

TPA's Holiday Gift Guide features plenty of variety and local flavor

Even during Tampa International Airport's heaviest phase of construction, shopping at TPA has never been better. Travelers looking for last-minute holiday gifts might be surprised at what they'll find in both the Main Terminal and the Airsides.

"Although our concessions redevelopment is still very much in the works, we have so many great products, treats and gift items already available at our new shops and restaurants," said Laurie Noyes, TPA Director of Concessions. "This season, we've got more locally made products than ever before so customers will be able to take a piece of the Tampa Bay area with them when they travel for the holidays."

Our annual TPA holiday gift guide, which can be found here, highlights some of these products, including the Ybor City-based Seventh Avenue Apothecary candles, St. Petersburg's Sweet Divas Chocolates and South Tampa's Four Green Fields Irish soda bread. Customers can also shop for exclusive Tampa International Airport Hard Rock pins, shirts and other collectibles, as well as Guy Harvey artwork gifts at RumFish Grill and Cigar City Brewing hats and beer glasses. Or pick up a bag of special



There are plenty of items to choose from for the cool kid or the aspiring rocker on your list at the Hard Rock Cafe located in the Main Terminal. The Rock Shop features logo merchandise unique to TPA. It's one of 23 new concessions that have opened up at the Airport this year.

Reserve blend coffee at Starbucks for a coffee connoisseur.

Got someone tough to shop for on your list? Check out the gift guide found on the Airport website for ideas on what to get for that special someone this holiday season. ■



Pick up a package of Reserve Blend Coffee from Starbucks Reserve at Airside A or F for that coffee connoisseur on your list. They'll appreciate these special roasted coffee beans collected from the most exotic locations in the world.



Find something for that hard to shop for person on your list at Ron Jon Surf Shop in the Main Terminal. These funky beer koozies keep your beverage cold while making a statement.



Find something for the outdoors man or woman on your list with gift items from RumFish Grill at Airside C. They have t-shirts, hats, giftware and beautiful color art prints.

Spirit starts service to Akron-Canton and Baltimore

Spirit Airlines on November 10 began nonstop service to two new destinations, Baltimore and Akron-Canton. The Baltimore flights operate nonstop daily while the Akron-Canton flights are three-times weekly seasonal flights just in time for the holiday travel season. Book your Spirit Airlines flight today at Spirit.com. ■

Members of the Airport marketing department join Spirit Station Manager Edward Garduno at a celebration for new service to Akron-Canton, Ohio. Pictured left to right, Greg Forrest, Rob Connelly, Ilana Goldenberg, Maria Cook, Trudy Branvold, Kari Goetz, Edward Garduno, Angelo Mottola, Danny Cooper and Debbie Stokes.



Starbucks returns to the Main Terminal



Starbucks Evenings is now open on Level 3 in the Main Terminal across from the Sikorsky Elevators. The new location offers craft beers and featured wines in addition to its world-famous coffees and teas. Scrumptious pastries, small plate appetizers and grab-and-go sandwiches and salads are also available.

The new Starbucks Evenings is open 24 hours a day, seven day a week including weekends and holidays! ■

TPA BY THE NUMBERS: 21,621

There are 21,621 public parking spaces at Tampa International Airport so you're sure to find exactly the right spot to match your budget and length of stay. From our top line Valet service with curbside drop-off and available auto detailing to the affordable Economy Garage with complimentary 24/7 shuttle service, we've got you covered!

Try our Short Term parking (shown) located directly above the Main Terminal where it's only an elevator ride down to ticketing, baggage claim and gates. ■



Get to know today's Civil Air Patrol

The missions of today's Civil Air Patrol are very different from its origins: Searching for German submarines during World War II. But the Hillsborough One Senior Squadron, the Civil Air Patrol based at Tampa Executive Airport, still performs critical missions that save lives and taxpayer dollars.

The Squadron stands ready to respond 24/7 when the U.S. Air Force (USAF) calls on them to fly search-and-rescue missions, find missing aircraft, provide disaster relief assistance or take aerial photography after natural disasters.

Although CAP is also known as the U.S. Air Force Auxiliary, the organization actually predates the founding of the USAF, which wasn't created until 1947. It's made up of 60,000 volunteers nationwide, including about 60 at Tampa Executive. CAP operates the largest fleet of Cessna aircraft in the world, but the majority of the members are not pilots, but serve in very important support roles.

"Most people are surprised to learn that we are not all pilots or ex-military. In fact, few of us are," said Squadron Commander Maj. Sam Chiodo, a retired firefighter from Tampa Fire Rescue who joined the CAP in 2011 and began piloting missions soon afterwards.

The Civil Air Patrol is perhaps best known for its search-and-rescue efforts. In fact, CAP personnel flies more than 85 percent of all the federal inland search-and-rescue missions nationwide assigned by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center at Tyndall Air Force Base, located near Panama City, FL. CAP members flew over the Deepwater Horizon accident to provide surveillance. They also assist FEMA following a natural disaster such as a hurricane or flood to assess damage and the need for resources, most recently to support FEMA following TS Hermine and Hurricane Matthew.



Returning from a mission to test out some new equipment on the Civil Air Patrol Cessna are (left to right) Capt Art Stoutenburg, Maj Sam Chiodo, and SM Ray Pena.

"One of our most frequent missions is to track down an Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT), which are beacons that indicate a plane may have gone down," said Chiodo. "Most beacons are activated by accident, but we have to locate and clear every single one."

With its cost-efficient general aviation aircraft and team of volunteers, CAP saves the U.S. Air Force millions of dollars every year by taking on that task.

Those missions involve a three-person air team that consists of a pilot; the Observer who sits next to the pilot and monitors equipment and looks out the ride side of the plane; and a Scanner in the back seat looking out the pilot's side. On the ground, more volunteers handle communications at the squadron Incident Command Post, while others prepare the ground effort. Once the beacon is located, the ground team is alerted to the location and begins the process of silencing it.

And they're found it in some pretty unusual places. Often times, the ELT is located in a junk yard or in the possession of an unsuspecting scrap collector.

"We show up, and they're usually pretty surprised to discover what they have – and the chain of events

that have taken place since it was damaged and activated," said Chiodo.

The CAP also has a cadet program for children and young adults ages 12 to 21. Cadets involved with the organization can be found helping out at the annual Sun n' Fun Fly-in and the MacDill Air Fest marshalling the aircraft and attending the static displays. In addition, the cadets gain valuable aerospace knowledge and experience.

The Hillsborough One Senior Squadron is always open to accepting new members who are willing to volunteer and train for their missions. New members should attend a meeting to learn more. There are no prerequisites and Chiodo said that everybody who wants to participate can find a role that suits them in the Civil Air Patrol. The squadron at Tampa Executive Airport meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. for both classroom style training and hands on activities to continually prepare for future missions.

For more information, call (813) 748-4139 or email Maj Chiodo at schiodo@flwg.us. Maj Chiodo will direct you to the CAP squadron nearest your home, and that will best fit your needs. ■



Final guideway beams are being installed

Construction crews are installing the final steel beams for the SkyConnect people-mover guideway and should be finished by the end of December. Once those beams are in place, the entire length of the 1.4-mile guideway will be fully connected – a major construction milestone. The final beams are some of the trickiest to install. The beams must be lifted into place over the Airside A guideway and George J. Bean Parkway, requiring changes to Airport roadways and operations. ■

Take a video tour with the CEO through the Airport Expansion Project

Airport CEO Joe Lopano (left) is joined by key team members including Project Manager Dan Seeley (right) as he walks you through an update on the Airport expansion projects. See what's happening at the new rental car facility, SkyConnect people mover and the latest customer service enhancements being made inside the terminal. Now showing on the Airport's YouTube channel. ■



Delta starts service to Boston in Feb. 2017

Delta Air Lines is ready to help you find your way to Freedom Trail, Fenway Park and Harvard University beginning in February 2017 with twice-daily nonstop service to Boston. Book your travel today at Delta.com.



Hauling, towing TPA's expansion to the finish line

It takes a lot of transportation to build a massive infrastructure project on the scale of Tampa International Airport's historic expansion.

And local company Stepp's Heavy Transport is answering the call.

Stepp's, family-owned and operated out of the Tampa Bay region since 1960, serves as the transport and towing company for many of the Airport construction contractors. They move cranes, drill rigs, excavators, dozers, massive steel beams for the automated people mover guideway and a multitude of other materials to and from airport construction sites. They've done work for everyone from Case Atlantic to Johnson Brothers to Archer Western and other businesses working at the airport. Drive around Tampa International's campus for a few minutes, and chances are you'll see one of their trucks.

"It is a huge honor to be part of such



Tampa Bay-based Stepp's Towing moves a variety of equipment and materials including the large steel beams needed for TPA's new automated people mover guideway system.

a large project in our own backyard," said Stepp's General Manager Michael Gardner.

Gardner said the project has been good for business and that they have increased their workforce to keep up with the demand of equipment moves, including more truck drivers

and office personnel.

Jim and Judy Stepp started Stepp's Towing in 1960 with one truck. The company, which was taken over by their son Todd Stepp and his wife in 2011, has since grown to a company with more than 300 employees and 15 locations throughout Florida. ■

AIRPORT POLICE RAISE DONATIONS FOR TOYS FOR TOTS

Airport Police Chief Paul Sireci challenged the Airport Police Department's three divisions, traffic, police and the operations center to see which team could raise the most donations for Toys for Tots. The challenge netted 1,141 toys for the campaign, with the Traffic Division raising the most donations at 509 toys. The chief will be hosting a pizza party for the winners.

Pictured right, members of the Airport Police Department pose with the many boxes filled with record-setting donations for Toys for Tots.



Employee Profile - Perry Kranias



When Perry Kranias was in middle school, he and his parents moved from Chicago to the Tampa Bay area, where he helped them run family diner-style Greek restaurants for several years.

"I like to say I was born in a booth," Kranias said.

After his family sold the last one in St. Petersburg 16 years ago, he began looking for new opportunities and spotted a job posting for a concessions manager position at Tampa International Airport with HMSHost.

"I just thought, 'How cool would that be to work at the airport?'" Kranias said.

He found his new career managing Starbucks, Chili's and other restaurants at TPA to not only be cool, but an incredible experience learning about the high volume service, passenger patterns and other interesting facets of airport concessions. Likewise, the fresh perspective he brought coming from small family-owned restaurants helped create a grassroots program that now benefits communities

throughout North America.

While working his way up from assistant manager of Starbucks to managing multiple TPA restaurants to becoming HMSHost's TPA director of operations, Kranias became more and more troubled at the close of every business day.

"All of our leftover packaged food and grab-and-go items were being thrown away," Kranias said. "And there was a lot of it."

Kranias contacted HMSHost's corporate headquarters to see if something could be done to preserve the food for needy or hungry families but the company had concerns about liability with serving repurposed food. Kranias did more research into how other restaurants companies donated food and discovered President Bill Clinton's Good Samaritan Food Donation Act which protects restaurants and caterers from criminal and civil liability when donating to food banks in good faith.

He got the green light from headquarters, and together with his team, launched a food donation partnership in 2010 with Feeding America, which sent a truck to check out what TPA had to offer. After seeing the surplus of fresh, high-quality food they were able to deliver the first week, Feeding America decided to send a truck every day.

The program was so successful, HMSHost expanded it globally. Now, airports throughout North America as well as HMSHost's motorway operations take part in a food donation program, feeding schoolchildren and families throughout the country. All of TPA's new concessions that served food were required to include a similar program as part of their proposals in the redevelopment.

HMSHost was recently honored with a 2016 Airports Going Green

Award for its commitment to sustainability via food donations. Last year alone, more than 1.6 million pounds of food were diverted from landfills throughout the U.S. and Canada. And it all started at TPA.

"It's something I'm very proud of," Kranias said. "My kids know about it and every once in a while I'll talk to someone who works at a food bank or gives food to the needy in the community and I get to tell them about the food that comes from the Airport."

These days, Kranias is working hard to help launch of many of HMSHost's new concessions, including P.F. Chang's, The Gasparilla Bar, Starbucks Evenings and other upcoming local concepts throughout Airport.

"I'm learning a whole different side of things with the construction of new restaurants," Kranias said. "And I'm getting to work with some of the most brilliant entrepreneurs in the business with the Gonzmart family [Goody Goody, Ulele and Columbia Restaurant], Joey Redner [Cigar City Brewing and Taproom] and, of course, longtime TPA concessionaire George Tinsley."

Kranias lives in Westchase and spends most of his free time with his children, 13-year-old Alex and 12-year-old Christina. The two play competitive soccer, which keeps Kranias – who played soccer himself growing up and has coached their youth teams in the past – plenty busy on weeknights and weekends. They also like to go on a cruise every summer.

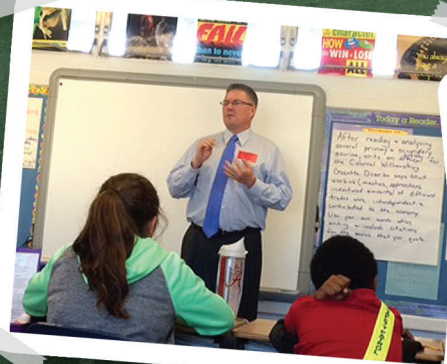
Kranias said he's excited about all of the changes at TPA and especially the idea of working with so many new partners and employees as the concessions redevelopment takes shape. He hopes all of the new fresh and healthy options for passengers will bring even more benefit to the hungry children and families throughout the Tampa Bay area. ■

Airport employees join in the Great American Teach-in

Capt. Ted Pawlowski (top right) talked about his duties as a member of the Airport Police Department to 5th grade classes at Tinker Elementary School.

Scott Knight, Assistant General Counsel for the Airport (bottom left) talked to 5th grade classes at Citrus Park Elementary School.

Officer Gina Maggiasco (bottom right) and her K9 Yyolkin visited with students at Claywell Elementary School.



Catch the Friday Flight

LATE NIGHT BRASS
presents

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY SHOW

DECEMBER 16th

4:30 pm to 6:30 pm | Main Terminal between Airsides A and C

Friday
FLIGHT

Tampa
International
Airport

FRIDAY FLIGHT BRINGS YOU THE SOUNDS OF THE SEASON

Join us at the next Friday Flight on Dec. 16 for a performance by the Late Night Brass. The band will perform a variety of popular and traditional seasonal favorites to get you in the holiday mood. The show takes place in the atrium between Airsides A and C beginning at 4:30 p.m.

Board Brief: December

Chairman Robert Watkins called the regular board meeting for the HCAA to order on Dec. 7, 2016. Vice Chair Gary Harrod, Mayor Bob Buckhorn, County Commissioner Victor Crist and Brig. General Chip Diehl were in attendance.

The meeting began with public comments on noise from residents in South Tampa. Adam Bouchard, Airport Operations Manager for the Authority, walked the board members and those in attendance through the voluntary noise abatement program at Tampa International Airport and steps the Authority has done to help mitigate concerns from residents. Some of the initiatives include regular noise meetings with the Community Noise Consortium, regular communication with airlines and pilots, presentations in the community and daily posting of deviations by jet aircraft on the noise sensitive runway. TPA is the only airport in the country to post this information.

"We are very engaged and continue to do our best which is shown in the 96 percent compliance rate," said Chief Executive Officer Joe Lopano.

Bouchard did say some challenges still exist with tracking down pilots using the noise sensitive runway on the general aviation side and that this is an ongoing conversation with both GA and commercial pilots.

VP of Operations and Customer Service John Tiliacos presented a series of events impacting TIA.

In addition to showing all of the efforts for the Thanksgiving holiday plan, he also discussed the National Football College Championship taking place in Tampa on Jan. 9, 2017 which is projected to have a \$308 million economic impact for the region and the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association regional fly-in to be held at Peter O. Knight airport on Oct. 27-28, 2017. This is projected to have a \$700,000 economic impact with 3,000 attendees and 700 aircraft.

As part of an ongoing assessment of the IT Department, General Counsel Michael Stephens, presented to the board the finding of an IT assessment which showed there was no security breach but did show some areas for improvement, which have already started at HCAA, including bringing in an additional auditor, establishing an IT steering committee and developing a new strategic plan and vision.

Three items were brought before the board as part of new business including contracts for Airfield Support Facility Roof Rehabilitation, a landscaping contract for all four of HCAA's facilities and a selection of a firm to provide direct placement financing for all four airports.

There will be no regular board meeting in January with the next board meeting taking place on Thursday, Feb. 2, at 9 a.m. in the Aviation Authority board room.

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING...

ON TWITTER:

Love all the new charging stations in the AA terminal @FlyTPA This is definitely the best airport to fly in and out of. #bestairport Jonathan Wainwright @JonathanWain, Nov. 28

.@TSA security staff at @FlyTPA might be the fastest, most efficient in the country. Jennifer Zuccarelli @Zuccarelli, Nov. 28

Haven't flown out of @FlyTPA in two years and it's still – easily – the best airport I've flown in or out of, with or without construction. Paul Driscoll @PDriscollTBT, Nov. 4

ON FACEBOOK:

Wow!!!! I am from Europe and have travelled to many places. This is by far the best airport! Great shopping and the food...amazing! We are at the new PF Changs and had a first class experience! Lee Allan, November 28

By far the most efficient and accommodating airport I have flown out of. From security to vendors everyone is great and I don't brag about airports much. The best part about the traveling process on trips is TPA.... Jeff Hoberg, November 28

VIA EMAIL:

I'd like to compliment Economy Parking shuttle driver Agner for his positive and helpful attitude that really stood out to me. First off, upon boarding the shuttle, he said hello to all and offered us a water to drink - recognizing that people were tired from long flights. Secondly, he happily helped people load their bags on the shuttle - mind you he didn't wait to be asked for help, he volunteered it. Third, he was well spoken and polite. And fourth, again upon leaving, he didn't just sit in his chair and watch people get off, but instead he unloaded their bags and wished them well as they set off. This is going above and beyond in my book and I wanted to compliment him. Thanks! Michael Stoppa, Nov. 22

E-NEWSLETTER SIGN-UP

If you prefer to receive the electronic version of the Airport newsletter delivered to your business or personal email, go to TampaAirport.com and click on "Sign up for Airport News" located in the popular links.

The electronic version is distributed twice monthly and can be read on your computer or any mobile device.



Visit us online at TampaAirport.com or connect with us @FlyTPA



"Tampa International Airport" and "The Spirit of Flight" logomark are registered trademarks of the Hillsborough County Aviation Authority. ©2016 Hillsborough County Aviation Authority. All rights reserved.