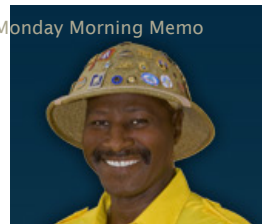


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August 27, 2012

Monday Morning Memo is your weekly update on downtown Tampa development, transportation updates, news and events. Click on the sections below or scroll down to read the complete issue.

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The Partnership Presents

RNC Week is Here!

RNC WEEK IS HERE.

Check out the special RNC section of the Monday Morning Memo to keep in the know during RNC week as we welcome our guests from all over the country to our fair city, downtown and region.

And during RNC week, take advantage of the special deals with your [Summertime Savings Card](#) in some of downtown's best restaurants, shops and services. Expires September 3. And for more savings, also check out the [GOParty Card](#).

Downtown Guides and Clean Team will be out in force on a special schedule during RNC, assisting all visitors and locals.



Coming Next Week: Rock the Park

Thursday, September 6

Curtis Hixon Waterfront Park

After the dust settles after RNC week, as museums and streets are back in full swing, the Partnership's monthly popular event, [Rock the Park](#) takes the stage at Curtis Hixon Park with Magadog, Red Rock/Its and Halibut!

Downtown Street Team - Special Holiday Hours

In recognition of the Labor Day holiday, Tampa's Downtown Guides and Clean Team will have special hours on Monday, September 3, 2012.

Tampa's Downtown Guides - 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Tampa's Downtown Clean Team - 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

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Your Downtown Calendar

All Things RNC

Tampa's Downtown is consumed with the Republican National Convention and associated activities. Check out the RNC section below for all the RNC activities going on in Tampa's Downtown this week. Please refer to the RNC section of this newsletter for information on cultural attraction, business and road openings and closings for the week.

Pre-Season Lightning Ticket Sales

Tickets for the Tampa Bay Lightning's two preseason games at the Tampa Bay Times Forum went on sale last Friday. The games will be played Wednesday, September 26 against the St. Louis Blues and Thursday, October 4 versus the Florida Panthers. Both contests are scheduled for 7:30 p.m. You can learn more or order your tickets at [Lightning-NHL](#).

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Doing Business in Downtown

Two Pop Up Shops Open for RNC

A pop up souvenir shop selling RNC souvenirs opened on Friday in the former Beverly's card shop at 512 N. Franklin Street in Tampa's Downtown. Whether you're a Democrat, Republican or sports fan, you can find your political and sports swag here. Hours are 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily, depending on crowds for the next 3 to 4 weeks. You can read more in the [Tampa Bay Times article](#).

Another downtown shop to pop up is Tempus Projects in Channelside Bay Plaza. Local artist David O'Keefe is featuring political and pop culture figures in time for RNC week. Look for both elephant and donkey mosaics and political caricatures. And you can read more in the [tbt.com article](#).

You can also view more of Tempus Gallery's finest art pieces in the Element Building lobby windows (on the Tampa Street side), brought to you with the assistance of Tampa Downtown Partnership. The featured art is for sale.

Downtown's WilsonHCG Makes Top 100

Congratulations to WilsonHCG, a recruitment process optimization company located in Tampa's Downtown, who was recently named one of Florida's Best Companies to Work For according to Florida Trend magazine. The top one hundred were recognized in small, medium and large categories, and were recognized based on their hiring practices, workplace policies, philosophy, systems and demographics. Go to WilsonHCG for more information about this exceptional company.

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Development & Transportation

Free Bikeshare Webinar Part II

Wednesday, August 29, 12:00 noon to 1:15 pm.

Tampa Downtown Partnership Office, 400 N. Ashley, Suite 2125

The Partnership is hosting an online webinar to be viewed at our office, on the concept of bikeshare, where bicycles are made available for shared use to individuals for a small fee. It is a recent trend in several cities and something the Partnership is pursuing for Tampa's Downtown. Please RSVP to kkress@tampasdowntown.com.

Freewheelin' Ped Buses are Here!

We reported last week on these fun, bright green Freewheelin' Ped Buses sponsored by Humana. Well, they are here and you can see them traversing through Tampa's Downtown this week during the RNC week. Go to the Franklin Exchange Building to register and ride!

And the really good news is Tampa Downtown Partnership was granted these fun vehicles plus a vegetable cart after they are used at the RNC in Tampa and DNC in Charlotte! Stay tuned for fun, future Partnership programs using these great vehicles! Thank you, Humana!

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Member Corner

Member Spotlight

If you are a Tampa Downtown Partnership member and would like to be in the spotlight in a future Monday Morning Memo, please send your story to dchen@tampasdowntown.com. Not a member and would like to learn more about the benefits? Please contact Kimberly Finn Weaver at kweaver@tampasdowntown.com.

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Around Town

Mural Brightens Downtown

Vista 400 owned by Sage Partners, LLC commissioned Kas Turner a long time St. Petersburg artist to create a six story public art banner. Debra Koehler, President of Sage Partners stated, "Our commitment to public art is strong as demonstrated by the art at both of our downtown residential communities Vista 400 and Metro 510. We are pleased to show that Tampa has a heart that will be seen by all those that visit Tampa for the RNC as well as Tampa's residents".

The artist, Kas Turner describes her vibrant and colorful art as the heart as a collaboration created to express the commitment and spirit of Tampa. The orange half of the heart symbolizes creativity, productivity, optimism and enthusiasm. The blue half balances these emotions with calmness, kindness, love and peace.



Feeding Children Everywhere

Feeding Children Everywhere is hosting a charity meal packing event called Project 3 on August 25th-30th on East Palm Ave, packing 3 million meals for hungry children in the U.S. Two hundred thousand of the meals stay in the Bay area to help students in need at Hillsborough County Schools and Pinellas County Schools. They are in need of more volunteers to get the job done. This event is a great opportunity to come together with those in your community and make a meaningful difference in the life of a hungry child. For more information call 407-312-3144 or go to Feeding Children Everywhere.

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Countdown to the RNC

The Countdown is Over - Welcome RNC!

Republican National Convention

August 27 to 30, 2012

We've been counting down for weeks and the convention is finally here! Isaac has cancelled Day 1 of the RNC, but activities will resume in full swing on Tuesday. Please help us welcome our visitors as they look for alternative plans for their Monday activities!

Getting Around

Don't forget to allow extra time to get around this week! Go to [Tampa's Downtown - Getting Around](#) during RNC for links to all your RNC related transportation information from City of Tampa, TBARTA, HART and more.

And if you have not done so already, sign up for [Alert Tampa](#) to receive updates from the City of Tampa on street closures, weather events and other urgent messages.

Official Sites for the Scoop on the Convention

To be in the know, the two official sites for the convention are the Republican Committee on Arrangements site, [GOP Convention 2012](#) and the 2012 Tampa Bay Host Committee site, [2012 Tampa](#). And to experience the convention in the virtual world, you can log onto [Convention Without Walls](#).

Front Row Tampa Bay

To educate millions of people on what Tampa Bay and Florida have to offer, [Front Row Tampa Bay](#) will live-stream over the Web this Monday through Thursday, from 9 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. The focus will include Tampa Bay's key business sectors and leaders, commentary from top political leaders, and a look at life in Tampa Bay and Florida. Over 130 CEOs, entrepreneurs and community leaders are scheduled to appear live on Front Row Tampa Bay. Brought to you by Tampa Bay Partnership and their community partners.

Tampa Bay Social Media Command Center

Tampa Downtown Partnership will be a part of the collaborative effort for a social media command center coordinated by Tampa Bay and Company, to send out the good word about Tampa Bay. If you tweet a positive message about Tampa or Tampa Bay this week, please join in the effort by using [#tampabay](#) in your message! Read more in the [Tampa Bay Business Journal article](#).

Tampa Bay Shines

Tampa Bay Shines is a community rally by the Tampa Bay Partnership to create awareness of the business climate in the Tampa Bay region. If your company, community or organization has a shining example of business in Tampa Bay, please go to [TB Partnership - Tampa Bay Shines](#) to let them know.

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Be *in the know* faster by following us on [Twitter](#), liking us on [Facebook](#), and following us on [YouTube](#).

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