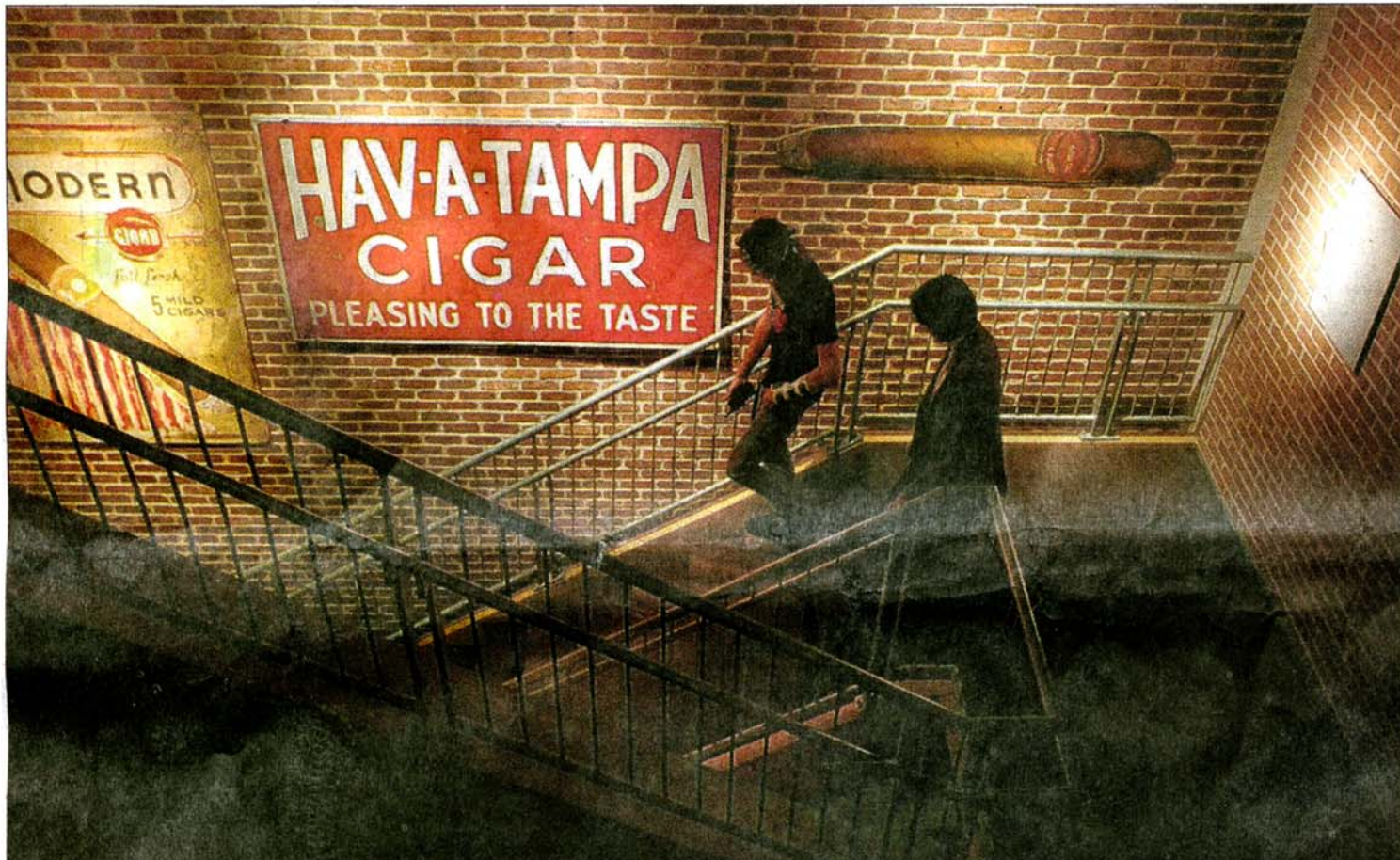


THE THURSDAY TAMPA TRIBUNE

and The Tampa Times

Come Get A Whiff Of Local History



Tribune photo by KATHY MOORE

The news media got a sneak peek Wednesday of the new Tampa Bay History Center, just days before its grand opening Saturday. The museum, on Garrison Channel in Tampa's Channel District, tells the 12,000-year story of Florida's history through centuries-old artifacts and modern audiovisual exhibits. Visitors can walk through a replica of a cigar shop from 1920s-era Ybor City and experience the Seminole Wars in a multisensory theater. Maps dating as far back as the 16th century are on display, as are Florida's Cracker culture and the civil rights movement in the Bay area.

Mike Salinero

Additional photographs, page 7.

The new location of the Tampa Bay History Center is scheduled to open Saturday. The city's cigar making history is one of the features.



News Channel 8 photo by MAURICE CAPOBIANCO

The grand opening of the 60,000-square-foot Tampa Bay History Center will feature entertainment, interactive exhibitions and door prizes.

WHEN: Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

WHERE: 801 Old Water St. (formerly St. Pete Times Forum Drive).

COST: Adults, \$12; seniors, teenagers and students with IDs, \$10; children 4 to 12, \$7; younger children free. Special rates for groups of 10 or more.

For information call (813) 228-0097 or go to www.tampabayhistorycenter.org.

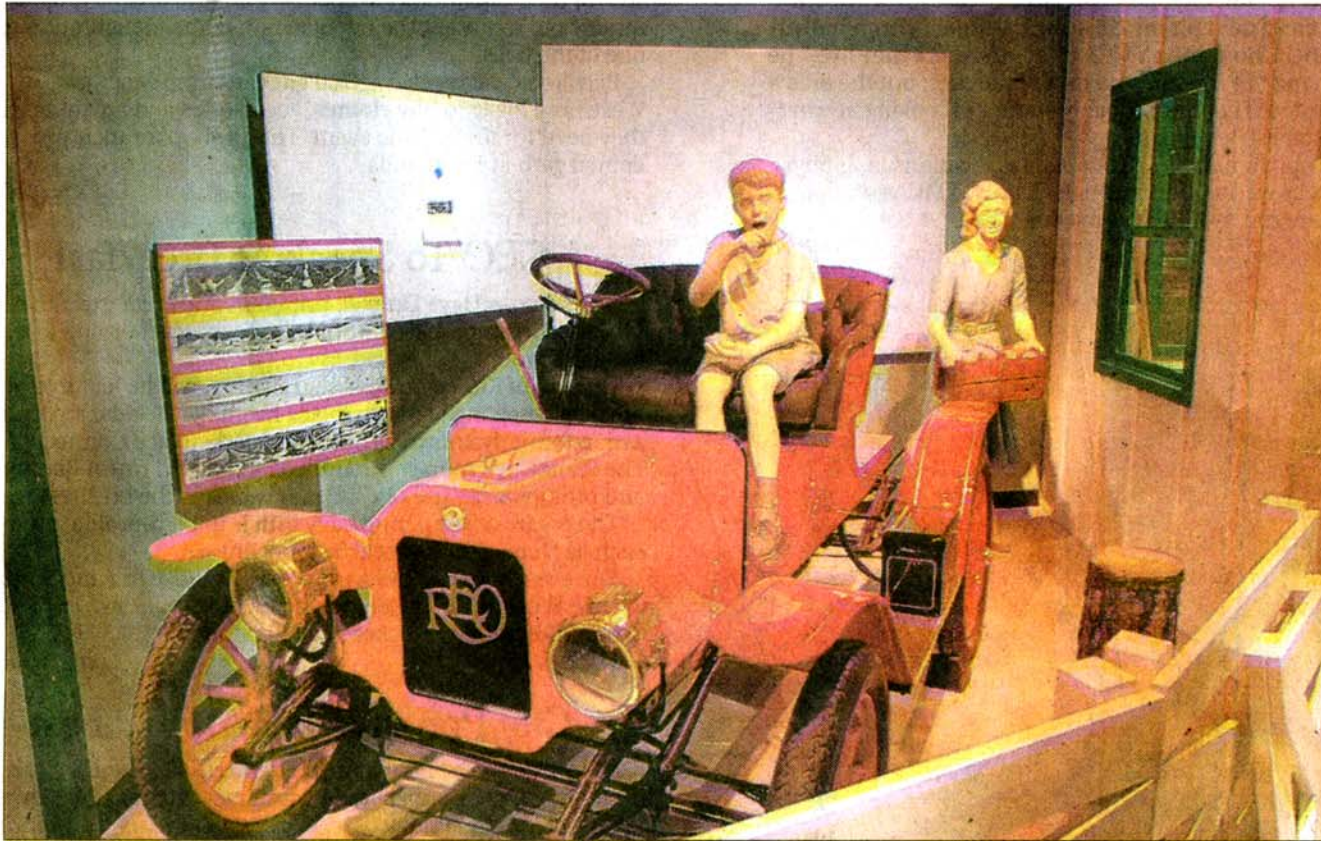


Tribune photo by KATHY MOORE

The museum in the Channel District will have centuries-old artifacts on display.



A Peek At The Past



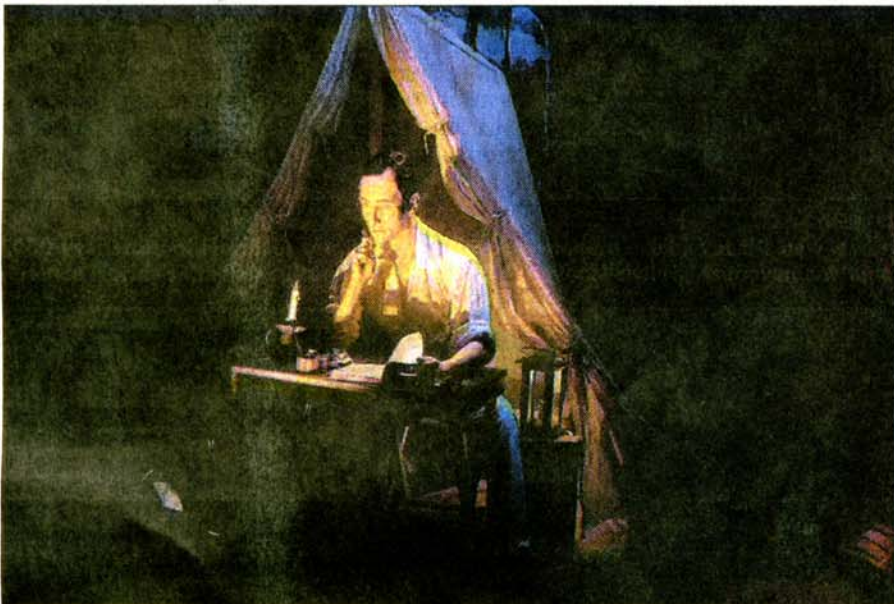
News Channel 8 photo by MAURICE CAPOBIANCO

The 12,000-year story of Florida is told with artifacts and modern exhibits at the new history center. Visitors will get a chance to experience Florida's Cracker culture and learn about the local civil rights movement, among other features.



News Channel 8 photo by MAURICE CAPOBIANCO

Lee Roy Selmon, the first-ever draft pick of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers in 1976, will have his jersey on display.



Tribune photo by KATHY MOORE

The history of Coacoochee and the Seminole Indians, European exploration and the interaction between the groups is told in a multimedia theater at the museum.



News Channel 8 photo by MAURICE CAPOBIANCO

The new \$51.5 million, 60,000-square-foot Tampa Bay History Center is at 810 Old Water St. in the Channel District. The grand opening of the museum is scheduled for Saturday.