

# OSCEOLA NEWS-GAZETTE

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Athletes from six Osceola high schools at state track meets this weekend. See Sports, page A-7.



## Police news

### Murder suspect in custody

**By Fallon Patterson**  
Staff Writer

Kevin Satterfield, the Buenaventura Lakes man accused of shooting to death his wife and his daughter's boyfriend and wounding his pregnant daughter Tuesday morning, was captured in Louisiana late Tuesday.

Just before midnight, the Opelousas Police Department, acting on a tip from the U.S. Marshal's Office and the FBI, apprehended Satterfield without incident at a Motel 8 off Interstate 49, Opelousas police spokesman Darren Zachary said Wednesday.

Opelousas, which is about a 12-hour drive from Buenaventura Lakes, is located about 90 minutes west of Baton Rouge,

**See Police news, page A-3**



## Local news

### Eight apply for KUA board

Eight residents have submitted applications to fill a vacancy on the Kissimmee Utility Authority board of directors; the deadline for completed applications was April 27.

The five-year term of director Reginald Hardee expires on Sept. 30, leaving the open seat. Hardee is eligible for renomination.

Board applicants must live within KUA's service territory and should demonstrate a successful business or professional management career.

The applicants are:

- Ed Chown, construction manager for Ericsson LDO. He is president of the Stonefield Homeowners Association and a 12-year resident of Kissimmee.

- Olga Gonzalez, president of the Church and Community Assistance Program and a 14-year resident of Kissimmee. She is president of the Morgan Point Property Owners.

**See Local news, page A-2**

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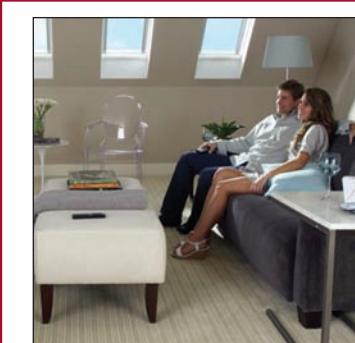
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## Community

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## Homefinder

Replace or repair home amenities? That is the question.

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## News for you

St. Cloud, Kissimmee and surrounding areas featured in Around zoned editions.

Section B



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## Local news

Continued from page A-1

ers Association and holds an associate of arts degree from Bronx Community College.

• Reginald Hardee, district information system manager for Florida's Turnpike Enterprise. He attended the University of Florida and is a 10-year resident of Osceola County. Hardee is active in Kissimmee Masonic Lodge No. 68 and Bethel AME Church.

• John Jones, site supervisor with Bermuda Builders in Kissimmee. A graduate of Osceola High School, he holds a degree from Valencia College and is currently enrolled at the University of Central Florida. He is a 22-year resident of Kissimmee.

• Bharat Patel, owner of Char-Jen Self Storage and a six-year resident of Kissimmee. He holds an engineering degree from B & B Polytechnic in India.

• Don Shearer, owner of Auction Services and a 42-year resident of Kissimmee. He is a former administrator with Walt Disney World and retired employee of the Osceola County Sheriff's Office. He holds a degree from Valencia College and is a former KUA board member.

• Ethel Urbina, real estate broker and owner of Mercedes Investments in Kissimmee. She is a former AT&T executive and a resident of Kissimmee for the past nine years.

• Freddy Villanueva, food and beverage manager for the Walt Disney World Resort and a 17-year resident of Kissimmee.

The KUA board will interview applicants at a special meeting Wednesday where it will select one applicant whose name will go before the Kissimmee City Commission May 15 for final confirmation. The candidate confirmed by the city commission will be sworn in at the board's October meeting.

### WellCare health fair to be Saturday

WellCare will host a celebration from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday to commemorate the two-year anniversary of the opening of its Kissimmee Welcome Room, a community resource center that offers health care benefit information to WellCare members and anyone interested in WellCare health plans.

The health fair will be at the Town Corral Shopping Center, 1060 N. John Young Parkway, Kissimmee.

The festivities are open to the public and will feature free health screenings, health care information, community resources, activities, refreshments and promotional giveaways.

WellCare representatives will be on hand to answer questions and provide information about the services Tampa-based WellCare offers to the local community. Additionally, community representatives will be present to discuss health and social services programs available in and around the Kissimmee area.

Clinicians and experts will be present to provide health screenings and information related to glucose/diabetes monitoring, vision care, chiropractic services, drug-free living, fitness, home health services, free assistance programs, veterans' benefits, medication management, crime prevention, voter registration and more.

WellCare Health Plans provides managed care services targeted to government-sponsored health care programs, focusing on Medicaid and Medicare.

### 'Hairspray' opens Friday

Journey back to 1960s Baltimore with the musical comedy "Hairspray," which opens Friday at the Osceola Center for the Arts in Kissimmee.

Lovable and plus-size heroine, Tracy Turnblad, who has a passion for dancing, wins a spot on the local TV dance program,



Dana Davenport, left, and Courtney Kirby play Edna and Tracy Turnblad, respectively, in the musical comedy "Hairspray," opening Friday at the Osceola Center for the Arts in Kissimmee.

"The Corny Collins Show." Overnight, she finds herself transformed from outsider to teen celebrity as she's faced with the challenges of first love and taking on the integration of "The Corny Collins Show."

The musical, based on the John Waters movie of the same name, won eight Tony Awards and ran on Broadway from 2002 through 2009. The show runs through Sunday, May 20. Friday and Saturday shows are at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday shows are at 2 p.m.

This is the first time "Hairspray" will be seen on the Osceola Center for the Arts stage and director Jeremiah Krivinchuk cast more than 35 people to be in the show.

"This young, energetic cast have worked so hard in a short time to bring this show to life. Every number is filled with great dancing and singing and the 1960s style is so much fun to re-create," Krivinchuk said in a press release.

Tickets are \$21 for adults, \$18 for seniors and \$15 for students and can be purchased online at [www.ocfa.org](http://www.ocfa.org) or by calling 407-846-6257, Ext. 0. The center is at 2411 E. U.S. Highway 192 in Kissimmee.

### Take Back Initiative results in 120 pounds of drugs

On Saturday, the Osceola County Sheriff's Office, in conjunction with the Drug Enforcement Administration and other local law enforcement agencies, participated in the fourth National Take Back Initiative and took in 120.3 pounds of drugs during the four-hour event at three locations.

This one-day effort brought national attention to the issue of pharmaceutical controlled substance abuse and addresses a vital public safety and public health issue, according to a Sheriff's Office press release.

"Turning in expired, unwanted or unused prescription and non-prescription drugs prevents mistaken use and availability to others such as children or individuals who might discover them. It is also environmentally the safest way for disposal," Sheriff Bob Hansell said in the press release.

Last year, the Osceola County Sheriff's Office participated in the program, which resulted in 234 pounds of drugs taken in. The program was anonymous and free. Residents who had unwanted prescription drugs could drop them off at three sites in Osceola County.

### Downtown Kissimmee Update to be May 30

The Downtown Kissimmee Area Council will host a downtown update on Wednesday, May 30, to showcase what is happening

in downtown Kissimmee.

The update will be at the Kissimmee Civic Center, with doors opening at 7:15 a.m. and presentations running from 7:45 to 9 a.m. Event-goers can expect to hear from civic and government leaders about the current, future and potential projects for the downtown area.

Event registration is required for admission. To register, call the Kissimmee/Osceola County Chamber of Commerce at 407-847-3174 or go online at [www.kissimmeechamber.com](http://www.kissimmeechamber.com). Individual seats cost \$10 and corporate tables of 10 are \$250.

Guest speakers include: Marianne Gurnee, with SunRail; Mike Steigerwald, Kissimmee City Manager; district 3 Osceola County Commissioner Brandon Arington; and Dan Louvier, director of Parks and Recreation, city of Kissimmee. Belinda Kirkegaard, director of Economic Development for the city, will moderate the event.

Sponsors include: city of Kissimmee, Osceola County Economic Development Department, Manhattan Construction, Kissimmee Utility Authority, Micro Key, BB&T, University of Central Florida Business Incuba-

tion Program and Florida Bank of Commerce.

The council is a subgroup of the chamber.

### Civil citations for juvenile offenders to begin

The Ninth Judicial Circuit state attorney and local law enforcement May 1 begin using civil citations for first-time juvenile offenders, according to a press release from Lawson Lamar, state attorney.

Civil citations are issued to first time, misdemeanor juvenile offenders in lieu of an arrest. This program will give first time juvenile offenders a chance at avoiding a criminal record – something that could stop them from finding a job or being accepted to college, Lamar said in a press release.

The program also will allow law enforcement and prosecutors to focus on violent offenders who threaten public safety in addition to reducing the number of cases sent through the system at a savings to taxpayers, Lamar said.

**See Local news, page A-5**

## Youth outdoor experience May 12 to be fun and free

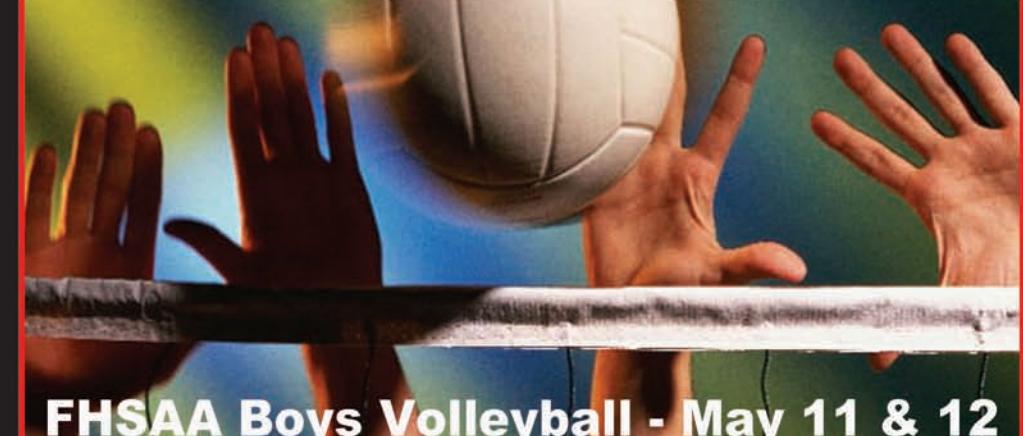
Children of all ages and their families are invited to the second annual Florida Youth Outdoor Experience on Saturday, May 12, from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. at the Ocala Conservation Center in the Ocala National Forest.

In addition to many hands-on activities, demonstrations and seminars, everyone will be served lunch, also for free.

"The Youth Outdoor Experience is a great chance for kids of all ages, and their parents, to come out to a beautiful setting in the forest and learn several outdoor activities under the watchful eyes of experts," Workman said.

The camp is at 7325 NE 170 Ave., Silver Springs.

For more information, call Workman at the FWC Ocala Conservation Camp, 352-625-2804.



## Police news

Continued from page A-1

**La.** Satterfield's brother, Gary Satterfield, said Wednesday his family has no known ties to Louisiana.

Satterfield is being held at the St. Landry Parish Sheriff's Office in Louisiana until he and his vehicle, a 2004 Jeep Cherokee with a wheelchair lift on the rear, can be extradited back to Osceola County, Zachary said. He would not comment on whether Satterfield was found with a weapon.

"We had information he was heading west," Osceola County Sheriff's Office spokeswoman Twis Lizaquin said, adding search warrants are being drawn up to search both the motel room and the vehicle.

Osceola County Sheriff's detectives traveled Wednesday to Louisiana to interview Satterfield, Lizaquin said in a press release.

Satterfield was wanted on two felony first-degree murder warrants and a felony attempted murder warrant issued Tuesday afternoon by the Osceola County Sheriff's Office.

Satterfield, 55, is accused of the shooting deaths of his wife, Vicki Satterfield, 53, and his daughter's boyfriend, Christian Martinez, 27, at the Satterfield's residence located at 107 Coral Reef Circle in Buenaventura Lakes Tuesday morning.

Satterfield's daughter, Heather Satterfield, 21, was eight months pregnant when she was shot by her father. She was airlifted to Orlando Regional Medical Center in critical condition, Lizaquin said.

Her baby was delivered by emergency C-section Tuesday, Gary Satterfield said, adding that mother and baby are doing well.

"The baby was grazed by the bullet, too," Gary Satterfield said. "It's amazing either of them are alive."

Deputies from the Osceola County Sheriff's Office

responded to the home at approximately 12:47 a.m. Tuesday in reference to a shooting.

Gary Satterfield said his brother called their mother's house in Davenport about 1:45 a.m. Tuesday, saying he left some baby stuff in the driveway of the home and that something terrible had happened.

Kevin Satterfield told his mother she needed to get to the hospital and that he planned to go to Boston.

"I don't know if that was to mislead authorities or what," Gary Satterfield said.

Another adult female, a child and an infant also were in the residence at the time of the incident but were not injured, Lizaquin said, who added the children went with a family friend.

Heather Satterfield has another child, her uncle, Gary Satterfield said.

Authorities have not released a motive for the shootings.

Kevin Satterfield had worked for Cumberland Farms in Osceola County for 20 years but was fired last year for trying to cover up an employee's "huge error," Gary Satterfield said.

"He was like the golden child," Gary Satterfield said of his older brother. "I still find it hard to believe."

Kevin Satterfield's Facebook page also states that he studied at Illinois State University in Bloomington and is originally from Illinois.

Osceola Clerk of Court records show Satterfield only had traffic violations.

Vicki Satterfield was an employee at Walt Disney World, according to her Facebook page. She and Kevin Satterfield were married for more than 25 years, Gary Satterfield said, and Heather was their only child.

Osceola County property records show the owners of

the home where the shooting occurred as Kevin K. and Vicki A. Satterfield, who purchased the home in 1996.

### Two pedestrians hit by car in Poinciana

Pedestrians Michelle Renaud, 32, and her son, Joshua Renaud, 3, were hit by a car Monday morning near the intersection of San Remo Road and Floridian Drive in Poinciana.

Both pedestrians were taken to the hospital; Michelle Renaud received serious injury and her son received minor injuries.

According to the Florida Highway Patrol, Olga St. Hilaire, 50, Kissimmee, about 8:08 a.m. was driving a 2000 Acura north on San Remo Road, approaching Floridian Drive, when she lost control and hit the two pedestrians who were standing along San Remo Road. The vehicle then continued into the front yard of the home at 601 Floridian Drive, coming to rest inside the front of the structure. The home received significant damage.

Hilaire was ticketed for careless driving.

### Make a call to Crimeline with information

Anyone with information about crimes that occur in Osceola County can call the Osceola County Sheriff's Office at 407-348-2222 or Crimeline at 800-423-TIPS (8477).

Calls made to Crimeline remain anonymous, and tips that lead to the felony arrest of suspects and/or the recovery of stolen property and drugs are eligible for cash rewards of up to \$1,000.

## Parking

Continued from page A-1

istration building, to county employees, to customers shopping in downtown Kissimmee, to downtown special event visitors and to SunRail users once the commuter rail system is extended into Osceola County.

The commissioner also said the project provided hundreds of local construction jobs at a time when such jobs were sorely needed due to the Great Recession.

"We are glad this day has finally come," Quiñones said, adding that the new structure will alleviate the "parking challenges" of the past and that it will serve the public decades into the future.

Quiñones went on to say that 1,164 structural components for the garage, which has eight parking levels, were all precast in Tampa and trucked to the job site for assembly. He also said the parking garage has available

4,562 feet of office or retail space facing Emmett Street on the ground level for public entity or private use.

Bob Koenig, president of Manhattan Construction-Florida (the construction management firm for the project), commended architect Heery International, of Orlando, for designing a building that fits in so well with the other buildings on the Courthouse Square, matching the various brick stone and masonry elements.

Construction of the garage began Dec. 2.

Heery International is a wholly owned subsidiary of London-based Balfour Beatty, with a regional office in Orlando. Manhattan Construction has offices in five states, including one in Florida, which is in Kissimmee.

project.

After the ribbon cutting, Larry Walter said the project didn't offer any unique challenges in terms of its engineering, but that the pace of work, which included work on Saturdays, presented scheduling issues. He also praised Manhattan Construction for getting the work done so quickly and that parking garages half the size built in other communities have taken longer to complete.

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Contact Marvin G. Cortner at 321-402-0430 or by email at [mcortner@osceolanews.com](mailto:mcortner@osceolanews.com).



News-Gazette Photo/Andrew Sullivan

The new parking garage at Courthouse Square in Kissimmee has 802 spaces, more than the number now available in all county parking lots combined at the Courthouse Square campus. The eight-level facility, which cost \$15 million to build, was expected to open sometime this week.

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# OPINION

## Your view

### Incorrect eagle information

#### To the editor:

I am a local Audubon eagle watch volunteer in Osceola County and the volunteer for the active eagle nests at Highlands Elementary School and at Partin Settlement Elementary School.

The eagle nest at Highlands produced two healthy eaglets this year. The Partin Settlement nest produced an amazing and unusual three healthy eaglets this year.

When I saw the Kids Corner in the recent News-Gazette, I was very excited and my immediate reaction was that I loved it because it was all about eagles and birds. But, then I read it – it is full of incorrect Florida bald eagle information and worse yet, incorrect bald eagle information.

Florida bald eagles begin courtship in October, not in April as you printed. Florida bald eagle nesting season is from October to May.

Bald eagles seen flying high into the air, diving down and locking talons is not a mating ritual – this is a territorial fight and many bald eagles lose their lives when they refuse to let go and hit the ground still locked together.

Some interesting bald eagle facts that are true:

• Osceola and Polk counties have the densest concentration of nesting bald eagles anywhere in the U.S. Yes, Alaska and Minnesota have more actual bald eagles, but per square area, we have more nesting bald eagles.

• Osceola County and Polk County have about 250 bald eagle nests each.

I am a native Floridian and lived on the Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge as a child and I never saw a bald eagle because they were almost extinct. We brought them back from the brink of extinction to the incredible numbers that we now have. Is it any wonder that I am an eagle watch volunteer now and that I now educate people about our diverse wildlife?

We lost the dusky seaside sparrow of my youth. But, we saved our national symbol. If only we could learn the true stories of it.

**Jenny Welch  
Kissimmee**

*Editor's note: The information in the Kids Corner was provided by a syndicated news service, not locally generated by the News-Gazette.*

### Too concerned over ego

#### To the editor:

I am writing this letter to express my opinion of the Osceola County School Board, Chair Cindy Hartig and her use of the opinion page in the News-Gazette for her personal editorial column.

Ms. Hartig's expressed disappointment in Mr. Terry Andrews presenting his letter to the school board in front of parents and students is laughable considering her continued use of the opinion page as her personal blog.

I will start with an apology to Mr. Andrews. When he was hired as superintendent, I assumed he was Ms. Hartig's puppet, put in place to carry out her own agenda for Osceola County's school system. However, after reading his letter to the School Board, it appears I may have misjudged Mr. Andrews.

In whatever manner and regardless of the exact wording, it appears that an attorney contacted Mr. Andrews with what would be considered an offer to resign or be transferred. I question the use of taxpayer dollars being used to pay an attorney for what should have been the responsibility of the board to discuss Mr. Andrews' performance.

I am a resident of St. Cloud and, as a retired school administrator, I have found it interesting to follow the editorials in the newspaper. However, it is increasingly distressing to observe the infighting that continues within our School Board. This activity sends just one message to the citizens of Osceola County: that the board and its members are more concerned with their egos and personal advancement than our children, their teachers and the administrators who oversee them.

Why are we not addressing the issues that are directly affecting our children? How is it that our children's grades are going up but their FCAT scores are reflecting a decrease in aptitude as our children rise in grade level? After my discussions with teachers, I found that the curriculums they use are textbooks and the assessments used are chapter tests. I have not personally seen a district use this method of teaching in 20 years.

This board needs to stop fighting and spend less time writing letters to print in the newspaper and more time directing the administrators to improve curriculum and curriculum implementation. I don't want a board that agrees, as Ms. Hartig has suggested, on every issue. There should be a difference of opinions expressed, publicly. Why does Ms. Hartig get so upset when parents and children hear negative things about the board? That is exactly why the board meetings are public. It is a sad statement that sometimes our elected officials forget who their real supervisors are ... the citizens who elected them to office.

I will wait for the lawsuits to come in because I criticized the School Board. Who ever heard of an elected board member suing a parent or one another for expressing their opinion? Ms. Hartig,

please take Mr. Andrews' advice and drop the lawsuits and stop the insanity. Better yet, why doesn't this dysfunctional School Board all resign and let people who can make a difference move in.

**Victor Morris  
St. Cloud**

### Where's the leadership?

#### To the editor:

The recent News-Gazette article about Osceola County School District Superintendent Terry Andrews' challenge to the School Board and board chairperson Cindy Hartig's editorial response are quite revealing about the problems plaguing our School District.

Ms. Hartig (and presumably the rest of the board) appears to believe the \$150,000 a year superintendent they hired mistakenly believes that he is responsible for and capable of making the district's operational decisions. He does not realize that dealing with such momentous matters as parental concerns requires the collective wisdom of the entire board.

Ms. Hartig assures us that the board does not micromanage – they are simply "involved" (Ms. Hartig's word) in the district's operations.

So there you have it. The superintendent is down in the engine room operating the ship's engine and the board is right down there "helping" him. The only problem is no one is up on the bridge controlling the ship's course. The board might well ponder who is responsible for providing the visionary leadership that steers the ship to its desired destination. (Hint: It probably isn't the guy running the engine.)

A wise man whose name eludes me suggested that boards should start their meetings by considering two questions. First: "Should we fire the CEO (superintendent)?"

If the answer is "no," the board should devote the rest of its meeting to answering the second question: "What can we do to help him achieve the company's (district's) goals?"

Obviously, our board must first deal with legally required business at its meetings. After that, if the board devoted the rest of the time at its meetings to answering those two questions, do you think some much-needed visionary leadership might then begin to emerge from its meetings?

**Fred W. Van Nest  
Kissimmee**

## OSCEOLA NEWS-GAZETTE

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## Local news

Continued from page A-2

### Bass tournament on Lake

**Tohopekaliga Saturday and Sunday**  
The Florida Bass Federation Tournament Series will make its fourth stop of the season on Lake Tohopekaliga Saturday and Sunday.

The tournament will take place at the Kissimmee City boat ramp, from safe-light until 3 p.m.

Once again Lake Tohopekaliga promises not to disappoint, with the likelihood of big fish and big bags to come across the scales, tournament organizers said in a press release.

Gary Paul has won the first three qualifiers this season but still is in a tight race with Michael Teate for the boater angler of the year points.

If you are interested in attending the weigh-ins, they will be at the Kissimmee Boat Ramp each day with the first flight being due in at 2:30 p.m.

Anyone interested in fishing should visit [www.floridabassfederation.com](http://www.floridabassfederation.com) to find the tournament requirements as well as entry forms. The pre-tournament meeting will be at the Clarion Resort in Kissimmee Friday night with check in between 4 and 6:30 p.m.

### Help Now wins Lynx bus contest

Help Now of Osceola is one of eight Central Florida-based charitable organizations that was randomly selected for a year of free advertising on a Lynx bus.

Help Now of Osceola, based in Kissimmee, seeks to eradicate violence and abuse through community awareness and offers counseling to survivors of domestic and sexual violence at its shelter.

Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer and Lynx CEO

John M. Lewis Jr. will unveil the bus at 10 a.m. April 19 outside the Amway Center Church Street entrance.

The eight winning organizations will have their logos placed on a Lynx bus for the next 12 months. The bus will travel regular routes throughout the Lynx system, providing these organizations with free exposure in Orange, Osceola and Seminole counties, a press release stated.

The winners were selected in a random drawing of more than 125 entries from nonprofit organizations that have 501(c)(3) status and operate on budgets of less than \$1 million, according to spokesman Matthew Friedman.

The remaining seven winners are: Angel Snugs, of Lake Mary; Early Learning Coalition of Seminole, in Sanford; Florida Young Artists Orchestra, of Winter Park; Garden Theatre, of Winter Garden; Gathering Hope Foundation, of Winter park; Hope CommUnity Center, of Apopka; and Ovarian Cancer Alliance of Florida, in Longwood.

### Not getting the Osceola News-Gazette at home?

If you have signed up to get the Osceola News-Gazette and it is not being delivered, contact Kathy Beckham, circulation manager, by phone at 321-402-0401 or 407-846-7600, Ext. 101, or by email at [kbeckham@osceolanewsgazette.com](mailto:kbeckham@osceolanewsgazette.com).

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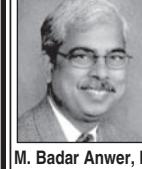
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## Notice of Public Meeting

The Osceola County Office of Emergency Management will hold a Local Mitigation Strategy Working Group meeting to discuss and identify mitigation strategies to help lessen the impact of natural disasters as required by FEMA and the Florida Division of Emergency Management.

### Local Mitigation Strategy Working Group

Wednesday, May 9th, 2012

9:00 AM—11:00 AM

Emergency Operations Center

2586 Partin Settlement Road

Kissimmee, FL 34744

(Behind the Osceola County Government Center)

This meeting is free and open to the public. Citizens are encouraged to attend and participate in the process.

For more information call Bob Howard,  
Osceola County Office of Emergency Management at 407-742-9000.

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## Saturday is free Comic Book Day

The Central Florida-based Coliseum of Comics chain Saturday will celebrate Worldwide Free Comic Book Day.

"The wide array of comic books being published today ensures that readers of all ages — children, teens, and adults — can find something appropriate to not only entertain, but possibly also to educate and inspire them," Joe Littrell, comics manager of Coliseum of Comics' Kissimmee location, said in a press release.

During the day, the stores will be offering a free comic book to fit a variety of tastes — from the Avengers, Star Wars and Yo Gabba Gabba! to Buffy the Vampire Slayer, Sonic the Hedgehog and Transformers.

Comic books have been propelled to the front ranks of pop culture; many being adapted into movies, from the Spider-Man, Iron Man, and Batman franchises to the award-winning Road to Perdition and American Splendor. Many television, motion picture and book properties have made a similar leap to comics, with adaptations and additions to the worlds of Star Wars, Battlestar Galactica, Star

Trek, Laurell K. Hamilton's Anita Blake: Vampire Hunter, and Stephen King's The Stand and Dark Tower series.

The Avengers, the latest of Marvel Comics' properties to make the leap from the page to motion pictures, hits the big screen in the United States Friday.

Each Coliseum of Comics location will have its own special events:

- Fashion Square Mall, 3201 E. Colonial Drive, Orlando, costumed characters from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

• Kissimmee, 3159 W. Vine St., Kissimmee: Aaron Conley, artist for MySpace Dark Horse Presents and Creepy, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; The Stars of Vintage Wrestling, Simon Sez, Francisco Ciatso, Shooter Storm, Don Maximo and many more from noon to 5 p.m.; The Spider-Men Cover Jam, every attendee will get to contribute to the Coliseum variant cover of Spider-Man #1, due to ship June 13 from Marvel comics.

- Seminole Town Center, 177 Towne Center Circle, Sanford. Appearances by: George

Pérez, Legendary writer and artist of such comic books as The Avengers, Superman, The New Teen Titans, Wonder Woman, Justice League of America, Crisis On Infinite Earths and the upcoming Worlds' Finest;

Greg Horn, cover artist on Ms. Marvel, She-Hulk, Mystique, Blackest Night Wonder Woman and Secret Invasion; Clay and Seth Mann, fraternal art team of Magneto Not A Hero; and Shawn Surface, artist on Ultimate-7.

Coliseum of Comics is a chain of locally owned stores selling comics, games and collectibles in Central Florida, founded by brothers Phil and Brendan Boyle. The chain, which recently reached its 29th year in business, now has five stores in Orlando, Kissimmee, Sanford and Lakeland. For additional information, visit [www.coliseumofcomics.com](http://www.coliseumofcomics.com).

Free Comic Book Day began in 2002 and is coordinated by the industry's single large distributor, Diamond Comic Distributors. For additional information, visit [freecomicbookday.com](http://freecomicbookday.com).

## Hartig

*Continued from page A-1*

ously studied nursing for three years at Trenton State University in New Jersey.

Hartig, who just turned 57 years old, said the one regret she has in life now is that she didn't finish her nursing studies years ago following a family tragedy involving an automobile crash and her parents. She also said she shut down one of her technology businesses Feb. 1 and moved the other one to Orlando where current staff will run it in her absence.

"I wanted to be an ob-gyn," she said. "This decision has been in the works since January."

Hartig said she would continue on the School Board and would run for re-election.

Julius Melendez, board vice chairman, will serve as interim chairman until the next regular board meeting when Hartig's replacement will be elected.

Hartig took the reins of the School Board following former chairman John McKay's defeat in 2010 by Tom Long and the years since have been full of controversy, including how the district conducted a national search for a new superintendent and then selected someone from within the district.

(Terry Andrews) who did not apply for the job.

Hartig and fellow board member Jay Wheeler also have had numerous disputes, with some of the name-calling prompting Hartig to file a defamation lawsuit against Wheeler in Osceola County court. That case has not been resolved.

In addition, there is still an unresolved ethics complaint against Hartig filed by Billy Shepherd, of St. Cloud, alleging that she interfered with the bidding process as it related to a ready-mix concrete contract. A similar complaint filed against Long by Shepherd was dismissed earlier this year.

The name-calling and other action on Wheeler's part – including leaving meetings early without good reason – also prompted the board to vote for three censure (official disapproval) resolutions aimed at Wheeler. The censures were for abandonment of position, disregard of board policy and conduct unbecoming an elected official.

In the latest controversy coming last month, the superintendent challenged School Board members to improve their working relationship for the good of the district and students.

## Thompson

*Continued from page A-1*

chief deputy Clerk of the Court, was appointed as his replacement.

Clerk's Office attorney Rudy Celis said he expects Scott to reappoint Thompson to the position.

"We do anticipate his return. I'm just waiting on word from the governor," he said, adding that Thompson was exonerated of the charges. "If anyone respects the integrity of the court system, it's the Clerk's Office."

As of press time Wednesday, Thompson was still suspended.

While Scott did not disclose a

timeline for reinstating Thompson, the governor will have to sign another order allowing the first-term clerk back into office.

"There is no formal process of reinstatement when an individual is found not guilty. The governor reviews these issues on a case by case basis," Jackie Schultz, Scott's deputy press secretary, said by email last week. "Gov. Scott will review and make a decision in a timely manner."

Employees who testified against Thompson or supported those who testified are anxiously awaiting the governor's decision,

as they fear for their jobs.

Several of the 160 Clerk of Court employees, under the condition of anonymity, expressed concern Thompson would terminate numerous employees; as clerk, Thompson has the capability to fire and hire at will.

"Mr. Thompson, if he returns and presumably he will, is the executive of the office and has the authority to make personnel changes as he sees fit," Celis said. "I expect him to do what is in the best interest of the office. I do hope for a rapprochement, but having said that, I respect

his authority as executive of the office."

Some employees had a more physical response to Thompson's acquittals.

Ramdani, who collapsed after the not guilty verdict in her battery case against Thompson was read, was transported to the hospital last week. She was back to work the following day.

Thompson, who is running for re-election, faces two Democratic challengers going into the August primary election. There also are four Republicans in the race.

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## NOTICE OF HEARING TO DISCONTINUE TRAFFIC ON ROMA WAY BETWEEN CHEYENNE POINT TRAIL AND EAGLE LANE



Notice is hereby given that the Board of County Commissioners of Osceola County, Florida, will conduct a public hearing to consider discontinuing traffic on Roma Way, between Cheyenne Point Trail and Eagle Lane, by installation of a gate, as shown above.

The hearing will be held at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, May 21, 2012, or soon thereafter as it may be heard, at the Osceola County Commission Chambers, Suite 4100, in the Administration Building, 1 Courthouse Square, Kissimmee, Florida. All affected property owners have a right to appear at the hearing and to file written objections with the Board within 20 days of this notice. If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the hearing, such person will need a record of the proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be made. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation or an interpreter to participate in this proceeding should call the Clerk of the Board at (407) 742-2100 at least 3 days prior to the date of the hearing.

If you have any questions, please contact the Osceola County Special Assessment Office at (407) 742-1800.

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Entering the 2012 campaign, which major league ballpark would you guess was the toughest in which to hit home runs, based on the previous three seasons? And which was the easiest? The toughest – Petco Park, home of the San Diego Padres. The easiest – U.S. Cellular Field, where the Chicago White Sox play. By the way, the second-best home run park in the American League – and easily the best for lefthanded batters – is Yankee Stadium, with its legendary short porch in right field.

The Chicago Cubs are keeping an eye on a player in their minor league system with a legendary last name – Trevor Gretzky. That's right, the son of hockey's "Great One," Wayne Gretzky, would rather try to make it on the ballfield than on the ice. The story goes that when Trevor was six and Wayne was finishing his career with the New York Rangers, they paid a visit to the late George Steinbrenner's office up high behind home plate in Yankee Stadium. Steinbrenner told Trevor to open his drapes,

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## 3A-4A state track meets

# Track athletes seek state titles

## St. Cloud sends 13 to 3A meet; Liberty long jumper a favorite

By Rick Pedone  
Sports Editor

The high school track season will culminate with the Class 3A and Class 4A state meets at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville.

St. Cloud, Liberty, Osceola, Harmony and Celebration all will be represented at the Class 3A meet Friday, while two Gateway High athletes will go to the Class 4A meet Saturday.

The athletes will attempt to extend a streak that has seen at least one Osceola County track athlete win a gold medal dating to 2008.

St. Cloud has the largest local state-qualifying contingent with 13.

The Lady Bulldogs 4 x 800 relay (9:42.50) won the 3A-2 regional championship with Ashlyn Stadtlander, Katelyn Stadtlander, Octavia Gonzalez and Anaya Reid.

The 4 x 800 competition will be fierce, but Lady Bulldogs Coach Ettie Singleton said her team could medal.

"They will have to run another top time in order to get on the medal stand," she said. "There are quite a few top distance programs in the

state, but the girls are very competitive in that relay and hopefully we will make the medal stand while improving on the current school record."

Kirsten Chambers may medal in the triple jump and the hurdles after placing third in both events at the regional.

St. Cloud's Ian McKenzie was second at the regional (49-3.25) but threw 51-1 in the shot put to win the district championship two weeks ago, one of the best efforts in Class 3A.

The Bulldogs' 4 x 100 relay (42.44) was runner-up at regional with Austyn Jandrew, Eric Pfeifer, Jordan Reus and Travon Williams and may have the speed to earn a medal.

"Our goal is to get on the platform for both the relay and Ian," Bulldogs Boys Coach Kevin Harkema said.

Perhaps the local athlete with the best chance to bring home gold is Liberty long jumper Markel Brown, a sophomore who went 23-1.5 at the regional, one of the best jumps in the state. He also qualified fourth in the triple jump (46-6). Teammate Josh Wilson, who went 22-5.5 in the long jump at the regional,

was third.

"I think he (Markel) could win (the long jump). We might need a little luck, but Markel is a very talented athlete," Chargers Coach Robert Pauley said. "We have done research and the jumpers ahead of him have jumped their best at this (UNF) facility. Not sure if the runway is fast or they have some wind to their backs, but Markel could have a good chance. He is ranked No. 3 going into the meet."

Pauley said Brown also could medal in the triple jump, where he is seeded No. 8. That would make him the first Chargers athlete to medal twice at a state meet. Wilson, also a sophomore, is tied for the No. 8 seed in the long jump and also could medal, the coach said.

The Lady Chargers are represented by long jumper Kelila Naules, third at the regional, and the 4 x 100 relay that was fourth with Samantha Toledo, Bretny Powell, Kadiah Brown and Naules.

Osceola sends the girls 4 x 100 (Janel Brown, Vallerie Norgaisse, Jodiann Crooks,

**See Track, page A-8**



Photo/Special to the News-Gazette

St. Cloud's 4 x 100 relay team, from left, Eric Pfeifer, Jordan Reus, Austyn Jandrew and Travon Williams was second at the regional meet and will challenge for a medal at the Class 3A state meet Friday at Jacksonville.

## Osceola's regional run ends at Bartow

By Rick Pedone  
Sports Editor

Bartow is not the place the Osceola Kowgirls want to visit during the softball postseason.

For the second year in a row, the Kowgirls (20-10) saw their season end against the Yellow Jackets, this time by a score of 8-0, Tuesday for the 7A-2 regional championship.

Last year, Osceola lost 7-0 at Bartow in the regionals.

Osceola had its problems Tuesday. Seven errors, accounting for six unearned runs, proved fatal to the Lady Kowboys' goal of reaching the state tournament for the first time since 1996.

Instead, Bartow (26-4) will return to the state tournament. The Yellow Jackets were eliminated in the semifinal round of Class 5A (now 7A) tournament last season.

Osceola never got started Tuesday, committing two errors and surrendering four unearned runs in the first inning to trail, 4-0.

OHS pitcher Kenya Pereira (11-7), who gave up two earned runs, kept OHS close until Bartow added another unearned run in the fifth and scored three more times in the sixth.

Yellow Jackets pitcher Lauren West escaped trouble in the third inning when Morgan Crapo walked and went to third on Jennifer Ligon's single, but West retired the next two batters.

Down 5-0, OHS had runners at second and third in the sixth but came up empty.

"We had our chances. We had runners in scoring position in the fourth, fifth and sixth innings, but couldn't get the big hit," OHS Coach George Coffey said.

Coffey said his team made too many mistakes against a good team.

"We couldn't beat anyone making seven errors, let alone



News-Gazette Photo/Andrew Sullivan

Junior Kenya Pereira won three postseason games for the Lady Cowboys.

Bartow," he said. "I'm still a little battered and bruised thinking about that game, but when you consider all that went into it for our girls to reach that position, to beat some very good teams like Harmony and East Ridge to get here, you have to feel that we had a successful year."

Eight starters return to OHS next season.

"We talked about that after the game, but the point of the matter is that Bartow is going to be out there again, and we're going to have to beat good teams again to get here," Coffey said. "I'm pleased with what we accomplished, and now we'll see if we can do it all over again."

Osceola reached the regional final by beating East Ridge, 6-2, at Clermont Friday.

Pereira held the Knights to five hits and retired the final eight batters she faced.

"She seemed to get her second wind after the fourth inning," Coffey said. "(Catcher) Kaley Brosious did a tremendous job calling pitches."

Pereira struck out four and walked two.

Pereira drove in a run with a first-inning single as OHS jumped to a 2-0 lead. Chantal Crockett singled and scored on Pereira's hit. Jessica Callahan, who was 2-for-3 and scored three times, walked and scored on a wild pitch.

East Ridge tied it in the bottom of the first, but OHS regained the lead, 3-2, in the second when Morgan Crapo walked and came home on Kali Jones' two-out hit.

The Lady Cowboys made it 5-2 in the third when Callahan singled and scored on an error. Callahan scored for the third time in the seventh inning when she singled and stole home.

## Dr. Phillips flags HHS in region playoffs, 25-7

By Rick Pedone  
Sports Editor

Harmony's flag football season ended Tuesday, but for nearly three quarters of the second round regional at Dr. Phillips, it looked like it would be the defending state champion Panthers who would make an exit.

The Lady Horns (11-1) led, 7-6, and were 14 yards away from adding to that lead, but a turnover at the goal line and a three-touchdown Panthers rally over the last 12 minutes

led by quarterback Hannah Schable lifted Dr. Phillips to a 25-7 victory.

Schable accounted for all four Panthers touchdowns, running for the first score and throwing for three more. She hit Rachel Lopez from the Horns 5 for the most important TD of the game late in the third quarter, giving the Panthers a 13-7 lead.

"They could feel the pressure in the first half," Harmony Coach Paul Strauch said of the Panthers, 16-0. "But, they are a team with a lot of

great athletes. Hannah is definitely going to play Division I basketball, and they have two or three others who will play in college."

Harmony quarterback Sage Loeffel, who had 147 total rushing and passing yards, hit 6-of-7 passes for 51 yards on the opening drive of the game, capping it with a 3-yard TD pass to Stephanie Baur. Baur also had a 16-yard reception to put HHS in scoring position. Kaylin Woodring caught

**See Flag, page A-9**

## Heritage teams will play for state titles Saturday



Photo/Special to the News-Gazette

Heritage Christian batter Dallas Beaver was 2-for-2 and drove in two runs during the Eagles' 16-0 win over Providence Christian in the FCC semifinals.

By Rick Pedone  
Sports Editor

The Heritage Christian Eagles will play for Florida Christian Conference baseball and softball championships Saturday at Central Winds Park in Winter Springs.

The baseball team will try for its second title, and the first since 2000, at 5 p.m.

The softball team plays at 1 p.m.

The baseball Eagles (13-2) pounded Providence Christian, 16-0, Friday to reach the championship game. Heritage will play the winner of the Grace Christian-AltaMonte Christian semifinal.

Coach Jeremy Beaver said his team performed almost flawlessly in the semifinal round.

Pitcher Christian Munoz struck out 12 during the game, shortened to five innings by the mercy rule.

"Christian pitched a tremendous game for us, and hit the ball very well," Beaver said.

Dallas Beaver (2-for-2, 2 RBIs), Alex Tirado (2-for-2, 3

**See Eagles, page A-9**



**Eagles****Continued from page A-7**

RBIs), Chris Herrador (1-for-1, 2 RBIs), A.J. Uriarte (2-for-4, 1 RBI) and Trey Epperson, who reached base four times, led the Eagles offense.

Heritage Christian posted a perfect record, 13-0, in the conference. Its only losses were against Brandon Faith Christian, a team that recruits internationally, last week.

"We've got a group of very good players. We're very young, but we've been fortunate that we've been able to keep most of them," Beaver said.

The Eagles play their home games at the South Orange Little League complex.

"The people at South Orange have been unbelievable to work with. They treat us like royalty," Beaver said. "It is a little inconvenient for

our players and our parents to make the trip, but the fields are always top-notch, in fantastic condition, so it's worth it."

Beaver, who is assisted by Hal Epperson, said Saturday's championship game will be a challenge.

"Either team we would play is capable of winning, but our kids are playing very well. We're looking forward to it," Beaver said.

The Heritage softball team defeated Altamonte Christian, 18-8, Monday. Eastland Christian is the No. 1 seed.

Katie Kleinhans was the winning with relief help from Brooke Beaver.

Megan Lima drove in the run that shortened the game by the mercy rule, Coach Mike Cool said.

**Flag****Continued from page A-7**

the PAT pass from Loeffel to make it 7-0.

Schable ran 3 yards to pull Dr. Phillips within one on the next series.

Loeffel's 22-yard pass to Julia Ingler along the sideline at the Panthers' 16 set up another scoring opportunity, but the Horns' drive ended at

the 12 after two incomplete passes. Loeffel's interception at the Dr. Phillips 33 put Harmony in scoring position again, but Dr. Phillips picked off an option pass at the 1.

Strauch said those missed chances were the key.

"We had three opportunities in the first half, and scored once," he said. "We played well, but it's those little things that make the difference. We had 'em on their heels."

Harmony had one more

chance to cushion its lead when Marie Gilbert intercepted Schable on the first possession of the second half, but Harmony punted and Dr. Phillips scored on consecutive possessions to lead 19-7.

Strauch said his team played well.

"For the past eight years, either they have ended our season, or we have ended theirs," Strauch said. "There aren't many teams around here who can say that. We

don't have all the great athletes like they have here. We just have a bunch of girls who play their hearts out and make the most out of their ability, and I'll take that every time."

Dr. Phillips goes to Tallahassee Friday for the state quarterfinals.

The Lady Longhorns advanced to the second round by blanking University, 19-0, Saturday. Lauren Bishop filled in for Loeffel and passed for a pair of touchdowns.



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**Flag****Continued from page A-7**

*City of St. Cloud Parks and Recreation cordially invites you to a*

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## Tea Party

*Saturday, May 12, 2012, 11am to 1pm  
 Lakefront Marina Banquet Hall*

**Tickets are \$5 per person**  
**Ticket sales begin May 1st at the St. Cloud Civic Center.**  
**Ticket quantities are limited and must be purchased in advance.**

*For more details and ticket information,  
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nationwide since 2009.

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**Homeowners** at outreach events  
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# AROUND KISSIMMEE

Go to [www.aroundosceola.com](http://www.aroundosceola.com) for all St. Cloud news

Section B

INCLUDING:  
• POINCIANA  
• BVL  
• INTERCESSION CITY

May 3, 2012



## Celebrating art!

The Celebration Art Festival took place on Saturday and Sunday, April 21 and 22. Paintings, contemporary art, sculptures, photography and jewelry were among the many pieces featured along the streets of Celebration Town Center. Above, a visitor to the festival views a photo of a slot canyon taken by Orlando photographer Brett Donnelly. At right, artist Steve Larson paints with coffee. Larson smiled and said, "It's very stimulating work." Below, Gloria Reyes, Tati Micheli and Zulay Domingus, of Celebration, strolled through the Celebration Town Center to look at the art that was on display.

News-Gazette Photos/Martin Maddock



## Extension Services

The following classes and being offered by Osceola County Extension Services and are free unless stated otherwise:

• From 6 to 9 p.m. Monday, May 7, Save Money on Your Electric Bill, at Extension Services, Osceola Heritage Park 1921 Kissimmee Valley Lane, Kissimmee. Learn no cost, low cost and some cost actions to save money every month on your electric bill at home. Find out about the Osceola Energy Initiative (OEI) [www.osceola.org/go/energy](http://www.osceola.org/go/energy) and other incentives to lower cost of energy saving options. Registration is required. Call 321-697-3000 or register at <http://saveonelectric.eventbright.com>.

• From 6:30 to 8 p.m. Monday, May 7, Top 5 Scams in Florida, at Extension Services, Osceola Heritage Park, 1921 Kissimmee Valley Lane, Kissimmee. The program addresses the five most popular scams conducted in Florida. The

information provided will help consumers reduce or eliminate chances of being victimized. Registration required. Call 321-697-3000.

• From 9 a.m. to noon Tuesday, May 8, Save Money on Your Electric Bill, at Extension Services, Osceola Heritage Park, 1921 Kissimmee Valley Lane, Kissimmee. Learn no cost, low cost and some cost actions to save money every month on your electric bill at home. Find out about the Osceola Energy Initiative (OEI) [www.osceola.org/go/energy](http://www.osceola.org/go/energy) and other incentives to lower cost of energy saving options. Registration is required. Call 321-697-3000 or register at <http://saveonelectric.eventbright.com>.

• From 2 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, May 9, Taking Control of Your Money, at Extension Services, Osceola Heritage Park, 1921 Kissimmee Valley Lane, Kissimmee. Stop wondering

where money went and letting it control you. Instead, establish financial goals, discover your financial potential and develop a plan to make your money work for you. Registration is required. Call 321-697-3000.

• From 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, May 9, Home Maintenance, at Extension Services, Osceola Heritage Park, 1921 Kissimmee Valley Lane, Kissimmee. Learn no cost, low cost and some cost actions to save money every month on your electric bill at home. Find out about the Osceola Energy Initiative (OEI) [www.osceola.org/go/energy](http://www.osceola.org/go/energy) and other incentives to lower cost of energy saving options. Registration is required. Call 321-697-3000 or register at <http://saveonelectric.eventbright.com>.

• From 6:30 to 8 p.m. Thursday, May 10, Improving Your Credit Score, Extension Services, Osceola Heritage Park, 1921 Kissimmee Valley Lane, Kissimmee. Is your credit score holding you back from getting a loan or costing

you more money on current credit/services? This class gives an overview of what activities affect your score and steps you can take to improve it. Registration is required. Call 321-697-3000.

• From 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Monday, May 14, Plant Propagation, Extension Services, Osceola Heritage Park, 1921 Kissimmee Valley Lane, Kissimmee. There is a \$5 supply fee due by May 10. Register online at: <http://plantpropagation.eventbrite.com>. Learn how to start & multiply your own plants through seeds, cuttings, and division. Take home some new plants that you propagate in class. Registration required. Call 321-697-3000.

• From 10 a.m. to noon Tuesday, May 15, Beyond Lawns: Groundcovers for Your Yard, Extension Services, Osceola Heritage Park, 1921

See Extension, page B-2

## Kissimmee ministry helping foster youths

By Brian McBride  
Assistant Editor

To better the welfare of foster children in Osceola County, a Kissimmee ministry is holding a month-long phone drive and a special evening event to get the word out that volunteers and parents for the youngsters are needed.

Power Praise Connection Ministries, a Kissimmee faith-based organization dealing with social issues in the community, was honored by the city of Kissimmee at a commission meeting on Tuesday for its efforts with a proclamation declaring May as Foster Youth Connection Month.

There is currently a phone drive for May to benefit the foster care system. People can call 407-747-6656 and do three things. They can leave an encouraging message for children in the foster care system in Osceola County. They can make a donation to the Guardian ad Litem program in Osceola, or they can obtain information to become foster parents.

"There is a need right now," Evangelist Rupert D. Henry, founder and director of Power Praise, said.

A guardian ad litem is appointed by the court to advocate for a child. Most of the foster children have been removed from their homes because of alleged abuse, abandonment or neglect. The guardian becomes familiar

with the child and the child's case and makes recommendations to the court to help ensure a safe and stable environment.

Based on the information gathered, the guardian becomes a courtroom advocate for the child, becoming the voice of the youngster and communicates the best interests of the child.

Anyone interested in volunteering to be a guardian receives 30 hours of training and six hours annually of continuing education provided by the program. Previous training or a legal background is not needed. They also will receive a strong support system including program staff and attorneys who work as a team to provide advocacy for the child.

Power Praise also is hosting An Evening of Praise May 16 at Solis Rock Church of God, 1904 N. Michigan Ave., Kissimmee. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., with the event starting at 7 p.m.

There, residents can learn about the foster care system and what the children need. Donations will be accepted and they're also asked to bring non-perishable, such as canned goods, to help feed the homeless and those going hungry.

There will be literature from local help agencies, worship and musical choirs.

"It's an evening of being educated," Henry said.

## City of Kissimmee

### City of Kissimmee rolls out food trucks Friday

The city of Kissimmee Parks, Recreation and Public Facilities Department Friday will host The Food Truck Bazaar on Dakin Avenue near the Kissimmee Civic Center.

A rotating cast of food trucks will take over the street in downtown Kissimmee for another installment of this monthly event. The crew of 20 trucks will be serve gourmet foods, barbecue, ethnic specialties and desserts as live music keeps the good times rolling.

The food trucks will be dishing out tasty treats from 5 to 8 p.m.

For more information, contact the Parks, Recreation and Public Facilities Department at 407-518-2561 or visit [www.thefoodtruckbazaar.com](http://www.thefoodtruckbazaar.com)

#### City encourages residents to become a VIP

The city of Kissimmee Parks, Recreation and Public Facilities Department will be host its first event for a new volunteer program.

The 'Volunteer In Parks, or VIP' program, is designed to give the community an opportunity to give back to the very parks they enjoy on a daily basis. As a VIP, community members will be making a difference by helping to keep the city's parks beautiful, according to a city press release.

This program marks the beginning of an ongoing series of projects that will be scheduled throughout the year, in various parks, enabling residents to become active and involved in their parks.

The first VIP event will take place at the Makinson Aquatic Center Saturday, from 8 a.m. to noon. This will be a clean-up project for the annual grand opening of the pool. Registration will begin at 7 a.m. and the first 50 VIPs will receive a free day pass to return to the Aquatic Center for a day of swimming.

Clean-up activities will include painting, landscaping, mulching and more. Volunteers must be at least 10-years-old and minors must be accompanied by an adult. Refreshments will be provided.

The Makinson Aquatic Center is at 2204 Denn John Lane in Kissimmee.

#### City fee waiver/ grant applications available

The city of Kissimmee Parks, Recreation and Public Facilities Department is encouraging any groups or organizations that wish to request a fee waiver/grant for any event taking place between Oct. 1 and Sept. 30, 2013, to obtain an application.

The application is available at the Kissimmee Civic Center, 201 E. Dakin Ave., Kissimmee. The application deadline is Tuesday, May 15, at 5 p.m. and must be submitted to the Kissimmee Civic Center.

This application applies to any sponsoring organization requesting a fee waiver/grant for a special event or function that would be held on city property, such as the Kissimmee Lakefront Park, Kissimmee Civic Center, Berlinsky Community House, downtown Kissimmee, or stage rental for an event.

The application also applies to any outside function that would require city services, such as police department, fire department, traffic division or tent permits, and/or parks and recreation staff in order to host the event.

For more information, call Cathe Iveson, assistant supervisor of Public Events and Venues with the Parks, Recreation and Public Facilities Department, at 407-518-2573.

#### Summer camp offered

The City of Kissimmee Parks, Recreation & Public Facilities Department is offer-

See Briefs, page B-2

# Osceola schools host kindergarten roundup

Round 'em up!

All Osceola County elementary schools will hold kindergarten roundup today. This event continues all day until 6:30 p.m. Children who are at least 5 years old on or before Sept. 1 may attend and register for the 2012-13 school year.

Poinciana area schools include Bellalago Academy, Chestnut School for Science and Engineering, Deerwood, Koa, Poinciana Academy of Fine Arts, Reedy Creek and Sunrise elementary schools.

Children may pick up a school registration packet. Parents and students also may meet teachers, principals and other school staff members. During this time, tours of the schools will be given and school procedures explained. Parents also can find out ways they can be involved volunteering their time at the school.

Get involved with your child's education from the start. With your enthusiasm, kindergarteners will flourish.



The transition from elementary to incoming middle school can be an intimidating experience. Parents can help the "tweens" merge by attending a sixth-graders' orientation night.

Orientation night will be at all Osceola County middle schools on Tuesday from 5 to 7 p.m. Poinciana area middle schools include Discovery Intermediate, Horizon and Bellalago Academy. Meet teachers and get familiar with your student's next level of education environment.

For more information, go to [www.osceola.k12.fl.us](http://www.osceola.k12.fl.us).



Can the Great Poinciana Clean-up reach 1,000 volunteers? That's the goal. Can Poinciana do it?

Poinciana Residents for Smart Change and Keep Polk County Beautiful have joined forces to get this done. Adults and children, along with their civic groups and organizations are encouraged to be a part of the ultimate spring cleaning.



**Lisa  
D'Cato**  
Poinciana  
Writer

The Great Poinciana Clean-up will be Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon.

To register, go to [www.poincianaresidentsforsmartchange.org](http://www.poincianaresidentsforsmartchange.org).



The Poinciana Family YMCA is proud to announce Happy Healthy Mart. For the first time, the community of Poinciana will have an open air market and the ability to purchase fresh produce from different vendors.

Happy Healthy Mart will take place in front of the Y the first and third Saturdays of the month, from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. beginning Saturday. The Poinciana Family Y is at 397 Marigold Ave.

The next neighborhood crime watch meeting will be Monday at 7 p.m. at the Osceola County Poinciana sub-station in the Southport Plaza (next to Family Dollar).

The speaker will be Osceola County Sheriff Bob Hansell. With the recent shooting in Sanford, the role and limitations of neighborhood watch groups will certainly be addressed.

Learn what steps are in place to avoid this tragedy from occurring again. Poinciana Osceola County crime watch is held the first Monday of each month.



Last weekend's Relay for Life Poinciana 2012 was an all-night party — a celebration of cancer survivors and a remembrance of those who passed away. The community support and turnout was a sight to see. Old friends reunited and new ones were made. This was the first time I had ever participated in a Relay For Life event. It was exhausting, humbling and inspiring.

Relay For Life Poinciana earned, as of Sunday night, \$12,000. Donations are still being accepted at [www.relayforlife.org/poinciana](http://www.relayforlife.org/poinciana) until Aug. 31. The goal is \$20,000. Let's make it happen.



If you have any Poinciana news or information that you would like to share, call Lisa D'Cato at 407-846-7122 or email [news@osceolanewsgazette.com](mailto:news@osceolanewsgazette.com).

## Briefs Continued from Page B-1

ing Summer Camp for kids (Camp Discovery) and teens (Teen Extreme). Sign up for 10 weeks of activities and planned field trips from Monday, June 11, to Friday, Aug. 17.

Parents can register at the Oak Street Park Community Center Monday through Thursday, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and on Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Oak Street Park Community Center is at 717 N. Palm Avenue. Registration is also available online through [webtrac.kissimmee.org](http://webtrac.kissimmee.org).

A weekly \$10 deposit per child is required to reserve a space in the camp, until the payment due date. The remaining balance must be received by the payment due date in order to confirm enrollment. It is highly recommended that reservations be made soon, since space is limited, according to a city

press release.

### City to host 23rd annual Terry Stewart Scholarship Golf Tournament

The city of Kissimmee Parks, Recreation and Public Facilities Department will host the 23rd Annual Terry Stewart Scholarship Golf Tournament on Saturday, May 12, at the Kissimmee Bay Country Club. This four-Man – Best Ball tournament will begin at 8 a.m. with a shotgun start.

The registration fee is \$40/individual or \$160/four-person team, which includes one round of golf, cart, buffet lunch and a gift bag with a commemorative golf towel. Also, take advantage of mulligans, contests, raffles and more.

All proceeds from the tournament will benefit the Terry Stewart Scholarship Fund.

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## Extension

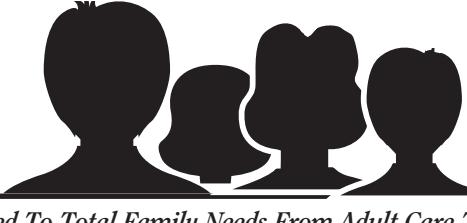
Continued from Page B-1

Kissimmee Valley Lane, Kissimmee. Tired of mowing? Learn about a variety of low-growing groundcovers to replace your lawn grass. Registration is required. Call 407-944-5000.

- From 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, May 17, 2012, Save Your Home: Prevent Foreclosure, at Extension Services, Osceola Heritage

Park, 1921 Kissimmee Valley Lane, Kissimmee. This class addresses how to save your home from foreclosure through better money management, communica-

tion with your lender and identifying other mortgage payment/foreclosure prevention options. Registration is required. Call 407-944-5000.



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## Cinco de Mayo

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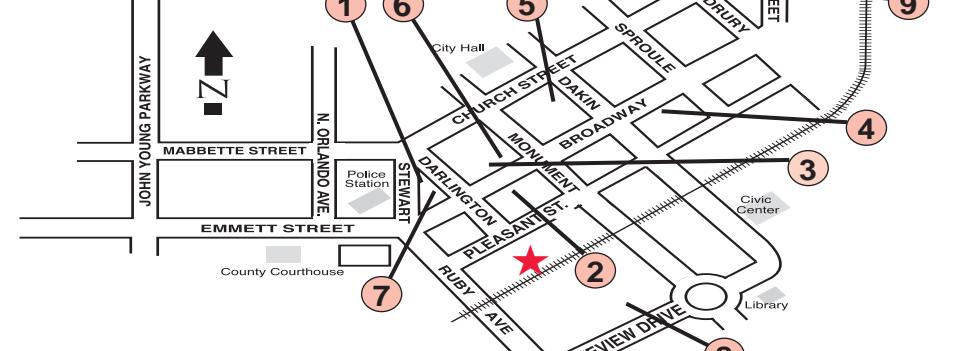
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See additional Community Events/News at [www.aroundosceola.com](http://www.aroundosceola.com)

# COMMUNITY

## What's new?

### CHA horse conference

The Certified Horsemanship Association will host a conference Friday at the Harmony Equestrian Center in Harmony. It's a day of learning about horses.

Visitors can experience Disney World's Six in Hand Driving Team, nutrition talks, vet and chiropractic talks, horsemanship presentations and much more. Cost is \$10. The public is welcome.

To register, visit [htchaahse.org/store/pages/48/Regional\\_Conferences.html](http://htchaahse.org/store/pages/48/Regional_Conferences.html).

For more information or call Ken Najorka at 407-721-9711.

### Smokin Blues Friday, Saturday

St. Cloud Main Street's Smokin Blues, Bikes & BBQ is 7 to 10 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday at the St. Cloud lakefront.

### Mother's Day luncheon

Gateway Baptist Church, 2601 Partin Settlement Road, Kissimmee, is inviting all mothers in the community to its annual Mother's Day luncheon in the Education Building next to the church at 1 p.m. Saturday, May 5. Light refreshments will be served.

For more information, call 407-876-8595.

### Are your affairs in order?

A May 8 luncheon seminar will be sponsored by Osceola Memory Gardens Funeral Homes, Cemetery, & Crematory that will address having one's affairs in order before death. It will be at 11:30 a.m. Buffet City, 4551 13th Street in St. Cloud.

Take the burden off loved ones, save money, make decisions while you are thinking clearly and give yourself peace of mind.

Call Chris or Bonnie at 407-957-2511 to make reservations. Seating is limited.

### League looking for Marines

The Marine Corps League Detachment No. 1092 is requesting all Marines join the group.

The league does a variety of things including: sends care boxes overseas, memorials, parades, has scholarship programs, works with veterans, has a color guard and holds Toys for Tots drives.

It meets the fourth Thursday of the month at the VFW in St. Cloud.

It has a breakfast from 8 to 11 a.m. every second Saturday of the month at the VFW to support the league. For more information, call Jim Underwood at 863-496-1107 of the VFW at 407-892-6761.

### Tourism awards to be given out June 6

On Wednesday, June 6, the Kissimmee/Osceola County Chamber of Commerce and the Kissimmee Convention and Visitors Bureau will present their 2012 Spirit of Hospitality awards.

The program this year will be at Gaylord Palms and Convention Center, from 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Tickets are \$35 for individuals and \$400 for a corporate table of 10.

The awards honor exceptional performance, commitment and achievements in the hospitality and tourism industry in Osceola County. The awards will be in three areas: service, management and lifetime achievement.

To register, go to [www.kissimeechamber.com](http://www.kissimeechamber.com) or call Jill Stevenson at 407-847-4434.

To nominate someone, call Robin Wells at 407-847-4407.

### Chamber bass tournament set for May 12

The Toho Bass Blast Open Tournament, sponsored by the Kissimmee/Osceola County Chamber of Commerce, will be Saturday, May 12, on Lake Tohopekaliga in Kissimmee.

The deadline for signing up will be Thursday, May 10, at 4 p.m.

The entry fee will be \$100 per boat for up to two anglers. Some features of the tournament include: open to the public; a Garland show; goody bags, tournament T-shirts and door prizes; exact weight fish contest; \$1,000 for the first five-pound fish; the tournament winner fishes free for next year's event.

For more information, contact the chamber's Jill Stevenson at 407-847-4434 or [jills@kissimeechamber.com](mailto:jills@kissimeechamber.com). Register at [www.kissimeechamber.com](http://www.kissimeechamber.com).

### Church summer camp enrollment

Kissimmee Destiny Church of the Foursquare Gospel is offering a free summer camp. The free enrollment time is 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, May 19. There will be face-painting, free food, bounce houses and give-a-ways. For more information, call 407-870-1594 or visit [www.info@kissimmeedestiny.org](http://www.info@kissimmeedestiny.org) or [www.kissimmeedestiny.org](http://www.kissimmeedestiny.org).

### Republican Women's

#### Network to meet

The Greater Osceola Republican Women's Network meets the second Thursday of every month at Kissimmee Bay Country Club. The next meeting will be May 10. The group will be having pasta with meatballs and Alfredo sauce, salad, rolls, beverages and dessert. Cost is \$15. The guest speaker will be Todd Long, who is running for the new Congressional district 9 seat. The social starts at 6 p.m. with dinner at 6:30 p.m. The meeting begins at 7 p.m. RSVP to Barbra at [bsnyder0021@aol.com](mailto:bsnyder0021@aol.com), [Vickywells@aol.com](mailto:Vickywells@aol.com) or call either 407-460-2660 or 407-892-8695.

## What's happening?

### Community health festival set for May 19

There will be a community health festival Saturday, May 19, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at 101 W. Dakin Ave., in Kissimmee. The United Methodist Church of Kissimmee is sponsoring the free event.

There will be free screenings for glucose, cholesterol and blood pressure as well as the opportunity for uninsured families to have a medical card for \$5 that will provide each one of them with family practice visits for only \$15 to \$20, prescriptions for \$3, free eye exams, a free massage once a month, free first visit to a chiropractor, discounts on natural health consultations and products, among many other services.

There will be entertainment, music, food and fun for everyone.

**Click of a button**  
The Osceola County Camera Club invites anyone interested in taking photographs and having a good time to attend the club's twice-monthly meetings. The club will meet on the second and fourth Thursday of each month at Folsom Services, 25 E. 13th St., St. Cloud, at 7 p.m. For more information, [www.osceolacountycameroclub.com](http://www.osceolacountycameroclub.com).

### Looking for new Scouts in Poinciana

Recruitment has begun for a new Boy Scout troop and Cub Scout pack in the Poinciana area, with recruitment for both groups occurring on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. at Chestnut Elementary School, 4300 Chestnut St., Poinciana.

Boy Scouts is for young men 12 to 18 years old who are interested in outdoor activities, including camping, hiking, fishing and bicycling. Cub Scouts is for boys in the first through fifth grade who are interested in games, activities, hiking, arts and crafts, archery, service projects and more.

The Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts also are in need of adult leaders for the two groups.

For more information, contact the following: Dixon Palma, committee chairman, 407-655-9533 or [dixonpalma@aol.com](mailto:dixonpalma@aol.com); Greg Huff, Hispanic Director Boy Scouts, 253-686-3237 or [greg.huff@cflscouting.org](mailto:greg.huff@cflscouting.org).

### AARP driver safety class

An AARP driver safety class will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, May 18, at Good Samaritan Village, 1500 Village Oak Lane, Kissimmee. The limit is 25 people. Call Ron at 407-944-9718.

### 4C head start program

The 4C Head Start program is accepting registrations for children

## DAR stars



Submitted Photo

Seven high schools in Osceola County chose students to receive the Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizenship award. This award is given to a high school junior who fulfills the qualities of honor, service, courage, leadership and patriotism. The Joshua Stevens Chapter, DAR, awarded these medals to the following outstanding students on April 14: David Barnes, St. Cloud High School; Raeann Blauvelt, Poinciana High School; Laura Silva, Osceola School for the Arts; Melisa Lenig, New Dimension High School; Kathy Etcheverry, Osceola High School. From left are: Etcheverry, Silva, Blauvelt, Lenig and Barnes.

ages 3 and 4 for its 2012-13 preschool program until Sept. 1 at its main office, 2232 W. U.S. Highway 192. It also is accepting registrations for its Early Head Start program for children 6-months to 3-years-old. Families must meet the eligibility criteria.

To register a child, parents will need: immunization records, Social Security cards (child's and parent's), a physical exam, health insurance or Medicaid, proof of address, WIC and food stamps or certification letter.

### Ministry medical clinic

The Osceola Christian Ministry at 700 Union St., Kissimmee, offers a medical clinic most Thursdays mornings. It serves the uninsured and people with a family income at or below the 200 percent of the federal poverty level. The clinic operates on a first-come, first-served basis. Doors open at 9 a.m. and it can serve eight to nine people.

It also has a Tuesday afternoon clinic once a month, which serves adults only. The doors open at 12:30 p.m. To confirm the hours for either clinic for the week, call 407-944-9968. The clinic is unable to provide any x-rays or female services at this time.

### Hospice offers bereavement groups

Cornerstone Hospice has announced three bereavement support groups in Osceola County for people who have experienced the recent loss of a loved one. The groups are completely free and the only requirement is to pre-register.

They are: Mondays, from 2:30 to 4 p.m., at Good Samaritan Village, Clubhouse Board Room, 4250 Village Drive, Kissimmee.

Tuesdays, from 6 to 7:30 p.m., at Osceola Memory Gardens Funeral Home, 1717 Old Boggy Creek Road, Kissimmee.

The first Thursday of the month (Spanish speaking support group) from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at Porta Coeli Funeral Home, 2801 E. Osceola Parkway, Kissimmee.

Call Claudia Swonger to pre-register for any of these three groups at 407-206-2273.

### German-American Club

The Osceola German-American Club of Kissimmee/St. Cloud meets on the second Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at The Elks Club on Kings Highway in Kissimmee. The club consists of people who were born in Germany or who are of German descent or just have an interest in socializing with German people.

For more information, call Kay Cushing at 407-931-1645.

### American Legion events

The American Legion of St. Cloud Post 80 will have the following events:

- Mondays: bingo at 6 p.m. in the smoke-free Civic Hall.

- Tuesdays: dart tournament at 7 p.m..

- Wednesdays: all you can eat spaghetti for \$5.75.

- Thursdays: free pool

- Fridays: free shuffleboard from 3 to 7 p.m.; grill menu from 5 to 8 p.m.; karaoke at 8 p.m.

- Saturdays: road kill bingo on the first and third Saturday of each month at 7 p.m.

- Sundays: breakfast from 8 to 11 a.m.

- Happy hour is Monday through Friday from 3 to 6 p.m.

The Legion Post 80 is open Monday to Thursday from 3 to 9 p.m.; Friday, from 3 to 11 p.m.; Saturday from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.; and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 80, meets the first Thursday of the month at the post civic hall.

For more information, call the post at 407-892-8808 or Mike Turco at 352-572-1261. Post 80 and the Auxiliary Unit 80 are at 1019 Pennsylvania Ave., St. Cloud.

These are mature, adult dogs and they transition very easily into homes.

Most get along great with other dogs and children and many are cat friendly, as well. Get to know the dogs and speak with local greyhound owners.

For more information, call God's Greys Greyhound Group at 407-578-7496 or go to [www.godsgreys.com](http://www.godsgreys.com).

### VFW Post 4225

Members of VFW Post 4225, 504 S. Randolph Ave., Kissimmee, and the ladies' auxiliary meet at 7 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month. The men's auxiliary meets at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month.

Meat bingo is at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month and is open to the public.

Dinners are served from 5 to 7 p.m. Saturday followed by karaoke. Call 407-847-7855 for menus and scheduled events.

### St. Cloud Masonic Lodge

St. Cloud Lodge No. 221 meets the second and fourth Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. at the lodge building, 901 Oregon Ave., St. Cloud. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m.

For more information, call Jim Rouse, secretary, at 407-892-4412 or [YEGGP@aol.com](mailto:YEGGP@aol.com).

### Sons of Italy 2523

The Osceola County Order Sons of Italy in America Lodge 2523 meets at 7 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at Kissimmee Bay Golf and Country Club.

The lodge welcomes all men and women of Italian heritage (or spouse that is Italian) to join. It holds events throughout the year for charities and high school scholarships.

For more information, contact lodge president Gertrude Dorries at 321-286-6787 for more information.

### Ladies needed for games

Ladies are needed to fill in some empty spots for bridge and canasta games at the Kissimmee Women's Club, 1616 W. Oak St., in Kissimmee.

For more information, call Marilyn Smith at 407-348-5682.

### IOOF to meet

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows St. Cloud Lodge No. 66, 1122 New York Ave., St. Cloud, meets at 7:30 p.m. the first and third Tuesdays of the month.

For more information, call 407-891-0773 or 321-722-3381.

### Osceola County Camera Club

The Osceola County Camera Club invites anyone interested in taking photographs and having a good time to attend the club's twice-monthly meetings. The club meets on the second and fourth Thursday of each month at Folsom Services, 25 E. 13th St., St. Cloud, at 7 p.m.

For more information, visit [www.osceolacountycameroclub.com](http://www.osceolacountycameroclub.com).

### Mall cruise-in

The second Friday of each month from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Mill Creek Mall and CiCi's Pizza, there is a cruise in for classic cars, from 1985 and earlier. CiCi's pizza has special coupons for cruisers and the music is provided by WJBK (Butch Johnston). There is a raffle and a 50/50 drawing with half going to charity. For more information, call Buster at 407-729-1378.

</div

## Obituaries

For daily obituaries and services please visit our Website:

[www.aroundosceola.com](http://www.aroundosceola.com)

**McCALLISTER** - Mr. Daniel P. McCallister, 65, of St. Cloud, passed away on Saturday, April 28, 2012.

Arrangements under the direction of Fisk Funeral Home and Crematory, St. Cloud.



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**TANNONE** - Mrs. Debra Lynn Tannone, 56, of Kissimmee passed away on Friday, April 27, 2012.

Arrangements under the direction of Osceola Memory Gardens Funeral Home, Kissimmee.



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**ECHAVARRIA CASTELLANOS** - Mrs. Carmen M. Echevarria Castellanos, 47, of, Kissimmee passed away on Saturday, April 28, 2012.

Arrangements under the direction of Osceola Memory Gardens Funeral Home, Kissimmee.



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**JEAN-CHARLES** - Febronie Jean-Charles, 78, of Kissimmee, passed away Friday, April 27, 2012.

Arrangements entrusted to the care of Osceola Memory Gardens Funeral Homes, Cemetery and Crematory, Kissimmee.



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**STUDER** - Nora Belle Studer, 100, of St. Cloud, Florida. Died April 30th, 2012 at Southern Oaks Health Care Center, St. Cloud.

Visitation will be from 4:00-5:00 p.m., Friday, May 4th, 2012 at Osceola Memory Gardens Funeral Home in Kissimmee. Graveside services and burial will be in Morocco, Indiana.

Nora was a homemaker and a foster mother to many children for many years. She was born March 13, 1912 in Morocco, Indiana, the daughter of Florence and Elmer Denton.

She is survived by one daughter-in-law, Lolita Studer of Momence, IL.; two grandsons, Richard (Rhonda) Studer of Davenport, FL and Steven (Donna) Studer of Momence, IL.; three granddaughters, Barbara (Donnie) Pittman of Davenport, FL., Nora Ann Bohn of Dundee, FL. Dawn (Brad) Boudreau of St. Anne, IL., nine great-grandchildren and 13 great-great grandchildren.

Her husband, Theodore Studer whom she married on March 16, 1928 in the Presbyterian Church in Morocco, IN., died September 30, 2000. Nora was also preceded in death by four sons, Elvin, Alfred (Butch), Herbert and Clayton; one great-granddaughter, Lindsay Studer; one great-grandson, Alan Boudreau; one sister, Jessie Richardson; and five brothers, Lloyd, Emmet, Roy, Lester, Basil and Raymond Denton.

There will not be a visitation in Indiana. Graveside Services will be held at Oakland Cemetery, State Rt 41 in Morocco, Indiana.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Fisk Funeral Home and Crematory, 1107 Massachusetts Avenue, St. Cloud, Florida 34769.

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**DIMITRI** - Mrs. Elfriede Maria Dimitri, 100, of Kissimmee, Florida passed away Thursday, April 26th, 2012. She was a longtime resident of Kissimmee, Florida.

Elfriede was born in Vienna, Austria on March 12, 1912 to Edmund and Sophie Eret. She lived a full life, with many experiences during her early years. In 1914 her father was called to fight the Russians in World War I. Elfriede, her mother and brother moved in with her grandfather, who was widowed and living alone in a small community south of Vienna. Upon graduating in 1930, in Austria, she went to England to learn the English language. After one year, she passed an exam at the Sheffield Examination Board with an Honors certificate. Elfriede went back to Austria, but could not find work. She went to Budapest, Hungary to teach English and German.

In 1937 she went to Paris to learn French. She attended a school at the Alliance Francaise. In 1938 Hitler invaded Austria and it became part of Germany. Elfriede was allowed to remain in Paris until June to finish school and obtain her Diploma, after passing the final exam. She then had to return to Austria.

In 1939 Germany invaded Poland and it started World War II. Elfriede worked for the Red Cross and in 1943, was drafted to work for the POW censorship due to her knowledge of English and French.

In 1945, after the war was over, Austria regained its independence again, but was occupied by the four Allies. Elfriede became an interpreter for the U.S. Air Force and taught German to the American soldiers at the American Red Cross.

She then met her future husband, Master Sergeant Walter Dimitri. They married in Vienna on March 12, 1948 and came to the United States in 1949. During that time, Elfriede became a Naturalized American Citizen.

While Elfriede's husband was stationed at Offutt Air Base in Omaha, Nebraska, their only daughter, Eileen, was born. In 1951 they moved to Albuquerque, NM and in 1952 moved to Goose Bay AFB, Labrador. After two years they moved to Ellsworth AFB, Rapid City, SD. In 1955, they moved to London, England where her husband was stationed at South Ruislip AFB. During their stay in England, they made several trips to Austria to visit her parents and her childhood friends. Elfriede's father passed away in 1956 and her mother lived with them in London for several months.

The family returned to the United States, moving to Denver, Colorado in 1960. This was Elfriede's husband's last assignment at Lowry AFB. He retired in 1961 and the family moved to Kissimmee, FL. Elfriede and her husband purchased Lakeview Lodge at 104 Monument Ave., which they owned and managed for almost 20 years. Then they moved to Warsaw, Poland where they lived for ten years. This gave them many opportunities to travel throughout Europe and take several month long world cruises. When Elfriede's husband's health began declining, they moved back to Kissimmee, building a home next door to their daughter's family.

After her husband passed away, Elfriede remained there for the rest of her life. Last month Elfriede celebrated her 100th birthday party with her

family and friends. She was very surprised and the celebration was enjoyed by all. Elfriede is survived by her loving daughter, Eileen A. Shinall and husband Kenneth of Kissimmee, FL.; two grandchildren: Damon Shinall and Stephanie Barrett; and two great-grandchildren: Zachary Shinall and Peyton Shinall.

Arrangements under the direction of Osceola Memory Gardens Funeral Home, 1717 Old Boggy Creek Road, Kissimmee, FL 34744.

[www.OsceolaMemGds.com](http://www.OsceolaMemGds.com)



**RICE** - Mr. Oscar Edward Rice, 68 of St. Cloud passed away on Saturday, April 28, 2012.

Arrangements under the direction of Fisk Funeral Home and Crematory, St. Cloud, FL.



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## Health

### Free medical clinic

There is a physician available to see patients Thursdays at the Osceola Christian Ministry Center, 700 Union St., Kissimmee. Patients must have no insurance or veterans benefits and must qualify financially before being seen. Patients are seen on a walk-in basis only every Thursday from 9 to 11 a.m. and again in the afternoon. In the morning session, patients must arrive by 9 a.m. In the afternoon, they must arrive between noon and 12:30 p.m. There is no phone number to make appointments.

### Childbirth classes

Four-week childbirth preparation classes are held at the Osceola Pregnancy Center, 1340 W. Columbia Ave., Kissimmee. The classes include the modified Lamaze method of labor and delivery, exercises and childcare. For information and to register, call 407-933-0261.

### Clinic now provides pediatric care

The St. Thomas Aquinas Medical Clinic, 510 Chapel Road, St. Cloud, is now open the first Monday of the month offering pediatric care from 4:30 to 7 p.m.

Patients (uninsured children

from birth to 17) are seen on a first-come, first-serve basis. The child must have no insurance, no KidCare, no Medicaid and no Medicaid HMO. A parent or legal guardian must accompany the child. Immunizations are not available at this time.

For more information, contact the clinic at 407-593-1256. The clinic is a program of Catholic Charities of Central Florida.

### Mall walkers

The Osceola Square Mall Walkers walk Monday through

Friday from 8:30 to 10 a.m. A social hour follows. Everyone is welcome; free. For more information, call Phyllis DiMauro at 407-846-4904.

### Low vision group

A low vision discussion group meets the second Monday of each month for lunch at 11:30 a.m. in the Florida Room of the community center at Good Samaritan Village. The discussion includes a review of the latest treatments and aids and occasional programs provided by CITE. For more information, call 407-933-3271.



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# Community

Continued from Page B-3

## Dakin cruise-in

On the first Friday of each month from 6 to 9 p.m., Dakin Avenue is shut down for a classic and exotic car cruise in. Music will be provided by Ron (DJ) and raffle tickets will be available for purchase. There are special prices at some of the restaurants for cruisers.

For more information, call Buster at 407-729-1378.

## Day of Prayer

### Task Force

The National Day of Prayer Task Force of Osceola County meets at 7 p.m. the third Monday of each month at the First Baptist Church of St. Cloud, Building D, 1717 13th St., St. Cloud. For more information, contact Bertha Chase at 407-892-2965.

## GriefShare at First Baptist Church

GriefShare is a friendly, caring group of people who will walk alongside you through one of life's most difficult experiences. The program is held at 10 a.m. every Tuesday at First Baptist Church of Kissimmee, 1700 N. John Young Parkway, Kissimmee. For more information, call 407-847-3138.

## Osceola Stamp Club

The Osceola Stamp Club meets the first and third Wednesday of the month from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. at the Barney E. Veal Center, 700 Generation Point, Kissimmee. Come trade, sell and meet other stamp collectors. New members are welcome and needed to keep the club going.

For more information, call Charles Frazer at 407-705-3593.

## Orange Blossom Lodge No. 80

The Orange Blossom Lodge No. 80 F&AM meets the first and third Monday of each month. There is a social at 6 p.m. and meeting at 7:30 p.m. The lodge is at 321 E. Dakin Ave., Kissimmee. For more information, contact the secretary, Johnny Brock, at 321-624-2682 or jmbfl@kua.net

## Alcoholics Anonymous

The Osceola Alcoholics Anonymous Intergroup Office carries all the literature and books that are available for the AA groups here in the county to buy and use.

It also maintains a 24-hour phone line. Anyone who wants help with a drinking problem can call a 24-hour line at 407-870-8282. Callers can find where the nearest meeting is. There are no dues or fees.

## Quilt Guild

The Patchers of Time quilt guild meets monthly on the second Monday at 6:30 p.m. at the Osceola Center for the Arts, 2411 E. U.S. Highway 192. Meetings include lectures, demonstrations, workshops, guest speakers and prizes.

Anyone interested in quilting is welcome to attend.

For more information, call

Debbie at 407-346-6086.

## East Republican Women's Network

The East Osceola Republican Women's Network meets at 6:30 p.m. the first Tuesday of each month at Royal St. Cloud Golf Links.

For more information or to RSVP, call Donna Sykes at 407-873-2048.

## Ronald Reagan Republican Gun Club

The Ronald Reagan Conservative Spirit of '76 Republican Gun Club meets at 6:30 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at Pete and at Royal St. Cloud Golf Links in St. Cloud.

For more information or to RSVP, call Donna Sykes at 407-873-2048.

## Kissimmee Lions

The Kissimmee Lions Club meets the first and third Monday of each month at the clubhouse, 3050 Lions Court, just off Osceola Parkway, Kissimmee. For more information, call 407-847-3138.

## Overeaters Anonymous

Overeaters Anonymous, fellowship for those recovering from compulsive eating, meets at 9:30 a.m. Saturdays at St. Cloud Warehouses, East 17th St. at Eastern Ave., building 61, St. Cloud. It's free to join.

Call 321-443-2362 or visit [www.oaci.org](http://www.oaci.org) for more information.

## St. Cloud Tai Chi Club

The St. Cloud Tai Chi Club meets from 6 to 7 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays in St. Cloud. For the exact location or for more information, call Sifu Dave Lewis at 407-892-8882 or email at [sifulewis@cs.com](mailto:sifulewis@cs.com).

## Hamzy's Ketsu-ka Club

The Hamzy's Ketsu-ka Club meets every Tuesday and Thursday 6:30 to 8 p.m.

For the exact location and for more information, call Sensei Harry at 407-870-8477.

## St. Cloud Shuffleboard Club

Practice at the St. Cloud shuffleboard courts, 701 Ohio St. St. Cloud, is 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Monday through Saturday. Games are at 1:30 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. For more information, call 407-498-0603. Leave a message if there is no answer.

Duplicate Bridge: Mondays at 6:30 p.m. and Fridays at 1:30 p.m. Contact Jim Davis by calling 407-348-4399.

Pinochle: Wednesday

and Saturday at 6:30 p.m. Contact Bobbi Clement by calling 407-892-2749.

Cribbage: Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. Contact Dave Roberts by calling 407-892-2087.

Mahjong: Tuesday and Saturday at 1:30 p.m. Contact Louise Owens by calling 407-957-8733. Club dues are free for the first year and then its \$20 per year. It covers all shuffling and card games.

## St. Cloud Masonic Lodge

St. Cloud Lodge No. 221 F & A.M. hosts stated communications on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at 7:30 p.m. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m. at the Masonic Lodge, 901 Oregon Ave., St. Cloud.

Contact Jim Rouse, secretary, at 407-892-4412 or email [YEGGP@aol.com](mailto:YEGGP@aol.com) for more information.

## Music, dancing event

There will be live classic country music and some 1950s rock and roll, dancing and some line dancing Tuesday nights from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the Osceola County Council on Aging, 700 Generation Point, Kissimmee. There is no admittance fee but there will be 50/50 tickets sold to help support the effort. Bring a covered dish or snack to be part of the meals at break time.

For more information, call 407-892-3335.

## The Ohio, Kentucky and Michigan Club meeting

The Ohio, Kentucky and Michigan Club will meet at 12:30 p.m. on the second Monday of each month through April at the St. Cloud Senior Center, 3101 17th St., Hall B. Bring a potluck dish and utensils.

For more information, call Larry Kinney at 407-891-7396.

## Grocery bingo

Grocery bingo will be every Thursday through March from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at the Kissimmee Civic Center, 201 E. Dakin Ave.

The membership fee is \$10 for the season or \$2 at the door. Bingo cards are 50 cents each (no limit).

## Hospice volunteers needed

VITAS Innovative Hospice Care of Central Florida needs volunteers in the Central Florida area who can befriend terminally ill patients, provide relief for weary caregivers, accompany their pet on Paw Pals visits, visit with veterans, provide art and music therapy, make bereavement calls, sew, make crafts, help repair medical equipment or help with administrative work.

For more information, call 407-691-4541 or email [central.floridavolunteers@vitas.com](mailto:central.floridavolunteers@vitas.com).

## FWA Osceola Writers Group

Anyone writing a book, screenplay or short story

that needs help with craft or publication can join One Word at a Time, a diverse group of published and aspiring authors from many genres.

The group offers education, critique, networking and support to adult fiction writers. Meetings are on the second Thursday of each month from 6 to 8 p.m. at Susan's Courtside Cafe, 18 Orlando Ave., Kissimmee.

For more information, email Randy Austin at [flen-viro@gmail.com](mailto:flen-viro@gmail.com).

Also visit the Florida Writers Association website for a link blog [www.floridawriters.org](http://www.floridawriters.org). Click on Groups/Central Florida/Osceola Group.

## Grief and loss support

Cornerstone Hospice invites people to find peace while grieving.

This group is open to anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one. The group meets from 2:30 to 4 p.m. Mondays at Good Samaritan Village Clubhouse Board Room, 4250 Village Drive, Kissimmee. The group meets Tuesday at the Osceola Cancer Center, 737 W. Oak St., Kissimmee, from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

For more information, call Claudia Swonger, bereavement counselor, at 407-206-2273.

## Toastmaster Club

The OSCAR Toastmaster Club is inviting the public to improve and polish their speaking skills and make new friends at the same time. It is not necessary to be a Realtor. It meets every Monday from 5:15 to 6:30 p.m. at Osceola County Association of Realtors Building at 1105 Shady Lane, Kissimmee. Call Betty at 407-846-4500 or just walk in.

## Let's Dance Ballroom club events

The Let's Dance Ballroom Club sponsors tea dances at the St. Cloud Senior Center on the second and fourth Sunday of each month from 2 to 4 p.m.

The club meets every Wednesday at the center.

For more information, call Sheila Lauer at 407-738-7546 or Kathy Parsons at 407-319-2161.

## Osceola NAACP

The Osceola County NAACP meets the second Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Barney E. Veal Center, 700 Generation Point, Kissimmee. Visitors are invited.

For more information, contact Ann Jones at 407-361-1808.

## St. Cloud Horseshoe Club

Horseshoe pitching practice is Sunday afternoons at 2 p.m. Everyone is welcome

to join the club. The horseshoe pits are between the St. Cloud Civic Center and the St. Cloud Senior Center on 17th Street. The club's weekday practice sessions contacts are: John Grayson

(407-873-8240) and Tom Gowan (850-672-9547).

For more information, call Carol Johns at 407-847-7212; or Peg Currier at 407-957-3805 or 603-312-6333 (cell phone).



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04/12/12 TNG



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04/12/12 TNG

## 11 Critical Home Inspection Traps to be Aware of Weeks Before Listing Your Home for Sale

-

Kissimmee Area According to industry experts, there are over 33 physical problems that will come under scrutiny during a home inspection when you're home is for sale. A new report has been prepared which identifies the eleven most common of these problems, and what you should know about them before you list your home for sale.

Whether you own an old home or a brand new one, there are a number of things that can fall short of requirements during a home inspection. If not identified and dealt with, any of these 11 items could

cost you dearly in terms of repair. That's why it's critical that you read this report before you list your home. If you wait until the building inspector flags these issues for you, you will most certainly experience costly delays in the close of your home sale or, worse, turn prospective buyers away altogether. In most cases, you can make a reasonable pre-inspection yourself if you know what you're looking for, and knowing what you're looking for can help you prevent little problems from growing into costly and unmanageable ones.

To help homeowners deal with this issue before their

homes are listed, a free report entitled "11 Things You Need to Know to Pass Your Home Inspection" has been compiled which explains the issues involved.

To order a FREE Special Report, visit [www.inspectionorlando.com](http://www.inspectionorlando.com) or to hear a brief recorded message about how to order your FREE copy of this report call toll-free 1-800-281-5303 Ext. 1003. You can call any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Get your free special report NOW to learn how to ensure a home inspection doesn't cost you the sale of your home.

This report is courtesy of FrontGate Realty, 660 Celebration Ave, Ste 110, Celebration, FL 34747.

Not intended to solicit buyers or sellers currently under contract. Copyright ©2011.

06/03/12 TNG

# FREE HEARING TEST

FREE



# MAY 2012 UPDATE

[www.kissimmeechamber.com](http://www.kissimmeechamber.com)

For more information call 407-847-3174

## NEW MEMBERS Welcome!

### Ace Home & Supply Center

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Kissimmee, FL 34747  
(407) 507-3910  
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PAINT-RETAIL  
LOCKS & LOCKSMITH

### Epic Delights Bakery

Cyndol Knarr  
2 West Monument Avenue  
Kissimmee, FL 34741  
(407) 536-6181  
BAKERIES

### RaceTrac Petroleum

Jonatan Vargas  
901 E. Vine Street  
Kissimmee, FL 34744  
(407) 343-0276  
CONVENIENCE STORE

### Allstate Insurance Company

Bill Wagner  
4901 Vineland Road, Suite 240  
Orlando, FL 32811  
(904) 347-0640  
INSURANCE

### Happy Feet Daycare

Madelaine Santelises  
2244 Boggy Creek Road,  
Suite A & B  
Kissimmee, FL 34744  
(407) 348-1281  
CHILD CARE

### RaceTrac Petroleum

Danny Ghandour  
4541 Pleasant Hill Road  
Poinciana, FL 34759  
(407) 650-0436  
CONVENIENCE STORE

### Art Otero Campaign - State House Rep. District 43

Art Otero  
2439 Timothy lane  
Kissimmee, FL 34743  
(407) 230-9051  
CAMPAIGNS

### Kissimmee Pools

Robert Patterson  
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Kissimmee, FL 34741  
(407) 343-9943  
SWIMMING POOL  
CONTRACTORS  
AND DEALERS

### Rivera Graphics

Richard Rivera  
322 Broadway  
Kissimmee, FL 34741  
(407) 716-3909  
GRAPHIC DESIGN

### Belleza Apartments

Cari Garcia  
1365 West Donegan Avenue  
Kissimmee, FL 34741  
(407) 847-6309  
APARTMENTS

### Mean Clean, LLC

Curtis Smith  
608 W. Vine Street #72  
Kissimmee, FL 34741  
CLEANING SERVICE

### Standard Pacific Homes

Paul King  
558 W. New England Avenue,  
Suite 250  
Winter Park, FL 32789  
(407) 645-6500  
HOME BUILDERS

### Brass Tax Inc.

Roger Fleming  
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Kissimmee, FL 34741  
(407) 846-1099  
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### Plan Ahead Events - Orlando South

Maxine Hamilton  
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Suite 353  
Orlando, FL 32821  
(407) 288-3823  
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### Universal Health Care

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Suite 200  
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# Open TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY, MAY 12, 2012  
LAKE TOHO

Come out for a 1:30 pm GATORLAND "Wrangler on the Way" show, an educational and entertaining show that is fun and hands on. So bring your cameras and take photos with the animals such as a Baby Alligator, a Bearded Dragon/Savannah Monitor, a Rose Haired Tarantula, an Emperor Scorpion, and either a Large Python/Red-Tail Boa or a small Ball Python.

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- OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
- \$1,000 FOR THE FIRST 5.00LB FISH
- THE WINNER FISHES FREE NEXT YEAR

Deadline by 4pm Thursday, May 10, 2012

For more info contact Jill Stevenson with  
Kissimmee/Osceola County Chamber of Commerce at 407-847-4434  
or [jills@kissimmeechamber.com](mailto:jills@kissimmeechamber.com) • Register at [www.kissimmeechamber.com](http://www.kissimmeechamber.com)

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OSCEOLA NEWS-GAZETTE



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6<sup>TH</sup>, 2012  
GAYLORD PALMS RESORT & CONVENTION CENTER  
OSCEOLA A • 11:45 AM TO 1:30 PM

COMPLIMENTARY SELF PARKING

\$35 INDIVIDUAL SEAT • \$400 CORPORATE TABLE OF TEN

Go to [www.kissimmeechamber.com](http://www.kissimmeechamber.com) to register or call Jill Stevenson at 407-847-4434

# DOWNTOWN KISSIMMEE AREA COUNCIL DOWNTOWN UPDATE

WEDNESDAY, MAY 30, 2012 • KISSIMMEE CIVIC CENTER  
REGISTRATION & NETWORKING 7:15AM • PRESENTATION 7:45AM - 9AM

Individual Seats \$10 • Corporate Tables of 10 \$250 • Includes Breakfast

## ALL WELCOME HEAR WHAT IS HAPPENING DOWNTOWN



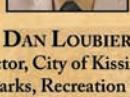
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MIKE STEIGERWALD  
City of Kissimmee  
City Manager



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|  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Seat(s) at \$10 per seat | <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate Table(s) of Ten at \$250 per table   |
| Company _____  | Contact _____ Email _____   |
| Phone _____  | Fax _____   |
| Payment:   | <input type="checkbox"/> Check Enclosed <input type="checkbox"/> MC/Visa/AMEX <input type="checkbox"/> Invoice me (Corporate Tables Only) |
| Card # _____   | Exp. _____ CVV 3 digit# _____   |
| Name on Card _____   | Signature _____   |

Make checks payable to DKAC. Credit Card & Corporate Table reservations may be faxed to (407) 870-8607. All reservations must be paid. Register on-line at [www.kissimmeechamber.com](http://www.kissimmeechamber.com). For additional information contact Jill Stevenson at (407) 847-4433.

Osceola Hospitality February Award goes to Gilbert Rodriguez of Fun Spot Attractions.



John Arie, Jr, Gilbert Rodriguez, Shelley Maccini, Executive Director of Kissimmee CVB

It is rare to find an employee who exemplifies the spirit of hospitality as well as Gilbert Rodriguez does. Osceola is well served in having Gilbert part of our hospitality industry. Fun Spot is blessed to have Gil as an employee, and the guests visiting us rejoice in finding a "friend" who will help them make great memories of family fun during their vacations.

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