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Neighbors of Windermere

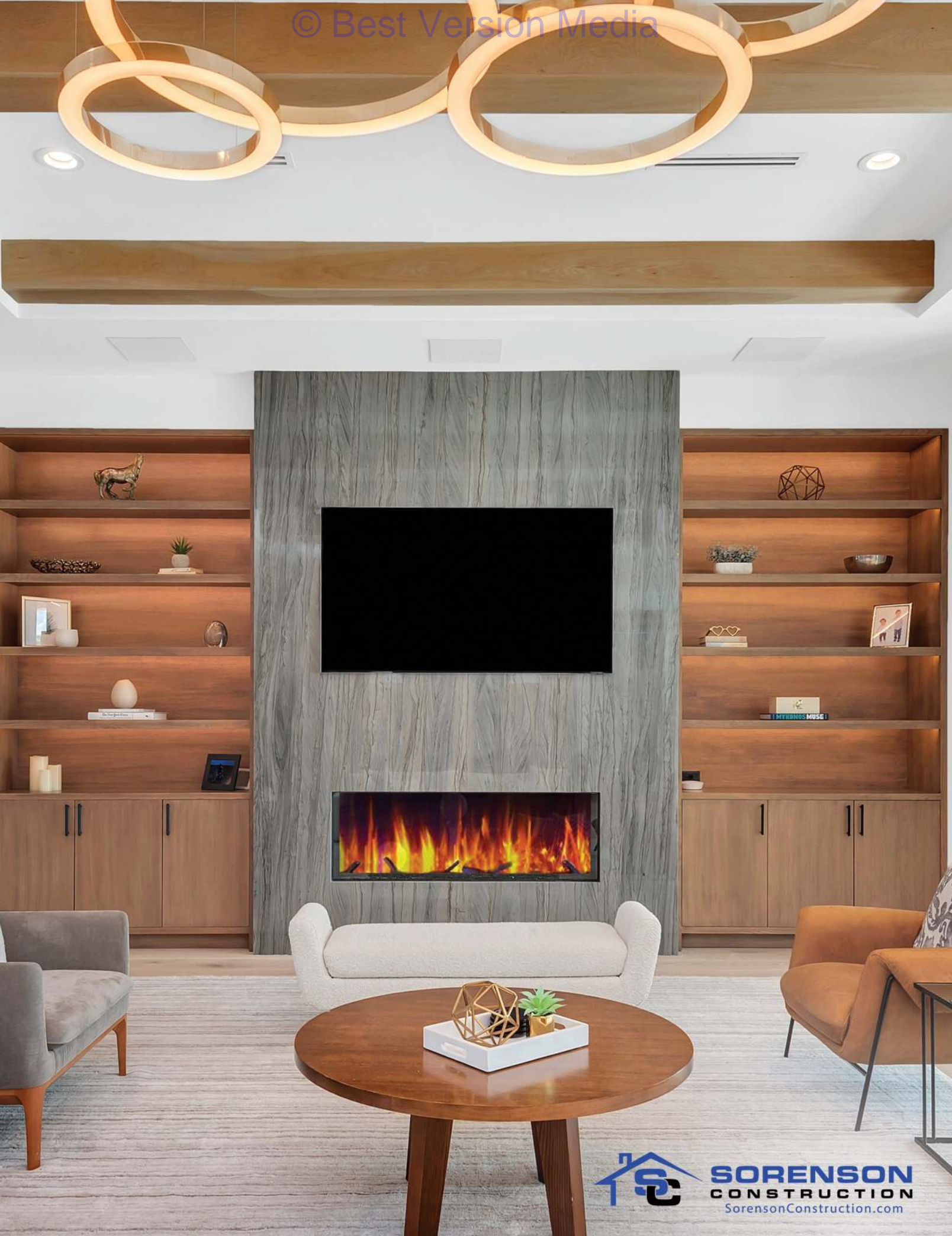
June 2024

FAITH,
RESILIENCE,
AND HOPE

The Inspiring
Journey of the
Hennemans

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LETTER TO RESIDENTS



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Have feedback, ideas, recipes to share, or article submissions? Do you have a special moment to share? Whether it's a birthday celebration, a graduation, an award, a birth announcement, or any other event, we want to hear from you! Share your joy and achievements with our community by submitting your news to Neighbors of Windermere. Let's celebrate these milestones together!

Email your thoughts, ideas, and photos to: jocklynmundy@bestversionmedia.com.

The deadline for submissions is the 5th of each month.



IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

- Emergency911
- Town of Windermere Police Department..... 407-876-3757
- Windermere Town Hall; Public Works and Parks and Rec. .407-876-2563
- Windermere Branch Library..... 407-835-7323



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Dear Neighbors!

Can you believe it's already June? Summer has arrived, and with it comes the delightful opportunity to introduce you to June's featured family, the Hennemans: Lane, Whitney, Selah, Stone, and Shepherd. Sharing their story has been a wonderful experience. The Henneman children are even more delightful in person. Selah charms with her calm spirit, Stone captivates with his engaging personality, and Shepherd's exuberance fills the room with energy!

Each time I meet with one of our families, I'm deeply moved by the unique and defining experiences they've shared. It's both a privilege and an honor to bring these stories to life, and I am so thankful for the opportunity.

We're able to deliver these stories to you every month thanks to our sponsors. Their commitment to excellence and customer service is something you can always rely on. Neighbors of Windermere wouldn't be possible without their support, and for that, we are immensely grateful.



Nat and Jocklyn Mundy

*Publishers
 Neighbors of Windermere*

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Windermere PHOTOGRAPHY

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- SPECIAL EVENTS
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EXPERT CONTRIBUTORS

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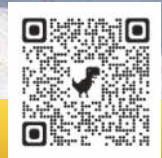
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Jason Marcus' Passion Helps Shape Windermere Brewing Company

BY JOCKLYN MUNDY

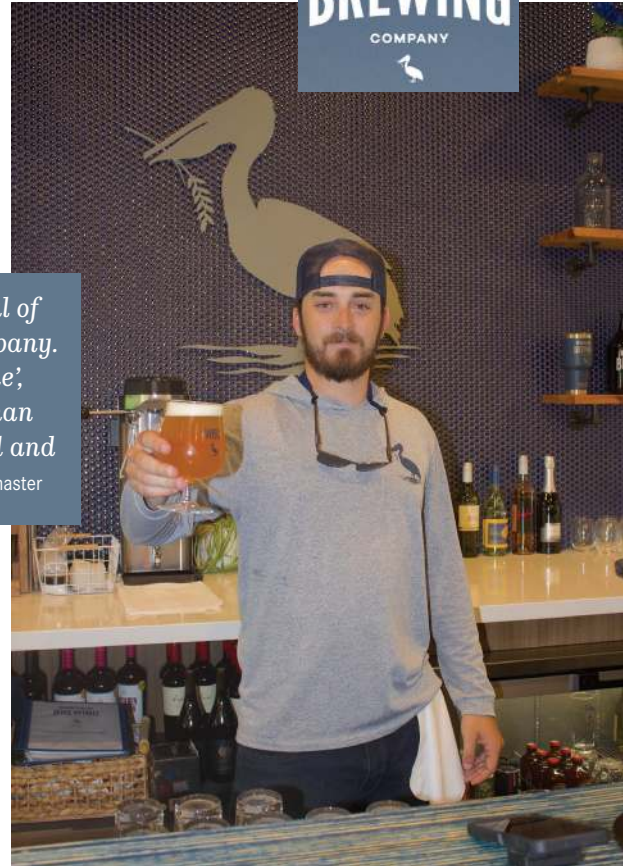
Meet Jason Marcus, the Tap Room Manager at Windermere Brewing Company (WBC). A third-generation resident of Windermere, Jason's roots in the community run deep, thanks to his family's 50-year history in the area.

Raised on Lake Down, Jason developed a love for water early on. Jason graduated from Olympia in 2017 and has a degree in criminal justice, with minors in business and hospitality from Florida Atlantic University. As a Captain and avid fisherman, Jason is often found off the coast of Florida when he is not in the taproom.

His hobbies include hunting, fishing, and snorkeling, he laughs "I enjoy anything outdoors, especially on the water. Before I was at the brewery, I was living in Key West working as a Captain and First Mate." Jason has worked at Windermere Brewing Company almost since the doors opened and is an integral part of the team, helping to establish it as a favored local spot. He sees the brewery as a community cornerstone, a place where locals come to relax and meet new people. His efforts to maintain a welcoming environment contribute significantly to why patrons regularly return.

One of Jason's favorite WBC weekly meetups is the Run Club, a 5k that takes place every Thursday at 6 PM, drawing a mix of runners, walkers, children, and pets. Jason says, "The run club is incredibly friendly and welcoming, which might explain its growth each week," Stop by WBC and say hi to Jason, he might even give you some fishing tips.

"Jason is the heart and soul of Windermere Brewing Company. He bleeds 'Windermere Blue', and wants nothing more than to see this brewery succeed and flourish." Sean Combes WBC Brewmaster



The Slogan for WBC seems to fit Jason's lifestyle too: "BORN FROM THE LAKES: We at Windermere Brewing are not only passionate about great beer, but we are also passionate about the lake lifestyle we get to enjoy in our iconic lakeside town. We are about living and celebrating life whether it's out on the water or with a local craft beer in your hand.



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FAITH, RESILIENCE, AND HOPE

The Inspiring Journey of the Hennemans

BY JOCKLYN MUNDY | Photo by Windermere Photography

Laurel and Whitney Henneman radiate confidence and charisma, carrying a casual elegance and bright smiles. Behind their beautiful smiles lies a more complex story—one of overcoming adversity.

By sharing their journey, the Hennemans hope to inspire others to embrace their challenges with courage and faith, and reassurance that they are not alone in their struggles.

Whitney is the oldest of three girls who grew up on the shores of Lake Bessie, where her parents, Brad and Laurel, still live. Whitney reminisces, “Some of my favorite memories of Windermere as a child are the smell of the orange trees in bloom, biking to the local “treat shop” for some candy or beef jerky where Dixie Cream now resides, and running to friends’ houses on the lake for pub-sub boat days.” The “Gebben Girls” were not only known for their beauty but also athleticism; they grew up playing volleyball, basketball, and track. Whitney says, “I am athletic, but my sisters are exceptional, they both got full rides to play D1 volleyball in college.” After graduating from The First Academy, Whitney opted for the University of Florida.



Lane, the middle son between sisters in a pastor's family, was raised in the peaceful, rural expanses of Ohio. Surrounded by nature, he developed a love for the outdoors, embracing activities like hunting and sports. A gifted athlete, Lane has excelled in football, baseball, golf, and even started surfing in college. His love for sunny skies and the ocean led him to Palm Beach Atlantic University, where he played baseball while soaking up the coastal lifestyle.

In the fall semester of their senior year, Lane and Whitney were among only 88 college students chosen from a global pool of applicants to participate in the Focus on

the Family Leadership Institute in Colorado Springs, Colorado. The semester-long initiative aimed to "equip tomorrow's leaders in family, church, and society." Whitney reflects, "It was an incredible experience... we had the

opportunity to learn from educators like Dr. Del Tackett of the Truth Project, Jim Daly, and Juli Slattery."

Lane and Whitney found themselves in the same practicum group and soon developed a close bond. Although their program's rules frowned upon dating, as the semester drew to a close, they could no longer deny the affection blossoming between them. Lane whimsically likened their romance to "our Christian version of The Bachelor," enriched by shared adventures in skiing, hiking, and academic activities, all of which he remembers as "a special bubble of time."

A few months following the conclusion of their program, Lane chose a memorable setting for his proposal—the summit of a "fourteener," a mountain that exceeds 14,000 feet in elevation, where they had first shared a meaningful conversation. The couple exchanged vows in March 2010 at the picturesque Bella Collina, in Montverde.

Lane and Whitney fully embraced the joys of newlywed life, settling into a comfortable rhythm together. Lane pursued a burgeoning career in medical device sales, while Whitney carved her own niche in medical sales. Both

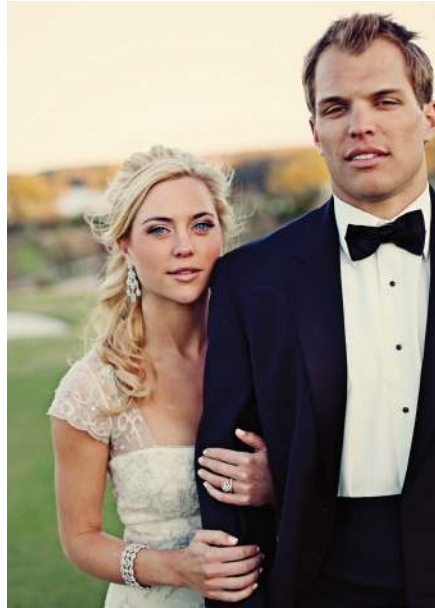


Photo Courtesy of the family

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COVER ARTICLE

shared a vision of building their future in Windermere, drawn by its charm, community spirit, and proximity to family. When the chance arose to purchase a home in the sought-after Willows neighborhood, they seized it without a second thought, eager to lay down roots. Their jobs in similar fields enabled them to travel, Whitney says, "It was a blast!"

The beautiful, talented, and faithful college sweethearts seemed to be living a fairytale life from the outside, but in reality, their path had not been without its challenges. As Whitney watched her sisters and friends celebrate their journeys into motherhood, she and Lane faced a starkly different reality—she was not conceiving. Each baby shower invitation and birth announcement was a reminder of the course she had yet to travel. Despite the subtle pangs of isolation and societal pressures, Whitney showed incredible resilience and courage and channeled her energy into personal and professional growth.

The pressure on the young family intensified as Lane, who had been dealing with a heart condition, was becoming significantly worse.

When Lane required serious medical intervention for his heart, the situation for him and Whitney became even more challenging. Within just two weeks, each faced major surgeries: Whitney underwent a procedure for infertility, and Lane had a heart procedure. This sequence of events introduced significant stress and uncertainty into their lives, as they navigated their health challenges almost simultaneously.

With the expectation of a short recovery time, Lane and Whitney were unprepared when he felt even worse after the procedure, and the recovery time was extended. What they thought would be a quick fix became not just weeks, but months of recovery. He was burdened by extreme pain, he couldn't work out, swing a golf club, or even climb a flight of stairs without passing out.

This young, athletic, couple faced the daunting reality that none of this

could work...none of these surgeries, procedures, medicines...there were no guarantees regarding the outcomes of any treatments or procedures for either of their medical situations. Whitney recalls, "I can't tell you how many times my husband and I were both in and out of the hospital that year, how many life and death moments we endured, and how many times I sat in a numb daze of terror over the thought of losing Lane or never having a child." This period was marked by anxiety and recovery, further compounding the emotional rollercoaster of infertility treatments. Through these tribulations, Whitney and Lane's faith was a cornerstone, helping them navigate the complexities of medical and emotional upheaval.

They persevered through the challenging months that followed, and gradually, Lane's condition began to improve. In May of 2016, after surgeries and various fertility treatments, their precious daughter, Selah James, was conceived through IVF. Two years later, as they prepared for another IVF procedure, their oldest son Stone was naturally conceived, as was Shepherd, three years later. Today, their lives are busy and full. Selah, aged 7, is thriving at Windermere Elementary, while Stone, 5, attends Windermere Union. Shepherd, the youngest at 2, is set to start at Family Church this fall. Selah enjoys ballet, and Stone keeps busy with baseball, Awana, and tennis.

Whitney says, "We started attending Family Church in Downtown Windermere 2 years ago and have fallen in love with the people and its mission. With Lane growing up as a pastor's kid in rural Ohio, the church has a very warm, inviting, and nostalgic feel. After going to a few mega-churches over the years, there is a refreshing feeling to everyone knowing your name and doing life together the way it was meant to be lived. Lane and I began hosting a small group this past January on Wednesday evenings and have thoroughly enjoyed the fellowship."

They all love spending time at Whitney's parents' home on Lake Bessie, which the grandkids and neighborhood kids affectionately call "G Camp." Whitney says, "They have zip lines, tube rides, and all the fun toys. Don't be surprised if your kids go home with some well-branded G Camp swag we have hats, bags, and a dock flag." During the pandemic, the family embraced a new mode of transportation—a street-legal golf cart, enhancing their local travels to school, church, and the occasional Pizzal4 run.

Whenever they find the opportunity, they love escaping to their ranch in Okeechobee. Last year, they took the older children on their first international adventure to England and Scotland. Lane reflects, "It was an incredibly memorable trip for us all." Snow skiing in Colorado and their annual summer trip to the Ocean Reef Club in the Keys are also cherished family traditions.

The births of their children are significant milestones that embody their faith and resilience, inspiring their family mantra, "Selah the stones of our shepherd: Pause and reflect on God's faithfulness and provision."





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Lane and Whitney's journey moved Whitney to start writing and sharing her experiences. Initially intended as a blog, her writings blossomed into a published book "The Barren Cry," a devotional to support women through similar struggles. Her book is available on Amazon, and Barnes & Noble. Her leadership extends beyond her writing as the founder of the Hope Infertility Support Group, she is a devoted advocate and speaker. Whitney also serves on the board of a local non-profit, Choices Women's Clinic.

The Henneman's find joy in the simple moments of family life, they are grateful that each day offers an opportunity to reflect on their journey, celebrate their blessings, and plan for the future.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All events are Free to Attend unless noted.

June 2024

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We would like to thank the **Spice and Tea Exchange Winter Garden** for sponsoring our Calendar of Events

SATURDAY, JUNE 1ST Winter Garden Farmers Market 16th Birthday Party @Downtown Winter Garden

The Winter Garden Farmers Market is celebrating its 16th birthday, and you are invited to its party! Join us on the Lawn (adjacent to the Pavilion) for some great birthday fun: *Kids' Activities with DJ Renee *Face Painting *Collaborative Art Birthday Card *Complimentary Icy Treats Plus, the weekly usual: *Live Music *100+ Vendors Time: 9am-2:30pm cwgdn.com

SATURDAY, JUNE 1ST AND SUNDAY, JUNE 2ND Museums On Us

@Orlando Museum of Art
Bank of America or Merrill Lynch cardholders receive FREE general admission to enjoy the collections. osmart.org

MONDAY, JUNE 3RD Leu Gardens Free Entrance Day

All ages will love to explore the 50 acres of beautiful gardens and the historic home for FREE! Discover over 40 different collections including a tropical rain forest, Florida's largest formal rose garden, a butterfly garden, and much more! Leu Gardens is always blooming. Open: 9am-5pm leugardens.org

MONDAY, JUNE 3RD Parade of Planets

The next planetary alignment will take place on June 3. In the early morning, six planets – Mercury, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune – will align in the sky. Mercury, Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn may be spotted with the naked eye, but you'll need a telescope or high-powered binoculars to see Neptune and Uranus. Check out this rare event.



TUESDAY, JUNE 4TH Plant Clinic

@Windermere Library
Bring your plants and ask questions! Master Gardener Volunteers from the UF/IFAS Orange County Extension Office will be available to answer your gardening questions. Time: 10:30-12:30 ocls.info

SATURDAY, JUNE 15TH Juneteenth Community Celebration 2024 @Downtown Winter Garden

Join us at this event in honor of Juneteenth. Family activities, guest speakers, children's performances, kids' zone, & complimentary refreshments. Limited seating is provided/feel free to bring a lawn chair/blanket. Parking at Healthy West Orange Building across the street. cwgdn.com



SUNDAY, JUNE 16TH Fathers Day

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26TH- SATURDAY, JUNE 29TH The Garden Goes to the Movies

@The Garden Theatre 160 West Plant Street
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26TH - E.T. THE EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL
1982 classic, directed by Steven Spielberg, tells the story of Elliott, a boy who befriends a lost extraterrestrial.
THURSDAY, JUNE 27TH - RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK
1981 action-adventure film directed by Steven Spielberg, starring Harrison Ford.
FRIDAY, JUNE 28TH - FINDING NEMO
2003 animated comedy-drama produced by Pixar for Walt Disney Pictures.
SATURDAY, JUNE 29TH - DIE HARD
1988 American action thriller, starring Bruce Willis as John McClane.
Time: 7:30 pm Tickets \$10 gardentheatre.org

TUESDAYS

Trivia Night @Windermere Brewing Company

Unleash your brainpower, and dive into an evening filled with challenging questions and fun. Time: 7-9pm



WEDNESDAYS

Cornhole @Windermere Brewing Company

Join us for cornhole in our beer garden. Time: 6-8pm

THURSDAYS

Windermere 5K Run Club @Windermere Brewing Company

Whether you are a runner, walker, pro or novice join us on Thursdays for the run/walk afterward enjoy a beer. Time: We leave WBC at 6

FRIDAYS (WEATHER PERMITTING)

Windermere Farmers Market @Windermere Town Square Park

The weekly event includes a wide range of vendors. Friendly, leashed pets are always welcome. Time: 9am-1:30pm town.windermere.fl.us



FRIDAYS ON THE PLAZA

@Downtown Winter Garden Outdoor live musical entertainment every Friday night.

June 7- Kaytlin Flanders (Acoustic, Blues)
June 14- The Lynne Gibson Project (Folk, Bluegrass)
June 21- Company of the Steel Hound (Classic Country)
June 28- Watkins Duo (Acoustic, 70's & 80's)
Time: 7-9pm cwgdn.com



SATURDAYS

Winter Garden Farmers Market @Downtown Winter Garden

Voted the Best Farmers Market in the state and in the country. Its offerings are vast, from locally sourced produce to gourmet provisions, baked goods, and delicacies to handmade crafts, artwork, jewelry, home décor, apparel, pet supplies, seasonal items, and more. Time: 9am-2:30pm cwgdn.com



SATURDAYS

Adult Game Time @Windermere Library

Get your game on! Spend a fun afternoon playing games and meeting new friends. From party games to classic cards, on a team or on your own, enjoy seeing how the dice roll. Recommended for adults. Time: 3-4:30pm ocls.info



At the time this magazine went to print, all event details were accurate to the best of our knowledge, but please check event websites or call ahead for the most current information.



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Lisa Mahjoub has skyrocketed to prominence at The Real Estate Collection in just two years, emerging as a Multi-Million Dollar Producer surpassing an impressive \$8 million in Sales Volume in the first five months of 2024.

Drawing from her extensive 22-year career as a respected business owner, Lisa seamlessly transitioned into real estate, leveraging her deep understanding of sales, marketing, leasing, and negotiations. Her success in business, marked by dedication, community engagement, and trust-building, laid a solid foundation for her flourishing career in real estate.

Her business served Windermere and Central Florida with firsthand experience since she lived in Windermere for over a decade. **Her involvement in constructing a custom home in Windermere's prestigious Keene's Pointe neighborhood, followed by another new build at her current residence in Winter Garden, has equipped her with invaluable insights into the home-building process, enriching her ability to guide and advise her customers effectively.**

BEST IN BUSINESS

Downtown Windermere is seeing a wave of new businesses and commercial real estate, offering fresh opportunities for growth and transformation. In this dynamic landscape of relocation, new beginnings, and promising ventures, Lisa's background as a small business owner and commercial property investor uniquely positions her to offer invaluable expertise to navigate and seize the possibilities that lie ahead.



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Her professional credentials further underscore her expertise for commercial and residential transactions, holding the Luxury Home Designation, the Gold Key Certification for Top-Level Real Estate Business Standards, and her active involvement in the ORRA Commercial Council.

For those embarking on their real estate journey in Windermere, Lisa Mahjoub is not just a REALTOR®; she's a neighbor, ready to guide you with her expertise and genuine care. Let Lisa help you make your real estate dreams a reality, in a community where every street feels like home.

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REAL ESTATE UPDATE

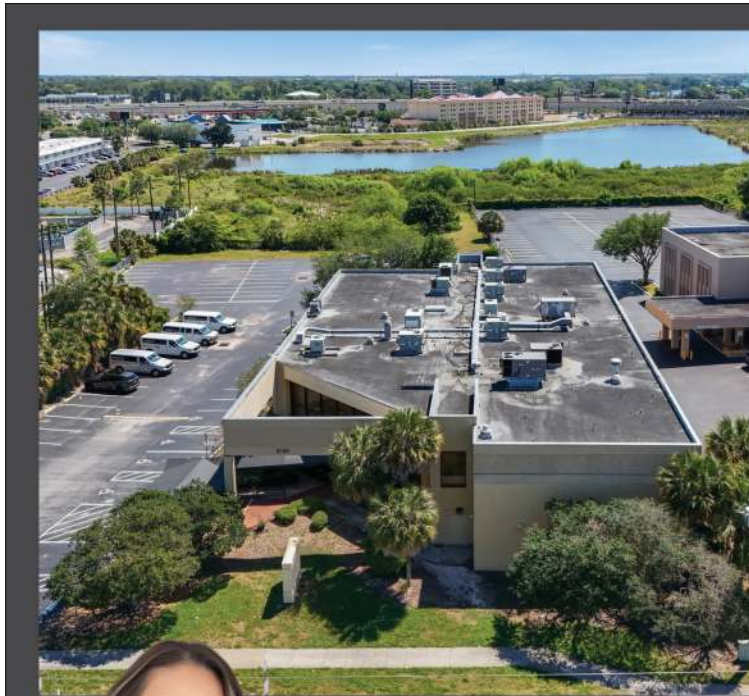
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ACTIVE	12048 SANDY SHORES DR	3	3	2,100	BUTLER	\$2,450,000	
ACTIVE	12137 CRESCENT COVE CT	6	7	6,305	CRESCENT	\$2,595,000	
ACTIVE	13161 LAKE BUTLER BLVD	5	5	3,977	ROPER	\$2,800,000	
ACTIVE	9720 NEARWATER PL	4	6	6,119	DOWN	\$4,199,000	
ACTIVE	11618 VINCI DR	5	6	5,260	BURDEN	\$6,000,000	
ACTIVE	11900 LAKE BUTLER BLVD	6	6	11,253	BUTLER	\$22,000,000	
SOLD	2503 BUTLER BAY DR N	4	3	3,214	CRESCENT		\$1,550,000
SOLD	81 OAKDALE ST	5	5	4,284	DOWN		\$1,800,000
SOLD	60 FOREST ST	3	3	2,150	WAUSEON		\$1,900,000
SOLD	1507 HEMPEL AVE	5	4	4,339	OLIVIA		\$2,400,000
SOLD	5020 DOWN POINT LN	8	8	9,621	DOWN		\$4,250,000
SOLD	6013 GREATWATER DR	5	7	7,607	TIBET		\$5,275,000
SOLD	11205 BRIDGE HOUSE RD	6	8	8,330	BULTER		\$5,625,000
SOLD	50 FOREST ST	6	6	7,388	WAUSEON		\$6,500,000

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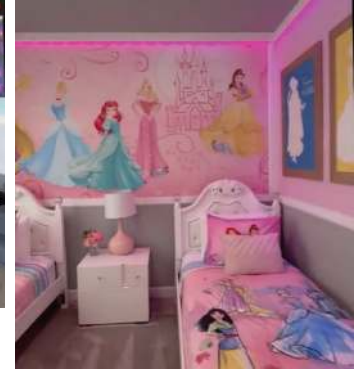
BY SAVANNAH TRADD

Dream Vacation Orlando has established itself as a distinctive player in the Orlando vacation rental market by specializing in themed houses near Disney and Universal. Launched with the vision of extending the magical experience of amusement parks into private accommodations, Dream Vacation Orlando offers a variety of themed rentals, including Galaxy Houses, Wizardly Chambers, and of course Magic Castles, aiming to create unforgettable experiences for its guests. The company prides itself on unique and immersive experiences that resonate with families and groups, making their vacations memorable. With a strong focus on customer satisfaction, Dream Vacation Orlando boasts an impressive 94% 5-star rating on Airbnb from over 10,000 reviews. This underscores their commitment to providing top-notch service and is a testament to the memorable experiences they consistently deliver.

Behind the scenes, Dream Vacation Orlando is driven by a dedicated team, including Ricardo Dusson, a seasoned real estate professional with extensive experience in property management and sales, and Fabiano Monteiro, who brings over two decades of expertise in Operations, general construction and maintenance. Their combined experience ensures that each property is not only a place to stay but a part of the vacation experience itself.

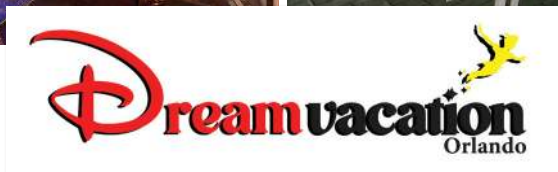
With a portfolio of more than 50 properties, Dream Vacation Orlando is a significant contributor to the local tourism and real estate markets. The company also offers services such as property purchase, decoration, sales, and management, providing a comprehensive approach to real estate in the vacation sector.

Dream Vacation Orlando continues to innovate and expand its



offerings, ensuring that each guest's stay is as Magical as the destinations they visit. Whether you are looking to invest in a themed property, have company coming to town or seeking an Intergalactic Staycation, Dream Vacation Orlando offers a portal to an unforgettable experience enriched by comfort and fun.

For more information about their services and rental options, you can visit their official website; dreamvacationorlando.com



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A Healthy Mouth, A Healthy You: Wholistic Dental Center

BY SAVANNAH TRADD



Dr. Wendi Wardlaw's enthusiasm for wholistic dentistry is fueled by over thirty years of dental experience. Her journey began with a ten-year active-duty service in the US Army Dental Corps, where she developed a foundation in multiple dental disciplines. After her military career, Dr. Wendi continued to lead dental offices, focusing on educational advancements in her field. Her expertise in integrating whole-body health with dental practices defines her professional path.

A proud alumna of the prestigious Howard University, Dr. Wendi obtained her degree from the College of Dentistry in Washington, DC, and later refined her skills at Columbia University in New York City, completing an Advanced Education program in General and Cosmetic Dentistry. More than just a clinician, Dr. Wendi commits wholeheartedly to her patient's well-being and actively addresses healthcare disparities.

The Wholistic Dental Center, recently relocated to a new, state-of-the-art facility in Oakland on Highway 50, reflects her dedication to patient comfort and education. The center boasts advanced digital X-rays and visual aids to improve patient understanding and comfort. Its soothing design features ceiling-mounted TV monitors and vibrating dental chairs, which help relax patients, enhancing their overall dental experience. Dr. Wendi believes that patient comfort is pivotal in achieving both effective treatments and outstanding, healthy smiles.

The Wholistic Dental Center offers comprehensive care in General and Cosmetic Dentistry for all ages, emphasizing a person-centered approach over merely treating teeth. Dr. Wendi is driven by the knowledge that most diseases can be traced back to oral health. With this insight, she uses the latest innovative techniques to ensure your overall whole-body wellness starting at your mouth, the largest access to the inside of the body.

Her innovative approach has earned widespread recognition, securing her accolades such as Woman of the Year among other honors from her peers, and highlighting her as a top practitioner in Orlando. She has also been featured in "O" Oprah Magazine, Entrepreneur, and Fortune Magazines. Always striving for excellence, Dr. Wendi was awarded the Distinguished Alumni Award from Howard University College of Dentistry. Specializing in sleep apnea management through FDA-approved methods, Dr. Wendi evaluates the whole person through the lens of oral health. Her teachings about the systemic connections between oral health and overall well-being are broadcasted in over 100 countries via her radio segments, emphasizing her mantra: "A healthy mouth is a healthy you."

For more information visit drwendiw.com



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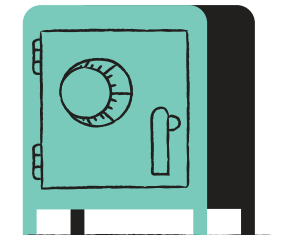
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The Better Man Event: A Global Movement of Significance

BY JOCKLYN MUNDY



Windermere resident Brian Buckley didn't just dream of change; he ignited it. Driven by a desire to encourage men to lead more fulfilling lives, and strive for greater personal and collective achievements, Brian launched the Better Man Event in 2004. A dynamic gathering designed to inspire men to pursue lives of greater meaning and impact. What began as a modest men's group has exploded into an international phenomenon, reaching men across 60 countries in 19 languages.

THE INSPIRATIONAL FORCE

Brian exudes an infectious enthusiasm; his energy radiates positivity to those around him. With a genuine passion for uplifting others, Brian engages in purposeful discussions filled with encouragement and motivation. He has a knack for inspiring those he interacts with, always offering support and empowerment.

Brian's journey to launching the Better Man Event was driven by the frustrations of low attendance, and mundane uninspiring men's ministries. At this low point, he felt a divine nudge to take a leadership role rather than merely a supportive one. Buckley embraced this call, leading to the birth of the Better Man Event.

THE VISION

The Better Man Event (BME) was never designed to be a church conference, but rather a two-hour event. Each year, it is anchored by a unique theme that challenges attendees to reflect and aspire toward personal improvement. The event features a diverse array of speakers—from athletes and business moguls to spiritual leaders and entertainers—all sharing personal stories of overcoming adversity and aiming for higher standards.

FROM LOCAL GATHERING TO GLOBAL PHENOMENON

The inaugural BME started humbly with 40 attendees. Yet, the subsequent years saw exponential growth, with numbers doubling and then quadrupling as word spread of the event's impactful messages supporting personal development. Fueled by Brian's passion, the event quickly grew.

By 2019, their growing popularity necessitated several venue changes, ultimately leading to a sold-out event at the UCF Arena. This milestone underscored not only its widespread appeal but also its impact on men pursuing a deeper sense of purpose in their lives.



"I'm a business guy who was reading a book called Halftime by Bob Buford, in it Buford proposes, that whether you are a millionaire, a manager, or a teacher, you will one day have to transition from the struggle for success to the quest for significance. It changed my life, I wanted something more, I was ready for significance."





ADAPTATION AND INNOVATION

2020 brought unforeseen challenges with COVID-19 threatening to halt the burgeoning movement. However, Buckley and his team adapted, transitioning to a combination of in-person and virtual formats that expanded their reach even further. The live-streamed event from Orlando reached attendees in 43 states and 17 countries, turning a crisis into a groundbreaking opportunity for global engagement. Brian says, "I like that energy. I don't want to be in a studio. I want that live audience. So, we had a small live audience here in Orlando, but then we broadcast out to the world."

THE POWER OF INFLUENTIAL VOICES

The roster of past speakers is as diverse as it is impressive, featuring icons from various fields. Sports legends: Evander Holyfield, Tim Tebow, Emmitt Smith, Mariano Rivera, AC Green, Jonathan Isaac, McKenzie Milton, Pat Williams, Ricardo Kaka, Dick Vitale, Darryl Strawberry, Nick Anderson, Kirk Cousins, Vitor Belfort, Alexandre Pato, Michael McDowell, and Louis Oosthuizen legendary achievements inspire audiences worldwide. Business leaders like David Green of Hobby Lobby and inspirational figures like Nick Vujicic, known for his unwavering positivity despite facing immense physical challenges, Erwin McManus, and Mark Batterson uplift audiences with their powerful messages of hope and determination. The past lineup also includes musicians and entertainers; Jonathan Cain (Journey), Lecrae, Toby Mac, Brian Head Welch (KORN), and comedians, Michael Jr., and Brad Stine, whose talents transcend their respective fields to touch hearts and minds.

The Better Man Event has also featured, Denzel Washington, widely regarded as one of the greatest actors of his generation.

This array of speakers has brought unique perspectives and expertise to the stage, captivating, and inspiring better men.

2024 AND BEYOND: A CONTINUED LEGACY

As BME approaches its 20th anniversary, the event shows no signs of slowing down. This year's event is scheduled to take place, on June 15th from 6-8 pm at Full Sail University. The theme, "Fatherless No More," will tackle significant social issues head-on. The lineup includes influential figures; Daddy Yankee, Paul Teutul Jr. of American Chopper Fame, and Curtis Martin, who will share their journeys and insights on transforming adversity into action.

THE IMPACT OF BETTER MEN

The Better Man Event has profoundly affected countless men, encouraging them to become better fathers, husbands, brothers, and leaders, and inspiring men worldwide to strive beyond mediocrity. It underscores the strength of unity and the far-reaching impact of one person's choice to prioritize significance over mere achievement.

Brian Buckley's initiative demonstrates that with the right mix of faith, determination, and community, a world-changing impact can be made—one life at a time. **For more information visit; betterman365.com**

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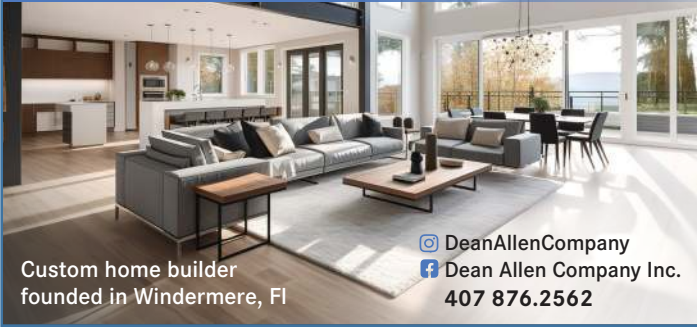
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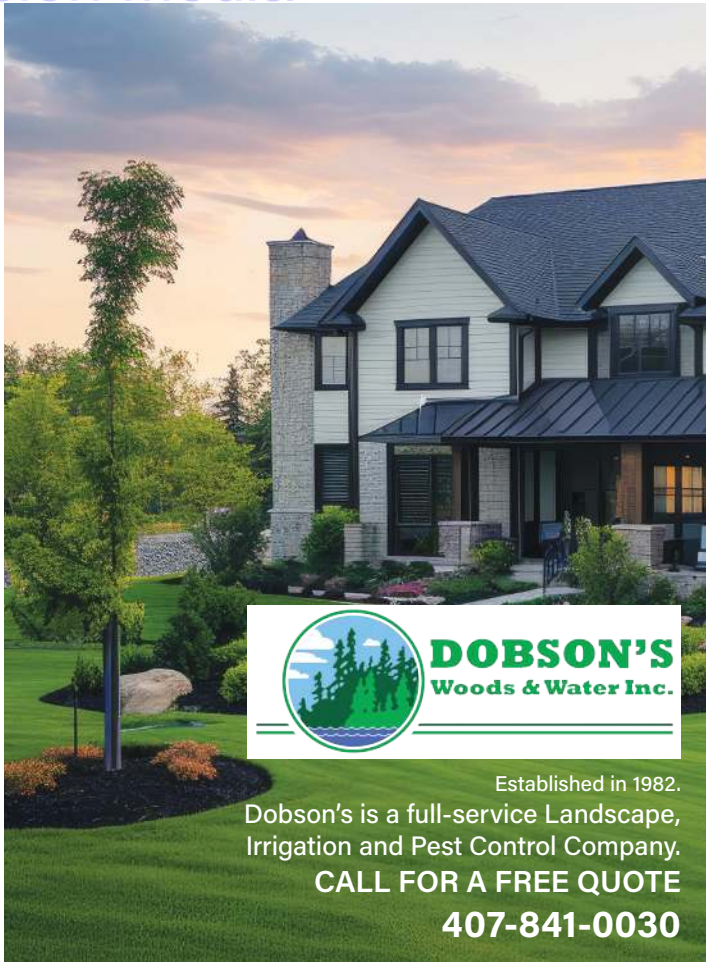
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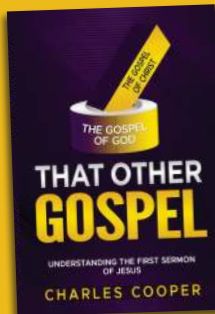


Email Mackenzie at info@wodreamcenter.com for volunteer opportunities.
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**Congratulations to
DR. CHARLES COOPER,
the Teaching Pastor at the Dream
Center, on the release of his new book!**



ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Charles "Coop" Cooper has dedicated 50 years to ministry. Starting his preaching journey at just 15 and becoming a pastor by 17, he served in pastoral roles for 31 years. At 26, Coop transitioned to academia becoming a college professor, teaching homiletics and hermeneutics at the Moody Bible Institute for six years. He presently serves as a teaching pastor at Family Church of Central Florida.

Children's Fun at The Windermere Library

BY SAVANNAH TRADD

Join us For the Fun, throughout the entire month of June.

All events are free and at the Windermere Library, 530 Main St. Some events require pre-registration, and space is limited. For more information or register for an event visit: ocls.info/classes-events/



STORYBOOK FUN

The use of picture books, songs, and told stories will encourage your child to read, talk, sing, write, and play. Designed especially for preschoolers, Storybook Fun lasts approximately 25 minutes. Recommended for ages 3 to 5. Time: Thursdays 10:15-10:40am



TODDLER TIME

The use of picture books, finger plays, songs, and flannel board stories will encourage the development of verbal and listening skills for this active age group. Designed especially for toddlers, 18 to 36 months. Toddler Time lasts approximately 20 minutes.



Time: Thursdays 10:45-11:10am

TINY TAILS

The rhythm and repetition of nursery rhymes are used to introduce young children to literature. Hold your child in your lap and enjoy this special time together. Designed especially for babies, 0-18 months. Tiny Tales lasts approximately 15 minutes. Time: Thursdays 11:15-11:30am

SATURDAY, JUNE 1ST

Teen STEM Challenge

Set off on an adventure by using STEM principles to battle against the forces of flight to ensure the neutral air buoyancy of a helium balloon. Recommended for ages 13-18. Registration required. Time: 11-12pm

MONDAY, JUNE 3RD

Born to be Wild

Introduce your little explorer to the wild world of the jungle with songs, books, and rhymes. Recommended for ages 0-18 months. Registration required. Time: 10:30-11:15am

FRIDAY, JUNE 7TH

Amazing Animals

Dive in and meet rare, threatened, and endangered species. Learn about interesting animals that can be found throughout different lands and animal conservation. Recommended for ages 0-12. Registration required. Time: 10:30-11:30am

SATURDAY, JUNE 8TH

Upcycled Planters

Do you want a garden but don't have supplies to make it happen? Upcycle it! Join us to create a planter using discarded items. Watch your plants thrive in a recycled home! Recommended for ages 13-18. Registration required. Time: 2-2:50pm

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12

OrisiRisi African Folklore

Share the beauty of African life and culture through a unique folkloric performance filled with drumming, dance, and storytelling. A blend of African folklore and education. Recommended for ages 0-12. Registration required. Time: 10:30-11:30am

FRIDAY, JUNE 14TH

Peruvian Music and Dance

Learn a new dance with professional folkloric dancers from Raymi Dance School. Discover the history of Peru through this cultural dance performance. Recommended for families with children ages 0-12. Registration required. Time: 10:30-11:30am

TUESDAY, JUNE 25TH

There's a Bug in My Garden

Bring your toddler for a buggy adventure to explore stories and activities about insects. Recommended for ages 18-36 months. Registration required. Time: 10:30-11:15

FRIDAY, JUNE 28TH

Comedy Mags' Variety Show

There's something for everyone in this high-energy variety show. Your kids will be dazzled with juggling, magic, plate-spinning, and more! Recommended for ages 0-12. Registration required. Time: 10:30-11:30am

SATURDAY, JUNE 29TH

Map Making

Prepare for adventure as you create your own maps! Decide where to put important landmarks and features. Can be used for role-playing games or as a fun decorative piece. Recommended for ages 16 and up. Registration required. Time: 2-3pm

At the time this magazine went to print, all event details were accurate to the best of our knowledge, but please check event websites or call ahead for the most current information.

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