



Seminole Voice

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February 26 – March 11, 2010

Free!



Giving life > A7

An Altamonte Springs woman donates a kidney to a stranger



Tiny ballet > A8

Local students get an unlikely introduction to dance



Mauled > A14

The Bears fell to the Wildcats in the playoffs

Mall offered \$10B buyout

JENNY ANDREASSON
THE VOICE

The Oviedo Marketplace and Altamonte Mall could have a new owner soon.

Simon Property Group offered Feb. 16 to buy out debt-ridden General Growth Properties for \$10 billion.

GGP entered into Ch. 11 bankruptcy protection less than a year ago, April 16, and is left with about \$7 billion in debt.

"Simon's offer provides the best possible outcome for all General Growth stakeholders," said David Simon, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer in a company press release. "Simon is in the unique position of being able to offer General Growth creditors and shareholders full, fair and immediate value."

But GGP officials may be holding out for a better offer or to resolve the bankruptcy alone.

"As we have previously stated, our objective is to maximize value for the company and its stakeholders and we are engaging in a process that is intended to accomplish that result in an expeditious manner," GGP Chief Executive Officer Adam Metz said in a Feb. 18 letter to Simon. "Understandably, your

> turn to MALL on A6



Mardi time at the Marketplace

PHOTO BY SARAH ROGERS — THE VOICE

Isabella Martins, 7, leads the children's Mardi Gras parade through the Oviedo Marketplace mall on Saturday. The event kicked off a week of local festivities.

Celebrating the struggle to progress

KAREN McENANY-PHILLIPS
THE VOICE

The Gerald Cassanova Performing Arts Center on the Oviedo High School campus felt a bit like a gospel sanctuary as African American community leaders celebrated Black History Month with Oviedo families on Saturday night, Feb. 20.

"No Struggle, No Progress" was the theme of the presentation, a collaborative effort of the Johnson Hill-Washington Heights Community Outreach organization led by President Ernestine Jackson and William Jackson Jr.

"The Jacksons came to OHS looking for a venue to hold the event and our own LaQuinta Alexander was hoping to incorporate Black History Month in her Senior Class Project," said Nicola Johnson, guidance



PHOTO BY KAREN McENANY-PHILLIPS — THE VOICE

Performers from the New York Dance Academy entertain the crowd at a Black History Month celebration in Oviedo.

counselor at Oviedo High School.

Alexander is a member of the OHS Mane Attraction Dance Team. Alexander took the opportunity to choreograph her own

solo dance performance, "Chains", and also taught more than 20 children from Johnson Hill-Washington Heights the finale dance of the evening called "Our Future," which she also

choreographed. Dance, music, history, art and fashion were all incorporated into the night, with free admission

> turn to HISTORY on A6

USPS 008-093
Publisher statement on page 4

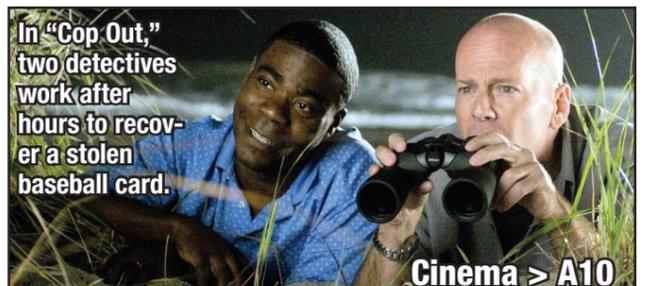
What's goin' on?

The Oviedo High School Theatre Department presents "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown" at 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 27 and 2 p.m. Sunday.

Calendar > A11

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In "Cop Out," two detectives work after hours to recover a stolen baseball card.

Cinema > A10



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THIS WEEK

THIS WEEK in history

Mar. 2, 1925 — The first nationwide highway numbering system was instituted to minimize confusion. Later, interstate highway numbering would be improved by colored signs and the odd-even demarcation that distinguishes between north-south and east-west travel, respectively.

Party time, New Orleans style



PHOTO BY SARAH ROGERS — THE VOICE
Thomas Martins, 4, blows a noise maker while riding in his homemade float, while Emma Stills, 6, shows off her homemade costume during the children's Mardi Gras parade in Oviedo on Saturday.

County budget slashed

Dallari calls last year's troubles the 'perfect financial storm'

COURTNEY GILMARTIN
THE VOICE

Seminole County's annual budget has been cut by \$100 million, a change that officials said would help the county survive financially challenging times while protecting citizen interests.

The budget was the unofficial topic of the day at Friday's annual State of the County luncheon, where chamber of commerce members, business leaders and elected officials from Seminole County's seven cities discussed the challenges and successes of 2009 and plans for 2010.

County Commission Chairman Bob Dallari highlighted topics such as community projects, public safety and education through interactive videos from county departments.

"In 2009 we saw one of the worst economic downturns of recent history," Dallari said. "Because of that reduction of revenue available to key county services, foreclosures were up, consumer spending and funding was down.

"This conspired to create the perfect financial storm for local governments."

Dallari said the county has faced tough financial decisions but has worked proactively to protect the community's future. In addition to the budget trim, he said that an economic stabilization fund is in place to offset any future economic downturns.

"We have kept our sights on providing the highest level of service to our citizens while faced with the reality of reduced revenues," he said. "Through long-range fiscal planning we are prepared to meet the financial challenges ahead."

Although several of Seminole County's programs were forced to cut back because of the budget crisis, many found practical ways to save money without hurting residents.

For example, the Seminole County Sheriff's Office combined its six district offices into three regional offices in order to reduce costs and improve efficiency. School Board Chairwoman Sandra

Robinson also said that fiscal planning and conservative budgeting have helped to keep schools afloat in the wake of budget pressures.

However, despite the financial difficulties of 2009, Dallari said that Seminole County still had much to be proud of.

"Despite the challenges, we continue to have one of the strongest economies in Central Florida," he said.

Seminole County's median household income, which is \$58,000, is above state and national averages.

In addition, the new commuter rail project will have a large economic impact on the county, creating more than 260 new jobs at the four SunRail stops in Seminole County, according to a video address from County Commissioner Carlton Henley.

"I think we can all agree that times are tough," County Commissioner Mike McLean said. "What we're looking to do is be realistic but optimistic."

BUSINESS FORUMS

Doing Business w/Government Agencies

Featuring representatives from the General Services Administration, Procurement Technical Assistance Center, SBA, Department of Defense, Energy, Transportation and other Federal and State Agencies who will outline opportunities and procedures for doing business with the Government.

Friday, March 5th
8:30-10:30am
News-Journal Center
221 N. Beach St.
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Export & Trade Program Assistance

Hear from experts representing U.S. Department of Commerce, the Small Business Administration and the Export-Import Bank, Enterprise Florida and Miami Trade Information Center that will detail export opportunities and programs.

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An Olympic-sized passion

UCF freshman Kaitlyn Chana was chosen as an Olympic torchbearer because of her extraordinary charity work

BRITNI JOHNSON
GUEST REPORTER

As soon as she stepped off the bus, hundreds of people were chanting her name, "Kaitlyn, Kaitlyn, Kaitlyn." Her thin Florida bones didn't feel the bite of the 30-degree Canadian weather; her adrenaline was pumping. The official Olympic running suit she was wearing didn't hurt either.

UCF freshman Kaitlyn Chana was one of 20 chosen by Olympic sponsor Coca-Cola to be an Olympic torchbearer. Chana carried the torch through Calgary on its journey to the 2010 Winter Games in Vancouver, getting to pass the torch off

to Olympic athlete Shawn Johnson. Hundreds of children gathered to meet her, touch the torch and encourage her run while a band played "O Canada" at her arrival.

"It was one of those proudest moments," said Karen Chana, Kaitlyn's mom. "You're almost in tears it's so exciting."

Chana, who admits she's not much of a runner, practiced every day once she found out she would receive the honor. But all her practice led to some overexcitement the day of, when after four tries they finally got her torch lit.

"I took off running, and security had to tell me to slow down," she said with a smile.

Carrying the torch was her favorite part, mostly because it reminded her of what got her the honor in the first place.

"I have a flame within me, a passion to help others and carry this excitement into someone else's life," Chana said.

Coca-Cola chose Chana because of her outstanding charity work. Chana is



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CHANA FAMILY

UCF freshman Kaitlyn Chana lights her torch for her run through Calgary on Jan. 19. Chana was chosen as a torchbearer for the 2010 Winter Olympic Games in Vancouver because of her charity, Love Letters: Random Cards of Kindness.

founder and president of Love Letters: Random Cards of Kindness Inc., an idea she got in the eighth grade. The international charity creates inspirational homemade cards for children with life-threatening illnesses. Thousands of volunteers around the world send cards for Chana to distribute. She has sent 50,000 cards to children internationally.

She said she hopes that her volunteers will listen to her experience carrying the torch and put that same

excitement she felt into the cards they make. And rather than have the cards say "get well," she wants them to include uplifting messages instead.

"We're their cheerleader, we're their backbone," Chana said.

Many parents haven't seen their child smile in weeks or months, until the moment a card is handed to them, Karen said. One child Chana remembered was a little girl who had just gotten out of surgery and loved princesses. Chana wore her

crown as Miss Winter Park's Outstanding Teen and personally gave the girl a card. Even just getting out of surgery, the little girl's eyes beamed, she clapped and kicked her legs. Chana remembered the girl's mom.

"I could feel all the meaning and energy in the one 'thank you' from the mom," she said.

"If I've put a smile on someone else's face, if I've made a difference, I've done my job for the day," she said.

Love Letters

For more information about Chana's Love Letters, go to www.loveletterscares.com.

To follow the Olympic Torch Relay, visit www.vancouver2010.com/olympic-torch-relay.

Correction

A photo that accompanied the Feb. 12 article "Local college enrollment on the rise" was misidentified and misattributed. It was courtesy of Valencia Community College and pictured its University Center on the west campus.

No GED or high school diploma required



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Good weather is right around the corner

Between the CELERY Stalks *By Janet Foley*

The other day I was waiting with my friends at the mall for the guard to open the door and we were complaining about the weather. Some bright soul said to me, "Don't worry Janet, spring is around the corner." Well, that corner is March 20. I think we should have gotten to talk with the groundhog earlier and told him not to stand up 'cause we didn't want him to see his shadow. Some of the weather this past week has gotten no complaints from me. Didn't I see the temp rise to close to the 70 mark? I have had a charming visitor come to my backyard — a beautiful big red cardinal that now sits on either the back of my chair or my bistro-type table in the yard. While he sits on the table, I am wondering if he is waiting for me to serve him some goodies. I think he is telling me, your weather will be warmer now, as shortly I will be heading north. I lived in Virginia and the state bird was the cardinal — maybe he ought to take a look at the weather report. Let's hope the past week-end was a sign for good weather coming our way.

Now for some upcoming activities:

This coming week-

end, Saturday, Feb. 27 and Sunday Feb. 28, the Oviedo High School Theatre Department will present "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown" at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$7 for students and seniors, and \$5 for children younger than 10. Priority seating will be available for \$15.

You still have time to enjoy "What a Doll" exhibit until Saturday, Feb. 27. Showtimes are 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. and on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Lake Mary Historical Museum, 158 N. Country Club Rd., Lake Mary. The exhibit features antique, vintage and collectable dolls from all over the world including Madame Alexander dolls, a rare 1958 baby doll and a limited edition "Statute of Liberty" Barbie doll. Also on display will be Tiny Tears, Gollywogs, German antique dolls and vintage Shirley dolls and children's tea sets. Admission is free. For more information, please call 407-585-1481.

Come join the museums tour on Saturday, Feb. 27 at the Museum of Seminole County History, 300 Bush Blvd., Sanford. Tour the three Seminole County museums and see objects and exhibits not available to the public. The

tour starts at the museum of Seminole County History, then proceeds to the Student Museum, 301 W. 7th St. and concludes at the Sanford museum, 520 First St., where curator Alicia Clarke will give a rare tour and lecture on Henry Sanford's books, furniture and paintings at 2 p.m. The Student Museum is one of the state's oldest public schools. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Student Museum Restoration fund. Tickets will be \$12 in advance or \$15 the day of the event for adults, \$5 in advance or \$7.50 day of event for children.

Do you have some free time to spare? Volunteers are needed at The Vine "The Forgotten Ones" on 98 W. Broadway St. in Oviedo, to help sort clothing, price items and general work. To help, call Cindy 407-971-8135.

St. Luke's Concert Series will celebrate their 16th season by presenting the Wind Symphony of Concordia University: Chicago with conductor, Richard Fischer. The concert will be held Saturday, March 6 at 7 p.m. and will feature "Wind Music from the Ages". The Wind Symphony has performed in 43 states, Canada, Eastern Europe and China and also recorded 11 CDs. Admission is free and the public is more than welcome. The event will be held at the St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 2021 W. State Road 426, Oviedo. An Arts and Crafts

Festival will be held at the Central Park, 100 N. Country Club Rd., Lake Mary on March 6 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Artists and artisans will display a variety of art and handmade crafts. There will be children's activities, food entertainment and a visit by Gus Jr., the kissing camel. Please come; admission is free for this event.

Did I hear and read correctly that General Growth Properties turned down Simon Property Group's offer to take over the bankrupt Oviedo Marketplace mall; and they (General Properties) are looking for a better offer? Quote "A combination of Simon and General would create a mall giant that some estimate would own about one-third of the U.S. retail market." They need help and the citizens of the Oviedo and surrounding areas want the mall to survive. They should try advertising in the paper for events and things to attract local citizens in to shop and eat at the food court. Lunch time is poorly attended and walking in the afternoon, you can zip up and down the aisles with no trouble, unless you are waiting in line for a movie. They do well. That is the theater.

Did you all happen to attend the Walking Tour and Breakfast last week-end starting out at the First United Methodist Church on King Street? This event was hosted by

The Oviedo Preservation Project to enlighten all

about our town. It was a success by all accounts. I must say the breakfast with scrambled eggs and pancakes were great. I was talking with local residents and they were amazed about the homes they passed on the tour — about their history and the background. I heard one lady say "Wow, I never would have known that [so and so] lived here."

Coming up is the Oviedo Woman's Club annual "Tasting Luncheon" on March 17 from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Located at their clubhouse, 414 King Street, (between the high school and the Methodist church). Tickets will be on sale at the door for \$7 or you may call Diane at 407-977-6655 or any club member. Our cookbooks will also be on sale at the door for \$8. I just bought one and I must say the recipes are great this year. This is the 36th year the woman's club has been doing their event for the citizens of Oviedo.

St. Patrick's Day will be coming up on Wednesday, March 17. Don't forget to wear your green outfits and shamrocks.

A thought — "The surprising thing about young fools is how many survive to become old fools."

—Doug Larson

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.net.

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NOTICE TO PATIENTS

Effective January 18, 2010

Kar-Yee Ng, MD, will no longer be practicing at Longwood Family Health.

Dr. Ng will now see patients at Oviedo Family Medicine Specialists in Oviedo. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Your medical records will continue to reside at Longwood Family Health. If you would like to request a transfer of your medical records, please call 407-862-3400.

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Defining community

STETSON'S CORNER

By Karen McEnany-Phillips

Community can be defined in many ways: a unified body of individuals, people with common interests or history, a group living in a common location. A community can be static or dynamic, nurturing or destructive, welcoming or standoffish. It's easy to look at someone else's community and define it by outward appearances, judge it by preconceived ideas. Members of a community sometimes are able to assess the progress of their group objectively while other times the view is limiting.

I've had the joy of rubbing elbows with some communities outside of Geneva the past few weeks and have observed some wonderful aspects of community. In this column I often talk about our Geneva community, which manifests its personality in so many positive ways. Honoring tradition, history, common values, character, country and family is just part of what makes our village such a wonderful foundation for families. Some members of the community have lived here all their lives, others are more recent transplants but quickly became vital, organic members whom we could not do without.

Attending The Oviedo Preservation Project's (TOPP) first pancake breakfast and historic walking tour last weekend was a very enjoyable experience. Staging this type of event for the first time on a fairly large scale required a measure of risk. How many people would come? Would

they like the homemade breakfast? Would they find the tour interesting? Would people donate generously?

I enjoyed the courage and confidence of a community that thought out so many details and established such ambitious goals and then, finally, just threw open its doors and enjoyed itself, come what may. Churches, historians, preservationists, entrepreneurs, homeowners, artists, medical professionals, advocates, community leaders and volunteers came together with one voice: "Come have a healthy, homemade breakfast, walk down our streets and learn about the history, humor and character of our town and help our less fortunate if you are able. Give what you can and if you can't that's OK too."

Whenever a community blends generosity, advocacy and vision, it can't help but make a positive difference. Way to go to TOPP members and all of your partners, volunteers and sponsors that made the event possible. Well done!

My other journey led me into the African-American community of Oviedo as Black History Month was celebrated in the Gerald Cassanova auditorium. As I met individuals such as Ernestine Gould Jackson and William Jackson, leaders of the Johnson Hill-Washington Heights Community Outreach group, I was struck by their vision and ability to bring so many elements together to bring positive change. As I listened to the music, watched the many artists

and noted moments that were both uplifting and somber, I thought how lucky the children were to participate and enjoy such a memorable evening. This is the role model that kids need and the message that progress is almost always born of struggle.

It was great meeting Oviedo High School senior LaQuinta Alexander, whose senior project included choreographing her dance performance as well as teaching community children to dance so they could personally participate in the Black History month celebration. I was happy to see my friend David Tossie, who is my liaison at Midway Elementary School of the Arts in Sanford and first introduced me to the unbelievable magic that happens at that magnet performing arts school.

Both experiences were true examples of communities with a sense of place and purpose, how individuals shape community and how community in turn shapes its individuals.

P.s.: Don't forget our Annual Geneva Community Yard Sale has been rescheduled for Saturday, March 6 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Come find great treasures, crafts, food and even holiday gifts for next year. This is the event that is usually held in December but was rescheduled due to bad weather. Remember that cold, rainy, and windy day? Hopefully we'll have great weather this time!

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.

Randall W. Hanson, Esquire

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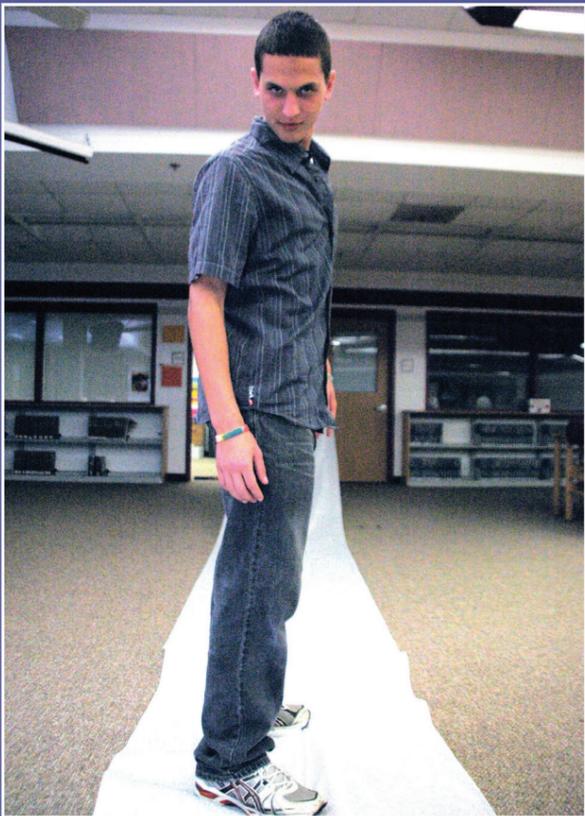
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Role models



PHOTOS BY ISAAC BABCOCK — THE VOICE
Models Lindsey Hummell, 16, and Matt Whebell, 18, strike a pose at a school fashion show on Monday at Oviedo High, designed to show parents, students and administrators what fashions are OK to wear in school.

HISTORY | A night of dancing and theater

< continued from the front page

for the public and performances by New York Dance Academy and the musical group Voices of Judah.

"This is the first time we have hosted a Black History Month event involving all age levels, not just a day event for our students," Johnson said. "It was truly a collaborative effort with Antioch Baptist Church, the Johnson Hill-Washington Heights Community Outreach group as well as artists, musicians and dancers."

Audience members watched the Antioch Missionary Church Puppet Ministry sing and perform with JHWH children, who portrayed famous African Americans such as Mohammed Ali, Condoleezza Rice and President Barack Obama led by Director Debra Tossie. Maya Angelou's poem, "Phenomenal Woman", was recited during a fashion show of African American women's attire through time. Children in the audience enjoyed the challenge of answering trivia questions about black

history as well.

The Jacksons shared the vision of their community outreach to create permanent and positive change in the community. "We work with everyone — kids to seniors — on many projects in our area and outside the community as well," William said.

Johnson Hill-Washington Heights outreach formally began in 2008 and has been involved in beautification projects at Round Lake Park, local back-to-school projects, church tutorials and the Seminole County Night Out public safety program. They hope the event will engage members of the community to volunteer and shape the future of their community and its families. "We always need more volunteers and donations for future projects," William said.

The Jacksons were pleased to hold the event in the performing arts center, which bears the name of Gerald Cassanova, former OHS assistant principal. "We personally knew him and understood his impact and his recognition for the

need for community service," Ernestine said.

Cassanova was a popular educator, musician, and singer who spent 31 years in the Seminole County School System and he was honored along with members of the community for outstanding community service.

LaQuinta Alexander described her experience as "an adventure" working with the children.

"I hope it will be a learning experience and a memory for them," said Alexander, who plans to attend either University of Tampa or Jacksonville University next year. "It's wonderful to see how the black culture has grown and how Oviedo has grown. It's exciting to think about what our future will become."

Reach out

Jackson Hill-Washington Heights Community Outreach
P.O. Box 622279
Oviedo, FL 32762
jhwco@gmail.com

MALL | Mardi Gras 'a success' at the mall

< continued from the front page

objectives are not aligned with ours. We hope you will, nonetheless, participate in our process."

How Simon would manage said properties — if and when a deal went through — is questionable, but the Oviedo mall itself has undoubtedly faced a hard couple of years, with fewer customers and multiple store closings. Yet those inside the mall say they aren't going to close anytime soon.

"It's business as usual at Oviedo Marketplace," assistant general manager Chris Molho wrote in an e-mail on Wednesday.

Although the mall has lost RJ Gators, Bed Bath & Beyond and FYE, a handful of new stores have opened, including a tattoo parlor and a cake shop. In the last year, the tenants have formed a merchants association, which has partnered with management to host more community events to draw traffic to the mall.

Last weekend, the Oviedo mall hosted a Mardi Gras Celebration, co-hosted by the Krewe of Leaders, which honored volunteers in the community. This is the first year any Mardi Gras events have been at the mall.

Merchants Association President Jim Pridemore

said more than 200 people attended the celebration, which include the crowning of the Mardi Gras king and queen and a children's parade.

Mardi Gras coordinator Mary Alice Wilder said the event announcers encouraged attendees to shop at the mall after the event, and attendees did. She's already planning next year's event there.

"The whole idea was to come together as a community, have fun and realize that the mall is now becoming more community-aware. ... It's a perfect venue to host events because we can do it inside," Wilder said.



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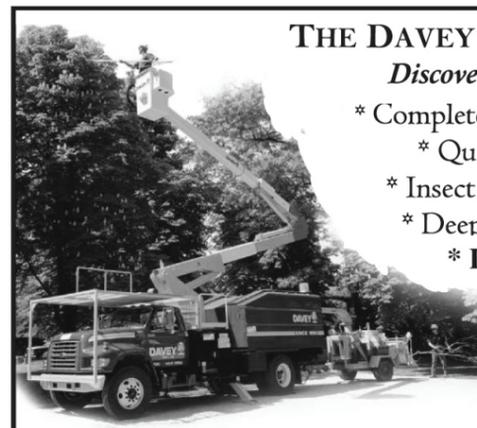
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INTERESTS



THIS WEEK in human history

Mar. 10, 1876 —

The first discernible speech was transmitted over a telephone system when inventor Alexander Graham Bell summoned his assistant in another room by saying, "Mr. Watson, come here; I want you." Bell had received a telephone patent three days before, just hours ahead of another inventor, Elisha Gray.

An Altamonte Springs woman donated her kidney to a man she's met twice

CARMEN CARROQUINO
GUEST REPORTER

Her bags were packed and not a trace of doubt lingered in the Altamonte Springs woman's mind as she prepared to board a plane to Minnesota. She was precious cargo for a man awaiting a kidney transplant.

Cynthia Love, 52, flew to meet Thomas Wirt, 66, from Lewiston, Minn. for only the second time, but that time she was on her way to give him what he wanted most: an active and healthy retirement through the donation of one of her kidneys. On Sunday, she said the Feb. 17 surgery was a success.

Love, a mother of two, promised this very special gift to Wirt, a family man with polycystic kidney disease, after meeting him in August on Matchingdonors.com, a Web site that brings patients and living donors together.

"I just kept hoping someone would come forward and offer me a kidney or one would become available," Wirt said. "I thank God that she chose me to give her kidney to."

He first found out he needed a kidney transplant in January 2007. He had been on the national deceased donor waiting list for about a year and a half, receiving dialysis three times a week, when he posted a profile on the site.

The two met in person for the first time in December when Love had to fly up for some additional testing.

"I knew she was full of love like her name says," Wirt said.

Love, being just as enamored with Wirt, said, "Tom is soft-spoken and a joy to be around."

Knowing individuals living healthy lives with just one kidney, Love said she never doubted her decision, but was especially sure when she first met Wirt.

"When I told him and his wife that I was a compatible donor they were like, 'We could never repay you,' and I was like, 'OK, I don't want to be repaid.'"

She first became interested in organ donation after trying to be a donor to her nephew Kenny, 39, who received a kidney transplant in July to some success.

She wasn't compatible with him. But through research of donor transplants she found the site and came across Wirt's story.

"It's been a very difficult process to see him (Kenny) go through it all," she said. "But I thought, if I'm healthy and wanted to donate to him, then I could donate to anyone."

"I look at life a little different. I truly believe we are all brothers and sisters, and if we acted like that the world would be a much better place."

Giving the gift of life



PHOTO BY CARMEN CARROQUINO — THE VOICE

Cynthia Love, 52, wasn't a donor match for her family member, but she is a match for Thomas Wirt, 66. Love and Wirt went into surgery on Feb. 17 thanks to the Web site MatchingDonors.com that linked them. The surgery was successful.

Jane Neal, Love's sister and Kenny's mother, said she is proud of her sister's bravery and generosity.

"It's too bad she wasn't able to help my son, but I think it's great," she said. "We need more people like her that are brave, healthy and willing to do it."

Auston Love, 23, Love's younger son, was skeptical of his mother's decision in the beginning.

"I think it's incredibly generous and altruistic," he said. "I was shocked at first. ... It's a big deal to me, to be

completely healthy and give up one of your own body parts, but she really wants to do it, and I support her."

The surgery was scheduled at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., one of the 115 clinics involved with Matchingdonors.com, said Dr. Jeremiah Lowney, medical director of the site.

He said the site, which has about 7,600 potential donors listed, was designed to promote living transplant donations to decrease the more than 100,000 people waiting on the national

list. Wirt and Love will be linked for life by an unfortunate disease and an act of altruism.

"She's the kind of person to be like in this world," Wirt said.

Are you a match?

Visit Matchingdonors.com if you're interested in becoming a donor or are in need of one.

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Family Calendar

Krewe of Leaders presents the Twin Cities Mardi Gras Finale Night Parade. The street party includes a float parade, live music and bead throwing. The event will be from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. along Oviedo Boulevard. Visit www.kreweofleaders.com for more information.

The Teen Xpress mobile health care unit, part of the Howard Phillips Center for Children & Families, is partnering with the Wayne Densch YMCA Family Center to offer free medical services to adolescents and teens ages 11 to 21. Services will be available from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. the third Wednesday of every month until June 16 at the Family Center, 870 N. Hastings St., Orlando.

JCC of Orlando is hosting a summer camp open house for parents to learn about summer camp options. Parents who register their children for camp at the open house will also save money. The event begins at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 28 at the JCC Maitland Campus, 851 N. Maitland Ave.

Children and teenagers ages six to 18 can be nominated to win scholarships and Kohl's gift cards through the 2010 Kohl's Kids Who Care Scholarship Program. Nominations will be accepted at kohlskids.com through March 15, and nominators must be 21 or older.

The University of Central Florida's African American Studies Program is looking for high school and college students and community members to honor at its annual Dr. John T. Washington Community Service Awards and Scholarship Luncheon. The luncheon will be held from noon to 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 14 at the Student Union on the main campus. The deadline to apply for the scholarship and awards is Friday, March 19. Applications are available online at www.aas.cah.ucf.edu.

The Friends of Casa Feliz invites all local families to attend "Kids at the Casa," a Spanish-themed children's festival celebrating music, dance, art, song and storytelling. The event will be from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, March 20. Admission is free but donations to help pay costs will be accepted. Call Angela Roark at 407-484-1246 for more information.



PHOTOS BY CARMEN CARROQUINO — THE VOICE

Third-grade students from the Midway Elementary School of Arts in Sanford get free ballet lessons courtesy of an Orlando Ballet Company program.

Free program partners with schools to teach children life — and dancing — skills

CARMEN CARROQUINO
GUEST REPORTER

Instead of pant suits and pumps, third-graders Sydney Smedley, 8, and Jaelynn Ashmoore, 9, hope to don tutus and tights to work when they grow up.

Mentioning pointeshoes, ballet and New York City in the same sentence makes them smile.

Attending the new Midway Elementary School of the Arts in Sanford, where they not only participate in academics, but the arts too, Smedley and Ashmoore are part of a lucky few who get to participate in the Orlando Ballet STEPS program.

STEPS or Scholarship Training for the Enrichment of Primary Students is a free, community outreach program that targets children at a young age with the message to stay in school and away from trouble, while also educating them about the fundamentals of dance.

"Anytime Midway can partner with an outside

source involved with the arts it is a benefit to the students," Midway Principal Sharon Tanner said.

She said the STEPS program focuses on not only teaching dance, but nurturing whatever talent students have by developing them socially and making them more confident in their abilities, whatever they may be.

"It's more about learning life skills," she said.

Modeled after a similar award-winning program developed by New York's Dance Theatre of Harlem, the STEPS program has worked with more than 1,000 children since the program's institution in 1992 by founder Barbara Riggins, dance teacher at Midway for the last 10 years and co-founder of the Orlando Ballet Company.

Each year, about 25, third-, fourth- and fifth-grade students from Midway get bused over to the Seminole Orlando Ballet School campus, where they receive direct instruction from

Riggins or other professional dancers in the company.

Katherine Fabian, school manager of the Orlando Ballet School, said Orange County's Lake Weston and Killarney Elementary third-graders join Midway in participating in the program.

Operating on a first-come, first-served basis, interested students sign up at the start of each school year. Proper dress attire and shoes are provided by the Orlando Ballet School at no cost.

Fabian said classes at one of the four campuses, not including shoes or recital-wear, can cost around \$65 a month or roughly \$585 annually. She said if it weren't for the program many students wouldn't be able to afford the lessons.

Riggins, 74, who still dances every day to teach her students, said the program is not to make dancers out of its students, but to teach confidence, discipline and the importance of exercise.

"Too many children watch TV and don't do anything," she said. "Here, I'm teaching them to exercise, get in shape and be proud of what they do."

In teaching them bodily discipline, Riggins also said the program teaches children to listen and pay attention, which is hard for anyone at that age.

With a group full of pink tights and tutus, only one or two boys participate in the program yearly, Riggins said, which she's come to expect.

She said she's at a loss for ideas on how to bring more boys into the program, but does what she can to show the boys she does have that there is more to ballet than tights.

As for the STEPS program as a whole, Riggins said she hopes the children have a lasting benefit from the program.

"I like that I'm not only making them dancers, but making them feel good about themselves."

Lessons

To learn more about STEPS, visit OrlandoBalletSchool.org



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Leveling the playing field

PHOTO COURTESY OF ISTOCK

Studies have shown that children who do not have a home computer are at a disadvantage in school. Oviedo-based nonprofit Gift from God Computer Foundation collects used computers for children in need.

Gift from God Computer Foundation in Oviedo supplies needy kids with used computers

CARMEN CARROQUINO
GUEST REPORTER

Giving away 1,000 to 1,500 donated and refurbished computers every year, the Gift from God Computer Foundation is heaven sent to deliver computers to needy children in Central Florida.

Over the past five years, this Oviedo non-profit organization has worked with local churches, charities and schools to see to it that children of any age can succeed in the classroom and in life.

Cindy Rosarius, co-founder with her husband, Paul, said that the reason for starting the organization was "to close the digital divide" some students without home computers were facing.

"Technology is the key to communication now," she said. "Kids have to have computers at home to be successful in the classroom because virtually every-

thing is done on them. ... Without computers kids can fall behind. How can they compete with students that already have the technology?"

Computers received by the organization are wiped clean of all the previous owners' usage and restored with a licensed operating system and common programs, such as Microsoft Office, before reaching their new owners.

The computers are refurbished within the organization solely by volunteers with computer backgrounds and students receiving academic credit for their services.

The organization has partnered with several programs, including a University of Central Florida business class, South Seminole Middle School seventh-graders and students participating in the Bright Futures Scholarship program, to not only help with the restoration of the

computers, but with fundraising too.

The organization, which first started out as a group trip to Africa to donate computers to children suffering from AIDS, now combs its own backyard in search of those in need.

Beth Davalos, coordinator of Families in Transition for Seminole County Public Schools, said the five-year partnership with Gift from God has been incredible and life-changing for hundreds of homeless children struggling in school.

"Students are constantly given assignments to do on the computers," she said. "In our efforts and Gift from God's efforts we're trying to level the playing field in the classroom where the standard is to have a computer."

Already this year, Gift from God Computers has donated 168 computers to them with many more to come, Davalos said.

With 300 computers on

hand and about 200 already given out this year, Rosarius said she is hopeful for not only more computer donations from individuals and corporations, but also for financial donations that will largely cover rent and refurbishing costs.

Gerry Myers, executive director, said the unfortunate decrease in computer donations can be attributed to the tough economic times, where people are holding on to them longer and selling them instead of donating.

So in need of funds and computers to further their mission, the organization looks forward to its annual fundraiser, the Computers for Kids Gala on March 28.

Despite the organization's short time in the community, Rosarius said she hopes they have made an impact.

"My husband hopes we inspire a child that receives a computer to become president one day," she said.

The Gift from God Computer Foundation

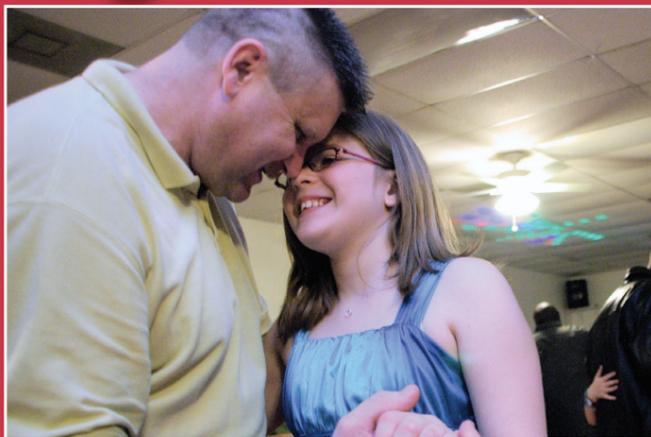
The Gift from God Computer Foundation annual gala, "Computers for Kids" will take place from on Sunday, March 28 at the Radisson Hotel located at 1724 Alafaya Trail near UCF. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are \$50. The optional black ties affair will feature live entertainment, door prizes, a silent auction and a surprise guest speaker.

For information or to purchase tickets call 407-796-5111 or visit www.giftfromgodcomputer-foundation.org.

Computer/hardware donations may be dropped off at their facility from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays or from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, but not on holidays.

Gift from God Computers is located at 101 Geneva Drive in Oviedo.

Daddies' girls



PHOTOS BY ISAAC BABCOCK — THE VOICE

The 11th Annual Father Daughter Dance was held at the Winter Springs Civic Center on the evening of Friday, Feb. 12. Fathers and their daughters enjoyed a night full of dancing to music played by a live D.J. They also received a complimentary professional photo to remember the night by.

Cinema

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

Coming March 12



Photo courtesy Universal Pictures

'Green Zone'

Coming March 19



Photo courtesy Columbia Pictures

'The Bounty Hunter'

Coming March 26



Photo courtesy Paramount Pictures

'How to Train Your Dragon'

'Cop Out' — Opens Friday

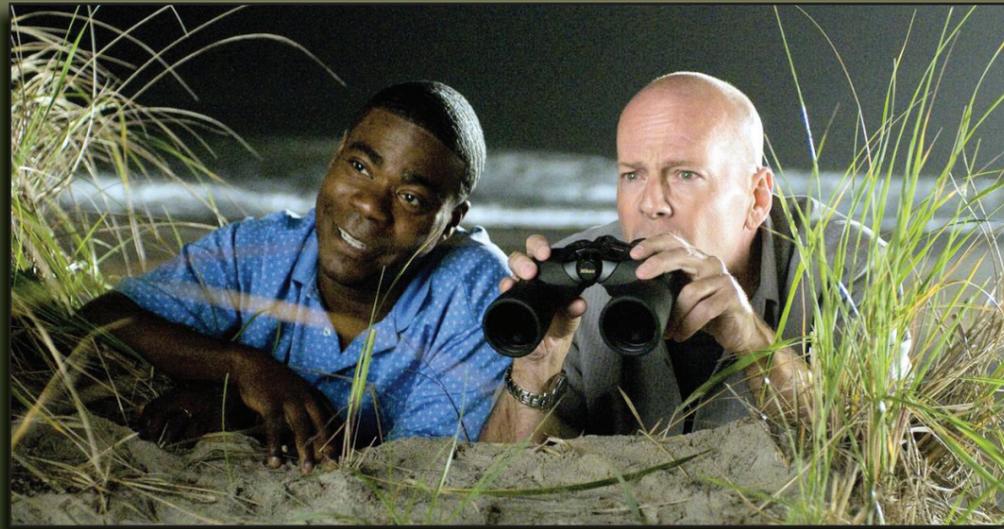


Photo courtesy Warner Bros. Pictures

Jimmy is a detective who plans on paying for his daughter's wedding by selling a rare baseball card. When a crazy mobster steals it, he enlists the help of his partner, whose attention is divided between the hunt for the card and his wife's alleged infidelity.

R - 1 hour 50 minutes

Coming April 2



Photo courtesy Warner Bros. Pictures

'Clash of the Titans'

Also opening: 'The Crazies'



Photo courtesy Overture Films

In a small Iowa town, a minority of residents band together for survival after an infected water supply transforms the rest of the inhabitants into lunatic, violent psychos.

R - 1 hour 41 minutes

Coming next week



Photo courtesy Overture Films

'Brooklyn's Finest'

R

Notes

Hagerty High School teacher Shannon Moran was selected to study abroad at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London from July 5 to July 23. The Drey Endowment of Central Florida awarded her \$6,000, which will be used to pay for airfare, tuition, books and residence.

Tax-Aide volunteers, who are trained and certified by the IRS, will provide free income tax assistance at 16 sites throughout Orange and Seminole counties through Thursday, April 15. Sites include the St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church at 861 Maitland Ave. in Altamonte Springs from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Thursdays through April 15.

Visit www.Aarp.org/taxaide for more information.

Students from Seminole High School competed in this year's first Mu Alpha Theta regional competition at Lake Mary High School. The 67 students finished in first place, beating their closest competitor by 25

points. Seminole High finished second in the state.

The Community Methodist Church in Casselberry is helping families save money on their grocery bills through the Angel Food Ministry. Each month, the church offers more than \$60 of fresh and frozen foods for \$30

to families who place their pre-paid orders online or at the church. Each order includes enough food for a family of four for one week and offers a well-balanced menu. Visit www.angelfoodministries.com.

Two women who got turned around in the Econlockhatchee Forest would like to recognize the Seminole County Fire and Rescue Department for guiding them to safety. The women spent more than two hours looking for the Snowhill Road trailhead before coming across the firefighters, who guided them back and gave them a safety talk.

Larry Volenec, external affairs manager for Florida Power & Light Company, has joined the Board of Directors for the Central Florida Zoo & Botanical Garden.

St. Luke's Lutheran School's Odyssey of the Mind team won the regional competition held Saturday, Feb. 13 at Lake Highland Prep. They will advance to the state competition at the University of Central Florida in April. This is the first year that St. Luke's has had an Odyssey of the Mind team, which is part of an international educational program that provides creative problem-solving opportunities for students.

A five-member team of high school students from Sanford won the State LifeSmarts Championship at the Florida State Fair in Tampa. Shelda Wilkens of Seminole County 4-H was the team's coach, and Jasmine Samuels served as co-coach. Team members were Zack Cole, Gabrielle Samuels, Hunter Gair, Stephanie Morris and Amanda Brown.

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Calendar

The Oviedo High School Theatre Department presents "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown" on Saturday, Feb. 27 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, Feb. 28 at 2 p.m. at the school's Performing Arts Center. Tickets cost \$10 for adults, \$7 for students and seniors and \$5 for children younger than 10. Priority seating is also available for \$15.

The Fine Arts Department at Seminole State College is hosting the modern dance performance Yow Dance of Orlando. Performances are Friday, Feb. 26 and Saturday, Feb. 27 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, Feb. 28 at 2 p.m. at the Fine Arts Theatre at the Sanford/Lake Mary campus. Tickets are \$10 for the public, \$8 for students and seniors older than 60 and free for Seminole State students, faculty and staff. Reservations are recommended and can be made by calling 407-708-2040.

Florida Hospital and the Bob Holley Foundation are raising awareness about colorectal cancer at Fitness Xpert's first 5K Walk/Run for the Cure at 7 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 27 at Cranes Roost Park in Altamonte Springs. Proceeds from the event will go to the Bob Holley Foundation, which aims to create awareness about and raise funds for colorectal cancer testing and research.

St. Mary Magdalen Catholic School is holding a 5K Road Race to support Help for Haiti. The race begins at 8 a.m. on Saturday, March 27 at the church, 869 Maitland Ave. in Altamonte Springs.

Celebrate Sanford's historical museums with guided tours of three museums from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 27. Tickets cost \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door for adults and \$5 in advance and \$7.50 at the door for children. Proceeds benefit the Student Museum Renovation Fund. Call 407-665-2489 to order tickets.

SPOTLIGHT Theatre of Central Florida is holding auditions for its junior production

of The Pinafore Pirates. Children ages five through 18 will be asked to read from the script and/or sing to their own CD. Children not old enough to read will be auditioned in a different manner. Auditions are from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 27 at Cindy's Dance Studio, 121 W. First St. in Sanford.

Seminole County Repertory Company is holding auditions for its upcoming production of the musical "Grease." Auditions will begin at 7 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 28 and Monday, March 1 at the Wayne Densch Performing Arts Center.

Celebrate the golden age of musical theater with selections from Rodgers and Hammerstein. The concert, which features the Concert Chorale and SeminoleSound, will begin at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 2 at Seminole State College's Fine Arts Concert Hall at the Sanford/Lake Mary campus.

The Planetarium at Seminole State College will entertain stargazers with two shows. "Central Florida Nights" is a guided, interactive tour of the current night sky and will be presented at 8:30 p.m. on Friday, March 5 and Friday, March 19. Agents D and M will investigate sightings, aliens and abductions throughout history in "The Extraterrestrial Files," which begins at 8:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 6.

Author William Collins will sign copies of his Christian fiction novel "To Catch the Wind" at 3 p.m. on Saturday, March 6 at the Barnes and Noble at 451 Altamonte Drive in Altamonte Springs.

The Festival of Chocolate, Central Florida's premier chocolate shopping and tasting event, is coming to the Orlando Science Center on Saturday, March 6 and Sunday, March 7. Visit www.festivalofchocolate.com for more information.

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NOTICE TO PATIENTS

Effective January 15, 2010, Tania Morales, MD, of Oviedo Family Medicine Specialists, will no longer be practicing in Oviedo, Florida.

Dr. Morales is relocating out of the area. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Your medical records will continue to reside at Oviedo Family Medicine Specialists. If you would like to request a transfer of your medical records, please call 407-366-8856.

Please note that Perri Dumbacher, MD, will continue to see patients at OFMS. If you have any questions, please call Oviedo Family Medicine Specialists today at 407-366-8856.

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VOICES



THIS WEEK in political history

Mar. 3, 1873 —

Congress enacted the so-called Comstock Law, making it illegal to send any "obscene, lewd or lascivious" book through the mails. The law was named after Anthony Comstock, a salesman from Connecticut, who devoted his life to fighting what he perceived as vice, particularly obscenity and gambling.

Not all employment advice is created equal

EMPLOYMENT

Ask Sandi



I've been writing this column for several years now and giving employment advice. It's important to me (and this publication) that the advice be current and accurate. These days there are so many "experts" out there giving tips to desperate job-seekers. Many times, the advice is designed to drive

them to a Web site or business where they charge job-seekers high fees to help them get a job.

Some of these "experts" have really good advice; others may have services worth paying for, but I caution you to double-check the facts and research companies with the Better Business Bureau before spending money.

There was an expert on TV a few days ago stating you do not need a cover letter with your resume and if you do not plan to get a master's degree, college is worthless. Many people will take his advice because he was on television. I disagree with both statements. I

have used online resume systems for recruiting, and I read resumes and cover letters sent to me in the mail. A well-written cover letter is a much-needed complement to your resume. As far as education, I couldn't believe what he said. Many colleges and universities are shaking their heads, as are employers. I chose to go right to work after getting a college degree, and I feel I have been successful.

I strongly caution you to seek advice from more than one source. Do they agree? Where are they getting their information? Are they trying to make money from their advice? These are all important

questions.

Please feel free to contact me. My advice is free, and it comes from years of experience in hiring, recruiting and working closely with employers.

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.

Letters to the Editor

Celebrate Peace Corps week March 1-7

When I learned that Peace Corps was sending me to Benin for the next two years of my life, I was at first excited (I had waited nine months for the invite) and then confused (where was Benin anyway?)

As it turns out, Benin is in West Africa, sandwiched between Nigeria and Togo. I had no idea that it would be the site of the best experiences in my life, thus far.

I arrived in Benin with basic French and two big suitcases full of things I thought I would need. There were 19 TEFL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language) volunteers and we clung to each other during the two years for support and English conversation.

I taught English at a middle school in a small village. I had 75 students in classrooms without doors, windows or electricity. I used an outhouse for a bathroom, a bucket for showering, and a basin for washing clothes. A well provided me with water, and a gas stove was the means of rendering it potable. All these elements baffled my fam-

ily and friends back home. "How do you survive?" they asked.

I fell in love with Benin and the simple life I led without TV and Internet. I cherish the opportunities I had to get to know the culture and people. I left with my two big suitcases full of odd souvenirs. Nothing I had brought survived the tropical climate of West Africa. Nothing, that is, except for me.

—Nicole Coppinger
Winter Springs

No access to spirituality

Older people do not have access to religion when they need it the most. Whereas Christian residents of nursing and assisted living facilities can attend weekly chapel services, Jewish residents are unlikely to receive any religious opportunities. When they want to pray or discuss religious issues who can they turn to? They may be facing life and death issues or grappling with relationships gone awry, personal secrets and other issues related to the latter stages of life.

In the Jewish community, few people who have

been members of a congregation throughout their lives continue their membership payments while living in long-term care facilities. As a result, they are unlikely to receive visits from the rabbi or the Social Action Committee. In many cases, they feel totally abandoned by the Jewish community.

The Jewish Pavilion offers a unique service to our elders living in nursing facilities. Pavilion staff and volunteers visit 300 Jewish seniors in the Orlando area who reside in 44 long-term care facilities. The agency also provides intergenerational musical celebrations, holiday and Sabbath festivities for residents of all faiths.

What is so exciting about the Jewish Pavilion's outreach efforts is that seniors are served no matter where they reside. Other faith communities could easily adopt this model of care. Because volunteers provide the bulk of the service, it is a very inexpensive way to enhance the lives of thousands of our elders. Visit www.jewishpavilion.org for more information.

—Nancy Ludin, Jewish Pavilion executive director

Editorial Cartoons



Here's what students at Tuskawilla Middle School said of their National History Day projects.

Young Voices



The history of diapers and the controversy of cloth-versus-disposable diapers was a unique topic. Disposables use less energy without washing but cloth diapers come in smaller energy efficient packaging.

—Hayley L.
13 years old



The game of Monopoly helped change attitudes during the Great Depression. People could own land and win money when in reality they were losing things. This game has more meaning now in our economy.

—Ariana R.
13 years old



The Ronald McDonald House changed children's health care and helped parents be close during long illnesses. Some houses now have family rooms. McDonald's big fundraiser is McHappy Day

—Catherine P.
14 years old



Our group researched trench warfare and how it revolutionized how war is fought. It started in the 20th century with a system of tunnels so men didn't run into each other.

—Michael T.
14 years old



The Gutenberg printing press had a huge impact on the world, especially during the Renaissance where art and books were important and became available to the less educated.

—Alicia S.
12 years old

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

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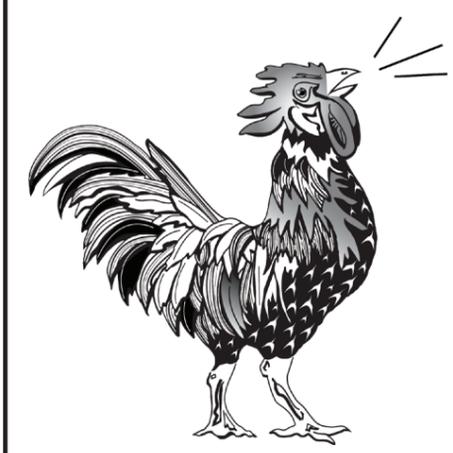
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treasury operations services. Oversees the implementation of new treasury services and manages modifications to existing services. Provides supervision and oversight to the treasury operations team and develops/implements customer focused policies and procedures. Work Monday-Friday, 8:00am-5:00pm. Pay Rate: \$45,000.00-\$50,000.00 per year Job Order Number: 9456827

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individual needs with the goal of negotiating immediate payments and/or promises to pay with specified payment dates and amounts. Work Monday-Sunday, hours may vary. Pay Rate: \$10.00-\$12.00 per hour Job Order Number: 9456240

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Job Description: Responsible for delivering open meal routes as necessary, ordering meals, routing new clients, checking telephone messages every morning and afternoon to determine if any routes are down and calling substitute volunteers to

workforce job listings

fill open routes. Compiles new volunteer packets, makes necessary changes to route sheets and sends sheets to appropriate sites. Oversees pet food program and coordinates delivery of pet food to clients. Assists the home delivery coordinator in specific duties including monthly orientations, Thanksgiving/Christmas Day meal deliveries, and Volunteer Appreciation events. Work Monday-Friday, 8:30am-12:30pm. Pay Rate: \$8.00 per hour Job Order Number: 9456256

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Answers

5	6	8	7	2	4	9	3	1
1	3	2	9	6	5	7	8	4
7	4	7	6	3	8	5	1	6
2	6	5	1	8	3	6	9	2
8	4	9	3	7	1	5	2	8
6	9	3	2	8	4	2	6	7
5	1	7	8	4	2	3	6	5
8	2	3	6	3	6	5	7	1
14	7	1	4	7	1	4	7	1
3	5	2	7	1	4	6	9	8
9	8	8	6	1	7	3	6	9
7	8	1	6	3	9	4	5	2

King Crossword

Fun & Games

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTIKOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Snowman's hat is bigger. 2. Man's coat has a zipper. 3. Toddler is wearing boots. 4. Utility pole is missing. 5. Window curtain is longer. 6. Shovel handle is shorter.



- ACROSS**
- 1 Feathery neckpiece
 - 4 Weevil invader
 - 8 Diplomacy
 - 12 Puncturing tool
 - 13 Reed instrument
 - 14 Petri-dish matter
 - 15 Giving permission
 - 17 Entice
 - 18 Online address
 - 19 Exhibition setting
 - 21 Sweeney Todd, e.g.
 - 24 Deposit
 - 25 With 21-Down, "Arabian Nights" hero
 - 26 Scoot
 - 28 Rub the wrong way
 - 32 Exclamation point
 - 34 Conger or moray
 - 36 — podrida
 - 37 Battle verbally
 - 39 Afternoon affair
 - 41 Fleur-de—
 - 42 Succumb to gravity
 - 44 Thing and fever
 - 46 Baton welder
 - 50 Journal
 - 51 Pinnacle
 - 52 Soothing
 - 56 Fit of peevishness
 - 57 Voice of Fiona in "Shrek"
 - 58 Teachers' org.
 - 59 Towel marking
 - 60 A handful
 - 61 Sailor

DOWN

- 1 Sheepish remark?
- 2 Hooter
- 3 Sexy
- 4 Alley athlete
- 5 — -Wan
- 6 Kenobi
- 6 Protracted
- 7 Constitutional
- 8 Cohort of Whoopi and Sherri
- 8 Hunter's cry
- 9 Chills and fever
- 10 Singer Vikki
- 11 Deuce beater
- 16 Scepter topper
- 20 Fond du —, Wisc.
- 21 See 25-Across
- 22 Winged Actress
- 23 McClanahan
- 27 Trawler prop
- 29 Making a claim
- 30 Gendarme
- 31 Bridge position
- 33 Fabric inserts
- 35 Author Buscaglia
- 38 Pack away
- 40 Burning
- 43 Alumni
- 45 Cohort of Whoopi and Sherri
- 46 Hawkeye's sitcom
- 47 Dermatology sub ect
- 48 Ottoman potentate
- 49 Hodgepodge
- 53 Hasty escape
- 54 Itrmodern
- 55 Tie up the phone additive

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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!

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ATHLETICS



THIS WEEK in sports history

Mar. 4, 1888 —

Knute Rockne was born in Voss, Norway. He would go on to become one of the most successful coaches in the history of college football. In his 13 years as coach of Notre Dame, he recorded 105 wins, 12 losses and 5 ties for a winning percentage of .881, the highest in the history of college or professional football.

Second-half shooting sinks Knights

UCF does an about-face against Southern Miss with faulty 3-point attempts at the bottom of the game

ISAAC BABCOCK
THE VOICE

A brief flirtation with a winning streak ended quickly for the Knights on Saturday night, as they fell to Southern Miss 68-58. The loss ended the Knights' only conference winning-streak of the year at 2 games.

The Knights (13-13, 5-7) were actually ahead in the game at the half, with a substantial 31-22 lead. But they collapsed in the second half, as the Golden Eagles (16-10, 6-6) blew through their defense with 46 points while the Knights languished behind, picking up 27.

In the first half of the game, the Knights hit 63.2 percent of their shots, including 57.1 percent of their 3-pointers. But in the second half, they fell apart, hitting only 1 of 7 from outside the arc.

Despite a lackluster sec-

ond half, the Knights shot better than they have since starting conference play, at 52.9 percent. But that didn't help them outgun the Golden Eagles, who had more shot opportunities and capitalized on better rebounding to seal the win.

Isaac Sosa returned to his role as the Knights' top gun, coming off the bench to shoot 14 points in 26 minutes on the floor. Two of his teammates trailed close behind, with A.J. Tyler picking up 13 points and 5 rebounds, and Marcus Jordan hitting 12 points and picking up 4 rebounds and 3 assists.

Despite playing nearly the full game, A.J. Rompza only picked up 2 points, but added 4 assists.

Wednesday night at press time they faced UAB at home. Saturday night they travel to Marshall.



PHOTOS BY ISAAC BABCOCK — THE VOICE
The Knights led the Golden Eagles at the half, but collapsed in the second period as their shooting dropped from more than 63 percent to near 40 percent in the second half. Shooting inconsistency has plagued the Knights against conference foes.

Unconscious shooting disables Bears

Winter Park star Austin Rivers nets 20 points in 8 minutes against Winter Springs' tournament finale

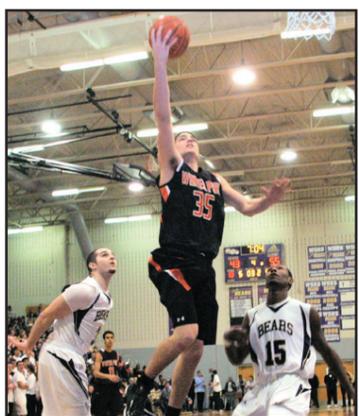
ISAAC BABCOCK
THE VOICE

For four straight quarters there was seemingly nothing Winter Springs could do to stop Austin Rivers. The Winter Park boys basketball star went into overdrive under the Bears' arena lights, burying 41 points into the net on the way to the Wildcats' wild 83-60 blowout in the regional quarterfinal.

"I just get in zones sometimes and everything keeps going in," Rivers said of his stellar performance.

With the loss, the Bears (25-4) were knocked out of the regional tournament. Winter Springs had entered the regional tournament after a district championship, hungry for more and fresh off one of their best regular seasons of all time.

Winter Park was fresh off a devastating loss to Edgewater in the district



tournament.

But Thursday night Rivers turned it on, mixing aggressive play with aerial gymnastics to bamboozle defenders for most of the game. Only in the first few minutes of the game was he off-tempo. Once he hit a hot streak, he lit up the net for the rest of the night.

In the most prolific eight minutes of his high school career, the Wildcats' star dropped 20 points into the net as he propelled his team forward with a momentum that wouldn't break until the end of the game.

At one point in the third quarter, the Wildcats were up by 26 points, though their scoring would temporarily wane as the Bears managed to close the gap to 14. But that's as close as they would ever come in the second half.

The Wildcats' Adam Jones hit all of his shots on the way to 13 points, and picked up 12 rebounds in the contest to help his team to the big win.

Winter Springs' Luis Jacobo tried desperately to close the gap, hammering home 18 points on his own. Austin Keel came up with numerous clutch shots and a strong performance from the free throw line to try to build momentum, but for the Bears it was too large a gap to close.



PHOTOS BY ISAAC BABCOCK — THE VOICE
Despite some strong performances on the court, the Bears couldn't manage to outgun the Wildcats. Winter Park's star forward, Austin Rivers, dropped 41 points into the net during massive scoring rallies that outpaced the Bears through four quarters.

Lions redeemed as state champions

Winter Springs' Matt Nereim also repeats as champion as the Bears finish 8th at state tournament

ISAAC BABCOCK
THE VOICE

Under the lights of the Lakeland Center Saturday night, Chase Gordon held a gold medal in his hand one final time as an Oviedo Lion. That same night, teammates Jay Taylor and Doug Vollaro would ascend to the top of the podium as they carried a team along with them. The Lions were state champions again.

For Gordon, it was deja vu at the top. Three straight wins for the 145-pound senior wrestler in the earlier rounds had brought him to the final, giving him a last chance to defend his looming 2009 state title. That's when he went on a rampage, scoring so many points that he won by technical knockout — a pin without a pin.

Eight Lions would stand on the podium that night, as they celebrated redemption for the first time since losing the 3A state title after 2007. In that year, they'd handily defeated second place finisher South Dade.

This year they were in a new 2A class, but with the same aspirations of a comeback.

"It'll be just as hard as 3A, maybe even harder," Coach Tom Coffman had said at the start of the season.

"We're back on top and it feels good to be where we were two years ago," he said after the team's comeback win.

Three of the team's wrestlers are individual state champions — Gordon, Taylor at 189 pounds, and Vollaro at 285 pounds. Just behind them, 125-pound Ray Rowland and 160-pound Erin O'Dell grabbed second place. Joy Hefley won a 119-pound consolation round for third, and 215-pound Alton Meeks finished fourth.

Together the team would amass 161.5 points, besting second-place Springstead with 156.5.

That same night Winter Springs would grab its third-highest finish in school history, at 8th place in class 3A. Their star 140-pounder,



Oviedo's Chase Gordon wrestles his final opponent to the mat on his way to a state championship Saturday. Despite recently moving to class 2A, the Lions returned to the top of the state for the first time since 2007 on the strength of three individual championships from Gordon, Jay Taylor and Doug Vollaro.

Matt Nereim, went on a rampage, winning three of his four matches by pins, with one of them coming in only 16 seconds. Two of those three pins would come against opponents who had just won by pin in the round before.

Nereim's teammate Eric O'Neil would grab second place at 135 pounds.

A Lyman wrestler who is frequently teammates with Lions and Bears wrestlers in the club wrestling season also had a strong showing at state. Jayden Semrad of Lyman finished 5th in the 125-pound class.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JAY TAYLOR



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Sanford 2727 S Orlando Dr Sanford, FL 32773 407-322-4435	Grande Lakes 10401 S John Young Pkwy Orlando, FL 32837 407-513-9530

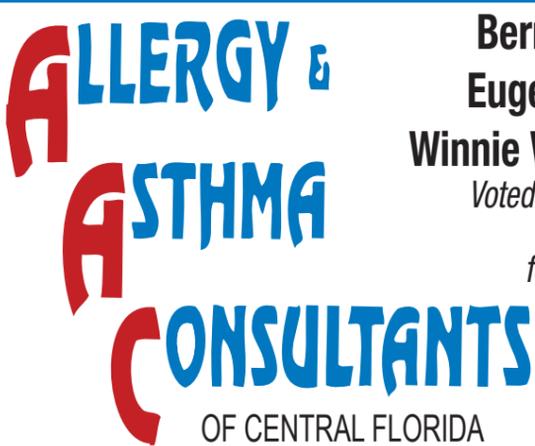
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