

TAMPA BAY  
**Parenting**

APRIL 2019



**MOM BLOGGER MARISA LANGFORD** SHARES HER DAUGHTER'S JOURNEY AFTER A TYPE 1 DIABETES DIAGNOSIS. **PAGE 78**

**WEEKI WACHEE MERMAID**  
THEATER REOPENING  
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**STRAIGHT TALK ABOUT STRAIGHT TEETH**  
**PAGE 83**

**OUR FAVORITE EASTER EVENTS IN TAMPA BAY**

▶ **GET READY FOR SUMMER! YOUR GUIDE TO AREA CAMPS**

**BABY'S NAME** Maris Abraham Titus  
**BIRTHDAY** Jan. 30, 2019  
**HOSPITAL** Mease Countryside Hospital  
**FAMILY** Matthew Titus, spouse, big brother, Mauer, 3

**WHAT IS YOUR NEW BABY LIKE?**

Perfect at only a week old! He's a pound and half bigger than his brother was, weighing in at 7 pounds, 9 ounces. He is eating and sleeping great.

**WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE THING TO DO/ PART OF YOUR DAY?**

The snuggles after a good bottle!

**WHAT'S BEEN THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE OR SURPRISE?**

Being he's our 2nd, no big surprises yet. I think having an older sibling, we are trying to make sure both feel equally special.

**HOW DO YOU MANAGE YOUR WORK SCHEDULE WITH THE NEW BABY?**

I am still on maternity leave. But when I get back to work, I do work full time. Maris will be in daycare where his older brother attends. I have an amazing husband that takes care of pick up and dinner if I am running late at work!

**WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT BEING ABLE TO RAISE YOUR CHILD IN TAMPA BAY?**

Tampa Bay is my

**Jennifer Titus**  
 Investigative Reporter



hometown! I was born and raised in Bradenton. Not many people in this business can say they are able to raise their child where they were raised, so that's so special. Most of my family is still here and being able to share my childhood memories with my children now is everything.

**FAVORITE SPOT YOU LOVE TO GO AS A FAMILY?**

The beach! It's the reason why we live here, right? From Clearwater Beach to Anna Maria, we make sure to find time to go since I think if you don't plan for it, you just don't go. We go right when babies wake up, so we're out the door by 8 or 8:30, at the beach by 9. You miss all the traffic and when you're ready to go at 11-11:30, there's no traffic heading home and you're back to put your kids down for their afternoon nap!

**TOP PARENTING TIP?** Routine. Routine. ROUTINE. We did this for Mauer and Maris is already on one. By 8 p.m., we are bathing him, giving him a bottle and laying him in his crib with lights out so he knows that's bedtime.

**Liz Crawford** Reporter  
**+ Grant Gilmore**  
 Morning Meteorologist



**BABY NAME** Finley Grace Gilmore  
**NICKNAME** Fins, Fin  
**BIRTHDAY** September 2018  
**HOSPITAL** Bayfront Baby Place, St. Pete

**WHAT'S YOUR NEW BABY LIKE?** Expressive, happy, curious and silly!

**WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE THING TO DO/ PART OF YOUR DAY?**

Finley has totally rocked our world! She is the new center of our lives. Coming home to her is easily the best part of the day. Grant gets more time with Finley during the week and they especially love taking afternoon walks that often turn into afternoon naps.

**BIGGEST CHALLENGE OR SURPRISE?** Our little girl wants our undivided attention! That means hands-on play-time, eye contact and lots of snuggles. It's forced us to lose the phones and put off the housework—a brand new beautiful struggle.

**HOW DO YOU MANAGE YOUR WORK SCHEDULE?**

Fortunately, Grant is home in the afternoon, so he gets a lot of quality time with Finley. I'm there with Finley for those precious morning smiles when she wakes up and put her to bed every night.

**WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT BEING ABLE TO RAISE YOUR CHILD IN TAMPA BAY?**

The weather allows for year-round outdoor fun and there are endless options for family activities.

**Favorite spot in TB you love to go as a family?**

North Shore Park in St. Petersburg. We take family walks there along the water almost every weekend.

**TOP PARENTING TIP?**

In our six months as parents, we've learned to trust our judgement. With so many parenting opinions out there, it's important to trust our instincts and be confident in our family choices.

**APRIL SHOWERS**

new discoveries for your baby registry



**Owlet Smart Sock**  
 owletcare.com

(Not a substitute for safe sleep practices: **A**lone, on **B**ack, in **C**rib)



**BabyLit Board Books**  
 babylit.com



**Made Of Skincare**  
 madeof.com



**Beautyrest by Delta Children Room2Grow Convertible Bassinet**  
 deltachildren.com



**Baby Blue Glass Nail File**  
 babybluegiraffe.com



**Bubbsi skin care and cleaning products**  
 lovebubbsi.com



**Spodie Diaper Booster Pads**  
 spodie.com

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