



Norbert Malysa is the owner of Legends Salon of Hillsborough. He has owned the salon for five years but has worked there since it opened in 1996.

Legends staff trained in latest trends

By Pamela Sroka-Holzmann AT A GLANCE

HILLSBOROUGH — At Legends Salon of Hillsborough, a team of 14 trained stylists aims to provide clients with the latest in hair-care trends.

Each stylist at the full-service hair salon has spent a minimum of a year training one-on-one alongside salon owner Norbert Malysa before working solely on the floor. The majority of stylists also has traveled to New York and California to learn the tricks of the trade from some of the masters in the industry.

Prior to purchasing the salon from its previous owner in 2004, Malysa had been a stylist at Legends since 1996. He turned to hair-styling after working in the automotive industry for several years and then, sought a career change. In the early 1990s, Malysa earned his cosmetology license from the Capri Institute in Kenilworth.

From there, he took advanced hair-cutting classes with the Sebastian Company in California and Wella master color classes in New York City.

New York and California is where the majority of trends in hair-styling begin due to the amount of celebrities living in both areas, Malysa said. To keep his own staff informed on such trends, Malysa hired an educator to provide in-house training to the 14 stylists each Sunday, he said. During the training, the team learns current techniques and ways to tweak what they already know.

"We work as a team here," Malysa said. "We work together, and we're not afraid to ask for help."

Malysa said the team is continually updating their skills with new styles. The latest popular trends include Japanese thermal straightening, hair extensions and what is known as "keratin complex," a smoothing system that infuses keratin deep into the hair.