

Monday Morning Memo
December 22, 2008

Partnership Matters

The Tampa Downtown Partnership will close its offices at noon on Wednesday (12/24) and be closed on December 25th in honor of the Christmas holiday. The office will re-open on Friday, December 26th. *Have a safe and merry Christmas!*

Please make a note that there will not be a Monday Morning Memo edition for December 28th. Monday Morning Memo will return on January 5, 2009. Please have a wonderful holiday season and a Happy New Year!

Opportunities

[Rampello Downtown Partnership School](#) (802 E. Washington St.) is now accepting applications for the next school year. If you not familiar with this downtown K-8th grade school, now is your chance to learn more. On January 15th the school will hold an open house from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. The school is for children of parents who work in downtown Tampa. Having your children near you during the day is an excellent opportunity to be more involved in their school activities. But you must act fast. This A rated school is very popular and will develop a long waiting list. Find out more by calling (813) 233-2333.

The Tampa Downtown Partnership and *New Heights Magazine* are working together on a co-op advertising program to promote downtown restaurants and retailers. Through collective buying downtown merchants can take advantage of an opportunity to reach thousands of people during the months of January, February, March and April. But time is limited to act. Find out more by clicking here.

The USF Small Business Development Center located in downtown has released its January 2009 class schedule. Find out what is offered by clicking here.

Studies and Reviews

This past week the Partnership held its annual holiday luncheon for Tampa's Downtown Guides and Clean Team. During this event a team member from each team is selected as the team member of the year. **Please join the Partnership in congratulating Jorge Horcasitas of the Tampa Downtown Guides and Charlene Reynolds of Tampa's Downtown Clean Team for being selected at Team Members of the Year!** *An award well deserved!*

Speaking of its annual holiday luncheon... this is an event allowing downtown merchants to show their appreciation for both teams. **Please take a look at which merchants expressed their gratitude by clicking here.**

The University of Tampa athletics are winning tournaments and being ranked among the best in various sports. Get the latest news on what's happening on campus by clicking here. *Go Spartans!*

A few months ago Monday Morning Memo reported on the City of Tampa's Comprehensive Plan, which was submitted to the State of Florida for review. The results of that review are back and the **City has responded to the State's review of the Comprehensive Plan.** You can view the City of Tampa's response by [clicking here](#).

Seeing is Believing

Downtown is now less than a month away from the doors opening on the new Tampa Bay History Center! January 17th is the opening day. The staff of the new History Center wants readers to know that memberships to the facility make excellent gifts for the holidays. Depending on the level chosen, members may receive free admission, guest passes, priority registration for programs and events, reception invitations, newsletter subscription, membership card, lapel pin and 10% off at the Museum Store and Columbia Café. Those interested in making history can call (813) 228-0097. On Saturday, January 17th, the new Tampa Bay History Center will open its doors at an 11AM ribbon cutting ceremony. The first 2,500 visitors through the door will receive a FREE Publix Greenwise reusable shopping bag filled with gifts from local retailers and sports franchises. The History Center is looking to provide these guests with a true representation of the Tampa Bay region and invite any retailer interested in providing the Center with 2,500 gifts or coupons for inclusion in these bags to contact Cindy Bosselmann at (813) 228-0097 or cindyb@tampabayhistorycenter.org. There is no charge associated with this.

In just under a month [Lights on Tampa](#) will return to downtown. This event is a wonderful collection of international artists who use the light medium to showcase their works onto downtown structures. **SunTrust Financial Centre has jumped the gun by completing the revamping of the building's top by installing LED lighting.** This gives the building greater flexibility to highlight various color schemes. Take a look at the building's Christmas display by [clicking here](#).

Special Services District

Tampa's Downtown Guides and Clean announced their holiday season hours. The Guides and Clean Team will be off on Christmas Day (12/25) and New Year's Day (1/01). On New Year's Eve the Guides will operate until 12:30 a.m. Also, look for an announcement for new late night hours from the Guides coming soon!

Are you watching with HiLife TV? HiLife TV is part of the Partnership's lifestyle Web site, www.hilifetampa.com. Each episode introduces you to the people who are making downtown an urban neighborhood. Take a look at the [December episodes](#) and discover something new about the area.

The Tampa Downtown Market will not be open on Friday (12/26). However, **the Downtown Market will be open on January 2nd!** If you are looking for something to do with friends from out of town, bring them to the Tampa Downtown Market from 10 a.m. to

2 p.m. Details are available by visiting the Downtown Market Web site at www.tampadowntownmarket.com.

InTown Tampa gives Downtowners a closer look at topics that are impacting Tampa's urban core. Here are the items in this issue:

- A Bright Light in Downtown Economic Development
- Patel Conservatory inspires downtown
- New Wayfinding Signs In Place
- "Lights On Tampa" Shines Again

This week the downtown community welcomes fans of University of Iowa and the University of South Carolina. Both teams are playing in the [Outback Bowl](#), held on January 1st. *Welcome to downtown Tampa!*

Creative Urban Core

Do you know of some outstanding design that needs to be recognized by the community? If so, then you should **make a submission to the 27th Annual Hillsborough County Community Design Awards!** All entries must be received by February 18th. Get all the details about this program and how to enter by [clicking here](#).

The final Tampa Film Review will take place January 9th. This is a free event and features locally made short films. The event will be held at the Italian Club (1731 East 7th Avenue in Ybor City) starting at 8 p.m. This event open to the public. Don't miss this great event.

Downtown Happenings

The Homeless Coalition of Hillsborough County will host a **Candlelight Memorial Service for the homeless of Hillsborough County who have died over the past year** on Monday, December 22, at 6 PM at the Rotunda in Joe Chillura Park, at Marion and Morgan Streets. The public is invited.

Fly Bar & Restaurant will be open Christmas Eve from 5:30pm-3am! The popular restaurant will be having Happy Hour All Day, featuring several Holiday Beers. Live music starts at 9:00 p.m. with live DJ's Soft Rock Renegades. Fly Bar & Restaurant is also accepting reservations for New Year's Eve! Call (813) 275-5000 or go online www.flybarandrestaurant.com to learn more!

Due to popular demand the Victorian Christmas Stroll has been extended from December 26 to December 31 with new hours of operation and pricing. The Stroll hours are 10:00am to 4:00pm daily with \$6 adult admission and \$3 children's admission. There will not be cider and cookies on the veranda. Normal museum operations will commence January 1st, 2009. For additional information call (813) 254-1891 or visit our website at www.plantmuseum.com.

Make room in the date book for an exciting downtown happening. **Check the Happenings section on www.hilifetampa.com.** Here's a peek at what you'll find:

- Monday (12/22) – [Cafe Dufrain's Corkage Free - Every Monday](#)
- Tuesday (12/23) – [Toy's for Tot's Teusday's at TAPS Wine & Beer Merchants](#)
- Wednesday (12/24) – [Orlando Ballet's The Nutcracker](#)
- Thursday (12/25) – *MERRY CHRISTMAS! ENJOY THE DAY WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS!*
- Friday (12/26) – [Victorian Christmas Stroll](#)
- Saturday (12/27) – [LIVE FLAMENCO DINNER SHOW](#)
- Sunday (12/28) – [Holiday Chalk Art](#)

Looking ahead to New Year's Eve, there are some great things happening in downtown Tampa. Here are a few things you can book now:

- [Aqua-Eve New Year's Celebration](#)
- [New Years Eve Celebration Cruise](#)
- [Pied Piper's 5th Annual New Years Eve Bash](#)
- [TBPAC's New Year's Eve Party](#)

And when you do go out to celebrate in downtown, park the car and take the services provided by HART! **Both the TECO Line Streetcar and the Intown Trolley will operate until 2:00 a.m. on New Years Eve.** Get details by clicking here.

In and Around InTown

601 N. Ashley Drive, Suite 1100, Tampa FL 33602
(813) 221-3686 phone; (813) 229-1328 fax: www.tampasdowntown.com