



Commissioner Sandy Murman proclaimed Child Abuse Prevention Month in Hillsborough County. On hand to receive the proclamation were Lisa Mayrose, Regional Managing Director for the Florida Department of Children and Families and Kelley Parris, Executive Director for the Children's Board.

[Starting Right, Now featured on CNN special honoring CNN Heroes](#)

His mother died when he was 12, his father was incarcerated the following year, and he lacked a reliable home. So, he crashed with friends or slept on the streets. "It was dangerous and scary ... but I did what I had to do in order to survive," said Morgan, now 19. Morgan found himself among the nearly 1.3 million young people across the United States who are classified as "unaccompanied youths" and can't get foster care because they chose to leave a situation rather than be removed by social services.

[Tampa, Orlando among fastest growing cities in U.S.](#)

When it came to population growth last year, cities in central Florida grew by stadiums. Metro Orlando grew by 60,000 residents last year. The Tampa area grew last year by 51,000 residents, more than the number of fans who can fit into Tropicana Field, where the city's Tampa Bay Rays play baseball. Growth from mid-2017 to mid-2018 propelled these two metropolises into the top tier of the nation's fastest growing metro areas, according to figures released Thursday by the U.S. Census Bureau.

[Midtown Tampa developer confirms millennial-g geared hotel](#)

Midtown Tampa has confirmed that a 226-room hotel will share two of Marriott International Inc.'s millennial-g geared flags. Bromley Cos., the New York-based developer of Midtown, said that 115 rooms will be branded with the Element flag — the city's first Element hotel, which has a "spacious, laid-back" vibe, according to Bromley. The other 111 rooms will have the Aloft flag.

FROM THE BOARD ROOM:

Hillsborough County Commissioners approved renewing an office space lease for the Entrepreneur Collaborative Center that provides a one-stop shop for entrepreneurial resources and information, collaboration, and mentoring.

Commissioners approved an agreement with Florida Housing Coalition Inc. to provide training and consulting services to affordable housing and community development organizations on how to best meet affordable housing needs in the community that will benefit extremely low- to moderate-income Hillsborough County residents.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE COUNTY

Wednesday, May 1, 9:00 a.m. – BOCC Regular Meeting at County Center

Tuesday, May 7, 9:00 a.m. – BOCC Land Use Meeting at County Center

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