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OSCEOLA NEWS-GAZETTE

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FEBRUARY 23, 2013

Animal Services



New Animal Service director has passion for pets

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Police news

14 burglaries cleared with arrest

Osceola County Sheriff's Office officials said they have cleared 14 burglary cases after the arrest of an Orlando man.

Sheriff's detectives with the assistance of the Orlando Police Department arrested Daniel Joseph Foote, 30, and charged him with burglary and grand theft.

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Question of the week

What grade would you give Armando Ramirez since he took over as clerk of court?

- A
- B
- C
- D

Vote at www.aroundosceola.com

Results from the Feb. 16 Question of the week:

Where did you meet your valentine?

- School - 85.4%
- Work - 7%
- Other - 5.9%
- Through friends - 1.6%
- Internet - 0%

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White House awards Osceola Corrections officer with Public Safety Medal of Valor

By Fallan Patterson
Staff Writer

Osceola County Corrections Officer Reeshamah Taylor defused a possible deadly situation in 2009, when she disarmed an inmate who had stolen another officer's gun.

Her actions hadn't gone unnoticed locally and Tuesday she was given the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor at the White House by Vice President Joe Biden and Attorney General Eric Holder.

"I am deeply honored," said Taylor. "Never in my wildest dreams did I ever think that I would be one of the recipients. I am very honored and blessed. I hope to represent Osceola County Corrections well."

The award, which was authorized by the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Act of 2001, is the highest national award for valor by a public safety officer. The medal is awarded to public safety officers who have exhibited exceptional courage, regardless of personal safety, in the attempt to save or protect human life.

"This year's Medal of Valor recipients have fearlessly responded to desperate cries for help - courageously risking their own lives to secure innocent victims, protect fellow officers, and end deadly assaults," said Attorney General Eric Holder. "These extraordinary public servants have distinguished themselves by going above and beyond the call of duty. And today, I am honored to join Vice President Biden in bestowing one of our nation's most pres-

See Award, page A-5



White House Photo/David Lienemann
Vice President Joe Biden, center, congratulates Osceola County Corrections Department Officer Reeshamah Taylor after presenting her with the Medal of Valor during a ceremony with Attorney General Eric Holder in the South Court Auditorium at the White House on Wednesday.

St. Cloud shooter might serve just 8 years in plea deal

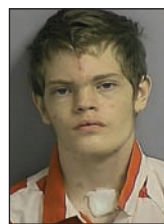
By Fallan Patterson
Staff Writer

When David Penney faces a judge in April to learn his fate for attacking a St. Cloud neighborhood with assault rifles and injuring two police officers, he may be sentenced to as little as eight years.

Orange-Osceola State Attorney Jeff Ashton, who took office in January, defended Assistant State Attorney Sarah Freeman's bargaining with Penney's defense attorney, which dropped the charges with mandatory prison time

including at least two life sentences under Florida's 10-20-Life statute.

The statute states anyone convicted of carrying a gun receives a minimum of 10 years; any person convicted of firing a gun during a crime receives a minimum of 20 years and someone convicted of shooting a victim, whether they survive or not, to be sentenced to life in prison.



Penney

Penney, who once faced more than 20 charges, is now facing one count each of attempted first-degree murder with a firearm, aggravated battery causing great bodily harm with a deadly weapon and aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

Penney will be sentenced April 19.

"While there is little

See Shooter page A-2



Ashton

School news

Financial aid help offered to seniors

College-bound high school seniors in Osceola County can receive valuable assistance in securing financial aid this weekend at the Technical Education Center Osceola in Kissimmee.

The sixth annual College Goal Sunday, provided by a partnership of the Osceola Counseling Association and Osceola School District, will be Sunday at TECO (501 Simpson Road) from 1 to 4 p.m. College Goal Sunday is a national initiative to help thousands of students get the financial aid they need to go to college or trade school.

During the one-day event, students and families will receive expert help filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), the federal government's official paperwork for calculating need-based financial aid, and the official document used by every college and university to determine eligibility for federal student aid. The form must be completed by students and parents each year to apply for all types of federal, state, or college-sponsored financial aid, including grants, some scholarships, educational loans, and work programs.

To fully complete the FAFSA, students and their parents or guardians will need to furnish their 2012 IRS tax returns and W-2 statements, records for untaxed benefits such as Social Security benefits, temporary assistance to needy families, welfare, or Veteran's benefits, a recent bank

See School, page A-5

Remembering Ayden



News-Gazette Photo/Andrew Sullivan

Family and friends gathered on Tuesday to remember the life of Ayden Perry, the St. Cloud infant killed by his father, Larry Perry, on Feb. 13. Ayden, who was born Nov. 21, was remembered with a lighting of candles and a release of balloons. St. Cloud police representatives helped set up the event.

New Animal Services director has passion for pets

By Ken Jackson
Staff Writer

Osceola County's new Director of Animal Services comes from various positions in state government and the private sector.

But, personally and professionally, Kim Staton comes from a position that centers on the welfare of animals.

Staton comes to the county after serving as the Southeast Regional Coordinator for the Humane Society of the United States before taking over the Osceola County Animal Control department's leadership at the end of 2012.

She began work early to make a difference in the department and, most importantly, the lives of the animals it is working to rehabilitate and find homes for.

County commissioners approved a resolution on Feb. 11 that allows a reduction or waiver of adoption fees, giving the department some flexibility to adjust to times of heavier intake or to help promote adoptions during special events. Variable adoption rates were offered during the weekend following Valentine's Day, with some rates slashed nearly in half.

The Humane Society in

advance of a national competition puts this on for the prevention of cruelty to animals. The county will take part among 50 other shelters nationwide in the ASPCA's \$100,000 Challenge, a

contest to see which office can achieve the highest live release rate by sending animals to homes from June through August.

The county's participation in the event makes it available

for ASPCA grant funds.

"We'll need the community's involvement to make this happen," Staton said to the County Commission last month, noting that a publicity and marketing campaign will likely be necessary to post a high showing in the contest.

Commission Chairman Frank Attkisson said moves like these show that Staton already is leading the department in a new direction.

"I am absolutely thrilled that Osceola County is part of this year's competition," he said. "It will be exciting as we enlist the support and involvement of our community, friends and neighbors to help Animal Services help the animals. This is a very progressive first step."

Staton said she wasn't drawn to this line of work as a career as much as she was drawn to helping animals.

"My love for animals led me to this," she said. "I am one of the few lucky people who have had the good fortune to live their passion. I cannot imagine having a job that didn't somehow involve animals."

Her work has taken her



Photo/Osceola County

Kim Staton is the new director of Osceola County Animal Services.

See Director, page A-5

Shooter

Continued from Page A-1

doubt the state could prove the facts alleged, the defendant is now facing definite prison time without the necessity of an extensive trial," Ashton said. "We strongly believe the public interest is best served by ensuring Mr. Penney is sent to the Department of Corrections without an extensive trial focusing on his mental capacity."

The bargain was due to unreleased evidence that showed Penney's mental state played a role in the event. Defense attorneys entered an insanity plea in January that specifically mentioned Penney's Autism diagnosis was at the root of his crimes.

Penney was 18 in November of 2011, when he suited up in a tactical vest and fired two AK-47 assault rifles into a home on Alabama Avenue in St. Cloud at 2 a.m. and injured two St. Cloud Police officers who responded to the shooting. Penney fired nearly 100 rounds.

Officer Clinton Wise, a three-year veteran, was shot in the foot after returning fire and Officer Spencer Endsley, then a recent graduate of the police academy, who had only been on the job three weeks, suffered injuries to his eyes, face and hands due to shattered glass on the pair's patrol car.

Penney told police he wanted to die after he attempted suicide at the scene by firing an AK-47 under his chin, police reports show. He suffered non-life threatening injuries.

Under a plea agreement with the Orange-Osceola County State Attorney's Office, Penney faces a minimum of eight years and a maximum of 55, to be determined in April by Ninth

Judicial Circuit Court Judge Jon B. Morgan.

"We have great faith in Judge Morgan that he will do the right thing in this case," Ashton said.

Prosecutors plan to recommend a prison term at sentencing and Ashton said he "fully expects" Penney's victims to testify during the hearing.

Ashton also addressed reports claiming Wise and Endsley were left out of the plea bargaining process, stating the victims were consulted throughout the plea discussions and understood the terms were in their and the public's best interest.

St. Cloud Police Chief Pete Gauntlett is "cautious but hopeful" Penney will receive the maximum sentence from Morgan and wants the judge to be mindful of the brutality of Penney's crime.

"I understand the state attorney's dilemma here. He has a mental health issue here," he said, reminded of another notorious case where suspect Steve Bronson was found mentally incapable of standing trial for the murder of St. Cloud pastor's wife Norma Page in 1979.

"We're a little hypersensitive to the mental health issue," Gauntlett said.

Gauntlett plans to testify and expects a "packed room" in the courthouse that day as victims and their supporters come to persuade the judge.

"This was one of the most violent crimes in recent Central Florida History," he said. "We're hopeful Morgan will impose a very harsh sentence."

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Puppet master



News-Gazette Photo/Andrew Sullivan

Ventriloquist comedian Jeff Dunham returned to Kissimmee and the Silver Spurs Arena Thursday night, packing thousands into the venue. Dunham, who is known for his stand-up specials on the Comedy Central television network, last brought his puppet show to the venue in 2008.

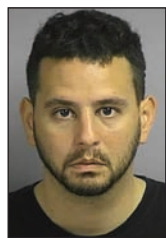
14 burglaries cleared with arrest

Police news

Osceola County Sheriff's Office officials said they have cleared 14 burglary cases after the arrest of an Orlando man.

On Wednesday at approximately 10:55 p.m., Osceola County Sheriff's detectives with the assistance of the Orlando Police Department arrested Daniel Joseph Foote, 30, and charged him with burglary and grand theft.

Foote, a registered felon,



Foote

was identified as a suspect in several motel burglaries in Osceola County, which led deputies with the Tourist Policing Unit to conduct an undercover operation.

Deputies observed Foote enter the Metropolitan Express Motel at 6323 International Drive in Orlando.

According to Sheriff's Office reports, Foote left a room with

two suitcases and went back into the room and exited with two more suitcases before leaving the area. Deputies conducted a traffic stop and placed Foote into custody. Foote cooperated with the investigation and based on his statements and the evidence, he was arrested and booked into the Orange County Jail. Detectives have evidence that links him to 14 burglaries in Osceola County.

The investigation is ongoing with additional charges pending for four of those burglaries.

Correction

In the Feb. 21 News-Gazette article "Former Osceola County clerk of court blasts current administration over misinformation," the story states that Milly Ramirez, the wife of Osceola County Clerk of Court Armando Ramirez, has a computer in her office. That information was incorrect. There is no computer in her office.

Are You Good-Hearted?



February is American Heart Month, a good time to think about the steps you can take to decrease your risk of developing heart disease.

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OSCEOLA NEWS-GAZETTE

OPINION

Our View

Showcasing Osceola's finest

This week, we were reminded that Osceola County has some of the best public safety employees in the nation.

Osceola County Corrections Officer Reeshemah Taylor was awarded the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor at the White House on Wednesday for a 2009 incident in which she took down a dangerous inmate who was holding another officer hostage. The Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor is the highest national award for valor by a public safety officer. It's awarded to public safety officers who have exhibited exceptional courage, regardless of personal safety, in the attempt to save or protect human life. We heartily thank Officer Taylor for not only performing her job to the fullest, but also showing the U.S. that Osceola County has the best of the best.

It was on June 22, 2009, when Taylor was assigned to the Medical Unit of the Osceola County Jail. While performing her duties, Taylor was confronted by a high-risk inmate who had taken one officer hostage and changed into that officer's uniform. The inmate placed a fully loaded 9mm semi-automatic handgun to Taylor's head as she walked into the room where the inmate and the captive officer were located. This inmate had a history of violent felony charges and was already serving three consecutive life sentences with no possibility of parole. The inmate was being held at the Osceola County Jail pending trial for a violent armed robbery.

According to investigators, there was no doubt that this inmate would have used the firearm to escape. He was prepared to shoot anyone who might attempt to avert him from his plan, as he felt he had nothing to lose and did not want to return to prison.

During Taylor's confrontation with the inmate, a struggle took place for the weapon. While the weapon was pointed at Taylor, she immediately grabbed the gun with both hands, diverting it from her direction, and delivered a knee to the inmate's groin. The inmate dropped to the floor, dislodging the weapon from his hand. Taylor placed herself on top of the inmate, with one arm around his head to fashion a headlock, and her legs scissoring his lower body, to keep him on the floor and away from the gun.

She successfully subdued this inmate through sheer determination, instincts, will and courage. Congratulations, Officer Taylor.

Got a gripe?

Submit letters to the editor to Osceola News-Gazette, 108 Church St., Kissimmee, FL 34741. If you wish to fax your letter to the newspaper, the number is 407-846-8516. Email letters to news@osceolanewsgazette.com.

No more than one letter per writer will be published each month. An individual will be allowed to submit one letter of rebuttal if he or an organization he represents is the subject of a letter to the editor.

All letters should be no more than 500 words and should include the name, address and daytime phone number of the writer for verification purposes. The News-Gazette will not publish the writer's phone number.

Letters to the editor are published on Thursdays and Saturdays. They also may be published in other Florida Sun Publications, including on the News-Gazette website. If you have any questions about letters to the editor or the Opinion page, contact Editor Brian McBride at 321-402-0436. Email at bmcbride@osceolanewsgazette.com.

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Your view

Bring you own device

To the Editor:

The Osceola School District is working feverishly to make sure all our high schools will have the digital infrastructure in place for students to bring and use their tablet computers, laptops, etc., for the 2013-14 School year. There is nothing of greater significance that we can do right now to improve public education in Osceola County public schools.

While many schools are not ready for students to bring and use their own devices, Osceola High School is ready and has rolled the program out to students. Parents need to sign a permission form to allow their student to bring and use their own devices on the district's guest access network complete with firewalls for the safety, and security of our students.

Later this month, St. Cloud High School will be the next high school to offer up the guest access network for students to bring their own devices to use in the classroom. As both OHS & SCHS were re-built, the data infrastructure upgrade was also part of those rebuilds and are ready to go for students.

I encourage all parents and students to take full advantage of the "bring your own device" (BYOD) program. If you know any parents with students at either OHS or SCHS, talk to them about getting their student signed up for the BYOD program.

Students who have the technology and get signed up for this program will be better able to keep pace with the global marketplace as they prepare for life beyond high school. For families who may not have a smart phone, laptop, or tablet computer, please consider acquiring one. Understand that there are modestly priced models available at local retailers.

The wait is over, the future is here. Help us help you by signing up and using personal data devices in school. Unlike books, these devices can also take picture of assignments, and help manage time with their calendars. Plus students can and should download content and take notes on their devices. The nice thing about using electronic devices is that a student can take thousands of pages of notes and never misplace or lose a piece of paper, plus the device will not get thicker and heavier with a volume of notes.

Jay Wheeler
Chairman/Osceola County
School Board

Disagrees with columnist

Henry Kelley

To the editor:

To what purpose does a viewpoint from Mr. Kelley take up valuable space in the pages of your newspaper with a rant of his sanctimonious monopoly on principles as if only the Tea Party is in possession of an honest approach to governing?

By calling everyone an "idiot" including the Tea Party "idiot amateurs" he shows more interest in name calling than explaining why anyone thoughtful and caring would support his cause. To hurt people who can least afford it is no economic plan to solve our problems, it's a selfish approach, cowardly enacted.

The majority of Americans see what happened in 2010. Tea Party candidates said one thing to get elected and when they got in they started doing very destructive things to citizens who are not able to fight back these things that were never talked about in the run-up. What "principles" make people believe that every man for himself is a good Christian policy? Hopefully most of the people will not be fooled again by empty promises of easy fixes to complicated problems.

To cut, slash and burn all those who cannot defend themselves reeks of a corporate mentality that puts money before people and is the essence of division. It's a fact that the federal government has gotten smaller under the Obama administration and yet people like Kelley keep saying the opposite. Carl Rove understands you can't let the public know

what your real motivations are and expect to get elected. The Tea Party has been exposed for what it really is and as a result is being shown the exit.

Jerry Mobley
St. Cloud

Kelley is 'ignorant'

To the Editor:

In response to Mr. Tea Party, Henry Kelley, I would like to comment on his childish and verbal attack against those that are concerned for all residents of our country and especially those in the state of Florida. Filled with lies and misinformation is one reason they are turning off those true Republicans who would rather do what is right for those that voted them in office. Why Mr. Kelley thinks bragging about getting Rick Scott in Tallahassee is a good thing only proves how shallow and ignorant his mindset is. So according to Mr. Kelley, the Tea Party is now upset with Rick Scott because Rick Scott is using the Tea Party mentality of, 'whatever it takes to get into office.' It worked for him in 2010 and I guess Rick thinks it will work again. How pathetic when the Tea Party starts complaining when one of their own plays the manipulation game that they endorsed the first time around.

Mr. Kelley, I will refrain from calling you and your party idiots as you have chosen to call those who voted for President Obama, but I will call you ignorant. Ignorant to the fact that people wised up after 2010 and the more people like you who open your mouth will only convince those that once thought that voting for the Republican/Teabagger was a good idea, now know it was a big mistake. Most of us knew Rick Scott was a disaster before he took over Tallahassee and now he has proven it to those that voted for him. Anyone who would consider voting for this man again definitely has issues with understanding the difference between what is right and fair and that which is control and dictatorial.

The only way 'your people' have gotten into office was on the coattail of the Republican Party. Throw in a few lies, hate and fear and you got it covered. Your party counts on those that have no clue, don't bother to keep up with facts and think because they are 'more' American will step in like to the ranting of the Teabagger mentality.

Those like me who have a brain to think with, actually thank you and your kind. You have brought forward or should I say 'in your face' the truth of whom and what your kind is really about. You talk about less government, but have no problem creating your own government. You talk about spending fewer taxes, but complain because the money is not there to run this country. You talk about your rights, but choose to interpret the Constitution to fit your personal needs. It is one thing to disagree with President Obama, as some of us 'liberals' do, but you are disrespectful in your attack.

You can call yourself whatever, but contrary to what you say, the name is dying along with your principals. Your principals of disruption, antiquated mentality, abusive disrespect, lying, manipulating, and false boosting has already been sent through that open door being held open by the rational people of this great country.

Rosemary Zuba
Kissimmee

Don't ban red light cameras

To the Editor:

First of all there is no fine if you don't run a red-light. It's the law and always has been. Should we just keep letting drivers run red-lights until someone gets injured or killed?

We do have some idiots as our legislators. One of the bills sponsor's, Rep. Daphne Campbell, D-Miami, motive for the ban on red-light running; her husband has been ticketed five times for running red-lights. How nice!

The legislators passed the bill in 2010 approving red-light cameras, now this is the second attempt to ban the bill; again these are some idiots posing as legislators.

Once again if they save one life they served their purpose.

Jerry Gemske
Kissimmee

Their view

Rush to the defense? Not so fast

Dear David from Georgia:
I want to thank you for the email you sent last week. It made me laugh out loud.

It seems you were unhappy I took a shot at Rush Limbaugh a few days back. Limbaugh had argued that John Lewis might have avoided having his skull fractured by Alabama state troopers while protesting for voting rights in Selma, Ala., 48 years ago, if only he'd been armed. I suggested, tongue in cheek, that Limbaugh would have given the same advice to Rosa Parks, who famously refused to surrender her seat to a white man on a Montgomery, Ala., bus.

Which moved you to write: "If Rush Limbaugh were on that bus that day, like so many of us, he would have insisted that Ms. Parks REMAIN seated. ... Rush doesn't need me to defend him from your silly assumption, but I just like to bring it to your attention that just because Rush is WHITE doesn't mean he is not a gentleman!"

Ahem.
David, Rush Limbaugh is the man who once said the NFL "all too often looks like a game between the Bloods and the Crips" and told a black caller to "take that bone out of your nose and call me back." So the idea that, in Alabama, in 1955, as a black woman was committing an illegal act of civil disobedience, this particular white man would have done what 14 other white passengers did not do, well, rather fanciful.

But then, it's seductively easy to imagine yourself or your hero on the right side of history once that history has been vindicated. So of course "Rush" would have stood up for Rosa Parks. Of course "Rush" would have defended Jews who were turned away while fleeing the Holocaust. Of course "Rush" would have supported women agitating for the right to vote. Of course he would've defended human rights. Wouldn't we all?

Actually, no. Not then, and not now.

As it happens, David, your email appeared the same week as news out of Flint, Mich., about Tonya Battle, an African-American nurse who is suing her employer, the Hurlley Medical Center. Battle, an employee since 1988, was working in the neonatal intensive-care unit when, she says, a baby's father approached her at the infant's bedside, asked for her supervisor and then told said supervisor he didn't want any black people involved in his child's care.

So, of course, the hospital stood up for its 25-year employee, right?

No. According to her suit, a note was posted on the assignment clipboard saying, "No African American nurse to take care of baby." The hospital, naturally, has declined comment.

David, this is ultimately not about "Rush." He is a rich blowhard and therefore, unexceptional. No, this is about the implicit, albeit unstated, "of course" that comes too easily to you and frankly, to many of us, when we contemplate how we would have responded to the moral crimes of the past.

There is to it an unearned smugness that insults the very real courage of those like Medgar Evers, Viola Liuzzo and James Zwerg, who did take the morally correct stand at hazard of life and limb. It is easy to "stand up" for the right thing when doing so requires only paying lip service 50 years after the fact, something at which Limbaugh and his brethren have become scarily adept.

But the need for real courage, for willingness to stand up for human dignity, did not end in 1955, something to which our gay, Muslim and immigrant friends - and Tonya Battle - would surely testify. So there is something starkly fatuous in your vision of "Rush" defending Rosa Parks. No, sir. We know where he would have stood then because we know where he stands now.

Perhaps you find comfort in your delusion. But some of us realize we live in an era where bigotry has its own talk show and cable network. Can we find comfort in delusions like yours?

Of course not.

Leonard Pitts is a columnist for the *Miami Herald*, 1 Herald Plaza, Miami, Fla., 33132. Readers may contact him via e-mail at lpitts@miamiherald.com.



Leonard Pitts
Tribune
Media

County commissioners get in the zone with communication towers, signs

By Ken Jackson
Staff Writer

After tabling a handful of proposed zoning ordinances to a special meeting next week, the Board of Osceola County Commissioners tackled zoning issues regarding communication towers and signs attached to utility poles at Monday's regular meeting.

The commission made slight changes to the Land Development Code regarding most cell phone towers. They are now considered telecommunications structures rather than storage, and can be erected with a simple conditional use permit. They also will not be bound by landscaping codes that storage structures are.

The changes expand the definition of camouflaged towers, which can be built with a permit and don't require a public hearing.

County Manager Don Fisher helped craft Seminole County's cell phone tower ordinances when he worked in that county, and said the changes are positive.

"With my zoning background, there is nothing wrong with the ordinance with what staff has done," he

said. "It's better than it was, and I don't see any issues with moving this forward."

The commission also passed an ordinance that allows municipalities to attach appropriate signs to utility poles in the right of way. This would allow for better placement of banners and other large signs.

In his meeting-closing remarks, Commissioner John Quiñones reminded the board of the recent news regarding planned transportation and road projects in the county. MetroPlan Orlando included a northwest extension of the Poinciana Parkway from U.S. Highway 192 to where State Road 429 meets Interstate 4 and the Southport Connector, which would link Cypress Parkway to Florida's Turnpike south of Lake Tohopekaliga, to its list of supported long-range projects. But he also spoke about the bill co-sponsored by Senators David Simmons and Andy Gardiner that would create the Central Florida Expressway Authority.

That regional board would have the power over the construction of toll roads and mass transit systems in Orange, Seminole and Osceola coun-

ties, and would go against the work done by the Osceola County Expressway Authority to plan Poinciana Parkway, the Southport Connector, an eastern extension of Osceola Parkway and a connector road into the northeast portion of the county. That regional board would likely have heavy Orange County representation.

Commissioner Brandon Arrington, who was a MetroPlan board member until stepping down in December, put the situation into simple terms.

"I can guarantee you that with three seats in Orange County, you will never get the bonding to build a road in Osceola County," he said.

Board Chairman Frank Attkisson said the county should look at options that could circumvent the legislation, and directed County Attorney Andrew Mai to analyze the legislation, which was drawn up before county leaders could offer their input.

"We should look at a situation where we own the roads, and contract out to our Expressway Authority to run them, so we don't fall under that bill," Attkisson said.

Award

Continued from Page A-1



Video image/Osceola County

Osceola County Corrections Officer Reeshemah Taylor stands between Attorney General Eric Holder and Vice President Joe Biden with her Medal of Valor.

tigious decorations on each of these heroes."

In addition to this award, Taylor was previously awarded Florida Attorney General's Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award for 2010 and was honored by the Osceola County Board of County Commissioners.

Osceola County Commission Chairman Frank Attkisson praised Taylor and her peers in the county's correction department.

"We are very proud of all of our officers and staff members at the Osceola County Jail, but on this day we focus on Officer Taylor," he said. "We are honored that one of Osceola County's own is being recognized with such a prestigious award on a national level. And we are proud of the heroic actions she took during

a very dangerous encounter in 2009."

During an escape attempt from the Osceola County Jail on June 22, 2009, inmate Angel Santiago held a loaded 9 millimeter, semiautomatic handgun to Taylor's head in the medical ward of the Osceola County Jail. She grabbed the gun to point it away from her, knelt Santiago in the groin and got him in a headlock while she called for backup.

Santiago was already serving three consecutive life sentences with no possibility of parole and was being held in the Osceola County Jail pending trial on a violent armed robbery, when he attacked Taylor with a loaded handgun given to him by another corrections officer, Michelle Hung. The gun had 15 rounds.

"I figured he was going to kill us; that he was going to shoot his way out," Taylor said in an interview in 2011.

Santiago had changed into a corrections officer uniform and planned to walk out of the jail in disguise. He was a well-known member of the "Los 27" and "La Nieta" gangs domiciled out of Puerto Rico, who are notorious for their violent acts against law enforcement personnel.

It was later discovered Hung had befriended Santiago and had a getaway car waiting outside for the inmate.

"If I could clone her, that would be amazing," Osceola County Jail Chief Sherry Johnson said in 2011 of Taylor, an Army veteran with a young son. "I think it speaks volumes to her fiber."

School

Continued from Page A-1

statement and personal identification.

Students and parents can make an appointment to speak with a trained counselor on College Goal Sunday by calling 407-870-4919. Walk-ins will be taken after appointments have been honored. More information can be found at the website www.collegegoalsundayusa.org.

The School District also is celebrating March as Purchasing Month, offering local businesses the opportunity to showcase services and products that their company has to offer and to learn how to do business with various Osceola County agencies including the Osceola School District.

A vendor workshop, "How To Do Business With Govern-

ment" will take place during Osceola County Purchasing Cooperative Vendor Appreciation Day March 15 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the Osceola Heritage Park Extension Services Building. Special guest speakers from local governments will appear.

For additional information, call 407-870-4630.

Director

Continued from Page A-2

across the country and the Bahamas providing training and operational recommendations to various animal control and welfare organizations. She has worked to develop animal legislation in Florida and other states, investigated and prepared for prosecution cases of animal cruelty and been involved in animal disaster response efforts such as those following Hurricane Katrina.

While looking to increase adoptions in Osceola County and raise community awareness about proper animal care, Staton wants residents to know that Animal Control aren't "the bad guys."

"We are tasked with enforcing local animal laws but also believe in giving pet owners the chance to correct problems. We are becoming an organization that is much more about education and assistance," she said. "Many people believe that all we do is impound animals and kill them. Nothing could be further from the truth. We would much prefer pets stay

at home where they belong and avoid having them come to the shelter at all."

Staton listed public safety and getting adoptable animals re-homed as her top two priorities, but said community involvement and support will be essential in furthering the department's efforts.

"That is why we have recently started taking volunteer applications. We know that having the community behind our programs will be instrumental to achieving our goals," she said.

And, she practices what she preaches. Staton's three

dogs, Newman, Blue and Jake are all from rescues.

"Newman came from a hoarding case that involved almost 500 dogs, Blue was a shelter adoption, and Jake was a dog near death when he came into my life," she said, also noting that she owns a horse, Promise, a rescue from Louisiana.

"They are all healthy and happy at this point and have brought a lot of joy to my life," she said. "I can't imagine life without my pets."

Contact Ken Jackson at 321-402-0435 or by email at kjackson@osceolanews-gazette.com.



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From Katrina S. Scarborough, Property Appraiser

If you own your home, reside there permanently and are a Florida resident as of **January 1, 2013** you may qualify for homestead exemption. Homestead can reduce your taxable value on your home as much as \$50,000, saving you approximately \$500, annually. More importantly, your assessed value, which is used to calculate your property taxes, cannot increase more than 3% annually after you are granted the exemption.

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- Be a United States citizen or possess a Permanent Resident Card (green card)

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LOCATIONS AND TIMES FOR FILING
January 2, 2013 thru March 1, 2013

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Thursday, February 14th, 2013 ONLY
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

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DEADLINE FOR FILING IS MARCH 1, 2013

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OSCEOLA NEWS-GAZETTE SPORTS

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Baseball preview

Harmony, OHS defend districts

Gateway seeks its 3rd straight OBC crown

By Rick Pedone
Sports Editor

The 2012 high school baseball season was one of the most competitive ever in Osceola County.

Osceola and Harmony claimed district championships, and OHS got to within one game of the state tournament before losing to Brandon, 3-2, in the regional final.

Osceola, Gateway, Liberty, East Ridge, Lake Minneola and Poinciana again will compete in District 7A-5, while Harmony, St. Cloud, Celebration and Oak Ridge will fight it out in 7A-6.

Gateway is the two-time defending Orange Belt Conference champion.

Harmony

Coach Mike Fields said the Longhorns, district champs last season, will have their work cut out after losing their top two pitchers in AJ Stevens and Nathan Thommen.

But, Fields said junior PJ Musselman threw well last year and that shortstop Omar Villaman will also pitch.

Jason Hundley, a lefty, should see his share of innings along with freshman Sam Allen and Paul Benitez.

"It should be interesting to see who rises to the occasion and throws strikes," Fields said.

The infield defense should be a strong point with Villaman at short, Thomas Lopez at second and Wyatt Dering at first.

"This will be their third year starting for Harmony and we should be solid," Fields said.

Musselman and Andy Navarro will share third base duty.

Sophomore Josh Corredor takes over as the catcher.

The outfield is inexperienced, Fields said. Senior Stephen Lynch played a little in left field, the coach said, and he is the only player with varsity experience. Junior Charlie Reyes and freshmen Brock Howard, Sam Allen and Paul Benitez will vie for playing time.

"Overall, we have a great bunch of kids with great attitudes. It may take a few games for our pitchers and young players to figure out how to win at the varsity level, but I like our chances come district

time," Fields said.

Fields is assisted by Mike Clark, the Lady Longhorns softball coach last season.

The Horns opened with a 13-3 win over Windermere Prep.

Osceola

The Kowboys enjoyed their best season in two decades in 2012, coming within one game of the Class 7A state tournament.

A 3-2 loss to Brandon in the regional finals ended Osceola's season.

Coach Scott Birchler is depending on a few returning veterans and an influx of talent from the JV program to make OHS a contender again.

"We lost a talented group of seniors from last year and will look on the returners along with players from our undefeated JV team to get us back to where we left off," he said.

Senior shortstop Edwin Bonilla (who will play at Bethune Cookman) and second baseman Armen Calilao (Belmont Abbey commit) along with junior first baseman Gustavo Rios give the Kowboys a talented, experienced infield.

Junior Omar Colon will DH and play first base.

Returning in the outfield are seniors Jose Figueroa and Tony Lima. Behind the plate, Thomas Grenus returns with post season experience after filling in for injured Peter Calilao. He will be joined by senior Blake Sorenson and sophomore Bud Weismore.

Newcomers are Justin DeGrandis (third base) and outfielders Hadrian Cortes and Bay McIntosh.

"They all have potential to be impact players," Birchler said.

The pitching staff took the biggest hit from graduation, Birchler said.

Senior Alex Heifner has the most innings under his belt and will be joined by two promising sophomores, Jake Grenus and Hector Maysonet. Seniors Gaddiel Lopez and Christian Figueroa will handle mid-relief duties and DeGrandis and Lima will close for a staff that will need to work together to tackle the win column, Birchler said.

St. Cloud

Coach Mike McDaniel



Harmony pitcher PJ Musselman delivers a pitch during the Longhorns' 13-3 season-opening win over Windermere Prep at the Mike Fields baseball complex. The Longhorns are the defending 7A-6 district champions.

News Gazette Photo/Andrew Sullivan

returns for his third season with a veteran roster that should be ready for extended success, he said.

"In 2012 we played for conference and district championships, and a regional, and came up short in each big game," he said. "We can't coach experience in those atmospheres."

Six seniors return, led by pitcher Abel Del Valle, a two-time all-OBC pitcher who signed to Bethune Cookman. He had 76 strikeouts in 66 innings last season.

Also back on the pitching staff are Christian Cabalero and RJ Hussey, plus newcomer Kyle Coleman. Hayden Glasscock, Robert DuPont and Rhett McGrath all are available in relief.

Angel Otero and Joey Myers led a potentially potent offense that also includes infielders Jake Snyder, Tanner Campbell, Briar Barter and Chase Ritter.

"We have a good mix of kids here that know the system and continue to grow as players and people every day," McDaniel said. "We are anxious to play the season to

see where we stack up."

McDaniel said the first task is to wrest the district title away from Harmony.

"Harmony is the defending champs until someone beats them, and that's no easy task," he said.

The Bulldogs are 2-2.

Poinciana

Coach Freddie Vazquez takes over the Eagles program this season.

His players that include pitcher/outfielders Victor Pratts and Jeremy Abreu, shortstop Ariel Vargas, catcher Willie Estrada, who recently signed a letter of intent to Palm Beach State College, and outfielder Richard Hidalgo.

The Eagles, 1-2, won their first game in two seasons Wednesday over East Ridge, 6-5.

Liberty

Former assistant Bo O'Dell takes over the Chargers, who were district runners-up last season.

Many of those players have graduated, but O'Dell believes the Chargers will be fine with those returning, plus some

new young talent.

"The biggest hole for us is replacing (pitcher) Tim Tapia, but other than that we didn't lose anything that has not been replaced," he said.

Luis Rivera, Nate Polanco, Gabe Colon, Christian Morales and Ezra Dominguez, Ramon Guzman and Reggie Jorge are on the roster along with Mark Binet, Remy Valdez, Marvin Rodriguez, Isaiah Marcial, Zach Tayes, Francisco Mezquita and Ellison Rodriguez.

Gateway

Coach Rob Hammond (63-41) returns for his fifth season at Gateway, which finished 19-7 last season.

Although the Panthers lost several standout pitchers to graduation, Gateway has one of the top pitchers in the county in Aaron Rosso, a senior left hander, who was 7-1 last season with a 2.18 ERA.

Shortstop Randy Batista has committed to Indian River College after batting .478 as a junior.

Outfielder Luis Alvarez Jr. batted .318 last season.

"We'll have to replace several starters. We should be strong defensively and we'll need to have several returning players step up on the mound and at the plate," Hammond said.

The Panthers improved to 3-1 Wednesday with a 5-2 win over Lake Highland Prep.

Celebration

The Storm, under Coach Dan Caughman, made some noise in 7A-6 competition last season and could be a dark horse this year.

"We potentially have more depth on the mound this year," he said. "We can be a good team, but we really have to do all the little things well."

Noah Perez, Chayse Meierkort and Gage Chaney are starters with Steven Rivera switching roles from starter to reliever, Caughman said.

Tyler Coskey, Abel Espinal and Cameron McGuirk along with Logan Chaney and Colton Ming all are available for mound duty, the coach said.

Perez will play shortstop.

See Baseball, page A-7

Estrada signs to Palm Beach St.

By Rick Pedone
Sports Editor

Poinciana High senior catcher Willie Estrada can relax now that he has signed a national letter of intent to Palm Beach State College.

Just not on the field.

As the Eagles backstop, he has the unenviable chore of blocking wild pitches, dodging foul tips and trying to gun down base runners.

But, he's pretty good at it.

He picked a runner off first and cut down a runner stealing a base during the Eagles opening game against St. Cloud, a 6-5 loss. He also had two hits.

Surprisingly, he was a shortstop until his body mass increased in high school.

"Yeah, I decided when my body rounded off that I would be better behind the plate,"

he said.

Estrada has been scouted by the Dodgers, Orioles, Twins and Padres.

"I should be drafted in the summer," he said.

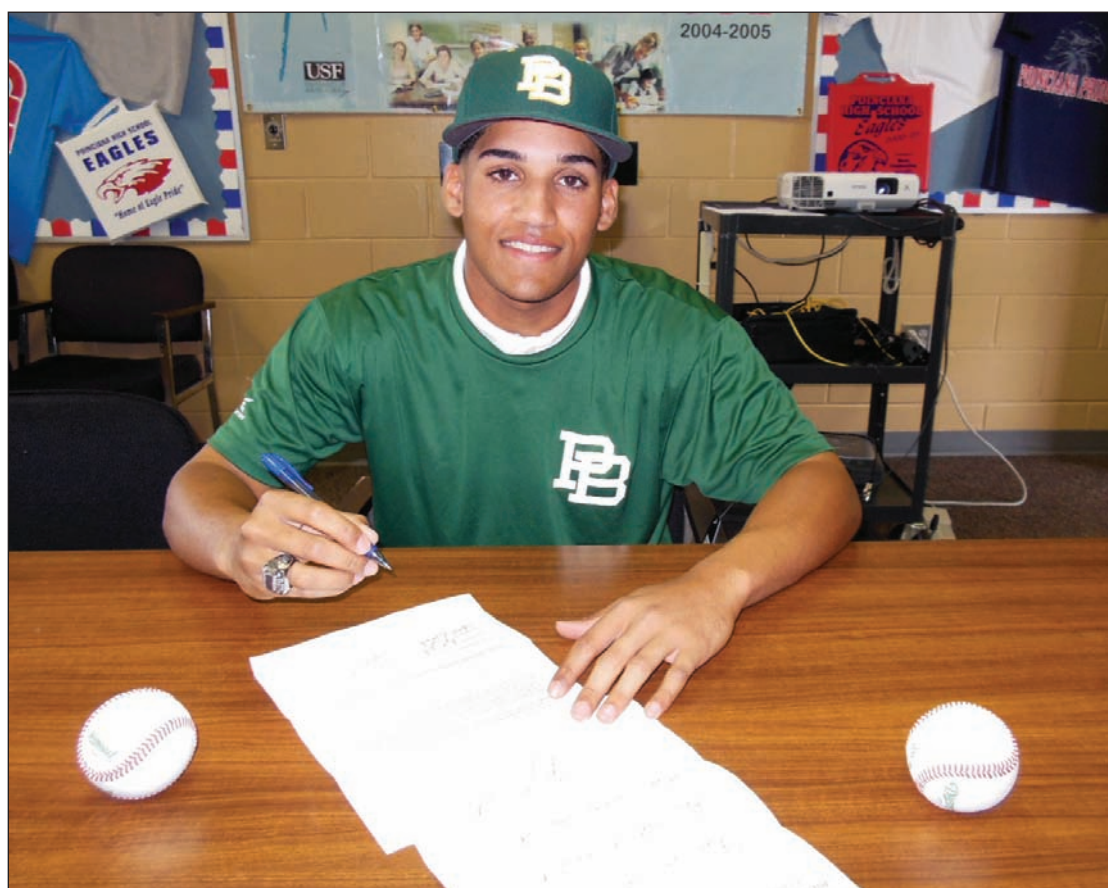
Eagles Coach Freddie Vazquez said Estrada has pro baseball talent.

"Very quick feet and incredible arm," the coach said. "The fastest I clocked him was at 1.78 pop time (throwing from home plate to second base). Can block anything thrown at him and really good stick. He's a good leader for the team."

Estrada said he plans to play for Palm Beach State even if he is drafted.

"I like it there, and they offered me. I want to play in college," he said.

The Panthers are coached by Kyle Forbes.



Photo/Special to the News-Gazette

Poinciana catcher Willie Estrada recently signed a baseball grant to Palm Beach State College. Estrada also has attracted the attention of scouts from several Major League teams and might be selected in the June amateur draft.

Heritage basketball girls 2nd in state

By Rick Pedone
Sports Editor

The Heritage Christian Lady Eagles reached the Florida Christian Conference championship basketball game last week before falling to Real Life Christian Academy of Clermont.

The Lady Eagles (17-3) return their entire roster for next season, including Eastern Division MVP Kim Crespo and first-team all-FCC selection Sian Archibald.

The Heritage boys (18-3) earned a playoff bye before being upset in the second round, ending a string of three straight championship game

See Eagles, page A-7

Specs hard to find; bluegills are biting

The first part of the week was a little on the chilly side! Monday morning I had to let my truck run with the defroster on for close to 10 minutes to get the frost off my windshield. Water temperatures on Lake Toho dropped to 61 degrees. A few days earlier it had been 71 degrees.

The bass fishing fell off for a couple of days, but it is picking up again. Senko-type baits, trick worms, lipless crank baits and spinner baits seem to be working well. Some bigger bass are being caught on wild shiners. Rick Butler had a guide trip out last week and one of his customers caught an 11.8-pounder. Wednesday morning I caught a 9.75-pound bass and several other nice ones.

Cody Detweiler had a harrowing experience while fishing a BFL tournament on Lake Okeechobee last weekend. He was fishing as a non-boater and the boat he was in

started taking on water, eventually sinking. Other than being wet and cold, nobody was hurt, but Cody and his partner lost their catch and missed the weigh-in.

Spec fishermen are having a tough time right now. Some of the specs have moved into the grass and reeds to spawn and are not hitting all hat well.

Bluegills continue to be cooperative and can be caught in shallow water around the edges of lily pads and buggy whip reeds. Most are being caught on crickets and red worms and wigglers.

When I hear about all the really cold weather and snow storms up north, I really appreciate where I'm living.

Send information about your big catch to capjac@usfamily.net.

You may also send fishing information and photos to rpedone@osceolanews-gazette.com.



Jacquie Mitchell
Fishin' Fun

Baseball

Continued from page A-6

with Chaney and Will Santry at second. Chaney, McGuirk and Santry can play third with Alex Kritikos and Cooper White at first. The first basemen will also DH.

John Birchall and Espinal are in the outfield with Jake deLeon, Coskey, Ming and Jayson Figueroa.

Meierkort, McGuirk and Adam Perkins will catch.

"Offensively, we have a chance to improve on last year. We simply had too many bad at-bats," Caughtman said. "We won't overpower anyone on the mound or at the plate, but we can be a pretty well-rounded team. We just don't have any margin for error."

The Storm opened the season 0-3.

Heritage Christian

Coach Jeremy Beaver led the Eagles to the Florida

Christian Conference championship last season, and with many of those players returning, Heritage should be a championship contender again.

The Eagles completed a 14-2 season by beating Grace Christian for the FCC crown.

"With the experience we gained last year, the pressure of reaching the state tournament, I believe our players should be prepared for this season," Beaver said. "We're at the point where we should consider it a requirement to get to the playoffs, to get to the state tournament. Nothing less than that should be acceptable."

Those lofty goals are made attainable with a roster that includes Beaver's son, Dallas Beaver, a freshman catcher who already has verbally committed to UCF.

Other suitors for his talents included Florida State, Mississippi and Miami.

"He has a really strong arm, and he hits well with a wooden bat," Jeremy Beaver said. "As a father, I'm proud of him, and for the program, it is a real boost."

Beaver plays travel ball with the Scorpions out of Altamonte Springs.

Other standouts returning this season include pitcher Alex Tirado, A. J. Uriarte, Chris Herrador, Matt Herrador and Sean Gonzalez.

Tirado, Beaver, Gonzalez and the Herradors will pitch, Coach Beaver said.

The team plays at the South Orange Little League complex.

The team opens the season Tuesday at home against West Melbourne.

Eagles

Continued from page A-6

appearances. The Eagles won the FCC crown in 2011. The team has captured four FCC titles over the past 15 seasons.

Dominick Maldonado was named the Eastern Division MVP and Jacob Newman, an eighth-grader, was a first-team all-FCC pick. Sean Greaves was a second-team all-FCC selection.

Like the girls team, the boys squad should be a championship caliber team next year. Greaves is the only Eagle who will graduate.

"I thought we had a great season. If everyone returns, we will be tough to beat," Coach Jim Estrella said.

Heritage players will participate at the FCC All-Star games today at Southland Christian. The girls game begins at 12:30 p.m. followed by the boys game at 2 p.m.

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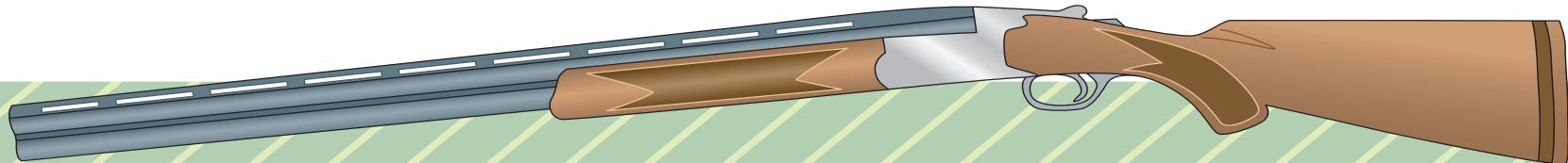
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(across from Osceola Square Mall)

407-201-3578



SUN SPOTS

Things to do under the Central Florida sun



Get ready for an Arctic blast — construction is on-schedule at SeaWorld Orlando's new attraction, Antarctica: Empire of the Penguin. Opening day is slated for May 24. The attraction will let guests visit, via a family ride, the grandeur of the South Pole and a penguin colony. You can explore more about the new attraction with the free Antarctica app, available now for iPhones, iPads and Android devices. The app can be downloaded at SeaWorldOrlando.com/Antarctica. Fans can also win the Family Voyage Sweepstakes for a free trip.

JAMES FRANCO

DAYTONA BEACH — James Franco, star of the new Disney film "Oz The Great and Powerful," will serve as Grand Marshal for the 55th running of the Daytona 500 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series race on Sunday, Feb. 24 at Daytona International Speedway. The race is scheduled for 1 p.m. on FOX. Franco will give the starting command, "Drivers start your engines," in "The Great American Race." He'll also be introduced at the driver's meeting, participate in pre-race ceremonies and ride in one of the Grand Marshal cars during the pace laps prior to the green flag of the 200-lap, 500-mile race.

"We're excited to welcome James Franco and have him take part in the pre-race festivities for the Daytona 500," Daytona International Speedway President Joie Chitwood III said. "In front of thousands of race fans and millions more watching on FOX, we're looking forward to hearing James' enthusiastic starting command to kick off the Daytona 500 and the new NASCAR Sprint Cup Series season."

Tickets for the 55th Daytona 500 on Sunday, Feb. 24, as well as all Budweiser Speedweeks At Daytona events, are available online at www.daytonainternationalspeedway.com or by calling 1-800-PITSHOP.

ROCKET VIEWING

Kennedy Space Center — Watch the powerful sights and sounds of the thunderous roaring engines of a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket as it bursts into the sky on Friday, March 1 at Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex guests can enjoy a front row view along the NASA Causeway. The launch is scheduled for 10:10 a.m. from Launch Complex 40 at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. This flight will continue a series of missions to the International Space Station under NASA's Commercial Resupply Services contract to deliver and return significant amounts of cargo aboard the Dragon spacecraft. The Dragon will carry 1,200 pounds of supplies for the space station crew and experiments being conducted aboard the laboratory. Located along the Banana River and only six miles from the launch pad, the NASA Causeway viewing area offers the closest public viewing opportunity in Brevard County. This viewing area will feature live NASA launch countdown commentary, and food and souvenirs available for purchase. A limited number NASA Causeway launch viewing tickets can be purchased for \$20 plus tax, in addition to admission. Bus loading for the NASA Causeway viewing area will begin at 7 a.m. Launch viewing from Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex is included in regular admission and will feature live mission control commentary. For more information or to purchase tickets, call 877-313-2610 and visit www.KennedySpaceCenter.com.

DINE WITH DEPARTED

KISSIMMEE — The Rose Hill Cemetery will come alive once again March 9 with Dine With the Departed. Ghostly appearances will be made by some of Osceola County's most infamous residents. This is the Osceola County Historical Society's third Dine with the Departed event at the cemetery, 1615 Boggy Creek Road Kissimmee. Guests will get dinner, tour the cemetery and get some live entertainment. All of the money raised at this fundraiser will be used to help fund the various activities at the Osceola County Historical Society. You can also learn about Osceola County's rich history at the Pioneer Village, which is operated by the OCHS and located at 750 N. Bass Road, Kissimmee 34746. The village includes several historic buildings and hiking trails. The village is open 7 days a week from 10 am- 4 pm closed major holidays. You can also visit the all new Osceola County Welcome Center and History Museum located at 4155 W. Vine Street, Kissimmee 34741 Annual membership in the society starts at (\$35) includes a free year admission to the village, the society's quarterly newsletter and discounts to events throughout the year. Family, student, senior and corporate memberships are also available. For more information about the village and historical society call 407-396-8644.

FOOD TRUCKS

Can't wait for the Food Trucks to return to downtown Kissimmee in March? There are several other opportunities to get on the food truck band wagon in February in Central Florida.

The scheduled stops include:

Feb. 25 5-8p.m. Titusville, Sandpoint Park, 101 N

See Sun Spots, page B-4



Wayne Johnson shows he can do more than just raise an eyebrow as he plays a dad who will do almost anything to free his teen son from a long prison stint in **Snitch**.

Summit

Snitch

Directed by:
Ric Roman Waugh
Running time:
114 minutes
Rated: PG-13

A Snitch this time is pretty fine But here's hoping there won't be a son of a Snitch either



Peter Covino
Film Critic

Probably the biggest compliment I can give to any movie is, I would pay to go see it.

While I wouldn't actually happily pay to go see **Snitch**, I certainly wouldn't mind seeing it again.

Snitch is the latest offering from he of the raised eyebrow, Wayne "The Rock" Johnson.

But the only raised eyebrows he gets this time out, is that after several tries at acting, Johnson actually man-



ages to pull off some acting chops playing a successful fleet truck operator who turns "snitch" to save his teen son from a very long jail sentence. Pacino and DeNiro won't

have sleepless nights worrying about any great acting challenge coming from Johnson, but the wrestler-turned-actor does a decent job here. For car explosion and

shoot-em-up fans, **Snitch** might be a bit of a disappointment. Yes, cars do explode and there is a body count, but most of that occurs in the second hour of the film. **Snitch**, directed by former stuntman

Ric Roman Waugh and written by Justin Haythe Waugh is very story dependent, something you don't see too often in this type of film.

Johnson is John Matthews,

See Movies, page B-3

Let's Go Shopping

New stores, bargain prices and nearby

Lake Buena Vista Factory Stores have some 50 reasons to shop and dine

By Peter Covino
Lifestyles Editor

Looking for a shopping bargain?

The economy may be on the upswing, but it is always good to save some money and Lake Buena Vista Factory Stores has about 50 different ways to save cash for every member of the family.

Marketed as one of Central Florida's "best kept shopping secrets" the center was one of the area's first outlet malls, the 238,000-square-foot village-style center has kept up with the times.

If you haven't been the outlet center, which is just north of the Osceola County line off of State Road 535, there have been several additions in the past few years including Calvin Klein, Lindt Chocolate, Big Dogs, Crocs, Tommy Hilfiger Kids, Loft Outlet and Under Armour.

Terry Lynn Morris, director of marketing for the center, said there are always discounted prices at the factory stores, but



Lake Buena Vista Factory Stores

The options at Lake Buena Vista Factory Stores include the area's only outlet Old Navy store, as well as new options such as Calvin Klein, Under Armour and Tommy Hilfiger.

there are unexpected discounts to be found pretty much everywhere as well.

If you go to the website www.lakebuenavistafactorystores.com you can get a coupon for a booklet redeemable at the center for a booklet with up to

\$400 in additional discounts.

Other stores at the center include Eddie Bauer, Rack Room Shoes, Aeropostale, Levis Outlet Store, Tommy Hilfiger, Van Heusen, Converse, Dress Barn, Nine West and Timberland.

The center also has the area's

only Old Navy outlet store.

Located close to Disney, Lake Buena Vista Factory Stores has always been popular with tourists. There are free daily shuttles from more than 60 area

See Shopping, page B-3

Food & Wine festival returns to Orlando

By Peter Covino
Lifestyles Editor

You don't have to wait until fall for a big food and wine festival — the Downtown Food and Wine Fest at Lake Eola is this weekend.

This is the fifth year for the annual Orlando event which features local cuisine paired with wines from around the globe.

The event has increased in popularity each year and more than 20,000 guests are expected to sample wines and food over the two days.

In addition to all that food and wine, the weekend is a musical showcase.

The live entertainment schedule for the weekend:

Saturday, Feb. 23
12:30 p.m. Rosco Bandana
2:15 p.m. Road Soda
4 p.m. John Smith and Tropical

Steel
5:45 p.m. Kaleigh Baker & NEM
7:30 p.m. Atlanta Rhythm Section

Sunday, Feb. 24 (noon to 7 p.m.)
12:30 p.m. CeCe TeNeal
2:15 p.m. Vicci Martinez
3:15 p.m. Matt Hires
4:20 p.m. Andy Grammer
5:45 p.m. The All-American Rejects

Other featured events include:

Liquid Lounge
The Liquid Lounge will be the place to remix, relax, and refresh during the Fest on Broadway Street. Featuring beer, wine, and specialty drinks for purchase, guests will meet and mingle with 102 JAMZ Freakin' Weekend On-air Mixers in a sleek and swanky atmosphere to enjoy remixes of today's hottest hit mu-



Submitted photo

The emphasis will be on food this weekend in downtown Orlando, but there is also music by All-American Rejects and the Atlanta Rhythm Section (above).

See Food, page B-3



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Month of March CELEBRATION EVENTS

Saturday, March 2, 2013
8 am - 2 pm

Spring Community-Wide Porch & Yard Sale

Hidden treasures from residents' homes will be on display and for sale throughout the community. Condo, townhome and garage apartment residents will be set up in the Town Hall parking lot. Call 407-566-1200 for info.

Thursday, March 7, 2013
9 am - 12:30 pm

Osceola County Career Fair

Stetson University, 800 Celebration Ave.

Celebration Area Council and Kissimmee/Osceola County Chamber will be holding a job fair featuring local businesses from Osceola and surrounding counties. Employers from Entry, Mid, Management, and Executive Levels will be on hand. Classes starting 9:30 am; How to nail the interview, resume building, and motivational speaker Sandy Geroux will also be on hand. Classes will be 30 minutes. Call Celebration Area Council - 407-847-4339 for info.

Saturday, March 9, 2013
7:30 pm

Classical Concert Series

Featuring Pianist Mariangela Vacatello
Community Presbyterian Church in Celebration. Sponsored by Celebration Foundation. A Van Cliburn Piano Competition Finalist, she is one of the finest pianists in the world. Call Celebration Foundation for more information at 407-566-1234

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- Classical Concert Series
- Thriving in Place (Helping seniors)
- Families in Transition (Helping disadvantaged children)
- Grants (Over \$300,000 awarded to Osceola County non-profits)
- Scholarships (Helping Celebration students who are graduating)
- New Urbanism (Exploring what makes our town unique)

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Medical Director of the Joint Replacement Center at Florida Hospital Celebration Health. Accredited Fellowship trained in Total Joint Replacement.



Faissal Zahrawi, M.D., F.A.C.S.

Medical Director of the Spine Center at Florida Hospital Celebration Health. Board-Certified in Orthopaedic & Spinal Surgery, Endoscopic Spine Surgery and Artificial Disc Replacement.



Brad Homan, D.O.

Medical Director of Sports Medicine at Florida Hospital Celebration Health. Fellowship-trained in Arthroscopy & Sports Medicine. Board-Certified in Orthopaedic Surgery.



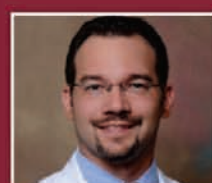
Duane McRorie, D.P.M.

Board-Certified in Foot and Ankle Surgery. Podiatry/Foot and Ankle Surgery/Fracture Care.



Matthew Johnston, D.O.

Medical Director of Sports Medicine at Florida Hospital Kissimmee. Fellowship-trained in Total Joint Replacement & Sports Medicine. Board-Certified in Orthopaedic Surgery.



Joseph E. Robison, M.D.

Fellowship trained in Hand, Upper Extremity and Microsurgery

Shopping

Continued from page B-1

resort and hotels. But the center also offers complimentary transportation for pre-booked groups (church groups, community groups etc.) for groups of 20 or larger. The shuttle is free but a refundable deposit is required.

Another highlight of a trip to the center is the World of Coffee Internet Café. The café is worth a look even if you don't drink coffee or need the Internet. There is a large selection of international baked goods made right on the premises. It is a slice of Italy, France, Turkey the Middle East and more. The selection includes French and Italian pastries as well as varieties of that traditional Greek favorite baklava and more. The food court is available for a quick lunch or dinner.

For a more comfortable sit down meal, Frankie Far-

rell's Irish Pub has a nice selection of "pub grub" as well as a nice beer selection. There are lots of TVs too for dad to watch the day's game while mom goes shopping.

The center also hosts several special events during the year/ Coming up is the 16th annual Spring Festival, Saturday March 23.

Ye Olde Spring County Faire, features characters from Give Kids the World, clowns, jugglers, face painting and a sidewalk sale. Admission is free. The event is from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Lake Buena Vista Factory Stores are located at 15657 South State Road 535.

Stores are open Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.- 9 p.m., and 10 a.m. -7p.m. on Sunday. For current store news, deals and discounts, connect on Facebook and Twitter (@LBVFS).



News-Gazette photo/Peter Covino

Frankie Farrell's, located right next to the center, offers up a nice lunch menu, as well as place to watch sports on TV, if you are not in the mood for shopping

Movies

Continued from page B-1

a guy with two families. His current wife and child and an ex-wife and a teen-aged son.

The kid makes the mistake of accepting a package full of drugs that the Feds were onto and under arrest, faces a mandatory minimum ten-year jail term.

The politically-mined district attorney (played by Susan Sarandon) is willing to make that a one-year sentence if the teen will "snitch" on his friends

and finger at least one other person connected to felony drug trafficking. When the kid says no, dad decides to pinch hit and turn in a bad guy.

It's a simplistic story for sure, but it works nonetheless, as Snitch works its way through the inevitable climax with lots of bad guys exploding in their cars (no digital effects here).

The film also tries in its own way, to come out in support of less strict drug laws for

first-time offenders.

It also is "inspired by" a true story. Whatever that means.

Zero Dark Thirty
Best Picture nominee (those Academy Awards are Sunday night) Zero Dark Thirty arrives on Blu-ray/DVD March 19 from Sony Home Entertainment.

The film has been nominated for Best Original Screenplay and Best Actress as well.

If you missed it in theaters,

the powerful drama is the story of an elite team of intelligence operatives who tracked and ultimately located Osama bin Laden.

In addition to the Oscar nominations, the film scored the No. 1 spot on numerous critics' Top 10 Lists. It was also awarded honors for Best Original Screenplay from the Writers Guild of America.

Jessica Chastain, who won a Best Actress Golden Globe

and is nominated for the Best Actress Oscar.

The film also stars Jason Clarke (TV's "Brotherhood"), Joel Edgerton (Animal Kingdom) and Chris Pratt (TV's "Parks and Recreation"). Also starring in the film is Jennifer Ehle (Pride and Prejudice), Mark Strong (Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy), Kyle Chandler (TV's "Friday Night Lights") and Edgar Ramirez (TV's "Carlos").

It has been recognized as one of the best films of 2012, by the American Film Institute and Time Magazine, among others. In addition to garnering honors from the National Board of Review (Best Film, Best Director and Best Actress), the film also won three New York Film Critics Circle Awards (Best Picture, Best Director and Best Cinematography) and a Critics' Choice Award.

Food

Continued from page B-1

sic while relaxing in a South Beach-style setting.

The Fest is presented and produced by CBS RADIO, led by Orlando favorites MIX 105.1, 1059 SUNNY FM, and 102 JAMZ in partnership with the Florida Restaurant & Lodging Association. A por-

tion of the proceeds benefit Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida and the FRLA Educational Foundation.

Tickets

Admission is \$10 per person, per day with advance online purchase at www.DowntownFoodAndWineFest.com.

Advance tickets are also available at Mercedes-Benz of Sanford, Mercedes-Benz of Orlando, and Mercedes-Benz of South Orlando.

Admission at the door is \$15 per person, per day. Admission for children under age 12 is free. Food tickets

are available at the event for \$2 each; food and wine offerings range from one to four tickets.

Visit www.DowntownFoodAndWineFest.com and like Downtown Food & Wine Fest on Facebook. You can also follow @DTFoodWine-

Fest on Twitter

Call the events hotline at 407-919-1048 or eMail DowntownFoodandWineFest@cbsradio.com for more information.

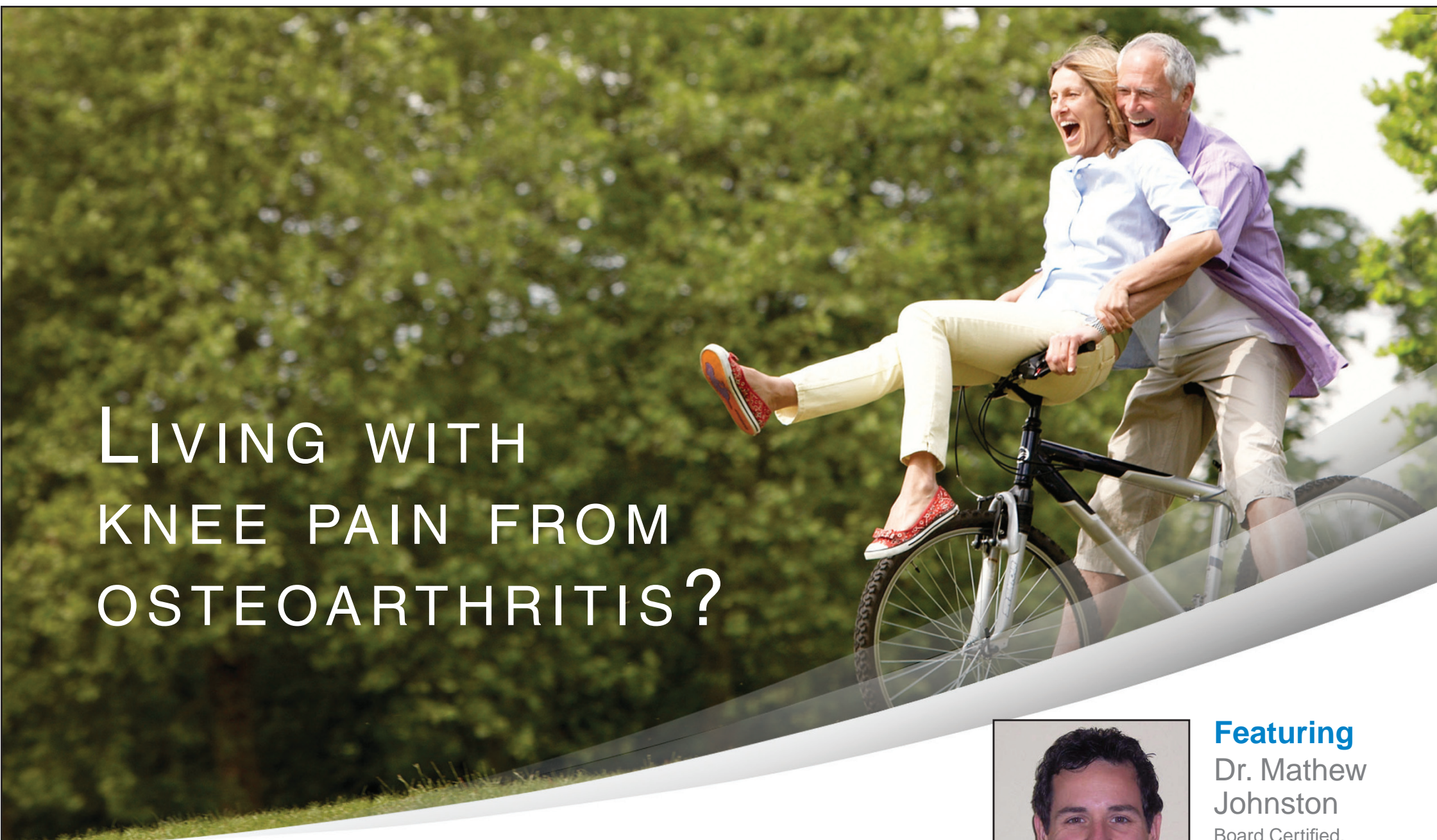
Traffic and safety tips

Coolers, food, drinks and pets are prohibited.

Chairs and blankets will be permitted in the park by the performance stage only.

Maps and directions are available at www.DowntownFoodAndWinefest.com.

ATM machines will be available for cash withdrawals.



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Music Scene

New music festival features Train, Smashing Pumpkins

Rockin' the Midway comes to the state fairgrounds May 3-5 with 30 bands

By Peter Covino
Lifestyles Editor

You can see Train, Smashing Pumpkins, Cheap Trick, Styx, REO Speedwagon and many more bands in just one weekend at a new music festival coming to the Florida State Fairgrounds in May.

Rockin' the Midway at the The Funshine Music Festival comes to the fairgrounds May 3-5 with more than 30 bands on six stages including the Tampa Amphitheater.

The scheduled lineup so far: Friday, May 3: Train, Smashing Pumpkins, Cheap Trick, Good Old War, Youngblood Hawke, Dead Confederate and Roadkill Ghost Choir. Plus another special guest to be announced soon.

Saturday, May: REO Speedwagon, Styx, Ted Nugent, New Found Glory, Chris Carrabba (Dashboard Confessional), We The Kings, Bad Books (featuring members of Manchester Orchestra and Kevin Devine), Kevin Devine and the Goddamn Band, The Weeks, Pitbull Toddler, Hell's Bells (AC/DC Tribute), and Tallhart.

Sunday, May 5: Gary Allan, Kix Brooks, The Wallflowers, Josh Thompson, The Lone Bellow, Big Sam's Funky Nation, Bobby Lee Rodgers, Sticky Fingers (Rolling Stones

Tribute), and Yesterday (Beatles Tribute).

Advance tickets are on sale now for \$20 through April 26. Ticket sales for the concert will resume at the regular price on April 27 at \$25. The admission ticket is good for general admission to all stages except for reserved seating for concerts in the Tampa Amphitheater. VIP reserved seating can be purchased at livenation.com.

Reserved pricing is as follows:

3 Day VIP Reserved seat: \$599, Single day reserved VIP seats are \$249 each day.

Non-VIP reserved seating also is available (after the first three rows) Friday Single Day Reserved Seat: \$55, Saturday Single Day Reserved Seat: \$50, Sunday Single Day Reserved Seat: \$40.

General Admission: Access to lawn of Amphitheater, overflow into section 11-17 if needed, 3 day general admission: \$49. One Day, three day, and ride armbands and tickets can be purchased by going to floridastatefair.com and clicking the ticket, or clicking on the web rotator. Concert attendees will also be able to enjoy the Florida State Fairgrounds' campgrounds that will be available to those with RV's. Special pricing will be available. For information on camping, call 813-621-7821.

Food vendors, a midway, and games will also be part of the festival.

Famed pianist
Pianist Mariangela Vacatello comes to Community Presbyterian Church, 511 Celebration Avenue, Celebration at 7:30 p.m., Saturday March 9. The event is hosted by the Celebration Foundation Classical Concert Series. Tickets are \$20 and \$10 for students and teachers. Van Cliburn Piano Competition's "the most prestigious piano competition in the world" finalist, Vacatello, will perform Beethoven's Piano Sonata op.53 "Waldstein."



Submitted photo

The Doobie Brothers come to Busch Gardens Bands, Brew and BBQ event tonight.

lo comes to Community Presbyterian Church, 511 Celebration Avenue, Celebration at 7:30 p.m., Saturday March 9. The event is hosted by the Celebration Foundation Classical Concert Series. Tickets are \$20 and \$10 for students and teachers. Van Cliburn Piano Competition's "the most prestigious piano competition in the world" finalist, Vacatello, will perform Beethoven's Piano Sonata op.53 "Waldstein."

For more information call 407-566-1234 www.thecelebrationfoundation.org

Doobie Brothers

The classic band performs at Busch Gardens tonight as part of the theme parks Bands, Brew and BBQ event tonight. Performances are included with any daily admission or annual pass. Visit BuschGardens.com for more information.

Anything Goes

The Cole Porter musical

comedy Anything Goes opens this weekend at the Osceola Center for the Arts in Kissimmee.

Musical numbers include "You're the Top", "I Get a Kick Out Of You", "Blow, Gabriel, Blow" and "All Through the Night".

The musical can be seen at the Center weekends through March 10. Fridays and Saturdays shows are at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. A

special Thursday night performance will take place on March 7 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$21 for adults, \$18 for seniors and \$15 for students and can be purchased online at www.ocfa.com, at the Center office or by calling 407-846-6257 Ext. 0. Group tickets are also available.

The Center is located at 2411 E. Hwy 192 in Kissimmee.

Sun Spots

Continued from page B-1

Washington Ave. Feb. 26 5-8p.m. Lake Nona, Valencia College, 12350 Narcoossee Rd.

MARDI GRAS

ORLANDO – Rap star Trey Songz continues the party at Universal Orlando's Mardi Gras tonight.

The authentic, family-friendly celebration runs select nights through April 20 and also includes a parade, tons of Mardi Gras beads and Universal's very own French Quarter Courtyard - complete with authentic New Orleans bands, Cajun cuisine and more. Also, tonight, the stars of NBC's daytime drama "Days of Our

Lives" will attend a fan event at Universal Orlando Resort for autograph signings, Q&A sessions and riding on one of the floats during the Mardi Gras parade. For more information on Universal Orlando's Mardi Gras, visit <http://bit.ly/WUnTXJ>.

OSCEOLA IMAGES

KISSIMMEE –The annual Images of Osceola photography show is on display at the Osceola Center for the Arts, located at 2411 E Irl Bronson Memorial Hwy, Kissimmee. The show features a diverse selection of images taken by Osceola residents of life in Osceola County, from portraits to landscapes and

everything in between. Admission to the show is free, and it is open during normal Center business hours and during stage performances.

FLORIDA MALL

ORLANDO –The Florida Mall is extending its Sunday operating hours from 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. to 11 a.m. - 7 p.m., effective March 10. "As many of our 20 million annual visitors to The Florida Mall are international tourists, we

believe the extended hours will benefit their shopping needs," said General Manager Brian Hanson. "At The Florida Mall, we constantly strive to meet the needs of both our local and international shoppers."

The Florida Mall is Central Florida's largest shopping center. The shopping and tourist destination features more than 1.8 million square feet with more than 250 fine stores and restaurants.

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Sheriff Bob Hansell invites you to the Osceola County Sheriff's Office Community Appreciation Day
Saturday, March 16, 2013
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Osceola County Sheriff's Office Administration Building
2601 E. Irl Bronson Memorial Highway, Kissimmee
(Parking will be available in the parking garage at the back entrance to the facility from Partin Settlement Road. Additional parking is available at the Osceola County Government Center, 2501 E. Irl Bronson Memorial Highway)

- ◆ McGruff the Crime Dog
- ◆ Door Prizes
- ◆ Food & Drinks
- ◆ Live Entertainment
- ◆ Non-Profit Organizations
- ◆ Kids Fingerprinting & ID's
- ◆ Children's Activities

Displays by the following Sheriff's Office Units:
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◆ Community Services ◆ Forensics ◆
◆ Emergency Response Team ◆ K-9
Motors ◆ Mounted Patrol ◆ Road Patrol ◆
◆ Gang Unit ◆ SWAT ◆ Traffic ◆

Demonstrations by:
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Tours of the Osceola County Sheriff's Office Communications Center will be available.

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OSCEOLA NEWS-GAZETTE COMMUNITY

See additional Community Events/News
at www.aroundsceola.com

What's new?

Scholarship fashion show

The Osceola County Sons of Italy Lodge 2523 will present its annual scholarship fashion show called "The Elegance of Education" highlighting Osceola County's teachers and school related employees Sunday, March 10, at 1 p.m.

The show is at Kissimmee Bay Golf and Country Club. Shore's Boutique in Kissimmee will be showcasing their clothing with entertainment by Ramon and Tony, Dash out the Door Divas and there will be a silent auction and more. Reserve your ticket now by calling Gertrude Dorries at 321-286-6787. Ticket price is \$25 per person. All proceeds go toward a scholarship fund.

GriefShare

The GriefShare recovery and support group meets at First Baptist Church of St. Cloud, 1717 13th Street, St. Cloud, Thursday evenings from 7 to 8:30 p.m. A second location is the Community Church at Good Samaritan Village, 1441 Hoeger Circle, Kissimmee, Friday mornings from 10:00-11:30 a.m.

GriefShare features nationally recognized experts on grief and recovery topics. Seminar sessions include, "The Journey of Grief," "When Your Spouse Dies," "Why?," and "Stuck in Grief".

These support groups are open to people of all faiths who have suffered the loss of a loved one. For more information, please feel free to contact Nancy Boss at 407-873-1067, or by email at bossdn1@yahoo.com.

7 p.m. The meeting will be in conference room 4727 on the fourth floor of the Administration Building in the Courthouse Complex, 1 Courthouse Square, Kissimmee. Guests are always welcome.

The Democrats of Celebration Club (DOC) will meet in Town Hall at 851 Celebration Ave., Celebration. For more information contact, DOC@democratsosceola.com.

Pancake Breakfast

The Pack 9 Cub Scouts are hosting a pancake breakfast March 2 from 7 to 10 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church of St. Cloud, Family Life Center 1000 Ohio Avenue, St. Cloud. Cost is \$4 for all you can eat pancakes with all the fixings.

For any questions, contact, th0912son@aol.com.

Take Pounds Sensibly

Take Pounds Sensibly, or T.O.P.S., is a support group to help those wanting to lose weight and get healthy. Meetings are every Wednesday from 9 to 10:30 a.m. at the Senior Center Annex, 8th St. and Indiana, St. Cloud. The annual yard sale will be March 2 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Annex.

For more information, call Jane Pearce at, 407-957-2865.

Kissimmee Audubon Society

The Kissimmee Audubon Society will meet Feb. 26 at 6:45 p.m. in the boardroom of Kissimmee Utility Authority, 1701 W. Carroll St., Kissimmee. The program, Conservation Perspectives from Audubon Florida, will be presented by Charles Lee. He will provide the real story behind conservation issues in the Florida Legislature and the campaign for the Florida Water and Land Legacy Amendment.

Kissimmee Valley Audubon Society meetings are free and open to the public.

For more information, call 407-729-5168.

COOCS

The Celiac/Crohns of Osceola Support, or COOCS, will meet March 13 from 6 to 8 p.m. at Pro-Family Physicians, 3100 17th St., St. Cloud. There will be question and answer time with Dr. Basger Atiquzzaman.

For any questions or to RSVP, call Barb at, 407-908-5607 or bthomas@embarq-mail.com.

Kickin' It for a Cure

Teams are now being accepted for the Harmony Relay for Life Kickin' It for a Cure 3v3 Soccer Tournament. The tournament will be March 10 in Harmony and is for under U-11 through U-13 girls and Co-ed teams (at least three girls). Registration is \$100 per team with all proceeds going to Harmony Relay for Life.

Tournament registration includes a minimum of four games, tournament T-shirt and Relay for Life supporter bracelet. Space is limited to the first 12 teams.

For more information email Director Jim Larisa at, jimlarisa32@yahoo.com.

Alzheimer's and Dementia

Changes in relationship dynamics and intimacy are a given when there is a diagnosis of Alzheimer's or related dementia, yet intimacy issues are

Farewell to the fair



News-Gazette Photo/Andrew Sullivan

The 2013 Osceola County Fair concluded on Sunday, again drawing thousands of visitors to Osceola Heritage Park in Kissimmee.

seldom discussed. All those needing information on this may attend a class March 8 from 11 a.m. to noon at the Osceola County Council on Aging at 700 Generation Point, Kissimmee. A monthly caregiver support group will also meet following the class from noon to 1:30 p.m. It is asked that you bring a lunch if you plan to stay for both meetings.

The class is free and reservations are not required.

For more information, call Farah Sivolella at 321-434-7612 and press 6.

Chinese New Year's Gala

St. Cloud's Third Annual Chinese New Year's Gala will be Sunday from 1 to 10 p.m. at the St. Cloud Senior Citizen's Center, 3101 17th St., St. Cloud. Traditional martial arts and Chinese dancing will be provided. The honored guest speaker will be Osceola's own snake handler George Van Horn, owner of the Reptile World Serpenterium. A \$5 donation is asked at the door and folks are encouraged to bring potluck dishes and treats to share.

For more information, contact

What's happening?

Madame Wu at 407-738-7001.

Disabled American Veterans I48

The DAV service officer will be

available every Tuesday from noon to 4 p.m. to help with military benefit needs.

Barnyard Meat Bingo is the first and third Saturday of the month starting at noon. Cost is \$20 for two cards.

Every Friday is Red Shirt Friday. Wear a red shirt to show support for military troops serving overseas. On the second and fourth Friday, long necks will be available for \$1 to those who come in wearing a red shirt.

The DAV and DAVA member meetings are every third Sunday of each month. DAVA starts at 2 p.m. and the DAV is at 3:30 p.m..

Disabled American Veterans 148 is at 21 E. Keen St., Kissimmee.

For more information, call 407-846-4141.

Chili cook-off

Do you make great chili or just enjoy eating a bowl of homemade chili? Come enjoy a Great Chili Cook Off March 9 starting at 4 p.m. at the Civic Center in Intercession City at 1531 Immokalee St. All you can eat food and entertainment for just \$4.

For those who wish to enter their chili there is a \$5 entry fee, come and bring your cooking talents.

A bake sale featuring some of the best tasting desserts will also be available.

For more information, call Patricia at 407-352-0280.

Fish Fry dinner

The Intercession City Civic Center Association is hosting a Fish Fry Dinner April 13. The dinner will be at the Civic Center in Intercession City at 1531 Immokalee St. The cost is \$8 per person.

American Legion events

The American Legion of St. Cloud Post 80, 1019 Pennsylvania Ave., St. Cloud, will have the following events:

On Mondays, Bingo will be held starting at 6 p.m. in the smoke-free Civic Hall.

On Tuesdays, dart tournaments will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Wednesdays are Italian Dinner Night from 5 to 7 p.m.

On Thursdays, there will be free pool, dinner specials from 5 to 7 p.m., \$1 drafts, and Trivia Game Night starting at 8 p.m.

On Fridays, there is free shuffleboard from 3 to 7 p.m.

Prime rib dinners are the first and third weeks from 5 to 8 p.m., and karaoke is weekly starting at 8 p.m.

Saturdays there will be Road Kill Bingo on the first and third weeks, NY Strip Dinner on the second and fourth weeks and Fish Fry Dinner on the first week.

On Sundays, there will be a full breakfast from 8 to 11 a.m. and Bar Bingo from 2 to 4 p.m.

Post 80 is open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. If you are

a veteran, the spouse, son or daughter of a veteran, you are invited to speak with American Legion Post 80 regarding membership in the American Legion, Auxiliary, Riders or Sons of the American Legion.

For more information call the Post at 407-892-8808 or Mike Turco at 352-572-1261.

Osceola Airboat Association

The Osceola Airboat Association is looking for vendors for their Annual Jamboree Event May 4. The event is at Overstreet Landing in Kenansville from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The event is free to the public and there are no entry fees for the vendors.

Anyone interested should contact Joyce Bass at 321-624-8780 or Rhonda Bresinger at 321-624-2895.

Church offering

Come enjoy a free meal at 6 p.m., a short service at 7 p.m., and a giveaway of groceries following the end of service every Wednesday at the Altar St. Cloud Vineyard Church at 1215 Old Hickory Tree, St. Cloud.

American Legion Post 10

The American Legion Post, Kissimmee, FL will hold the following events:

Tuesdays, Karaoke from noon to 4 p.m., food served, an Executive Board Meeting at 6 p.m. on Wednesday and a General Membership Meeting at 7 p.m. on Feb. 27.

Thursdays, Barnyard Bingo at 7 p.m. on Feb. 21.

Friday, Bingo at 5:30 p.m. and a Seafood dinner from 5:30 to 7:30.

Saturdays, Full Course Dinner served every Saturday from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Music by local bands and dancing from 7 to 11 p.m. Bean Bag tournament Feb. 19 at 10 a.m.

Sunday, Bingo from 3 to 7 p.m.

Nominations for officers during General Meetings, Feb., March, and April. Elections will be held on May 4, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

For more information call 407-847-4193.

Youth event

St. James AME Zion Church, 719 N. John Young Parkway, Kissimmee, is having a youth event on March 16 and the community is invited.

Join in on the first annual R.A.P.P. session featuring performances by Destination Truth, Life Support, and Chan.

For more information, call 407-847-3025.

Free document shredding date

The Kiwanis Club of Kissimmee will be holding the annual free document shredding day again April 20 from 9 a.m. to noon at Shady Lane Park & Ride lot.

See Community, page B-6

Classic cars

The Classic/Muscle Car and Motorcycle Show will be at the Solivita Village Center in Poinciana, 395 Village Drive, Poinciana, Saturday, March 16, and registrants are needed.

To register, call 863-427-7125.

Osceola GOP

Anyone interested in the Republican Party of conservative issues is welcome to come to a meeting Feb. 28 at 7 p.m. at Kissimmee City Hall, Commission Chambers.

Osceola Republican Women's Network

The Greater Osceola Republican Women's Network meets March 14. Social time begins at 6 p.m. followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m. and a meeting at 7 p.m. Guest speaker will be Professor Mark Logas. Cost is \$15.

RSVP to Joni Dougherty by March 11 at 407-496-5101 or joni-dougherty@aol.com.

Democratic Meetings

The Osceola County Democratic Executive Committee (OCDEC) meeting will be Feb. 28 beginning at

Take me home

Photos/Osceola County Animal Control

Delilah, top, is a mature brindle colored female boxer. Although Delilah is somewhere around 8-years old, which is considered senior, she has lots of spunk and pep, which is very common in the boxer breed. She did have an owner, but she is now in need of a permanent home. She has been at the Osceola County Animal Shelter for about a month. Delilah gets along well with family members of all ages, and she is housebroken. Her identification number A157964. Mumford, bottom, is an adorable, black and white domestic longhair cat. He is male, about 6-months-old and he is a very social cat. Mumford is a stray, so there is not much information about him, but he loves to be held and petted. He gets along great with people and other cats. Mumford is available for adoption at the shelter, come in and visit him. Ask for the cat with identification number A158959. The shelter is at 3910 Old Canoe Creek Road in St. Cloud. To find out what animals are available, check the Osceola County Animal Control website at www.osceola.org/go/pets. All animals are spayed and neutered before leaving Animal Control. The adoption fee is \$60 for a dog and \$50 for a cat. For more information, call 407-742-8000.



Community

Continued from Page B-5

For more information, call 407-932-2037.

PA-WV-VA-MD-NC Club meetings

The PA-WV-VA-MD-NC Club will meet at 12:30 p.m. in room B at the St. Cloud Senior Center, 3101 17th St., St. Cloud, Feb. 26 and March 26.

Attendees are asked to bring a covered dish to share and a place setting including a coffee cup. Beverages will be provided.

For more information, call Nada Grimes at 407-957-9870.

Driver Safety Class

An AARP driver safety class will be March 15 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 1500 Village Oak Lane, Kissimmee, at the Senior Friends building. The class is limited to the first 25 people.

Reserve your spot by calling Ron at 407-944-9718.

GriefShare at First Baptist

GriefShare support and recovery group meets at First Baptist Church of Kissimmee, 1700 N. John Young Parkway, Kissimmee. GriefShare meets every Wednesday from

6:15 to 8:15 p.m. for 13 weeks.

Each session is self-contained, so you may begin at any time during the 13-week cycle. Childcare is available. Adults 18 years and over are better served in this group. GriefShare is a grief recovery support group where you can find help and healing for the hurt of losing a loved one through death.

This group of friendly, caring people will walk along side of you through one of life's most difficult experiences. GriefShare features a video series with nationally recognized experts on grief and recovery topics.

For more information, call 407-847-3138, or email denise.h@fbckissimmee.com.

Classic/muscle car and motorcycle show

The Classic/Muscle Car and Motorcycle Show will be at the Solivita Village Center in Poinciana, 395 Village Drive, Poinciana, Saturday, March 16, and registrants are needed.

More than \$900 worth of

trophies and prizes will be awarded. T-shirts and goodie bags will be given to the first 100 registrants on the day of the event. The fee to register is a minimum of \$10; proceeds go to the American Cancer Society. Live entertainment will perform your favorite classic rock and roll hits throughout the event from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

To register, call 863-427-7125.

Wills and Trusts

Capital Estates Educational Services will host a complimentary informational lecture presented by Wealth Preservation Associates Feb. 26 at 6 p.m. in the Adult Learning Center Osceola, 2320 New Beginnings Road, Kissimmee. The topic for the presentation will be Wills and Trusts. The lecture information is provided purely as an educational service. No legal matters will be discussed and all requests for further information will be referred to appropriate legal counsel for individual consultation.

If you have recently relocated to Florida or updated your will this seminar is designed for you. Reservations are required.

RSVP to Joe McQuaid at 407-593-2243 or Tom Dalton at 407-908-3708.

BVL music program

Do you have a desire to learn to sing or play the piano and not break your wallet? For just \$7 you can have a half hour lesson in either voice or piano every Wednesday afternoon. Come join the pilot music program at the Robert Guevara Community Center at 501 Florida Parkway in Kissimmee.

For more information, call Christa Brown at 407-201-6333.

Friends Who Care

The Friends Who Care Club of Osceola County meets the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the St. Cloud Senior Center at 3101

17th St. Membership is open to men and women from 18 years and up.

Members conduct various "Fun-Raisers" throughout the year to help local charities and the American Cancer Society's annual Relay for Life. This year the St. Cloud event will be held in April and will be a bus trip to the Hard Rock Casino in Tampa. The trip is open to the public and is scheduled for March 13.

The bus will leave the Publix Shopping Center on Dyer Boulevard, Kissimmee, at 11:45 a.m.; Partin Settlement Publix Shopping Center, St. Cloud, at 12:15 p.m. and the Senior Friends' Building, Kissimmee, at 12:45 p.m. Guests may choose any of the stops but must have a reservation.

Cost is \$25 per person and includes \$30 free play ticket, which will be given to each passenger when they arrive at the casino. Guests will have an opportunity to enjoy the activities at the casino from 2 to 7 p.m.

To make reservations or for more information, call Irene at 407-738-5300.

Elmer's Meal

Kitchen

Elmer's Meal Kitchen Ministry is a 501c3 approved nonprofit ministry serving free hot meals to the needy and homeless in the community of St. Cloud. A combined total of 33 local community churches, ministry groups, businesses and restaurants have been voluntarily serving for over 12 years. Contact your church leader or current group serving you if you would like to participate in serving meals. If your church cannot serve, get it involved by making love offerings and memorial donations to help purchase food items needed. Elmer's Meal Kitchen Director Carol Broski

can be reached at 407-957-9839.

St. Cloud Running

The St. Cloud running group meets at Crabby Bill's Tuesday and Thursday at 6:30 p.m. and running/walking begins at 6:45 p.m.

February Hipstoric 3rd Friday- Moonlight on Main

Join us for the February Hipstoric 3rd Friday- Moonlight on Main events. There will be free carriage rides, carnations for the ladies, a movie in the park, food trucks, an antique car show and Timothy Mikus playing on New York Ave. Stage from 4:40 to 7:30 p.m.

Pre-order your picnic from Dana's Cobblestone Café or Chimento's Spaghetti House. Wine and chocolate tasting will be available at select merchants. These events are hosted and sponsored by Centerstate Bank located by the food trucks at the corner of 10th St. and Pennsylvania Ave.

Saturday night church service

Neptune Road Baptist Church at 1620 Neptune Road, Kissimmee, is having a Saturday night church service starting at 8 p.m. the second and fourth Saturday of each month. Everyone is invited.

Sons of Italy 2523

The Osceola County Order Sons of Italy in America Lodge 2523 meets at 7 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at Kissimmee Bay Golf and Country Club.

The lodge welcomes all men and women of Italian heritage (or spouse that is Italian) to join. It holds events throughout the year for charities and high school schol-

See Community, page B-7

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ANITA MARIE GALON-CARSWELL
APRIL 18, 1964 - FEBRUARY 15, 2013

On February 15, 2013, the Lord called His daughter, Anita Marie Galon-Carswell, to rest in His Everlasting Arms.

Anita Marie Galon-Carswell was born in Kissimmee, Florida on April 18, 1964. She was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother. Affectionately called "Nita Ree", by relatives and close friends, she was a fun-loving fashion maven, make-up artist, and gifted culinarian. She attended Osceola High School, and lived in Kissimmee before moving to Lancaster, Pennsylvania in 1994 where she worked two years as a Human Resources Trainer at Sears Department Store, then an Administrative Professional for eight years at Beverly Healthcare of Lancaster. In 2007 she returned home to Kissimmee to be near her family, and worked at Mount Olive AME Church in Orlando, Florida for several years.

On July 5, 2012 she married Willie Carswell of Tennille, Georgia whom she loved with all of her heart, and whose devotion to her during her final stages of illness were truly a mirror of God's love.

She leaves to cherish her memories, her husband, Willie; four children, Darren Pierson, Jr. (Yana), Briana Pierson, Emilio Mendez, Emanuel Mendez; step-daughter, Chrystal Carswell; three grandchildren, Jahren, Jayla and Jahleya Pierson; grandmother, Clara Thomas; parents, Maxine and Herman Galon; sisters, Clara Brown, Roberta Galon, Alverda Galon; brother, Herman Galon, Jr.; aunt, Cheryl Thomas; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends.

Services at Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, Saturday, February 23, 2013, 11:00 a.m., 604 North John Young Parkway, Kissimmee, FL.

Interment following at Rose Hill Cemetery, Kissimmee, FL. Repast immediately following the interment at Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church in the Fellowship Hall.

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Community

Continued from Page B6

arships. For more information, contact lodge president Gertrude Dorries at 321-286-6787 for more information.

The American Legion Post 10

The American Legion Post, Kissimmee, will hold the following events:

Tuesdays: Karaoke from noon to 4 p.m. with food served.

Friday: Bingo at 5:30 p.m. Seafood dinner served every Friday from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Saturday: Jan. 5 breakfast will be served from 9 to 11 a.m.

Full course dinner every Saturday from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Music by local bands and dancing from 7 to 11 p.m.

Sunday: Bingo every Sunday from 3 to 7 p.m.

VFW Post 3227 events

The following events will be taking place at VFW Post 3227, 915 New York Ave., St. Cloud: Bingo every Wednesday. Early bird begins at 6:30 p.m. Regular bingo will begin at 7 p.m.

Post 3227 will be sponsoring a rummage sale and flea market Friday, March 15, and Saturday, March 16, at VFW Post 3227, 915 New York Ave., St. Cloud. Indoor tables will be available for rental for \$15 per table, cost covers both days. Outdoor spaces will be \$10 per space for both days. You will need to furnish your own table. Call or stop

by the post to reserve your table. For more information call 407-892-6761.

Tobacco-free meeting

Interested in making a difference within your community by promoting tobacco-free and healthy lifestyles? Join the partnership. The mission of the Osceola County Tobacco Prevention Partnership is to promote a tobacco-free environment for Osceola County residents and visitors. The partnership meets once a quarter and participates in a variety of community events. There is no cost to attend the meeting and new members are always welcome. The next meeting will be Wednesday, Feb. 6, from 5:30 to 7:30

p.m. at the Osceola County Health Department, 1875 Boggy Creek Road, Kissimmee. For more information, contact Monifa Charles at 407-343-2170.

Volunteers needed

The Osceola County Historical Society is looking for volunteers to greet and give tours to guests at the Pioneer Village.

Join the society in educating the community and visitors to what life was like in Osceola County during the late 1800's. Anyone who can spare one to three hours per week can be a volunteer in any number of roles with our organization, from greeters and tour guides, to office help or grounds keep-

ers. Training provided for all roles. To explore the possibilities, call volunteer coordinator Juana Kelly at 407-396-8644 or email questions to juana@osceolahistory.org. Visit the website at Osceolahistory.org.

Osceola County Camera Club

The Osceola County Camera Club invites anyone interested in taking photographs and having a good time to attend the club's twice-monthly meetings.

The club will meet on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at the Osceola Center for the Arts in the Edward Moore Studio at 7 p.m.

For more information, visit

the website at www.osceola-countycameraclub.com or the club's Facebook page at http://bit.ly/ackyi7.

St. Cloud Garden Club

The St. Cloud Garden Club will meet on the second Saturday of each month from October to May at 11:30 a.m. at the St. Cloud Senior Center on 17th Street.

It's a pot luck lunch, members should contribute.

The topics covered will be information on vegetable plants, flowers, shrubs and trees. There also will be exhibits of live plants and flower arrangements.

For more information, call 407-870-0671.

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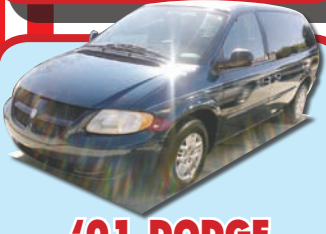
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