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OSCEOLA NEWS-GAZETTE

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AUGUST 18, 2012

The Best of Osceola



The News-Gazette presents the best of Osceola's businesses as selected by the readers.
See section, B-1

Local

The Osceola Art Festival is moving back to its former home



The county's largest art event not only is returning to its original fall time slot, but it also returns to the streets of downtown Kissimmee in November.
See page, A-2

Question of the week

What is your view of red light running cameras?

- I approve of them.
 - They are too intrusive.
 - I don't mind, I always stop for red lights.
 - I don't have an opinion.
- Vote at aroundosceola.com

Results of the Aug. 11 question: What is the best feature about Osceola County?

- Parks - 33 percent
- Entertainment - 30.2 percent
- Restaurants - 3.2 percent
- The arts - 0 percent
- Something else - 33.3 percent

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Osceola authorities remove 211 firearms off the streets

Smoke grenades, hollow-point bullets among items collected

By Fallan Patterson
Staff Writer

More than 200 firearms were relinquished by residents to Osceola County law enforcement Thursday during a 12-hour event aimed at getting unwanted guns off the streets.

Five years into a Central Florida program that trades gift cards for firearms — with no questions asked — Osceola County law enforcement agencies collected handguns, rifles and sawed-off shotguns from residents.

The Osceola County Sheriff's Office and the Kissimmee Police Department set up separate operations Thursday for the fifth annual Crimeline-supported Kicks 4 Guns program.

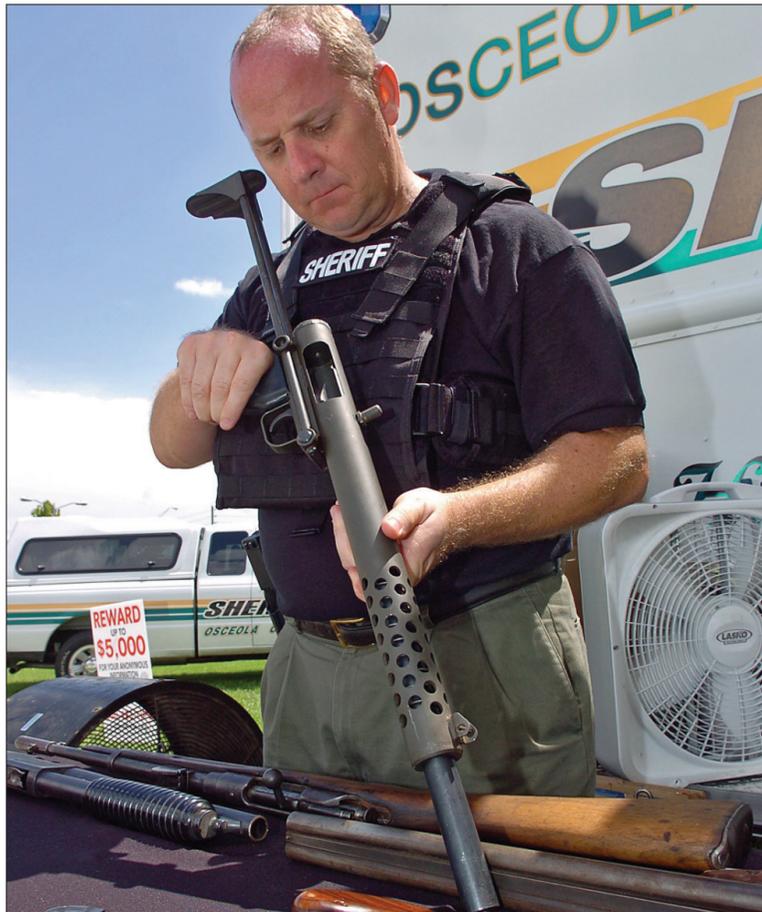
The Sheriff's Office collected 172 firearms — just short of their record of 178 weapons in one year — including three illegal weapons, at their new location at Osceola Heritage Park as part of Gas for Guns. The agency moved to OHP this year to increase participation due to high visibility along the U.S. Highway 192 corridor.

"We wanted to make it convenient for as many Osceola County residents as possible," spokeswoman Twis Lizasuain said, adding that in the five years the agency has participated in the program, they've collected 578 guns.

The agency took any firearm regardless of age or whether it's broken in exchange for a \$50 gift card to Wawa, RaceTrac, Hess or Murphy USA.

One woman turned in 12 guns before 10 a.m. and another couple turned in 17 firearms just after 10 a.m., the most firearms from any

See Guns, page A-2



News-Gazette Photo/Andrew Sullivan

Det. Jack Donaldson inspects a single-shot folding stock shotgun that was surrendered Thursday during the Osceola County Sheriff Office's Gas for Guns program. The event, which offered a no-questions-asked solution for firearm disposal, collected 172 weapons from county residents in exchange for gift cards funded by seizure money collected by the agency.

Man accused of Poinciana murder set to stand trial

By Fallan Patterson
Staff Writer

Jury selection begins Monday in the second-degree murder trial of Steven Louis, the Kissimmee man accused of stabbing to death the mother of his daughter in the Polk County side of Poinciana in November.

Louis, 28, is being tried in Polk County. However, Orange/Osceola State Attorneys Sarah Hatch and Mark Levine will be prosecuting the case as the Osceola County Sheriff's Office originally investigated the disappearance of Louis' ex-girlfriend Nicole Fields from the Osceola County Courthouse following a child support hearing involving the couple's daughter.

Fields, 26, had dropped off the couple's daughter and another from her previous relationship at a Kissimmee

babysitter's house Nov. 3, 2011, before her scheduled court hearing.

During the hearing, Fields filed a motion to give Louis \$11,700 credit because he had been giving her money toward daycare and she "had a change of heart" and wanted to give him a "fresh start" because he had recently been released from prison, court records stated. Her motion was denied.

Fields was visible on the courthouse security cameras walking to and from the hearing alone, according to court records.

Louis was scheduled to also appear at the hearing but told detectives he lacked transportation from his Poinciana home at 913 Gateshead Court.

It was after the hearing that Fields drove to Louis' home where the pair got into a heated argument about child sup-

port while driving around the neighborhoods in Fields' teal 1994 Oldsmobile Cutlass.

Louis told detectives the couple stopped by an abandoned home, 612 Robin Lane in Haines City, that has an empty lot and a wooded area in the backyard so Fields could urinate. It was in that wooded lot that the argument between the 5 foot, 3 inch, 155-pound Fields and the 5 foot, 11 inch, 195-pound Louis escalated, according to the detective's interviews with Louis.

Fields allegedly told Louis he wouldn't be allowed to visit their daughter except in the presence of the Department of Children and Families unless he supplied her with more child support. It was then the pair allegedly began hitting each other and a knife fell out of Louis' pocket.

When Louis bent down to retrieve the knife, Fields allegedly hit him. Louis told

See Trial, page A-3



Louis



Fields

Police: Obey traffic rules when school starts Monday

By Ken Jackson
Staff Writer

Drivers are warned to take additional care during their morning commutes and in the mid-afternoon beginning Monday as Osceola County public schools open their doors for the 2012-13 school year.

Students will be walking and riding bikes to schools, and boarding and disembarking from school buses, and the Kissimmee Police Department is reminding motorists to heed school zones and warning lights —

and of the hefty fines for not doing so.

For instance, it is against the law to pass a loading or unloading school bus with an extended stop sign or crossing arm or flashing red lights, including for opposite-traveling traffic in absence of a five-foot raised median.

A ticket for that will cost \$271, four points on a driver's license and a mandatory trip to traffic school.

Drivers are also asked to heed school zones, notated by signage, flashing yellow

See Traffic, page A-3

Kissimmee

City rolls out economic development incentives

By Ken Jackson
Staff Writer

The city of Kissimmee has unveiled a new set of incentives geared toward inviting new businesses to come to town, open their doors, and hopefully be a part of the city's revitalization.

Kissimmee Economic Development Director Belinda Kirkegard, at the City Commission meeting on Aug. 7, outlined a list of

new ways of eliminating some of the bureaucratic red tape that hinder potential outfits' startup efforts.

Mayor Jim Swan said the efforts Kirkegard is making through her partnerships, combined with other city business assistance programs like forming a pair of Community Redevelopment Areas, are a key element of turning around the local effects of the soured

See Incentives, page A-5

SCHS athletic director cleared of drug charges

By Fallan Patterson
Staff Writer

The St. Cloud High School athletic director arrested in June on drug possession charges had those charges dropped Tuesday by the Orange/Osceola State Attorney's Office for lack of evidence.

Matt Milton, 30, was charged June 8, the last day of the school year, with possession of cannabis with intent to sell or deliver and sale and delivery of cannabis. He was accused by the St. Cloud Police Department of helping to broker a deal between an alleged drug dealer and a female undercover police officer in April at the Soldier City Saloon in downtown St. Cloud.

The charges were dropped by the State Attorney's Office for insufficient evidence, spokesman Det. Bernie Presha said.

Milton, of Winter Springs, did not return calls for comment.

He was reassigned by the Osceola County School District and will not be in contact with any students until the incident is resolved, spokeswoman Dana Schafer said. An internal investigation is currently under way.

"Until we complete our investigation, he'll remain reassigned and away from students," School District spokeswoman Kim McKnight said.

According School District officials, Milton was hired as a physical education teacher at the high school in 2006. In January 2010, Milton was promoted to dean of students. He was head wrestling coach and also coached golf for the high school.

He was promoted to athletic director in 2011.

Red light cameras at JYP, Highway 192 go live

The red light cameras located at the intersection of John Young Parkway and U.S. Highway 192, have switched from the warning period to active.

The transition occurred Wednesday. Drivers will begin receiving citations if they fail to stop at the red light. The cameras will only record when a vehicle runs a red light as opposed to recording continuously.

If the cameras capture a vehicle running through the intersection, there will be \$158 fine issues if paid within 30 days of the violation. Afterward, a uniform traffic citation will be issued and the amount will increase.

Both the notice of violation and the uniform traffic citation are only issued after a Kissimmee police officer reviews the photographs and video of the vehicle, as it passes through

See Camera page A-3

Osceola Art Festival to return to Broadway



File Photo

The annual Osceola Art Festival will return to downtown Kissimmee, above, after having moved to Valencia College several years ago.

By Peter Covino
Lifestyles Editor

You won't have to wait until winter for the annual Osceola Art Festival.

The county's largest art event not only is returning to its original fall time slot, but it also returns to the streets of downtown Kissimmee in November.

The event has been growing since it moved to the Osceola Campus of Valencia College a few years ago, said Jules Davidson, visual arts director for the Osceola Center for the Arts, which organizes the event. The art festival is also teaming up with Kissimmee Main Street to bring the festival back to its original downtown roots.

"Over the past few years, we've been able to fine tune the festival's organization and we anticipate that the return to downtown Kissimmee will improve foot traffic and community participation from our new collaboration with Kissimmee Main Street," Davidson said.

The festival will be held

on the streets of downtown (Broadway) Nov. 17-18.

There were several reasons for the change from Valencia back to downtown, Davidson said.

"Valencia was a good location," she said, "but we were outgrowing it."

Many of the downtown businesses also wanted to see the festival return downtown, she said.

There are less events happening in fall as opposed to winter, Davidson said, which increases the opportunities for more sponsorships and grant funding.

Davidson said the festival is looking at having as many as 150 artists when it returns downtown.

In addition to all the art, moving downtown will give art lovers a chance to explore the shops and restaurants of downtown Kissimmee.

"We are adding a new category of fine craft and an additional \$5,000 in prize money as well," Davidson said.

See Festival, page A-5

Gateway sets International Baccalaureate bar

By Ken Jackson
Staff Writer

Members of the Gateway High senior class this fall who are embarking on their final year in the international baccalaureate program will have a tough academic act to follow.

The school, which has offered the IB program for 11 years, graduated its largest crop of honor students to date this past spring as 69 IB diplomas were conferred. That bettered the school's previous high of 59, set just a year ago.

Gateway's IB diploma track, broken into pre-diploma (ninth and 10th grades) and full IB Diploma (11th and 12th grades) segments, is highly intense and geared toward passing college-level exams taken in May of their senior year.

In addition to the intensive coursework, IB students are required to complete an

in-depth research essay on a subject they are studying, complete the Theory of Knowledge course to learn the origins and methods of knowledge acquisition and complete 150 hours of artistic, athletic or community service or endeavors.

Students earn college credits based on their scores on each IB exam. A total of 24 points across the examinations are required to receive the IB diploma; those points translate into earned college credits. Gateway's class of 2012 earned a total of 2,394 credits through the IB program, another school record.

Valerie Rizer, Gateway's guidance counselor for the IB program, noted Elizabeth Sanders, who earned 39 points, which translates into 42 college credits — meaning she will step on to her college campus in the middle of her sophomore year.

"There were some amazing results," she said. "This group really has carried an overall sense of honor."

In addition to all those accolades, Rizer said Gateway will have four seniors this fall who will be National Merit Scholar semifinalists. This is after GHS graduate Richard Belleville earned a merit scholarship last spring to attend the University of Alabama.

"At the very least, those four will be honored as 'Commended Scholars,'" Rizer said. "It is pretty incredible, considering most years only two or three in the whole district earn that."

A total of 15 Gateway graduates (another record, by the way) headed to prestigious colleges out of state this fall such as Columbia, Duke, and multiple ones will study at the Universities of Co-

See IB, page A-5

Guns

Continued from Page A-1

one individual to the Sheriff's Office in five years, Lizasuain said.

Karen, who declined to give her last name, said she and her husband buy broken guns for restoration at various venues.

When the firearms are beyond repair, the couple chooses to turn them in for gift cards rather than letting them fall into someone else's hands.

"We don't want that stuff around the house because it attracts the wrong people. We didn't just want to throw them away," she said, adding the \$850 in gas station gift cards they collected will ease holiday shopping.

"That'll take care of our Christmas," Karen said, adding she plans to donate some of the cards to needy families. "If a family needs food because somebody lost their job, we'll give them a gift card."

Bob Whitcombe, also of St. Cloud, turned in an old shotgun that had been in his closet for 30 years. He used to squirrel hunt with it up north.

"It's a good gun. Just getting it out of my house in case somebody steals it," Whitcombe said. "It's just a .22 (caliber) but it'll hurt you."

He plans to give the gas gift card to his son-in-law because

"he drives us to supper every Friday night," Whitcombe said.

When a firearm is relinquished to law enforcement, the agency's firearms specialists check the weapon in several databases before giving it a serial number and logging it into the system.

The guns are then turned over to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement where they are destroyed.

Kissimmee police Thursday collected as part of Kicks 4 Guns 39 firearms — mostly handguns — two smoke grenades and two boxes of Black Talons hollow-point bullets at their location on Vine Street in the parking lot of the K-Mart and Big Lots shopping center.

Residents were given a \$50 gift card to either Target or Walmart in exchange for their firearms or a \$10 gift card to Wawa, K-Mart or Big Lots in exchange for a BB gun that looks like a real gun.

They collected a rare Cobra single shot 12-gauge shotgun from a Lakeland man; only 18 were ever produced, Miller said.

The Kissimmee Police Department has participated in Kicks 4 Guns for four years; last year they collected 107 guns.



News-Gazette Photo/Andrew Sullivan

A variety of weapons were collected during Thursday's Gas for Guns event, held by the Osceola County Sheriff's Office at Osceola Heritage Park, including some illegally modified rifles and shotguns.

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Former officer nabbed for child porn

Police news

Osceola County Sheriff's detectives Tuesday arrested Robert Kevin Britt, of Davenport, and charged him with 10 second-degree felony counts of child pornography.

The investigation began July 16, when Polk County Sheriff's detectives, conducting an undercover Internet operation to identify persons using the Internet to traffic or distribute images of child pornography, identified Britt, 38, as a suspect. The Osceola County Sheriff's Office was contacted

when detectives discovered his residence was located in Osceola County.

Osceola County detectives obtained a search warrant for his residence, and Tuesday seized several computers and electronic devices found in Britt's bedroom. Detectives processed the devices and found at least 10 child pornography images.

Britt was taken into custody and interviewed by detectives. Based on his statements and



Britt

the evidence discovered during the investigation, he was arrested and booked into the Osceola County Jail. He has since bonded out of jail.

During the course of the investigation, detectives learned Britt formerly worked for the Pensacola Police Department as a school resource officer, was affiliated with the Explorer Program as a patrol officer and volunteered for Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Central Florida.

Detectives made contact with the organization, but currently have no evidence any of the child images are related to that agency.

Trial

Continued from Page A-1

detectives he was a "different man" when he stood back up and allegedly stabbed Fields multiple times in the shoulder and torso.

Louis told detectives that Fields was bleeding heavily and said she felt like she was going to "pass out." Fields then fell to the ground and Louis said he kissed her and took his polo shirt off and laid it over her face, according to court records.

He then fled the scene with Fields' cell phone in her car because he "believed Nicole was dying so he got out of there as fast as he could," the court records stated.

Louis then allegedly texted Fields' babysitter because she was already later than planned to pick up the children, telling the sitter in Fields' voice that the mother was running late because court was taking longer than expected.

The sitter told police the texts didn't "sound" like Fields because they didn't "resemble the wordings" Fields had used in the past, court records stated.

Louis then fled the county, driving south where he was apprehended Nov. 4, 2011, near mile marker 6 on Big Copitt in the Florida Keys after a brief police chase.

Louis allegedly drove Fields' car through the partially closed gate of a private residence, off a boat dock and into the ocean, according to the Monroe County Sheriff's Office.

Louis was observed by the pursuing officer talking on a cell phone and ingesting a "white substance" the officer suspected was cocaine, he wrote in his report.

A 10-inch knife was found in the car but authorities would not comment on whether it was the murder weapon.

Fields was found Nov. 10, two days after her 27th birthday, face down and partially covered by a polo shirt in the wooded lot after an extensive search by law enforcement.

According to the autopsy report, conducted by Orange/Osceola Chief Medical Examiner Dr. Jan. Garavaglia, Fields died from multiple stab wounds including one that punctured her left lung. Animal activity to her body was also noted in the report.

Fields' mother Sherry Fields told detectives her daughter and Louis lived together for approximately two years until about a month before the murder. Fields told her mother that Louis had physically abused her during their relationship, the police report stated.

Louis faces life in prison without the possibility of parole if convicted.

Valencia selling bricks for scholarships

Last fall, Valencia College broke ground on a new, \$35 million building on its Osceola campus.

The four-story building, designated Building 4, will be the largest space on any Valencia campus - with 150,000 square feet of academic and support space.

According to a college press release, Valencia supporters and friends in Osceola County have a unique opportunity to be a part of this exciting ven-

ture through the purchase of engraved bricks. They will be embedded in the entry courtyard, with views of the landmark Osceola Campus clock tower.

Cost of an engraved brick is \$100. Proceeds will support Valencia's Osceola Campus.

"We invite you to leave your mark on campus - in your name or in honor of a loved one. This will be part of Osceola's history," said Dr. Kathleen Plinske, campus president.

For more information, please visit valenciacollege.edu/osceola/bricks

Expected to open to students spring 2013, the building will house the campus library, cafeteria, bookstore, classrooms, science labs and a learning support center that will contain tutoring stations, computers and small-group study rooms. Valencia will share the space with UCF to provide access to bachelor's degrees without leaving campus.

Traffic

Continued from Page A-1

lights and lowered speed limits when schools open and close. A fine for failing to heed the slower speed limits starts at \$206 and goes as high as \$606 with a mandatory court appearance for exceeding a school zone by more than 30 miles per hour.

KPD spokesperson Stacie Miller said that city's Community Relations Squad would be out in force to help with the annual transition into the school year.

"We'll be out making sure drivers stay aware, and that kids stay aware as well by making sure they're wearing bicycle helmets and just being safe," she said. "We want to remind drivers about our 'Stop on Red, Kids Ahead' program."

Miller noted an area of concern this week will be in front of Thacker Avenue Elementary School, where road construction adds to an already congested student pick-up and drop-off area.

Staffing levels for crossing guards in the city remain the same as last school year, Miller reported.

In other traffic news, the red light cameras at the intersection of John Young Parkway and Vine Street became the latest in Kissimmee to transition from the "warning-only" period to fully active.

Motorists caught by the cameras illegally passing through the intersection will receive a \$158 fine via a notice in the mail, but not before a Kissimmee police officer reviews photographs and video of the vehicle. If the fine is not paid within 30 days of the violation, it reverts to a moving violation, with a citation issued and the fine increasing to \$264 and four points on the driver's record.

The violation is issued to the vehicle's registered owner, who is responsible for the fine unless that person can prove the vehicle went through the intersection to yield to an

emergency vehicle, as part of a funeral procession or under direction of law enforcement.

Miller stressed that the city's objective in the red light camera operation is strictly safety.

"This is not about generating revenue, it's about saving lives," she said.

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OPINION

Our View

We can do better

The election results Tuesday showed exactly why you have to get out and vote.

Because the voting public wanted their voices to be heard in Osceola County, several incumbents were defeated.

But unfortunately, as we've seen in past years, voter turnout was dismal. There was only a 15.68 percent voter turnout in Tuesday's primary election with 23,786 ballots cast, including early voting and absentee ballots, out of 151,721 registered voters, according to the Osceola County Supervisor of Elections Office. We believe we have to do better than that.

Granted, it was a primary, and not the Nov. 6 General Election, but that's no excuse. The races between political parties are shaped by primaries and we think that's important.

Those who did vote made some sweeping changes. Realtor Tim Weisheyer defeated incumbent Cindy Hartig by 61.66 to 38.34 percent in the Osceola County School Board district 3 race.

The voters also ousted incumbent Osceola County Clerk of Court Malcom Thompson. Now, Rayelynn Ketchum and community activist Armando Ramirez will face off in November for the job.

And in one of the most watched races in Central Florida, Osceola residents helped retired prosecutor Jeff Ashton unseat 24-year incumbent Lawson Lamar in the Orange-Osceola County State Attorney race.

That's the strength of voting. When voters believe you're not doing a good job in the political realm, chances are they will let you know it. And that's what they did. Kudos to those who did get out and vote.

But the job is not over. The elections in November include: Osceola County School Board district 2, where Attorney Kelvin Soto and John Ramirez will square off.

In the Kissimmee City Commission seat 1 race, commercial property appraiser Dave Scherer will face off against Realtor Jose A. Alvarez for Kissimmee City Commission seat 1.

Church administrator Mike DeLong faces a run-off against businesswoman Sara Shaw for Kissimmee City Commission seat 3.

Paul Owen will face sitting Osceola County Commissioner Mike Harford in the General Election for County Commission seat 1.

For County Commission seat 3, Jeffery Goldmacher will take on sitting district 3 incumbent Brandon Arrington.

And, of course, let's not forget the race for the White House.

Voting is the only way to ensure that our democracy will function properly. Hopefully, more from our county will participate in November.



Your view

What is fair

To the Editor:

We have heard a great deal in the past year about the term "fairness" when speaking about reducing the deficit. Lately these discussions have revolved around the Bush tax cuts and the ever popular class warfare argument.

"Fair" is defined in the dictionary as "not favoring one more than others". Depending on which side of the discussion you are on, "fair/fairness" is at best a subjective term. Subjective is defined as "existing in the mind of the speaker; belonging to the person's thinking and/or personal feelings". Trying to argue the term "fair or fairness" in any debate is problematic at best and impossible at worst.

The president and the Democrat Party congressional leaders define "fairness" as the "rich" (as they define the term "rich") should pay more in taxes than they are now because they can afford it. Mitt Romney and the Republican Party congressional leaders define "fairness" as reducing expenditures and not raising taxes on anyone so as to not further exacerbate the sick economy.

Today, both the Democrat party and the Republican Party have chosen to stake out non-negotiable positions that have put themselves, us and the our country in a very precarious position. Each party apparently has decided to either "win it all" or "fall on their swords" if they lose. The problem with that is they are dragging all of us with them into this winner take all gamble.

"Shared responsibility" is a term thrown around copiously these days. In fact back in 2009, among many lofty promises and calls to action, the president uttered these words: "What is required of us now is a new era of responsibility - a recognition, on the part of every American, that we have duties to ourselves, our nation, and the world, duties that we do not grudgingly accept but rather seize gladly, firm in the knowledge that there is nothing so satisfying to the spirit, so defining of our character, than giving our all to a difficult task". President Obama is not the first to utter such exaltations in the modern era. President Kennedy, President Reagan, President Clinton and President Bush (both before and after 911) encouraged us in the very same manner. And for sometime after all of these men asked that of us we responded. But then, those presidents and us took our eyes off the target and let politics and personal obligations, among other things, derail those lofty goals.

What seems to rile most folks up that I talk to is that only the taxpayer seems to be asked to be part of the shared responsibility equation. The perception of the taxpayers is that they are working harder than ever to keep their heads above water while being expected to supply the non taxpayers with ever increasing entitlements. In fact the resentment extends to the politicians as well. When they ask us to sacrifice and share responsibility they also must participate in terms of difficult political decisions and career sacrifices.

It is in the spirit of shared responsibility as defined in the above quote, seasoned with reality and a dose of good old common sense, along with some practical number crunching that I offer this solution.

1. All taxpayers agree to a 1 percent across the board tax increase. Not just the rich. All of us. The increased tax revenue provided by the 1 percent tax is to be applied directly toward deficit reduction. No new programs or funding of existing programs.

2. The recipients of federal entitlements, that taxpayers' money funds, (no exceptions, remember "shared responsibility seized gladly" as the President said) accept a reduction in those benefits Equal to the value of the 1 percent tax increase revenue that number one above provides.

This will accomplish at least four things:

- The 1 percent tax increase across the board will provide exponentially more revenue than taxing the rich 3 percent alone.
- The reduction of entitlements will reduce expenditures by an additional amount

equal to the tax increase.

- The positive psychological benefit of everyone working together toward fixing a common problem.

- Our actions will serve as a model for the rest of the world to follow. It will encourage everyone to participate.

The time is short. The battle is eminent. Remember the politicians only do what they think we want and will get them reelected. It is not their fault if we are not clear as to what we want. If we encourage them to move in this direction and let them know that we will give them resounding support in this effort they will participate.

Frank Iaquinto
St. Cloud

Public education comes with great responsibility

To the Editor:

As we begin to embark on a new school year, it is important for us as parents, teachers, paraprofessionals, administrators, students, and residents of Osceola County to remember that the right of a free public education comes with great responsibilities for all of us. Much like the saying that it takes a village to raise a child, it takes a community to educate a child.

The community of teachers, paraprofessionals, staff and administrators in our schools has the responsibility to educate and care for our students, especially as we face budget cuts and legislative changes. In spite of those cuts and changes, we know that it is our responsibility to prepare our students to lead prosperous and productive lives that will ensure the future of our community, nation and world.

The community of parents has the responsibility of taking an active and positive role in their students' education. It is up to parents to make certain their children are well rested, have a good breakfast, and come to school prepared to learn with their materials and a positive attitude about education. As a parent, your attitude toward school greatly influences your student regardless of whether they are in VPK or a high school Senior. Get to know your student's teacher(s) and work with them to help your student succeed.

The community of students has the responsibility to focus on their education. It does not matter whether you, as a student, plan to work in a trade, join the Armed Forces or pursue a higher education, the habits and attitude you build and display in school will help or hinder your success in school and in life. Talk with your teachers and ask questions if you do not understand the lesson or material. It is your responsibility to do your homework as it is given to help you understand the material. Your teachers became teachers because they care about you and want you to succeed.

Finally, the community of residents in Osceola County who do not have a student in school has the responsibility to support your public schools. Many wonder how they can do this. The answer is simple. You can volunteer at your local school. Many schools need people to help with a variety of tasks and will appreciate your assistance. A bonus of doing this is that you can see firsthand what really happens in our schools rather than hearing just what the media and politicians tell you. There are many wonderful things happening in our schools that never make it into the mainstream media. You can also be an advocate for the best possible public education possible for our students. When voting, do not allow the titles of proposed legislation mislead you. Instead, read what the proposed legislation says it will do if it becomes law. The truth may surprise you.

All of us working together will improve our students' education. Remember, it takes a community to educate our future.

Jay B. Snyder
Osceola County
Education Association

Their view

America under attack by right-wing terrorists

Can we finally say the thing we have not said so far?

Last week, a white supremacist shot up a Sikh temple near Milwaukee, killing six people and wounding three. It is considered likely that the shooter mistook the Sikhs, whose men wear beards and turbans, for Muslims. The massacre came a few weeks after a characteristically baseless charge by Michele Bachmann and several other conservative legislators that a Muslim aide to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton has ties to Islamic extremism.

The juxtaposition of those two events is emphatically not meant to suggest Bachmann somehow "caused" the Wisconsin rampage. No, the point is that we are looking for terror in all the wrong places. Or, perhaps more accurately, that we are not looking for it in all the right places.

In the almost 20 years since the first attack by Muslim extremists on the World Trade Center, the following things have happened: the bombing of a federal building in Oklahoma City leaves 168 dead and hundreds more injured; one person is killed, more than 100 wounded, in a bombing at the Olympics in Atlanta; seven people are arrested for plotting to attack U.S. military bases; Dr. Barnett Slepian is shot and killed in Amherst, N.Y.; five people die in a shooting spree near Pittsburgh; the FBI arrests a man who tried to buy ingredients for sarin, the deadly nerve gas, from an undercover agent; Dr. George Tiller is shot and killed in Wichita, Kan.; a man and his daughter are killed in their home in Arivaca, Ariz.; a man flies a small plane into a building in Austin, killing himself and one other. And now, this.

These incidents and dozens more comprise a list maintained by the Southern Poverty Law Center in a publication entitled "Terror From the Right: Plots, Conspiracies and Racist Rampages Since Oklahoma City." What they all have in common is that they spring from motivations (i.e., opposition to taxation, government, immigrants, blacks, gays, abortion and Muslims) that more or less define modern, mainstream, conservatism. So yes, it is time to say the obvious thing no one seems to be saying:

America is under attack by right-wing terrorists.

And here, again, it is necessary to say what the point is not. Namely, it is not that conservatism equals terrorism. These criminals are fanatics, and fanaticism is restricted to no particular ideology. Ironically, that's an argument to which conservatives often turn deaf ears when it is made on behalf of Muslims, but that doesn't make it any less true - or applicable here.

That said, what's telling is that we won't even call this what it is. When the Symbionese Liberation Army and the Weather Underground were committing violence in the 1970s, we were not slow in decrying left-wing terrorism and requiring progressives to disown it. When al-Qaida kills and maims, we are not shy about branding it Islamic terrorism and requiring moderate Muslims to disown it.

For some reason, though, we are reluctant to call right-wing terror by name. And you can forget requiring conservatives to distance themselves from it.

Rather than see a pattern that grows more glaring every day, we see a series of discrete events - this individual tragedy here, that one there, regrettable certainly, but surely not suggestive of any larger picture. Maybe this is because the perpetrators of these crimes are overwhelmingly white Christian men and thus, invisible in a nation where danger is routinely defined as Them, not Us. Maybe it's because media have become cowed and self-censoring, reflexively flinching from that which might bring accusations of anti-conservative bias.

Either way, one wonders how we can confront what we won't even name. These plots hatched in the fetid backwaters of conservative paranoia ought to be called what they are. The blood of victims demands an honest accounting.

We have given them a dishonest silence instead.

Leonard Pitts is a columnist for the Miami Herald, 1 Herald Plaza, Miami, Fla., 33132. Readers may contact him via e-mail at lpitts@miamiherald.com.



Leonard Pitts
Tribune
Media

Got a gripe?

Submit letters to the editor to Osceola News-Gazette, 108 Church St., Kissimmee, FL 34741. If you wish to fax your letter to the newspaper, the number is 407-846-8516. Email letters to news@osceolanewsgazette.com.

No more than one letter per writer will be published each month. An individual will be allowed to submit one letter of rebuttal if he or an organization he represents is the subject of a letter to the editor.

All letters should be no more than 500 words and should include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for verification purposes. The News-Gazette will not publish the writer's phone number.

Letters to the editor are published on Thursdays and Saturdays. They also may be published in other Florida Sun Publications, including on the News-Gazette website. If you have any questions about letters to the editor or the Opinion page, contact Editor Brian McBride at 321-402-0436. Email at bmcbride@osceolanewsgazette.com.

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Call the hotline if you spot a python nearby

A 17.7 foot Burmese python carrying 87 eggs is a record for Everglades National Park and a reminder that these problem snakes are here to stay.

The Nature Conservancy has been working to prevent their spread out of the Everglades by training responders to pick them up when sighted. Anyone who sees a python or any other invasive species, like Nile monitors should take a photo and call 1-888-IveGot1 and report your sighting to the Python Patrol.

"We have 24-hour response by law enforcement in 10 counties, although anyone in Florida can leave a message," said Nature Conservancy Biologist Cheryl Millett, who runs the Conservancy's Python Patrol program.

The Nature Conservancy began the Python Patrol in 2008 to help prevent the

spread of snakes out of Everglades National Park and into the Florida Keys where one had been discovered after feeding on an endangered Key Largo wood rat. People who work outside for a living were encouraged to call in sightings and trained responders up and down the Keys captured the intruders. Now the program is being implemented across the southern part of the state.

Pythons eat a wide range of wildlife species, including birds, mammals and alligators up to four-feet long. University of Florida scientists studying Florida's largest snake found to date said its size would allow it to eat most anything. Capture of the record snake was announced by UF Monday.

"By capturing snakes in the counties on the edges of the major infestation in the park

we may be able to stop the spread and prevent new breeding. And by capturing them in the park we hope to suppress the population," Millett said.

Sightings can be filed online at IveGot1.org as well. There is also an iPhone App available through iTunes called IveGot1 that was developed by the University of Georgia. The phone number and web site are open for reports of all invaders, including fish. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is partnering with the Conservancy

to respond to reports. And wildlife officers continue to be trained to properly capture and bag snakes.

"We encourage everyone to become more familiar with distinguishing invasive from native reptiles by taking the free online REDDy training offered by the University of Florida," Millett said. Online REDDy training is at <http://ufwildlife.ifas.ufl.edu/reddy.shtml> and offers a certificate at end of the 40-minute free training, plus identification and reporting handouts.

IB

Continued from Page A-2

nell and Pennsylvania. Twenty-two are headed to the University of Florida and another 21 are going to UCF, and others were denied entry into those schools because of the sheer demand.

"It's become like the Harvard of the South," Rizer said. "The average SATs and GPAs of who they're accepting are just so high."

Because Celebration High School recently became the second school in the district to add the IB program, and will have its first crop of seniors in the upcoming 2012-13 school

year, Gateway's senior class this fall will be slightly smaller than last year's.

Rizer said any expansion of the curriculum for the county's highest achievers is a positive.

"It's our hope that the county could spend more on its upper-end students than it has in the past," she said. "I don't think we can do enough for these kids. They have to be so committed, proving they have the endurance and dedication to this extra work. We do what we can to return the commitment."

Festival

Continued from Page A-2

The Osceola Art Festival is a juried event with \$20,000 in prize money awarded in 10 categories, including two best of show prizes in the amount of \$1,500 each. Categories are: painting, digital, clay and ceramics, jewelry, glass, sculpture, wood and metal, mixed media and fine craft.

In addition to the juried art, the festival will feature sidewalk chalk art, a student art display, live entertainment and a downtown sculpture walk.

The sculpture walk, the sixth annual Kissimmee Sculpture Experience, will have new sculptures just in time for the event as well.

The current sculptures will be uninstalled on Sept. 28, making room for the new ones to be brought in on Oct. 19.

The deadline for submission is Sept. 1.

"Part of our goal is to make downtown Kissimmee an art and cultural center for Osceola County," said Kelly Trace, executive director for Kissimmee Main Street.

Last year the sculpture experience generated more than 3,000 unique visits to the downtown area, she said.

Each artist chosen to participate in the 2012-13 Sculpture Experience will receive a \$500 award and additionally, another \$500 will go to the best of show. Each piece is loaned to the exhibit and available for purchase. Sculptors can submit up to three pieces for a \$40 fee.

For more information and to apply for the Kissimmee Sculpture Experience

visit www.kissimmeemainstreet.com or call 407-846-4643.

Artists can apply online for the Osceola Art Festival at www.zapplication.org or visit www.ocfta.com for a print-to-mail version of the festival application. The artist deadline is Sept. 15, and acceptance notices will be sent by Oct. 1. Local non-profit community groups are also invited to participate and can find application paperwork online at www.ocfta.com.

Call 407-846-6257, Ext. 4, or visit www.ocfta.com for more information.

The festival will be set up between Stewart Avenue and Sproule Street on Broadway. The downtown corridor (through Neptune Road) will be closed to vehicle traffic during the event.

Incentives

Continued from Page A-1

economy.

"The whole commission feels this way. The situation we're in didn't happen quickly, and it won't be fixed quickly, but every day we try to chip away," he said. "It's part of a long process and we have to work hard."

The new incentives include short-term projects, such as a fast-tracked building permit process, along with longer-term plans like offering demolition services to existing companies who purchase a site and want to rebuild on it. This move will help remove unkempt eyesores that contribute to nothing but blight.

The plan also calls for continuing the Kissimmee Utility Authority's partnership with the city to waive commercial line fees for establishing utility service. Kirkegard noted that plan has already added upwards of 200 jobs to the area.

Grants up to \$25,000 for safety and Americans with Disabilities Act retrofitting are also part of the plan.

Eligibility criteria also was laid out at the meeting. A company must bring its corporate headquarters to Kissimmee to qualify, or be on the city's list of targeted industries: preparatory high schools, post-secondary educational institutions, aeronautics, medical specialties, clean

technology or alternative energy, and manufacturing.

In addition, the company must meet a sliding scale of the average wage created, from \$35,271 (115 percent of Osceola County's average wage) for 10 or more jobs created, to \$52,906 for at least five jobs.

Kirkegard said the city is doing what it can to make it easier for businesses to relocate to Kissimmee and find prosperity — for them and the city.

"We're not trying to bribe companies into coming here. We're here to help them facilitate the bureaucracy of starting up and offset the costs of making investment in our community," she said. "We recognize that it's a tough environment for businesses right now."

Companies who qualify will be entered into a contract-like agreement with the city's Economic Development Office, which will present this paperwork to the city commission for its approval.

"Our commission is locked into this: if we are providing you an incentive, prove that you are bringing jobs," Swan said. "A job doesn't know boundaries, but it can add to the inventory of better-paying jobs, which in the end creates opportunity for everyone."

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More bling for Markus

Paul owns 5 Super Bowl rings

Osceola High grad witnessed another Giants championship

By Rick Pedone
Sports Editor

Kissimmee native and New York Giants Assistant Strength and Conditioning Coach Markus Paul had witnessed this drama before.

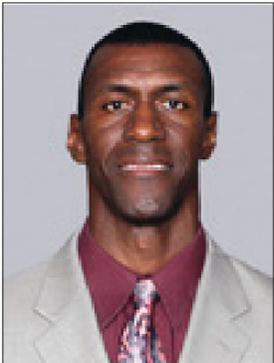
The Giants were staggering through a four-game losing streak late in the 2011 NFL season, Coach Tom Coughlin was under fire, the season was just about finished.

Did he think the Giants would pull off another Super Bowl run, as they did in 2007, while everyone else was writing their obituary?

"I'll tell you what. No," Paul said. "At that point, you're just trying to win your division, get in the playoffs."

We know how the story turned out. The Giants, for the second time in four seasons, went on a near-miraculous late-season run to win the NFC East championship before defeating Atlanta (24-2), Green Bay (37-20), San Francisco (20-17, OT) and then New England (21-17) in Super Bowl XLVI for the team's fourth Super Bowl championship.

Paul, an Osceola High



Markus Paul

graduate and former Chicago Bears defensive back, has one more Super Bowl ring than the Giants organization — five, counting three he won with New England in 2001, 2003 and 2004.

"It's unbelievable," Paul said.

Paul's mentor, Mike Woicik, has six rings from Dallas and New England.

"I don't know of anyone other than Mike who has six," Paul said. "I still need one more to catch him."

Paul was in Kissimmee last month, relaxing for a few days with his family, before return-

ing to the NFL meat grinder in late July for the opening of training camp.

"It's the time when we feel the most pressure. If someone comes in out of shape and is having problems, everyone's looking to the strength coaches to see what the problem is," he said. "But, the thing is, under the new collective bargaining agreement, they are off for six weeks after the June practices. We don't have any interaction with them. When they come to camp, that's when you see who the real professionals are."

The Giants played their only game in Florida this season Aug. 10, a 32-31 loss to Jacksonville.

For Paul and all NFL coaches, the term "offseason" is a misnomer. The Giants coaching staff got a brief break after the Super Bowl, but then it was right back to work preparing for the draft. Paul helped injured players rehabilitate, and he worked with the incoming free agents and draft picks, preparing them for the Optional Team Activities in May and the Giants' minicamp in June.

Paul reflected on the Giants'



Photo/New York Giants

Markus Paul talks with the Giants Conditioning and Strength Coach Jerry Palmieri (standing) before the players reported for a workout in June.

erie journey last year and how it was amazingly similar to the 2007 season.

"We were talking about how incredible it was that we were in the exact same situa-

tion as the last time. We had to beat Green Bay in Green Bay, we won the (NFC) championship in overtime, and then we had New England again," he said.

Paul said the key to the Giants championship run was Coughlin, who never let the team quit despite the regular-season adversity.

"He knows when to back off, and when to challenge the players," Paul said.

Paul said in looking back at the Giants' late-season losing streak, when the team stumbled to .500 from a 6-2 start, he realized that the Giants had lost to good teams: Green Bay, Philadelphia, San Francisco and New Orleans.

"We were getting healthier. Things were starting to come together," Paul said. "One thing about the Giants is that they always play their best when their backs are against the wall. I wish we wouldn't do it that way, though, because I'm getting some gray hair."

Last season's Super Bowl was a flashback to Super Bowl XLI: close throughout, New England holding a lead in the fourth quarter, and then quarterback Eli Manning making a remarkable 38-yard throw to Mario Manningham along the sideline late in the game to spur the winning touchdown drive.

"It was just like with David Tyree (in 2008)," Paul said.

Paul didn't see the big pass play this time, though.

"One of my jobs is to get the pictures to the defensive line coach between series, and that's what I was doing when Manningham made that catch," Paul said. "I heard this big cheer, and I was like, 'What happened?'"

He and just about everyone else rooting for the Giants winced when running back Ahmad Bradshaw scored the winning touchdown with 57 seconds left, rather than stopping short of the goal line so the Giants could run down the clock.

"I firmly believed in that game that the last team that had the ball was going to win," Paul said. "When Ahmad scored, I was like, 'Ahmad, no!' I didn't care that it was only 57 seconds left. I knew Tom Brady was going back out on the field with a chance to win it."

The Patriots quarterback's last-second pass into the end zone barely fell incomplete.

"A foot closer, and he would have pulled it off," Paul said.

Brady and Paul were close friends when Paul worked for the Patriots.

"I didn't get a chance to see him after the game, or just about anyone else from the Patriots. I saw (Patriots running back) Kevin Faulk for just a moment, but the one thing I don't like about the way they handle the Super Bowl is that

See Paul, page A-7



Photo/New York Giants

Quarterback Eli Manning and the Giants were in Jacksonville Aug. 10 for a preseason game against the Jaguars. It was the team's only appearance in Florida this season. The Giants play the Jets today at MetLife Stadium.

FCC basketball coach will speak at FABC clinic in September

By Rick Pedone
Sports Editor

Florida Christian College Basketball Coach Jake Deer will be among the guest speakers at the Florida Association of Basketball Coaches Fall Clinic next month at Oviedo High.

Deer, who led the Suns to the NCCAA Division II national tournament in 2011-12, joins former Orlando Magic Coach Stan Van Gundy and former Magic player Jeff Turner and several other college and high school coaches as presenters at the clinic, which is hosted by former Osceola High Coach Ed Kershner.

Gundy was dismissed as the Magic coach after the recent

season that saw the team dissolve in turmoil when center Dwight Howard refused to sign a long-term contract extension. He was traded to the L.A. Lakers last week.

Turner, a center for the Magic in the 1990s, now coaches at Lake Highland Prep.

Deer recently announced the signings of three high school players and is optimistic the team again will contend for a Division II national championship.

"We're returning most of the players from last season. We feel we have a great opportunity to be even better next season," Deer said.

The team will begin the regular season in October.



News-Gazette Photo/Andrew Sullivan

Florida Christian College Coach Jake Deer huddles with his players before a 2010 practice. Deer will be a speaker at the FABC clinic at Oviedo next month.

Fishing in Alabama similar to fishing in Kissimmee

This past week I took a break from Lake Toho and spent the week on Lake Pickwick up in northwestern Alabama.

My three sons and their families met my wife and I there for our annual family reunion week.

The weather was a whole lot like Central Florida, mid-90s for a high and upper-70s for the low.

The water temperatures hung around 90 degrees. The bass fishing was a lot better than I expected.

The first couple of days we caught them all on white spinner baits, up to 6 pounds. The next day you couldn't



Jacquie Mitchell
Fishin' Fun

buy a bite on a spinner bait, so we started trying different things.

We found a line of hydrilla that ran for about 2 miles and started throwing

plastic frogs across it.

We had good bass blowing up through the grass for the rest of the week.

We caught a few on plastic worms and some on a crank

bait.

We also spent some time fishing for catfish, using chicken gizzards and livers.

All in all, it was a great time spent with family.

I'll be hitting Toho hard this coming week and will update you on what I find is working.

If you get a chance, take your kids fishing. Some good memories can be made on the water.

Send information about your big catch to capiac@usfamily.net.

You may also send fishing information and photos to rpdone@osceolanewsgazette.com.

Sports briefs

Kissimmee LL

Kissimmee Little League is holding fall ball registration today and Aug. 25 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Oak Street Park (1400 W. Oak St.) for Kissimmee residents only.

Fees are \$85, \$45 for a sibling and \$35 for additional siblings. For more information, visit www.kissimmealittleleague.org.

Kiss. basketball

The City of Kissimmee Parks, Recreation and Public Facilities Department is teaming with the Florida Dream Sports Foundation to offer an adult basketball league. Registration will run through Sept. 4. Games will be held on Sundays beginning Sept. 9. The registration fee is \$350 for a team of up to 15 players.

Teams can register online at webtrac.kissimmee.org.

Paul

Continued from page A-6

you don't have any time to see any of the players from the other side. I still know a lot of the coaches there, and about 12 of the players," Paul said.

Several important Giants players from last year, including Manningham and running back Brandon Jacobs, left as free agents.

But, Paul is confident that replacements like first round draft pick David Wilson, a running back from Virginia Tech, and LSU receiver Reuben Randall, will help.

Randall may be called on to produce quickly, depending on how fast receiver Hakeem Nicks recuperates from an off-season foot injury.

"We had some big losses, but I think the guys we brought in will do a great job for us," Paul said.

Paul has worked with two of the game's elite quarterbacks and probable Hall of Famers in Brady and Eli Manning, and he said both players are exceptional off the field as well.

"When I was with New England, Tom Brady was great with my kids. They loved him," Paul said. "Eli is one of the nicest guys in the building. He'll call if he's going to be late for a workout."

After five seasons with the Giants, Paul and his wife, Patricia, a social worker, have settled in the New Jersey suburbs where their children, Jairus and Tabitha, play high school and middle school sports.

"Jairus decided to pick up football again for his freshman year, and he had a pretty good season," Paul said. "He even did what I did during my freshman year at Osceola. He broke his leg. I told him that meant that he was going to follow in my footsteps and be a defensive back for the Bears."

After graduating from OHS in 1984, Paul was an All-American defensive back at Syracuse and was a fourth-round draft pick by Bears' Coach Mike Ditka in 1989.

"I'm not sure how Coach Ditka would handle some of the players today. He just got in your face and told you what to do. These guys now, a lot of them, you have to explain why you are asking them to do something," Paul said.

Just before the team rode in its victory parade in New York City, two days after the Super Bowl win, Paul said the coaching staff had a meeting and then got measured for their rings. They were presented with the rings in May, shortly after the team made a visit to the White House.

"I love being around these guys. They keep me young," he said.

Are five championship rings enough for Paul?

"I remember one time someone asked Tom Brady what his favorite Super Bowl ring was, and he said, 'The next one,'" Paul said. "That's the way I feel. It never gets old."



Photo/Special to the News-Gazette

NSA Shootout champs

The St. Cloud Yellow Jackets High School softball team won the NSA Fastpitch Shootout tournament held at Foundation Academy in Windermere last week. Back row, from left: Coach Ray Whobrey, Assistant Coach Bill Urquiola, KaDesha "Dinky" McCowen, Megan Albright, Emma Wells, Shina Hunsicker, Lacey Makinson, Lindsay Markum, Assistant Coach Steve Shantz. Front row, from left: Lisa Poon, Breanna Bengel, Paige Shantz, Sara Crawford and Madison "Mad Dog" Urquiola

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THE JOURNAL OF OSCEOLA COUNTY BUSINESS

Local Metal Finishing Company Awarded Contract to Coat the New World Trade Center Freedom Tower in New York



News-Gazette Photos/Andrew Sullivan

At left, Malcolm Windsor, founder of Windsor Metal Finishing in Kissimmee, stands along the conveyer line moving sheets of just-treated aluminum. Above, a crew of workers hoists freshly milled sheets of aluminum to sets of hooks along a conveyer line. The metal moves through several treatment areas to prepare it for a final baked on weatherproofing finish, by workers like Kyle Rodriguez, below.

By Michelle DeLeon
Staff Writer

Windsor Metal Finishing Company in Kissimmee with 25 employees had been awarded a contract to coat the aluminum curtain wall that will cover the first 22 stories of the New World Trade Center Freedom Tower in New York.

There were only nine capable coating companies in the U.S. and Windsor was chosen for being most capable of doing the job described.

The company was founded in 1992 and was soon recognized as a company that handles a wide array of products in a wide spectrum of colors that shows the company's innovation.

As early as 1993, Windsor received Florida State "Outstanding Performance Award" for Environmental Sustainability.

In 1994, it was awarded the "Governor's No. 1 Sustainable Florida Small Business Award" and in May 2004, "Sustainable Small Business Award for Outstanding Achievement".

Knowing that Florida is severely exposed to shoreline that can be hostile to coatings, the company offers the newly emerging fluoropolymer coatings that are extremely characterized with superior durability, including adhesion, corrosion and gloss retention that

were guaranteed up to 20 years. The unique design enables the company to provide customized products at competitive pricing and for much smaller batch sizes that widens companies' options.

Originally from the U.K., Malcolm Windsor, founder of the Windsor Metal Finishing moved to the United States in 1972 with a vision of innovation.

He was the co-inventor of the process that inertly degassed and purified liquid aluminum situated close to the state's hydro-electric plants. The technology received the "Queens Award for Technology" in 1975.

In 1982, Windsor designed and commissioned the first dedicated high-performance fluoropolymer coating line in the United States.

When he started the Windsor Metal Finishing in 1992, he was aware of the architectural metals industry being dominated by non-exotic paint finishes so when the standards changed and needed more creative products, Windsor offered handling products in a wide spectrum of color.

Today, Windsor continues to excel and impress the market with their versatility and capability. They continue to learn to improve more on their products that will deliver impressive results.



NOTEables

John Brost Chosen to Lead All Star's Operations in Orlando

On the heels of announcing its expansion to Captiva Island, Fla., All Star Vacation Homes, the hospitality leader for vacation home property management and marketing in Central Florida, has appointed John Brost as General Manager of operations for All Star's Orlando vacation rental inventory. Brost brings more than 41 years of experience in the hospitality industry to guide the



Brost

All Star Vacation Homes operations teams and direct All Star's local operations, policies and procedures.

"I'm honored to be a part of the All Star Vacation Homes Team," Brost said. "I look forward to fulfilling the company's vision to provide a vacation home experience like no other."

Contributing his talent and expertise in lodging, resort management and tourism, Brost will be responsible for achieving optimal guest and home owner satisfaction, supporting All Star Vacation Homes' commitment to offer the highest level of hospitality. He will lead Guest Services, Owner Relations, Property Care and Quality Control Teams and play a pivotal role in maintaining identity brand standards. He will shape operations and service standards for the company while monitoring budget and asset utilization. He will be instrumental in maintaining and building strategic partnerships with local organizations, regional suppliers and vendors, serving as a liaison to All Star and its Orlando collection of more than 250 vacation homes, town homes and condos.

"We welcome John and his expertise to All Star's Leadership Team," said Steve Trover, CEO of All Star Vacation Homes. "All Star will significantly benefit from John's extensive background in the hospitality industry. This is an exciting time for the company and we look forward to the positive contributions he will make to the team."

Brost holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the School of Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism Management in the

University of Denver's Daniels College of Business. He formerly worked as General Manager for Mystic Dunes Resort and Golf Club in Celebration,

Fla. He also held the General Manager title for 26 years in a variety of roles for Richfield Hospitality Management Company. Brost served on the board for the Central Florida Hotel and Lodging Association for 15 years and was a past chairman on the Marketing Advisory Committee for the Kissimmee CVB and Osceola County Regional Area Council on Tourism in Kissimmee, Fla. He was the founding president of the Napa Valley, Calif. CVB and has worked for several hotels throughout the country including Hilton Hotels and Resorts.

KUA's Chris Gent Elected FPRA President-Elect

During its annual conference held earlier this week in St. Augustine, members of the Florida Public Relations Association elected Kissimmee Utility Authority Vice President of Corporate Communications Chris M. Gent as president-elect of the statewide organization.

As president-elect, Gent will coordinate the association's management overview process, provide an annual review of association by-laws and code of ethics and serve on the chapter and statewide awards committees. He will become association president on Sept. 1, 2013.

Gent has been active in FPRA for 18 years, holding various leadership positions at the local chapter and statewide levels. He is a former president of FPRA's Orlando Area Chapter and has served on the local board for 14 years.

In addition, he has served eight years on the FPRA state board of directors, including six years on the executive committee as vice president of Golden Image Awards (2004), vice president of communications (2006), vice president of planning and research (2008), vice president of technology, communications and public relations (2009) and vice president of technology (2010).

Gent earned his Accredited in Public Relations (APR) accreditation in 2010 and his Certified Public Relations Counselor (CPRC) designation in 2011.

Hired by KUA in 1993, Gent is responsible

for the utility's internal and external communications, including marketing, media and public relations, employee communications, special events and corporate philanthropy.

Gent holds a master's degree in strategic public relations from The George Washington University, where he graduated valedictorian in 2011. He earned his bachelor's degree in communications from the University of Central Florida and in 2010 was inducted into UCF's Nicholson School of Communication Alumni Hall of Fame.

Chris Hurn in the running for 2012 Small Business Influencer Award

Mercantile Capital Corporation Chief Executive Officer Chris Hurn is in the running for 2012 Small Business Influencer Award

Chris Hurn, chief executive officer and co-founder of Orlando based Mercantile Capital Corporation, has been nominated for a 2012 Small Business Influence Award, under the category "small business expert."

Hurn, whose Mercantile Capital Corporation opened nine years ago and ranks as one of the nation's leading providers of U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) 504 loans for small business owners who want to acquire or develop their own facilities, said he was flattered by the nomination.

Currently, Hurn ranks third in the U.S. in an online poll of small business owners voting for 2012 Small Business Influencer Award nominees. Nominations for the award closed on July 15. Small Business Influencer Awards are made on the basis of online voting as well as the opinion of a weighted panel of expert judges and honor those who are influential to small businesses in North America, through the products, services, knowledge, information or support they provide to the small business market. The awards are designed to recognize the unsung heroes of small businesses — those who support and encourage entrepreneurs and small business owners, and help them achieve success and stay successful.

Anita Campbell, CEO of Small Business Trends and one of the co-founders of the Small Business Influencer Award, said award recipients play crucial roles in the small business ecosystem, often in the background.

"Many nominees are themselves small business owners, entrepreneurs or small businesses," Campbell said.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Shalee Wiley named executive assistant to president Paul Roundtree

First Green Bank, one of the first banks of its kind in the U.S. to focus on positive environmental and social responsibility while operating as a traditional community bank, has appointed Shalee Wiley executive assistant to bank president Paul Roundtree.



Wiley

Ken LaRoe, chairman and chief executive officer of First Green Bank said Wiley has more than seven years of experience in corporate and community banking. She was formerly an assistant manager at Washington Mutual Bank in Salt Lake City.

KUA attorney elected president of Statewide Utility Association

During its annual meeting held last week in Jacksonville, members of the

Florida Municipal Electric Association elected Kissimmee Utility Authority vice president and general counsel Arthur J. "Grant" Lacerte Jr. as president of the organization's board of directors.



Lacerte

"Grant has established himself as a strong leader on utility issues, not only in Kissimmee but throughout the state of Florida," said Barry Moline, FMEA's executive director. "We're honored to have him serve as our president."

"I am honored to be chosen to serve as president of FMEA's board," said Lacerte. "This organization is helping our state's electric industry stay at the forefront of the nation by keeping its members informed on legislative issues and providing safety, training and customer service resources."

Lacerte has held his position at KUA since 2002. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from Columbia University in New York, and a J.D. from the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Va. He has more than 20 years of experience in administrative and corporate law with an emphasis in the electric, natural gas and telecommunications fields.

KUA named among top 100 companies for working families

For the twelfth time in its history, Kissimmee Utility Authority has been named one of the top 100 companies for working families in Central Florida. The list, compiled by the Orlando Sentinel, recognizes employers in the region that offer progressive and forward-thinking programs and benefits that make family a top priority.

An independent panel of judges, comprised of local human resources experts, determined the Top 100 by measuring the strength of each company's family-related benefits against the quantity of those benefits.

"Challenging economic times mean family-friendly companies matter more than ever," said Wilbur Hill, KUA's vice president of human resources. "We've worked hard this past year to create and maintain programs, policies and benefits that support our employees and enable them to meet their personal and professional goals."

Top 100 companies were formally recognized at an awards luncheon held Friday at the Loews Royal Pacific Resort at Universal Orlando.

Celebration Golf Management hopes to raise more than \$7,000

Celebration Golf Management, which operates nine of Central Florida's best known golf courses, hopes to raise more than \$7,000 during its annual Patriots Day Celebrations Sept. 1.

"We are optimistic that we will surpass the previous year's fundraising total of \$3,100," said Scottish PGA Professional Kenny Nairn, executive vice president at Celebration Golf Management.

The cause is certainly worthy: Folds of Honor Foundation provides post-secondary educational scholarships for children and spouses of military service men and women killed or disabled while serving in the U.S. military.

And the charitable effort is easy too, Nairn explained. "We are asking all our golfers to donate a minimum of just one dollar when they play," Nairn said.

To participate visit the following golf courses:

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- The Golden Bear Club
- Kings Ridge Golf Club
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Photos By Andrew Sullivan



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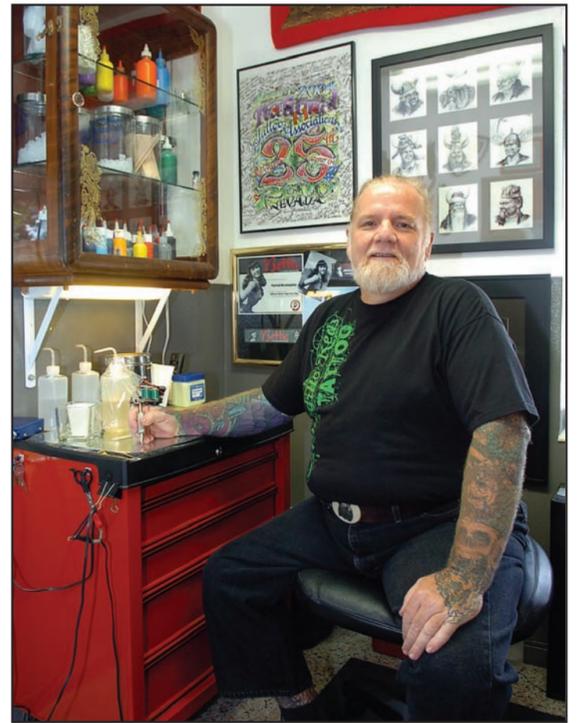
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Owner/artist Armadillo Red at his 4499 West Vine Street studio.



The team at Graze, from left, Kimberly Rice, John Green, Brittany Adams, Zeyad Masri and Ed Deane (not pictured).



Dolce staff, from left, Maria Valira, Antonio Spagnolo and Rosa Vriceno.

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SUN SPOTS

Things to do under the Central Florida sun



Animals in need around the world will benefit from more than \$1.1 million in grants awarded this year by the non-profit SeaWorld & Busch Gardens Conservation Fund. Since its inception, the Fund has granted more than \$9 million to protect wildlife and wild places. The Fund approved grants to 88 wildlife research and conservation projects. These grants will help researchers identify why 90 percent of one penguin species in the wild has declined; help conserve and study wild polar bears and restore populations of wild puffins; and create a sustainable way for aquarium enthusiasts to enjoy colorful tropical fish displays. Additionally, the SeaWorld and Busch Gardens parks provide direct support to the Fund by placing zoological staff into the field to work alongside researchers on projects supported by the fund. Together, the SeaWorld and Busch Gardens parks care for one of the world's largest

FLORIDA BUSINESS EXPO

ORLANDO – The 3rd Annual Florida Business Expo comes to the Rosen Centre Hotel, 9840 International Drive, Sept 20 from 1 to 8 p.m. Admission is free to the Expo Hall. For more information go to www.FloridaBusinessExpo.com or call 407-296-5882.

CALL FOR ARTISTS

KISSIMMEE – The City of Kissimmee is seeking local artists to participate in the city's 'Call for Artists' program. Selected artists will be able to display their works of art in Kissimmee City Hall for three months. The display periods are as follows: November- January, February- April, May-July and August- November. The artwork will be available for public viewing on all five floors of City Hall on Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. A total of five artists will be selected to showcase their work for each quarter. Interested artists can either contact Desiree Matthew or Maria Damas in the City Manager's Office at 407.518.2300.

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF

KISSIMMEE – Auditions for Fiddler on the Roof, a musical directed by Jennifer Henderson, will be held at the Osceola Center for the Arts, Aug. 26-27 at 6 p.m. Actors should prepared 16 bars of a song and may be asked to read from the script and learn a short dance. Show dates are Oct. 12-28. For more information call 407-846-6257.

MUSEUM DISCOUNT

MAITLAND – The Art & History Museum of Maitland is offering a \$10 discount for any membership level through Aug. 31. The museums have more offerings than ever including history programs, exciting and unique social events such as the Summer Concert Series and Culture & Cocktails, or innovative exhibitions. Membership benefits include free admission to all 5 museums- The Maitland Art Center, Maitland Historical Museum, Telephone Museum, Waterhouse Residence Museum, and Carpentry Shop Museum, free admission to exhibition openings, and Summer Concert Series. Members also receive exclusive discounts on classes, workshops and in the museum store. For more information call 407-539-2181.

CLASSIC FILMS

Cinemark theaters nationwide will participate in the Fall Classic Series, with six legendary Hollywood movies returning to the big screen on Thursdays in August and September at 2 and 7 p.m. The films include Jaws, High Noon, Doctor Zhivago, Chinatown, The Bridge on the River Kwai and The African Queen. Cinemark has selected six titles that were visionary films at their time of release, and still stand as true "classics" in every sense of the word. The list of films and dates of their presentation are: Tickets can be purchased in advance at www.cinemark.com. A full list of participating Cinemark locations, advance ticket purchases and show time information can be found at www.cinemark.com.

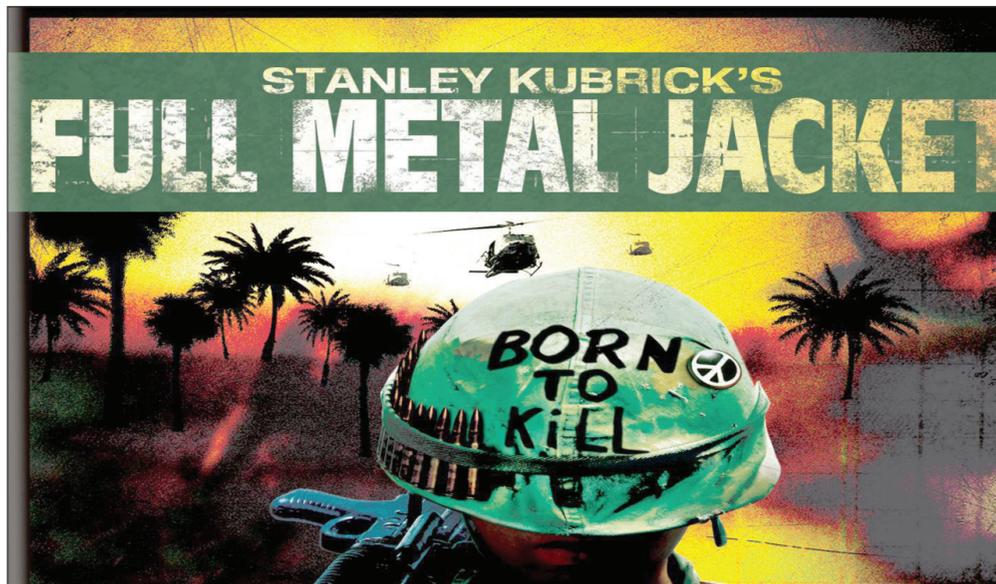
PRETTY LIGHTS

ORLANDO – Pretty Lights will bring The Illumination Tour to the UCF Arena on Wednesday, Oct 3. Tickets start at \$23 and on sale now at the UCF Arena Ticket Office, charge by phone at 800-745-3000, and online at www.ticketmaster.com. Pretty Lights is the musical vision of the ultra-versatile Colorado-based producer Derek Vincent Smith. Together with his drummer, Adam Deitch, Pretty Lights achieves a raw energy rarely reached in the realm of electronic music.

12 ANGRY MEN

ORLANDO – The Stage Right Theatre at Mad Cow in downtown Orlando presents 12 Angry Men through Aug. 26. This is the last production at the theater before it moves to its new home. The classic story centers on

See Sun Spots, page C-3



Full Metal Jacket celebrates its 25th anniversary with a new digi-book Blu-ray edition. The 2-disc set includes a new documentary on director Stanley Kubrick.

Warner Home Video

Putting on Your DVDs

Let me see your war face Full Metal Jacket in a Blu-ray anniversary edition



Peter Covino
Film Critic

If you have been waiting to upgrade your copy of Stanley Kubrick's **Full Metal Jacket**, now is most definitely the time.

One of the big four Vietnam war films (along with **Apocalypse Now**, **Platoon** and **The Deer Hunter**), **Full Metal Jacket** is back with a 25th anniversary Blu-ray Book edition (Warner Home Video).

If you need a bit more incentive, the 2-disc set in-

cludes the 60-minute documentary Stanley Kubrick's Boxes, a look at the legendary filmmaker. This is the same Blu-ray version of the film that was released a few years ago, but fans will really appreciate the Blu-ray book, with 44 pages of photos, as well as a personal letter from the film's star Matthew Modine reflecting back on the experience.

Of the "big four" Vietnam films, **Full Metal Jacket** is my least favorite, but it is

still compelling viewing.

Kubrick, who co-wrote the screenplay, opted for what amounts to a two-part film —the first part featuring Pvt. "Joker" Davis (Modine) and others including R. Lee Ermey as the relentless Marine drill instructor on Parris Island, S.C.

The second part follows Joker as he at first has easy duty working for Stars and Stripes, but later finds himself in the thick of Tet Offensive and the Battle of

Hue.

It is a hard-hitting, unflinching war film.

Other bonus features include:

- Commentary by Adam Baldwin, Vincent D'Onofrio, R. Lee Ermey and critic/screenwriter Jay Cocks

- Featurette – Full Metal Jacket: Between Good and Evil

The Gallant Men
See Movie, page C-3

Technically Speaking

It's a Wi-Fi world, after all

Disney gets free Wi-Fi for guests, plus new app acts as a guide to the theme parks

By Peter Covino
Lifestyles Editor

Ahoy mateys.

Grab onto that iPad, Nexus 7 or other portable device — you can now surf the internet while waiting in line at Pirates of the Caribbean and other Magic Kingdom attractions.

The Magic Kingdom is finally wired for the techie with free Wi-Fi.

I haven't been to the theme park since Wi-Fi was announced recently, but this really is a welcome addition to my inner geek.

There have been so many times when I have gone out to the theme park with friends or relatives and really would have been quite content "to just sit this one out" while Aunt Irma and Uncle Gustav went on "It's a Small World" one more time. And I have sat fairly contentedly killing time on my smart phone (and watching my battery die) waiting for smiling faces to exit a myriad of Disney rides.

Since I haven't been yet, I can't

tell you how well the free Wi-Fi works, but the various theme park blogs and websites seem to be giving it a thumbs up. The website Insidethemagic.net indicates it is a fairly easy process. Guests visiting the Magic Kingdom connect to "Disney Guest" via their portable device, agree to the usual terms of usage, and you are ready to go.

It will be interesting to put their Wi-Fi to the test, but as is the case with most Wi-Fi spots, especially free public ones, the results can widely vary. The more guests using the Wi-Fi, the slower the connection is going to be. Plus I am sure some places in the Magic Kingdom will get a stronger signal than other places.

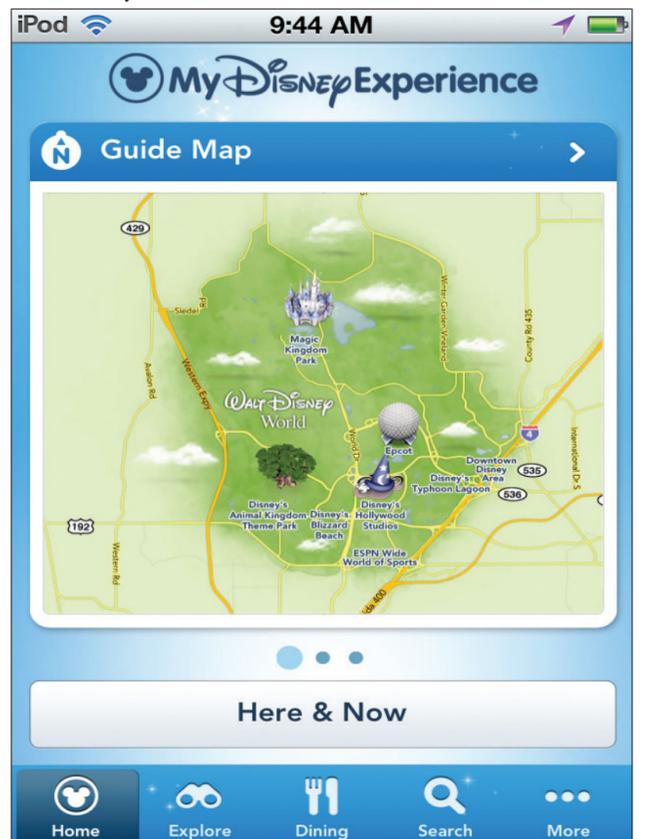
Disney recently added free Wi-Fi to its resort hotels, so this is a logical step.

And Disney officials say all four Disney parks as well as Downtown Disney will have free WiFi in the coming months.

It's a great move and all of the local theme parks should offer WiFi, who usually, in most cases, have guests who spend the better part of a day at their attraction.

It also makes sense for Disney to offer free Wi-Fi since Disney recently launched the My Disney Experi-

See Disney, page C-2



Red Chair Affair

Cultural season kicks off with annual event Aug. 25

Celebrate the kickoff of Central Florida's cultural season with the 8th Annual Red Chair Affair on Saturday, Aug. 25.

The big event features a sampling of the cultural offerings for the 2012-2013, at the Bob Carr Performing Arts Centre and includes performances from a variety of genres and organizations.

IKEA has once again partnered with Red Chair Affair for the IKEA Red Chair Silent Auction, which can be viewed at www.biddingforgood.com/red-chairproject/2012. Various art organizations and corporate partners artistically decorated child-sized chairs and partnered with "packaged experiences." The

highest online bid will begin the silent auction held during the VIP reception. All of the chairs had been on display at CityArts Factory.

All activities lead up to the Red Chair Affair event, featuring a variety of performances from cultural organizations sharing one stage — all showcasing events and performances coming up during the 2012-2013 season. This year the headliner is Michael Andrew, who will be performing a preview of his performance with the Orlando Philharmonic, coming up in February as part of their 20th Anniversary season. Both general admission and VIP tickets are available for the event. General Admission patrons will be part of the arts and cultural preshow activities in the lobby of Bob Carr from 7-8 p.m. The 90 minute

See Red, page C-2



Photo/Red Chair Project

The Red Chair Project features a sampling of upcoming art and cultural happenings.

Get ready to scream at Busch Gardens Halloween event

Howl-O-Scream celebrates unlucky 13th year at Busch

This fall, Howl-O-Scream 2012 lures unsuspecting victims to explore the terror that grows behind the Dark Side of the Gardens' gate and "Unlock the Fear Inside."

This is year 13 for Busch Gardens annual spooktacular event.

Busch Gardens' 335 acres will be overgrown with dark, sinister, adult-targeted fun, including new haunted houses, scare zones, live stage shows as well as the chance to ride the park's popular coasters in the dark, including Florida's first

triple-launch coaster, Cheetah Hunt.

Even the streets themselves aren't safe as hordes of devious creatures pour forth from the shadows, led by the terrifying Trickster.

From 13 sinister superstitions to the claustrophobic halls of an insane asylum, Howl-O-Scream 2012's has new haunted houses as well as favorites.

Blood Asylum (new) - As lightning rages and thunder crashes outside, "The Creature" escapes from his holding cell in a high-security asylum for the criminally insane. Now this sadistic deviant is running rampant, skinning his former cellmates and turning the mental hospital into his own torture chamber. This serial killer's

bloody playground will drive you out of your mind with fear.

Circus of Superstition 3-D (New) - You've tried to avoid black cats and sidewalk cracks, but Trickster will make sure that all those years of bad luck catch up with you. Under his command, crazed circus clowns challenge you to survive 13 superstitions in their 3-D Tent of Terror, but it will take more than luck to escape this whole new dimension of fear

Returning shows: Ultimate Gamble: CON-DEMNERED - Vampires have fallen out of vogue and the Ultimate Gamble casino has been shut down. The power is off, and the neon signs that once lit up the sky have gone out. Only the bravest guests dare

visit the empty carcass of the once-vibrant casino, grabbing their flashlights to "enter at their own risk."

Nightshade Toy Factory: MUTATION - The old Nightshade Toy Factory has long been patrolled by diabolical dolls, terrible teddy bears and possessed playthings, but recent containment issues at a nearby nuclear facility have started to affect these terrible toys. Now, the mutations will stop at nothing to devour the humans that have "enslaved" them for so long.

Nevermore - Beating hearts, swinging pendulums and a raven's cry haunt the manor of Lenore, creating a demented and twisted nightmare. Step inside to experi-

ence the gothic terror that maddens the lord of the house, and feel delusion overcome reality. Find your way out of this horror story before paranoia authors your final chapter.

Zombie Mortuary - No one remembers how the epidemic started, but now, zombies live here. The undead that infest this small town funeral home feed on the fresh flesh and brains of mortuary mourners to satisfy their insatiable hunger. Avoid the walking dead or you may find yourself deeper than six feet under.

Alone...(A personal experience in horror) - The deranged Master Alexander Daedalus opened Minotaur Storage to house his vast collection of

"cultural" remains. But now his sinister obsession with hoarding has expanded to stockpiling people. Escape this lunatic's labyrinth or you will become part of his collection. Can you make it out Alone?

Note: Alone is all-alone experience through the haunted house for an additional fee. Scream admission is required, but not included.

General admission is \$79.99 plus tax. Reduced advance-purchase rates and special offers are available for Busch Gardens pass members at TheDarkSideOfTheGardens.com. A \$35 savings on general admission tickets is available in advance at participating Publix Supermarkets and AAA locations.

Red

Continued from page C-1

performance on the Bob Carr stage begins at 8 p.m. and will feature over some Central Florida's arts organizations. General Admission tickets are open seating and are \$22 each, \$15 for students/seniors.

Red Chair Affair VIP tickets include a pre and post event backstage as well as complimentary food, beer, wine from some of Orlando's finest restaurants, as well as valet parking. VIPs will have the opportunity to bid on the IKEA Red Chair Silent Auction and enjoy the best seats

in the house for the main stage performance. The VIP reception begins at 5:30 p.m. and patrons are encouraged to dress in their best red. VIP tickets are \$225 each and corporate packages are available.

The Red Chair Project is a community service, managed by the Arts and Cultural Alliance of Central Florida, designed to increase awareness of and participation in Central Florida arts and culture offerings. As a collaborative campaign involving more than 360 arts and cultural or-

ganizations, it promotes and grows the arts in the region through RedChairProject.com, a website with arts and cultural events, discounted tickets, classes/workshops and cultural getaways.

The 8th Annual Red Chair Affair is sponsored by United Arts of Central Florida and Orange County Arts and Cultural Affairs.

Red Chair Affair 2012 Details at a Glance

Red Chair Affair:
When: August 25, 2012
- Doors open at 7 p.m., Performance begin at 8 p.m.

Where: Bob Carr Performing Arts Centre, 401 West Livingston Street, Orlando:

General Admission \$22
Students/Seniors \$15
VIP tickets are \$225 each (corporate packages are available).

VIP Reception begins at 5:30 p.m.

Tickets available on www.RedChairProject.com.

Red Chair IKEA Online Auction:

Website: www.bidding-forgood.com/RedChairProject/2012

Performances and Enter-

tainment By:

Art & History Museums, Maitland

Bach Festival Society of Winter Park

Brass Band of Central Florida

Central Florida Community Arts

Crealdé School of Art

Empty Spaces Theatre

Collaboration

Enzian Theater
Florida Opera Theatre
FloridaArtistsRegistry.com

Garden Theatre
Just Twistin' Hay
NuLook School of Per-

forming Arts

Orlando Aerial Arts

Orlando Ballet

Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra

Orlando Repertory Theatre

Orlando Science Center

Orlando Shakespeare Theatre in Partnership with UCF

SAK Comedy Lab

Winter Park Playhouse
Yow Dance

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit www.RedChairProject.com, call 407-872-2382 or email info@redchairproject.com.

Disney

Continued from page C-1

ence app (free via iTunes). The mobile app gives guests another way to find out about ride and show waits, make dining reservations and even includes park maps. And coming soon: a link to Disney's new NextGen fastpass system.

The app also works when you are away from Walt Dis-

ney World. No word yet when an application will be available for android devices.

While free Wi-Fi makes me happy, one area where Disney needs to improve is electrical outlets availability. If you are a frequent visitor to the Disney parks, particularly the Magic Kingdom, a

park built long before portable gadgets (phones, tablets, cameras etc.) became mainstays, electric outlets just were not a necessity.

And the Magic Kingdom (and the other Disney theme parks as well) certainly could use more of them. Finding an electrical outlet at Disney

is much harder, in fact, than finding a well-hidden "Mickey".

I have a secret source who has sniffed out just about every electrical outlet at the Magic Kingdom, and he tells me there are a few options, if you didn't bring or own spare batteries for that por-

table device.

Over on Main Street, by the watch shop, there are two electrical outlets. And there are a few more in Tomorrowland by the Merchant of Venus. And if you look closely, in Adventureland, there is an outlet by the photo opportunity at Princess Jasmine.

There is also one, supposedly somewhere around the Haunted Mansion.

If you are desperate for a battery charge, I am told you can leave your phone at the information center on Main Street and return in a few hours to a happily recharged battery.

The GUIDE

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Attorney - Michael J. Duggar

In the case of "In re McNeal", the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals concluded that a "wholly unsecured" debt/claim is voidable, or can be stripped and discharged in either a Chapter 7 or Chapter 13 Bankruptcy.

Rule: If your house is worth less than what you owe on the 1st mortgage all junior liens (2nd mortgage, home equity loan, etc.) can be removed and discharged in bankruptcy.

PLEASE CALL my office for an appointment to discuss your options further.

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* Departure: August 12/19/26 * Sept. 2/16/30 * Oct. 7/14/21/28 * Nov. 4/11/18/25 * Dec. 2/9

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TO SEE YOUR AD ON THIS PAGE CALL
407-846-7600

Movie

Continued from page C-1

For an above average look at how war was portrayed on TV in the 1960s, The Gallant Men (Warner Archive Collection) is definitely worth taking home, or in this case ordering online.

The Gallant Men was one of two ABC Network series that aired in 1963, but unlike Combat!, it lasted for only one season. This new DVD release (available only online at Warnerarchivecollection.com) includes all 26 episodes on six discs.

The Gallant Men stars William Reynolds as the unit commander and Richard X. Slattery as a war correspondent assigned to the unit in the battle for Italy.

One of the series highlights includes using stock war footage from some classic Warner Bros. World War II films.

Chinook the Wonder Dog

Sticking with new Warner Archive releases, Kirby Grant and Chinook the Wonder Dog are also now available via Warner's made-to-order DVD service.

I am guessing this series has been largely forgotten,

but if you like 1950s Saturday matinee movie fare, this triple feature on one disc is a lot of fun.

Kirby Grant (best remembered for TV's Sky King) stars as Canadian Mountie Cpl. Rod Webb. Ever present his faithful canine companion, Chinook.

This certainly isn't Academy Award material, but it is family entertainment. In each of the three films **Yukon Manhunt** (1951), **Northwest Territory** (1951) and **Yukon Gold** (1952) our hero the Mountie and the wondrous Chinook have an adventure in the remote reaches of Canada.

The Beatles and Muhammad Ali

MVD Entertainment Group has just released two new documentaries celebrating the 50th anniversary of icons The Beatles and Muhammad Ali. The Ali documentary **Ali: The Man, The Moves, The Mouth**, is the better of the two, and definitely a must for boxing fans.

The Beatles DVD, **The Beatles: Their Golden Age** is highlighted by some vintage era from TV broad-

casts, but as you might expect, due to musical clearances impossibilities, there are no Beatles songs here or live performances.

The Ali DVD is narrated by boxing sportscaster Bert Sugar (it is one of his last works before his death in March).

There are many Ali highlights here including "The Fight of the Century" in 1971 with Joe Frazier.

It is a colorful look back at the game's most famous competitor, with lots of film clips not only from his fights, but from his controversial times, when he was still Cassius Clay and changed his name to Muhammad Ali (much to the dismay of much of white America), as well as his refusal to be conscripted in the U.S. military.

The two documentaries actually have a shared moment as well: The Beatles and then Cassius Clay have an exchange in England.

The Beatles DVD commemorates the 50th of Ringo Starr replacing drummer Pete Best in August of 1962. But the documentary goes back further to when



MVD

Today, Aug. 18, marks the 50th anniversary that The Beatles officially became The Beatles with the addition of drummer, Ringo Star. Now available on DVD is the new documentary, **The Beatles: Their Golden Age**. Ringo joined John Lennon, Paul McCartney, and George Harrison on August 18, 1962.

Paul McCartney, John Lennon and George Harrison first started playing together in 1960.

Producer Krantz' narra-

tive is annoying most of the times, but the film highlights (the screaming crowds, behind the scenes looks at the making of the Beatles mov-

ies etc.) make this a worthy purchase for Beatles fans.

Both DVDS are about 60 minutes in length and retail for \$9.95.

Sun Spots

Continued from page C-1

a sweltering August night in New York City as the jury files into the deliberation room. The door is locked behind them. Now twelve nameless men from twelve varied backgrounds must decide the fate of a young man accused of killing his father. Faced with playing the executioner, these dozen men must first face themselves, their biases, and their own sense of justice. This American classic will have you on the edge of your seat until the final verdict is announced. Reserve seats by calling the Mad Cow box office at 407-297-8788.

QUADROPHENIA

ORLANDO -Pete Townsend and

Roger Daltry, surviving members of The Who, will perform their legendary rock opera Quadrophenia as well as other Who classics in a new tour that will begin in Sunrise, Nov. 1. The band will play the album in its entirety. Tickets for the concert are on sale now. The tour stops at the Amway Center Nov. 3.

AMERICAN TEACHER

This September, the Documentary Channel explores the American school system with the US television premiere of Academy Award-winning filmmaker Vanessa Roth's "American Teacher" on Saturday, September 1 at 8 p.m. "American Teacher," narrated by actor Matt

Damon, chronicles the stories of four teachers living and working in disparate urban and rural areas of the country. A character-driven film, "American Teacher" examines this urgent issue through humor, irony, and the captivating personalities of the teachers whose stories it shares. The Documentary Channel is primarily seen via DISH Network and DIRECTV.

STRING QUARTET

After 44 years, the acclaimed Tokyo String Quartet will retire at the conclusion of the 2012-2013 season, and the Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival is part of the ensemble's farewell tour. The

7 p.m. performance on Friday, Oct. 5, will be held at the Amelia Plantation Chapel, 36 Bowman Road, Amelia Island. Tickets for premium seating, which includes a post-concert champagne reception with the artists, are \$100. General admission tickets are \$50. Tickets are now available online at www.aicmf.com or by calling the AICMF office at 904-261-1779.

MYTHBUSTERS TOUR

ORLANDO -Mythbusters Behind the Myths tour, a live version of the TV show, with Jamie and Adam comes to the UCF Arena Oct. 12 at 8 p.m. Myth-Busters: Behind the Myths, presents

a fantastical evening of on-stage experiments, audience participation rocking video and behind-the-scenes stories. Tickets are on sale now. For tickets/information go to <http://www.ucfarena.com/tickets/tickets/details/462>.

FLOOD VICTIM

CONCERT

LIVE OAK - The Suwannee Music Foundation in partnership with The Spirit of the Suwannee Music Park has announced Suwannee Valley Flood Jam: A Benefit For Suwannee, Hamilton & Columbia Counties this weekend at The Spirit of the Suwan-

nee Music Park. The concert will raise money for the some of the 1,500 families in the area that were flooded out of their homes by Tropical Storm Debby. More than 25 bands including Music Park favorites Peter Rowan, The Lee Boys, Jamie Davis, The Swingin' Johnsons, The Heavy Pets, The Legendary JCs, Donna the Buffalo and many more will fill up the special Suwannee Valley Flood Jam line-up.

Two-Day Tickets are \$65 at the Gate and include primitive camping. Single-day tickets are \$20 per day, and are available only at the gate. Day tickets do not include primitive camping.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS PLANNING ADVISORY BOARD AND CITY COMMISSION

This is to inform you that the **Planning Advisory Board** of the City of Kissimmee will make a recommendation to the City Commission concerning a request to amend the Land Development Code. The Planning Advisory Board will hold a meeting to consider their recommendation on said request on **Wednesday, September 5, 2012** at 6:00 p.m. in the Commission Chambers of City Hall, 101 North Church Street, Kissimmee, Florida 34741.

All interested parties may appear and be heard regarding adoption of the proposed Resolution. Written opinion will be received until 5:00 p.m., **Wednesday, September 5, 2012**. Any questions may be directed to the Development Services Department at (407) 518-2140.

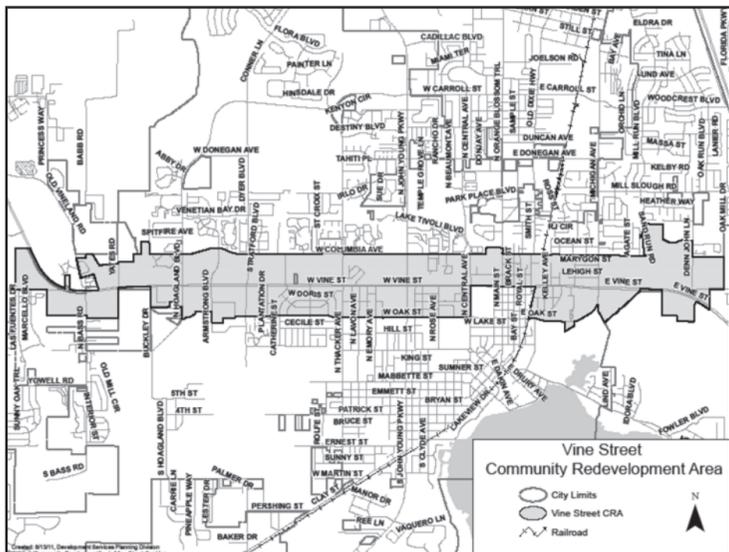
This is to inform you that the **City Commission** will hold Public Hearings concerning these amendments on **Tuesday, September 11, 2012** and **Tuesday, September 25, 2012** at 6:00 p.m. in the Commission Chambers of City Hall, 101 North Church Street, Kissimmee, Florida 34741.

All interested parties may appear and be heard on the above date. Written opinion will be received until 5:00 p.m., **Tuesday, September 11, 2012** and **Tuesday, September 25, 2012** respectively. Any questions may be directed to the Development Services Department at (407) 518-2140.

The proposed amendment to be discussed at the public hearing will be as follows:

PROPOSED ORDINANCE # 12-19

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE CITY OF KISSIMMEE, FLORIDA TITLE XIV PLANNING AND ZONING CHAPTER 14-2 CITY OF KISSIMMEE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE, AMENDING SECTION 14-2-54(A) VINE OVERLAY DISTRICT (VO) BY ADDING SECTION 14-2-54(A)(6) TO IMPLEMENT THE VINE STREET CRA MASTER REDEVELOPMENT PLAN; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.



In accordance with Florida Statute 286.26, persons needing assistance to participate in any of these proceedings should contact the Office of the City Clerk (407) 518-2308 prior to the meeting. (FS286.26)

In accordance with Florida Statute 286.0105: any person wishing to appeal any decision made by the City Commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purposes may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is made.

St. Cloud Residents:

Any person seeking to be a candidate for the St. Cloud Municipal Election, to be held on November 6, 2012, may do so by qualifying August 27, 2012 through August 31, 2012, from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, at the Supervisor of Elections Office, 2509 E. Irlo Bronson Memorial Hwy., Kissimmee. Mayor Seat #1, Council Member Seat #2, and Council Member Seat #3 are to be elected by the qualified electors of the city of St. Cloud on November 6, 2012. For more information, visit www.voteosceola.com or call (407) 742-6000.



Residentes de St. Cloud:

Cualquier persona interesada en ser candidato(a) en la Elección Municipal de St. Cloud que se llevará a cabo el 6 de noviembre del 2012, puede registrarse para calificar desde el 27 de agosto del 2012 hasta el 31 de agosto del 2012, desde las 8:00 am hasta las 5:00 pm, en la Oficina de la Supervisora de Elecciones, localizada en el 2509 E. Irlo Bronson Memorial Hwy., Kissimmee. La Silla #1 de Alcalde(sa), la Silla #2 de Miembro del Concilio, y la Silla #3 de Miembro del Concilio serán elegidas por los electores calificados de la ciudad de St. Cloud el 6 de noviembre del 2012. Para más información, visite www.voteosceola.com/es/ o llame al (407) 742-6000.



See additional Community Events/News at www.aroundosceola.com

COMMUNITY

What's new?

Heel and Toe Western Square Dance

Come dance with Heel and Toe Western Square Dance Club Monday nights from 7 to 9 p.m. at The Annex, 702 Indiana Ave., St. Cloud. Admission is \$5 per person. No experience is needed. Singles and couples of all ages are welcome. Call Paul and Ellen at 407-931-1688 for more information.

Self-defense awareness program for women

The Osceola County Sheriff's Office has openings for a self-defense awareness program for women scheduled for Thursday at 6 p.m.

Self Defense Awareness Familiarization Exchange or SAFE is designed to educate women on how to protect themselves if they should become a victim. The two-hour class teaches that 90 percent of self-defense is awareness, risk reduction and avoiding confrontation, while only 10 percent is physical.

To sign up for the free class, call 407-348-1105 or email aveg@osceola.org.

Teen driver challenge

Openings are available for the next Teen Driver Challenge class scheduled for Sept. 7 at 6 p.m.

The Teen Driver Challenge is a program designed to provide teenagers more knowledge and hands-on experience to reduce the chances of being in an auto accident. The two-day curriculum includes a four-hour classroom learning session and an eight-hour vehicle operations activity on a training course. Students who successfully complete the course receive a certificate that can be presented to various auto insurance companies for a premium reduction.

The course is offered for free to any high school student in Osceola County. Parents can register their teenager by downloading an application at www.osceolasheriff.org or calling the Osceola County Sheriff's Office Training Unit at 321-697-4436.

DAV No. 148

Join the DAV for Ladies Day every Wednesday, \$1 off your drink from 11 a.m. until close.

DAV has Barnyard Bingo on the first and third Saturday of each month starting at noon. On Saturday following bingo it is having a benefit for Dan Phillips. "Dan's Jam". There will be an open mike, raffles and food.

Wear your red shirt to show your support for our Troops. Wear one on the second and fourth Friday of each month. The non-premium longnecks are \$1 from 11 a.m. until close. Don't have a red shirt? We have them for sale.

September 22nd will be a district meeting, this is for members only. Guests will be welcome after 4 p.m.

Our monthly meetings are on the third Sunday each month. DAVA is at 2 p.m. and DAV at 3:30 p.m. Happy Hours are 5 to 7 p.m. daily.

The service officer is here every Tuesday from noon to 4 p.m..

We are located at 21 E. Keen St., Kissimmee, phone 407-846-4141.

What's happening?

Market, investment strategies discussion

Robert Rosen, financial advisor with Edward Jones in Kissimmee, is holding a monthly discussion on market topics and investment strategies.

The next event will be on Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at Vintage Vino, 14 E. Dakin Ave, Kissimmee. For more information, call 407-870-5464.

School supplies drive

Robert Rosen, an Edward Jones financial advisor in Kissimmee, is supporting Education Foundation of Osceola County by using his office as a drop-off location for a school supplies drive.

Local residents and businesses may help those less fortunate in the community by bringing in items to the Edward Jones branch office during regular business hours from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The items needed for the school supply drive include: Crayons, pencils, markers, erasers, paper, notebooks, folders, scissors, glue, backpacks, lunch boxes and more.

The branch address is 109 E.

Monument Ave., Kissimmee.

Decorative Artists

Osceola Decorative Artists will hold their second annual Osceola Decorative Art-Tea is at the Osceola Center for the Arts, 2411 East U.S. Highway 192 in Kissimmee, on Sept. 22 from 1 to 4 p.m.

Tickets are \$5 and are available prepaid or at the door.

Among the festivities are an afternoon tea, "make it and take it" projects, a special gift basket raffle, hourly door prize drawings, a gift boutique and art exhibits.

Osceola Decorative Artists, a non-profit organization, brings educational program to members and guests using mediums like acrylics, oils and other mediums. Classes are available.

The organization meets the third Saturday of each month in the Art Room at the Center for the Arts.

For more information, call 407-520-7638 or email blayton@cfl.rr.com.

Voices for Children golf

The Voices for Osceola's Children organization will hold its Mini Golf Day honoring foster families Sunday, Oct. 14, from noon to 5 p.m. at Congo River Golf, 4777 W. U.S. Highway 192 in Kissimmee.

Food, entertainment, face painting and prizes are part of the fun. The organization supports children in need.

Sponsors are needed. For information, call Kathy Wandel at 407-346-0550 or email kathyHwandel@yahoo.com.

St. Luke anniversary

The St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church, 400 E. Columbia Ave. Kissimmee, is celebrating its 131st Anniversary Sunday, Aug. 26, at an 11 a.m. service.

Dinner will be served. The anniversary celebration colors are ivory and gold. The hosts are District 4 led by Deacon James Hooker and Deacon Robert Majors Jr.

For more information, call Pastor Johnny M. McKinnie at 407-932-0767.

Holy Redeemer School

Holy Redeemer Catholic School PTO, 1800 W. Columbia Ave., Kissimmee, is hosting its second annual "Crusin' for the Classroom" car and motorcycle show Sunday, Oct. 7, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

A display of cars and motorcycles, a pig roast, beverages, kids' games and raffles are part of the event, which will be held on the soccer field. Proceeds will benefit student-used technology.

Sponsorships are available.

For more information, call Debbie Gum at 407-507-4122 or email jmjdebbugum@gmail.com.

Al-Anon meetings

St. Cloud Al-Anon meetings are Tuesday evenings at 6 p.m. at 16 E. 17th St., St. Cloud.

Call 407-346-7103 for more information.

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 will meet on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at the Osceola Center for the Arts in the Edward Moore Studio at 7 p.m.

For more information, visit the website at www.osceolacountycameraclub.com or the club's Facebook page at <http://bit.ly/ackiy7>.

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 7:30 p.m.

Wednesdays: Italian Dinner Night - \$5.75.

Thursdays: Free pool; Wings Night, 10 wings for \$5 from 5 to 8 p.m. Trivia Game Night at 8 p.m.

Fridays: Free shuffleboard from 3 to 7 p.m.

Grill menu weekly, prime rib dinners first and third weeks, 5 to 8 p.m.; Karaoke 8 p.m. Saturdays: RoadKill Bingo first and third weeks. N.Y. Strip Steak second and fourth weeks. Sundays: Breakfast 8 to 11 a.m.

The Legion Post 80 is open Monday through Thursday 10 a.m. to 9

Disney dollars



Photo/Osceola County

Osceola County Commissioners accepted a \$150,000 donation from Walt Disney World on Monday that will be used for construction of the West Osceola Branch library. Above, Disney World's Manager of Minority Business Development, Betty Lowery, center, is flanked by Commissioners Brandon Arrington and Michael Harford to the left and Chairman John Quiñones. Commissioner Fred Hawkins Jr. and Page Pierce, Vice President, The Celebration Company are on the right. Construction work on the 10,000-square foot building should be complete by January 2013 with an opening expected sometime in February. The library will have areas for collections, reading, study, computer, children/family and teens; as well as a large multi-purpose room.

p.m.; Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 11 p.m., Sunday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

If you are a veteran, or the spouse, son, or daughter of a veteran, we invite you to speak with us regarding membership in the American Legion, Auxiliary, Riders, or Sons of the American Legion.

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

Power hours
The Osceola County Sheriff's Office has openings for a self-defense awareness program for women scheduled for Aug. 23 at 6 p.m.
To sign up for the free class, call 407-348-1105 or email aveg@osceola.org.

GriefShare

The GriefShare recovery support group meets at First Baptist Church of St. Cloud, 1717 13th Street, St. Cloud, on Thursday evenings from 7 to 8:30 p.m. beginning Sept. 13. Childcare is provided as needed at the St. Cloud location. A second location for meetings is the Village Church at Good Samaritan Village, 1441 Hoeger Circle, Kissimmee, Friday mornings from 10 to 11:30 a.m. beginning Sept. 14.

GriefShare features nationally recognized experts on grief and recovery topics. Seminar sessions such as, "The Journey of Grief," will be offered.

This 13-week session is open to people of all faiths who have suffered the loss of a loved one.

For more information, contact Nancy Boss at 407-873-1067 or email bossn1@cfl.rr.com.

Free Medicare counseling

SHINE Florida Department of Elder Affairs, will be sponsoring free, unbiased counseling at the following locations on Medicare, Medigap/HMO, Medicaid, prescription drug plans, and long-term care insurance. All counseling is first-come, first-served. Bring with you a list of all your medications or Rx bottles, insurance card, and red, white and blue Medicare card. All dates are subject to change.

• Barney E. Veal All Generation Center, 700 Generation Point, Kissimmee, 407-846-8532, from 10 a.m. to noon the first and third Tuesday of every month.

• Good Samaritan Village - Friendship Room, 4250 Village Drive, Kissimmee, 407-933-3246, Jan.-May the second Wednesday of the month, from 9 a.m. to noon; September through November the second and fourth Wednesday of the month, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

• St. Cloud Senior Center, 3101 17th Street, St. Cloud, 407-957-7392, the second and fourth Tuesday of the month, from 10 a.m. to noon.

Osceola Republican Party

The Osceola Republican Party meets the fourth Thursday of every month at 805 Emmett St. at 7 p.m. For more information call 407-846-8889.

Luncheon and breakfast seminars

The Osceola Memory Gardens Funeral Homes, Cemetery, and Crematory will be sponsoring several luncheon and breakfast seminars.

Luncheon seminars will be held Sept. 6. The seminars will begin at 11:30 a.m. at Buffet City, 4551 13th St. in St. Cloud.

The breakfast seminar will be Aug. 9 beginning at 9 a.m. at Fat Boys on 13th Street in St. Cloud. Meals will follow the seminars compliments of Osceola Memory Gardens. Seating is limited. To make your reservation call 407-957-2511.

English Country Dance Club

The English Country Dance Club meets every second Saturday year round at the St. Cloud Senior Citizens Center, 3101 17th Street, St. Cloud, from 2 to 5 p.m. Learn to dance early English style dances, no partner is needed, and beginners are welcome. Cost is \$5 per person. Bring a snack to share.

For more information call Diana Kehr at 407-847-6055.

St. Cloud Horseshoe Club

The St. Cloud Horseshoe Club invites everyone to join the group.

The horseshoe pits are located between the St. Cloud Civic Center and the St. Cloud Senior Center on 17th Street.

The club's practice sessions contacts are: John Grayson at 407-873-8240 and Tom Gowan at 321-443-6871.

Volunteer child advocates needed

Interested in helping a child? Volunteers are needed to be advocates for children in foster care.

For more information, contact Linder Snider, volunteer program coordinator at 407-742-6656 or

linder.snider@gal.fl.gov.

Travel Club

The Ahoy! Carefree Travel Club meets every first and third Monday at the Elks Lodge on Kings Highway in Kissimmee.

There is cruise information from noon to 1 p.m. and discussed from 1 to 3 p.m. are one-day trips, three-day trips or longer.

For more information, call Donna Parkins, president, at 772-539-0088 or by email at dparkins8@gmail.com.

Let's Dance

Ballroom Club

The Let's Dance Ballroom Club meets every Wednesday at the St. Cloud Senior Center at 3101 17th St., St. Cloud. On Wednesday, the fox trot will be taught. Classes begin at 7 p.m. Cost for the entire series of classes is \$9, which must be paid the first night. Come early to register.

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

St. Cloud Senior Celebrate Recovery at First Christian Church of Kissimmee

Celebrate Recovery meets every Friday at 6:30 p.m. at First Christian Church, 415 N. Main St., Kissimmee. Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered recovery group for anyone who has hurts, hang-ups and habits - including alcohol and drug abuse; co-dependency; anger; self-esteem issues; divorce; and grief.

For more information, call 407-847-2543 or visit www.fcckissimmee.org (click on "Ministries" tab).

Toho Friends

Toho Friends meet at noon the second Thursday of every month with a covered dish lunch and Bingo at the Parks and Recreation Building, 717 N. Palm Ave. All seniors are welcome.

The Craft Club meets every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. at the same building. Come work on your crafts or just visit. Crochet, embroider or whatever you enjoy doing.

Fun cards meets every Friday from 1 to 3 p.m. All seniors are welcome. For information, call Elaine at 407-847-8970, or Lois at 407-846-2848.

St. Cloud Senior Center events

Monday Night is a social dance from 7 to 10 p.m. in hall A. Live band Mondays, all year, but is subject to hall maintenance scheduling. A donation of \$3 per person is requested.

The Saturday Night Country Dance is 7 to 10 p.m. in hall A November through April. There will be live bands. A donation of \$3 per person is requested. The other months, the

See Community, page B-5

Community

Continued from Page B-4

music will be by Art Fagnant, DJ, and admission will be free. All ages are welcome.

Tai chi and qigong (Chinese yoga)

Tai chi and qigong classes being offered by Madame Wu Tuesdays from 1 to 2 p.m. at the St. Cloud Senior Center, 3101 17th St., St. Cloud.

On Wednesdays, the class will be from 5 to 6 p.m. at the Barney E. Veal Center, 700 Generation Point, Kissimmee. All classes will be taught through donations.

For more information, call Madame Wu at 407-738-7001.

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.

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.

Ministry medical clinic

The Osceola Christian Ministry at 700 Union St., Kissimmee, offers a medical clinic most Thursday 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 for the correct information.

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.

American Legion Post 10 events

The American Legion of Kissimmee Post 10 is having the following events:

Friday: Bingo at 5:30 p.m.; seafood dinner from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Saturday: dinner from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.; dancing at 7 p.m.

Sunday: bingo at 4 p.m. Tuesday: karaoke from noon to 4 p.m.; bean bag first and third Tuesday at 7 p.m.

For more information, call the post at 407-847-4193 or Frank Rohman at 407-922-2019.

Greyhound adoptions

The public is invited to come every third Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Pet Supermarket, 2924 13th St., St. Cloud, 407-498-0929, located one mile east of Walmart, to meet retired racing greyhounds ready for adoption.

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.

Hospice offers bereavement groups

Nonprofit 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 call ahead of time to pre-register.

They are: Mondays, from 2:30 to 4 p.m., at Good Samaritan Village, Clubhouse Board Room, 4250 Village Dr., 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 34743

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.

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

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

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 the Royal St. Cloud Golf Links, 5310 Michigan Ave. in St. Cloud.

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

Elmer's Meal Kitchen

Elmer's Meal Kitchen is a nonprofit ministry that serves a free hot meal every Sunday at 2 p.m. at the Family Life Center of the First United Methodist Church on Ohio St. in St. Cloud.

The ministry is in its 12th year of serving a free hot meal to the homeless, low-income and lonely elderly residents every Sunday of the year.

It also, on occasion, will have clothing, toiletry bags, holiday gift bags and brown lunch bags to take.

Anyone who wants to be a part of the ministry or for more

information, contact Carol Boroski at 407-957-9839.

Orange Blossom Lodge No. 80 F&AM

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.

Obituaries

For daily obituaries and services please visit our Website: www.aroundosceola.com

JUANITA D. MALLET

Memorial services for Juanita D. Mallett, 85, was Friday, August 17, 2012

at 6:00 p.m. at the K. L. Brown Funeral Home and Cremation Center Chapel with Rev. Stan Easton officiating.



The family received friends at the funeral home. Mrs. Mallett died Tuesday, August 14, 2012 at Jacksonville Medical Center.

She is survived by a son, Kenton Mallett and his wife Lisa of Jacksonville; one daughter, Rachel Mallett Simmons of Baton Rouge, LA; a sister, Jane Siburt of Valley City, OH; eight grandchildren, Eric Kenton (Shannon) Mallett, Heather Ann (Ned) Worsham, Brandy (Cameron) Freeman, Jessica Dupre', Morgan Green, Grant Mallett, Travis Mallett and Sean Mallett; 9 great grandchildren, Maguire Eric Mallett, Hudson James Mallett, Crawford Lucas Mallett, Olivia Marie Worsham, Cooper Allen Worsham, Delton Paul Dupre', David James Dupre', Madison Bree Dupre', Gavin Jon Green; several nieces and nephews.

Mrs. Mallett was a retired LPN and has resided in Jacksonville since 1996. She was a RSVP Volunteer and was very active in the Jacksonville Senior Center.

She was a member of the St. Cloud Chapter #46, O.E.S. Mrs. Mallett was preceded in death by her husband, Norman Mallett and her son, William Mallett.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Jacksonville Senior Center, 501C Alexandria Highway, Jacksonville, AL 36265.

Online condolences to the family at: www.klbrownfuneralhome.com

TURNER - Mr. Gerald

"Jerry" Turner, Sr., 70, of St. Cloud, FL passed away on Tuesday, August



14, 2012 at Orlando Regional Medical Center. Gerald was born in Hazard, Kentucky on September 3, 1941, the son of the late William Turner and Sheba McIntosh.

He retired from The United States Navy as a Senior Chief after 30 years of service; he served in the Vietnam War.

Gerald is survived by his loving family; his wife of 52 years, Diane Turner; two daughters, Sherri D. wife of Thomas Mills of Holly Ridge, NC; Michelle Lekander of Clayton, NC; and a son, Jay, husband of Connie Turner of St. Cloud, FL. He is also survived by 6 grandchildren, 3 great grandchildren and three sisters, Isabel, wife of Marvin Hatton of Kentucky; Wanda, wife of Hank Podgursky of Kentucky, and Sharon, wife of Don Masterson of Warsaw, Indiana; and a brother Russell, husband of Maria King of Plymouth, Indiana.

Funeral services will be conducted on Monday,

August 20, 2012 beginning at 10:00 a.m. at Cornerstone Church, 29225 Canoe Creek Road, St. Cloud with Rev. Nathan Blackwell officiating.

Interment will follow in Mt. Peace Cemetery with Full Military Honors provided by the United States Navy. The family will receive friends from 3:00-7:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 19th in the Funeral Home Chapel.

Arrangements under the direction of Osceola Memory Gardens, 2000 13th Street, St. Cloud, FL 34769.

407-957-2511

www.osceolamemgds.com



WHITE - MSGT James

Benjamin White Jr. was born September 19, 1934 to James Benjamin, Sr. & Helen Stanford White. Jim passed through the Golden Gates of Heaven on Wednesday, July 18, 2012 where he was welcomed by Jesus Christ and reunited with his parents.

He was a devout Christian and although he was unable to attend services regularly, he watched Sunday morning service on TV and listened to his Bible on tapes.

Born in Macon, GA and raised in Miami, FL. In 1952 he joined the United States Air Force where he became an aircraft mechanic. He served our country proudly for 28 years in places like Africa, Hawaii, Japan and Vietnam, where he did three tours of duty. As with many Vietnam Veterans, he didn't talk of his service a lot.

On July 20, 1989 Jim married the love of his life, Janelda Bennett Wood, with whom he had recently rekindled a flame from 33 years prior. You could see the abundance of love in his eyes when he looked at her. Her love, was also never ending. She sat lovingly by his side, as he drew his last breath, she fulfilled her wedding vow, "Till death do us part".

In the past couple years Jim's health had deteriorated greatly, but with the help of his step-son, John, everything was made accessible for him to get around inside and outside the house. He also leaves a sister, Barbara Flores (HI), 2 brothers, Stanford White (Sharon) (NC), Roy White (Darlene) (TN); 4 children, Robert "Randy" White, Brenda Mower (CA), Tana Hamilton (CA), Rhonda Beyers (Jeff) (CA), 4 step-children, Novella Crosby (David) (FL), John Wood (FL), Jodi Wood (FL), Crysti Stanford (FL); 15 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren.

At his request there will be no funeral service, however, A Celebration of his Life will be held in November 2012. Crematory services handled by Neptune Society.



DON'T STOP MY PAPER!



To stay on the delivery list for the Osceola News-Gazette, please fill out the following form mail to:

OSCEOLA NEWS-GAZETTE
 108 Church Street
 Kissimmee, FL 34741
 FAX: 407-846-8516

or go online: www.aroundosceola.com and click on Delivery Request Tab and fill out.

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