

Seminole Voice

FRIDAY'S

HIGH 68°
 Clear skies
WEATHER

www.SeminoleVoice.com

November 27 – December 10, 2009

Free!



Gobble > A7
 A Chuluota girl aims to feed 500 families for Thanksgiving.



Icy fun > A8
 There are hordes of events this holiday season.



Blowout > A14
 The Knights beat Tulane 49-0 and set C-USA records.

Kosmas challenged

JENNY ANDREASSON
THE VOICE

Former Winter Springs Mayor Paul Partyka is moving back into the public arena with a bid to unseat freshman Congresswoman Suzanne Kosmas in the Democratic primary.

Partyka, also former president of the Oviedo-Winter Springs Chamber of Commerce, announced his candidacy at a Chamber luncheon on Thursday, Nov. 19.

He served two terms as mayor and one as commissioner in Winter Springs until 2002, and then served as state committeeman for Seminole County and party chairman for District 24.

"I've been working behind the scenes and helping people with their campaigns," he said.

Recently he became managing partner of commercial real estate firm NAI Realvest in Maitland, taking some time off from politics to focus on the company. Now, he says, the timing is right to jump back in.

"I'm excited to be in the race," he said.

If he is successful in the Democratic primary, he could face Republican challenger State Rep. Sandy Adams or Winter Park City Commissioner Karen Diebel

Winter wonders

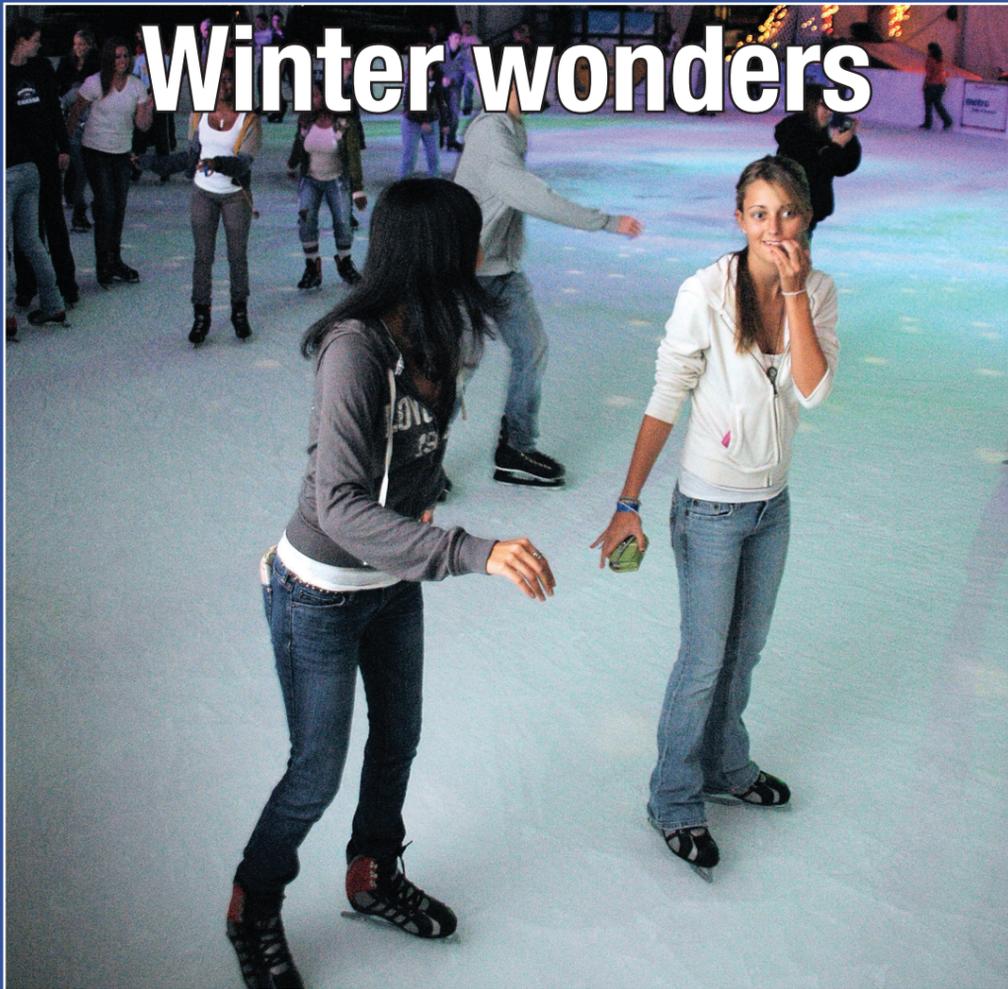


PHOTO BY ISAAC BABCOCK — THE VOICE
Skaters test out the ice at the University of Central Florida's "Light up UCF" event, which opened last week. The event features an ice skating rink, Ferris wheel, carousel, snow sled ride, light show, music and movies.

For more holiday events, see G.O. Family on page A8 >

Red-light cam added

JENNY ANDREASSON
THE VOICE

It's been seven months since Winter Springs' first red-light camera started snapping pictures and mailing \$125 tickets. A second camera will join it early next year.

Since the camera at State Road 434 and Winding Hollow Road started nabbing red-light runners in April, 845 citations have been issued, according to Winter Springs Police records.

The second camera will be erected at 434 and Vistawilla Drive within three months. During the 30 days before the camera goes "live," violators will receive warning notices.

There have been no accidents related to the traffic light, and the average red-light runner's speed has decreased an average of 20 mph on the 50 mph speed limit road, Winter Springs Capt. Glenn Tolleson said.

Winter Springs Police

> turn to RED LIGHT on A5

Retailers get creative for Black Friday

JENNY ANDREASSON
THE VOICE

The Oviedo Marketplace will open its doors at a bright and early 6 a.m. this Friday, Nov. 27.

The mall is offering a \$10 gift card and a free magazine subscription if you spend \$100 before noon this Black Friday, the official kickoff to the holiday shopping season.

After some sluggish seasons, retailers across Central Florida are getting more creative when it comes to drawing shoppers into their stores. Some are even getting a head start.

"Retailers have had

the realization that they have to strike fast because there's not going to be a sustained wave of spending," University of Central Florida economist Sean Snaith said.

Karen Pridemore, of Aston Photography, said her Oviedo Marketplace store is offering 15 percent off portrait sessions and portraits throughout the holiday season. There's a voucher on OviedoMarketplace.com that gives Macy's shoppers 10 percent off almost everything from Nov. 27-30.

Corey Skeates, execu-

> turn to BLACK on A2



PHOTO BY ISAAC BABCOCK — THE VOICE
Retailers are getting even more creative for this year's Black Friday, the official kickoff of the holiday shopping season. The Oviedo Marketplace opens at 6 a.m.

USPS 008-093
Publisher statement on page 4

What's goin' on?

The Turkey Burn Adventure
Race starts at noon on **Saturday, Nov. 28** at 30700 Wekiva Road in Sorrento. Visit PangeaAdventureRacing.com.

Calendar > A9

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'Avatar,' a live-action 3D movie, opens on Dec. 18.



Cinema > A10



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THIS WEEK



THIS WEEK in history

Dec. 4, 1872 —

The Mary Celeste, an American vessel, was spotted sailing erratically but at full sail near the Azores Islands in the Atlantic Ocean. The ship was seaworthy, its stores and supplies were untouched, but not a soul was onboard. The reason for the abandonment of the Mary Celeste has never been determined.

Mending a home and a life

ISAAC BABCOCK
THE VOICE

One night Anita Hansen woke up to a crash. It was May, as unseasonably rough weather dumped 17 inches of rain on the 25-year Iraq War Veteran's Sanford home. That's when the ceiling started caving in, and the flooding began.

Her home had been falling apart for years, but the disabled 46-year-old single mother was powerless to stop it.

Her problems had started years before, as the longtime Navy Petty Officer was in Iraq during Operation Enduring Freedom. Just after she'd been deployed in 2004, three hurricanes attacked the state in a month, and her roof was ripped apart.

Soon after she returned from a tour of duty, she was sent to Louisiana to help victims of Hurricane Katrina in 2005. By the time she returned home again, water had found its way through the ceiling.

"It got to the point where I was waiting for the rest of it to fall down," Hansen said. She attached plastic sheeting to keep rain from dripping on her bed. When the

plastic began to sag from water, she'd poke a hole and drain it.

"I haven't slept in days," she said.

Walking across stained wood floors covered in tarps Saturday morning as Veterans Day parades honored troops nationwide, she spoke with a bit of optimism in her voice, even as she pointed to six-foot-wide holes where her ceiling used to be.

Maybe the hint of a smile creeping across her face was from the sound of a more than a dozen workers outside. After years of living in a house that was slowly collapsing, Hansen was getting her home back, thanks to the Office of Veterans' Affairs, the Red Cross, Orlando firm Lowndes, Drosdick, Doster, Kantor & Reed P.A. and donations from the community.

Walking through a patch of half-dead grass around her faded red 1950s-era home, she points to missing paint, rotting wood and a roof that had turned concave under the weight of hundreds of gallons of water.

She wears exhaustion on her face that weighs down her voice like it's been there for years. A brace holds



PHOTO BY ISAAC BABCOCK — THE VOICE

Retired Navy Petty Officer Anita Hansen shows part of her home's collapsed ceiling, which volunteers helped fix Saturday, Nov. 14. The house had suffered severe water damage by hurricanes in 2004.

her wrist together. Another circles her arm. Resting against her pickup truck parked across the street, she stares at a buzz of activity and says she wishes she could help.

"They say I've got nerve damage in my back," she said. "One day my arm swelled up like a balloon. I couldn't bend my fingers or feel my hand anymore."

Standing on the roof, Gary Davis and his namesake remodeling and repair business rips soggy boards out of the roof and slices and installs new ones. Looking across 30 feet of black tar paper, the tall, slender, gray-haired building contractor said the roof was much worse than he'd expected. He'd donated his time and equipment expecting a few small repairs. When he climbed onto the roof he almost fell through.

"This used to be a lake," he said. "It's a good thing we got here now,

because this could have been a lot worse."

Still smiling in the cool autumn air, nearly 20 volunteers worked from sunrise until the mosquitoes came.

Ginny Hillman, from the Office of Veterans Affairs, mills about near a table full of catered barbecue, talking excitedly about the project she calls one of a kind.

"This is a different kind of project," she said. "I've never seen anything like this before."

Designed to start and finish all on one day, the project stalled when the roof damage was found to be so extensive that it couldn't be completed. She said that didn't matter.

"We've been working on this for months," Hillman said. "If we don't get it done today, we'll be back."

And Hansen will be able to sleep.



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BLACK | Holiday sales slated to increase

< continued from front page

tive director of the Oviedo-Winter Springs Regional Chamber of Commerce, said sales numbers could see an uptick this year.

"I'm hoping the new cooperation we're getting with the mall through the merchants association will allow merchants to do more," he said. "There's a good opportunity to have more traffic this year."

Retail traffic this holiday season is expected to decrease 4.2 percent, according to a ShopperTrak report. But a 1.6 sales increase is predicted during the same season. In 2008, sales decreased 5.9 percent while traffic fell 15.4 percent compared with 2007.

Snaith said the forecasted numbers are "not a reflection of a great holiday shopping season but of people working a little harder for the bargains."

Dee Dee Cutright's store, Learning Express Toys, is one of about 10 stores in the Winter Park

Village that are opening early for this year's Black Friday.

She's pumped.

"I'm not one of those doom-and-gloom retailers," Cutright said. "I order heavily and have an optimistic attitude."

Cutright said she's stocking her shelves with her specialty toys no matter what the forecasters say.

"I guess I'm the crazy toy store lady who opens before anybody else," she said. "But then [other retailers] will look at the lines outside my store in the morning and maybe say 'Wow, that's a good idea.'"

Local businesses and even cities are partnering to drive traffic to their retail areas. Light Up UCF opened last week. Another ice skating rink opened in Winter Park.

"Instead of people spending the day in a box store or a mall," Chamber President Patrick Chapin said, "they can experience the whole atmosphere of Park Avenue and Hannibal Square."

Fried treats, cheers, dog mobiles

PHOTOS BY ISAAC BABCOCK — THE VOICE

Hagerty High School student Thomas Sanderson, below, shows off a fried Twinkie, one of the many bizarre culinary creations at Oviedo's Great Day in the Country, which brought more than 100,000 visitors on Nov. 14. The event brought arts and entertainment together at Lawton Elementary.



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It's beginning to feel a lot like Christmas

Between the CELERY Stalks *By Janet Foley*

Did you all have a happy Thanksgiving? I sure hope so. Our family gathered at my youngest son's home for turkey and all the trimmings, which were prepared so well and tasted oh so very good. My son lives near Lake Kathryn and there is nothing like a long walk after a delicious meal so that one can make room for dessert of pumpkin or apple pie loaded with ice cream or whipped cream. Like most of our family and our friends, we were very thankful for being together once again this year in good health and happiness. Today, we exercise to slim that waistline back to where it was. But, oh that turkey dinner was just so yummy. Say, leftovers aren't too bad either.

Did you notice the Christmas music is back in the stores again? Really it started before Turkey day.

Rushing the season a bit, are we? Well, here are some exciting activities that I have learned about so far, I will begin to list them for your outings.

St. Peter and Paul Catholic Church will host a craft fair from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 29. The church is at 5300 Old Howell Branch Road in Winter Park. Call 407-677-1662 for details or to sell your handcrafted items at the fair.

Christmas in the Park — 6:15 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 3, Central Park Stage, Park Avenue, Winter Park. The Morse Museum of American Art will light Central Park with century-old Tiffany windows from its renowned collection at the 31st annual Christmas in the Park. The leaded-glass windows set the stage for a performance of seasonal favorites by the 150-

voice Bach Festival Choir. Admission to the event is free.

Santa Claus is coming to Citizens Bank on Friday, Dec. 4. He will arrive by fire engine at 10 a.m. at 156 Geneva Drive (main branch) in Oviedo to greet children from 10 a.m. until noon and then from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. So come down and bring the little ones to see the jolly man and enjoy some punch and cookies.

St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Oviedo will host its popular — and free — holiday concert on Friday, Dec. 4, at 7 p.m., and Saturday, Dec. 5, and 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Michael J. Garasi directs the Brass Band of Central Florida as they perform Christmas and holiday favorites.

Oviedo's annual Christmas tree lighting will be held at the Oviedo Aquatic Center this year at 5 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 12, on Oviedo Boulevard. Come see the parade, enjoy cookies from the Oviedo Woman's Club and see Santa arrive by fire engine. This event is always enjoyed by the folks in town. It's a timely tradition.

Breakfast with Santa will be held at the First United Methodist Church on King Street starting at 8 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 5. There will also be storytelling and crafts for the children to hang on their Christmas tree.

Candle Light Tour of Homes in Sanford: 6-9:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, at tour headquarters, Oak and Eighth Street in Sanford. Sponsored by the Historic Trust, the event features a candlelight stroll through historic homes, a reception by the park with live music, carolers and food sampling from local restaurants. Cost: \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door. Need more information, please call 407-324-6618.

The Artistic Hand is proud to be participating in the Oviedo Potter's Tour alongside Barbara Bailey, Mary Loving and Ann Robinson. Please come see what teachers and students have been up to during the Teacher and Student Show and Sale. Take a trip into the gallery to experience new exciting pieces. The tour will take place on Saturday, Dec. 5,

and Sunday, Dec. 6, 10 a.m. through 5 p.m. Need more information, please call the Artistic Hand at 407-366-7882. They also will have tour maps available.

Stop by the Light Up UCF holiday light shows event with film screening and outdoor skating, starting now through Jan. 8 at the University of Central Florida Arena, Building 50, North Gemini Boulevard, Orlando. Entry is free but ride prices may vary. Please call 407-823-6006 for information.

Winter Park Christmas Parade — 9 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, downtown Winter Park. Free Admission.

Tree Lighting and Holiday Stroll — 5 p.m. will be held Dec. 5 at Central Park Stage, Park Avenue, Winter Park. Free Admission.

A thought — "An optimist is a person who starts a new diet on Thanksgiving Day."

— Irv Kupcinet

TALK TO JANET

Send word to Janet Foley about events and let her know what's going on around town by e-mailing celerystalks@bellsouth.com.

Senator speaks out against rail deal

ISAAC BABCOCK
THE VOICE

In the wake of a recent push to find legislative support and funding for a Central Florida commuter rail system, Florida Sen. Paula Dockery of Lakeland has been touring local cities speaking about financial hurdles and liability issues with a potential rail deal.

As with the previous deal between the state and rail company CSX, the proposed SunRail system would carry commuters from Volusia County to as far down as Osceola County, making

numerous Seminole County stops along the way.

Dockery had led the opposition to the deal in previous legislative attempts to pass it. On Monday an uproar reached from the audience into the Winter Park City Commission dais as Dockery spoke about the financial issues surrounding the deal.

But she didn't utter a syllable before the questions flew the other way, with residents and prominent local officials probing her motives for appearing.

"I thought we voted in

favor of SunRail. Is that not correct?" resident Jim Cooper asked. "I want to know why we have our biggest opponent of SunRail here. I think this is good for our economy and good for Winter Park."

Dockery's presentation focused largely on financial conditions for the rail deal, which have been hotly debated in the state Legislature. She had opposed a rail deal that died in the Legislature in the spring session.

She presented figures showing that the proposed rail deal could cost more than 15 times the national average per mile.

"Why is Florida paying \$10.5 million per mile?"

she asked. Answering her own question, she pointed to a figure of \$198 million, which the state would pay to CSX as part of the commuter rail deal, but would go to fund improvements to its freight rail system. She suggested removing that provision.

She also reiterated an argument that the SunRail deal's accident liability provisions left the state largely responsible for damages, even if CSX were at fault.

"It's like saying I'm going to sell you a house that's worth \$200,000, and you have to pay \$2 million for it, and if I set the house on fire, you have to pay for it," Dockery said.

Commissioner Karen

Diebel pointed toward strong public support for the system, and said that municipalities involved in the system would be safe from dealing with potential future funding problems.

"We think we've protected ourselves up to the seven-year mark for a dedicated funding source to be found," said Diebel, who is running for District 24 Rep. Suzanne Kosmas' seat.

The discussion ended quickly with Dockery's final call to seek a dedicated funding source to make SunRail possible.

"We need the funding or this plan will never work," Dockery said.

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Give thanks for change of scene



By Karen McEnany-Phillips

Thanksgiving is one of my favorite passages of the year. If I had my way we would celebrate it more often — two or three times a year feels about right. Harvests, hay bales, and the golden colors of fall are appropriate for November but in our accelerated time warp of Blu-ray, Bluetooth, instant texting and Twittering it's easy to lose sight of life's little treasures.

Recently we had the good fortune to spend some time in the Caribbean with dear friends and that change of pace and place surely provided inspiration for thankful reflection.

This vacation was a perfect opportunity to enjoy time with our buddies from Michigan's Upper Peninsula and happily return home to family, including our pups. In addition, our granddaughter just turned 3 and we returned home the afternoon of her birthday

party. Along with the infinite bounce house tumbles and slides of our princess and her friends, what struck me was her pure joy as each friend arrived. First she called out their name several times then just gazed at them with the biggest smile, barely holding in her joy as if she had just received the best present in the whole world. As I watched Snow White, Sleeping Beauty, Belle and Ariel run through the house — sparkly princess heels clicking on the tile, giggling uncontrollably, exchanging tiaras, and blowing bubbles — I wondered if they would remain friends five, 10, or 15 years from now. Boy, I hope so.

On our trip we visited Caribbean islands that were mountainous and full of dense rainforests with amazing waterfalls and turquoise waters bordering secluded white beaches.

Other islands were arid, filled with cactus, bordered with steep rocky cliffs rising from the crashing surf. Visions of pirate ships, parrots and canoes filled our imaginations and the beauty was breathtaking. Some islands had black volcanic sand and others had enormous rocky coastlines reminiscent of Hawaii with natural bridges, amazing caves and impossible boulder formations.

It was lovely to enjoy island time, kick back and relish the beaches, calm seas and constant breezes. Yes we are fortunate to live on our own peninsula where beach and breeze are nearby, but enjoying it far enough away from responsibilities and routine was wonderful. I suppose when tourists visit Orlando they feel the same way: that somehow they are temporarily transported to a truly magical place.

From our tour bus window we saw lovely homes and interesting cultures but also poverty and lifestyles lacking many of the comforts we take for granted. Minimal medical care and waste removal, and in some

cases an escalating rat population (due to a lack of snakes) gave us pause.

Island people are lovely, laid back and eager to sell their wares but not untouched by the global economic downturn. Fewer passengers per cruise ship and more frugal shopping trickled to the island entrepreneurs who set up vendor tents portside.

I confess that I intended to take my laptop with me but decided against it while I was packing. As I watched others texting and tapping away on their keyboards, I realized another price: the peace of mind that comes from leaving work behind and letting your mind take a vacation too. Arriving back, we were thankful to return to familiar comforts of home and hearth. As my girlfriend said, what better welcome than a 3-year-old granddaughter and two excited puppies! Happy Thanksgiving weekend to all — enjoy your blessings.

P.S. — Don't forget the Community Meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 1, at 7 p.m. at the Historic Geneva Schoolhouse (brick building at Main and First Street). An explanation of

the Master Plan being presented to the county for the Rural Heritage Center at the Historic Geneva School will be given as well as the longer vision for its use. This is a community project that will serve the rural areas of Geneva, Black Hammock and Chuluota so please come and see what it's all about and how you can help it grow.

Also: Saturday, Dec. 5, is the day of the 9th Annual Geneva Community Yard and Craft Sale at the Community Center. Call 407-349-5697 or GenevaHGS@aol.com for information about renting a booth. Great time for holiday shopping.

TALK TO KAREN

Please share your thoughts about Geneva at **407-221-7002**, **kphillips@observernewspapers.com** with "Stetson's Corner" in the subject line, or **fax 407-349-2800**. Thanks!

This column is dedicated to Deputy Sheriff Gene "Stetson" Gregory, killed in the line of duty on July 8, 1998. Geneva will never be the same because of Deputy Gregory — it will be better.

RED LIGHT | Cameras only catch drivers for running lights, not speeding

< continued from front page

Chief Kevin Brunelle said that the camera measures the speed of cars going through red lights, although the department cannot issue speeding tickets based on that data. He said he's still happy to see that red-light violators are slowing down instead of speeding up.

"They're still running it," he said, "but they're not going 60 or 70 miles per

hour."

During the first camera's warning period, where motorists are issued warnings instead of tickets, there were a high number of "right-turn violations" — where the car did not come to a complete stop at the stop line before making a right on red.

But once the camera started issuing tickets, drivers started stopping completely before turning, and the total violations

decreased by more than 50 percent, Brunelle said. The number of right-turn violations went down to zero.

Mayor John Bush said he's happy with the red-light program and is looking forward to more cameras being installed.

"It's been effective and people are obeying the law," he said.

The city is currently negotiating with property owners to get control of the right-of-ways where other

cameras would be installed, such as 434 and the intersections of Tuskawilla Boulevard and Hayes Road.

Also, the Seminole County Sheriff's Office is considering the use of red-light cameras. If the agency goes forward with the program, the city could be able to place cameras in county right-of-ways, beginning with Tuskawilla Road. Currently, cameras can only be placed on city-owned property.

Red-light camera programs have been criticized as moneymaking machines for municipalities in tough times. But Brunelle said it's all about safety, and it's working.

"I can never understand why people say it's the revenue," he said. "The fact that [the cameras] are there makes people do what they're supposed to do."

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It's all downhill at the derby

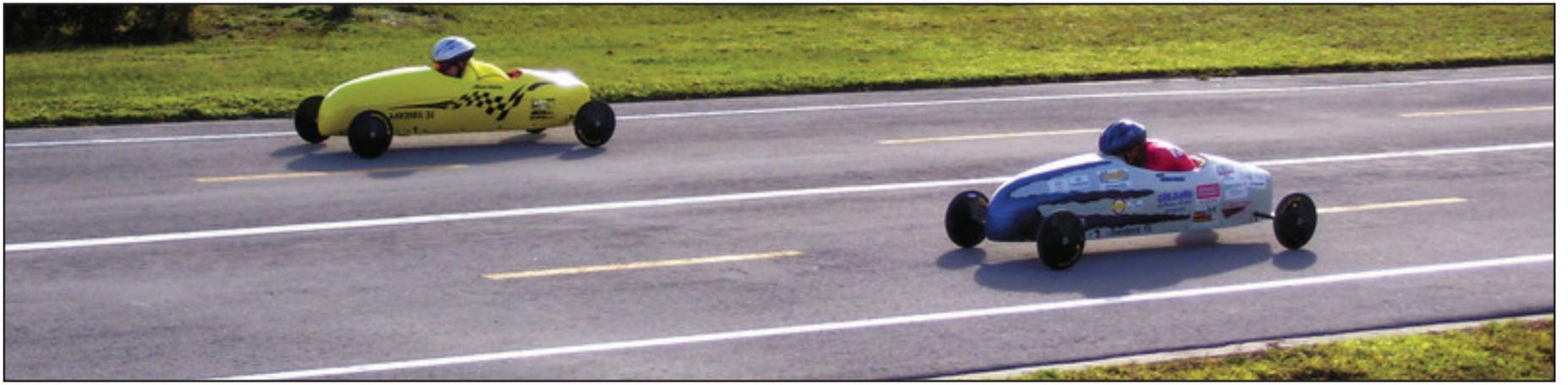


PHOTO COURTESY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA SOAP BOX DERBY

Racers use gravity and their own skill to test each other at Derby Park in Sanford last Saturday. The park gives young racers the chance to build their own car and race it, qualifying for national-level championships.

MATT MORRISON
GUEST REPORTER

Sanford's Derby Park is a little more restless on Nov. 21. At the foot of a gently rising hill, packs of child-sized rocket-shaped cars roll through a makeshift village of tents and trailers. A few yards away, a pickup hitched to a flatbed trailer waits to haul them to the top. In 30 seconds, they'll be 20 feet higher in altitude and ready for takeoff.

Under a canopy on the hilltop, drivers just old enough to ride their first bicycle contort their tiny bodies into the slippery fuselages of fiberglass and steel racecars, as parents aim them straight toward a wall 100 yards downhill.

Then the voice of Edna

Brewer, a member of the Central Florida Soap Box Derby announcing the event, leaps out of dual loudspeakers and turns all eyes to the top of the hill. The soft pop of the metal bars holding the racers in place collapses, and the cars start to pour down the road, slowly at first but gaining speed, the drivers just small helmeted dots hunched forward in the center, their eyes poking a hair above the horizon.

They punch through the finish line, and Brewer measures the distance between the winning car's nose and the other's rear to the thousandth of a second. Then it's back to the top of the hill, where the racers will change tires, switch lanes and race again. The win-

ner of both or the one with the largest time differential moves ahead in the brackets.

"Sometimes when you really want to win, it's heart-pounding," said Kirby Gagne of Winter Springs. At 16, Gagne is an old vet among rookies. Now in the Master's Division, he talks of retirement that's only a year away, just as he's becoming a senior in high school.

His name adorns the entrance to the park in honor of being a Rally Stock world champion in 2005. But on this Saturday, Gagne didn't win, the brakes failing to stop his car before it hit into the soft barricade of orange traffic cones. Gagne, though, seems to shake off the loss; a racer since the

age of 10, he's seen them come and go.

"Everyone who comes here," he says, "we're all friends — just one big family."

Located in the center of the action, Central Florida Soap Box Derby's director Eric Griffin tries to manage all of the confusion. Griffin became fascinated with soap box racers at a young age and was a city champion for Albuquerque, N.M. in 1970. His son, Evan, was a world champion in 2002. Griffin said his favorite part of the sport is the family atmosphere.

"The family actually stays together and helps each other," he said.

Soap box racing isn't a spectator sport, with dad at the top of the hill helping to

move the car into place and mom at the bottom taking the car aside and getting it ready to roll again.

It's a personal day for Griffin too. At one point he stands with his other son, Ben, back from Iraq with an up-armored Humvee. They're behind a mountain of toys to be donated to Toys for Tots. In lieu of race fees, participants were asked to pay an equivalent amount in toys.

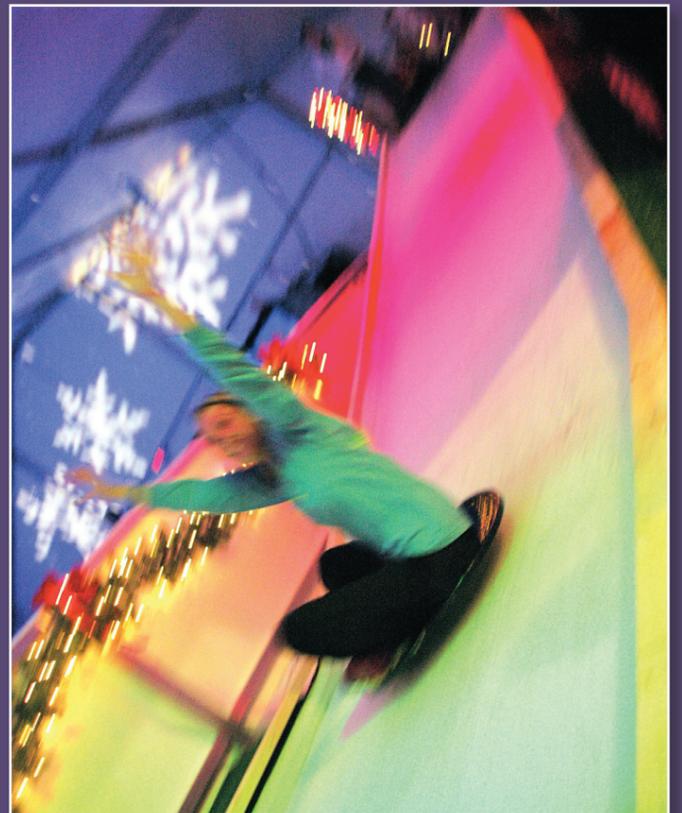
Ben, like his dad, is a racer too, finally giving up the sport in 1999. "It's fun," he said.

Although he admits driving a Humvee is a little tougher.

Colors of the season



PHOTOS BY ISAAC BABCOCK
— THE VOICE
UCF lights up the night with its holiday season event, which mixes some parts county fair with lights and music.



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(Located at the base of the Nelson & Co. water tower)

INTERESTS



THIS WEEK in human history

Dec. 3, 1947 —

Marlon Brando's famous cry of "STELLA!" first boomed across a Broadway stage, electrifying the audience during the first-ever performance of Tennessee Williams' play "A Streetcar Named Desire." When the curtain went down on opening night, the crowd erupted into a round of applause that lasted 30 minutes.

High schooler aims to feed 500

CARMEN CARROQUINO
GUEST REPORTER

Holding the sealed, white envelope up to the light didn't reveal its contents.

After an hour of deliberation and prayer, Hagerty

High School senior Zavia Menning said she slid a decisive finger beneath the seal and found a task from God: Feed 500 families on Thanksgiving.

Menning received the envelope at a summer youth group conference in Tennessee and was told to only open it if she was ready to accept the challenge within.

"I thought the task was a little crazy to accomplish at first," Menning said. "But after thinking about it, I realized that God had faith in me and chose me to do this when anyone else's envelope could have said the very same thing."

Brian Dorn, Zavia's youth pastor at River Run Christian Church in Chuluota, said he never doubted her capability to handle such a daunting task.

"I'm very impressed with Zavia," Dorn said. "She received this mission and made a commitment between herself and God to accomplish it by opening that envelope. Even if she doesn't reach her goal, she'll learn valuable lessons of giving and generate a sense of outreach in our community, not only for the holidays, but for every day of the year."

Supported by River Run

and her friends and family, Menning started the "Feed 500 Families" campaign, hoping to raise \$5,000 to dress the tables of local families in need with turkey and all its trimmings.

Pounding the pavement of Oviedo businesses such as Winn Dixie and Wal-Mart asking for donations, Menning also recruited a local Girls Scouts troop, her soon to be alma mater, Hagerty High School and River Run Church to hold food drives and collect monetary donations.

With the \$5,000 goal, Menning said she would like to be able to give families at least a \$10 gift card to buy Thanksgiving groceries. She also said that she hopes the food drives at Hagerty and River Run accumulate enough food items to make pre-packaged bags to hand out to families and make deliveries downtown and to those homebound.

Not only is Menning collecting food for families, but for their pets too, saying that everybody should eat well on Thanksgiving.

Janette Menning, Zavia's mother, said she is very proud of her daughter's selfless act. She said that she's always taught her children that it's better to give than receive, and wants them to



PHOTO BY CARMEN CARROQUINO — THE VOICE
Hagerty High School senior Zavia Menning buys groceries for people and their pets at a grocery store. Her goal is to raise \$5,000 in food and cash donations.

pass that message to the community, even in these financially difficult times.

"This was a big undertaking for everyone involved,

Zavia too," Janette said. "But I've seen her grow from this experience and learn the appreciation of

> turn to **THANKSGIVING** page A9

Donations

River Run Christian Church, located at 141 River Run Point in Chuluota, will be collecting nonperishable food and donations.

Zavia and Janette Menning will be accepting food for families, their pets and monetary donations till Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, Nov. 26.

If you are homebound and in need of a Thanksgiving food supply, would like to know more, or want to donate, call **407-365-6988**.



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G.O. Family

For Greater Orlando's Active Families

Family Calendar

American Red Cross babysitter's course is for those participants 11 to 15 years of age who want to learn the importance of leadership, infant care, accident prevention and basic CPR and First Aid. The class will be held for one day at Riverside Park, 1600 Lockwood Blvd., on Dec. 5, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The cost is \$45 for Oviedo residents, \$55 for non-resident members, and \$65 for non-residents. There is a minimum of five participants to hold the class. For more information please call 407-971-5575.

The **SNAP Club** is for teens and older who are mentally and physically challenged. Participants must be accompanied by a companion. There will be fun and games, craft-time, bingo and more. Classes are held on the first, second and third Wednesday of the month from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. The location is Riverside Park, 1600 Lockwood Blvd., 407-971-5575. A minimum of five participants are needed to hold the class. The cost is \$12 for Oviedo residents, \$13 for non-city residents and \$20 for non-residents.

Santa's Calling will be held from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 10. The Recreation and Parks Department has made arrangement with the North Pole Telephone Co. to have Santa give local children of the community a holiday phone call. This activity is for children ages 3 to 9. It is free to Oviedo residents, \$1 for non-resident members and \$2 for non-residents. For more information or a form to fill out, stop by 1600 Lockwood Blvd. or 148 Oviedo Blvd.

Story-time with Santa will be held this year in Oviedo on Thursday, Dec. 17. There will be two sessions available: 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. children ages 9 years and under may celebrate the holiday season with Santa and his helpers. You will get a chance to enjoy Holiday crafts, snacks, and an opportunity to visit with Santa. You must pre-register by Monday, Dec. 14. Registration is limited to 160 participants per session. To register, or more information, contact Jenette McKinney at 407-971-5591 or e-mail jdmckinney@cityofoviedo.net.

Get into the Holiday spirit by decorating your Oviedo home and win great prizes. The contest categories will include the best Holiday Theme or Griswold, first and second place. The registration will begin Monday, Nov. 30 through Dec. 13. The judging will take place on Tuesday, Dec. 15. Your lights must be on by 6 p.m. This event is for Oviedo city residents. To register call Jenette McKinney or e-mail jdmckinney@cityofoviedo.net.



Chilly pastimes

Ice skaters enjoy a rare opportunity at Light Up UCF, an annual event on the UCF campus featuring a skating rink, light shows and movie screenings.

BRITNI JOHNSON
GUEST REPORTER

It's beginning to feel a lot like winter, as temperatures dip into the 40s in Central Florida on Thanksgiving weekend.

In honor of the season, cities and businesses are opening ice rinks and hosting light shows and parades. One city is even trucking in snow!

Here's your guide to family-fun activities through December:

On Nov. 20 **Light Up UCF** began on the UCF campus next to the Arena. Holiday light shows are scheduled at 7 p.m., 9 p.m. and 11 p.m. daily, and there will be ice skating in front of the Arena from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 5 p.m. to 12 a.m. Friday, 11 a.m. to 12 a.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Sunday. Outdoor Christmas movie screenings are also scheduled on certain evenings at 7 and 9:30 p.m. The event is through Jan. 8. It costs \$12 to skate and the screenings and light shows are free. For more information, visit lightupucf.com or call 407-823-6062.

The **Leu House Museum**, located at 1920 North Forest Avenue in Orlando, has been decorated for the holidays. Each of 11 rooms in the home has its own theme from Victorian to Art Deco fused with dioramas "so there's something for everyone to enjoy," said Tracy Micciche,

event and marketing manager for the museum. Seminole Community College Interior Design students and designers from Ron's Miniature Shop and Museum dedicated their time and trimmings, turning the home into a holiday showcase, which the museum couldn't have gone without, Micciche said. The admission is \$7 for adults and \$2 for children K-12th grades. For more information call 407-246-2620 or visit www.leugardens.org.

On Dec. 12 Orlando's annual Christmas parade, the **Holiday Sidewalk Sashay**, will march along a one-mile route in downtown Lake Eola Park. This year's version is down sized and "going green" said Terri Boardman, producer of the parade. They're using decorated golf carts, pedicabs and wagons instead of big floats. The parade will feature marching bands, dance troops, and Santa along with a song and dance show taping featuring celebrities at the Eola amphitheater. The Sashay is from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. and is free. For more information, visit orlando-christmasparade.com.

The "Winter in the Park" ice skating rink opened Nov. 20 in Central Park West Meadow located at the corner of Morse Boulevard and New York Avenue in downtown Winter Park.

More than 3,200 square feet of grass is covered with 2,500 gallons of fro-

zen water to welcome the thousands of skaters through Jan. 3. Skaters can enjoy the rink for \$10 Monday through Thursday 3 p.m. to 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Sunday noon to 6 p.m. Call 407-599-3203 or visit www.cityofwinterpark.org for more information.

The Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra will present its annual **Holiday Pops concert** in Winter Park's Central Park on Sunday, Nov. 29 at 4 p.m. The concert, full of holiday favorite tunes, is free. For more information call 407-896-6700 or visit www.orlandophil.org.

The Winter Park Playhouse, located at 711-B Orange Ave., will be presenting "Haul Out the Holidays," a traditional and inspiring holiday show featuring a cast of four adults and four children who will help ring in the holidays with everyone's favorite tunes from Broadway, film, television and radio. The show costs \$32 for adults and \$22 for students. Performances will be on Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays at 2 p.m. For more information, call 407-645-0145 or visit www.winterparkplayhouse.org.

The traditional **lighting of Cranes Roost Park** in Altamonte Springs will be on Saturday, Dec. 5 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Eddie Rose Amphitheater. There will be music, entertain-

ment and fireworks. A large Christmas tree will be on display as well as the holiday fountain show. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be there that night as well as every Tuesday before Christmas thereafter. Food and drink will be available for purchase throughout the venue. This event is free. For more information, visit www.altamonte.org.

The Eddie Rose Amphitheater, located at 247 Cranes Roost Blvd. in Altamonte Springs, is featuring two holiday concerts. **The Robert Harris Holiday Jazz Show** will take center stage for a performance of both holiday favorites and a selection of the groups many popular songs on Dec. 11 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Enjoy the great holiday sounds of "The Ritz Featuring Carol Becker" on Dec. 18 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Carol and the Ritz will be performing your favorite holiday tunes. For more information visit www.altamonte.org.

The city of Casselberry will host the **lighting of the tree** at the City Hall, 95 Triplet Lake Drive, on Dec. 5 from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. Enjoy children from local schools singing Christmas carols and free cookies and hot chocolate. This event is free. Call 407-262-7720 for more information.

The Casselberry Senior Center, 95 N. Triplet Lake Drive, will host "Pancakes

> turn to NEXT PAGE

Calendar

The sport division of the Turkey Burn Adventure Race begins on Saturday, Nov. 28, at noon and is a four-hour event. The elite division begins at 4 a.m. and is a 12-hour event. The start and finish are at Wekiva Falls Resort, 30700 Wekiva River Road, Sorrento. Register online at www.pangeaadventureracing.com or e-mail info@pangeaadventureracing.com. For additional information, contact Cristina Calvet-Harrod 407-832-4814 or cristina@cchmarketing.com.

An information meeting for the community on the plans for the Historic Geneva Schoolhouse will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 1, at the schoolhouse located at First and Main streets in Geneva. There will be an overview of the vision for the Rural Heritage Center at the Historic Geneva Schoolhouse, an explanation of the master plan being presented to county, and plenty of time for input and questions from the community.

The Office of Student Activities at Seminole State College of Florida is partnering with Hope and Help Center of Central Florida to host World AIDS Day health fairs at the Sanford/Lake Mary Campus Student Center Green from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 1. Vendors from the Central Florida community will provide free blood pressure and cholesterol screenings and HIV tests. For more information, please contact Sabrina Dasher at 407-645-2577 or visit www.hopeandhelp.org

Seminole State College of Florida's Fine Arts Department will ring in the holiday season with a wind ensemble concert and two holiday pops concerts featuring the college's bands and choirs. The dates are: Tuesday, Dec. 1, 7:30 p.m. (wind ensemble) Sunday, Dec. 6, 3 p.m. (holiday

pops) Tuesday, Dec. 8, 7:30 p.m. (holiday pops) The three concerts will be held in the Sanford/Lake Mary Campus Fine Arts Concert Hall (building G). All events are free and open to the public. For more information, visit www.seminolestate.edu/arts, or call 407-708-2040.

The Orlando Museum of Art's 1st Thursdays event "The Line Art Party" from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 3, welcomes visitors to experience an exhibition of artistic expression. Admission is \$10, always free for OMA members. Call 407 896 4231 x260, or visit www.OMArt.org.

"Healing the whole man" will be hosted by Joan Hunter at 7 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 3 at the Greater Life Church, 145 W. Broadway Street in Oviedo. For more information about this free event call 407-365-5950 or visit joanhunter.org. Her mission is to set people free spiritually, physically, mentally, emotionally, and financially.

A Lake Howell High School student, Chelsea Smith, was chosen to have her artwork displayed for the Sanford Historic Trust's 21st Annual Holiday Tour of Homes cover art and poster. This year's event will be held Dec. 4-5 at the Historic Sanford Welcome Center, 230 E. First Street.

For more information on tickets and prices visit www.sanfordhistorictrust.org or call 407-324-6618.

The Artistic Hand is proud to participate in the Oviedo Potter's Tour alongside Barbara Bailey, Mary Loving and Ann Robinson. Come see what the teachers and students have been up to during Teacher and Student Show & Sale. Take a trip into the gallery to experience the new, exciting pieces. The tour will take place from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on

Saturday, Dec. 5 and Sunday, Dec. 6. For more information call 407-366-7882.

All are welcome to a Christmas Open House Sunday, Dec. 6 between 4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at the Lake Mary Chapel of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 2255 Lake Emma Road, Lake Mary. Chapel serves residence in Winter Springs, Casselberry, Longwood, Sanford and Altamonte Springs.

The Seminole County Engineering Division invites you to attend a public information meeting about the County Road 419 Road Improvement Project. The county will present design alternatives proposed for the segment of roadway between the Seminole County line and Snow Hill Road at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 10, in the cafeteria at Walker Elementary School, 3101 Snow Hill Road, Chuluota.

The 10th annual Freaks and Geeks, a gaming competition and expo, will take place Friday, Dec. 11, beginning at 6 p.m. at Seminole State College of Florida's Center for Economic Development at Heathrow. For more information, please visit [www.seminolestate/digitalmedia](http://www.seminolestate.digitalmedia), or call 407-708-4508.

The Planetarium at Seminole State College of Florida will present "Winter Wonderland" from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 12. Enjoy apple cider and hot chocolate while visiting Santa's Winter Wonderland at this free planetarium event. The evening will include the "Cool as Ice Laboratory," demonstrating how Santa's North Pole workshop operates; a game of "Christmas Jeopardy"; holiday arts and crafts; caroling; stargazing with the planetarium's telescopes; and two showings of "Star of Bethlehem," at 8:30 and 9:15 p.m.

THANKSGIVING | Doing good in the community

< continued from page 7

what she has. She's worked really hard and appreciates all help she's gotten on her mission ... I couldn't be prouder that she accepted the challenge to do good for her community."

With about \$1,000 collected as of Nov. 16, enough to feed about 100 families, Menning said she's got a long way to go, but a short time before Thanksgiving.

"Even if we don't reach our goal, it's still a gratifying experience," she said. "I

just hope to give as many families as I can throughout the community a good Thanksgiving. I just want to make them happy and spread the love since God has blessed me with so much."

HOLIDAY | Oviedo hosts 60 tons of snow

< continued from previous page

at the Pole, a holiday themed family breakfast complete with elves and Santa. There are seatings at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. The cost is \$5 for residents and \$7 for non residents. For more information contact Erin Myers at 407-262-7720.

The Oviedo Gymnasium and Aquatic Facility, 148 Oviedo Blvd., is bringing a

"Snow Mountain" to residents on Dec. 12 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Play in 60 tons of snow delivered straight from the North Pole. Tickets are \$5 before Dec. 12 or \$10 the day of the event and include unlimited rides while snow lasts, inflatable games, carnival games, activities, entertainment and more. For more information call 407-971-5568.

The city of Sanford will

present **"Christmas in the Square"** at Magnolia Square and First Street on Dec. 4 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The free event will feature a tree-lighting ceremony, face painters, balloon artists and Santa. Then on Dec. 5 will be the city's 4th Annual Illuminated Christmas Parade at 6 p.m. on First Street. There will be floats, music and dancing at this free event.

THE MAITLAND SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Presents
HOLIDAY SURPRISES

Sunday, December 13th, 2009
7:30 p.m.
The First Presbyterian Church of Maitland
341 North Orlando Avenue, Maitland FL, 32751

The Maitland Symphony Orchestra welcomes you to experience the excitement and wonder of the holiday season by unwrapping musical presents with you. There will be surprises from "The Polar Express," "The Nutcracker," Leroy Anderson, George Gershwin, and even "Cirque du Soleil." Special guests include the scintillating Orlando Brass Quintet and the talents of Jeremy and Johanna Hunt.

We hope you will bring the family and let us transport you to a musical place of holiday love and delight. The concert is sponsored by the Performing Arts of Maitland and is free to all.

LADIES NIGHT - EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT. LADIES ENJOY 2-4-1 DRINK SPECIALS ALL NIGHT.

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Cinema

A showcase of this week's releases, and a look ahead to upcoming movies.

Coming Dec. 11



Photo courtesy DreamWorks SKG

'The Lovely Bones'

Coming Dec. 18



Photo courtesy Twentieth Century-Fox

'Avatar'

Coming Dec. 25



Photo courtesy Universal Pictures

'It's Complicated'

'Old Dogs' — Opens Friday



Photo courtesy Walt Disney Studios

Business partners Charlie and Dan are on the verge of a big business deal. But Charlie the bachelor and Dan the hapless divorcee will have to put their plans on hold when they're charged with caring for 6-year-old twins.

PG - 1 hour 28 minutes

Coming Jan. 8



Photo courtesy Dimension Films

'Youth in Revolt'

Also opening: 'The Road'



Photo courtesy Dimension Films

After the world suffers a mysterious apocalypse, a man and his son travel to the ocean in search of a better way to survive, suffering violent encounters along the way.

R - 1 hour 59 minutes

Coming next week



Photo courtesy Miramax Films

'Everybody's Fine'

PG-13

Notes

There is an upcoming reunion for the **Winter Park High School Class of 1970**. Contact the committee on Facebook: "Wphs NineteenSeventy" or e-mail WPHS.1970.Alumni@gmail.com

You can make a difference in the life of a child, by bringing a new unwrapped toy to any Central Florida Chick-fil-a or Qdoba Restaurant location or Centra Care clinic location. Drives will be held Nov. 27-Dec. 14.

For more information, call 407-834-4022.

Poetry Ensemble of Orlando invites all poets to participate in our 2010 annual poetry contest. We welcome all original, unpublished poetry of 32 lines or fewer. The contest begins Dec. 1. Entries must be received by March 5. The first prize is a collection of poetry books, certificate, and invitation to read the winning poem with Poetry Ensemble of Orlando during a May performance at Maitland

Public Library. To enter, mail the poem and a cover sheet with name, address, telephone number, email address, poem title, and the number of lines. The author's name must not appear on the entry. Make checks payable to: Poetry Ensemble of Orlando. Send to Poetry Ensemble of Orlando c/o Bob Osborne, 319 Casa Grande Court, Winter Springs, FL 32708.

The Motorcycle Officers' annual holiday toy drive in Seminole County

is underway to collect new, unwrapped toys and gifts for the law enforcement "Santa Run." The 2009 "Santa Run" benefits children ages 8 to 17 who are served by Boys Town Central Florida. "Santa Run" gift donations should be delivered to a collection location or an Optimist Club meeting no later than Thursday, Dec. 10.

Help the community celebrate the holiday season by participating in our annual "Bring a Toy for a Tot"

community project. Bring a new, unwrapped toy for children ranging in ages from infant to 12 years. All toys will be given to the Hope Foundation annual Christmas in the City event held at the Oviedo Gymnasium/Aquatic Facility, 148 Oviedo Blvd. on Friday, Dec. 20 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. They are accepting donations through Dec. 18. You may take your toys to 1600 Lockwood Blvd, 148 Oviedo Blvd. or 400 Alexandria Blvd.

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Cooler weather brings camping fun

KAREN McENANY-PHILLIPS
THE VOICE

The Fernandez family of Lake Mary will be pitching their tent and grilling steak kebabs amidst the pine forests of Wekiwa State Park this weekend, free from the rat race of work and school. Cooler temperatures and budget-friendly rates make camping staycations a welcome solution for stressed out families.

"Our kids love camping; it brings us closer together," Elizabeth Fernandez said. "With our camp kitchen we eat very well outdoors and catch up with each other. At home during the week everyone is going in different directions."

"To spend quality time together, leave the electronics at home."

Lake Mary Gander Mountain Assistant Store Manager Chris Roody said demand for camping supplies picks up when temperatures dip. High-tech freeze dried food, hydration backpacks, cast iron skillets, bug repellent and tents are among the most popular items.

www.gandermtn.com; 3750 Flagg Lane, Lake Mary 407-804-0514

Here are some camping choices within a two-hour drive.

Blue Spring State Park in Orange City, known for

manatees that migrate into the Spring from November to March, offers 51 campsites with picnic table, a fire ring and nearby restroom/bathhouse facilities. Park Manager Robert Rundle said attendance at state parks has increased above last year's numbers with weekend camp sites booking quickly. Water activity is prohibited in the spring during manatee season. Visitors enjoy wildlife viewing along the boardwalk and along the three mile multi-use trail for hiking and biking. The park is an active habitat for at least 15 endangered or threatened plants and animals including the Florida Scrub Jay and gopher tortoise.

Site fee: \$24 per night plus tax including electricity and water.

386-775-3663; 2100 W. French Ave., Orange City www.floridastateparks.org/bluespring; 1-800-326-3521 www.reserveamerica.com

Wekiwa Springs State Park located north of State Road 434 features hiking, horse and bicycle trails and water activities at Sand Lake and Wekiwa Springs. Sixty serviced campsites in addition to primitive camping areas are available. Visitors may encounter some 50 species of endangered or threatened animals and plants as well as flowering dogwood, passionflowers, warblers,



PHOTO BY ISAAC BABCOCK — THE VOICE

Campgrounds at Blue Spring State Park in Orange City are one of a myriad of places families can get together for some overnight fun in Central Florida. Camping surges in popularity during the colder, less humid months of Florida.

deer, or 32 species of fish on the park's 7,800 acres.

Campsite fee: \$24 per night plus tax including electricity and water with picnic table, a fire ring and nearby restrooms and bath houses.

407-884-2009 1800 Wekiwa Circle, Apopka www.floridastateparks.org; 1-800-326-3521 www.reserveamerica.com

Cape Kennedy KOA is a family-oriented 10 acre campground just west of I-95 on State Road 46. Owner

Dean Madison said the location is ideal with proximity to beaches, Merritt Island National Refuge, and Kennedy Space Center. The KOA accommodates 147 RV sites and 25 tent sites under mature trees and provides a heated pool and recreational activities. Tent sites range in price from \$24 to \$44; 321-269-7361; 4513 S.R. 46 Mims, Fla.; capekennedykoa.net

Silver River State Park, located east of Ocala and one mile south of State

Road 40, provides water fun and 15 miles of hiking trails that wind through 10 distinct natural communities. Nearly 60 tent and RV sites which include electric, water, picnic tables and a fire ring are available. Site fee: \$24 per night plus tax. Primitive camping is available for organized youth groups. Assistant Park Manager Christine Dorrier invites park visitors to visit the Silver River Museum (within the park) on weekends to learn about Marion County and Florida

Oviedo High School Athletic Department Holiday Tree Sale

3' to 12' trees ranging in price from \$35 to \$250

Handmade Wreaths from \$20
Homemade Stockings from \$20

November 27th through December 19th
Monday - Friday 3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Saturday - Sunday 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Seminole County Public School Employees receive a 10% discount

All proceeds to benefit sports programs at Oviedo High School



MORE THAN JUST A GAME



The 85th Anniversary East-West Shrine Game will be played on Saturday, January 23, 2010, at 3:00 p.m. EST at the Florida Citrus Bowl Stadium in Orlando, Florida. The East-West Shrine Game is played for the benefit of Shriners Hospitals for Children and is one of our cornerstone events every year. This year's game will be televised on ESPN2, which will ensure national television exposure reaching in excess of one million households.

TICKET INFORMATION

Premium Sideline Reserved Seating \$50
Sideline Reserved Seating \$25
General Admission Seating \$15

Questions? Call 407-467-1885

Join Us at the Kiwanis Tailgater for Refreshments!



Shriners Hospitals for Children™



EAST-WEST TICKET ORDER FORM Kiwanis Club of Oviedo/Winter Springs

- Buy tickets from any Oviedo/Winter Springs Kiwanian or Key Club Member
- OR at any branch of Citizens Bank of Florida:
 - Main Branch: 156 Geneva Dr., Oviedo
 - Alafaya Office: 10 Alafaya Woods Blvd., Oviedo
 - Red Bug Branch: 8305 Red Bug Lake Rd., Oviedo
 - Winter Park Branch: 7250 Aloma Ave., Winter Park
 - Longwood Branch: 410 S. Myrtle St., Longwood
- OR Mail to East-West Game Tickets, P.O. Box 196983, Winter Springs, FL 32719-6983
- Make Checks Payable to: Kiwanis Foundation

Name: _____

Address: _____

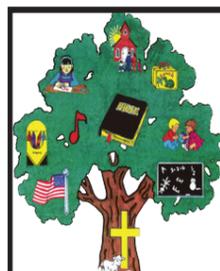
Contact Phone #: _____

Number of Tickets: \$50 _____, \$25 _____, \$15 _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Tickets will be mailed or hand-delivered.

SHRINERS AND KIWANIANS HELPING CHILDREN



The Learning Tree is a Ministry of First Baptist Church of Winter Park

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Winter Park, Florida 32789

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VOICES



THIS WEEK in political history

Dec. 8, 1987 —

At a summit meeting in Washington, D.C., President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev signed the first treaty between the two superpowers to reduce their massive nuclear arsenals. Previous agreements had merely been attempts by the two Cold War adversaries to limit the growth of their nuclear arsenals.

In a tough economy, hold yourself to tough standards

EMPLOYMENT Ask Sandi



It's a tough economy. We all know this by now. It's hard to find a job. Why is it then that some people still don't understand that a job search requires dedication, organization and professionalism?

Every job fair I attend seems to attract a range of people dressed like they rolled out of bed in the

morning to professional suit attire. I am hearing from recruiters that it is all over the board for them as well.

One employer had mentioned that flip flops are not acceptable interview attire. I have to agree unless you are applying for a job on the beach.

We recently posted a position, and I have received several resumes, some good, some bad. I have also received phone calls that left me wondering what the caller was thinking. One caller wanted to dictate to me what they thought the job should be and how they

could only work for "x" amount of money. This was before I even looked at their resume.

Employers should not be thinking "high maintenance" before they interview you, during the interview, or after you leave if you want the job. You may have to settle for less than you expect in this economy. Companies are struggling with costs and don't have as much freedom as they do in a better economy.

If your job search is going nowhere, consider a job search skills seminar. There are many being offered at non-profits,

churches and Workforce Central Florida. There are great tips out there that can help you with your search.

Until next time,
— Sandi

TALK TO SANDI

Sandi Vidal is the executive director for Christian HELP and the Central Florida Employment Council, with more than 10 years of recruiting and human resources experience. Please send questions about employment by fax 407-260-2949, sandi@christianhelp.org, or mail Ask Sandi C/O Christian HELP, 450 Seminola Blvd., Casselberry, FL 32707.

Letter to the Editor

Take advantage of Part D — before it's too late

From Nov. 15 until the end of the year, seniors can sign up for Medicare Part D — the prescription drug benefit for seniors. And those who are unhappy with their existing coverage can switch to a new plan.

All those eligible should take advantage of this "open enrollment" period. The health care reform bills working their way through Congress might soon make serious — and unnecessary — changes to Part D. And the consequences could be dire.

Unlike most public health programs, the Medicare prescription drug benefit is administered by the private sector. The program is subsidized by taxpayer dollars, but seniors are allowed to select the drug benefit that best suits their needs. Providers

compete for this business, which leads to more choices, better service, and lower premiums. This feature — the freedom to comparison shop between competing Medicare drug plans — is one of the reasons the program is both popular and cost effective.

Part D has a 92 percent satisfaction rate among its beneficiaries. And the program has reduced the number of seniors without a drug plan by 17 percent. Meanwhile, the price of Part D over the next decade is expected to be nearly \$120 billion less than originally estimated when the program was created.

But the recent push for health care reform has put the program in danger. The health care bill recently passed in the House would enable the federal government to "negotiate" Medicare Part D drug prices.

The government doesn't negotiate, though. Just look at the drug benefit administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

At the VA, the government "negotiates" prices by requiring drug companies to sell their medicines at a price that's at least 24 percent of the non-federal average manufacturer price. That's a price control; not a negotiation. When drug companies refuse to play ball, they're not on the VA's drug formulary, or list of preferred drugs.

The Lewin Group, a health policy consulting firm, recently found that the VA formulary contains less than 65 percent of the nation's 300 most-popular prescription drugs as a result of government negotiations. The most popular Part D plan, by contrast, covers nearly 95 percent of those meds. Of the brand-

name drugs on the top-300 list, just 42 percent are on the VA formulary. A full 97 percent are available under the most-popular Part D plan.

Another provision being considered on Capitol Hill would force pharmaceutical firms to offer a substantial rebate to the government for all drugs used by low-income Part D beneficiaries. Lowering the price of drugs for one group of seniors, though, would cause drug prices to rise for every other senior. The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office has concluded that this proposal could cause drug prices to rise by 20 percent for most seniors!

Any sort of price-fixing scheme would also stifle research and development. On average, it costs more than \$1 billion to produce a new drug. Pharmaceutical

companies must be able to recoup that cost. If government bureaucrats start tampering with drug prices, investment in new treatments will drop off dramatically.

Fortunately, none of these provisions have been signed into law.

The open-enrollment period gives seniors a valuable opportunity to get the most out of their Medicare drug benefit. Even beneficiaries who are happy with their current Part D plan should visit www.Medicare.gov and consider their options. There are dozens of plans out there, so everyone should be able to find one that's both affordable and well-suited to their needs.

—Peter J. Pitts

President of the Center for Medicine in the Public Interest and a former FDA Associate Commissioner.



Have an opinion?

Put it in writing and send your thoughts to associate editor Isaac Babcock at editor@observernewspapers.com

Young Voices

Here's what kids at Geneva Family Night said about their favorite Thanksgiving food:



I like turkey either fried or in the oven, and I like all the desserts.

—Charlee E.
8 years old



I like pumpkin pie with whipped cream. We'll have Thanksgiving at home with my aunts, uncles and cousins.

—Lacy Rose M.
8 years old



I like white or dark turkey in the oven and also apple pie with ice cream. My grandma likes pumpkin pie and my nana likes apple pie like me.

—Camden R.
8 years old



I like turkey, the white and dark meat and all the desserts. My dad and I will break the turkey's wishbone.

—Billy A.
7 years old



I like spiral-cut ham and sliced cranberry sauce. Our family's favorite is my great-grandma's homemade banana pudding. She makes it all herself!

—Wyatt S.
9 years old

We would love to hear from your **Young Voices!**

Call editor Isaac Babcock at 407-563-7023 to have The Voice visit your class or group.

The Marketplace

help wanted

REALTORS:
Licensed Real Estate Professionals needing to earn additional income. Become a part time or full time loan officer. Control your own closings. Gain access to hundreds of mortgage programs. Save your clients thousands of dollars. Call Maitland Mortgage Lending Company (407)629-5626

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Account Representative needed to work on behalf of our company. 18+ needed and must have computer skills. Accounting experience needed. Any job experience. Email to mclarkemployment111@gmail.com for more information.

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Craftsman Custom Installations, LLC is ready to take care of All Your Home Repairs and is now setting appointments to install your holiday light displays. Pressure Washing - Painting - Trim - Flooring Licensed - Insured - References - Over 30 Years Experience - Your Neighbors Handyman. Owned and operated by Greg Martin a Florida State licensed Building Inspector certified in all areas of home construction. Contact: Greg Martin, 407-925-7085, gwmartin@meandmycci.com

ATTORNEYS - PROBATE / BANKRUPTCY / FORECLOSURE
LAW OFFICES OF ADAMS & JAMES P.L., 415 South Orlando Ave, Suite 1, (Across from Burger King), 407-679-3111, www.adamsjameslaw.com, Julie Jo Adams, Esq., Mark A. James, Esq., Free initial consultation. Hours by appointment. Cards accepted. Serving Central Florida. Contact: Adams & James, P.L., 407-679-3111, mjames@adamsjameslaw.com



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real estate commercial

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for rent

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Allegheny River Victorian cottage, 900 sq ft new "green" restoration, private, cozy and tastefully decorated, fully furnished one mile from golf course. Couples preferred. Full loft sleeps 6 more. Deck, canoe, fishing, Many area activities. Reasonable: 1/2 month - \$850. Full month - \$1,600. Contact: Elaine & Jack Susco, 814-677-1271, elaine@caringhabits.org



workforce job listings Seminole County

Log on to WorkforceCentralFlorida.com where you can enter the Job Title in the "Search For Jobs" box to see more information on these jobs and search thousands of additional openings throughout Central Florida, at NO COST. Apply by following the directions listed. For further help visit the WORKFORCE CENTRAL FLORIDA Office at 5166 East Colonial Drive or call (407) 531-1227.

Retail Sales Clerk
Job Description: Responsible for cleaning operating the store and working with the wine/beer. Work 4:00pm-8:00pm, days may vary.
Pay Rate: \$8.00-\$9.00 per hour plus commission
Job Order Number: 9438363

Customer Service Representative
Job Description: Responsible for all customer sales and service activities within the customer service department. Closes on all incoming sales calls and takes care of incoming service. Handles incoming and outgoing electronic communications, data entry and account maintenance and performs any of the tasks at any given time. Converts all incoming sales calls and incoming chat communication to closed sales. Work Monday-Friday, 8:00am-5:00pm.
Pay Rate: \$9.00 per hour
Job Order Number: 943615

Inside Sales Representative
Job Description: Responsible for contacting current customers and renew their cell phone contracts. Work Monday-Friday, 1:00pm-9:00pm.
Pay Rate: \$9.00 per hour
Job Order Number: 9444197

Software Support/Trainer
Job Description: Responsible for providing services for the company's in-house built medical software application. Provides telephone support, product documentation, and software training, installation, demo, and testing. Work days and hours may vary.
Pay Rate: \$9.00-\$11.00 per hour
Job Order Number: 9443566

Lead Engineer
Job Description: Responsible for providing technical direction in determining the feasibility/cost/design of major capital and maintenance projects. Works

workforce job listings continued

collaboratively with the appropriate groups/ individuals across the enterprise to develop and implement technical solutions that support the objectives of the transmission department. Work days and hours may vary.
Pay Rate: Salary based upon experience
Job Order Number: 9443466

Pre-School Teacher
Job Description: Responsible for providing a learning environment for children within the school. Implements weekly lesson plans and provides safe/nurturing surroundings. Communicates openly with children and their families and fulfills the individual needs of each child within the group. Work Monday-Friday, 7:00am-6:30pm.
Pay Rate: Salary based upon experience
Job Order Number: 9442923

Inside Sales Engineer
Job Description: Responsible for developing relationships with manufacturer representatives, industrial distributors and current customers in order to optimize sales growth. Provides product recommendations/ technical support and develops/maintains key business relationships within their territory. Work days and hours may vary.
Pay Rate: \$30,000.00-\$45,000.00 per year
Job Order Number: 9442878

Custodian
Job Description: Responsible for cleaning rooms. Vacuums floors, mops, takes out trash, and cleans windows, restrooms, and furniture. Restocks supplies like hand towels and hand soap. Work Monday-Friday, 5:00pm-10:00pm.
Pay Rate: \$7.50 per hour
Job Order Number: 9442691

Victim Advocate
Job Description: Responsible for providing crisis intervention and supportive counseling to victims of sexual assault. Provides information and referrals/case management and interfaces with law enforcement and other community social service agencies. Work Monday-Friday, 8:30am-5:30pm.
Pay Rate: \$15.00 per hour
Job Order Number: 9442440

Specification Control Coordinator
Job Description: Responsible for filing, copying, and verifying information. Work Monday-Friday, 8:00am-5:00pm.
Pay Rate: \$9.50 per hour
Job Order Number: 9441607



Answers

L	E	T	W	O	P	O	E	N	
S	S	V	O	N	A	R	E	I	E
U	A	R	N	A	N	O	N	O	
E	A	D	O	O	M	A	L	L	O
D	E	R	A	S	W	A	L	O	H
R	Y	S	W	A	L	O	H		
N	O	V	E	A	R	N	O	N	
D	O	O	M	A	L	L	O	H	
E	E	N	S	O	M	S	X	H	
E	R	E	I	R	E	O	O	M	
T	O	L	P	I	V	A	R	F	
N	I	K	I	N					
D	E	C	A	F					
D	O	O	M	A	L	L	O	H	
E	O	G	R	E					
E	L	A	M	T	A	F			

Solution time: 25 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

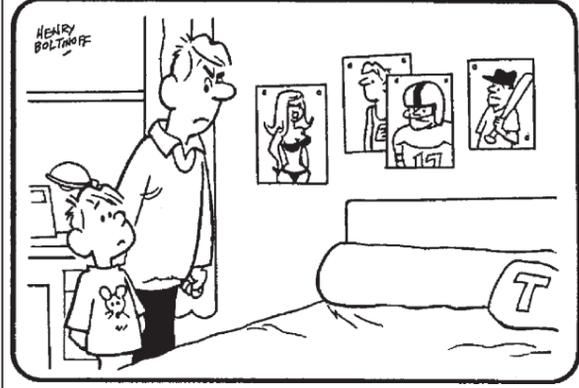
Fun & Games

Answers on this page

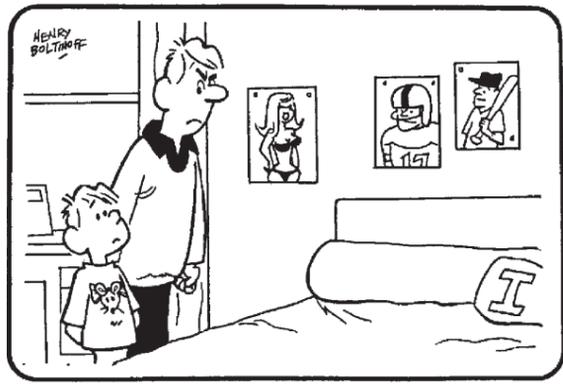
HOCUS - FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



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Differences: 1. Letter on pillow is different. 2. Man's shirt is black. 3. Mouse design is different. 4. Lamp is missing. 5. Picture on wall is missing. 6. Curtain is longer.



EDITORIAL CARTOON

King Crossword

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| ACROSS | 34 Som | DOWN | 26 Sandwich treat |
| 1 Help wrestling matches | 36 Born | 1 Mimicked | 27 Prepared to drive |
| 4 Site of Apra Harbor | 37 Bedouin successor | 2 Last word in Gilligan's theme | 28 Roe source |
| 8 Roosevelt | 39 "Gran Torino" star | 3 Platter | 29 Present |
| 12 Omega preceder | 41 Minion of Satan | 4 Hearty laughs | 30 Physical |
| 13 Incite | 43 Approach | 5 It starts with "http:" | 31 Tablespoonful or tablet |
| 14 Shrek, for one | 44 Existed | 6 Time of your life? | 35 Fame, in 50-Across |
| 15 Golfer Ernie | 46 U-Haul competitor | 7 Timid | 38 Partook at keging |
| 16 Classic Cadillac | 50 Tinseltown | 8 Local, to a collegian | 40 Distort |
| 18 "Unleaded" brew | 55 Water (Fr.) Ontario | 9 Past neighbor | 42 Aye canceler |
| 20 Family | 56 Florence's river | 10 To and — | 45 Trade |
| 21 Jamie of "M*A*S*H" | 57 Pompous sort | 11 Kennedy or Koppel | 47 Option from Howie |
| 24 Turning point | 58 Require forest | 17 Gratuity | 48 Facility |
| 28 Robin Hood's forest | 59 Allow | 19 A cont. | 49 Oxidation |
| 32 Green land | 61 Allow | 22 Libertine | 50 Coop dweller |
| 33 Whammy | | 23 Typeface | 51 Raw rock |
| | | 25 Provider of veritas | 52 Falsehood |
| | | | 53 Plata's partner |
| | | | 54 Inseparable |

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11	
12				13						14			
15				16					17				
18			19				20						
			21			22	23		24		25	26	27
28	29	30					31		32				
33				34				35		36			
37			38		39				40				
41				42		43							
				44		45			46		47	48	49
50	51	52				53	54						
56						57					58		
59						60					61		

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

ATHLETICS



THIS WEEK in sports history

Dec. 2, 1975 —

Ohio State University running back Archie Griffin becomes the first player in history to win the Heisman Trophy two years in a row. In the 1976 NFL Draft, he was the first-round draft choice of the Cincinnati Bengals.

UCF blows out Tulane, sets records



A.J. Guyton picked up 56 yards in the air during the Knights' rout of Tulane on Saturday, Nov. 21. Defense set records for total yards allowed and rushing yards allowed. Offense poured on 504 yards in the 49-0 win. PHOTO BY ISAAC BABCOCK — THE VOICE

ISAAC BABCOCK
THE VOICE

The Knights are Conference USA record holders after a historic 49-0 shutout of Tulane on Saturday.

The winning score came on the fourth play of the game, as running back Brynn Harvey broke free on a third down and one to run 50 yards for the touchdown. After that, the Knights cruised, giving some new players a chance to play for the first time this season.

The win was the most lopsided blanking between

two C-USA teams in conference history, beating a record dating back to 1997.

Once again the Knights (7-4, 5-2) proved themselves an explosive second half team, scoring 28 points in the third quarter alone as they took a 14-0 halftime lead and increased it more than threefold by game's end.

That included a plethora of gains on the ground and in the air totaling 504 yards in the game. Brynn Harvey led his team on the ground, gaining 129 yards and picking up three touchdowns.

Meanwhile the Knights' defense scored a monumental achievement for any NCAA team this season, holding the Green Wave to 50 yards of total offense, which was also an all-time C-USA record.

On rushing defense, the Knights had one of their greatest performances in school history, and the second best in NCAA football this year, holding Tulane to negative 30 yards.

During that dominating defensive demonstration the Knights held the Green Wave to less than a yard

per play, yet another record for the Knights this year. Senior Cory Hogue helped lead his team in tackles yet again, with five on the day. Senior Torrell Troup provided needed pressure, breaking up a pass and hurrying Tulane quarterbacks out of the pocket.

As the scoring gap spread, the Knights took advantage to give backup players some time on the field. Kicker Jamie Boyle was 3-for-3 on extra points, coming in to replace Nick Cattoi in the third quarter. Rob Calabrese took the helm as quarter-

back in the fourth quarter, throwing for a touchdown on his only play of the game, connecting with Brendan Kelly on a six-yard pass.

Now the Knights are in a two-way tie with Southern Miss for second place in C-USA. If the Knights win against UAB, kicking off at 1:30 p.m. this Saturday, they'll have reversed their 4-8 record from last season, and they could be in a three-way tie for first. Due to tie-breaker rules the Knights won't qualify for the C-USA championship game, but are bowl eligible.

Knights dominate the court

ISAAC BABCOCK
THE VOICE

The Knights dominated the basketball court at the Glenn Wilkes Classic last weekend, winning three of four games over teams from throughout the country.

The Knights extended their season-opening winning streak to three games with wins over Howard and Auburn, but fell to Niagara 63-46 on Saturday.

Against Auburn, newcomer Marcus Jordan scored his first official points of the season. After going 0-4 shooting from the floor in his first two outings, he scored 7 points in a flawless performance from the floor and the free throw line.

Meanwhile A.J. Tyler shined, scoring 48 points in the series, including a season-high 19 against

Auburn.

They bounced back with a 59-50 win over Drake to finish off the tournament.

Five players scored at least double digits during the series, many of them entering the teens in two games or more. The team worked well to spread the ball around, keeping opposing defenses on their heels. A.J. Rompza dished out 15 assists in the series. Isaac Sosa helped his team with 43 points in the series, with Keith Clanton scoring 32 of his own.

Dave Diakite pulled a double double with 12 points and 10 rebounds against Auburn.

Now the Knights (4-1) face Albany (3-3) at home. The tipoff is at 5 p.m. Saturday. The Great Danes are coming off a 71-66 win over Robert Morris.



The Knights spread the ball around at the Glenn Wilkes Classic tournament, winning three of four games. ARCHIVE PHOTO BY ISAAC BABCOCK — THE VOICE

Bears, Lions and Patriots fall, Seminoles survive



PHOTO BY ISAAC BABCOCK — THE VOICE

Lake Brantley made a late charge against Winter Park, taking the lead late in the game, but fell short when Wildcat running back Patrick Mputu scored to knock the Patriots out of regionals.

ISAAC BABCOCK
THE VOICE

The Lions were roped by the Kowboys Friday night in the regional quarterfinal on the gridiron, falling 34-14 and snapping an eight-game winning streak.

Two key missing players out for a “team-related matter” and a surprise drug arrest didn’t slow Osceola’s offense, which plowed through the Lions for five touchdowns in the game.

Lions’ quarterback Blake Bortles, who had formed the cornerstone of his team’s offense all season, had one of his stingiest outings of the year, passing for 98 yards and two interceptions.

Bortles personally accounted for both of his team’s touchdowns, with the first coming on a wild 68-yard scamper in the first quarter, and the second coming all the way at the other end of the game. What would be his final touchdown of the season came on a nine-yard pass to Jeremy Gallon in the closing minutes.

The loss ended the Lions’ (9-2) chances of advancing in the playoffs after a stellar regular season.

It took two overtimes for the Seminoles to outlast Timber Creek 30-27. The Seminoles had orchestrated a dramatic second-half comeback, tying the Wolves after trailing by a 17-3 deficit.

After regulation ended, running back Toby Durham came alive for the Seminoles, scoring two touchdowns to lead his team to the dramatic victory.

The Seminoles travel to Showalter field to face Winter Park at 7:30 p.m. Friday.

The Wildcats narrowly outlasted Lake Brantley in the regional quarterfinal, fending off a strong comeback effort by the Patriots in the second half. The Wildcats won 50-47 in that game. It was the most points the Patriots had scored all season.

The Winter Springs Bears fell to Lakeland in their regional quarterfinal Friday by a score of 41-8, ending their playoff hopes.

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Santa Claus Is Coming To Citizens Bank of Florida!

Friday, December 4th, 2009

Santa will arrive by fire engine at 10 a.m. at 156 Geneva Drive in Oviedo. He will be in our lobby to greet children from 10 a.m. until 12 noon and from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m.
Join us for punch and cookies!

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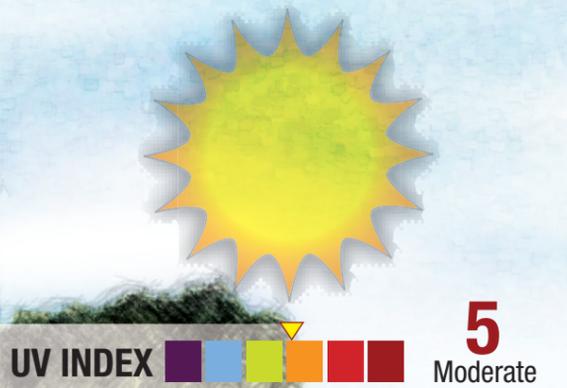
MEMBER FDIC EQUAL OPPORTUNITY LENDER

WEATHER

FRIDAY, NOV. 27, 2009

MOSTLY SUNNY | WIND: NW 5-10 MPH

Sunrise 6:58 a.m. | **Sunset** 5:28 p.m.



UV INDEX 5 Moderate

TEMPERATURES: LOW-HIGH-LOW

55° 6 a.m. | **68°** 3 p.m. | **45°** 6 a.m. Saturday

TODAY: Mostly sunny, with a high near 68. Northwest wind between 5 and 10 mph.

LOOK TO THE STARS

The Ram
Look left of the Moon on Saturday evening for the stars of the little constellation Aries.



TODAY'S MOON PHASE

Waxing gibbous
Moonrise 2:04 p.m.
Moonset 3:08 a.m.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

On Nov. 27 2005, thousands of power outages were caused by a major winter storm affecting Nebraska and the Dakotas. — *The National Weather Summary*

SATURDAY SUNNY



MORNING LOW 45°
DAYTIME HIGH 67°

Sunrise 6:58 a.m. | Sunset 5:28 p.m. | Clear skies | Wind NW 5 mph

SUNDAY SUNNY



MORNING LOW 50°
DAYTIME HIGH 71°

Sunrise 6:59 a.m. | Sunset 5:28 p.m. | Clear skies | Wind NNW 5 mph

MONDAY SUNNY



MORNING LOW 55°
DAYTIME HIGH 77°

Sunrise 7:00 a.m. | Sunset 5:28 p.m. | Clear skies | Wind W 6 mph

THE VIEW FROM YOUR NECK OF THE WOODS



PHOTO COURTESY OF YOUR NAME HERE, FROM YOUR CITY!

Want to see your picture in **The Voice**? Please e-mail it to editor@observernewspapers.com. Files should be at least 1MB in size. Please include as much information about the picture as possible, for example where the image was taken, what time and who is in it.

MARINE FORECAST

Cocoa Beach tide schedule

Time	Low	High
Friday	9:20 a.m.	3:04 a.m.
Nov. 27	9:41 p.m.	3:12 p.m.
Saturday	10:10 a.m.	3:59 a.m.
Nov. 28	10:27 p.m.	4:03 p.m.

FLORIDA FORECAST

City	Friday	Sat.
Jacksonville	49/64	42/64
Miami	63/76	57/72
Tampa	55/68	47/68
Pensacola	42/63	40/62

NATIONAL

City	Friday	Sat.
Seattle	45/52	44/52
Los Angeles	53/69	51/68
Houston	45/66	46/68

INTERNATIONAL

City	Friday	Sat.
Atlanta	38/51	36/56
Chicago	33/43	33/47
New York	42/49	40/50

INTERNATIONAL

City	Friday	Sat.
London	42/51	45/52
Paris	42/49	53/43
Tokyo	52/60	48/59

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