



SPOTLIGHT

Students shine at Windermere Elementary School's talent show.

SEE PAGE 3.

YOUR TOWN

ARTIST WINS TOP AWARD IN NYC



Windermere resident Kim Minichiello won a top award, the Winsor & Newton Award, in the recent 151st American Watercolor Society Exhibition at the famed Salmagundi Club in New York.

The international organization has more than 1,000 members from all over the world. Only 146 paintings are selected by a panel of five jurors for the exhibition. An artist can only submit one painting for consideration. A different panel selects 32 paintings to receive awards.

Journey to Juilliard



Dr. Phillips High School senior Ellexis Hatch is one of only 12 female dancers worldwide to be accepted into Juilliard's incoming freshman class.

SEE PAGE 4.

Dr. Phillips High School senior Ellexis Hatch is thrilled to be attending Juilliard this fall.

Courtesy photo



HEALTH MATTERS

Hospitals utilize art as a tool for healing.

SECTION INSIDE

Town Council OKs sidewalk plans on Sixth

The approval includes the condition that the plans be amended to move the path closer to the roadway.

ERIC GUTIERREZ
STAFF WRITER

Town leaders approved amended contract plans for the Sixth Avenue sidewalk project at the Windermere Town Council meeting May 8.

Councilman Chris Sapp motioned to move forward with the project with the condition the plans be amended to move the sidewalk three feet closer to the roadway wherever applicable. Town staff will work with Kimley-Horn

SEE COUNCIL PAGE 4

SPORTS

RESET BUTTON

The football teams at Olympia, Dr. Phillips and Windermere high schools are ready to begin anew. **PAGE 11.**



Coast Guard Auxiliary to host boating safety event

Boaters also can get a free inspection and check out watercraft used by the Orange County Sheriff's Office.

AMY QUESINBERRY
COMMUNITY EDITOR

More boating accidents and deaths occur in Florida's waters than in any other state, according to the United States Coast Guard. Most of them reported in the state, as well as the country, could have been avoided with safe boating practices, said Alice Wil-

liams, public affairs officer for the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, Flotilla 17-11.

In 2016, drowning was reported as the cause of death in 80% of all fatalities in the United States; and about 83% of those who drowned were not wearing life jackets.

To raise public awareness of

SEE SAFETY PAGE 6

YOUR CALENDAR

**THURSDAY, MAY 17
PALM LAKE ELEMENTARY
SENIOR RECEPTION**
3:30 p.m. Thursday, May 17, at Palm Lake Elementary School, 8000 Pin Oak Drive, Orlando. High-school seniors who attended PLES are invited to celebrate their graduation with their classmates and former teachers. (407) 354-2610.

**FRIDAY, MAY 18
GENTLE YOGA CLASS**
9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on Fridays in the gymnasium at St. Luke's United Methodist Church, 4851 S. Apopka-Vine-land Road, Orlando. Classes are \$2; drop-ins welcome. Gentle yoga is slower-paced, designed for all bodies and suitable for people with medical issues or chronic conditions. Visit st.lukes.org/sports, email sports@st.lukes.org or call (407) 876-4991, Ext. 290, for details.

**MAGIC AND MAYHEM
AT THE GROVE**
6 to 9 p.m. Friday, May 18, at Windermere's The Grove, 4750-4757 The Grove Drive. Have fun at Magic and Mayhem, an interactive family-oriented comedy and variety show featuring ChaChing the bunny. After the show, Keith Tusing with Big Idea Balloons will offer balloon creations. Take a lawn chair or blanket. For more information, visit TheGrove.com.

**SUNDAY, MAY 20
GARDEN TO TABLE
FUNDRAISER**
2 to 5 p.m. Sunday, May 20, at the Winter Garden Community Garden, 455 Ninth St., Winter Garden. Help the garden board and Grow Orlando celebrate a new program, FarmRaiser, which hires east Winter Garden youth to tend to the garden, growing fresh produce for low-income residents. Sample products from the garden in gourmet dishes prepared by Natez Catering, bid on auction items and learn more

about the program. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$10 for children 2 to 12 and free for children younger than 2. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit bit.ly/2jsFgRT.

**MONDAY, MAY 21
LAKE WHITNEY
ELEMENTARY SENIOR
RECEPTION**
3:30 to 4:40 p.m. Monday, May 21, at the Lake Whitney Elementary media center, 1351 Windermere Road, Winter Garden. All 2010-11 Dolphins and their parents are invited to catch up with old friends and teachers and enjoy old photographs. For more information, call (407) 877-8888.

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 23
CHAMBER MAYORAL
UPDATE LUNCHEON**
11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 23, at Tanner Hall, 29 W. Garden Ave., Winter Garden. The West Orange Chamber of Commerce offers the opportunity for residents to get to know local leaders from Orange County, the cities of Ocoee and Winter Garden and the towns of Oakland and Windermere. Cost is \$41 per person and \$328 for tables of eight for

Chamber members; and \$51 or \$408 for others. All tickets must be paid in advance. One dollar from each ticket sold will be contributed to the West Orange Foundation. For more information or to purchase tickets, call (407) 656-1304.

"HUNCHBACK" SHOW ADDED
8 p.m. Wednesday, May 23, at the Garden Theatre, 160 W. Plant St., Winter Garden. Due to the show's popularity, another evening performance of "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" has been added. Tickets can be purchased at (407) 877-4736 or gardentheatre.org. Various other show times remain through May 27.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 2
SECOND CHANCE PROM**
7 to 11 p.m. Saturday, June 2, at The Breakroom, 13105 W. Colonial Drive, Winter Garden. The theme of the 21-and-older party is "A Night in Paris." Guests can bring their own libations. Tickets are \$25 each or \$40 per couple and includes dinner, dancing and a prom photo. For tickets, email mindy@callmemktg.com.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 9
BOOK CLUB FOR ART LOVERS**
Noon Saturday, June 9, at the SoBo Art Gallery, 127 S. Boyd

St., Winter Garden. Hosted by the Winter Garden Art Association, this month's book discussion is "Girl with a Pearl Earring," by Tracy Chevalier. Participants will discuss the work of Johannes Vermeer and explore life during the Dutch Baroque period. Tickets are \$10 for WGAA members, \$15 for others. Call (407) 347-7996 or email info@wgart.org.

**WINDERMERE
ROTARY CHARITY
GOLF TOURNAMENT**
8 a.m. Saturday, June 9, at the MetroWest Golf Club, 2100 S. Hiawassee Road, Orlando. All proceeds go to the USO and other local veterans projects. Single-player entry fee is \$125; foursomes are \$450. Information and registration at windermeyerotary.org or (407) 421-0548.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 14
SELECTING, PLANTING
AND PRUNING TREES
AND SHRUBS**
6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, June 14, at the Jessie Brock Community Center, 310 N. Dillard St., Winter Garden. Learn when it's the best time to plant trees and shrubs and how to get them established in the landscape. Cost is \$5 per household. Preregister at gardenflorida.eventbrite.com. (407) 254-9200.



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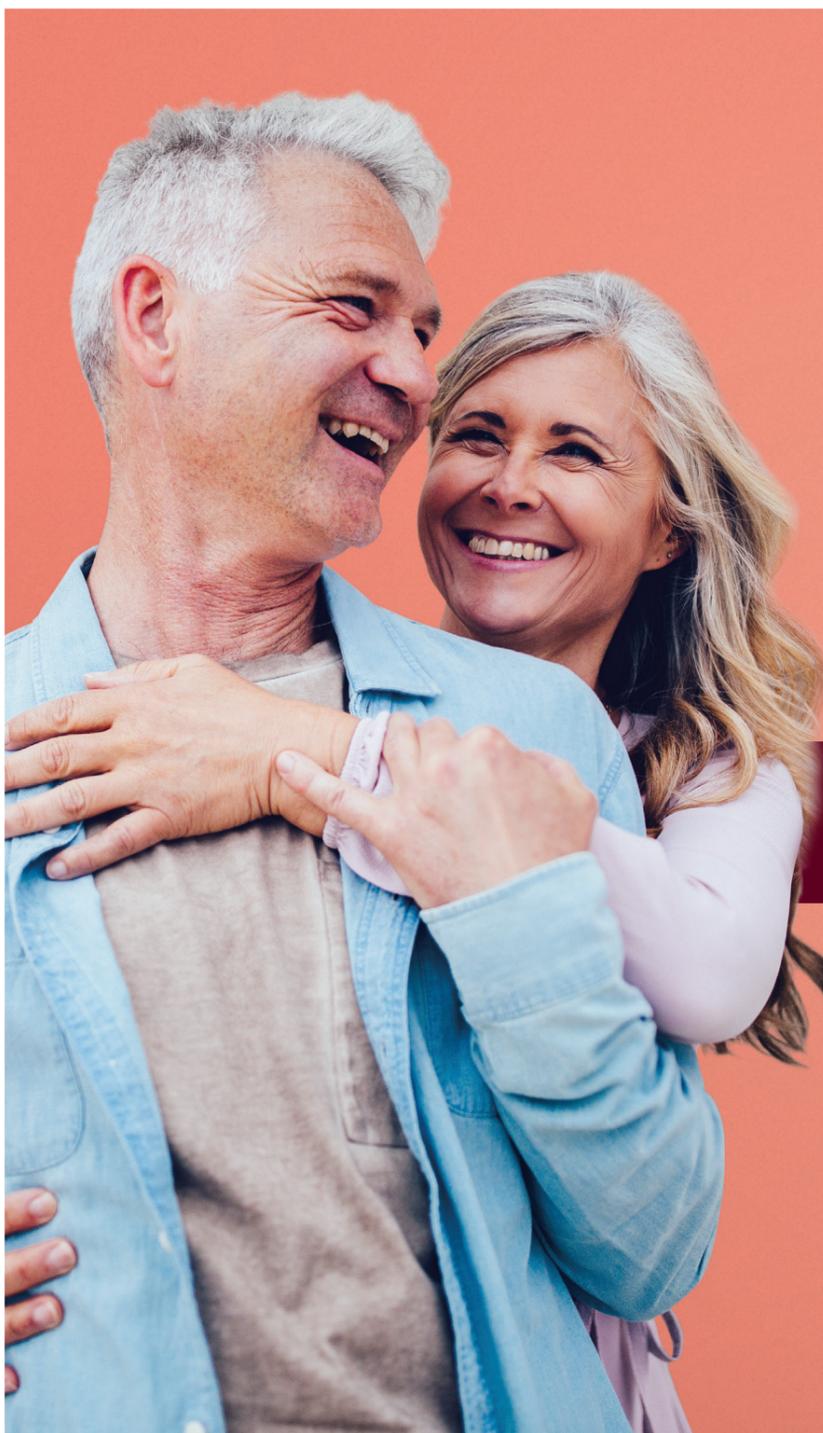
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Matt Hurbanis, MD

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ORLANDO HEALTH | Health Central Hospital



Fourth-grader Dylan Reichbart performed a drum solo.

Tomorrow's superstars



Above: Fourth-grader Adam Townsend performed "Alla Turcka" on piano.

Left: Third-grader Shea Naddeo wore a costume as she sang "Castle on a Cloud."

Windermere Elementary students sang, danced and inspired laughs as they showcased their talents at the school's Mustangs Got Talent event May 4. The talent show was held at the Windermere High School auditorium and featured more than 30 performances.

— ERIC GUTIERREZ



Alexander Powell, second grade, dressed as Tamatoa from Disney's "Moana" as he sang "Shiny."

Left: Second-grader Violet Elizondo sang "Think of Me."

ONLINE

See more photos at OrangeObserver.com

Developer seeks to build 420 apartments

To make up for land lost to rising water levels in Big Sand Lake, the owner is requesting a future-land-use amendment to build up to 420 apartment homes.

DANIELLE HENDRIX
BLACK TIE EDITOR

In the wake of the rising water levels of Big Sand Lake, the owner of about 52 gross acres east of the lake is seeking to develop up to 424 apartment units on his property.

At a community meeting held at Bay Meadows Elementary Thursday, May 10, representatives for Macomb Oakland Sand Lake LLC presented a request for a future-land-use amendment to the property. The property, currently known under the project name Turkey Lake Condos, is located at 10900 Turkey Lake Road, east of Big Sand Lake and west of Turkey Lake Road.

The proposal seeks to change the Future Land Use Map designation of the 52.04 gross acres — about 16.82 net acres — to allow for a greater density of residential units.

This would change the official FLUM designation from Planned Development Timeshare/Medium-Density Residential/Hotel/Office to Planned Development Timeshare/Medium-High Density Residential/Hotel/Office, and would allow for development of up to 424 multi-family dwelling units.

Jonathan Huels, a shareholder with Lowndes Drosdick Doster Kantor & Reed, P.A., represented the property owner at the meeting and explained the request for a higher density level is because of ecological fluctuations around the property.

"The story lies in between when the current owner who bought the property in 2005, and the (water) levels for Big Sand Lake then and today," Huels said. "There was a marked difference between where the wetlands were in 2005 and where they are today. ... Now from my understanding, there's just been changes in the hydraulics of Big Sand Lake that causes the water to rise.

"The owner had a decision to make," he said. "Do we pursue trying to recapture two acres (lost to rising water levels) ... or is there another means to try to regain back that density that was lost? The owner decided to preserve the wetlands and increase the density."

Currently, the property owner can build up to 20 dwelling units per acre for a total of 330 but is seeking to increase that to 25, making for a total of about 420. Rather than build 1,100 time-share units, Huels said, the owner wants to build the 420 apartment units.

"There is a caveat here: This is (zoned) Planned Development, so what's actually being changed is it's being changed from medium-density residential to medium-high-density residential, which allows up to 35 (per acre)," Huels said. "We are not seeking to build 35; we will cap it at 25 units per acre. It's pretty straightforward to me. They're not trying to increase the entitlements this project was approved for in the '90s."

But some nearby Dr. Phillips residents and those living on Big

Sand Lake were uneasy about the request. A few expressed concerns about the rising water levels, private access to the lake and increasing number of apartments being built in the area.

"It just seems like we're getting inundated with apartments, apartments, apartments in Dr. Phillips, and I wanted to get some understanding of where the market study tells you there's a need for all of this," said Roy Messinger, of the Dr. Phillips Homeowners Coalition. "There's a lot of people in the Dr. Phillips community that feel very strongly that we're getting more toward the tipping point than we ever have."

Orange County District 1 Commissioner Betsy VanderLey said Orlando remains a high-growth area and correlated demand for housing isn't stopping anytime soon.

"In the MetroPlan (Orlando) area, this area is growing by the tune of about 1,000 people a week, all looking for some place to live," VanderLey said. "It is absolutely market driven at this point in time. He (the applicant) already has multifamily (land-use rights) on there, so this is a change-in-density conversation, not a change-in-use conversation."

Kurt Kotzin, president of the Venezia Homeowners Association, said that asking for increased density isn't fair to the community because of its impact on local infrastructure.

"When a developer buys these things, that's it," he said. "That should be it. To come in and say, 'I need more density,' that's only fair to him (the developer). ... Our infrastructure is supposed to take on the added density so he feels whole? ... This is a developer that's had a chance for 12 years to take that parcel and do what he was entitled to do with it."

"We thought it would be best for everyone, instead of proposing to impact the wetlands, to simply incrementally increase the density," Huels said.

The request is scheduled to go for Local Planning Agency and Board of County Commissioners transmittal hearings June 21 and July 10, respectively. If approved it would then go to the LPA Oct. 18 and to the County Commission in November.

"In the MetroPlan (Orlando) area, this area is growing by the tune of about 1,000 people a week, all looking for some place to live. ... He (the applicant) already has multifamily (land-use rights) on there, so this is a change-in-density conversation, not a change-in-use conversation."

— Orange County District 1 Commissioner Betsy VanderLey

Dancer earns spot at Juilliard

DANIELLE HENDRIX
BLACK TIE EDITOR

Although Dr. Phillips High senior Ellexis Hatch has an excellent pedigree in dance, it's her passion for and hard work at the art form that got her accepted into The Juilliard School.

The 18-year-old's commitment to dance over the years paid off in March, when she became one of only 12 female dancers worldwide to be accepted into Juilliard's incoming freshman class. She also was only one of 24 in the entire class, which includes 12 male dancers.

A FAMILY AFFAIR

Ellexis has been dancing for as long as she can remember, since she was about 3 years old. Her interest was piqued as she watched her mother, Gina Hatch, rehearse and perform as a professional dancer herself.

"I'd always tag along and watch her perform and rehearse, and then I started taking classes, probably starting with ballet, jazz and tap," Ellexis said. "Eventually when I got older, I moved into other styles like modern, hip-hop and basically everything. I just loved it. I just love moving and still do."

Gina's side of the family is peppered with a passion for dance, starting with her late mother, who began dancing with Willam F. Christensen, one of the founders of ballet.

"He was the first director to ever do 'Nutcracker' in the U.S., and she got to be in that very first production," Gina said of her mother. "My mom with that affiliation went to New York and danced with George Balanchine and the Ballet Society. ... Then she went and saw the Rockettes and was like, 'Wow, I want to do the Rockettes,' even though she was dancing with George Balanchine."

As Gina watched her mother dance and heard her stories of being part of the Rockettes, she worked hard at dance herself and performed many prestigious roles in the world of ballet. Gina was a Rockette herself for four full seasons and also got to perform in Ballet West with Christensen in "The Nutcracker" growing up.

"That was a lot of our history, and my mom did choreography for movies, too," Gina said. "It was just a part of our lives. It was a lifestyle, and him (hus-



Courtesy photos

Dance is a family affair for the Hatch family. Gina Hatch, center, was a Rockette for four seasons, and her mother, left, was also a Rockette and professional dancer. Now Ellexis, middle, will pursue her own dance dreams at Juilliard.

band Greg Hatch) coming in got to meet some of those people. He has a great music background; his father actually performed with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. He's always been very supportive of us." Today, Gina continues to dance and is also an instructor at Movement Arts Studio, where Ellexis trains. Additionally, Gina's nephews — Ellexis' cousins — are all dancers and have danced with Ellexis. Gina's sister took over their mother's dance company, and Ellexis' brothers dance, too.

"It's neat to get to watch her every day," Gina said. "As a mom, it's fantastic, but I'm also a big part of her training and getting to choreograph for her. Her cousins are all dancers, and she's gotten to dance with them. It's a family affair."

PASSION PAYS OFF

Ellexis has been dancing as part of Dr. Phillips High's dance magnet program and also takes classes at Movement Arts Studio and with the Central Florida Ballet.

"It's not unusual to see her come

home most weeknights at 10 p.m.," said Greg Hatch, her dad. "Her day starts with 7:15 a.m. at school, and she has academics mixed in with her dance curriculum. But after that, she's either going to Central Florida Ballet or Movement Arts Studio or staying late for rehearsals at the school.

"There's been nights that she's come home at 10:30 at night after dancing all day and has to get homework done 'til midnight, but she's always been very driven," Greg said. "She has over a 4.0 weighted GPA, so in addition to excelling in the studio and on stage, she's also got it done in the classroom."

Ellexis first began seriously considering Juilliard her freshman year, when someone who graduated from DPHS' dance magnet program and attended Juilliard came to visit and talk about his experience.

"Through research, I found that (Juilliard is) just very creative and they let you experiment in a safe space," she said. "I wanted to be in a learning environment so I think

that's what drew me to Juilliard, because they're very experimental."

She participated in the rigorous audition process Feb. 3. The process includes a ballet class, a modern portion, a two-minute solo, repertory and finally an interview. Altogether it took about six hours.

And on March 20, Ellexis got the call: She was one of 12 female dancers chosen as part of Juilliard's incoming freshman class.

"I was not expecting to get into Juilliard," Ellexis said. "I feel like I'm still in shock, and sometimes I kind of forget, and then people will come up and ask me, 'Wait, aren't you the girl that got into Juilliard?' Then I remember and sometimes I start crying again, because it's just insane when you think about it. I'm so excited, not just to have accomplished this but I'm also excited for this journey I'm going to experience for the next four years."

JUST DANCE

At Juilliard, she will study ballet and modern dance styles and also learn about dance history and music. In the end, she will graduate with a bachelor's degree in fine arts.

"Tears will come, because I'm excited for her," Gina said. "It's just the best thing. To share that (passion) with her (is incredible) and when she said, 'I'm going to go for Juilliard,' I thought, she could probably do it. There's only 12 girls worldwide that get it, and then when they called we were all crying tears of joy. ... She's a big inspiration to a lot of people, including myself."

"Juilliard carries the name, and it carries the network," Greg said. "My hope is that she'll continue to pursue and progress in her art and create networks and friendships that will last a lifetime. There's a name and a certain prestige that comes with Juilliard, for sure."

And as proud as her parents are of her hard work paying off, Ellexis is equally as excited to continue chasing her dance dreams.

"To just be in the hub of art in New York City is going to be amazing and eye opening," she said. "Orlando has a lot of dance, but a lot of it is commercial. New York is a lot of concert-based dance, so I'm excited to see a new world of dance out there."

IN OTHER NEWS

■ Mayor Gary Bruhn gave four proclamations: the month of May has been proclaimed as Windermere Police Appreciation month; the second week in May has been recognized as Women's Lung Health Week in the town of Windermere; the week of May 6 to 12 has been recognized as Municipal Clerks Week; and the week of May 19 to 25 has been recognized as National Safe Boating Week.

■ Council members approved the final logo formats for the town's brand revitalization project.

■ Town leaders voted unanimously to approve spending no more than \$20,000 for landscape improvements at Windermere Elementary School.

■ Councilmen unanimously approved not renting out the Cal Palmer building and instead using the building to store historical documents.

Council approves sidewalk

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and Associates — the engineering firm that came up with the design plans — to come up with a final design.

The sidewalk will run along Sixth Avenue from Main Street to Lake Street and is part of a larger, multimodal network plan to make Windermere more pedestrian-friendly.

The original plans for the project proposed placing a five-foot-wide sidewalk about 12 feet from the edge of the roadway and would impact about 20 trees along Sixth Avenue. Two large oak trees in the area would be saved, Kimley-Horn and Associates Engineer Hao Chau said.

"We put the sidewalk approximately one foot from the right-of-way, which provides a 12-foot

separation from the (edge of) the roadway for pedestrian and vehicular safety," Chau said. "It is true that we're impacting approximately 20 trees along that area with the placement of the sidewalk, but those trees are smaller trees and a couple of palm trees. They're not the mature oaks that we're trying to save, and we are saving two mature oaks."

Prior to approving the contract plans, council members heard from town residents who were concerned about the trees.

Brandi Haines said she agrees safety is important in regard to the project. However, she believes the town should do more to minimize impacting trees.

"A lot of other towns in Florida do go to great lengths to try and minimize impacts to trees," Haines said. "(With) Windermere

being designated 'Tree City, USA,' I think the town needs to do as much as we can to avoid impacts to the trees when we are doing projects like this."

Councilman Bob McKinley also spoke about minimizing impacts to the trees.

"If the sidewalk were closer to the road, then we would save a bunch of trees," McKinley said.

Haines shared her thoughts about the council's decision regarding the project.

"In terms of what happened today, Councilman Sapp's recommendation — I think — is good because I feel it's a bit of a compromise (to) try and save some trees that we can," Haines said. "Hopefully, the town's discretion will be in an effort to save those trees."

WINDERMERE

Observer

"If we are to build a better world, we must remember that the guiding principle is this — a policy of freedom for the individual is the only truly progressive policy."

Friedrich Hayek

"Road to Serfdom," 1944

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Orange County enacts burn ban regulations

GABBY BAQUERO
NEWS EDITOR

To increase fire safety during periods of severe drought conditions, county commissioners recently established a burn-ban ordinance.

The ordinance amends Chapter 18 of the County's code, which details the existing Fire Prevention and Protection ordinance.

The revised ordinance will eliminate the need for the Orange County mayor to publicly issue an emergency burn ban during drought conditions, as emergency burn bans will automatically activate once the Keetch-Buram Drought Index, which is a reference scale created by the State of Florida that measures drought conditions, meets, or exceeds, 500.

According to the new ordinance, automatic burn bans will remain in effect until the drought index dips below 500 KBDI for seven consecutive days and is applicable in both unincorporated and incorporated Orange County.

The ban prohibits all outdoor burning that has not been specifically permitted, including campfires, bonfires and yard and trash burning. Outdoor burning authorized by the Florida Forest Service is exempt from the ban, as well as the use of outdoor grills and barbecues. Permitted commercial and professional firework displays are also exempt.

The public will be notified of active burn bans via press releases issued to local media sources, social

FIRE SAFETY TIPS DURING DROUGHT

- Create at least 30 feet of clean and green space around your home.
- Clear trash and dead vegetation from your front and backyards.
- Remove leaves and debris from roofs and gutters.
- Create a plan and an emergency kit in case an emergency evacuation is necessary.
- Monitor local media for updates on road closure and smoke conditions.
- Use caution when grilling, camping and discarding cigarettes.
- Call 911 if you see fire in your area.
- Download the OCFL Alert app.

media and emergency messaging via the OCFL Alert phone application.

Although early discussions regarding enforcement included a criminal penalty of \$500 fine and a possible 60-day imprisonment, county commissioners' concerns about the severity of the punishment encouraged the removal of such language from the ordinance.

The county's fire department and Environmental protection Department will enforce the burn ban by issuing civil citations up to \$500 to people who violate the restrictions.



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(southwest Orange County.)

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Extreme makeover: Bridgewater edition

The Bridgewater Middle PTSO surprised teachers with a redesigned lounge for Teacher Appreciation Week.

ERIC GUTIERREZ
 STAFF WRITER

Bridgewater Middle School teachers were treated to an unexpected surprise the morning of May 7 when they came to school to see their lounge had received a makeover.

Members of the Bridgewater Parent Teacher Student Organization — with help from IKEA and Sherwin Williams — redecorated the school's teacher lounge in honor of Teacher Appreciation Week, PTSO Vice President Xiomara De Gracia said.

"They were super excited," De Gracia said. "We kept it top secret until (the reveal). ... When they got there, that's when we let them know that we redecorated their

(lounge) and gave them a space to relax in."

IKEA donated furniture and designed the lounge, while Sherwin Williams donated paint, De Gracia said.

Prior to the redecoration, the Bridgewater teacher lounge doubled as a storage area. Various supplies, copy machines and rolls and reams of paper cluttered the space — making it look more like a large supply closet than a lounge.

"The teacher lounge was kind of an area of the school that was being utilized more as a supply area," De Gracia said. "They didn't have a fridge. They didn't have much in there. It kind of was a forgotten spot. As we approached Teacher Appreciation Week, one of the ideas that

came up was giving the teachers an area where they can go during their break (to) eat, relax, take some time to get their work done and just have an area for them in the school."

De Gracia said the decision to redecorate the teacher lounge was a last-minute idea conceived about a week before the reveal. Originally, PTSO members thought the redecoration would be a summer project. That changed when one parent reached out to IKEA seeking furniture donations. IKEA took it a step further and not only donated furniture but also delivered it and designed the lounge quick enough to have the redecoration completed in time for Teacher Appreciation Week.

De Gracia added the teachers are happy with their new lounge and have expressed their gratitude to the PTSO.

"I had one teacher actually approach me and said, 'You know, because of things like this, it makes me excited to come and teach the children, because I know I have a group of parents that care and are here for us,'" De Gracia said. "That's why we do it. It's for them."

Safety Day set for Sunday

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

recreational boating safety, the auxiliary is hosting an event this weekend at R.D. Keene Park in Windermere.

"The Coast Guard's role is basically to protect our shores and to assist maritime and recreational

boating traffic on freshwater, as well as coastal waterways," Williams said. "A big part of what the Coast Guard does is promote maritime and boating safety."

Sunday's event is held prior to Memorial Day, which starts the big boating season, she said.

Attendees can pick up safety brochures and talk to professionals about safe boating, which includes selecting and using a life jacket and proper boat maintenance.

Personnel from the Coast Guard Auxiliary will provide free vessel inspections for boats both on the water and in the parking lot.

"The beauty of that is if you have something you're not compliant with, you won't get in trouble," Williams said. "It's just about making sure people's boats are as safe as possible."

The Orange County Sheriff's Office will display its safety unit, including a patrol boat, an air boat and personal watercraft. A 29-foot Coast Guard vessel will be on site, as well.

Guests can watch demonstrations on knot tying, and a course will be set up for children to navigate.

The highest priority when

IF YOU GO

RECREATIONAL BOATING SAFETY DAY

WHEN: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, May 20

WHERE: R.D. Keene Park, 10900 Chase Road, Windermere

PRIMARY CONTRIBUTING FACTORS IN ACCIDENTS

- Operator inattention
- Operator inexperience
- Improper lookout
- Excessive speed
- Machinery failure

boating is safety, Williams said.

"Always be aware when the boat is in operation and watch out for other vessels around you," she said. "There are a lot of vessels with a low profile like kayaks, personal watercraft and paddleboards. Make sure safety measures are working — fire extinguishers, daytime and nighttime signaling device. You must have a lifejacket for each person; that's so critical."

To help support National Safe Boating Week, the Windermere Town Council issued a proclamation at its May 8 meeting.

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BLACK TIE

ORANGEOBSERVER.COM

THURSDAY, MAY 17, 2018

View from the top



Larry Miles and Keymeari Coates enjoyed some chocolate-covered strawberries.

Right: Representatives from the Bond Foundation were thrilled to support the Boys & Girls Club.

The Boys & Girls Club of West Orange put on a lively Capital Campaign party for a good cause Thursday, May 10.

The group, which provides after-school events and programs for children, took over the entire top floor of Topgolf Orlando to raise money for a new facility capable of serving 250 children in the West Orange area.

Guests caught up and took a swing at the driving range before winning prizes at the silent auction.

— HARRY SAYER



Above: Janet Beres, Jamie June, Valorie McLean, Angelica Ortiz, Kory Larsen and Brandi Holsten stood out from the crowd.



Above: Erica Jones, Dana Maddox and Kathy Steege watched their friends play.

Right: Former MLB player Ray Lankford and his wife, Ericka Lankford, spent time with Michelle Damon and her husband, former MLB player Johnny Damon.



Left: Denver Marlow, Jennie Dunn and Justin Allen lived it up.

BLACK TIE

Ninth Annual Black and White Weekend (Cirque Edition)



Sven Glaeser, Nicole Momot, Aubrey Grant and T.J. Adejonwo were a gorgeous quartet.

Guests donned their most creative black-and-white attire for the ninth annual Black and White Weekend. The event, which carried a circus theme, took place Friday, May 11, at Rosen Plaza Orlando.

Money raised at the event went toward BASE Camp Children's Cancer Foundation, which provides hospital meals, wishes and parties to children suffering from cancer and hematological illnesses.

— HARRY SAYER



Nilly Morales, Katie Shum and Joan Olivar dressed up nice for the event.



Performers from the Jax Pole Athletics twisted and turned around the pole.

Truck on out and spread the news

Guitarist Rick Derringer will headline MetroWest Music Fest, along with Liverpool Live and Will Donato.

DANIELLE HENDRIX
BLACK TIE EDITOR

Grab your lawn chairs and picnic blankets — a Beatles tribute band, a jazz saxophonist, and a legendary rock 'n' roll guitarist all will be hitting the stage at MetroWest Music Fest this weekend.

Liverpool Live, Will Donato and Rick Derringer are all part of the star-studded lineup for the annual event, which regularly draws up to 3,500 attendees.

Produced by the MetroWest Master Association and held at the MetroWest Golf Club, Music Fest is a conglomeration of musical performances of all genres, vendors, family-friendly activities and community camaraderie.

Liverpool Live has been voted the No. 1 Beatles tribute band in Florida, and Will Donato is a national recording artist and jazz saxophonist.

Headliner Rick Derringer is a Grammy Award-winning producer, guitarist, vocalist and entertainer who made his way into the music industry in the 1960s as a member of The McCoys, when he was brought in to record lead vocals for the No. 1 hit single, "Hang On Sloopy."

Derringer has a 1974 blues-rock hit, "Rock and Roll, Hoochie Koo." He has also worked with Edgar and Johnny Winter, Steely Dan and "Weird Al" Yankovic and with the World Wrestling Federation, penning entrance songs for Hulk Hogan and Demolition.

Derringer has played music since he was 9 years old and loves putting on a great concert for his audience. No matter how many times he has played a specific hit or song, the reward comes when he sees his audience having a great time hearing it.

"I feel like the songs people liked and the songs people have bought — records, CDs, downloads, whatever — those are the songs that are special to them and that makes them special to



Courtesy

Rick Derringer will headline MetroWest Music Fest.

IF YOU GO

METROWEST MUSIC FEST

WHEN: 2 to 7 p.m. Sunday, May 20

WHERE: MetroWest Golf Club, 2100 S. Hiawassee Road, Orlando

PERFORMERS: Rick Derringer, Liverpool Live, Will Donato

COST: Free

me," he said. "I want to go out there and want the audience to feel that they had the opportunity to have a special time and hear some music they enjoy and that they wanted to hear. That's what it's all about for me. ... That's why I do what I do, because I enjoy the communication with the audience."

He also loves when the audience gets involved and asks questions.

"Your heart is where the music comes from and where your feelings come from, and that's what makes the music and each performance special," he said. "We'll play all the hits and stuff they want to hear. We'll throw in some new stuff they maybe haven't heard yet, and once again, it's just between me and them. It's very personal in that way, and that's why we want as many people as possible to come out."

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His name may be Songster, but the performer at this month's Groove at the Grove is all about magic.



Eric Gutierrez

Do you believe in magic?

ERIC GUTIERREZ
STAFF WRITER

Kick off your weekend with an evening of magic, comedy and family fun at the Groove at The Grove event Friday, May 18.

The event takes place from 6 to 9 p.m. at The Grove shopping center at 4750-4757 The Grove Drive in Windermere. Guests are encouraged to bring their own lawn chairs and blankets to enjoy the event.

James Songster of Magic and Mayhem will be performing at the event. An award-winning magician, Songster, 52, has been inciting laughter and wonder with his performances for about 25 years around Orlando, throughout Florida and other locations.

"I moved to Orlando to be a magician," Songster said. "I got here very late in 1991 and started performing in 1992 not knowing how it would develop or what it would turn into. Here I am all these years later having the time of my life."

When Songster first came to the area, he only expected to stay for a few years. He ended up staying longer because the type of magic he performs matches well with Orlando's tourism market.

"What was really a turning point for me was the type of people that come to Orlando for vacations — specifically families — because I'm very in tune with performing for family audiences," Songster said.

Songster said he always has had passion for theater and took up magic when he was a child.

"My very first magic trick — I remember going to the magic shop at Disneyland in California ... and the demonstrator behind

IF YOU GO

GROOVE AT THE GROOVE

WHEN: 6 to 9 p.m. Friday, May 18

WHERE: The Grove Orlando, 4750-4757 The Grove Drive, Windermere

INFORMATION: facebook.com/thegroveorlando

the counter brought out this little stack of nickels," Songster said. "He showed me this little stack of four nickels piled on top of each other and he took what looked almost like a bottle cap — it was a brass cap — that just fit over the stack of four nickels. He would put the cap on top of the four nickels and he would tap it and ... turned them into dimes."

After graduating high school, Songster joined the U.S. Navy. While serving, he inadvertently honed his craft performing shows for service members and families.

"The Navy is probably why I became a magician as opposed to any other art form," Songster said.

Songster will not be gracing the Groove at The Grove stage alone. His furry friend, ChaChing the rabbit, will be joining him.

"If you want to have a successful career performing family magic, you darn well better have the world's cutest bunny rabbit on staff," Songster said. "We always make time after any show that we do for everybody to come up and say hi. ... Some shows have what they call talkbacks where the cast comes out and talks to you after the show. We call our talkbacks after our shows 'Chit Chat with ChaChing.'"

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WEST ORANGE OBITUARIES

AMOS EARL VAUGHN SR.
DIED THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 2018.

Amos Earl Vaughn Sr., 68, of Winter Garden, Florida, passed away Thursday, April 19, 2018, in Homosassa, Florida.

He was born in Clermont, Florida, on April 30, 1949. He retired in 2014 from the city of Winter Garden.

He is survived by his loving

wife Linda Vaughn; mother, Dorothy Jean Vaughn; children, Laura McCall, Amos Earl Vaughn Jr.; grandchildren, Jessica McCall, Katie McCall, Katelin Vaughn; great-grandchildren, Madisyn Grace Taylor, Bentley Clinton Adams; uncle, Douglas Evans; sister, Diane Barnett.

Amos will be deeply missed by his friends and family and all



who knew him.

JOHANNA LOTH
DIED SATURDAY, MAY 12, 2018.

Johanna Loth, 89, of Windermere/New Smyrna Beach, went to join Carl, her loving husband of 55 years, Saturday, May 12, 2018.

Born in Suluwesi, Indonesia, Johanna moved to the USA, with her family, in 1960. They moved to Windermere in 1965, where they raised their three daughters. Besides her family, Johanna's passion was children. She owned and operated Little Bo Peep, of Orlando, and Teddy Bear Childcare, of Windermere, where she touched and nurtured the lives of hundreds of children and families.

Johanna and Carl retired and moved to New Smyrna Beach in 1997, where they enjoyed entertaining family and friends. They were actively involved in their church and the Dutch Club.

Johanna is survived by her three daughters, Maryke Lee (Craig), Marion Hake (Dan) and Maureen Abend (Paul);



seven grandchildren, Chris Lee (Dania), Jennifer Gardiner (Charles), Kevin Lee (Ashley), Ryan Dabold (Kiwi), Sarah Dabold, Alyssa Lenga (Pete), Chelsea Abend; 12 great-grandchildren, Allison and Kaitlyn Lee, Jonas, Charlotte and Audrey Gardiner, Madison and Carson Lee, Ella, Lily and Harper Dabold, Michael and Alexis Lenga.

A service in celebration of her life will be held at 11 a.m. Monday, May 21, 2018, at St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Windermere, officiated by Dr. David Stephens.

RAYMOND BOUDREAUX, 98, of Ocoee, died Friday, March 6, 2018. Collision Carey Hand Funeral Home, Winter Garden.

JIMMY CLAYTON CHANDLER, 83, of Apopka, died April 16, 2018. Collision Carey Hand Funeral Home, Ocoee.

THOMAS EUGENE FRAZIER, 77, of Winter Garden, died April 10, 2018. Collision Carey Hand Funeral Home, Ocoee.

RICHARD FRANCIS HALEY, 93, of Ocoee, died April 29, 2018. Collision Carey Hand Funeral Home, Ocoee.

TERESA PAULINE HAMEL, 63, of Winter Garden, died Friday, April 13, 2018. Baldwin Fairchild Funeral Home, Winter Garden.

OIDA M. PENKACIK, 93, of Ocoee, died April 21, 2018. Collision Carey Hand Funeral Home.

MILDRED ETHEL WOODBURY, 96, of Winter Garden, died Friday, March 20, 2018. Collision Carey Hand Funeral Home.

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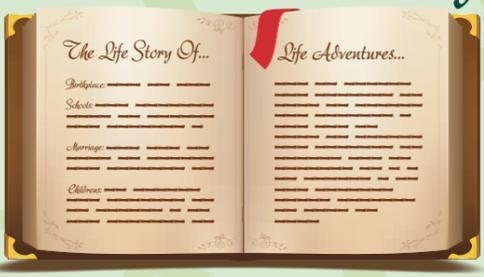


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SPORTS

Olympia High freshman sprinter Hannah Douglas placed third in the state in the 100-meter dash. **Page 12.**



SPRING FOOTBALL 2018



Olympia sophomore Kye Rivers looked for space around the outside during the Titans' spring game against Boone May 11.

Steven Ryzewski

HITTING RESET

Olympia displays positives in new coach's debut.

STEVEN RYZEWSKI
SENIOR SPORTS EDITOR

Reflecting in the moments after his first full spring as a head coach came to a close, Olympia High's Travis Gabriel offered a succinct directive for his football program going forward.

"Work — we've got a lot of work to do," Gabriel said. "We're resetting. Over here at Olympia, it's a reset."

Gabriel's debut leading the Titans — a 31-14 loss to the Boone Braves, the team for whom he was formerly the defensive coordinator, May 11 — saw positives and negatives to build upon and learn from entering the summer.

Initially, Olympia raced out to a 14-0 lead, beginning with Tealson Jean scoring on a 70-yard touchdown run on the first play from scrimmage. Later, after the Titans forced a fumble and Trey Bridges recovered, Garret Velin connected with Josh Hughes for a touchdown pass that put Olympia up by two touchdowns.

That was the end of the highlights for the Titans, though, as the Braves would score 28 unanswered points through the conclusion of varsity play — which lasted three quarters — before adding a field goal during the junior-varsity fourth quarter.

Still, Gabriel and his staff felt there were encouraging instances to take away following the conclusion of the spring season.

"I like the way we started out on both sides, offense and defense, and I liked that we stayed composed and had discipline," Gabriel said. "(The difference was) up front — Boone is legit up front on both sides of the football."

When Gabriel accepted the job at Olympia, he inherited a program set to graduate several of its key playmakers on offense from 2017 — with quarterback Joe Milton, a Michigan signee,

SEE TITANS PAGE 12

Dr. Phillips moves forward in first action since championship

Five months after their historic victory, the Panthers were back at work during the spring football practice window.

STEVEN RYZEWSKI
SENIOR SPORTS EDITOR

It's hard to say when the celebration of a state championship truly ends.

After all, something like Dr. Phillips football's run to the Class 8A crown last December was an achievement more than three decades in the making. Just two weeks ago, the team held its annual banquet, where players were presented with their state championship rings.

Banners and state championship branding, for Bill Spoons Stadium and inside the campus gymnasium, are on the way.

Perhaps you never really stop celebrating a state championship, but for head coach Rodney



Steven Ryzewski

Head coach Rodney Wells surveyed the scene during practice May 10.

Wells and his program, the beginning of spring practice earlier this month was a day to change gears and begin the pursuit of another. The Panthers took the field for their spring football game May 16 against Winter Park at home, after press time.

"Pretty much, we started to

SEE PANTHERS PAGE 12

Windermere eager to take home field

STEVEN RYZEWSKI
SENIOR SPORTS EDITOR

The Windermere Wolverines football team will take their home field at Deputy Scott Pine Community Park for the first time next week. Coming off of an 0-10 inaugural season in which the Wolverines did not score a touchdown, that milestone has helped to infuse some excitement into the program.

Windermere will host Holy

Trinity (Melbourne) at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 24.

"We're going to go over there for the first time on Friday to practice, and then we'll practice there all next week," said head coach Fred Priest. "I think the kids are looking forward to it, without a doubt."

The Wolverines' spring game also will be the debut of Priest as the program's head coach. He was hired during the offseason after

SEE WOLVERINES PAGE 12

HIGH 5



1 The West Orange softball team booked a third-consecutive trip to Vero Beach for the state semifinals with a 2-0 extra-inning victory over Spruce Creek May 11. The Warriors will face Metro Conference peer Timber Creek at 6:35 p.m. May 19 in the FHSAA Class 9A State Semifinals.

2 West Orange softball senior outfielder Lexie Blair has been named a candidate for the American Family Insurance ALL-USA High School Softball Player of the Year, a partnership with USA Today High School Sports. Warrior fans can learn more and help Blair's chances of winning the national distinction by voting at bit.ly/2KSuD7n.

3 The Dr. Phillips baseball team outlasted Lake Brantley in a 12-inning regional playoff game that lasted four hours and 15 minutes May 8, winning 7-2 to advance to the regional semifinals May 16 against Boone (after press time).

4 The Dr. Phillips flag football team fell to Wekiva in the regional playoffs May 7, 18-7, ending its season. It was another successful season for the program; the Panthers finished 13-2 and won their eighth district title in the last nine years.

5 Khadry Jackson, a rising senior football player for Windermere Prep, is stacking up the Division I-FBS recruiting offers. Just within the past week, the wide receiver and defensive back for the Lakers has added offers from schools including UCF, USF, Southern Miss and Rutgers.

SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

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Hannah Douglas

Olympia High freshman sprinter Hannah Douglas made quite a first impression at the 2018 FHSAA Track & Field Championships in Jacksonville May 4-5, placing third in the state in the 100-meter dash in Class 4A. Douglas ran an 00:11.90 in the finals, finishing behind two runners from St. Thomas Aquinas. Douglas also placed seventh in the 200-meter dash.

THE BASICS

Class: Freshman
Age: 15
Height: 5-foot-5
Events: 100-meter dash, 200-meter dash
Hometown: Orlando
Track club: Evolution Speed

What was it like going to the state meet as a freshman?

It was a great opportunity. A lot of freshman don't make there, so I was happy to one of those who did make it there.

How did you go about preparing for state?

My coaches told me to eat healthy and to practice harder the next few practices. I would visualize my races as I went to sleep and throughout the day.

What is your routine before each race?

I usually warm up an hour before for a good 30 minutes, and I stretch for the last couple of minutes. Before I run, I also listen to music.

What did you takeaway from competing at state?

It motivated me a lot. My next few years and my next seasons, I want to progress more and more.

What do you like about the sport?

I enjoy the people. I like socializing with people and making new friends. Practices are horrible, but I also love it.

What it is like to run in a big race?

Nervousness builds up in you, and then when you hear the starting gun, you're just free, and you don't think about it anymore. When you win, it's just happiness.

Where is an area that you are looking to improve?

My start is one of the major areas that I need to work on.

Do you have any runners, collegiate or professional, whom you admire?

A professional runner I look up to is Allyson Felix. I've been looking up to her since the Beijing Olympics. And then there is Domonique Turner, who goes to University of Tennessee. I've known her since I was 7, and I've been looking up to her for a while.

What has been your favorite class this year at Olympia?

My journalism class, my second period, taught by Mr. (Michael) Cacciatore. I like designing stuff and figuring out new ways to do stuff on the computer, and he has helped me a lot with that. We worked on the year-book and newspaper designs throughout the school year.

What would like to study in college?

I want to do sports medicine. I've always thought that would be a cool thing to learn about, (because) I love sports and I like learning new things.

What are you looking forward to the most about summer?

I'll be hanging out with my family more often, on my mom's side — my grandma's birthday is over summer, so we'll be going up there (to Gary, Indiana) to visit her.

Seen any good movies lately?

I liked "Avengers: Infinity War." I just love the Avengers — my mom, my dad and my sisters, especially, helped me learn all the characters. The ending got me mad, though.

— STEVEN RYZEWSKI



Titans

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

chief among them. A handful of players also transferred.

The Titans made the playoffs in consecutive seasons in 2016 and 2017, but former coach Kyle Hayes was dismissed in December after three seasons at the helm. At the time, Athletic Director Aaron Crawford said the program would move

in a different direction and that it would seek out a coach who would put his "student-athletes in a position to compete for district and state championships, create opportunities for college participation and, most importantly, grow as young ... gentlemen."

Gabriel, a well-respected defensive coordinator throughout Central Florida, was the choice of Crawford, Olympia Principal Guy Swenson and the administration to take on that task.

Now that he and his staff have had a full spring to begin to install their system — and culture — he credits the program's returning players for embracing a different way of doing things.

"Kids adapt easily," Gabriel said. "I think, as a team, they're gelling better and they're getting better."

Olympia will host Lake Nona Aug. 17 in its kickoff classic, before hosting West Orange in its regular-season opener Aug. 24.

Panthers

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

move on the first day when we got out here (for spring practice)," Wells said after practice May 10. "We had to make sure the guys know that that was a different team. We've got new captains, new leaders, new faces — but the same goal."

It's no coincidence Wells uses the word "new" so much

when describing the 2018 team, either. Of the roughly 60 players who suited up for Dr. Phillips in the playoffs in 2017, Wells said just 18 are back, thanks to a large graduating class.

"We're probably the youngest we've been in a long, long time," Wells said. "We lost 31 seniors from last year (2017) and then, two years before (2016), we had 33 seniors — so you're talking about 64 guys in the last two years. We are extremely young and you can see that out here."

Fortunately, there is still

plenty of time for the Panthers to prepare for their title defense, even with the spring season in the rearview. For Wells and his veteran coaching staff, this spring was less about winning or losing one game than it was about successfully passing the championship culture on to a new group of leaders.

"It's all about ownership and leadership," Wells said. "I let the team know that championship teams lead themselves — the players police themselves."



File photo

The Wolverines will play their first home football game at Deputy Scott Pine Community Park next week.

Wolverines

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

Greg Miller, the program's first coach, stepped down.

Since Priest's hiring, he has gone about resetting the culture for the young program, and dating back to off-season conditioning and weightlifting, he and his staff have been working to get the kids to buy into the idea of being "foundation builders."

"We have a core of kids who have bought in and have another group of kids who are still feeling their way," Priest said. "We're making progress. I thought our off-season conditioning, for the most part, went really well."

Priest said fans of the Wolverines can expect to see new changes in how the team plays

on both sides of the ball. However, what he and his assistant coaches are really keen to see is a tonal difference when the team takes the field.

"We really want to see aggressive play," Priest said. "We're going to make mistakes, but mistakes are not the problem, because they can be fixed."

Fans planning on attending the first home football game at Deputy Scott Pine Community Park are encouraged to arrive early if they would like to park on location. There is limited amount of parking, and there will be a \$5 charge. Otherwise, fans are able to park at the school's campus and catch a shuttle that will continually be running back and forth between the school and its off-campus stadium.

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WHEN: 7 p.m. May 24

WHERE: Deputy Scott Pine Community Park, 6865 Ficquette Road, Windermere

PARKING: \$5 (a free shuttle will be available for those who choose to park on Windermere High's campus)

ADMISSION: \$6

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Dr. Phillips alumna fulfills professional hoops dream

Former Panthers star Hannah Schaible played professional basketball in Denmark, for SISU Copenhagen of the Dameligaen league.

STEVEN RYZEWSKI
SENIOR SPORTS EDITOR

For most of Hannah Schaible's basketball career, she stepped onto the hardwood not seeking to be the top-scorer in a given game but rather to do whatever she could — "all the extra things," she said — to help her team win.

She was usually not the first scoring option, and during her collegiate career at George Washington University, she was the third-leading scorer for the Colonials in three out of four seasons. Schaible always has played strong defense and had a knack for rebounding, and in the program's all-time record books, she is 14th in career rebounds with 722.

With that said, when the Dr. Phillips High alumna suited up last season for SISU Copenhagen — a professional women's basketball team in Denmark's Dameligaen league — her role was different.

It had to be. As an American player on a professional team overseas, there are expectations.

"American players have a focus to be the star performer — you're getting the ball and plays are called for you," Schaible said. "It

was a completely different role for me. I'm not a player who can just knock down 80 three-pointers in a season."

It may not have been her comfort zone as a basketball player, but Schaible managed just fine in her first season of international professional basketball. The former Panther was fourth in the league in scoring at 17.9 points per game and was named the Dameligaen's Player of the Week in early March, near the end of the regular season.

The season spent in Denmark was the culmination of a lifelong dream for Schaible that almost didn't come to fruition. When her collegiate career at George Washington came to a close following the 2016-17 season, doors with opportunities to play professionally — domestically or internationally — weren't opening.

Working part-time at a gym, she almost had resigned herself to moving on when a call came last December. SISU had lost two players, and thanks to a good word from her coach at GWU, Schaible was offered a chance to chase her dream.

"I thought to myself, 'Maybe this won't happen for me' — which was disappointing,"



Hannah Schaible, seen here playing college hoops for George Washington University, made her professional debut in Denmark in December. File photo

Schaible recalled. "I got a call one day at work, and my college coach is like, 'Do you still want to play?' and I said 'Yes, absolutely.' Two days later, I was on a plane."

Schaible had traveled overseas to visit but had never been to Denmark. Reflecting back, she said she was lucky to have ended up in a country where a

lot of people speak English — it is taught in the schools — and that she played for a team located in a major urban center; SISU is based out of Copenhagen.

As she soaked in the experience of living abroad, she had to get used to a different style of play, too. While the game in Dameligaen was slower than what she

was used to in college, there were little nuances that required some adjustment — such as the point guards defending their counterpart full-court.

Of course, Schaible wasn't even a point guard in college, but it was another wrinkle associated with being one of the Americans on the team.

"That was usually me on defense, and I was so tired," Schaible said. "I wasn't in game-shape, so I was tired and I kept surprising myself."

SISU placed fourth in the Dameligaen last season. It was Schaible's first season of professional basketball — and for now at least, her last. The Dr. Phillips alumna is preparing for a wedding in September and hopes to start a business in Texas with her fiancé, John Sorenson. For her, playing professionally overseas was less an endgame than it was the fulfillment of a lifelong dream.

"There were a lot of nights of, 'I should have done this or that better,'" she says. "But the fact that I was able to play, I was just so thankful and it validates the work that I put in."

And in addition to the experiences associated with living in Denmark, she also has one highly memorable game to hang her hat on — in the second-to-last game of the regular season, Schaible scored 36 points — and some stories to tell.

"That's the highest (number of points) I've ever scored in one game — I think I scored 18 in the first quarter, which is really fun," Schaible said. "My fiancé and I were watching the Rockets play (recently), and (James) Harden scored 34, and I joked, 'I scored 36 — I'm better than Harden.'"

ADVERTORIAL

Customers heap praise on Mohawk's Air.o



By Ken Ryan

When Sofia was 6 months old, she began experiencing fevers and other medical issues such as allergies and obstructive sleep apnea. That prompted her mother, Michelle Rogers, to take Sofia to a doctor who recommended a more hypoallergenic environment at home.

Michelle Rogers visited Mark's Floors of Minneola, Fla., who recommended Mohawk's Air.o, a new soft surface product known for its hypoallergenic properties. The mother of three had Air.o installed throughout much of her home—the entire upstairs including a master bedroom, nursery, hallway and closet.

Soon after, Michelle said Sofia improved. "I am used to hearing Sofia snoring so loudly. Now I have to go into her room and see if she is still breathing because she is so quiet. Before she had puffy eyes, and when you touched her chest it felt like a frog was in there. Now everything is clear."

She was so happy with the product she contacted Mark Compston, owner of Mark's Floors. "She called unsolicited to tell me about her experience," he said. "You don't often get calls like that."

Beyond Air.o's hypoallergenic features Rogers said she has been incredibly impressed with

CLOCKWISE: Mark Compston speaks with Michelle Rogers in his showroom. Shortly after a doctor recommended a more hypoallergenic environment for her daughter, Mark recommended Air.o.; Sofia's severe allergies were one reason Michelle wanted Air.o installed in her home; by day, Rogers is a police officer in Clermont, FL.



its stain and soil protection properties. "If you spill something on it, it seems to evaporate; it's wonderful," she said. "I dropped Kool-Aid on it. I was like, 'Oh my goodness,' but it cleaned up right away. I take a little soap and water and cleaned it up like I was cleaning a hard surface floor."

Rogers praised Mark's Floors' staff and Compston for their efforts and compassion. "To them it's not about selling floors; it's about caring for the life of their customer. I can't thank him enough because my baby girl can breathe and is happy and is rolling around, and I don't have a worry. The way they treated me was so amazing. Mark was so personable and friendly and kind. He mirrors the [second commandment] 'Love thy neighbor as thyself.'"



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WEATHER

I LOVE WEST ORANGE THE BIG EASY



Windermere resident Marilyn Roofner submitted this perfect spring photo "Magnolias are coming into bloom, and they evoke so many memories with their beauty and lovely scent," she said.

The *Windermere Observer* is hosting this weekly contest, and winners will have their photograph featured and receive a \$20 prize. To enter, email your photo, along with your name, city and a caption, to amyq@orangeobserver.com; put "I Love West Orange" in the subject line. Please include your mailing address to receive your prize.

ONLINE See other winning photos at OrangeObserver.com

FORECAST

THURSDAY, MAY 17

High: 84
Low: 71
Chance of rain: 100%



FRIDAY, MAY 18

High: 81
Low: 71
Chance of rain: 100%



SATURDAY, MAY 19

High: 79
Low: 71
Chance of rain: 90%



SUNDAY, MAY 20

High: 79
Low: 71
Chance of rain: 80%



SUNRISE / SUNSET

	Sunrise	Sunset
Thursday, May 17	6:35a	8:11p
Friday, May 18	6:34a	8:11p
Saturday, May 19	6:34a	8:12p
Sunday, May 20	6:33a	8:12p
Monday, May 21	6:33a	8:13p
Tuesday, May 22	6:32a	8:14p
Wednesday, May 23	6:32a	8:14p

MOON PHASES



RAINFALL

Tuesday, May 8	0.00
Wednesday, May 9	0.00
Thursday, May 10	0.00
Friday, May 11	0.00
Saturday, May 12	0.09
Sunday, May 13	0.16
Monday, May 14	1.21

YEAR TO DATE:	MAY TO DATE:
2018 7.93 in.	2018 1.71 in.
2017 3.75 in.	2017 .57 in.



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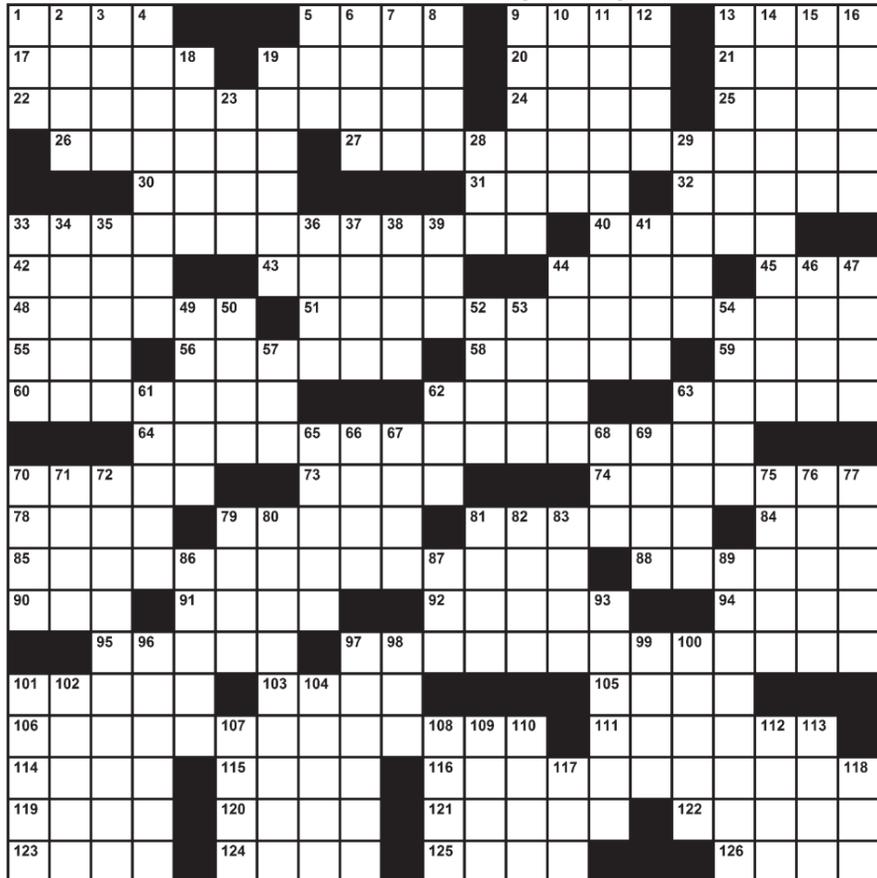
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\$28⁹⁹

Per Person

At the Lakeside Village (Behind McDonalds) 7782 Winter Garden Vineland Road, Windermere, FL

CROSSWORD SWITCH SIDES by Timothy B. Parker



- ACROSS**
- 1 Stuff stored in clouds
 - 5 Moisturizing cream name
 - 9 Send out, as a tweet
 - 13 American mil. branch
 - 17 Dull sound
 - 19 Mirror's production
 - 20 Mobile starter
 - 21 Customary practice
 - 22 With an unslapped hand
 - 24 Light at 2 a.m.
 - 25 Smell ___ (be leery)
 - 26 Farm attachments
 - 27 Part of it forms an L
 - 30 Fruit that's poisonous if not cooked
 - 31 Prison brawl
 - 32 Iranian monies
 - 33 Out-sprinted, and how
 - 40 Like a model of perfection
 - 42 Limo's bar?
 - 43 Indian dress wraps
 - 44 In a bit, poetically
 - 45 "Who ___ you?"
 - 48 Doppler radar targets
 - 51 Wrong on other stuff but ...
 - 55 Prominent, rocky hill
 - 56 Greet the morning
 - 58 All mixed-in with
 - 59 Sounds with "tat"
 - 60 Cold state native
 - 62 Fired abruptly
 - 63 Shirts and skins
 - 64 Physicist's topic
 - 70 Where ships go "out"?
 - 73 Radish part
 - 74 More macho
 - 78 Shepard of space
 - 79 ___ Domingo
 - 81 Film on a person
 - 84 Drain unclogging substance
 - 85 What stunned people
 - 88 Best four of seven, e.g.
 - 90 Runner Sebastian
 - 91 Sailors in slang
 - 92 Is of service
 - 94 U-turn from adore
 - 95 Marble trunks?
 - 97 Great time to arrive
 - 101 Harper of baseball
 - 103 Genesis victim
 - 105 Like a debatable point
 - 106 Didn't get involved
 - 111 Some 60-Across abodes

- 114 "... blackbirds baked in ___"
- 115 Some Korean exports
- 116 On the money
- 119 Be solid no more
- 120 Gas brand
- 121 Social unrest
- 122 Spine writing
- 123 Many trees
- 124 Fourth floor apartment, maybe
- 125 What I want to spend
- 126 Vittles
- DOWN**
- 1 650 in Roman numerals
- 2 Drinks for hoppy hour?
- 3 Bunch of feathers
- 4 Sticky-tongued insect devourer
- 5 Online prayer letters?
- 6 Where a beast hangs out
- 7 Fire god of Hinduism
- 8 Safecracker of old slang
- 9 No longer bothered by a thing
- 10 Words before lunch?
- 11 Begin scolding
- 12 Spelling of reality TV
- 13 Muse of astronomy
- 14 Son of Lancelot
- 15 To any extent
- 16 Lavish parties
- 18 Military hue
- 19 Maps within maps
- 23 Yemeni city
- 28 Short time units?
- 29 "___ we the lucky ones"
- 33 "Built to ___ lifetime"
- 34 Highly commend
- 35 Fauna counterpart
- 36 "Listen up!" of yore
- 37 Noted canal
- 38 Archaeological sites
- 39 Escort to seats, slangy
- 41 "King of Queens" name
- 44 Home or domicile
- 46 Motel inquiry
- 47 Incoming plane stats
- 49 ___ break for it (try to escape)
- 50 Pond trumpeter
- 52 Uber alternative
- 53 Clifton Davis sitcom
- 54 Court drama
- 57 Hill worker with a tiny waist
- 61 Perfume's output
- 62 Rear, on a ship
- 63 From that time
- 65 Some eagles
- 66 Campus military org.
- 67 Cry of delight
- 68 U.K. law-keeping group
- 69 Mai ___ (drinks)
- 70 After-bath powder
- 71 Margarine alternative
- 72 Showing for student drivers
- 75 Troy epic
- 76 With an ___ (mindful of)
- 77 Adjust an odometer
- 79 Places of exfoliation
- 80 Trapeze navigator, e.g.
- 81 "Little Women" woman
- 82 "... or ___ just me?"
- 83 Kon-Tiki Museum city
- 86 Spread around, as seeds
- 87 Nut that secures
- 89 Empty words
- 93 Rancor
- 96 Eight-piece ensembles
- 97 Determining factor
- 98 "Well, ___ be!"
- 99 Wrap of Rome, once
- 100 Composer Gustav
- 101 Be a finger pointer
- 102 Drive back
- 104 "I don't give it much thought" attitude
- 107 ___ out (barely achieved)
- 108 Type of tough exam
- 109 Cat's lives number
- 110 They're big when inflated
- 112 Sworn statement
- 113 Missile launch site
- 117 Pinafore start
- 118 Not preowned

CELEBRITY CIPHER

By Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

"PKI ADIWPIVP ASUDB UH W HDII- JUDR XIUXSI CV PU PDWRVFCP PKWP HDIIYUF PU PKICD OKCSYDIR."

- GCSSCWF KWMWDY
Puzzle One Clue: O equals C

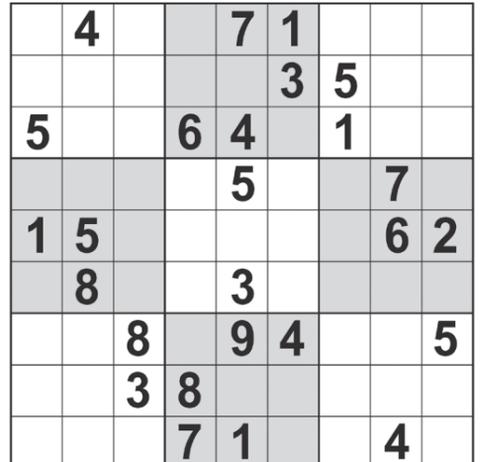
"E'Z T LTYWEXY. E TNZEWA XGW ZEBEYTD, YSAEW FSTWTFYAW, FXNA XI SXVXW, RABEI UDUYAZU."

- LAYAW RAWK
Puzzle Two Clue: V equals N

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SUDOKU

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.



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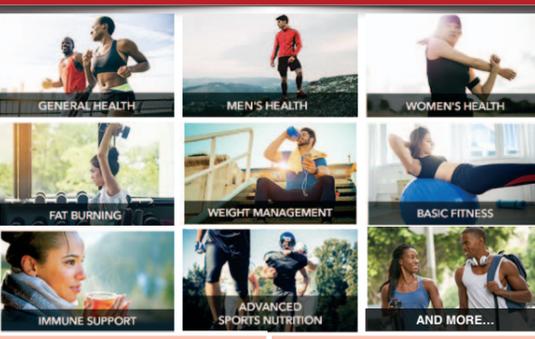
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This week's Celebrity Cipher answers

Puzzle One Solution:
"The greatest glory of a free-born people is to transmit that freedom to their children."
- William Havard

Puzzle Two Solution:
"I'm a patriot. I admire our military, their character, code of honor, belief systems."
- Peter Berg

This week's Sudoku answers

8	4	9	5	7	1	2	3	6
7	6	1	9	2	3	5	8	4
5	3	2	6	4	8	1	9	7
3	2	4	1	5	6	9	7	8
1	5	7	4	8	9	3	6	2
9	8	6	2	3	7	4	5	1
2	7	8	3	9	4	6	1	5
4	1	3	8	6	5	7	2	9
6	9	5	7	1	2	8	4	3

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This week's Crossword answers

DATA	OLAY	POST	USAF
CLUNK	IMAGE	AUTO	RITE
LEFTHANGING	STAR	ARAT	
STEADS	RIGHT	TRIANGLE	
AKEE	RIOT	RIALS	
LEFTINTHEDUST	IDEAL		
AXLE	SARIS	ANON	ARE
STORMS	RIGHTABOUTTHAT		
TOR	AWAKES	AMONG	RATA
ALASKAN	AXED	SIDES	
CENTEROFINERTIA			
TOSEA	ROOT	MANLIER	
ALAN	SANTO	BIOPIR	LYE
LEFTSPEECHLESS	SERIES		
COE	TARS	UTILE	HATE
TORSI	RIGHTONTHEDOT		
BRYCE	ABEL	MOOT	
LEFTWELLALONE	IGLOOS		
APIE	KIAS	RIGHTASRAIN	
MELT	ESSO	ANOMY	TITLE
ELMS	DTEN	LESS	CHOW

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