



*Sandy Murman*

September 24, 2019

HEADLINES FROM HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY



***YES Disability Awareness F.A.I.R. and Community Inclusion Day***

*The 29<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act is being celebrated this year. Commissioner Murman presented a proclamation declaring October 5, 2019 as [YES Disability Awareness F.A.I.R. and Community Inclusion Day](#) in Hillsborough County. “This annual event raises awareness so that citizens with disabilities can realize opportunities and responsibilities that should be available to all residents of Hillsborough County” said Commissioner Murman.*



**[Florida unemployment rate holds steady](#)**

Florida’s unemployment rate held at 3.3 percent in August — and was down slightly from a year ago, according to **numbers released Friday** by the state Department of Economic Opportunity. The August estimate, which matched July’s 3.3 percent rate, represented 342,000 Floridians without jobs from a workforce of just under 10.4 million. The rate in August 2018 was 3.4 percent. Nationally, the unemployment rate last month was 3.7 percent.



**[Florida continues strong run of job growth](#)**

Florida remains on a long winning streak when it comes to creating jobs. An additional 22,500 people were employed in August compared to July, according to state figures released Friday. [Florida has added jobs every month dating back to 2011](#), except for a blip in September 2017 when Hurricane Irma ripped through the state upending the economy for a couple of weeks. The unemployment rate remained the same at 3.3 percent. That’s close to the state’s all-time low of 3.1 percent set in March 2006. Back then, the unemployment rate was held down by an overheated real estate market that later imploded, helping bring on the Great Recession.



**[Money names two Tampa Bay area cities among best places to live](#)**

Money.com recently released its annual list of the Top 100 Best Places to Live in America — this year featuring two Tampa Bay cities. Hillsborough County’s Riverview made the list at No. 33 followed by Pasco County’s Wesley Chapel at No. 56. Money compiled the rankings by evaluating each city on various data points including its economic health, cost of living, diversity, public education, income, crime, ease of living and amenities. Riverview ranked well based a high percentage of homeowners — 66 percent of residents own homes — and its proximity to local restaurants and beaches. Wesley Chapel had a high job growth rate at 8.4 percent and had a high median household income of \$78,465.



A Hillsborough County grant is helping the Tampa Bay History Center put thousands of historic, modern, and even novelty maps of Florida and its surroundings onto the museum's website. The digital format also creates an enduring record of the maps and charts that will survive an unlikely calamity such as a fire, flood, or burglary. The collection ranges from a 1493 map of the then-known world, before details gleaned from Columbus' voyages were chronicled, to a modern placemat-map of Florida from La Teresita restaurant in West Tampa. Ninety-five percent of the maps are on paper or cloth.

Assisting with digitalization of the maps is one of many ways that Hillsborough County supports the History Center at 801 Water St. In this case, the Board of County Commissioners approved matching grants totaling \$152,500 to photograph the maps and place them on the website, with the goal of promoting historic preservation, heritage tourism, and economic development. It's one of [nearly 100 projects](#) supported by the Historic Preservation Challenge Grant program.

## FROM THE BOARD ROOM

### County Matching Grants Support Cultural Celebrations

The Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners awarded \$673,419 in matching Special Event Partnership Grants to [22 nonprofit community projects](#) recommended by the Cultural Assets Commission that celebrate Hillsborough County's uniqueness, activate public spaces, and enrich the lives of residents.

### Board Adds to Mental Health, Addiction Treatment Services

The Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners approved an agreement modification with the [Agency for Community Treatment Services](#) (ACTS) to fund a new [adult residential services](#) program that will focus on mental health and addiction treatment, recovery, and reintegration back in to the community.

## UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE COUNTY

- Wednesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>**      **9:00 AM** – Regular Board of County Commissioners Meeting, County Center
- Tuesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>**      **9:00 AM** – BOCC Land Use Meeting, County Center

### STAY CONNECTED



### WHAT'S ON THE BOCC AGENDA?

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