THE ORLANDO LOCAL NEWS



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NOVEMBER 2020

The Latest

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"BEST OF CENTRAL FLORIDA" AWARD WINNERS TO BE COMMENDED AT U-CLUB LUNCHEON

n December 3, 2020, The Orlando Local News will be honoring Central Florida's finest residents and businesses at an awards luncheon concluding 2020's Best of Central Florida competition. Most award winners were selected by members of the community during a month-long round of voting from September 18 to October 18. Our Editorial Board selected several winners from non-voting categories as well, including our two Roger S. Swanson Lifetime Achievement Award recipients, former Congressman John L. Mica and Vice Admiral Antonia Novello, former U.S. Surgeon General under President George H.W. Bush. From inventors to musicians, restaurants to politicians, attendees will get an opportunity to hear from a wide array of community leaders and entrepreneurs. Partnering with the Agents of Innovation Podcast, the event will begin with a reception around 11:30 AM, with the official program starting promptly at 12:00 PM. Due to the national health crisis, we take safety seriously and provide both social distancing and remote attendance options. As a result of social distancing guidelines, only a limited number of seats will be allotted for award winners and guests. To reserve your seat, please RSVP at LocalNewsOrlando.com/best-of-central-florida. See our full catalog of winners on Pages 2 and 3.



New G.O.P. Star Visits M-Lounge in Orlando

Rising G.O.P. Star Madison Cawthorn Dropped Into O-Town For A Recent Fundraiser at M-Bar



By FRANCISCO GONZALEZ

Party consists only of old white men, a recent visit by rising GOP star Madison Cawthorn chipped away at that narrative. The youngest Member of Congress elected in the past 200 years, Cawthorn met with fans from all walks of life during a fundraiser last month at M-Lounge near Ivanhoe on Orange Avenue. **CONTINUED PAGE 5**

Local Inventor Awes with COVID-Cleansing Device



By MARSHALL SWANSON

local inventor with international acclaim recently made waves with a new purification machine aimed at removing COVID-19 from the air inside closed rooms and buildings. CONTINUED PAGE 4

Exclusive: The Orlando Local News Interviews Former U.S. Surgeon General Antonia Novello On COVID

By MARSHALL SWANSON

Victor Zollo, AMan of Humility... Page 8

... Page 8

Then I first asked Vice Admiral Novello about her career path, she explained that she never imagined herself as the Surgeon General, but instead wanted to just be a surgeon..... until she married one. His opinion as a Naval flight surgeon informed her to focus her efforts in a different direction: pediatrics. "In my generation it was a natural thing, for a woman to be a pediatrician." The COVID crisis has surged across the North American continent following its initial spread from China. Many wonder why so many die from this novel disease. One answer Novello states might be the cause for such high mortality stems from a combination of the Flu and COVID itself. A frequent traveller to her native island of Puerto Rico, Novello explained that 20% of those who died with COVID-19 also contracted the flu. "That means one virus



in the body does not prevent you from getting another... it is pneumonia that kills in the Flu" She further stated that: "the influenza of last year is more severe than the one right now. It could be we are being infected because we are wearing the mask." As to the President's role in the containment of the pandemic, Novello states that, "the biggest leader was President Trump... every leader and the [public had to] digest to the knowledge we had... he can't bring doom and gloom to the situation." **CONTINUED ON PAGE 5**

Post-Election Commentary

By THE ORLANDO LOCAL NEWS EDITORIAL BOARD

or single issue, anti-Trump voters, the election brought a victory only imaginable in their wildest dreams. However, for super-voters on the left and right, very few were satisfied with the outcome of the election. For Republicans, the loss of President Trump meant the end of an era of right wing dominance over bureaucrats and the "deep state" in Washington. Similarly, many liberals feel frustrated at conservative gains in legislative and down ballot races. Locally, very few seats flipped. Our endorsements in the Primary Election yielded fruit and brought new players to an aging field of establishment politicians. To our distaste, our General Election endorsees received a mixed bag of results, though none were surprising in the least. Let's hope for better results next time around.

Holiday Dishes That'll Make You Gobble 'Til You Wobble

In this issue, we will be featuring old-fashioned recipes from Shirley Jane's cookbook, as well as modern (turkey-less) Thanksgiving dishes for your family's feast courtesy of the chefs at two of Orlando's finest gourmet restaurants, Christner's and Christini's. Sadly, these chefs won't be giving away their secret recipes served at the restaurants, though they will instruct you on how to make basic but mouth-watering holiday meals for the whole family to enjoy at home. The salivating taste of these cookbook specialties will keep you coming back for seconds and thirds (and maybe even fourths!). For lovers of vino, Chatham's Som Peter Freeman has selected the best wine for your holiday indulgence. Last but not least, Corona Cigar Company will provide the perfect pairings for the cigar connoisseurs among us. **CONTINUED PAGE 6**

THE ORLANDO LOCAL NEWS

BEST OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

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BEST OF CENTRAL FLORIDA AWARDS 2020

ROGER S. SWANSON LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNERS



U.S. CONGRESSMAN JOHN L. MICA (RET.)

Though originally from Binghamton, New York, John Mica spent the bulk of his youth in Florida before the launch of his career in real estate. Mica's journey began in South Florida where he attended Edison High School in Miami before ultimately graduating with a degree in Education from the University of Florida. In college Mica also served as a member of Delta Chi fraternity and Florida Blue Key. Following his graduation and subsequent business career, the people of Central Florida elected Mica to the State Legislature in Tallahassee. From there, Mica went on to serve as Chief of Staff for Florida's first woman Senator, Paula Hawkins prior to his election to the US House of Representatives in which he served from 1992-2016. Dubbed "Mr. Transportation," Mica sought to improve the efficiency and viability of our state's infrastructure throughout his career. Mica currently resides in WInter Park, FL with his wife and lifelong partner Patricia.



U.S. SURGEON GENERAL ANTONIA NOVELLO (RET.)

Born in Fajardo, Puerto Rico, Vice Admiral Antonia Novello enjoyed a successful career in the medical field as a pediatrician following her graduation from the University of Puerto Rico and Johns Hopkins University. In 1979, Novello joined the Public Health Service and received a commission in the Public Health Service Commissioned Corps (PHSCC). Novello was appointed Surgeon General by President George H. W. Bush, beginning her tenure on March 9, 1990, and was appointed to the temporary rank of vice admiral in the regular corps while Surgeon General. She was the first woman and the first Hispanic to hold the position. Novello married former US Navy flight surgeon and psychiatrist, Joseph R. Novello. Since 2008, Novello has been vice president of Women and Children Health and Policy Affairs at Disney Children's Hospital at Florida Hospital in Orlando, Florida.

BEST IN BUSINESS, PUBLIC SERVICE & PHILANTHROPY

PHILANTHROPIC EXCELLENCE



JOHN CROSSMAN

AMERICAN DREAMER AWARD



GLEN GILZEAN

WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD



MARY DEMETREE

BEST IN PUBLIC RELATIONS



MICHELLE HEATHERLY

EDUCATIONAL HERO AWARD



DAYLE SENEFF

ART ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR



MICHAEL AND MARILYN MENNELLO

THE ORLANDO LOCAL NEWS

BEST OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

ESTABLISHED 1980



HARVEY MASSEY, VETERANS' ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR AWARD



OMAR DELGADO, CENTRAL FLORIDA'S FINEST



JUDGE MEREDITH SASSO, JUDICIAL EXCELLENCE



CONGRESSMAN DANIEL WEBSTER, BEST LOCAL CONGRESSMAN



STATE REP. ANTHONY SABATINI, BEST STATE LEGISLATOR



MAYOR DAVE HENSON, BEST MUNICIPAL LEADER



EMMETT IMANI, BEST LOCAL INVENTOR

SHIMON ZIKRI, INTERNI CUCINI BEST CABINET MAKER

> COLLEGE PARK CAFE, BEST DINER

CHRISTNER'S, BEST STEAKHOUSE

CHRISTINI'S, BEST ITALIAN RESTAURANT

CHATHAM'S PLACE, BEST IN AMERICAN FINE DINING

PR'S TACO PALACE, BEST MEXICAN RESTAURANT

> FOUR RIVERS, BEST BBQ

F. PHILIP HANDY, LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT IN FINANCE RAY COUDRIET, BEST BUILDER

VALERIE BOEY, NANCY ALVAREZ BEST IN NEWS

VOSE LAW, MCLEOD LAW BEST BOUTIQUE LAW FIRMS

ROSEN HOTELS, BEST RESORT

JOHN CRAIG & CURRENT, BEST HABERDASHERY

CORONA CIGAR, BEST CIGAR LOUNGE DICK BATCHELOR, BEST IN GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS DARIUSZ GRABOWSKI, BEST LOCAL MUSICIAN FIDDLER'S GREEN, BEST PUB

HANGRY BISON, BEST BURGER

GREG FOURNIER, BEST POLITICAL CONSULTANT

JON MILLER, BEST IN POLITICAL ADVOCACY

> VITALOUNGE, BEST IV LOUNGE

ROCK HARD FITNESS, BEST FITNESS CLUB

NEST EGG FINANCIAL, BEST DEBT RELIEF FIRM BOB ROSE, LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD IN MUSIC **NEWS & OPINION**

ESTABLISHED 1980

Local Inventor Makes Strides Against COVID With Purification Device

With ten states enforcing school shutdowns, some education watchdogs seek solutions to reopen safely. Will new purification systems offer the golden opportunity? Nearly every day for the past month, infection rates from those sickened by Coronavirus have remained on a steady rise in the US. With holiday travel and the advent of winter, cases now number in a range from 5,000 to 10,000 per day, adding to the already staggering statistic of almost 15 million contractions of the disease.

Although a vaccine may be a promising antidote to the pandemic, body counts continue to reach sobering heights and schools and businesses languish in limbo. A Gallup poll recently surveyed Americans on willingness to accept inoculation.

Even though well over half of those surveyed positively supported the vaccine's administration, four out of ten polled in the questionnaire still felt weary about its safety and efficacy. Whether mandated or administered on a voluntary basis, the new vaccines may take up to a year for full distribution throughout the US, according to some health experts, though most agree vials will be available for select groups within the next few weeks. Another hurdle for full national distribution: anti-vaxers and skepticism among minority groups as to the necessity of the vaccine.

Few health officials deny the need for continuing safety protocols until a wider vaccination of the public clears the way for returning to normalcy. In the meantime, many outspoken proponents of the education lobby now point to a dire need for children to resume classes while also seeking ways to keep the safety of the student population the number one priority. Jails, colleges, offices and houses of worship also face similar predicaments.

An award winning team of scientists at Erdwelle Technologies with a world renown record may hold the key to solving this dilemma by way of two newly revealed purification devices recently showcased at several technology conventions around the globe. The air purification device disinfects air through processes relating to nano tio2 plasma technology while the pair's medical waste treatment machine eliminates contaminants by use of microwaves with close to 100% effectiveness, something HEPA filters cannot completely accomplish. This unique invention, uses no filter, no chemicals and no UV lights, unlike other machines on the market. Already basking in praise from the international community, Dr. Mehrdad Fojlaley and Emmett Imani have of late received several commendations for their efforts. Nizhiny Novgorord University in Russia recognized the team for their air and surface disinfection system.

In addition, last month, the International Federation of Innovators and the Union of Croatian Innovators jointly awarded an ARCA medallion to the US-based inventors for their medical waste treatment system. Several hospitals and schools in the COVID ravaged state of Florida will consider utilizing the devices over the next few weeks following a review and approval process. The next exhibition of the inventions will occur during an awards ceremony at the University Club of Orlando on December 3rd, 2020.

President Trump's Recent Visit to Central Florida May Be Last In Office



By MARSHALL SWANSON

As the President fights legal battle after legal battle, most now concede on all sides that the prospects of a second Trump term seem dismal as best. With state certifications flooding in by the day, many now believe President Trump's recent visit to Sanford may be his last in office.

Whatever you think of President Trump, as with his predecessor, this moment will never come again. Some time ago, I enjoyed the unique opportunity to see Air Force One personally. The jet's iconic image remains a point of contention though. As the apparently incoming Biden administration takes office, the future of the bird's exterior remains uncertain. The Trump Administration proposed changes to the aircraft's paint scheme even some Republicans felt uncomfortable with. On the other hand, many believe the plane's retro exterior to be outdated and old-fashioned.

For most people though, it is not the color of the plane that matters most, but the red or blue shades associated with their political affiliation. In the

case of Mr. Biden, Floridians strongly denounced his campaign in an astounding victory for Trump in the Sunshine State. Among President Trump's die-hard supporters is Leland McKee, a long-time Republican and reporter for the conservative-minded Salem News Media. Though Mr. McKee's recent snapshot of Mr. Trump in Sanford, seen right, may be the last of the President's visits while in office, it is clear his supporters will continue to remain dedicated and stalwart.



GOD'S WORD

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

I Thessalonians 5:18

WORDS TO THE WISE

"Whenever the people are well informed, they can be trusted with their own government..." Thomas Jefferson

O.C. Police Athletic League & Partners Lauded For Successful Tourney



By MARSHALL SWANSON

The Orange County Police Athletic League's recent charity golf tournament proved to be a smashing success. Community leaders, businesspeople and philanthropists converged on the links of Shingle Creek Golf Course October 17th for a benefit to support children in need. Many partner organizations joined in as well including



CONSIDERING THE FUTURE AT BAYVIEW, Ray Coudriet, builder, and real estate associate of Helen Mardis, studies plans for the subdivision. Coudriet, through Quality Life Building, is the first to construct new homes in the area.

County.

Curriculum Fair March
The prospect of long dist.
Phillips area has prompted ma
education at such schools as

Lake Highland Preparatory Orlando, will hold its annual Curr 8:00 p.m

The parents of students participate in this event which academic achievement, enricl sports programs.

Orientation for prospective

Orientation for prospective presentation, is set for 5:00 p.m. an kindergarten through grade 6, or v Student work will be exhibite Middle and Upper School classro Highland's drama and music depa athletic displays and sports demoi between 5:00 and 7:00 p.m.

Wow! Another

Another extremely successful tramping across the Bay Hill golf This fourth tournament attrac Nicklaus (So Arnie likely will be r Plans already are under way larger prize purse. This year's winn

Left: Players gather for a photo op at Rosen Shingle Creek; Porsche of South Orlando displays car at P.A.L. tournament. Right: Coudriet, a long-time Bay Hill resident and Police Athletic League proponent, seen in a 1982 Local News throwback.

Bravo Supermarkets and Porsche of South Orlando. Mr. Ray Coudriet and Ms. Brenda Knowles were indispensable in the planning and success of the event. Corona Cigar Company distributed smokes to participants and Shingle Creek served lunch to attendees at the conclusion of the match which began with a shotgun start. Though law enforcement often comes under unfair scrutiny, the Police Athletic League's dedication to children in need demonstrates the selfless devotion and service which most give their lives to promote and protect.

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NEWS & OPINION

ESTABLISHED 1980

Rising Republican Star Visits Tim Majors' M-Lounge

State University. "Life was everything I wanted it to be, 18 years old, the world at my fingertips, he told me when we met this summer. But then, on a road trip to Florida, he was the passenger in a horrific car accident that almost took his life. While he managed to survive, he was left paralyzed, without the use of his legs. Advance more than six years later, at the age of 25 years old, and he was running for Congress, a seat he won on Election Night, November 3, 2020. He has now become the youngest member of Congress in over 220 years. On August 29, I travelled to Hendersonville, North Carolina (just outside Asheville) to sit down with Madison over cigars and interview him for Episode 82 of the Agents of Innovation podcast. This month's Agents of Innovation e-newsletter was dedicated to that interview and the subsequent experiences I had co-hosting a fundraiser for him in Orlando in October and traveling once again to North Carolina to help campaign for him in the final 72 hours, capping it off by spending election night with him, his family, friends, and

Novello Continued...

I asked Dr. Novello whether she was confident in the Coronavirus vaccines and she answered positively. Nonetheless, Dr. Novello did explain her reservations about college students coming home to their families during the next few weeks for the holiday season. Novello also stated that in her opinion, while China did not release the virus from a lab, they must have given the United States a head start through genomes. She also extrapolated that the 23 day delay by the WHO may have been due to self interest of the chairman who was also Chinese and biased in protecting that country's interests including the Chinese New Year.

When asked about the job of the current surgeon general at the present, she explained that she or any official is "not just the Hispanic Surgeon General, but [also] the SG of all... my concern is that [the current S.G.] became the spokesperson only for minorities and not for all." As to the biggest challenge in the US today, Novello says trust in government, specifically in health officials is the biggest problem we face today. Her great relationship with President Bush, and Mrs. Barbara Bush aided in her boosting trust during the HW administration.

Students often ask for advice from Dr. Novello. Her answer? More Congressional funding. And we concur. Dr. Novello currently serves in Puerto Rico every two weeks to distribute vaccines. When asked about the title she prefers, she explained that she doesn't like the term Vice Admiral, just Doctor. At the conclusion of the interview, I asked her if cigars were okay, she scolded me but... "if you are doing cigars, make sure you are not in a closed place and you have ventilation."

Opinion: Worrell Poor Choice For State Attorney

By MARSHALL SWANSON

While she's not cutting slack on violent criminals, State Attorney Aramis Ayala spends her time disrespecting police officers and impugning the character of our judicial system. The double standards Ayala adheres to only solidify the public outrage over her arrogance and holier-than-thou approach to administering justice. With public opinion moving strongly against her, Ayala did not seek to run for reelection. However, the State Attorney instead chose to run her mini-me: Monique Worrell. Worrell, an attorney with a penchant for radical legal interpretations, not only aligns with Ayala's disturbing ideals, but also finds new allies within the socalled Black Lives Matter movement.

The organization's fury imparted wrath throughout the United States on local business owners and government facilities throughout the summer and fall. When given the opportunity to condemn violence against the police and private property, Worrell and Ayala sought to brush aside the severity of the rioting. In a recent interview with the Orlando Sentinel, Worrell underscored her concerns: "People are tired of seeing black men and women murdered with no one being held accountable... [there shouldn't] be murder of innocent people sleeping in their homes by the government." We investigated Worrell's claims and give her three Pinocchios of our own. In

At the age of 18 years old, Madison Cawthorn had been nominated to apply to the hundreds of his closest supporters to witness history and a miraculous journey that U.S. Naval Academy. He also had a full ROTC scholarship to attend North Carolina continues. Whether a Democrat, Independent or Republican, Madison's story deserves a look for anyone seeking a boost of inspiration during these chaotic and challenging days.



Mysterious "London House" To Open In Doctor Phillips' Dellagio

By JOHN MCCARTHY

A place of privilege and magnificent opulence, Dr. Phillips' mysterious new social club, "London House," may be a home run success or a flop-- only time will tell. The no photography policy in the club prevents our reporters from gaining access to the site to investigate the quality and veracity of the rumored \$6k per month membership benefits. From a helipad to dining facilitated by the world's top chefs, entrepreneurs Ben Becton and Adrian Everett's vision will soon become a reality. Though by all accounts, membership in the supper club seems to be on the rise in exponential numbers, London House's immediate predecessor, Urbain Forty, did not fare as well. However, under the leadership of Becton and Everett, as well as their world-renown staff, things seem to be trending in a positive direction for the club. Some aren't so sure of the club's value

In a recent conversation with a former sports star and Bay Hill resident, The Local News learned of skeptics' gripes: "What I don't want to do is join a glorified Citrus Club for several times the price, and less space. How long before this thing goes stale?" Still, most involved in the venture appear optimistic, though for the rest of us who can't afford a \$40k annual membership, we'll just look on from the outside in awe and speculation.

★THE LOCAL NE



the past five years, according to the nationally-acclaimed Washington Post report on police shootings, only three involved unarmed black men in the Orange Country, Central Florida area, and none were sleeping in their homes. In addition, 2/3 of the alleged victims were involved in violent crime leading up to their deaths. It is evident whose side Worell and Ayala land on, and it isn't the public's. In order to stop crime, we must first begin by opposing candidates who support crime.



Local News Throwback Circa 1983, Dr. Phillips Marketplace



The Sweet Quiet of Ballooning

The light, airy days of late winter and spring seem to be "made" for balloons — not the kind you lolow up by yourself, but the kind you ride in.

Terry Dillard, a young man with a hot air mission, has developed a highly successful enterprise with his Balloons by Terry company. With more than 2,500 hours of safe balloon flights and nine yours experience. Terry loves ballooning.

)use

A

der ier?

For Terry, there is no prettler sight than a group of bailoons floating into the sunrise, "One bailoon alone is beautiful," he says, "but several together is spectacular."

Deluxe champagne bailoon flights cost around \$90 a person. Generally, Terry starts off on a clear, quiet morning from an area near Rosemont and floats

balloons touch down in the South Bay-North Bay area. Balloons have landed on the Bay Hill golf course. Any gross dangers in ballooning? Not really, says Terry, since balloons are kept aloft by hot air. There is little danger of combustion, and none of "engine failure." One aspect many passengers thorroughly enjoy is the quiert. You float

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ervice aler for RCA, Sony and Zenith

to Peter Finn Realty)

Sand Lake Hospital Zips the quality health care already available at the Orlando Regional Medical Center." The center now has divisions in downtown Orlando and at Orange Vista Hospital at Walt Disney World Village. The Orlando Regional Medical Center Sand Lake Campus will be located on a 46-acre site off 1-4 across from the Orange County Civic Center. Upon completion, the health care center will contain a physician's office building, four surgical units, an emergency services area, a critical care unit and a clinical laboratory. Congressman Bill Nelson was the speaker at dedication ceremonies November 4 for the \$35 million Orlando Regional Medical Center Sand Lake Regional Medical Center Sand Lake Campus hospital. The event is being held to commemorate the progress to date on the six-story, 150-bed medical and surgical hospital scheduled to open in 1985. Also officiating were Chairman of the Board Robert F. Stonerock, President-Chief Executive Officer Gary Strack and Administrator John Hillenmeyer. According to Hillenmeyer, "The mew facility will be another extension of BEC

FRIVOLITY PREVAILED: SHIRLEY tried on a German hat at the Octoberfest blast. The pretty lady is Shirley Mezger of Orange Tree accepting the hat from a visitor with the oom-pah German band, at the recent Marketplace event.

WINING, DINING & LOCAL DELIGHTS

ESTABLISHED 1980

Holiday Dishes That'll Make You Gobble "Til You Wobble"

CHRISTINI'S VONGOLE PUCCINI (BAKED CLAMS)

INSTRUCTIONS

INGREDIENTS

Saute garlic in olive oil. 1 tsp chopped garlic Add bread crumbs, salt and Olive Oil pepper. Remove from heat. 1 tsp chopped parsley Add balance of ingredients 3 tsps bread crumbs, except clams and wine. unseasoned Remove clams from shells and Few grains red pepper chop. Replace clams in shells 1 tsp oregano and cover with bread crumb 2 oz chopped crab oil and bake at 350 degrees 12 clams F oven for 10 minutes. When 2 tsps white wine clams are done, sprinkle with Olive oil white wine. Serve with lemon.

Make four servings.

mixture. Sprinkle with olive Salt and pepper to taste



CHRISTNER'S LOBSTER TAIL

INSTRUCTIONS

All you need is some butter, salt and a cutter (oh, and don't forget the oven). Cut the shell and take the meat out. But don't rip the meat off the shell. Rest the meat on the top, fan it out but don't rip it off. Slit the meat to tenderize. Heat at 350 degrees F after applying melted butter. Bake until meat is not translucent. You can even finish it on the grill! Apply seasoning and more butter to your desired portion of lobster, then eat to your heart's delight.....

INGREDIENTS & TOOLS

PAGE 6

Butter (as much as you want) Salt and your fav seasoning **Cutters and gloves**



SHIRLEY JANE'S "SUNNY SALAD" TO **BRIGHTEN YOUR FALL & WINTER**

INSTRUCTIONS

In 5-cup blender, sprinkle unflavored gelatine over cold juice, let stand three to four minutes. Add hot juice and process at low speed until gelatine is completely dissolved, about 2 min. Add sugar and lemon juice, process at high speed until blended. Add carrots. Pour into 8" baking pan, stir in pineapple. Chill until firm. Make 6 servings.

INGREDIENTS

2 envelopes unflavored gelatine

1/2 cup cold orange juice 1 1/4 OJ heated to boiling

1 tsp sugar

1/4 cup lemon juice 1 1/2 shredded carrots

1 can (8 oz) crushed pineapple in natural juice, undrained





CHATHAM'S WINE PAIRINGS

"Les Combettes ", Theirry Matrot, Burgundy, FR 2017

CORONA CIGAR PAIRINGS

"The American" by JC Newman

Florida Sun Grown

Davidoff Tampa FSG

From A Morning Mimosa To Poached Eggs, The Briarpatch Has It All



By MARSHALL SWANSON

Briarpatch make the perfect backdrop for those favorites. I can't say I am much of a breakfast looking to start their day off with a dose of sunshine, poached eggs and mimosas.

friendly staff serve guests with a happy demeanor and a cheerful smile (though masks obscure their grins for the most part these days).

Though most people enjoy a delicious breakfast dish while dining at the restaurant, the Briarpatch offers breakfast, brunch and lunch options. The

The yellow umbrellas and awnings of the turkey sandwich remains one of my all time person, so I usually go with the lunch options.

But even to the most anti-morning person, Of course, the coffee is just as good too! The the delectable sights and smells will leave you salivating for more. For business meetings, special occasions or just a fun time to treat yourself, take a walk over to the sunny side of the street at the Briarpatch!

Orlando Watch Company Keeps On Tick, Tick Ticking





By JON GRANGER

Walking into the Orlando Watch Company, you'll find a wide variety of watches for any and all purposes. The first things you'll notice: the horology lab in the rear of the building, and the incredible antique and Victorian clocks dispersed throughout the store. Even if you're not buying, the shop is worth a visit.

The Orlando Watch Company is a family-owned & operated watch retail and watch repair store located in the heart of Central Florida: Winter Park. The business was started by Scott Heisler, a 2nd generation, Rolex trained watchmaker and repairman affiliated with the trade for almost 40 years. Today, Orlando Watch Company is a family team with a passion for horology.

Scott's journey as a watchmaker began at a young age, though his formal training took just two years. His shop enjoys the rare distinction of world-wide acclaim. The unique character of his business means Mr. Heisler and his family serve clients from all around the globe, and not just Central Floridians. Heisler's shop offers a bit of everything, from pocket-watches to dive-watches, aviator favorites to collectable antiques.

Heisler's daughter and son-in-law currently aid him in his mission to provide the best quality watches and repairs to residents of Central Florida and visitors alike.

ENTERTAINMENT, TRAVEL & LAW

ESTABLISHED 1980

Patrons Enjoyed A Spooktacular Evening At Mather's On Halloween





Mather's recent Halloween masquerade bash concluded with great success and happily haunted guests. Creative outfits worthy of the occasion could be seen throughout the building as party-goers sipped on 1920s cocktails and Fall favorites. Though social distancing restrictions made for long lines outside, most felt the wait to be worth their time. A unique experience found nowhere else in Florida, Mather's 1920s style speakeasy remains a hot spot for lovers of the past to take part in a piece of history at the present. Through a library's trapdoor bookshelf, visitors enter a time portal to a bygone era of roaring fun. Stop by today or be sure to attend one of Mather's future social gatherings!

Mark Nejame's Green Thumb





Above: Mark and Josie Nejame (Credits: Runway to Hope)

By MARSHALL SWANSON

Who's better at planting ferns: the late Hibbard Casselberry, or Mark Nejame? If you asked John Morgan (yes, that infamous attorney at law), he'd probably say neither, and deny that Mr. Nejame is the best fern grower in the state of Florida. But Mr. Nejame won't hesitate to inform you of his unique and unparalleled skills as both an attorney and gardener. You see, Mr. Morgan and Mr. Nejame once sparred over this seemingly silly matter—in college that is. At the University of Florida, this now inseparable duo waged a war of words** (typo, I mean, weeds, by duelling as plant salesmen). But that battle didn't end. Today, they now spar over bigger things: like whose law firm holds better Christmas parties or which one has a better taste in cigars. At any rate, the pair now share a deep friendship, but more importantly, a love for their clients and a devotion to the integrity of the legal process.

Nejame's career sprouted not just from his innovative business savvy and hard work, but more importantly as a result of the respect and devotion he's demonstrated for his fellow human beings. Nejame's compassion for people not only extends to his law practice, which includes criminal defense and immigration law, but also ebbs towards those children in dire need. Nejame and his wife Josie, the love of his life, currently serve as directors of Runway to Hope, a fund for young people suffering from cancer.

Nejame doesn't really have a green thumb, or even green skin-- he holds within him a crimson heart of deep passion, love and munificence. Whether you need a legal defense or a helping hand, you can always count on Mark and Josie Nejame to sow seeds of goodwill and generosity before their fellow humans.

Travel: The Surprising Charm Of Lebanon At Christmas Time





By MARSHALL SWANSON

Ask most people their travel plans this year and they'll be fixed to the couch on a Corona vacation. But what if things were pre-COVID? Most people's idea for a romantic and magical Christmas holiday conjures up visions of snowcapped mountains in the alps, Christmas markets in Germany or the charm of New York's holiday displays. However, for the adventurous, exotic destinations may be appealing, and that is just what I experienced several years ago on a trip to Lebanon helping refugees. Having travelled to Lebanon many times, and as I retain a deep knowledge of the history of the country, its divisions seem to all but disappear during the holiday season.

Once a majority Christian nation, Lebanon now possesses a majority Islamic population, though with a sizable number of Catholics, Assyrians and other Christian sects still remaining. No matter what religion (aside from Hezbollah and other terrorist sects), most in Lebanon celebrate the birth of our Saviour without hesitation, or simply engage in the spirit of the season for cultural enjoyment. Muslims and Christians alike gather around the trees like the ones shown above (sitting directly in front of Mosques).

Many think of the Middle East as a desert full of war, but modern Lebanon wields neither war nor desert. Mountains provide slopes for skiing, the people lend a hand of kindness, and the lights of Christmas fill the hearts of people everywhere with warmth. If you go to Lebanon, be sure to know a friend or take a guide (all is not completely safe). But, on the whole, visitors will find a surprising mix of culture and charm.

A Tale Of Two Pianists.... IIIIIII





David Witte and Scott Berry Play Often At Christner's Prime Steak and Lobster. The Only Problem? We Can't Tell Which is Better: The Music or the Food?

By MARSHALL SWANSON

We almost fooled you at the end of that subheading... We think Scott and Dave are both the top! You will catch Scott and David playing frequently at Christner's piano bar where you can enjoy a relaxing cocktail to favorites from the Great American Songbook and rock alike. These musicians didn't graduate from some pretentious musical school... they learned everything on their own! (with far superior talent, I might add, to most of their counterparts in other establishments) With that being said, their competition is slim given the rarity of their abilities and these fine artists need our support to keep the music playing. Why not drop into Christner's for a romantic night or an evening cocktail?! Your taste buds and your ears will say "thanks."

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COMMUNITY

ESTABLISHED 1980

Local News Founder Roger Swanson Receives Military Honors









Victor Zollo, Jr.: A Man Of Humility And Faith



Above: Patrick Aheam (Right) interviews Victor Zollo, Jr. (Left) at his 17th century Edgartown, MA property formerly owned by Governor Mayhew and John Coffin (Credits: Patrick Ahearn Architect, LLC)

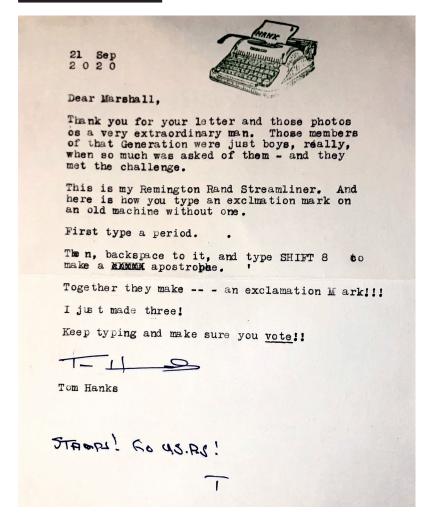
By MARSHALL SWANSON

Like his father before him, Victor Zollo Jr. always sets his sights on the things that matter the most: family and community. A former chairman of Catholic Charities of Central Florida, Zollo remains an active and ardent Catholic and a strong man of faith. In large ways and small ways, Zollo endeavors to bring joy, happiness and love to everyone he meets. From simply buying a stranger dinner to orchestrating multi-million dollar fundraising drives for those in need, Victor Zollo understands the meaning of true Christian faith.

A lifelong resident of Winter Park (though originally a Bay Hill resident), Zollo attended Rollins College and earned varsity letters in baseball in 1972 and 1973 as well as serving

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

TOM HANKS CHIMES



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as the captain of the 1973 squad that won 26 games and advanced to the NCAA Tournament. After graduation, he served the entire college as a member of the Board of Trustees and also as the national chair of the Rollins Annual Campaign from 2001-2004.

Zollo is a Founding Partner of Deprince, Race and Zollo and presently sits on the firm's Management Committee. Mr. Zollo manages the daily operations of the firm and oversees marketing and client service for all investment disciplines. Prior to forming DePrince, Race & Zollo, Inc., Mr. Zollo was a Director and Partner of SunBank Capital Management responsible for marketing, sales and client service.

Despite his impressive career and lofty position, Zollo has always kept a down-toearth persona, no-matter who comes into the room. The next time you see Mr. Zollo taking a stroll down Park Avenue, or simply doing a good deed, take a moment to say thank you and chat with this extraordinary human being.

ABOUT THE LOCAL NEWS

and eventually took him to the Kansas City Star where he served as Travel Editor and Sunday Editor. Later, Swanson moved to Florida where he served as Vice President of Public Relations at Walt Disney World. He then branched out into broadcast news on Channels 9 and 6 in Orlando before founding The Local News.

A one of a kind publication, this newspaper seeks only to protect and enhance the interests of the citizens living in these communities, to become a guardian in a sense of the beauty, the privileges, the freedoms and the challenges which make this area such a desirable and delightful place to live. We have no axes to grind; no particular philosophical or political point of view to expound. All of us engaged in the

The Orlando Local News was originally founded by newspaper are neighbors or friends of these communities. Roger Swanson in 1980. His founding of *The Local* The editor of *The Local News* is Marshall Swanson, who News followed a distinguished career in media and has been involved in radio, government, philanthropy and public relations that began in the US Army Air Force politics for many years. The main reason for the existence of The Orlando Local News is bringing a voice to a wildernessa wilderness that lacks a voice, a point of view — or simply lacks the coverage of news, current events and personalities in these communities most wish to hear. Other publications simply have not paid much attention to these residents.

> We refuse to submit to the pattern of conformity so prevalent among a majority of news publications in this area: out of touch, out of town corporate newspapers seeking nothing less than to gin up division and ideological propaganda in

> The editorial board of this paper will certainly give opinions on matters and topics pertinent to the community represented in this publication. However, we will allow any of those opposed to our point of view a place to voice their opinions, unlike most papers in this area.

About the Editor:

Marshall Swanson is the grandson of founder Roger Swanson. He is the current Editor of The Orlando Local News. He previously worked in the US House of Representatives, operated in the field of political activism and campaigns, as well hosting a radio program on both the AM and FM dial. In addition, he has travelled to Iraq on numerous occasions for charity and research which he submitted to Members of Congress and the National Security Council at the White House.



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