



Seminole Voice



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May 21 – June 3, 2010

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Youth crime falling

KAREN McENANY-PHILLIPS
THE VOICE

Youth crime is decreasing in Seminole County, and the county sheriff said the county's focus on youth crime will snip adult crime in the bud too.

Seminole County Sheriff Don Eslinger's goal at the Seminole Youth Crime Conference, held May 7, was to increase awareness of the current programs and complexities of the juvenile justice system. Attendees included a wide range of educational, judicial, law enforcement and community leaders.

Of the 65,000 children in Seminole County schools, 1,901 entered the juvenile justice system last school year compared to 2,201 in 2005. Eslinger said at-risk youth — children 10-17 years of age — are responsible for most of the county's daytime burglaries.

He believes the key to solving adult crime is addressing youth crime.

"Every one of my 1,000 adult inmates didn't start these behaviors at age 18 — they had issues as children," Eslinger said. "Although not all truants become career criminals, every career criminal I've talked to admits they started with truancy."

Laura Bosco, Assistant

> turn to **CRIME** on **PAGE 3**

Red-light cameras get green light



ARCHIVE PHOTO BY ISAAC BABCOCK — THE VOICE

Some local cities already have red-light cameras, but a new law authorizing them may siphon money to the state level.

Crist signs law authorizing cameras, changing penalties and payouts

ISAAC BABCOCK
THE VOICE

While Gov. Charlie Crist's pen glided across the page making red-light cameras legal in Florida on May 13, local officials planned their next step in implementing the systems. For some, there isn't much of a plan at all.

"I just know we've asked

him not to sign it," Winter Springs Mayor John Bush said. His city had already implemented cameras at three intersections, and was waiting to see if they'd be made part of a state system that would funnel money outside of the jurisdictions where cameras are installed.

Others fretted about whether changes the law

would reduce revenue generated by cameras and possibly penalize red light runners less.

Revenue was a big element in the state legislature's bill, with estimates of nearly \$30 million being generated in the first year for the state by snapshots of license plates of cars that show drivers running red lights. The state esti-

mates that local governments could receive more than \$10 million in the first year.

Those large sums would come from hundreds of thousands of red light runners paying \$158 per violation, and paying it as a civil penalty that would not incur points on driver's

> turn to **RED-LIGHT** on page 6

Jetta Point project questioned

After years of park preparation, Seminole County ambushed by opposition

JENNY ANDREASSON
THE VOICE

A sports complex proposed for the corner of State Road 434 and Highway 417 was slammed by its Winter Springs neighbors, and now a county commissioner is considering giving them another chance to voice their concerns.

The county says the Jetta Point Park project will be an economic driver for the county and the city, bringing in sports leagues and fans from all over the state.

It's slated to have four softball fields, multi-purpose fields, a concession building, an equestrian area and a playground.

"With these tournaments and different events, those are dollars that would be going to other communities that will come right to Seminole County and specifically Winter Springs," Seminole County Commissioner Mike McLean said.

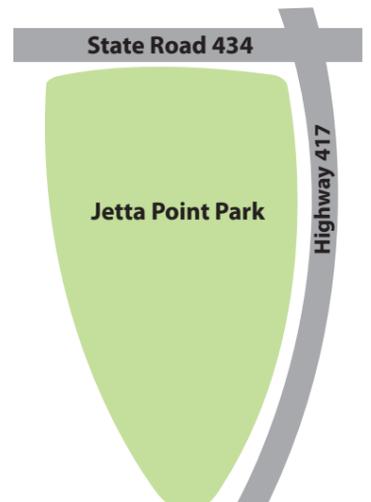
The Winter Springs residents at the May 10 meeting — and a workshop held at City Hall on April 28 —

agreed the project is a worthy one, but not one suited for their backyard.

"It was a park, a neighborhood park," said resident Kevin Cannon, "and suddenly Seminole County ... decided they could draw in NCAA tournament teams and bring in traveling ball leagues and high school leagues to draw in revenue. The idea is a nice idea, but the location stinks."

But McLean said tournaments and leagues in a

> turn to **JETTA** on page 2



USPS 008-093
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What's goin' on?

The Oviedo Historical Society will host Music Fest on the Green from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 22 to celebrate its new home.

Calendar > 10

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Shrek makes a deal with Rumpelstiltskin, but is tricked and sent to an alternate version of Far Far Away, where he must set things right.



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THIS WEEK



THIS WEEK in history

May 27, 1937 — San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge opens and more than 200,000 pedestrians walked the bridge on the first day. It opened to vehicles the following day.

Coaching students for college

A local assistance program takes the stress out of finding and enrolling for higher education

KRISTY VICKERY
GUEST REPORTER

As high school graduation grows near so do the stress levels in 18-year-old graduating senior Christine Prevel's home, as she prepares for the long-awaited college admission process.

"The college process was all very overwhelming," Prevel said. "It just seemed like my school just threw me out to an open sea of colleges, and I just had to find one that worked for me."

But with the help of Melissa Bishop, an expert

college coach, Prevel was able to get the direction and guidance she needed during this stressful and confusing time.

As an expert college coach, Bishop offers a variety of assistive programs designed to troubleshoot and streamline the various aspects of the college application process, as well as a comprehensive coaching plan that guides each student from the beginning of the school year to college acceptance, beginning as early as seventh grade.

Prevel said that with the help of Bishop, she was done with the whole college admission process in just three months, and by November of her senior year she was at ease.

"Being done with everything by November was such a load off my back," Prevel said. "All my friends were still stressing like crazy when it came time for winter break, their Christmas holiday was basically spent writing essays, whereas I just got to relax."

Bishop's services are offered as either private in-home coaching or small group workshops that will be held July through August. She also offers online virtual counseling options.

"In addition to being an educator, I really want to

help students with this difficult transition," Bishop said. "The whole focus is getting the college application from the beginning to the end finished within the scope of the program. I want to give students the strategy to get them where they want to go."

She also said she hopes that her services will help make Florida students just as qualified as students in the Northeast applying for admissions to Ivy League colleges across the nation.

"I know that Florida students really tend to be underrepresented in top-tier schools, and in the Northeast and on the West Coast there are people who do this kind of college coaching ... and so our students who are applying at places like this are up against many, many applicants who have had the strategic advantage of a college coach," Bishop said.

Perry Norflus, education program liaison for College Application Preparation Strategies (CAPS), starting working with Bishop after he realized they shared the same passion — to help Florida students have the same opportunities as kids in the Northeast.

"It's not fair that the kids in our state are being rejected... and are overlooked



PHOTO BY KRISTY VICKERY — THE VOICE
College coach Melissa Bishop, right, helps high school senior Christine Prevel to prepare to enroll in college. Coaches help to simplify the application process.

(from colleges), simply because the guidance counselors are overwhelmed," Norflus said. "It's not that these kids don't have the skills, they have the skills, but there's no one to give them the added edge that these kids in the Northeast are getting."

As Prevel gets ready to move to her newly found home at Wellesley College in Massachusetts, she hopes she can continue to represent

Florida as an outstanding student in the vast ocean of students all competing for one thing — a good education.

"Students from Florida are just as capable, talented and special as anywhere else in the country," Bishop said. "But I think Florida's getting ignored, and Florida students should be on the playing field; I think they have a lot to offer."

JETTA | Seminole County is not sure if Amendment 4 would impact its plans

< continued from the front page

multi-modal facility was the vision from the start. "That's always been the concept of the Jetta Point project."

The residents claimed flooding problems in their area would worsen, traffic, noise and lighting would be unbearable, and that an eagle's nest, there for 27 years, would be disturbed. They suggested moving the project to Soldier's Creek Park, where it wouldn't back up to exclusive gated subdivisions.

"Our sister subdivision is

called Eagles Watch for a good reason," he said.

The environmental and impact concerns have already been addressed, McLean said, as the project has been in the works for five years. He said these residents are getting involved later in the process and the county may hold another education session to address concerns.

"Perhaps we didn't do a good a job as we should have to address these concerns," he said. "We don't want to keep the appearance that we're running people over with this or it's something they're not comfortable with."

Seminole County's 2-cent hotel bed tax is funding the \$10 million project. Originally, the county's general fund was supposed to pay for it. The county will pay to maintain the park through general revenue.

The 46-acres for the project are in unincorporated Seminole County as well as in parts of Winter Springs and Oviedo, said John Metsopoulos, U.S. 17-92 program manager for the county's growth management department.

Although Winter Springs isn't putting money into the project, its Commission

has to approve an aesthetic review, which the citizens at the meeting urged them not to do.

The County Commission will have to approve a land-use change to move forward, and they expect bidding for the project to begin in the fall, he said.

McLean said the county is not sure yet how the passage of Amendment 4 could affect the project. The amendment, also known as Hometown Democracy, would require voters to approve comprehensive plan changes.

"We don't know," McLean said. "The problem with

Amendment 4 is the legal debate that if it passes as written, what it means to land use. This is public land use." The county attorney is researching it, he added.

Winter Springs Mayor John Bush, when asked by a resident at the May 10 meeting, said citizens would have to vote on the park's land-use change if the amendment were in effect.

"This could be quite the coup for the pro-Amendment 4 people," resident Paul Huston said.

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The new look of mental health care

Seminole Behavioral Healthcare expands to serve a growing number of patients in Seminole County

KAREN McENANY-PHILLIPS
THE VOICE

Carolyn Boyd understands the grip of addiction.

As a child in North Carolina, Boyd was sexually abused, and as a young woman, she lost two babies at childbirth. For 13 years, only cocaine could ease her grief and depression.

When she moved to Central Florida and completed drug rehabilitation, she was referred to Seminole Behavioral Healthcare to continue her healing. She credits SBH's day treatment program, called Turning Point, with keeping her clean every day for the past five years.

Boyd is one of more than 4,000 Seminole County residents served last year by the private, nonprofit organization, which treats potentially life-threatening mental illness, addictions and behavioral issues stemming from crisis and abuse.

SBH recently expanded its Crisis Stabilization Unit, which includes a new wing of 10 rooms with 30 dorm-style beds. On Monday, May 24, the CSU will officially open for new clients who will enjoy an attractive common sitting area with modern black upholstered chairs and a flat-screen tele-

vision, adjacent to an outside courtyard with shaded benches and picnic tables.

The open design supports client and staff interaction with additional areas for table games, reading, dining and group activities. An average stay in the CSU is three days and the unit provides a safe environment for individuals to overcome thoughts and behaviors that might make them a danger to themselves or others.

The center helps adults with behavioral issues that are severe and persistent such as bi-polar disorder, schizophrenia, major depression and addiction and is the only public facility in Seminole County to receive Baker Act patients. Law enforcement will use a monitored private entrance with nearby interview and holding rooms.

SBH President and CEO James Berko said planning for the \$585,000 expansion began in October 2008 and was primarily funded by a \$400,000 federal grant applied to county services.

Berko hopes to bring awareness to the community by displaying the new "Seminole Cares" message wrapping a Lynx bus, which runs from Sanford to Fern Park along U.S. Highway 17-92.

On its multi-campus complex, SBH also provides case management services, medication services and residential treatment, including a 16-bed area for patients transitioning from state hospitals back into the community.

Charlotte Giuliani, director of Forensic and Diversion Services, said mental health programs were not significantly cut in the state budget thanks to efforts of State Representatives



PHOTO BY KAREN McENANY-PHILLIPS — THE VOICE

Carolyn Boyd told her success story at Seminole Behavioral Healthcare, which helped her conquer trauma and addiction.

Sandy Adams and Lee Constantine.

"We know there is a cost savings for people coming to this type of facility versus going to the emergency room," she said.

SBH was chosen to represent Florida in managing an educational program called Mental First Aid, a 12-hour certification course designed to help educate the public about mental illness. Giuliani said people are hesitant to seek services because there is still a stigma associated with mental health issues.

James Berko said, "Our organization is seeing an

increase in demand for our services, and now thanks to our community partners, we will continue to meet that demand with a top-notch facility."

Rena Tillman is the lead day treatment counselor at SBH and also helps clients with resume writing and job training skills.

"We also have specialized groups to talk about things they don't want to share in the big group, and they also can receive one-on-one counseling. We have lots of success stories," Tillman said.

Boyd is one of them. She appreciates the help she

gives and receives in her groups at Turning Point.

"When I first came here I wouldn't talk to anyone. Now I tell the new people to stay strong. I see people with the same problems I had and I can give them advice. I am accomplishing so much. I am proud that I gave myself a second chance."

Boyd is two courses away from finishing her GED, plans to go to community college and train to be a youth counselor.

"Life is hard but I'm living proof that it can be done," she said.

Find out more

The new Crisis Stabilization Unit at Seminole Behavioral Healthcare, located 919 E 2nd St., Sanford, will open on Monday, May 24.

Visit www.seminole-cares.org or call 407-321-4357.

CRIME | School officials and police agree: Lifelong criminals start as truant kids

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State Attorney Circuit 18, Juvenile Division Chief, agreed.

"If we are to have an effect on crime it must start in the juvenile system — only 5 percent will repeat, — most we will not see again — so that 5 percent is our focus," Bosco said.

Alternatives to prosecution
Bosco praised the county as one of the few in Florida to have a Juvenile Assessment Center — and the only one run by a sheriff's department.

Although some offenders may be released on scene to parents, most visit the center after apprehension. Juveniles are screened mentally and physically, photographed, fingerprinted and assessed to determine if they will stay in detention, go to Prosecution Alternatives for Youth (teen court),

or receive sanctions from a judge.

"I don't give passes," Seminole Circuit Judge John Galluzzo said. "A first-time offender has one chance, a gift — if they do the PAY program, they can do it in three months or they can be on probation for five years."

Breaking the cycle

Seminole County School Superintendent Bill Vogel said studies link truancy to law-breaking behaviors, and in Seminole County, truancy primarily occurs when adult supervision is lacking.

Law enforcement agencies work together to identify truants who are brought to the center. Vogel said that he is hopeful that Gov. Charlie Crist will soon sign a Florida law reinstating the sharing of information between law enforcement, the school and the judicial systems — effective July 1 if

signed.

Studies also show that students who participate in extracurricular activities are less truant.

"We call it the A-A-A experience — for academics, arts and athletics," said Vogel, who described information sharing as 'essential'.

A high percentage of juvenile offenders are from single-parent families, have diagnosed learning disabilities and more than half have been abused, neglected or abandoned, he said.

Judges Galluzzo and Kenneth Lester may see a child in both dependency and delinquency court.

Galluzzo admits to some frustration with an underfunded dependency system. When parents are unable to complete court-ordered services due to a lack of immediate funding, help is delayed for the child and his family.

"Child protective servic-

es is the best juvenile delinquent prevention because children who are abandoned, neglected or abused are 14 times more likely to fall into delinquency," Eslinger said.

University of Central Florida professor Roberto Potter spoke about the role of community, faith-based organizations and family in prevention, and Eslinger who welcomed the university's partnership.

A different route

Seminole County provides extensive programs for children in the delinquency system including education, counseling, training, mentoring, community service and peer review.

Martin Kirsch, principal for Alternative Education, and Mike Icardi, principal of Journeys Academy, said there are seven alternative educational programs available to juvenile youth.

Seminole County Public

Schools took over the alternative education programs in 2007 and placed them under one umbrella. They share resources, curriculum, educators and technology with the district.

These diverse programs serve students who are unable to attend school in a traditional environment. The schools also help transition the students into community colleges, the workforce, vocations and the military.

"We believe that more than any other county in the state, we offer higher levels of innovative programming and collaboration aimed at reducing juvenile crime," Sheriff's Office Captain Scott Ballou said. "We also hope to enlighten our community that juvenile crime still needs all of our influence to continue the positive trends, including funding for these programs."

Get ready for fun at the Lawton House

Between the CELERY Stalks *By Janet Foley*

Just where did the month of May go? Almost every organization that I belong to is having their end-of-the-year meeting. Great, I was just enjoying the lovely month of May. Is that a song title or close to it? The month of May, it seems is the last hurrah before summer and those long hot days. Some of those long hot days have been here recently, getting us prepared for what lies ahead.

The Oviedo Woman's Club held their last general meeting of the 2009-2010 year on Friday, May 14. It was quite an event as their new officers were installed for the 2010-2011 year and they are as follows: President-Nancy Garlanger, 1st Vice President- Betty Anderson, 2nd Vice President- Cindy Drago, 3rd Vice President- Charlene Darby, 4th Vice President- Roberta McQueen,

Reporting Secretary- Grace Ross, Corresponding Secretary- Rosemary Gritz, Treasurer- Kathy Mallard, Asst. Treasurer- Ruth Gaines and Nominating Chairman- Joni Thomason. Club members are looking forward to another new and exciting year helping out our community with different projects and events.

Last Wednesday, May 12, the Oviedo Woman's Club held their yearly Philanthropic Awards Ceremony at their clubhouse, 414 King St. These awards (proceeds from Great Day 2009) are given out for high school scholarships, non-traditional scholarships, Art Fest Winners and to various non-profit organizations in our community. Attendants, about 90, were treated to light refreshments and good conversa-

tion along with receiving their awards. These were special awards, but the woman's club makes donations to more than nine organizations throughout the year.

What are you doing Saturday, May 22? Nothing exciting, I bet. Round up your family, friends and whoever and come to the Oviedo Historical Society's Open House Inaugural Music Fest on the Green. Our event will start off with a ribbon cutting at the Lawton House at Broadway and Lake Jessup Streets from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and you will love the entertainment of African-American church choir, rhythm and blues and light rock bands and more. That is four hours of great music so bring the lawn chairs and blankets to sit and listen. You will not starve as the society is selling hot dogs, hamburgers — with or without cheese, chips, drinks and of course some homemade cookies for a small donation. Dick Adicks will be selling our book "Oviedo - Biography of a Town" and he will be glad to sign your copy. It

will be fun for everyone and it has been a long while since we have had such an event for our city residents. Do visit the inside of the Lawton House and you will be amazed at the historical artifacts, and perhaps you will learn a little bit of the history of your town.

While you're out this coming Saturday, why not visit the Artistic Hand and Art Gallery to see the new artist displaying his work in their gallery. The artist, Robert Lawarre, is a nationally known potter, international prize winner, Oviedo High School Teacher and the Monday night pottery teacher at the Artist Hand. Also on display are some unique marbled vessels made by Chuluota resident Dr. Jim Bomhard.

How about a field trip on June 11? The Oviedo Gymnasium & Aquatic Facility, 148 Oviedo Blvd., is sponsoring a trip to the Seminole Hard Rock Casino in Tampa. The bus will depart at 8 a.m. and return at 5:30 p.m. Please get your registrations in before May 27. A \$25 fee includes

bus transportation, \$25 in machine play and a \$5 meal voucher. Feel lucky, and then please call 407-971-5568

You might want to mark your calendar for the annual July 4th 5K Watermelon Run to be held this year at Mead Garden, Winter Park. My family likes this race and we have participated many times. So if you are staying in town, be around on the 4th, a Sunday, at 7:30 a.m., which is when the race starts. Register online at www.TrackShack.com. The race supports our troops and benefits the Track Shack Foundation.

Memorial Day is coming up soon. You all have a great day and stay safe.

A thought— A little kindness from person to person is better than a vast love for all humankind.

—Richard Dehmel

TALK TO JANET

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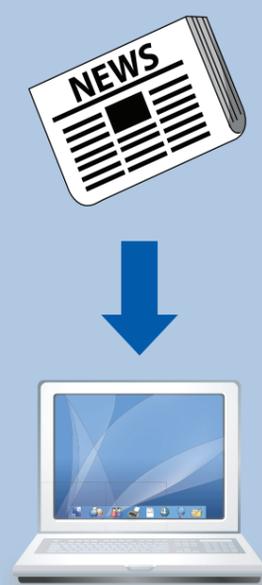
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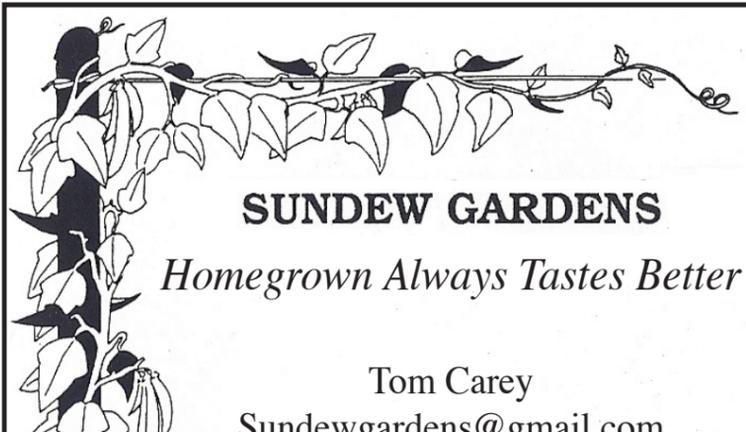
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Take control of your government

STETSON'S CORNER

By Karen McEnany-Phillips

Are you paying more attention to politics these days? Maybe politics isn't the right word. This is a tremendously pivotal time for positive and negative change that transcends political parties. The role of government, liberty, truth, honor, credibility, history and accountability hang in the balance.

Florida is taking center stage with the major races for governor and the U.S. Senate. And then there are the local U.S. House of Representative and Senate races that cannot demand too much of our attention. By the time November closes in, who knows what the affect of the oil spill will be on the Southeast and Florida? In the midst of the chaos that we know about, there will be issues that

may not steal the national stage but are nonetheless important.

Hometown Democracy (Amendment 4) comes to mind. This amendment is said to be controversial, giving voters the power to decide the growth and preservation of communities. Those against it say that it will cost jobs and increase costs, adding uncertainty to the land-use approval process.

To me, HDA is a great example of an amendment I wish didn't have to exist, meaning that in a perfect world those in a position to make land-use decisions would listen to all sides and not the clink of the gold jingling in the hands of special interests and developers. Look at our state. Every corner reeks with examples

of out-of-control development and exceptions made to perfectly crafted plans.

It's a great example of politicians and government agencies saying one thing and doing another, especially when money is at stake. Sound familiar?

Rural residents have always paid attention to land-use plans in an effort to preserve individual rights and historical integrity. They may not always win but they show up with honest arguments and a commitment to soil the earth as it was meant to be, not paved over in concrete. Like many current issues, facts about this amendment have been distorted. If you haven't formed an opinion, I urge you to visit the Web sites to read the amendment and the frequently asked questions on www.floridahometowndemocracy.com. It does not apply to re-zonings, annexes, variances or permits. More than a million people signed the petition to get this amendment on the ballot. If you have a chance to attend forums on

the issue to listen to both sides, please make the time to do so.

"Few initiatives have the possibility to have such a profound effect on the future of our state as Amendment 4," said League of Women Voters Seminole President Jane Lane. "Voters deserve to have as much information about it as possible, which is why we're co-sponsoring this forum." The LWV held a forum in March.

In a time when we seem to be quietly losing liberties and freedoms at every turn, this seems to be a gift to the residents of Florida to take control of one piece of our lives. Get involved, find out the facts and make your decision now while you still have time to digest it.

There are many issues and races that will and must demand your attention. Do your homework. Don't just listen to your friends and family, the national networks and the talking heads. Do some research, put things in context and prepare to make informed choices at the

ballot box while you still can.

Five months and counting...

A great time was had by all at the Rural Heritage Center last Saturday and here's an invitation to come back on Saturday, May 29 to the Bijou Theater inside the RHC. A special showing of the classic "Invasion of the Body Snatchers" will be featured including a costume contest. Come dressed as the heroine or a body snatcher, and you may get free popcorn. The movie starts at 7 p.m. and pizza is available at 6 p.m. Come enjoy classic Sci-Fi with your friends and neighbors.

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.

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From my GARDEN to yours

Tom Carey



Mix together billions of micro-organisms, trace elements in mineral form, plant fibers and sand and you have compost. Why all these accolades to the gardener? By creating and using compost, its carbon component will be sequestered into the ground to be held in place for many years or centuries. Carbon sequestering on the scope and scale of America's farmland would be a huge step toward lowering greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. At the same time, composting improves the quantities and qualities of our produce in healthful ways, benefiting all of mankind!

Compost, for all its intrinsic values, is relatively easy to create. The four basic components are: chopped up plant material, water, microbes and the pile. Lawn trimming season is upon us as we speak. By backyard composting, municipal waste services save motor fuel and tax dollars by not transporting our landscape debris to the county landfill. The chopped surface areas of plants exposed to the myriads of microbe types present ample opportunities for unseen food chains to flourish. Of course, life requires water, but

not too much, as excess moisture excludes oxygen, creating a smelly anaerobic stew. Collected rainwater is a fitting complement to our efforts already under way. The pile assures the critical mass for humus formation so the carbon is not lost back to the atmosphere. Our sporadic efforts at turning the pile accelerate the process as required.

Summer, Central Florida's gardening off-season, is perfectly timed for compost production. Like any recipe, cooking a batch of compost takes practice. Poke, prod, sniff and experience the mini universe baking in the corner of your garden. When autumn arrives, the finished product of our pile will help us on our way to harvesting some wonderful food grown in our garden and the satisfaction of knowing we helped save the world one garden bed at a time!

WHO IS CAREY

Tom Carey is the owner of Sundew Gardens, a you-pick gardening business in Oviedo. Visit the Sundew Gardens Facebook page.

Gardeners will save the world

With all the talk of the problems associated with global warming and greenhouse gases, gardeners are rarely mentioned as part of the solution. Gardening as a crucial link between mankind and the earth provides many important opportunities to solve these modern dilemmas. Not only by reducing the output of troubling gases, but by reducing the quantities of greenhouse gases that already exist, gardeners help save the world as we know it.

Compost is the foundation to soil improvement for all of our gardening efforts. What is this

crumbly, black soil so highly valued? The short answer would be carbon, in a stable but interactive form, created from the decomposition of existing plant materials. Plant debris exposed to sunlight and air will oxidize — essentially burn — back into gaseous carbon dioxide. This is why Florida's dirt doesn't accumulate black topsoil like other regions of the Earth. Through the efforts of bacteria in a cow's stomach, fungus hiding on the forest floor or a slimy earthworm in our compost pile, carbon is stabilized in a form of humic acid (humus).

RED-LIGHT | City officials grow wary of changes that new red-light law brings

< continued from the front page

licenses. Even fines from police officers — not cameras — would be subject to the same red light fine system. As such, automotive insurance companies would not be allowed to increase premiums based on red light citations.

Winter Springs Mayor John Bush feared that the change in fines and their

distribution to the state could cause problems for the city, and had previously urged Crist not to sign the bill.

Some large organizations, such as the American Automobile Association, had urged Crist not to sign the bill, arguing that only 10 percent of that money would go toward programs to stop red light running.

Oviedo City Councilman Dominic Persampiere,

whose city recently adopted a resolution in support of the cameras and has begun researching their implementation, said he worries that systems could too easily ticket red light runners who stop beyond the white stop bar, which is illegal but rarely enforced, or don't stop completely before turning right at a red light.

"We were very specific that this would be done for

safety, not to generate revenue and to be nit picky on people just for rolling through a right on red a little bit," he said.

Maitland Mayor Doug Kinson agreed that he'd like to see some elements of the camera rules ironed out, including customizing the systems to not ticket drivers who accidentally stop with their car's nose over the stop bar.

"There's kinks that need

to be worked out," Kinson said.

For Winter Park, which had voted on an ordinance authorizing a red light camera system in January 2009, there may be little moving forward until other city priorities are addressed, Mayor Ken Bradley said.

"It's certainly not in our strategic plan," Bradley said. "I think it's important but it's not on our radar screen."

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Movie night at the Marketplace

PHOTO BY ISAAC BABCOCK — THE VOICE

The Rotary club and The Oviedo Preservation Project teamed up for drinks, movies and fundraising at the Oviedo Marketplace Friday. Bartenders Megan Sladek, left, and Charlene Albright pose at the reception hall.

INTERESTS



THIS WEEK in human history

June 2, 1953 —

Queen Elizabeth II becomes the formally crowned monarch of the United Kingdom in a ceremony on this day.

A gym without the gym

Dominic Lucibello has taken a bare-bones exercise concept and made it remarkably effective

BRITNI JOHNSON
THE VOICE

Breakthrough Fitness isn't like other gyms. There are no requisite treadmills facing televisions or lines of weight machines. It's a bare bones setup, truly just the basics — a free weight area, exercise balls, little orange cones to jump around and various ropes.

Owner and personal trainer Dominic Lucibello doesn't believe in exercise machines. When training his clients, he uses what he calls "functional exercise." In life, no muscle works in isolation, which is how a machine trains muscles, he said. Clients throw medicine balls, lift weights and do pushups from ropes bolted to the wall, using many muscles instead.

"We train movements, not muscles," is one of Lucibello's favorite mottos.

Lucibello, who has a bachelor's degree in exercise science and wellness, has been doing in-home and in-nature personal training in Oviedo for the past two years. Not satisfied with just that, he's opening his first club, Breakthrough Fitness, with a grand opening party scheduled for June 3. The gym is different not only because it doesn't have exercise machines, but because personal attention to clients is integrated into membership.

"I wanted to have more of a coaching center," he said.

Each new member gets an evaluation by a trainer, and that trainer then creates a special fitness program for them based on their current fitness level and goals, including nutrition advice. The program is changed every month or so to suit the member's developing needs. And, depending on the membership plan, includes group training classes and personal training sessions.

XXXX XXXX

Breakthrough Fitness is currently open and located at 269 Aulin Ave. in Oviedo. The grand opening celebration will be on June 3 from 5:30-8 p.m. There will be refreshments and special membership rates.

For more information, visit www.breakthroughfitnessfl.com or call 407-542-5910.

"We get results by design, not by coincidence," Lucibello said.

When client Melissa Barry started working with Lucibello over a year ago, she thought his process was a little crazy. But once they started the workouts, she knew that his way was the right way. Barry has lost four dress sizes and feels strong and energized.

"My energy level is out the roof," she said. "I was a couch potato before and was always sluggish in the afternoons, now I feel sluggish when I don't exercise."

Barry said she also liked the "vibe" she got from Lucibello. She'd been a member at two different gyms before, and found them intimidating and impersonal. But she described Lucibello as intuitive and knowledgeable.

"I think people like working with him because he's really easy to get along with," said Leslie Roper, Lucibello's fiancé and administrator for the gym. "He's not like a drill sergeant."

There's also simplicity in the workouts that you can't find in a gym, Barry said. At other gyms she'd just go on the treadmill and look wonderingly at the rows of machines, not knowing where to start.

Client Debbie Irons loves the simplicity, too. A mom of four with a full-time career, she said she loves that the program can be done at home when she doesn't have time to get to the gym. When she met



PHOTO BY BRITNI JOHNSON — THE VOICE

Melissa Barry trains at Dominic Lucibello's Breakthrough Fitness in Oviedo, which focuses on functional exercise.

Lucibello, her goal was to be bikini ready for a "girls cruise" she had in two and a half months. Irons met her goal, and said she had no worries when the cameras came out on the trip.

"It was incredible," she said. "It's beyond how the clothes fit, it's the confidence it gave me."

And that's what Lucibello said motivates him.

"Our focus is on our member results," he said. "I want them to feel their best, perform their best and look their best. It all comes down to feeling better about yourself."

Results and personal attention do come at a price, so Lucibello admits that his gym isn't for everyone. Memberships cost anywhere from \$89 to \$349

per month for a year contract. Irons said it's worth it, though.

"When you look at the cost it may make you leery, but you could pay \$20 for a gym that does nothing and not get results," she said. "That's throwing money away. Give me a full plan for each week, as a busy person that's so worth it."

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Family Calendar

“Cretaceous Countdown: Investigating the Death of Dinosaurs” will examine theories related to dinosaur extinction from 8:30-9:30 p.m. on Saturdays through May 22 at the Planetarium at Seminole State College of Florida, located at 100 Weldon Blvd., Sanford. Visit www.seminolestate.edu/planet for more information.

Come join on an adventure into the natural world during Seminole County Natural Lands Programs’ Outdoor Adventure Series. The series covers a variety of outdoor adventure topics for \$8 per class. From 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, May 22 is Backyard Camping at Red Bug Lake Park. Call 407-349-0959 or e-mail jmillen@seminolecountyfl.gov for more information.

Doggie Social Hour is being held from 3-6 p.m. Saturday, May 29 at Riverside Park, 1600 Lockwood Blvd., multi-purpose field area. Residents and their canine friend(s) can join in for a late afternoon social hour. All dogs must be leashed, and attendees are responsible for cleaning up after their dog(s). Attendees may bring a lawn chair or blanket. Local area businesses will be available with information and special items to enjoy or purchase. Contact Jenette McKinney at 407-971-5591 or jdmckinney@cityofoviedo.net.

The Star Spangled Showcase will be taking place as part of the city of Winter Springs Celebration of Freedom on Sunday, July 4. Similar to American Idol, Winter Springs residents will showcase their vocal abilities. Auditions for the top three of these classifications: Junior (Middle/High School Ages) and Adult divisions, will take place at the Winter Springs Senior Center, 400 N. Edgemon Ave., 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, June 5 and Saturday, June 12. Finalists will perform at the Celebration of Freedom at Central Winds Park. Please call 407-327-6593 or e-mail ccarson@winterspringsfl.org for details.

The city of Winter Springs opened registration for Camp Sunshine for June 14 through Aug. 13 to children entering first through sixth grades. Activities include: field trips to Disney Quest, Kennedy Space Center, movies, sports, roller skating and much more. Camps will take place at the Winter Springs Civic Center (400 N. Edgemon Ave). Hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Enrollment is \$90 per week for residents and \$110 for non-residents. To enroll, contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 407-327-6593.

Summer Mini Camps: Flute Fever and Flute FUNDamentals offers flute instruction for beginners to intermediate students (grades four through nine) during morning and afternoon sessions beginning June 14 in Winter Springs. Small groups, focus on tone, technique, note reading and ensemble skills. Get a jump-start on middle/high school band skills! It’s \$70-80 per session. Call 407-977-0286 for details.

Earning your flippers



A child jumps off the edge of the pool deck into the arms of his awaiting Sharks and Minnows swim instructor.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF SHARKS AND MINNOWS

Learn-to-swim programs for children are abundant in Seminole County cities

CARMEN CARROQUINO
GUEST REPORTER

With the temperature getting hotter, what better way to spend the day than at the pool in the summer? For those children who haven’t yet learned the safety and proper swim techniques, here are a few swim lesson programs that will have children splashing around, swimming like fishes and cooling off from the summer heat in no time.

Swim Squad

Offering an at-home swim program for children as young as 6 months, the Swim Squad provides lessons feet away from a homeowner’s backdoor in order to provide a safe and familiar environment for children to learn in, whether it be a community pool or their very own.

Swim Squad serves all of Central Florida by teaching children how to navigate the swimming pool safely while learning survival techniques and proper form that will give them

the confidence to be good swimmers, said Jordan Meher, aquatics director of Swim Squad.

“We are proudly different from all other swim programs in the country because we strictly provide swimming lessons one-on-one or in small groups at a parent’s home or community pool, while parents are able to choose the schedule of their lessons,” he said. “We are able to customize our lesson plans to teach the children to be safe in the pools they are most exposed to.”

Visit www.theswimsquad.com or call 407-415-7577 for more information.

YMCA

As the song says, “It’s fun to stay at the Y-M-C-A” for swim lessons. Offering parent and child lessons, youth lessons and a pre-school program with fun aquatic-themed levels, the YMCA offers pool safety and lessons for the whole family with locations all over Central Florida. Andrew Aguirre, aquatics coordinator at the

Oviedo YMCA Family Center, said children not only get swim lessons that can be life-saving, they also get to experience safety activities outside of the pool such as lifeguard techniques.

“Our aquatics program furthers our five YMCA values: faith, caring, honesty, respect and responsibility,” he said.

Aguirre said the preschool (for children 3 to 5) and youth (6 to 12) programs teaches children techniques such as floating on their backs, proper arms movements, breathing patterns, diving and treading water as they progress through each program. For more information on the aquatics program at your local YMCA, visit www.Centralfloridaymca.org. Pool programs times, availability and schedule vary from location to location. Call 407-359-3606 for more information.

Sharks and Minnows

The Sharks and Minnows swim lesson program has been around since 1990 and has around 25 Central Florida locations ranging from Oviedo to Avalon Park, where lessons are taught by certified swim instructors who went through the Sharks and Minnows school.

Offering group classes (three to five students), private and semi-private (maximum of two students), Sharks and Minnows provides a lot of individual attention to swimming students by giving them a positive and safe environment to learn in, said Andy Heinrich, owner/programs director of Sharks and Minnows. Children as young as 6 months can start the program as minnows and swim their way to shark status.

“Our goal is when they finish the program, that

they feel they had a fun, positive experience,” Heinrich said.

The program is open to all ages and has several indoor locations, so it’s offered year round, he said. For a full list of locations and schedule of when classes are taking place, visit www.sharksandminnows.com or call 407-699-1992 for more information about the Sharks and Minnows program in Central Florida.

Infant Swimming Resource

Infant Swimming Resource, located at 2572 W. State Road 426 in Oviedo, is a program that provides children aged 6-12 months and 1-6 years of age the skills necessary to survive in the water and practice basic swimming skills. Customized and taught one-on-one by a certified ISR instructors, the program emphasizes safety and gives children the competence, confidence and skills of aquatic safety by teaching self-rescue techniques, which could mean life or death, according to the ISR Web site. For more information on the courses taught in the program, as well as the schedule and location of lessons, visit www.infantswim.com.

Jewish Community Center

The Jewish Community Center of Greater Orlando, located at 851 N. Maitland Ave., is offering several swim programs over the course of the summer. Visit www.orlandojcc.org/ and click the JCC aquatics programs icon to see a calendar of events or call the JCC at 407-645-5933. Contact Dana Penrod at dana@orlandojcc.org to learn more about the Slippery Fish swim program for ages 6 months to 3 years old starting June 2 and the Minnows swim school for ages 3 to 5 starting June 14.



Rocking at the winery



PHOTOS BY ISAAC BABCOCK — THE VOICE
 Frontman Bobby France of Orlando-based band 2 A.M. performs at the Sanford Wine Company on May 8.

Notes

Teachers at Bentley Elementary, an A+ school in Seminole County, have initiated several community service projects this year that correspond to the district's Keys to Good Character for grades K through five. Two programs, Quarters for Haiti and Baskets of Love, are community service projects students have participated in this year. For the Baskets of Love campaign, hundreds of food items, toiletries and other supplies were given to Harvest Time International for distribution to deserving families. Students donated quarters to help Haiti earthquake victims; providing more than \$800 for the American Red Cross. Both projects were spearheaded by Sandra Fink, a fourth grade teacher at the school. The last project will be for local animal shelters that rely on community support to improve the plight of homeless animals in Seminole County. With the help of faculty members, students and parents, the school hopes to raise at least \$2,000 and provide supplies that do not qualify for government funding.

Pet Rescue by Judy, in Sanford, through online voting, has brought home a \$1,000 prize in The Animal Rescue Site's first \$100,000 Shelter+Challenge of 2010. The group received the most votes of any animal welfare group in the state from Jan. 18 to April 18. A total of 84 grants equaling \$100,000 were given out. A complete list of all winners can be found at The Animal Rescue Site, www.theanimalrescuesite.com.

Winners of the 2010 Seminole County Public Schools Middle School Math Festival were: 1st place is Markham Woods Middle, 2nd is Sanford Middle, and 3rd is Rock Lake Middle.

The East Altamonte branch of Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Florida received a new PC laptop from GSN (Game Show Network) and Bright House Networks as part of the companies' celebration of the addition of GSN to the Bright House Networks Digital Cable TV lineup on channel 138 as of April 30.

Seminole County teacher Lucille Case received a surprise visit on May 5 from a representative of Bright House Networks who officially notified the teacher that she is a recipient of a prestigious national 2010 Star Teacher Award.

FOX Sports en Español and Bright House Networks recognized two student athletes who have been selected as the 2010 Latino Student Athletes of the Year at the Orlando Magic's last regular season game on April 14, at Amway Arena.

Two Central Florida high school students were recognized and each awarded a \$5,000 college scholarship during the pre-game activities. Sara Ardila of Lake Howell High School and Daniel Rodriguez of Hagerty High School were selected as the 2010 Latino Student Athletes of the Year because they have demonstrated achievement in the classroom and in their chosen sports. Additionally, FOX Sports en Español and Bright House Networks will donate \$1,000 each to Lake Howell and Hagerty high

schools, so these institutions can continue to educate stellar student-athletes and citizens.

Teague Middle School geography teacher, Dave King, began an incredible project with his sixth grade students. Nothing But Nets (www.nothingbutnets.net) is an organization that works closely with the World Health Organization and the United Nations Foundation in providing bed nets to families in Africa. A simple \$10 donation will buy one net to save a life. The goal is to end malaria deaths in Africa by 2015. So far King's classes, along with other geography classes, have raised \$600.00! For more information, contact Evelyn Phillips at 407-320-1543.

Five outstanding GED students were presented scholarships to continue their education at Seminole State College of Florida during the GED Program Graduation on Wednesday, May 5. Seminole State student Harrison Reagan, of Geneva, won

the R.J. Schmidt and E.S. Douglas Scholarship, a \$1,000 award. Reagan will start classes at Seminole State in August, working toward his A.A. degree. Other winners were: Allyson Pfeifer, of Sanford, whose goal is an education degree. Michael Miller, of Casselberry, who plans to enroll in the Automotive Technology program at Seminole State and eventually own an auto repair shop. Kathryn Barngrover, of Longwood, who intends to earn her A.A. degree at Seminole State, with a focus on science. Her ultimate goal is medical school and a career as a forensic pathologist. Nina Mahl, of Sanford, who will pursue courses that will give her the medical background necessary to succeed in pharmaceutical sales.

Troy Beasley, co-owner of Beasley & Henley Interior Design, was awarded the Seminole State College of Florida Distinguished Alumni Award during the commencement on May 7.

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Calendar

The Fine Arts Gallery at Seminole State College of Florida concludes its 2009-10 season with an exhibit by Florida artists Terry Trambauer Norris and Kathleen Kent Chenet in the Sanford/Lake Mary campus Fine Arts Gallery (Building G). Norris, of Mims, creates her still lifes on small, or medium, size canvases, keeping objects no larger than life size. Chenet, of Longwood, focuses her art on Central Florida, primarily Seminole County. The exhibit runs through Thursday, June 3. For more information on cultural events at Seminole State, visit www.seminolestate.edu/arts, or call 407-708-2040.

SHINE (Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders) is having a Welcome to Medicare birthday party from 2-4 p.m. Friday, May 21 at Oakmonte Village, 1021 Royal Gardens Circle in Lake Mary, for those who would like more information regarding Medicare. SHINE will be providing a presentation along with refreshments for free to individuals that would like to attend. Call 407-514-1823 for

more information.

The Oviedo Historical Society (OHS) will host Music Fest on the Green from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 22. The half-day outdoor event, open to the public, marks the organization's announcement that it will move into the city's historic Lawton House located at 190 W Broadway St., Oviedo, thus establishing an official home for the nonprofit group for the first time in 37 years.

From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 22, UCF alumni and supporters are invited to attend the Knights Tour event at Central Park on Park Avenue and have the opportunity meet several UCF coaches and student-athletes. Football head coach George O'Leary will be on hand to offer fans a preview of the 2010 season for the Knights. Families are encouraged to attend, as kids will have the chance to get autographs and participate in interactive games with UCF student-athletes. The event is free compliments of the Golden Knights

Club and UCF Athletics. For more information, call 407-823-2086.

Support the 27th annual National Night Out program. National Night Out will be held on Aug. 3. Leaders in the community, like yourself, are invited to an organizational meeting on Monday, May 24 at the COPS and Volunteer Center at the Oviedo Marketplace Mall (next to Dillard's). RSVP to the Oviedo Police Community Relations Officer at 407-971-5708 or by e-mail to groberson@cityofoviedo.net.

The Oviedo Police Department is offering a 12-hour Rape Aggression Defense Class (R.A.D.) from 6-9:30 p.m. on Tuesdays May 25, June 1, June 8, and June 15 at the Oviedo Police COPS & Volunteer Center at Oviedo Marketplace Mall. Cost is \$25, please register in advance at ryanhausen@cityofoviedo.net or call 407-320-4638.

The Regal Foundation's Stars of Hope event is 5-7:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 27 at the Regal

Cinema in the Oviedo Marketplace. The \$25 admission includes the movie premiere of "Sex and the City 2", food and beverage sampling, one complimentary martini, and more. To purchase tickets call 407-970-3804.

"Doing Business with Local & State Governments," will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday, May 26, and from 8 a.m. to noon Thursday, May 27, at the SBDC at UCF's office, located in the Disney Entrepreneurship Center, 315 E. Robinson St., Suite 100, in downtown Orlando. For additional information or to register for this workshop, call 407-420-4850 or visit www.bus.ucf.edu/sbdc/doingbusiness.html

The Casselberry Chamber of Commerce will host Survivor Expo 2010 from 4:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 26, at the Home Builders Association building, 544 Mayo Ave. in Maitland.

If you are interested in building your small business and meeting face to face with other successful businesses within Seminole County, you do not want to miss the 2010 Survivor Expo. This is your chance to connect with hundreds of potential contacts in the area. The expo, free for all attendees, provides tremendous networking opportunities, as well as a chance to win prizes. For sponsorship opportunities, call Mike Schaffer at 407-221-6293 or e-mail PRINTGUY72@Yahoo.com. "Re-Charge and Re-Energize your Job Search!"

The Seminole County League of Women Voters will host candidates for county judge and the 18th judicial circuit at its next Hot Topics luncheon. The event begins at 11:30 a.m. Thursday, May 27 at Sergio's Restaurant, 2895 S. Orlando Ave. in Sanford.

To RSVP, e-mail LWWSeminole@gmail.com or call 407-339-9266. Checks and cash will be accepted at the door. The cost is \$15 (\$13 for LWV members) and includes buffet lunch, beverage, tax and tip.

Free employment seminar, presented by Christian HELP and Central Florida Employment Council, for job seekers 6:30-9 p.m. Thursday, May 27 at College Park Baptist Church Fellowship Hall located at 1914 Edgewater Drive, Orlando. Reservation is required: job seekers may reserve their seat by visiting www.CFEC.org, click on the banner, and complete a quick form! Seating is limited, so reserve your seat today! If you cannot visit the Web site to reserve your seat, e-mail cfec@cfec.org or call 407-834-4022. Dress is business professional and no cost to attend.

Silent Art Auction for "Doctors without Borders" Haitian Relief 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Sunday, May 30 at Altamonte Chapel 825 E. Altamonte Drive (State Road 436) in Altamonte Springs. Dozens of paintings and art items donated by Central Florida artists. Refreshments, artists painting, music playing. To donate paintings, please call Tom Swartz at 321-388-8046 or e-mail at hswartz@cfl.rr.com.

As high school graduation ceremonies and summer approach Oviedo police are taking steps to prevent alcohol-related fatalities involving teens and young adults using education and enforcement to ensure compliance with Florida law.

Phase One: Education
Free training for local businesses is being hosted by the Oviedo Police Department in cooperation with the Florida Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco. The 1-day sessions will be from 10-11 a.m. on Wednesday, June 2 and Thursday, June 3, at the Oviedo Police C.O.P.S. & Volunteer Center in the Oviedo Marketplace Mall.

Phase Two: Enforcement
Oviedo Police and state agents with the Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco will conduct undercover compliance checks to ensure that those who sell or provide alcohol to anyone under age will be charged and prosecuted.

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Because we don't want you to miss this conversation, we are holding three different dates and times to choose from:

Tuesday, June 8th 10:00 AM	Wednesday, June 9th 2:00 PM	Thursday, June 10th 7:00 PM
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VOICES



THIS WEEK in political history

May 25, 1961 —

John F. Kennedy Jr. asks Congress to support the space program and tells them that his goal is to send an American to the moon by the end of the decade. (Though JFK was assassinated in 1963, Neil Armstrong became the first person to walk on the moon in 1969.)

Want a job? Learn to network

EMPLOYMENT

Ask Sandi



Searching for a job is a difficult task for most people. Jobs are still available. I am seeing more help wanted signs and hearing of more people who are getting positions. The challenge is standing out from the crowd.

Central Florida Employment

Council's Web site cfec.org has a wealth of information for job seekers. There is an online job board, career website links to major companies in Central Florida, networking groups for job seekers and employers, job fair information, tips for job seekers, a blog, resources, and more.

There are other great local resources too including Goodwill, Workforce Central Florida, and Orlandojobs.com.

Networking with other job seekers can be a good use of time. Many of the people in networking groups will know who is hiring and

where you can get help. The Career Management Network maintains a networking calendar to help job seekers find groups they can plug into.

Meetup.com is another great resource.

On May 27, I will be speaking about job search survival at the Recharge and Re-energize your job search employment seminar. It will be from 6:30-9 p.m. at College Park Baptist Church in Orlando. Lisa Maile, image consultant, will also be speaking on power interviewing.

More information and registra-

tion for this free event is online at www.cfec.org. Coffee and snacks will be served.

Please let me know if I can help with your search.

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

Vote yes on Amendment 4

Our Florida Legislature has just given those who care about preserving what's left of rural Florida a big slap in the face. The arrogance of the elected boggles the mind. It has refused to reauthorize the Department of Community Affairs. This is the land planning agency that reviews comprehensive plan changes desired by counties and cities. It is the last line of defense for us concerned citizens. And now it is about to go away. There will be no one or nothing to stop the builders' and developers' lobbies from trying to pave over more and more rural areas so that they can continue to fill their pockets at our expense.

Fortunately, we do have an ace in the hole. But only if we dare to use it. Please vote for Amendment 4 (Hometown Democracy Amendment) in November. This would give power back to the people. The power that our elected "representatives" have effectively stolen from us by refusing

to represent the desires of those who elected them.

Please don't let this once in a lifetime and truly golden opportunity to pass us by. Vote for Amendment 4 and talk to your friends and neighbors to do likewise. It is our people power against their money. David versus Goliath. Which side are you on?

—Richard Creedon,
President
Geneva Citizens Association

Grow your own economy

As the U.S. struggles to overcome the worst recession since the Great Depression, many local communities are learning that the most effective path to economic recovery is to "grow your own."

Across the country, hundreds of local communities have begun to establish resources that can identify promising startup enterprises and assist them in accelerating their growth, producing jobs, tax revenues and economic vitality that benefits the entire community.

One of the best examples of this new model of economic development exists right here in Central Florida.

Since 1999, the UCF Business Incubation Program has helped more than 140 emerging companies create more than \$800 million in annual revenues and more than 1,600 new jobs with an average salary of \$59,000.

A recent national study shows that this form of economic development produces cost-effective results and is a valuable addition to traditional economic development strategies such as the recruitment of companies to a region.

Careful study of the enterprise process and equally careful experimentation have resulted in a proven model for "growing your own" economic development. Proposed enterprises are rigorously vetted, and those that qualify for incubation help are provided with technical assistance and resources to help them grow and suc-

ceed, including developing strategies for commercialization and establish protocols for marketing, sales and distribution.

The National Business Incubation Association will meet in Orlando in May. More than 600 delegates are expected to attend from all across the country. Most importantly, this year's convention has attracted a record number of local community economic development specialists who are eager to establish new models for economic growth.

Just as Victory Gardens helped turn the tide during World War II, homegrown economic development strategies promises a major boost to U.S. economic recovery. The costs are minimal, the results are sustainable, and the benefits affect the entire community, creating economic engines that will power communities for generations.

It takes an entire community to make the economy work. There are many organizations in Central Florida's entrepre-

neurial ecosystem that we can draw on. With seven facilities across the Greater Orlando community, the UCF Incubation Program is a collaboration that includes the University of Central Florida, Orange County, Orlando, Seminole County, Winter Springs, Sanford, Lake County, the City of Leesburg, Osceola County and the St. Cloud, and the Florida High Tech Corridor Council.

Currently, the UCF Business Incubation Program serves more than 90 client companies engaged in everything from photonics to medicine to computer gaming, biometric technology, government and construction.

The future of the U.S. economy appears bright. Business incubation, when done well, and as a part of an overall economic development infrastructure, makes the future even brighter.

—Tom O'Neal
Founder of the University of Central Florida's Business Incubation Program

Young Voices

Here's what actors at Midway Elementary School of the Performing Arts had to say about their characters in "Thoroughly Modern Millie Jr."



My character Jimmy is weird, snazzy and rude, but I can connect to the character. This is my first play, it's been fun to sing with my friends and wear a microphone.

—Jarrett D.
12 years old



My character is Miss Dorothy and she is a little dumb and silly. I wanted to be in the play but at first I was shy with my talent.

—Madison C.
10 years old



I play the main character Millie, so I have to remember a lot of lines and sing a lot of songs. I marry my boss, get arrested, it's confusing!

—Madlynn B.
10 years old



I play Trevor Gray Don III, a businessman who hires Millie and then falls for Miss Dorothy. I sing the Speed Test song, which is very fast.

—Michael D.
12 years old



My character is Miss Flannery who works in an office as a secretary. At first I don't like Millie and I do like Mr. Gray Don. I like singing really loud in this play.

—Fatima S.
10 years old

We would love to hear from your Young Voices!

Call 407-563-7026 or e-mail editor@observernewspapers.com to have The Voice visit your class or group.

ATHLETICS



THIS WEEK in sports history

May 24, 1935 —

Major League Baseball holds their first-ever nighttime game. (The Cincinnati Reds beat the Philadelphia Phillies 2-1.) The minor league teams held their first night game five years before their Major League counterparts.

Knights go to NCAA championships

Softball makes an at-large tournament berth, while baseball struggles to right its conference wrongs

ISAAC BABCOCK
THE VOICE

The UCF softball team is NCAA tournament-bound after finishing the season as Conference USA's runner-up.

The Knights trounced UTEP and Memphis in the early rounds of the C-USA tournament to make it to the championship game against East Carolina.

Heroes had emerged in both of the first two games. Abby McClain slammed a 3-run homer in the opening round of the tournament to lift her team over the Miners 4-2. Then in the next game Hillary Barrow ended the game with a bang, hammering a 2-run double to put her Knights over the top against Memphis.

But against East Carolina there were no heroics at the plate. Pirates pitcher Toni Paisley threw a complete game 3-hitter to end the Knights' chances of a championship. The Knights would fall 3-1 in that game.

Now the Knights (35-21) face off against Florida International in the first

round. They hadn't played the Panthers (36-19) this season. That game starts at 3:30 p.m. Friday in Gainesville.

UCF baseball

After losing two straight games to East Carolina, the Knights decimated the Pirates in a 14-1 rout Sunday.

In the process, UCF slugger Chris Duffy hammered his 18th homerun of the year, tying the school's single-season homerun record. The power-hitting Knights knocked three over the wall to set a team record with 70 home runs in a single season.

The massive turnaround for the Knights (31-21, 8-13) marked the first time since 2008 that they had caused officials to invoke the run rule and end the game early due to the 14-1 scoring disparity.

After a quick home game against Florida Atlantic at press time, the Knights head to New Orleans this weekend at Tulane starting at 7 p.m. Friday.



PHOTO BY ISAAC BABCOCK — THE VOICE

Running down a victory against ECU last weekend, the Knights turned around in the final game.

Bears lose to state champ

Winter Springs gets to play thanks to a court ruling, then goes 10 innings before falling to the eventual state champion

ISAAC BABCOCK
THE VOICE

Winter Springs softball players learned the meaning of victory from defeat Friday, when they lost in the state semifinals in a dramatic final inning. They'd never made it that far in the playoffs before, and had it not been for a court ruling that morning, they wouldn't have even taken the field.

And all that drama happened because their coach allowed an ineligible teammate to cheer on her team from the dugout while wearing flip flops, jeans and a jersey.

The ineligible player, who was serving a two-game suspension for colliding with a catcher at home plate, wasn't dressed to play, and

never picked up a bat or a glove, Coach Mark Huaman said. But after the Bears won the game, Fletcher High School, which had lost, sent pictures of the player to the Florida High School Athletic Association. The FHSAA immediately stripped the Bears of their playoff spot, effectively nullifying the greatest achievement in team history.

Winter Springs High School Principal Mike Blasewitz accepted the forfeiture in writing, but the team fought back. A circuit court in Sanford on the morning of May 14 ruled that the FHSAA had violated its own due process rules in removing the Bears from the playoffs.

In tears Friday morning,

they learned they could play later that evening.

For nine innings, the Bears held a 1-1 stalemate against Palm Beach Gardens — the team which would go on to win the state championship. But in the 10th inning, the nervous tension of a long day for the Bears finally took its toll. After holding Palm Beach Gardens nearly hitless into extra innings, the Bears gave up 6 runs.

The game ended 7-1, with the Bears getting what Huaman said he had wanted his team to have: the chance to win or lose on the field.

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Tips on selling your home

Design your own marketing strategy, don't put all your eggs in one basket, analyze comparable sales

Thinking of selling your current home, but don't know where to start? A Realtor can help you attract buyers from around the corner — or from another continent — so you'll be able to close the transaction and move ahead with your life.

Orlando Realtors are trained and caring professionals who know how to get results for sellers in the

constantly changing real estate market. Marketing and selling a home is a complex process that involves all the tools of the trade, from social networking and online video tours to multiple listing service (MLS) postings and newspaper ads. Realtors have the training and 'matchmaking' skills needed to bring buyers and sellers together for

a win-win transaction. In addition to getting the best sales price and guiding a seller through the maze of paperwork and procedures involved in selling a home, a Realtor can provide sellers a full complement of services, including:

- Gather information about the home — such as square footage, type of heating

and cooling systems, proximity to schools and other features — to prepare it for sale.

- Analyze comparable home sales in the area and then use that information to better estimate a property's value, so it can be priced right to sell.
- Design an effective strategy to market the home. It can include posting photos

and information about the home on high-volume websites, emailing open house invitations, placing advertisements in local publications and putting a traditional for-sale sign in front of the residence.

- List the home on the local multiple listing service, which all Realtors — locally, nationally and internationally — can access as they seek a home for their buyers.
- Bring qualified buyers to preview the home.
- Guide the seller through all aspects of the sales contract and deal with the buyer on any items that may need to be negotiated.
- Help the buyer find financing, arrange for a home inspection and appraisal, and complete other details in preparation for closing the deal.
- Place the buyer's deposit in escrow and take care of other necessary paperwork.
- Serve as the seller's representative at the closing table.

Deciding to work with a Realtor can give sellers peace of mind. A Realtor in Florida is more than a licensed professional with training and experience in real estate — a Realtor voluntarily agrees to abide by a code of ethics and promises to provide honest treatment to both sellers and buyers.

To learn more, or to find an Orlando Realtor, visit www.orldrealtor.com.

—Orlando Regional Realtor Association

Zip Code	Sales	Avg List \$	Average	Median	Days on Mkt	Days to Close
32708						
Overall	47	\$182,094	\$171,457	\$158,000	106	45
Single Family						
Overall	37	\$207,619	\$195,488	\$175,000	111	49
Bank Owned	12	\$211,133	\$200,656	\$177,000	55	49
Short Sales	8	\$129,338	\$125,788	\$135,500	191	85
Normal	17	\$241,976	\$224,641	\$201,500	113	32
Multi Family						
Overall	10	\$87,652	\$82,540	\$66,500	89	33
Bank Owned	6	\$50,350	\$49,567	\$38,500	41	30
Short Sales	1	\$94,500	\$73,000	\$73,000	363	4
Normal	3	\$159,973	\$151,667	\$130,000	93	49
32765						
Overall	53	\$226,132	\$215,524	\$175,000	112	52
Single Family						
Overall	42	\$251,309	\$239,147	\$194,500	120	54
Bank Owned	10	\$189,210	\$180,980	\$177,000	34	28
Short Sales	10	\$189,530	\$189,500	\$167,000	251	88
Normal	22	\$307,618	\$288,154	\$237,450	99	51
Multi Family						
Overall	11	\$130,003	\$125,327	\$151,700	80	46
Bank Owned	3	\$85,567	\$83,800	\$48,500	71	27
Short Sales	2	\$108,950	\$106,100	\$106,100	56	131
Normal	6	\$159,239	\$152,500	\$161,494	94	27

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FORECLOSURE VS. SHORT SALE
Homeowner Consequences

Issue	Foreclosure	Successful Short Sale
Future Fannie Mae Loan – Primary Residence ¹	A homeowner who loses a home to foreclosure is ineligible for a Fannie Mae-backed mortgage for a period of 5 years .	A homeowner who successfully negotiates and closes a short sale will be eligible for a Fannie Mae-backed mortgage after only 2 years .
Future Fannie Mae Loan – Non-Primary ²	An investor who allows a property to go to foreclosure is ineligible for a Fannie Mae-backed investment mortgage for a period of 7 years .	An investor who successfully negotiates and closes a short sale will be eligible for a Fannie Mae-backed investment mortgage after only 2 years .
Future Loan with any Mortgage Company	On any future application, a prospective borrower will have to answer YES to question C in Section VIII of the standard 1003 form that asks "Have you had property foreclosed upon or given title or deed in lieu thereof in the last 7 years?" This will affect future rates.	There is no similar declaration or question regarding a short sale.
Credit Score	Score may be lowered anywhere from 250 to more than 300 points. Typically will affect a credit score for over 3 years .	Only late payments on mortgage will show, and after sale, mortgage is normally reported as 'paid as agreed', 'paid as negotiated', or 'settled'. This can lower the score as little as 50 points if all other payments are being made. A short sale's effect can be as brief as 12 to 18 months .
Credit History	Foreclosure will remain as a public record permanently, and on a person's credit history for 10 years or more .	A short sale is not reported on a credit history . There is no specific reporting item for 'short sale'. The loan is typically reported 'paid in full, settled'.
Security Clearance	Foreclosure is the most challenging issue against a security clearance outside a serious misdemeanor or felony conviction. If a client has a foreclosure and is a police officer, in the military, in the CIA, security, or any other position that requires a security clearance, in almost all cases clearance will be revoked and position will be terminated.	On its own, a short sale does not challenge most security clearances . ³
Current Employment	Employers have the right and are actively checking the credit of all employees who are in sensitive positions. In many cases, a foreclosure is reason for immediate reassignment or termination .	A short sale is not reported on a credit report and is therefore not a challenge to employment . ⁴
Future Employment	Many employers are requiring credit checks on all job applicants. A foreclosure is one of the most detrimental credit items an applicant can have and in most cases will challenge employment .	A short sale is not reported on a credit report and is therefore not a challenge to future employment . ⁵
Deficiency Judgment	In 100% of foreclosures (except in those states where there is no deficiency), the bank has the right to pursue a deficiency judgment.	In some successful short sales, it is possible to convince the lender to give up the right to pursue a deficiency judgment against the homeowner.
Deficiency Judgment (amount)	In a foreclosure, the home will have to go through an REO process if it does not sell at auction. In most cases this will result in a lower sales price and longer time to sale in a declining market. This will result in a higher possible deficiency judgment .	In a properly managed short sale, the home is sold at a price that should be close to market value, and in almost all cases will be better than an REO sale resulting in a lower deficiency .

Chart provided by Distressed Property Institute

¹ Fannie Mae Announcement 08-16: Michael A. Quinn, Senior Vice President, Single-Family Risk Officer
² Fannie Mae Announcement 08-16: Michael A. Quinn, Senior Vice President, Single-Family Risk Officer
³ Short sales are currently not explicitly reported on a credit report.
⁴ Short sales are currently not explicitly reported on a credit report.
⁵ Short sales are currently not explicitly reported on a credit report.

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Cinema

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

Coming June 4



Photo courtesy Universal Pictures

'Get Him to the Greek'

Coming June 11



Photo courtesy Columbia Pictures

'The Karate Kid'

'Shrek Forever After' — Opens Friday



Photo courtesy Dreamworks

Shrek, Donkey, Fiona, and the rest of the gang return in the fourth Shrek installment. When Shrek makes a deal with Rumpelstiltskin to feel like a real ogre again, he mistakenly gives up everyone he loves.

PG - 1 hour 33 minutes

Coming June 18



Photo courtesy Warner Bros. Pictures

'Jonah Hex'

Also opening: 'MacGruber' (R)



Photo courtesy Rogue Pictures

Based off of a Saturday Night Live skit of about 20 seconds, MacGruber hits the big screen. A parody of the 80's action character, MacGyver, MacGruber tries to save the country while rocking a mullet.

Coming next week



Photo courtesy Walt Disney Pictures

'Prince of Persia' (PG-13)

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