



**Commissioner Sandy Murman helped Kelly Flannery and the South Tampa Chamber of Commerce open the newest Blind Tiger Café recently. Also attending the event were Tampa City Councilman Harry Cohen, Congresswoman Kathy Castor, Roberto Torres, Connie Gage, Jen McDonald, Candace Headrick, Wayne Heiser, Brent Kraus, Mark Segel, Digna Alvarez, Hanisha Waddell and Lucy Riter and many others.**

**[Editorial: Ousted CareerSource leader does not deserve severance](#)**

The CEO of CareerSource Pinellas and CareerSource Tampa Bay deserved to be fired for practices that sparked multiple investigations and destroyed public trust in the job placement agencies. Credit Hillsborough County Commissioner Sandra Murman at CareerSource Tampa Bay, Pinellas Commission chair Ken Welch and CareerSource Pinellas board chair Jack Geller for opposing the severance payments.

**[Eckerd Connects closes board meeting amid foster care crisis](#)**

The Florida Department of Children and Families urged Eckerd Connects to open its “parent board” meeting, and so did Governor Rick Scott. Hillsborough Commissioner and foster care advocate Sandy Murman told Eight on Your Side Eckerd should open all of its meetings for the sake of transparency and public perception in light of the foster care failures in Hillsborough. “I think transparency and accountability is number one priority,” Murman said. “You should open your doors and let people help you in your decision making and not close people out. I think it breeds suspicion.”

**[Drug testing, better mental health services sought for first responders](#)**

Hillsborough County commissioners want a full review of the mental health services available to first responders after the *Tampa Bay Times* discovered a history of drug and alcohol abuse in the fire rescue department. Commissioner Sandy Murman suggested that the county expand mental health programs for first responders. The county could pay any additional costs with a local tax meant for indigent care, Murman said. She expects the Hillsborough health care advisory board to take up the issue immediately.

**[National Consumer Protection Week Tip: Home warranties](#)**

Learn about purchasing home warranties, how they can help, and where to go for more information March 4 through March 10 is National Consumer Protection Week. This is a time to learn more about your rights and how to make responsible decisions about your finances. There are numerous topics that any consumer should explore, including how to protect themselves from fraud . Click on the headline above for more information.

**UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE COUNTY**

Wednesday, March 7, 9:00 a.m. – BOCC Meeting at County Center

Tuesday, March 20, 9:00 a.m. – BOCC Land Use Meeting at County Center

Thursday, March 22, 9:00 a.m. – Hillsborough EPC meeting at County Center

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**WHAT’S ON THE BOCC AGENDA?**

**[Click on this to see a list of BOCC Agendas](#)**

