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## Magic And Disney Executives Receive Awards From Orlando EDC

The Orlando Economic Development Commission (EDC) hosted a successful 2015 James B. Greene Annual Award dinner recently with more than 500 attendees. Event highlights included the presentation of the James B. Greene Award to Alex Martins, chief executive officer of the Orlando Magic. Martins, who has spent 27 years in professional sports management, was instrumental in securing the state-of-the-art Amway Center, which was named the 2012 SportsBusiness Journal's "Facility of the Year" and received the 2013 StadiumBusiness "Customer Experience Award." Martins was also instrumental in bringing the 2012 NBA All-Star Weekend to Orlando and its \$95 million economic impact. Martins is currently leading a Sports and Entertainment District project adjacent to the Amway Center. The project represents a \$200 million-plus investment by the Magic and its partners that will create jobs and provide dining, hotel, retail and entertainment options while continuing the revitalization of downtown Orlando.

"Alex has touched the lives of so many and has helped make Orlando what it is today," said Tom Sittima, Orlando EDC board chair and CEO of CNL Financial Group. "Never one to sit on the sidelines, he is passionate about our community and about bringing out the very best in those around him."

During his time in Central Florida, Martins has held several significant roles in the local community.



(L to R): Rick Weddle (Orlando EDC President and CEO), Ken Potrock (Disney V.P. and winner of the EDC's Chairman's Award), Alex Martins (Orlando Magic CEO and winner of the EDC's James B. Greene Award) and Tom Sittima (CNL Financial Group CEO and EDC Board Chairman).

He served as the chairman of the Orlando Economic Development Commission, and on the board of directors for the Orlando Magic Youth Foundation, Visit Orlando, Florida Children's Hospital, Coalition for the Homeless, the Central Florida Commission on Homelessness, the Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts and the Past Chair of the Central Florida Partnership. He is also on the University of Central Florida board of trustees.

A Chairman's Award was also given out this year to Ken Potrock, senior vice president and general manager of Disney Vacation Club and Adventures by Disney. The EDC Chairman's Award, first presented in 2007, recognizes a long-term contributor to the work of the Orlando EDC.

"Ken led a 40 member regional branding com-

mittee made up of top branding strategists from Orange, Lake, Seminole, and Osceola counties and the City of Orlando," said Sittima. "He's tireless in his efforts to bring focus to all the wonderful things our region has to offer and ultimately to bring jobs to our community."

Potrock leads Disney's vacation-ownership program, Disney Vacation Club, and also the company's guided group travel business, Adventures by Disney. Potrock began his Disney career in 1996 and has held various leadership roles, including vice president of marketing for Disney Cruise Line, senior vice president of Global Alliance Marketing and senior vice president of Disney Sports Enterprises and Downtown Disney. He currently serves as the president of Florida Citrus Sports and on the Executive Board of the EDC, where he chairs the branding committee.

"Both of these men have shared their incredible talents for the betterment of our economy, community, and quality of life," said Orlando EDC president and CEO, Rick Weddle. "We are so pleased to bestow upon them the EDC's highest honors by naming them the 2015 James B. Greene and Chairman's awards winners."

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## Publisher's Message



Rick Cable

for how we will handle things throughout our entire journey in life. I view being a mother as being perhaps the most unselfish thing a person can do. Mothers, especially when their children are young, place their children in higher importance than anything else, and they become blessed with great awareness and unseen eyes in the back of their head. They are the constant protectors, caregivers, teachers, rule setters, and the ones who, when something is not going right, are to whom we need to talk. For we all know that one of the quickest ways for any child to begin solving a problem is to say— I'm telling mom!

In most situations just saying these three powerful words alone immediately solves the problem.

This led me to ask the origin of this holiday. I've always assumed that it was created by Hallmark and 1-800-Flowers, but no. The holiday was first established by Ann Jarvis in 1868 as a "Mother's Friendship Day" to help bring families together who had sons who had fought or

This month we honor perhaps the most important, influential, and unselfish person who has ever been a part of our lives. Sure, as we get older we have others who might take over that role, but mothers are first, and the ones who really set the stage

died on opposite sides during the Civil War. These gatherings became sporadic at a local level up until her death on May 9, 1905. Her daughter, Anna Jarvis, continued her efforts with the help of John Wanamaker. He was a Philadelphia merchant, and they held a large celebration at his store on May 10, 1908. Five hundred carnations were at this ceremony which is why carnations are associated as the flower of this holiday.

Jarvis worked hard to establish this day as an annual national holiday, and on May 9, 1914 President Woodrow Wilson delivered the official proclamation.

Ironically, after nine years the commercialization of the holiday had become so rampant that Anna Jarvis herself became a major opponent of what the holiday had become. So much so, that she spent all her inheritance and dedicated the rest of her life fighting what she saw as an abuse of the celebration.

Thankfully, the holiday has stood the test of time, and continues to honor she who, I believe, is the most important, influential, and unselfish person in our lives.

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

*Rick*

Rick Cable  
Founder/Owner

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## Silver Lining By Tricia Cable

There is nothing like a game of fast pitch on a Saturday to jump-start a weekend. If the prospect of watching my youngest play ball wasn't enough to get me excited about the weekend, the weather forecast was picture perfect: sunny, 78 degrees, with a very nice and very rare cool breeze. All pre-game preparation complete, we head to the ball field ready for some great competition.

Despite the fact that our team plays in the 16-and-under age group, the majority of the girls on our team and most of the other teams are in the thirteen and fourteen-year-old age range. Sadly, I could not say the same for our competition on that day. For some unknown reason, the other team that we played was stacked with fifteen and sixteen-year-old high school players and, need I say, more seasoned than our team of middle schoolers.

Typically, there is a draft at the beginning of the season. Each athlete goes through a series of evaluations in an attempt to equally distribute talent across the teams so that the games are more competitive. However, on this beautiful spring day, our team took quite a beating from a team that had been obviously stacked. And although the very slow two hours of play resulted in an overwhelming 13-1 victory for the much taller, much faster, and much stronger opposing team, the game was not an entire loss.

The initial reaction for our girls was one of disappointment and embarrassment. Most of them exited the dugout with the expected body lan-

guage: bowed heads, sunken shoulders, and frowns. Some were very verbal about what had just taken place and others were very quiet.

There are four members of our household. Each of us process life's lessons very differently from each other. If there is one thing that I have learned about my second child it is that she likes to take her time. She can hold back a feeling or an opinion until she has all the facts. She weighs the pros and the cons, the good and the bad, and comes to a well-thought and substantiated conclusion... "We had no business playing those girls, it was not fun and it will be hard to get excited about facing them again and again and again this season, but at least I got a piece of a ball thrown to me by the best pitcher in the league!"

And there it was, it may have taken six hours to process, but she found her silver lining. Sometimes in life, you will face an opponent, and you will lose. Take responsibility for the loss. Learn a lesson. Make the lesson learned be the reason for the loss and then pick yourself up, brush yourself off, and do better the next time. Find your silver lining.

*"It's not whether you get knocked down, it's whether you get back up."  
- Vince Lombardi*



Life's not fair and guess what? It's not supposed to be! It's on days when you lose or fall short of your goal that you learn the most. Winning is a great feeling. Who doesn't love the rush, the thrill of a big win? But losing is a motivator. Losing gives you the drive to train harder and play smarter. The pain you feel today will be the strength you feel tomorrow.

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# City Commissioner's Message

Commissioner Robert F. Stuart, City of Orlando District 3



Robert F. Stuart

May is a month when we remember and celebrate those who selflessly serve others. On May 10th, we take time out to thank all of the moms in our lives who work so hard for their families and their communities. We have many great ways to spend time with the moms we love on Mother's Day. Beautiful Leu Gardens ([leugardens.org](http://leugardens.org)) has free admission for all moms on Mother's Day. The Mennello Museum ([mennellomuseum.org](http://mennellomuseum.org)) also has free admission for everyone on Sunday, May 10th and offers tours of their exhibits, plus hands on crafts and activities for the kids. Also, East End Market ([eastendmkt.com](http://eastendmkt.com)), a unique gem in the Audubon Park Garden District ([apgardens.com](http://apgardens.com)), has a Brunch and Learn event on May 9th from noon to 2 p.m. where you not only eat a great brunch, but learn to make a few dishes too!

Or just let your mom relax and take her out for a meal at one of the great restaurants in the Baldwin Park Village Center. While I know construction has shifted parking, please note that on Friday and Saturday nights beginning at 6 p.m., there is a shuttle that runs from the Village Center to the parking lots adjacent to the Fairwinds Credit Union and Cuhaci and Peterson buildings (on Prospect Avenue between Lakemont Avenue and Ethan Lane) to give more options to patrons of the businesses along New Broad Street. We are also appreciative that the builder who is constructing the multi-family residences in the downtown is finishing the parking garages first so that more parking opportunities will be available for those visiting Baldwin Park's commercial district.

We are also appreciative of the many volunteers

who joined our City staff to help rehabilitate the shore line of Lake Baldwin near Harbor Park in honor of Earth Day last month. Following a re-grading of the slope in the conservation area, volunteers planted more than 2,060 plants to help maintain the health of this important natural resource.

Speaking of projects, please note that the City is undertaking a major roadway reconstruction of Bumby Avenue between Colonial Drive and Corrine Drive. For many years, the City has heard from residents of the area about the poor condition of this road. Because much of the issues were caused by occurrences happening underneath the street, the project had to include reconstruction of the storm water drainage system for any improvements on the surface of the road to last for any period of time. Along with the stormwater improvements, the project will include a new roadway free from potholes and deficiencies along with a much improved pedestrian experience, signal improvements at the intersection of Bumby and Virginia, and enhancements to the bus stops along the corridor. As you have probably seen, this project began in April and will take about 20 months to complete. Bumby, in this area, will be closed for the entire duration of the project.

On Monday, May 25th we celebrate Memorial Day and remember those who fought and gave the ultimate sacrifice for our country. The day, originally named Decoration Day, was first observed in 1868 in honor of the sacrifices of Civil War sol-



Examples of construction activities that will occur on the Bumby Avenue project. The contractor may be using large pieces of equipment to install pipelines. Please use caution when walking in the vicinity of construction. Pedestrians should only use the designated sidewalk during construction. Project is estimated to take 20 months to complete.

diers. In 1971, Congress declared Memorial Day as a national holiday to be commemorated on the last Monday in May.

While many of us appreciate Memorial Day as an extra day to spend quality time with our families and friends, we can also remember those we may have known and all of those soldiers we never knew, but who gave their lives to protect our freedom. We are grateful to have a wonderful tribute to the men and women of our armed forces right here in District 3.

If you get a chance during the month of May, take a moment to walk around beautiful Lake Baldwin and spend a few minutes visiting the monuments that dot the landscape of Orlando Veterans' Memorial Park, located at 2380 Lake Baldwin Lane, as a reminder to never forget the service men and women throughout our country's history who have made the ultimate sacrifice protecting our liberties.

Thanks for all you do for our Great City and for joining me this month in remembering our moms and our military.

ROBERT F. STUART | COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 3, CITY OF ORLANDO  
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# Winter Park Mayor's Message

Mayor Steve Leary



Steve Leary

## Benefits Of Being Green

Helen Keller once said "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." I was reminded of this philosophy last month when we celebrated Earth Day which showcased the many programs and efforts our city has made toward sustainability.

Each of us has a role and a responsibility to recycle, conserve and reuse – and the more of us who take these actions, the more sustainable our community becomes. Whether it's remembering to turn the water off when we are brushing our teeth, teaching our kids to recycle their empty water bottles, or even helping maintain a community garden – together we can do so much.

Winter Park has made huge strides in becoming a more sustainable city. In September 2014, the Orange Audubon Society was awarded a \$64,000 "Toyota TogetherGreen Innovation Grant" by Toyota for a collaboration project with the city's Keep Winter Park Beautiful & Sustainable Advisory Board. This grant enables low-income Winter Park residents to implement energy-efficiency measures in their homes if they qualify for free home upgrades.

In October 2014, the city was awarded a \$15,000 grant by Keep America Beautiful to help in pollution prevention and recycling efforts.

In January 2015, we were given fantastic news by Georgetown University. They announced we were one of only 50 communities in the country to become a semifinalist in the \$5 million Georgetown University Energy Prize. To compete, local governments, residents, utilities and others will need to work together to demonstrate success in sustainability by reducing energy consumption over a two-year period. We're excited about this opportunity to win \$5 million to go toward our sustainability program and we all need to work together to try to achieve this.

Also in January, the city kicked off its pilot Green Workplace Challenge that challenges organizations to make a change toward a greener future. Points are awarded based upon engagement of their tenants and the reduction of energy use, waste, and water. Currently, nine businesses have accepted the challenge. This green workplace challenge is part of a larger Workplace Challenge that will roll out in fall 2015 in collaboration with the City of Orlando and Orange County.

In February 2015, the City Commission unanimously adopted the Sustainability Action Plan that creates the roadmap showing where the city is today and where it would like to be in the future in relation to sustainability. It identifies seven categories with specific actions needed to achieve the plan's long term objectives.

Then most recently, last month the city proudly hosted "Earth Day in the Park." At this event, the city



awarded four schools with Winter Park Green School Grants, offered a fun kid's zone, live music, recycling stations, environmental films, an electric car show, and much more. To promote creative and sustainable transportation modes, the Pedestrian & Bicycle Advisory Board also hosted the city's Bike Valet that allowed patrons to check their bike, free of charge, while they enjoyed the festivities.

Understanding the importance of trees and the benefits they bring to the environment, certified arborists were also on site answering questions and giving away containerized trees. This continuing education is just one component of the city's Urban Forestry Management Plan that outlines the city's commitment to sustaining our treasured tree canopy for generations to come.

Earth Day and all of the city's sustainable efforts are designed to inspire awareness and appreciation for the earth's environment. Our programs and initiatives are also put in place to encourage each of us to do our part in helping further our goals.

To learn more about the city's sustainability plan, programs and opportunities, please visit [cityof-winterpark.org/sustainability](http://cityof-winterpark.org/sustainability) or call 407-599-3364.

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."

Sincerely,

Mayor Steve Leary



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## Maitland Mayor's Message

Mayor Howard A. Schieferdecker



Howard A. Schieferdecker

### Springs Things Again – Helping Us Help You By Dennis Marshall, Fire Marshal

Last spring we wrote about sprucing up your homes and helping us find you by posting addresses on homes and businesses. We also touched on the annual checking of smoke and carbon monoxide alarms.

This year let's speak on two new topics and ways you can assist your firefighters and each other in the community.

Occasionally, we receive phone calls in the Fire Administration office on our non-emergency business lines reporting incidents or emergencies. The callers want to inform us of an issue, problem or emergency but "don't want to make a fuss." Depending upon when a person makes the call to the business line, there may be a delay in transmitting the information to our response personnel.

One recent example was when a concerned citizen left a voice mail message on one of our office phones. The citizen was worried about potential smoke issuing from a nearby house. The problem was the voice mail was left on an office phone after 5 p.m. at the end of a work week. Luckily the citizen phoned back again and reached one of our fire station business phone lines. The crew went to the area to investigate and found a neighbor had a legal recreational fire which did not pose a threat to anyone.

After reviewing the incident, we thought this was an excellent learning opportunity for those who we protect. We understand a tendency to down play a situation that may or may not be a "full blown" emergency. However, it is very important for everyone to realize that by calling a business number instead of 911, it may cause a dangerous delay in notifying emergency responders of a significant problem that needs their attention and expertise. Initiating the 911 response system helps first responders document receiving the alarm, the response to the problem, and the resolution of the problem. All of which is very important for safety of both our citizens and our firefighters.

We ask you to please not use business lines to report a problem or issue. Always remember, when in doubt – call us out! Dial 911 to initiate the notification of emergency responders in a timely, efficient manner.

Our second spring topic concerns a favorite pastime of many, outdoor bar-b-

ques. While we realize here in Florida we can bar-b-que practically year round, spring seems to get many ready to grill, so let's talk bar-b-que safety.

For starters, the Fire Code states that grills, gas or charcoal, should be ignited and used at least 10 feet away from a dwelling. They are expressly prohibited from being used on apartment or apartment-style condominium building balconies. When cooking, keep a garden hose attached to an outdoor working faucet, a fire extinguisher, or even a spray bottle of water handy. The first two will assist to extinguish a grill fire if it gets out of hand, the last will "knock down" cooking flare ups.

Prior to using a gas grill after being stored or used for the first time this season, it is best practice to inspect a few things. Are the gas outlets clean or are they a bit clogged with cooked-on food? They may need a good cleaning to aid in proper gas distribution, even heating, and even cooking temperatures.

Next, check your hoses and connections to see if anything needs to be replaced due to age or damage. Make a water-soap solution and place it in a spray bottle, open the gas cylinder valve slightly to let some gas flow, and check all the connections by spraying the soap mixture. If you have a leaky hose or connection you'll see some bubbles. If the bubbles are at the connection, turn off the cylinder, tighten the connection, and try again. If you still have bubbles, you need to replace the hose; the connections have probably been damaged over the years.

If you have bubbles from the hose at any point, definitely replace the hose. While modern gas grills are very reliable, they still need to be checked to help ensure they work correctly and don't bar-b-que something more than just a good piece of meat or fish!

A quick mention about charcoal grills – if you still use a starter fluid for your charcoal, please only use commercial starter fluid, available at retail stores. DO NOT use any other type of flammable liquid to ignite your charcoal grill, it's much too dangerous!

If you have any questions or need information on these subjects or others, please contact your Maitland Fire Rescue Department at (407) 539-6226. Our Family Helping Yours – Whatever It Takes.



## Local School To Host World-Famous Harlem Wizards

On May 16, 2015 at 7:00 p.m., The Lion's Pride Fund at Glenridge Middle School will host the world-famous Harlem Wizards entertainment basketball team for their second annual Harlem Wizards vs. the Winter Park Gamers community event and fundraiser. The Harlem Wizards' brand of "Trick Hoops & Alley Oops" entertainment basketball has been packing gyms across the globe for 50 years. Last year, more than 1000 people attend the local game, which included school teachers, coaches, staff, and principals from Winter Park High School, Glenridge Middle School, Aloma Elementary, Audubon Park Elementary, Brookshire Elementary, and Cheney Elementary to form the Winter Park Gamers team.

The Harlem Wizards event aims to go beyond traditional fund raising. Rather than sell goods, this program aims to engage the entire student body from area schools to support the middle school in their feeder pattern. The schools in this area serve more than 7,500 students and the funds raised from this event



The Lion's Pride Fund at Glenridge Middle School will host the second annual Harlem Wizards vs. the Winter Park Gamers fundraiser on May 16.

will support the Glenridge Middle School's Lion's Pride Fund. "Our goal is to raise \$100,000 to enhance 21st Century technology and learning with interactive white boards for all classes (60 classrooms X \$1200) and IB training and fees at \$18,000," says Julie Champion, Lion's Pride Fund event organizer. "We expect to sell more than 1,000 tickets with the capacity to entertain 1,500 members of the school community."

In addition to ticket sales, the school will accept business sponsors. Additionally, The Harlem Wizard vs. Winter Park Gamers basketball event is a community-wide event and will be open to the public. For more information, please contact Heather Traynham at Heather.Traynham@lightbulbpr.com.



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# County Commissioner's Message

Commissioner Ted B. Edwards, Orange County, District 5



Ted B. Edwards

America's pet population is growing. According to the Humane Society of the United States, pet ownership in this country has more than tripled since the 1970s and an estimated six to eight million pets each year enter shelters. Orange County Animal Services takes in over 23,000 animals annually, or around 53 per day. Bolt's story is typical of the many animals the county holds in its shelter. Bolt is friendly, healthy, 29 pound, seven-year-old black and white male dog. As of press time, he has been awaiting a new owner for 11 days. If all goes well, Bolt will be adopted by a great local family. Adoptions are but one of Orange County Animal Services' functions. This organization is tasked with helping animals, protecting citizens, and enforcing the Orange County Animal Services Ordinance.

One of Animal Services' primary jobs is to match prospective adopters with a suitable pet like Bolt from our shelter. At any given time, several hundred pets are available to the public on a first come, first served basis. These prospective pets have been spayed or neutered, vaccinated, dewormed,

screened for diseases, and have had microchip identification implanted. Adoption fees are typically \$55 for dogs and \$40 for cats. Animal Services frequently holds off-site adoption events in many communities around the county. Please contact Animal Services for a list of adoption events taking place near you.

Animal Services aids county residents by offering a low-cost spay and neuter service. Spaying or neutering your pets will help your pet in living a longer, healthier life, decrease the risk of certain long term health problems, and lead to calmer, more affectionate behavior. Spaying and neutering also prevents the problems associated with pet overpopulation, including increased animal-related property damage, strain on pet shelter capacity, and increased animal attacks.

Prices for this service range from \$10-\$20 dollars for cats and \$15-\$25 dollars for dogs. Animal Services operates a mobile spay and neuter clinic that routinely provides this service in various commu-



nities across Orange County. Please check the Animal Services website or call 407-836-3111 for mobile spay and neuter clinic times and locations near you. Medicaid recipients and others may qualify to receive this service free of charge.

Animal Services can implant your pet with microchip identification. Implanting a microchip in your pet is the most successful tool in reuniting you with your lost animal. The microchips are placed in your pets' shoulder blades and contain your identifying information should your pet get lost. The Animal Services clinic at 2769 Conroy Road can implant these devices every weekday from 1:00-5:30 P.M. for a nominal fee of \$15. No appointment is necessary.

Several large pet-related events will be taking place later this month. If you live in East Orange County, I hope you will join me for a Pet Day at the Bithlo Community Center on Saturday, May 30. The Bithlo Community Center is located at 18501 Washington Avenue. Local residents will have access to pet-related services including the mobile spay and neuter clinic, pet food pantry, pet microchip-

ping, fun activities, and much more. Be sure to like my Facebook page for more information on this event. In addition, Orange County Animal Services will be hosting their second annual "Hot Dogs, Cool Cats" adoption event at its facility at 2769 Conroy Road. This event will also be taking place on Saturday, May 30. All cat and dog adoption fees will be reduced to \$15 and will include spaying or neutering of the animal, vaccinations, and microchip implantation. The shelter will extend its operating hours that day and will be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Animal Services works every day to ensure the well-being of Orange County's pets. If you are looking for a great lifelong companion animal like Bolt, please be sure to visit Orange County Animal Services' shelter or view an online listing of available pets here. If you have any questions about Orange County Animal Services or any other county issue, please do not hesitate to contact me or my staff, Edgar Robinson and Lynette Rummel. We can be reached at 407-836-7350 or by email and [district5@ocfl.net](mailto:district5@ocfl.net).

I hope to see you at the Bithlo Community Center for Pet Day on May 30!

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## Protection And Service The Winter Park Police Department

### Look Before You Lock

It might be a run to the store for groceries or a trip to the mall to buy clothes. If there are small children or pets along for the ride, you might consider leaving them in the car until the shopping is done. It won't take long. A quick check of the car thermometer indicates an outdoor temperature of 80 degrees. That shouldn't be a problem, right? Think again.

Your vehicle acts very much like a greenhouse sitting out in the sun. Energy from the sun goes through the windows and quickly heats the dashboard and seats, which in turn warm the surrounding air. Even on an 80 degree day, temperatures in the car can rise as much as 30 to 35 degrees

in a half hour. Readings could be over 100 degrees in as little as 10 to 15 minutes.

Small children can easily suffer from heatstroke when faced with these conditions. Their body temperatures warm three to five times as fast as an adult. Pets are also in big trouble considering many have a thick coat of fur. While cracking the windows might increase air flow a bit, studies have shown this provides little relief.



Across the United States, an average of 38 children die each year of vehicular hyperthermia since 1998. Almost seventy percent of these fatalities happen during the summer months (June through August). Three quarters of these children are two years old or less. Countless pets also succumb to the heat annually. In the last 13 years, 496 children have died nationwide from heat stroke suf-

**"If you see a child unattended in a hot vehicle call 9-1-1."**

fered while in a vehicle (56 in Florida). Half of these were children that were forgotten by a parent or other caregiver, and nearly 20 percent died when parents knowingly left their child in a vehicle. The rest died playing in an unattended vehicle.

If you see a child unattended in a hot vehicle, call 911 immediately! In the case of a pet, make the same call, especially if there are signs of heat stress (heavy panting, vomiting, a deep red or purple tongue, etc).

### SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS

- NEVER LEAVE A CHILD UNATTENDED IN A VEHICLE. NOT EVEN FOR A MINUTE!
- IF YOU SEE A CHILD UNATTENDED IN A HOT VEHICLE CALL 9-1-1.
- Be sure that all occupants leave the vehicle when unloading. Don't overlook sleeping babies.
- Always lock your car and ensure children do not have access to keys or remote entry devices. IF A CHILD IS MISSING, ALWAYS CHECK THE POOL

FIRST, AND THEN THE CAR, INCLUDING THE TRUNK. Teach your children that vehicles are never to be used as a play area.

- Keep a stuffed animal in the car seat and when the child is put in the seat place the animal in the front with the driver.
- Or place your purse or briefcase in the back seat as a reminder that you have your child in the car.
- Make "look before you lock" a routine whenever you get out of the car.

## May Is Skin Cancer Awareness Month – Please Sun Safely By Dr. Dimitry Palceski



Did you know that skin cancer is now the most common form of cancer in the United States? Fortunately, skin cancer is also one of the most preventable forms of cancer. Here are some tips for helping you protect your family and sun safely.

**Seek the shade**, especially between 10a.m. and 4p.m. when the sun is strongest. An extra rule of thumb is the "shadow rule." If your shadow is shorter than you are, the sun's harmful ultraviolet (UV) radiation is stronger; if your shadow is longer, UV radiation is less intense.

**Do not burn.** A person's risk for melanoma, the deadliest form of skin cancer, doubles if he or she has had five or more sunburns at any point in their life.

**Avoid tanning and UV tanning beds.** UV radiation from tanning beds has been proven to cause skin cancer. In fact, indoor UV tanners are 74% more likely to develop melanoma, the deadliest form of skin cancer, than those who have never tanned indoors.

**Cover up by wearing protective clothing.** This should include a broad-brimmed hat and UV-blocking sunglasses. Clothing that is densely woven and dark in color provides the best level of protection against the harmful UV rays of the sun. The more skin you cover, the better, so choose long sleeves and long pants whenever possible.

Use a broad-spectrum (UVA/UVB) sunscreen with an SPF of 20 or higher every day. For extended outdoor activity, use a water-resistant, broad-spectrum (UVA/UVB) sunscreen with an SPF of 30 or higher.

**Apply 1 ounce (2 tablespoons) of sunscreen to your entire body** 30 minutes before going outside. Reapply every two hours or immediately after swimming or excessive sweating. One six-ounce bottle of sunscreen should provide two full days of sun protection for prolonged outdoor activity.

**Keep newborns out of the sun** since their skin is extremely vulnerable. Sunscreens may be safely used on babies over the age of 6 months with several chemical-free options available. Children are especially sensitive to ultraviolet radiation. Just one severe sunburn in childhood doubles the chance of developing melanoma later in life.

**Examine your skin head-to-toe every month.** While self-exams shouldn't replace the annual skin exam performed by a dermatologist, they offer the best chance of detecting the early warning signs of skin cancer. If you see a spot and notice that spot change, call your dermatologist right away. For more information on how to perform a monthly self-exam visit [www.SkinCancer.org/selfexamination](http://www.SkinCancer.org/selfexamination).

**See your physician every year for a professional skin exam.** You can also check [www.SkinCancer.org/Tour](http://www.SkinCancer.org/Tour) to see if The Skin Cancer Foundation's Road to Healthy Skin Tour is coming to your area. The Tour, presented by AVEENO and Rite Aid, provides FREE, full-body skin exams by local dermatologists.

*Dr. Palceski is a Board Certified Dermatologist and the owner of Reflections Dermatology & Center For Skin Care.*

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# The Winter Park Playhouse Announces The 2015-2016 Series Of Professional Musicals

The Winter Park Playhouse, Central Florida's professional musical theatre, has announced their 2015-2016 Mainstage Series of musicals. Founded in 2002, the Playhouse is celebrating its 13th year in Winter Park.

Annual six-show subscriptions continue to be a great value, ranging from \$162-\$210 for an entertaining year of professional musical theatre. Five-show and three-show packages are also available. Subscriptions and individual tickets go on sale to the general public on April 15, 2015.

"This has to be the most affordable, accessible theatre in the area. The bonus is that they produce all professional musicals. What a rare treat to be able to have theatre like this in our backyard!" said Debra Hendrickson, vice president of the Winter Park Chamber of Commerce.

## SUMMER MUSICAL

**Dames at Sea**  
**July 24 - August 22, 2015**  
**Book and Lyrics by**  
**George Haimson &**  
**Robin Miller/ Music by**  
**Jim Wise**



Before 42nd Street, the best tap dancing show was the show that made Bernadette Peters a star, Dames At Sea! It's the story of a sweet "hometown" girl who's come to make it big on Broadway, and the "hometown" boy who's a sailor trying to become a songwriter!

## FIVE SHOW SERIES

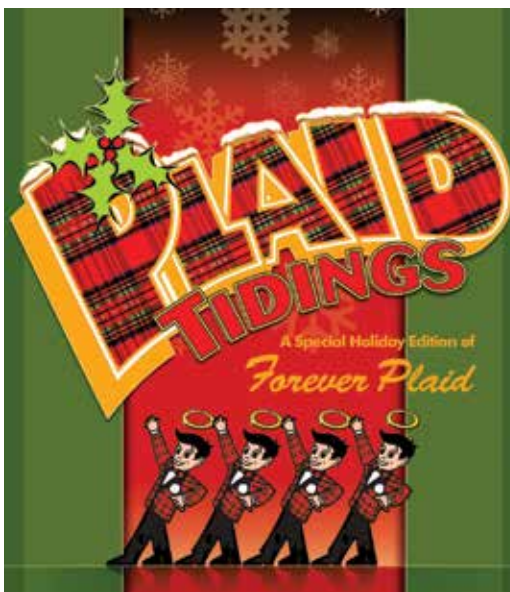
**The Marvelous Wonderettes**  
**September 11 - October 10, 2015**  
**Written and Created by Roger Bean**

This smash Off-Broadway hit takes you to the 1958 Springfield High School prom where we meet the Wonderettes, four girls with hopes and dreams as big as their crinoline skirts! Featuring class '50s and '60s hit songs including "Lollipop," "Dream Lover," "Stupid Cupid," "It's My Party," and over 20 other classic hits!



**Forever Plaid: Plaid Tidings**  
**November 13 - 22 & December 3 - 19, 2015**  
**By Stuart Ross/ Vocal & Music Arrangements by**  
**James Raitt, Brad Ellis, Raymond Berg and David Snyder**

A "heaven sent" holiday treat, this musical comedy offers the best of Forever Plaid tied-up in a nifty package with a big Christmas bow on top! The legendary Plaids are back on earth but aren't sure why, until a phone call from the heavenly Rosemary Clooney lets them know that they're needed to put a little harmony into a discordant world.



**I Left My Heart: A Salute to The Music of Tony Bennett**  
**January 22 - February 27, 2016**  
**Created by David Grapes & Todd Olson/ Arrangements by Vince di Mura**



Central Florida Premiere! This new musical revue features three fabulous tenors paying tribute to the man Sinatra called "the greatest singer in the world." Take an unforgettable walk down memory lane with a thrilling score of 40 standards all recorded by Bennett, including "Stranger In Paradise," "The Best Is Yet To Come," "Rags To Riches," and his best known hit, "I Left My Heart In San Francisco."

**I Love My Wife**  
**March 18 - 19 & March 31 - April 23, 2016**  
**Book and Lyrics by Michael Stewart/ Music Composed and Arranged by Cy Coleman**



This Tony Award-winning Broadway musical comedy is a delightful marriage of music, laughs and all around fun! Set in suburban Trenton, New Jersey during

*Continued on page 10*

# Now Taking Reservations for ACTIVE SENIOR LIVING IN BALDWIN PARK.



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- Part of Westminster Communities of Florida, a financially strong, faith-based, not-for-profit family of 19 senior living organizations

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*A Neighborhood of Westminster Winter Park*





Continued from page 9

the sexual revolution of the 1970's, two married couples contemplate adding some spice to their lives but only manage to get their toes wet!

**The Fantasticks**  
**May 13 - 22 & June 2 - 11, 2016**  
**Book and Lyrics by Tom Jones**  
**/Music by Harvey Schmidt**



This funny, romantic Off-Broadway musical, which ran for over 50 years in Manhattan, is about a boy, a girl, two fathers and a love that grows with each season. Written by Tom Jones and Harvey Schmidt, the gorgeous score includes the well-loved songs "Try to Remember," "They Were You," and "Soon Its Gonna Rain."

For additional information please call the box office at 407-645-0145 or visit in person at 711 Orange Avenue, Suite C Winter Park, FL 32789. Single tickets and subscriptions will be available online after April 15 at [www.winterparkplayhouse.org](http://www.winterparkplayhouse.org).

The Winter Park Playhouse is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization and is proudly associated with Actors' Equity Association, the professional union of stage actors and stage managers.

## Are You O.K.? Telephone Reassurance System

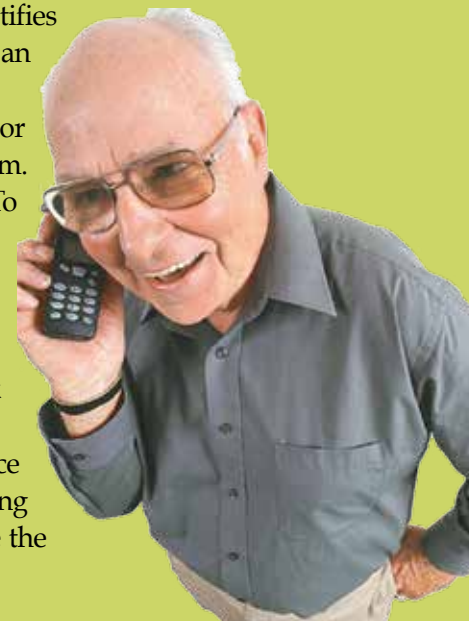
The Winter Park Police Department has joined a growing list of agencies nationwide participating in Are You O.K.?, a telephone reassurance system that takes the initiative in contacting its subscribers. Once people register for Are You O.K., their confidential information is recorded in a computerized telephone calling system. At a designated time daily, the system calls participants. When they answer the telephone, a recorded message asks if they are OK and requests that a number be pushed on their phone.

If a participant does not answer the telephone and select the right number, the system will call one more time. If there is still no answer, the computer notifies dispatchers, who will try to reach the individual. If that fails, an officer will be sent to check on the person.

Participants can register to be called at any time of the day or night, but they also must be a participant in our Lock Box Program. There is no charge to participate in the Lock Box Program. To register, please contact Officer Javier Rodriguez at 407-599-3301 or visit our website at [wppd.org](http://wppd.org) under Community Information.

Are You O.K.? is designed for older adults, people with disabilities, shut-ins, or anyone who lives alone and needs to be checked on daily. Registration is open to City of Winter Park residents and there is no charge to participate.

Participants are asked to notify the Winter Park Police Department at 407-644-1313 if they will be away from home during holidays, vacations or other times so that they will not activate the emergency alert system.



## Making The Grade With The Help Of DCF Refugee Services By David Ocasio

The Department of Children and Families (DCF) refugee services program oversees many of the services provided to refugees and entrants in Florida to help them become economically self-sufficient. Examples of this can be assistance with learning specific job skills, employment, language, and overcoming medical difficulties. At the foundation of these services are the hard-working men and women who work for refugee services, providing their expertise and knowledge in assisting refugees and starting them on the path to success here in Central Florida.

To emphasize the success of the program and the positive impact it's had on refugees looking for a new beginning, here are two teens from different countries with similar circumstances who have made the most of their time in their new home here in Central Florida. One is a soon-to-be Ivy Leaguer and the other is a student athlete on his way to playing the game he loves as a collegian.

Samuel Vilchez is a refugee who fled the political and social unrest of his native country of Venezuela in search of a more stable and safer environment. Needing assistance, DCF's refugee services was able to help Vilchez and his family

link up with Lutheran Services Florida who subsequently helped solidify their settlement. In addition, the family received services to help pay for rent and utilities as well as food stamps and Medicaid through ACCESS, the Department of Children and Families self-sufficiency program.

At his high school Vilchez overcame the stereotypes and prejudices that are daunting to teens. He persevered and aligned himself with mentors who gave him volunteer opportunities to work with the homeless. Because of his efforts he received the Hispanic Heritage Foundation Youth Award.

Now in his fourth year in America, Vilchez has achieved educational feats that are dreamed of by even the smartest high school students. He is on his way to Princeton University on a \$250,000 scholarship. The high school senior is headed to higher education at the Ivy League institution by way of Quest Bridge, a nonprofit organization that connects low-income students with the most elite schools in the nation. Of the 14,000 students who applied, Vilchez was only one of thirty students admitted to Princeton.



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Around the same time of Vilchez's entrance to America, another teen fled Cuba in search of his educational and athletic dreams. Walfrank Pineiro left Cuba in 2011 with his parents and two siblings in search of improved life opportunities in America. DCF was able to connect the Pineiro family with the necessary resources they needed to settle in Central Florida. "We went to Catholic Charities and we enrolled in the Match Grant program, which provided four hundred dollars a month for four months," said Walfrank. "We also received a one hundred dollar check from Duke Energy to help pay for our electricity for three months." In addition, Catholic Charities also supplemented financing by giving the family a stipend for their first month payment on the house they rented.

Meanwhile, Walfrank became an honor student at Wekiva High School and was voted the Pitcher of the Year by his baseball teammates. His teammates certainly know their star pitcher, because the senior athlete has recently signed a commitment letter to attend Florida Southwestern State College in Fort Meyers. Along with his baseball acumen, Walfrank is an honor student at his high school and has aspirations of someday becoming a surgeon.

"It is always a pleasure to see people that come with nothing but their dreams and drive, take advantage of the support and services that are available and prosper - today we salute and celebrate Samuel Vilchez and Walfrank Pineiro's achievement," said Pedro Padua, the DCF refugee community liaison.

In short, DCF resettles nearly 27,000 refugees each year in Florida. They oversee a plethora of services provided to refugees, and assisting refugees with adaption to America is vital to their success. Vilchez and Walfrank are two examples of human pride and mental fortitude working to accomplish each and every goal regardless of any obstructions.



At left, Walfrank Pineiro, an honor student at Wekiva High School signed a commitment letter to attend Florida Southwestern State College in Fort Meyers.





John Gill

## fiscal fitness by John Gill

### The World Is A Village

The last few months have brought a mix of global economic news that leaves many scratching their heads. The Chinese economy is slowing down, although it grew at a rate of 7.4% during 2014 according to the Chinese National Bureau of Statistics. The European economy is sputtering along with zero to negative growth. Japan's economy is flirting with deflation and has yet to gain a sustained footing of growth. The United States economy is growing, although the growth is not consistent or as broad and deep as many economist and other policy makers would like it to be. You might be thinking, "How does this affect me?" Well, the global situation has a big impact on us in Central Florida.

Let's start with China. While a 7.4% growth rate would bring out the champagne in the United States where strong growth is in the 3% to 4% range, 7.4% is the continuation of a downward trend and is the

lowest rate of growth for the Chinese economy since 1990 according to the Chinese National Bureau of Statistics. How does this affect you?

A reduction in Chinese demand for commodities should result in lower prices for commodities which will reduce prices for some finished goods. Conversely, lower production of finished goods may create some scarcity which could result in increased prices for certain items.

Regarding the European economic situation, the Central Bank is engaged in a Quantitative Easing program. Under Quantitative Easing, the Central Bank will purchase high-quality government and corporate bonds to get cash into the banking system to make more money available to individuals and businesses. The result in Europe has been that interest rates are close to zero. How does this affect you?

The weakness in the European economy creates a situation where the U.S. dollar is stronger relative to the Euro. This makes European goods and travel less expensive

for Americans but also makes U.S. goods and travel more expensive for Europeans. If you enjoy European travel, French wines and imported German cars, this may be the time to buy and travel.

Another European situation that could have a negative impact on the U.S. economy is the Greek debt crisis. With the recently-elected Greek administration, there is fear that the country may walk away from their obligations. If that were to happen, there is the chance that the Greek government may pull out of the monetary and economic union with the rest of Europe. That would shake the confidence of European economies and that lack of confidence would impact many of the economies around the world, including the United States. How does this affect you?

The resulting negative impact of a Greek default or withdrawal may actually result in lower interest rates in the United States as investors and governments around the world purchase U.S. government bonds as a safe haven. The increased demand

for those bonds would drive up bond prices resulting in reduced interest rates for a period of time.

Japan has experienced a lost decade of economic stagnation and uneven growth. The export market along with government spending has kept things moving, but not in a manner considered to be robust. Japan's sustained economic difficulties have resulted in more and more Japanese companies building manufacturing plants in foreign markets to shield revenues and profits from the stagnation of the Japanese economy. This affects you because the movement of Japanese manufacturing to the United States eliminates the advantages realized from a stronger dollar, although travel to Japan should be cheaper for Americans.

While the world seems large, and geographically it is, when it comes to the economy the world is a village. As world trade continues to make the world even smaller, a region or part of the world seemingly far, far, away can have a significant and serious impact upon your fiscal fitness.

If you have questions, comments, or an area of financial interest you would like to see discussed in The Park Press, please call John at 407-353-0594 or send email to [FiscalFitness@gmail.com](mailto:FiscalFitness@gmail.com). Follow John on Twitter, @john\_gill1.



Jim Hasely

## critical mass by Jim Hasely

### Modified Endowment Contracts An Underutilized Resource For Risk Free Accumulation

Modified endowment contracts may be the most underutilized accumulation vehicles in existence today. In an interest rate environment where people become giddy learning of a bank paying 1% interest it may be wise to become acquainted with these financial instruments.

"Cash is king!" "Ready Money is Aladdin's lamp." History is full of proverbs opining the wisdom of cash, however the interest rate environment is causing many great concern about going broke slowly due to inflation. Taxes further erode low yields and most cash accounts are easily attachable by creditors.

Modified endowment contracts are issued by life insurance companies and can be purchased with a single cash installment or multiple installments. Don't be dissuaded because these cash vehicles are issued by insurance companies rather than banks. Many insurance companies have financial strength ratings exceeding those of most banks and many banks keep billions...yes billions...of dollars in insurance companies. According to

the FDIC call report updated on March 12, 2015 Bank of America reported having over \$20 billion of cash assets held in life insurance companies.

Perhaps the simplest way to describe a modified endowment contract is to explain it is a life insurance policy packed full of cash. Traditional cash value life insurance policies begin with modest payments supporting high death benefits while building cash value over time. Modified endowment contracts accept a large premium or single installment, supporting a modest death benefit with sizable immediate cash value. The following example compares the hypothetical accumulation of cash in a money market to a modified endowment contract.

Let's assume a 60 year old woman deposits \$100,000 into a money market earning an interest rate of 0.75%. Her account balance at the end of each year might be as follows; year one: \$100,750, year two: \$101,505.63,

year three: \$102,266.92, year four: \$103,033.92, year five: \$103,806.67... year ten: \$107,758.25, etc.

If the \$100,000 is put into a modified endowment contract, her initial cash

benefit has increased to \$240,747.

In our hypothetical example the woman earned nearly \$26,000 more in cash accumulation while providing substantial life insurance protection at no added cost. The cash accumulating in the modified endowment grew on a tax deferred basis similar to an annuity or non-deductible IRA and as long as the contract owner is also the insured the cash value grew free from the reach of creditors.

The taxation of modified endowment contracts falls under section 7702A of the US tax code. Due to the large cash value and modest death benefit the contracts are taxed similar to annuities. Distributed gains exceeding the deposited basis are taxed at ordinary income tax rates and distributions received by owners under the age of 59½ may be subject to an additional 10% tax penalty.



value might begin at \$91,347 because the contract also provides an income tax free death benefit of \$212,856, however her balance in at the end of each year might be as follows; year one \$92,526, year two: \$96,454, year three: \$100,531, year four: \$104,768, year five: \$109,166...year ten: \$133,752, etc. At the end of year ten the contract's income tax free death





David Ciambella, CFP CSP

## family business perspective by David Ciambella, CFP CSP

### Landscaping Your Family Business

Recently while attending a church service our preacher, Dr. Bob, delivered a sermon titled, "Behind The Manicured Hedges" that struck me personally and also as a professional family business succession planner. The preacher was referring to Winter Park, a largely affluent community consisting of families who have above-average means, fabulous homes, and impeccable landscaping surrounding their homes. Many who drive along the brick paved, tree lined streets are impressed with the meticulous landscaping and are somewhat envious thinking that these families have no issues or no problem that money cannot fix. If only that were true! The fact is, regardless of how a perfect family looks from the exterior, all families have issues.

Family issues exist for a multitude of reasons such as lack of communication, lack of trust, entitlement, sibling rivalry, jealousy, resentment, generational issues, and the list goes on. Familiarity in a business environment inevitably breeds contempt, which in many cases, is the foundation of issues. Unfortunately, many families prefer to avoid the conflict and sweep issues under the rug in hopes that they will go away or never resurface. The reality is, these unresolved issues

typically fester and eventually reveal themselves in some tremendously destructive ways, creating even more conflict. This is especially true in the family business arena when family and business collide. You see, family represents unconditional love and acceptance, whereas business represents conditional performance. Navigating these competing priorities can be quite difficult.

Statistically, approximately 33% of family-owned businesses succeed from first generation to second, approximately 10% successfully transition from second generation to the third and approximately 1% make a successful transition from third to fourth generation. Based upon my experience and that of other family business succession experts, the successful families are those who acknowledge they have and will continue to have issues and proactively work to address the "issues of familiarity."

One might ask, so what exactly do these families do to effectively address issues and increase the odds of achieving succession? Here are five best practices that breed family business Succession Success:

**1. Establishing a Family Business Council** – a forum designed to communicate and disseminate information regarding family and business issues.

**2. Creating a Family Mission Statement (or Family Constitution)** – quote Steven Covey, "A family mission statement is a combined, unified expression from all family members of what your family is about – what it is you really want to do and be – and the principles you choose to govern your family life." The development of a family mission statement helps confirm the vision and values that is the cornerstone of the family and the business.

**3. Developing Operating Covenants** – operating covenants are nothing more than morally binding agreements family members make to each other that serve as a foundation for effective communication and interaction. It is a tool designed for family members to help hold each other accountable to commitments each has made to the family and the business.

**4. Developing a Family Business Employment Policy** – a policy establishing criteria for how families may enter the business, educational requirements, external work experience prior to joining the business, compensation, reporting order. Successful family businesses are careful about not creating positions around family members but rather defining the positional needs of the organization and hiring the best available

candidate (who may not be a family member).

**5. Forming an Advisory Board** – advisory boards are used for a variety of reasons which include but are not limited to: providing independent advice to owners, offer strategic guidance in areas the family and/or management team presently lacks, and making suggestions as to how owners and managers can improve the business.

Does your family business look great from the outside but not so great from the inside? Answering this question honestly can be the difference between long-term family business success and failure. If your family business has achieved business success, do not rely on the façade of outward success and neglect to cultivate effective working family relationships. Perhaps it is time to prune your family business hedges by addressing family issues and establishing forums and written policies that will help you and your family increase the odds your family will make a successful business transition through the next generation.

*David Ciambella, CFP CSP is a partner of The Rawls Group.*



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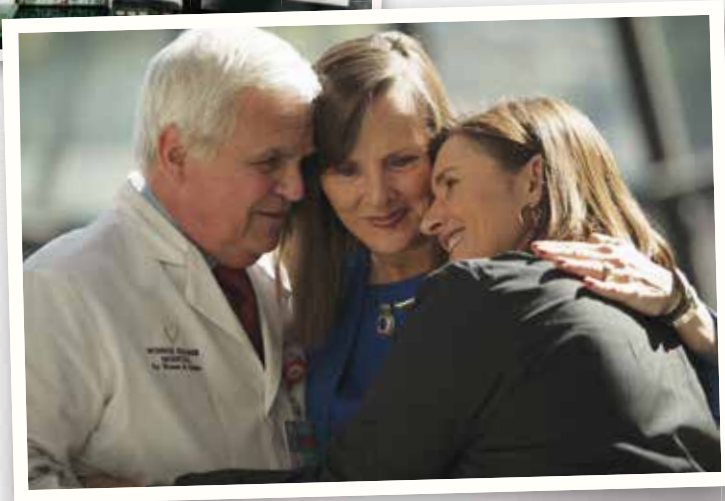






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Scott Hillman

real estate in the parks *by Scott Hillman*

## Open Permits Can Delay A Closing Or Kill A Deal

Most home owners don't even realize that open permits exist on their home, while buyers rarely have reason to suspect that an outstanding permit exists on a home they intend to purchase.

One of the biggest obstacles for home sellers these days is the issue of open permits. That is, permits that were pulled for construction or renovation work but were never closed.

Whether you're a seller or a buyer, don't ever assume anything. Everybody who owns a property should check to see if any open permits exist on their home, even if there are no plans to sell and you are the sole owner of a home. Although standard purchase contracts include a contingency clause for verification of open permits, and title companies run a search on open permits before issuing title insurance, it's best to be proactive and do your due diligence before you ever get to the contract stage.

Open permits can delay a closing and result in costly repairs down the line. As a seller, be prudent and determine what the permit status is on your home BEFORE you put it on the market. This will allow you time to take care of unfinished business and close any open permits before a buyer falls in love with your home. You can

contact your city or county agency that is in charge of permitting and have them run a permit search to let you know what they require to remedy the situation and close the open permit(s). They can also provide you with the name and contact information for whomever pulled the permit(s) initially. Just know that the requirements and remedies are not always the same in every municipality.

Many of the open permits that exist today are the result of unfinished construction or renovations that occurred during the bursting of the housing bubble. But we've also seen cases where there are open permits dating back over 20 years, which may require bringing the work up to current code. That can be costly.

As a homeowner the key is to always be prepared so that if and when you decide to sell your home you will have a clear conscience knowing there are no open permits that can hinder the sale. Remember, you will not be able to close on a home if any open permits exist unless a strategy or agreement is in place to correct the open permit(s).

So before you even consider listing your home for sale, be vigilant, do your homework, and make sure there are no open permits. It will avoid time-consuming and costly delays or, worse yet, a lost sale.



Scott Hillman is president of Fannie Hillman + Associates, a 34-year-old Winter Park-based real estate company specializing in residential real estate sales and producer of The Hillman Report, a semiannual look at residential real estate in Orange and Seminole counties that can be viewed on the company's website ([fanniehillman.com](http://fanniehillman.com)) or by calling (407) 644-1234 for a copy.

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Stephen & Kristin Pategas

in the garden *by Stephen and Kristin Pategas*

# Agave In Bloom

We waited for this inevitable event for over a decade. Although it is called a century plant, it really takes only about ten years for *Agave americana* to bloom and then – shrivel up and die. A myth claims they bloom after one hundred years. In 2004, Hurricanes Charley, Francis and Jeanne had their way with our house and garden. Hurricane Jeanne toppled an aged laurel oak street tree on our house and created an opportunity to plant something with drama at the curb. But, why stop at one? We planted two, thirty feet apart, and one took the place of the oak.

Over the years, the agaves grew to the same eight foot height and twelve foot width creating a dramatic sight whether traversing Berkshire Avenue in Winter Park from the east or west. We swear the long spiny leaves on the one in the right-of-way slowed west-bound traffic coming off of

Orange Avenue. In mid-March we noticed the long anticipated event was beginning. A shaft as thick as a slender thigh was emerging from the middle of each rosette of spiny leaves. As of mid-April the spear-like tips of the emerging flower spikes reached 20 feet above the ground. It should continue to soar over the next few weeks. Then branches will emerge along with yellow flowers. Unlike many other agaves, the flowering is not related to continuing its species. Instead, over its life it generates small replicas within a few feet of its trunk. Unless they are removed you could end up with quite an agave patch. Some agaves don't expire after blooming. Many create spikes and branches with flowers that develop small plantlets that drop to the ground and may root to continue the species.

*Agave americana*, native to Mexico and some Southwestern states in the U.S., has been in Florida so long it is almost considered native. Provide full

sun, well draining soil and plenty of space for this large, visually striking succulent. It is cold hardy to Zone 8b well north of us (Central Florida is Zone 9b). Assume it may get as large as our specimens. The century plant stores water in its leaves and is very drought tolerant. As the plant grows, the older lower leaves wither. We use a Sawzall to cut them away and keep it tidy. Note that the sap may be a skin irritant and the spines on the leaf tips and along the leaves are hazardous. We snip off spines where people or pets may get too close.

So, what happens after the century plants fade and die? It will be time for some serious slice n' dice (Sawzall and long sleeves to the rescue) and then we will replant two century plant pups that were harvested from the originals. It will be time to get the traffic calming devices back in place. We invite you to visit 1425 Berkshire Avenue to see this event in person. Hopefully, when this article reaches you, the flower spikes will be at their prime.



At left, Kristin in 2005 with Agave unpotted and ready for planting near the curb. Above, the dramatic start to the end of the original century plants at Hortus Oasis. Far right, Agave blooming at the Canaveral National Seashore.

All photos by Stephen G. Pategas/Hortus Oasis.

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@hortus oasis.com

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"Mother's right around the corner, but she has her own space," adds Linda. "Now she can spend birthdays, holidays and good times with her children and grandchildren. And as a family, we have peace of mind knowing she will always receive the very best in care... it's the best of both worlds."

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Ayesha G. Bullock

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

## Laura Branigan Special Circa 1982...

Tonight was one of those nights in which I sat down at the computer and prayed that somewhere between comfortably settling myself on the couch with a glass of red wine, and the time that I opened, powered up and placed my hands on the 'home keys' of my laptop, a modicum of inspiration may strike. I considered just taking this time and space to deliver some thoughts around my favorite piece of written work, *Desiderata*, as I tend to often do during May (around my birthday.) But, then the most random, yet delightful, thing popped into my head...

What began playing on the soundtrack of my mind, was the distinct (and clear and loud) memory of my mother's rendition of Laura Branigan's song 'Gloria' from 1982. I don't know how I have such a palpable memory of my mom singing and dancing with my sisters and me to that song (given how young I was) but it remains as clear as day.

She, of course, knew very few

of the actual lyrics aside from the chorus (which she only thought she knew because they reminded her of a Catholic hymn.) But she took such joy in celebrating music and compelling us to dance and sing and be 'free' with her.

She would raise her shoulders and smile a thousand-watt smile, while flittering to and fro around the living room. It would be an understatement to say she had a magnetic way about her.

My mom passed away in 1997 (which marks the line in the sand for me between being alive as long without her as with her this year.) So, it's been quite a long time and I was rather young, but she was dynamic to say the least. And her memory lives on.

She lit up a room and made the most out of the years she was here. She taught me some of the best and most important lessons of my life. And she modeled what it means to be truly authentic, truly kind, truly human and truly grateful.

Perhaps for these reasons, my mind's soundtrack chose to share this fleeting memory with the greater audience of *The Park Press*. The month of May may

hold my birthday (please hold the gifts/flowers/parades ;) but it also, and more importantly, hosts a very important holiday that same weekend.

We celebrate our mothers on May 10th of this year. We take a moment to honor who they are, what they've done for us, how they've sacrificed, and the ways in which they've surprised and delighted us. We miss the curve of their hands on our backs, the colorful notes in our lunchboxes, and the lilt of their voices as they called us to come inside on summer evenings. We enact the best parts of what they taught us for our own children and loved ones. We elevate ourselves to the highest and best measures of what our mothers taught us and we forgive them for being human despite their often superhuman capacity for love and generosity.

This is the month that we take a moment and pay homage to the most amazing women in the world. This is the month that we try to embody the grace, the delicacy, the vulnerability



and the strength of the women who brought us life and taught us what to do with it.

So, this May,

I'd offer an invitation to extend yourself a bit beyond brunch or tea and take a few moments with your mother (if you're lucky enough to still have her) or with her memory (if you're not). Honor her for who she was and how she made you feel. Be the best mother (or aunt or friend or sister or nurturer) you can to those around you. And maybe even sing and dance a bit with the little ones in your life who may need to be 'set free' if only for a few moments.

May the mothers reading this feel as much respect, love and admiration as they deserve and may the sons, daughters, grandchildren and fathers/husbands enact their gratitude to facilitate just that...

Happy Mother's Day.

Be well; Live Meaningfully.

Till the next time,

Ayesha

Ayesha G. Bullock, M.A. practices at 2150 Park Avenue North as a Licensed Mental Health Counselor and can be reached at [ayesha@livemeaningfully.net](mailto:ayesha@livemeaningfully.net) or 407-796-2959.



## nature in the parks

Photos by Richard Johnson

Baldwin Park is home to a couple of eagles. Maybe you have seen one of them? I very often spot them perched on the roofs of local homes. The male eagle shown here was photographed sitting on top of a home on Upper Union Road and the female was photographed sitting on top of a home on Lindale Ave, both streets are right here in Baldwin Park.

The local roofs provide a great vantage point for the eagles to look out over the local ponds, fields and lakes for a next meal. I suggest the next time you are walking or jogging around Baldwin Park make sure to glance up to the roofline, you just might see one of our local resident eagle friends.

Richard Johnson is a professional photographer. See more of his work at [www.RichardEarlPhotography.com](http://www.RichardEarlPhotography.com)





the educated palate *by Scott Richardson*



Scott Richardson

## Canopy Café, Winter Park – Now Serving New Menu Offerings

Strolling around the Hannibal Square area of Winter Park, let's say you decide you just want a quick breakfast or a light lunch- look no further than trying Canopy Café. Located at 240 N. Pennsylvania Ave., Winter Park, this location has had other occupants in the past, but none have really embraced where they are like Canopy Café. There is parking at the rear of the restaurant and on the road in front or nearby the restaurant. After I heard they updated their menu items, I thought I would take a couple of guests and pop in to try it out... then returned to order a couple of items that I did not try on my first visit.

Let me say, offering their breakfast menu all day is different from most restaurants that serve breakfast in the area, not including the ho-hum chain/franchise breakfast joints. But there is more to offering breakfast all day, Canopy Café is really about the warm engaging service that was experienced on both visits. When I typically go out for breakfast, I am not one to deviate from what I know. Show me a nice plate of eggs benedict, and I am a happy camper ... and of course, Canopy Café has their Traditional Benny (\$8.99). No complaints about the hollandaise, nice and smooth, served with a piping hot side of fried potatoes. This was just what the doctor didn't order... but oh so delicious. One of my guests decided on a Mexican omelet (\$8.59), which has sausage, peppers, tomatoes

and salsa to give it that south of the border flare. The other dining companion chose the chef specialty omelet (\$8.59), which comes with ham, bacon, tomatoes, mushrooms and cheddar cheese. Both omelets came with a choice of home fries, potato cakes, or hash browns, with either toast or a biscuit. The food was good and was quick to come out to the table. The service was fairly speedy, which is really what I look for in a café/diner. My advice is to sit on their screened-in patio, if the weather is not too warm. The patio offers a lovely spacious area to enjoy your meal if you have a larger group.

On my return visit for a quick early lunch, the welcome was warm. I mentioned my seating preference was on the patio, which by the way, you have to step outside of the restaurant and enter the outside patio from the ... outside. The patio was clean. The seats have cushions so you don't end up with "waffle" legs from the metal crisscross chairs. There was only one other guest on the patio, so I was thinking this would be a quick lunch delivery,

and it was. I chose the hot turkey stacker (\$8.99). This sandwich has a nice tangy thousand-island sauce and coleslaw on top of a significant amount of sliced turkey and bacon. I also ordered a half roast beef sandwich (\$5.99) on rye bread. You can request your bread of choice, mustard, etc. and a pickle spear and a bag of chips accompanies the sandwich. Look for the little green leafy icons next to some of the menu items... these connote a Canopy Café favorite menu item.

My overall impressions of Canopy Café was that it is an inviting restaurant to enjoy breakfast or lunch, especially if you don't want to be on Park Avenue during a weekend brunch or lunch... although I was told by the server, they get pretty busy during breakfast service. Canopy Café offers consistency in their food and experience. Go ahead and enjoy a relaxed breakfast, brunch, or lunch!

Cheers!



At left, roast beef sandwich. Far right is the turkey stacker. Photos by Scott Richardson.

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pop culture detours *by George McGowan*

## A Plethora Of New Music Choices To Get A Start On Your Summertime Road Trip Music Mix

Over the past month, I have jotted down several musicians with new music on my "Today I am Grateful For" notepad that I think could be a good start to the mix you use in your car for the eventual trips to the beach that will start soon and continue all summer long. They come from several genres of music so maybe you will find something that appeals to you.

In the singer/songwriter genre, I like what I am hearing from both two young men with interesting names: Sufjan Stevens and Tobias Jesso, Jr. First, Mr. Jesso. He is a "piano man" for a new generation. His song "Without You" calls to mind the old Eric Carmen weeper "All By Myself" but not so obviously needy and a little more sincere. For some, if not most, Sufjan Stevens will be a bit more of a chore to grow to love. (Hi Janna!) His vocal delivery can be a bit "precious" but I contend that with some patience his lyrical content and subject matter will draw you in. His latest album, "Carrie and Lowell" is definitely in the running for my favorite album of the year so far.

In the rock genre, I have three bands led by kick a\*\* young women. The first is Courtney Barnett of Melbourne, Australia. She is getting great buzz after wowing the critics at the South by Southwest Music Conference. Her latest album is entitled "Sometimes I Sit and Think, and Sometimes I Just Sit." While the music is distinctly in the driving punk rock mode, her lyrics are wide-ranging, chaotic and extremely funny.

The second is a fuzz rock outfit out of Portland named Summer Cannibals. They remind me a bit of the Riot Grrl groups that came out of the great Pacific Northwest in the 90s. Find "Something New" on You Tube or Vimeo and enjoy the video that features this fine, sing-



Courtney Barnett

along-able chorus: "I've been looking for something new to keep my hands busy while I get over you."

The last of these rock bands is are named Wolf Alice. This foursome is about to hit it big in the states after having several hits in the UK. They have a debut album named "My Love Is Cool" scheduled to be released in June. For now, you can find their first single "Giant Peach" on Soundcloud or Spotify.



Summer Cannibals

Chazwick Bradley Bundick makes music under the name Toro Y Moi. Wikipedia describes his music as "chill wave." His latest album is "What For?" and as NPR's Andy Beta puts it: "The 10 songs here are



Wolf Alice

based in a standard band set-up of guitar, bass, keys and drums, and are wholly obsessed with classic '70s pop radio ..." I agree completely with Beta's reference to 1970's Todd Rundgren and 1990's Wilco as two obvious influences. This album just grows and grows on me.

My final recommendation is a band dedicated to combining the rhythms of Mexico and Latin America with traditional American folk rock. Caalexico has a wonderful new album, "Edge of the Sun," with many cameo performances by other folk rock notables (Sam Beam of Iron & Wine, Neko Case, Ben Bridwell of Band of Horses) and adds vocals from some distinctive Latin American voices. All of the above musicians seem a perfect addition to your road trip mix tape. I recommend you invite them all to accompany you as you take both long and short treks down the highway this summer.

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theater in the parks *by Barbara Solomon*

## Quoth The Raven – What A Show!

ORLANDO FRINGE FESTIVAL PREVIEW  
STARRING BRANDON ROBERTS,  
ERIC PINDER, AND PEPE

Well, here we are again, trying to decide what to see at this year's Fringe Festival. Surely to be the runaway hit of the Fringe is "The Wait List Murders," written by Steve Schneider. It evidently makes fun of many Fringe regulars, including myself. I just bought a ticket today because I think it will be sold out! The only other comedy that seemed funny, although somewhat silly, is "Melvin Wants to Die," written by Mick LeClaire, who gave us "While You Dine" several years ago.

There is a plethora of musicals I think merit your attention. Two of my favorites were the original "Just This Once" and a Webber's one-act musical "Tell Me on a Sunday" starring Sarah Lee Dobbs with musical direction by Chris Leavy. Other promising musicals are "Live It Up! Revue" (good dancing), "Life of the Party Choose Your Own Adventure" (very funny), "Once I Laughed" showcasing the music of the Andrews Sisters, and "Dumpster Cats" from the wonderful team of Tod Kimbro and Joel Warren.

Drama also has its place at the Fringe. Theatre Downtown is repeating its hit performance of several years ago

of "Poe," although with a different cast. Fringe staple Christian Kely of "Matador" has an interesting one man show, "Acrobat." Some other dramas to consider are "Alula - An Epic Fantasy Adventure," "The Write Not to Remain Silent," "Say Hello to Vincent Van Gogh," the relevant "Hoodies" from the fabulous team of Beth Marshall Presents and James Bredlinger's Penguin Point Productions, and last but not least, "1969: Stonewall" from the creative John Ryan, about the beginning of the gay rights movement. If you like rap, you'll love the well-performed "Robyn Da Hood" from Sak. And of course, Fringe would not be Fringe without a Wanzie show - he is reprising his "Lion Queen" this year. Do you think maybe he is one of the characters in "The Wait List Murders"?

So, here's the lowdown for me - I can't see very many shows this year because I'm having a store in the beer tent, selling vintage and assorted interesting stuff. But you can see a load of shows even though I can't. Come see me in the beer tent and tell me what you enjoyed and I'll pass it on to my customers - isn't that what Fringe is all about, the buzz in the beer tent? Have a fringetastic time this year!

THE ORLANDO FRINGE FESTIVAL RUNS FROM MAY 13 - MAY 25, AT LOCH HAVEN PARK AND THE VENUE. FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE FRINGE, VISIT [WWW.ORLANDOFRINGE.ORG](http://WWW.ORLANDOFRINGE.ORG) FOR SHOW TIMES AND DATES.



# Summertime: An Ideal Time For SAT And ACT Exam Prep By Dr. Ray Huntington



Dr. Raymond J. Huntington

If your teen is preparing to take the SAT or ACT this fall, there is no better time for him or her to register for a customized exam prep course. Summer break is the perfect opportunity for students to focus on studying for the SAT or ACT, because their schedules are far less crowded with school and extracurricular activities. Your teen can work from a targeted schedule to put him or herself in the best position for the September or October exam.

To get the most out of his or her efforts, here are a few tips for your teen as he or she engages in summertime exam prep:

**Register.** Anticipated Fall Test Dates and Registration Deadlines are:

Exam	Test Date*	Registration Deadline
ACT	September 12	August 7
ACT	October 24	September 18
SAT	October 3	September 4
SAT	November 7	October 8

Encourage your teen to register now so that he or she has a committed date on the books—and a goal to work toward. That date will be the starting point when developing a study schedule.

**Know the exam.** For the most effective prep, your teen must be familiar with the exam he or she plans to take (and the differences between the ACT and the SAT). It is worthwhile to investigate the preferred exam at their colleges of choice. Most important, your teen should understand the structure and sections of the exam in order to study efficiently and effectively.

**Make a plan and stick to it.** Your teen will be far more successful if he or she has a schedule and a detailed plan to follow at each study session. Every session's work plan should be divided into exam sections and should take into account the student's strengths and weaknesses so they do not waste valuable time on areas where he or she is stronger and gloss over areas where he or she is weak. The best way to assess those strengths and weaknesses is by taking an initial practice exam.

**Don't underestimate the practice exam.** No study plan is complete if it does not incorporate

practice exams. Your student will get a much better feel for the SAT or ACT's structure and different question types (and how to answer them) when he or she takes an actual, full-length, timed practice exam.

**Work on speed.** Both the SAT and ACT are timed exams with no "fluff" time. Subject-matter knowledge is critical, but your teen must also be able to manage their time effectively to earn the best score. That means they will need to become comfortable reading and understanding the questions, narrowing down the choices and recognizing wrong answers—all very quickly.

\*The 2015 Fall SAT and ACT test dates are anticipated. Final test dates will be published and available on [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org) (SAT) and <http://www.actstudent.org/> (ACT).

*Dr. Raymond J. Huntington co-founded Huntington Learning Center in 1977 with his wife, Eileen Huntington. Today the company operates close to 300 centers nationwide. Son Robert Huntington and daughter Anne Huntington are graduates of Dartmouth and Cornell, respectively, and are both active in the company.*

## schools

### **Audubon Park Elementary** PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE FROM ANNA FERRATUSCA

Audubon Park Elementary's fifth-grade students recently participated in the Modern Woodsman of

American school speech contest. Students were challenged to write a three to five minute speech on "An Interesting Landmark." Each student had the opportunity to give their speech in class and one classroom winner was selected from each of

the eight classrooms. On April 9th these classroom winners competed in the school competition judge by a community member, OPCS district employee, and a retired teacher. We are proud to announce the following winners: Cecelia Gutman - 1st place, Isabella Henson - 2nd place and Daniel Lee - 3rd place. Cecelia and Isabella will represent Audubon Park Elementary at the next level of competition in the next few weeks. Congratulations to all fifth-grade students, especially to these three individuals.

and posters of encouragement. The pep rally seemed to be a success as one student approached the principal and said "This makes me feel really good inside." The third through fifth-grade students went on to have light refreshments as they listened to a few words of encouragement from the principal and assistant principal.

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**SCHOOL OF ROCK**

### **Brookshire Elementary** PRINCIPAL SUSAN MULCHRONE

At the start of the testing season, Brookshire held a pep rally for students. The goal of the pep rally was to lower test anxiety by students, knowing that they were being fully supported by their peers, teachers, and administration. The third, fourth, and fifth-grade students paraded through the halls as they were cheered on by the younger students who made banners

### **Dommerich Elementary** PRINCIPAL DR. JUNELLA HANDLEY KREIL

Dommerich Elementary is enjoying our spring weather! We are taking advantage of our outdoor learning opportunities, such as taking our classroom learning out to our community garden. Grade levels have planted their third season of vegetables and we are watching to see those seedlings grow. Our Slop, Slap and Wrap (sunscreen, hat, sunglasses) program keeps us safe in the sun as we enjoy science experiments, healthy movement, and nature exploration outside.

*Continued on page 20*

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schools

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In May, please mark your calendar for the following important dates: Dommerich's 50th Anniversary event, May 1st at 5:30p.m. on the Dommerich PE Fields; Spring Chorus and Strings Concert, May 5th at 6:30p.m.; High School Seniors' Reunion, May 6th at 3:30 in the Dommerich Media Center; National Bike to School Day and Walk n Roll Day, May 6th; Kindergarten Registration Event, May 12th at 9a.m.; Memorial Day (no school), May 25th; and Last Day of School, June 3rd.

 **Fern Creek Elementary**  
PRINCIPAL JASON FRITZ

Volunteers are people who dedicate a part of their lives to helping others and without them Fern Creek Elementary School would not be what it is today. Over the course of this school year we have had a number of volunteers dedicate their time to the school and the students and we are very grateful for that. Each year Fern Creek Elementary School picks and acknowledges volunteers who have gone above and beyond for the school and the students. After careful consideration, the following two women were chosen as outstanding volunteers and the school would like to recognize their accomplishments this year.



Linda Crosnoe, Outstanding Senior Volunteer for the 2014-2015 school year.

Linda Crosnoe is our Outstanding Senior Volunteer for the 2014-15 school year. Linda spends two days a week assisting our media specialist by organizing books, repairing "favorites," and interacting with students. She is outgoing, kind, hard-working, and extremely helpful. The



Kim Ruffier, Outstanding Mentor for the 2014-2015 school year.

students have responded well to her presence and her upbeat attitude has made her an incredible addition to our Media Center. Since she started volunteering, book circulation has increased, AR goals are being met, and students are ready to tackle the Florida State Assessments this spring.

Kim Ruffier is our Outstanding Mentor for the 2014-15 school year. In her second year as a mentor here at Fern Creek, she has added extraordinary value to the mentor program and the Foundation as a whole. Her mentee has shown improvement in her academics as well as increased social interactions with students and teachers. Not only is Kim an incredible mentor, she is also an asset to the Foundation's food pantry and clothing closet. We are looking forward to another year with Kim as a mentor and volunteer here at Fern Creek Elementary.

Thank you so much ladies, for all that you have done and continue to do here at Fern Creek. We appreciate everything and hope to see you back next year!

 **Killarney Elementary**  
PRINCIPAL KELLY STEINKE

It is hard to believe it, but it is already time to start thinking about kindergarten registration for the 2015-2016 school year! Registration will be held in our main office May 11th-15th and 18th-20th from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. each day. Our new kindergarten parents will later have the opportunity to attend our annual Kindergarten Orientation to learn about what to expect when their children attend Killarney for the first year. This is an exciting time in the lives of our youngest students and their parents, and we are excited to have them become part of our Killarney family!

Did you know that Killarney will be a school site for Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK) next year? If your child will be four years old on or before September 1, 2015, please contact our office for more information. You can also visit [www.ocps.net](http://www.ocps.net) for answers to all of your questions about registration.

 **Lake Silver Elementary**  
PRINCIPAL SARA BIGALKE

It is hard to believe that our year back on our campus and in our new

building is coming to a close. It has been a wonderful and memorable year! The dedication in January stands out as an event we will never forget. Most important is that our students have learned a lot and made gains.

Thank you, PTA, for sponsoring many Spirit Nights, Skate Nights and Teacher Appreciation Week! Thank you, LSE Foundation, for raising over \$20,000.00 this year! The funds have gone towards 25 laptops, teacher grants, the Good Samaritan Fund, and more. Our Lake Silver family and community are beyond recognition.

Congratulations to the Oration Contest winners - Charlotte, Trey and Jayden; to the Art Club, Guitar Club and Drama Club for their end of the year showcases; to the gifted classes for their end of the year showcase; and to our teachers for their dedication to our students.

 **Lakemont Elementary**  
PRINCIPAL DR. BRENDA CUNNINGHAM

"I pledge to uphold, the high purposes of the National Elementary Honor Society to which I have been selected; I will be true to the principles for which it stands; and will maintain and encourage High standards of scholarship, responsibility, service and leadership." These were the words that 34 new National Elementary Honor Society (NEHS) members read as they were inducted into the Lakemont Chapter of the NEHS. It was an evening of pomp and circumstance, honor, tradition, and solemnity. The evening ceremony was held in the Lakemont cafeteria where parents and guests sat respectfully awaiting the student and staff processional to begin the program.

Lakemont Elementary established a chapter of the National Elementary Honor Society in 2009 as part of the National Association of Elementary School Principals. This is the sixth class of inductees for Charter 980. Lakemont is committed to acknowledge the hard work of high achieving and well-rounded students. The faculty and staff support the core values of the Honor Society - values that we believe enhance the life of every member and the entire school community.

Dr. Brenda Cunningham, the principal, called the ceremony to order and Mrs. Pam Brown, NEHS advisor, gave the invocation. After which, the National Anthem was sung by Opal Leighvard, assistant

principal and Dr. Cunningham returned to the podium to welcome honored guests, parents, and teachers. The newly-elected mayor of Winter Park, Steve Leary, was present as well as other honored guests. The ceremony continued with solemn traditional elements of highlighting the service of the Lakemont charter and accomplishments for the 2014 - 15 year. The program continued with a keynote speech by former Lakemont students Chase Hippler and Spencer Huddleston. Currently, both are very accomplished seniors in the International Baccalaureate program and are members of the National Honor Society at Winter Park High School. The keynote was presented in tandem, where words of wisdom were paired with quips, anecdotes and memories of life growing up in school. The speakers advised the new inductees to surround themselves with good friends who also aspire to do well, engage in service wherever possible, and to enjoy their school careers. The messages were well received by the students, families, and staff present.

Current NEHS officers were also part of the program and reviewed the four criteria for membership: scholarship, responsibility, service, and leadership. A candle was lit to symbolize each standard and the honor society pledge was read in chorus by the new inductees. Dr. Cunningham presented each new member with an NEHS certificate as the children walked across the stage and shook the hands of the platform guests as their names were read.

The staff, parents, and students of Lakemont Elementary are very proud of the Lakemont charter, the accomplishments of former and current students, and the work of the Lakemont National Elementary Honor Society members. The students pledge to serve their community and school and are happy to do so each year. Lakemont Elementary thanks the NEHS sponsor and advisors: Cynthia Clark (sponsor), Pam Brown, Melissa Milburn, Christa Caldwell, Lisa Huddleston, and Linda Groszek for their service and commitment to the school and this distinguished organization.

*Pictured below, Lakemont Elementary's new inductees to the National Elementary Honor Society.*





schools

**GOLDEN HAWKS** **Maitland Middle School**  
PRINCIPAL DR. STEFANIE C. SHAMES

Greetings from Maitland Middle School! We are still busy winning state and national awards. Our video production students were in San Diego for two days in April competing in an international competition (students from as far away as Russia competed). There were over 2,700 HS & MS students who attended the conference and participated in contests.

Two of our teams placed 2nd place in Public Service Announcement: \*Jensen Young (8th), \*Ella Grace Rodriguez (7th), Michael Conti (6th), Alex Arrington (6th), Mia Hassan (6th), and Honorable Mention for Movie Trailer: \*Raegan Landrum (8th), Logan Brown (8th), \*Carly DeHart (7th), Josh McPherson (7th), Jade Hernandez (7th) (\*Denotes Lead Editors).

Chandler Farber from the MMS Film Academy won Best Animation AND Best in Show in the Winter Park Library's D.I.Y. Teen Film Festival. This film contest was open to 13 - 18 year olds in the community. Michael Conti, who won first place in the county Nelson Ying Science Fair, now has placed 4th at the state Science Fair (major achievement for a 6th grader competing against 6th-

8th graders!); Stephanie Hunton's artwork was published in the Orange County Utilities Dept. Water Conservation calendar and appears for the month of April; Rachel Maynard has won \$100 for her "Spreading the Dream" essay. Lastly, our track season is underway and we are expecting many personal and school records to come from this amazing group of students.

**Maitland Montessori**  
DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE FROM ADELE FONDO AND MURIEL OWENS

A surprise from author Christopher Tozier (Olivia Brophie and the Pearl of Tagelus and Olivia Brophie and Sky Island), was an exciting event for 4th - 8th graders at Maitland Montessori School. He spent the morning presenting a workshop giving tips on how to work through writer's block and hearing ideas for his next Olivia Brophie adventure, which he is currently writing. In his second novel, he used ideas given to him by our students so we are eagerly anticipating his next book!

Jump Rope for Heart exceeded our goals as students raised over \$4,000! Coach Suazo was so impressed that she offered her face up for pie-ing, an occasion that brought a lot of



Coach Suazo gets a pie in the face at Maitland Montessori.

laughter and fun to our celebration of achieving a great goal.

Our 3-6-year-olds were very impressed with a visit from The Honey Lady who brought her special box of bees to view and lots of honeys to taste. The Audubon Center for Birds of Prey brought owls, a hawk, and a bald eagle as representatives of their rescue program. The children were fascinated to meet each of the birds, to learn of their injuries, and how they have recovered under the care of the Center.

6th - 8th graders spent three days camping at Camp Wewa honing their team building skills, wall climbing, canoeing, hiking, and then ending the day with s'mores around the campfire.

have been dedicated to children in the Montessori and pre-school classrooms. She is the first person to greet our students in the morning and relishes receiving the good morning smiles. Ms. Patty has seen generations go through the school and says that "Every day is a happy day at SJCS; it's a joy to watch the children grow." Ms. Patty says that God sent her to SJCS because it was a school for her daughter to learn and also it has been a second home for her from the very beginning. "St. James has a very special place in my heart and in my life."

We start every day with a prayer and thank God for the opportunity to come together to learn and we look forward to each and every new adventure that awaits us.

**St. James Cathedral School**  
PRINCIPAL MRS. GERRI GENDALL

St. James Cathedral School is celebrating the 30th Anniversary with "Ms. Patty"! Ms. Patty Archambault was raised just three blocks from St. James Cathedral School and she has been a St. James Cathedral parishioner for 48 years. Her siblings and her daughter Nicole Ertel ('96) also attended SJCS. This year Ms. Patty is celebrating 30 years of working at SJCS and the majority of years



Pictured above, Miss Patty Archambault celebrating 30 years of working at St. James Cathedral School.

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schools

**The Christ School**  
HEAD OF SCHOOL JASON POWELL, ED.D.

Science is foremost in the minds of The Christ School's (TCS) middle school students this time of year. Throughout the year, they have been exploring the scientific method. In March, they had the opportunity to put their learning into action by participating in our annual Science Fair.

The students were asked to research an idea of interest, create a hypothesis, and conduct experiments to prove or disprove the hypothesis. The students completed a research paper, created a display, and presented their hypotheses, experiments and findings to their classmates. The entries were judged by a panel of scientists from the Central Florida community.

I extend my congratulations to our winners: Seventh grade: 1st place: Gabi Fatigati, 2nd place: Carrie Formella, 3rd place: Savannah Partlow, and 4th place Addie Marlett. Eighth grade: 1st place: Karly Evans, 2nd place: Logan Kimble, 3rd place: Gracie Blastic, and 4th place: Nicholas Millard. Kudos to Best in Show winner Ajay Brooks for his project, "Mighty Minerals," in which he tested different soils to see if higher mineral content produces more electrical conductivity.

Every year, I am delighted to see the unique and creative topics of research. TCS science faculty member Casserly Kuplen tells us, "I am so proud of my students, who all came up with such clever ideas this year. Some watched plants grow. Others tested Newton's laws of physics on different objects. These students always amaze me with how much they own their projects

and articulate their findings to their classmates as true research scientists."

Our Science Fair is an important opportunity to foster the spirit of scientific inquiry. As our students engage in their experiments and expand their knowledge through research, they are using critical thinking, writing, math, and data analysis skills. They are growing in self confidence and demonstrating commitment.

**Winter Park High School**  
PRINCIPAL TIM SMITH

Each year, virtually 50,000 academically talented high school students are honored by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. The National Merit Scholarship Program is an academic scholarship program. A vast number of high school seniors, numbering about 16, 000, are chosen as semifinalist. However, only about 7,600 are awarded this prestigious awarded yearly. The finalists are chosen based on a based on their Preliminary SAT (PSAT) and/or the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (NMQST) scores, their academic school record, school/teacher recommendation, essay, and extra-curricular activities.

The Winter Park High School 2015 National Merit Scholars are: Rachel Helgemoe, Anna Johnson, Matthew Kuhl, Karen Sun, William Tang, Rebecca Van Valkenburgh, Joshua Warner, and Jordan Young.

The Winter Park High School 2015 Corporate-Sponsored National Merit Scholars are: David Huynh - sponsor, Kaman Corporation; and Joseph Malandra - sponsor, Siemens Corporation.



**Truffles And Trifles Supports Winter Park Crew**

Marci Arthur, the owner of Truffles & Trifles catering in Orlando hosted a five-course dinner with wine pairings to benefit the Winter Park Crew team. Marci has three granddaughters who were athletes on the team. Forty guests each paid \$100 to attend the sold-out dinner.

This is the third time Marci has hosted the event at her store. To date this event has raised over \$10,000 to benefit the team. Winter Park Crew is celebrating their 53rd year as a rowing team and holds over 33 State Championships.



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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 E. Winter Park Rd. For information call 407-590-8776.

## Baldwin Park, College Park and Orlando Area Events

### Ongoing Events

**Every Monday Smarty Pants** - 10:15 a.m. Storytime for children ages birth-5 years old at the Edgewater Branch Library located at 5049 Edgewater Dr. For more information call 407-835-7323.

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

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

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

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

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

**Third Thursday of Each Month Eunice's Healthy Cooking and Baking Workshop** – 10:30 a.m. at the Edgewater Branch Library located at 5049 Edgewater Dr. Food samples will be provided. For more information and to register please call 407-835-7323.

**May 7, 2015 - The Orange County Retired Educators Meeting** - Noon at College Park United Methodist Church, 644 W. Princeton St. for their Spring Luncheon and Installation of Officers. Cost is \$14 per person. For reservations, please call 407-644-7092. Anyone who has worked in education is invited to join.

**May 12, 2015 - Seniors vs. Crime** - 11:00 a.m. at the Orange County Library, Edgewater Branch. This is a special project of the Florida Attorney General run by volunteers to assist people, primarily seniors, who have been scammed or victimized by a bad business deal. For more information please visit [www.ocls.info/edgewater](http://www.ocls.info/edgewater), or call 407-835-7323.

**May 30, 2015 - Poet Showcase** - 3:00 p.m. at the Orange County Library, Edgewater Branch. For more information please visit [ocls.info/edgewater](http://ocls.info/edgewater), or call 407-835-7323.

**June 19 and 20, 2015 - 22nd Annual Mascot Games** - 12:30 p.m. on Friday and 2:00 p.m. on Saturday at the Amway Center. This event is presented by Wawa with proceeds benefiting New Hope for Kids. For tickets and more information please visit [amwaycenter.com](http://amwaycenter.com) or call 800-745-3000.

## Maitland Events

### Ongoing Events

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

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

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

## Winter Park Events

### Ongoing Events

**Every Monday "Sit-to-Be-Fit" Chair Exercise Class** – 10:15 a.m. at the Winter Park Community Center. This free class is designed for all ability levels and sponsored by the City of Winter Park. For more information please call 407-754-6190.

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

**Every Tuesday – June 30 through July 28 Family Tours at the Morse** – a 45-minute guided tour through several galleries on five Tuesdays: June 30, July 7, 14, 21, and 28. The program includes an activity to take home with all the supplies needed for an art project inspired by collecting. Registration begins May 1. All children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. A \$5 refundable deposit per child is requested when securing a reservation for this program. Call 407-645-5311, ext. 136, to make a reservation or request more information, or visit [www.morsemuseum.org](http://www.morsemuseum.org).

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

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

**Every Tuesday, Friday and Saturday Winter Park Benefit Shop** – The shop is located at 140 West Lyman Avenue and is open from 9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays, and from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. on Saturdays. Donate or purchase clothing, bedding, jewelry, kitchenware and more. Proceeds benefit various children's programs and the local branch of Orlando Blind. For more information please call 407-647-8276.

**Every Tuesday and Thursday Curator Tours of Louis Comfort Tiffany's Laurelton Hall** – From 11:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Charles Hosmer Morse Museum of American Art located at 445 N. Park Ave. Space is limited and free with museum admission. To learn more about this event with Curator Donna Climenhage please call 407-645-5311 or visit [www.morsemuseum.org](http://www.morsemuseum.org).

**Every Wednesday Mills50 MidWeek Group Runs** – 6:00 p.m. at Track Shack located at 1104 N. Mills Ave. This event is free to runners of all abilities. For more information please visit [www.TrackShack.com](http://www.TrackShack.com).

**Every Thursday Walk With A Doc** – Enjoy a rejuvenating 30-minute walk with Florida Hospital physicians. This free event is held at 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Crosby YMCA. For more information, or to reserve your spot, please call 407-303-1700.

**Every Friday through July 3 through July 31 Friday Nights at the Morse** - A short film, gallery tour, and art activity inspired by collecting on five Fridays: July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31. This program lasts about 90 minutes. Registration begins May 1. All children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. A \$5 refundable deposit per child is requested when securing a reservation for this program. Call 407-645-5311, ext. 136, to make a reservation or request more information, or visit [www.morsemuseum.org](http://www.morsemuseum.org).

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

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

**Every 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).

**May 7 Historic Preservation Ordinance Public Forum** - 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. hosted by the City of Winter Park at the Winter Park Welcome Center located at 151 W. Lyman Ave. For more information please visit [www.cityofwinterpark.org](http://www.cityofwinterpark.org).

## JUNE HIGHLIGHT



**12:30 p.m., Friday, June 19; and 2:00 p.m., Saturday, June 20 - 22nd Annual Mascot Games at the Amway Center. Proceeds benefiting New Hope for Kids. For tickets and more information please visit [AmwayCenter.com](http://AmwayCenter.com) or call 800-745-3000.**

**May 7-8 Annual Spring Cleanup For Winter Park** – Residents north of Fairbanks/Aloma Avenues. This is a bonus pick up day so that residents can dispose of old furniture, broken appliances and other bulky items. For questions, please call 407-599-3220 or Waste Pro at 407-774-0800.

**May 11 Youth Leaders Class XV Application Deadline** – This youth leadership development program invites rising high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors to apply for one of two sessions offered this summer. Students spend five days exploring our community and developing new leadership skills. For more information and to register please visit <http://www.winterpark.org/content/youth-leaders>.

**May 14 Popcorn Flicks** – 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. in Central Park. For more information please call 407-629-0054.

**May 14-15 Annual Spring Cleanup For Winter Park** – Residents north of Fairbanks/Aloma Avenues. This is a bonus pick up day so that residents can dispose of old furniture, broken appliances and other bulky items. For questions, please call 407-599-3220 or Waste Pro at 407-774-0800.

**May 15 Small Business Education Series** – 8:00 a.m. at the Winter Park Welcome Center located at 151 W. Lyman Avenue. For more information and to register online, please visit [www.winterpark.org](http://www.winterpark.org).

**May 15 Leadership Winter Park 25th Anniversary Gala** – 6:00 p.m. at the Alford Inn. For tickets and more information please visit [www.winterpark.org](http://www.winterpark.org).

**May 16 9th Annual James Gamble Rogers Colloquium on Historic Preservation** – 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Tiedtke Concert Hall at Rollins College located at 100 Holt Ave. Featuring Sarah Susanka, author of "The Not So Big House." Registration is required. For more information please call 407-646-2559.

**May 16 The Orange Blossom Jubilee** – 6:00 p.m. at Interlachen Country Club. Proceeds from the event benefit the Winter Park Day Nursery. For tickets and more information please visit [www.winterparkdaynursery.org](http://www.winterparkdaynursery.org).

**May 16 Harlem Wizards vs. Winter Park Gamers** – 7:00 p.m. at Glenridge Middle School. The Harlem Wizards' brand of "Trick Hoops & Alley Oops" entertainment basketball has been packing gyms across the globe for 50 years. Proceeds from this event benefit the school's Lion's Pride Fund. For tickets and more information, please call 407-623-1415.

**May 21 Business After Hours** – 5:30 pm. at Marlow's Tavern located at 1008 S. Orlando Ave. Cost \$5 members, \$15 Non-members. For more information please visit [www.winterpark.org](http://www.winterpark.org).

**May 26 Senior Health In Our Community** – Noon at the Crosby YMCA. RSVP by calling 407-303-1700.

**May 29 Live Jazz on the Lawn** – 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Alford Inn. Cost is \$30 per person with pay upon arrival. No reservations needed. For more info, go to [www.thealfondinn.com](http://www.thealfondinn.com), or call 407-998-8090.





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