

The Park Press

FEBRUARY 2014

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Thieves Beware! SmartWater CSI Hits Winter Park

The Winter Park Police Department is introducing a forensic coding theft deterrent to assist with the identification of criminals. This theft deterrent is called SmartWater CSI. The SmartWater CSI product is a forensically encoded liquid that residents and business owners alike can apply to their personal property. This liquid can also be used to spray unwanted intruders in certain situations.

The non-hazardous liquid is invisible to the human eye except under ultraviolet black light. Once it is applied, it is virtually impossible to remove. When officers wave an ultraviolet black light over a suspect or an item the presence of this encoded liquid may be visible. Officers may then collect a sample of this marking and submit it as evidence to the SmartWater CSI forensic laboratories. At the lab, the sample may be forensically examined and provide the registered user's information that is specific to the sample collected. The user's contact information is then given to Winter Park Police detectives to assist in pairing the suspect to the victim.

According to Chief Brett Railey, the department looked at several similar products and decided they would be the first agency in Central Florida to enter into a partnership to roll SmartWater CSI out to the residents of Winter Park. It's aimed at aiding law enforcement with the ability to link suspects to specific crimes. Logan Pierson, president of SmartWater CSI said, "SmartWater has been used successfully in the U.K. for years, and some areas have reported up to a



70% decrease in criminal activity where SmartWater is known to be used. It's simply become another level to deter crime."

Chief Railey said, "I will provide SmartWater to any Winter Park resident who would like it, and I can do it at no cost to them by using seized drug dealer money."

The kit is simple to use and includes a container of SmartWater CSI, a dropper, a checklist card in which the user would list all the items that have been marked, and SmartWater CSI stickers that should be placed on doors and windows of the home. The forensically encoded 1/1-billion liquid is then registered through the Winter Park Police Department and sent back to SmartWater CSI laboratory.

SmartWater CSI also offers commercial kits that businesses can install. It consists of strategically-

Logan Pierson, president of SmartWater CSI, and Chief Brett Railey demonstrate the theft deterrent capabilities of SmartWater CSI.

placed canisters that would lightly spray an intruder. The intruder is basically unaware that they have been in contact with SmartWater, and if arrested, they would later be connected to that crime.

Although the department is not able to provide the commercial kits at no cost, they are more than willing to aid any business that is interested in having this type of installation.

If you are interested in learning more please visit www.smartwatercsi.com. If you would like to protect your home with SmartWater CSI please contact the Winter Park Police Department at 407-599-3664 or email Officer Lina Strube at lstrube@cityofwinterpark.org.



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The Park Press™

www.theparkpress.com

PUBLISHER RICK CABLE
rick@theparkpress.com

EDITOR TRICIA CABLE
tricia@theparkpress.com

ART DIRECTOR JILL SHARGAA

ADVERTISING SALES JAN CHALHOUB
jan@theparkpress.com
advertising@theparkpress.com

EDITORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS AND WRITERS

Janna McGowan, John Gill,
George McGowan, David Ciambella,
Barbara Solomon, Scott Richardson,
Stephen and Kristin Pategas,
Ayesha G. Bullock, M.A., Scott Hillman

PHOTOGRAPHY Steve Graffham, Tricia Cable,
Scott Richardson

DISTRIBUTION SUPPORT Jimmy Segal

The Park Press, LLC, Winter Park, Florida
Office: 407-644-6760
E-mail: info@TheParkPress.com

VISIT US ON THE WEB www.TheParkPress.com

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Publisher's Message



Rick Cable

Have you ever noticed that, if given the option of a cashier lane versus a self-checkout lane, the cashier lane always has a line? Same thing goes for lines at the bank to actually work with a teller. I believe it's because people prefer working with people. Yes, I always look for the cashier or teller option, and it's a shame these industries are quickly replacing employees with automated technology. I've had tellers ask me if I'm familiar with their online and automated transaction services. And I always respond with, "Yes, but I prefer to do business with people." Of course, I'm sure they are sadly required to say this to each and every customer, but they're really promoting something that will eliminate their job.

Same has been the case as it relates to traveling on the toll roads. I'm not a daily toll road traveler, so I've never messed with getting a Sun Pass, until a few weeks ago. And it's all thanks to the expressway authority basically forcing the use of automated technology on all. Sure, I've had to wait in a bit of a line to pay cash.

But the cash lines are being eliminated down to one line, and those lines are becoming longer and longer each day. I consider these people in line to be like me. They just want to pay cash and prefer to make transactions with people. If you bail to use the coin baskets, most work fine. But a growing number of baskets seem to be unable to count. You toss the proper amount in and then you keep tossing in hopes you finally get the green light. After a while people start kindly honking to tell you it's okay to move on. So you proceed...and then the buzzer goes off.

So I have to make that call to resolve the issue. The nice person at the expressway authority was happy to help, but she told me that I needed to get a Sun Pass, as they are starting to phase out all cash toll locations. I said to her that's a shame because it would eliminate jobs. She said she hoped they don't eliminate hers, or she might have to go back to being a retail cashier or a teller...

As always, thank you for reading

The Park Press and we look forward to the great things to come.

Rick
Rick Cable
Publisher/Founder

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Member

The Leader Of The Band

By Tricia Cable

Inevitably, when you have a child, people tend to examine the new little blessing for physical characteristics of family members, both past and present, from each side of the gene pool. Your family finding everything that resembles your side of the lineage and your spouse's family doing pretty much the same thing.

One of my favorite things about people-watching is seeing the families pass by with the dad and son, or mother and daughter, looking like twins born twenty five years apart. It's crazy, like the other parent's physical attributes were simply ignored. I always thought that dark hair, dark eyes and dark skin were dominant, but that didn't stop me from creating a fair skin, green-eyed red head! Those Irish...

I find comfort in the face of my youngest. Especially when she is angry with me for some reason and she attempts to communicate her dissatisfaction. She looks so much like my father, ruffling her brow and narrowing her eyes. However, instead of taking her seriously in these moments, I tend to either laugh, because her grouching can't even begin to hold a candle to that of my dad's. Or I hug her,

because in those moments I realize just how much I miss that old man.

There are so many more subtle ways that we have been marked by our ancestry. Whether you got the math gene from your grandfather or your artistic ability from your great aunt, there are many ways that those that have come before us live on in all that we do.

My niece for instance, never really knew her mother. My sister, her mother, died when my niece was just a year old. But there are some

remarkable mannerisms that my niece possesses that are no doubt the influence of a mother she had very little time with.

There is no denying, what we inherit can be both curses and gifts. Whenever Rick and I argue, he can be heard on many occasions referring to me as Bill Martin (my dad). I take this as a compliment of course as that usually means that I am winning the debate. However, what Rick is implying, is that I am stubborn. Who me? Like father like daughter? Maybe. Maybe I learned what I lived, maybe I was born with it. Either way, I am a constant reminder of a man who is no longer with us. As is my daughter and as I suspect, my grandchildren to come. And isn't that the way it's supposed to be? We do leave behind a legacy when we go. We leave our mark for better or worse. We will be remembered for a kind word spoken to someone at just the right time. We will be remembered for our contributions through our work, or possibly our philanthropic commitments. Or simply through the eyes of a child who resembles someone they may have never known. I love that! I love that I can see my dad in my daughter, my sister in my niece and my grandmother in my cousins. They never really leave us for they have left their mark.



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New doctor brings impressive accolades to the practice. Dr. Rensberry served as a brigade surgeon in Iraq/Kuwait and was the Medical Director at Fort Benning, Georgia where he treated newborns, pediatrics and adult patients. He also was instrumental in teaching the future physicians of the Martin Army Family Residency Program. With advanced course work and medical training, Dr. Rensberry stays up to date with the latest medical research and is sure to keep patients of Winter Park in "tip top shape". Fluent in English and Spanish.



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City Commissioner's Message

Commissioner Robert F. Stuart, City of Orlando District 3



Robert F. Stuart

Last month, Orlando Police Chief Paul Rooney presented the Orlando Police Department's 2013 Year in Review. I wish every resident could have heard the address as I am always inspired by the passion that he and his deputy chiefs have for public service.

A lot of pertinent information was provided, but here is a synopsis. Violent crime (aggravated assaults, robbery, sexual assaults, murder) is again down... even while the City's service population continues to grow. We had 19 homicides as compared to 27 in 2012. 14 were cleared, a 74% solve rate, which is much higher than the national average. Our OPD dispatchers fielded 769,776 calls...an average of 2100 calls a day and about 175 per dispatcher per shift. Please don't think this means you shouldn't bother OPD... more calls for service is a good thing. Chief Rooney says OPD can't do its job without help from the residents; they are "our eyes and ears in the community."

This year also brought some specific programs and training exercises to OPD based on recent events that have occurred in Central Florida and across the country. On February 5, 2013, OPD helped to organize the largest active shooter training exercise in Florida. The event, which took place at St. James Cathedral School in Downtown Orlando, included the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, the FBI, the Orange County Sheriff's Office and the Department of Homeland Security.

Orlando is also leading the way in a new campaign to bring awareness to pedestrian safety called "Best

Foot Forward" (iyield4peds.org). This outreach program brings together many different government agencies and private partners to focus on education, engineering and enforcement. Especially in very walkable areas of our community like Baldwin Park, please know that drivers must stop for pedestrians crossing in all marked crosswalks- even if they are mid-block crossings and not aligned with a traffic signal- or take the chance of receiving a \$164 ticket and points on your license.

As we look ahead to this year, each division set goals for 2014. For example, the Patrol Division's goals are to focus on and reduce the incidences of domestic violence, crimes against the elderly and property crimes.

To expand upon the chief's update, I asked Cpl. Kevlon Kirkpatrick to share information specific to our District 3 as well as the Baldwin Park neighborhood. To help keep our district and neighborhoods up-to-date, we will be adding "Kev's Korner" to our new webpage in a few months. He will provide crime statistics, safety tips and other important information on a regular basis.

From Cpl. Kirkpatrick: The annual number of residential burglaries is just a little lower throughout the district in 2013 as compared to 2012. In Baldwin Park, residential burglaries are down 19%. But here is where we need everyone's help: there was almost double the number of thefts from a motor vehicle in 2013 from the previous year, a trend that follows what law enforcement agencies are seeing all over Central Florida. Baldwin Park mirrors that trend, with vehicle break-ins up 50% from 2012.

No one deserves to be a victim, but a large majority of cars broken into last year were unlocked with valuables in plain sight. Some residents have told me,

"They are going to break in anyway, so if I leave my car unlocked, at least I won't have to deal with a shattered window too." This is just plain false. We have interviewed criminals who admit to going down a street just checking door handles- they want an easy take. This isn't to say that smash and grabs don't happen, but you are putting yourself and your valuables at much higher risk by leaving your car unlocked. Criminals return to where they know they can make a quick score, so by leaving your car unlocked, you may also impact your entire neighborhood.

While no one should have to think about being a victim or witness, one way to help is by paying attention to detail. We have broken many cases because of a clear description of a suspect from a concerned citizen or because a victim was able to unmistakably identify a suspect.

For example, because of the quick thinking and action of our officers and residents, OPD was able to arrest several suspects in May of last year who were part of a ring committing these types of crimes in Baldwin Park, Audubon Park, Winter Park and Maitland.

More important is preventing crime, and for this, we need the community to come together in a positive way. Contact me for a free security survey of your property or for information on Neighborhood Watch so that we can keep an open line of communication between OPD and the community. I can be reached at kevlon.kirkpatrick@cityoforlando.net or 407-246-2196.

On behalf of Cpl. Kirkpatrick and myself, thanks for your support of our community. Please remember, "If you see something, say something!"

-Robert

ROBERT F. STUART | COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 3, CITY OF ORLANDO | 400 S. ORANGE AVENUE, ORLANDO, FL 32801 | 407-246-2003 | ROBERT.STUART@CITYOFORLANDO.NET



Winter Park Mayor's Message

Mayor Ken Bradley



Ken Bradley

On January 17, I presented my State of the City Address at The Alford Inn, with the theme being "Winter Park works best when Winter Park works together." In our city, we see outstanding examples of individuals, groups, and organizations working together—for common good and they are being successful—because they are working together. I'd like to share with you the highlights of my speech which featured those in our city who are working together and achieving improbable goals.

The state of our city is excellent. Our finances are strong. Our retail establishments are thriving. New homes are being built. Preservation is alive. Important issues are being addressed civilly. The outlook for our city is bright. If we continue to work together, our success will be assured.

I spoke of **The Alford Inn** and how it is truly one of the nation's best examples of creative, "outside the box" thinking. Using philanthropy as an investment for higher education while spurring economic development is indeed a "win (philanthropy), win (education), win (economic development and tourism), win (art)" for our community.

I described **Feed The Need**, the first ever community-wide fundraising campaign for the Second Harvest Food Bank. December 3 was one of my proudest moments as mayor—the campaign raised \$96,145! Coupled with the 9:1 match of

Second Harvest Food Bank, all told, our Winter Park community raised the net effect of \$865,305!

The Capen House Move was a tremendous example of not-for-profits and the community coming to preserve one of the city's oldest homes. Through this partnership of numerous leaders, donors and builders personally involved in this great accomplishment, the Capen House was "floated" to its new home on the grounds of the Polasek Museum.

I celebrated upcoming **2014 Anniversaries**:

- Winter Park Health Foundation is celebrating its 20th Anniversary
- Winter Park Farmers' Market is celebrating its 35th Anniversary
- Winter Park Country Club will celebrate its Centennial anniversary in September 2014
- The Women's Club of Winter Park is celebrating their Centennial throughout 2014 as well

I highlighted our **holiday lights** and how more than 20 city employees came together to create the gorgeous holiday light display unlike any other in Florida. I featured two significant ventures of our **Winter Park Electric Utility**, the interconnectivity directly to OUC that creates over \$500,000 of annual savings while diversifying our power supply; and the addition of a solar farm to

our Howell Branch yard.

Just last month, we welcomed home **Lt. Chuck Nadd**, a Trinity Preparatory graduate, from Afghanistan. Budweiser teamed with the Department of Defense and the Veterans of

Foreign Wars to film a documentary about a soldier's homecoming. Hundreds joined us as we gave a ticker tape parade down New England Avenue for this returning Black Hawk helicopter pilot. This parade truly was a SUPER way to welcome home soldiers who have served that we might be free. Also, this parade may become a SUPER way to recognize America's hometown, our hometown—Winter Park—for 30 seconds on a global stage in February!

I announced our grand opening date, Monday, March 3, for our new Amtrak | SunRail train station, in preparation of our region's welcoming the arrival of **SunRail**. SunRail would not be possible without the significant, inter-governmental partnership with our federal, state, county and local governments. This shows what good can happen when governments work together.

I spoke of **baseball** and how working together is truly a team sport. From the 600 children participating in Winter Park's Babe Ruth Baseball league to the possibility of expanding our park space to build a new stadium for minor league baseball, each venture is an example of Winter Park working together. Various city boards, city staff and your commission will be discussing this potential venture and after an extensive evaluation process we will know if minor league baseball is a real possibility for our city.

I closed my address with the following thoughts:

In January, a new headstone was placed on the grave of Mary Lee DePugh in Pinewood Cemetery. Ms. DePugh was a wonderful resident of Winter Park. Her vision and love for others inspired her and the Kraft family—working together—to establish the beautiful gardens at DePugh Nursing Center. Employees of the center raised the money to erect this new headstone. It will read: "Compassionate caregiver. Passionate activist. Inspired community leader.

She made Winter Park better."

On my father's headstone in Winter Park's Palm Cemetery is this simple inscription from the Old Testament, the Book of Isaiah (Isaiah 41:6, KJV): "They helped everyone his neighbor; and every one said to his brother and sister; be of good courage."

The messages on these two headstones sum it up for me. We should help each other—our neighbors—to make Winter Park better. We should be sources of encouragement and support. Winter Park works best when Winter Park works together. May God bless you and may God continue to bless the great City of Winter Park, Florida.

Kenneth W. Bradley
Kenneth Bradley, Mayor



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25 (Sat) Seasons 52 Park Avenue 5.2k* Park Avenue
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FEBRUARY

1 (Sat) Florida Hospital Lady Track Shack 5k Mead Garden

15 (Sat) Run Around the Pines 5k Showalter Field
Presented by Florida Hospital

MARCH

15 (Sat) Zimmerman Kiser Sutcliffe Winter Park Road Race
10k & 2 Mile Park Avenue
Presented by Florida Hospital

24 (Mon) Beginning Walk-Run Program Begins Blue Jacket Park
Presented by Track Shack Fitness Club

APRIL

26 (Sat) Run for the Trees 5k Showalter Field

JULY

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Maitland Mayor's Message

Mayor Howard A. Schieferdecker



Howard A. Schieferdecker

First of all, I would like to wish everyone a happy, healthy, safe and prosperous New Year. It has been a privilege and honor for me to serve as your mayor this past year. Working with our city staff and our volunteer boards has been pleasurable, rewarding and productive. We have accomplished many things this past year and look ahead with great expectations to continue moving our city forward in 2014.

Our main accomplishments of note for 2013 are as follows:

- Continue to maintain no increase in the property tax millage rate.

- Continue to maintain a balanced budget.
- Continue to move forward with our capital improvement projects.
- Completed the update of our city charter.
- Renegotiated our solid waste contract with more financially favorable terms and offering more and better services to our citizens.
- Approved the "The Courtney at Lake Shadow" apartment project on the west side.
- Approved the plans for the Home Builders Association new home.
- Began construction of the road improvements around the intersection of 17-92 and Horatio.
- Began the process of acquiring the ownership of Maitland Ave. from Orange County.

As for the financial state of our city, we are financially sound. This is mainly due to fiscal conservatism by our city council, as well as our city staff who has worked hard to keep our expenses down. However, we need take steps to increase our tax base in the next few years to continue moving our city forward, which we are presently in the process of doing.

To increase our tax base we have to encourage quality new development and redevelopment throughout our city. With the updating of our land development code and the streamlining of our permitting approval process, we are now officially "Open for Business." This will attract new business and quality development to our city. We have already had substantial interest in new and redevelopment throughout our

city, especially in our CRA downtown area.

Our main goals for 2014 are as follows:

- Maintain no increase in our property tax millage rate.
- Maintain a balanced budget.
- Continue to move forward with our capital improvement projects.
- Continue to work to secure new business opportunities and quality new development and redevelopment throughout our city that will increase our tax base and create new jobs both temporary and permanent.
- Continue to work with our state legislators to retain and hopefully enhance the revenues that we receive from Tallahassee.

Continued on page 8



County Commissioner's Message

Commissioner Ted B. Edwards, Orange County, District 5



Ted B. Edwards

Sometimes there is no greater pleasure than spending an afternoon reading a good book. I read as much as I can, particularly historical nonfiction books like "Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption" by Laura Hillenbrand. The book details the struggle of American airmen Louis Zamperini who had to fight to survive alone in the heart of the Pacific Ocean following a plane crash during the second World War. Another great book is Patrick D. Smith's book "A Land Remembered." This historical fiction novel chronicles three generations of a family who settled in Florida in the 1850s and gradually left their rural lifestyle behind as their success and wealth grew. It is one of my favorite books and a must-read for every Florida resident. You can read great books like these and many others at one of the Orange County Library System's

many branches countywide.

Our library system has items for nearly every interest. Our library's collection houses over 1.7 million individual items including books, films, and periodicals. You can download e-books, music, videos, and 250 magazine titles from the library's website, www.ocls.info. You can even have items dropped off at your doorstep free of charge. Simply check out items via the library website or by phone at 407-835-7323. To return an item, simply mail it back or drop it off at your nearest branch.

Orange County's first public library, the Alberston Library, opened in 1920. Since then, the library system has expanded to 15 branches. The current main library in Downtown Orlando was opened in 1966 and has grown to the size of a city block. The number of library branches has doubled since 1980 to meet the needs of Orange County's ever-growing population. Today, the library system has a staff of 350 and a budget of \$35.3 million per year.

The library offers many other services as well. Our library system

has the largest genealogy collection in the Southeastern United States. The library also runs the Orlando Memory archive to document stories, images, and personal recollections of Orlando residents of years past. The library hosts approximately 1,000 seminars and educational programs per month across all of its 15 locations ranging from arts and cultural events, activities for children and teens, technology classes, and musical programs. Earlier this month, the downtown

library opened the Dorothy Lumley Melrose Center for Technology, Innovation & Creativity. The center provides hands-on experience with audio and video recording and mixing, fabrication using a 3D printer, and various computer programs from QuickBooks to Photoshop.

The Orange County Library System has branches within easy reach of most District 5 residents. Residents of

Continued on page 7

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protection and service by The Winter Park Police Department

A Few Programs Offered By The Winter Park Police Department

Women's Basic Self-Defense class is for girls and women ages 14 and older. The class is approximately two hours and is instructed by an officer who has been certified to do so through the NSDA. Also in attendance is a representative from the Victim's Service Center of Central Florida. Part of the instruction includes the legal element along with a discussion of the various safety concerns while at home or out in the community. A short video is watched and then instruction and demonstration of various physical techniques that can be used to help resist an attack.

Lock Box Program is intended to provide police, fire and emergency medical services (EMS) access to your residence in the event of an emergency where you are unable to open the door. A key to your residence will be stored in a secure metal storage device, similar to a realtor's lock box, at your residence. The access code to the lock box will only be available to police, fire or EMS personnel and used only during an emergency.

Who is eligible? The program is open to all City of Winter Park residents, although the program is targeted towards community members who live alone and are aged 65 and older, or those who are disabled and/or suffer from major medical issues at any age.

What is the cost? There is no charge to participate in the program if you meet the established target criteria. For all other residents wishing to participate, there is a onetime fee of \$16.95 to cover the cost of the lock. All participants will have to provide a spare house key to be used in the lock box.

How do I know this is safe? A police officer from the Winter Park Police Department will install and demonstrate how the lock operates and will answer any questions you may have. The four digit combination on the lock box will

only be available to responding emergency personnel and will be reset to a new combination if utilized.

How do I get started? For further information please visit the below link. To apply to the program please fill out the application form at the bottom of the webpage and submit it for processing. A Winter Park Officer will contact you to finalize the process.

Neighborhood Watch groups meet at least once a year to meet minimum standards. During the meetings several topics are covered usually regarding the latest and up to date crime trends that are occurring along with the statistics regarding your specific neighborhood. Several announcements regarding the programs offered and available at the police department are discussed. Being a member of a neighborhood watch group allows for a more accurate detailed description of current events and allows for many opportunities to contribute in various ways to the men, women and children in our community.

Security Surveys is a FREE evaluation of your home, business, apartment community or hospital to help identify the possible security vulnerabilities. The owner & an officer walk the property inside and out and make suggestions for improvements. Areas looked at include but are not limited to the following: doors, locks, windows, landscaping, lighting, etc.

Med Return Program is a program sponsored by the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) and encourages the proper and safe disposal of expired, unwanted, or unused medicines from the home. The programs other benefits are that it reduces the possibility of medical fraud, reduces the possibility of the medicines "getting into the wrong hands," and promotes an environmentally friendly disposal process. There is a Med Return receptacle located in the front lobby of the Winter Park Police Department and is accessible 24/7.

For more information can be found at:

www.wppd.org (under the Community Information Tab)

Winter Park Police Department Non-Emergency (407) 644-1313

Winter Park Traffic Enforcement Link
www.wppd.org/ops/enforcement_request.htm

This link will allow you to fill out the information regarding the area in which you are seeing traffic-related issues. It is quick and easy and a great community resource for problem solving.

*Commissioner Edwards' message
continued from page 6*

the northwestern part of the district, including Maitland, the west side of Winter Park, and College Park can access the Eatonville branch at 200 East Kennedy Street and the Edgewater branch at 5049 Edgewater Drive. Downtown, Baldwin Park, and southern Winter Park residents are within a short distance away from the downtown main library at 101 East Central Boulevard and the Herndon Branch at 4324 East Colonial Drive. Residents on the east side can visit the Alafaya branch at 12000 East Colonial Drive. Additionally, both the City of Winter Park and the City of Maitland operate their own libraries which offer similar services. They are located at 460 East New England Avenue in Winter Park, and 501 South Maitland Avenue in Maitland, respectively.

With so many locations and programs available, I hope you will take advantage of all our public libraries have to offer. Our library is a symbol of Orange County's commitment to improving the quality of life for our residents. If you need assistance finding your nearest library branch, obtaining a library card, or have any other questions or concerns about county government, please feel free to contact me or my staff, Edgar Robinson and Lynette Rummel. We can be reached at 407-836-7350 or by email at district5@ocfl.net.

Ted Edwards
Orange County Commissioner,
District 5

Kathy Ireland To Speak At Global Pet Expo

Lifestyle designer Kathy Ireland of Kathy Ireland Worldwide, (kiWW) will speak at the third annual American Pet Products Association (APPA) Professional Women's Network Breakfast. The event takes place at the Global Pet Expo in the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando on Friday, March 14 from 7:45 - 8:45 a.m.

As the special guest speaker, Ireland will share her experiences that made her one of the 50 most influential people in fashion, as a spokeswoman and the CEO of kiWW (the \$2 billion annual sales brand [source: Forbes Magazine]) which is listed as the 25th most powerfully licensed brands by License Magazine's list of the top 125 Most Powerful Brands in the World.

"Ms. Ireland will provide valuable insights, advice and experience to our audience at the APPA Professional Women's Network Breakfast," said Andy Darmohraj, executive vice president of APPA. "Not only is she an influential business leader across many industries, but she has a long running partnership with several pet wellness organizations and charities that relate direct-



Kathy Ireland and Sparky

ly to our PWN members, and is a leading advocate for protection of pets."

APPA's Professional Women's Network's (PWN) mission is to attract and engage women from the entire pet industry. PWN provides a forum for the exchange of ideas, and promotes social and career development activities that result in greater success for the industry in total. The breakfast is not open to the public. Global Pet Expo attendees can RSVP online at www.GlobalPetExpo.org. The event is sponsored by the APPA Professional Women's Network, but membership is not a requirement to attend.

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Mayor Schieferdecker's message continued from page 6

- Construct the new Police Boat House at Fort Maitland Park.
- Complete the acquisition of Maitland Ave. from Orange County.
- Complete the road improvements in the 17-92/Horatio area.
- Complete the rerouting of traffic (MATS study) to transfer traffic

- from Maitland Ave to 17-92 in anticipation of the redevelopment of our new downtown.
- Successfully annex a forty acre tract on the west side adjacent to State Road 434 and Maitland Blvd. for a mixed use development project.
- With the coming of SunRail in

May, successfully implement the Flexbus demonstration project to provide lost cost and timely transportation to and from the SunRail Station.

The prospects for 2014 look very encouraging. With the dedication and enthusiasm of our city council, city volunteer boards, and city staff,

anything is possible for our city. These wonderful people, and our dedicated and enthusiastic citizens, inspire me. They, along with my great love of our city, are the reasons why I love being your mayor. I look forward to our city's bright future with great anticipation and you should too.

Time To Clean Out - Quest Shred's Paper Purging Tips For Identify Theft

To avoid personal and business peril, steps must be taken to protect private information. Paper shredding and document destruction significantly reduces your risks when disposing of confidential information.

Taking the proper steps and protocols to secure this information is not only every business owner's responsibility, it is now a legal obligation. In addition, though it is not widely known, if information ends up in a dumpster or other disposal area, it legally becomes fair game to anyone who finds it.

Every business and household has information that requires secure destruction and at some point everyone must properly dispose of confidential information. For businesses, customer lists, con-

fidential client information, credit card and sales receipts, personnel and payroll records all need to be kept secure. Both your customers and employees have the legal right to have this information protected. For private households, the threat of identity or other monetary theft is a compelling reason to take responsible action.

Simply recycling sensitive information, alone, is a dangerous practice! Recyclers have no fiduciary responsibility to insure the security of the paper in their care, custody and control. Identity theft is one of the fastest growing crimes and most

identity theft information is obtained through hard copy paper sources. Choosing a certified secure destruction shredding source will ensure the chain of custody of your private information will remain unbroken.



What to Shred or Permanently Destroy, and Not Just Trash:

Anything that has a signature, account number, social security number, or medical or legal information. Other items include:

- Address labels from junk mail and magazines
- Deposit, debit and ATM receipts, bank statements
- Birth certificate copies
- Canceled and voided checks
- Cell phones that have been replaced but still contain personal information
- Credit and charge card bills, carbon copies, summaries and receipts
- Credit reports and histories
- Documents containing maiden name (used by credit card companies for security reasons)
- Documents containing name, address, phone or e-mail address
- Documents relating to investments
- Documents containing passwords or PIN numbers
- Driver's licenses or items with a driver's license number
- Employment records
- Employee pay stubs
- Expired passports and visas
- Un-laminated identification cards (college IDs, state IDs, employee ID badges, military IDs)
- Legal documents
- Investment, stock and property transactions
- Leases, contracts, letters or, again, any item with a signature
- Luggage tags
- Medical and dental records or bills
- Papers with a Social Security number
- Pre-approved credit card applications
- Receipts with checking account numbers
- Report cards
- Resumes or curriculum vitae
- Tax forms
- Transcripts
- Travel itineraries
- Used airline tickets
- Utility bills (telephone, gas, electric, water, cable TV, Internet)

What to Save, For How Long:

- Canceled checks - Canceled checks with no long-term significance for tax or other purposes can be destroyed after one year. However, canceled checks that support tax returns, such as charitable

contributions or tax payments, should be held for at least seven years - long enough to cover the six-year tax assessment period.

Authorities advise that consumers indefinitely keep any canceled checks and related receipts or documents for a home purchase or sale, renovations or other improvements to owned property, and non-deductible contributions to an Individual Retirement Account.

- Deposit, ATM, credit card and debit card receipts - You should save credit, debit, and ATM receipts until the transaction appears on your statement and you have verified that the information is accurate.
- Credit card and bank account statements - Credit card and bank account statements with no tax or other long-term significance can be discarded after a year. You should keep remaining statements for up to seven years. If you get a detailed annual statement, you should keep it and shred the corresponding monthly statements.
- Credit card contracts and other loan agreements - Credit card contracts and loan agreements should be kept for as long as the account is active in case you have a dispute with your lender over the terms of the contract.
- Documentation of a purchase or sale of stocks, bonds and other investments - You should retain documentation of a purchase or sale for as long as you own the investment and then seven years beyond that time. Monthly retirement and monthly investment account statements can be shredded annually, after being reconciled with the year-end statement.
- Paycheck Stubs - Paycheck stubs can be shredded yearly after the income has been reconciled with a W-2 or other tax forms.
- Utility or monthly bills - Monthly bills should be shredded the year after you receive them.

A Basic Review of Documents to Save Forever:

It is important to remember, of course, there are basic legal documents you should keep forever.

These include, but are not limited to, birth certificates, current passports, insurance and annuity contracts (for as long as they're active), wills, Social Security cards, mortgage deeds, real estate bills of sale, marriage certificates, separation or divorce papers and medical records.

You should also keep diplomas and transcripts, adoption and custody papers, insurance records (accident reports, claims and policies) property appraisals, military discharge papers, and an itemized inventory of your household goods, necessary if you ever need to recover stolen items or settle an insurance claim.

Quest helps people with developmental disabilities in both the greater Orlando and Tampa areas achieve their dreams of going to school, having a job, living on their own, and experiencing summer camp. As Central Florida's premier

provider of these services, Quest makes a difference in the lives of more than 1,100 people each day and has been part of the Central Florida community for more than 50 years. Quest Shreds is a Secure Document Destruction service that

assures that your paper will be properly recycled. Quest Shreds is our newest employment program and is perhaps the easiest way for Central Florida businesses to help Quest create jobs for people with disabilities.

Scholars Program Helps Former Foster Kids Succeed In College

\$200,000 Donation from Lawrence White Foundation Benefits 16 Young Adults

In an effort to support young adults aging out of the foster care system, Community Based Care of Central Florida (CBC) - a child welfare organization in Orange, Osceola and Seminole counties - recently launched a college scholarship and mentoring program for these "aging-out kids" (AOK) funded by a \$200,000 donation from the Orlando-based Lawrence E. White Family Foundation. Funds for the inaugural "AOK Scholars" are being distributed as needed to 16 participants who are pursuing post-secondary education opportunities at various Florida colleges and universities.

CBC hopes to improve the college graduation rate among foster kids, which currently stands at 5 percent statewide, according to a 2013 survey. The AOK Scholars program comes on the heels of a new Florida law taking effect this month that gives those in foster care the option of staying in the system past their 18th birthdays until age 21, as long as they are working, in school or training for a job. About 600 young adults in Orange, Osceola and Seminole counties are affected by the new law.

The scholarship recipients - who



range in age from 18 to 23 - will be required to complete community service hours. The Lawrence E. White Family Foundation also provided laptop computers for participants who needed them.

"These students have faced instability and setbacks through no fault of their own, and are determined to succeed in spite of the challenges," said Keri Flynn, community relations manager for CBC of Central Florida, who oversees the program and mentors participants. "We work with each young person to identify specific needs, like transportation, assistance with utility bills or school supplies. We're also forming relationships with these students, so if there's a bump in the road, they have somebody to talk with."

The Foundation launched the scholarships after learning about CBCCF's Independent Living program, which provides teens and young adults with mentoring, job

training, and financial and housing counseling to support their transition out of foster care. The program has partnerships with UCF and Seminole State College, as well as an employment initiative with Goodwill Industries of Central Florida.

"We are proud to support this scholarship program for young people who have been in foster care," said White. "During this critical transition period for young adults, the AOK Scholars program provides a support system and financial buffer to help these students be set up for success in college and their future careers," said Lisa Blackwelder,

Executive Director of the Lawrence E. White Family Foundation.

Glen Casel, CEO of CBC of Central Florida, added: "We're grateful that the Lawrence E. White Family Foundation has taken an active role in empowering these students, not only through this generous donation, but through ongoing personal support of achieving their goals. This scholarship program helps pave the way for long-term success for these 16 deserving students."

To learn more about donating to AOK Scholars or becoming a mentor, contact Keri Flynn at keri.flynn@cbccl.org or (321) 441-2356.



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John Gill

fiscal fitness by John Gill

The Case For Life Insurance

For those of you who have read this column for any length of time, you know that one of my recurring discussions is life insurance.

This is one of those columns. I bring this up periodically because it is one of the cornerstones of fiscal fitness. It's also really important. People will often say in jest, "Well, I won't be around anyway." Not humorous!

From my perspective it is a key component to savvy financial and personal planning, and an indication that you care enough about your family and loved ones to maintain their standard of living if death comes unexpectedly. Philosophically I think that is an interesting comment because death is rarely expected. We all have some time in our minds of when death is likely to occur, but at the end of the day, no one knows. As for all contingencies in life, we must plan, and life insurance is one of the most cost effective contingency planning tools available.

The best rationale for life insurance is the peace of mind knowing that the family will be able to function financially. Life insurance helps to remove one potential burden and ensure that plans laid out for the family are able to be executed.

One common objection is the assumed complexity of purchasing life insurance. The different types of insurance available make the purchase seem complex. There is term life, whole life, universal life,

variable universal life, and the list goes on. Term life insurance is the best policy for most because it provides protection without the investment component provided by the other policy types.

Finding a reputable agent is another point of resistance. To find an agent, seek recommendations from trusted friends or relatives. I can provide several recommendations and will be happy to do so. Services like Select Quote or IntelliQuote provide quotes from several, financially strong companies with options that fit any situation. Talk with the insurance agent who provides your auto or homeowners insurance. There are many reputable contacts that can give direction to make life insurance a reality in your life.

Determining the proper amount of life insurance to purchase is another perceived roadblock. An agent from a reputable company with any tenure will take good care of you because so much of their business is built on referrals. The amount of insurance purchased should equate with the amount of money necessary to maintain the family's standard of living. A loose equation for life insurance should look something like this; the amount of short-term obligations/debt (car loans, credit cards, etc.), plus long-term obligations like your mortgage, college expenses, etc., plus the income to be replaced for a certain period of time, minus savings, investments, and other liquid assets. At right is a simple example.



Nobody likes talking about life insurance, but it is a major component of sound financial planning. Life insurance will protect the remaining family members when one of life's guaranteed events, the other being taxes, occurs unexpectedly.

HOW TO BUY LIFE INSURANCE HERE ARE SOME RESOURCES ON THE WEB

<http://www.smartmoney.com/plan/insurance/how-to-buy-a-life-insurance-policy-1304837548050/>
<http://money.cnn.com/magazines/moneymag/money101/lesson20/>

Car Loans.....	\$10,000
Credit Card Debt.....	\$10,000
College Expenses.....	\$30,000
Mortgage Balance.....	\$250,000
Income Replacement (5 years).....	\$300,000 (Five years child goes to college and surviving spouse returns to work)
Less Saving and Investments.....	\$100,000
TOTAL ESTIMATED LIFE INSURANCE NEED	\$500,000

If you have questions, comments, or an area of financial interest you would like to see discussed in The Park Press, please call John at 407-353-0594 or send email to FiscalFitness@gmail.com. Follow John on Twitter, @john_gill1.

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Business Spotlight

Design Colors For The New Year

By Susan Pridgen, PB Interiors

One of the easiest and most practical ways to change the tone of a room is, of course, playing with color. As designers, we look to Pantone's color choices for our reference to see what's fresh for the New Year. With spring right around the corner, Pantone has released some pretty vibrant colors for 2014. With fashion and interior design usually working hand-in-hand, the choices are bold with hues ranging from Dazzling Blue to Radiant Orchid to Celosia Orange. By changing the color palette of a room and adding some new pillows

and accessories (an area rug or maybe some new art), you can create an amazing new look without having to spend gobs of money. Slipcovers can also renew a dated sofa and make a space feel fresh again. If you've always enjoyed a beachside resort and dreamed of bringing that mood to your home, try a cool color palette of blues and corals with some coastal artwork for a relaxing new interior. Stay tuned for next month with some home improvement ideas that won't break the bank. Happy Valentine's Day and thanks for reading!

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Business In The Parks

Dr. Bronte Holt of the Center for Interventional Endoscopy (CIE) at Florida Hospital has been awarded the prestigious Prime Minister's Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Scholarship. This



Bronte Holt

award provides financial support for a top Australian female postgraduate and/or postdoctoral fellow to undertake study and/or research towards an Australian-enrolled PhD, or to undertake postdoctoral research within a participating country, in any field of study.

Fannie Hillman + Associates, the largest independent residential real estate office in Winter Park, just got a little bigger by adding award-winning agents **Wendy Williams Crumit**, **Sandra Cash Jones** and **Brad Duggar** to its staff of real estate associates. Crumit and Jones bring a combined 55 years of residential real estate experience and both are multiple winners of Five Star awards from Five Star Professional for exceptional service and overall customer satisfaction in the Orlando area. Consistent multi-million-dollar producers in their residential real estate careers, primarily in Winter Park, Maitland, Baldwin Park and College Park, Crumit, a real estate broker/agent, and Jones, a real estate agent, together posted sales of more than \$20 million this year prior to joining Fannie Hillman. Both are members of the National Association of Realtors, the Florida Association of Realtors, and the Orlando Regional Realtor Association.



Wendy Williams Crumit



Sandra Cash Jones

For the 18th year in a row, **JA Croson** has made a donation to **Easter Seals Florida** (ESF), which will support its programs and services for children and adults with disabilities and special needs who attend the non-profit's Camp Challenge. This year, more than \$8,200 was donated from the annual JA Croson golf tournament; over the past 18 years, the plumbing and HVAC contracting company has donated more than \$100,000 to ESF.

Baker Barrios celebrates 20 years in business offering design services including architecture, interior design, planning, landscape architecture and brand marketing solutions to clients across 10 industries. The firm is headquartered in Downtown Orlando at the Chase Plaza Building and operates three offices in Orlando, Tampa, and Atlanta. Baker Barrios is known for transforming the Orlando skyline and works to support hundreds of community organizations each year. Significant projects in Orlando include Amway Arena, the Dr. Phillips Center for Performing Arts, Creative Village, OUC, and the Chase Plaza, Aloft Orlando, and more than a dozen multi-family residential and commercial properties throughout downtown.

Robin Webb, managing director of **NAI Realvest** in Orlando, was recently elected president of the **CCIM Foundation**, which fosters commercial real estate education programs and initiatives worldwide and funded scholarships worth more than \$750,000 over the past five years. Webb is well known among Florida real estate investors, brokers and lenders, having headed Coldwell Banker's Florida division for 22 years before joining NAI Realvest. Established in 1988, the CCIM Foundation's mission is to advance and foster commercial real estate education through scholarships, programs and initiatives, according to its charter. The organization relies on donations.



Robin Webb

Sue Ventura, president and CEO of **Easter Seals Florida** (ESF) is pleased to announce that **Sarah Eyman** has joined the non-profit and will serve as its development specialist. In her role at ESF, Eyman will manage the organization's signature fundraiser "A Pair to Remember," which celebrates its 10th anniversary this year; and Walk with Me, a 5K fundraiser scheduled for the fall. Eyman will also work with individual donors on third-party events and individual giving. Eyman is an Orlando native. She holds a bachelor's degree in Family and Child Sciences from Florida State University and a

master's degree from the Crummer Graduate School of Business at Rollins College. Prior to accepting the position at Easter Seals, Eyman worked for the American Heart Association and for JHM Hotels

NewCastle Title Services, a new, Winter Park-based title insurance company launched this month, has made an addition to its management team with the appointment of former real estate sales professional and College Park resident **Pam Potenza** to office manager. In addition to overseeing the day-to-day management responsibilities for NewCastle's Winter Park operations, Potenza also will handle business development and real estate closings. Before joining NewCastle, Potenza was a top-producing real estate agent for four years with the downtown Winter Park office Coldwell Banker Residential Real Estate and before that she spent seven years with Sutton & Sutton Realty in College Park where she also was a top producer. Before starting her real estate sales career, she served as the operations manager for Home Depot's Expo Design Center in Orlando.



Pam Potenza

Harvey L. Massey, chairman and CEO of **Massey Services** is pleased to announce that **Jean Nowry** has been promoted to executive vice president and chief financial officer (CFO) effective January 1, 2014. Nowry previously served as senior vice president of finance and administration for Massey Services. In addition to her work at Massey Services, Nowry is extremely active in the Central Florida community. She currently serves as chairman-elect on the Board of Directors for Junior Achievement of Central Florida, as well as treasurer for the United Arts of Central Florida Board. Prior to joining Massey Services, Nowry had over 10 years of experience holding senior financial positions in both the not-for-profit and real estate industries, along with having been a CPA with Arthur Andersen.



Jean Nowry

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Ayesha G. Bullock

live meaningfully by Ayesha G. Bullock, M.A.

Happy February!

So the decorations are all put away, the credit cards are being whittled away and 2014 is now well on its way... Happy February!

Hoping that you all have recovered from the revelry of the holidays and that you're resting well as a result of the last two articles about sleep.

What's more - I'm hoping by now you've set some solid goals for 2014.

I'm not one for 'resolutions' per se, as they always seem to go by the wayside by late January. But setting a 'goal' has a sort of lofty and enduring connotation. Plus, it gives you a full twelve (now eleven) months to achieve it.

So this month, I would ask you to really set some time aside to intentionally either review and make a plan for the goals you've already set or consider and create a plan for new goals. It's the beginning of a new year and the world is your oyster!

Whether your goals may include health, fitness, career, family, hobbies or balance - what's it going to take to get you there? Do you have a plan? Is it realistic? Are you willing to set other things aside in order to commit to achieving it? Is it worthy of taking the place of those other things that are being

set aside? Have you intentionally or mindfully considered what it would mean to enact your plan?

Will achieving your goals allow you to find greater meaning in your life?

I have a number of goals this year. (And, to be honest, they're getting off the ground far more slowly than I would have hoped.) However, one of my most important goals this year is to create greater margin in my life. It seems that whenever someone asks me how life's going, the first response that occurs to me is "busy"... the second is "well." (This seems rather misguided for a woman who truly believes in living life meaningfully and having a work-life balance.)

In his book "Margin: Restoring Emotional, Physical, Financial, and Time Reserves to Overloaded Lives," Dr. Richard Swenson M.D. describes margin in this way:

Margin is the space between our load and our limits. It is the amount allowed beyond that which is needed. It is something held in reserve for contingencies or unanticipated situations. Margin is the gap between rest and exhaustion, the space between breathing freely and suffocating.

So how do we create more of it in our lives? The good news - I found an interesting theory that

got me thinking. The bad news - finding greater margin in my life really requires me to create it.

No magic salve or Cliff's Notes here.

The interesting theory is Parkinson's Law. That is, "Work expands to fill the time necessary for its completion." Now, if you think about it - this is actually true in a number of ways. It's simply stated but far more profound than it sounds.

Perhaps being mindful of Parkinson's Law may help me create more margin in my life. If I allot only so much time to each aspect of my work and my responsibilities, they will expand to those parameters set. However, it does not say that they will necessarily also extend past the boundaries I set. (Ah, boundaries - there's that word again.) If I also limit the number of commitments I make in conjunction with their allowed consumption of time, I naturally create "margin" in the rolling schedule of my life... right?

It's all sort of easier said than done, I realize. But very little happens without at least beginning with setting our intentions! Therefore, along with my other goals, I will intentionally and mindfully commit to creating greater margin in my life, because it seems margin is where rest, balance, joy, peace and love all reside.

Ayesha G. Bullock, M.A. practices at 2150 Park Avenue North, Winter Park, FL 32789 as a Registered Mental Health Counselor Intern and can be reached at ayesha@livemeaningfully.net or 407-796-2959.

Business Spotlight

What Is ObamaCare? By Dr. Neha Doshi, MD

The term "ObamaCare" is being thrown around a lot, but what is it exactly? The most famous moniker for it is the Affordable Care Act. The purpose of it is to reform the healthcare system and provide more Americans with access to affordable health insurance. Its other main purpose is to regulate the health insurance industry, thereby reducing health care spending in the US.

Open enrollment for ObamaCare insurance started January 1 and requires you to have insurance by March 31, 2014 to avoid a penalty in the form of a tax. The following website will allow you to compare different plans and prices: www.healthcare.gov. When you go to this website, remember to compare not just your monthly premium, but your overall anticipated health care costs. This includes the annual deductible, percentage covered, and copayments (for visits and medications). You may be able to keep the insurance you already have, but

that depends on whether or not your employer chooses to keep the plan.

One of the benefits of ObamaCare is that those with pre-existing conditions can no longer be excluded. Health insurance companies can no longer drop those who get sick. Parents can put their children, up to age 26, on their plans. You can find plans that cover dental and vision coverage as well. If you have Medicare, the "donut hole" gap in coverage will be eliminated by 2020. Medicaid will be extended to those who can't afford coverage.

As with most changes in life, there are pros and cons. The main advantage of the Affordable Care Act is it will insure many young healthy people. This lowers costs overall because they'll pay premiums but won't use as many services. Second, insurance will become available to people who now use the ER instead of going to a PCP. This lowers costs because they will have their conditions treated in the early stages.



Dr. Neha Doshi

Dr. Neha Doshi is a Primary Care Physician and is Board Certified in Internal Medicine. Her practice, Winter Park Primary Care is located at 1341 Orange Ave., Winter Park, FL 32789. She can also be reached at 321-285-6363 or dr@nehadoshi.com

NEHA DOSHI, MD

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Stephen & Kristin Pategas

in the garden by Stephen and Kristin Pategas

Your Hedge – How To Empower It

A hedge is an unnatural use for a plant that never grows in nature in a uniform row. While we can bend most plants to our will, it does take the right plant, growing conditions and maintenance to make a successful long-lasting hedge.

The first step is determining the growing conditions and space limitations. Start with what we usually ignore - where the roots grow in the soil. Determine whether the soils are well or poorly draining. For many plants it makes a big difference. If there is debris, remove it. Check the soil pH since it affects whether a plant can take up nutrients and will thrive. Rise above the soil level and calculate the amount of sunlight that will strike the foliage throughout the year. The right amount of light will provide the photosynthesis needed to support growth.

Now, think about how high and wide the hedge needs to grow. Is it to provide privacy from a one or two-story home or just screen a blank wall, fence or air conditioning condenser? What density is needed? Must it be all one plant or will a variety of plants with varying textures, foliage colors and perhaps blooms fill the need?

The next step is selection of the right plant to meet the site conditions and your needs. Typically throughout Central Florida one plant - sweet viburnum (*Viburnum odoratissimum*) is used in the majority of hedges. This coarse leaved plant does not lend itself to shearing since its large leaves exhibit brown cut edges. It also grows rapidly and is difficult to keep narrow. We frequently see these hedges sucking up a six to eight foot width of valuable real estate. Unfortunately the glossy privet (*Ligustrum japonicum*) is sometimes still used as a hedge. Since it naturally grows into a vase shape and gets see-through on the bottom it rarely accomplishes what a hedge is needed for - screening. However, it does make a fabulous multiple or single small trunk tree.

Recommended plants for Central Florida include: Sandankwa viburnum/*Viburnum suspensum* (short mature height); Yew podocarpus/*Podocarpus macrophyllus* (fine texture and can be trimmed for narrow spaces); Anise/*Illicium parviflorum* (native, licorice scented foliage); Dwarf Walter's viburnum/*Viburnum obovatum* 'Riefler's Densa' or 'Select' (native, short mature height, white blooms) and Simpson's stopper/*Myrcianthes fragrans* (native, fragrant white blooms).

The maintenance of the hedge is critical for its long term survival and aesthetic value. First, if at all possible, do not allow the edges to be sheared with power or hand shears. Require the use of hand pruners and have small portions pruned out so sunlight penetrates and stimulates interior growth. This method also minimizes the loss of flower buds and lengthens the time between pruning sessions. Second, make sure hedges are wider on the bottom than on the top. This allows sunlight to reach the base so it stays full. To keep that top narrower than the base, think pyramidal and lean into the hedge when pruning.

The correct formula for a winning hedge is the selection of the right plant for the conditions and your needs along with proper maintenance - then the hedge is guaranteed to be a natural.

At right, hand trim anise to create a durable hedge.

Photos by Stephen G. Pategas, Hortus, Oasis.



Top photo, a thin hedge of yew podocarpus. Below, a pyramidal shape allows sunlight to reach the bottom.

Hortus Oasis (FL26000315) in Winter Park is a boutique garden design company specializing in residential, commercial and specialty gardens. Stephen is a registered landscape architect and Kristin is a certified landscape designer. Contact them at 407-622-4886/garden@hortusois.com

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Scott Hillman

real estate in the parks by Scott Hillman

More Good News For Local Existing Homes Market in 2014

It's that time of the year when forecasters make their predications for the New Year. The existing homes market in Orange and Seminole counties finished strong last year and can expect another good year in 2014. A lot, however, depends on a slow recovering and unpredictable economy. Here's my outlook.

Home Values: We can expect to see an annual appreciation of 4-6 percent, with prices remaining relatively stable in the first quarter before gathering some momentum in the second and third quarters. The good news is the median price of homes, the most accurate measure of tracking housing market values over a period of time, was \$155,000 in 2013- up 24 percent over 2012.

Home Sales: Based on the way things have been tracking over the past 24 months, we can expect to see sales up 1 to 2 percent over those in 2013 as more properties come on the market and a larger number of pending sales close.

Mortgage Rates: Rates for 30-year fixed mortgages will continue to inch up, perhaps hitting and surpassing 5 percent. The increases shouldn't slow sales, but will fuel demand as buyers feel a sense of urgency to get in the market. On January

3, local interest rates were still quite affordable: 4.2 percent for a 30-year fixed rate and 3.5 percent for a 15-year fixed rate.

Inventory: There was a 3.6-month supply of existing homes on the market on January 3. This supply level will hold prices steady or perhaps result in slightly higher prices depending on location. We can expect to see a relatively substantial number of properties come on the market in the first quarter and possibly the second quarter which will increase inventory and keep prices steady. If, however, inventory drops below a 3-month supply, prices will likely increase.

Pending Sales: Last year pending sales were whittled down quite a bit. On January 3, there were 5,234 pending sales which is down from a high of 9,400 in June 2012. Distressed properties represent 71.3 percent of pending sales, down from a high of 83 percent in April 2012. The number of pending sales and short sales should continue to shrink as market conditions continue to improve.

Distressed Properties: Foreclosures and short sales, which stood at 35 percent of available properties in May 2012, ranged between 23 and 26 percent the last six months of 2013. We still have a challenge in this area but the good news is distressed properties accounted for only 28.5 percent of homes on the market January 3.

There's still work to be done, but the outlook for the local existing home market in 2014 looks good for everyone.



Winter Park bungalows like this one are being snapped up as the real estate market strengthens in 2014. 1520 Glencoe Rd. 3 BR • 2.1 BA • \$539,000

Scott Hillman is president of Fannie Hillman + Associates, a 33-year-old Winter Park-based real estate company specializing in residential real estate sales. He can be reached at (407) 644-1234 or scott@fanniehillman.com.

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pop culture detours by George McGowan

Sequel To A Classic Lives Up To Expectations

For many of a certain age, the novelist Stephen King and his works are a touchstone to the time when reading turned from a rote exercise for school and became an obsession. Count me among that generation that voraciously read King's works and loved every minute of the chills, thrills and (yes) gore that filled the pages. Last year, King released a sequel to his seminal work "The Shining," a novel titled "Doctor Sleep." I had every intention of writing about it four months ago, but unfortunately, I am not a full time book reviewer. In any case, I thought I would share that I found the sequel just as vital and sweeping as the original novel. I would highly recommend it.

While researching the genesis of "The Shining," I learned that King wrote the novel as an exercise in semi-autobiography, as the character of Jack Torrance shared many qualities with King, specifically his alcoholism and futile attempt to kick the habit. King readily admits today that he wrote "The Shining" on an extended cocaine binge (he has since kicked that habit, too) which left him so wired that he remembers sitting at the typewriter with tissues plugged into his nose to stanch the bleeding. With this image in mind, I set out to re-read it prior to diving into the sequel. I also re-visited the movie, famously (or if you prefer) infamously directed by Stanley Kubrick and starring Jack Nicholson as Jack Torrance.

As you might know, the movie treatment of the King novel was pretty darn weird and Nicholson chewed the scenery as he slowly becomes obsessed and perhaps possessed by the Overlook Hotel, a demonic structure built upon an ancient Native

American burial ground. For purists (and Stephen King, himself), the movie had no connection to the characters built by King in his novel. Kubrick wrote the screenplay for his film and obviously only wanted to experiment in the horror genre rather than create King's more sympathetic portrayal of a man so desperate to do anything to fix his family that he isolates himself from his temptations. Of course, the King novel also includes an otherworldly twist, a child named Danny Torrance with the "gift" of telepathy/precognition which causes its own horror and frights. But I agree with the assessment King made of the film in Playboy magazine in 1983: "What's basically wrong with Kubrick's version of 'The Shining' is that it's a film by man who thinks too much and feels too little..."

But, let's get back to the sequel, "Doctor Sleep." The new novel is built upon the bones of the old Overlook Hotel and centers around Danny trying to overcome his own bout with demon drink. Danny hits rock bottom and climbs back out with the help of Alcoholics Anonymous, in contrast to his father who eschewed such a simple thing as help from others who care. That is what makes "Doctor Sleep" a pleasure to read. It is a fuller novel, with great minor characters, and Danny becomes part of a community in both his public and private lives. Of course, he still has "the shine" and "meets" a young lady with a similar affliction who becomes the target of a band of wicked gypsies who prey upon young people with this gift. So, the thrills and chills are still there, courtesy of

Mr. King's incredible imagination. I was riveted from the start, which I attributed initially to the connection I had for the original novel. But, once the new child with the "shine," Abra, entered the story, it took on a life of its own and brought me to someplace new. In the original novel, the "shine" seemed like an affliction, a curse, and Danny could not control his gift. In the sequel, Doctor Sleep (a nickname given to Danny by his co-workers) and Abra learn to use their gift for good and embrace it as a unique and special connection between people with the gift. I heartily endorse "Doctor Sleep" as an effective sequel that honors the original and takes it forward towards a graceful acceptance of the trials given to each of us and our ability to overcome these trials through the support of friends, family and even strangers who just "seem" to have a unique connection (perhaps "the shine"?) with each other.



Author Stephen King's new novel "Doctor Sleep" is a sequel to his earlier work "The Shining."

theater in the parks by Barbara Solomon

I Believe In Art

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This wonderful show has representations of all types of art, from painting to multimedia sculpture. I was amazed at the crowd on opening night, about 300-400 art lovers. The theme of the show was "I Believe," where each artist named their work with that euphemism. To complement that there was a poetry component, where 20 poets wrote a poem based on the title of the work of art without actually seeing it.

One of our favorites was an abstract watercolor by Ken Austin, "I Believe in Color." It is in the style of Sonia Delaunay, a French-Russian, who painted at the beginning of the 20th century. Interestingly, she said of her husband Robert, "In Robert I found a poet." These were the days of cubism, but her movement was called orphism, actually an offshoot of cubism.

We also loved "Golden Morning" by Cathy Hempel. It had gorgeous light-Cathy's theme was "I Believe in Nature."

At the other end of the spectrum were the works of Bonnie Sprung, four colorful Florida jungle-looking paintings. She has hidden words in trees and water, an interesting concept, but not novel. Her works were reminiscent of Henri Rousseau, a primitivist. Judy Batterson also paints Florida landscapes, but in the Highwayman style. "I Believe in Discovery" was the first painting sold at this marvelous show. It depicts Ponce de Leon's ship with a fantastic orange sky in the background. Another beautiful sky was seen in Doris Smart's "I Believe in Paradise." It was a majestic purple, with fabulous clouds that blend with the color of the sky without lines or borders, evaporating like smoke. This was a technique developed by Leonardo da Vinci, called sfumato.

Last but not least was the sculpture of Marsha De Bronski. We were impressed by her composition of groups of human figures that was very dynamic. I was excited by "I Believe in Yoga." There is a raw quality about her work which draws us in. She may have been influenced by Giacometti's sculpture.

All in all, Brad Biggs did an impressive job curating this show, which is not to be missed. Running through February 15 at the City Arts Factory, 29 S. Orange Avenue.

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schools

School District Update

By Nancy Robinson, Orange County School Board Member, District 6

Congratulations to the teachers, students and families for successfully completing the first half of the school year! As we head into the second half of the year the teachers will continue to prepare the students for the FCAT and End of Course exams. I wish everyone the best of success on both!

Two Community Meetings scheduled:

In College Park, Lake Silver Elementary's construction continues to move along smoothly with the completion date scheduled for some time in mid-summer so the teachers and students can be back on the home campus for the beginning of school in August. I am hosting a meeting on Monday, February 17 at 6:00p.m. in the cafeteria at the Lake Silver East swing site on Falcon Drive in Audubon Park. The OCPS Facilities Department will lead this meeting to update the community on the progress of the Lake Silver reconstruction project.

In Audubon Park, I am hosting a community meeting to discuss the possibilities for the future construction of the original Audubon Park site on Wednesday, February 19 at 6:30p.m. in the cafeteria at the existing Audubon Park site in Baldwin

Park. OCPS staff will facilitate this meeting to discuss what a K-8 facility looks like and the possibility of a K-8 being built on the original APE site to alleviate overcrowding at APE in Baldwin Park and Glenridge Middle. I encourage anyone who lives in Audubon Park, Beverly Shores and Rose Isle, or lives North of Colonial Drive and is currently zoned for Ferncreek Elementary, to attend.

Two 5K Runs to benefit schools:

To uphold our New Year's Resolution of good health I encourage everyone to join me in support of two District 6 schools by participating in their 5K runs. I'll be the one walking and bringing up the rear just to make sure everyone is safely in off the course! Dommerich Elementary hosts its annual 5K Run on Saturday, February 8 and Edgewater High School hosts its annual 5K Run on Saturday, February 22. For more information you can contact the schools directly for times and entry requirements.

Thank you for allowing me to serve our community, students and teachers and feel free to contact me anytime with your ideas, thoughts and concerns for our school district!



Nancy Robinson



Aloma Elementary

PRINCIPAL DR. DREW A. HAWKINS

We need your help on increasing student attendance. In order for your children to be successful in school, they need to be in school. You can help us with this goal by having your child on time every day, and not signing your child out early. Remember that absenteeism and tardiness disrupt a student's education. One absence or tardy is enough to miss the introduction of a key skill that is the foundation for the next stage of learning. Thank you for your help with this.

Our next SAC Meeting will be on Tuesday, February 4 at 8:00 a.m. in the principal's conference room. We will be hosting an FCAT information night on Thursday, February 6, from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. for the parents of our 3rd, 4th, and 5th-grade students. Please come out and learn about testing on your child's grade level, as well as strategies to help prepare them for the upcoming tests. Remember that there is no school for students on Monday, February 17.

As always, we appreciate your help and your support! We are "Team Eagle: Every Student! Every Day!"



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Brookshire Elementary

PRINCIPAL DR. MARC RUMMLER

One month into the new year and people are reviewing progress on resolutions. Many work towards a goal of improved fitness. At Brookshire, the month of February has quite a few examples of our effort to instill a healthy lifestyle.

Many of our students are participants in the Fast Start Track Meet at Showalter Field on February 1. We also anticipate a good number of students will run in the Run Around the Pines 5K on February 15. We are fortunate to have Randi Topps as our physical education teacher who works hard to teach our students the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle. She not only organizes the above races for our students, she also has a running club at school. She coordinates our Jump Rope for Heart event this month and will arrange a Get Active Day at the end of the month. Her physical education lessons often include information on nutrition. Coach Topps and several staff members and parents serve on our Healthy School Team to ensure we maintain a fitness focus.

Our students are not the only ones getting into racing this month. Several staff members are runners

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schools

Continued from page 16

in the Warrior Dash race in Lake Wales on February 1. We hope you too will embrace a healthy lifestyle and find something to push you to become more fit.



Dommerich Elementary

PRINCIPAL DR. JUNELLA HANDLEY KREIL

Happy new year! Dommerich Chiefs are excited to leap into learning in 2014. The second semester will bring opportunities to dig deep into thinking and to show what we have learned. We are proud of our students; they are working hard in and out of school hours. Congratulations to our Geography Bee students, who recently competed in our school-level National Geography Bee; and to our Athletics Team, who have won competitions this year. Our Science Olympiad Team is enthusiastically researching, testing and revising their thinking as they prepare for competition in May. Chiefs, stay focused and strong in 2014!

As we enter these early months in our new year, please mark your calendar for the following Dommerich events: Chiefs on the Run 5k and Dommerich One Mile Dash on February 8; and Math Night on February 20. We will be cheering on our fourth-grade

students on February 25, as they display their writing talents on the FCAT Writing Test.

Please help us thank all crossing guards on Friday, February 7 as well. Thank you for keeping our children safe as they walk and roll to and from school every day!



Fern Creek Elementary

PRINCIPAL DR. PATRICK GALATOWITZ

School is back in session even stronger than ever! We want to take this time to recognize the special Winter Park organizations and community donors here at Fern Creek - Rollins College, The Woman's Club of Winter Park, The Bar Method of Winter Park, and the numerous neighborhood donors. With your help, our students are staying fed throughout the weekends, keeping warm with much-needed jackets and winter items, and are being intellectually stimulated through the livelihood of our mentoring program. We are so lucky to have the talent, support, and compassion from these friends in our times of need.

In particular, we wanted to highlight our long-standing partners - Rollins College and The Woman's Club of Winter Park. Rollins has been so kind to Fern Creek in providing mentors over the year, sponsoring our students for their annual Pathways to College

field trip, providing volunteers to read to our kindergarten students, and more. Rollins students enjoy spending their time with us, and the feeling is mutual. Their connection to Fern Creek is appreciated!

Our friends at the Woman's Club of Winter Park are particularly supportive of our needs. Over the last several years, the Woman's Club has consistently made food and clothing donations to many of our needy students. They have even gone above the call of duty to make monetary donations to our school so that we are able to purchase clothing when stock or certain sizes were low.

If you feel moved to lend a hand, we warmly welcome your involvement in the life of our school. To inquire about opportunities to become involved, please contact the school principal at galatop@ocps.net.



Glenridge Middle School

PRINCIPAL TREVOR HONOHAN

Hello parents, students, friends, and stakeholders of Glenridge Middle School. I am pleased to report that Glenridge just might be the best middle school on the planet. Each and every day our students and teachers are learning and growing together. The staff is smiling and looks forward to coming to work each day. I would like to continue to ask that parents help the cause of educating these talented students by being diligent at home. Help your child to remain organized and on task. Ask them if they have homework, and if they say no.... ask them again. Insist that they find something interesting to read daily and take an interest in what interests them. As a parent of two Glenridge students I am trying to perfect my craft at home by staying involved and in tune to what they need to do to be successful. The middle school years fly by and then our students enter high school. Sixth through eighth grade is the time to encourage hard work, desire and vision for the future. I appreciate all you do, as we work together to make the lives of our children the best they can be!

Having a strong body supports the importance of wellness, good nutrition and physical fitness. Through the Winter Park Health Foundation, our students have access to a mental health counselor (CHILL) and school nurse to address mental and physical needs. Each month we have yoga instruction during physical education classes, and both students and teachers are encouraged to participate in running and/or walking club each week to promote lifelong fitness.

Having strong character supports the importance of being ethical, responsible and caring. We have weekly Student of the Week awards to highlight students who go above and beyond in the classrooms, and we have quarterly assemblies to recognize students for a variety of achievements. Additionally, both our Student Council and our National Elementary Honor Society students sponsor service projects throughout the year.

We recognize that your child is the single most precious investment you have as a parent. It is our mission and focus as educators that we develop the intellectual (mind); emotional (character/mind) and

Some of our students are starting their day the healthy way every Wednesday morning as they join our Walking School Bus and walk with their friends to school. We are so thankful for our parents who walk with these students and help them develop a healthy lifestyle.

February is Black History Month and we have many planned activities for the students and the staff. Our Black History Committee makes this an educational experience for all of us. It is always an event to remember.

This is the time of year that we celebrate our Support Person of the Year, Nancy Westery; and our Teacher of the Year, D Kelly. It is an honor and a privilege to be working with these dedicated professionals.



Lakemont Elementary

PRINCIPAL DR. BRENDA CUNNINGHAM

Happy February! As we move forward in the New Year, we will focus on the qualities of having a strong mind, strong body and strong character. Having a "strong mind" supports the importance of a rigorous academic program. Everything we do to have a strong mind is supported by our Common Core State Standards. We provide opportunities for students to receive additional assistance through tutoring during the school day and Saturday school. Our teachers are moving forward with teaching students the strategies and skills of successful students through the Destination College program. Once a month we have college spirit day in which we invite students to wear a shirt from a college to encourage an "I'm attending college" culture. We have a variety of resources such as FCAT Explorer and Accelerated Reader that students use to practice academic skills.

Having a strong body supports the importance of wellness, good nutrition and physical fitness. Through the Winter Park Health Foundation, our students have access to a mental health counselor (CHILL) and school nurse to address mental and physical needs. Each month we have yoga instruction during physical education classes, and both students and teachers are encouraged to participate in running and/or walking club each week to promote lifelong fitness.

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We recognize that your child is the single most precious investment you have as a parent. It is our mission and focus as educators that we develop the intellectual (mind); emotional (character/mind) and

Continued on page 18

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Continued from page 17

physical development (body) and recognize them as ways to help our Lakemont Leopards “saddle up for success.”

Park Maitland School
PRINCIPAL CINDY MOON

Resolve To Help In 2014

Every year, we make personal resolutions to do such things as lose weight, sleep more, spend more time with friends and family, but this year consider resolving to help your community as well. We have seen the difference it makes with our children to have them reach out beyond themselves and work toward helping others. So far this school year, we have worked with many worthy organizations, such as Toys for Tots, Just1Book, Second Harvest Food Bank, A Million Thanks, and A Grateful Mind. Many individuals and families are very giving during the holidays, but come New Year get busy again in their everyday lives and put this kind of care on the backburner. Now, more than ever, let's resolve to continue our care and get more families and children involved in service. The Park Maitland curriculum incorporates the idea of service, and we have seen firsthand how enriching it is for those we help as well as ourselves. Our children are more empathetic, forward thinking, and kind because they are more community minded. More and more organizations are making it possible for families to participate together, and groups such as Hands On Orlando coordinate opportunities for you and allow you to sign up online. Other worthy organizations we have enjoyed working with include The Howard Phillips Center, One Warm Coat, and many animal rescue groups. Check them out and find something meaningful to your family. Make your 2014 a more

enriching and meaning year. And really the best part? More quality family time together as well. All the best for a beautiful 2014!

St. James Cathedral School
PRINCIPAL MRS. GERRI GENDALL

Cannon Wiggins is battling Stage 4 Neuroblastoma. Please help us “Cannonball Kids’ Cancer” by spreading awareness! When Cannon was diagnosed in April 2013, his mother, Melissa, was just days away from delivering twin baby boys. She stood watch at his bedside during tests, treatments, and surgeries. Eleven days after his diagnosis, Melissa gave birth to Cannon’s baby brothers, Arran James and Gray. Cannon’s father, Michael, and big sister, Olivia, 16, have also been at his side—“Cannonballing Cancer” non-stop. Cannon continues fighting the biggest battle of his life and has already endured multiple rounds of chemotherapy, two biopsy surgeries, a 13-hour surgery to resect his primary tumor, stem cell transplant, and radiation. Please help us spread awareness regarding how underfunded and under-researched pediatric cancer is, as well as our nationwide shortage of blood. We need your help to Cannonball Kids’ Cancer!

For further information, please call 407-841-4432 or visit our web site www.stjcs.com

At right, Cannon Wiggins.



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At left and below, Park Maitland students resolve to work toward helping others in 2014.



Trinity Preparatory School
PRINCIPAL CRAIG MAUGHAN

One of Trinity Prep’s alums who returned from serving in Afghanistan in January was greeted with a hero’s welcome – a surprise parade through downtown Winter Park complete with the Budweiser Clydesdales. Army Lieutenant Charles Nadd, a Trinity Prep grad from 2007, was returning to Orlando from an eight-month tour as a Blackhawk helicopter pilot. His fiancée picked him up from the airport and



Above, Trinity Prep alum Army Lieutenant Charles Nadd gets a hero’s welcome with a surprise parade through downtown Winter Park. The parade was organized by Budweiser.



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Open House Sunday, February 9th
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At The First Academy, we partner with you in making your child’s education the very best it can be by combining a first class education with a core set of Christian values: **Bolstering** spirituality, **Excellence** in teaching and learning, developing **Servant** leaders, and **Telling** the story of Christ.

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THE FIRST ACADEMY

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drove him straight to the parade, which was kept secret from Nadd. The parade was organized by Budweiser and was rumored to be filmed for a 2014 Super Bowl commercial. Nadd is part of a documentary Budweiser is producing on returning veterans. “Anything that he sets off to accomplish, he does it with zest and gusto - all the while thinking about how he got there and the people that influenced him, and always with a grateful heart,” said Georgia Parker, who was Nadd’s eighth-grade English teacher at Trinity Prep.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Audubon Park Garden District Events

Ongoing Events

Every Monday night Community Market – 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. at Stardust Coffee parking lot located at 1842 E. Winter Park Rd. For information call 407-590-8776.

First Monday of Every Month To celebrate their 50th anniversary, admission to Leu Gardens is free the first Monday of each month during 2013. For more information please call 407-246-2620 or visit www.leugardens.org.

First Mondays of Every Month Story Time – 10:00 to 10:15 a.m. infants to 18 months, 10:20 to 10:35 a.m. toddlers, and 10:40 to 11:00 a.m. preschoolers at Leu Gardens located at 1920 N. Forest Ave. For more information please at 407-246-2620 or visit www.leugardens.org.

February 8 Seed Swap – 9:00 a.m. to noon at Harry P. Leu Gardens located at 1920 N. Forest Ave. Seed swapping is free, fun and best of all, the find - you may find seeds you’ve always wanted to try. Participation in the seed swap gives you free seeds and free admission into Leu Gardens on the same day. For more information please visit www.leugardens.org.

February 14 Valentine’s Stroll – 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. at Harry P. Leu Gardens located at 1920 N. Forest Ave. For more information please call 407-246-2620 or visit www.leugardens.org.

March 15 -16 Leu Gardens Annual Plant Sale – 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Harry P. Leu Gardens. For more information please call 407-246-2620 or visit www.leugardens.org.

College Park and Orlando Area Events

Ongoing Events

Every Wednesday Belles and Beaus Dance Club has dances every Wednesday from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. at the Marks Street Recreation Complex located at 99 E. Marks Street. Join in for an evening of fun and dancing to music by the Soft Touch band. Refreshments are available. Singles and couples are welcome. Cost: \$5.00 per person. For more information please call 407-277-7008.

Every Thursday College Park Farmers’ Market – 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. located at 1600 Edgewater Dr. For information call 407-999-5251.

Every Sunday Downtown Orlando Farmers’ Market – 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Lake Eola. For more information call 407-246-3625.

Monday – Friday Each Week Seniors’ Program in College Park – 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the College Park Community Center located at 2393 Elizabeth St. For information call 407-246-4361.

First Friday of Each Month The Art Stroll of Ivanhoe Village – 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. on Orange Ave. between Princeton and New Hampshire.

February 6 The Orange County Retired Educators Meeting – 11:30 a.m. pot luck luncheon at College Park United Methodist Church located at 644 W. Princeton St. Anyone who has worked in education is invited to attend. For more information please visit www.ocrea-fl.org, or call 407-677-0446.

February 8 Orlando Chili Cook-Off - Noon - 6:00 p.m. at Festival Park. Proceeds for this event benefit Special Olympics of Florida and Kiwanis Clubs of Greater Orlando. For more information please call 407-777-8309 or visit www.orlandochilicookoff.com

February 14 - 16 32nd Annual Antiques Vintage & Garden Show – Friday and Saturday, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. and Sunday noon to 5:00 p.m. at the Orlando Museum of Art. For more information please call 407-896-4231 or visit www.omart.org.

February 15 Orlando Wetlands Festival - 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at Fort Christmas Park located at 1300 North Fort Christmas Rd. This event is sponsored by the City of Orlando, Atkins, Orange Audubon Society, and Orange County Parks & Recreation. For more information please call 407-568-1706 or visit www.cityoforlando.net/wetlands.

February 15 Run Around The Pines 5K – 7:30 a.m. at Showalter Field located at 2525 Cady Way. This annual event includes a Healthy 100 Kid’s Run at

8:45 a.m. and proceeds benefit the Track Shack Foundation. For more information please call 407-896-1160 or visit www.trackshack.com.

February 21 Orlando Garden Club Meeting - 10:30 a.m. at 710 East Rollins St., featuring floral design and tips for entering the April 18 flower show. For more information please call 407-900-8965 or visit www.orlandogardenclub.org.

March 6 The Orange County Retired Educators Meeting - 10:00 a.m. at College Park United Methodist Church located at 644 W. Princeton St. Anyone who has worked in education is invited to attend. For more information please visit www.ocrea-fl.org, or call 407-677-0446.

March 7 A Pair To Remember 2014 - 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at The Mall at Millenia. Ninety-three cents of every dollar given to Easter Seals of Florida goes to support the non-profit’s programs and services. For more information please visit www.fleasterseals.com.

March 15 Walk To Defeat ALS - 9:30 a.m. at Lake Eola. For more information please call 888-257-1717 or visit www.walktodefeatals.org.

Maitland Events

Ongoing Events

Every Sunday Maitland Farmers’ Market at Lake Lily

Every Tuesday Preschool Stories 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. at the Maitland Public Library located at 501 S. Maitland Avenue.

Every Thursday Healthy Maitland Walk 6:30 a.m.; **Babytime** 10:30 to -11:30 a.m. and **Adventures w/Books Club** 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the Maitland Public Library.

Second Friday each month (Now through April 2014) Culture Pop! – 7:00 - 11:00 p.m. at the Art & History Museums - Maitland. This event features a Clothesline Show of artworks highlighting Central Florida artists. Cost is \$5 per person, and free to current members. For more information please visit www.artandhistory.org.

February 13 Smart Aging Health Fair 9:00 a.m. to noon at the Maitland Civic Center located at 641 S. Maitland Avenue. Visit over 30 professional and participate in various health screenings. For more information on this free event please call the Alzheimer’s & Dementia Resource Center at 407-843-1910.

February 17 Move It On Monday: Get Pumped This President’s Day! 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Roth JCC of Greater Orlando. This free fitness and health event includes: Blood pressure and BMI screening, carbon monoxide testing, one blood bus/cholesterol check, sport injury consultation, chair massage and much more. For more information please call 407-621-4055 or visit www.orlandojcc.org.

Winter Park Events

Ongoing Events

Every Saturday Winter Park Farmers’ Market – 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Every Saturday Line Dance Class –10:00 a.m. at the Winter Park Community Center. Beginners are asked to come at 9:30 a.m. to learn the basic steps. For more information please call 407-592-7835.

Every Tuesday and Thursday “Hands-on Gardening” – 9:30 a.m. – noon at the Albin Polasek Museum & Sculpture Gardens. For more information regarding this free year-round event please call 407-647-6294.

Every Tuesday and Thursday Beginning Pilates Class – 5:15 p.m. at the Winter Park Community Center. For more information please call 407-671-9599.

Monday - Friday “Art in Chambers” Exhibit - Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. This free exhibit is on display at the City Hall Commission Chambers located at 401 Park Avenue South.

Every Tuesday, Friday and Saturday Winter Park Benefit Shop – the shop is located at 140 West Lyman Avenue and is open from 9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays, and from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. on Saturdays. Donate or purchase clothing, bedding,

FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHT



February 15 Orlando Wetlands Festival – 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Fort Christmas Park located at 1300 N. Fort Christmas Rd. For more information please call 407-568-1706, or visit www.cityoforlando.net/wetlands.

jewelry, kitchenware and more. Proceeds benefit various children’s programs and the local branch of Orlando Blind. For more information please call 407-647-8276.

Every Tuesday Beginning Pilates Class – 5:15 p.m. at the Winter Park Community Center. For more information please call 407-671-9599.

Every Friday Friday Nights at the Morse – 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Charles Hosmer Morse Museum of American Art located at 445 N. Park Ave. Complimentary admission is offered to the galleries and features live music (second Friday of each month), art demonstrations and special tours. For more information please call 407-645-5311 or visit www.museum.org

Every Sunday Music at the Casa – this free event featuring professional musicians and performers is hosted at Casa Feliz every Sunday from noon – 3:00 p.m. For more information call 407-628-8200 ext. 3 or visit www.casafeliz.us.

Now - April 13, 2014 Russian Icons from the Romanov Era Exhibit at the Polasek – This exhibit is of works from the 17th to early 20th centuries and reflects the opening up of Russia to Westernizing influences during the Romanov era. The Albin Polasek Museum and Sculpture Gardens is located at 633 Osceola Avenue. For times and more information please visit www.polasek.org.

February 6 The Winter Park Public Library hosts Garden Talks with Stephen and Kristin Pategas of Hortus Oasis – noon to 1:00 p.m. (bring lunch). This month: Florida Smart Plants: Shrubs & Groundcovers. \$5 per session. Register online www.wppl.org or call 407-623-3279.

February 6 Sip, Shop & Stroll – 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. along participating merchants on Park Avenue and Morse Boulevard. \$25 per person includes passport and wine glass. Tickets are limited, so advance registration is encouraged by calling 407-644-8281.

February 7 First Friday Gallery Talks – 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Cornell Fine Arts Museum at Rollins College. For more information please call 407-646-2526 or visit www.cfam.rollins.edu.

February 11 Artist Talk Featuring John Hitchcock – 6:00 p.m. at the Cornell Fine Arts Museum at Rollins College. For more information please call 407-646-2526 or visit www.cfam.rollins.edu.

February 15 Weavers of Orlando Meeting featuring “The Magic of Colors” – 10:00 a.m. at the Winter Park Towers. For more information regarding this free event please visit www.weaversoforlando.com

February 18 Collecting Old Masters in Bluegrass: European Paintings from the Speed Art Museum in Louisville, Kentucky – 6:00 p.m. at the Cornell Fine Arts Museum featuring by Kim Spence, curator. For more information please call 407-646-2526 or visit www.cfam.rollins.edu.

February 27 Illustrator Talk and Q & A – 7:30 p.m. at the Cornell Fine Arts Museum featuring Dana Schutz, Atlantic Center for the Arts Artist-In-Residence. For more information please call 407-646-2526 or visit www.cfam.rollins.edu.

March 1 Tai Chi Sessions in The Polasek Gardens – This is a six week session from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. through April 5. For more information, or to register please visit www.polasek.org or call 407-647-6294.

March 6 The Winter Park Public Library hosts Garden Talks with Stephen and Kristin Pategas of Hortus Oasis – noon to 1:00 p.m. (bring lunch). This month: Florida Smart Plants: Shrubs & Groundcovers. \$5 per session. Register online www.wppl.org or call 407-623-3279.

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