

Business buzz

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USFSM extends

its reach globally

University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee has created a Global Engagement Office, a liaison to USF World, which will develop the international reach of the institution and improve students' global academic experiences.

Dean Cohen Cobanoglu, of the College of Hospitality & Technology Leadership, was named director of global engagement. Amela Malkic is assistant director, expanding her previous role of international adviser. She will continue to be the primary immigration and visa contact for international students and scholars and USFSM faculty and staff.

The Global Engagement Office will support all study abroad programs, special initiatives and collaborative agreements with foreign countries, advocating for increased international academic exchanges.

Cobanoglu brought nine Taiwanese students to USFSM for a hospitality certificate program last fall and is working out partnerships with universities in China, Taiwan, Turkey, France, Germany and South America.

Renaissance on 9th has new website

Renaissance on 9th, in Bradenton, has a redesigned website and a new contemporary catering menu.

The new website, renaissanceon9th.org, includes catering menus, event inquiry forms and photos of past events and culinary creations by executive chef David Meador.

The site was redesigned by Cactus Sky Digital in Bradenton.

Renaissance on 9th is a full-service catering company. Its Turner Ballroom is available for events and meetings. The facility's new tagline is "Elegant Setting -- Exceptional Cuisine -- Extraordinary Events."

TripAdvisor honors

St. Armands Circle

St. Armands Circle received a Certificate of Excellence Award from TripAdvisor, honoring businesses that consistently earn top ratings from TripAdvisor travelers.

St. Armands received a 4.5 star rating out of 5 stars. This is the second time in two years that the shopping area has received the award.

