Fleming's is the perfect setting for prime steak, best-in-class seafood and innovative, plant-forward offerings.

"The secret ingredient to our dining experience is our people," operating partner Jorge Díaz says. "Our team has a tremendous amount of passion for serving this community and strives to personalize every moment a guest spends with us when they walk through our door."

Guests won't be disappointed with irresistible options like Fleming's chilled seafood tower, a multitude of specialty and classic steak cuts, savory sides and decadent desserts.

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e.

SOLA BISTRO & WINE BAR

Along Gulf Boulevard on St. Pete Beach lies an unassuming bistro and wine bar that serves some of the best dinners and global wines in the Bay area. Sola is a bistro with a heavy emphasis on wine. An eclectic menu features specials influenced by world cuisines and the owner's Armenian and Russian roots.

"We love experimenting with unique ingredients and fusing different techniques and preparations," owner and proprietor Tigran Khachatryan shares. "We believe in utilizing the whole animal. That's why we feature so many unique specials using the highest-quality seafood, meats and poultry. We make as much as possible in-house to cut out unnecessary preservatives."

In a tourist-heavy location, Sola has become a neighborhood favorite.

6700 Gulf Blvd, St. Pete Beach
(727) 360-7500 | solabistrostpete.com



Bites + Brews Fine Dining Guide

f. **ROCOCO STEAK**

In a historic 1920s building in Downtown St. Petersburg, Rococo's atmosphere and decor are almost as impressive as the restaurant's exquisite food and wine.

"Our team of culinary professionals comb tirelessly through dozens of purveyors to ensure Rococo has the best," Lee Karlins, owner of Caledon Concepts, proclaims. "We source our beef from the historic Allen Brothers butchers in Chicago. A similar philosophy is used to build our award-winning wine program, which has remarkable depth and high value considering the collection's moderate size. The bar team loves providing the classics, but we also mix in sensory-stimulating cocktails with a modern twist." 

655 2nd Ave. S., St. Petersburg
(727) 822-0999 | rococosteak.com

f.



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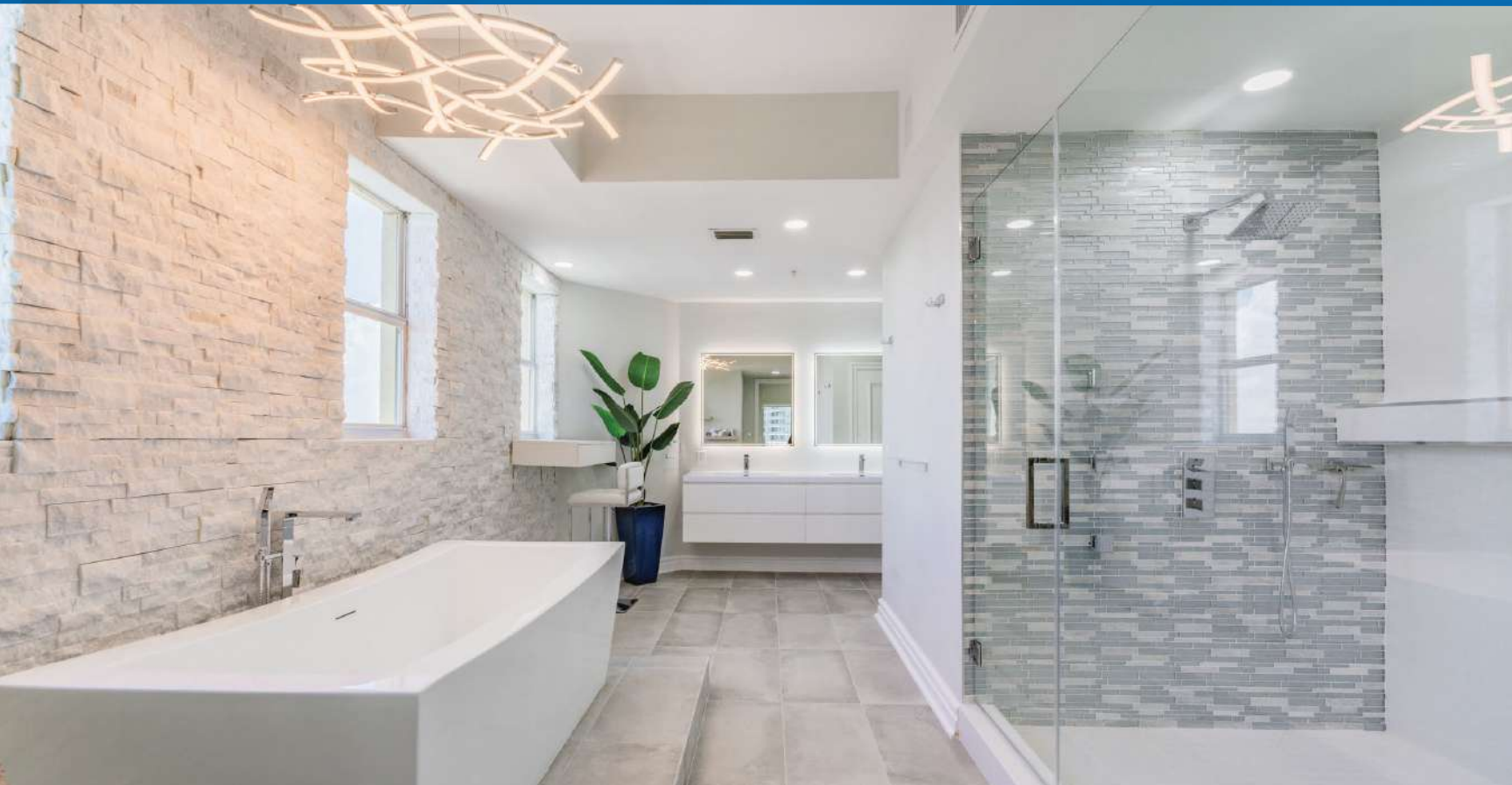
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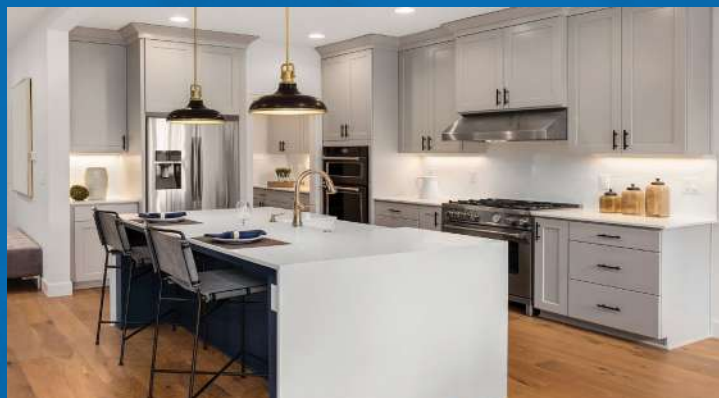
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44.

HOME DESIGN: BLACK
& WHITE — & GOLD
ALL OVER
By Kathryn Deen

Home + Garden

Home Design

BLACK & WHITE — & GOLD ALL OVER

Story By Kathryn Deen


DESIGNER: STACEY CRUM, NEW LEGACY HOMES
BUILDER: NEW LEGACY HOMES
ARCHITECT: NLH LLC
TECHNOLOGY: SECURE PRO
POOL: BLUE SKY POOLS
PHOTOGRAPHER: RICKIE AGAPITO, AOFOTOS

Beauty and practicality dance seamlessly in this modern transitional South Tampa home completed in 2021 for the Smiths and their two young children.

The owners' love of black and white was carried throughout the two-story, 4,166-square-foot house, also infused with prominent touches of trendy gold.

"It's cozy, livable glam," designer Stacey Crum, of New Legacy Homes, says. "We really tried to maximize the design and functionality."

With five bedrooms, five-and-a-half bathrooms, indoor and outdoor kitchens, a mancave, a pool with a spa and an outdoor lounge, there's plenty of space for the family to host relaxed social gatherings and lavish holiday parties.

"What we love most about our home is that it's perfect for entertaining," Mrs. Smith says. 

a.



b.



a. "The open floor plan makes for the perfect space for everyone to gather together and make memories," owner Mrs. Smith says. **b.** Designer Stacey Crum describes the architectural style as modern farmhouse. **c. & e.** The kitchen features a large Wolf stove and an oversized Fisher & Paykel fridge for entertaining, a custom range hood and Cambria quartz countertops. **d.** The staircase's soft natural wood contrasts nicely with the industrial wire accents.

c.



d.



e.



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Home + Garden

Home Design

f. "Wallpaper is one of the top trends right now," says Crum, noting the wall behind the bed in the primary bedroom. Wide-plank, light oak engineered wood floors run throughout the home. **g.** Waterjet marble tile was incorporated into the master bathroom. Traditional cabinetry juxtaposes a spunky, modern light fixture. **h.** The nursery is cozy and warm, yet minimalistic.



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Home + Garden

Home Design

i. The rec room, aka the mancave, is Mr. Smith's favorite room, complete with four TVs, a golf simulator, a custom wet bar with a kegerator, and a wall mural by a local artist. The modern Snowbound white paint color continues throughout the interior walls to provide a clean, blank slate and an open, airy feel. j. Mr. Smith's extensive bourbon collection is displayed with special shelving, integrated lighting and a hexagonal mosaic glass backsplash by Emser Tile.

i.



i.



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Home + Garden

Home Design



k.



l.

k. A spacious, covered lounge area lures guests outside to continue the party. Dramatic palm trees line the backyard. **l.** Artificial turf and lounge chairs border the pool and spa. An outdoor kitchen, fire pit and putting green add to the fun and functionality of the space. In the background, the second-story balcony off the rec room is a popular hangout for smoking cigars.



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MADE IN TAMPA BAY

54.

THE AMERICAN CIGAR
By Leah Ching

Purely Tampa Bay

Made in Tampa Bay

THE AMERICAN CIGAR

How J.C. Newman Cigar Company is Preserving Cigar City's Legacy & Craftsmanship

Story By Leah Ching
Photography By Gabriel Burgos

For Drew Newman, fourth-generation owner of J.C. Newman Cigar Company, it's about more than just cigars — it's about honoring family legacy, time-honored tradition and crafting premium cigars that embody Tampa's history as Cigar City. In 1996, a 15-year-old Newman created and launched CigarFamily.com. His first foray into the family business became the world's largest online cigar community in the 1990s and 2000s. It's no surprise that after graduating from Berkeley Preparatory School in Tampa, the ambitious young man went on to study at Williams College, Oxford University, American University Washington College of Law and Princeton University, pursuing a prestigious legal career before returning to his roots at El Reloj, the family's cigar factory in Ybor City. El Reloj, a bastion of Tampa's legacy as Cigar City, is the last remaining cigar factory in Ybor — once the cigar-making capital of the world — and also the last traditional cigar factory still operating in the United States. Newman returned to the family business in 2017 with a vision — restore the factory, open it to the public and create an all-American, Tampa-made premium cigar. The product of Drew Newman's loftiest ambitions, The American, lives up to this dream. Unmistakable craftsmanship down to the smallest details defines the cigar, groundbreaking in its composition, a homage to the legacy of cigar making in the United States, to J.C. Newman and to Tampa. "Cigars are to Tampa what wine is to Napa Valley," Newman says. "Cigars are part of our cultural fabric and it's important to keep the tradition alive for future generations. As the last

factory still left in Cigar City, it's our privilege to be able to continue the tradition and be ambassadors for the cigar industry and for Tampa." With The American, J.C. Newman excels as an ambassador. Photos by the Burgert Brothers hang in the rolling room, showcasing cigar makers practicing the same craft over 100 years ago. Today, the method has not changed. "It's the first time in the cigar industry you have a cigar with 100% American long-leaf premium tobacco," master roller Luis Martinez says. "We use filler tobacco grown by Mennonites in Pennsylvania, binder from eighth-generation family farmer Jon Foster in Connecticut and the wrapper leaf grown in Clermont." The American is the first cigar rolled with a Florida Sun Grown wrapper, grown by Corona Cigar Co.'s Jeff Borysiewicz. The result of this blend? An outstanding, patriotic cigar. "The last time people had a chance to smoke a cigar with a Florida-grown wrapper was over 50 years ago," says Corona Cigar Company president and founder Borysiewicz, also the president of Florida Sun Grown. "We brought back growing premium cigar tobacco right here in Florida, and in doing so we've brought back a taste and flavor profile that's been gone for a generation." "In the same way that Drew [Newman] is making cigars here in Tampa, we're proud to be part of bringing the industry back home," Borysiewicz adds. Craftsmanship extends to every aspect of The American. Boxes that house the cigars are made in Miami using American hardwood and hinges from Massachusetts. Bands and labels are printed

a. Tobacco selector Hector Lopez shows wrapper tobacco in El Reloj Cigar Factory. b. Production coordinator Gene Haines delivers a batch of cigars from the aging room to be color sorted. c. Inside The American Room of the cigar factory d. Fourth-generation owner Drew Newman



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in Orlando using papers made in Wisconsin and ink from North Carolina. Every cigar is rolled by hand at El Reloj in Tampa.

Fittingly, The American was the first cigar brand rolled when El Reloj opened in 1910. When Newman decided to roll an all-American cigar, he realized that there was no better name to call it than The American. A century after it was designed, J.C. Newman recreated The American’s original shield, cigar label, and cigar band, which adorn each cigar and cigar box.

“It’s a way for us to showcase the history of our four-generation, 127-year-old business and also the history of cigar making in Tampa and America,” Newman says. “The history of cigar making in the United States is a rich one that predates the country itself. At the time of the American Revolution, tobacco was being grown in all 13 colonies. The first successful British colony here, Virginia, was successful largely because they learned to grow tobacco from the native population.”

With tobacco for cigars now primarily grown overseas, Newman’s biggest challenge was finding American-grown, premium tobacco leaves that would create the blend he was looking for.

“A complex, well-balanced taste, not too harsh,” he describes. “Searching for that flavor profile was difficult, as we didn’t have a wide range of varieties in American cigar tobacco. In the end, we’ve composed a great, unique blend that no one else has. It’s a very special project.”

Once all of the necessary components are gathered, cigar rollers like Martinez keep the art of cigar rolling alive.

“It’s a small-production, super-premium product,” Martinez says. “We make about 100 cigars per day in five sizes: Robusto, Toro, Churchill, Torpedo and Double Robusto.”

Martinez explains that the first step is making bunches, where filler and binder tobacco is combined in a mold and then pressed with the duration based on the gauge of the cigar.

“The larger gauges need more time than the smaller ones, usually around 45 minutes to an hour and a half. Then we can put the wrapper on,” Martinez



e.



f.

e. Cigar sorter Yaliet Martinez Lazo color sorts cigars. f. Cigar roller Yeania Hernandez bunches tobacco to make the binder and filler.



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describes. “When the cigar is ready, we let it age for a year in the aging room, allowing the ammonia in the tobacco to be slowly released. In this way, the cigar cures. It’s a fermentation process and in the end, the flavor is better, like a fine wine.”

The final product is an elegant, flavorful, medium-bodied luxury cigar with a unique taste and distinctive earthy flavors.

West Tampa native Dan Woodham encountered The American at the cigar’s release party and has been enjoying it ever since.

“I’ve been enjoying J.C. Newman cigars for decades,” he says. “They hit a grand slam with this one. The American is a truly inspiring smoke. It’s so well balanced and it has become my all-time favorite cigar.”

Cigar aficionado and social media content creator Ryan Mills was drawn to The American for similar reasons.

“It’s an absolutely premium cigar,” he says. “The American has an explosion of great flavor and creamy smoke. Between the cocoa and earthy tones, there’s a nice citrus note that pairs well with your favorite spirit. I keep a few in my humidor to hand out to friends.”

Like others involved in the creation of The American, Mills is excited to see the industry brought home.

“We need to get back to being Cigar City,” Mills declares. “This is how I feel about J.C. Newman and The American Cigar: I don’t ever want to see them leave. I want to see them and other cigar makers grow in Tampa. They’re keeping the heritage of Cigar City alive and refusing to let go of the decades of history Tampa brings to the cigar world.”

As Drew Newman envisioned it, El Reloj is now open to the public with a three-level cigar museum, guided tours, factory store, and private events space. Every week, cigar rollers walk through its doors to the tolls of the eponymous weight-driven clock that has been keeping time for Ybor’s cigar makers for over a century. Daily, they handcraft small batches of The American, Newman’s dream realized.

Open a box and unwrap one, and you can feel the history, legacy and creative craftsmanship held together by the finest heirloom tobacco leaves right between your fingers, each puff a reminder that Tampa was and always will be Cigar City. TM



g.

g. The American’s cigar boxes are made with sustainably grown American basswood by The Millennium Wood Boxes Inc. in Miami.

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‘WHAT HIGH SCHOOL DID YOU GO TO?’

Tampa’s Biggest Rivals Have Storied Histories & Notable Alumni

Story By Rodney Kite-Powell

“What high school did you go to?” It’s a common question in Tampa whose answer gives special insight about a person. Today there are 28 public high schools in Hillsborough County — almost double what existed prior to 1984, when there were only eight high schools in Tampa and its immediate suburbs, one in Plant City and four in the unincorporated county. Tampa, and Hillsborough County, have experienced tremendous growth over the past 40 years. In addition to new roads, new communities and new shopping centers, there are also many new high schools. The opening of Armwood and Gaither in 1984 started a flood of new construction and 15 new high schools have opened since that time, the majority of them in unincorporated Hillsborough County.

Four public and two private Tampa high schools stand out among the rest in terms of history and tradition: Hillsborough, Plant, Middleton, Blake, Jesuit and Tampa Catholic. In the era before integration, particularly in the 1950s with the opening of Blake, Hillsborough vs. Plant and Middleton vs. Blake represented the county’s most important and most contested rivalries. Two of the schools, Hillsborough and Plant, have historically significant campuses, while Middleton and Blake both lost their original buildings — and existences — to integration, only to return to the stage in 2002 and 1997, respectively. All six have storied histories and notable alumni.

Hillsborough High School

Opened: 1885

Colors: red and black

Mascot: terrier

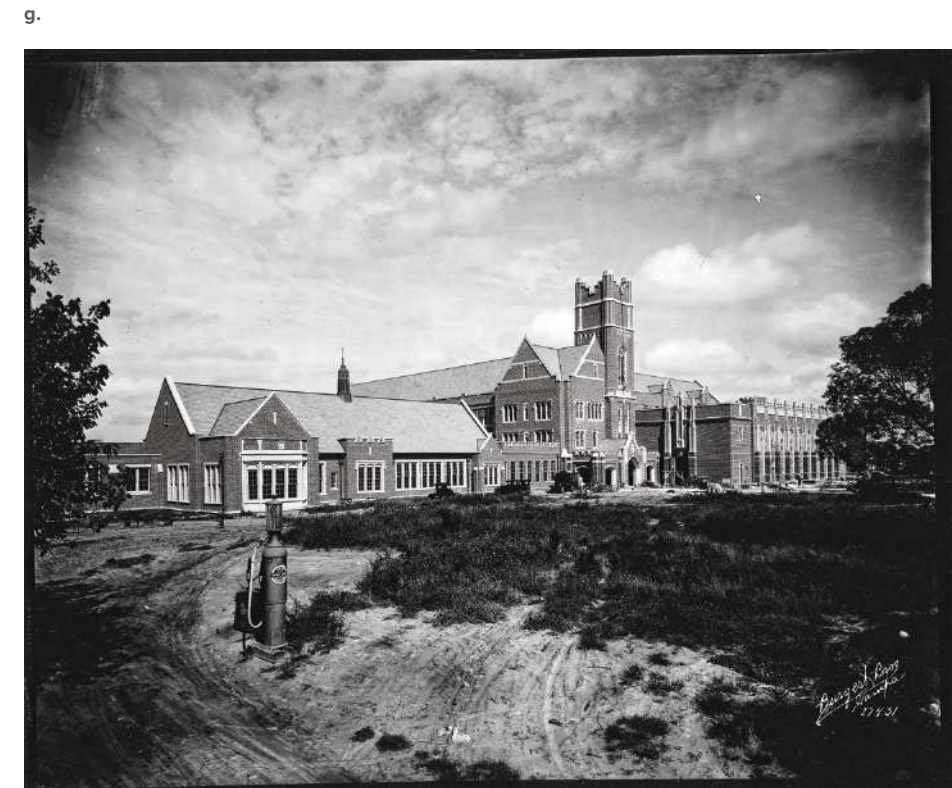
Notable alumni: Charles Edward Bennett (U. S. Congressman, class of 1927); Cesar Gonzmart (musician and restaurateur, 1937); Slim Witman (musician, 1942); Baldomero Lopez (Medal of Honor recipient, 1943); Dwight Gooden (professional baseball player, 1982); Wanda Guyton (WNBA player, 1984); Michael Ian Black (actor and comedian, 1988); plus five former mayors of Tampa

Hillsborough High School is the city’s — and county’s — oldest high school. Originally called Tampa High School and later Hillsborough County High School, Hillsborough’s first graduating class received its diplomas in 1886. The school was first located on the southwest corner of Jefferson Street and 6th Avenue (now Henderson Avenue) in Tampa Heights. In 1900, the city’s growth prompted the construction of a new high school building on the south end of the same block at Jefferson and Estelle. The city soon outgrew that building as well and plans were started to construct a new high school — built of brick instead of wood — on the western side of Tampa Heights. The new Hillsborough County High School opened on Highland Avenue at the beginning of the school year in 1911.

Despite the belief at the time that this high school building could handle the population growth of the county for years to come, it did not take too long before the need for an even larger school became apparent. In 1925, land was secured in the Seminole Heights neighborhood for a school that could accommodate over 2,000 students. The new Hillsborough High School was a brick masterpiece, designed in the Gothic style by Francis Kennard.

The new Hillsborough High School building opened on Central Avenue in the heart of Seminole Heights in time for the new school year in 1928. The school’s shift from eastern Tampa Heights to western Tampa Heights then up to Seminole Heights over the course of 30 years tracked with the pace and direction of Tampa’s growth (at least as far as the city’s white population was concerned).

The planning decisions of the 1920s indeed ensured that Hillsborough High School would be large enough to handle the growth of the city.



a. Jesuit High’s football team in 1932 **b.** Old Hillsborough High in 1912 in Tampa Heights **c.** Plant High in 1927 **d.** Middleton High’s football team in 1949 **e.** Tampa Catholic in 1968 **f.** Old Blake High in 1956 **g.** Hillsborough High in 1928 in Seminole Heights **h.** Hillsborough plays Plant in football in 1947

‘WHAT HIGH SCHOOL DID YOU GO TO?’

Henry B. Plant High School

Opened: 1927

Colors: black and gold

Mascot: panthers

Notable alumni: Sam Gibbons (U. S. Congressman, class of 1938); Stephen Stills (musician, 1963); Leo Gallagher (comedian, 1964); Wade Boggs (Hall of Fame baseball player, 1976); Dreama Walker (actress, 2004); Pete Alonso (professional baseball player, 2013); Christian Watson (professional football player, 2017)

In the Palma Ceia area, another fast-growing part of Tampa’s suburbs, a new high school opened in 1927. Henry B. Plant High School was named in honor of the industrialist who brought the first railroad to Tampa in 1883.

The story of Plant High begins with the Florida land boom and the spectacular growth of Tampa and the surrounding area in the early 1920s. Between 1920 and 1930, the city’s population doubled, reaching 100,000 people just before the new decade began. The county’s population, which at the time included the Palma Ceia area, grew by 40% to just over 52,000 people (exclusive of the City of Tampa’s population). Much of that growth was in the suburbs of what is now South Tampa, and Plant’s location in the middle of the Interbay Peninsula placed it within close proximity to that growth.

As was the case with Hillsborough, the county school board looked to a locally famous and influential architect to design the new school. Franklin O. Adams blended blonde brick with the prevailing Mediterranean style to design a beautiful two-story edifice. The school, promoted as the largest in the state at the time, included everything from science labs to an auto shop, along with plenty of room for athletic fields. Vera Avenue, today’s Dale Mabry, passed by the school along its western boundary with nothing but a grassy field and pine trees between the street and the campus buildings.

i.



j.



i. Plant High’s JV football team in 1931 j. Plant in 1929

Courtesy of the Tampa Bay History Center (i.) & Tampa–Hillsborough County Public Library System (j.)

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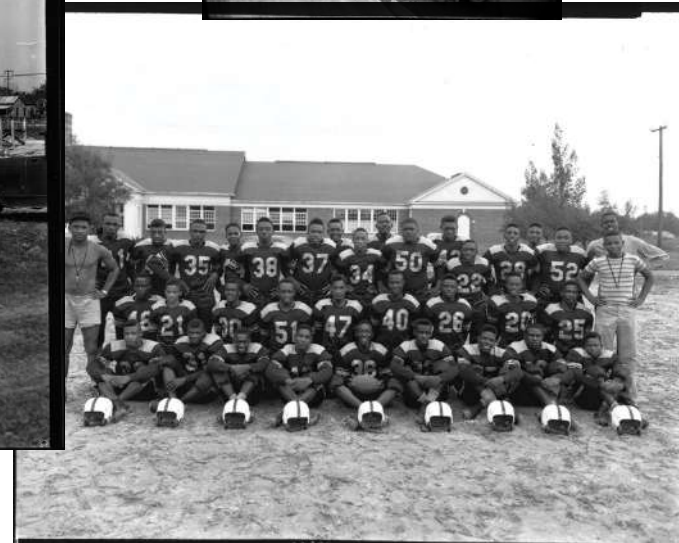
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'WHAT HIGH SCHOOL
DID YOU GO TO?'



k.

m.



l.

k. Old Middleton High in 1935 l. Middleton's football team in 1949 m. Middleton's newspaper class in 1954

George S. Middleton High School

Opened: 1935

Colors: maroon and gold

Mascot: tigers

Notable alumni: Walter Lee Gibbons (professional Negro League baseball player, class of 1946); Delores Aldridge (sociologist, 1959); Gwen Miller (politician, 1953); George Edgecomb (first African American judge in Hillsborough County, 1960); James Hargrett (politician, 1961); Les Miller (politician, 1969)

African American students were not allowed

to enroll at Hillsborough or Plant (or almost any other white school) until the county school system fully integrated in 1971. Prior to that time, Middleton High School and Blake High School were the only public high school options for Black students living in and around Tampa (with two exceptions: George Washington Carver school served grades 6-12 during the 1930s and '40s, and the Don Thompson Vocational High School during the late 1940s and early '50s).

Middleton High School is the older of the two and it was the first traditional high school for Black students in Hillsborough County.

Originally located on 22nd and Chelsea streets in the East Tampa neighborhood of Belmont Heights, Middleton opened in 1935. Named in honor of noted business, education and civic leader George S. Middleton, the school building was designed by famed Tampa architect M. Leo Elliott and in spite of the inherent racism of the era, the school board spent a considerable amount of money building and equipping Middleton. It was state of the art for its time and it mostly lived up to the dark standard of "separate but equal" when compared to Hillsborough and Plant.

Courtesy of the Tampa-Hillsborough County Public Library System

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'WHAT HIGH SCHOOL DID YOU GO TO?'

Howard W. Blake High School

Opened: 1956

Colors: black and gold

Mascot: yellow jackets

Notable alumni: Earl Edwards (professional football player, class of 1964); Leon McQuay (professional football player, 1968); Ryan Davis (professional football player, 2007); Isaiah Rodgers (professional football player, 2016)

Middleton's local rival was — and still is — Blake High School. Named for educator

Howard W. Blake, the school opened in its original location on Spruce Street along the Hillsborough River in West Tampa in 1956. While most of the school was newly built, it did incorporate some of the structures from the old Don Thompson vocational school. Much like the opening of Plant in 1927 showed the growth of Tampa's white population, Blake's opening demonstrates the growth of Tampa's Black population. In addition, it reflects the number of African American students in the West Tampa and northwest Hyde

Park (Dobyville) neighborhoods.

Among the unintended consequences of school integration in Hillsborough County was the reassigning of Middleton and Blake as junior high schools. Both buildings still exist: Middleton is now Ferrell Middle School and Blake is Stewart Middle Magnet School. Their new homes are in the same neighborhoods as their original locations: Blake is on North Boulevard along the Hillsborough River and Middleton is on 22nd Street and Osborne Avenue.

n. & p. Old Blake High in 1956 o. The library at Old Blake High in 1956

n.



p.



o.

Courtesy of the Tampa-Hillsborough County Public Library System

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'WHAT HIGH SCHOOL DID YOU GO TO?'

Jesuit High School

Opened: 1899

Colors: blue and white

Mascot: tigers

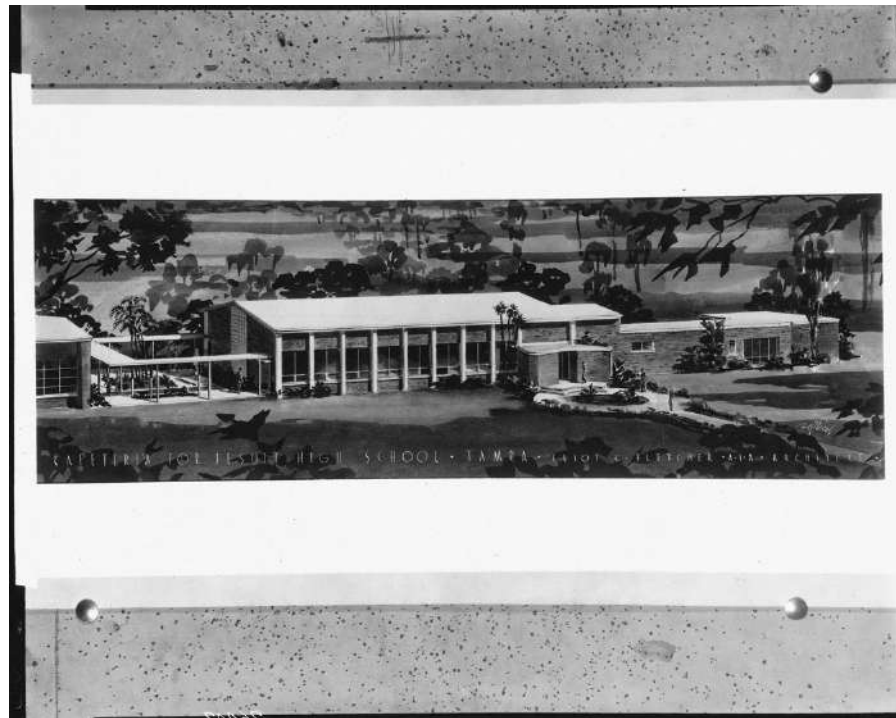
Notable alumni: Al Lopez (Hall of Fame baseball manager, class of 1927); Thomas Galen, Jr. (U.S. Army Green Beret, 1950); Richard Gonzmart (restaurateur, 1971); Rich McKay, (NFL executive, 1977); John Kovac (physicist, astronomer, 1988); Bert Kreischer (comedian, 1990); Lance McCullers, Jr. (professional baseball player, 2011); Dane Belton (professional football player, 2018)

One of the oldest rivalries in Tampa is actually between two private high schools – Jesuit and Tampa Catholic. As is the case with the other schools profiled here, Jesuit and Tampa Catholic personify the old adage that familiarity breeds contempt.

Jesuit High is the older of the two schools. It was founded as the all-male Sacred Heart College in 1899 and was located next to Sacred Heart Church on Florida Avenue in Downtown Tampa. The school was founded by the Jesuit priests who were attached to the church. Enrollment was low at first, but it grew steadily during the ensuing years. In 1940 the school was renamed Jesuit High School to honor the founding Jesuit Order, which was celebrating its 400th anniversary that year.

Following World War II, changes in Downtown Tampa along with the post-war population growth prompted the school's leadership to seek a larger campus. They acquired property on North Himes Avenue, what was then the northern edge of Tampa, and opened the new campus in 1956. The extra space allowed for more students, a better school experience and athletic fields for physical education and athletic competition. Jesuit has more than 8,000 alumni and the number of second, third and even fourth generation students is a testament to the quality of the Jesuit experience.

q.



r.



q. An architectural rendering of Jesuit High r. Jesuit High's football team in 1932

Courtesy of the Tampa-Hillborough County Public Library System

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'WHAT HIGH SCHOOL DID YOU GO TO?'

Tampa Catholic High School

Opened: 1962

Colors: green and white

Mascot: crusaders

Notable alumni: Lance McCullers, Sr. (professional baseball player, class of 1982); Tino Martinez (professional baseball player, 1985); Darrell Jackson (professional football player, 1996); JoAnna Garcia (actor, 1997); Channing Tatum, (actor, 1998)

Like Blake, Tampa Catholic High School was founded as a result of the city's post-World War II population boom. The school opened in 1962 with only 9th and 10th grade classes. That first year was spent on the Christ the King campus, but by the start of the 1963 academic year the school had moved to its new campus on North Rome, just north of MLK Boulevard in the Wellswood neighborhood.

Tampa Catholic's location has accommodated the school's continued growth. Starting even before its first graduating class in 1964 to today, Tampa Catholic has provided a co-educational Catholic school experience that cannot be found at the all-male Jesuit High School or the all-female Academy of the Holy Names on Bayshore Boulevard.

All of these schools have a few things in common. Most importantly, at least for the purposes of our opening question, is that they are all located in neighborhoods and small communities. It is that neighborhood identity — as much as the football team or the school colors — that prompts the question about where someone went to high school. New schools meant new rivalries, from the opening of Jefferson High School (in the 1911 Hillsborough High School building) in 1939 to the new schools in Riverview (Spoto, 2006), Dover (Strawberry Crest, 2009) and Lutz (Steinbrenner, 2009).

Rivalries are the natural consequence of the creation of new nearby schools, whether it's classic ones like Hillsborough and Plant, Middleton and Blake, and Jesuit and Tampa Catholic, or newer ones like Leto and Alonso. Those rivalries play out on the neighborhood streets as much as between the hash marks on the gridiron. The Heights vs. South Tampa, East Tampa vs. West Tampa... each one is a battle for sports supremacy and local bragging rights. TM

Rodney Kite-Powell is a Tampa-born author, the official historian of Hillsborough County and the director of the Touchton Map Library at the Tampa Bay History Center, where he has worked since 1995.

s.



t.

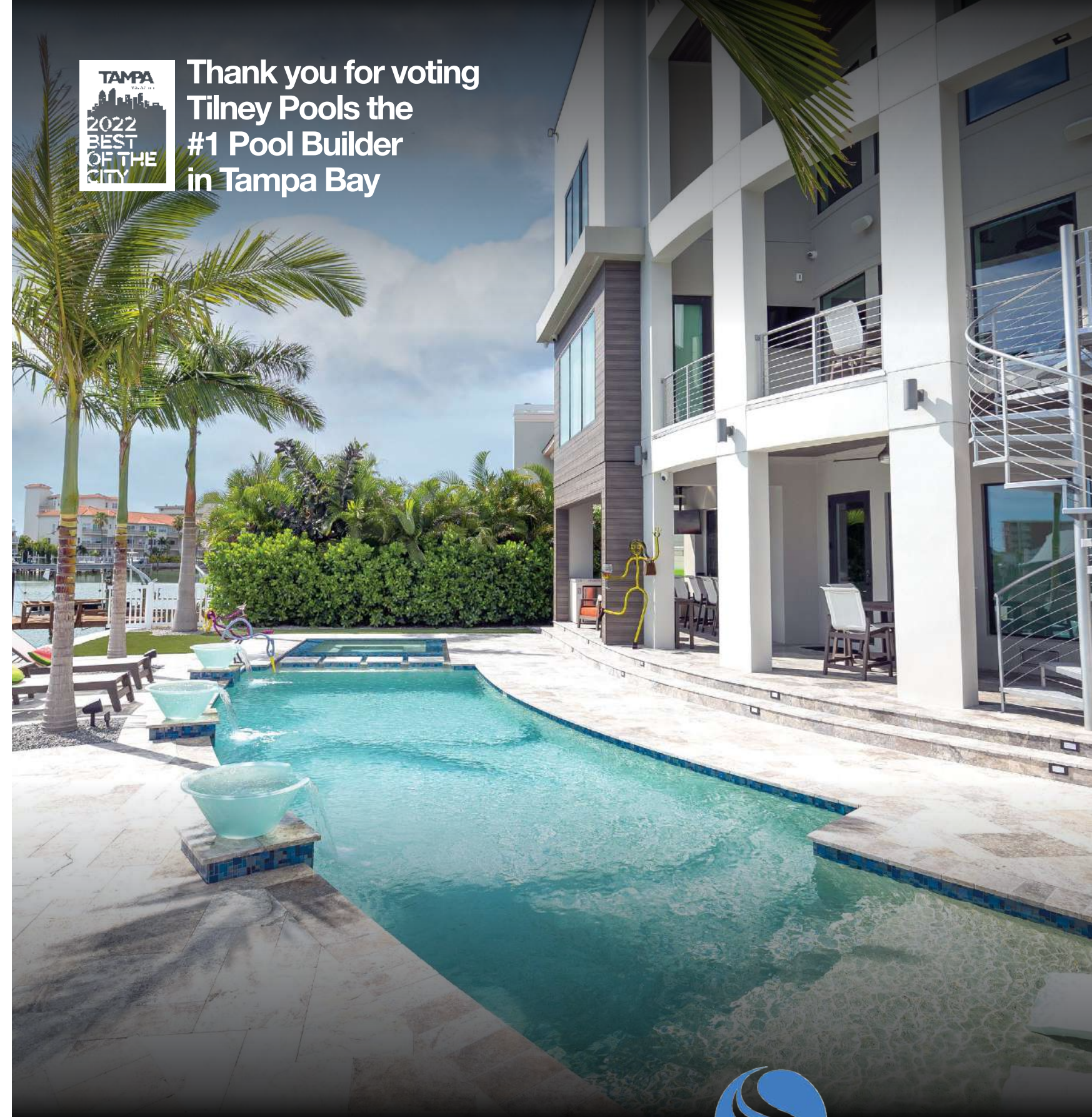


s. Tampa Catholic in 1968 t. The library at Tampa Catholic in 1967

Courtesy of the Tampa-Hillsborough County Public Library System



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of the contest, we are excited to celebrate businesses across the Bay as well, since we recently expanded our circulation into St. Petersburg. In total, 222,782 votes were cast this year for businesses and city providers serving Tampa's residents, with nominees taking to social media to spread the word.

We are proud to present you with the 2022 Best of the City winners. Don't see your Tampa Bay favorite here or have an idea for a new category? Send an email to info@tampamagazines.com with your suggestions.



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WINNERS

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Yeoman's Topgolf Swing
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Ella's Americana Folk
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LOVED

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Hula Bay Club

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WINNERS

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Cigar City Brewing

RUNNERS-UP

Coppertail Brewing Co.
Green Bench Brewing
Company

VOTERS ALSO
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Tampa Bay Brewing
Company

CAKES

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RUNNERS-UP

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Oxford Exchange
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Ritorno, & St. Pete Meat
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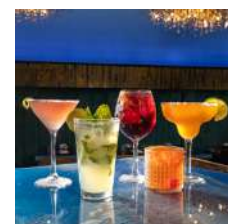
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LOVED

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Rome + Fig

COFFEE

WINNER

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RUNNER-UP

Blind Tiger Coffee
Roasters

VOTERS ALSO
LOVED

Intermezzo Coffee &
Cocktails
King State
Kahwa Coffee

DESSERTS

WINNER

Harry Waugh Dessert
Room at Bern's Steak
House

RUNNERS-UP

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Cassis Bakery & Coffee

VOTERS ALSO
LOVED

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Factory
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Chocolates

DISTILLERY

WINNERS

St. Petersburg Distillery
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Company

RUNNER-UP

Florida CANE Distillery

VOTERS ALSO
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82° West Distilling

DONUTS

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Dough

RUNNERS-UP

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Cream Co.

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Creams
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Swami Juice

RUNNERS-UP

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WINNERS

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Butcher N' Barbeque

RUNNERS-UP

Datz
MISSION BBQ

VOTERS ALSO LOVED

King of the Coop
The Lure

MEAL PREP

WINNER

LS Organics

RUNNER-UP

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RUNNER-UP

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SANDWICHES

WINNER

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WINNERS

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cruellars.com

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PLACE TO BUY
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Tampa Museum of Art

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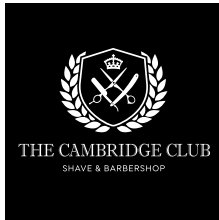
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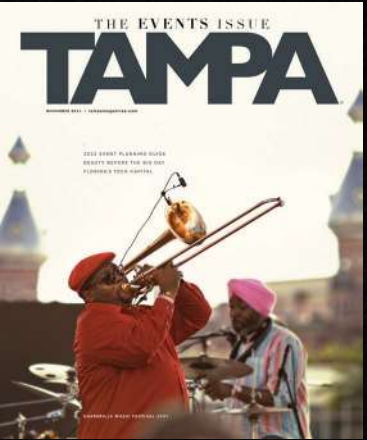
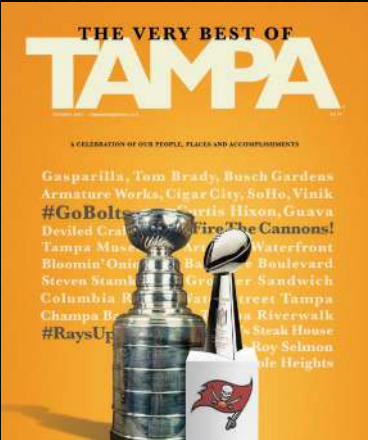
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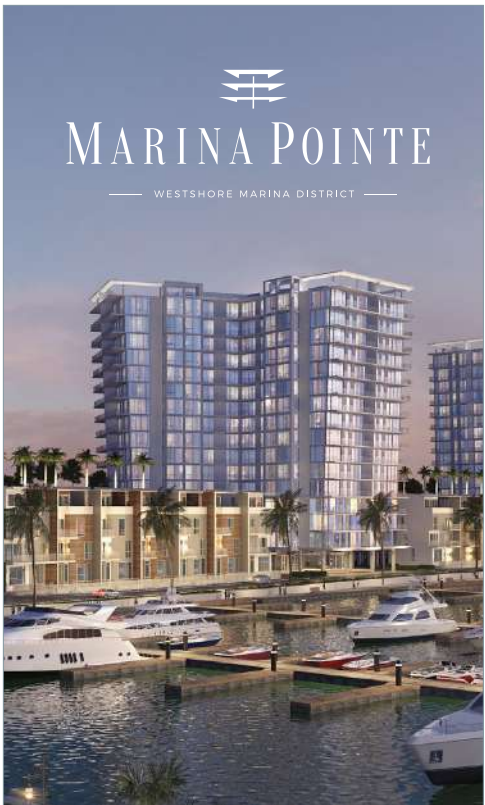
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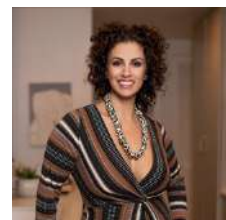


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THE BEST PLACES TO SHOP IN TAMPA BAY

Story By Kathryn Deen Photography By Gabriel Burgos

Tampa Bay is packed with adorable gift shops, affordable thrift stores, high-end boutiques and so much more. When it comes to a fun-filled shopping experience, the Bay area is where it's at. There's something for every age, style and taste. So explore our shopping guide and help these local businesses continue to thrive. After all, supporting local is always in. Plus with the holidays around the corner, it's the perfect time to start checking those gifts off your list. You're sure to bring home a treasure trove of unique finds. Don't forget to pack your reusable bags.



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Have you seen Flor + Palma's charming yellow mini truck around town?

The new, mobile garden market sells locally grown, fresh and dried flowers, plants, totes, hats and more.

Plus, it's available for private parties, corporate events, flower and garden workshops, popups and collabs.

The women-owned company was founded by friends Sandra Moreno and Carmen Raterman.

"We love to help you bring beauty to your space," Raterman says.

Follow Flor + Palma on Instagram for additional location announcements.



labelswap

3143 W. Kennedy Blvd., Tampa
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labelswap.com

Upscale resale boutique labelswap has taken South Tampa by storm since opening in 2020, bringing Poshmark's model to the area.

Fashion-forward shoppers who appreciate quality name brands love its selection of luxury items at a fraction of the cost. Enjoy 50-75% off the retail price for new or gently used goods. Plus, you may sell your items and receive 30% of the sale price in cash or 50% in store credit. labelswap's men's and women's apparel, athletic wear, accessories and shoes include popular brands like Zara, Nike, Anthropologie, Lilly Pulitzer, Lululemon and Free People, as well as luxury brands like Prada, Coach, Gucci, Dior and Louis Vuitton. Special sections display high-end designers and Tampa Bay sports teams.

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Nicolette Simms founded Tenique Designs in 2011 and has built a following of fashion-forward "Teniquesters" who flaunt her customizable, versatile jewelry.

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Simms sources materials that are made to last, creating popular pieces such as body chains and elaborate runway designs.

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YBOR CITY'S NEW
CHAMPION: DARRYL
SHAW

By Kathryn Deen

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THE INTERVIEW:
BOB BUCKHORN,
SHUMAKER ADVISORS

By Kathryn Deen

YBOR CITY'S NEW CHAMPION: DARRYL SHAW

The Developer Has Big Plans To Revitalize The Historic Gem

Story By Kathryn Deen
Photography By Gabriel Burgos

It's Ybor City's turn for a renaissance and one passionate, business-savvy man is leading the charge. Developer Darryl Shaw has won the hearts, minds and pocketbooks of an impressive array of key players in the game of Ybor Monopoly, buying up much of the historic gem and setting big plans into motion for its revitalization.

"Precious few cities are lucky enough to have civic leaders like Darryl Shaw, who is not merely planning to develop property, but thoughtfully create an entire transformative neighborhood that respects history while also embracing the future," Tampa Mayor Jane Castor says.

Shaw plans to resuscitate once-teeming Ybor, primarily by creating the Gas Worx district (named after a gas works plant often referenced on the site). The 30- to 40-acre mixed-use development will fill the gap between Historic Ybor and Downtown's Channel District, also connecting to The Heights. Plans include a family friendly mixture of new residences, shops, restaurants and office space, while enhancing Ybor's walkability, green space and art scene, adding trails and parks and restoring the street grid. Can you say ambitious?

"Over the last several years we have been thinking through how to help bring back Ybor to become again one of America's great neighborhoods," Shaw says. "We have a very significant plan and vision for Ybor that will unfold over a number of years. By far the most significant but not the only component of it is the Gas Worx plan. We are very, very excited about what Gas Worx will do for Ybor, for the people of Ybor, for the city of Tampa and for the Tampa Bay area. Development in Ybor is going to blossom and bloom."

Vince Chillura, first senior vice president of commercial real estate for Valley National Bank, is involved in Gas Worx, as well as Tampa's other major mixed-use redevelopment projects — Water Street, Midtown, Westshore Marina District and The Heights. Chillura cites Shaw's project as perhaps the most important Tampa development of them all.

a. & b. Darryl Shaw at the trolley tracks near Hotel Haya in Ybor City c. A map showing an area of Ybor City that Tampa City Council approved to rezone for Shaw's Gas Worx project



a.



b.



c.

Courtesy of Kettler (c.)

MOVING TAMPA BAY

Ybor City: Darryl Shaw

Called Ybor's kingpin by historian E.J. Salcines, Shaw has even been compared to Ybor founder Vicente Martinez Ybor and industrialist Henry Plant by restaurateur Richard Gonzmart (caretaker of the 1905 Family Of Restaurants, formerly Columbia Restaurant Group) for the economic and cultural impact he is expected to have upon the region. In fact, Ybor's Chamber of Commerce president Lee Bell believes Shaw could make Ybor one of the most desired destinations in Tampa Bay.

Shaw partnered with longtime Ybor families of influence to gain their support and formulate a plan that would honor the key people and places of Ybor's past — the Gonzmarts, Capitanos, Guagliardos, De La Granas, Buchmans, Newmans and Fuentes among them.

"Darryl Shaw has been the kingpin to bring these different lovers of Ybor City together and give them a transfusion of hope," says Salcines, a Tampa native and former appellate judge and state attorney. "They're dancing together for the benefit of the people. Twenty to 50 years from now we will say that they produced magic and made this a gorgeous place to live, all for the benefit of Tampa."

However, others might still be saying, "Darryl who?" The quiet, unassuming businessman has kept a low profile while strategically building his Ybor real estate portfolio for around a decade.

Born in South Africa, Shaw moved to Tampa at age 8 and has lived here ever since, with the exception of going away to college. Shaw and his brother, Neil, founded BluePearl Veterinary Partners and Darryl spent over 25 years as CEO before retiring in April in order to go all-in on Ybor. If it's any indication of his business acumen, BluePearl became the nation's largest network of specialty animal care hospitals with 53

d.



e.



Courtesy of Kettler



f.

locations upon Mars Veterinary Health's acquisition in 2015.

Ybor City was founded in 1886 and became the "cigar capital of the world" and a melting pot for immigrants from Cuba; Spain, Italy and other European nations; as well as robust Black and Jewish populations. It was a tight-knit neighborhood with a strong community feel and Shaw hopes to restore that sense of place. Several factors contributed to its decline through the years, including the U.S. embargo against Cuba, urban renewal, the building of the expressway, the rise of shopping malls and the dissolution of deed restrictions.

"Right now people say Ybor is an entertainment district — it's far from the only thing we want it to be known for," Shaw says. Shaw's real estate and development efforts have always been laser-focused on Ybor, an area he moved to after college and fell in love with. Recent milestones have started to put him in the media's spotlight, including the Tampa City Council's August approval of several rezoning requests for Gas Worx.

To execute Gas Worx, Shaw partnered with Washington D.C.-based Kettler to plan 5 million square feet of development, proposing nearly 4,500 apartments, over 500,000 square feet of office and 140,000 square feet of retail. Shaw has partnered to purchase over \$110 million of properties in the Ybor area so far, spending over \$70 million since 2014. Construction on Gas Worx is planned to start this fall. It could be about a 10-year buildout due to its complexity, Shaw says, since the area overlaps with a historic district and four CRAs and has to account for changing density toward downtown.

Shaw is committed to offering a diversity of housing options, including 325 workforce housing units, Tampa's largest private project commitment to affordable housing today. About \$40 million in privately financed infrastructure improvements are among the

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MOVING TAMPA BAY

Ybor City: Darryl Shaw

plans, including 1.5 miles of new public streets and utilities, 3.6 miles of new sidewalks, 1.2 miles of multi-use trails and 2 acres of open public space. Phase 1 of Gas Worx is 8 acres and will have 720 units and 20,000 square feet of retail on the former Tampa Park Apartments site as the first project expected to come out of the ground.

In just the past few years, Shaw has already transformed several buildings around Ybor, including the old Oliva Cigar Factory into residences; El Dorado Hotel and Casino into Hotel Haya; and the former Buchman Department Store into retail and residences.


"I think a lot of Darryl," says Booky Buchman, an Ybor native and businessman who sold Shaw his first piece of Ybor property and invested in his plan. "He's a very honest man who is very fair with everybody. We believe in the same dream — to make Ybor what it used to be so it becomes a destination."

Looking ahead, Pedroso's will soon change to a restaurant, brewery and 33 residential units, and Shaw is also a partner in Miles Ybor, fully furnished rental micro-units, a bar and gym coming to a vacant lot around 2024. As this magazine went to print, Shaw was under contract for 25 acres of land along the Ybor Channel near Downtown Tampa to further enhance connectivity between Ybor City and the Channel District. Similar to Gas Worx, he plans to make it another mixed-use community with housing, offices and retail. The first component of the sale looks to be closing in 2023.

At 56, Shaw says he has his work cut out for him.

"There's so much to do here that I don't know that I ever see myself doing something else," Shaw says. "I think there are decades of work here. It's going to take a lot of people, not just one person, to move the district forward."

Thankfully, Shaw has already secured those stakeholders, having built strategic partnerships in the private arenas with the aforementioned families and landowners, as well as in the public arena, including with the city, Tampa Hillsborough Expressway Authority and the Port Authority.

With Shaw at the helm, the best just might be yet to come for Ybor City. 

g.



h.



g. Darryl Shaw inside Hotel Haya, one of his recent projects in Ybor City. d. A map of Gas Worx depicts proposed trails and open space.

Courtesy of Kettler (h.)



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SHUMAKER ADVISORS & FORMER MAYOR OF TAMPA (2011-19)

My parents, Bob and Rita Buckhorn, and I, along with my two younger brothers, were raised in Falls Church Virginia, a suburb of Washington, D.C.

A formative childhood experience was growing up in the D.C. area, where politics was omnipresent. In the 1968 presidential election, Bobby Kennedy was running for the democratic nomination and our family were huge Kennedy supporters. I was 10 years old and I used to have my mother drop me off by myself at the Kennedy campaign headquarters and I would stuff envelopes or put stamps on things. I was hooked from that day forward and always believed that public service was the noblest of callings.

My life motto is, “The only easy day was yesterday,” a saying I borrowed from the Navy SEALs and kept on my desk in the mayor’s office, a constant reminder that every day is a new challenge and a new opportunity and that it didn’t matter how good yesterday was, today is a new battle.

The greatest adversity I’ve overcome was winning the election for mayor in 2011 against all odds and in the face of the conventional wisdom that said that me having lost three prior elections in a race against four significant opponents was never going to happen. Guess they were wrong!

My proudest accomplishments as mayor were leading Tampa through the worst recession since the Great Depression and transforming our city from a place that was losing our best and brightest young

professionals to a place that has become a magnet for talent and that city in America where people want to be.

A typical day in my current role with Shumaker Advisors includes working with a great team of attorneys and public policy professionals to deliver for our clients at the intersection of law, government affairs and public affairs, helping clients navigate the complexities of working with governments and positioning their issues in the most favorable light.

My greatest challenges in this position are unfortunately the coarseness and the dysfunction of the political environment at the national level, which has seeped into every layer of government, making it more challenging to find common ground for solutions. The polarization of our society is far worse than when I started and at a time when as a nation we face some serious issues. Now more than ever we need to remember that we are Americans first and partisans last.

My most ambitious goals for the future are to continue to be Tampa’s biggest cheerleader, to engage on issues that matter to me, to never let the momentum we have achieved and the progress we have made be undone by anything or anybody and most importantly, to watch my daughters spread their wings and soar.

People would be surprised to know that I am an avid sporting clay shooter. Until I joined Shumaker recently you would find me at Tampa Bay Sporting Clays at least once a week.


When I travel, the one thing I always

do is, as soon as I can, I leave the hotel and just walk the city. For hours I will just walk, taking in the architecture, the design, the amenities, the street grid and the public spaces. It drives my kids crazy, but once a mayor, always a mayor.

My favorite place to visit is Ireland. I just returned from my fifth trip to Ireland, a place I never tire of visiting. It is my ancestral home and one of the prettiest places in the world. The Guinness is not bad either.

The biggest item on my bucket list is to fly with the Blue Angels. From the disappointment of being discharged from U.S. Naval Aviation Officer Candidate School due to a degeneration of one of my corneas in 1982, I had always wanted to be a fighter pilot. I volunteered to serve, was selected and but for what turned out to be a misdiagnosis, my life would have turned out very different. Although, it is actually what brought me to Tampa and the rest is history.

The greatest honor of my life has been to be a dad of two amazing young women, Grace, 21, and Colleen, 17. They give me joy, they give me purpose and they never cease to amaze me. Leaving them a city that they can come home to some day that is alive, vibrant and full of opportunities is a father’s dream come true.

My “perfect” day would be hanging out in the mountains of North Carolina with my family, my dog, a big glass of cabernet, an Arturo Fuente Opus X cigar and a nice cool mountain evening. 



Interview: Kathryn Deen
Photography: Gabriel Burgos

About Shumaker Advisors: The Florida group’s public affairs practice provides public and private sector clients services at the federal, state and local levels. In addition to former Tampa Mayor Bob Buckhorn, former St. Petersburg Mayor Rick Kriseman and other notable local leaders also recently joined its team.



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2022 TAMPA BAY TOP DENTISTS LIST

VIEW AND SHARE THIS LIST ONLINE

TampaMagazines.com/2022-Top-Dentists-List

EDITOR'S NOTE: The 2022 Top Dentists surveys were mailed to dentists in Hillsborough County before our magazines' recent expansion into the St. Petersburg area. Therefore, this year's list only includes dentists from Hillsborough County. Our 2023 surveys will also be sent to the St. Petersburg area.

TRUSTING THE PERSON WHO CARES FOR YOUR SMILE IS IMPERATIVE.

Yet finding the perfect dentist isn't always easy, especially in Tampa Bay, where there are hundreds of qualified choices. To help you navigate the options, we asked local dentists to name the peers they believe stand out as the best in each of their specialties. In the pages that follow, the winning dentists in each specialty are listed in alphabetical order. Then, beginning on Page 122 our Dentist Profiles section highlights some of the best dentists in the Bay area.

WHO DECIDES WHO IS A TOP DENTIST?

Who picks the dentists?

This summer, we mailed just under 1,200 surveys to licensed

dentists in Hillsborough County. We obtained the list from the Florida Department of Health.

We asked the dentists to nominate their peers — who in their judgment are the best — in nine separate dental specialties, then return the surveys on anonymous prepaid return envelopes or complete the survey online. We tallied the votes from those surveys to compile this list.

Does TAMPA Magazines check out all of the nominated dentists?

Yes. After the list is completed, we verify that none of the dentists are on probation or have had their licenses revoked.

Was my dentist left off the list because he or she does not advertise in TAMPA Magazines?

Absolutely not. Every dentist who appears on the list was voted on by their peers. We include all winners on the list, regardless of whether they advertise with TAMPA Magazines.

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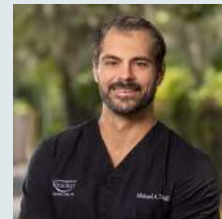
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Dr. Raed S. Kasem, owner of Endodontic Associates, has dedicated his professional life to providing the highest quality of services for his patients.

He helps retain natural teeth even when cases seem helpless at times, providing relief from pain and infection.

As an inventor, Dr. Kasem patented techniques and devices that assist dentists in providing excellent endodontic treatment. His treatment philosophy and techniques help raise the standard of care using advanced technologies, such as CBCT-Scan, ultrasonic and surgical microscopy.

Dr. Kasem is a national and international speaker and teacher and is the founder of the Florida Institute of Microdentistry in Tampa, which promotes the use of the surgical microscope aiming to improve the quality for general dentistry.

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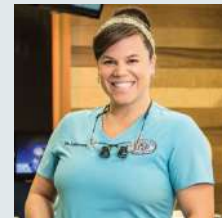
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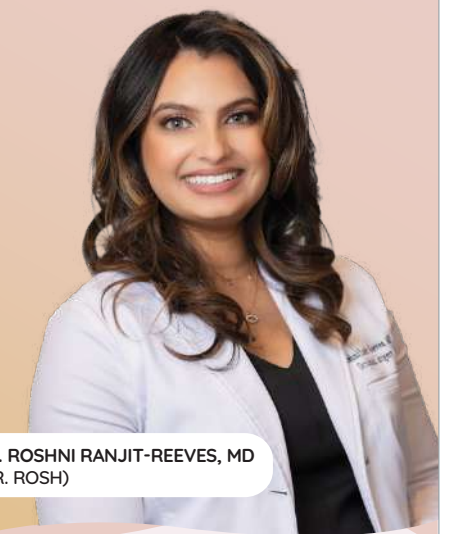
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Dr. Rasmussen (or "Dr. A" as her patients call her) started her practice in 1984, at a time when it was unusual for women to choose careers in dentistry, far less own a practice.

"Simply speaking, I wanted to have a practice where I could treat patients like I wanted to be treated," Dr. A says. "I was driven by providing quality care in a comfortable environment and creating relationships with my patients that make them feel at home."

Relationship-driven, expert, comprehensive care is at the center of what Gentle Dentistry does, and it's what keeps patients coming back and bringing their families.

"We get to know our patients as people before we look at their teeth," Dr. A explains. "We'll take the time to get to know you and find out your goals to come up with a personalized plan for care."

Gentle Dentistry has become a Tampa mainstay for general, cosmetic and advanced dental solutions. After building the practice for over three decades, Dr.



Left to right: Dr. Amanda del Cueto D.M.D., CEO Dr. Ryan Lepore D.M.D., Dr. Angela Rasmussen D.D.S



Angela Rasmussen has made the decision to step aside as owner, with Dr. Ryan Lepore taking ownership of the practice to continue the legacy started by Dr. A. The team is joined clinically by Dr. Amanda del Cueto, a doctor with the highest qualifications and skills in restorative and preventative dentistry.

To continue building upon the exceptional quality of care Dr. A has provided, Dr. Lepore and Dr. del Cueto bring valuable education and experience on the oral-systemic connection (the link between the health of your teeth and gums and overall health). Together, this team goes above the standard of traditional clinical dental care to work with you to identify potential risks and offer solutions that can reduce your risk of diseases in the mouth and the body.

In this practice, each patient gets customized treatment that goes beyond x-rays and simple diagnoses. Patients receive highly personalized recommendations for treatment options that have a preventive, proactive, health-focused plan for care.

For dental treatment focused on you, your comfort and your overall health – there's no better place than Gentle Dentistry.



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ANDRÉS GUERRA-ANDRADE, D.M.D.

ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY

Dr. Guerra-Andrade is the owner and CEO of TERSA Oral and Facial Surgery in Lutz. He has been an oral surgeon for over a decade, serving patients in Tampa Bay for over 12 years. Patients immediately feel at ease upon meeting him and know that they are in capable, caring hands.

A full-scope oral and maxillofacial surgeon and voted a 2022 Top Dentist, he treats both children and adult patients with any oral surgery procedure. He also performs facial cosmetic surgery. TERSA is a narcotic-free practice.

“My goal is to contribute to eliminating the possibility of addiction related to narcotics for every single one of my patients,” Dr. Guerra-Andrade says.

At his office, he has the most advanced technology in the market. The X Guide® Navigation System is used to precisely place a single dental implant or multiple dental implants (All-on-4® Protocol) for full mouth rehabilitation. The practice also has state-of-the-art technology that allows for non-invasive facial cosmetic procedures like micro-needling, skin tightening, Botox, fillers and reliable skin care products (TERSA Skin Care).

Dr. Guerra-Andrade is board certified by both the American Board of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery and the National Board of Dental Anesthesiology. His advanced training and expertise give you access to the best advancements in oral surgery with minimal discomfort.

EDUCATION: School of Dentistry at the Universidad Central de Venezuela, D.M.D.; University of Puerto Rico, Medical Science Campus, Residency; University of Tennessee Medical Center, Fellowship in Head and Neck Oncologic and Reconstructive Surgery



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MARK FARINA, D.M.D.

ORTHODONTIST

After beautifying more than 20,000 smiles in the Tampa Bay area, Dr. Mark Farina definitely qualifies as a smile expert.

“We want to create a ‘wow’ experience for our patients while creating beautiful, healthy smiles along the way,” Dr. Farina says. “We know your time is important to you, so we pride ourselves on being one of the top orthodontic providers of virtual care in the United States.”

Dr. Farina has earned the prestigious designation of Diplomate of the American Board of Orthodontics. His orthodontic practice consistently stays on top of advances in technology. It is in the Top 1% of Invisalign providers in North America, earning the Diamond Plus designation, and offers its own trademarked ClearTech Aligner technology for minor tooth movement. Every office features 3D Imaging, which gives clarity on oral issues in a matter of seconds, making diagnosis and treatment more accurate and efficient. Patients aren’t the only ones who have noticed. His peers continue to vote him as a top orthodontist in Tampa Bay.

“It’s not just an award for me; it’s an award for everyone at the practice,” he says. “From the team that greets you with a smile to the wonderful experts providing your orthodontic treatment — we want to be the best part of your day.”

EDUCATION: Boston College, B.S.; University of Pennsylvania D.M.D.; New York University, post-graduate orthodontic training



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HANNY HAMOUI, D.M.D.

ENDODONTICS



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Proudly one of the few board-certified endodontists in the Tampa Bay area, Dr. Hanny Hamoui offers a high level of expertise and experience. He has been voted again by his peers for the second straight year as one of the Top Dentists in Tampa Bay. Dr. Hamoui is an expert at making people comfortable. His specialty is the root canal and he understands what oral pain is like.

"I enjoy the emergency-based aspect of resolving people's pain and seeing their surprise at how comfortable the procedure can actually be," Dr. Hamoui says. "In addition, I love being able to preserve their natural smiles."

But that's not the only way Dr. Hamoui and his team make their patients comfortable. They're known for providing a welcoming, personable office visit for every patient, focusing on minimal wait times and pain-free procedures.

That impressive level of care is paired well with the latest dental technology. Dr. Hamoui performs all procedures using a Cone Beam Computed Tomography, which produces detailed 3D renderings of the tooth and surrounding oral anatomy. Furthermore, the use of special operating microscopes with fiber optic illumination enhances their ability to visualize and remove the entire nerve, while simultaneously maintaining a minimally invasive access.

All of this allows him to focus on his core mission: "Endeavoring to relieve our patient's pain and setting the foundation for their smiles."

With two convenient locations, Dr. Hamoui and West Shore Endodontics are your best choice when you need a root canal.

EDUCATION: University of Florida, B.A.; Boston University School of Dental Medicine; University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine and Pittsburgh VA Hospital System

One of few Spanish-speaking pediatric dentists in the Tampa Bay area, Dr. Denisse Lasanta educates children on how to properly care for their teeth.

"With gentle hands and compassion, I teach your child how to care for their teeth so they won't need dental work in the future," she says. "As a doctor, teacher and devoted parent, I can tell you what a positive dental experience means to me. At Dental Studio 4 Kids, each child is given individual attention and is treated with care and gentleness, as if they were our very own."

Board Certified by the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry and recognized by her peers as a 2022 Top Dentist, Dr. Lasanta trains doctors in Solea dental laser technology. Solea laser allows for needle-free dentistry when restoring dental decay. This state-of-the-art laser is specifically designed for soft tissue (gums), hard tissue (enamel) and bone tissue treatment. Dr. Lasanta is perhaps the only dentist in the area to use the Solea dental laser.

"It is virtually painless, noiseless and vibrationless," she explains. "This means a much more comfortable treatment for our young patients."

Dr. Lasanta is also a professor in a pediatric dentistry residency program at a community health center in Tampa Bay. She trains general dentists working toward their certification in pediatric dentistry with the NYU Langone Dental Medicine (Florida site), also holding privileges at Tampa General Hospital and BayCare Hospitals.

EDUCATION: University of Puerto Rico School of Dental Medicine, D.M.D.; University Pediatric Hospital Puerto Rico Medical Center, San Juan Municipal Hospital, Residency



DENISSE LASANTA, D.M.D.

PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY



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Dr. Richard Rasmussen Jr. is an international pioneer in dental implants and one of the most experienced periodontal surgeons in the world. Dr. Rasmussen is the only periodontist in the U.S. trained in the craniofacial applications of implants and leads the field in minimally invasive soft tissue and bone grafting protocols. He has placed tens of thousands of implants since 1982, along with advanced soft and hard tissue reconstruction procedures.

He has served patients by using advanced, state-of-the-art technology to provide the most current and least invasive periodontal treatments possible. Besides implant therapy and recession treatment, Dr. Rasmussen Jr. also provides intravenous sedation, periodontal disease treatment, extractions, periodontal plastic surgery, ridge and sinus augmentations and laser therapy. Before any treatment, all patients receive a complimentary 3D scan to determine bone density and implant placement.

“Without a doubt, the most rewarding part of my practice is the privilege of getting to know our patients on a personal level,” Dr. Rasmussen Jr. says. “Many of our patients have been under my care for 30 to 40 years and have become good friends and part of the Implant & Periodontal Therapy family.”

Dr. Rasmussen Jr. is one of few practicing clinicians who trained directly under Professor Per-Ingvar Brånemark, the “Father of Modern Dental Implantology” and is the only periodontist to have trained in craniofacial surgery with him. Dr. Rasmussen Jr. spends many hours teaching and is the director of Tampa’s Seattle Study Club.

EDUCATION: University of Buffalo, B.A., D.D.S.; Post Graduate Periodontal Residency, University of Alabama



JOHN M. CHERRY JR., D.M.D.

GENERAL DENTISTRY

A Brandon resident since 1969, Dr. Cherry is a neighborhood dentist for the entire family. Since 1986, his practice has offered comprehensive care using state-of-the-art technology, which means convenient and personalized care for every patient.

Dr. Cherry is specially trained in dental implants (Midwest Implant Institute, Pikos Institute), conscious sedation (University of Alabama-Birmingham, American Dental Society of Anesthesiology) and advanced restorative dentistry (Pankey Institute, Spear Education). This year marks five years as a Top Dentist.

“I’m confident that my patients and their families are receiving excellence in dental care from my entire team,” Dr. Cherry says. “From the moment you walk through our doors, my staff and I treat you like family and ensure that you leave the office smiling.”

Under one roof, patients can access a multitude of treatments, including dental implants, cosmetic dentistry, tooth extractions, root canals and sedation.

EDUCATION: University of Florida College of Dentistry, D.M.D.



JOHN M. CHERRY JR., D.M.D.

360 E. Bloomingdale Ave., Brandon
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ZINEB MEDIOUNI, D.M.D.

PROSTHODONTICS

Dr. Zineb Mediouni is passionate about helping make your smile one you want to show off. She specializes in prosthodontics, including esthetics, implants, crowns, bridges, reconstructive dentistry and Invisalign, as well as full mouth reconstruction, TMJ disorders and veneers.

ZM Dental offers the latest in technology, including digital X-rays, a 3D CT scanner, intraoral cameras and Fotona’s Lightwalker dental laser system. For implants, ZM Dental also uses the CBCT, a 3D cone beam computed tomography.

Dr. Mediouni and her team perform a variety of general and cosmetic dental treatments, including cleanings, whitening and oral cancer screenings. In addition, they focus on facial esthetics with Botox and fillers, as well as Smoothlase (anti-aging facial rejuvenation) and LipLase (all-natural lip plumping). Dr. Mediouni and her staff’s main priorities are patients’ comfort and care.

“I look forward to you becoming a part of my dental family,” Dr. Mediouni says.

EDUCATION: Tufts University School of Dental Medicine, D.M.D., Fellowship in Aesthetic Dentistry and Prosthodontics Degree



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**LAUREN COMPANIONI
STRAHAN, D.M.D.**
PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY

Board-certified pediatric dentist Dr. Lauren Companioni Strahan has positively shaped the way thousands of children feel about going to the dentist. Children love to visit South Tampa Dental Krewe and feel safe and comfortable with her and her caring, gentle staff.

"Working with kids every day is pretty amazing," she says. "Pediatric dentistry shapes a child's view of the dentist. I always try to pick something special to talk about for each kiddo. It helps us to build a relationship and then they look forward to coming back."

Dr. Companioni and her team take a holistic approach to dental health and emphasize preventative care. Her gentle touch helps kids stay calm getting cavities filled. She also provides laser treatments to release tongue ties, digital X-rays, nitrous oxide and IV sedation.

EDUCATION: Louisiana State University, B.S.; Arizona School of Dentistry and Oral Health, D.M.D.; Baylor College of Dentistry, Residency in Pediatric Dentistry



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MICHAEL DIEZ, D.M.D.
GENERAL & COSMETIC DENTISTRY
OF TAMPA

Dr. Michael "Mick" Diez is honored to be voted one of Tampa Bay's Top Dentists in 2020, 2021, and 2022. His philosophy is "To use my artistic abilities and dental knowledge to create and enhance every smile when restoring patients' teeth to their healthiest state, while treating every patient like family."

Dr. Mick is certified in CEREC Same Day Crowns and is an Invisalign Gold Provider. He performs root canals, smile makeovers, dental implants and dentures. Dr. Mick works alongside the Boys and Girls Club of Tampa, visiting the schools to promote proper hygiene. On the weekends, he enjoys outdoor adventures and traveling with his wife, Alexa, family and friends.

EDUCATION: Nova Southeastern University, undergraduate and doctorate in dental medicine; Member of ADA, FDA, FACD, BNI and CABA



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PAUL H. DUGA, D.D.S.
PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY

Dr. Duga is passionate about creating smiles for kids. At his office, he provides everything from preventative dental care — including sealants, X-rays, fillings for cavities and tooth extractions — to cosmetic dentistry, orthodontics, Invisalign, Under Armour mouth guards and teeth whitening.

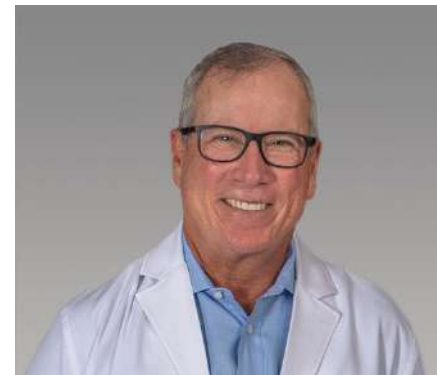
His patient-focused office creates a relaxed atmosphere for children from birth through college, including special needs children. Parents say their kids really do love to come to the dentist.

"It's about approaching kids on their level, relating to them and building the confidence that will set them up for a lifetime of success with preventive and routine oral care," Dr. Duga says.

EDUCATION: University of Wisconsin, Marquette University School of Dentistry, D.D.S.; Louisiana State University School of Dentistry, Pediatric Dentistry Specialty Certificate



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PATRICK ABBEY, D.M.D.
ORAL & MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY

Dr. Patrick Abbey is Tampa's trusted name for Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. Voted by his peers as a Top Dentist for the past 10 years, he has practiced in Tampa since 1994. He attained diplomate status with the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons and has maintained active board certification.

He maintains a full scope practice, with strong interest in dental implants, orthognathic surgery, TMJ reconstruction and more. Dr. Abbey helped pioneer changes that led to custom total TMJ replacement therapy. He presents clinical papers, teaches and serves on boards, also volunteering locally and internationally. He served on the board of "New Faces for Honduras" for 10 years, providing much needed maxillofacial surgery and training there.

EDUCATION: University of Florida, B.S., D.M.D.; Alameda County Medical Hospital, Residency



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Players + Pursuits

132.

THE OUTBOARD RAGE
By Chris Caswell

a. Boston Whaler 280 Dauntless

THE OUTBOARD RAGE

Story By Chris Caswell

The outboard motor can be traced directly to a bowl of ice cream. As the story goes, a clever young machinist named Ole Evinrude had rowed his girlfriend, Bessie, to a Wisconsin island for a picnic when she wanted a dish of ice cream. Being both dutiful and enamored, he rowed the 2 miles back. But by the time he returned to his bride-to-be, the ice cream had melted (and he was exhausted). Evinrude swore there had to be a better way and promptly created a one cylinder 1.5-horsepower outboard motor that clamped onto his rowboat. Thus was born the first Evinrude outboard in 1907 and the name, along with others, went on to grace the sterns of boats from our childhoods.

Today, you can walk into any boat dealership and buy a 450-horsepower outboard. More than likely, however, you might order a boat with as many as six of these behemoths on the stern.

What’s led to this rage for outboards? For starters, the center console boat has become popular. (Catch our story about them at tampamagazines.com.)

MarineMax St. Petersburg general manager Joshua Lavine says, “Center console boats have become a staple of many people’s boating adventures for the same reasons as SUVs: versatile layouts, comfort and flexibility.”

Plus, these are perfectly suited to outboard power. Before you condemn outboards, however, the days of shaky, smokey and loud outboards are long gone. Today, they’re quiet, smooth, powerful and fuel-efficient. And, when it comes to maintenance, they’re designed for salt water and are easily serviced.

Courtesy of MarineMax



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Players + Pursuits

The Outboard Rage

There was a time not too long ago when the rumble of exhausts from sterndrive or inboard boats was the clear symbol of power, just like the same sound from a hotrod revving up on land. Now you only need to count the outboards hanging on the stern to see the machismo of the owner.

Just as there was a horsepower race among car companies, the builders of outboards have also been one-upping each other with more powerful engines every year. The current leader of the pack is Mercury, with its 600-horsepower Verado 7.6 liter. This is a V-12 (think Ferrari or Lamborghini) with an industry-first, two-speed transmission.

Seven Marine was created in 2010 to produce an outboard version of the asphalt-shredding General Motors 6.2-liter 627-horsepower supercharged V-8 from ZL1 Chevy Camaros, but the company was purchased in 2020 by Volvo-Penta, a major marine power producer, and folded to meet their low-emissions standards.

That leaves Mercury at the top of the power pile, but Mercury and Yamaha have been slugging out the horses race for years, bringing out 350-, then 400- and then 450-horsepower engines. Suzuki startled the outboard world in 2021 with a V-6 twin-propeller, 350-horsepower offering that they claimed would get a better “bite” on the water, while Honda stayed in the running with a 250-horsepower engine.

But why have outboards proliferated? Here are six reasons to consider, listed in no particular order.

First is the versatility. With outboards, a boat has less draft so it can run up on a sandbar for a family outing simply by tilting the engines up.

Performance and reliability is a second reason and outboards have enjoyed great technical advances in the last two decades. Four-stroke systems and direct fuel injection make them simpler to service. And anyone operating a sterndrive in salt water knows the constant vigilance required to prevent corrosion between the aluminum drive and water, while the outboard can easily be tilted above the water.

Yes, outboards are saltwater-cooled, but their systems make regular flushing easy with dockside hoses. It’s not a problem in Florida, but winterizing an outboard is considerably simpler than having to drain and protect inboard engines from winter cold.



b.

c.

In addition, both sterndrive and inboard boat owners know that working on engines, buried in the bilge and inaccessible, is time- and cost-intensive for service. With the outboard, the shell around the powerhead is easily removed and, for major work, the engine can be taken to a shop. Even replacing the entire engine is simpler with an outboard: unbolt one, bolt on another. Easy-peasy.

A further outboard benefit is fewer holes in the hull from prop shafts and struts, and far fewer leaks. And having two engines on the stern creates a get-home redundancy not found in single-engined boats.

A third property of outboards is their modern technology, with digital throttles and shifters, which make even novices look good when docking or maneuvering.

There is never enough space on a boat, but removing the power from inside the boat opens the cockpit for family fun. With no engine box or boxes covering the engines, there can be a flat floor from the helm all the way to the stern.

Yes, outboards eliminate a transom swim platform but, on a boat like the Boston Whaler 280 Dauntless center console, this has been replaced with a fold-down “beach” on one side, providing easy water access with its own ladder. In addition, the area under the cockpit offers spacious storage for fenders, fishing gear or water toys.

Last, but far from least, is fuel economy. Not having to take out a mortgage to spend a day on the water makes family outings fun again, and modern outboards are both lighter and more powerful. Aside from showing off, outboards are also more fuel-efficient than other power plants, and hanging twin, triple or quad outboards allows today’s boats to cruise at higher speeds with lower fuel consumption.

b. AV40 c. Scout 530 LXF

Courtesy of Avia/MarineMax (b.) & Mercury Marine (c.)

Players + Pursuits
The Outboard Rage

Why so many outboards on one boat? Said one owner, “Because I can.” Hard to argue. But it’s still startling, shocking or exciting (depending on your boating preferences) to see the world’s largest center console, the HCB 65-footer Estrella with six — count ‘em — six Mercury Racing 600-horsepower outboards clamped to the transom. With 3,600 horsepower under your fist, the Estrella will easily top 70 miles per hour.

“And,” says Kevin Cook at Ultimate Marine, the Tampa area dealer, “you’re moving a luxuriously appointed hotel suite too.”

In addition to cockpit theater seating, the Estrella has two air-conditioned cabins twice as large as other center console boats, plus a full galley and a head with a stall shower, making it the perfect weekender.

Another “big gun” is the Scout 530 LXF, which strings six Merc 400s across its 14-foot, 8-inch transom. Combining power (2,400 horsepower) with both fishability (is that a word?) and luxury, the 530 will push avid anglers into the 75-mile-per-hour range.

But not everyone wants an outboard-powered boat for speed. When it comes to repowering your boat, which is something every boat owner dreads, Marine Max’s Lavine notes, “Outboards can more easily be repowered than any other engine option. Compare that to marrying your boat to a more permanent inboard engine(s) that you’ll never reasonably want to consider trying to remove or upgrade.”

Other “hidden” benefits to outboards is that every manufacturer, boat and engine, offers personalization so you can match your outboards to your hull color or, on the other hand, pick a color you like (pink? black?).

Whatever the reasons, it’s clear that outboards—and multi-outboards—are here to stay. They once were called “kickers,” but you can now run down to get a dish of ice cream without a worry about meltdown. **TAMPA**

Chris Caswell is an award-winning writer and the former editor of several yachting magazines. He has appeared on Oprah as a boating lifestyle expert and hosted the Marine Voyager series on the Speed Channel.

d.



e.



Courtesy of Ultimate Marine (d.) & Scout Boats (e.)

d. 65' Estrella e. Scout 530 LXF



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‘LAURA WITH BUN’ BY JAUME PLENSA

This 23-foot cast iron sculpture sits just outside the entrance to the Tampa Museum of Art. Its elongated shape and nonreflective surface have an otherworldly effect, inviting the viewer to pause and reflect. Artist Jaume Plensa believes that art in public spaces can create inclusive and transformative experiences for diverse audiences. Completed in 2014, “Laura with Bun” was originally shown as part of a solo exhibition of Plensa’s work in 2016, and a grassroots campaign led to its purchase and accession into the permanent collection of the Tampa Museum of Art. tampamuseum.org

Courtesy of the Tampa Museum of Art & Skip O'Rourke, Tampa Bay Times



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