

Postseason Progression

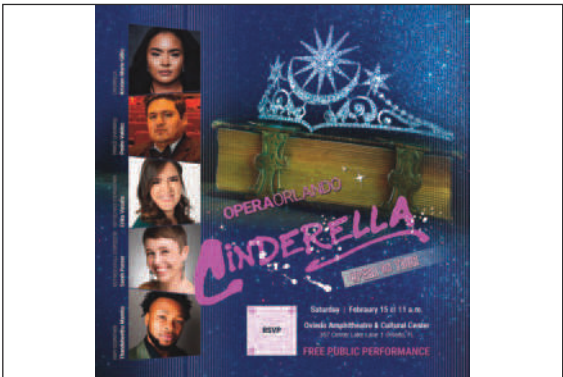
The FHSA Winter Sports playoffs continue with Regionals in soccer and basketball

See Sports, Page 7



City of Oviedo partners with Opera Orlando to Present Opera in the Park

See People, Page 5



SANFORD HERALD



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HEADLINES FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS

Vance makes his debut as VP on the international stage at a high-stakes AI summit in Paris PARIS (AP) — JD Vance stepped onto the world stage this week for the first time as U.S. vice president, using a high-stakes AI summit in Paris and a security conference in Munich to amplify Donald Trump’s aggressive new approach to diplomacy.

Super Bowl delivers moving tributes, memorable action and a historic presidential visit NEW ORLEANS (AP) — The Philadelphia Eagles defeated the Kansas City Chiefs 40-22 in the first Super Bowl to be held in New Orleans in a dozen years. It was played amid heavy security — and with President Donald Trump in attendance — just 41 days after a man plowed a truck into New Years revelers on Bourbon Street.

More Israeli checkpoints are slicing up the West Bank RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP) — Abdullah Fauzi, a banker from the northern West Bank city of Nablus, leaves home at 4 a.m. to reach his job by 8 a.m., and he’s often late. His commute used to take an hour — until Hamas’ attack on Israel on Oct.7.2023, after which Israel launched its offensive in the Gaza Strip.

Mexican long-nosed bats are no strangers to southeastern Arizona. The proof is in the saliva FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP) — Scientists have long suspected that Mexican long-nosed bats migrate through southeastern Arizona, but without capturing and measuring the night-flying creatures, proof has been elusive.

Trump says he is serious about Canada becoming 51st state in Super Bowl interview WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump said he is serious about wanting Canada to become the 51st state in an interview that aired Sunday during the Super Bowl preshow. “Yeah it is,” Trump told Fox News Channel’s Bret Baier when asked whether his talk of annexing Canada is “a real thing” — as Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau recently warned.



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The Sharing Center's Project:RISE Program is Helping Underemployed Individuals Succeed



Photo contributed by Victoria Pera

.The Project:Rise program graduation ceremony.

By Victoria Pera Herald Intern

ProjectRISE is a comprehensive five-week adult workforce development program a part of the Sharing Center in Longwood, Fla. A graduation ceremony was held for a class of individuals who completed the course on Feb.7 at 1 p.m. in the Addition Financial Lake Mary operations center.

ProjectRISE is a program designed to empower unemployed or underemployed individuals to secure meaningful employment and achieve economic self-sufficiency, according to the project’s mission on their website.

Looking at the project’s details, in the first four weeks of the program, participants engage in intensive classroom instruction focused on emotional intelligence, critical soft skills, job acquisition strategies and workplace readiness.

In the final week of the project’s description, participants are given mock interviews with employers and gain valuable real-world feedback and networking opportunities. Also, throughout the

last week participants are exposed to trade and education resources, helping the individuals explore different pathways to further career development.

Many classes of this program are available throughout this next year and you can find their start dates on the project’s homepage.

Addition Financial has worked with ProjectRISE since the program’s inception in 2022. Holton T. Mills works in Community Engagement and Partnerships at Addition Financial, and he spoke about the ways they help individuals over at ProjectRISE kick start their financial awareness.

“So, we started the financial education for all the individuals going through the classes and we actually offer them bank accounts too,” said Mills. “The bank accounts that we offer are completely free, with no minimum balance or monthly maintenance fee.”

Mills continued to say that Additional Financial will then mail everything to the participant’s home address and give them \$100 in their savings account to get them started.

See RISE, Page 6

Marcus Jordan, son of NBA Legend, Arrested for DUI and Cocaine



Marcus Jordan's mugshot.

Photo contributed

By Taylor M. Coffman Herald Correspondent

Marcus Jordan, son of NBA superstar Michael Jordan, has been arrested on DUI and cocaine charges.

On Feb. 4, around 1 a.m., two officers from the Maitland Police Department were traveling on Greenwood Rd. when they found a blue Lamborghini SUV stopped on the railroad tracks near the Maitland Sun-Rail station, too far to plausibly be at a railroad crossing. The officers parked their car and approached the vehicle while radioing dispatch, who informed them that a SunRail train would be arriving within ten minutes.

Upon approaching the car, officers found Marcus Jordan, 34, in the driver’s seat with an unidentified female passenger. Body camera footage provided by law enforcement shows Jordan being decently friendly as the officers approach, but slightly resistant as officers ask him and his passenger to exit the vehicle.

See ARREST, Page 6

Meals on Wheels, Etc. and Top Hat Catering Offer Up a Taste of New Orleans

From Staff Reports

Hosting a Mardi Gras Celebration or just want to enjoy “A Taste of New Orleans”?

Top Hat Catering’s Chef Delano is serving up his delicious homemade New Orleans Jambalaya featuring shrimp, chicken and sausage in a rich Cajun tomato sauce and white rice. This dish is packed with so much flavor, it’s sure to add “A Taste of New Orleans” to any celebration!

For 1/3 Pan, which contains 4-6 servings, the price is \$25 and for 1/2 Pan, which contains 10-12 servings, the price is \$40.

See TASTE, Page 6

DeBary City Commission Meeting Recap

By Bryanna Valderrama Herald Intern

In Wednesday’s regular city council meeting, the DeBary council opened the first meeting of February with public participation of items not listed on the agenda before proceeding with the consent agenda items. Bonnie Beil, DeBary local, represented Not Their Fault Feline Foundation along with DeBary’s ongoing efforts with the DeBary Trap Neuter Return program.

See RECAP, Page 2

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

As of 3 p.m. Tuesday

Allegiant	\$90.49
Faro	\$29.44
Fastenal	\$73.75
HCA Healthcare	\$316.60
L3Harris	\$209.00
Lowes	\$256.41
Lockheed Martin	\$446.83
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OBITUARIES

Jimmie Bailey



Mr. Jimmie Lee “Lil’ Jimmie” Bailey, Jr was born in Sanford, Florida, on March 15, 1975, to his proud parents, the late Jimmie Lee

Bailey Sr. and the late Willie Mae Church Byrd. Jimmie was a great handyman and excellent at remodeling projects. He loved fishing. He loved his family and friends and would do anything to help everyone that needed it. Along with his parents, he is also preceded in death by one sister, Andria Brown. The ones he leaves to cherish his beautiful life: sister, Elvira Rahming, of Edgewater, FL. Stepchildren Cyra Williams, Torin” TJ” Williams Jr., and one brother-in-law Lynn Williams Jr., all of Sanford, FL. Jimmie also leaves behind his nephews, nieces, uncles, aunts, cousins, and friends.

The public visitation will be Friday, February 14, 2025, from 5 PM to 7 PM at Wilson- Eichelberger Mortuary, 1110 Pine Avenue, Sanford, Florida 32771. A Celebration of Life Service for Jimmie Lee” Lil Jimmie” Bailey, Jr will be held on Saturday, February 15, 2025, at 11 AM in the chapel of Wilson-Eichelberger Mortuary, 1110 Pine Avenue, Sanford, Florida 32771. Arrangements entrusted to Wilson-Eichelberger Mortuary, 1110 Pine Avenue, Sanford, Florida 32771, (407) 322-5212.

RISE

Continued from Page 1

For the lessons on financial literacy, Mills said that they go over the basics of checking and savings. The biggest thing they teach participants is about overdraft protection and how to avoid incurring those types of fees. “A lot of these folks, they might have been burned from a financial institution or might think that they’re truly under banked, and it is so important for them to have a relationship with someone in the banking organization,” said Mills. Another important person who is a part of this mission is Michelle Smith, a board chair member for the Sharing Center. Smith talked about the unique work the Sharing Center is doing along with ProjectRISE. “What we do at the Sharing Center is very unique. We’re the largest comprehensive service provider in Seminole County, we’re helping people survive, we’re helping them thrive and we’re also working hard to prevent them from being homeless,” said Smith. In this project of the Sharing Center, participants are matched with a success coach who provides ongoing support and guidance to navigate the professional landscape effectively. Smith discussed the purpose of this one-on-one mentoring for participants.

“Everybody needs someone to talk to and by having a mentor, we give folks that are coming through ProjectRISE the ability to talk to someone that can really relate to what they’re going through and also give them the benefit of their experience,” said Smith. Smith also mentioned that she is extremely grateful for Addition Financial and their contributions. Smith said Addition Financial is helping to put a spotlight on what the Sharing Center and ProjectRISE are doing. Vicky Norton is a graduate from ProjectRISE and she said that the program helped remind her of who she really was. “So, all in all, these people reminded me of who I was,” said Norton. “I’m not gonna have to worry about ever being homeless again, because I know I got this now, because of these people and the things they taught me.” Norton said her future is going back into the workforce as a caregiver and working to open her own business. Graduates spent the rest of the evening taking pictures with family and giving their goodbyes to other fellow classmates. For information about joining the program or if interested in partnering with ProjectRISE, you can visit <https://thesharingcenter.org/projectrise/>.

TASTE

Continued from Page 1

Order your Jambalaya today! Visit, www.mealsetc.org/jambalaya. Pick-up dates are Thursday, 2/27 and Friday, 2/28 | 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. at 2801 S. Financial Court, Sanford, FL, 32773. For more information about Meals on Wheels, Etc. and how to support, donate or volunteer, visit <https://www.mealsetc.org>. Meals on Wheels, Etc. began providing home-delivered meals and transportation services to seniors in Seminole County in

1973. Today, Meals on Wheels, Etc. provides several services to help the growing needs of the vulnerable seniors in the area, including Neighborhood Dining, Homemaking, CHORE, Weatherization and more that help the aging population remain in their own homes and living with as much independence as possible. The organization also serves low income groups. To learn more about Meals on Wheels, Etc., visit <https://www.mealsetc.org/>.

Check out our Website
MySanfordHerald.com



Mother Irene Franklin Lamar
June 4, 1931 – January 27, 2025

Irene Franklin Lamar, 93, was born in Sanford, Florida, on June 4, 1931, to Martha and Weldon Franklin. She transitioned on January 27, 2025, in Sanford, Florida.

Irene worked and retired from Central Florida Regional Hospital, now known as HCA Florida – Lake Monroe. Post-retirement, she volunteered for fourteen years in the Granny Program.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Weldon and Martha; three sons, Richard, Thomas, and Randy Lamarr; and one brother, Roosevelt Franklin, Sr.

She is survived by one son, Roosevelt (Peggy) Lamarr of Sanford, Florida; three daughters: Diann (Charles) Lowery of Sanford, Florida, Suann Chisolm of Deltona, Florida, and Helen Lamarr of Camden, New Jersey; thirteen grandchildren; sixteen great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; brother, Weldon Franklin; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives, and friends.

Visitation will be held on Friday, February 7, 2025, 5 PM to 7 PM, at New Life Word Center, 1311 South Oak Avenue, Sanford.

Celebration of Life Service will be held on Saturday, February 8, 2025, 11 AM, at New Life Word Center. Elder Robert Bradley, Sr. will officiate. Elder Carl Eudell will be the eulogist. Final arrangements entrusted to Faith Funeral Services, 74 Maxcy Plaza Circle, Haines City, Florida, faithfunerals.com and 407.547.6939.

ARREST

Continued from Page 1

“Do you want to get hit by a train?” an officer asked, to which Jordan responded, “Do you think I wanna get hit by a train? No.” After both passengers were ordered out of the vehicle, Jordan continued to insist that they push the vehicle off the train tracks using “manpower” while officers insisted on prioritizing human life and calling a tow truck instead - something Jordan repeatedly stated he did not want to do, insisting that he was “fine behind the wheel.” “I’m Michael Jordan’s son, I didn’t do anything wrong, and clearly we would just like to get the car off the railroad tracks,” he said. The footage also shows Jordan being clearly unsteady on his feet as officers pat him down. As officers explain their concerns regarding his unsteadiness and slurred speech, Jordan explains that he and his passenger were coming from “several venues” in Winter Park and Casselberry but continued to tell officers that he was not under the influence, despite his speech and glassy, bloodshot eyes saying otherwise. Officers asked Jordan to undergo several field sobriety exercises, the results of which have not been shared by law enforcement, but the official arrest reports state that he refused

a breathalyzer test. Once the tests were completed, Jordan - who had been growing more and more irritable - was officially taken into police custody. The footage provided shows Jordan becoming increasingly resistant as he was led back to the police car and searched. Upon searching him, officers found a bag of white powder in Jordan’s pocket which tested positive for cocaine. Jordan refused to comply as he was placed in the backseat of the car. “Why am I being treated as if I’m a [bleeping] criminal?” he asked. “You’re disrespecting me.” Officers were able to transport Jordan to the Orange County Jail without further incident, though they note that he was singing along to the radio the entire way there and the patrol car “smelled strongly like an alcoholic beverage”, according to the arrest report. Jordan was officially arrested on charges of DUI crash with property damage, resisting an officer without violence, and third degree felony possession of cocaine. He was released on a \$3,000 bond by noon of the same day. The Maitland Police Department has declined any comment on the arrest.

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