

HOSPITALITY

Highlights from the week's restaurant, retail, hotel, transportation and travel news.

RESTAURANTS

Handcrafted Hospitality plans expansion

Marc Falsetto, CEO of Handcrafted Hospitality, said his company intends to double its workforce as it grows its restaurant holdings statewide. The Lauderdale-by-the-Sea company will start expanding with a new restaurant in Plantation.

Handcrafted currently employs 400 people at its restaurants, which include Henry's Sandwich Station; the Apothecary; Pizza Craft Pizzeria, Anthony's Pronto Kitchen in Fort Lauderdale; as well as Tacocraft Taqueria & Tequila Bar, with locations in South Miami, Fort Lauderdale and Lauderdale-by-the-Sea.



Marc Falsetto

In the next three years, Handcrafted will be "doubling its footprint," Falsetto said, which could bring its headcount to 800. With the state's economy surging, now is a great time



A rendering shows the interior of Tacocraft's upcoming location at Plantation Walk.

HANDCRAFTED
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to expand his company's brands, and add some new, sophisticated concepts, he said.

In the meantime, Handcrafted is focused on expanding Tacocraft.

The fourth Tacocraft will open in a 4,000-square-foot space at 321 N. University Drive, within Plantation Walk. Employing 65 to 70 workers, it will include indoor and outdoor bars, plus

two patios.

Handcrafted is eyeing Coral Springs, Boca Raton and Aventura for future locations.

Outside of South Florida, Falsetto said, three Tacocraft restaurants could fit in the Tampa market, plus at least one in Orlando. He said most of the Tacocraft restaurants will be similar in size and employ about the same number of peo-

ple as the Plantation location.

Tacocraft isn't the only Handcrafted concept that's expanding.

Falsetto said he plans to open Henry's Sandwich Shops in Boca Raton, West Palm Beach and Miami's Wynwood neighborhood. He is "working on several other [new] concepts, as well."

And it's not just new concepts on the menu. Handcrafted is revamping a landmark restaurant that has operated in Fort Lauderdale for 40 years.

Falsetto said he and his partners at Anthony's Runway 84, Anthony Bruno and Pat Marzano, will close down the eatery, at 330 W. State Road 84, in May and reopen it in the fall following renovations.

"I can't get too much into the details, but we are reimagining the space," he said. "The food ... will remain the same."

Bruno's father, Andy Bruno, launched Anthony's Runway 84 in 1982.

— Erik Bojnansky