



# Seminole Voice



## Heart walk > 9

These volunteers are raising money on the road



## Top team > 10

UCF equestrians get the spotlight after going to nationals



## Comeback > 14

Bears top Lyman for their first win of the year

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September 24 – October 7, 2010

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## Citizens give Aqua feedback

ISAAC BABCOCK  
THE VOICE

Mike Rivera says he's going to start drinking tap water again. A year ago, that would have repulsed him, as his kitchen sink pumped out yellow-tinted water that smelled like rotten eggs.

"I'd only drink bottled water here," he said.

But not anymore. Chuluota's water provider, Aqua Utilities, unveiled a new water treatment system on Sept. 9 that's already gotten some positive reviews from residents who've struggled with water quality issues for decades.

"It's been a long, tough road," said Chris Franklin, Aqua Utilities' president of South and Midwest operations. Speaking behind a podium in front of news cameras, he talked about a utility company that hopes to have finally ended the area's longtime water woes.

The utility held a grand opening event Sept. 9 in the shadows of a handful of 15-foot-tall water tanks holding thousands of gallons.

But the fix isn't free. Aqua Utilities say a rate increase is in the pipeline to cover the cost of the new \$2 million ion-

> turn to **AQUA** on **PAGE 3**

## A dreamer's revival



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARGARITA PUCKETT

Pastor Rodney McKinley stands at the makeshift pulpit of the newly resurrected Life Community Church in Winter Springs.

## With an army of volunteers and hopeful prayers, a crumbling church rises again

KAREN McENANY-PHILLIPS  
THE VOICE

Pastor Rodney McKinley didn't use a pulpit during the grand-opening celebration service at Life Community Church in Winter Springs.

He sold the wooden pulpit to a local pastor who

needed it more. Now he uses a black metal music stand to hold his notes. Plans are under way to sell the church pews too and replace them with individual chairs for increased seating capacity.

But talk to Pastor Rodney for a few minutes and you quickly understand that it's not about him or about fill-

ing up his new church.

And it's not about the money.

At the Sept. 12 service, he nearly dismissed the congregation without collecting an offering, but church leaders gently intervened.

McKinley is a third-generation Florida pastor who speaks with a Panhandle

twang, charms with down-to-earth humor and preaches about Jesus with a passion.

He's been ministering full time to Florida youth for two decades, doing an eight-year assignment in Largo to most recently as

> turn to **CHURCH** on **PAGE 3**

## Submerged

### The first of a three-part series on homeowners dealing with foreclosure

MEGAN STOKES  
THE VOICE

Shelly Coker has been begging for help.

The 38-year-old entrepreneur called her bank in March 2009 when her pay was cut and her ex-husband, who pays child support for their son, lost his job. She asked them to reduce her mortgage payments.

"I was always one month behind and things just went downhill from there," she said.

She tried to hide the stress of her lost income from her son, but he knew they were struggling. Her boat was repossessed; she had to refinance her truck

and recently had to ask her mother for money to pay for her son's summer lacrosse camp.

"He was stressed because he knew we didn't have the money. He would try to be strong, saying it's not a big deal, but it was," Coker said. "Asking for help from other people was, and still is, very hard. I don't like to depend on other people."

She was relieved when the bank told her she was pre-approved for a loan modification, which would help her afford her payments. She sent in her paperwork for the modification — bank statements, pay stubs — three times and each time the modification was denied.

Something would go wrong — the bank misplaced an expense report or said she neglected to send her pay stub — and they'd tell her she had to start the process over.

In July, she called to get the balance on her account and the bank informed her that they had begun foreclosing on her home. She still has not received official notice from them.

"If I hadn't called, I would have never known. I felt empty," she said. "I get the impression they don't want to help me."

#### Is U.S. program effective?

Coker's experience is not unique. With the availability of government programs

such as Home Affordable Modification Program — an Obama administration plan designed to help borrowers afford their mortgage payments by lowering their interest rate, extending the mortgage or holding a portion of the loan in forbearance — it was expected that the number would decrease. But instead, many of those people who participated in HAMP are defaulting again.

The number of foreclosures in Central Florida has increased since last year and those in the industry expect that number to grow even more in 2011. According to RealtyTrac, in Orange County there

> turn to **HOMES** on **PAGE 6**

USPS 008-093  
Publisher statement on page 5.

## What's goin' on?

The German-American Society of Central Florida presents Oktoberfest on Saturday, Oct. 9 in Casselberry. For more information, call 407-834-0574.

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## Cinema > Page 16

This sequel surrounds Gordon Gekko, a Wall Street trader who has just recently been released from jail. Jake Moore is a young trader who seeks out Gekko's help.



# THIS WEEK



# WEEK

**THIS WEEK** in history

Sep. 25, 1789 — The 12 amendments to the U.S. Constitution are approved by Congress. The amendments, known as the Bill of Rights, were created to protect the rights of U.S. citizens.

## Temporary toys

**Toys "R" Us looks to capitalize on the holiday season by opening an Oviedo store and 600 nationwide**

**KAREN MCENANY-PHILLIPS**  
GUEST REPORTER

The mall walkers were among the first to discover the new retail addition in Oviedo Marketplace.

The wide-eyed toddlers were next. They spotted the Zhu Zhu hamsters, remote-controlled tarantulas and trains just above eye level at the store's wood-trimmed entrance.

Toys "R" Us Express, a seasonal toy store, opened about a month ago in the Oviedo mall, directly across from Bath & Body Works. Mall merchants and management hope that Geoffrey the giraffe and his team will entice more customers to do their holiday shopping at their neighborhood mall.

"We are thrilled to have Toys "R" Us Express join the exciting shopping, dining and entertainment lineup at Oviedo Marketplace," wrote General Manager Ted Newkirk, who was recently appointed to oversee Oviedo Marketplace and Altamonte Mall for the mall's owner, General

Growth Properties, in an e-mail.

"Seasonal retailers, including Toys "R" Us Express and Calendar Club, complement our existing merchants, and we believe they provide outstanding convenience and an excellent shopping experience for our patrons."

Oviedo Mall Merchants Association President Jim Pridemore is optimistic about fall 2010 at Oviedo Marketplace. The owner of Ashton Photography Studio and Snap Family Fitness is anxious for October, when General Growth Properties plans to emerge from bankruptcy and continue its transitional restructuring process.

"As small business owners, we have confidence that business will come back, and we ask that the public have confidence too," Pridemore said.

Pridemore has hit his own milestone. Ashton Photography is celebrating its 10th anniversary in Oviedo Marketplace next week, and is offering "10 photos for \$10" — another



**A familiar face will greet Oviedo mall shoppers for the holiday season, setting up a seasonal store inside the mall. The well-known toy retailer will open 600 temporary stores across the nation this fall, trying for a bigger share of holiday shopping.**

holiday gift idea.

Pridemore hopes that the merchants will be able to host their Malloween event — trick-or-treating at the stores — again this year.

**Big plans**

Toys "R" Us plans to open

about 600 temporary toy stores nationally, virtually doubling their store numbers for the fall season in order to make a deeper footprint in the 2010 holiday bottom line, according to a Sept. 9 press release.

The focused assortment of the most wanted toys, including the recently unveiled "Fabulous 15" toys, is targeted at convenience shopping for parents, grandparents and last-minute shoppers who can quickly get in and get out of a 4,000-square-foot store — maybe a little closer to home.

Additional staff will be hired and trained above the normal seasonal build and Chairman and CEO Jerry Storch expects to add about 10,000 additional employees nationwide.

"We are pleased that this significant expansion of our

Toys "R" Us Express initiative also creates thousands of new jobs beyond our usual seasonal workforce build," Storch said.

Retailers have gone back to the drawing board looking for creative ways to attract consumers. Walmart recently announced a similar strategy, introducing smaller slices of its Supercenters into urban areas where real estate is limited.

**Toy store**

**Toys "R" Us Express in the Oviedo Marketplace is located across from Bath & Body Works. For more information, call 407-365-0593 or visit [www.toysrus.com](http://www.toysrus.com) or [oviedomarketplace.com](http://oviedomarketplace.com).**



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Oct 31	Micanopy Fall Festival
Nov 4	Holiday Shopping/Ikea and Mall of Millenia, Orlando
Nov 6	Sanford Luncheon Cruise/Historic Downtown Shopping
Nov 9-11	Sanibel, Everglades City and Delray Morikami Gardens
Nov 22-26	Thanksgiving in New Orleans!
Dec 4-10	Holidays in San Antonio, Austin, Texas Hill Country
Dec 15-19	Christmas in Asheville, NC: Biltmore Candlelight Tour
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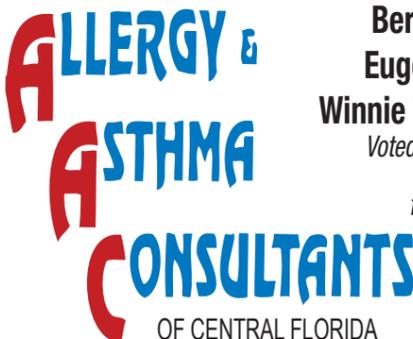
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# CHURCH | Pastor leaves church of 1,500 to rebuild one that dwindled to a dozen

< continued from the front page

Youth Pastor of Celebration of Praise church in Clermont — a congregation of about 1,500.

He admits that assignment felt secure. But God had other plans.

“Sometimes He calls us to climb out of our box, to get out of the boat and walk,” McKinley said.

Over the summer, Church of God state leaders asked Rodney and his wife, Sherri, to consider the senior pastor position at a Winter Springs church without a leader.

Various pastors have led the former Lord of Life Church of God, but without consistent leadership, membership dwindled to about a dozen folks, who still remained loyal to the gold church with the belfry on Tuskawilla Road.

“We prayed on it and then drove over,” McKinley said.

“When we walked in the sanctuary we knew — even before meeting or talking to anyone, it felt like home. Even though there were only a handful of people left and very little money, we looked at each other and we just knew.”

McKinley prayed for resources to enable the neglected facility to take on the work needed to help the community.

“People are hurting today. It’s not only about the recession or about the homeless. Relationships are on the back burner — with each other, within the community and with God — they all need to be worked on.”

Rose Stella, executive assistant to the pastor, recalls McKinley’s first message to his tiny flock two months ago.

“He started to speak, then stopped and told us he was just going to tell us what

was on his heart. He said, ‘I’m going to be your new pastor and I’m not going anywhere. Sherri and I are going to be here for a long, long time.’ At that moment, he captured our hearts.”

### Church transforms

And so the transformation began including the new name — Life Community Church.

McKinley and his team in Winter Springs were soon joined by dozens of volunteers from his former ministries in Largo and Clermont. A network of skilled craftsman came to lay new wood floors, re-install sound systems, repair water systems, strip wallpaper, repaint rooms and replace landscaping.

The word spread and donations of money, material and time appeared from unexpected corners.

“The love and respect that continues to pour

out of his past congregations is amazing,” Stella said. “Rodney is not afraid of hard work, — he spent massive hours getting the church ready.”

Stella wears the many hats necessary in a small church, and she said she bore witness to daily miracles during the renovation.

“Pastor Rodney would come in and there would be an envelope with a check from someone he hadn’t seen in years. We would encounter a new problem and expense, then the phone would ring and volunteers were on the way and someone was taking care of the bill,” Stella said.

Civil engineer Tom Neyer helps run the audio and

video for church services. Tom and his wife, Denise, live in Oviedo and prefer a small church.

“It’s been a very exciting few months. Rodney and Sherri have brought us together, and we look forward to serving the community,” Neyer said.

On the morning of Sunday, Sept. 12, Life Community Church was reborn as babies napped in the newly renovated nursery, food was prepared in the kitchen, children’s church was under way and nearly a hundred hands and voices were lifted in praise in the green glow of the sanctuary.

Anybody need 20 church pews? Say Amen.

# AQUA | New treatment should clean up water

< continued from the front page

exchange water treatment system.

Installed in June, the system has already decreased levels of sulfur and trihalomethanes, a chlorine byproduct that is a suspected carcinogen.

“For the first time, we’ve had customers stopping by the plant and telling us how much better the water tastes and smells,” Franklin said.

In the past, Aqua has added chlorine to decrease the sulfuric smell of the water, and more chlorine raises trihalomethane levels, which are regulated by the Department of Environmental Protection to be no more than 80 parts

per billion. The ion-exchange system takes out the sulfides and the organic material, which reacts with chlorine to cause trihalomethanes, said Lisa Kelley, spokeswoman for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

In June, trihalomethane levels were down to 37.5 parts per billion, bringing the 12-month average to 65.73. The 2008 average was 86.58, Kelley said.

Aqua, which purchased the private utility company in 2004, supplies water to about 1,500 homes in the rural village. The residents pay some of the highest water rates in the county.

**Impending rate increase**  
Franklin said a rate increase

won’t happen until Aqua gets the system working perfectly.

“The only way a utility can recover the cost that is spent to make improvements is through customer rates, so ultimately this cost will be recovered in rates,” he said. “Right now we don’t have a rate case plan and our single focus is in water quality.”

Seminole County Commissioner Bob Dallari recently told the Voice that he strongly opposes a rate increase.

For Rivera, a \$100 monthly bill is already too high. He fears that if it goes higher, it’ll be difficult to pay.

“It’s expensive enough already,” he said.



PHOTO BY ISAAC BABCOCK — THE VOICE  
Tricia Williams of Aqua Utilities talks to U.S. House District 33 candidate Jason Brodeur at a grand-opening event for their new water treatment facility, which is designed to cut down on byproducts of the sanitization process and clean up water.

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# Here comes the holiday season

## Between the CELERY Stalks *By Janet Foley*

Where did those early days of September go? Thursday, Sept. 23 was the Autumn Equinox — the first day of fall. Do you feel cooler? I didn't think so. Actually, we are getting set now for the pre-season holidays coming up with Trick or Treat at the end of October, Turkey Day in November and then the Jolly Old Man in the Red Suit along with the traditional religious festivities in December and then whoops! Another year is here. You must admit — it is a fun time of the year enjoying friends and family, especially with all the candies with Halloween, turkey dinners and Christmas cookies. Then there are the New Year diets as top priorities for the New Year's resolutions (which are not always kept).

### Chicken Race

I hope it is not too late for you all to enter the Kiwanis Charity Chicken Race from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Sept. 25 at the Oviedo Gym and Aquatic Center, 148 Oviedo Boulevard. Participate

in the Grand Parade of Chickens, a chicken decorating competition, a photo contest, chicken crafts, races and more. Food, drinks, T-shirts, additional games and chicken memorabilia will be for sale. Call 407-810-6605 and ask for Kathy or e-mail [Kiwanischickenrace@bellsouth.net](mailto:Kiwanischickenrace@bellsouth.net).

### Bake sale

Need dessert for dinner on Saturday, Sept. 25? You can pop over between 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the bake sale that is being presented by the Oviedo Presbyterian Church, 2400 Lockwood Boulevard, Oviedo. Need more information, call 407-366-2544.

### Whale of a Sale

Your calendars are marked (I hope) and you're ready to attend the Harvest Jamboree's Whale of a Sale — the biggest garage sale in town, presented by The First United Methodist Church of Oviedo, Friday and Saturday, Oct. 1-2. The church is located on the corner of North Lake

Jessup and King Street — just follow the crowd. The sale begins at 8 a.m. and goes to 4 p.m. each day. The event will have a bake sale on Saturday, silent auction and chili cook-off with prizes being given for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place entries. At this writing, the Harvest Jamboree is looking for more vendors and if you are interested, please call Debbie Gendron, 407-366-7435. It is a fun time for all.

### How bazaar

A craft bazaar is being held 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 2 at Ascension Lutheran Church, 351 Ascension Drive, Casselberry. It features handmade items, including afghans, stained glass, tied quilts jewelry, seasonal items, wooden ornaments, selections for children, baked goods and plants. For more information, call 407-831-7788.

### Get fit

Get Fit Lake Mary will be held at 9 a.m. each Saturday through Dec. 18 in Central Park, 100 N. Country Club Road, Lake Mary. Getting fit features boot camp or zumba for \$2 a class. I was up the other weekend and this Get Fit program is great and the program is held in the same area as the Lake Mary Farmers Market. One can exercise, shop and eat. There is a little something

for all.

### 'Hiding in the Spotlight'

I love to read and I understand this book by Greg Dawson is a very good read. You may wish to attend the Woman's Club of Casselberry on Tuesday, Oct. 5 at 11:30 a.m. located at 251 Overbrook Drive, Casselberry where Greg Dawson, Orlando Sentinel columnist, will discuss his book "Hiding in the Spotlight, a family story of surviving the Holocaust". Hear the rue story of how the Dawson's Ukrainian mother and her sister avoided capture by posing as piano-playing entertainers for the unsuspecting Nazis. Learn how they fooled the Third Reich and ended up the first Holocaust survivors to study at the renowned Julliard School. Reservation deadline is Friday, Oct. 1 and \$10 includes lunch. For additional information, call 407-695-2026.

### Happy almost October

Since the strange and unusual is associated with the month of October, I will leave you this item to ponder by Charlie Carlson who was a guest speaker a few years back at the Oviedo Historical Society. He wrote this in his book "Strange Florida — the Unexplained and Unusual" about the The Great Seal

Mystery:

Since Florida became a state in 1845, there have been four state seals. The one in use the longest was adopted in 1868. However, it contained numerous inaccuracies. It showed mountains, two of which appeared to be snow capped, then there was an Indian woman wearing the headdress of a chief, moreover she was a western plains Indian. Other strange flaws included a side-wheel steamboat, which appeared to be sinking, cocoa palms and a bag of coffee. The artist is unknown, but one story says that he modified the design of a seal intended for a western state. In May 1985, a new state seal was adopted that corrected the oddities.

### A thought

Nobody says you must laugh, but a sense of humor can help you overlook the unattractive, tolerate the unpleasant, cope with the unexpected and smile through the unbearable. —Emma Taapken

### 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](mailto:celerystalks@bellsouth.net).



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"Songs of Vigor" will include Kirke Mechem's **Songs of the Slave**, which is based on his opera **John Brown**, and shares the story of Frederick Douglass—one of the great African-American leaders of the 19th century. The vigor continues with William Bolcom's **The Mask**: a cycle of five poems drawn from the Harlem Renaissance. "Songs of Play" will feature our guest artist in selections from **Carmen**.

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# Getting to know your local politics

## STETSON'S CORNER

By Karen McEnany-Phillips

For better or for worse, 2010 is a political year. Politics is kind of a strange word these days. It's not always a good thing to be known as a politician. Some candidates running for office say proudly that they are not political or Washington insiders, while many have never been involved in politics before.

But the fact is that there are three parts to our government and one is the legislative branch. To participate in this branch someone has to run for office — what happens to them after they are elected is the big question.

The American people are becoming much more interested in learning about the track records of their candidates — What have they done and said in the past that will give us

clues to their future behavior? What are their beliefs, their view of America, their grasp of history and economics? What do they hold as truths and how consistent is their vision? Who do they represent, who do they owe, who are they listening to and who will they serve? Who holds power over them, do they seek power and for what purpose?

No matter where you fall between the left and the right in the political spectrum, answering these questions will help you be a more effective voter and a less surprised citizen in the months following the election.

**Constitution class**  
Last month, Reviving the Constitution classes were held at the Rural Heritage

Center, and I am thrilled to share that these classes will be offered for free three additional times, this time at Double R Private School in Chuluota. Double R Private School is just off Snow Hill Road. Call 407-365-6856 for directions.

Each session is composed of three classes and each class will be held from 7-9 p.m.

The first session is Sept. 28, Sept. 30 and Oct. 5; the second session is Oct. 11, Oct. 13, Oct. 18; the third session is Oct. 20, Oct. 25 and Oct. 27. Note that these fall on different weekdays so grab your calendar and see which works best for you. Classes are limited to 20 people. Contact Paula Marcinek at 407-349-5346 or marc5346@bellsouth.net or T. Mikeal 407-349-9651 or tmikeal@cfl.rr.com.

**Free museum access**  
National Smithsonian Day is Saturday, Sept. 25, and Geneva is a great place to be from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., where the Geneva Museum of History and the Rural Heritage Center will both be open. Bring your kids

and their grandparents over to Main Street on Saturday and enjoy old cars, fine arts and crafts, great exhibitions and artifacts, square dancing demonstrations, a variety of bluegrass, harp, piano and dulcimer music, a silent auction and good food and fellowship. Check out ways to financially support both the Rural Heritage Center and the Geneva Historical and Genealogical Society. Buy a book, a T-shirt, a map, a commemorative brick, even our favorite Possum in a Can — I'm not kidding. It was inspired by a song that Mal Martin shared with us: "Five Pounds of Possum" (think early Christmas shopping!). Learn about all the fantastic classes being offered at the Rural Heritage Center by visiting [www.genevaschoolhouse.org](http://www.genevaschoolhouse.org).

I know there are still many of you who haven't visited the RHC, the old Geneva School House, since it has been transformed. Walk on over and check out the beautiful displays and rooms inside. You will love it. Last year, the

Geneva of Museum History was also reworked. All the displays were freshened up and re-arranged. It's worth seeing and there is something for all members of the family.

Timing is everything and these are truly wonderful events for individuals and for families to get easily educated and engaged in the history of our country at a local level. It's easy, it's free and it's all right around the corner. If you have extra time on Saturday, check out other Central Florida museums that are also participating in National Smithsonian Day. For locations, check out [www.smithsonianmag.com](http://www.smithsonianmag.com).

### TALK TO KAREN

Please share your thoughts about Geneva at **407-221-7002**, [kphillips@observernewspapers.com](mailto: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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# HOMES | Bills to reduce monthly mortgage payments keep dying in Legislature

< continued from the front page

are 16,775 foreclosures and 5,310 in neighboring Seminole County.

"I'm hearing around 68 to 70 percent of those people (who participated in a loan modification) were in default again within 12 months," said Sean Snaith, a University of Central Florida economist. "The first time these programs became available, states like

Florida that were hit the hardest were not eligible so the sickest patients were not getting any medicine."

People under HAMP are defaulting for several reasons, said Matt Englett of Kel Attorneys in Maitland, which is currently handling 6,500 foreclosure cases, a majority of which are in Central Florida.

The HAMP process starts as a trial modification program, and in some instanc-

es people were never put into the permanent program either because of bank error or borrower neglect. He also said some lenders were still putting people in programs they could not afford, or the borrowers could afford it when they signed up, but experienced a pay cut or unemployment and became unable to even pay the reduced monthly payment.

City Mortgage, who funded Coker's loan, did reduce her payment by \$600 last year, which helped her tremendously, but they bumped it back up after six months.

"Every time I talked to someone (about the modification) it was a completely different story. I don't know why they're not willing to work with someone who wants to work with them," she said.

### Banks, homeowners spar

U.S. Rep. Darren Soto, of East Orlando's District 49, has tried to pass several bills designed to help people stay in their homes. One would reduce the monthly cost, spreading the payments over time. That bill was killed.

"The banks don't want any reform whatsoever because they're so nervous about any change. It's tough to pass anything but with two of the highest foreclosure zip codes in the nation within the district, I have to at least try."

Although he's trying to find more relief for Florida homeowners, Soto said there is enough assistance out there "but most people are not crossing every T and dotting every I, and the banks are so overwhelmed they're screwing up as well."

Coker said the problem is too many loopholes are available for the banks in the modification process. She's afraid her bank is stalling on her modification so they can reap all the late fees she's accrued.

"I think the help is there, it's just hard to get it, and a lot of people give up because the banks are making it so hard," Coker said. "Someone has to step in and take out these loopholes. I feel like I've been pushed around for almost a year now."

### Help for underwater not likely

One government program local experts have little faith in is Obama's Home Affordable Foreclosure Alternative program, which is designed to create more incentives for homeowners who are underwater to refinance their loan, leaving the banks to take the loss of the remaining principal.

"It's not going to happen," Englett said. "If banks start doing that, everyone will sign up, and with nearly half of all homeowners in Central Florida under-

water and 23 percent of homeowners nationally, they can't absorb all those losses.

Banks won't do it because "they know people who are underwater by-in-large will continue to make their payments, and that's what they want."

He added that government would likely have to step in to absorb the loss, which would stick the taxpayers with the bill. "So no, this program would not be best for the economy."

Snaith said government lenders such as Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac should be able to buy underwater mortgages so people can take advantage of lower interest rates and start being able to afford their payments.

The problem with the way the Obama administration handled the housing crisis, Snaith said, is that it tried to juggle many big problems at once such as health care and clean energy.

"The administration was working on too many things at a time instead of laser-focusing on getting the economy back on track," he said. "But we didn't do that, and incidentally we probably did a worse job on all these things. If all that energy would have gone to the economy, maybe we would have been in a much better situation than we are in today."

## Calendar girl



PHOTOS BY ISAAC BABCOCK — THE VOICE

Lori Aulin shows her winning photo from The Oviedo Preservation Project's annual calendar contest, which announced winners Monday.

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# From my GARDEN to yours Tom Carey



## Return on investment

Our gardens are never big enough. Constrained space, available maintenance time, bulk resources and family economics determine size limitation. Quantity has a quality all its own, but gazing at the horizon (or the neighbor's fence) is not the best way to pace out our garden's perimeter. Some gardens are as small as a window box, a few clay pots on the patio, a 4-by-4 garden or the entire tilled-up St. Augustine lawn. Choosing the best

crops to grow for the space available calculates the greatest return on our efforts invested in our gardens.

The essence of time and money applied to the refuge of our garden is an unwelcomed mantra. How can we relax while wondering if our efforts are producing a harvest worthy of the hours spent in such a peaceful hobby? Everything in life boils down to this decision: to be happy or to avoid unhappiness. We

toil in the sun and sand because of the enjoyment it creates. Even at minimum wage, several hours spent to grow a few carrots and some scallions make our harvest worth their weight in gold. That's why "homegrown always tastes better".

If we are growing our gardens to save money, there are few crops that will produce a dollar value commensurate to our economy of scale. Food pricing is an extremely chaotic arrangement, having little to do with supply and demand. Government subsidies for commodity crops and fossil fuel inputs skew any industrial agriculture costs toward political chicanery. The retail tricks of competitive market share or artificially discounted, limited-time sales further disrupt a sane pricing structure. What we should grow are the crops we love to eat. The next consideration is the crops that provide the best nutrition, fresh from our doorstep. Lastly should be the economic return for the effort presented. Bottom line: market price comparisons for our garden crop choices are totally unrealistic.

Here are two examples to compare the return on investment in our gardens: Corn on the cob produces very little return for the space, fertilizers, water and pest controls required to produce a successful crop. But there is nothing better to eat than a super sweet cob of golden nuggets plopped in a pot of boiling water minutes after picking. Basil is incredibly nourishing and easy to grow although it is very tender, prone to bruising and wilting. And its taste is so wonderful. Nutrition, personal and economic contemplations almost demand a space for basil at every homestead.

*Have a gardening question for Tom? E-mail him at [sundewgardens@gmail.com](mailto:sundewgardens@gmail.com).*

### WHO IS CAREY

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



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# INTERESTS



**THIS WEEK** in human history

Oct. 5, 1974 —

American David Kunst completes the first circumnavigation of the globe on foot. He left his Minnesota town on June 20, 1970. Kunst went through 21 pairs of shoes on the 14,500 mile journey.

## Life-saving lights

Hagerty High physics teacher and Rollins students develop method that uses lasers to find landmines

**SARAH WILSON**  
GUEST REPORTER

Accidentally finding a landmine could be an explosive, even deadly discovery.

Accidentally discovering a way of finding landmines, however, as Ashley Cannaday found out, can lead to three years of research and a patent-pending procedure with the potential to be used across the globe.

While the senior physics major and her Rollins College classmate fiddled around in the lab, trying to make a tuna can — the closest and safest alternative to using an actual land mine — vibrate, Cannaday stumbled upon a method for detecting an explosive mine's vibrations in an unconventional way. Her tools: a single laser, a lens, camera, loud speaker, kiddie-pool, several pounds of sand and the tuna can.

"This whole thing was a complete accident," she said. "We had this whole complicated setup with a beam going here and a beam going there, and they had to come together at exactly the right point, and one beam was going where it should and one was going up at the ceiling somewhere, but it still worked."

That was nearly three years ago. Today Cannaday and Sarah Zietlow, a physics teacher at Hagerty High School, have developed and refined this new process of detecting buried

landmines as part of the Rollins Student-Faculty Collaborative Scholarship Program, in partnership with Rollins professor Thomas Moore.

The trio had their findings published in the August edition of the Journal of the Optical Society of America.

"Essentially, the research started by just trying to find a better way for the detection of landmines because they currently don't have one out there," Zietlow said. "Currently the best way out there is some guy out in the field just prodding the ground with a stick."

The procedure they developed revolutionized this process into one using acoustic dissimilarity coupling, or simply the use of sound vibrations to vibrate a buried object, causing the substance it is buried in to move. Once the process is patented, they hope to submit their findings to the Army for use as a safer, more practical way to detect landmines and prevent landmine-related deaths.

"It's just directing a laser at the ground, expanding it so it covers the whole area you want to look at, and a camera. That's the basic set up, it doesn't get more complicated than that," Cannaday said.

The vibrations are detected by the laser and recorded by the camera. The images are then processed by a computer that distinguishes whether the

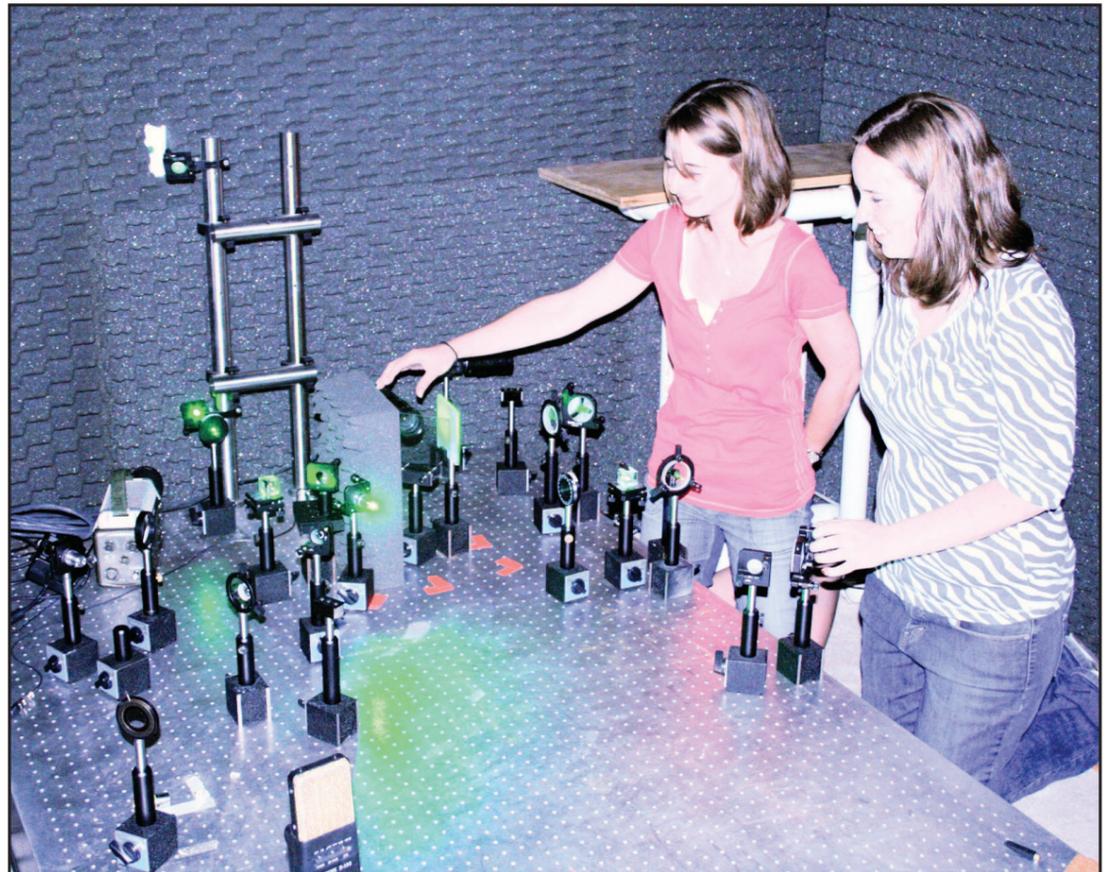


PHOTO COURTESY OF SEMINOLE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Hagerty High School physics teacher Sarah Zietlow, left, and Rollins College student Ashley Cannaday, right, say they have a 100 percent success rate for detecting dangerous landmines using laser beams.

detected vibrations are that of a land mine.

"There are just a bunch of advantages of it over what they're currently using," Cannaday said. "You don't have to be looking straight down at the object, which is good because if you don't know where it's at, you don't know if you're looking straight down at it or not. And this whole process to get a picture of where the mine is at takes a second, or

even less than a second... and we'll be able to tell you definitely there is one here, or definitely there is not."

After an intensive eight-week research period over the summer, eight hours a day, five days a week, Zietlow said the team has a 100 percent success rate of detecting the presence of a mine.

Though the method of discovering this process was accidental, the team-

ing up of Cannaday, Zietlow and Moore was one year in the making. Zietlow had Moore as a professor when she studied at Rollins, and Cannaday was a student in Zietlow's advanced placement high school physics class.

A grant by the National Science Foundation made their reunion possible. The grant allows Zietlow to work on the research at Rollins and in turn share the process and findings with her high school physics students.

"The kids really respond to stuff like this because they can actually see what they're learning in action, which is really nice," Zietlow said. "And as a teacher, the No. 1 question you get is, 'Why are we doing this? What is this good for?' So something like this is really useful to show the kids."

Though Cannaday is scheduled to graduate in the spring, the future of her laser land mine detection method has just begun. Their true success, they say, will come once the procedure can be effectively used for landmine detection in-field.

Zietlow and Moore have high hopes that the partnership connection between Zietlow's high school students and Rollins College will not end with Cannaday.

"I think after me, they've kind of developed a quota for incoming students," Cannaday joked.

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## Family Calendar

**The 12th Annual Miracles Miles** and 35th NICU Reunion and Walk-Around-Winnie, a 15K, 5K and Kids' Fun Run, will be held from 6-11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 25 at the Arnold Palmer Medical Center campus. Visit [miraclemilesrun.com](http://miraclemilesrun.com) for more information.

**The Seminole County Supervisor** of Elections will hold a political forum at Crooms Academy of Information Technology, 2200 W. 13th St., Sanford, from 6-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 28. Candidates from congressional races as well as the Sanford mayoral race will take student and resident questions. Visit [VoteSeminole.org](http://VoteSeminole.org) for more information.

**The Oviedo Rotary Club** and the Winter Springs Rotary Foundation will be holding a charity golf tournament to benefit Bikes for a Kid, a program that collects bikes and distributes them to needy families in the area. The event will take place at Two Rivers Country Club, 2100 Ekana Road, in Oviedo, beginning at 12:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 15. Tickets for single players cost \$85 and \$340 for a foursome. Tickets include lunch and an award banquet. For more information, visit [www.christmasbikeprogram.com](http://www.christmasbikeprogram.com)

**The American Red Cross Babysitter's Course** is offering classes to students ages 11-15 on the importance of leadership, infant care, accident prevention, basic CPR and first aid. Deadline for registration is one week prior to course date, or until full. A class will be taught at Riverside Park, 1600 Lockwood Blvd., from 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 18. The course costs \$45 for Oviedo city residents and \$55 for non-residents. For more information, call 407-971-5575.

**The Seminole County Gun & Archery Range** is hosting a Youth Rifle Safety Training Program on the first Sunday of each month through Dec. 5. This event is free for ages 10-17, but requires reservations. The program offers instructions on safe rifle handling and a one-on-one training and shooting exercise with a rifle instructor. Kids receive a free shirt, pin, certificate of accomplishment and bragging targets. The range is located on East Osceola Road in Geneva. For more information, call 407-327-1507.

**The Little People's Theatre Company** in Winter Springs is offering free admission to its live, interactive storybook plays to children's charities and foundations, as well as other Central Florida organizations and businesses who help young children in need. Free tickets will be provided for both children and their families who belong to qualifying groups. Current recipients include Ronald McDonald House and B.A.S.E. Camp. Inquiries about free tickets may be made at [LPT@sandique.com](mailto:LPT@sandique.com) or [www.LittlePeoplesTheatre.com](http://www.LittlePeoplesTheatre.com)

# Walk to save lives

It's not too late to sign up for American Heart Association event held Oct. 2



Walkers cross the finish line at the 2009 American Heart Association Start! Heart Walk on Princeton Street in Orlando. Walks are held all over the country to raise money for vital research. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION

**BRITNI JOHNSON**  
GUEST REPORTER

Riley Kelly was born with a hole in his heart. At just 2 days old, he had his first surgery. Three surgeries and lots of healing later, Riley lives life like any other 9-year-old.

"If you look at him, you can't tell," said Tom Kelly, Riley's dad.

The little boy now maintains an "uninterrupted" life. Kelly said he's extremely active and loves playing soccer and lacrosse. There's one thing Kelly is sure of — his son wouldn't have such a bright future if it wasn't for the American Heart

Association.

And so, as a father with a personal passion for the Heart cause, Kelly has spent the last eight years working to help the Association in what he says is the most critical way — raising funds for heart research.

Since 2002, Kelly has been a part of the AHA's Start! Heart Walk annual fundraiser. This year, Kelly is the Walk's community team leader, and he has raised \$11,500 toward the cause, but has a goal of \$15,000.

"We'll get there," said Kelly, whose team is associated with CNL Bank, where he is the senior vice president.

The Heart Walk is the AHA's signature fundraiser of the year, with more than 1 million walkers participating in more than 450 events across the country. The goal is to raise funds to combat America's No. 1 and No. 3 killers — heart disease and stroke.

This year, Loch Haven Park will be the start of the Walk at 8 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 2, where an expected 11,000 greater Orlando residents will stroll to save lives. The view is inspiring, said Sy Saliba, the vice president of marketing and planning for Florida Hospital.

"It's very satisfying ... to see thousands of people standing together for a common cause," said Saliba, also a member of the Heart Walk's executive leadership team.

Kelly walks alongside Riley, his other two sons, his wife and friends each year.

"It's very exhilarating," he said.

All the Orlando Walk's fundraising money will go to Central Florida heart education and research, Kelly said.

### Making people aware

But the event isn't just about celebrating the money raised, it's also about educating and inspiring participants about their own heart health, said James Henningsen, the interim vice president of educational programs for Seminole State College.

"This is a wonderful opportunity to educate folks across Central Florida," Henningsen said. "That's one of our critical missions."

Saliba said another goal

is to make people realize that their heart is in their hands, and the AHA can give them the tools to make the right decisions about their heart health.

"It boils down to individual responsibility," he said.

Henningsen agreed. He said he's been stirred by the cause personally because of his family history of heart disease and his own struggle with it, and made the choice to change this year. He hopes to spread the word, and has started with his Seminole State "family."

One goal of the Heart Walk is to get companies to get their employees to form Walk teams. Henningsen has done that at the college. They have 17 teams, with a total of 114 walkers, and have raised \$5,500 of their \$15,000 goal.

"It's a great team-building experience," Kelly said. "It also promotes good health, which leads to a better workplace."

All three of the men said they can't wait to see their goals — fundraising, inspiration and education — come together at the Walk.

"There's a wonderful affirming feeling that comes from doing it," Saliba said. "We've become addicted."

## Sign up!

You can still sign up to participate in this year's Heart Walk at 8 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 2 at Loch Haven Park. Visit [www.GreaterOrlandoHeartWalk.org](http://www.GreaterOrlandoHeartWalk.org) to sign up. If you can't join in the Walk, but want to help, there's also a link to donate.

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# EQUESTRIAN VOICE



## Jumping to the top

KERRI ANNE RENZULLI  
THE VOICE

Samantha Hack had never seen the dark soil of Kentucky Horse Park.

As she rode through its shadowed gate at a walking pace, white wooden fencing spread wide, ringing the grounds of the biggest equestrian coliseum in the country. She'd ridden against the best. Now she had to prove her team belonged on top.

Six years ago, Hack couldn't have dreamed of this chance. The Equestrian Club at the University of Central Florida didn't even exist. Now she was on the national stage, on the verge of winning it all.

"It was so quiet in there you could hear a pin drop," Hack said. "I could hear everything, but I just kept reminding myself, 'you're here already, you've already made it.'"

By the time she had finished traversing the course, she was among the top four in the country. At the Intercollegiate Horseshow Association national championships in May, the UCF club found its spotlight.

### A rocky start

For the last six years, what's become the best collegiate equestrian team in the state has had as much funding as the Chocolate Club.

The spoils from multiple state-level victories had been slow in coming for UCF's prolific equestrians, who had languished in the lowest tier of club

funding while competing against America's top college teams.

Once they'd left hoof prints on the national stage, the school took notice.

They rank first in the state and third in their Intercollegiate Horseshow Association region out of 13 other universities from Florida, South Carolina and Georgia. This spurred an exit from their spot among the school's more than 300 varied clubs. They are now one of the 37 sports clubs recognized by the Club Sport Council.

"We've grown up as a club, and we want people to know we're doing this well," said Coach Lesli Isaacson, who's been with the team since its inception.

Their new club standing will provide greater funding and greater recognition, both of which the equestrian club needs in its attempts to edge out its competitors.

"We're a team that's really come from the bottom," club officer Alisha Mays said. "The two schools that beat us in our region are fully funded equestrian programs. They recruit nationally; they have an equestrian major; they get everything. We don't have that."

### On a national stage

The 60-member club consists of horse enthusiasts; the Pegasus Mascot Team, which cares for Pegasus and can be seen with him at football games; and three competitive eques-



PHOTO BY ISAAC BABCOCK — THE VOICE  
UCF's equestrian club, above, competed at the national championships before finally being recognized as a sports club at the university. Now they're hoping to build on their rapid success under coach Lesli Isaacson, left.

trian teams: huntseat, dressage and western, of which huntseat is the most popular and recognized.

Last season, two members from the huntseat team of 16, Samantha Hack and Sonja Murillo, went on to nationals at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington, Ky. They both placed within the top four for their respective event.

"Nationals was intimidating," said Hack, who competed against 20 other riders in the novice equitation over fences category. "I come in on a horse I've never ridden before, feeling nervous because I'm just sitting, watching everyone else compete."

"Walking out, I was relieved it was done, but also really excited about placing."

In 2009, the club also

went to nationals, this time sending huntseat captain Mays, who placed second.

The team competes in about eight shows throughout the school year. Each member who competes is required to attend lessons once a week and usually rides three to four other days a week at stables near the UCF campus.

### Honoring their leader

Isaacson acts as the energy and support of her team, encouraging them but also being necessarily critical, often yelling "pull your reins up" or motioning for a change in position of either horse or rider.

"When I was training for nationals, [Isaacson] let me ride every day usually on multiple horses,"

Hack said.

Fellow club member Laura Roberts added: "[Isaacson] puts her heart and soul into this and really dedicates herself to the team, but she gets no recognition for it other than what's on our website."

To honor Isaacson and the team's achievement, the girls wanted to build her something special.

A shadowbox now adorns a wall in Isaacson's office. Inside, long ribbons hang by the dozens. But Isaacson is sure more will soon be added as she and the team plan to continue "kicking butt."

"We can now say, look at what we've done, look at the awards we've won," Isaacson said.

## Equestrian Calendar

**The Greater Orlando Hunter Jumper Association** will host the Barrett Farm Horse Show on Oct. 8-9. Warm-ups start at 1:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 8. The show begins at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 8 and runs until Saturday Oct. 9 at 5 p.m. at Clarcona-Ocoee Horseman's Park.

**Do you have a spooky horse?** An unpredictable horse? Come to the Ashmore Equestrian Center — a Comprehensive English Show Barn located at 7770 Stone Rd. in Apopka — from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 17. Learn how to maintain safety, building confidence and creating a strong partnership. The cost is \$75 to bring your horse and \$25 to audit (pre-registration required). Please contact BobbieMillerTraining@hotmail.com or 407-865-2713 for more information.

**Freedom Ride**, which offers horse therapy to people with special needs, will host Central Florida Dressage Fabulous Freestyle Fundraiser 2010 at 10 a.m., Sunday, Nov. 7 at the Silver Sands Arena. It will be a day of Equestrian fun in which riders perform musical freestyles. All levels are welcome! Visit freedomride.com.

**Knoll Dressage in Chuluota** offers high-quality boarding for your horse on 50 acres. They also have several trainers who are available for lessons. For more information, please contact Farm Manager Yvonne Berkhout at 407-366-5545.

To submit events for this calendar, e-mail editor@observernewspapers.com

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# Notes

**The Oviedo-Winter Springs Chamber of Commerce** has chosen Nancy Baur Dillen and Michele Tuegel to be the judges for the third annual Winter Springs Art Festival, which will be held on Oct. 16 and 17 at the Winter Springs Town Center. Both Dillen and Tuegel have been featured in exhibitions, nationally and internationally, and served as guest lecturers and jurors in the arts arena. Dillen is a retired art professor of Brevard Community College, while Tuegel was the founding executive director of Florida Craftsmen from

1996-2004, which promotes the work of artists of all levels. This free two-day event celebrates fine art with music, food and beverages. For more information, visit [www.wsfota.org](http://www.wsfota.org) or call 407-278-4871.

**On Tuesday Sept. 14**, school board attorney Ned Julian was presented the C. Graham Carothers Award of Excellence, which is given annually to honor a Florida school board attorney who has demonstrated excellence in the profession.

**The Seminole County Public Schools Class of 2010** graduating seniors posted an average score of 1552 on the SAT Reasoning test, an increase of 19 points from last year. A student's readiness for college is assessed using an 800-point scale in three sections: mathematics, critical reading and writing. Statewide, total average scores dropped by 2 points and remained flat at the national level.

**Resilience Counseling Center** is offering free depression screenings.

No appointment is necessary during the hours of 9 a.m. and noon on Monday and Tuesday mornings. For other times, call the office and set-up an appointment. The Center is located at 1759 W. Broadway St., in Oviedo. Call 407-977-4335 or visit [www.resiliencecc.com](http://www.resiliencecc.com) for more information.

**Construction of the new 53,351-square-foot aircraft maintenance facility** for Avocet Capital is on schedule at Orlando Sanford International Airport. Diane

Crews, vice president of administration at Orlando Sanford International Airport, said block work is done and the steel framing for the hangar is 75 percent complete. When it opens in January, the \$5 million Avocet facility will include 44,000 square feet of hangar space with 4,000 square feet of maintenance shop and 5,351 square feet of administrative office space.

# Calendar

**Five venues in Historic Downtown Sanford** will participate in the Sanford Art Walk from 6-9 p.m. Friday, Sept. 24. Sharon Rae Hyder and Lori Anne Harris will hold an opening reception for their show "Mad About Art" at Gallery on First. Visit [www.galleryonfirst.com](http://www.galleryonfirst.com).

**The Fine Arts Theatre at Seminole State College** opens its 2010-11 season with "Dead Man's Cell Phone" in the Sanford/Lake Mary Campus Theatre, starting at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 24-Oct. 3. Tickets are \$10, \$8 for seniors and students. Call 407-708-2040 for more details.

**In honor of Smithsonian Day, The Rural Heritage Center**, 1st and Main Street in Geneva, will hold a free

artisan's display from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 25. To display your talent or for more information, visit [www.genevaschoolhouse.org](http://www.genevaschoolhouse.org).

**Christians in Public Education** will hold their Ninth Annual Back to School Prayer Breakfast from 9-11 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 25 at the Orlando Marriott in Lake Mary. Tickets cost \$20 and can be purchased at [www.christiansinpubliceducation.org](http://www.christiansinpubliceducation.org).

**On Sept. 25, Seminole County police departments** will be participating in a prescription turn-in program developed by the Drug Enforcement Administration. From 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. anyone can bring in expired or unused prescriptions to any police department lobby and safely dispose

of them.

**The Planetarium at Seminole State College** of Florida will present, "Terra", which takes visitors back to the Earth's beginnings, from 8:30-9:30 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 25. For more information or a schedule of events, visit [www.seminolestate.edu/planet](http://www.seminolestate.edu/planet).

**The Double R Private School**, 725 Country School Road, in Chuluota will be holding classes aimed at reviving the Constitution beginning on Sept. 28. For more information, call 407-349-5346.

**Both sides of the Fair Districts debate** will be presented at a free Seminole County League of Women

Voters forum at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 30, at the Seminole State College Heathrow Campus, 1055 AAA Drive. Call 407-339-9266.

**The Small Business Services Department** at Seminole State College of Florida is sponsoring "New Horizons: Entrepreneurship for the Boomer Generation," a six-week program designed for individuals interested in starting their own business. It will be held from 7-9 p.m. on Thursdays, Sept. 30-Nov. 4 at First Baptist Church Orlando Counseling Center, 3125 Bruton Blvd. The cost is \$99 or \$75 for First Baptist members. Call 407-321-3495.

**The First United Methodist Church of Oviedo**, 263 King St., will host its

Harvest Jamboree Whale of a Sale from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 1-2. The event will feature a BBQ lunch, health fair, silent auction and bake-off. Call 407-365-3255.

**Jewish Pavilion's "A Walk in the Park"** will be held on Sunday, Oct. 3 at Crane's Roost Park in Altamonte Springs. For more information or to register to walk, visit [www.jewishpavilion.org](http://www.jewishpavilion.org).

**The German-American Society of Central Florida** will be hosting their own Oktoberfest with live bands, dance performances and German cuisine from 2 p.m. until midnight Saturday, Oct. 9 at 381 Orange Lane in Casselberry. For more information, call 407-834-0574.

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Friday, October 29th – 6pm-10 pm – Haunted House Only  
 Saturday, October 30th – 5pm-10 pm – Carnival of Screams & Haunted House  
**Riverside Park - 1600 Lockwood Blvd.**



**Get your tickets early!**

Before Oct. 29th: \$3 for one night or \$5 for both\*  
\*Must bring one non-perishable food item for each pre-sale ticket purchase

Day of the event: \$5 with a non-perishable food item or \$7 without

**Purchase tickets at the Gym & Aquatic Center or Riverside Park**

All food items will benefit the Hope Foundation Food Bank, right here in Oviedo.



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# VOICES



## THIS WEEK in political history

Oct. 3, 1863 —

President Abraham Lincoln proclaims the official Thanksgiving holiday, stating that the fourth Thursday in November would be celebrated as Thanksgiving. (It was celebrated on Nov. 26, 1863 that year.)

# Is your Facebook secure?

## EMPLOYMENT Ask Sandi



We often talk about social media as a great way to connect, research, and find out about jobs. Like the application process, there

are important things to keep in mind as far as your image in the community and your security. No matter how many privacy settings you have, if you put it on the Internet, someone can see it. Make sure that if you wouldn't want your future employer to see it you don't put it up there. I had a friend who ranted and raved about how awful her boss was on Facebook. When she went to look for a job interview, she

sailed through until her prospective employer Googled her and saw her Facebook posts, which were connected to Twitter. Pictures at parties and other things you don't want seen are another issue. Make sure your friends do not tag you in anything that might embarrass you. Also, just for security purposes, don't advertise when you will be away, the big check you just got or high-priced item you bought, and

keep your security features at their maximum levels.

## TALK TO SANDI

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

## Letter to the Editor

### Lower your operating costs with energy efficiency help from FPL

With many industries nationwide still reeling from the economic recession, local businesses should examine all ways to reduce overhead without sacrificing from core business operations. Energy costs can be a significant portion of a business' operating costs, yet many companies mistakenly treat it as a fixed expense. You do have some control over your energy use and can take some simple steps to create a positive impact on your bottom line.

Florida Power & Light offers a quick, easy and no-cost way to reduce energy bills through the Business Energy Evaluation, a program that helps business customers better understand their electricity usage and identify potential ways to save through energy efficiency.

Through FPL's in-person evaluation, an FPL Energy Expert will thoroughly examine your facility's energy consumption and

provide you with a personalized energy-efficiency analysis to help you understand where your energy dollars go and how your energy usage compares to similar businesses.

The FPL Energy Expert will also provide energy-efficiency solutions — some that may be implemented immediately and others that may require some longer-term planning.

You'll get a list of low-cost measures that will help you save energy and money. These may include installing a programmable thermostat that automates temperature settings to maximize efficiency according to your hours of operation or occupancy sensors that automatically turn off lighting in areas with transient use.

If equipment upgrades are recommended, you'll also get information about potential FPL rebates to help offset the cost of these investments. FPL's energy-efficiency incentives can often be the deciding factor when determining if new equipment is the right decision for a business.

Some small businesses opt to take the Business Energy Evaluation online instead. Available 24/7 at [www.FPL.com](http://www.FPL.com), the OBEE is ideal for busy business owners who'd rather do the assessment at their own convenience, day or night.

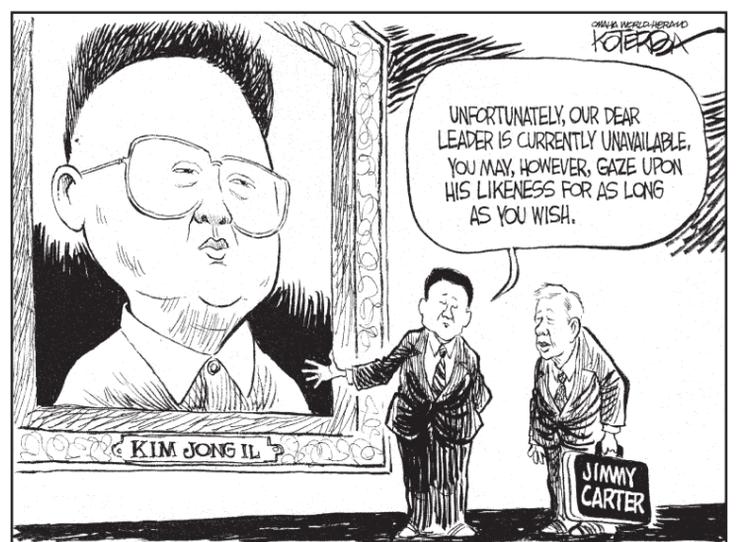
The best part is — there is absolutely no cost for either of these services.

Using less energy lowers carbon emissions and helps the planet. "Green" companies also have a competitive advantage in today's marketplace because being environmentally friendly improves your company's image and opens the door to new business and promotional opportunities.

A good energy plan is good business, whether your company is large or small. To register for a Business Energy Evaluation or for additional information about FPL tips, programs and incentives to help your business save money, visit [www.FPL.com/BEE](http://www.FPL.com/BEE) or call 877-748-4BEE.

—Larry Volenec, external affairs manager for Florida Power & Light in Seminole County

## Editorial Cartoons



**Young Voices** Students from Double R Private School in Chuluota were asked, what state, other than Florida, would you like to live in?



I'd like to live in Las Vegas, Nevada because it is like a big, dream place with lots of lights. It is in the desert and extremely hot. I think I'd like to live there, because I like to take risks.

—Patrick S. 11 years old



I'd like to live in Maryland because I was born there and I have a lot of family there. I like seeing my grandparents who live in Baltimore. It is cold there and I can play with snowballs and play hockey.

—Tristan D. 11 years old



I would like to live in Alaska because I have never seen snow. I'd like to see sled dogs and polar bears. It would take at least 10 hours to get there by plane.

—Ethan S. 10 years old



I'd like to live in South Dakota where my grandma and some of my family live. Mount Rushmore is there, and you can go horseback riding and see the mountains. You can also go hunting.

—Hunter A. 9 years old



I would like to live in New Hampshire because I was born there. I would like to see the hospital where I was born. I might even see my birth family up there.

—Sarah L. 11 years old



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

Call 407-563-7026 or e-mail [editor@observernewspapers.com](mailto:editor@observernewspapers.com) to have The Voice visit your class or group.

# The Marketplace

### lost & found

**Found small grey dog in Avalon**  
Female with blue collar - off Tanja King/  
Guiana Plum

Mollie  
407-277-6796  
mollie\_deason@yahoo.com

### merchandise

**Living room set for sale**  
Sofa, loveseat, coffee and 2 end tables and  
2 lamps. Exc. cond. \$450.  
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### professional services

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Plans Available. Chapters 7 & 13. Law  
offices of Adams & James, P.L., 415 S.  
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### real estate for rent

**Alafaya Woods, Oviedo**  
3 bedroom, 2 bath home. Includes fenced  
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on the water with afternoon breeze blowing  
into a very large screened porch. Lots of  
trees with a 2 car garage, new roof and  
new paint inside and outside. This house  
needs nothing to be done. 3 bedroom, 2  
bath, seller will pay closing cost. It's in the  
nice town of Cocoa, Florida. \$345,000.  
Have a nice life.

John  
256.829.0676

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**Alafaya Woods, Oviedo**  
3 bedroom, 2 bath home. Includes fenced  
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### Voice Open Houses



### Fannie Hillman

**Saturday, September 25, 1-4 p.m.**  
NEW LISTING IN ARBOR POINTE  
2931 Moorcroft Court, Orlando. 4BD/2BA,  
1,902SF. Extra large patio, half screened  
with the other half perfectly suited for those  
afternoon & evening BBQ's. Great family  
home in quiet neighborhood, Winter Park  
schools. Not a short sale.  
\$235,000

**Saturday, September 25, 1-4 p.m.**  
NEW BALDWIN PARK LISTING  
4357 Virginia Drive, Orlando. 3BD/3.5BA,  
3,819SF. Craftsman style, Energy Star  
home. Hardwood floors, double pane  
windows, dehumidification system, GE  
Profile appliances, downstairs master, all  
bedrooms have their own bath, front porch  
overlooks park. \$629,000

### Voice Open Houses



### Kelly Price & Company

**Sunday, September 26, 2-5 p.m.**  
447 North Phelps Avenue, Winter Park  
\$199,000  
Hosted by Catherine D'Amico

### Voice Just Sold Homes



### Fannie Hillman

**1100 West Yates Street, Orlando**  
Nancy Bagby  
\$531,996

### Kelly Price & Company

**1315 Bellaria Circle, Windermere**  
Kelly Price  
\$105,000

### workforce job listings

#### Seminole County

Log on to [WorkforceCentralFlorida.com](http://WorkforceCentralFlorida.com)  
where you can enter the Job Title in the  
"Search For Jobs" box to see more infor-  
mation on these jobs and search thousands  
of additional openings throughout Central  
Florida, at NO COST. Apply by following the  
directions listed. For further help visit the  
WORKFORCE CENTRAL FLORIDA - JobVan-  
tage Office at 2884 South Orlando Drive or  
call (407) 531-1231.

**Groundperson**  
Job Description: Responsible for assisting  
in performing work involved with the  
installation, rearrangement, maintenance,  
operation, removal and inspection of elec-  
trical distribution/transmission facilities and  
driving/operating line trucks and associated  
auxiliary equipment. Work days and hours  
may vary.  
Pay Rate: \$15.42-\$17.33 per hour  
Job Order Number: 9513151

**Assembler**  
Job Description: Responsible for assem-  
bling finished product using components,  
sub-assemblies, parts, and hand tools and  
packing products in designated cartons  
according to specifications and company  
policies. Work days and hours may vary.  
Pay Rate: \$8.50-\$9.50 per hour  
Job Order Number: 9514102

**Service Technician**  
Job Description: Responsible for manag-  
ing and overseeing all facets of heating,  
ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC)  
mechanical installation process. Work days  
and hours may vary.  
Pay Rate: Salary based upon experience  
Job Order Number: 9499470

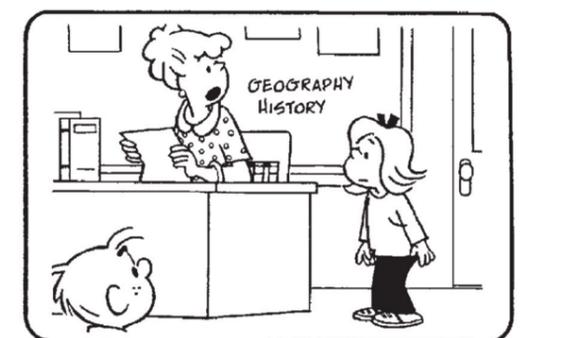


# Fun & Games

### HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Blackboard writing is inverted. 2. Teachers' dress is not dotted. 3. Doorknob is missing. 4. Shoes are half black. 5. Books are missing. 6. Earning is black.

### Answers



King Crossword  
Weekly SUDOKU

### King Crossword

**ACROSS**

1 Kane's Rosebud, e.g.  
5 Decline  
8 Kelly or Krupa  
12 Newsweek rival  
13 Noon, in a sense  
14 Yoked team  
15 "Yeah, right!"  
16 Army rank (Abbr.)  
17 Raced  
18 Fancy cake  
20 "Star Wars" weapons  
22 Pompous one  
23 Up to  
24 Help in wrongdoing  
27 Model  
32 Curse  
33 Tex- restaurant  
34 Tokyo's old name

35 Champion of a cause  
38 Vortex  
39 Falsehood  
40 River to the North Sea  
42 Tristan's love  
45 Bad news from the factory  
49 MacDonald's place  
50 Muumuu accessory  
52 Buckeyes' home  
53 Gratis  
54 Past  
55 Cavort  
56 Knitting need  
57 Neither partner  
58 Category

**DOWN**

1 Unpartnered  
2 Bart's sister  
3 Send forth  
4 Vanquish  
5 "Oops"

6 Story of a lifetime?  
7 Check  
8 Tabloid topic  
9 Made to leave  
10 --do-well  
11 Remnants  
19 Symbol for arsenic  
21 \$ dispenser  
24 Mimic  
25 Carton  
26 Lewis or Clark  
28 Foreign (Prefix)  
29 Outside  
30 Tack on  
31 Trigger's rider  
36 Rockefeller et al.  
37 Actor Beatty  
38 Go with  
41 North-eastern-most st.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14		
15				16				17		
18			19			20	21			
		22					23			
24	25	26		27	28	29			30	31
32				33					34	
35			36	37				38		
		39				40	41			
42	43			44		45		46	47	48
49				50	51			52		
53				54				55		
56				57				58		

42 Questionable  
43 Poet Teasdale  
44 Verve  
46 "Hey, sailor!"  
47 Flaccid  
48 Run easily  
51 Id counter-part

### Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

Sep. 25, 1789 —

Sept. 25, 1789 — The Brooklyn Dodgers finally beat the New York Yankees in the World Series. The Dodgers had lost to the Yankees five times previously (the 1941, 1947, 1949, 1952 and 1953 World Series).

## Knights rally past Bulls

A slow start by the offense led to a tight game, but UCF came up with 14 points in the final quarter



**ISAAC BABCOCK**  
THE VOICE

The spotlight fell on quarterback Jeff Godfrey last Saturday against Buffalo, and the freshman delivered a performance that solidified his place as the Knights' new starter.

Godfrey led the Knights (2-1) in their second straight fourth-quarter comeback, this time coming out on top 24-10 over the Bulls in Buffalo.

Godfrey got his first start of his college career Saturday, taking the first snap with the vigor he'd shown in his relief effort against N.C. State the week before.

Massive defensive plays by the Knights forced the ball back into UCF's hands after the first drive of the game, and Godfrey took

command, launching into a tirade of air and ground attacks that brought the Knights 54 yards over the course of seven minutes.

That drive would finally stall inside of field goal range, with Nick Cattoi kicking the Knights' first score through the uprights.

The Bulls would answer with a field goal of their own early in the second quarter, and a UCF drive fizzled.

That's when UCF's defense stepped up to get the ball back. Bruce Miller, the Knight's 248-pound defensive end, snatched an interception and ran back 30 yards for a touchdown. Defensive back Reggie Weams would also come up with an interception in the game, returning seven

yards.

After the half, the Bulls came back again, marching 80 yards down the field to tie the game.

That's when Godfrey and running back Ronnie Weaver went into overdrive, going on two long drives that ended with Weaver runs into the end zone.

Godfrey would net 130 yards in the air and 44 on the ground. Weaver led the team with 49 rushing yards.

At 12:30 p.m. Saturday, the Knights will face Kansas State in Manhattan, Kan. The Wildcats (3-0) have had a strong season so far, decimating UCLA, Missouri State and Iowa State to start the season, winning by a combined total of 106-66.

PHOTO BY ISAAC BABCOCK — THE VOICE  
Freshman quarterback Jeff Godfrey proved he can win with a late rally to bring the Knights two scores and beat the Buffalo Bulls. He'll start against Kansas on Saturday.

## Hagerty falls

Driskel's passing magic not enough to beat Seminole

**ISAAC BABCOCK**  
THE VOICE

After trouncing Lyman the week before, Hagerty felt the pain of defeat against a tough Seminole team that wouldn't stop scoring.

The Huskies fell 28-14 after watching a highlight-reel performance from running back Ron Moore.

And yet again Hagerty quarterback Jeff Driskel watched in frustration as laser-accurate passes slipped through the hands of his receivers, killing any chance of a comeback.

Now the team, which only won two games all of last season must deal with an unusual feeling — the end of an undefeated season.

The Huskies are now 2-1

after the loss, but there's a light at the end of that tunnel. At 7:30 p.m. Friday they'll travel to face Lake Howell (0-3). In only three games, the Silver Hawks have been blown out by a combined score of 131-21. Against Lake Brantley last week, the Hawks allowed five sacks and two turnovers.

### Oviedo

The Lions emerged victorious in a tight battle against Lake Mary, edging the Rams 21-17. The win marked the third game this season for the Lions that was decided by a touchdown or less.

Now the Lions (2-1) will look for their first winning streak of the year against Timber Creek. The Wolves

are coming off a 34-7 massacre at the hands of Wekiwa, thanks to three key interceptions and a safety. The Lions will host the Wolves (1-3), kicking off at 7:30 p.m. Friday.

### Winter Springs

The Bears have their first victory of the season after decimating Lyman 49-28.

The Bears (1-2) had only managed one score in their first two games, but exploded against the Greyhounds, finding the end zone seven times. Their defense faltered though, giving up four touchdowns.

This week the Bears host an Evans team that's 1-1 after a big 46-14 loss to Oak Ridge. They'll kick off at 7:30 p.m. Friday.

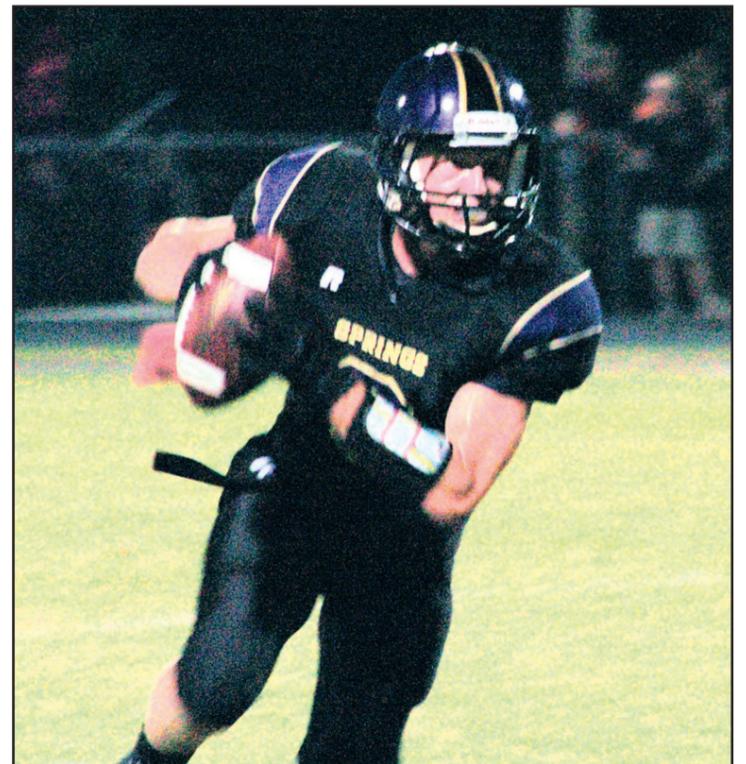


PHOTO BY ISAAC BABCOCK — THE VOICE  
After a rocky start to the season, Winter Springs picked up its first win against Lyman Sept. 17. They'll face an inconsistent Evans team at 7:30 Friday night.

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## Homeownership and stable communities go hand-in-hand

Homeowners are more active in their communities, benefit from improved education opportunities and report higher levels of self-esteem and happiness when compared to renters, according to the new report Social Benefits of Homeownership and Stable Housing.

The study, from the National Association of Realtors, examines leading research from government, industry and academia to explore the impact of sta-

ble housing and the positive social outcomes resulting from homeownership. It finds that homeowners move far less frequently than renters, and therefore are embedded into the same neighborhood and community for longer. This allows for social cohesion, ultimately resulting in social benefits and stronger communities.

Several research studies cited in the NAR report have found that homeownership has a significant impact on

educational achievement. For instance, the decision by teenage students to stay in school is higher for those raised by parents who are homeowners compared to those whose parents are renters. Access to economic and educational opportunities are also more prevalent in neighborhoods with high rates of homeownership. Furthermore, studies have shown that changing schools frequently due to moving impacts negatively a child's educational out-

come.

Civic participation is another social benefit resulting from homeownership and stable housing. Homeowners are proven to be more politically active and are more likely to vote in local elections compared to renters. In addition, homeowners have a higher membership in voluntary organizations.

Studies have shown that homeowners are more likely to believe that they can do things as well as anyone

else, and they self-report higher ratings on their physical health.

When it comes to property, homeowners have more invested both financially and emotionally. Property crimes affect homeowners directly, but non-violent property crimes can impact the property values of the entire neighborhood. Therefore, homeowners are more motivated to deter crime by forming and implementing voluntary crime prevention programs. In addition, it is easier for homeowners to recognize perpetrators in stable neighborhoods because of extensive social ties. Unstable neighborhoods often display social disorganization, which can lead to higher levels of crime.

Along with protecting their home and neighborhood from crime, homeowners spend more time and money maintaining their home than renters. Neighbors also influence other homeowners to improve their property, resulting in a better overall quality of the community.

"Homeownership certainly contributes to positive social outcomes, but those outcomes are truly a result of stable housing communities," says Orlando Regional Realtor Association Chairwoman of the Board Kathleen Gallagher McIver, of RE/MAX Town & Country Realty. "With strong social ties and a cohesive community, homeowners can enjoy not only the long-term financial benefit of owning a home, but also a more satisfying life — which is what's really at the heart of the American Dream."

—Courtesy of Orlando Regional Realtor Association

Zip Code	Sales	Avg List \$	Average	Median	Days on Mkt	Days to Close
<b>32708</b>						
Overall	36	\$210,538	\$200,511	\$170,500	115	39
<b>Single Family</b>						
Overall	28	\$239,934	\$228,316	\$237,500	130	31
Bank Owned	8	\$124,181	\$120,606	\$92,813	90	22
Short Sales	4	\$129,475	\$124,125	\$96,500	352	49
Normal	16	\$325,425	\$308,219	\$291,000	94	31
<b>Multi Family</b>						
Overall	8	\$107,652	\$103,191	\$94,500	66	64
Bank Owned	5	\$90,140	\$84,900	\$87,000	75	29
Short Sales	1	\$99,999	\$100,000	\$100,000	8	137
Normal	2	\$155,258	\$150,515	\$150,515	73	115
<b>Zip Code</b>						
<b>32765</b>						
Overall	63	\$178,202	\$170,108	\$149,900	72	44
<b>Single Family</b>						
Overall	44	\$224,779	\$214,654	\$214,000	69	45
Bank Owned	15	\$143,227	\$139,200	\$131,000	50	39
Short Sales	5	\$237,580	\$237,200	\$255,000	41	109
Normal	24	\$273,082	\$257,116	\$259,500	87	35
<b>Multi Family</b>						
Overall	19	\$70,338	\$66,947	\$48,000	78	43
Bank Owned	13	\$49,654	\$47,923	\$43,000	20	37
Short Sales	2	\$86,250	\$81,750	\$81,750	371	19
Normal	4	\$129,608	\$121,375	\$115,250	119	73

# Cinema

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

**Coming Oct. 8**



Photo courtesy Warner Bros. Pictures

'Life As We Know It'

**Coming Oct. 15**



Photo courtesy Fox Searchlight Pictures

'Conviction'

**Coming Oct. 22**



Photo courtesy Warner Bros. Pictures

'Hereafter'

**Also opening: 'You Again' (PG)**



Photo courtesy Touchstone Pictures

Back home for her brother's wedding, Marni comes face-to-face with her old high school nemesis. Joanna is actually the bride-to-be and she does not remember the rivalry. When Joanna's aunt flies in, Marni's mom is faced with her own rival.

## 'Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps' — Opens Friday

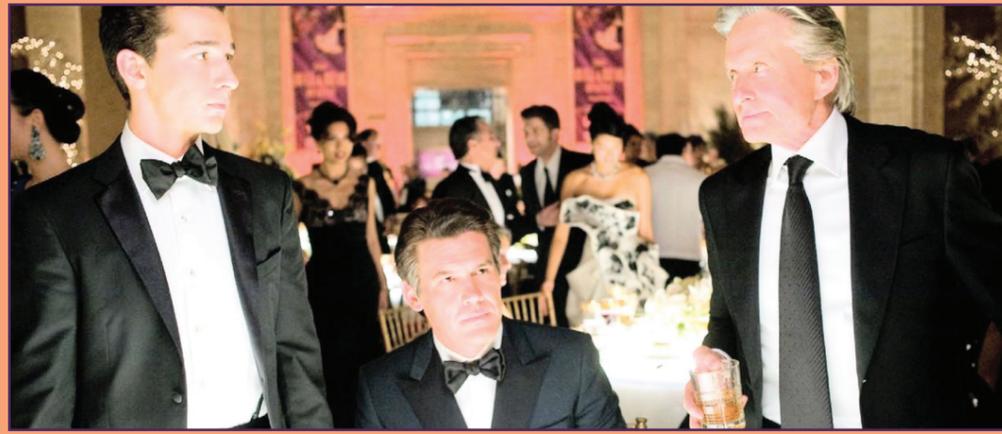


Photo courtesy 20th Century Fox

Twenty-three years after the original, this sequel surrounds Gordon Gekko, a Wall Street trader who has just recently been released from jail. Jake Moore is a young trader who seeks out Gekko's help.

PG-13 - 2 hours 13 minutes

**Coming next week**



Photo courtesy Overture Films

'Let Me In' (R)

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