

In the
know

North of Tampa

tampabay.com

Friday, August 13, 2010 | NTP

Barbershop has WiFi
and hot towel shaves

BY SEAN C. LEDIG

Times Correspondent

NEW TAMPA — Daniel Gray wants to bring back the old-fashioned barbershop with a few new touches and an upscale feel.

This month, Gray opened Palmside Barber Shop, 17006 Palm Pointe Drive, as a place where a man can get a close shave while enjoying sports on a big-screen TV.

"We offer hot towel shaves and all different kinds of cuts, whether for businessmen, kids or teenagers," Gray said. "It's an old-fashioned barbershop that will be up-to-date."

In a nod to yesteryear, Gray offers expert shaves with a straight razor. But the services come with a newer, more hygienic twist.

"(We use) disposable blades, not the old ones that they used to sharpen on a strap because that's illegal," he said.

The shop also features WiFi for businessmen awaiting their turn in the chair.

"We also have a kids' area where they have some games while waiting for their dad to get a haircut or while they're waiting to get their own haircut."

Gray said he expects the shop will be a big success.

"In the New Tampa area, there's not a lot of barbershops. It's not saturated like some areas of Tampa," Gray said. "And there's not one to cater to the upscale businessman, so I figure

it'll thrive. I love the area, and I love the people of the area."

Palmside's hours are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, and other times by appointment.

For more information, call (813) 352-8880 or visit palmsidebarbershop.com.

Athlete's Foot steps
out with urban style

UNIVERSITY AREA — An old footwear favorite returns to the area with a new name and new attitude.

Formerly known as the Athlete's Foot, TAF UP opened in June at 2572 E Fowler Ave.

"We're a franchise of the Athlete's Foot," manager Austin Hackney said. "TAF UP is an acronym for The Athlete's Foot Urban Premium."

In addition to selling Nike and Air Jordan athletic shoes, TAF UP sells other name-brand accessories, including fitted hats, T-shirts, gym shorts and socks.

Hackney said the store expects to really see sales explode when students return to the University of South Florida for fall classes.

"When about 10,000 or 15,000 new students show up, I think we'll do really well," Hackney said.

Store hours are Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 5 p.m.

For more information, visit www.tafuptampa.com, or call (813) 977-1800.

USAmeriBank opens
branch in Carrollwood

CARROLLWOOD — At the request of customers from their downtown and South Tampa branches, USAmeriBank opened its newest arm this month in northwest Hillsborough.

"Our employees have actually had people telling them, 'You should have a branch in Carrollwood,'" bank spokesman Kyle Parks said.

The new branch, located at 3702 W Bearss Ave., is the sixth in the Tampa Bay area.

"It's going to be their first in Carrollwood," Parks said. "The bank's about 3 years old. In particular, they're targeting a lot of professionals, such as doctors, lawyers, and CPAs, and there's a lot of them in Carrollwood."

Much of the bank's staff lives in the Carrollwood area, including branch manager and Original Carrollwood resident Karen Borden.

"USAmeriBank takes veteran people to nurture and establish relationships with business people in their neighborhoods," Parks said.

In addition to Carrollwood, South Tampa and downtown Tampa, USAmeriBank has branches in Brandon, Largo and Clearwater.

Visit usameribank.com for more information about USAmeriBank.

Sean Ledig can be reached at hillsnews@sptimes.com.