



*On Veterans Day we must reflect on what it truly means to live in freedom. We owe all of our veterans, men and women, past and present, a debt of gratitude for their sacrifices in defense of liberty. We owe it to the heroes that died and the loved ones who remain to make sure that these sacrifices are remembered and their service to this great nation will always be honored. May God bless our veterans.*

#### [For Good: Nonprofit builds tiny houses for homeless veterans](#)

The tiny house movement is sweeping the country. Now a nonprofit is capitalizing on that idea by launching a novel project -- Tiny Homes for Homeless Vets. Celebrate Outreach, a partnership of St. Petersburg faith-based congregations and individuals, will break ground on the group's first tiny home for veterans on Veterans Day, Monday, Nov. 12.

#### [Tampa ranks as one of the top 10 cities for veterans](#)

It's no secret that Florida is known for its retiree population, but a new report from WalletHub has Tampa listed as one the best places for the 19.6 million military veterans in the U.S. The report compared the 100 largest U.S. cities across 18 indicators of livability, affordability and veteran friendliness.

#### [Tampa Bay hits a new record for tourism revenue](#)

The Tampa Bay area has set a new record for tourism revenue. Hillsborough County collected nearly \$34 million in Tourist Development Tax in the budget year that ended Sept. 30, Visit Tampa Bay reported on Oct. 4. That amounted to a 10.8 percent jump from 2017, when the county collected \$30.5 million.

#### [Brightline becomes sole bidder for intercity rail connecting Orlando to Tampa](#)

The FDOT announced that it has received a single proposal, from Brightline, in response to the department's advertisement for request for proposals for the leasing of rights of way owned by the department and Central Florida Expressway Authority to provide intercity passenger rail service between Orlando and Tampa.

### **FROM THE BOARD ROOM:**

**County Commissioners approved a contract with Hillsborough Community College** to enhance Child Care Licensing services that will provide coaching and mentoring for new child care centers, family child care homes, and child care providers to maintain or meet compliance standards in Hillsborough County.

**The Hillsborough BOCC approved matching redevelopment grants** for three projects that will support retention and attraction of businesses and jobs by encouraging private-sector investment in underutilized sites and buildings.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE COUNTY**

**Sunday, November 11, 10:00 a.m.** – Veterans Day Ceremony & Operation: REVEILLE at Veterans Memorial Park

**Wednesday, November 14, 9:00 a.m.** – BOCC Land Use Meeting at County Center

### **STAY CONNECTED**



### **WHAT'S ON THE BOCC AGENDA?**

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