

You haven't lived in Tampa Bay until you have ...



Those people who claim St. Pete is the saddest city in America and Tampa is fourth on the list just haven't spent enough time enjoying all we have to offer. And that's okay. We know life in Tampa Bay is worth living, even with a few noteworthy blemishes. Check out my annual list of what helps define us. *You haven't lived in Tampa Bay until you have ...*

... rediscovered the wonders of chowder at The Stone Soup Company in Ybor City.
 ... checked out the recycled wonder Safety Harbor artists Todd Ramquist and Kiaralinda call Holidazzle, below right.
 ... realized driving in the left-hand lane is the slowest possible means of getting anywhere in Tampa Bay.
 ... seen a politician, I mean a politician's wife, accept a \$500,000 vacation home from a supporter and keep his post.
 ... watched the Rays snatch the American League Wild Card from the choking Red Sox with a walk-off home run from Evan Longoria.
 ... had mullet at San Antonio's Rattlesnake Festival.
 ... experienced the joy of cooking classes at The Rolling Pin Emporium in Brandon.
 ... heard Tampa mayor Bob Buckhorn talk about his lacrosse career.
 ... debated what's the best restaurant on Beach Drive.
 ... wished they would black out the Bucs' road games.
 ... read a horribly insensitive blog post and thought, "The reality is someone with so little tact could never get elected to the Pinellas County Commission." Never mind.
 ... inhaled the Columbia Restaurants' white chocolate bread pudding, infused with Don Casimiro Silver Rum.
 ... been so happy about playing at the Lake Jovita Golf & Country Club you didn't care your game is awful.
 ... said, "\$50 million for a pier? Don't screw this up."
 ... had the scrapple at Lenny's Restaurant in Clearwater.



... had coffee at Tre Amici, tbt*'s unofficial Ybor City bureau.
 ... gone sailing on a Thursday night with the folks at the Davis Islands Yacht Club.
 ... seen Just Elementary students and teachers race at The Great West Chase 5-K.
 ... caught the musical stylings of Lisa Casalino at Love's Artifacts Bar and Grille.
 ... enjoyed the cake batter fro-yo at Menchie's in Riverview's Winthrop Town Centre.
 ... met a beautiful woman in possession of a Derek Jeter memorabilia gift bag.
 ... kayaked on the Hillsborough River while gators swim under your boat.
 ... seen the spoonbills during a Rocky Point sunset.
 ... had Jessica the bartender put a "shamrock" on top of your Guinness at Four Green Fields.
 ... spent a weekend at a St. Pete Beach resort.
 ... made the drive to Pearl In The Grove in Dade City for some top-notch family dining.
 ... seen actual lightning inside the soon-to-be Tampa Bay Times Forum.
 ... thought, "Bruce B. Downs? Why?"
 ... asked, "Exactly who did vote for Rick Scott?"
 ... kicked off Thanksgiving morning with a Tiny Tap PBR.
 ... allowed the Zac Brown Band's *Knee Deep* to inspire you to call in sick and spend the day at Pass-A-Grille. When you lose yourself, you find a key to paradise.
 That's all I'm saying.

SURVEY SAYS ...

39

The percentage of St. Petersburg residents polled by

the *St. Pete Times*/Bay News 9 who say Mayor Bill Foster he is doing either an excellent or good job. In his second year, Foster received nearly the same positive rating as the 39 percent he scored in 2010.

Weather



TODAY
sunny
High: 66 Low: 43
Rain chance: 0%
Wind: 10-15 mph



THURSDAY
partly cloudy
High: 67 Low: 46
Rain chance: 0%
Wind: 5-10 mph



FRIDAY
sunny
High: 70 Low: 51
Rain chance: 0%
Wind: 4-8 mph



SATURDAY
partly cloudy
High: 74 Low: 53
Rain chance: 0%
Wind: 6-12 mph



SUNDAY
partly cloudy
High: 74 Low: 55
Rain chance: 0%
Wind: 8-16 mph

Lottery

CASH 3 AND PLAY 4

Tuesday, Dec. 27:
Day: **1-4-5** Evening: **5-8-4**
Day: **1-3-8-1** Evening: **3-8-6-1**

FANTASY 5

Tuesday, Dec. 27: **4-9-21-34-36**

MEGA MONEY

Tues., Dec. 27: **13-18-25-43** Ball: **15**

LOTTO

Tonight's jackpot: \$2 million

POWERBALL

Tonight's jackpot: \$20 million

Markets

Dow 30 Industrials
-2.65 (-0.02%)
Tuesday's close: 12,291.35



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