



Limayem
delivers fall
address to
USF faculty
and staff

Read On Pg.2



Read about
The Crow's
Nest's fall
drink faves
On Pg. 4

USF loses Sarasota campus to New College

Graphic designed by Crow's Nest Staff

BY CROW'S NEST STAFF

After months of debate and a final state budget deal, the Sarasota-Manatee campus is no longer part of The University of South Florida. The campus that once stood alongside St. Petersburg and Tampa as part of the OneUSF initiative transferred to New College of Florida (NCF) on July 1, 2026, changing the look of higher education in the Sarasota-Manatee area.

Now, students and members of the community are left wondering what the transition means for current students and how the loss of the Sarasota-Manatee campus could affect USF's remaining campuses.

On the USF Sarasota-Manatee site, the first thing to be seen is a tab answering frequently asked questions about the transfer.

On the Overview section, a statement reads "In May 2026, the Florida Legislature approved a proposal to transfer facilities from the USF Sarasota-Manatee campus to NCF as part of the state budget process."

In his recent fall address to USF faculty and staff,

USF President Moez Limayem acknowledged the transition stating, "We are navigating change in Sarasota-Manatee. All faculty have been assigned to a new home campus. HR is working individually with staff to identify opportunities for placement in other positions across USF"

"The 777 Sarasota Manatee students registered have a clear pathway to a USF degree taught by USF faculty," Limayem continued in his address. Current Sarasota-

Manatee students will be given the opportunity to do a multi-year teach-out program that allows them to finish their degrees on their original campus.

USF limited the enrollment of new students into the Sarasota-Manatee campus at the start of the fiscal year, July 1. This decision follows NCF's undertaking of all maintenance and debt costs on Sarasota-Manatee's residence halls and facilities.

Prior to the decision on July 1, the USF Sarasota-Manatee residence halls had been shared with NCF students. After facing issues with accommodating stu-

dent housing, NCF rented out half of the beds at USF Sarasota-Manatee's Atala Hall for the 2024-2025 school year.

The USF Sarasota-Manatee Campus Board was dissolved afterward. USF and NCF then executed the Joint Transfer Agreement (JTA) and Facility Use Agreement (FA).

Assets and liabilities will be transferred between USF Sarasota-Manatee and NCF

on July 1, 2028. As of now, NCF will obtain the entirety of the properties, contracts, and liabilities as stated by WUSF.

NCF is now responsible for a \$53 million dollar debt to USF by Dec 31, 2026. If the debt is not paid, the deal will be nullified.

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Feb. 2026

The Crow's Nest publishes an article on a bill proposal that would transfer the USF Sarasota-Manatee campus to New College of Florida

May 2026

FL legislature approves the transfer in the state budget.

July 1, 2026

- USF ownership of land and buildings transfers to New College.
- New USF admissions to the Sarasota-Manatee campus stop.
- Facility agreement provides no-cost space for USF teach-out.

Fall 2026

Gov. Ron DeSantis signs the state budget bill into law. USF Board of Trustees approves the transition.

Fall 2026 continued

Students go back to school and the Judy Genshaft Honors College wraps local footprint. New College expands residential and lab usage. Guaranteed housing rates under the affiliation agreement expire.

Dec. 31, 2026: If NC fails to assume debt in its name for the



The transfer of USF Sarasota-Manatee was confirmed on July 1st, at the end of the 2025 fiscal year.

Photo courtesy of USF



President Moaz Limayem addresses the transition of Sarasota-Manatee to New College. Photo Courtesy of Makenna Wozniak



By Ashley Pena- Crow's Nest News Editor

On Sept 9 at 9:09 a.m., President Moez Limayem gathered faculty and staff from both the University of South Florida's St. Petersburg and Tampa campuses as the university's ninth president.

In his opening remarks, Limayem emphasized the symbolism of the repeated number nine and called on faculty and staff to think of the direction the university will be taking in nine years' time.

"What will the University of South Florida look like [in nine years]? Will there be something that we are proud of then that we have the courage to start now? How will we know whether we made the most of those nine years? What will be our strength in 2035?" Limayem said in his speech. "That is what I want to talk to you about this morning. Not simply where we have been, but more importantly, where we're going."

Last spring, Limayem addressed faculty and staff at a USFSP town hall gathering. Since then, the university has faced challenges that could not be covered in the previous meeting.

Paramount among the recent news was the tragic passing of students Nahida Bristy and Jemeel Lyman.

Limayem made it a priority in his fall address to remind faculty and staff of the devastating loss the university experienced late last spring when Bristy and Lyman lost their lives as a result of homicides.

"I want to acknowledge that very early in my presidency, we faced a heartbreak. We faced a tragedy. We lost two of our students, Nahida Bristy and Jemeel Lyman," he continued. "They were members of our USF family and we remember them."

The president then pivoted to highlighting outstanding concerns voiced by faculty and staff. The address focused on an array of topics, ranging from HR concerns to welcoming in the class of 2030.

HR Technology Concerns

A repeated concern throughout Limayem's presidency has been the effectiveness of the HR systems used to log in employee hours.

"I heard frustration from people spending way too much time navigating administrative processes, instead of serving students and doing the work they came to USF to do. Hiring was an example. So was the lack of visibility into HR requests," he said.

Limayem, along with the university's deans, investigated the criticism and responded with a plan toward resolution.

"Four pilot units helped us identify the biggest pain points, and we are redesigning our highest priority HR processes with the people who actually use them. You can expect to begin seeing redesign processes and a more modern, responsive and employee-centered HR service model in late spring," he said.

He specifically addressed developments regarding Oracle, the current HR system used by staff and faculty.

"We are taking the same approach with Oracle. We began working to address the system issues raised with payroll as an immediate priority," he continued. "We're also moving toward a relaunch of Oracle next summer with regular updates along the way."

Limayem closed out the updates regarding HR concerns by reminding staff of the importance of efficiency, stating, "Paying our employees accurately and on time is a very basic responsibility that I do not take lightly."



"Listening is what I have tried to do since the day I returned to USF. Listening was not the goal. It was just the beginning. What matters is what we do with what we hear."- USF President Moaz Limayem

Photo Courtesy of:

Makenna Wozniak

Infrastructure growth

Limayem additionally addressed university-wide infrastructure growth, including new installments, initial plans for new builds, and a resolution for communication issues with maintenance.

"We are also taking a look at our physical space. We launched a university wide space study to help us make better use of the space we have today. We expect initial recommendations by December," he stated in his fall address.

Ahead of the results of the university wide space study, Limayem focused on pre-existing concerns, stating, "We are working to create a dedicated budget to address deferred maintenance, and we are putting a better system in place to better manage facilities."

In response to the lack of clarity on the actual state of repair or renovations reported as 'in progress', Limayem offered a resolution.

"That's why we launched a new facility work order system called Maintenance Connection that gives us visibility on what is being reported and how quickly we are responding," he

said. "It also helps us see where problems persist so that we can intervene when necessary. We will review the new system and dashboards with stakeholders and building managers late this month."

The president also directed attention to infrastructure developments that are either in the initial planning stages, have recently been implemented or are under active construction.

Among these is notably the first-ever on campus USF football stadium that will hold 35,000 seats. - It is under construction and is on schedule for fall 2027.

"I cannot wait to see this campus filled with tailgates and watch parties when the Bulls play their first game there against Louisville on September 4th, 2027. You are all invited," Limayem continued.

Accompanying the stadium as a new build is the ambitious Uptown Landing. "Just yesterday, we broke ground on Uptown Landing, a major new development that will create a gateway to our university and strengthen USF connection to the surrounding community" announced Limayem.

"This modern, vibrant, mixed-use community will include students' housing, retail, dining, hospitality and academic research

facilities. It will be a walkable, experience-oriented space for all of us to enjoy. And yes, it is walking distance from the new stadium."

The College of Nursing and USF Health has also opened three new centers. "The new Nexus space gives faculty access to production studios and new technology to create engaging digital learning experiences," he said.

The Bellini College of AI will also have a new location. "The new home of the Bellini College will be located at the corner of the Alumni Drive and Leroy Collins Boulevard, not far from the main entrance to campus. A place where research and collaboration take place in fields that are reshaping nearly every part of our lives and protecting our digital spaces,"

Although it is yet to have a construction date, the project has been given \$35 million in state funding.

Read more from President Limayem's first address at:

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Running back to home-base; Reflecting on the past, present and future of Tropicana Field



BY ASHLEY PENA & ZARIYA BANKSTON

Tropicana Field baseball stadium, home to the Tampa Bay Rays, has undergone a history of adjustments.

The Crow's Nest has been following along the stadium's recovery process from Hurricane Milton, beginning in Oct. 2024, when the city of St. Petersburg city development administration initiated repairs for the impacted roof. The work lasted a little over two years and was concluded last spring.

The stadium reopened its doors on April 6, 2026, and has since enjoyed a summer of new developments. The Rays' website offers brief descriptors of these updates listed under the 'Updates From the Roof' tab, introducing the new Home Plate Box, Baseline Premier, Chalk Box, DEX Home Plate Club, The Baldwin Group Club, The Tropicana Room, Premium Suites on the Wellbull Level, Executive Suites, as well as new turf and the reinstalment of historic statues.

Following the team's transition from St. Petersburg to Tampa, the Tampa Bay Rays have spearheaded an active community partnership with Hillsborough College.

The partnership is the successor of the former collaboration with the USF St. Petersburg Eileen Hoffman Hafer UMatter program, which provided support for USF students with intellectual disabilities looking to expand their skills with practical work experience.

The program, launched in 2020, was a direct way for USF St. Pete students to strengthen not only their employability skills but their connections in the community. The common employment opportunity offered from the Rays has

since transferred out of St. Pete into Tampa.

On Jan. 20, 2026, Hillsborough College passed a non-binding agreement to let the Tampa Bay Rays pursue a stadium plan on the college's Dale Mabry campus in Tampa, following the Tampa Bay Rays transition of ownership, per Adam Berry of Morning Lineup with Major League Baseball. Through the Community Benefits and Legacy Plan proposed by the Rays, the local community around the site is said to also benefit from the partnership.

The plan, highlighted by Chuck Merlis of Tampa Bay Business & Wealth, proposes affordable housing, housing repairs, tenant assistance and ensuring that locals are still able to be engaged in their community and not be displaced in midst of the ballpark's presence. However, full details such as who and how many people would qualify for these benefits remain unclear.

On their site, the Tampa Bay Rays stated: "The connection of the college campus to the ballpark, enriched by our Workforce Development Program, will elevate student learning opportunities, career growth, and alignment with Hillsborough College's mission to inspire students [and] contribute to the local community and global society," the Rays continued.

While the Rays have typically offered employment and academic opportunities for students in St. Pete, the team expanding to Tampa marks a new period of transition for the current ballpark.

In time for the midterm elections on Nov. 3, campaigns have highlighted the growing discussions of the future of Tropicana Field as well as a look back at the importance of the space for Pinellas County.

In a recent interview with "Cal Talk Podcast", a Pinellas County based podcast hosted by Calvin



McEathron, St. Pete mayor and mayoral candidate Kenneth Welch discussed the stadium's history with the surrounding Gas Plant District.

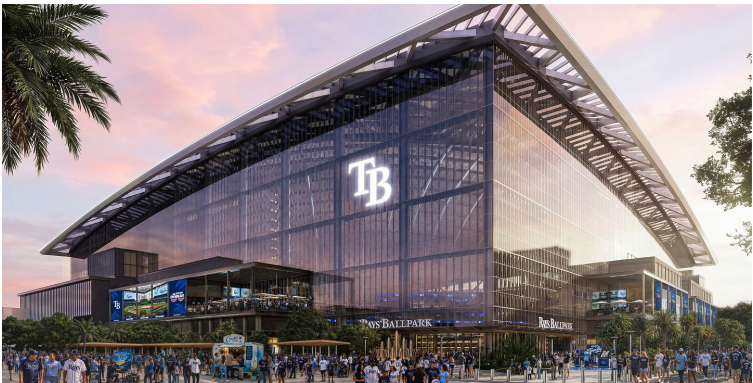
"The historic gas plant was a red line district in the city of St. Pete where African Americans had to live under city law. If you weren't African American, you couldn't live there. So, it really separated the races," he said.

Echoing the promises previously made by Pinellas County, Welch stated, "When I was in high school, the community was asked to give up their property, their businesses, their churches, in the name of progress. What was supposed to replace that was economic development, jobs [and] inclusive housing. I remember those promises very clearly."

While Tropicana has made significant strides in recovering from Hurricane Milton, the Rays' expansion into Dale Mabry is an opportunity

to look toward the future of the field and its shaping of the lives of the residents surrounding it. When asked about a possible plan for future infrastructure, Welch highlighted the importance of future developments fitting the character of downtown St. Pete as well as being able to withstand severe weather conditions.

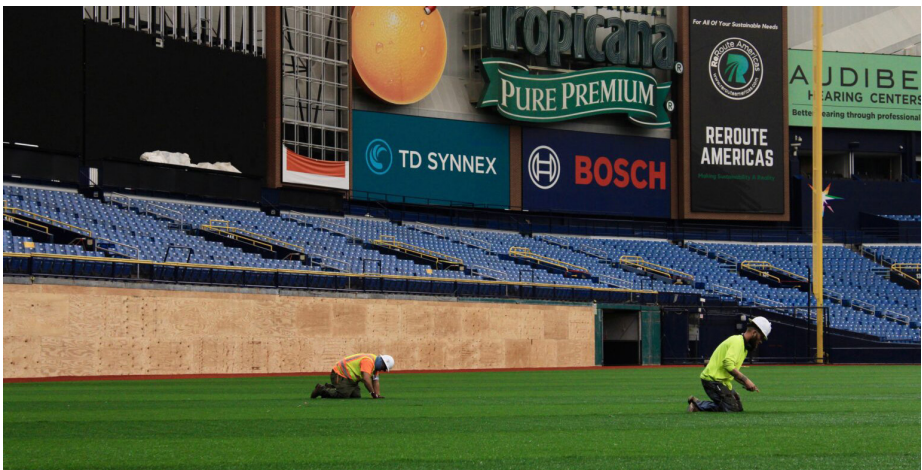
The home of the Tampa Bay Rays closed its doors on Oct. 2024 and underwent a series of updates before reopening last spring. -Photo Courtesy of Tampa Bay Rays



First: A look at the initial renderings of the new Tampa Bay Rays stadium projected to be located on the Hillsborough College Dale Mabry campus.

Second: Plans for the new ballpark coincide with a proposed community partnership between the Rays and Hillsborough College; the team offering students with academic and employment opportunities.

-Photos Courtesy of Tampa Bay Rays



"The previous Rays' ownership...didn't want us to repair the Trop," said incumbent mayor of St. Petersburg Kenneth Welch.

-Photo Courtesy of Maria Jose Solis Prado

THE CROW'S NEST

Mission Statement

The Crow's Nest is committed to providing its readers with news relevant to the University of South Florida St. Petersburg campus and its surrounding community. The Crow's Nest abides by the highest ethical standards and focuses on stories that help readers make informed decisions on current issues. We take seriously the public's trust in our news reporting and strive to uphold the highest standards of reporting as defined by the Society of Professional Journalists. Opinions in this newspaper do not necessarily represent those of the administration, faculty or student body.

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Letters to the Editor

The Crow's Nest accepts letters to the editor. All submissions should be no more than 500 words. Writers must include their full name. All letters are subject to editing for clarity and length. Letters can be sent to stp-crowsnest@usf.edu with subject title "Letter to the Editor."

USF St Pete community celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month



BY REAGAN HASKELL-
CROW'S NEST ARTS, LIFE &
FEATURES EDITOR

With Hispanic Heritage Month beginning Sept. 15, the Dalí Museum and the Latin American Student Association (LASA) at the University of South Florida St. Petersburg announces 10 events throughout the 31 days to celebrate the importance of tradition and community.

Valentina Vigliarolo is an Account Executive for the Dalí Museum.

"The monthlong celebration offers a chance to explore Salvador Dalí's own Spanish heritage, from his Catalan roots to the landscapes and culture that shaped his art, identity and imagination," Vigliarolo said.

She also shares that throughout Hispanic Heritage Month, guests can listen to Spanish guided tours of the museum, taste Catalan-themed coffees at the museum cafe and can take photos with a themed set.

The Hispanic Heritage Month Kickoff was the Dalí museum's first event and happened on Sept. 17 on the first floor of the Dalí.

There were live performances featuring singing and dancing.

LASA celebrated the beginning of Hispanic Heritage Month with dance classes held at the student learning center.

On Sept. 24, there will be a South of the Equator Wine Tasting led by an expert from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. This guided tasting will include a total of six wines from Argentina and Chile. The cost for the event for both members and non-members is \$20.

LASA is also hosting a jersey making event on Sept. 24. Jerseys, paint, patches and jewels will be provided by the club. The event will be from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. and will be located at the SLC 2100.

On Sept. 29, LASA is hosting Canta Con LASA from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m at the USC Reef. Students can bring their friends and belt out songs for blind karaoke.

Oct. 1, there will be a screening of El Ángel Exterminador from 5:30 p.m. to



Hispanic Heitrage Month Kickoff at the Dalí Museum

Photo courtesy of Reagan Haskell

7:30 p.m. at the museum's Will Raymund Theater. The film was created by Luis Buñuel, who collaborated with Dalí in 1929 to create Un Chien Andalou.

The event will be presented by Olivia Cosentino, a USF assistant professor for the department of humanities, arts and film. Cosentino will also be doing a Q&A after the screening. Tickets are \$5.

There will be another Latin dance class presented by LASA on Oct. 6. at SLC 2100 from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.. At the event, two board members will be teaching a dance routine step-by-step.

On Oct. 8, the museum will be hosting their monthly poetry reading event with

poets Virgil Suárez and Carolina Hospital.

The final event given by LASA is LASA en La Playa on Oct. 13 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.. They are hosting an Aventura themed beach day where students can go and enjoy the sun, sand and ocean.

The final event at the Dalí is on Oct. 15 and is a live performance of Latin jazz with Fernando Cruz. From 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.. Cruz and his band will be presenting iconic Latin jazz ensembles and originals by Cruz. Attendees will have to pay \$10 for tickts.

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USFSP Dining just got 'greener' with the new Greencycle composting inititive



BY SECILIA RUIZ-CROW'S
NEST STAFF REPORTER

When the fall 2026 semester began, many USF St. Petersburg students noticed a difference in their dining hall, The Nest.

Previously, there was a large garbage bin stationed inside the plate return area where students could throw away their leftover food

This year, the bin was notably absent. The GreenCycle composting initiative is the explanation for this spearheaded by the Student Green Energy Fund (SGEF). Instead of garbage

bins, there is now an industrial-sized composter in the dining hall that converts students' food waste into usable compost.

USF St. Petersburg partnered with the City of St. Petersburg to implement the GreenCycle composting initiative using a \$350,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Composting and Food Waste Reduction program, a \$100,000 contribution from USF's SGEF, and a \$50,000 gift from Duke Energy.

"There's a lot of food waste created by students on campus. A lot of times that just goes straight to the landfill where now, using a composter, we can use that food waste to create enriched soil for farming use, both in the community and



St. Petersburg mayor, Ken Welch, USF St. Petersburg students and staff at the GreenCycle ribbon cutting ceremony. -Photo courtesy of USF Newsroom

on campus," senior health sciences major and chair of USF St. Petersburg SGEF Siddarth Bahl told The Crow's Nest.

One of the main goals of the GreenCycle composting initiative is to give students firsthand experience with sustainability, as they watch

their food go from leftovers to soil.

The composting initiative provides a campus-wide environmentally conscious option to waste collection.

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The crows fly the nest

The Crow's Nest staff tries festive fall drinks at the Book Lounge.
By: Reagan Haskell
Arts & Life Editor



A classic fall drink.

Pumpkin spice latte

“The latte was comparable to Starbucks,” said Makenna Wozniak, the staff photographer for the *Crow's Nest*. She said that there was no unique flavor but sill a classic drink.



Cozy carrot

Ashley Pena, our news editor, said that it was an overall great latte, but lacked strong carrot flavor. I also ordered this drink and agreed with Pena at first, but after mixing it well, there was a sweet and tangy carrot flavor. Zariya Bankston, a staff reporter, ordered the matcha version of the latte, “The matcha was very strong, which I didn’t really like, it made up the majority of the drink,” said Bankston.



Carrot cake latte with cream cheese cold foam.

Sticky buns

Secilia Ruiz, a staff reporter, ordered the latte with espresso, while Isabella Perez, the managing editor, had the matcha version. Both agreed that their drinks lacked cinnamon flavor, “It tasted more like a standard latte,” said Ruiz



Cinnamon latte with cream cheese cold foam and a mini cinnamon roll.



5 arts & life

Pumpkin bread recipe

Courtesy of: cooking with Ramsey

Ingredients

- 1 ¾ cups all purpose flour
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1/2 cup packed brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon pumpkin spice
- 2 large eggs
- 1/2 cup vegetable oil
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 tablespoon vanilla extract
- 1/2 teaspoon salt

Instructions

- 01

Preheat oven to 375°F and place parchment paper in a 9 x 5 pan.
- 02

In a medium bowl, mix flour, pumpkin spice, baking soda and salt.
- 03

In large bowl, whisk the pumpkin, granulated sugar and brown sugar.
- 04

Beat in the eggs, vegetable oil and vanilla extract.
- 05

Pour batter into loaf pan.
- 06

Bake for 50 to 55 minutes.
- 07

Around the 30 minute mark, cover the top of the bread with foil to prevent over-browning.
- 08

Cool the bread for 10 minutes in the baking pan.
- 09

Slice and serve!

H C F O S N A N A C U A
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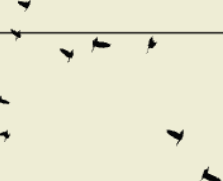


Autumn
Coffee
Museum
Tropicana
Haslam
Football
Cinnamon
Sarasota



6 arts & life

Some events happening around campus:

9/22	9/23		9/24	9/24	9/28	9/28
Musical Movie Night - SLC Outdoor Patio	The Crow's Nest Launch Party - SLC Outdoor Patio		The LASA Cup - SLC 2I00	SGEF Healing the Harbor - Harborside Lawn	Transfer Week Kick-off tabling - Harborwalk	CCE Uno + Domino Tournament - The Reef
	9/28	9/29	9/29		9/30	
	Mid-Autumn Fest - Harborside Lawn	Canta con LASA - The Reef	Osprey Olympics - The Rec Field		Snap and Snack With Snowbird - USC Reef	
9/30		10/1	10/6		10/6	
UMOJA Dinner (Hispanic Heritage Celebration) - USC Ballrooms		HAB Bingo - USC Reef	Latin Dance Class - SLC 2I00		True Crime Trivia Night - USC Reef	
	10/15		10/6		10/9	
	Gaming Club (Weekly Meeting): The Cove		BCM MDWK (Weekly Meeting): The Edge		Crow's Nest Contributor's (Weekly) Meeting - PRW	
						

How USFSP veterans memorialize 25 years since the attacks of 9/11



By SECILIA RUIZ- CROW'S NEST NEWS EDITOR

On Sept. 11, 2001, the United States was shaken when four passenger jets were hijacked, two were flown into the World Trade Center towers, a third into the Pentagon, and the fourth crashing into a Pennsylvania field after passengers revolted against the hijackers.

The attacks changed the course of U.S. history, with 2,977 casualties.

Many citizens watched the events unfold live on television. According to veteran and junior personal financial planning major Thomas Wells, the events influenced many to enlist.

"[Many student veterans] entered service after Sept. 11, 2001. Most of us were alive during the events of September 11th. We all have vivid memories of our teachers rolling in TVs for us to watch what was happening in real time and a lot of us decided to join the service because of

those events," Wells told *The Crow's Nest*.

Other veterans grew up with family members in the military and experienced firsthand how quickly the Armed Forces mobilized.

Veteran and biological health sciences major Roger Edwards recalled his experience during the attacks.

"I think I was in fourth grade. I was in a school of predominantly nothing but military kids... and we had to get on the school bus with supervision to be escorted home because of who we were and where we were living at the time... My mom's unit was activated within that week to go overseas. I think at the time, I was like, 'Okay, she's going on a trip.' I just didn't understand..."

With this year marking 25 years since Sept. 11, 2001, Edwards emphasized the importance of unity across the United States and the world.

"I think looking back at when we first had [the attacks] and then to today, we have a lot of nationalism, but we're forgetting about patriotism," Edwards said. "... We focus more on an international level of national representation and

how we compete with other countries. We should be more allied."

Many of the students on campus were not alive during the events, so they may not feel much connection to this anniversary.

Freshman marine biology major and military-connected student Alanah McMahon pointed out how foreign of a concept the attacks can feel.

"It's kind of hard to wrap my head around. I've had a lot of people who did experience it, but I wasn't even a thought, so, it's like history to me," McMahon said.

Wells highlighted that although a seemingly long amount of time has passed, it's important to remember that the effects of Sept. 11 are still being felt today by many people, especially veterans.

"We've done a lot of healing as a nation, but at the same time...the generation that served as a result of that attack and the people who went overseas to respond to that attack, they're still around. They're still very much part of our society, they're part of our campus and it's a unique time because although it's a milestone,

there's still lingering effects that bleed throughout our campus and our society at large," Wells stated.

To honor the 25th year since the attacks, veterans are partaking in different traditions.

One of these is the "Murph Hero Workout," which has been used by many veterans as a tradition on military holidays.

"After school, every year, my friends and I will do a [Murph] workout. Even if I'm not with them, we'll do it online together and we'll share the time... I feel like it's a good way to remember the pain that I had to go through back then physically," Edwards said.

Wells is going to honor the 25th year since the tragic events of 9/11 by participating in the sixth annual 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb hosted by The Tampa Bay Rowdies.



"[The 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb is] really to show our support and help build community and camaraderie with the first responders," veteran and junior personal financial planning major Thomas Wells said. Photo Courtesy: Tampa Bay Rowdies

The stair climb entails a group of veterans, active military members, and first responders climbing 2,200 stairs equivalent to the 110 stories of the World Trade Center.

"I'm choosing to participate in this event because on a lot of these military observances and a lot of these military holidays, it's easy to self-isolate and it's easy to find yourself alone and a lot of times that's not a healthy thing to do," Wells told *The Crow's Nest*.

Wells emphasized fostering community between veterans on military holidays and memorialized days.

The parking trials of USFSP students



By ZEPHYNIIS WHARTON-
CROW'S NEST CONTRIBUTOR

As a new freshman here at USFSP, I make it a point to try to avoid driving at all times, partly because most things are within walking distance, and because who wants to pay for gas! But the reason I mostly try to avoid the parking garage here is due to the fact that, if I leave, will there be any resident parking spaces left for me?

As per the University's Parking and Transportation Services page here at USFSP, the parking garage is split between residents and commuters. Commuters get floors two through four, and residents get floors five through seven, and the first floor is designated for staff, on-campus police, and

other approved on-campus affiliates.

While the distribution of parking spaces between commuter and residential parking is evenly distributed, there sometimes is not enough space for residents.

Especially when coming back late after a night of festivities on the weekend. Just last week, I was coming back from getting food with a friend at around midnight, and after circling around between the fifth, sixth and seventh floors. There were no spaces available, forcing my friend to park on the fourth floor at the discretion of campus parking monitors. The next day, he was given a warning.

The parking floor rules are enforced 24 hours a day seven days a week. Whilst on the Tampa campus, there is a middle ground where, on weekends at 5:30 p.m., residents and commuters can park in either commuter or resident spaces.

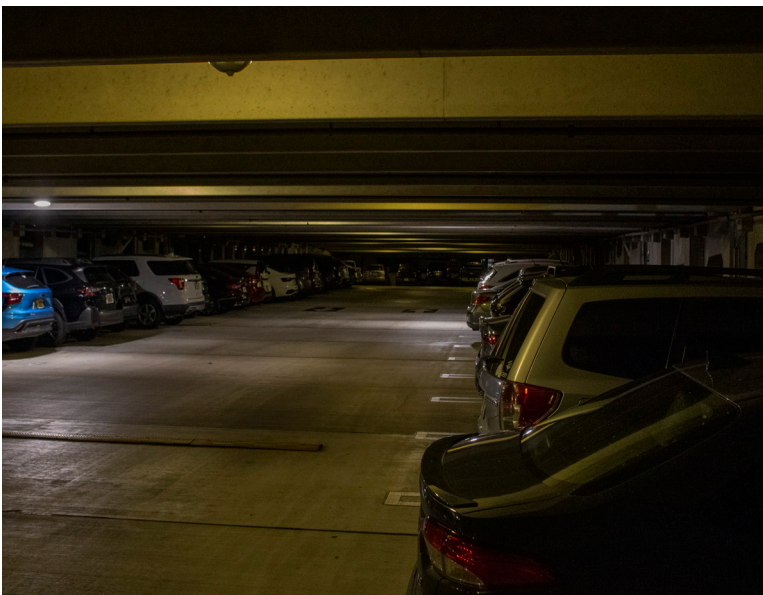
I spoke with two sophomores, Ry Eppert and Maddison Burch, and they communicated how they have also had problems in the parking garage, including reckless driving, small parking spots and getting citations despite being on the correct floor.

"It's a pain in the butt overall," Eppert said when asked about their experience as a resident parker.

The difference between the rules begs the question as to why the St. Petersburg campus cannot follow the same. I believe that if our parking garage were to follow those rules, the issue of lack of parking on weekends could be solved.

"I think they should expand parking to the fourth floor," Burch said.

The two also mentioned



Parking issues are a long running belly ache among both resident and commuter student populations. *Photo Courtesy of: Zephyniis Wharton*

how the fourth floor is typically the emptiest and how students could benefit from the university turning that floor into a dual parking floor for both residents and commuters on weekdays. They also agreed that the idea of possibly having curfew for parking on weekends, similar to Tampa campus could be useful.

Read
Callie Lucente's related comic on Pg.6

crowsneststpete.com

zephyniiswharton@usf.edu

Meet the new staff at *The Crow's Nest*



Isabella Perez
Managing Editor

Isabella Perez (she/her) is the Managing Editor for The Crow's Nest. She is a senior majoring in Digital Communications and Multimedia Journalism. Before working for The Crow's Nest, Isabella interned for USF Athletics, and she hopes to work in sports media post-graduation. When she isn't at The Crow's Nest, she's watching basketball games, going to the movies, and hanging out with her friends.



Ashley Pena
News Editor

Ashley Pena (she/her) is a junior majoring in Digital Communications and Multimedia Journalism with a minor in Literary Studies at the University of South Florida St. Petersburg. After contributing to The Crow's Nest during the spring 26' term, she's now starting as the fall 26' News Editor in addition to serving as the vice president of the USF St. Petersburg English Honor Society chapter.



Reagan Haskell
Arts, Life & Features Editor

Ashley Pena (she/her) is a junior majoring in Digital Communications and Multimedia Journalism with a minor in Literary Studies at the University of South Florida St. Petersburg. After contributing to The Crow's Nest during the spring 26' term, she's now starting as the fall 26' News Editor in addition to serving as the vice president of the USF St. Petersburg English Honor Society chapter.



Zariya Bankston
Staff Reporter

Zariya Bankston (she/her) is a published staff reporter at The Crow's Nest, previously being a contributor during the spring 2026 semester. She is pursuing a bachelor's in digital communications & multimedia journalism at the USF St. Petersburg. Storytelling through journalism is her passion, and writes on a range of topics such as lifestyle, news, and arts through features and opinion.



Secilia Ruiz
Staff Reporter

Secilia Ruiz is a second-year English major with a concentration in Creative Writing at the University of South Florida in St. Petersburg. This is her first year as Staff Reporter, but she's been writing for The Crow's Nest newspaper since Spring 2026. Secilia enjoys reading, crocheting, and overspending. In her writing, she hopes to make people feel seen by putting a spotlight on complex feelings.



Makenna Wozniak
Multimedia Editor

Makenna Wozniak is the staff photographer in her second year with The Crow's Nest. She is from Clermont Florida and came to USF St.Pete to work in communications to work with an NHL team. She is majoring in Digital Communications and Multimedia Journalism and graduates Spring of 27 at 21 years old.



We at *The Crow's Nest* are still looking to fill a couple more positions and are always open to having more contributors. If interested, come join us from 3-4 p. m. in **PRW 110** or email stp-crowsnest@usf.edu.
Cole Maines *Editor-In-Chief*



Two games in USF Football's new staff maintains program momentum



By ISABELLA PEREZ- CROW'S NEST MANAGING EDITOR

Following their most successful season in recent years, the USF football team was expected to capitalize on its 2025 achievements coming into the new year.

With a new head coach, more than 60 new players, and their final year playing at Raymond James Stadium, USF football had a lot to prove.

The season opener against FIU on Sept. 5 marked the 30th anniversary of USF's football program. With an attendance of 41,847 spectators, the Bulls took the field for the first time following their 24-10 Cure Bowl loss to Old Dominion on Dec. 17, 2025.

Despite winning 19-9, the Bulls showed a disappointing offensive performance. Kicker Nico

Gramatica kept the Bulls afloat and was the team's leading scorer, managing 13 points by the end of the game, including points off a 53-yard field goal (his sixth career kick of 50-plus yards).

The Bulls played much better defense on the day with the help of key interceptions from players like Tavin Ward and Tayvion Beasley.

USF closed off the game with an early fourth-quarter touchdown (and the only touchdown of the entire game) thanks to a 35-yard drive capped by a 1-yard touchdown run from running back D.J. Crowther, ending the night with a score of 19-9.

The Bulls opened up conference play against Army in West Point, New York on Sept. 12.

The Bulls' offense showed stronger efficiency compared to the season opener, with quarterback Michael Van Buren throwing a 7-yard touchdown pass to wide receiver Bryson Rodgers on the game's opening drive,



USF Football began this season with a 3-0 record despite the departure of last season's head coach and mutiple key contributors. -Photo Courtesy of

bringing the score to 7-0.

In the second half, Van Buren temporarily tied the game at 14-14 with an 18-yard touchdown run. Army quickly retook the lead with a field goal and a 10-yard touchdown by Nwawuihe, leaving USF with five minutes to regain the lead.

With about three minutes left on the game clock, Van Buren closed the gap with a rapid drive that resulted in a 24-yard touchdown, bringing the score to 24-21.

The Bulls defense stood tall to stop Army from clos-

ing out the game and set up a possible game-winning drive for the offense. Van Buren lead the team down the field and threw what would be the deciding 38-yard touchdown pass to Joshua Porter with 19 seconds left.

Gramatica kicked the extra point to cement USF's second win of the season 28-24. The Bulls also bested Delaware St. 59-17 on Sept. 19.

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American Athletic Conference Standings (9/18/2026)	
South Florida	1-0
Florida Atlantic	1-0
Tulsa	0-0
UTSA	0-0
Memphis	0-0
North Texas	0-0
Rice	0-0
Temple	0-0
Tulane	0-0
UAB	0-0
Charlotte	0-0
East Carolina	0-0
Army	0-1
Navy	0-1

Next three games:		
Where to watch:		
Saturday, 09/26	at Bowling Green 5pm	ESPN+
Saturday, 10/3	vs. Temple TBA	ESPN
Thursday, 10/08	at USTA 7:30p.m.	ESPN

Parking at USF St Pete



By CALLIE LUCENTE| Freshman Contirbutor and Pre-Graphic Arts Major

True Story...