The Park Press

JUNE 2021

~ Positive news that matters ~

Winter Park | Baldwin Park | College Park | Audubon Park | Maitland







For updated news, events and more, visit www.TheParkPress.com

2021 Home Rule Hero Award

FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES

Florida The League of Cities, the united voice for Florida's municipal governments, recently recognized Winter Park vice mayor, Carolyn Cooper, and the Building & Permitting Services director, George Wiggins, with a 2021 Home Rule

Hero Award for their hard work and advocacy efforts during the 2021 Legislative Session. Vice Mayor Cooper and Director Wiggins both have worked tirelessly throughout session to promote local voices making local choices, protect the Home Rule powers of Florida's municipalities and advance the League's legislative agenda.

"These local officials went above and beyond during the 2021 Legislative Session," said FLC's director of legislative affairs, Casey Cook. "They made an extraordinary effort, were actively engaged and highly effective in their advocacy efforts. Even with all the various challenges present this year due to the pandemic, they stepped up. They engaged with legislators, shared their stories and made their voices heard, and it made a difference. On behalf of the League and its



and thank them for their service."

Home Rule is the ability for a city to address local problems with local solutions with minimal state interference. Home Rule Hero Award recipients are local government officials, both elected and nonelected, who consistently responded to the League's request to reach out to members of the legislature and help give a local perspective on an issue.

Founded in 1922, the Florida League of Cities is the united voice for Florida's municipal governments. Its goals are to promote local selfgovernment and serve the needs of Florida's cities, which are formed and governed by their citizens. The League believes in "Local Voices Making Local Choices," which focuses on the impact citizens and city leaders have in improving Florida's communities. For more information, please access flcities.com.

Bob Showalter Joins The Gardens At DePugh Nursing Center Board Of Directors



The Gardens at DePugh Nursing Center welcomed new board member Robert H. (Bob) Showalter.

He is the retired chairman of Showalter Flying Service, Inc., an aviation service business that operated on the Orlando Executive Airport from 1945 until 2015. During his career, spanning 43 years, he sold over 600 aircraft, was active in aircraft management for local corporations, and helped host a record nine National Business Aviation Association Conventions on

Continued on page 5.

OUR PATIENTS SAY "I have my confidence back!" 407.960.1000

ASER + SURGERY

Laser Eyelid Lift Laser Skin Resurfacing Vascular Laser Treatment

Blepharoplasty Brow Lift Facelift + Necklift

Download Dr. Yeilding's Bleph Guide at YeildingMD.com

BOTOX® + Voluma® + Vollure® Medical Grade Skin Care + Treatments

Kybella® for Double Chin

Eyelid and Facelift Specialist Super Specialized Boutique Practice



INSIDE THE PARK PRESS

News1	Business9
Publisher's Message2	Pop Culture10
City Commissioner's Message3	Health10
Winter Park Mayor's Message4	In The Garden11
Protection & Service4	Schools12

DEBMIL NO 4282 MEST PALM BCH FL OS POSTAGE PRSRT STD

2 FROM THE PUBLISHER The Park Press | JUNE 2021

The Park Press

PUBLISHER RICK CABLE rick@theparkpress.com

ART DIRECTOR JILL SHARGAA

ADVERTISING SALES

advertising@theparkpress.com 407-644-6760

EDITORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS AND WRITERS

Janna McGowan, Robert Stuart, George McGowan, Stephen and Kristin Pategas, Ayesha G. Shenk, M.A., Steve Leary, MPO James Whitman, Ron Frechette, Paul Gicola

The Park Press, LLC, Winter Park, Florida

Office: 407-644-6760

E-mail: info@TheParkPress.com

VISIT US ON THE WEB www.TheParkPress.com

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

We want to hear from you! Send your submissions to The Park Press via e-mail at editor@TheParkPress.com. All submissions to The Park Press become the property of this publication and will not be returned; they may be edited and published or otherwise used in any medium.

RECEIVE YOUR COPY OF The Park Press EACH MONTH BY MAIL

The Park Press is free at various retail locations each month throughout the community. If you're not currently receiving our publication by mail, but would like to, please email your name and address to subscriptions@ theparkpress.com. The 12 month subscription cost is \$15. For more information please call, or email our staff today. Please allow 4-6 weeks for your first mailed issue to arrive.

THE PARK PRESS IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY. ALL CONTENTS, LOGOS, AND ARTICLES ARE COPYRIGHTED MATERIALS AND ALL RIGHTS ARE RESERVED. ANY REPRODUCTION IN WHOLE OR IN PART WITHOUT PRIOR WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE PARK PRESS IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED. THE PARK PRESS RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REFUSE ANY ADVERTISING MATERIAL FOR ANY REASON DEEMED INAPPROPRIATE BY THE PUBLISHER. ©2021 THE PARK PRESS, LLC

Publisher's Message



Diek Cable

Recently, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis signed an executive order that suspended all health restrictions related to COVID-19. So, it looks like things can get back to normal. However, for over more than a year of dealing with a major worldwide pandemic, I'm not sure what

the new normal will be. We are creatures of habit, so with our newly returned freedoms to be out and about as we wish, we will be forming new habits

One new habit to consider, is to support local retailers and restaurants. COVID-19 played in favor of online ordering, and food delivery services. They certainly served us well during our mandatory social distancing and quarantine times, but it has really socked our local business.

You may think that you're supporting a local restaurant by using a well-known third-party delivery service app, but you're really not. Sure, you pay for their delivery charge, but the restaurants pay these delivery service companies as much as 30 percent out of their bottom line. If only 20 percent of a restaurant's business is through these companies, it's a good deal, but if 80 percent of their business funnels through these delivery companies, as it has been for more than a year, your favorite restaurant may be out of business before long. Sure, they could raise their prices to offset, but then they will drive their custom-



ers away, and price themselves out of business. It's a delicate line, and I'm not saying to boycott the food delivery service apps, but just want to share that when we use these services, it is convenient, but most likely is not covering the necessary cost of doing business.

So, please keep this in mind, as you consider your takeout options. If you pick up your takeout, it is a benefit to not only you, but your favorite local restaurants. And if you dine in, your server, who might be your neighbor, gets the tip. These businesses have really done everything they could to survive during COVID-19, and many are understaffed. But those working, would be happy to serve you, and just need a little patience, and some friendly faces. It's super important that our local businesses thrive, as they are a valuable asset to our community.

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

Rick Cable Founder/Owner

OUR PUBLICATION IS
MADE POSSIBLE IN OUR
COMMUNITY BECAUSE
OF THE SUPPORT OF
OUR ADVERTISERS.

WE THANK THEM FOR SUPPORTING US AND ASK THAT YOU PLEASE KINDLY GIVE THEIR PRODUCTS OR SERVICES CONSIDERATION FOR YOUR BUSINESS.



Like us on Facebook





City Commissioner's Message Commissioner Robert F. Stuart, City of Orlando District 3



Robert F. Stuar

Happy summer! I'm excited to enjoy a healthy and safe summer around Orlando. Our city and county continue to offer convenient locations to get the COV-ID-19 vaccination, including the Lake Eola Farmers Market every Sunday; at Publix (which is now accepting walk-ins), and many other pop-ups across the city. It

is reasonable for people to have reservations about the getting a new vaccine, but I encourage all residents to get more information about it at orlando.gov/COVID-19 Here you will be able to:

- Dispel myths and identify facts about the vaccine
- Find locations administering the vaccine
- Find testing sites, in case you need to be tested
- Search opportunities for relief or assistance

Also, remember that senior citizens and those with extenuating health circumstances can request a free Lynx ride to a vaccination site nearby. The closer we can move toward herd immunity, the more healthy our city and county will be.

Safety is also important this summer as people are going out to enjoy seasonal activities that we were unable to do last year, like cashing in on those extra SkyMiles or re-planning summer vacations that were cancelled last year. This means that residents are likely going away for long periods of time. Here are three tips for keeping the home front safe while you travel:

1. Know your neighbors: talk to your neighbors, let them know that you're looking out for them and ask that they look out for you too! Neighbors can help pinpoint suspicious people or vehicles quickly.

- 2. Keep unoccupied property tidy: burglars look for abandoned houses they can use to observe the neighborhood and hide in after committing the crime. Be sure to remove advertisements, newspapers, and other trash so it doesn't accumulate and tip off criminals that the house is unoccupied.
- 3. Find a trusted house sitter: you might not need someone to just stay in your house during the entire time that you are gone but have someone who can help you give the appearance of an occupied home to help ward off burglars. Things they can do to help are:
- Park their car in your driveway periodically.
- Gather your mail and newspaper.
- Turn different lights on and off so the same lights are not coming on at the same time every night.

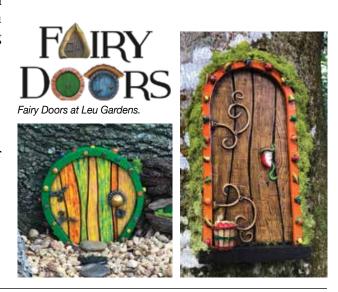
Of course, there are also residents who may not be traveling for the summer. After all, we've got more than enough creature comforts here in Orlando. While you are home – here are a few other activities and learning sessions to consider.

- June 10 at 5:30 p.m. You can learn about rain harvesting through a virtual workshop and receive a free rain barrel as an addition to your lawns and gardens that can be used for ornamental and landscaping plants for pollinator gardens.
- June 16, 6 p.m.-The City of Orlando is offering an online information session to learn about using solar energy for homes and more sustainable communities. It's part of a partnership with Solar United Neighbors (SUN) to offer an easy and

- affordable opportunity for residents to go solar by joining a solar co-op.
- June 5 through September 5- Leu Gardens is offering their popular Fairy Doors adventure again this summer. This exhibit features twenty, one-of-a-kind, whimsical fairy doors, which offer a glimpse into the imaginative world of enchanted forests, secret gardens, and the magic of fairies.

The City of Orlando keeps an updated website of events; visit orlando.gov/events for a great list of happenings. There's always something to do in our area. We've just got to know where to find it!

Congratulations to all the new high school and college graduates! I am hopeful that they will enjoy the strong job market that's going to be opening up as companies start doing all the hiring that they've been holding off on during this past year. As always, thanks for your support of our shared community.





The Park Press | JUNE 2021 **NEWS**

Winter Park Mayor's Message Mayor Phil Anderson



Welcome To The Start Of Summer!

Fourth of July and celebrating our country's founding in 1776. However, there is another important date that many cities, companies, and organizations have begun

to formally celebrate: June 19, the date slavery officially ended in the U.S. in 1865. The City of Winter Park will be celebrating both June 19 and the Fourth of July with two exciting events. We invite you to join us!

June 19, known as "Juneteenth," is an important date commemorating African-American freedom. It was on June 19, 1865, that the last slaves in the U.S. were freed. Although President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation two and a half years earlier, it was not until 1865 that Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas to bring the news that the Civil War had ended and slavery had been abolished, a milestone that officially brought the end to the system of slavery.

Winter Park was founded in 1882, a mere 17 years later. In a historic advancement for the time, our city's founders set aside land for freed slaves to own their own land. That innovation created the Hannibal Square neighborhood, proudly named after the historic/ancient African general.

On Saturday, June 19, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Hannibal Square Heritage Center, the Winter from 9 a.m. to noon. Please access more details

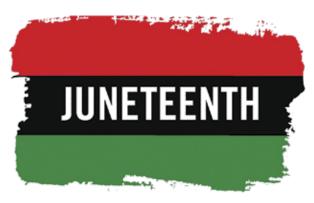
As we gear up for sum- Park Library, and the city's Parks & Recreation mer, we look forward to the Department are hosting the annual *Juneteenth Celebration: Knowing and Remembering* at the Winter Park Community Center located at 721 W. New England Ave. This observance is free and open to the public.

> In honor of Juneteenth, we also remember 19th-century residents Gus Henderson, Frank

R. Israel, and Walter B. Simpson. Gus Henderson was the Black owner and editor of the town's only newspaper, The Winter Park Advocate, as well as the owner of a thriving printing business. On October 12, 1887, Mr. Henderson was instrumental in our city's history, leading Hannibal Square residents to establish a quorum and winning the vote to "incorporate" the town into a self-governing city, including Hannibal Square, in its boundaries. At that same meeting, Frank R. Israel and Walter B. Simpson were elected as Winter Park's first Black aldermen, serving from 1887 to 1893. These three gentlemen helped shape our city with their roots running far and deep in our Hannibal Square neighborhoods.

Also, next month, please make plans to celebrate our nation's Inde-

pendence Day as we return to an in-person **4th** of July Celebration in Central Park. This year, the city will celebrate the 4th on Monday, **July 5**,



"Juneteenth" is celebrated on June 19 and commemorates African-American freedom from slavery.



about both celebrations that commemorate our freedoms at cityofwinterpark.org/events.

Wishing you a safe and happy summer! Mayor Phil Anderson



protection and service by Jim Whitman, Winter Park Police Department

We Usually Leave Horn Tooting To Cars

Recently, one of our officers, Chris Belcore, was given an assignment for his Community Engagement class while he attains a master's degree in Law Enforcement and Public Safety Leadership. The assignment tasked Chris to examine the Winter Park Police Department's current practices and policies and compare them to the recommendations put forth by the 21st Century Policing Task Force Pillars initiated by President Barack Obama. The six identified pillars: Building Trust and Legitimacy within the Community, Policy and Oversight, Technology and Social Media, Community Policing and Crime Reduction, Officer Training and Education, and Officer Safety and Wellness.

Officer Belcore made an immediate correlation between the six pillars and the department's core values of Courage, Dedication, Excellence, Integrity and Professionalism. The department continues to work with our community to build trust and legitimacy through its partnerships with numerous businesses; actively participating in functions at every level of school, from elementary to college; and the use of body-worn cameras to improve transparency. Programs such as Save Our Sons, Cops and Kids, in addition to Coffee with a Cop, have helped foster relationships throughout the City.

The second pillar, Policy and Oversight, is accomplished through regular reviews of policy and procedures, which have earned "Excelsior" ratings from the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation. All policies are reviewed by the citizen-led Civil Service Board and are available for review by all of the officers on

the department's on-line policy system.

The third pillar, Technology and Social Media, is addressed through the department's presence on multiple platforms of social media and through the use of our Computer Aided Dispatch system which not only aids with the dispatch of officers but allows neighboring agencies to communicate and share information amongst themselves.

Community Policing and Crime Reduction is the fourth The Department's commitment to the Citizen's Police Academy, Neighborhood Advisory Committee meetings, business and residential security surveys, and

community presentations are examples of fulfilling this pillar.

The fifth pillar is Training and Education. The Winter Park Police Department has always recognized the necessity and value of training by providing the ability for its officers to attend the most up-to-date classes in the field of Law Enforcement. Officers interested in obtaining college degrees are allowed to attend classes while on-duty, providing it does not interfere with daily staffing minimums and those classes are eligible for reimbursement.

Pillar six, Officer Safety and Wellness, has been addressed through quarterly "block" training to ensure officers are proficient in the use of weapons and tactics. Annual physicals that include "stress tests" are mandatory. Furthermore, a wellness plan was enacted, allowing officers to work out in the on-site gymnasium up to two

hours per week during their shifts. A Peer to Peer Support team and a Critical Incident Stress Management team are available to assist officers with their mental fitness.

Officer Belcore intimated that upon receiving this assignment, he thought that this would be an arduous task trying to find examples that matched each pillar. However, while examining the department's policies and procedures, his fears of matching examples to each pillar quickly changed to frustration as he now had to figure out how to pare down so many of our successes and matches so that he wasn't writing a novel

We want to thank Officer Belcore for reminding us that the Winter Park Police Department is not only a great place to work but a department that leads the way in Central Florida Law **Enforcement!**

Tim Weisheyer **Appointed To The Greater Orlando Aviation Authority Board**

Kissimmee realtor Tim Weisheyer was named to serve on the Greater Orlando Aviation Authority (GOAA) board by Governor Ron DeSantis. His appointment is subject to confirmation by the Florida Senate.

In his new capacity, he will work with other board members to oversee and help set policy for the busiest airport in the state of Florida, Orlando International Airport, and for Orlando Executive Airport.

Mr. Weisheyer, the president/broker of Dream Builders Realty, is also the former president of the Florida School Boards Association. He has been a realtor for more than 15 years and is a past president of the Osceola County Association of Realtors.

The GOAA board is made up of seven members. Five members are appointed by the governor and the other two by the mayor of Orange County and the mayor of the City of Orlando, as defined by the Florida Legislature. Mr. Weisheyer's position on the GOAA board is unpaid.

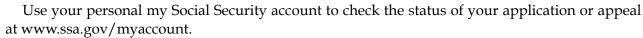
Mr. Weisheyer will assume the seat held by Mr. Ralph Martinez, the board's vice chairman, who has been appointed to the Central Florida Expressway Authority. Mr. Weisheyer's term runs until April 2024.

How To Check The Status Of Your **Social Security Benefits**

By Angelita Pacheco. Social Security District Manager in Orlando, FL

If you applied for Social Security benefits, or have a pending reconsideration or hearing request, you can check the status online using your free personal my Social Security account. If you don't have an account, you can create one at www. ssa.gov/myaccount to see the following information about your claim:

- Date of filing.
- Current claim location.
- Scheduled hearing date and time.
- Re-entry numbers for incomplete applications.
- Servicing office location.
- Publications of interest, depending on the claim and current step in the process.



SOCIAL SECURITY

OCIAL SEC

If you have questions about retirement, disability, Medicare, or survivors benefits, as well as Supplemental Security Income, visit our webpage at www.ssa.gov/benefits.

From Page 1.

the Showalter ramp.

A native of Winter Park, Florida, Mr. Showalter received his bachelor's degree in Economics from Rollins College and his MBA from the Crummer Graduate School of Business at Rollins. Married for 50 years to wife and former Showalter Flying Service president, Kim Showalter, they have two grown children who are both third generation family members happily active in the aviation business.

He enjoys singing, recreational flying, walking tours, fishing, a second home in Vermont, and- his favorite hobby - being a grandfather to his four grandsons.

AdventHealth Winter Park's New Emergency Room Debuts in June



Residents of Winter Park and surrounding communities have long depended on AdventHealth Winter Park (formerly Winter Park Memorial Hospital) for top-notch health care services, including advanced emergency care on a 24/7 basis. An impressive update to those services arrives this June with the opening of a newly renovated, state-of-the-art ER.

Funded through generous community support to the AdventHealth Foundation, the new emergency room spans 27,000 square feet and includes 29 beds, all private rooms, two trauma/bariatric rooms and a separate ambulance entrance. It also includes a separate pediatric waiting area and themed, pediatric-friendly treatment rooms designed to ease the stress of a hospital visit for young children.

Greater Capacity to Care for You

"We've been waiting a long time to debut this renovation to the residents of Winter Park. World-class care for the whole family is now easier than ever with our bigger and better ER," says Melissa Marshall, Director of Emergency Services at AdventHealth Winter Park. "Our new ER has more space and beds to care for people in need, so we're more than ready to serve our community in the event of an emergency."

Some features of the new ER include:

- 29-bed capacity with all-private rooms
- Dedicated trauma, bariatric and OB/GYN rooms
- · Board-certified emergency medicine physicians and nurses
- Pediatric emergency care backed by AdventHealth for Children, with child-friendly waiting and treatment rooms
- Unique artwork and modern design touches

What You Should Know

Once complete, the new ER's entrance will face Mizell Avenue and include a sculpture by renowned artist JEFRË to serve as a statement of hope and healing.

Also, keep in mind that AdventHealth is taking extraordinary precautions to keep you safe when you visit – from social distancing and temperature checks to masks for all, extra sanitizing, and more. So if you experience symptoms such as chest pain, shortness of breath, loss of vision or signs of a heart attack, stroke, or any other health emergency, don't delay your care when every second counts. The ER is the safest place to be.



NEWS The Park Press | JUNE 2021

Kiwanis Club Of Orlando Names Grant Finalists

Kiwanis Club of Orlando's Foundation will award grants totaling \$160,000 in September. Four community organizations have been named as finalists: Edgewood Children's Ranch, Foundation for Foster Children, Orlando Repertory Theatre, and the Urban Think Foundation. One of these organizations will receive \$100,000 and three will each receive \$20,000. "All the organizations nominated are outstanding, community groups worthy of the \$100,000 grant," said KCO President Jeff Cox. "Our Foundation had quite a job narrowing the field down."

The Kiwanis Club of Orlando (Kiwanis Orlando. org), one of Central Florida's community service organizations, is celebrating 100 years of helping kids. "Throughout its history, the Kiwanis Club of Orlando (KCO) has supported children with its time, talent, and treasure," said the Florida Kiwanis governor, Mary-Lynn Desjarlais. "Its members serve on local boards, conduct community service projects, and raise funds for organizations that serve children. This club is the essence of Kiwanis."

The club, which has contributed more than \$7.5 million to community organizations in addition to countless thousands of hours of volunteer time, will celebrate its century of service throughout its 100th year-which began October 1-with a wide variety of special events. The KCO 100-Year Anniversary will culminate with a fund-raising gala, September 18, 2021, at a Central Florida golf club. At this time the grant winners will be announced.

The club is a member of Kiwanis International, one of the world's largest service organizations with more than 551,000 members in more than 80 nations. During legacy of service, KCO and its Foundation have enjoyed partnerships with nu-



Above: Orlando Repertory Theatre is Florida's only full-time family theatre, producing quality experiences in the form of productions, camps, classes, and workshops. Orlando REP operates year round, bringing inclusion, inspiration, creativity, and connection to children and families within the Central Florida community.

At right: At Edgewood Children's Ranch, our children are thankful for a second chance at a better future. Here are some of our Ranchers saying thank you for that second chance.

merous organizations that serve children and youth. Its partnership with the Orlando Day Nursery—where KCO's weekly meetings are held—began in 1922 and emphasizes its primary mission of helping children. For more information on the Kiwanis Club of Orlando and/or gala sponsorship information, contact Steve Kirby at (407)-756-6430.

Central Florida Community Arts To Receive \$10,000 Grant

Central Florida Community Arts is approved for a \$10,000 Grants for Arts Projects award to support the CFCArts UpBeat! Musical Theatre Program. *UpBeat!* is a performance group for teen and young adult exceptional learners. *UpBeat!* produces multiple performances each year, including both plays and musicals, and is open to actors with a variety of exceptionalities, including (but not limited to) autism, Down syndrome, and ADHD.

"Making the arts accessible to everyone is a pillar of our mission as an organization," said Joshua Vickery, the founder and executive director of CFCArts. "We are so thankful for the National Endowment for the Arts' role in ensuring this program's sustainability."

This grant will keep the program low-cost or entirely free for participants and will expand offerings to include a summer show, programs for younger participants, and technology for a blended model of in-person and virtual programming. CF-CArts' project is among the more than 1,100 projects across America totaling nearly \$27 million that were selected during this second round of Grants for Arts Projects fiscal year 2021 funding.

"As the country and the arts sector begin to imagine returning to a post-pandemic world, the National Endowment for the Arts is proud to announce funding that will help arts organizations such as Central Florida Community Arts re-engage fully with partners and audiences," said the NEA's acting chairman Ann Eilers. "Although the arts have sustained many during the pandemic, the chance to gather with one another and share arts experiences is its own necessity and pleasure."

CFCArts were last year's recipients of the National Organization for Arts and Health's 2020

The Winter Park Playhouse Continues Live Performances With Off-Broadway Musical Comedy

The Winter Park Playhouse, Central Florida's professional musical theatre, returns to the stage with their third production in the theatre's 2021 Series of Professional Musicals. Five Course Love will run through June 13, 2021.

Live performances are Friday and Saturday evenings at 7:30 p.m., Thursday and Saturday matinee performances at 2:00 p.m. and select Wednesday, Friday and Sunday matinees at 2:00 p.m.

The Playhouse continues to implement distanced seating and a mask requirement for all patrons, staff, performance cast and crew. This production will also be offered virtually for anyone wishing to enjoy the show from the comfort of home.

Five Course Love is a side-splitting, fast-paced Off-Broadway musical comedy that features 3 actors, playing 15 characters, in 5 different restaurants, all looking for love! A variety of scenes showcase diverse musical styles - Country and Western, Ital- als. Group discount rates for 10 people or more are

ian, German Cabaret, Mexican and 1950's American Doo-Wop.

The professional cast of comedic and vocal talent includes returning Playhouse actors Adam T. Biner (What A Glorious Feeling) and Dustin Cunningham (Some Enchanted Evening, A Grand Night for Singing) as well as newcomer Holli Trisler who is making her Winter Park Playhouse mainstage debut.

Playhouse Artistic Director Roy Alan will direct and choreograph and resident Playhouse Musical Director Christopher Leavy will music direct. The Playhouse band will feature Mr. Leavy on piano, Sam Forrest on percussion and Ned Wilkinson on multiple instruments.

Ticket prices are \$45 evenings, \$42 senior evenings, \$36 matinees, \$20 preview performances, \$20 students and theatrical industry profession-

> available. Student rush "\$10@10" offers \$10 tickets (for students 25 years and younger) 10 minutes prior to a performance when seats are available.

> To purchase tickets to live performances, call the box office at 407-645-0145. For more information and to purchase tickets to a virtual performance visit www.winterparkplayhouse.org.



Photo credit: Courtesy of The Winter Park Playhouse. Left to right: Holli Trisler, Adam T. Biner, Dustin Cunningham.

Continued on page 7.

Orlando Museum Of Art Plans Centennial Celebration

As part of an aggressive relaunch leading up to its centennial celebration in 2024, the Orlando Museum of Art (OMA) announces three new initiatives: a series of six major upcoming exhibitions featuring works of noted artists Rembrandt, Botticelli, Jean-Michel Basquiat and Jackson Pollock; plans for renovation and repair of the Museum's current Loch Haven location; and plans for an expansion of the Museum's footprint to include space in downtown Orlando.

The new exhibits begin late September, including: Luces y Sombras: Mexican Photography from the Bank of America Collection; Cathedrals of Florida: Masterworks by Clyde Butcher; Connoisseur-

ship and Collecting: European Old Master Paintings, which notably features the earliest-known Rembrandt painting and Masterworks from the Bob Jones University, Museum & Gallery, Inc.: Reading and Understanding Old Master Paintings, featuring Botticelli's Madonna and Child.

As a further nod to the robust exhibition planning of the Museum, it will also present 25 never-before published or exhibited paintings by noted African American artist, Jean-Michel Basquiat, whose paintings have sold for over \$100 million apiece.



Orlando Museum of Art downtown expansion rendering by SDG and Summa Development Group.

Following the initial rollout, the Museum will unveil a singular, never-before-published masterpiece in January 2022, a signature massive drip painting from 1949 by the greatest American artist, Jackson Pollock, Jackson Pollock and the Comstock Pollock: Newly Discovered, First Time Exhibited.

These exhibits represent a departure from the Museum's usual contemporary offerings and demonstrate a bold new vision which incorporates attention to traditional and other highly sought-after works of art as well.

The Museum's Board of Trustees voted unanimously to file a letter of intent to pursue a down-

town expansion as part of a planned 33-story, 1 million-square-foot modern glass tower development at Church, Lake and Pine Streets. The development sits on a three-story glass cube and comprises penthouses, condominiums, a luxury hotel, and a contemporary restaurant. The potential expansion would be an extension of the current Loch Haven footprint, featuring interactive educational facilities, offices, visitor services and notably, 30,000 square feet of additional exhibition space which would house some of the new exhibits and new collections.

Continued on page 8.

From Page 6.

Hamilton International Arts in Health award in the Arts for Innovation category with the UpBeat! program. When live events shut down in March 2020, the organization immediately pivoted to produce an original play entirely on a virtual platform. The new online experience not only gave local actors with varying abilities a way to stay connected through the pandemic, but the virtual platform made the program accessible to other adults across the United States.

"I am sincerely proud of the students, care partners, and my team who make this program possible," said the director of CFCArts School of Arts & Health, Kaileigh Anne Tayek. "The passion for these students and the product we create is apparent and I am so excited for future seasons to come."

To learn more about the program. visit CFCArts.com/UpBeat. For more information on the projects included in the Arts Endowment grant announcement, visit Arts.gov/News.







8 NEWS The Park Press | JUNE 2021

Winter Park High School Reunion At The Winter Park Events Center

The City of Winter Park is excited to announce the very first high school reunion at the new Winter Park Event Center has been booked! If you graduated in 1972 from Winter Park High School (WPHS), mark your calendars now for Saturday, March 26, 2022, to celebrate your 50th reunion at the Events Center.

WPHS graduates can mingle and catch up with their former classmates while meandering through the Grand Ballroom, Rooftop Terrace, and Rooftop Meeting Room. Both levels of the Events Center have been booked to host the alumni of a class that graduated with approximately 900 members 50 years ago.

"The emphasis of this very special reunion is making sure that every single alum we can find is able to attend," said Gay Gilleland Erwin, the chair of the Reunion Planning Committee. "The Events Center, with its spacious ballroom, great location, rooms overlooking the park, excellent kitchen facilities, and full accessibility, made it the perfect choice for our class. Plus, the leading-edge design and opportunity to be among the first in the facility have created a real buzz among our classmates."

Erwin added, "The WPHS Class of 1972 has a particular pride in being the first class to begin as sophomores and complete all three years of high school in what was then the "new" Winter Park High School. Many have stayed in touch over the years and the group has held earlier reunions. Members are also looking forward to this occasion to join with classmates far and wide and reunite with those they may not have seen since high school or possibly not even have known back in 1972."

"We are doing everything we can to make this a once-in-a-lifetime event that every classmate will want to attend and be able to attend," said Tom Bell, president of the Class of '72 and member of the Reunion Planning Committee.

Class members who need further WPHS reunion information or want to attend are encouraged



to email Gay Erwin at gayerwin54@gmail.com. For other alumni looking for that perfect venue to hold their reunions, the Events Center reservations office is located in City Hall West Wing at 401 S. Park Ave., and open Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Reservations can be made by contacting 407-599-3571 or eventscenter@cityofwinterpark.org.

Five Ways The Pandemic Could Change Education For The Better By Cathy Hayes

The shift to remote learning during the pandemic caused angst for parents, but it also led to unexpected benefits that they may find hard to let go of as their children return to school.

While pandemic-era schooling has been difficult, parents have come to appreciate the unexpected benefits of distance learning, says Emily Greene (www.emilygreene.com), the author of School, Disrupted: Rediscovering the Joy of Learning in a Pandemic-Stricken World.

Some benefits are so positive, she says, that parents are reluctant to slide back into the prepandemic status quo of in-person schooling without making some improvements.

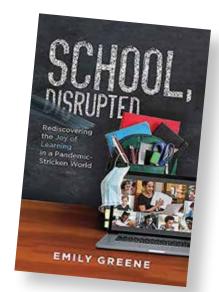
"The dialogue has shifted as parents and students reflect on the last year and think carefully about what they hope to carry forward to improve the school experience," Greene says.

Here are five benefits that Greene says parents hope to carry forward:

- More free time. Before the pandemic, many families' lives were overscheduled, Greene says. The lockdown helped families reconnect with the joys of free time, playtime, and downtime. This took the stress off children overwhelmed with homework, extracurriculars, and overly structured schedules and opened the door for natural curiosity to flourish. Scientists say free time is essential to the developing brain and is tied to curiosity, creativity, and imagination
- More time outside. During lockdowns, people suffering from cabin fever longed to leave their houses, but indoor public places were problematic. So, families connected with the outdoors in new ways, such as walking, biking, or simply eating lunch

outside. "Parents do not want their children to lose their newfound levels of outdoor activity. They understand now that one short recess per day is not enough," Greene says. One survey of 12,000 parents in 10 countries found that half of children ages 5 to 12 were outside less than an hour each day.

- Less standardization, and more personalization. A traditional in-person classroom follows a standardized schedule, leaving little room for independent work or passion projects. However, distance learning offered gaps in the day for children to explore their passions and interests. Many parents saw their children expressing new interests, exploring, and deepening existing hobbies, and making and building things. "Between the middle of March and the middle of April 2020, Google searches for 'How to make' doubled, as did searches for 'DIY,' "Greene says. "In a world that abruptly became more virtual than we were accustomed to, children wanted to be hands-on in new ways."
- More connection with what their children are learning. With students working remotely, parents were privy to an up-close view of what their children are learning. "While at first many parents felt overwhelmed with supervising distance learning, they eventually came to value this connection," Greene says. "Now, many parents have a deeper level of engagement that they do not want to lose."
- An increased focus on balance and well being. Because of the disruption the pan



demic caused, Greene says, children have been "wrung through the wringer," with social, emotional, and mental impact. "Parents want balance and wellbeing at the forefront," she says. "That means less menial homework, less time wasted on irrelevant standardized tests, and more focus on curiosity, creativity, and joy in the class room." For many parents, this means holding onto distance learning as an option and giving students the flexibility to attend inperson or distance learning to support wellbeing. "Now, as children are returning to school, we don't want to be forced to choose between in-person learning or distance learning," Greene says. "Both should be options. Learning should be blended."

"When society lives through a disruption, it rarely returns to the way it was before," Greene says. "The next few years will be an inspiring time in education as parents, students, and teachers begin to apply what we've learned."

From Page 7.

"The initiatives we are pursuing are transformational, representing a bold, new vision for Orlando Museum of Art while simultaneously re-positioning us to make a deeper investment into our community both culturally and economically," said OMA's director & CEO, Dr. Aaron De Groft. "We are confident our donors and constituents will appreciate and be equally motivated to help bring this vision to life and we look forward to realizing these plans while continuing our dedication to be inclusive and equitable within our community."

For more information, visit www.omart.org.

School District Launches OCPS Community Connect

OCPS launched a new free resource assistance platform for families in need through OCPS Community Connect, at communityconnect.ocps.net. Families seeking resources or needing help in areas such as mental health, tutoring and mentoring, child care, housing, healthcare, financial support, and food assistance can use it to connect with community-based organizations in the area.

The platform is available to OCPS families, staff, and the community. Its purpose is to assist people in self-navigating social services and community resources at their own convenience. It allows a search to be made by zip code to browse social service programs across various categories that are geographically close to where a family lives.

Additional student resources such as the OCPS Mental Health Services Helpline are available by calling 407-317-3694 Monday thru Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The United Way's 211 service is available 24 hours a day.

Cybersecurity awareness by Ron Frechette, The Cyber Coach



Secure Your Digital Footprint

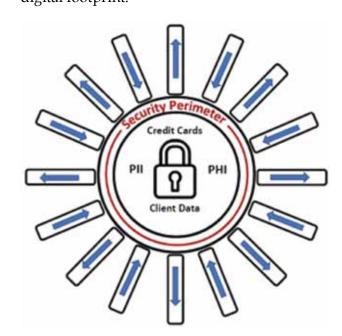
The recent Colonial Pipeline Ransomware attack was an enormous wake up call for the entire world. The CEO was forced to pay

a \$4.4 million dollar ransom because executives were unsure how badly the cyberattack had breached its systems, and consequently, how long it would take to bring the pipeline back. For many of the small-midsize businesses we support, this would not have been possible and would most likely have resulted in bankruptcy.

The best way to minimize the risk of experiencing ransomware or a data breach is to adopt good cyber hygiene practices. Cyber criminals are especially active during the summer months due to the masses being on vacation in a lax state of mind. So, as we transition into the summer, we ask all our readers to be extra vigilant in practicing good cyber hygiene in order to avoid the pitfalls of experiencing a data breach or ransomware attack.

To understand the basics of cyber hygiene, this month we will provide a visual perspective of what our online presence looks like in cyberspace. In the IT security industry, we refer to a person or company's online presence as a digital footprint.

There are billions of digital footprints in cyberspace. Each time you hit the send button on a digital device, your IP address launches packets of data into cyberspace. These data packets travel at lightning speed to other digital footprints that you have selected to send. This could be an email, paying a bill online, sending a client an agreement, or conducting some online banking. Let's analyze the components of a digital footprint.



The circle represents our security perimeter. This is where we put security controls in place to reduce the risk of our sensitive information from being compromised. The lines around the circle represent data attempting to enter and exit our environment. The lock inside the circle represents the area where our sensitive information resides. This could be credit card data, PII (Personal Identifiable Information like DOB, SSN, wills, banking info, etc.), PHI (protected health information) and/or Client Data.

Who is trying to steal my data and how do they do it?



There are millions of cybercriminals across the world who come to work every day with the sole purpose of stealing information online that they can sell on the Dark Web for monetary gain. There are over 500k new malware variants being launched into cyberspace daily The digital age is forcing us begin adopting a "defense in depth" mindset as we become more dependent on technology to live our lives.

There are four threat vectors around the security perimeter of every digital footprint that cybercriminals try to exploit.

1. People – Spouses, children, and/or business colleagues having or not having the awareness that these vulnerabilities exist, how they behave when they are confronted by a phishing email, and how they respond.



- 2. Processes Having formal policies and procedures in place with detailed guidelines and having been properly educated on the threats of cyber-attacks.
- 3. Facilities This has to do with physical controls. Do you have locks in areas of your home or business where sensitive information can be accessed? If you have servers in house, are they under lock and key with 24-hour camera surveillance?
- **4. Technologies** Ensuring that the networks and applications you utilize have been properly vetted and can guarantee an acceptable level of

This applies to your digital footprint as well as the digital footprints of others who you interact with on a routine basis. Never feel shy about evangelizing what you learn about good cybersecurity hygiene with friends, family and business colleagues. It will enhance the security of everyone you interact with in cyberspace.

Over the next few months, we will begin to break down each of these threat vectors and share ways you can begin to identify existing security vulnerabilities. We will arm you with tools and knowledge to identify where those gaps are and provide guidance to install the proper security controls.

Source: https://www.wsj.com/articles/colonialpipeline-ceo-tells-why-he-paid-hackers-a-4-4million-ransom-11621435636

Questions? Send me a tweet: @GoldSkyRon or email: ron.frechette@goldskysecurity.com



John Psomas RICP, Agent 922 Lake Baldwin Lane, Suite A Orlando, FL 32814 Bus: 407-277-2997 www.johnpsomas.com Se habla español

1901155

Good news. Rates just got lower.

I'm excited to announce auto insurance rates just went down. I can help you find coverage that works for you.



State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company, State Farm Indemnity Company, Bloomington, IL State Farm County Mutual Insurance Company of Texas, Richardson, TX

LET'S TALK TODAY.



pop culture detours by George McGowan

Several Reasons To Return To The Movie Theaters This Summer

As we continue to see the risk of getting COVID-19 dropping and dropping, it looks like there may be reasons for movie goers to comfortably venture back to the theatre this summer. There are several movies that cry out to be seen on a big screen in a movie house, with the appropriate level of social distancing, in the upcoming months.

10

In June, while I am looking forward to the documentary of the band Sparks directed by Edgar Wright, the wider audience can anticipate "In The Heights," the movie adaptation of the smash Broadway hit by Lin-Manuel Miranda of "Hamilton" fame. Meanwhile, you can leave the kiddos home with a sitter to watch "Luca," the next Pixar movie being released only on Disney+, featuring a friendship between two Italian sea monsters. The month also features "F9," the ninth (!) installment of the Fast and Furious franchise. While I have not seen any of the previous eight installments, I know they are quite popular!

July brings one of (count 'em) three Marvel movies out this summer, "Black Widow" starring Scarlett Johansson and directed by Aussie Cate Shortland. We also have the long-awaited sequel "Space Jam 2" starring Bugs Bunny and some sports ballers. The one movie I will definitely be seeing in a theatre, "The Green Knight," looks absolutely amazing and the trailers are worth a peek- so check them out on the biggest screen you got! It is another

take on the Arthurian legend of the Round Table, and the website for the movie is rightly hyperbolic about the film, gushing about the main character: "Gawain contends with ghosts, giants, thieves, and schemers in what becomes a deeper journey to define his character and prove his worth in the eyes of his family and kingdom by facing the ultimate challenger." Ok, you have me intrigued! My wife and I saw the Green Knight trailer recently when we attended a 20th anniversary theatre showing of "Scott Pilgrim vs the World." It was a definite "Gotta see that!"

In August, we get the documentary "The Beatles: Get Back" directed by Peter Jackson of "Lord of the Rings" fame. Jackson was given access to over 55 hours of footage and 140 hours of audio, plus had the permission of Paul McCartney and Ringo Starr and the estates of John Lennon and George Harrison in the making of the film. There are two more comics-inspired movies coming in August, Marvel's "Shang Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings" and DC's "The Suicide Squad." I'm sure that someone will let me know which one is worth seeing, if not both.

To go along with the spectacles for your eyes and ears, I recommend some movie reading, as well. *The Guardian* newspaper's website has an interesting series entitled "Hear Me Out" where film buffs make a case for a movie which was panned

by the critics, was not a box office success, or was simply hated when it was released. I enjoyed reading the installments for two movies that I very much liked, "Hudson Hawk" and "Sucker Punch." You may find an installment about a movie you enjoyed but which others hated, perhaps "Coneheads" or "The Wedding Planner" or "A View to a Kill?"



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

Ayesha G. Shenk

Dualism

As I sit here and write this, today marks the first anniversary of my father's passing. It also, bizarrely, would have been his 75th birthday.

I know, crazy right?

It takes a special sort of man to come blazing in *and* out of the world on the very same day. My father was a sucker for efficiencies though and I believe he'd find some macabre delight in being so accurate, efficient, and clever.

To say he was an extraordinary man would just be a sort of pathetic understatement. He was brilliant, driven, funny, kind, generous and noble. He was both curious and affable and serious and wise. He lived many lives over the course of his 74 years, but I will refrain from regaling you with his triumphs, tribulations, or even his many clever antics. This article serves as a piece to honor him, but also as a conduit to take from him some learning. Leaving the world a bit better by virtue of experience was perhaps his greatest hope for his children, his grandchildren, and his legacy.

My father taught me so many things, among them hard work, self-confidence, strength in the face of adversity, and grace in the wake of tragedy. He taught me these things, at times through his brilliantly crafted words, but more often than not in his quiet deeds and through his complex worldview. Most of all, perhaps, he gave me (and illustrated for me) what I believe may be the single most important understanding of the world and human beings that I have today.

Duality.

My father was a (literal) genius and also often a silly prankster. He was strong and enduring and yet so soft. He could both eviscerate a man in a matter of a few well-chosen words and yet, weep piteously when watching a touching movie or (always) when his children would leave for school. My father was steeped in ancient culture and tradition and yet innovative and always



looking for the next, better way to do things. He was sharp yet kind, strong yet fallible, brilliant yet just a little bit lost when it came to finding the words for the deep expression of love that he felt. He was so many seemingly dichotomous things all at once.

He embodied the nature of duality and not only taught me, but encouraged me to see that things... ALL things, can be more than just one way. There is no hierarchical *one way* to anything. Our realities are written by our perspectives, our lenses, our experiences, and our be-

liefs. There isn't really any one way to be 'right.' There just IS.

Of course, we can aspire to be the very best versions of ourselves and we can stretch to the virtues in which we believe... but we are all a combination of dichotomous truths and experiences and the acceptance of such is actually what makes our complexities beautiful and clear. It is in the fervent desire to order, limit, make binary our beliefs and expressions that clouds the world more and makes for intolerance and ill will.

We can and should be all of these things, all at once. It is not only ok - it is truth. It is honoring the integrity of who we are and how we show up in the world. It is the conduit to courage and vulnerability and authenticity. Being able to accept ourselves with all the nuances and seemingly contradictory traits instead of trying to present as just one thing is the mandate for living an authentic life. We can be strong and fearful, we can be assured and doubting, we can be angry and yet working on our grace and acceptance. We can be artists and engineers, priests and surgeons, financiers, and musicians. We can be perfectly and dichotomously imperfect, allowing for space to still love and accept ourselves and also continue to work and grow.

My father left the world a better place in so many ways, but my hope today... is that his legacy frees and empowers you to be all the beautiful complexities that you are and accept others as the same.

'til the next time, Be Well; Live Meaningfully. Ayesha

n the garden by Stephen and Kristin Pategas



Book Bit – Fruits Of Florida

At first blush Florida seems like one of those states where growing fresh fruit should be a no-brain-

er. But if you are from a northern clime, you may quickly descend into despair as you realize apples, pears, and plums are more of a novelty south of North Florida. However, having a copy of Florida's Best Fruiting Plants on hand is better than eating a northern fruit out of hand. It shows what is possible in Florida - in Central Florida it includes carambolas, mangos, papayas, bananas, pineapples, jaboticabas, persimmons, and pomegranates.

We turned every page of this comprehensive encyclopedia on 80 fruiting plants and marveled at the thoroughness of the information along with the attractive presentation. Each plant receives at least two pages of information with an illustration, photographs, range map, fruiting bar by month, plant silhouette, characteristic rating chart, and hazards. Text thoroughly describes each plant. References for Florida include maps with detailed plant hardiness zones, annual chilling hours, and rainfall. Also included are a glossary, lists of fruit tree collections and nurseries, native fruiting plants, and an index.

We were most intrigued by the Geographic Ori-

gin of Fruit Species map. Except for blueberries, blackberries, and muscadine grapes, which are native to our region, all the best-known fruits hail from elsewhere on the planet. If we were limited to only natives, our palates would suffer.

This is an empowering reference for homeowners that amazingly was crafted entirely by the author Charles Boning. He also tested almost all these plants in his own gardens in all three regions of Florida. We see more fruit in our future and you should in yours.

Florida's Best Fruiting Plants by Charles R. Boning from Pineapple Press, 2021, 2nd edition in print

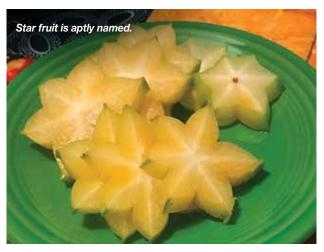














Hortus Oasis (LA0001090) in Winter Park is a boutique garden design company specializing in residential, commercial, and specialty gardens. Stephen is a registered landscape architect and Kristin is a certified landscape designer. Contact them at 407-622-4886/ garden@hortusoasis.com and visit www.houzz.com/pro/hortusoasis/_public. All photography by Stephen G. Pategas/Hortus Oasis unless otherwise noted.



12 SCHOOLS The Park Press | JUNE 2021

schools

Glenridge Middle School PRINCIPAL CHRIS M. CAMACHO

Hello Glenridge Families,

I hope each of you are off to a great start to the summer. It feels just like yesterday I was providing insight on the start of school. This year certainly provided some interesting experiences for all of us and I want to thank you for your ongoing support throughout the school year, whether your student was face-to-face or a LaunchED student. In the end, we made it through the year.

As we proceed through the summer, I would like to encourage you to visit the district website at ocps.net for any updates we may receive regarding the start of the school year. In addition, I would like to remind parents of upcoming seventh-grade students to ensure a TDap vaccination is completed over the summer and submitted to our registrar, Ms. Talbot-Williams. Should you have any questions about the TDap vaccination, please feel free to contact us at the school at (407) 623-1415.

Thank you again for a great year. I look forward to all our returning students in August and I wish our outgoing 8th graders all the best in high school. Take care and stay well.

The Geneva School HEAD OF SCHOOL BRAD RYDEN

Geneva, a Christian classical school, participates in the longstanding tradition of cultivating and nourishing souls using the seven liberal arts. Through exposure to those things that are true, good, and beautiful, students acquire wisdom, virtue, and eloquence. While pearls of content and instruction found in classical schools such as ours may be found in other schools, what sets us apart is that the liberal arts are conducted within a Christian context, thus providing the pearls as well as the string on which they are hung. Together, these give shape to the content as well as establish goals that transcend temporal achievements. An approach to education that began 2,000 years ago continues to this day.

One of the best showcases of a classical education is the senior thesis. The senior thesis represents the capstone or completion of a Geneva education. Each thesis takes months to form and requires hours of preparation by way of reading, research, writing, rewriting, and presentation. Our seniors will tell you that it is not easy. And yet, in the near future (perhaps this fall after they have settled into college), many if not all of this class of graduates will attest to the benefits that come from the experience.

At their thesis presentation, each senior used the art of rhetoric in order to persuade the audience to accept her or his proposition on a topic of their choosing. They did so through the rhetorical modes of persuasion—*logos* (the truthfulness of what is being said), *pathos* (the emotional importance of what is being said), and *ethos* (the confidence that can be placed in the speaker). After a twenty-minute speech, the senior then spent another twenty minutes or so defending their thesis while fielding questions from the audience.

This year, our seniors have tackled the senior thesis as well as a host of other challenges including college applications, housing choices, AP exams, etc. Commencement, a memorable milestone for sure, signals the end of the significant investment in time, energy, and money that it takes to get a student to the point of being called a "Geneva Graduate."

Graduation is not so much a commencing as it is a concluding event. And yet we still call it commencement as it marks the start of a new chapter in the lives of our students. Please join me in congratulating our seniors on completing their Geneva education and wishing God's blessing on them as they carry the lessons they have learned here into new opportunities and challenges this fall.

Winter Park High School PRINCIPAL MATTHEW ARNOLD

Congratulations to Winter Park High School's a cappella groups NSO and Take 7 on their recent Contemporary A Cappella Recording Award! The groups were nominated alongside collegiate and professional groups, and they took home the award for Best Show Tunes/Soundtrack/Theme Song for their recording of "Carnaval Del Barrio" from In the Heights. Check out the song at: https://youtu.be/0KBafkrmXcs

The Athletics Department wrapped up the year on an incredibly strong note, claiming championships across the board. Congratulations to our Boys' Lacrosse coach, Ryan Healey, for being named U.S. Lacrosse's 2021 Coach of the Year! Other accolades for spring sports include:

- Boys' Lacrosse-Metro Champs/District Champs/Regional Champs/State Runner-up
- Girls' Lacrosse-Metro Champs/District Champs
- Boys' Water Polo-District Champs
- Girls' Water Polo-District Champs
- Girls' Tennis-District Champs/Metro Champs
- Boys' Tennis-District Champs/Regional Champs
- Softball-Metro Champs/District Champs
- Baseball-Metro Champs
- Boys' Volleyball-Metro Champs/District Champs
- Crew-State Champs



Congratulations to Winter Park High School's Boys' Lacrosse coach, Ryan Healey, for being named U.S. Lacrosse's 2021 Coach of the Year!



WPHS celebrated National Nurses' Day in May by recognizing two amazing nurses, Dawn Raines and Nancy Mooney. This year presented even greater challenges with the pandemic and our nurses led the way for keeping our school safe and healthy.

Winter Park Presbyterian PreSchool

Our campus has been bustling with special activities with the school year coming to an end. The children in all age groups enjoyed splash parties with a sprinkler tunnel plasma car wash (some call it a kid wash!), water games and experiments, shaving cream painting, obstacle courses, refreshments, and other celebratory activities.

The four VPK classes held separate graduation ceremonies in the church sanctuary for our 51 VPK graduates. During each of these events the children sang favorite songs, then walked across the altar to receive a few loving words and beautiful children's Bibles from our director, Mrs. Tricia Wilson.

On the last day of school the children were surprised at car circle by a giant CONGRATS WPPP CLASS OF 2021 sign with bubble machines blowing from all directions. Parents took photos by the sign of their children holding bubble tubes with tags that read "You've blown us away in VPK 2021!"





Pictured right: Each of the 51 VPK students at Winter Park Presbyterian Preschool received children's Bibles at their end of the year celebration.

Pictured below: Winter Park Presbyterian Alligators VPK class performed a medley of songs including What a Mighty God We Serve at their end of the year celebration.

