



Commissioner Sandy Murman lobbied lawmakers at the state Capitol in Tallahassee during Hillsborough County Days in the Florida Legislature. On hand with Commissioner Murman, representing TECO was Alan Denham, and representing Port Tampa Bay was John Thorington. Gasparilla Pirates were encountered in the Capitol Courtyard during Hillsborough Days.

[700 more children to get free swim lessons in Hillsborough](#)

Free swimming lessons will be made available to an extra 700 children this year as Hillsborough County officials hope to counter a recent spike in the number of the children drowning. The county's code enforcement department also plans to conduct safety inspections of apartment complexes and hotel pools this year. That move was made at the request of Commissioner Sandy Murman, who said several of the deaths in 2018 occurred at apartment complexes. "This is going to go a long way to help prevent a lot of the drowning deaths," Murman said.

[Public art in roundabouts helps calm traffic, create sense of place](#)

As populations swell and roadways clog, local cities must respond to the challenge of moving increasingly multimodal traffic safely and efficiently. The modern roundabout -- backed by case studies that indicate over 75 percent crash reduction at intersections, 20 percent reduction in traffic delays and a whopping 100 percent reduction in pedestrian fatalities. Add artwork and roundabouts can become an even more attractive traffic calming solution.

[Tampa ranks 4th most family-friendly city in United States](#)

Out of the top 50 most family-friendly cities in the U.S., our own Tampa ranks fourth. Florida also has four cities on the list from Homes.com: Tampa, Orlando, Jacksonville and Miami. Homes.com compiled the list of the most family-friendly cities in the country to "help parents learn more about which places are great for raising children."

[\\$500 million Midtown Tampa will be built in a single phase](#)

Midtown Tampa, the 20-plus acre mixed-use district at Interstate 275 and North Dale Mabry Highway, will begin vertical construction in the second quarter, its developer said. Nicholas Haines, CEO of Bromley Cos., said that the entire project — 1.8 million square feet — will be built in a single phase. Bromley is aiming to have the development wrapped up by early 2021, before Tampa hosts its fifth Super Bowl.

[Commuter story: Attitude, perspective shape drive across Tampa Bay](#)

I live on Clearwater Beach and work in Tampa. For a girl from the Northeast who swore she'd never commute again and insisted on living close enough to the office to run home for lunch or forgotten earrings, this drive could be a real drag. Instead, I spend most of the time saying thank you.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE COUNTY

Wednesday, April 3, 9:00 a.m. – BOCC Regular Meeting at County Center

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

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WHAT'S ON THE BOCC AGENDA?

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