# The Park Positive news that matters ~ FREE



APRIL 2022

~ Positive news that matters ~

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







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## BISSELL Pet Foundation Unites Florida Shelters To Save Dogs

More than 360 Florida pets were helped in a recent effort to support Santa Rosa County Animal Services, after they took on 80 large-breed dogs from a neglect case while already at maximum capacity. With just one week to find placement for the dogs from this case, the BISSELL Pet Foundation led a statewide emergency relief effort to encourage Florida shelters to accept transfer dogs from Santa Rosa County Animal Services. As an incentive, the foundation hosted a statewide emergency "Empty the Shelters" reduced-fee adoption event from Feb. 24 – 28, to create lifesaving space and promote adoption.

BISSELL Pet Foundation sponsored adoption fees in 11 shelters throughout Florida. A total of 290 pets, including 178 dogs and 112 cats, were adopted during this emergency relief event. Each participating shelter took five or more dogs from Santa Rosa County Animal Services to help the deserving pets find loving homes. In a matter of days, nearly all dogs from the case were transported or adopted.

"Coming to the aid of animal welfare organizations in crisis is a critical focus of BISSELL Pet Foundation's mission to end pet homelessness. Large-scale neglect cases are taxing on shelters of all sizes," said Cathy Bissell, the founder of BIS-SELL Pet Foundation. "Without collaboration, there would be no hope for these pets. We have put a lifesaving network in place and are honored to assist Santa Rosa County Animal Services."

A pit bull mix named Huck was one of the dogs saved by Santa Rosa County. When he was transferred to Citrus County Animal Services, he was fearful and could only crawl while on a leash. However, with the loving and patient care of the shelter staff, it only took three days for Huck to feel comfortable, start showing his personality, and find a loving home. Collaboration helped Huck find the right place and the right person when he may have otherwise been harder to place.

For more information on donating to "Empty the Shelters," visit https://www.bissellpetfoundation.org/donate/



## Orlando Health **Network Helped** Save Medicare And **Commercial Insurers** Almost \$20 Million In 2020

Now in its tenth year of existence, Orlando Health Network's accountable care organization (ACO) achieved success once more by saving the federal government's Medicare Shared Savings Program (MSSP) and other commercial insurers approximately \$19.5 million in healthcare costs through meeting quality and cost goals in 2020. The ACO has saved over \$153 million since it began.

ACOs are groups of doctors, hospitals, and other healthcare providers, who come together to provide coordinated high-quality care to their Medicare patients, according to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Savings. This is done to ensure that patients get the right care at the right time, while avoiding unnecessary duplication of services and preventing medical errors.

"Our results prove that collaboration and information sharing between our providers yield better outcomes," said Erik Walker, MD, board chairman, Orlando Health Network. "The accountable care organization further advances our ability to make a positive impact on the health of each and every person we serve within the community, particularly in today's dynamic healthcare environment."

Although Orlando Health launched the first hospital-led MSSP ACO in the state of Florida back in 2013, the network has evolved from a primarycare-focused collaborative partnership to become one of the largest clinically integrated networks nationally. It now boasts more than 5,500 multispecialty providers, a robust and expanding ambulatory footprint, and 16 wholly owned hospitals and

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INCIDE THE DARK DRECK

FROM THE PUBLISHER The Park Press | MARCH 2022

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## Publisher's Message



With this issue I'm thrilled to share that *The Park Press* is celebrating our 15th anniversary! As I stop to reflect, I find myself feeling blessed and honored by the role we play within our community. We have remained steadfast to focusing on "the positive news that matters" and

we greatly appreciate your loyal readership and following.

Sure, I started this venture, but it has always been a team/family effort.

First, I cannot express how grateful we are to our advertisers! It all started with a cold call to John Psomas at State Farm in Baldwin Park. He was my first call to sell an ad in the April 2007 issue of *The Park Press*. He signed on and has been in every issue since! Several others such as Orlando Health, and David Holbrook with Waterstone Mortgage have been running for over fourteen years. All of the advertisers within each

issue are key members of The Park Press family, and I'm honored that we are an important part of their marketing strategy and a valued member of their team. I encourage you to consider doing business with them and refer our advertisers' products and services to your neighbors, family, and friends whenever possible.

Second, I believe our team rivals some of the most talented individuals you would find in any publication. From our elected officials to featured writers, proofers, art director, and sales. I'm referring to: Janna McGowan, Jill Shargaa, Commissioner Robert Stuart, Mayor Phil Anderson, George McGowan, Stephen Pategas, Kristin Pategas, MPO Jim Whitman, Ayesha G. Shenk, M.A, and Lisa Ireton. I feel humbled by their passion and dedication to share "the positive news that matters" within our community through The Park Press.

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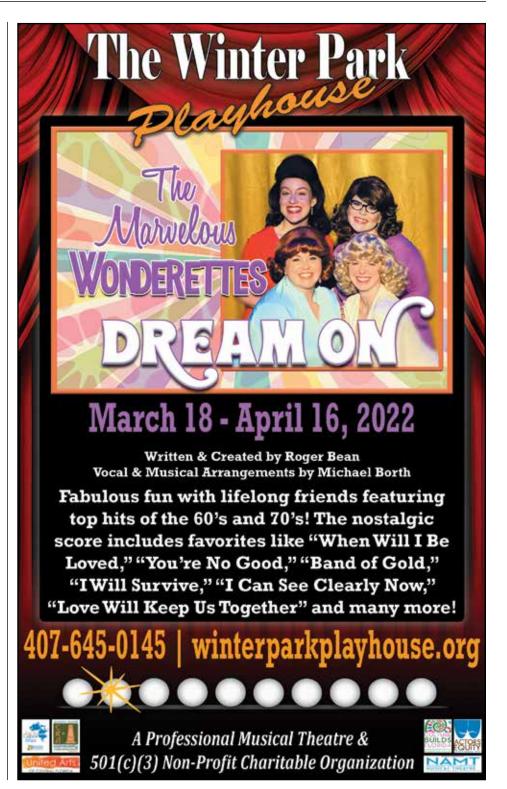
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## City Commissioner's Message Commissioner Robert F. Stuart, City of Orlando District 3



engage with your city. Along with fun events, there are some decisions being made, as well as some proposals being studied and debated that will affect all of us. Please read on for more details.

Every ten years, governments must re-evaluate the district boundaries of their elected officials to make sure that they are equal as it relates to population shifts that are brought to light by the Census. This process, called "redistricting," has begun in Orlando, and the end result will be six newlyoutlined city commission districts. There are many opportunities built in for public input, so please check out orlando.gov/redistricting for more information.

We have the Redistricting Advisory Board, with a volunteer resident being appointed from each district. This board will be hosting a public meeting in District 3 on Tuesday, April 12th at 6 p.m. at the College Park Neighborhood Citizens can submit their own suggested boundary map or take a survey on the redistricting webpage. Final recommendations (maps) will be adopted in June by the Orlando City Council.

While April is the month where we all scramble to get our federal taxes filed, it is also a month where you can learn more about Orange County's local proposal to fund transportation

April is a great month to initiatives and projects through a dedicated penny sales tax. This proposal was originally launched right before the start of the pandemic and was then, understandably, put on hold.

> The county has now re-introduced the proposal and is working to educate residents about the referendum prior to it being voted on by the public in the upcoming November election. The Central Florida area is growing by about 1,000 new residents per week not to mention tourists visiting our area (around 75 million per year pre-pandemic). Orange County officials would like residents to consider this addition to the sales tax, which would raise an estimated \$600 million in its first year. Funds would be **required** to be used on transportation

improvements. By raising funds through the sales tax, a share of the burden would be put on our visitors who heavily utilize our transportation infrastructure. For more information about this proposal and to provide your input on the idea through a survey questionnaire, please visit Orange County's website, ocfl.net.

As we all know, staffing shortages are still affecting our city just like they are affecting so many of our

local businesses. That makes it a great time, however, for our older youth to look for summer employment-and what cooler job is there than being a lifeguard? The City's Aquatics Division is now hiring lifeguards for our numerous City pools. The City offers training, competitive salaries, and hours. Call 407-245-0478 or visit cityoforlando.net/aquatics for details.

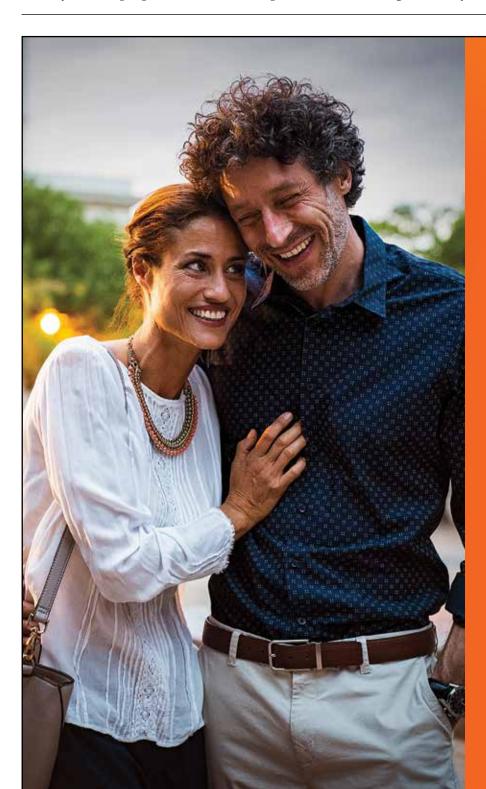
We can all come together to support our military, both active duty and

> veterans. One way to do that this month is by participating in the 13th annual Wounded Warfighter Lone Sailor 5/10k taking place in Baldwin Park on April 9th. For more details and to

register, visit cfnavyleague.org. Also this month is the IOA 5k, being held on Thursday, April 21st in the evening in downtown Orlando. Held exclusively for Florida's business and non-profit community, grab a few co-workers and create a team or join the Track Shack Fitness Club team. Proceeds benefit the Track Shack Youth Foundation and Second Harvest Food Bank. Visit trackshack.com for all the details.

As always, thank you for your continued support and I look forward to seeing you around town this month!





## CHOOSE **ER CARE CLOSER TO YOU**

When you need immediate medical attention, turn to the trusted experts right in your community. Orlando Health Orlando Regional Medical Center is only minutes away, ready and committed to providing you the highest level of emergency care.

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OrlandoHealth.com/ER

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# Winter Park Mayor's Message Mayor Phil Anderson



#### Meet Winter Park's 2021 Employees Of The Year

Welcome to spring in Florida. Of course, it looks a lot like winter, great outdoor spaces with sunshine and warm weather!

We usually associate our Winter Park experience with good weather, great shopping

and dining, amazing parks, culture, and heritage. Those are great experiences, but they don't just happen. Those experiences are the result of many people working very hard.

Recently, the city had the opportunity to recognize our employees of the year. But first, a story.

Winter Park is the home of Rollins College, the oldest college in the state of Florida. Winter Park and Rollins were also the home of Fred Rogers, the famous host of the TV show that captivated children for over 30 years, "Mr. Roger's Neighborhood." One of Mr. Roger's magic tricks was finding ways for children to understand difficult current events.

My favorite quote from Mr. Rogers is, "When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, 'Look for the Helpers. You will always find people who are helping."

As we celebrate our employees of the year, we are celebrating the helpers. The helpers who keep our community safe. The helpers who run into danger, not away from it. And the helpers who give us the green spaces and the trees that will be here for our children and our children's children.

These are our helpers. Thank you!



When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, 'Look for the Helpers.'

#### Congratulations 2021 Employees of the Year!

These three individuals represent the 500+ city family members who are committed to providing high-quality city services to our residents and community. Thank you to Stefano, Erica, and Sheree for living out our employee mission to "Make Every Day Exceptional" for all whom we serve.

#### Sheree Slaughter | Officer | Uniform Patrol

Assigned to Uniform Patrol's Gold Watch, Officer Sheree Slaughter can be counted on to always inspire others. She serves as the department's community liaison at The Meadows (Margaret Square), where she meets



Sheree Slaughter

regularly with management, residents, and the youth in the community. Officer Slaughter is often seen at many birthday parties and holiday events at the Winter Park Community Center, Hannibal Square Heritage Center, and various city parks. Her positivity and professionalism regularly receive

praise from fellow officers, supervisors, city officials, and most importantly, the citizens that she serves.

#### Erica Hall | Firefighter/Engineer

Erica Hall is a critical member of the Fire-Rescue Department's operational and community edu-

**₩**EDICAL



Erica Hall

cational teams. As a new and eager firefighter, Erica quickly obtained her paramedic certification and was promoted to the rank of engineer within her short time with the department. While Erica can be described as an outstanding firefighter in the field, she also remains dedicated to fostering community education, visiting with schools and teaching children about life safety efforts. She sets a very high standard for herself, as well as the entire department.

#### Stefano Alvernia | Arborist | Parks & Recreation

Stefano Alvernia was hired as an arborist in 2019. In 2021, he voluntarily spearheaded the city's holiday lighting and decoration project which featured additional lights and various



Stefano Alvernia

holiday themes throughout the city's downtown business district. When complimented for his hard work, Stefano humbly defers the credit to his colleagues. He also effectively runs the entire residential-permitting portfolio of the Urban Forestry Division that requires comprehensive documentation and extensive knowledge of city codes and ordinances, as well as personable social skills.

Thanks also to the more than 500 Winter Park employees who make Winter Park special.

And if you have time, visit the new sculpture of Fred Rogers and his magic castle on the Rollins College campus. He is one of the many special people who make our community great.

Thanks! Sincerely, Mayor Phil Anderson

## Winter Park Presbyterian Pays Medical Debt For 2,647 Local Families

Winter Park Presbyterian Church has raised \$15,635.64 to pay off medical debts totaling over two million dollars for families in Orange and Seminole County, distributed through a national charitable organization.

In summer of 2021, an anonymous donor within Winter Park Presbyterian Church proposed a daring challenge to the congregation. After seeing a television special highlighting the organization RIP Medical Debt-a national nonprofit that specializes in

buying medical debt for a fraction of the cost and forgiving itthe anonymous donor wanted to participate. But with only so much to individually offer, they looked to their church for help.

The would-be donor approached

the church's session of elected elders with a proposal, who agreed with the idea and soon issued a challenge to the congregation. If the congregation could raise a collective \$5,000

then the anonymous donor was willing to match their amount, to donate a total of \$10,000 for area families suffering the crushing burden of medical debt.

But could they do it? To raise \$5,000 in the middle of a global pandemic with layoffs and uncertainty was a lot to ask for, but the congregation came through. Letters were sent, reminders were given from the pulpit, and reminders included through the church's newsletter. The congregation was reminded

that they could make a positive change in the lives of their neighbors with even a small donation, as it would go a long way with the help of RIP Medical Debt. Links and stories were shared showing the good that debt forgiveness like this could do. And slowly, the money started coming in.

When all was said and done, Winter Park Presbyterian raised \$15,635.64-far above the initial anticipated offering. Through RIP Medical Debt, this money will go to forgive a total of \$2,586,562.24 worth of face value medical

debt. This money will help over 2500 families in the area, a staggering amount that has the anonymous donor at a loss for words. It only goes to show that sometimes those things we learn as children are the things that stay true in the end.

Love is something that, if you give it away, you end up having more.

RIP Medical Debt purchases past-due accounts in bundled portfolios belonging to those who are two times or below the federal poverty level, or for whom a debt is five percent or more of their annual income. This ensures that those most in need are helped. Recipients of debt abolishment should be receiving a letter with an RIP Medical Debt logo. Debt relief is random, based on the nonprofit's criteria, and cannot be requested.



## Heart Of Florida United Way Invests \$1 Million Toward Improving **Mental Well-Being**

United

**Heart of Florida United Way** 

Heart of Florida United Way (HFUW) is making a \$1 million commitment in response to the Orange County Government Mental & Behavioral Health System of Care Community Analysis report. The report was released to Orange County Commissioners on February 22.

According to the report, the length of time between when a person first experiences mental health symptoms and when they seek treatment is 11 years. Without medical knowledge, many people are left unaware that they could benefit from treatment. The stigma of mental health is frequently an additional barrier to seeking care. Additionally, data shows that one person dies by suicide every 11 minutes, and many more have suicidal tendencies.

"Orange County can't do this alone," said Mayor Jerry Demings. "We need the entire community- including businesses and foundations - to step up and join forces. As we discovered through the recent report, mental health awareness and access to resources for help was one of the many challenges outlined. I am thrilled Heart of Florida United Way has stepped up as the first response and sees the urgency in this matter. Now we need others to follow."

HFUW, which handles crisis and suicide calls through its 211 Information & Referral Crisis Line, will launch a tri-county culturally competent mental health campaign focused on breaking down the stigma of getting help, as well as a program to better equip community members to practice mental well-being.

"There is absolutely no time to waste," said Jeff Hayward, the president & CEO of Heart of Florida United Way. "Daily, we hear the need through the hundreds of residents who call the 211 Crisis Line for help. Upon facilitating the recent research for Orange County, it became even more evident that we have a role to play in contributing to this solution. 211 has been literally answering the call for 16 years in our community, helping to guide, de-escalate and connect."

Hayward continued, "We know there is a lot of misinformation and stigma around seeking mental health services, and even more so within cer-

tain cultures. By contributing \$1 million to launch a mental health awareness campaign, we hope to make this issue a more comfortable topic and help reduce the barriers of someone reaching out for help."

Whereas the mental health campaign will seek to destigmatize reaching out for help for mental illness, the training program aims at increasing mental wellness in our community. Just as doctors encourage eating healthy, staying active and routine check-ups, preventative mental well-being techniques are equally important. HFUW is exploring a training program, in collaboration with a licensed mental health professional, to "train the trainer" on techniques and tools to help people deal with stress, develop coping skills

and create stronger community support systems.

"United Way will take this training program into communities where we know resources are lacking across the tri-county area," said Hayward. "The Report outlined that people trust and feel connected to leaders from their community - their churches, their neighborhoods, their community centers. These trainings target grassroots community leaders to help normalize and effectively reach community members. By creating more people

Daily we hear the need through the hundreds of residents who call the 211 Crisis Line for help.

trained in making an environment that supports mental wellbeing, we will create a more aware and healthy Central Florida." HFUW's

**NEWS** 

funding for this initiative is from a historic \$20 million gift from philanthropist and author MacKenzie Scott. Her gift was the largest single gift HFUW

Continued on page 6



**Second Harvest Training Health** Care Workers To Identify And Address Food Insecurities In Patients

Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida is applying a \$300,000 grant from the Florida Blue Foundation to expand hunger relief efforts. Second Harvest will train local health care providers to screen patients

for risk factors that could indicate food insecurity, so they can be directed to community resources.



The funding will sup-

port a three-year collaborative "Screen and Intervene: Connecting Food Insecure Patients to Resources" initiative between Second Harvest and three partners: Alliance for Community Health, the University of Central Florida and the Georgia Health Policy Center.

"Affordable access to nutritious food is essential for good health. Because of the pandemic, Central Floridians who never relied on food assistance turned to Second Harvest for help providing nourishing meals to

From Page 1

emergency departments.

Additionally, the network expanded its value-based care partnerships with commercial payers including Aetna, Cigna, Florida Blue, and United Healthcare, and now cares for nearly 300,000 patients across Central Florida. Through these various value-based arrangements with its payer partners, the network covers roughly one in seven Greater Orlando residents.

Dr. George Ralls, senior vice president and chief medical officer at Orlando Health, underscored the importance of the latest results in helping to advance the healthcare system's mission. "The Orlando Health Network continues to be successful in reducing unnecessary costs, achieving better outcomes, and improving the patient's experience and well-being. We are thankful for our physicians, clinical teams, administrators and support staff whose hard work results in the highest distinctions for quality, which helps make Orlando Health a leading system," Dr. Ralls said.

For more information about Orlando Health Network and value-based contract performance, the Orlando Health Network 2021 Value Report can be accessed online at www.OrlandoHealthNetwork.com.





8 to 11:30 a.m.

- green partners & city folk
- sustainable giveaways
- kids' green activities
- FREE Kona Ice®
- cooking demonstrations
- digital scavenger hunt
- food, music & fun

FREE for all ages

urban forestry arbor day tree giveaway



complete schedule of events @ cityofwinterpark.org/ earthday







**NEWS** The Park Press | APRIL 2022

## **Annual Spring Cleanup For Winter Park Residents**

The City of Winter Park is pleased to provide its Annual Spring Cleanup so residents can discard of large items they no longer need. This event provides an extra pickup day to dispose of old furniture, broken appliances, and other bulky items. To take advantage of this convenient service, residents must place their items curbside after 5 p.m. on the evening prior to their second regularly-scheduled pickup day.

**Customer Location** 

**Assigned Pickup Day** 

North of Fairbanks/Aloma Avenue ...... Thursday, May 5, or Friday, May 6 South of Fairbanks/Aloma Avenue ...... Thursday, May 12, or Friday, May 13

#### **PLEASE NOTE:**

Household hazardous waste and yard waste are **NOT** included in the Spring Cleanup. For information regarding the city's upcoming Hazardous Waste Dropoff event on Saturday, **April 23, 8 a.m. to noon**, please access cityofwinterpark.org/sustainability.

If you live in an apartment, townhome, or condo that does not provide curbside service, please contact Waste Pro directly for a large item pickup (fees may apply). For more information regarding Winter Park's Annual Spring Cleanup, please contact Utility Billing Customer Service at 407-599-3220 or Waste Pro at 407-774-0800.

### Retired Educators To Meet

The Orange County Retired Educators Association will meet Thursday, April 7, 2022, at 10:30 a.m. at College Park United Methodist Church. Guest speaker, Dave Woods, will give a presentation about the Central Florida Inventors Council. Anyone who has worked in education is invited to attend. Masks are required and no food or drinks are allowed.

College Park United Methodist Church is located at located at 644 W. Princeton Street. Additional parking is on Harvard Street, across from Publix. Please visit http://www.ocreafl.org, or call 407-843-6909 for more information.



From Page 5

has ever received in the organization's 83-year history. "MacKenzie Scott is the new standard for philanthropists to follow," said Hayward. "We are grateful she selected us and now we want to make sure the dollars are used in a way that will transform lives and transform the most pressing health and human service issues for our residents. It is also our hope that other corporations and philanthropists step forward to generously give with us to ensure these dollars truly have the impact we want them to have. In order to live better, we must Live United."

HFUW will continue to invest in strategic partner agencies to fund support services immediately available to Central Floridians in need. Likewise, HFUW will continue to fundraise and run workplace giving campaigns in order to do this. It still needs the community's support for these various organizations and its own programs, like 211 Information & Referral Crisis Line.

Visit HFUW.org for more information about Heart of Florida United Way and to learn more about how to get involved. For partners interested in contributing to this work, contact LiveUnited@HFUW.org.

their families. But some in the community are still hesitant or may not realize the resources available to them," said Susan Towler, Florida Blue Foundation executive director. "Equipping health care providers with the tools to identify food insecurity and connect their patients to fresh food and needed groceries is critical to our mission of helping people and communities achieve better health."

Health and Hunger Task Force, which was developed and introduced by Second Harvest in 2016 to learn how the food bank can work alongside community health care organizations to measurably impact community health and nutrition.

"The goal is simple: to improve community health by using food as medicine," said Karen many chronic illnesses can be effectively managed through proper nutrition. This funding expands our ability to effectively collaborate with and educate additional health partners and continue fighting diet-related diseases in our community."

For more information about Second Harmmunities achieve better health."

Broussard, Chief Community Impact Offi- vest and how to help hunger relief efforts,
The program builds upon the work of the cer at Second Harvest. "Research shows that visit www.FeedHopeNow.org.





Pictured above at left: Volunteer holding bags of green beans. At right: Volunteers at Second Harvest sorting fresh produce to distribute. For more information, please visit www.FeedHopeNow.org.

## **Business Leader** John Crossman **Appointed To Orlando House Authority**



John Crossman, CEO of CrossMarc Services and Crossman Career Builders, was appointed to the Orlando Housing Authority (OHA) for a four-year

Mayor Buddy Dyer appointed Crossman to replace retiring former Florida House member Dick Batchelor, and the appointment was supported by Batchelor and fellow Commissioner Robert Stuart.

"It is a huge honor to be appointed by Mayor Dyer and to also receive the support of Commissioner Stuart and Dick Batchelor. I am grateful for their support and confidence in me," said Crossman.

Established in 1938, the OHA is an independent public corporation funded primarily by the United States Department of Urban Development (HUD) and governed by the seven-member Board of Commissioners appointed by the City's mayor.

The board meets monthly to address the issues involved in the OHA's mission to provide a variety of safe, sanitary, accessible, decent, and affordable housing to eligible citizens of the city of Orlando, while enhancing and promoting resident selfsufficiency.

## The Winter Park Playhouse Twentieth Anniversary Series

The Winter Park Playhouse's six-show anniversary series boasts some of the most popular productions from the past two decades of Playhouse professional musical theatre.

Founded in 2002, The Winter Park Playhouse is Central Florida's equity-affiliated professional musical theatre, known for its high artistic standards, welcoming atmosphere, and exceptional service. The Playhouse is proud to employ professional actors, musicians, and technicians and the theatre's 20th anniversary marks a milestone as a cornerstone cultural organization in the region.

Current subscriber renewals and new annual six-show 20th Anniversary Series subscriptions have begun, with "You Pick 3" mini-subscriptions and single tickets on sale starting April 19, 2022.

The Winter Park Playhouse will offer annual series subscribers a discount off of the established price and a special "Golden Ticket" for a choice of bar beverage to help toast the theatre's anniversary! A six-show Annual Series Subscription is priced at \$250 for evenings and \$235 for senior evenings (62) years and older), and \$220 for matinees, per person for all six musicals.

The "You Pick 3" Series is priced at \$135 for evenings, \$125 for senior evenings (62 years and older) and \$115 for matinees. Individually-priced tickets run from \$20 to \$46. The Playhouse Student Rush \$10@10 promotion offers students 25 years and younger a \$10 ticket 10 minutes before a performance, if seats are available.

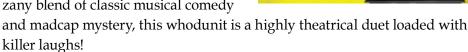
In an ongoing effort to serve the community, accommodate demand, and make their musicals accessible, The Playhouse offers two preview shows -one Thursday evening and one Friday matinee prior to opening night- at a reduced \$22 per ticket for all seats.

The show selections being produced by The Playhouse for the upcoming 20th Anniversary theatre season include:

#### **MURDER FOR TWO**

August 5 - 28, 2022 Book & Lyrics by Kellen Blair / Book & Music by Joe Kinosian

Join us for one of the most uproarious musical comedies to hit the stage! Two actors, 13 characters, one piano! A zany blend of classic musical comedy



#### SH-BOOM! LIFE COULD BE A DREAM September 23 - October 16, 2022 Written & Created by Roger Bean Musical Arrangements by Roger Bean & Jon Newton

Meet Denny and the Dreamers, a fledgling doo-wop singing group preparing to enter the Big Whooper

Radio contest to realize their dreams! The early 60's hits include "Fools Fall in Love," "Tears on my Pillow," "Runaround Sue," "Unchained Melody" and many more! Winner of the Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Best Musical.



or Two

STEPPIN' OUT WITH IRVING BERLIN November 11 - 20 & December 1 - 17, 2022

Music & Lyrics by Irving Berlin/ Conceived by Roy Alan Musical Arrangements by Christopher Leavy / Dialogue by Todd Allen Long

Celebrate the life and career of this

iconic American composer with this outstanding song and tap dance tribute! Featuring an assortment of well-loved classics including "White Christmas," "Blue Skies," "Puttin' on the Ritz," "Steppin' Out With My Baby" and more!



January 20 - February 18, 2023 By Dan Goggin

Hallelujah! This internationally acclaimed, side-splitting musical comedy is the original Off-Broadway musical Nunsense with a twist...all of the nuns are portrayed by men! When



Steppin' Out

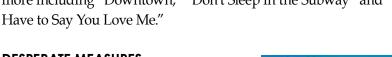
The Little Sisters of Hoboken Convent discover their cook, Sister Julia, Child of God, has accidentally poisoned 52 of the sisters, they decide to perform a variety show to raise funds for the burials!

#### SHOUT! THE MOD MUSICAL

March 17 - April 2 & April 13 - 22, 2023 Created by Philip George & David Lowenstein/Continuity by **Peter Morris** 

Journey back to 1960s London and the liberating days that made England swing! This smashing musical features

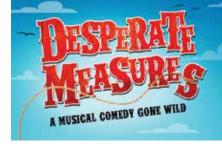
an irresistible score of hit music by Dusty Springfield, Petula Clark, Lulu and more including "Downtown," "Don't Sleep in the Subway" and "You Don't



#### **DESPERATE MEASURES**

May 12 - 21 & June 1 - 11, 2023 Book & Lyrics by Peter Kellogg/Music by David Friedman

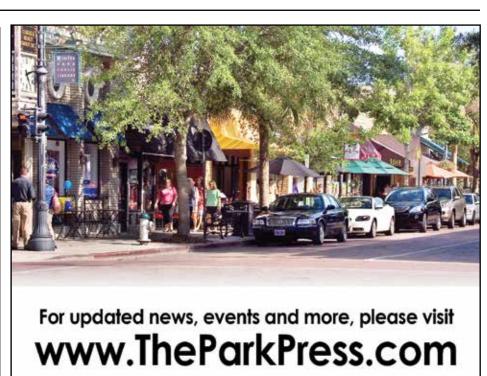
Inspired by Shakespeare's *Measure* for Measure, this hilarious, critically acclaimed Off-Broadway musical comedy was the winner of the 2018



Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle Awards! When the dangerously handsome Johnny Blood gets in trouble, can a crazy cast of characters including a wily sheriff, an eccentric priest, an authoritarian governor, a saloon girl gone good, and a nun out of the habit pull off the greatest caper yet, or will Johnny be left hanging?

For more information or to reserve tickets, please call The Winter Park Playhouse box office at 407-645-0145, or visit www.winterparkplayhouse.org.





**NEWS** The Park Press | APRIL 2022

## **CFCArts Spring Concerts**

Central Florida Community Arts' spring concert season was conceived as a "Travel Passport." The concerts aim to take patrons on a visual and musical journey.

The CFCArts Big Band invites patrons to Come Fly With Me in this tribute to the jazz of the golden age of travel. In a special Friday night double feature, the concert is opened by the Men's Ensemble with a throwback to boy band hits from the '60s through today with The Boys Are Back. The Young Artist's Orchestra takes patrons to Bright *Lights, Big Cities* in a musical tribute to the energy of the world's most exciting cities.

#### **SHOW & TICKET INFORMATION:**

#### Come Fly With Me

The CFCArts Big Band sweeps you off on a dashing adventure to see the world in style. Featuring great jazz standards and familiar hits in a tour of the most fashionable destinations with some of the most exciting music. A toetapping throwback to the golden age of travel with selections like "La Vie En Rose," "Fly Me to the Moon," "I Left My Heart in San Francisco," and of course, "Come Fly With Me."

Dates & Times: \*Friday, April 22, 7 p.m.; Sunday April 24 at 2 p.m. & 6 p.m.

**Venue:** Alexis & Jim Pugh Theater, Dr. Phillips



Center for the Performing Arts Tickets: starting at \$30 on Friday for Double Feature, \$20 on Sunday.

Tickets information cfcarts.com/events

\*Special Show! Double Feature — The Boys Are Back & Come Fly With Me Friday April 22, 7:00 p.m.

#### The Boys Are Back

The CFCArts Men's Ensemble is back and ready to bring you some chart-topping hits by the greatest boy bands of all time! Travel back in time as we take you through the evolution of music groups that brought us some of the most beloved and timeless popular songs of our generation. From the early music of the '60s and '70s, that gave us The Beach Boys, The Temptations, The Four Seasons, The Monkees, The Beatles, and The Jackson 5... to the music of the '80s and '90s that brought forth Boyz II Men, Hanson, Backstreet Boys, and \*NSYNC... to the 2000s and today, which introduced recent bands like One Direction, The Jonas Brothers, and K-pop's newest, worldwide sensation, BTS- this concert will be sure to have everyone out of their seats, dancing, singing along, and having a blast!

#### Bright Lights, Big City

Join the Young Artists Orchestra as they present Bright Lights, Big City - a musical blueprint of cities that have shaped the world through their culture, community, diversity, and beauty. We are proud to journey through each city and highlight stories of its people through the music that defines them. Don't miss this celebration of cities such as New Orleans, Vienna, New York City, Kyiv, and more!

**Date:** May 1, 2022 Time: 3 p.m.

**Location:** Cornerstone Charter Academy

**Tickets:** Starting at \$10

Tickets may be purchased online at cfcarts.org/

events

All performances are subject to change, including prices, show titles, content, cast, dates and times at any time without notice. CFCArts follows health and safety measures in a plan supported by Orlando Health. Updates are made based on the current CDC guidelines.

## Innovative Summer Youth Program Opens Applications

A new take on the teen summer job where they earn money by learning and planning their future career path? Yes, please!

Registration is now open for 2,000 Central Florida teens to participate in CareerSource Central Florida's annual Summer Youth Program, which rewards teens with financial incentives as they explore the region's various college experiences, training opportunities, and internships in multiple high-growth industries.

All participating students have the opportunity to earn a minimum of \$1,000 over the summer while they learn. Teens who live in Central Florida are eligible to apply if they meet the following requirements:

- Resident of Orange, Osceola, Lake, Seminole or Sumter County
- Able to work in the United States
- Valid and current identification

Enrollment is limited and awarded on a firstcome, first-served basis. Priority is given to students from economically-disadvantaged families

Over the last few years, the annual Summer Youth Program has helped more than 4,000 Central Florida high-schoolers learn about the region's high-growth industries and develop future career paths.

"There is no greater investment in our community than supporting a youth's path toward future success," said Mimi Coenen, who heads the program as the Chief Operations Officer of CareerSource Central Florida (CSCF). "Because this special program helps young adults reach their highest future potential, while still earning money for today, it's a unique alternative to the traditional teen summer job. We are investing in their future success, which also lifts that of our region."

As an added benefit for the community this year, CSCF is able to expand its reach by offering more scholarships to the program due to a new All-Star Sponsor, Walt Disney World Resort. Last year, the program served over 1,000 youth with an economic impact of \$1.2 million in Central Florida, and this year's goal is set at 2,000 participants. The Walt Disney World Resort's commitment to the program's success generates a long-term impact

> on the life of Central Florida young adults looking to explore and discover career paths this summer.

This year's Summer Youth Program offers three career-readiness tracks dedicated to exploring participants' interests and helping them to make informed decisions in the early stages of their career journeys.

• The Explore Track includes campus tours, classroom learning, and hands-on projects.



Students gain exposure to multiple career pathways in high-growth industries while participating in four -five weeks of classroom training and hands-on projects.

- The Experience Track provides students with a paid internship with local businesses for up to five weeks with a new wage of \$14/hr. Students receive training and mentorship from seasoned professionals and learn about team building, financial literacy, work readiness, and more.
- The Accelerate Track provides students with specialized training in various high-demand skills. Students receive exposure to certification programs in high-demand industries under the instruction of qualified professionals while earning stipends for industry certifications and technical milestones. This year's programs include culinary, healthcare construction, logistics, information technology, and coding.

"I would describe my experience in the program as eye opening," said student Sean P., who participated in the Experience track. "The job has made a great impact on me because it introduced me to a real-life working environment since it was my first job.

To apply, or learn more about CareerSource Central Florida's Summer Youth Program, visit CareerSourceCentralFlorida.com/SummerYouth



## **Murals Pay Homage To Hardworking Dairy Farmers**

Florida Dairy Farmers and T.G. Lee Dairy turned the façade of the Deland processing plant into a mural paying tribute to Florida dairy farmers and animals. Orlando residents will recognize it, as it is quite similar to the mural on our own TG Lee plant, for which the Milk District south of Highway 50 is named.

According to Meg Callahan, general manager for T.G. Lee Southeast Region, "For years we talked about doing something creative in this space. The acquisition of the facility by Dairy Farmers of America, coupled with the support of FDF, enabled us to finally transform our entire building into a marketing tool that helps us tell the story of the hard-working farmers that make our dairy products possible."

At more than 5,500 square feet, the iconic mural is the largest in Central Florida. "It really is a tribute to all of Florida's dairy farmers and a reminder



to residents that Florida's true foundation lies in agriculture," said Avery LeFils, senior manager of community relations for Florida Dairy Farmers. "We fully believe this will invoke a sense of pride in the community and build consumer appreciation for where our food comes from."

Dairy Farmers of America is a national, farmer-owned dairy marketing cooperative, which supports and serves more than 12,500 family farm-owners across the United States. DFA markets members' raw milk and manufactures a variety of dairy products, including fluid milk, cheese, butter ice cream and dairy ingredients that connect the Cooperative's family farms to family tables. Learn more at www.dfamilk.com.

T.G. Lee Dairy, established in 1925, is a farmer-owned brand of DFA. TG Lee has been providing families with fresh,

nutritious dairy products since 1925. Read their story at www.tgleedairy.com.

Florida Dairy Farmers represents the hardworking dairy farm families in Florida that produce more than 300 million gallons of milk each year. Learn more at www.floridamilk.com.

## Plan For Your Future During Financial Literacy Month Social Security District Manager, Orlando, FL

Financial Literacy Month is focused on educating people about the importance of planning for a secure financial future. Every April, we like to remind you that Social Security is a vital part of any financial plan. We have online tools to help you understand your potential Social Security benefits and how they fit into your financial future.

You should periodically review your Social Security Statement using your personal my Social Security account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount. Your Statement is an easy-to-read summary of the estimated benefits you and your family could receive, including potential retirement, disability, and survivors benefits.

Our Plan for Retirement tool in your personal my Social Security account allows you to check various benefit estimate scenarios. You can compare the effect different future earnings and retirement benefit start dates have on your future benefit amount.

Please let friends and family know they can take steps to improve their financial knowledge by signing in to their secure my Social Security account. If they don't have an account, they can easily create one at www.ssa.gov/myaccount.

## Rigoletto – Artist Spotlight

Opera Orlando presents Giuseppe Verdi's Rigoletto, the first opera ever performed in the newly-constructed, acoustically perfect Steinmetz Hall at the Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts. This tragic masterpiece tells





Kathleen Belcher

the story of a court jester caught in a snare of corruption, lust, and vengeance. This April production is led by Metropolitan Opera conductor Gregory Buchalter and directed by international stage director Kathleen Belcher, both making their Opera Orlando debuts.

"We are delighted to have the artistic talents of

Gregory and Kathleen together on our stage to create this new take on an operatic masterpiece for our Central Florida audiences," said Opera Orlando's general director Gabriel Preisser. "Their vision and direction, along with the tense, stirring story and beloved operatic score, are really going to thrill our audiences, and we couldn't ask for a better venue to finally call home."



Mr. Buchalter currently serves as cover conductor at the Metropolitan Opera, where the position of "Maestro di Banda" was created for him. He has worked extensively with the Metropolitan Opera Chorus and has been chorus master at the Met for several productions. He has also prepared several world premieres at the Met, including John Harbison's *The Great Gatsby*, in which Mr. Buchalter also performed the on-stage role of the jazz band conductor.

In addition to his work with the baton, Mr. Buchalter is an accomplished lecturer, and he was just named music director of Varna International.

A storytelling virtuoso, stage director Kathleen Belcher weaves the intricacies of the trouble-making jester Rigoletto and his conflict with the Duke in brilliant fashion. A 20-year veteran of the Metropolitan Opera directing staff, she has collaborated on numerous "Live in HD" broadcasts, and most recently she directed a well-received La Bohème for the Portland Opera, an acclaimed Così fan Tutte for Sarasota Opera, and Rigoletto at Florida Grand Opera.

The New York Times praised Ms. Belcher's recent Metropolitan Opera revival direction of Bartlett Sherr's The Barber of Seville as "a pitch-perfect interpretation of the dazzling display and abundant wit in Rossini's work." Her direction of the highly-acclaimed production of Madama Butterfly for the San Francisco Opera was hailed as "exceptional, giving the audience a number of indelible moments" (San Francisco Classical Voice) and "studded with imaginative and telling details" (San Francisco Chronicle).

Maestro Gregory Buchalter and director Kathleen Belcher bring Rigoletto to the stage Friday, April 22 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, April 24 at 2 p.m with the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra, the Opera Orlando Chorus, and dancers from Orlando Ballet.

Safety continues to be Opera Orlando's first priority in the presentation of its 2021-22 season. The Company continues its consultation with its health partners and venues to implement an appropriate and comprehensive plan to protect and reduce the risk of infection for audience members, cast and production teams, staff, and volunteers. Dr. Philips Center, the venue for *Rigoletto*, has updated its mask policy, found here: https://www. DrPhillipsCenter.org/Explore/Health-Safety-Updates/?website-top-banner.

Tickets for *Rigoletto* are available through the Dr. Phillips Center's Bill & Mary Darden Box Office (445 S. Magnolia Avenue, Orlando), online at www. DrPhillipsCenter.org, or by calling (407) 839-0119, ext. 0. Follow and like the Opera Opera's Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter account, and stay up to date with Opera's season online at www.OperaOrlando.org. See YOU at the Opera!

The 2021-22 season sponsors and partners: The Ginsburg Family Foundation, Sundance Printing, Managed Services Group, Walt Disney World resorts, Dr. Phillips Charities, Winter Park Wine, Audrey & John Ruggieri, Krista & Jonathan Ledden, Susan & J. Laurence Costin.

## pop culture detours by George McGowan

## A Multi-talented Musician Was Taken From Us Way Too Soon

Way back in 1972 or 1973 in the town of Piscataway, New Jersey, a young music lover encountered an album cover that simply demanded his attention. It was by the stereo of his older brother, a mysterious creature who had already reached adulthood and was often away from home or too busy to interact with a little brother. But luckily, his stereo was fair game, as was his record collection. This album, "They Only Come Out At Night," was by something called the Edgar Winter Group. The album cover was unmistakable and scary and interesting. My brother has no memory of when or where he picked up that album, but I remember listening to it, especially a song called "Frankenstein" that did not sound like anything else I had ever heard. But I want to point you to another song on that album, which was sung by the bassist in that band. That song, "Free Ride," was a top-15 hit in 1973, and became a regular on rock radio to this day.

I encountered this song when I re-discovered the album recently. When I return to an old album, I tend to Google the album name to read about its history – using the internet to re-create the information you would have found in the album's liner notes. (Remember them?!) Anyway, "Free Ride" was written by a name familiar to me - Dan Hartman. As I read more, I learned that Dan was the bassist of the Edgar Winter Group! And wrote many of the band's songs!

Why is this noteworthy? Well, Dan Hartman

wrote and sang another song called "I Can Dream About You" that was first found on an obscure 1984 movie soundtrack. The song was used in the movie and performed by a fictional band who had distinctive and eye-catching choreography to the tune, all of which became a feature of a music video that blew up on the fledgling cable network MTV. Most people who saw the video just assumed that the band performing the song in the video were the actual musicians who created this boppin' new song. But alas, it was Dan Hartman, who also created a video of the song- which you can find on You



Dan Hartman, 1963-1994.

Tube- and which was aired much, much less on MTV. I didn't recognize it, and I spent a lot of my time during college watching that station! Why "alas"? Because he spent years trying to correct the general confusion about just who sings it, and get his recognition for the hit, to no avail. He spoke in interviews of how frustrated he was.

So, after making this musical connection, off I went - to research who exactly this Dan Hartman was and how on earth did he write two huge hits in two different genres of music just about 10 years apart?! Did he make other music? Was he in another band that I would recognize? Did he write other good music for other artists? Well, Hartman worked all his life in the music world, producing, writing, and performing. He collaborated with some pretty well-known musicians, including Stevie Wonder, Steve Winwood, Tina Turner, and JAMES BROWN! He had a #1 dance track in 1978 - "Instant Replay" which once you listen to it, and if you were also alive and listening to a radio in 1978, you will absolutely recognize!

Great musicians who can write, play, or produce in any genre are just amazing. Dan Hartman was one of these incredible artists. Sadly, he was taken from us too soon. He died from an AIDS-related brain tumor in 1994. Hartman never married, and stayed closeted all of his life, which makes me very sad. I wish he were still alive to see how his music lives on, at least for me. And now perhaps also for you.

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

Change Is Inevitable. Growth Is Optional. "Change is inevitable.

Growth is optional."

John Maxwell

Well, isn't that the truth?

As I sit here, we're doing the butterfly stroke through turbulent mid-life-madness waters.

We're selling a home, buying a home, cleaning/ purging/packing, and we're waist-deep in

immersive experiences of the familial kind.

Our twelve-year-old's brain has been hijacked by hormones. (Anyone who's been there needs no more explanation.) Our sixteenyear-old is anxiously navigating the SAT, college tours and the price of gas. And our 'threenager' needs a new preschool that can both meet her thirst for knowledge and can attune to her sensitive heart, as she cries piteously when someone else is getting in trouble

because... she's "worried for them."

All of this amid two careers, a marriage, a friendship, and trying to maintain identities and a recognizable self in the mirror. Things just keep happening! I told my husband that sometimes I imagine the luxury of being able to choose a day to stay in bed all morning, luxuriating in hot (uninterrupted) coffee and age-old rom-coms. He laughed at me, said it didn't appeal to him and

then looked at me with an expression that said, "Sure, that sounds good for you... in about 15 years."

Life moves at breakneck speed and change is a daily occurrence. Most of the time it feels like a win just to keep up with it. But yet, is that really enough? We tell our kids all the time, mistakes happen, you can't always know what to do but taking responsibility is a requirement and

..The forced pace doesn't preclude growth. It is optional, I realize.

growing from it is the only option.

So are we growing? Or existing? Or being dragged behind the life bus...

This is not a 'you're not doing enough' kind of article. To the contrary, I tip my hat to you for even just taking the time to read it. But it is an acknowledgement that sometimes it feels like an accomplishment to keep up. And sometimes we are called to do more. If right now is one of

those times where your bandwidth allows for a reflection on what it would mean to do more and to grow and actualize and attempt an image of what aspirational living may be... do it. Go forth now. There will never be a perfect time when nothing is happening and you're so full of energy that you're just looking for a new project. Life will always feel as though it's forcing your pace. But many times... maybe even much of the time, the

> forced pace doesn't preclude growth.

It is optional, I realize. The alternative just isn't much of an option in my opinion.

So where in your life can you spot an obvious call to growth? Time to quit that old bad habit? Time to get your health in check? Time to have the hard conversation with your spouse? Time to sign up for that class? Time to make a move toward promotion? Time to close a chapter in a profession, a relationship or a

home? Change is happening all around us. Every minute. If we're not growing, we're dying. So what will your growth be?

Optional or otherwise, it's time. You can do this.

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

Apparently,

defying grav-

## in the garden by Stephen and Kristin Pategas



## Suspension...In The Garden

ity is inspiring

ing. Suspension bridges inspire, rockets thrill, and hot air balloons give a lift to our spirits. For us it was seeing the extensive work of Louis Comfort Tiffany as displayed at the Morse Museum of American Art in Winter Park, FL. An image of his studio in his New York City home and the images and recreation of his dining room at

Laurelton Hall in Oyster Bay, Long

allowed Tiffany to hang ornaments

Island vividly show how high ceilings

and lamps to great effect. While objets d'art are normally placed on surfaces, these soar and cause the eyes to rise. The exhibits inspired us to find other examples in gardens we visit and to look for ways to place ornaments at eye level and above in our garden and the ones we design.

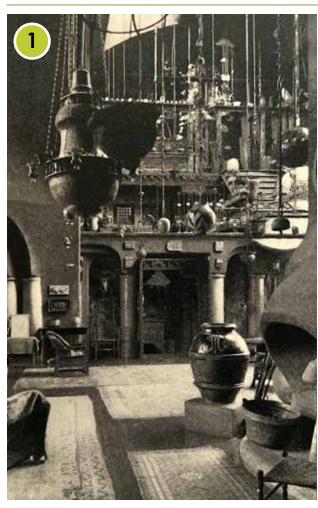
Houses, pergolas, and other structures offer many opportunities with eaves, overhangs, overhead beams, and ceilings ready to aid in suspension. Extending brackets attached to vertical surfaces, and cables strung between poles, create additional options. While cables and ropes can be

used for hanging, we prefer metal chains which are durable, available in many styles and sizes. Their links allow numerous height adjustments with the opportunity to hang multiple ornaments from the same chain. In our Garden Room our collection of vintage watering cans could not fit on a shelf but suspended from a chain they attract even more attention. For safety and aesthetics, size the chains to match the weight and size of the objects to suspend.

There are a surprising number of objects that can be suspended - lamps, flowering baskets, chandeliers, bells,

gongs, rain chains, ornaments... When using multiple chains, stagger the heights of the objects, paying attention to the negative space between them. When hanging items from trees, do not penetrate the bark and provide a soft material, such as a hose, over chains touching branches. Make sure attachments are solid, chains are of adequate size, and remove or secure items if severe weather threatens.

Be inspired about suspension and many other things at the Morse Museum of American Art – https:// www.morsemuseum.org/. May your garden defy gravity.



- 1. The Tiffany studio at his 72nd St. NYC house circa 1900.
- **2.** A unique planter with a trailing succulent in a Seattle private garden.
- 3. Bronze wind bells by Paolo Soleri in the Missouri Botanic Garden.
- 4. A graceful rain chain in a garden we designed.
- Cady's Falls Nursery in Morrisville, Vermont has many vintage rustic ornaments.
- 6. Suspension at Hortus Oasis.











Hortus Oasis (FL0001090) 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.





## protection and service by Jim Whitman, Winter Park Police Department

## A Lesson For Us All

Those of you who drive through the City of Winter Park on a regular basis may be familiar with the bridge known as the Flamingo Bridge. It is that small "closed spandrel" bridge located on Palmer Avenue just west of Alabama Drive at the bottom of the hill, and is adorned with painted depictions of flamingos. The bridge spans the Venetian-style canal that connects Lake Maitland to Lake Osceola, however, that bridge is not the first bridge on that site. You see, the current bridge was built by the Luten Corporation in 1924 after a terrible accident that many of our former residents would choose to forget.

Allow me to provide you with a brief Winter Park history lesson in order to clarify a few things. In 1882 Francis B. Knowles built a home on the shores of Lake Osceola to serve as a winter resort to attract winter visitors. That home still stands today and you may have passed it on Interlachen Avenue. It was named Osceola Lodge in 1904 when Charles Hosmer Morse purchased it. Mr. Morse and his wife at the time, Mrs. Helen Pifford Morse, moved into the home on a permanent basis in 1915. Mrs. Morse loved the idea of Florida and everything associated with it. Five years after moving into the home, the Morses decided to hold a large affair on their front lawn that led (and still does, on the other side of Interlachen Avenue) down to Lake Osceola. In order to make the affair as "Florida" as possible for all of their northern friends who were coming down, Mrs. Morse decided to have their lawn adorned with the most "Floridian" bird of all, the flamingo.

Fortunately for Mrs. Morse there was an aviary located on the north shore of Lake Maitland, owned by a Czechoslovakian man named Igot Chuagin. The Chuagin Aviary specialized in exotic birds and had exactly what Mrs. Morse was looking for. The morning of the scheduled event, Chuagin loaded a small boat with a flamboyance (who knew that was the name for a group of flamingos?) and started across Lake Maitland to the canal. At that time, a gentleman named John Hakes had quite the lucrative fruit business in the northern part of the City. His claim to fame was that he developed the Temple orange variety here in America and he had a substantial grove. He had quite the armada of workers and on this particular day, they loaded a wagon full of fruit and began the trek to the west side of Winter Park (where the packing houses were located) to have the fruit loaded on northbound train cars to sell out-of-state.

The bridge at that time was just a haphazardly-constructed bridge made of old logs that had been cut in the area. Unfortunately, that wagon (which had been overloaded with citrus) reached the bridge at the same time the boat with the flamingos was floating beneath it. As luck would have it, the bridge collapsedcausing the wagon to fall below and crush the boat and all of the feathered occupants. Needless to say, the affair being held on the lawn of the Osceola Lodge went on without flamingos welcoming the guests. A temporary bridge was built until the City contracted with the Luten Corporation in 1924 to build the current bridge you see today. As an homage to the loss of the flamingos in the incident, the bridge was adorned with images of the tropical birds and has ever since been known as Flamingo Bridge. On a side note, the Morses purchased several peacocks and peahens from the Chuagin Aviary to try and compensate him for his losses, and those birds were set loose in Winter Park for all to enjoy.

If you enjoyed this bit of Winter Park history, please feel free to send me some pre-paid iTunes gift cards, Amazon gift cards, or you can Venmo some cash for my book called, "Yup, You Fell For It," a completely made-up story about Winter Park!

April Fools! As you can see, anyone can fall victim to a good scam, especially on the web. As always, beware of things that you are not familiar with. Often times scammers will mix in a little truth to make stories sound plausible, so always "take a step back" and look carefully. In this case my aviary owner's name, when separated, will give you a clue.

Don't be anybody's fool this year and as always, Stay Safe!

## schools



## Winter Park Presbyterian PreSchool

Our enrichment program offers opportunities for extra fun and learning after the regular school day has ended. Following is a peek into a recent Gifts of Nature after-school enrichment class lesson.

Cognitive scientists say that seeing faces in trees correlates to creativity. This class showed off their creative minds not only by making faces on the trees, but also unicorns and a dragon! Using slippery smooth clay to make the face and body, the children then searched for gifts of nature to use as eyes, noses, hair, and horns for their creations. And if you get the feeling you're being watched at car circle, be sure to look out for the "faces on the trees!"

Registration for the 2022-2023 school year is now open, and a few spots may still be available. Please call us at 407-629-0727 to check availability for your child.



At left: the face on the tree is complete, tonque lolling left. and he chose to add a body to his creation. At right: this WPPP student used mulch for eyes and a long leaf for the tongue on the face he is making. Below: VPK students are pressing clay into trees as the base for the faces they are about to create.



