



*Sandy Murman*

February 3, 2020

HEADLINES FROM HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY



***Commissioner Sandy Murman attended the christening of the new Yacht Starship "The Lost Pearl". Sharing in the celebration were Dana Young, President and CEO of Visit Florida, Mayor Castor, Troy and Jill Manthey. "With the addition of the Lost Pearl, Troy and his staff at Yacht Starship will continue to be a valuable part of Hillsborough County for many years to come," said Commissioner Murman.***



**[Coming this summer to Tampa: More Meals on Wheels](#)**

Thanks to the success of the organization’s recently accomplished capital campaign, more homebound individuals will soon receive meals beginning mid-summer of 2020. The recent Meals on Wheels Tampa capital campaign culminated with \$5 million raised. The funds are being used to construct a larger building to increase meal volume and supply office staff with needed space which will feature new refrigerators, freezers, and a kitchen footprint designed for efficiency.



**[Florida ranks among best states for female entrepreneurs](#)**

Florida is among the 10 best states for female entrepreneurs, after rising 11 spots on [FitSmallBusiness.com’s](#) annual ranking. With its 11-spot rise, among the five highest jumps on this year’s list, Florida lands as the sixth best start for female entrepreneurs. Colorado, California, Washington, New York and Texas ranked higher.



**[These Tampa Bay companies have some of the most diverse workforces](#)**

Three Tampa Bay companies have been named among the best diverse employers in a recent ranking by Forbes. The rankings were created from over 60,000 surveys completed by employees at businesses with at least 1,000 employees. The top 500 consists of the companies that got the most recommendations. The diversity of each company’s board and executives along with their diversity initiatives also contributed. Hillsborough County Public Schools was the Tampa Bay area’s first employer to make the list at No. 170.



**[Tampa Bay named a “talent hub”](#)**

[Lumina Foundation](#) has recognized Tampa Bay as one of the first “Talent Hubs” in Florida for its efforts to attract, retain and cultivate talent. Being named a Talent Hub indicates that Tampa Bay has shown the capacity to work collaboratively toward a significant increase in the number of residents with college degrees, certificates and other credentials beyond a high school diploma.

# Build your business playbook for when the BIG GAME comes to Tampa



Minority business owners and operators across the Tampa Bay area are encouraged to attend one last Super Bowl LV Business Connect Community Information Workshop on Feb. 7 at Hillsborough County's Entrepreneur Collaborative Center in Ybor City.

Business Connect is a community impact initiative designed to help link local diverse business suppliers to Super Bowl LV contracting opportunities while also providing a series of networking and professional development workshops for all participating businesses.

**Date:** Friday, Feb. 7

**Time:** Noon-2 p.m.

**Location:** Entrepreneur Collaborative Center, 2101 E. Palm Ave. in Tampa. Free parking is available across Palm Avenue in the lot at 2109 E. 11th Ave.

[Register Now](#)

The information session is provided as a partnership between Florida SBDC at Hillsborough County and the Tampa Bay Super Bowl LV Host Committee. The [Business Connect](#) application deadline is Feb. 14. The Business Connect program plans to help over 250 businesses work with Super Bowl event producers. Chosen businesses will be designated "approved" vendors and will be added to the NFL's list of certified businesses ready to compete for contracting opportunities.

## UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE COUNTY

Wednesday, February 5<sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM

Thursday, February 6<sup>th</sup> 1:30 PM

Regular BOCC Meeting

BOCC Workshop – Land Use

## STAY CONNECTED

## WHAT'S ON THE BOCC AGENDA?

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

