

# DOWNTOWN NEWS

Including Old Northeast and Snell Isle

Magazine



## HENRY BRADLEY PLANT Ships, Trains and Hotels

**H**enry Bradley Plant was born 200 years ago last month, on October 27, 1819. Throughout his life, Plant was a shrewd businessman, entrepreneur, and investor. In the late 1800s, Plant built (or purchased) most of Florida's railroads, especially those along the West Coast. Everywhere his railroads went, he built a hotel. His Plant System, later called The Atlantic Coast Railroad, came first to Tampa, then through Dunedin, to Clearwater and Belleair, and eventually ending in downtown St Petersburg. He built the Tampa Hotel (now the University of Tampa) on the banks of the Hillsborough River and the Belleview Hotel (eventually the Belleview Biltmore) on the banks of Clearwater Pass. He also owned several ocean-going ships. It has been said he was one of the founders of Florida tourism.

Plant, a self-made millionaire was born in Branford, Connecticut. His father Anderson Plant, and his mother Betsey Bradley were poor but respectable farmers. His father died when Plant was only six.

Although Plant never finished high school, his mother wanted him to go to college - to Yale. She offered to pay his tuition and all the costs, but Plant had other plans. At 18 and eager to get a job, he was hired as a captain's boy and deckhand on a New Haven-New York side-wheel steamboat. Plant's big break came when the ship's captain assigned him to handle the express packages carried by The New York - you might say it was the beginning of his transportation career. - **Continued on page 7**



### Also in this Issue:

#### Holiday Lights in the Gardens

More than 1 million lights will sparkle in The Florida Botanical Gardens this holiday season. - **page 17**

#### Don't Miss Any Holiday Events

The Holidays are here and there are lots of fun things planned. We have a list of the upcoming festivities that you don't want to miss.

- **pages 12 & 13**



#### Restaurant News

Be the first to know about new restaurants in the area. We have all the comings and goings.

- **pages 14 & 15**

#### Meet Roger Dow

A St. Petersburg resident, he works in Washington, D.C as the CEO of U.S. Travel, a trade organization that encourages foreign visitors to visit the U.S. and works to increase travel to all 50 states.

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This newsletter is published by GRIFFIN PRODUCTIONS, Inc. and is mailed to many occupied residences in Downtown St. Petersburg's zip code 33701 and 33704. We are not associated with the City of St. Petersburg.

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**ST. PETERSBURG DOWNTOWN NEWS**

Inside, you will find articles and local information about the nearby area. We want it to be a Neighborhood Newsletter primarily about your neighborhood - Downtown, Snell Isle and Old Northeast. That is why when you have news or events, contact us.

This newsletter is printed every other month and mailed to every occupied area house, business & PO Box.

We hope you enjoy our newsletters. We want your news and input.

Did you like this issue? What suggestions do you have for future articles? Call or email us your comments, or take our survey at StPeteDowntownNewsletter.com.

Do you need another copy? Ask for them at the UPS Stores at 2nd St. and 2nd Ave S., 740 4th Street N. or 38th Avenue N. next to Publix.

Thank you for reading,

Bob & Becky Griffin, 727-430-8300 bob@griffindirectories.com

**SEE YOU AGAIN IN JANUARY!**



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# Did You Know



**KIDS AND KUBS 90TH SEASON** The locally famous Kids and Kubs softball league began their 90th year on October 30th. They are unquestionably the most Senior Softball organization in the nation—maybe even the world. Some of the players are actually older than their 90 years old team. They play ball every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. To join you must be 74 years of age or older. Women are welcome to play, too. If you are interested in playing in the 2019-20 season, call Jon Reynolds at 517-420-6358.

**NO CHILL** The popular Chillounge event, held every November in North Straub Park, will not happen this year. "After 11 years of promoting this spectacular outdoor holiday event, I have decided not to produce the St Pete show this year," says creator Ranier Scheer. "Time will tell if we will come back in 2020."

**SANTA'S NEEDED** The Florida Botanical Gardens is looking for Santa Volunteers for their Holiday Lights event from December 2nd through December 24th. If you, or someone you know is interested, come join the fun! Please contact Joanne Peeck, at johali.peeck@gmail.com or 646-235-4876.

**HEALTH SEMINARS** St. Anthony's Hospital health experts invite the community to attend seminars in November. Seminar topics include common injuries in active adults, weight loss surgery and smoking cessation. There also is a weekly session on diabetes management. The monthly seminars are free to the public. For more information, call (727) 953-6993 or go to [www.BayCare.org/SAH](http://www.BayCare.org/SAH).

**RCS ON CAMPUS** RCS Pinellas and USF / St Pete launched a new campus food pantry on the USF/SP campus to help students in need. "There is a clear correlation between social interaction and academic success," said Kirk Ray Smith, President of RCS Pinellas. RCS's mission is to feed the hungry, help families facing homelessness, and empower survivors of domestic violence. They serve and help over 130,000 individually in Pinellas County.



The Food Pantry is located at 140 7th Avenue S. in building SLC-1072. Get more information at [www.RCSPinellas.org](http://www.RCSPinellas.org).

# and More...

## KIDS AND PHONES

The average 10 year old has a smart phone. 39% of kids create their first social media account around the age of 11 and begin using apps like Facebook, Twitter, and Snapchat. This may expose them to harassment, cyberbullying, sexual solicitation, and illegal content.



Dangers increases if they post their full names, address, photo, or school. To help keep their kids safe on social media, parents should ask the five Ws: Who are your kids talking to? What are they doing Online? Where are they accessing the Internet? When are they Online? Why are they Online?

Pinellas County Sheriff Deputy Skipper says it is incumbent upon the parent to control the social media applications and monitor their child's Online activity. "Be the administrator of any device your children use," Deputy Skipper said. "As the administrator, you can control downloaded apps, restrict content, and adjust parental limits. If you are not the sole administrator, then your children are by default.

**RIDE WITH THE STARS** December 7th is the 26th Annual Ride benefiting the Pinellas County Sheriff's Christmas Sharing Project. At this family-friendly ride/run, you can walk, run or ride a bike. There will also be demonstrations, a silent auction, and a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus. The event helps to provide food, clothing, books and toys to over 370 underprivileged families and over 1,000 deserving children. Visit [RideAndRunWithTheStars.com](http://RideAndRunWithTheStars.com).

## NEVER FLUSH CONTACT LENSES

Wearing contact lenses too long can cause all kinds of eye problems. We know they need to be changed on a regular schedule, but how you dispose of them it turns out, is important. Flushing contact lenses down the toilet or sink, as many of the approximately 45 million Americans who wear them do, hurts fish and ocean life. New studies show contact lens are making it through the filters meant to keep trash from escaping from sewage treatment plants. They sink to the bottom of the ocean, where they present risks to bottom-feeding fish. The lens fragment into shards of plastic and absorb high volumes of pollutants during their journey in the sewer, which are also ingested by fish or other animals.



While your pair of lenses might seem insignificantly tiny, they add up. Researchers estimate six to 10 metric tons of lenses end up in wastewater each year in the U.S. So, by all means, throw out your contacts when you're supposed to - but put them in the trash, not down the drain.

**OUR NEXT ISSUE IS IN JANUARY** Read this issue, as well as others, Online at [BeachNewsletters.com](http://BeachNewsletters.com).

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### HENRY PLANT - THE MAN, continued

By Bob Griffin, Publisher

In 1842, when he was 23, Henry Plant married Ellen Elizabeth Blackstone, the daughter of State Senator James Blackstone, a well-to-do New Yorker. The couple lived and worked in New York. Plant got a job with Beecher and Company, moving from steamships to railroads.

In 1852, Plant, now 34, and Ellen had a son, Morton Freeman Plant. Soon, Ellen was diagnosed with consumption (today we know it as tuberculosis). She was ordered to move south for her health - the standard remedy for the time.

Plant picked Florida, as it reportedly had mild winter weather. It had only been a state for eight years and Plant was impressed with Florida's future development possibilities.

The Plants left New York on March 25, 1853, on a steamer for Jacksonville. The trip took eight days, which was quick by 1850s standards. Morton, only seven months old, was in tow.

By July, Ellen's health had improved, and they returned to New York. But the following winter, her health, deteriorated and they returned to sunny Florida.

Plant's employer was expanding into the South, especially North Carolina and Georgia. Plant, now 35, oversaw the company's southern business headquartered in Augusta, Georgia. He organized and extended express service, which included short railroad lines and numerous riverboat lines. Besides commerce, companies like his carried letters and packages more efficiently than the post office.

Plant traveled a lot and became one of the most well-known men in the South. He made friends in high places by doing favors for the right people - that would come in handy in the near future.

Seeing the approach of the Civil War and fearing confiscation of their southern assets, Plant's employer sold their railroads and real estate. Plant saw this as an opportunity but had little money. He found investors and raised enough to purchase all his employer's southern assets with a promissory note of only \$500,000.

After the election of Abraham Lincoln, the South immediately began to secede from the United States. South Carolina left the Union in December of 1860 and fighting began four months later.

In 1861, Plant incorporated the Southern Express Company under the laws of Georgia and declared himself president.

Jefferson Davis, the South's President, told friends, "Plant is the worst kind of Yankee—Connecticut born and bred." Regardless, he knew of Plant's reputation

for reliable service and contracted Plant's company as an agent for the Confederacy. Plant was to collect tariffs and transfer funds, as well as to carry Army payroll and confidential dispatches - and all Plant's employees would be exempt from military service.

When the Civil War began, most people originating from northern states, but living in the South, were forced to leave. Plant and his family, however, received a pardon from the Confederacy's Cabinet and stayed put.

The winter of 1861-62 was unusually cold and Ellen's health worsened - she died in February of 1862. She was buried in Augusta, but later her remains were moved to Branford, Connecticut. Their son Morton was only nine.

Plant, grief stricken, spoke to close friends of killing himself. He was diagnosed with "gastric fever," probably a peptic ulcer, and ordered to rest. He was granted a special passport by President Davis, which allowed him to travel to Bermuda, then Europe and finally back to New York while he recovered.

Robert E. Lee surrendered in April of 1865, ending the Civil War. Plant emerged as a financier to help bridge the gap between the North and the South. He convinced many Northern companies and friends to invest their money in the South.

Plant hired Colonel Henry Haines (Haines City's namesake), General Lee's rail chief. Together, they bought most of the southeast's bankrupt railroads. The Georgia Atlantic & Gulf Coast Railroad, was modified to reach Jacksonville via Live Oak, and renamed the Savannah, Florida & Western Railway. The Florida Central Railroad and various lines in the Carolinas, Georgia and Alabama were folded into the Savannah-Charleston Railway.

These purchases were the beginning of the Atlantic Seaboard System that grew to include fourteen railway companies, 2,000 miles of track, several steamboat lines and his prestigious hotels. In the process, Plant amassed a personal fortune of over 10 million dollars.

The Depression of 1873 forced many railroad companies into bankruptcy. Plant saw this as another buying opportunity. He began acquiring the defunct lines, but even at 10¢ on the dollar, it required cash. The cash would come from his wealthy New York contacts. He established an office at the corner of Fifth Avenue and 23rd Street in New York to help that process.

During his period of rapid expansion,



Plant met and married Miss Margaret Loughman, a New Yorker of Irish descent. They lived on Fifth Avenue, close to Henry's office. Plant, traveled more than he was home and created a mobile train car office called "Car 100." An office, bedroom and dining room, it was where he met with senators, governors and financiers. He traveled with two or three secretaries, which were usually men, and sent telegrams to his New York office every time he reached a train station.

The newly constructed and extended small railroads began to provide a continuous and reliable service across Florida. It became easier for Northerners to travel to Florida and for citrus growers to ship their products to northern markets.

Now with ample money, Plant and partner Haines decided to expand travel along Florida's West Coast. To encourage the building of railroads, the State of Florida promised 3,840 acres of land for every mile of track laid. Plant discovered another company had been promised 13,840 acres per mile for building a Jacksonville line. When that company ran out of money, Plant took it over in 1883 and began the Jacksonville, Tampa & Key West rail-steamship line.

Tampa, a town of only 700, was their second choice as a port city. It was experiencing a deadly yellow fever outbreak, and since no one knew it was caused by mosquitoes, many people had left town.

Plant and Haines initially wanted the port at Cedar Key. The Florida Transit & Peninsular Railroad already ran from Jacksonville to Cedar Key, so they bought it. Unfortunately, though they thought the purchase included the Cedar Key port, the owner refused to include the terminal. Plant was furious and promised to, "Wipe Cedar Key off the map!" And he did - at least as a future port of entry.

Cedar Key's loss was Tampa's gain. Being Plant's southern railhead was a big boost to Tampa's declining population. Plant's new rail portion of the line that started in Jacksonville, came through Palatka, Sanford, Orlando, Kissimmee, and the future Plant City before reaching Tampa.

To be continued in the next issue.



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**COFFEE POT TURKEY TROT 5K**

The Coffee Pot Turkey Trot 5K is a family-friendly, timed 5K that loops around St. Petersburg's Coffee Pot Bayou, Old Northeast and Snell Isle neighborhoods on Thanksgiving morning. Now in its third year, the event is quickly becoming a tradition for families, friends, and fitness enthusiasts. This year, we will be able to increase the field of runners as we debut an improved route with closed streets.

Hosted by the North Shore Elementary PTA, this underwrites the school's "7th hour program," an initiative to introduce enrichment activities for students. Programs include Spanish, Yoga, Lego Club, Cooking, Drama, Chess, Girlfriend's Club, Challenge Island and more.

The North Shore Elementary PTA believes that every school has the potential for success. Active parents, a supportive community, and engaged students can unite to make any school, from the most popular magnet to the smallest neighborhood elementary, a warm and stimulating environment in which students are inspired to succeed.

Join them as they run in celebration of health, community, and the pursuit of excellence for Pinellas County Schools by registering at [www.runsignup.com/coffeepotturkeytrot](http://www.runsignup.com/coffeepotturkeytrot)

**FIRST NIGHT ST. PETE 2020**  
Celebrating 27 Years!

Join the First Night St Pete celebration in downtown St Petersburg from 4 pm until Midnight on December 31, 2019 for another art filled New Year's Eve! Enjoy a Celebration of the Arts with the Interactive Art Park in South Straub Park, filled with hands on exhibits and fun for all ages. This year's team has put together an amazing program with eight hours of music, interactive exhibits, puppetry, aerial arts, fire jugglers, street performers, peek-a-pods, a peace flag project, Bubble Stomp with Ann Kelly of WDUV and so much more. The newest edition this year is The Mad Hatters Tea Party! Come celebrate your very merry unbrithday at the La Deja Vu Cafe.

The ticket for entry into 10 different venues requires the purchase of a custom designed First Night St Pete button. This year's button art was designed by the amazingly talented, Carlos Culbertson, also known as Zulu Painter. Advance buttons, on sale now, are adults \$12, children \$5 and children 5 and under are free. They can be bought at [FirstNightStPete.com](http://FirstNightStPete.com). The day of the event, adults are \$15 and children \$10.

First Night go'ers wear their flashing buttons and meander around downtown to visit both the indoor and outdoor venues, which will be showcasing a wide variety of artistic performances. New this year is the addition of the Interactive Arts Park - where Artists and organizations like James Oleson, Zulu Painter, LOST creations, Creative Clay, NOMAD art bus (and more) will transform South Straub Park into a magical wonderland!

Performing on the main stage will be The Petty Experience, Jay Camaro and Uncle John's Band. Fireworks will again fill the night's sky at 8 pm and Midnight and are presented by The City of St Petersburg.

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**CALENDAR OF UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS**  
See pages 12 & 13 for Holiday Events

NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	
Doobie Brothers Mahaffey 15	NE Little League Sign Up Begins 1	Movies In The Park North Straub 21
St Pete Run Fest & Expo Mahaffey 15-16	World Aids Day 1	The Family Blessing Mahaffey 21
Central South Walking Tour 16	Tea Dances Resume Coliseum 4	Hanukkah Begins 22
Run Fest (5k And Peli Kids Race) 16	Tony Bennett Mahaffey 5	Public Schools Closed 23-7
QYK Guitar Pull Mahaffey 17	Sip And Stroll The Edge District 5	Christmas Day 25
Run Fest (10k And Half Marathon) 17	St Petersburg Boat Show Yacht Basin 5-8	City Hall Closed 25
Vintage Motor Classic South Straub 18	li Divo Mahaffey 6	Kwanzaa Begins 26
Beaujolais Day 21	Florida Orchestra Mahaffey 7	Boxing Day 26
Cirque Dreams Holiday Mahaffey 21	Downtown Walking Tour 7	Swinging In The New Year Coliseum 31
Westward Ho Walking Tour 23	Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day 7	New Year's Eve 31
Public Schools Closed 25-29	Tour Of Lights Walking Tour 11	<b>Happy New Year !</b>
Clearwater Turkey Trot Run 28	Gingerbread House Day 12	<b>JANUARY</b>
Coffee Pot Turkey Trot 28	Girls On The Run Poynter Park 14	New Years Day 1
Thanksgiving 28	Florida Orchestra Holiday Pops Mahaffey 14	Outback Bowl / Tampa 1
Black Friday 29	Movies In The Park North Straub Park 14	Little League Sign ups Continue 1
Chris Tucker Mahaffey 29	The Waterfront Walking Tour 14	Get Downtown / First Friday 3
Gem & Jewelry Show Coliseum 29-1	Second Saturday Art Walk 14	AWAPS Pancake Breakfast 4
Small Business Shopping Day 30	Ugly Christmas Sweater Day 15	Romeo and Juliet Mahaffey 5
North Edge Walking Tour 30	Tea Dances Resume Coliseum 18	Epiphany 6
Incubus 20 Years Mahaffey 30	The Isley Brothers Mahaffey 19	Public Schools Reopen 7
Hurricane Season Ends 30	Handel's Messiah Florida Orchestra 20	SPDNA Quarterly Meeting 8
	Winter Begins 21	Carpenters Remembered Mahaffey 8

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### ST. PETERSBURG OPERA COMPANY'S PINOCCHIO Debuts Nov. 16

Pinocchio, a one-hour introduction to opera for children and families, will be presented Nov. 16, 20 and 22 by the St. Petersburg Opera Company at its Opera Central headquarters, 2145 1st Avenue S.

John Davies' colorful adaptation of the classic tale of a wooden puppet and his journey to become a real boy includes music by Mozart, Offenbach, Verdi and Donizetti, with easily-understood lyrics in English.

Fast-paced, fun and engaging, Pinocchio - which features a live chamber orchestra - is co-sponsored by the Pinellas County School System. More than 600 area students will attend weekday-morning performances in November.

Public performances are 2 pm Saturday, Nov. 16; 7 pm Friday, Nov. 22; and 2 pm Saturday, Nov. 23. Tickets, \$10 for adults and \$5 for ages 18 and under, are available at [www.stpeteopera.org](http://www.stpeteopera.org).

In this production, Pinocchio is portrayed by mezzo soprano Taylor-Alexis Dupont, who will appear this season in Porgy and Bess at the Metropolitan Opera in New York City

### THE SCOTT & PATTI SHOW! CHARITY FUND-RAISER

Join Infinity, The League to Aid Abused Children & Adults, Inc. for an evening of fun and glamour featuring the renowned cabaret act "The Scott & Patti Show," on Wednesday, January 29, 2020 at the St. Petersburg Yacht Club. Net proceeds raised by this event directly benefit CASA (Community Action Stops Abuse), Suncoast Center, Inc. (Medical Foster Care Program) and Brookwood Florida, Inc. (Residential girls home).

"The Scott & Patti Show" (voted Tampa Bay's favorite cabaret act by Creative Loafing's Best Of The Bay) is a camp extravaganza starring Tampa Bay favorite Matthew McGee and International entertainer Scott Daniel. The evening also will include the drawing for Infinity's "The Great Dine-Out Tampa Bay Giveaway," additional raffle opportunities, cash bar, and much more. Tickets start at \$65 and include buffet and a free drink. Reservations are required and seating is limited. For information, show time, and to purchase tickets, visit [InfinityStPete.org](http://InfinityStPete.org) or call Rebecca Malowany at 727-593-4699.

### DAYSTAR LIFE CENTER MOVES

Still on 6th Street S., the new facility, located at 226 6th Street S., close to Tropicana Field, is nearly three times the size - 11,000 square feet. They can serve twice as many clients - 200 a day as compared to the old facility's 100 per day.

Daystar, a non-profit organization, provides the necessities of life to neighbors in need in order to alleviate hunger, homelessness, and hopelessness. They offer food, clothing, bus passes, gas vouchers, employment help, haircuts, ID cards, cell phones and other basic needs for the homeless and low-income residents.

The Salvador and Armature Works donated time and materials to build an urban garden behind the Day Star building. It has 250 square feet of growing space with raised beds allowing a "farm-to-food-bank" program at DayStar Life Center. Clients can get locally grown fresh produce, learn how to cook, and learn how to grow vegetables themselves at home.

Daystar is funded by monetary donations; in-kind donations of food, household goods, and personal care items; and grants from Pinellas County, the City of St. Petersburg, and local businesses.

Get more information at [DayStarLife.com](http://DayStarLife.com).



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Tia M, St. Pete Local Guide

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# AREA HOLIDAY EVENTS



## November - December 29 HOLIDAY SHOW AND SALE

719 Central Avenue  
Find something for everyone for the Holidays at a variety of styles and prices, including ornaments, ceramics, paintings, photography and stocking stuffers.  
[www.MoreanArtsCenter.org](http://www.MoreanArtsCenter.org)

## November - January 6 WINTER'S WONDERLAND AT CMA

Visit the Aquarium as it transforms into Winter's Wonderland. Get your family photo taken with Winter Claus, experience Winter Wonderland with lights and décor all around, and watch special Santa dive presentations at Mavis's Rescue Hideaway

## November 16-17 HOLIDAY MART

St Pete Coliseum  
Find everything for Christmas at the annual Holiday Mart including: clothing, jewelry, handbags, food, art, home décor, children's stuff and more. Free Admission.  
[www.TampaBayHolidayMarket.com](http://www.TampaBayHolidayMarket.com)

## November 22-24 FESTIVAL OF TREES

1501 N Belcher Rd, Clearwater  
Hundreds of Christmas Trees, decorated by area clubs, businesses and individuals will be on display and for sale. All proceeds go to The ARC of Tampa Bay. Call 797-8712.  
[www.TheArcFoundation.com](http://www.TheArcFoundation.com)

## November 22-December 29 ENCHANTMENT AT THE DOME

Tropicana Field, St Petersburg  
This new event, dubbed as the "World's Largest Christmas Maze," will include a light maze, Christmas market, ice-skating trail, and a visit with Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus. Tickets, on sale now, are \$60 with discounts available for kids, seniors and groups. Get more information on their FaceBook page.

## November 23-24 CENTRAL AVENUE CRAFT ART FEST

Central Avenue at 5th Street  
This two-day craft festival is hosted by Florida CraftArt, features the best fine craft artists in the state.

## November 24, 6pm HOLIDAY CONCERT

At The Palladium  
Get into the spirit early with this concert by the Pinellas Youth Symphony. Tickets are only \$10; Children \$2.

Buy tickets at [www.MyPalladium.org](http://www.MyPalladium.org)

## November 28 THE TURKEY TROT

Clearwater High School  
There are 5 races: 1 Mile, 4K \$20, 5K, and the 10K or try the Clearwater Challenge \$45 (three races)  
[www.TampaBayTimes.com/turkeytrot](http://www.TampaBayTimes.com/turkeytrot).

## November 28 COFFEE POT TURKEY TROT 5K

Coffee Pot Bayou  
A family-friendly, timed 5K looping around St. Petersburg's Coffee Pot Bayou, Old Northeast and Snell Isle.  
[runsignup.com/coffeepotturkeytrot](http://runsignup.com/coffeepotturkeytrot)

## November 29 to January 4 5:30 - 9:30 HOLIDAY LIGHTS IN THE GARDEN

Florida Botanical Gardens, 12520 Ulmerton Rd, Largo  
The Gardens will sparkle with 1 million, twinkling, LED lights in a multitude of colors. \$5 suggested donation.  
[www.FLBGFoundation.org](http://www.FLBGFoundation.org).

## November 30, 6pm SANTA PARADE AND TREE LIGHTING

Albert Whitted Park  
The parade route runs north along Bayshore Drive to Fifth Avenue N.E. Following the parade, Mayor Kriseman will light the official city tree in North Straub Park. After the tree lighting, plan to enjoy many activities and concessions. Bring a blanket or chairs  
[StPeteParksRec.org/HolidayEvents](http://StPeteParksRec.org/HolidayEvents).

## November 30 - December 1, 10am to 5pm SHOPALOOZA FESTIVAL

Vinoy Park  
Launch the holiday shopping season with more than 200 local merchants including artists, craft makers and small businesses. Sponsored by LocalShops1, there is live entertainment, a free kids zone, food and much more.  
[www.ShopALoozaFestival.com](http://www.ShopALoozaFestival.com)

## December 2, 4-8pm A VERY MERRY MARKET

Great Explorations  
Find some Great Christmas gifts.

## December 4 CYBER MONDAY

The day millions shop at home - Online.

## December 4 through January 5 HOLIDAYS AT THE VILLAGE

11909 125th Street N., Largo  
Enjoy period holiday decorations, garland, and greenery throughout Heritage Village. Free.  
[www.PinellasCounty.org/Heritage](http://www.PinellasCounty.org/Heritage)

## December 5, 11am- 7:30pm

**SUNKEN GARDENS TRIP TO HERITAGE VILLAGE**  
Travel as a group via bus to Largo's Heritage Village and enjoy historic homes decorated for the Holidays. Visit nearby Wilcox nursery, and the Florida Botanical Gardens walk-through light show. The cost is \$30 for members; \$35 for non-members. RSVP by November 27 to 551-3102. Limited to 18 people.

## December 5, 5-9 pm HOLIDAY MAGIC

The EDGE District celebrates the holiday season with a very special Sip & Stroll. Enjoy live holiday music, holiday-themed drinks, food and holiday gift shopping specials. Tickets, limited to 500, are available at [edgedistrict.org](http://edgedistrict.org) for \$20 until December 4. Walk-up tickets (if available) are \$25 cash only.  
[www.edgedistrict.org](http://www.edgedistrict.org).

## December 6 - 8 THE NUTCRACKER

The Palladium  
This is St. Petersburg Ballet's 40th Annual Production with over 75 dancers ranging in age from 5 to 72 performing the full length "Nutcracker" ballet. Tickets are \$25; Seniors/Children \$15.  
[www.MyPalladium.org](http://www.MyPalladium.org)

## December 6 - 15 A CHRISTMAS CAROL

St Pete City Theatre, 4025 31st Street S.  
Ten live performances. Call 866-1973.  
[www.SPCityTheatre.org](http://www.SPCityTheatre.org)

## December 7, 9am - 2pm / 6 - 9pm SNOW FEST & SANTA IN THE PARK

North Straub Park  
Enjoy a Snowfall and Glice Skating. Then meet the old man himself.  
[www.StPeteParksRec.org/HolidayEvents](http://www.StPeteParksRec.org/HolidayEvents)

## December 7, 6 - 9pm HOLIDAY TOUR OF HOMES

See seven decorated Allendale homes and enjoy music and holiday snacks. This is the Florida Orchestra Guild's largest fund-raiser. Tickets are \$25 in advance; \$30 day of. Purchase tickets at any Mahaffey event (Dec 3-6), The Orchestra Office (by Williams Park) or by calling 254-1176.

## December 7, 6pm BAD SANTA BAR CRAWL

Start in front of the Lucky Dill Deli (277 Central Avenue) and visit the popular downtown bars. \$25. Santa costumes encouraged.

[www.Spark5inc.com](http://www.Spark5inc.com)

## December 8 - 4pm ANNUAL SANTA & SUDS RUN/ WALK

Cleveland Street, downtown Clearwater  
Run dressed up in your best Christmas running clothes for charity - the St. Vincent de Paul Community Kitchen and Resource Center. The course crosses the Clearwater Memorial Bridge near sunset with a 5k, 1-mile and Fun Walk. T-shirts are guaranteed for pre-registered runners only. There will be a post-race party with beer and food. [www.Santa5K.RaceHawk.com](http://www.Santa5K.RaceHawk.com).

## December 8 CANDLELIGHT TOUR OF HOMES

Old Northeast Area  
Hosted by HONNA, visit homes ranging from traditional craftsman bungalows to more modern architectural designs all decorated for the holidays. Tickets in advance are \$25, \$30 day of. Proceeds benefit HONNA's many neighborhood community improvement projects. There are many locations to buy tickets.  
[www.honna.org](http://www.honna.org)

## December 8, Noon LUNCH WITH SANTA

Albert Whitted Airport  
AWAPS offers kids (and parents) a chance to have lunch with Santa Claus at The Hanger Restaurant. The lunch is at noon. Santa arrives at 1pm by helicopter. Cost is \$10 and includes a photo with Santa. RSVP by December 4 to 822-1532.  
[www.AWAPS.org](http://www.AWAPS.org).

## December 9, 7:30pm A HOLIDAY SPECTACULAR

Palladium  
The Second Winds annual Christmas concert

## December 10, 6pm ST PETE DNA HOLIDAY PORCH PARTY

Florida Craft Art on Central Avenue  
All members of the Downtown Neighborhood Association are welcome.

## December 11 BURG HOLIDAY PARTY & TOUR OF LIGHTS

Begin at 226 17th Avenue N.E.  
Bike and walking tours available. \$20 for members. \$25 non-members.  
[www.PreserveTheBurg.org](http://www.PreserveTheBurg.org).

## December 12-23, 7:30pm SNOW FEST & SANTA IN THE PARK

North Straub Park  
Santa returns for nightly visits.  
[www.StPeteParksRec.org/HolidayEvents](http://www.StPeteParksRec.org/HolidayEvents)

## December 12-22 HOLIDAY SPARKLE

Opera Central, 2145 1st Ave S.  
There will be more gifts than ever before under the tree this holiday season! There will be candlelit cabaret tables and plenty of refreshments as they take you on a musical journey with soloists, chorus, and orchestra through the most wonderful holiday music, from the sacred to the popular - and everything in between!  
[www.stpeteopera.org](http://www.stpeteopera.org)

## December 13, 6 - 9pm 37th ANNUAL BOLEY'S JINGLE BELL RUN

Albert Whitted Park  
This run features 1,500 luminarias, 15 bands, three glow zones and thousands of merry runners, walkers and joggers. Registration is \$30 in advanced, \$35 race night. Children under 12 are \$25/\$30. Call 821-4819 Ext 5200.  
[RunSignUp.com/BoleyJBR](http://RunSignUp.com/BoleyJBR)

## December 14, 2 & 8pm HOLIDAY POPS

The Mahaffey  
Have a Jolly Good Time with the whole family enjoying The Florida Orchestra performing holiday songs. \$18 to \$48.  
[www.FloridaOrchestra.org](http://www.FloridaOrchestra.org).

## December 14-15, 10 am - 5 pm ST. PETES HOLIDAY OF THE ARTS

Williams Park  
Showcasing original, handmade artwork by artisans from across Florida and throughout the United States.

## December 21 - 8 am ST NICHOLAS GOLF CLASSIC

At the Mangrove Bay Golf Course  
Dress up in their favorite Santa or Mrs. Santa attire and play a round of golf. Golf carts are also decorated for the season. Proceeds benefit the Children's Dream Fund. Call 896-6390.  
[www.ChildrensDreamFund.org](http://www.ChildrensDreamFund.org)

## December 26 THE NUTCRACKER

See the original Moscow Ballet's great Russian Nutcracker performed live.  
[www.TheMahaffey.com](http://www.TheMahaffey.com)

## December 31, 9 pm - 1 am SWINGIN' THE NEW YEAR

St. Petersburg Coliseum  
Live Music & Dancing and Celebration! \$30/by the 10th and \$35 after.  
[www.newyearswing.com/](http://www.newyearswing.com/)

## December 31 FIRST NIGHT ST. PETE

Downtown St Pete  
First Night St Petersburg rings in the New Year with eight hours of family friendly music, dance, aerial arts, and Art Park.  
[www.FirstNightStPete.com](http://www.FirstNightStPete.com).





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## Bar & Restaurant News



**COPA OPENS IN THE EDGE** The new wine bar Copa opened in October in the Edge District in the space formerly occupied by Gennaro's. It is owned by brothers Maxim and Sebastian Thuriere. "We have our roots in France and in Haiti," says Maxim. "This is reflected in our choice of wines and food served at Copa."

Copa has over 50 brands of wine to choose from and many wine-based cocktails. They also have six local and six imported types of beer. Their Chef Dolan offers hot and cold tapas plates intended to be paired with their wines and two signature boards featuring charcuterie and hummus. Enjoy their hookah outside on the sidewalk. Soon, they will be adding live music and weekend brunch.

They are open from 4pm to midnight Tuesday - Saturday, and 2-10 on Sundays. They are closed Mondays. Find COPA at 1047 Central, just east of the roundabout and at [www.CopaDtSp.com](http://www.CopaDtSp.com).

**ARMATURE WORKS COMING TO ST. PETE** Sundial recently announced that the Wellness Center, Locale Market and its Farm Table Cucina, plus D-Gallerie Fine Arts will close and the spaces will be converted into a food hall owned by Tampa's very popular Armature Works. Construction is scheduled to begin after the first of the year with an opening date of late 2020. The facility will be food and beverage focused, including a bar, but no food vendors have been announced yet. Tampa's location features many locally well known chefs and is a food-lover's dream.

**MORE BURGERS ON THE WAY** Burgerim, Hebrew for "many burgers," is a new burger joint opening downtown. It won't be your average burger spot though, the restaurant will specialize in mini-burgers (2.8 oz patties) made from a variety of different proteins including beef, turkey, salmon, wagyu, and veggie. Burgers will be sold in packs of two, three, or sixteen. Burgerim will be on the ground floor next to Social Roost in the ONE tower at 120 1st Ave N. They do not have an opening date yet.

**LONNI'S SANDWICHES MOVING** Lonni's isn't gone, its just moving right next door where Hair On Central was. Lonni's, a staple on Central Avenue, will continue to serve fresh sandwiches, soups, and salads as they have since 1987.

**CHICKEN AND WAFFLES** Chicken n' Cone, a new twist on chicken and waffles is moving into the location where Lonni's Sandwiches is/was at 425 Central Ave. The restaurant specialty is chicken nuggets served in waffle cones. It is expected to be open before the end of the year.

**RECENTLY CLOSED**  
Numex Chile, 2710 Central Avenue

**NEWS WANTED** If you have news or suggestions appropriate for this newsletter, let us know by e-mail to [Bob@GriffinDirectories.com](mailto:Bob@GriffinDirectories.com) or call at 430-8300.

## Bar & Restaurant News



**HOOTERS GIVES-A-HOOT** Hooters recently presented a check for \$45,955 to Moffitt Cancer Center. The donation is proceeds from their "Give A Hoot" program and supports a grant awarded through the V Foundation for Cancer Research. The check includes \$10,000 from Hooter's management to support the effort.

Give A Hoot is held annually in honor of Hooter's Kelly Jo Dowd, once a Palm Harbor store's General Manager. She succumbed to breast cancer in 2007. Fund-raisers in Hooters nationwide that include buying pink bracelets, a percentage of proceeds from specific drinks, rounding up your check, and \$1 from every Hooters Calendar sold, raised the money.

Hooters has raised more than \$5.8 million over time to support the fight against breast cancer, much of it through the Kelly Jo Dowd Breast Cancer Research Fund benefiting the V Foundation for Cancer Research.

**BAYBORO BREWING** This new craft brewery is coming to the Warehouse Arts District, just west of downtown. Bayboro Brewing is already well known for their award winning local craft beer. Owners Kelcy and James have been participating in area beer festivals with their Wicked G'Day IPA. The brewery, at 2390 5th Avenue South, will have over 20 craft beers and a tasting room. Look for it soon.

**KARMA FINDS A NEW HOME** When a fire damaged several stores on 1st Street North, across from Sundial, Karma Juice Bar lost its home. After a search for a new location, they found one inside the Baum Market in the Edge District. Find them at 1113 Central Avenue, near Green Benches Brewery.

**SOCIAL ROOST** This won't be your usual Chicken Shack. This new, upscale chicken inspired restaurant will feature the bird in every way: fried, grilled, blackened, roasted, etc. The menu is still in development but expect to see everything from southern fried chicken to healthy salads. It will also have a full liquor bar. They expect to open by the end of the year at 150 1st Ave N. on the ground floor of the ONE tower.

**BABA'S NOW OPEN** Debbie and George Sayegh own the very popular Latin street food restaurant Bodega in the Edge District. Now, they have opened Baba's in the Grand Central District. The distance between the two is about 16 blocks, but the contrast is striking. Baba's features a Greek menu with a bakery and café menu, plus a restaurant menu with a full liquor bar. You do not have to dine on the sidewalk - their dining areas inside and on the patio are nicely designed and very welcoming. Baba's is located at 2701 Central Avenue. Check them out at [www.EatAtBABA.com](http://www.EatAtBABA.com).



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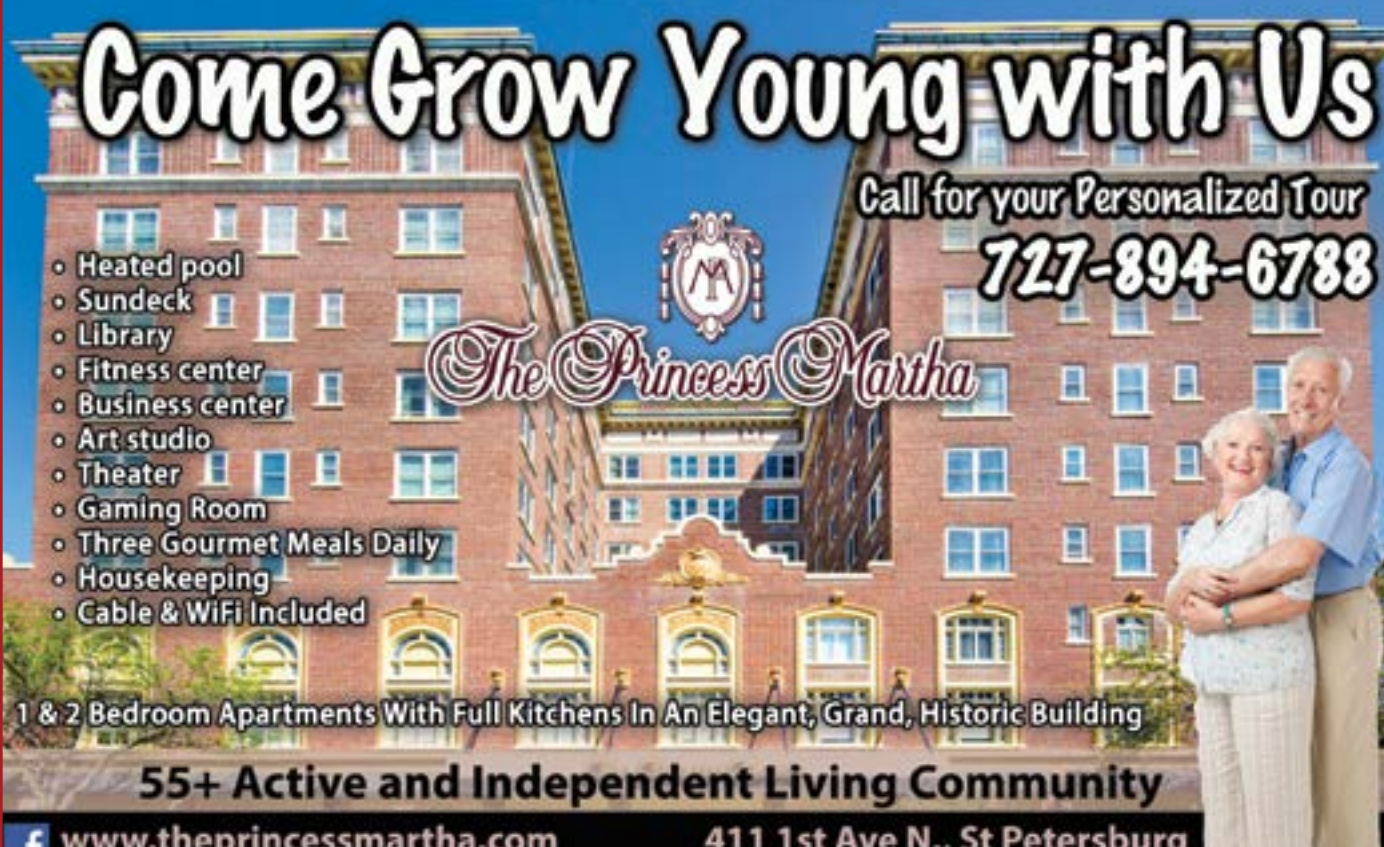
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## "HOLIDAY LIGHTS IN THE GARDENS" By the Florida Botanical Gardens Foundation.

The Florida Botanical Gardens Foundation is proud to sponsor the 19th Annual "Holiday Lights in the Garden" Friday, November 29 through Saturday, January 4, 2020 including New Years Eve and New Years Day from 5:30 to 9:30pm. Admission is a suggested donation of \$5 for those over 13.

The Gardens will sparkle with 1 million, twinkling, LED lights in a multitude of colors. Vibrant laser lights and lighted figures round our display to wow guests of all ages. The Train Guys, will be back again for the event's opening weekend. Their model trains will surround the 18 foot evergreen tree, bedecked in nature-inspired splendor, in the heart of the Wedding Garden.

Food, drinks, and ice cream will be available from our partner, St Pete Concessions. Light-up items for the kid in all of us will be available for purchase on the Botanical Bounty Gift Cart. In addition, nature-inspired seasonal gifts and décor will be available in our Botanical Bounty Gift Shop, located in the main building. Both will be open nightly.

To add to the sights and sounds, a variety of local volunteer talent will perform nightly. Check their website for a weekly schedule. Santa visits regularly through December 23, but call in advance to confirm. Updates are on the Hotline: 727-582-5800.

Please be advised, this is a high-volume event. To avoid crowds, arrive early or view on weeknights. The Gardens are handicapped accessible and most walkways are ADA Compliant: allowing access for wheelchairs, walkers and strollers. However, they DO NOT have wheelchairs or scooters available. Well-behaved dogs that don't mind crowds are welcome, but they encourage you to attend on weeknights.

Parking, including handicapped parking, is available at the primary event entrance, at 12211 Walsingham Road. Additional parking will be available at the Ulmerton entrance, but parking is limited so come early or choose to visit us on our non-peak days— primarily weeknights. Groups are encouraged to contact our office in advance, so we can help make your experience a memorable one.

This event depends upon the support of hundreds of volunteers. Sign up at [www.flbgfoundation.org/volunteer](http://www.flbgfoundation.org/volunteer).

Proceeds provide financial support to the Florida Botanical Gardens to fund events, purchase plant, improvements, maintenance, renovations and Garden staffing.

After the lights are put away for the year, they hope you will return to the Gardens during the day to see their natural beauty. The Florida Botanical Gardens is located in Largo. For general information visit [flbgfoundation.org](http://flbgfoundation.org) or follow them: [www.facebook.com/FlBotanicalGardens](https://www.facebook.com/FlBotanicalGardens).



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## ORAL CANCER IS ON THE RISE

This year in the US, approximately 50,000 people will be diagnosed with oral or oropharyngeal cancer. Worldwide, new cases will exceed a tragic 640,000.

Oral cancer screening is a short and painless exam. Your dentist simply checks the inside of your mouth for red or white patches or mouth sores. Your dentist also feels your neck and the tissues in your mouth to check for lumps or other abnormalities.

Early detection is the key. There is an 80 - 90% survival in stage 1 or 2 versus 20 - 30% in stages 3 or 4.

Common symptoms of mouth cancer:

- One or more painful or painless mouth ulcers that refuses to heal

- White or red patches over the inside linings of the mouth or tongue
- A swelling in the mouth that refuses to go away, after 3 weeks

Common risk factors:

- Tobacco use
- Drinking alcohol in excess
- Excessive exposure to harmful U.V. rays of the sun
- Viral infections including human papillomavirus (hpv)

Excerpt from *Oral Cancer The Silent Killer*, Neal M. Solar, DMD, Community Healthcare Digest • Apr-Jun 2019 [www.chdigest.com](http://www.chdigest.com)



## MEET ROGER DOW - CEO OF U.S. TRAVEL

By Bob Griffin, Publisher

Roger Dow lives in Old Northeast, but he works in Washington, D.C. He is the President and CEO of U.S. Travel, the largest travel association in the United States—and possibly the world.

At 7am every Monday morning, you will find him at Tampa International Airport hopping on a jet to Washington or some other U.S. city. Then on Thursday afternoons, he flies back to Tampa, to spend the weekends in St. Petersburg with his wife, Linda, and friends.

U.S. Travel is not well known to people outside the industry. It is a trade organization for the entire United States whose mission is to foster and improve tourism from other countries and to increase domestic travel. They study the benefits and problems with travel, then lobby and communicate their findings to government officials and politicians. They work closely with thousands of U.S. hotels and tourism related businesses.

Dow helped create Brand USA, a marketing entity for the entire industry to use. The unique thing about Brand USA is that its \$200 million budget is funded by international visitors and the travel industry - not by taxpayers. They produce ads, TV commercials, billboards and more—seen all around the world—telling overseas tourists that the U.S. is still a great and cost efficient place to visit. “For every dollar spent on marketing, Brand USA adds \$25 to the U.S. Economy,” Dow declares.

“Half of our job is lobbying,” says Dow. “We are a trade organization and represent all related businesses in the U.S. Our mission is to increase travel to all 50 states.”

“We also work closely with major tourism destinations,” Dow adds. “Among the biggest are Tampa, Pinellas County, Orlando, Kissimmee, the Miami/Ft. Lauderdale area, really the entire state of Florida.”

They work directly with the airport and airline industries. “We interact regularly with 15 major airports including Tampa’s,” says Dow. “We helped develop the TSA Pre-check and Global Entry systems now in effect.”

“We were involved in improving and extending the Visa Waiver program for other countries, making it easier for tourists from other countries to come here with little more than a passport.”

“We study the habits of foreign travelers and target our advertising to places where we get the most return for our dollar,” Dow explains. “We found

travelers from South Korea, China, Israel and Brazil spend more per visit than other countries. On average, overseas tourists tend to stay 16 nights and spend \$4,300 per person per visit.”

“As far as the amount spent, tourists from China are more attractive than Canadian tourists,” Roger explains. “A Chinese traveler will spend approximately \$6,700 per person per visit while a Canadian spends about \$1,200.”

U.S. Travel also puts on the IPW, a major world-wide trade show held yearly in different U.S. cities. Orlando (Disney/Universal) and Miami have hosted it many times. Next year it will be in Las Vegas. It has been held for over 60 years and is a big event to educate and sell foreign travel agents on the travel opportunities in the U.S. In 3 days, they book over \$5 billion in future travel to the U.S.

“Basically, my organization, U.S. Travel, helps generate \$2.4 trillion (that is with a T) in economic outputs and supports 15.6 million jobs - 1 in 9 American jobs.”

In 2014, Dow and U.S. Travel launched Project: Time Off. The initiative aims to shift culture so using personal time off is not considered frivolous, but essential to strengthening families and improving personal health—a business investment with proven returns and an economic necessity.

The average worker in America uses about 17 days of vacation each year. Approximately 52% of American workers are not using all their vacation time. They are leaving a whopping 758 million unused, paid vacation days on the table.

“Time off is understood by many but not practiced enough,” Roger explains. “Time off is essential to the personal well-being and professional success of individuals and their businesses. Plus, it benefits the travel industry.”

“Unused days off translate to overworked Americans who are stressed, unhappy, and less productive at home and at work,” says Dow. “Changing the mindset and behavior of our overwhelmed culture isn’t just a boon for the economy; it’s the right thing to do.”

Dow has been in tourism from the beginning of his career. While in college, he was hired as a lifeguard at one of the Marriott properties in Saddlebrook, N.J. At the time, there were only six Marriott hotels in the U.S. Today there are over 7,000.



Long story short, he got a job in sales management with Marriott International and stayed with Marriott for 34 years. He rose to be the Senior Vice President of Global and Field Sales.

In 2005 and approaching retirement, he was offered the job as CEO of U.S. Travel, an organization he knew well.

Roger and Linda were looking for a place to settle down, but not in Washington. As CEO, he travels all over the U.S. and can really live anywhere. They looked at many cities including several in Florida. “We attended the SuperBowl in Tampa in 2009,” Roger explains, “and we were very impressed with the Tampa Bay area - especially St. Petersburg.”

“We found a house and renovated it in Old Northeast - just north of the Vinoy. We love the weather, the parks, the restaurants, all the things to do around here and the people.”

Where does the Dow family go for their vacation? “We enjoy Steamboat Springs, Colorado, where we have a second home. We like going there in December to enjoy a white Christmas every year.”

So if you happen to bump into Roger and his wife, Linda on Beach Drive, be sure to say hello and thank him for his hard work in helping to bring tourists to our area. Get more information about U.S. Travel at [www.USTravel.org](http://www.USTravel.org).

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# Business Briefs

**WINE IS ALWAYS A GREAT GIFT** The holidays are fast approaching and 4th & Vine has some great gift ideas that include savings for you, too! Whether it's wine for your holiday party or feast, gift cards for that friend or coworker, or a monthly wine club membership – a gift that keeps on giving - they have you covered.

They offer quantity discounts on wine, gift cards, and wine club memberships. Buy five or more bottles of wine and save five to ten percent, plus receive coupons towards your next purchase. Buy \$50 or more in gift cards and receive \$5-\$25 in coupons towards your next purchase. A three+ month Wine Club Membership can save you 10 to 15 percent. This holiday season support a local small business and get the customer service you deserve.

4th & Vine is located at 327 11th Avenue N. Call owner Edith with any questions, 727-400-3975.



**SHAVE CAVE** After the 4th of July fire, the Shave Cave DID NOT return to the Sundial as previously reported. Their storefront was not badly damaged and owner Max Glazer has opened in his new location in the 200 block of First Street N. The Man Cave has opened at the Sundial, which is located 121 2nd Avenue North.

**BOULEVARD SHOPPE HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE** For the holidays, the Boulevard Shoppe will have an Open House on Saturday, December 7 from 11am to 5pm. "It's a great time to discover our amazing collection of affordable collectibles, antiques and jewelry — and get in the spirit," says owner, Ms. Drue. There will be holiday music and refreshments, too. Make it a day and see what Gulfport has to offer. Find them at 5321 Gulfport Blvd. Call 327-9700 if you need directions.

**4TH STREET FAMILY DENTISTRY** Dr Brian Leeson and his staff want to thank his 4th Street neighbors for accepting his new dental business in their neighborhood. "We have met many of the people in this neighborhood and they have already recommended us to their friends," says Dr. Leeson. Find them at 1808 4th Street N., across from Sunken Gardens or call them at 270-9080. Get more information at [www.4thStreetFamilyDentistry.com](http://www.4thStreetFamilyDentistry.com).



**SALON MOVES** Hair On Central is moving one block over to 574 1st Ave N, but plans to keep the name "Hair On Central."

**NAPLES SOAP COMPANY** with stores in Naples and Tyrone Square Mall, Naples Soap Company has opened a store on Beach Drive near Ceviche. Find them at 30 Beach Drive. Get more information at [www.NaplesSoap.com](http://www.NaplesSoap.com)

# Business Briefs

## COCO MED OPENS

Owned by a mother daughter team, Amy (the daughter) is an aesthetic nurse practitioner that specializes in cosmetic injections, while mom Halley is an esthetician with over 15 years of experience. Treatments they offer include medical-grade facials, micro-needling, dermaplaning and permanent makeup. Since they offer so many different anti-aging treatments, they can customize treatments based on your needs. They are offering \$50 Off to first-time clients (\$60 Off if you mention this publication). Gift certificates are also available for holiday gift giving.



Find Coco Med Spa at 327 11th Avenue N. (#104), in the old Ward Schoolhouse building. Visit [www.CocoMedSpa.com](http://www.CocoMedSpa.com) for a list of their services.

**BOHEMIAN REVES OPENS IN GRAND CENTRAL** This new store recently opened in the 1600 block of Central Avenue. This store sells plant-based "skin love" including essential oils, soaps, tonics, plus hand poured candles and local coffee.

Look for them in the same block as Zaytoon and Leafy Greens Cafes. They are behind the construction barricades because it is a block from where they are building several new apartment buildings. Find also them on Facebook.

**DONNA'S DEVOTED** This new home health care business just opened on 4th Street N. They care for you or family members in your home. Find Donna's Devoted Home Care at 3637 4th Street N. downstairs. Call them at 258-4659.

## NEW HOME FOR GALLERY

D-Gallerie Fine Arts has moved to a new and bigger location on the southwest corner of the Sundial, due to the unfortunate fire in their previous location. They are now able to display more of their incredible 400 piece inventory with the larger space - 175 to 200 pieces verses the 24 to 30 pieces that could be shown at the old location. Alejandro Quintero was very excited with the move and the future business it will bring, but unfortunately with next year's changes to Sundial they will not be in this location long.



They will be open at least until the first of the year, so stop by and don't forget to say hello to his beautiful assistant Bella, a three year-old golden retriever that is always there to greet you with a happy tail wag. For their show schedule visit [www.d-gallerie.com](http://www.d-gallerie.com).

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## Organizational News...

### ST. PETERSBURG DOWNTOWN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSN

They are hosting a Holiday Porch Party at Florida CraftArt Tuesday, December 10th from 6-8pm. Enjoy mingling at the local art gallery with friends and neighbors over drinks and small bites. The gallery is located on the corner of Central Avenue and 5th Street. Tickets are available until December 9th at: [stpetedna.wildapricot.org/event-3565219](http://stpetedna.wildapricot.org/event-3565219). All tickets will be \$20 cash at the door. SPDNA members will receive a discount on gallery purchases that evening.

Their Annual Meeting will be at the Cathedral of St. Peter on Wednesday, January 8th at 7pm. Visit [www.stpetedna.org](http://www.stpetedna.org) for more information.

The organization, representing residents downtown from 5th Ave. N to 5th Ave. S including the Edge District, aims to build a stronger community by bringing neighbors together and serving as a collective voice for downtown issues. E-mail President Karen Carmichael, [Sunny1015K@Verizon.net](mailto:Sunny1015K@Verizon.net). Membership and event tickets are available at [stpetedna.org](http://stpetedna.org).

### ST PETE SUNRISE ROTARY

November 26 - Brookwood Thanksgiving Dinner  
 They help prepare and serve a full Thanksgiving dinner for the residents of Brookwood. Brookwood Florida, Inc. is dedicated to providing troubled teen girls with an alternative living environment and therapeutic program encompassing education, employability skills, independent living training, and counseling that will prepare them for self-sufficiency or a successful family reunification.

December 7 - Disabled Sailors Breakfast  
 They will serve breakfast to the Disabled sailors at the St Pete Yacht Club.

### ST. PETERSBURG WOMAN'S CLUB

Saturday, December 14, 11 am to 2 pm Jingle Mingle: Annual Fund-raiser- Luncheon with Wine Bar at 40 Snell Isle Blvd. N.E., St. Petersburg. Entertainment is with Nan Colton as Mina Edison "Living with a Genius." Tickets are \$50. For reservations call (727) 822-6659 or email [vizama@gmail.com](mailto:vizama@gmail.com). Proceeds benefit the Historical Building Restoration Fund. For further information, visit [www.StPetersburgWomansClub.org](http://www.StPetersburgWomansClub.org).

### SNELL ISLE HOMEOWNERS ASSN.

Snell Isle's Holiday Party is December 12th at the Woman's Club, 40 Snell Isle Blvd at 6pm. Santa will be at the Gazebo in the Snell Isle Parkway, in front of the Vinoy Golf Club, on December 19 & 20th from 6 - 7:30pm.

### KIWANIS CLUB OF ST. PETERSBURG

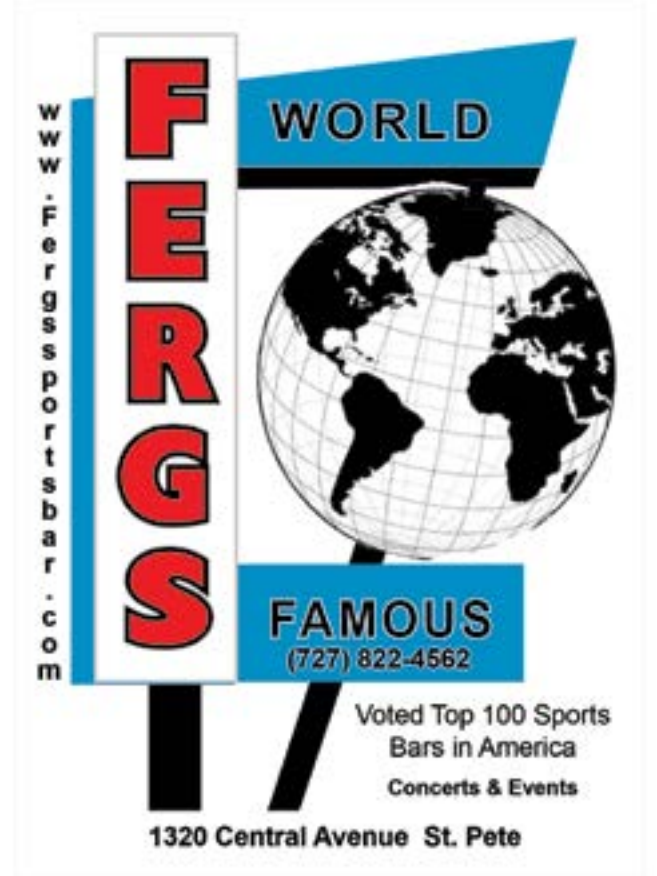
They are hosting their 6th Annual Fischer-Carr Charity Golf Tournament on Thursday, November 7, at the St Petersburg Country Club starting at 1pm. Net proceeds provide Take Stock in Children Scholarships through the Pinellas Education Foundation and St. Pete's Promise for students of low-income families. Over 340 students have been provided scholarships by the Kiwanis since 2005. To play, email Bob Byelick at [RByelick@AbbeyAdams.com](mailto:RByelick@AbbeyAdams.com). Visit [SPKiwanis.org](http://SPKiwanis.org).

### ST. PETE CHAMBER

Thursday, November 21st - 2nd Annual Chamber Shuffle at the St. Pete Shuffleboard Court, includes a Night Market. Register at [stpete.com/chamber-shuffle](http://stpete.com/chamber-shuffle).

Friday, December 6th - Grow Smarter Summit at the Center for Health Equity. Register at [growsmarterstpete.com/summit](http://growsmarterstpete.com/summit).

Thursday, December 19th - 2020 Legislative Preview. Join the St. Pete Chamber as we hear from legislators on the upcoming 2020 Legislative Session. Register at [stpete.com](http://stpete.com).



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## Organizational News...

### CLEARWATER/ST. PETE SKI & SPORTS CLUB

This all seasons travel and social club is currently looking for single roommates (male or female) and also couples for several 2020 Ski Trips and also for the African Safari. They offer a Variety of Group Trips: Snow Skiing, Safaris, New Zealand, Bike and Barge and other International destinations Social club with events planned all year:

- Kayaking, Paddle Boarding, Diving, Snorkeling
- MLB Rays Games, NHL Lightening Games
- Picnics and Camping weekend
- Christmas Party and Monthly Socials (Mike's Pizza Clearwater)

They are a volunteer not for profit club to promote snow skiing and other physical sports activities. Find them on Facebook or at [www.Snowshark.org](http://www.Snowshark.org), email: [president@Snowshark.org](mailto:president@Snowshark.org).

### THE ST. PETERSBURG OPERA GUILD

December 6, 11 am - 54th Annual fund-raiser luncheon, SILVER BELLS. Held at Isla del Sol Country Club, it has a French theme, Belle Époque, to celebrate all things French during the turn of the 20th Century. Proceeds go toward scholarships for high school and college students pursuing vocal studies and toward supporting St. Petersburg Opera Co. in its mission to bring opera to young school children. Further information: 727-367-5289.

### PRESERVE THE BURG

- All tours are free to PTB members, \$10 for non-members.
- Sat., Nov. 16: From Central South, Downtown Walking Tour, 10 am, In front of Crislip Arcade at 645 Central Ave.
  - Sat., Nov. 23: Historic Kenwood Walking Tour, 10 am, Craftsman House, 2955 Central Ave.
  - Sat., Nov. 30: Buildings, Burnside, and Beer: Downtown's North Edge Tour, 10 am, Kawha Coffee- 475 5th Ave. N.
  - Sat., Dec. 7: Original Downtown Walking Tour, 10 am, SE corner of 1st Ave. S. & 1st St. (next to Sat. Morning Market).
  - Wed., Dec. 11: Preserve the 'Burg Holiday Party and Tour of Lights: 226 17th Ave NE, \$20 - Members, \$25 - non-members. There will be a bike tour of lights as well as a walking tour.
  - Sat., Dec. 14: The Waterfront Walking Tour, 10 am, SE corner of 1st Ave. S. & 1st St. (next to Sat. Morning Market)

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