



FALL 2020

YBOR LEGEND

YBOR CITY OPERATING WITH SAFETY IN MIND



GRASSROOTS KAVA HOUSE, WHICH RECENTLY OPENED IN YBOR CITY

Ybor City's merchants, residents, and workers endured severe hardships during the COVID-19 shutdown, and we're

proud to say that most of our treasured businesses are back in operation. It was not without loss, but our resilient

culture helps us withstand the test of the pandemic.

Ybor City business have adjusted operating procedures to function safely and bring the Historic District back to its glory that so many love and cherish. The Ybor Saturday Market also now is open, and outdoor events are slowly coming back, such as the highly anticipated Tree Lighting on Nov. 18., the Taste of Latino on Nov. 21 and the Cuban Sandwich Festival on Nov. 22.

Amidst the challenges of the pandemic, there were many great things

happening in Ybor City such as the opening of Hotel Haya on Sept. 24 and the soft opening of the new Sicilian restaurant, Casa Santo Stefano.

With the holidays upon us, we hope they will bring back feelings of togetherness and joy as our community begins to enjoy one other in person again (with masks, of course).

We have been going strong for 135 years and plan to keep it status quo for many more.



NEW CAMPAIGN SHOWS YBOR AS THE HEART OF TAMPA

Historic Ybor City businesses are emerging from tough times and proving it is the *Heart of Tampa*. Ybor City brings culture, charm, diversity, and a collective economic impact to the City of Tampa. The *Heart of Tampa* campaign is launching for businesses to share their love of Ybor and for the public to know what Ybor City brings to our area. Stay tuned for more on yborcityonline.com.



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NEWS BRIEFS



Ybor's Archway Lights and Sidewalks to be Enhanced

Ybor City Development Corporation is working closely with TECO and the City of Tampa to finalize the project for the new archway lights along 7th Avenue. There will be 24 lighted archways (48 archway poles) that will be replaced between Nuccio Parkway and 26th Street along 7th Avenue.



Saturday Market Reopens and Extends Hours

The Ybor City Saturday Market reopened on Sept. 12 and has extended its hours from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. The Market is following the latest health guidelines to ensure you can shop safely while supporting local small businesses. The Market is in Centennial Park located at 1800 E. 8th Ave.



Ybor Chamber Tree Lighting Ceremony, Centro Ybor, Nov. 18, 6:30 p.m. Join live on Facebook at 6:45 p.m. www.facebook.com/yborcitychamber

Taste of Latino, Centro Asturiano, Nov. 21, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)

9th Annual Cuban Sandwich Festival, Centro Asturiano, Nov. 22, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)



HOTEL HAYA OPENS WITH A NOD TO YBOR'S HISTORY

Hotel Haya, which captures the exuberant Cuban, Italian, and Spanish influences of Historic Ybor City, opened in late September. The hotel's design evokes the 1950's Golden Age of Havana and features period fabrics, joyous colors and exposed brick walls. Hotel Haya carries the spirit of Ybor City's founding members and cigar artisans, weaving their stories into the guest experience with customized cigars and rolling classes.

Douglas Rodriguez, known as 'The Godfather of Nuevo Latino Cuisine,' leads the hotel's culinary program, which includes Flor Fina, an upscale restaurant with Gulf Coast-inspired Mediterranean cuisine prepared over an open-hearth grill. Café Quikiriqui, the on-site charming Cuban cafe, will serve as a neighborhood gathering spot that will transport diners to a taste of the 'Original Tampa.'

The 178-room hotel also features a pool in the courtyard for glamorous, Laissez-Faire lounging, serving cocktails and hosting intimate concerts for guests to enjoy. The property also has over 5,000 square feet of flexible meeting and event space. The hotel is located at 1412 E. 7th Ave.

[hotelhaya.com](https://www.hotelhaya.com)



HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Five Ybor City organizations were awarded historic preservation grants from Hillsborough County ranging from \$35,000 to \$100,000 to improve or renovate their buildings. The following were presented with grants: J.C. Newman Cigar Company to restore its clock tower; Ybor Nuccio LLC for new windows; Centro Asturiano de Tampa for building repair; Cuban Club Foundation for improvements and repairs to the windows in the building's ballroom; and CMJ Centro Ybor LLC for the fourth phase of renovating Centro Ybor. Two tourism projects by the Ybor Museum Society also were presented with grants.

The CRA also approved Ybor CRA Facade Grants toward historic properties resulting in \$156,700 of private investment leveraged with \$82,500 in Tax Increment Finance dollars.



J.C. Newman Cigar Company clock tower during renovations.

NEW ON THE FOODIE SCENE



Casa Santo Stefano is the Latest Culinary Masterpiece in Ybor City

Though it hasn't fully opened to the public, and its owner, Richard Gonzmart, is known for saying "we will open when we are ready," Casa Santo Stefano is one of the latest highly anticipated additions to Ybor's culinary scene. The restaurant is part of the Columbia Restaurant Group and is opening in the former historic Ferlita Macaroni Factory at 1601 N. 22nd St.

The restaurant honors one of Ybor City's largest group of immigrants, which are from Santo Stefano Quisquina in Sicily, Italy. From the décor to the menu, everything was planned meticulously to match the Sicilian culture. (Pictured is Executive Chef Alessio Selleri.)

facebook.com/SantoStefanoTPA



Copper Shaker Brings Craft Cocktails, Small Plates to Ybor City

The Copper Shaker is bringing its craft cocktails and shareable appetizers to 1502 E. 7th Ave. The bar opened its first location in Downtown St. Petersburg in 2017. The appetizer plates range from cauliflower bites, truffle fries, charcuterie, and flatbreads, and the cocktails have fresh ingredients like rosemary and apricots.

CopperShaker.com



The Flan Factory opens in Ybor City

The Flan Factory, which has been a staple at the Ybor City Saturday Market, has opened a brick-and-mortar store at 1718 N. Nebraska Ave. The menu includes a variety of flavors of hand-crafted, artisanal flan from fruity pebbles to pumpkin pie. The restaurant also serves Cuban favorites for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Enjoy an empanada, Cuban sandwich, and flan for dessert!

flanfactorytampa.com



NEW APARTMENTS OFFER MORE HOUSING OPTIONS

Lector 85, a new apartment complex in Ybor City, opened at 2409 E. 2nd Ave., offering more housing options for the area. The community has modern studio, one, two and three-bedroom apartments.

lector85.com



MEETING CALENDAR

In November and December, meetings will be in person and virtual. The meetings will be held at the Hillsborough Community College Ybor Campus in the Ybor Room. Starting in 2021, meetings will be held at the YCDC office at 2015 E. 7th Ave. All meetings are open to the public and limited free parking is available. Meeting dates are subject to change. Visit YborCityOnline.com.

NOVEMBER

PUBLIC SAFETY AND TRANSPORTATION
NOV. 19 AT 3:30 P.M.

DECEMBER

YCDC BOARD
DEC. 1 AT 4 P.M.

JANUARY

PLANNING, INFRASTRUCTURE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
JAN. 12 AT 3:30 P.M.

CULTURE, ARTS AND SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE
JAN. 19 AT 3:30 P.M.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND TRANSPORTATION
JAN. 21 AT 3:30 P.M.

YCDC BOARD
JAN. 26 AT 4 P.M.

FEBRUARY

YCDC BOARD
FEB. 23 AT 4 P.M.

HELP FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

Our neighborhood is our family, and like all families, we want the best for you. We've put together resources for small businesses and residents that can be helpful during this challenging time. Visit yborcityonline.com/covid-19/.

MAYOR JANE CASTOR

Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Board

Orlando Gudes – District 5, Chairman
Bill Carlson – District 4, Vice-chairman
Joseph Citro – District 1
John Dingfelder – District 3
Luis Viera – District 7

Charlie Miranda – District 2 At-large
Guido Maniscalco – District 6

Meeting Location: Tampa Convention Center, 333 S. Franklin St.
(Visit tampagov.net to verify meeting location, as the location could change.)

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Date: Second Thursday of the month.

YCDC Board of Directors

Chris Wojtowicz Chairman, Historic Ybor Neighborhood Civic Assoc.
Steve Barbas..... Vice-chairman, Ybor City Museum Society
Shari Middleton Treasurer, Finance and Banking
Rich Simmons..... Secretary, At-large
Tee Ann Bailey Multi-family Residential
Cathy Bartolotti Ybor Historic Social Clubs
Rey Bulnes..... Ybor City Chamber of Commerce
Joe Capitano, Sr..... Emeritus Member
Jose Cayon..... East Ybor Gary Historic Civic Association
Ron Christaldi..... At-large
Ginger Clark Hillsborough Community College
Fran Costantino Emeritus Member
Jason Dickens At-large
Joshua Frank..... Property Owner
Casey Gonzmart Jr. Restaurant
Ken Jones Retail/Arts
Claire Fenlon May..... Entertainment/Events
Michael Murphy..... Ybor Merchants Association
Walter Pinillos..... GaYbor District Coalition
Steve Rosenstock..... At-large
Thomas St. John..... Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office
Christopher Vela..... At-large
Chip Williams Bars and Restaurants

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Dates: Fourth Tuesday of the month except December.



YBOR CITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
2015 East 7th Avenue, Tampa, FL 33605

(813) 274-7936 • TampaGov.net/ycdc • YborCityOnline.com

A Division of the City of Tampa - Department of Economic and Urban Development

YCDC Staff:

Courtney Orr, *Manager* • Brenda Thrower • Corine Linebrink