

# The Park Press

DECEMBER 2012

~ Positive news that matters ~

FREE

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For updated news, events and more, visit [www.TheParkPress.com](http://www.TheParkPress.com)

## Florida League Celebrity Golf Tournament Success

The Annual Florida League Celebrity Golf Tournament presented by UBS Private Wealth, now in its fifth year, fielded 29 fivesomes as well as top Major League Baseball celebrities with a combined 285 years of MLB service, 2099 home runs, 2645 strike outs, 29 All Star Appearances, 9 Silver Sluggers, 7 World Series Titles, 2 Rookies of the Year, and 1 Cy Young Award. Once again, the tournament was played at Interlachen County Club in Winter Park, with all proceeds throughout the weekend benefiting the Florida Collegiate Summer League, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

The weekend's festivities also included the second annual Celebrity Pitching & Hitting Clinic. Current and former MLB Stars joined the Florida League and 45 aspiring youth baseball players in Winter Park at nearby Alford Stadium. Celebrities who took part in the clinic were Davey Johnson, Frank Viola, Stan Boroski, Dave Clark, JR House, Hunter Pence, Ozzie Timmons, Vince Coleman, John Castino, Rick Eckstein, Tomas Nido, Jesse Winker, Max Moroff, and Andrew Brown. The clinic lasted three hours and focused on pitching and hitting essentials coached by each of the MLB stars. The day was closed out with a word from NL Manager of the Year, the Nationals' Davey Johnson and 2012 World Series Champion, Hunter Pence of the San Francisco Giants.

Congratulations to Tim Raines Jr. for his second straight Florida League Celebrity



Justin McGowan, and 2012 World Series Champion Hunter Pence of the San Francisco Giants at the Celebrity Pitching & Hitting Clinic.

Golf Tournament victory as his group won with an overall score of 53 (-19).

Overall, through the silent auction, sponsorships, and donations, the golf tournament raised over \$50,000 for the second consecutive year.

If you'd like to learn more about the Florida League please visit [www.florida-league.com](http://www.florida-league.com). ■

## A Focus On Charitable Efforts To Feed The Hungry

The Baldwin Park architectural firm Cuhaci & Peterson Architects Engineers Planners recently completed the design of a 10,000 square foot warehouse for Feeding Children Everywhere, an international charity that mobilizes volunteers and donors to assemble thousands of simple, nutritious meals that are shipped to isolated parts of the world where hunger and malnourishment are rampant. Lonnie Peterson, chairman of Cuhaci & Peterson Architects, said Nathan Griffis served as project manager for the warehouse project and provided engineering services.

Cuhaci & Peterson also participated in Canstruction 2012, a charitable event to raise awareness across the U.S. and provide food for the local Second Harvest Food Bank.



Cuhaci & Peterson at Can-O-Rama

The firm created a massive display depicting a Sherwin Williams Paint Can---one of the event's primary sponsors---surrounded by Van Gogh's famous painting, "Starry Night."

The entry, displayed at Orlando Fashion Square, earned Cuhaci & Peterson Architects the Can-O-Rama award. ■

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## Publisher's Message



RICK CABLE

So whether you celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah or Kwanzaa, the holiday season is certainly in full swing. It's always an interesting time as we all strive to juggle the year-end work or school demands, shopping, family schedules, personal time, vacation time, traffic and travel, yet we are all trying to cling to the joy and the spirit of the holidays.

I have to say that corporations that work by a fiscal year perhaps do so in an effort to lighten the load that comes with the end of the calendar year, but who are they kidding- December is the be-all of critical months as it relates to business.

Well as we know, the demands will always be present, but while we have to juggle the schedule more efficiently this time of year, we might as well carve out some time to attend a few of the great holiday events in our community to help keep us in the holiday spirit.

The calendar of events this month includes a wide spectrum of holiday activities that range from the ever-popular Reindeer Run to the Holiday Boat Parade & Water Ski Show to the lighting of the Tiffany windows and a performance by the Bach Festival Choir. I want to mention that I'm honored to be a boat parade judge for the third year. It's so unlike any other event and it's truly unique to our community. The Albin Polasek Museum is a wonderful host, the lakes are an awesome setting, and the participants really go all out decorating their boats. It's always hard to determine the winner, yet it's always a great time for all.

In closing, we will be doing our best to keep you informed and in the holiday spirit, so be sure to "like" The Park Press on Facebook, and visit our website often, as we will post photos from the various events throughout the month. Also, if you'd like to submit a photo of your family attending a holiday event please email it in with a caption to info@theparkpress.com.

As always, thank you so much for reading The Park Press and we look forward to the great things to come.

Rick

Rick Cable  
Publisher/Founder



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just for yooooou!

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All pets must be on a leash, in a carrier, or held by the owner at all times.  
Owners must sign a release prior to visiting Santa and are responsible  
for pets at all times. Please use the Premiere Cinema entrance.

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# All I Want For Christmas...

By Tricia Cable

Here we are again, not sure how this keeps happening, but another holiday season is upon us and another year is coming to an end. The family that came in town to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday has returned home, the leftovers have been consumed, the house has returned to relative order and we are all back to school and work. As I write this, there are just 36 shorts days before Ol' Saint Nick makes his miracle ride around the globe. For us, it is time to put up a tree, hang the lights and get the lists ready because Santa Claus is coming to town.

The annual arrival of the red and green Rubbermaid containers into my living room from the attic is one, that I will admit, I do not always look forward to. Don't get me wrong, I love the house all dressed up in her Christmas best, but getting there before December 24th is almost always a time management challenge. One year it took us three weeks from start to finish, doing a little bit at a time, here and there, when we could squeeze it in. And under no circumstances would we ever consider starting before Thanksgiving like the local area retailers. The pumpkins from Halloween are still on our front porch when they start decking their halls, unthinkable!

However as much as I pretend to dread it, when

it is all said and done, I typically find the entire process extremely therapeutic. Unpacking the multitude of decorations that I have collected from various sources throughout the years sends me on a very welcomed trip down memory lane. Whether it is the ornaments that the girls made in preschool or the ones that hung on my tree as a child, I find the feelings that each one, in their own right, conjures up to be quite pleasing. The celebratory ritual forces me to slow down, if just for a moment, and realize that precious time is passing by and whether I choose to recognize it or not, these are the days.

These are the days that we will draw comfort from in the not-so-distant future when our children are grown and our homes are quiet. These are the days that we will dream of reliving when the kids have homes and families of their own and the images looking back at us in the mirror resemble our parents more than ourselves. These are the days that make all the energy and effort worthwhile and the sometimes crazy hustle and bustle of the season worth living. Because, these are the days of our lives... ■



## Looking For Leadership!

Since 1999 Relay for Life has been a part of the Winter Park community and with your help it will continue to be. Are you motivated, enthusiastic, and connected to the great city of Winter Park? If so, they would like to speak to

you about participating with the 2013 planning committee. The Winter Park event has brought in over \$1.2 million since it began in 1999. If you are interested in helping to change lives please email [Tab.Bartlett@cancer.org](mailto:Tab.Bartlett@cancer.org).



Come skate at the holiday ice rink in Central Park West Meadow!

located at the corner of New York Avenue & Morse Boulevard

All day general admission \$10 (includes skates)

Friday, November 16, 2012 thru Sunday, January 6, 2013

group discounts & private party rental available > reservations required

Monday thru Thursday > 3 p.m. – 9 p.m.  
Friday > 3 p.m. – 10 p.m.  
Saturday > 10 a.m. – 10 p.m.  
Sunday > Noon – 8 p.m.

see website for extended school holiday hours



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For more info, please call 407-599-3203 or visit [cityofwinterpark.org/WITP](http://cityofwinterpark.org/WITP)





# City Commissioner's Message

Commissioner Robert F. Stuart, City of Orlando District 3



ROBERT F. STUART

It doesn't seem possible that another year has almost past and we are closing in on 2013! Much has happened in 2012, and I wanted to recap some of the highlights

of this year.

It has been exciting to see projects such as SunRail and the Community Venues continue moving forward. Check out [sunrail.com](http://sunrail.com) for news and photos of the construction of many of the stations as well as the passenger cars. The Dr. Phillips Performing Arts Center is really starting to take shape as well - check out the construction cam on [drphillipscenter.org](http://drphillipscenter.org). You can click on any date since construction began a little more than a year ago and see the progress made from then until now.

In August, we broke ground on the Club at NBA City, another full service restaurant inside the Amway Center. This fall, we have welcomed the Solar Bears minor league hockey team out of hibernation and into the Amway. Their season runs through March; for more information, visit [solarbearshockey.com](http://solarbearshockey.com). It was recently announced that the Amway Center will be part of the NCAA Basketball's March Madness, hosting 2nd and 3rd round games of the Men's Basketball Tournament in 2014. The Citrus Bowl renovations also continue on the right track, with the design process ongoing and construction slated to begin no later than January 2014.

Just last month, we celebrated the groundbreaking of the new LYMMO route, which will expand the downtown bus circulator from Westmoreland Drive to Summerlin Avenue, encompassing the new Creative Village area, the Amway Center, the Federal Courthouse, the Dr. Phillips Performing Arts Center, and the Thornton Park neighborhood. I was also very proud this summer to cut the ribbon on the Orlando Urban Trail segment that connects Mead Garden in Winter Park to downtown

Orlando to provide even more transportation alternatives.

I am excited that also in November, we officially broke ground for the Fresh Market, the anchor tenant for the retail portion of the Mills Park development. This year, we have also seen a consistent 97% occupancy rate in our downtown apartments and construction began on Sky House, at Livingston and Rosalind, the first high-rise building to be built since the recession began. Two other new housing projects have taken shape in Uptown, in District 3, with Steel House at the corner of Orange and Colonial now leasing and NORA, a mixed use development next to Citrus Restaurant, breaking ground at the end of last month. Next to City Hall, we have enjoyed watching the construction of the Aloft Hotel, an imaginative reuse of the old OUC building. The Starwood Brand hotel will have 119 rooms and open in summer 2013.

I am hopeful that next year will bring much of the private-sector enthusiasm we have seen in the downtown core to other areas of the city where we are undergoing visioning and planning projects. Our staff has been working on the East Colonial Drive Vision Plan - this vision plan engages major property owners between Bumby Avenue and Semoran Boulevard- including the Greater Orlando Aviation Authority (GOAA), which controls much of the property on the south side of East Colonial Drive in that corridor- and the community on fulfilling a coordinated strategy that ultimately will add to the economic vibrancy of the corridor. To learn more about this process, visit [www.cityoforlando.net/planning](http://www.cityoforlando.net/planning) and then click on Plans/ Projects.

GOAA has already signed three leases for tenants on their property. The tenants include a Microtel Inn and Suites (member of Wyndham Hotels - [microtelinn.com](http://microtelinn.com)), a Wawa Store and Gas Station ([wawa.com](http://wawa.com)) and a GFS Marketplace ([gfs.com](http://gfs.com)). Since these are all approved uses under the current zoning, the construction will just go through our city's regular permitting process. As you

have probably already heard, the Orlando Fashion Square Mall is currently under contract to be sold and may undergo a large-scale transformation in the future. This area is part of the plan, so the city will look forward to working with the new owners to become a partner in the visioning process.

As the year comes to a close, I also wanted to ask our constituents to please continue to be vigilant in your crime prevention measures and don't hesitate to call the police (the non-emergency number is 321-235-5300) when you see anything at all that seems out of place in your neighborhood. Also, if you haven't started or joined a Neighborhood Watch group, please consider making it one of your New Year's resolutions. Our Neighborhood Watch coordinator for District 3 is Georgeanna Butler, and she would be happy to help you get organized. The number for Neighborhood Watch is 407-246-2461.

Speaking of crime, don't forget that the holiday season also brings out some who choose to prey on law-abiding citizens. Here are just a few helpful safety tips. When shopping, avoid overloading yourself with packages and secure all bags and items in the trunk or other concealed area so

they are not visible in your vehicle. Unpack your car immediately when you get home, especially if you utilize street or driveway parking. Don't forget to bring in your GPS and other technology as well as your garage door opener. If you are going out of town, ask a neighbor to pick up your mail and/or newspaper and leave a light or two on inside your home so that the house looks occupied. And when putting your trash curbside after the holidays, break down any boxes from high-end items so as not to advertise what type of property is in your home. For more holiday safety tips, please visit my webpage at [www.cityoforlando.net/district3](http://www.cityoforlando.net/district3). And just a reminder that December 8 is Baldwin Park's annual Festival of Lights Celebration in the Village Center, with the parade beginning at 6 p.m. The night will also celebrate Baldwin Park's 10th anniversary.

Last, but certainly not least, I'm grateful for your support as we serve the citizens of the City of Orlando and especially District 3. I am truly humbled to serve you and am thankful for that opportunity. Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to you and yours; best wishes for a healthy and prosperous 2013!

-Robert ■

ROBERT F. STUART | COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 3, CITY OF ORLANDO

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321-972-5900

**Sunday**  
9:30 am Worship  
10:30 am Fellowship  
11:00 am Bible Study

**Wednesday**  
10:00 am Prayer Meeting  
6:30 pm Youth Group

**CHANGING LIVES**  
*Through the love of Jesus Christ*

## BIG SAVINGS FROM STEWART JEWELRY!

Use our layaway now for the holiday season.

**TASHKA JEWELRY BY BEATRICE** We have a new line of jewelry for the holidays by Beatrice. Each piece is handmade with multi-colored beads. This Jelly Bean necklace has a matching bracelet and pierced earrings. Each piece is different with an array of colors for all seasons.

**MARY FRANCES GIFT ITEMS** Each Mary Frances purse is handmade with individual beads. Choose from a variety of pieces like this beautiful guitar. Other items in stock include an apple, slice of watermelon, bumble bee, fish in a koi pond and several other themes. Every lady wants to have something special for an event or just to be different. Make her holiday gift one to be timeless.

## 50% OFF HOLIDAY SHOWCASE SPECIALS

Throughout the month of December we will have a showcase of 50% OFF discounted jewelry, and we'll be adding new pieces throughout the month. This is our way of giving back to the community for the support we have received throughout the year. The items range from 14K gold and sterling silver gem stone earrings, rings and pendants. All prices are original, so take advantage of the savings while they last.

**SAVE 15%:** We honor Buy Local Orlando cards for new purchases only. Not to be used on already discounted items, special orders or repairs.  
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# Winter Park Mayor's Message

Mayor Ken Bradley



KEN BRADLEY

As 2012 comes to a close and I reflect on this past year, I am reminded of the many blessings that have enhanced our quality of life throughout the year.

In October, we celebrated the 125th anniversary of the official incorporation of Winter Park. It was filled with special events to celebrate this historic milestone ranging from a photography exhibit, prayer service, and reenactments to galas, art festivals and runway shows.

Throughout the celebrations, it was extremely meaningful to see our community come together to reminisce and reflect on how our city has blossomed in the past 125 years. It was so nice to welcome home immediate members of the Simpson, Israel and Henderson families to the city their great-great grandfathers served 125 years ago. Each of us have played an integral role in making Winter Park what it is today and I was so pleased to see such a wonderful turnout at all of the city's 125th anniversary events. Inside this issue are some great photos of our most favorite moments.

In addition to turning 125 this year, 2012 was also filled with many enhancements to a variety of areas that positively impact our quality of life. At the beginning of the year we added six new electric car charging stations in downtown Winter Park. Since installation, they have

charged electric cars 650 times with almost 3,000 kWh which equates to three times the monthly electric consumption of a typical home. As a result, there is a savings of approximately 4.5 tons of greenhouse gasses.

We honored a wonderful teacher in our community, Mrs. Ruby Ball, when we dedicated the amphitheater at the Winter Park Community Center in her name. We remembered all of our 9/11 fallen heroes at the Fallen Heroes Memorial dedication that silently rests at the entrance to the city's Public Safety Building. We worked diligently with the community in finding the appropriate naming opportunity to honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and successfully re-named Lake Island Park after this prominent civic leader. We will be holding an official dedication ceremony of the park as we celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Monday, January 21, 2013 just prior to the opening of the 9th annual Unity Heritage Festival.

We enhanced our recreational opportunities by opening the pool at the Winter Park Community Center and celebrating the grand opening of the renovated Winter Park Country Club Pro Shop. We improved our lake quality when we completed the large East Morse Boulevard Improvement Project adding a new, underground stormwater treatment system that eliminates pollutants from entering Lake Osceola. We celebrated the grand re-opening of City Hall that

now greets our guests with a more inviting and welcoming lobby and service areas.

All of these achievements and more will be celebrated at the Winter Park Chamber of Commerce's annual Mayor/City Commission Luncheon scheduled for Friday, January 18, at the Winter Park Community Center located at 721 W. New England Ave. This is one of my most treasured events because it gives us the opportunity to publically recognize the hard work of our city's outstanding employees of the year and also gives me the chance to remind the community of all of the city's amazing accomplishments. I will also deliver my thoughts about the city's future as I present our annual State of the City Address.

On a personal note, this year both of my parents, Donald and Helen Bradley, 60+ year residents of Winter Park were laid to rest at Palm Cemetery. Their lives, as the many lives of those that have come before us, have helped shape our city and are wonderful reminders of how fortunate and blessed we all are to live work and play in our great city of Winter Park. I wish you, your families, friends and loved ones a very safe and happy holiday season.

Sincerely,

*Kenneth W. Bradley*

Kenneth W. Bradley Mayor,  
City of Winter Park



Have something to say? We want to hear about it! Email: [editor@theparkpress.com](mailto:editor@theparkpress.com).

## FEED HOPE NOW... *more than ever.*

We see it in the news every day. Unemployment rates remain at staggering levels. More people are struggling just to make ends meet. The hard reality is that this holiday season, as many as 1 in 5 of your neighbors will need food assistance. And **Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida** will help.

Last year, we provided more than 36 million pounds of food to seniors, kids, working families, the homeless and others who needed a hand. This year, **demand has soared!**

Please donate at **FeedHopeNow.org**. Each dollar you give can provide up to \$9 worth of groceries — and 96% of every dollar goes directly to helping feed Central Floridians.



Help Today at [www.FeedHopeNow.org](http://www.FeedHopeNow.org)

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# Vanessa Welch REINDEER RUN

Three miles of merrymaking along a holiday-themed route through and around SeaWorld!

**Saturday, December 15, 2012**

7:15 a.m. 3 Mile Start Runner Wave • 7:30 a.m. 3 Mile Start Walker Wave  
8:45 a.m. Wells Fargo Rudolph Run (FREE Kids' Run)  
9:15 a.m. Rosen Hotels & Resorts Holiday Costume Contest

**SeaWorld Orlando**  
Long-sleeve t-shirt for all runners and walkers  
(Registration is limited to the first 5,000)  
Yummy Holiday treats  
Awards including SeaWorld tickets to the eight fastest male and female reindeer (runners)

*Jingle all the way!*

**Run to TrackShack.com**

Together with WFTV - 9 Family Connection, Track Shack supports Toys for Tots and encourages all runners and walkers to bring a new, unwrapped toy to the Reindeer Run!  
THE GOAL IS 1000 TOYS!

Proceeds benefit the Pediatric Bone Marrow Transplant (BMT) Program at Florida Hospital for Children.





# Maitland Mayor's Message

Mayor Howard A. Schieferdecker



HOWARD A. SCHIEFERDECKER

## Fire Safety Messages – How Important Are They?

It has long been known to fire and life safety managers that there are principally two groups of society that are at greatest risk from the ravages of fire – the very young and the aged. The similarities between the two groups and the reasons for the risks are striking. While we're not inclined to analyze those similarities here, we are inclined to discuss the approaches to providing safety measures for both groups in as much as those measures, like the risks, are so similar.

According to a 2010 report by NFPA (National Fire Protection Association), "children under age 5 are almost one and a half times as likely to die in a home fire as the average person... Adults over the age of 65 are more than twice as likely to die in home fires as the average person. Alcohol or other drugs, disabilities and age-related limitations are all factors in the risk of home fire death<sup>i</sup>."

The NFPA<sup>i</sup> further notes: "In 2010, cooking was involved in an estimated 156,400 home structure fires that were reported to U.S. fire departments. These fires caused 410 deaths, 5,310 injuries and \$993 million in direct property damage. Cooking caused 44% of reported home fires, 16% of home fire deaths, 40% of home fire injuries, and 15% of the direct property damage in 2010."

The following is a snap shot of some of the facts:

### Facts & figures

- Unattended cooking was by far the leading contributing factor in these fires.
- Two-thirds (66%) of home cooking fire started with the ignition of food or other cooking materials.
- Clothing was the item first ignited in less than 1% of these fires, but these incidents accounted for 14% of the cooking fire deaths.
- Ranges accounted for the largest share (58%) of home cooking fire incidents. Ovens accounted for 16%.
- Three of every five (58%) reported non-fatal home cooking fire injuries occurred when the victims tried to fight the fire themselves.
- Frying poses the greatest risk of fire.
- Thanksgiving is the peak day for home cooking fires.

While many of the statistics are not actually seen in many regions, the threat is still very real and fire officials across the country want our residents and visitors of all ages, but especially those at greatest risk, to be as safe as possible. The following are some recommendations to help insure safety:

1. Take steps to examine attitudes and awareness of the threats;
  - a. Eliminate lackadaisical attitudes about storage of combustibles;
  - b. Recognize the threat especially where the very young and the very old are present.
2. Be proactive in preventing risky behaviors



- a. Only keep and store combustibles that are necessary;
  - b. Where storage is necessary, keep those items outside of the living areas including attached garages.
3. Have a plan;
    - a. Put EDITH (exit drills in the home) into your action plan;
    - b. Never leave the very young or the aged alone;
  4. Contact the local fire service agency for support and help.

Although not an exhaustive list of precautions, it is a good start. Local fire service organizations generally encourage the public to contact them, even inviting them to our homes for fire safety evaluation. Internet searches reveal a great deal of public service information about this and other safety precaution. Readers are encouraged to consider going to NFPA's web site ([www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org)) for that purpose. The National Safety Council (<http://www.nsc.org/Pages/Home.aspx>) is another valuable resource for safety information.

Let's all be safety conscious.

Howard A. Schieferdecker  
Mayor, City of Maitland ■

<sup>i</sup> Jennifer Flynn, NFPA  
<sup>ii</sup> Jennifer Flynn, NFPA



# County Commissioner's Message

Commissioner Ted B. Edwards, Orange County, District 5



TED B. EDWARDS

The Board of County Commissioners is taking up a policy discussion regarding transparency and the use of electronic communications during board meetings (texting), resulting from an incident concerning texting during a public hearing on September 11 for a proposed county ballot petition initiative for Employer Mandatory Paid Medical Leave.

After the public hearing on the ballot initiative, it was discovered some board members were in use of electronic devices concerning Employer

Mandatory Paid Medical Leave. Public records request disclosures discovered some board members had been engaged in communicating with lobbyists and advisors on the Employer Mandatory Paid Medical Leave issue although the texts had been subsequently deleted. The use of texting during meetings raised concerns over lack of attention to public comments during public testimony and potentially preferential access to members of the BCC. It also focused on the issue of whether texts are public records for which the answer is "yes" if pertaining to county business.

Although Orange County has stringent ethics regulations, lobbyist registration, and disclosure procedures, Orange County does not have a policy

concerning texting during public meetings. As a result, I have requested the BCC to adopt a policy to prohibit texting by board members during public meetings and days thereof concerning matters coming before the board, except with county employees. I have further requested Orange County's lobbying ordinance be amended to provide the same prohibition. Such a policy would avoid any appearance of impropriety or undue influence, whether it comes from a registered lobbyist, interested person, or other individual, or lack of attention during public meetings. I believe this policy change will prevent any such issues from arising in the future.

*Continued on page 7*



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## New Options In Cardiac Therapy

Those with the weakest hearts in Central Florida now have an alternative in cardiac care. The Florida Hospital Transplant Institute has recently received approval from the Joint Commission to expand its use of Ventricular Assist Device (VAD) to a larger population of patients.

To date, Florida Hospital has been using the VAD for candidates in line for heart transplants, offering them heart support while waiting for a transplant. Now the options have expanded to include destination VAD therapy. This therapy is provided to patients who have chronic advanced heart failure and do not qualify for a heart transplant but need a permanent device to restore heart function. Florida Hospital is the only hospital in Central Florida that is approved to implant destination VADs.

“Prior to our approval, patients in our community had to travel multiple hours to find another center that could provide this life-saving therapy,” said Dr. Barbara Czerska, medical director for advanced heart failure, cardiac transplant and mechanical circulatory support programs at Florida Hospital. “For these very sick patients, traveling remains difficult and can impact their well-being.”

VADs are devices that assist a failing heart in pumping blood through the body. They are surgically attached to the left ventricle of the heart. The device sits over the abdomen inside the skin and external wires run from the device to a battery pack containing the device’s power

supply and controller. The patient has some lifestyle adjustments to make and must learn the nuances of the device but is able to return home to their normal life.

“Not only do these devices save the lives of heart failure patients, but they also restore a great quality of life,” said surgical director



(L to R): Dr. Barbara Czerska, Dr. Donald Botta, and Dr. Hartmuth Bittner

for Florida Hospital’s program, Dr. Hartmuth Bittner. “After receiving a VAD, patients often feel better than they have in years and can return to normal daily activities and hobbies they have missed for quite a while.”

The combined experience of the Florida Cardiovascular Institute and the Florida Hospital Transplant Institute made it possible for Florida Hospital to launch the first heart transplant program in Central Florida. Now the program is expanding and is creating new options for patients of heart failure in the area. ■

## Ninth Annual “Snow Fest” At RDV



The RDV Sportsplex Ice Den kicks off the winter season with ice skating and real snow in Central Florida at its ninth annual Snow Fest, Saturday, December 15, from 2-6 pm, at RDV Sportsplex Ice Den.

Admission is \$15 for children 3-17 and \$9 for adults including tax and ice skate rental. Admission includes four hours of ice skating, real snow for playing, snow slide for children, bounce houses, live DJ’s, face painting, and lots of fun for the family. Hot chocolate and other food and beverage will be available for purchase. Group reservations are encouraged with special pricing for parties of 10 or more.

RDV Sportsplex is located at 8701 Maitland Summit Blvd., and for more information please visit [www.rdvsportsplex.com](http://www.rdvsportsplex.com) or call 407-916-2550. ■

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J. Barry Boyd, MD

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# New Traditions National Bank To Combine With Old Florida Bancshares Inc.

Two of Central Florida’s community banks recently announced plans to combine their organizations. New Traditions National Bank will become a subsidiary of Old Florida Bancshares, Inc., which owns and operates Old Florida National Bank and Mercantile Capital Corporation. Under the terms of the merger agreement, the stock-for-stock transaction is valued at approximately \$45 million. The agreement is subject to regulatory and New Traditions shareholder approvals and other customary closing conditions. The merger is expected to close in late 2013. As a result of the merger, the combined assets of Old Florida Bancshares will reach approximately \$1.05 billion, including \$685 million in loans, \$967 million in deposits and capital of \$123 million.

“We are excited about the opportunity to combine two successful homegrown institutions and believe that this partnership positions the company to be the premier community banking organization in Central Florida,” said Randy Burden, chairman of Old Florida Bancshares. “Both banks have strong leadership, talented people and a loyal customer base. Our organizations complement each other very well, and we believe that this merger positions us positively as the Central Florida economy recovers.”

Sid Cash, vice chair at New Traditions, agreed. “The timing is perfect for a premier large community bank to emerge in Central Florida,” he said. “Our investment in both human and financial capital has produced a real community dividend, and will create many future local lending opportunities. It just doesn’t get any better than that.”

Board leadership and management of both institutions will remain in place, and operations at all branch locations will continue uninterrupted. “This merger will broaden our banking reach from a geographic perspective, certainly,” said Cash. “But more importantly, it expands our ability to deliver full-service community banking with an impressive array of local talent.” ■

# AT&T Foundation Donates \$40,000 To United Way’s 2012-13 Campaign

The AT&T Foundation and the AT&T family of companies presented Heart of Florida United Way (HFUW) with a grant check in the amount of \$40,000 for the 2012-13 United Way annual campaign. This corporate gift is in addition to the generosity of AT&T employees who have contributed to United Way in the local communities where they live and work.

“AT&T shares United Way’s commitment to strengthening communities and improving lives,” said Troy McNichols, regional director, external affairs. “The Heart of Florida United Way’s support for programs with proven results in our community improves the lives of our citizens by connecting them with resources and expertise that helps to achieve lasting change.”

For the past five years, AT&T ranked in the top 15 for highest in giving among the more than 400 local companies that run annual workplace campaigns for HFUW. Last year, AT&T employees contributed more than \$352,000.

“AT&T’s longtime support of United Way highlights their commitment to helping people in need, locally and across the nation,” said Robert H. (Bob) Brown, HFUW President/CEO. “It also shows their trust in United Way’s stewardship of precious charitable dollars. AT&T’s contribution will make a tremendous difference, as the tri-county region continues to recover from the recent economic recession.”

For more information about HFUW and the 2012-13 annual workplace campaign, please visit [www.hfuw.org](http://www.hfuw.org). If you wish to make a donation, please visit [www.hfuw.org](http://www.hfuw.org) and click on **DONATE** or call 407-835-0900. ■



Troy McNichols with AT&T presented United Way President/CEO Robert H. Brown with a \$40,000 check for the United Way 2012-13 Annual Campaign.

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## Goodwill Partners With Toys For Tots

Goodwill Industries of Central Florida's shoppers can support two great causes at the same time by shopping at Goodwill stores and donating to Toys for Tots. Until Dec. 16, shoppers can drop new, unwrapped toys into Toys for Tots collection boxes at local Goodwill stores and they will be delivered to needy children throughout the community.

"We are very excited about partnering with Toys for Tots this year," said Bill Oakley, CEO of Goodwill Industries of Central Florida. "I can't think of anything more gratifying than lending our support to put smiles on thousands of children's faces during the holidays."



Toys for Tots is a national charity program run by the United States Marine Corps Reserve which collects and distributes toys to less fortunate children whose parents may be struggling financially and unable to purchase gifts during the traditional Christmas holiday season. It is the only charitable endeavor associated with the Department of Defense that reaches

out to local communities. The program was started in 1947 in California by Major William L. Hendricks and was inspired by his wife, Diane, when she tried to donate a doll to a needy child but could not find an organization to do so. At Diane's suggestion, he gathered a group of local Marine reservists who coordinated and collected 5,000 toys for local children. Hendricks used his position as director of public relations at Warner Brothers Studio to enlist celebrity support and later asked his friend, Walt Disney, to design a poster for a national campaign. The result was the three-car red train logo.

The program took off nationally and in 1980, shifted slightly to accept only new toys as reservists were no longer able to dedicate the time required to refurbish used toys. As of 2009, the Toys for Tots program and foundation, has collected and distributed almost five hundred million toys.

Through Dec. 16, Goodwill shoppers can support two great causes by:

1. Shopping at Goodwill stores throughout Central Florida. For every 24 pounds in donations Goodwill receives, one person with a disability or other barrier to employment gains access to programs and services that help them secure a permanent job and become self-sufficient. The organization prepares people to work in its stores and in industries outside Goodwill, such as construction and health care.

2. Donate new, unwrapped toys into Toys for Tots collection boxes at local Goodwill store and they will be delivered to needy children throughout the community.

To locate the nearest Goodwill location please visit [www.goodwillcfl.org/locations](http://www.goodwillcfl.org/locations). ■

## The Pregnant Woman's Guide to Buckling Up

### Your Top 5 Seat Belt Questions Answered

#### 1 "I'm pregnant. Should I wear a seat belt?"

**Yes.** Doctors recommend it. In a crash, a seat belt is the best protection for both you *and* your unborn child.

#### 2 "Should I adjust my seat?"

**Yes.** You should move the front seat back as far as possible. If you're driving, make sure that you can still comfortably reach the pedals. But always keep at least 10 inches between the center of your chest and the steering wheel cover or dashboard. As your abdomen grows during pregnancy, adjust your seat to maintain this 10-inch minimum.

#### 3 "What if my car or truck has air bags?"

**You still need to buckle up.** Air bags are designed to work with seat belts, not replace them. Without a seat belt, you could be thrown into a rapidly opening frontal air bag, which could injure or even kill you and your unborn child. Also, if you're not buckled up, you could collide with other passengers or be ejected from the vehicle.

#### 4 "Should I turn the air bag off if my vehicle has an ON-OFF air-bag-disabling switch?"

**No.** Doctors recommend that pregnant women wear seat belts and leave air bags turned on. Seat belts and air bags work together to provide the best protection for you and your unborn child.

#### 5 "What's the right way to wear my seat belt?"

The shoulder belt should lay across your chest (between your breasts) and away from your neck.

Place the shoulder belt across your chest (between your breasts) and away from your neck.

Secure the lap belt below your belly so that it fits snugly across your hips and pelvic bone.

Never place the shoulder belt behind your back or under your arm.



## Need more help?

### Contact us

To learn more about seat belts, air bags, child safety seats (including where to find a free child seat inspection station near you), as well as other highway safety topics, call the DOT Vehicle Safety Hotline at 888-327-4236 or visit the NHTSA Web site at [www.nhtsa.gov](http://www.nhtsa.gov).

Thanks to the National Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists for their review and input for this brochure.

## Trinity Prep Senior Receives National Hispanic Recognition Program Honorable Mention

Trinity Preparatory School senior Dylan Malugen of Winter Park has been awarded Honorable Mention status by the College Board's 2012-13 National Hispanic Recognition Program. The NHRP was initiated in 1983 to identify outstanding Hispanic/Latino high school students, and this year more than 5,000 students were selected for recognition from a pool of over 253,000 students who took the 2011 PSAT/NMSQT and identified themselves as Hispanic/Latino.



Students with grade point averages of 3.5 or higher are designated as Scholars, and those with GPAs of 3.0 to 3.49 as Honorable Mentions. Students receiving NHRP recognition are at least one-quarter Hispanic/Latino, based on the program's definition,

and they have also achieved a minimum PSAT score for their region. While the College Board is not able to provide monetary awards for the National Hispanic Recognition Program, a list of recognized students is distributed to subscribing institutions. ■

## The Little Black Dress Project

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## Premature Infants At Florida Hospital For Children’s NICU To Benefit From Groundbreaking Invention

Powers Device Technologies Inc. proudly announced the donation of a new Pacifier Activated Lullaby (PAL) medical device to Florida Hospital for Children’s Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). The PAL device utilizes therapeutic music to strengthen and coordinate sucking, allowing premature infants to feed effectively and gain weight, which can lead to them going home sooner. Florida Hospital for Children is the only hospital in the Central Florida area to utilize this unique technology.

“We are thrilled to be able to receive our second PAL at Florida Hospital for Children. We have had such success with this program since 2007 and cannot wait to have the ability to extend this service to more premature infants,” said Amy Robertson, Florida Hospital board certified musical therapist. “This not only allows us to send home these infants sooner, but it creates the opportunity for the mother to be with their child during the treatments, allowing them to bond.”

The PAL device supports earlier discharge from the NICU and decreases readmission rates for feeding-related issues.

“Florida Hospital has been a key partner in proving how effective the PAL technology is at solving developmental issues in preterm infants,” said P. Kathleen Lovell, president and CEO of Powers Device Technologies. “I am honored to donate one of our PAL units to such a talented and dedicated NICU and I am looking forward to hearing about their successes with the device in the years to come.”

The PAL was invented by Florida State University researcher Jayne Standley, Ph.D. Originally envisioned by Dr. Standley more than a decade ago, PAL has undergone extensive testing, received a U.S. patent and been approved by the Food and Drug Ad-



*Powers Device Technologies, Inc. donated a brand new Pacified Activated Lullaby (PAL) device that will used in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Florida Hospital for Children*



*Florida Hospital music therapists check out the brand new Pacified Activated Lullaby (PAL)*

ministration. Research studies have shown that PAL can reduce the length of a premature infant’s hospital stay by an average of five days.

Florida Hospital for Children’s Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) is an 81-bed Level III unit that allows Florida Hospital to deliver a complete range of dedicated health services backed by advanced technologies and care to NICU patients, who benefit from the expertise of specialized departments throughout the hospital. ■

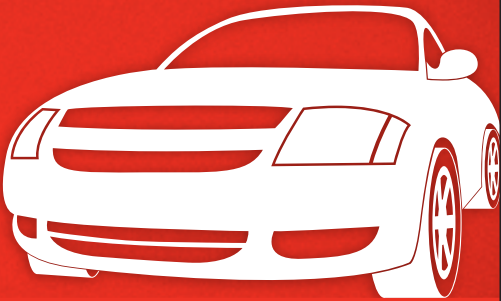
## Hannibal Square Holiday To Benefit Orlando Philharmonic

On Friday, December 7, Winter Park’s Hannibal Square Merchants Association will present “Hannibal Square Holiday,” a food and wine celebration benefiting the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra. Hannibal Square merchants and area restaurants, including Armando’s, Chez Vincent, Dexter’s, Mi Tomatina, Tollas, and others, will provide food and wine between 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. on New England Avenue, between Virginia Ave and Pennsylvania Ave in Winter Park. Musicians from the Orlando Philharmonic will provide seasonal music.

Tickets are \$25 in advance, or \$30 on the day of the event. Children under 12 are free. Groups of ten tickets are available for \$20 each. Tickets may be purchased online at <http://www.hannibalsquare.com/holidayevent> or at participating locations on New England Avenue. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra. In the spirit of the season, attendees are also encouraged to bring toys for donation to Winter Park families in need.

Now celebrating its 20th Anniversary Season, the Orlando Philharmonic is Central Florida’s resident professional orchestra, appearing in over 125 performances each year. The orchestra offers a variety of programs, from classical and pops concerts to chamber music, staged musicals and opera productions. Education programs and community concerts are also a core part of the Philharmonic’s programming. Information and concert schedule available at [www.OrlandoPhil.org](http://www.OrlandoPhil.org). ■

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fiscal fitness by John Gill



JOHN GILL

The Holidays And The Power Of Compound Interest

As you are reading this I am sure that in the back of your mind you may be contemplating some aspect of the holiday season. Whether Christmas, Hanukkah, or some other celebration there are gifts to gather, decorations to deploy, or meals to make. One key ingredient needed in all these pursuits is money.

During the holiday season we find ourselves in the midst of merriment, hoopla, and joy. We also find the stresses of the season with our financial position under assault. Considering the financial environment this year, many of us will temper our holiday expectations.

This month is a fitting time to talk about debt. Many will increase their debt levels through credit cards to make the holidays “what they should be,” and worry about the impact next year. Regarding debt, I am not going to talk about things to avoid. You already know that. I am going to give practical insight into the power of compound interest and how it affects debt.

Simply put, compound interest is when interest earns interest. Say you have \$1,000 and you are paid 4% annual interest. At the end of twelve months the total in your account would be \$1,040. At the end of twenty four months

the total would be \$1,081.60, not \$1,080 as many would have guessed. The extra \$1.60 in our example is from the compounding effect. Compounding works for you on the investment side, but works against you on the debt or borrowing side.

Many wonder why it takes forever to pay down their credit card debt when they are making the minimum payments. Compounding is the answer.

Credit card debt is “revolving” debt. Because of the way interest is calculated on revolving debt, it’s difficult to tell how long it’s going to take to pay off the balance. The interest is compounded daily and each month that interest is added to the beginning principal so that the next month interest is calculated on that interest. The problem is compounded, no pun intended, when you add additional monthly charges to the balance.

With a fixed debt, your payments are scheduled for a fixed amount of time (like with a car loan). You can easily tell when you will pay off the principal on the debt and – even with the same interest rate and monthly payments – your pay-off date is usually much sooner than with revolving debt. Look at the table below to see the difference between revolving debt and fixed debt.

	Revolving Debt (Credit Card)	Fixed Debt (Car Loan)
Amount Borrowed:	\$15,000 @ 15%*	\$15,000 @ 15%**
Total Monthly payments:	\$525 per month	\$525 per month
Years to payoff:	15 years	3 years
Interest paid:	\$8,156	\$3,674
Total Cost	\$23,156	\$18,674

Source – Equifax  
\*Assumes revolving payment (minimum) of 3.5% of the remaining balance or \$20, whichever is greater. First month's payment is shown and term assumed continued payment of minimum amount. No additional debt incurred and payments decrease over time period.  
\*\*Assumes payment of 3.5% of initial loan amount, no additional debt incurred and payment amount remains fixed throughout the term of the loan. This illustration is hypothetical only. Each debt situation will vary.

The compounding effect is very powerful and works for you with investments and against you with debt. Considering all the things that we must contend with this year from an economic perspective, do you really want to compound those issues with debt-fueled spending? If you must use debt, consider some fixed type of debt if possible.

To combat the need for debt, set a budget for the holidays- for food, gifts, anything that is required for the season. Discuss with the family and adhere to it. For next year’s holiday season, set aside a certain amount each pay period or month between now and then. When December 2013 arrives, you will have cash ready to go, and can start the 2014 New Year in a truly festive mood and maybe debt free. ■

If you have questions, comments, or an interest in an area of focus relating to finance that you would like to see covered in a future issue of The Park Press please call John at 407-353-0594 or send email to [FiscalFitness@gmail.com](mailto:FiscalFitness@gmail.com).

family business perspective by David Ciambella, CFP CSP



DAVID CIAMBELLA

Shared Vision

Do you have multiple children working in your family business? If so, one of the issues you will eventually face is assessing how well they work together. If you have been reading this column for any length of time you know I have visited and worked with many different family businesses and witnessed the good, the bad and the ugly when it comes to siblings working together in a partnership arrangement. The fact is God has created us as unique individuals. Just as each of us has our own unique set of fingerprints, each of us have different personalities, skills, talents, personal ambition, work ethic and business philosophies to name a few. These differences can either be harnessed as strength or they can work against each other and result in a weakness. So how do you as a business owner help your children recognize their differences and work together towards a shared goal?

First and foremost you as the business owner must ask yourself not only how well do your children work together but, are they committed to working together? Also, determining whether your children have a shared vision is of paramount importance. Have you engaged your children in conversa-

tion about what their individual vision for the future is?

Let me share a recent experience with you about a client with three sons: John, Joe and James. These siblings have been working together for approximately ten years under the iron fist of their father. All of the boys have exemplary work ethic and each has blossomed in their own unique way. To their father’s credit, he recognized that he had several succession issues to address. Of significance, should he keep his automobile dealership group together or carve out a few dealerships for each son whereby each could control his own destiny? Clearly this is not an easy decision for Dad!

When I met with this family and interviewed each person separately, it was immediately apparent that two of the three boys had distinctly different visions for the future and different definitions of success. John’s aspirations were to own one or two dealerships that would afford him the opportunity have a healthy work/family balance. Joe is a workaholic, driven entrepreneur who is fiercely passionate about becoming a mega dealer with several dozen stores. James is a team player willing to serve in a supporting role and would prefer to avoid conflict at all cost. The parents want the boys to work together. Yes, I have my work cut out for me in this case!


On the surface, this appears to

be a clear-cut case for separating the business and allowing John and Joe to go on their merry way working independently and James could work for whomever he chooses. However, as mentioned above these boys are still relatively young in their working careers and have yet to develop the leadership and management competencies required to run a successful business. Furthermore, initially John and Joe lacked understanding and appreciation for the unique talents and skills each possessed. Over the last few years they have grown personally and professionally, recognized the value and opportunity associated with working together and are actively engaged in developing a shared vision.

Creating a shared vision among next-generation family members is imperative if there is any hope

of achieving succession. There is much work to be done to determine if this family and these siblings will be able to pull this off. Sacrificing personal priorities for the good of the business will be pivotal to their success. Additionally, defining roles, responsibilities, compensation, stock ownership and creating family governance structures are critical issues that must be addressed to have a successful outcome. The good news is this family will have Christmas dinner together this year because they have invested in a process that enabled them to define their goals, values and what is truly most important to them: family relationships are more important than business success. May your family business find success in creating a shared vision as well! Happy Holidays and all the best in 2013! ■





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# Business In The Parks

**Michelle Covelli-Hodge, MSN, RN, FCN, BS**, a native of Maitland, Fla., and a parish nurse at **St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church**, has earned her Faith Community Nurse (FCN) specialty certificate from the Florida Hospital FCN Institute. The church is a partner of Our Whole Community (OWC). As a faith community nurse, she provides holistic care to individuals, families, congregations and communities. Seven members of the OWC board of directors are faith community nurses, which are recognized by the American Nurses Association as a "professional nurse who specializes in the intentional care of the spirit to promote holistic health and prevent or minimize illness in faith communities." Covelli-Hodge, who has been a registered nurse for more than 14 years, holds a Master of Science in Nursing and worked as a nurse at a level one trauma center in Charlotte, N.C., before returning to Florida with her husband in 2003 to raise her family.

**Cuhaci & Peterson Architects Engineers Planners**, based in Orlando's Baldwin Park, recently earned a first place award in an international competition sponsored by the producers of REVIT (BIM) software. Cuhaci & Peterson Project Manager **Steve Blevins** led a team of designers who showed off their skills using the software to record construction documentation. The international users conference sponsored by REVIT (BIM) was held in Atlanta. Blevin's team used REVIT (BIM) software to depict the transformation of a Winn Dixie store that's being remodeled.

**The Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts** has appointed **Ellery J. Brown** vice president of operations.



ELLERY BROWN

In his new role, Brown will be responsible for planning, establishing, and overseeing facility and theater management for the

center from construction to grand opening to full operational status. He will be responsible for overseeing the center's overall efficiency and sustainability, including the implementation of the project's interior design, overall construction, and technology development. Brown brings more than 25 years of experience to the position. Prior to joining the Dr. Phillips Center, Brown was vice president of theater operations and facilities for Segerstrom Center for the Arts in Costa Mesa, Calif., and also served as the director of operations for La Jolla Playhouse in La Jolla, Calif.

**BB&T** name named **Alison Palmer** as the new financial center leader for Winter Park Village. Palmer, who joined BB&T in 2007, previously served as the financial center leader for BB&T's Lady Lake branch. She is based at 605 North Orange Ave. Palmer earned her bachelor's degrees in business administration and marketing from the University of North Florida

**Wholesome Tummies**, the Orlando-based healthy school lunch provider, announced that **Joel Orwig**, a graduate of the Culinary Institute of America, has been hired to lead the culinary direction and strategy for the company. He will be responsible for corporate-wide food safety and quality, food production and distribution, recipe testing, and menu development. Orwig has more than 20 years of culinary experience and more than 10 years in the education K-12 field. Most recently, he worked as the culinary director for education K-12 and operations support manager for A'viands Corporation. Orwig also worked for Aramark for 13 years as a K-12 food service director and corporate chef.

**Cuhaci & Peterson Architects**, in conjunction with CBX based in New York City, has designed Orlando's first six Wawa stores, which are now open on Central Fla. Parkway, Goldenrod Road, Silver Star Road,

S. Orange Blossom Trail in Orlando, N. Orange Blossom Trail and Hwy 192 in Kissimmee. In addition, another 20 Wawa stores are set to open in Florida in 2013, said **Jed Downs**, president of the architectural firm based in Orlando's Baldwin Park. The new prototype stores are intended to reflect the style and influence of Florida architecture and include exterior characteristics that reference South and Central Florida historical building types. Five of the 20 additional stores will open in the Central Florida region by the second quarter of 2013 and another four are scheduled to open in the Tampa Bay area.



WILL GRAVES

**Will Graves** has been appointed an adjunct instructor of business ethics at **Columbia College's** Orlando campus.

**Rachel Newcomb**, an associate professor of anthropology at **Rollins College**, was recently appointed



RACHEL NEWCOMB

to the Diane and Michael Maher Chair of Distinguished Teaching. A gift from Rollins alumnus Michael Maher and the Christian A. Johnson

Endeavor Foundation, the endowed chair was established to honor and further the college's reputation and efforts in the art of teaching. Newcomb has also received numerous recognitions for her commitment to outstanding teaching, scholarship and service learning, including the Cornell Distinguished Faculty designation in 2008 and the 2012 Florida Campus Compact Service-Learning Faculty of the Year. Newcomb joined Rollins in 2004 and currently chairs the department of anthropology and serves as director of Rollins' new minor in Middle Eastern and North African studies.

**Joseph P. "Rusty" Carolan**, a shareholder with **Winderweede**,

**Haines, Ward and Woodman** in the Orlando office, recently received



RUSTY CAROLAN

notice of inclusion once again in the newest version of The Best Lawyers in America in the areas of Banking and Finance Law, Business

Organizations and Corporate Law - adding to his current 2012 Central Florida highest honor recognition. Named the Orlando Lawyer of the Year for 2012 in the area of Corporate Law, Carolan holds the top honor in this category in the geographical area as a result of particularly high ratings for abilities, professionalism and integrity. A Winter Park resident whose primary areas of legal practice are business law, financing, creditors rights, and real estate and commercial transactions, Carolan graduated from Duke University and obtained his Juris Doctor degree from University of Florida. While earning his law degree from UF, he received the Order of the Coif, was selected executive editor of the University of Florida Law Review and received book awards in contracts, real property and creditors' rights.

**Mark Batia**, at 34, **Turner Construction Co.'s** youngest business



BATIAMARK

development director in Florida, was named Businessman to Watch in 2013 by the Orlando Business Journal at the newspaper's annual

"Most Influential Men" awards banquet last week. Batia, who has been with the construction management giant for more than 10 years, won out over 15 other finalists in that category. "I was very surprised and honored," Batia said. "Honestly, at this point in my career I'm too busy concentrating on doing my job to think much about winning awards." Batia is responsible for more than \$80 million in business for Turner's Central and North Florida business unit. He lives with his wife and three children in Orlando. ■

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in the garden

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STEPHEN & KRISTIN PATEGAS

## Our Bee Healthy Garden

*Bees do have a smell, you know, and if they don't they should, for their feet are dusted with spices from a million flowers. - Ray Bradbury*

Bees are an important part of our environment and our gardening practices and the plants we grow in our gardens have a major impact on their health and viability. Whether or not you grow and harvest edibles, or use honey, every garden can and should play a role in support of these vital pollinators. Wildlife pollinators that

Honey bees are vegetarians and search for nectar and pollen within a flight range which may extend two-to-six miles from their hive. The nectar is high in sugars and is their primary energy source. Meanwhile pollen is a protein and nutrient source used to raise their young. Both pollen and nectar find their way into honey. On cool winter mornings you may spot lethargic honey bees waiting for temperatures to rise so

they can forage. During really hot weather their hives must be cooled and they bring small droplets of water back to the hive and fan them with their wings to provide evaporative cooling.

To attract honey bees and other pollinators to your garden make sure you have a variety of plants that bloom throughout the seasons, preferably with colored petals and a strong scent. We find busy bees working blossoms on these plants in our garden: Sabal/



After pollination, the resulting seeds when planted will generate more Thai basil.



Even a cactus blossom attracts honey bees.

visit your flowers may include bees, wasps, beetles, ants, birds, bats, moths, flies and butterflies. Perhaps one-third of the human food supply depends upon insect pollination and honey bees do the yeoman's work when it comes to pollinating the flowers that develop into our fruits, vegetables, nuts and seeds. Over 50 major crops are either reliant upon honeybees for pollination or produce more plentifully when they are abundant.

cabbage palm, bulbine, saw palmetto, abelia, basil, oregano, rosemary, thyme, southern magnolia, various hollies, the highly fragrant almond bush, succulents, milkweed, cross vine, cactus, lavender, jasmine and numerous vegetables.

It is reported that a native vine, yellow jessamine, is toxic and has weakened colonies, but honey bees have more to worry about than toxic plants. Mockingbirds, dragonflies, toads, skunks and other insects that hide in blossoms



A bee harvests water from atop coral stone in our bird bath.

are predators. More insidious is humans' indiscriminate use of pesticides which kill bees through direct contact and contamination of their food supply. Researchers now believe insecticides may be a factor in the recent colony collapse disorder epidemic. Follow these rules when applying pesticides:

- Use them ONLY when needed and check the labels to avoid ones toxic to bees.
- Do not apply when plants are in bloom or when bees are most active; above 55 degrees F and from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Early evening applications are best so chemicals can break down overnight.
- Do not contaminate water, including puddles, with pesticides.

Living with these indispensable pollinators is easy as they flit from flower to flower with an occasional sip from our birdbath. Along the way they unknowingly give life to our oh-so-local vegetables. Keeping them healthy keeps us healthy. ■

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@hortusoasis.com

All photography by Stephen G. Pategas/Hortus Oasis

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live meaningfully

by Ayesha G. Fuhr, M.A.



AYESHA G. FUHR

December To Remember...

In the last few months I’ve challenged you to live meaningfully, I’ve offered strategies about remaining present in the moment, and I’ve encouraged you to take good care of yourself. In this final column of 2012, I’ll instead ask you to arm yourself with a grateful heart and go out and do for others.

As the temperatures continue to drop and the holidays arrive in yet another year of fiscal distress, how may we give of our time, our talents and our treasures for others? December is full of giving- the latest Apple product, the newest designer line of clothes, the best gadgets and the most fun toys. We are the wealthiest nation in the world and yet year in and year out we continue to scour the stores for more tchotchkes to fill the stockings, put under the tree or wrap for eight consecutive days.

We make lists, we cross them off, we make more lists, we buy... we buy... we buy... And yet what could possibly be less for us? We mire ourselves in things to do, purchases to make and parties to attend. We buy for ourselves, we buy for our families, we buy for hosts and hostesses, coworkers and friends. We immerse ourselves in the materialism of the season and for what? Just so when the afternoon of December 25th rolls around we can look at all the loot and

then stress about where we’re going to put it all.

What if this December we treated the holidays completely differently? What if we offered gifts of meaning and love to those important to us and gifts of great worth to complete strangers? What if we busied ourselves with collecting blankets and coats for the homeless, food for the hungry, clothes and toys for the children who don’t know what it’s like to have a bountiful Christmas? What if we created lovely experiences for ourselves and our friends and families by having meals together, seeing the lights or doing good together? What if we wrapped truth and kindness, love and mercy for under our own trees, but committed to buying for those who actually have a need?

I don’t mean to inspire any guilt or shame here; I really don’t. I am as willing a participant in hyper-consumerism as the next person and I recognize how tempting it is to do things the same way we always have. But I also feel a compelling sense of emptiness each year when I see the mass spending and stressing and buying for people who already have so much. I believe deeply in giving and generosity – I’m just not sure it always has to be at a certain time of year for a certain expected reason. Why not give all year long to those who are meaningful to you and instead make Christmas about giving to those really in need?

Be well; Live Meaningfully – Ayesha ■

Ayesha G. Fuhr, 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.

Rollins College Weighs In With Food Drive

Rollins College recently held its official Second Harvest Helping Hands Food Drive weigh-in. The college collected nearly 31,000 pounds of non-perishable food items. For the fifth year, Rollins has partnered with Sodexo USA and the Winter Park Chamber of Commerce to collect non-perishable food that will be donated to the Second Harvest Food Bank. Last year the college collected a record 21,000 pounds.



Rollins students collecting non-perishable food for Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida.

The Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida is a private, non-profit organization that collects, stores and distributes donated food to more than 55,000 people a week in the Central Florida area with the help of more than 500 partners through the counties of Brevard, Lake, Orange, Osceola, Seminole and Volusia. In the 2010/2011 fiscal year, the organization distributed 32,830,936 pounds of food. ■



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pop culture detours

by George McGowan

# Holiday Movies And Ideas For The Music Lover On Your List

Two quite different but interesting movies are set to open on Christmas Day this year: Quentin Tarantino's latest, "Django Unchained," and the film adaptation of the great musical "Les Misérables." I hope they both live up to my expectations! Similarly, over the Thanksgiving weekend, various members of our family went to see a diverse set of movies: "Skyfall," the latest in the James Bond franchise, "Twilight: Breaking Dawn Part 2," the last movie in the Twilight series, "Lincoln," the biopic of the great president from Steven Spielberg, "Perks of Being a Wallflower," which was based on a popular teen novel, and "Silver Linings Playbook." I can't remember another week of the year where our family was so interested in going to the movies. And what a diverse set of films to enjoy, each in their own appealing way. And one movie in particular exceeded my expectation.

Interestingly, this film was the relatively little-known "Silver Linings Playbook." This film stars Bradley Cooper (best known for the Hangover movies) and Jennifer Lawrence (best known for starring as Katniss Everdeen in "The Hunger Games") in a quirky dramedy centered on two people who come unglued after tragedies in their lives and how getting to know one another brings them back to some semblance of order. This short description does not do credence to the many complications and challenges that both of these individuals face. The film delves deeply into how both of these troubled people cope with their afflictions. While they are both full of foibles and tension, these characters find grace in the everyday life of their families and friends. For the first time in a long time, I left the theatre thinking that I would love to know more about these characters and to somehow live with them beyond the end of the movie. Not that this movie screams for a sequel, it is not a film like that at all. Rather, the director, David O. Russell, has made a film that lives and breathes and presents people as they are, and not as they should be. It was a refreshing movie experience

and perfect after seeing the fantastical James Bond defeat a proto-typical Bond villain and watching perhaps our greatest president being played by perhaps our greatest living movie actor, who is in turn directed by a living legend speaking words written by perhaps the best American playwright working today. To see a simple story depicting complicated but recognizable characters brought to life through an ensemble cast working extraordinarily well together, with two lead actors pushing their limits and showing real and nuanced emotions and feelings, was a wonderful gift on the Thanksgiving weekend. I recommend this movie and hope it has remained successful enough to still be on the bill at your favorite theatre in December.

Since it is December, and since I am above all, a music fanatic, I offer some music choices for your holiday shopping list. These artists each remind me in some way of another popular artist, so I encourage those of you who enjoy these artists to try something new from these ideas:

- If you liked the progressive rock with jazzy influences of the Alan Parsons Project or Rush, I think you would like the band **Pinback**. Pinback is the duo of Rob Crow on guitar and Armistead Burwell Smith IV on bass, who collaborate to make some steady, lyrical soft rock, that doesn't bore and doesn't annoy by straying too far away from form. The duo tends to take years to release new music, but they have just released a new album named "Information Retrieved" that caught my ear.
- If you like The Flaming Lips or (dare I say) The Beatles during their most experimental, try a band I have suggested before: **Tame Impala**. I mention this band for a second time, because they have just released their newest effort, "Lonerism," which is- simply stated- a stand-out record from beginning to end by an artist



who is thisclose to taking off into the stratosphere (where his music seems to live). The leader and brain behind the band, is Australian Kevin Parker. Parker is also a talented music producer and collaborated with French singer Melody Prochet on her debut solo album, "Melody's Echo Chamber." Melody makes beautiful dreamy pop and you should seek out the songs "I Follow You" and "Some Time Alone, Alone" for two great examples.

- If you like Talking Heads, especially during their later phase, I recommend **Antibalas**, especially their tour-de-force single "Dirty Money." The video can be found online and (not to get all political on you) is an interesting referendum from the 99% against the excesses of the 1%. Antibalas is Spanish for "bulletproof" and they have one of the tightest horn sounds around with ten regular members and many, many influences. They also recently guested on the horn-based collaboration between St. Vincent and David Byrne, "Love This Giant."

Finally, since it is December, I should let you know my favorite song and album of 2012. That is a difficult question. I have been using the power of the Internet to revisit many albums from the past this year. Honestly, the albums that I think I most listened to were "Dusty in Memphis" by Dusty Springfield, released to great acclaim way back in 1969, and "Al Green Gets Next to You" from 1971. Instead of picking one favorite album from the year, I will list several songs released this year that I continue to play and replay (and enjoy):

- "Sleeping Ute" by Grizzly Bear
  - "About to Die" by Dirty Projectors
  - "Ho Hey" by the Lumineers
  - "Mind Mischief" by Tame Impala
  - "Today's Supernatural" by Animal Collective
- I hope you enjoy your holidays! See you in 2013! ■

## WOW! WOW! WOW! by Barbara Solomon

### STEPPIN' OUT WITH IRVING BERLIN

WRITTEN BY TODD ALLEN LONG DIRECTED BY ROB ANDERSON STARRING ROY ALAN AND NATALIE CORDONE



You'll be dancing in the aisles after seeing this fabulous show. And if you know the lyrics, you'll even be singing along with the cast. The life story of Irving Berlin is interwoven with the plethora of his songs performed, 43 in all. They included three from one of my favorite Broadway shows, "Call Me Madam" – "The Hostess with the Mostess' On the Ball," "The Best Thing for You Would Be Me," and "You're Just in Love." That last was one of three quadrilbets, songs that he wrote where two people are singing at the same time. Irving Berlin was nothing if not prolific, writing 1500 songs, 19 Broadway musicals, and the music for 18 films. And he not only wrote the music, he wrote the accompanying lyrics. Cole Porter once said, "Irving Berlin is American music," and that certainly holds true in this wonderful performance.

Roy Alan wows us with his amazing tap dancing in several numbers, including "Puttin' On the Ritz." In the past I've called him Winter Park's version of Tommy Tune, and I haven't changed my mind after seeing this fancy footwork. He also did some beautiful Fred Astaire/Ginger Rodgers numbers with Natalie Cordone, who is as graceful as she is stunning. Together they are as smooth as silk. And Natalie sings like an angel to boot, as shown in her rendition of "Always," probably one of Irving's loveliest melodies and lyrics to a sentimentalist like me. Todd Allen Long has a charming baritone voice, thrilling us with "Change Partners and Dance." I think that was when the man two seats to my right told me to stop singing. But the cast did let me sing, along with the rest of the audience, at the end of both acts, "God Bless America" and "White Christmas." All of the cast's voices blend so well together. But when Victor Souffrant sang "What'll I Do?" I had to hold back the tears, I was so moved. I think my favorite song of the evening was done by Priscilla Bagley in her heroic soprano voice, "The Best Thing For You Would Be Me." But maybe not, I also loved "Give Me Your Tired, Your Poor" from "Miss Liberty," a wonderful Berlin musical I saw many years ago up north. And "Count My Blessings" was one of

my favorites as a kid. Dare I leave out another of my favorite Berlin musicals, "Annie Get Your Gun," featuring "Moonshine Lullabye," "There's No Business Like Show Business," and "Old Fashioned Wedding."

Irving Berlin was a little Jewish guy from the lower east side of Manhattan who wrote some of the most outstanding Christian holiday songs, "White Christmas" and "Easter Parade," to name just two. This brings out the nostalgia in me, for only blocks away lived my grandparents, whom I visited every Sunday of my childhood. The melting pot that was the lower east side of Manhattan gave us not only Irving Berlin, but the Gershwins, and my family as well. Not only did Irving love holiday songs, he loved his adopted country even more. He wrote many patriotic shows and movies, especially during World War II. One of my husband's favorites was "Oh How I Hate to Get Up in the Morning," which he sang to our kids to wake them for school.

The show was succulent, probably the most enjoyable I have ever seen at this beautiful theatre. Not only was it a tribute to Irving Berlin, it was a tribute to the Winter Park Playhouse! And I would be remiss if I left out Chris Leavy, Ned Wilkinson, and Sam Forrest, their great band! I'm going to see this show again, and if you know what's good for you, you better not tell me to stop singing! Playing through December 15 at The Winter Park Playhouse, 711 Orange Avenue, Winter Park. For more information call 407-645-0145 or visit WinterParkPlayhouse.org. ■

**Barb's Best Bets for December:** "A Christmas Carol" at Theatre Downtown and a different version at Orlando Shakes. P. S. My production company got a slot in the upcoming Orlando Fringe in May. We're doing "Chamber Music," a play about eight crazy women in an insane asylum who all think they are famous people – more to come on that score!



park press pets

by Sherri Cappabianca

# Keeping Your Pets Safe For The Holidays

The holiday season is here. It's all about family and friends, including our four-legged friends. We want our dogs to be part of the festivities, but we also need to make sure they stay safe and stress-free. According to many vets, the holidays are one of the most dangerous times of the year for pets. Here are some important guidelines and tips to think about this holiday season.

- While I believe it's perfectly OK to feed your dog table scraps as long as you have a healthy, low fat diet, there are some foods that can be dangerous. Foods such as grapes and raisins, onions, chocolate, caffeine, certain nut and seeds, xylitol, and others should be avoided. If you're uncertain, don't give it.
- Be careful about garbage. For example, make sure your pets can't get to the turkey carcass. Unfortunately, I know of a dog who did, and didn't survive.
- Keep your dog away from the aluminum foil, which, when ingested, can cut your dog's intestines and cause internal bleeding.
- Watch your pets around the Christmas tree decorations. Many are naturally curious, and sniffing around the tree can be dangerous.
- Keep presents out of reach, especially any food presents like chocolates.
- Keep your pet away from holiday plants. Many of these are poisonous.
- Supervise dogs and children playing together. The stress to the dog could be too much and the dog may bite.
- Try to remain calm yourself (your dog can sense your stress) and keep to your dog's regular routine as much as possible. This will reduce your dog's stress.
- Put your pets someplace safe and stress-free during holiday parties and large family gatherings. Often they are stressed when there are too many people around. Then there's the issue of doors or fence gates being accidentally being left open, giving your dog the opportunity to run off. I'll never forget my brother's big millennia New Year's Eve party. Someone left the gate open, both dogs got out, and one was killed.
- Make sure your dogs have proper identification in the event they do get out.

While common sense will prevent most accidents, observing these precautions will help you and your family (including your pets) have a safe and enjoyable holiday season! ■



Sherri Cappabianca, an expert in the field of canine health and fitness, is the author of two books on canine massage and health, and is the co-owner of Rocky's Retreat Canine Health & Fitness Center, located just west of College Park in Orlando.

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technology

by Trevor Honohan



TREVOR HONOHAN

# Laptop Learning

Why are children so enthralled by new technology? How come the youngest of kids learn how to use the technology the quickest? The answers to these questions may be found in a tiny village in Ethiopia. The children in this village (most adults as well) have never seen a printed word, no books, no newspapers, no street signs, no labels on packaged foods or goods. Nothing. Until the The One Laptop Per Child project started by delivering a tablet PC to every child in the village. They did it in a very unique fashion, as they delivered boxes of tablets taped shut, with no instructions whatsoever. The basic message was...here is a box taped shut with no instructions, here you go! You might think a teacher would need to be included with the computers to teach these children how to get started. But that wasn't the case in this pilot program. And it generally isn't the case with students in school settings.

The tablets were pre-loaded with a custom English-language operating system and SD cards with tracking software on them to record how the tablets were used. In less than five minutes the box was opened and one child found the on/off switch. And the tablets were powered up. In less than five days, the children were using 47 apps per day, per kid. Within 14 days the children were singing ABC songs in English and within 150 days they hacked the android, reactivating the camera that had been disabled.

The experiment proved these children can teach themselves to read and write in English. For the cost of a tablet, these children made giant academic gains.

The One Laptop Per Child project is an extreme example of children using technology to engage and teach themselves. In the school setting we certainly want to continue to captivate the minds of the young learners. And while a tablet will never take the place of a dynamic teacher, it certainly can be used to enhance instruction. Children have an innate ability to learn new things quickly. If parents and teachers partner together with the students, the learning will continue to take place at a high level. ■



# schools



## Aloma Elementary

Principal Dr. Drew A. Hawkins

We appreciate everyone's help in making our Dedication Ceremony such a wonderful event. It was nice to celebrate the completion of our reconstruction project and have a beautiful new school for the students! Thank you for your support!

The School Advisory Council will meet on Tuesday, December 4 at 8:00 a.m. in the principal's conference room. After the holidays, the School Advisory Council will meet again on Tuesday, January 8 at 8:00 a.m.

Thank you goes out to those who were able to come to Aloma and share their expertise during Teach-In on Wednesday, November 14. The students learned much through the time you were able to spend with them. Many thanks also go to our wonderful media specialist, Mrs. Mask, for coordinating this event.

Aloma's Eagle Ensemble is planning performances on the dates listed below. We would love for you to come out and support our students and our school at these events.

Saturday, Dec. 1 at 5:00 p.m.  
- Crane's Roost in Altamonte  
Sunday, Dec. 2 at 1:30 p.m.  
- Crealde School of Art Sale  
Thursday, Dec. 13 at 6:30 p.m.  
- Orlando Fashion Square  
Friday, Dec. 14 at 6:30 p.m. - Winter In The Park (Ice Skating Rink)  
Tuesday, Dec. 18 at 6:00 p.m.  
- Winter Concert at Aloma

School will be closed for the holidays from December 24 through January 4, with the students returning on Monday, January 7. Don't forget to spend some time reading with your children. It's a lot of fun, a great way to spend time together, and will help them stay ready for the new year. We wish everyone a safe and restful holiday full of fun. As always, we appreciate your help and your support! We are "Team Eagle: Every Student! Every Day!"



## Audubon Park Elementary

Principal Trevor Honohan

Our teachers are spending the year learning about the new Common Core State Standards. These standards are accelerating learning and raising the bar. Focusing on the basic skills all students need to be successful is extremely important before students can tackle the more complex tasks. This year at Audubon Park we are learning all we can about the standards as well as creating a school-wide plan for the future.

To learn more about the standards please watch this quick three minute video. Thank you.  
<http://vimeo.com/51933492>

You can also find out more information about the standards here:  
<https://www.ocps.net/Parent/Pages/default.aspx>





schools



**Brookshire Elementary**  
*Principal Dr. Marc Rummler*

December is always a fun time of year and we have some exciting events coming up for our families. On Wednesday December 5th, Brookshire will be the featured school for Winter in the Park ice skating in Central Park. Join us anytime from 3:00pm to 9:00pm. On December 6th, our chorus will be performing after school at the Winter Park Towers. On Saturday, December 8th, we will have our winter carnival at our school. Remember, we are located at 1500 Falcon Drive this year. And on Tuesday, December 18th at Glenridge Middle School at 7:00pm, we will have our 5th grade holiday musical.

Looking back on November, we would like to thank the wonderful staff of Emmanuel Episcopal Church for allowing us the use of their facility for our Veterans Day program. We would also like to thank all of our guest speakers that made our Teach-In event on November 14th such a success. The day would not have been possible without the hard work of Susan Mavrides, Liz Roby, and Annette Gidus.

Construction is proceeding well at Brookshire. The main building walls may be up by the time this article is published! It won't be long now when we call the new building our home. You can see some aerial photos of the construction site on our web site at [www.brookshire.ocps.net](http://www.brookshire.ocps.net).



**Fern Creek Elementary**  
*Principal Dr. Patrick Galatowitsch*

It's fall in Florida and a very exciting time of year here at Fern Creek Elementary! Our school family has all kinds of events to look forward to such as Pathways to College at Rollins and Reading Night here at the school. While it's an exciting time of year it is also a time to restock on some much-needed winter items. Most of our students arrive at Fern Creek after standing outside and waiting for their buses, and many times they are standing in T-shirts without a coat, gloves or a warm hat. Our Fern Creek family is hoping to collect socks, children's coats, Chap Stick, mittens and warm hats so that our students can stay warm during the following months. If you would like to donate any of those items, please bring them to our Front Office M-F 8a.m.-3p.m.

Also keep in mind that Fern Creek is always looking for dedicated mentors for our many students and it's not too late to get involved. We have over 30 students on our waiting list. If you are interested in learning more about this program please contact our Community and Mentor Assistant Anna Dempsey at [anna.dempsey@ocps.net](mailto:anna.dempsey@ocps.net) and she will point you in the right direction. Also, if you are a business owner who would like to find out how you can partner with Fern Creek, we would love to speak with you as well!

Another great way to get involved at Fern Creek is donating non-perish-

able food items to our school's pantry. Every Friday we send home over 310 "Snack Packs" for our students so it's important that we keep our pantry stocked. With the help of our local businesses, families and communities we are able to continue this program and feed all of our students on the weekends. Some great items are applesauce, granola bars, fruit cups, beans, tuna, or canned ravioli.

Thank you so much for supporting Fern Creek, we are grateful for all you do for our staff and students.

We welcome and encourage the involvement of parents and the community in the life of our school. To inquire about opportunities to become involved, please contact the school principal at [galatop@ocps.net](mailto:galatop@ocps.net)



**Glenridge Middle School**  
*Principal Heather Hilton*

Greetings to our Glenridge community! We hope you had a terrific Thanksgiving break and are ready for a busy December at the school! Lots of great things are taking place throughout the month and we encourage you to take advantage of our winter concerts and events. Don't forget to check our school calendar located at [www.glenridge.ocps.net](http://www.glenridge.ocps.net) to stay up-to-date!

Glenridge would like to thank each of our families for participating in our annual food drive. This year's efforts assisted the school in providing holiday meals for our 58 families who are in homeless situations. Student Council and our registrar, Ms. Talbot-Williams, helped us reach this goal and ensure holiday comforts for our community.

The votes are in and we are proud to announce Mr. Jon Roda as the Glenridge Teacher of the Year and Ms. Carol Feiner as the Glenridge Support Person of the Year. Both of these individuals provide excellent service to our school and students. Our district has selected Ms. Feiner as one of the five finalists for the District Support Person of the Year, out of 200 schools! We wish her the best of luck!

Our volleyball season is underway and our teams are looking strong! The season started in November and our final regular season game is December 5 against Meadowbrook Middle. Playoffs start the following week and will continue into January. Come on out and support the teams! We also want to congratulate Rafaella Gibbons for winning first place in the Middle School State Cross Country Competition sponsored by the Florida Youth Running Association. Way to go, state champ!

As the holiday season approaches, we have the opportunity to enjoy concert season too. The band concert will be held in the gym on December 6, with a 7p.m. start time. We wish our Thespian Troupe the best of luck at their District Competition on December 8. The chorus concert will be held at the Winter Park Main Campus Auditorium on December 11 at 7p.m. The orchestra concert will finish the concert series in the MPR December 12 at 7p.m. We hope you will be able to join us for these amazing events. Our campus will be closed from December 22, 2012 - January 6, 2013. We will look forward to seeing our stu-

dents again January 7.

We wish your family a wonderful holiday season filled with family and fun!



**Jewish Academy of Orlando**  
*Head of School, Lynne Shefsky*

Jewish Academy of Orlando (JAO) is gearing up for a festive Hanukkah season with a community-wide event (Zimryah) to be held on Thursday, Dec. 13 at the Jewish Community Center at 6:45 p.m. Performances and activities from all grades will be part of this celebration. All are welcome.

Academic excellence is always a priority at JAO. The percentage of fourth and fifth graders selected to participate in the Duke TIP program was 25% - we are very proud of all our students and how well the school rates on the SAT scale, as well. The Patricia R. Selznick Middle School of JAO is also proud to once again be involved in the Multifaith Education Program. JAO is joined by Geneva Christian School and Leader's Preparatory, and the schools meet throughout the year to learn about each other's religions.

The school's middle and elementary basketball teams have begun practices, and there are several games on the schedule through the winter. Go Maccabis! Another December event that our students always look forward to is the Maccabiah games, a version of the Olympics, emphasizing teamwork and competitive fun.

Prospective parent events are happening now, including a PreK playdate on Tuesday Dec. 11. Please contact the school office at 407-647-0713 if you would like to learn more about Central Florida's only Jewish community elementary and middle school.



**Lake Sybelia Elementary**  
*Principal Dr. Julie Paradise*

When you watch the morning news at Lake Sybelia Elementary, you will probably notice there is a sign language interpreter. The interpreter is there to bring the announcements to our 40+ children who are deaf and hard of hearing. Lake Sybelia is a center school for Orange County which provides a Total Communication program for students who use sign language as their primary mode of communication. The students can enter Lake Sybelia when they turn three and stay with us through 5th grade.

Total Communication means that our teachers and students voice and sign everything they communicate. Our teachers use American Sign Language along with Exact Signed English to instruct our students. We are always amazed at the progress the children make as they learn the same curriculum and are held accountable for the same standards as their hearing peers. These students work so hard to overcome their disability which Helen Keller referred to as the most isolating disability of all.

Our Total Communication program consists of five classrooms. The children are served by five teachers who are certified in Deaf Education and one Speech and Language Pathologist. Additionally, the students are served by eight interpreters who



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work in the Total Communication classrooms and in the regular education classrooms when the students are mainstreamed. It is an honor and a privilege to work with these teachers, interpreters, students, and their families. They are wonderful role models for all of us.



### Lakemont Elementary

*Principal Dr. Brenda Cunningham*

Is it December already? We have officially entered the holiday season. Oh what a fun season it is! November was a busy month for Lakemont, and December promises to be just as busy.

From Thanksgiving to New Year's Day, it is a special time for everyone, especially children. Families join together sharing meals, happy times, and traditions that reinforce the love we have for each other. A great gift to give to children is our time. We invite our families to several events we have planned in which they can spend time with their child. Our annual Jingle Bell Run will be on Dec. 6 from 7-8:30p.m. on the track located behind our school. It will be an opportunity to get some exercise, meet other families and listen to some great holiday music. Come see our chorus and strings perform on Tuesday, Dec. 18 in our cafeteria. More fun family times can be had during "Winter in the Park," Lakemont's fundraiser night at the CHILLY Ice Skating Rink on December 4 from 3-9p.m., our skate night at Semoran Skateway on Dec. 12 from 6:15-8:15p.m., and the Extended Day Drama Club play on December 13 at 6:15p.m.

An important quality that the holiday season provides us is the opportunity to teach children about generosity. Our students have been involved in collecting donations for Operation Gratitude, giving up their candy to send to soldiers deployed in combat zones overseas; and UNICEF, an organization that uses the donations to help children in Third World countries with supplies, food and immunization. Our families have shown their generosity by supporting our Canned Food Drive. Thanks to their support, many families were provided assistance during these tough economic times. Teaching our children how to give instead of only receiving is an important gift.

Holidays can also be a time of reflection. In Grades 3 through 5, 141

their report cards). As the principal, I am thankful that our PTO is able to support programs such as Leopard's Pride and Accelerated Reader which help motivate our students and promote citizenship and academic success. Our campus has capable students, caring and professional teachers and staff, productive PTO and SAC groups, generous community and business partners, dependable volunteers and wonderful, supportive parents.

I encourage you to enjoy the opportunities this time of the year brings. On behalf of the entire Lakemont staff, we would like to wish your family Happy Holidays and a healthy, prosperous New Year.



### Maitland Middle School

*Principal Ronald Maxwell*

Hello to our Golden Hawks Family. Progress reports for the second nine weeks were sent home on November 30. A reminder to all parents that the Maitland Middle School PTA sends a weekly calendar of school events, as well as other important school news via our email newsletter, "Hawk Happenings." You can sign up by going to the MMS PTA website ([www.mm.opcs.net](http://www.mm.opcs.net)) click on "Parents," then "PTA." On the right side of the PTA homepage, click "Sign up for our email newsletter." The Winter Break will be from December 22 to January 7.

The boys and girls volleyball season is in full swing and they are doing well. The season ends after the winter break. Our band, chorus and orchestra students are working hard and performing in events throughout the first and second nine weeks of school. Student Council collected food prior to Thanksgiving Break and were able to provide 30 families with much-needed canned goods and non-perishable items for the holiday season.

We are very excited to report that our students participated in a science contest with other schools in Orange County conducted by the University of Central Florida Engineering Department where they constructed replicas of water towers that needed to be functional and to scale. Ms. Ashcraft's team won a first place prize and Ms. Clower's team won a second place prize. Congratulations to all of our students who participated. We are proud of our Golden Hawk family and our students' continued success in academics, athletics and the arts. We hope everyone has a restful and safe holiday season. At Maitland Middle School we are building a bridge to the future.



### Park Maitland School

*Head of School Cindy Moon*

On a day when parades and gun salutes are the norm, more than 600 students at Park Maitland School participated in something truly innovating - a heartfelt and moving Veteran's Day assembly led by children. With Thanksgiving following soon after and gratitude on everyone's mind, Park Maitland has been showing gratitude all year, as Gratitude is the school's special 45th anniversary theme. Filled with song, storytelling, and special student stars, the children provide a forever-memory to all the veterans and family, near and far, who served our country in the past

and present. As well, the program always includes a special keynote speaker. This year, we were deeply



honored and proud to welcome Mayor Buddy Dyer of Orlando as our special guest at this important and moving event. The mayor addressed the crowd of children ages 4 to 12 and their families' veterans, speaking of the importance of remembering and honoring those who have served and currently serve to defend our freedom every day. Mayor Dyer shares our belief in the importance of keeping the spirit of patriotism high in schools where we are educating tomorrow's leaders.



### St. Charles Borromeo

#### Bulldogs Celebrate Healthy Living

If you are a St. Charles Bulldog, one thing is for sure, after Red Ribbon Week you know to keep your "Paws off Drugs"! St. Charles Borromeo Catholic School participated in a week-long campaign where the central message was to keep away from drugs and celebrate healthy living. Faculty organized a special daily message for the students during Red Ribbon Week. On Monday, all students wore red socks in symbolic unity, clearly giving the message "Sock It to Drugs." Tuesday, the Bishop Moore Catholic High School Marching Band joined the Bulldogs on campus for a special concert; the message: "Band against Drugs." The next day students participated in a friendly war "Hearts against Drugs" by competing in a canned food drive contest. All the students made a big difference by helping to stock the shelves at the local food pantry - Brother's Keeper. Congratulations to Class 6S who won the "war" and to the entire school for making a difference in our community. St. Charles was fortunate on Thursday, a special visitor Officer Paul Foster and his K-9 Ozzy, visited with the students. Officer Foster clearly informed the students about the dangers of drugs and how his K-9 assists him to sniff out

drugs. The week was finished off by "Slamming the Door on Drugs." All grades competed in a door-decorating contest. After much deliberation, it was decided that Class 1A was the winner. All classes did an amazing job on their doors. Red Ribbon Week was a time of awareness for our Bulldogs, but the best part is they had fun learning about a serious topic.



### St. James Cathedral School

*Principal Mrs. Gerri Gendall*

St. James Cathedral School believes in expanding the classroom curriculum by including long distance learning opportunities. This year a group of faculty, students, and parents embarked on a "Boston Area Adventure"!

Students had an educational experience that they could not have had in the classroom. After landing in Boston, MA, the group headed to historical Faneuil Hall Marketplace to enjoy Bostonian cuisine. History lessons came alive during the tour of the U.S.S. Constitution Ship and Museum. History museums are fun to visit at any age, but they are especially exciting for young adults in middle school. Students are learning about the Great Depression, The Civil War, and the world wars. Visiting the U.S.S. Constitution Ship and Museum with exhibits that contain artifacts from these events, such as cannons, flags, and muskets, was an excellent way to spark interest and bring history to life.

Mother Nature surprised everyone with an unexpected snow storm. It was the first time that many of our students had seen snow! Memories of making snowmen and snowballs will stay with our Floridians forever.

Our physical education teacher Ms. Vicki Jensen's favorite part of the trip was touring Fenway Park, home of the Boston Celtics, and walking the Freedom Trail. She shared, "Things along the Freedom Trail really make me think about what the individuals before us did to ensure that we would live and enjoy the freedoms we have now!" Mr. Mark Danner, math teacher, enjoyed the visit to the Pilgrim Village at Plimoth Plantation and seeing Plymouth Rock. He said "It was wonderful to see the students get an understanding of how the Pilgrims lived."

The three-day excursion required significant planning and coordination from Mrs. Merry Harrison, our



students achieved their quarterly Accelerated Reader goal. The students on each grade level with the most points are: 1st grade, Daniel Van Valkenburgh; 2nd grade, Andrea Ignajatic; 3rd grade, Gianna Mackinnon; 4th grade, David Ren; 5th grade, Jamil Seidu. Additionally, 240 students earned Leopard's Pride (all Satisfactory marks in behavior on

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social studies and religion teacher. She said, “Parents as well as students were immersed in a total experience, walking the grounds of Plimoth Plantation in the blinding rain and whipping winds. We certainly gained a new appreciation of what our forefathers experienced in the early days of our country. What a wonderful way to learn! I hope that we can have many more experiences like this as both our students and our parents agree that there is nothing quite like it!”



### St. Margaret Mary Catholic School

Principal Katie Walsh

With the month of December upon us, St. Margaret Mary Catholic School is immersed in Advent in anticipation of Christmas. The annual Advent Concert will soon be a musical evening to remember with performances from all the elementary school classes, along with the school choirs and bands. During the annual Senior Citizen Advent Dinner, the eighth-grade students serve and mingle (dancing is always encouraged), with our senior parishioners. In religion classes, discussion focuses on preparation for the Savior’s arrival – from simple Advent calendars to solidarity in prayer, to how our actions speak to who we are. Students are caring for those in need by donating toys to the parish Christmas Store. The toys will be shared with local children.

Other co-curricular activities include the Kennedy Space Center field trip tied to the space unit in sixth grade. After an introduction to physics, eighth-grade students apply theory by creating their own team roller coasters. And nothing caps off that experience like a hands-on field trip to Busch Gardens to ride the real coasters! With another successful track and field season closing, student athletes are preparing for boys’ basketball and girls’ soccer. Before we know it, the school community will be celebrating our last school Mass of 2012 and wishing everyone a safe and blessed Christmas break. May your family find peace in Advent and joy in the Christmas season.



### The Christ School

Head of School Jason Powell, Ed.D.

As both head of school and father of a kindergarten student, this year I am experiencing kindergarten from two perspectives- my own, and from the eyes of a student. As head of school, I am confident that my child is thriving in a culture focused on glorifying God through academic excellence. As a parent, I am invited to remain involved in my child’s classroom through chaperoning one or more of the many field trips our youngest students attend. In fact, numerous field trips are a hallmark of The Christ School’s (TCS) kindergarten curriculum.

Our kindergarten classes have already attended seven field trips this school year. They frequently embark on adventures outside of the classroom to make meaningful connections to what they are learning. It is wonderful to see a student connect classroom knowledge with their surroundings. An added benefit for

parents is the opportunity to chaperone and enjoy moments of discovery with their child while in school. Kindergarten students are full of energy and curiosity, and it is catching.

Recently, The Christ School’s kindergarten classes went on their annual PowWow at Lake Lotus. Prior to their trip, teachers and students begin to discover Native American culture through their classroom lessons. Students learn many interesting and fun facts about Native Americans including the clothes they wore, their houses, and their celebrations. Outing preparations, too, are a time of learning and fun inside the classroom. Students make Native American crafts including a headdress, a vest, and a necklace to wear at their PowWow.

When the day finally arrives, students journey to the PowWow dressed in their self-made Native American accessories ready to enjoy a day filled with singing, dancing, and a nature walk. A guide is there to discuss Florida’s native animals. Before leaving for the day, students, parents, and faculty celebrate with a feast.

This month our kindergarten students will experience caroling here in the hallways of TCS before leaving for Orlando Lutheran Towers. It is a pleasure to see the joy on residents’ faces as our kindergarten students take the stage to sing Christmas songs.

Whether students are learning about how things work and visiting Miller’s Hardware or about life cycles while watching caterpillars become butterflies in a classroom pavilion before visiting Leu Gardens, our teachers work to ensure a hands-on, memorable kindergarten experience.



### The Geneva School

Headmaster Bob Ingram

I am pleased to present our four 2013 National Merit Scholar Semifinalists. Of the 1.5 million juniors across the U.S. who took last year’s Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT), about 16,000 have been selected as semifinalists. In all of Seminole County, there are only 60 students who qualify, of which, remarkably, four are from Geneva’s senior class. In addition, Geneva has two other students who are National Merit Scholarship Commended Students in recognition of their outstanding academic promise. These students have submitted an additional application, essay, and other information in order to hope-



fully qualify to become National Merit Scholar finalists. On behalf of The Geneva School community, I want to publicly thank Keller Bright, Lily Cloke, Gabe Peterson, and Wesley Reynolds for their hard work to achieve this honor.



### Trinity Lutheran School

Principal Melissa Bergholt

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!

December begins with the Orlando Christmas Parade on December 2 at 5:30p.m. The parade has been a long standing tradition at Trinity and we are excited to be a part of it again this year! Be sure to keep an eye out for the TLS float!

We have our third spirit night of the school year at Tijuana Flats (Summerlin location) on Monday, December 10. Enjoy some Tex-Mex food, have your parking validated and support our school!

December is a month packed with celebration, community and festivities among TLS families. Our VPK and kindergarten students will perform their annual Christmas program on Friday, December 14 in our sanctuary.

We will come together again for our final Chapel before Christmas break (Friday, December 21) to watch our eighth-grade puppet team in action! Our eighth graders love to make the puppets sing, dance and be humorous as they entertain the entire student body. Our day will continue with Christmas parties, love and joy as we celebrate the birth of our Savior!



### Trinity Preparatory School

Headmaster Craig Maughan

Many special arts performances and activities fill the month of December at Trinity Prep. We will have

a musical theatre production of “Pippin” and separate concerts featuring strings, band, jazz and percussion, and vocal performances. Our annual Christmas Lessons and Carols chapel service is also a showcase of artistic talent with performances by several of our musical groups.

The Middle School has two very special student events in the month of December. The seventh grade culminates their study of Charles Dickens’s “A Christmas Carol” with an entire day of themed activities. Each sixth grader will immerse him or herself in the study of another country leading up to a World Expo event.

Congratulations to Charles Garnette and Christine Monir, two Trinity Prep seniors who were named Outstanding Participants in the 2013 National Achievement Scholarship Program. They are among 3,100 participants who scored in the top three percent of more than 160,000 Black Americans on the October 2011 PSAT.

Trinity Prep recently nominated nine high achieving seniors for prestigious merit scholarships at colleges and universities across the United States. Those nominees include James Newlin and Steven Schelling of Winter Park; Kalee Eichelberger, Connor Durham, and Kiley Rossetter of Maitland; and Christian Robinson of Baldwin Park.

As we celebrate Trinity Prep’s history and vision in our 45th year, join us for a play, concert, or athletic event. Check [www.trinityprep.org](http://www.trinityprep.org) for upcoming events, or follow us on Facebook and Twitter. ■





## Open House Sunday, January 13th

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# 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 East 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 2012.** Harry P. Leu Gardens is located at 1920 N. Forest Ave. For more information please call 407-246-2620.

**Now – December 31 Leu’s Holiday House** – 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Harry P. Leu Gardens. This annual tradition includes tours through the 11-room estate that was built in the late 1880’s located at 1920 North Forest Avenue. For more information please visit [www.leugardens.org](http://www.leugardens.org), or call 407-246-2620.



**December 4 Tarflower Chapter Meeting** – 7:00 p.m. at Harry P. Leu Gardens located at 1920 North Forest Avenue. Dr. Eliane Norman, Professor Emeritus from Stetson University, will speak about pawpaw plants and their native habitat. The meeting is free and open to the public. For more information please call 407-647-5233.

## Baldwin Park Events

**December 8 Festival of Lights Holiday Parade** – 6:00 p.m. along New Broad Street in Baldwin Park.

## College Park and Orlando Area Events

### Ongoing Events

**Every Wednesday Belles and Beaus Dance Club** will have continuous weekly 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 Drive. 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 Street. 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 Avenue between Princeton and New Hampshire.

**Now – December 17 Pet Photos with Santa** – 6:00 p.m. at Orlando Fashion Square. For more information please visit [www.orlandofashionsquare.com](http://www.orlandofashionsquare.com).

**Now – December 23 “A Christmas Carol”** – 8:00 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays and Sundays at 2:30 p.m. at the Theatre Downtown located at 2113 N. Orange Avenue. For ticket information please call 407-841-0083 or visit [www.theatredowntown.net](http://www.theatredowntown.net).

**Now – December 31 “Peanuts...Naturally”** - an exhibition from the Charles M. Schulz Museum and Research Center at the Orange County Regional History Center. The Orange County Regional History Center is located at 65 E. Central Blvd. For more information visit [www.thehistorycenter.org](http://www.thehistorycenter.org) or call (407) 836-8500.



**December 6 The Orange County Retired Educators Association Meeting** – 10:00 a.m. at the College Park United Methodist Church located at 644 W. Princeton Street. Anyone who has worked in education is invited to join. For more information please visit [www.crea-fl.org](http://www.crea-fl.org), or call 407-67-0446.

**December 15 Reindeer Run** – 7:15 a.m. 3 mile start runner wave, 7:30 a.m. 3 mile start walker wave, 8:45

a.m. Wells Fargo Rudolph Run (free kids’ run) and a 9:15 a.m. Rosen Hotels and Resorts Holiday Costume Contest. For more information and to register please visit [www.trackshack.com](http://www.trackshack.com).



**December 19 Holiday Dance** – 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. hosted by Belles and Beaus Dance Club at the Marks St. Recreation Complex located at 5 E. Marks Street. Cost is \$5 per person and singles and couples are welcome. For more information please call 407-277-7008.

**December 22 and 23 “A Christmas Carol”** - 7:30 p.m. at the Southern Winds Theatre located at 511 Virginia Avenue. For tickets and information please call 407-341-3495, or visit [www.southernwindstheatre.com](http://www.southernwindstheatre.com).

**January 3 The Orange County Retired Educators Association Meeting** - 10:00 a.m. at College Park United Methodist Church located at 644 W. Princeton Street. Anyone who has worked in education is invited to join. For more information please visit [www.crea-fl.org](http://www.crea-fl.org), or call 407-67-0446.

## Maitland Events

### Ongoing Events

**Every Sunday Maitland Farmers’ Market** at Lake Lily



**Now – January 13 Holidays at the Waterhouse** – admission is \$3 for adults, \$2 seniors/children (ages 3 and under are free). The Waterhouse Residence, located at 820 Lake Lily Drive, was built in 1884 by pioneer settler and builder William H. Waterhouse as a home for his family. Holidays at the Waterhouse takes you back to see how William and his wife Sarah prepare for their Christmas celebration. Each room features Victorian-era holiday decorations and interesting historical facts about the yuletide. Contact 407-539-2181 or visit [www.ArtandHistory.org](http://www.ArtandHistory.org).

**December 15 Ninth Annual “Snow Fest”** - 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the RDV Sportsplex located at 8701 Maitland Summit Blvd. Admission is \$15 for children 3 – 17 and \$9 for adults and includes tax and ice skate rental. For more information please call 407-916-2550 or visit [www.rdvsportsplex.com](http://www.rdvsportsplex.com).



## Winter Park Events

### Ongoing Events

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

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

**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.

**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 Friday Night (Now – April) Free Admission to the Morse** – 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. visitors can enjoy free admission to the Morse Museum. The museum is home to Louis Comfort Tiffany’s (1848–1933) collection and also regularly changes and updates complimenting exhibits to bring a broader understanding of the developments of American art. For more information please visit [www.morsemuseum.org](http://www.morsemuseum.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](http://www.casafeliz.us).

**Now – December 11 Ballroom Dance Lessons** – Beginner – 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Winter Park Famers’ Market.

**Now – December 11 Ballroom Dance Lessons** – Intermediate – 8:45 to 9:45 p.m. at the Winter Park Farmers’ Market.

**Now – January 6 “Winter in the Park” Holiday Ice Skating Rink** – the rink is located in Central Park’s West Meadow. For more information please call 407-599-3203 or visit [www.cityofwinterpark.org/witp](http://www.cityofwinterpark.org/witp).

**December 5 Walk and Talk with Commissioner Cooper** – 7:00 a.m. at the Winter Park Welcome Center.

**December 6 Fun with Flowers** --Decorating for Christmas with Flowers – 10:00 a.m. at the Winter Park Garden Club located at 1300 S. Denning Drive. Cost is \$25.00 with all materials provided. Please register by December 4 by calling 407-644-5770.

**December 6 Garden Talks** – noon to 1:00 p.m. with Stephen and Kristin Pategas of Hortus Oasis at the Winter Park Library. Cost is \$5 per session, and please bring a lunch. To register please visit [www.wppl.org](http://www.wppl.org), or call 407-623-3279.



**December 6 34th Annual Christmas in the Park Celebration** – The Charles Hosmer Morse Museum of American Art continues their holiday tradition of hosting this two-hour program that begins at 6:15 p.m. in Central Park, and features the Bach Festival Choir concert with a backdrop of lighting of eight turn-of-the-century Tiffany windows. For more information please call 407-645-5311.

**December 6 “Christmas at the Casa”** – 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Casa Feliz Historic Home Museum. This event is free, but a donation of \$2 per person or \$5 per family is suggested. Event includes photos with Santa, hot cocoa, cookies and music by the Dickensian Carolers. The Casa Feliz located at 656 North Park Avenue. For additional information please call 407-628-8200.

**December 7 “Hannibal Square Holiday** – 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. hosted by Winter Park’s Hannibal Square Merchants Association. Advance tickets are \$25, or \$30 on the day of the event. This food and wine celebration is to benefit the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra. For more information please visit [www.hannibalsquare.com](http://www.hannibalsquare.com).

**December 8 Holiday Boat Parade & Water Ski Show** – the water ski show will begin at 3:30 p.m. on Lake Virginia with viewing on the Rollins College campus by the jump ramp located in front of the campus Student Center/Swimming Pool. The Holiday Boat Parade festivities will begin at 5:00 p.m. at the Polasek Gardens. Admission to the Polasek Gardens is free and food, wine and beer will be available for purchase with proceeds to benefit the efforts of the Rotary Club of Winter Park to help local non-profits. The boat parade will begin around 6:30 p.m. on the east shore of Lake Virginia. For more information or entry information please visit [www.wpboatparade.com](http://www.wpboatparade.com) or call 407-647-6492.

**December 9 Chanukah in the Park** – 5:00 p.m. in Central Park, and hosted by the Chabad of Greater Orlando. This event includes live music, dancers, face painting, jugglers, food and more. For more information please call 407-644-2500.



**December 13 Winter Park Historical Associations Open House** – 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Winter Park Country Club.

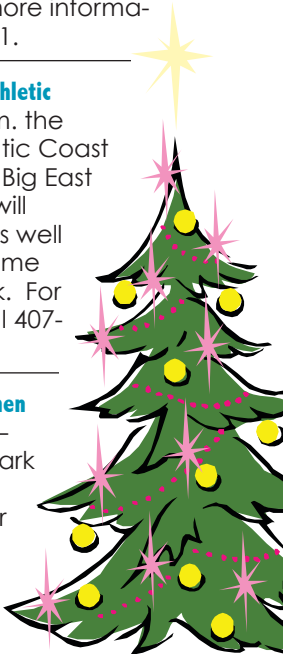
**December 13 Winter Band Concert** – 7:00 p.m. at the Winter Park High School Anne Derflinger Auditorium featuring the Winter Park High School Band. This annual tradition is free and open to the public.

**December 15 17th Annual Merry Tuba Christmas** – registration for tuba, euphonium, sousaphone and baritone players begins at 9:30 a.m. with a 10:30 a.m. rehearsal and a free concert for the community to enjoy in Central Park at noon. For more information please call 407-599-3463.

**December 22 and 23 FREE Holiday Weekend Open House** - 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the The Charles Hosmer Morse Museum of American Art. For more information, please call 407-645-5311.

**December 28 6th Annual Russell Athletic Bowl Parade of Bands** – 11:00 a.m. the school bands from the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) and the Big East Championship bowl teams will march along Park Avenue as well as perform a “Bandastic Game Day Preview” in Central Park. For more information please call 407-599-3463.

**January 10 Garden Talks with Stephen and Kristin Paegas of Hortus Oasis** – Noon to 1:00 at the Winter Park Library (bring lunch!) Cost is \$5 per person and to register please call 407-623-3279 or visit [www.wppl.org](http://www.wppl.org).







**JAN 15-17**

**Bob Carr Centre**

TEL: **800.745.3000**

# SHEN YUN 2013

## 神韻晚會

**ShenYun2013.org**

### ENJOY AN UNMATCHED THEATRICAL EXPERIENCE

**S** HEN YUN. For Chinese, the words evoke a sense of wonder, magic, and the divine. To audiences who have seen it, they recall the experience of a lifetime—a moment so powerfully beautiful it touches the soul.

Discover the grandeur of a fantastically rich culture, that of classical China, brought to life through brilliantly choreographed dance and mesmerizing, all-original orchestral compositions. Magnificently costumed dancers—the world's elite—move in poetic arrangements that evoke pastoral beauty, imperial drama, and the glory of an ancient civilization. This season, discover what art was meant to be. Discover Shen Yun.

***Every legend has its history. Every story has its truths. And the best are rarely forgotten.***

For the past 5,000 years, China amassed a diverse legacy of heroes, myths, and values that still resonate in the present. Today, Shen Yun Performing Arts is reviving the essence of traditional Chinese culture in full color on stages around the world.

Ride with Mongolians across endless steppes. Recall

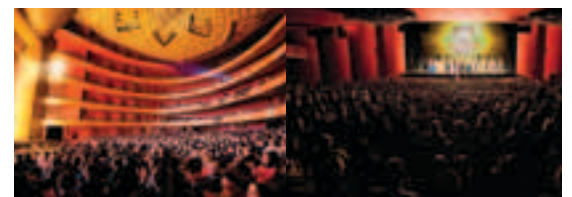
the grandeur of an ancient Tang Dynasty palace. Down in the valley, ladies of the Yi ethnic group dance in rainbow skirts by the river. High up in the heavens, celestial fairies trail silken sleeves through the clouds. Resounding drums awaken the dusty plateaus of the Middle Kingdom.

Exploring the deeper facets of our shared humanity that go beyond merely entertaining, Shen Yun strives to capture the spirit of traditional Chinese culture and its beliefs. Ancient literary classics extol the compassionate, courageous, and loyal, values embodied by the most memorable characters. Thrill in the triumph of the great General Yue Fei; cheer on the Monkey King as he tricks a stubborn foe; and witness how these values still endure in contemporary China.

#### ***A Global Sensation***

Shen Yun is a miracle in the eyes of the performing arts world. In a few short years, it has grown to three companies touring the world simultaneously. Today, Shen Yun counts many winners of international dance and vocal competitions among its artists, and the orchestras include many musicians from world-renowned symphonies and conservatories.

Gracing the world's most prestigious venues, from Lincoln Center in New York to Royal Festival Hall in London, from Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. to the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion in Los Angeles, Shen Yun has touched the hearts of millions of viewers of all ages, backgrounds, and ethnicities as it portrays the values and consummate beauty that belong to all of humanity.



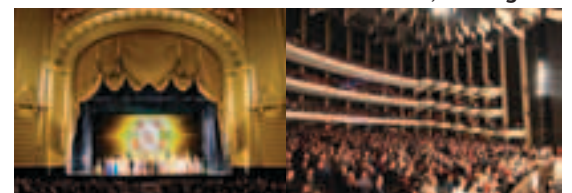
Lincoln Center, New York

The Kennedy Center, D.C.



The London Coliseum

Kodak Theater, Los Angeles



War Memorial Opera House  
San Francisco

National Arts Centre  
Ottawa

**“So inspiring!**

**I may have found some ideas for the next Avatar movie.”**

**— Robert Stromberg**

Academy Award-winning production designer

**“Brilliant choreography...  
extravagantly beautiful.”**

**— Broadway World**



**“Simply astounding to watch,  
and a pleasure to the ear.”**

**— OperaOnline**

**“This is the finest thing, the finest event I've ever been to in my life... I was in tears, because the human spirit, the dignity, the power, the love, coming out of those people was astounding... This is the profound, quintessential end of entertainment, there is nothing beyond this, nothing.”**

**— Jim Crill, entertainment programs producer**



### FOLK, ETHNIC AND STORY-BASED DANCE

**IN ADDITION TO** the classical forms, Shen Yun features the distinctive colors and styles of ethnic and folk dance. Choreographers draw upon over 20 dynasties and 50 ethnic groups to create pieces whose settings range from the northern steppes of Mongolia to the lush forests of Yunnan. Among the most impressive

elements of any Shen Yun performance are the large-scale ensemble pieces in which dozens of dancers appear to move as one across the stage.

Shen Yun has also created its very own brand of story-based dance, which often deals with universal, thought-provoking themes.

**TICKETS**

**Bob Carr Performing Arts Centre, Orlando | 7:30 PM, January 15-17, 2013**

Online: Ticketmaster.com; FLShows.com | Phone: 800.745.3000; 888.884.6707 | ShenYun2013.com