Meet a mini Michael Jackson
Caleb Brewer slides, shuffles and moonwalks as a young King of Pop impersonator. SEE PAGE 7.

‘SHEAR’ HISTORY
Ocoee’s longtime barber says he’s not ready to lay down his clippers.
SEE PAGE 3.

Winter Garden resident creates nonprofit to help kids with special needs
Building Pathways, a new nonprofit in Winter Garden, caters to the needs of individuals with developmental disorders with the goal of teaching independence.

Winter Garden gets BurgerFi
The gourmet burger chain will open its Winter Garden location on July 16.

VILLAFANE COMPLETES BASIC TRAINING
U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class Christopher F. Villafane graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas. The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Amy Quesinberry
Larry Herrington engages all of his clients, including Jim Sills, seated, in conversation while he cuts their hair. The barbershop wall is a collection of first-time haircut photos and knick-knacks his customers have brought him through the years.

Patty Myers is the founder and director of Building Pathways. “A lot of these children have a great skillset, but it’s the social part that’s hard for them,” Myers said. “So that’s where I come in – I help them with the social etiquette required for that job.”
YOUR CALENDAR

THURSDAY, JULY 12
SUMMER MOVIE SERIES: “ON THE TOWN” 7:30 p.m. Thursday, July 12, at the Garden Theatre, 160 W. Plant St., Winter Garden. Enjoy a summer tradition with classic favorites. Tickets are $8. Gar- dentheatre.org/movies.

BEGINNING DNA FOR GENEALOGISTS 11 a.m. Thursday, July 12, at the West Oaks Library, 1821 E. Silver Star Road, Ocoee. Learn the basics of genetic geneal- ogy and how DNA testing can supplement your traditional genealogical research. Explore the different types of tests and determine how to target your testing to discover your desired connections. Learn to find DNA projects that relate to your research. (407) 835-7323.

FRIDAY, JULY 13
COOKIES & MILK WITH A COP 10:30 a.m. Friday, July 13, at the West Oaks Library, 1821 E. Silver Star Branch, 1821 E. Silver Star Road, Ocoee. Children can meet local police officers and enjoy a story, cookies and milk. This series is a great chance to interact with officers in a fun and informative environment. Sponsored by the Ocoee Police Department. (407) 835-7323.

SATURDAY, JULY 14
ICE CREAM SODA AND MACRAME Noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, July 14, at West Orange Creamery and Soda Fountain, 1575 Magu- ire Road, Suite 101, Ocoee. Make your own macramé plant hanger and enjoy an old-fashioned ice-cream soda. Tickets are $40 and include all the materials needed for the project, a take- home knot guide, a potted plant and a sweet treat. For tickets, eventbrite.com/e/ice-cream-soda-and-macrame-tickets-47578997797aff=efbeventix.

SUNDAY, JULY 15
SUMMER MOVIE SERIES: “FROM HERE TO ETERNITY” 7:30 p.m. Sunday, July 15, at the Garden Theatre, 160 W. Plant St., Winter Garden. Enjoy a summer tradition with classic favorites. Tickets are $8. Gar- dentheatre.org/movies.

TUESDAY, JULY 17
COOKIES & MILK WITH A COP 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, July 17, at the West Oaks Library, 1821 E. Silver Star Road, Ocoee. West Oaks Branch, 1821 E. Silver Star Road, Ocoee. Children can meet local police officers and enjoy a story, cookies and milk. This series is a great chance to interact with officers in a fun and informative environment. Sponsored by the Ocoee Police Department. (407) 835-7323.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18

THURSDAY, JULY 19
50+ DAY TRIP: PAINT PARTY 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Thursday, July 19, at SoBo art gallery, 127 S. Boyd St., Winter Garden. Create an original painting and have fun doing it. No talent? No experience? No problem. Paint parties are facilitated by a SoBo artists. Take your creative spirit and your own adult refresh- ments. Take home your original painting and maybe some new friends. Gallery provides all materials. Take your own beverage and a snack to share. No transportation is provided for this activity. Cost is $30 for city residents, $32 for others. (407) 656-4111.


LYRICAL FUN AND MUSIC TRIVIA 6:30 p.m. Thursday, July 19, at the Winter Garden Library, 805 E. Plant St. This poetry-free session offers the deconstruct- ing of famous song lyrics and stating the thought in language everyone can understand – or not. You’ll also have a chance to show your music trivia skills. (407) 835-7323.

SATURDAY, JULY 21

SUNDAY, JULY 22

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Choose advanced joint replacement.

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Tired of suffering from joint pain? Mako™ minimally invasive surgery for hip and knee replacement offers important advantages over traditional surgery:

■ More accurate implant positioning, resulting in a more natural-feeling joint following surgery.

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For more information, or to schedule a consultation, call 321.843.2001 or visit OrlandoHealth.com/Mako.
When children walk into Larry’s Barber Shop for their first haircut, three things are guaranteed: They get their picture taken and can have it permanently taped onto the red-brick wall, receive an official “Graduation to Manhood” certificate from Larry himself, and they get the cut on the house.

This is the way it has been for five decades – ever since Larry Herrington started working at the barber shop in the Ocoee Shopping Center, where Silver Star and Ocoee Apopka roads meet. The shopping center is one of the city’s oldest, and tucked somewhere near the middle of the non-descript storefront where Herrington has spent his days since graduating from barber college in 1968.

He initially worked at the shop, renting a barber’s chair from the owner, Willy Williams. When Williams retired about five years later, Herrington bought the establishment from him, remodeled it, and has operated it ever since. Ocoee certainly was a smaller city 50 years ago, with a population of roughly 2,000.

“When I came here in 1968, a kid could walk by and I’d know who he was,” Herrington said. “A dog could walk by and I could tell you whose dog it was.”

“When I came in here, Ocoee had four policemen (and) a volunteer fire department,” he said. “I used to know everybody, and now I don’t.”

Besides Herrington’s shop, the shopping strip boasted a Bonmart grocery store, Pounds Pharmacy, several clothing businesses, a jeweler, restaurant, laundromat and hardware store.

“He and the laundromat are the only survivors,” the barber said. “I’ve seen this strip build up, and I’ve seen it go down. And I’ve seen it build up again.”

When Herrington got his start in the business, he said, costs were minimal: “A dollar and a quarter for a regular haircut and a dollar and a half for a flat top. And if you couldn’t cut a flat top at that time, you were out of business. I’ve seen (hairstyles) go from flat tops, to hair over the ears, to flat top ponytails. And now it’s back to regular haircuts and flat-tops.”

Those remain his specialty, and he said he has no desire to learn the different trending hairstyles. “I don’t need to keep up with that anymore,” he said.

Herrington is 75 and can’t stand it anymore, “he said. “If you love what you’re doing, you’ll never work a day in your life,” Herrington said. “And that’s how it is with this shop.”

Larry’s Barber Shop is an iconic institution in Ocoee, where locals can go for a shave and a cut and a conversation about “the good ol’ days.”

AMY QUESINBERRY
COMMUNITY EDITOR

West Orange Times & Observer
Thursday, July 12, 2018

Making a living for 50 years as a barber

Larry Herrington is the oldest of seven children, was 11 when his family moved to Winter Garden from Alabama. After attending Lakewew High School, he joined the military like his father and four of his brothers.

Two years later, in 1967, he returned to Florida and attended a barber college in Orlando under the G.I. Bill. The owner was Jack Carter Sr., whose son, Jack Jr., currently operates a barber shop in Winter Garden.

He completed his schooling in nine months and began what would become his lifelong career at the Ocoee barber shop.

Cutting for generations

There are families who wouldn’t go anywhere else for their haircuts, some for four and five generations, including the family of Ocoee resident R.V. Henry.

“A ... girl called me from New York and said, ‘Larry this is so-and-so, and we have a set of twin boys, and we want to come in June and have you cut their hair.’ That makes six generations (on their father’s side), four on her side.”

One of his first customers, he said, was Lowell Boggs, who was a teacher. He still is cutting Boggs’ hair 50 years later.

He could be considered the Ocoee politicians’ barber, as he has used his clippers on former mayors Lester Dabbs and Scott Vandergrift and current Mayor Rusty Johnson.

“It’s always been like a family,” Herrington said. “First thing I ask new customers, ‘Where are you from? How many kids do you have? What kind of job do you do?’ And then we go from there. That’s how I treat these people – like family.”

No one makes an appointment; they simply show up. As Herrington cuts, the barber and his customers talk shop, and the conversation, more times than not, gravitates toward local history.

“We talk about the old times and what it looked like then,” he said. “Mr. (Hartley) Kinnison once said, ‘I used to sit outside my place at night, when everything was flat from here to Winter Garden, and I used to stay open until I saw the last light go out in Winter Garden because they might buy 15 cents worth of gas.’”

The east wall of the barber shop is a testament to Herrington’s popularity. Taped to the red-brick wall are probably 100 faded Polaroid photographs of first haircuts. Many of the young clients, such as Wilson Swepoe and the Sanders triplets, are teenagers and young men today.

When Polaroid cameras gave way to digital cameras and smart phones, many mothers printed their own photos and brought them back for Herrington’s wall of fame.

Framing the pictures are mounted fish, an old equestrian statue, and a clock and mounted fish. One of the children in these faded Polaroid photographs has little sisters of fame.

“It’s always been like a family,” Herrington said. “First thing I ask new customers, ‘Where are you from? How many kids do you have? What kind of job do you do?’ And then we go from there. That’s how I treat these people – like family.”

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“I have a place to come to and a place to talk,” he said. “I have guys who come in for a few minutes and talk, I have guys come in and play some music for a little bit. It’s changed because ... we used to sit around and talk about fishing and hunting and girls and now we talk about surgeries and doctor’s appointments.”

Several guitars sit in the back room, ready to be strummed at a moment’s notice when a friend walks through the door and wants to play a few tunes.

“If you love what you’re doing, you’ll never work a day in your life,” Herrington said. “And that’s how it is with this shop.”

July 13, the barber opened his doors that morning and started cutting hair. A little later, he noticed that many of those same customers were returning, as were dozens of other clients and their families.

Herrington said he was overwhelmed by the turnout, which included his pastor, Jeff Prichard, as well as Ocoee Commissioner Rosemary Wilson and Mayor Johnson, who presented a proclamation.

“It’s been a great 50 years,” Herrington said. “And I’ve enjoyed every minute of it. I just love people.”

After standing behind a barber chair for so long, many people would be discussing retirement. But not Herrington. Not yet.

“When I walk in here and it’s not fun anymore, then it’s time to go home,” he said.

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Growing together Pediatrics
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Fostering social skills

FROM PATHWAYS PAGE 1

but he has three years left at high school. And right now, he’s not able to drive, but we’re working on it. So that concern kind of spread to other kids, too, who I know are in the same boat. The funding generally stops once they pass 22, and there’s not much help out there, after that.

“Few programs say, ‘Oh, let me take you in and help you with these skills,’” she said. “So this kind of program was so needed.” Especially out west here.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention findings from 2009 to 2008, about one in 9 children are diagnosed with autism and one in six U.S. children had a developmentally

disability. The thought of what happens to all those children after they graduate from high school and leave home is what motivated Myers to create Building Pathways.

“Kids with disabilities can go on to college until they’re 22,” she said. “A lot of parents have them go until they’re 22 because they don’t have another option. So programs like mine could be another option. They could leave school and then do this instead. And this could be that transitional stage for them that really helps them if they ever need to live on their own.”

“My goal: having them live on their own and get a great job,” Myers said. “There are a lot of opportunities for them, but it’s given to kids with disabilities. And if a kid likes to bag, and that’s his thing, I’m all about it. But I want to find them jobs that they will be happy with and make a living.

To help prepare for a job and future independence, Myers runs both a summer camp and day program alongside her asst

ant director, Jennifer Pinckney. The programs move toward teaching the participants the etiquette and skills they might need in a day or social setting.

“That’s our whole goal here,” Myers said.

SUMMER CAMP

Building Pathways operates a summer camp from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday from July 3 to 27. The summer camp, which is for children 12 and older, costs around $700 for all three weeks.

It focuses on teaching life and social skills to the campers and includes craft classes, culinary classes and weekly field trips.

There are 20 spots available.

For more information, contact Patty Myers at buildingpathways

INFO@gmail.com.

DAY PROGRAMS

Building Pathways also runs a day program for teens and adults 16 and older. The program runs from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday from August to May, but half-day options are available. Participants receive life-skills training, social-skills training, in-a-decks training, culinary daily executive functioning skills training and culinary classes.

Ten spots are available for the day program, and the application fee is $150. For more information, contact Patty Myers at buildingpathways

INFO@gmail.com.

CONTACT

Phone: (407) 654-9711
Email: Buildingpathways

INFO@gmail.com
Website: Building-Pathways.

Eric Gutierrez

Three to Try

CEO Burger: Double waygu


tomato jam, truffle aioli, aged Swiss cheese.

Conflicted Burger: Natural

angus burger, veggie burger. American and white cheddar cheese, lettuce, tomato, BurgerFi sauce.

Veggi Burg at Green Style: Crispy quinoa and veggie burger, white cheddar cheese, lettuce, tomato, BurgerFi sauce on a lettuce wrap. Veggi Patty contains cheese.

“A lot of the other things about our menu are things that we have that vegetarian and vegan options in addition to having all natural beef patties,” Myers said.

“You can get any burger green style... there’s something for everybody at BurgerFi.”

Adino area developer Eric Koester said although some members of the community are concerned about having a chain on Plant Street, the community response has supported overall.

“The support has been amazing... there are more concern than that question and the type of food that they’re eating, it’s important to us to be able to bring our product and the brand to the community. That’s what truly excite us the most.”

WISHLIST

One golf cart

Two adult bikes

Five chairs

62-inch Smart TV

Wi-Fi

Wi Fi

Four TVs

Two treadmills

Gym equipment

Electric piano whiteboard

Pool basketball

Art supplies

Folding table

Five computers

Vacuum

A burger for everyone

The gourmet burger chain puts an emphasis on quality and uses only the freshest ingredients, said Kyley Maloy, who is the market

ting director for BurgerFi franchi

ece, Adino LLC.

“The quality of our ingredients speaks for itself,” Maloy said. “BurgerFi only uses the top 1% of beef — all-natural, no hormones, no antibiotics — and you can taste that difference.”

Maloy said Adino, LLC has local

ons with a lettuce wrap. The menu

“green style” replaces the bun

veggie burgers. Ordering a burger

classic cheeseburgers to fresh

chase the needed ingredients.

“We also try to help them figure

out what are good options,” she said. “You know, we tell them don’t just pick any cheese, ask yourself that’s the cheese you want and compare the price to what’s on sale. You know, all those little things that aren’t really taught to any of us because we just figure it out.”

On Tuesdays and Wednesdays, Myers takes the children to a movie theater. Going to the mov

ies is still a teaching opportunity, she said, as theater calls for certain behaviors.

“There are social skills involved in going to the movies,” she said. “There’s just so much that needs to be taught that we don’t even think about. If you go to a movie theater, you might have to wait in line or ask a question before buying your tickets, so you teach them that money exchange has to happen first and then you find a seat. There are so many things that we take for granted, but generally speaking, some of them don’t pick up on social cues.”

On Fridays, Myers usually takes them on a field trip, such as Sea

World, Gatorland or a bowling alley. And every week focuses on a different virtue that she emphasizes and discusses in daily devotions with the children, such as kindness, patience or self-control.

“I’ve always been the type who likes to serve and help in my profession,” said Myers, who has a bach

elor’s degree in psychology and is board-certified as an assistant behavioral analyst. “But when my son was diagnosed, I think that just took it to another level. I’ve noticed that people don’t see their value sometimes. They look at them and become fearful... but they’re trying to communicate with us, and sometimes they’re unable to express themselves as we do. But a lot of people know me in the community, and they know I don’t give up.”

Three to Try

CEO Burger: Double waygu-

and-brisket-blend burger. Homestyle breaded bacon-tomato jam, truffle aioli, aged Swiss cheese.

Conflicted Burger: Natural anglus burger, veggie burger. American and white cheddar cheese, lettuce, tomato, BurgerFi sauce.

Veggi Burg at Green Style: Crispy quinoa and veggie burger, white cheddar cheese, lettuce, tomato, BurgerFi sauce on a lettuce wrap. Veggi Patty contains cheese.

Brett Stevens, left, Jeannette Kleiny, Kay Mertens, Kyley Maloy and Eric Koester are excited for the opening of BurgerFi Winter Garden.

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Adino area developer Eric Koester said although some members of the community are concerned about having a chain on Plant Street, the community
we made a run for it. " said, ‘What do you think?’ And came back, talked to them and you can open a smaller one. I visiting those smaller breweries. … I started visiting her every year and we were like to own a brewery. ‘ My sister we were like, ‘I wonder what it’d Morin said. “As home brewers, with us for the last few, “ Duane for about 13 years; Russell’s been to life.

Nancy Balazs and Duane and land, Russ Balazs and mother Nancy Balazs and Duane and Melissa Morin have been working tirelessly to bring their vision to life. "David and I have been brewing for about 15 years; Russell’s been with us for the last few," Duane Morin said. “As home brewers, we were like, ‘I wonder what it’d like to own a brewery.’ My sister lives in San Diego, and I was visiting her every year and we were going to the huge breweries and the smaller breweries. … I started visiting those smaller breweries and realized if you budget right you can open a smaller one. I came back, talked to them and said, ‘What do you think?’ And we made a run for it."

rooms become popular places to gather, the group knew it was time to combine their passion for brewing with business. "Our initial idea was a small neighborhood brewery, more hyperlocal," David Strickland said. “Part of the fun and experience of craft breweries in general is going and being in the place where the beer is made, so that’s kind of what we’re trying to achieve.”

The group initially hoped to have Toll Road open around the time of Ocoee Founders’ Day last year but had experienced a few setbacks. The brewery is open now, but the owners currently aren’t able to serve their own beer on tap because the glycol chiller aren’t able to serve their own beer on tap because the glycol chiller aren’t able to serve their own beer on tap because the glycol chiller wasn’t installed and running will take a little bit longer, and we’ll be able to fire up the big system. Until then we’ll be brewing on our small, half-barrel system.”

In the meantime, Strickland said, they are trying to offer many Florida-centric beers and feature breweries from around the state in various styles. From ciders and lagers to ales and IPAs — and even wine — they aim to offer something for everyone. The menu rotates often, so there is always a different beer on tap. “We have a diverse tap list, so there’s something for everyone,” he said. “We’re definitely trying to get interesting stuff but stay local so when people come in they’re supporting Florida locally, as well as the beer scene around Orlando.”

Thus far, they agree that community response has been great and they appreciate the support and suggestions they’ve received. The ultimate goal is to get the brewery up and running to the point where they’re able to work there full time doing what they love.

“Everyone’s been incredibly understanding about our beer not being on tap,” Morin said. “We didn’t want to disappoint anybody that came in expecting it. … Getting (the chiller) installed and up and running will take a little bit longer, and we’ll be able to fire up the big system. Until then we’ll be brewing on our small, half-barrel system.”

Duane Morin, Russ Balazs and David Strickland hope to have their large brewing system up and running as soon as possible.

“It’s been awesome hearing other people’s voices,” Russ Bala- zs said. “When they actually see the place done, the reactions on their faces is awesome.” Morin added that while it’s tough to work their current day jobs and then come work the brewery, it’s all worth it for the passion of brewing and mutual love of beer.

“We’re still trying to work that out and give each other some free time where someone doesn’t have to be here,” he said. “You’ve got to do what you’ve got to do to get the business open and hopefully it’ll thrive. It’s all about the beer.”

Rates to Roar About

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Rates

Windsor at Celebration

Senior living worth Celebrating!

Windsor at Celebration

Senior living worth Celebrating!
Red, white and blue filled Plant Street on Wednesday, July 4, as local children and families took over downtown Winter Garden for a star-spangled parade. Some children rode bikes or scooters decked out in patriotic gear, while others marched along and handed out candy or waved American flags. Additionally, families enjoyed a pancake breakfast beforehand.

The Winter Garden Heritage Foundation and Winter Garden Masonic Lodge teamed up to host the event.

— DANIELLE HENDRIX

Haley Leach laughed as miniature therapy horse Hawkeye nudged her hat.

Above: Diego Abreu was happy to be showing his American spirit.

Left: Michael Kilgore — dressed as Uncle Sam — waved to parade-goers.

Andrea Wilson brought her children, Bella and Landon, to march in the parade.
Winter Garden’s mini King of Pop

Caleb Brewer wows audiences with his impersonation of pop star Michael Jackson.

Caleb Brewer was just a toddler when his talent for dancing revealed itself.

When he was 2 years old, his father played some music from an iPad, and Caleb started moving. From there, the rest is history.

“I just went off dancing,” Caleb said. “My dad bought me an iPad, and my dad put on music on my iPad, and I just started dancing.”

Today, the 7-year-old dancer regularly moonwalks, shuffles and spins onstage impersonating the late pop music legend Michael Jackson at various events.

SEE JACKSON PAGE 8

“I just went off dancing. My dad bought me an iPad, and my dad put on music on my iPad, and I just started dancing.”

— Caleb Brewer
Caleb Brewer was invited to dance onstage at Mango’s Tropical Cafe.

**FROM JACKSON PAGE 7**

“I like to dance to Michael Jackson,” Caleb said. “His songs have a cool beat. You get it? ‘Beat! It! They have a cool beat. ‘Beat It!’” Brewer taught himself how to dance by watching YouTube videos. Although he enjoys dancing to the King of Pop, he got his start dancing to a different song, his mother Christine said. “Nobody really taught him (how to dance).” Christine said. “I saw him dancing to ‘Gangnam Style’ at age 2, and I said, ‘Wow, you’re on the beat!’ He just went to town and got better and better. He just watches YouTube videos.”

Christine said Caleb discovered Michael Jackson through YouTube and started dancing to his music soon thereafter. “Once he started dancing in them, eventually, they bought him more clothes to dance in that match Jackson’s style. Today, Caleb’s grandmother makes his matching outfits.”

“I was watching YouTube videos for Michael Jackson and he said, ‘Mom, I can do that,’” Christine said. “He showed me (how to dance) … then I got him clothes that match Michael Jackson’s and he got better and better after that.” Caleb’s father, Albert, said Caleb loves performing onstage and watching the reactions of the audience. “He’s not intimidated by big crowds — the bigger crowd, the better,” Albert said. “What joys me about my son dancing is watching people have the joy of watching him dance. That’s my joy — when I see people smile and laugh and just love it. You can tell their heart is justpouring out forthe love of him.”

In November 2017, Caleb auditioned for “America’s Got Talent.” The Brewers waited in line for nine hours with about 9,000 other hopefuls. The audition for “America’s Got Talent,” but he didn’t get selected. “He likes performing over dancing as he grows up. And he hopes to get another chance with America’s Got Talent.”

“I want to keep dancing as he grows up. And he hopes to get another chance with America’s Got Talent,” Caleb said. He plans to keep dancing as he grows up. He hopes to get another chance with America’s Got Talent. “The one thing that I want to do is go on ‘America’s Got Talent’ so I can get money and buy a new house and be famous,” he said.
LIKE A NINJA

Children ran, jumped, climbed and swung around as they pretended to be little ninjas at Gymnastics USA's Ninja Kids summer camp. On Thursday, June 21, campers spent part of their afternoon attempting to scale a 14-foot wall, jumping into a pit of foam blocks and monkeying around on the bars before a break for lunch.

— DANIELLE HENDRIX

Kyle Thompson hung from the monkey bars. Bayla Daab concentrated on jumping toward the ring. Payton Melynk showed off how high she could climb. Wesley Jacobs tested his endurance on the rings.
105 years ago
From the Winter Garden Prog-
ness compiled by W.B. Burch:
Everybody is invited to the Winter
Garden fish fry and regatta July 4.
... The Winter Garden Gun Club
will meet on the grounds July 4.
Anyone can enter. Bring your guns.
... D.B. Burnett has plowed the
land on Main Street known as the
frog pond.

80 years ago
West Orange County friends
learned this week that Mrs.
Charles Frederick Mather-Smith
suffered a scorpion sting in
Honolulu and is under the care of
several physicians.

50 years ago
This is the month for safety
inspections for cars with license
numbers ending in 6 or 7. There
are still insufficient stations in Or-
ange County to accommodate the
long lines of cars that must meet
the new state requirements.

FROM THE WINTER GARDEN HERITAGE FOUNDATION

Newcomers are surprised to discover that Oakland was once a major hub of
agriculture and railroading in West Orange County. This photograph was taken
a century ago at the A.J. Willis general store in Oakland, when the village center
featured a railroad depot and other stores facing the town square known as
Grace Park. The store was located at the southwest corner of what later became
West Petris Avenue and Tubbs Street. Constructed in 1912 after a fire destroyed
the downtown business district, the building housing Willis’ store was demolished
in 2000.

In this setting, F.F. Cross and G.W. Cooley examine a pair of women’s high-
heeled shoes. The store also housed the post office at this time.

The mission of the Winter Garden Heritage Foundation is to preserve the heri-
tage and architecture of Winter Garden while creating new cultural experiences.
The Foundation also preserves the material culture of West Orange County, using it to educate the area’s youth on the community’s rich history.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Rilla Tomyn, a Tarleton State
University junior from Ocoee, has
been selected queen of the Florida
Quarter Horse Association for
1978-79.

The new Turkey Lake Park was
opened to the public after a brief
dedication program presided over
by Orlando Mayor Carl Langford.

THROWBACK THURSDAY

JULY 6, 1972
One of the most
popular hangouts
in Winter Garden
was, at one time,
the Dizzy Whirl,
the restaurant with
the recognizable
A-frame structure.
Located on West
Colonial Drive, the
eatery offered 99-
cent burger baskets and $1.29 dinners.
Many local residents can recall work-
ing their first job there as teenagers. The
restaurant, now demolished, was located
across the highway from Maryland Fried
Chicken.
Princess perfect

Dr. Kathryn Austin, director of Centre for Dance & the Performing Arts in Oakland, has been holding weekly dance camps this summer, but she also offered several one-day camps, including a Princess Camp on Monday, July 2.

The girls danced and twirled like some of their favorite princesses and heroines, including Snow White, Moana, Cinderella and Belle.

How do you imitate Sleeping Beauty or Ariel the mermaid? On the floor, of course.

— AMY QUESINBERRY

Princesses pose in front: Jazmin Velez, left, Giuliana Vargas, Grace Barahona, Taylor Smith, Kimberly Parnell, Maddie Dunn and Camila Rivera; in back, assistants Natasha du Toit and Hayley Cordua and CDPA director Dr. Kathryn Austin.

Dance assistant Natasha du Toit adjusts the cape on Jazmin Velez during the princess photo shoot.

Grace Barahona waits while her crown is adjusted.

Camila Rivera, left, and Jazmin Velez enjoyed partnering for a dance.

Dance assistant Natasha du Toit, left, and Kimberly Parnell master the princess twirl.

The girls danced like Ariel the mermaid.
**WEST ORANGE OBITUARIES**

### LAWRENCE HUGH BERRY

**DIED THURSDAY, JULY 5, 2018.**

Lawrence Hugh Berry passed away Thursday, July 5, 2018, at home, peacefully and surrounded by his loving family.

Larry was born in Orlando, Florida, on Feb. 12, 1938, the third child of Annie and G.B. Berry. He is survived by his wife, Stephanie; his children, Sheila, Laura (Doug Joseph), Luana (Ronald Folse) and Stephen (Carolyn); and his siblings, Monica, Holly, Stephanie; his children, Sheilah, Laura (Doug Joseph), Luana (Ronald Folse) and Stephen (Carolyn). He has several great-grandchildren.

A proud graduate of the University of Michigan, Larry joined the Marine Corps, as an officer, to serve our country domestically and in Vietnam, Okinawa and Cuba.

He earned his master’s and specialist degrees in education from Rollins and Florida Atlantic colleges. He brought his leadership skills and love of team sports to hundreds of children in Orlando public schools and enjoyed protecting and serving guests of Walt Disney World as security host.

He lived life to the fullest — be loved sports, traveling the globe with Stephanie and taking photos of his adventures, family and friends.

Visitation will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, July 12, with services at 1 p.m., at Baldwin-Fairchild Funeral Home, 428 E. Plant St., Winter Garden, FL 34787.

In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting donations be made to the Suncoast Lupus Society prior to moving to Winter Garden in 1985. Regarded as a “cool parent” by many, she was very involved in her daughters’ education, always chanting as an officer, to serve our country domestically and in Vietnam, Okinawa and Cuba.

He earned his master’s and specialist degrees in education from Rollins and Florida Atlantic colleges. He brought his leadership skills and love of team sports to hundreds of children in Orlando public schools and enjoyed protecting and serving guests of Walt Disney World as security host.

He lived life to the fullest — be loved sports, traveling the globe with Stephanie and taking photos of his adventures, family and friends.

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In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting donations be made to the Suncoast Lupus Society or the Lupus Research Alliance, 271 Madison Avenue, 10th Floor, New York, NY 10016, lupusresearch.org.

**Marilyn Janice Murray Ference**

**DIED SUNDAY, JUNE 24, 2018.**

Marilyn Janice Murray Ference, 69, of Winter Garden, Florida, took her final breath on Sunday, June 24, 2018, while surrounded by her family.

Born Sept. 2, 1948, in Newark, New Jersey, to Joseph H. Murray and Julia Chernepanya, she was an only child. She attended St. Cecilia Roman Catholic Church and School and later John F. Kennedy High School, both in Iselin, New Jersey, where she played tenor saxophone in the marching band.

After high school, she joined the U.S. Army and was stationed in Oakland, California. She received multiple commendations for her service between 1968 and 1971.

Upon returning home, she began dating and eventually married longtime friend Richard Joseph Ference of Perth Amboy, New Jersey. In May 1974, just after getting married, they moved to Bradenton, Florida.

Marilyn is survived by her husband, Richard; daughters, Monica A. (of Apopka) and Reneé M. (of Winter Garden); son-in-law, Jeremy E. French (of Apopka); and her parents, Joseph Ference of Perth Amboy, New Jersey. In May 1974, just after getting married, they moved to Bradenton, Florida.

Marilyn is survived by her husband, Richard; daughters, Monica A. (of Apopka) and Reneé M. (of Winter Garden); son-in-law, Jeremy E. French (of Apopka); and her parents, Joseph Ference of Perth Amboy, New Jersey. In May 1974, just after getting married, they moved to Bradenton, Florida.

Marilyn is survived by her husband, Richard; daughters, Monica A. (of Apopka) and Reneé M. (of Winter Garden); son-in-law, Jeremy E. French (of Apopka); and her parents, Joseph Ference of Perth Amboy, New Jersey. In May 1974, just after getting married, they moved to Bradenton, Florida.
**Saturday Shootout**

Spring quarterbacks big and small gathered at West Orange High July 7 for the return of the Orlando QB Shootout, an all-day camp and competition put together by former West Orange and Olympia offensive coordinator Collin Drafts.

Drafts, a former quarterback in the Arena Football League who now coaches in South Carolina, brought the event back after a two-year hiatus. The event has an impressive list of past winners, including former Olympia star Deonrdre Francois and former West Orange star Woody Barrett.

Following the instructional portion of the camp was a competition. Winners included: Nigel Scott (Heritage High) — Overall winner; Sean Robles (Wekiva High) — Varsity MVP; and Brian Maurer (West Port High) — Varsity Runner-Up.

More photos from the Orlando QB Shootout are available online at ObserverPreps.com. More results from the event can be found at QuarterbackNation.com.

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**Squeeze at season’s halfway point**

A memorable comeback against Sanford July 7 lifted Winter Garden into a tie for third place ahead of the Florida League’s All-Star Game.

**STEVEN RYZEWK**

**SENIOR SPORTS EDITOR**

In a baseball coaching career that has spanned three decades, Jay Welsh has seen some things.

With that said, the way in which his Winter Garden Squeeze won their final game of the first half of this season — a 9-8 victory over the Sanford River Rats July 3 which saw the Squeeze score 15 runs in the final three innings — figures to stick out for some time.

“That was one of the most bizarre games I’ve been involved in in 30 years of coaching,” Welsh said.

Indeed, Welsh and company are not likely to forget a game during which the Squeeze (10-12-1) scored seven runs in the eighth inning — without recording a hit. Winter Garden had trailed 9-4 through six innings, before scoring one run in the seventh and seven runs, a piece, in the eighth and ninth innings.

The win capped a first half that saw the team struggle mightily out of the gate — the Squeeze lost seven consecutive games after winning their season opener — and rebound by going 9-5-1 since.

Keying the turnaround has been the team’s bats.

Statistically, Winter Garden is fourth in the league in hits and ninth in the league in runs.

The Central Florida All-Star Football Game Youth Coaching Clinic & Camp, which will take place Saturday at Central Florida Christian Academy. The camp starts at 8 a.m. and more information can be found at www.ExcelSpeed.com or by calling Lo Wood at 407-466-5637.

---

**Dr. Phillips High has made a hire for its baseball program, naming Ray Evans its new head coach. Evans comes from the Panthers from Florida High in Pemroke Pines, where he won three state championships and one national championship in a run that spanned 15 years. More on the hire can be found at ObserverPreps.com.**

---

**The Inaugural Bridgewater Athletic Golf Tournament will take place Sept. 15, to benefit the athletics programs at Bridgewater Middle School. The event will take place at West Orange Country Club and opportunities for sponsorship are still available. More information can be found by contacting Aaron Bentley at aaron.bentley@ocps.net or Matt Mowel at matthew.mowel@ocps.net.**

---

**Little League teams from Windermere had a good showing in state and sectional competition this past weekend. The Windermere Little League Softball Minors (ages 8-10) All-Star team won the State of Florida Championship, the softball Majors (11-12) All-Star team won the Section 5 Tournament and the baseball Majors All-Star team also won its Section 5 Tournament.**

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**West Orange Junior defensive lineman Lexan Coleman shines at USA Football camp in Ohio.**

---

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**Top: Youth and high school-aged quarterbacks from around Central Florida executed drills Saturday morning at West Orange High. Left: Aspiring youngsters like Madon Mulligan worked hard to improve their craft. Above: Foundation Academy quarterback Henry Austad showed what he could do against some stiff competition July 7.**
Lexan Coleman

SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

After a strong showing at a local camp at Celebration High earlier this year, West Orange rising junior Lexan Coleman was invited to a USA Football camp at in Canton, Ohio, to hone his skills. Coleman did so well, in fact, that he was recognized as the Defensive Lineman MVP for the event July 1.

What was it like to be recognized at a USA Football camp?

It was amazing, with all the hard work I put in. Last year, I didn’t do so good (at the camp), but this year I just pushed forward and got better. I just tried my hardest every play.

What have you learned by participating in the camps?

I’ve learned different techniques and how to do stuff better — the stance, what to do to the offensive lineman, and to shuffle down with them when they go down the line.

What was your favorite memory from West Orange’s 2017 season?

My favorite memory was running down the field and chasing a guy down 40 yards for a tackle.

Who were upperclassman teammates who you looked up to as an underclassman?

Tre Jackson and Julian Pittman. I just like their leadership and I always had a connection with them.

Which game are you looking forward to the most this fall?

Winder-Merrimere. I’ve got friends on both teams.

What was your favorite memory from playing youth football for the Ocoee Cardinals?

Going to Nationals and getting to skip a couple days of school while playing a sport I love.

How do you approach each play, pre-snap?

I always have two moves in my head. If one doesn’t work, I’ll do the other one, and approach every play like it’s the last play of the season — all-out.

Are there any professional players you try to emulate?

Fletcher Cox (Philadelphia Eagles) and J.J. Watt (Houston Texans).

What is your favorite video game?

Right now, it would be “NBA 2K” and maybe “Fortnite.” My favorite team to play with in “NBA 2K” is the Philadelphia 76ers, because my family is from Philly.

What do you want to do when you get older?

To work in the medical field when you get older?

To work in the medical field with athletes.

Where would you go if you could travel anywhere?

Probably overseas, London. I like the way the culture is.

— STEVEN RYZEWKI

The Basics

Age: 17
School: West Orange
Year: Junior
Position: Defensive Lineman
Height: 5-foot-9
Weight: 220 lbs
Hometown: Winter Garden

Which game are you looking forward to the most this fall? Winder-Merrimere. I’ve got friends on both teams.

What was your favorite memory from playing youth football for the Ocoee Cardinals?

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— STEVEN RYZEWKI

Squeeze

FROM PAGE 13

(177 in 23 games) and third in the league in doubles (32), home runs (10) and batting average (.251).

The pitching numbers are a little less friendly — Winder- Merrimere has, for instance, the second-highest ERA in the Florida League (5.71). Beyond the statistics, though, Welsh says he has a club with players who are engaged each day — even when the rains that come with a Florida summer bump games.

As far as individual success, Aaron Anderson — a sophomore first baseman from Flagler College — leads the entire Florida League in batting average (.427) and hits (32). “He’s a coach’s dream,” Welsh said of Anderson. “He is the first kid at the ballpark and the last kid to leave — and, oh, by the way, he leads the league in hitting.”

Where the team has found some success on the mound has been in a pair of familiar faces from years past — returning pitchers Ryan Ashworth and Ryan Welsh. Through 21.1 innings of action this season, Ashworth (Flagler College) has the fourth-best ERA (2.53) in the league and two wins. Welsh, who has been coming out of the bullpen, has 14 strikeouts in nine innings to his credit.

Aaron Anderson leads the Florida Collegiate Summer League in average (.427) and hits (32).

STATISTICAL STANDOUTS

HITTING

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PITCHING

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<td>Ryan Welsh (Undecided)</td>
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</table>

UPCOMING HOME GAMES

July 13 — vs. Deland
July 19 — vs. Seminole County
July 21 — vs. Leesburg

Winter Garden finds itself tied with Winter Park for third place at the season’s halfway point, trailing Leesburg (18-5) and DeLand (12-11) — two teams that the Squeeze will play a combined six games against between July 9 and July 17.

“This next week is a big week for us,” Welsh said. “If we have a good showing against them, we have an opportunity to make up some ground head-to-head.”

Of course, before the Squeeze can make up ground on either the Lightning or the Suns, they’ll have to first beat them — through seven attempts, they have yet to beat either team.

“That’s got to change this week,” Welsh said.

Windsor Garden

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Winter Garden, FL 34787
(407) 410-8998

Mount Dora Location

B106 Bay St.
Mount Dora, Fl 32757
(352) 385-0303

Hwy. 27

Attendance Sportsmen and Outdoor Enthusiasts

The national wild turkey federation is hosting their Annual Hunting Heritage Event on Saturday July 28th at the Clermont Center and Recreation Center on Hwy. 27.

Have fun while enjoying a delicious meal with plenty of changes to win firearms, including the “2018 NWTF Beretta A300”. There will be live and silent auctions featuring beautiful prints, sculptures and more. There’s something for everyone, bring your spouse, friend, son, or daughter for an evening of fun. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. and tickets are $50 for singles, $100 for couples, and $20 for kids. Sponsor tables are also available.

To reserve your tickets call 352-250-5640 or email dboon32@hotmail.com

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THURSDAY, JULY 12 - SATURDAY, JULY 14

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West Orange Times & Observer | Thursday, July 12, 2018

OrangeObserver.com
WGLL All-Star teams capture section titles

The past two weekends bore witness to not one, but two, sectional championships for teams from Winter Garden Little League. This past weekend, at St. Cloud Little League, the Winter Garden Little League 11-Year-Old All-Stars swept the competition in the Section 5 Tournament to advance to next week’s Florida State Championship. The 11-year-olds from Winter Garden defeated Oviedo Little League 9-2 in the opening game of the pool-play tournament July 6. The next day, WGLL defeated Delaney Park 11-1. To put an exclamation point on the three-day event, the local boys soundly defeated Celebration 18-0 in the final game July 8.

With the trio of wins, WGLL’s 11-Year-Old All-Stars will now compete in the state tournament at Phillips Little League July 13 to 16. More information, including a schedule for the tournament, can be found at floridallb.org.


A week before the 11-year-old team’s success, the Winter Garden Little League Senior All-Stars won their respective Section 5 Tournament at Union Park Little League. Facing off against the host league in a best-of-three, the Seniors (ages 15-16) for WGLL won Game One 19-2 June 30 before squeaking out an 8-7 win in Game Two July 1 to advance to state.

This past weekend, the boys for WGLL played in the State of Florida Championship Tournament at Viera Regional Park. In pool play, Winter Garden went 2-1, leaving it just short of advancing to the state championship. Winter Garden defeated Bonita Springs in its opener July 6, 13-9, and also defeated Melbourne in its second game July 7. 4-3. WGLL was defeated North Springs Little League 11-2 later that day, with North Springs going on to win the state title the next day.

The WGLL Senior All-Stars went 4-1, overall. The team includes Nick Pineda, Kyle Gomez, Justin LaGasse, Jacob Schmelter, Devon Lindeman, Tyler Meehan, Brandon Correia, Elmer Rivera, Evan Dodge, Jacob Klopp, Blake Waldron, Caitlyn Naginay, Michael DeGeorge and Nick DeGeorge.

— STEVEN RYZEWSKI

Photos by Steven Ryzewski
Top: The Winter Garden Little League 11-Year-Old All-Stars outscored their three opponents 38-3 during the Section 5 Tournament in St. Cloud.
Left: The Winter Garden Little League Senior All-Stars had a strong showing at the state tournament, going 2-1 in pool play.
Maureen Tuber, of Windermere, was up early to get this stunning photo of SpaceX’s Falcon 9 rocket launch from Cape Canaveral.

The West Orange Times and Observer is hosting this weekly contest, and winners will have their photograph featured and receive a $20 prize. To enter, email your photo, along with your name, city and a caption, to amyg@orangeobserver.com; put “I Love West Orange” in the subject line. Please include your mailing address to receive your prize.

ONLINE See other winning photos at OrangeObserver.com

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*At the Lakeside Village (Behind McDonalds)

CELEBRITY CIPHER

By Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

“K ZJJD LJWJHVU KM NFR BJWZ
ZHWO WO WOHMP... K OGDQVM
RBHFXBR YV WODD TODDQPKX QOM
RH BJDN HRBJW NHJNDL.”

– AOPJR AOITMHP

“VG PKAAG MNWP VGXNT JUCIUG
JUCY DIKMB... JUC KYG ZCBW KB
AGYDGWL KB KJXJUG QIBB
GRKLWJ KB JUC KYG.”

– KUNKX KYXFGF

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SUDOKU

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

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Help Wanted

HELPERS, in Winter Garden is looking for an experienced chef, hydraulic operator, and truck mechanic. Company truck provided, must have a clean driving record. Full time job. For more information, contact David Gutierrez at 407-403-8757

Positions Wanted

HELPING POSTIONS: Oasis Health Care Center is a 104-bed skilled nursing facility in Winter Garden. Our Housekeeping team is looking for an experienced and dependable part time Housekeeper. Candidate MUST be able to work Weekends and Holidays. Hours and Shifts vary. Please apply in person at: 12701 W. Colonial Drive in Winter Garden. Applicants are subject to drug tests, background check and reference check. EOE. DPW.

Homes For Sale

NORTH ORANGE HOMES is looking for an experienced chef, hydraulic operator, and truck mechanic. Company truck provided, must have a clean driving record. Full time job. For more information, contact David Gutierrez at 407-403-8757

Winter Garden Garage/Moving/Estate Sales

W. Hwy. 50 at Dillard

Waterfront Property

FLORIDA WATERFRONT MARKETING, LLC.

Lake Lot Closeout

Lake Front Homes for Sale

First Baptist Church Winter Garden

Words to Live By...

“Jesus replied, “Truly I tell you, unless someone is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

- John 3:3

Lake Property

Lake Property

- The Florida Waterfront Marketing, LLC.

- 7/12fcan

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