

The Orlando Tribune

News You Can Count On!

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Central Florida's New Magic Kingdom

By Wendy Chisholm, OT reporter

Kissimmee, long seen as a Central Florida backwater, is doing its utmost to change that perception. Several different initiatives are being implemented to improve the reputation of the Central Florida community. There have been, and will continue to be, a variety of night time festivals celebrating art and culture in all its various forms. Events such as art expos, concerts, craft fairs and museum openings are some of the activities being hosted in the area. Jim Swan, the mayor of Kissimmee, fully supports the efforts to make the area culturally relevant.

"Kissimmee has so much to offer the Central Florida community," Swan stated. "We wanted to show what our beautiful city has to offer, other than Disney World. While the theme park is certainly one of the area's bright



spots, there are a multitude of other cultural resources we have. Our aim is to show just how special Kissimmee can be."

Art and culture are not the only areas in which Kissimmee is making changes. The city is also hosting a Business Association Meeting and Sales Convention to improve the corporate landscape. This event was attended

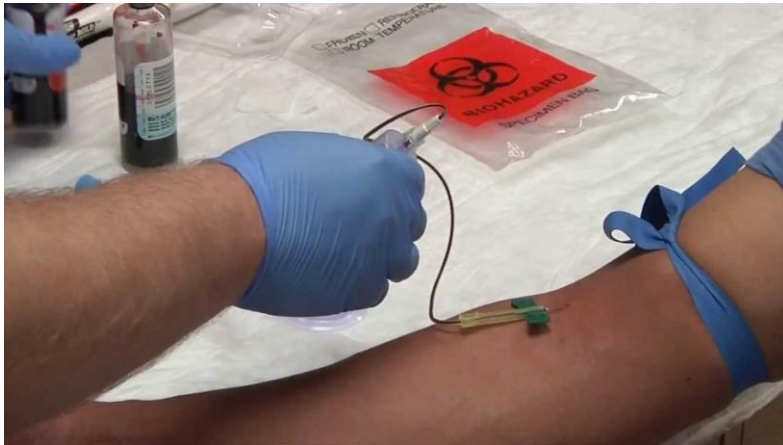
by over 100 representatives from corporate entities such as Parabolic Industries, Orlando Health, Spectrum, Westgate Resorts, Lealta Corporation, and Luctor International. The aim of the convention was to entice corporations to move their headquarters to the area, and these efforts have been successful. Money from these corporations has been responsible for the increase in revenue experienced by the city.

"While we're not quite there yet," said Swan, "our hope is to challenge Orlando as the corporate and cultural icon in Central Florida. We hope the residents of the area will see we are no longer the hicks everyone thinks we are."

If this trend continues, it seems likely Kissimmee will do just that.

Infected Blood Sucking the Confidence of Tampa Natives

By Larry Sumter, OT Reporter



State officials are becoming increasingly concerned about the tainted blood suffusing itself throughout Central Florida. The issue first revealed itself in the Kissimmee area, and was traced back to the OneBlood collection center. Whilst the blood was pulled from the Orlando area, these precautions were evidently insufficient to prevent the spread of that blood.

Four cases with flu-like symptoms identical to those found in Kissimmee were reported in the Tampa area. The tests that were run on the tainted blood in Kissimmee were unsuccessful in determining what, exactly, tainted the blood, but further tests are being conducted on this new batch of infected blood. Research has revealed that this tainted blood was collected by BayCare Laboratories.

“The initial outbreak was concerning enough,” said Dr. Alexa Roenthaw, the investigator from the Center for Disease Control said. “But the fact that the tainted blood has spread, particularly after OneBlood ceased its collection practices, is especially troubling. We will continue to investigate these anomalies, though this is looking more like some sort of terrorist attack more than an anomaly.”

Medical experts and officials in Tampa are consulting with

those same personages in Kissimmee to protect both their patients and Hillsborough County. A similar shortage of blood is occurring in Hillsborough, which causes problems for hospitals and those needing surgery. “We’re reaching out to the doctors, hospital administrators and county health officials for advice on this situation,” said Dr. Lawrence Jannis, chief of surgery at Tampa General Hospital. “They’ve been through this before. Hopefully their insights can help prevent the difficulties they faced.”

Alerts have gone out to all the adjoining counties, as well as to state officials, so they can be prepared in case their blood supplies become tainted. Efforts continue to identify the toxins infecting the blood. It is too early to determine if this is an epidemic, but fingers are crossed throughout the area.



Murder Victim Bodies Disappearing

By Buff Spikey, OT Reporter

While Orlando is experiencing a reduced murder rate, the police department is facing a puzzling quandary - disappearing murder victims.

The issue started several weeks ago, when a murder was reported on Orange Blossom Trail. The 911 call said that a young Hispanic male was involved in a fatal shooting, with a bullet wound to the head. This report was confirmed by officers on site. When detectives arrived at the morgue to discuss the autopsy, however, there was no body to be found. Additionally, the morgue had no indication that a body was delivered to their facility.

Other murder victims have faced similar circumstances,

with a total of 12 bodies positively identified as murder victims, yet no trace of the bodies could be found.



The coroner's reports indicate that the bodies were loaded onto the trucks but, somewhere between the crime scene and the morgue, the bodies have gone missing.

"This situation is exceedingly bothersome," said Police Chief Ed Warrens. "Our job is to en-

sure the public is safe and, barring that, to provide justice for the victims' family and friends. Of course, that becomes much more difficult when the murder victims go missing. A wealth of evidence - evidence which could lead to the killer or killers - is not available to our detectives, making their job much more difficult. The Orlando Police Department is looking at all solutions to the problem, including installing video cameras in our coroner's vehicles."

If anyone has any information regarding these thefts, please call either the Orlando Police Department at 407-555-1000 or the Crime Line at 800-555-1234.

Copycat Killer on the Loose

By Charles Quaker, OT Reporter

A 30-year-old adjunct professor was found murdered near Buck Road in Orlando, but that's only the beginning of the story.

Nelson, an adjunct professor of history, had wounds mirroring the injuries suffered by Mary

Ann Nichols, the first victim of the notorious serial killer Jack the Ripper. Most notably, her throat was slit twice and her abdomen was mutilated.

Police officials were reluctant to ascribe the murder as the work of a serial killer, as only one victim has been found, but they have not ruled out the possibility.

“Obviously, the details of this murder harken back to Jack the Ripper,” said Police Spokesperson Adda Rodriguez, “but we have no other details that indicate this is the work of a serial killer. We will continue our investigations, keeping in mind the horrific deeds committed by the Ripper, and keep our nose to the grindstone so that we can find the culprit.”

Jack the Ripper is one of the most notorious serial killers of

the modern era. He was responsible for the murder of 5 prostitutes in the Whitechurch area of London from late August to November of 1888. The identity of Jack the Ripper has been the topic of numerous books and films, and authorities are no closer to identifying the killer.



While the wounds do mimic the wounds found on Mary Ann Nichols, there is one detail that does not match the Ripper killings. All the victims murdered by Jack the Ripper were prostitutes. Nelson, being an adjunct professor, does not match the serial killer's modus operandi about victim selection. This change in the profile have officials hoping this was a onetime event, but they have not ruled out a copycat. If this is the case, Central Florida may have dire times ahead.

Central Florida Fears Altrex Corp Buyout

By Larry Sumnter, OT Reporter

The recent news of a possible Altrex Corp buyout has Orlando officials worried. The industry juggernaut Altrex Corporation has been a welcome addition to the city's financial landscape, as the corporation has injected a much-needed influx of jobs and money to the local economy.

Rumors have circulated, however, that Inner Ideas Incorporated, often referred to as Triple I or simply III, has made a move to acquire the biomedical and technology giant, a move that would catapult III into the upper echelons of corporate power. Parabolic Industries attempted to purchase Altrex as well but mysteriously withdrew their bid after negotiations stalled.

Of more immediate concern to local leaders, however, is what

this move would mean for Orlando and the rest of Central Florida. Altrex Corp has been a windfall for business interests in the area, providing economic stimulation in the form of jobs and money. The loss of such an economic powerhouse would have a domino effect on the area. Altrex Corp utilizes many local suppliers and distributors, and the loss of the parent company would mean possible dissolution for these smaller contractors.

“If these rumors are true,” said City Councilwoman Ilene Probst, “it could spell disaster for the economic growth of the area. Having a company such as Altrex served as a siren call to other businesses, as they viewed Central Florida as an economic frontier rife with possibilities. Much

of that perception hinges on companies such as Altrex making their homes here. We can only hope this relationship can continue.”

It is unclear what a merger would mean for both the new company and Central Florida. Should III choose to remain in the Orlando area, it is very possible they will not maintain the close relationship Altrex built with the city. Such possibilities have both government officials and CEOs and CFOs nervously considering their next steps. Will the merger continue to promote growth, or will the financial garden begin to wither? That is a question that makes local leaders nervous.

Law Enforcement Potentially Following Prison Privatization Model

By C. Ron Kite, OT Reporter



and that debate continues today. Amongst that debate, there has been little call or argument over privatizing law enforcement. It was an idea too foreign to even consider. All of that might be changing now.

With Chief Ed Warrens cleared of all charges and back in control of the Orlando Police Department, it was expected that crime would subside and the city would become more stable. This has not been the case, however, as many departments across the City Beautiful have continued to strike. Their complaints are the

smaller property). But many claim the need is dire and the hope of those calling for the change is the lessons learned guarding their corporate contractors would serve these companies well were they to

There has been a great debate on the efficacy of privatizing prisons, same as they were when they initially called for the strike: better hours, better wages and an increase in department spending, particularly in the recruitment of more police officers. The strike has left the area in a state of virtual siege, with law and order giving way to chaos and anarchy.

In this vacuum of rectitude, many major corporations and affluent individuals have taken to hiring private security teams



to keep their distance from the turmoil. Or, more specifically, take on policing duties at large.

Neither Von Brandt Consulting nor The Overhold Company have commented on suggestions regarding their

have the security teams keep the tumult from reaching their clients. Small companies such as Von Brandt Consulting and The Overhold Company have performed their duties admirably, drawing praise and extended contracts from their employers. These companies have become rising stars in the corporate scene and their competence has raised the obvious question: could they provide the same sort of service for the city?

The logistics of such a move would be considerable, and there is no guarantee these companies would be able to handle the needs and challenges of policing a city, rather than a corporation's interests (and MUCH

assumption of policing duties, but their silence only serves to fan the flames of speculation. As the saying goes, desperate times brings desperate measures. But is this idea truly desperate? Only time will tell.

Weapon Purchases Continue to Skyrocket

By Levi Wanderer, OT Reporter

As the City Beautiful is faced with continuing law enforcement woes, another disturbing trend is developing: Orlando is becoming one of the most armed cities in the Southeast.



The sale of weapons has ballooned recently, and there seems to be little discrimination in the type or volume of weapons. Everything from hand guns to rifles to assault rifles are on the as

well as other choices such as bazooka, light anti-tank weapons (LAWs) and surface-to-air missiles (SAMs). While the continued rise in weapon sales is disturbing, it is the sale of these latter items that has officials so worried.



“The increase sale of guns, while troubling, is still something we can handle,” said Police Captain Moses Filburn. “The sale of the higher level of ordinance, however, is extremely concerning. The destructive capabilities of

these weapons far exceed that of hand guns or even assault rifles. The threat of loss of life and property increases exponentially.”



Many feel the continuing police strikes have emboldened arms dealers both legitimate and illicit. The other concern law enforcement officials have is demand. A myriad of gun shops has sold out.

Cheerleader Suicides Desolates Community

By Buff Spikey, OT Reporter

In what appears to be a mutual suicide pact, the community of Winter Springs is devastated by the death of three Lake Howell Cheerleaders.

Rosalyn Rubio, Alexis Kramer and Melody Kustanich were found dead behind the Lake Howell campus. A suicide note was found near the bodies, signed by all three cheerleaders. The tragic news has left the Lake Howell campus

bereaved. A tributary memorial has been erected on campus, and hundreds of students, friends and family have gathered to pay tribute.

There is one puzzling detail about the deaths. The girls were found with their wrists slit, but there was very little blood found at the scene. While the girls were exsanguinated, this would indicate that the act was committed at

a different location. It is difficult to imagine, however, how the girls moved themselves after making the incisions. Foul play was dismissed due to a lack of evidence. There were no defensive wounds on the girls and bloodwork indicated no drugs were in the girls' systems. The note did not indicate why the girls committed the act, just that they felt it had to be done.

A Light in a Sea of Darkness

By Wendy Chisholm, OT Reporter

Amidst a sea of darkness and melancholy found in the news lately, Von Brandt Consulting (VBC) is working to provide grants so libraries across Orlando can increase the number of computers they can offer. Katarina Von Brandt, CEO of VBC, announced her company's plan to offer scholarships to deserving students who proffer to study math or science. Not only that, but Von Brandt is also the financial backer to "Memoria Ludos," or "Ludos" as most call it. Memoria Ludos, housed in a four-story building near Wonder Works on International Drive, is a new type of exhibit that looks to both entertain and educate.

Upon entering the building, patrons receive a clue that will lead them to the first exhibit. Each exhibit focuses on a game or piece of music. The aim is for the patron to learn about the history of the exhibit's topic. Using this educational material, the players must decipher the meaning of the clue, which will lead them to the next exhibit and the next clue.

Fan response to Ludos has been overwhelming. Very few attractions offer both entertainment



and education, and Ludos has hit upon a successful formula. Many proponents liken the experience to an escape room, but without either the time limit or a locked door. Those interested in attending should consider making a reservation. To do so, simply call 407-55-LUDOS, or 407-555-8367.

Orlando By Night

OOC MOMENT

This is an In-Character Newspaper that has been created for Orlando By-Night Live Action Role Play Group. For more information go to the Orlando By-Night website. In it, you will find articles that relate to the game. **Look Closely and see how many Clues you can find inside!**

On behalf of the Orlando By-Night Staff, we would like to thank you for your participation and hope you have fun playing!

Happy Hunting!

All the information is on the webpage.

Also, if you have not yet, be sure to enter your character online at:

<https://www.worldofdarkness.com>

Direct all emails (downtimes, influences and inquiries) to orlandobynightst@gmail.com