

Sunday, October 18, 2009 **B**

Local News

Bids for tennis center tossed

WINTER PARK — The city issued a new request for proposals to manage the Azuleo Lane tennis center last week after a bidder complained that the City Commission's selection failed to meet bid requirements. Frank Cosentino, owner of Frankie C's Pro Shop, protested that High Performance Sports Management lacked the required professional rating at the time of its bid and had offered a range of percentages for revenue sharing as opposed to a fixed percentage as required by the city. A selection committee and city staff had recommended Frankie C's.

— Daphne Sashin

orlandosentinel.com/news/local/breakingnews/orl-kosmas-outraises-opponents-101609,0,2288200.story

OrlandoSentinel.com

SUZANNE KOSMAS FUNDRAISING

Kosmas holds big fundraising edge over GOP opponents

By Mark K. Matthews

Washington Bureau

10:33 AM EDT, October 16, 2009

WASHINGTON

U.S. Rep. Suzanne Kosmas more than doubled the combined fundraising efforts of her top Republican challengers in the last three months, raising doubts on whether the GOP can recapture the east-central Florida seat from the freshman Democrat.

Kosmas, of New Smyrna Beach, collected more than \$305,000 from a combination of individual Florida donors and powerful political action committees, including at least \$17,500 from unions, \$4,000 from aerospace companies and more than \$20,000 from the financial sector.

According to federal election records, Kosmas also raised several thousand dollars in the last quarter from the executives of two military companies that stand to gain from defense earmarks she requested.

Her efforts far outpace three Republican politicians who have jumped into the race. One of them, state Rep. Dorothy Hukill announced last week that she would abandon her fledgling campaign. The Port Orange lawmaker raised less than \$25,000 in her inaugural quarter.

Her GOP peers fared slightly better. Winter Park commissioner Karen Diebel — a favorite of national Republican strategists — raised more than \$50,000. Most of these contributions came from her hometown, where about 40 supporters gave money to her campaign.

Meanwhile, state Rep. Sandy Adams, R-Orlando, R-Orlando, collected nearly \$60,000 in the first three months of her campaign. The money came almost exclusively from individuals -- not political action committees -- such as veteran Florida lobbyist Guy Spearman and state Rep. Faye Culp.

But Kosmas finished the quarter that ended Sept. 30 with nearly \$730,000 cash-on-hand to defend the Republican-leaning seat she wrested from former U.S. Rep. Tom Feeney last year. Combined, Diebel and Adams have less than \$200,000 in their campaign coffers.



<http://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/local/breakingnews/orl-kosmas-outraises-opponent...> 10/16/2009

Kosmas, who previously served in the state legislature, can attribute some of her success to a fundraiser headlined in August by Vice President Joe Biden and the power of incumbency, as she raised more than \$110,000 from special interest groups.

A big chunk of these contributions stem from her service on the House Financial Services committee, which oversees banking, insurance and real estate. Political action committee -- representing businesses such as Visa, Morgan Stanley and payday advance companies -- gave Kosmas more than \$20,000 in the last three months. The committee chairman, U.S. Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., also gave \$2,400.

Kosmas also pulled in \$1,000 from Central Florida developer Bob Mandell, a big supporter of President Barack Obama, as well as \$2,400 from Dan Rini, owner of Rini Technologies, and \$2,000 from Joseph Hock and Jordan Jacobs, executives from IDEAL Technology of Orlando.

Months after taking office, Kosmas requested earmarks tailor-made for these two companies: a \$2 million earmark for a "digital media" tool made by IDEAL Technology and a \$1.2 million request for a "soldier personal cooling system" made by Rini Technologies.

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Local & Business

Wednesday, October 14, 2009

Winter Park

City drops demolition fee after builders complain

The City Commission has dropped a near \$2,000 demolition fee intended to fund more affordable housing, after builders complained it was too high. The board voted 4-0 Monday to rescind the fee, which had been approved earlier as part of a larger fee package. Mayor Ken Bradley said the \$2,000 was out of line with what other governments charge. Commissioner Margie Bridges said she would favor a reduced fee. Planner Jeff Briggs said he would come back with an alternative proposal.

— Daphne Sashin

Local & Business

Tuesday, October 13, 2009

Winter Park

YMCA locker-room project wins OK with conditions

The Winter Park YMCA Family Center on Lakemont Avenue won approval for a locker-room expansion Monday with conditions. The Y can install no more than 160 lockers for each gender — it now has 141 lockers for men and 107 for women — and the Y must keep a 5-foot buffer between any buildings and two lots on Palmer Avenue that it wanted to convert to parking. Commissioner Phil Anderson proposed the conditions to limit the Y from increasing its membership.

— Daphne Sashin

Regional Report

YMCA still wants new pool, more parking

WINTER PARK — The Winter Park YMCA Family Center is still holding onto plans for a second outdoor pool and more parking spaces, despite backlash from neighbors and a rejection by the city's planning board.

On Monday the City Commission is scheduled to vote only on a 3,115-square-foot locker room expansion that the YMCA won approval for in 1986 but never built. The most recent figures from the Y indicate 300 proposed lockers, twice the current number.

The YMCA withdrew its request for a teaching pool and more parking on Palmer Avenue last month after the planning and zoning board rejected the plans. However, "we still would like to work with the city to get the pool and additional parking," Winter Park YMCA director Bud Oliver told City Commissioner Beth Dillaha in an e-mail.

Residents say they shouldn't have to keep fighting the Y's plans; because the organization signed an agreement in 1997 that said it wouldn't try for another expansion.

A spokeswoman has said the Y worked with the neighbors and "the majority have been very supportive and involved in the process."

— Daphne Sashin



Winter Park City Talk
BY RANDY KNIGHT
CITY MANAGER

Oct. 12 City Commission meeting highlights

The City Commission met on Oct. 12 at 5:30 p.m. in City Hall Commission Chambers. Below are a few highlights regarding decisions that were made:

Mayor's report

Sujay Sothada was presented with the Employee of the Quarter award. Florida City Government Week Proclamation was presented.

Consent agenda:

The minutes of Sept. 28 were approved.
The extension to the noise ordinance for Winter Park High School for their homecoming dance from 11 p.m. to midnight, on Saturday, Oct. 24, was approved.

The execution of a design build agreement with Gomez Construction Company for the design and construction of the Gaily Way Public Maintenance Facility and transfer of \$1,104,848 into the Construction Project Budget was approved.

The installation of a temporary block, six-foot chain-link fence enclosure with windscreening and landscaping in Fleet Fee

plies Park, located within the tree line to the south of the existing boat ramp for storing soils was used in the Central Florida Community Sailing Program, Inc. Requesting to be removed upon conclusion of the program was approved.

Action items requiring discussion

Discussion and testimony regarding Azuleo Lane Management Services resulted in the decision to reject all bids and re-bid the project.

The demolition fees in the city's fee schedule were reviewed and the decision was made to eliminate the fee.

Public hearings

Conditional use request of the Winter Park YMCA at 1201 N. Lakemont Ave. for a 3,115-square-foot expansion to the existing building for new locker rooms hearing was continued from the Sept. 28 meeting and was approved with amendments.

Final meeting of the ordinance to amend 1807, 1810, 1850, 1911 and 1922 Stonehurst Road, and the East Kings Way and Statehurst Road rights-of-way was approved.

the city manager to execute and deliver to the State of Florida Department of Transportation the Local Agency Program Agreement for the realignment of State Road 527/North Orange Avenue - State Road 26/Fairbanks Avenue - Pennsylvania Avenue intersection was approved.

Resolution to support Florida's high speed rail inter-city rail applications was approved with amendments.

A full copy of the Oct. 12 City Commission minutes will be available on the city's official website at www.cityofwinterpark.org the week of Oct. 26, pending approval by the City Commission.

Winter Park Community Center neighborhood meeting

Winter Park's Community Redevelopment Agency hosts a Winter Park Community Center Neighborhood Meeting on Thursday, Oct. 15, at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center located at 721 W. New England Ave. Residents are invited to share their input on proposed changes to plans for the new community center. The suggested changes are located on the city's official Web site at www.cityofwinterpark.org under Info at Your Fingertips.

Charter review of civil service sections

The Winter Park Charter Review Committee would like Winter Park residents

to share their input on the civil service section of the city's charter by attending its improving committee meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 21, at 6 p.m. at the Public Safety Building located at 500 N. Virginia Ave.

If you're unable to attend the Charter Review Committee meeting, you can share your input by e-mailing Charter review@cityofwinterpark.org. Additional questions or concerns regarding the Winter Park Charter Review Committee may be directed to 407-999-4236.

Park Avenue closed to through traffic

The Winter Park High School Annual Parade and Pep Rally will make its way down Park Avenue on Wednesday, Oct. 21, beginning at 6 p.m. Park Avenue will be closed to traffic from Webster Avenue to Lyman Avenue from 5:15 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.

6th annual Family Fall Festival to kick off Week of the Family

The City of Winter Park proudly hosts its 6th annual Family Fall Festival on Saturday, Oct. 31, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Central Park. Winter Park's Family Fall Festival is the kick-off event for Orange County's Week of the Family Celebration, which runs Saturday, Oct. 31, through Saturday, Nov. 7, and focuses on strengthening the community by strengthening families. Mayor Ken Bradley will lead

the kick-off ceremony at 11:30 a.m. from the main stage.

The festival will be filled with exciting events and activities for the entire family to enjoy including interactive inflatables, a children's costume parade, old-fashioned hay rides, art workshops by Ursula Schindler of Art, cookie decorating by Young Chef's Academy, reptile petting zoo by Zoo Men Science, swimming pool safety tips, and holiday entertainment on the main stage provided by The Outer Tours.

Winter Park Police and Fire-Rescue departments will offer valuable fire-safety programs, bicycle safety tips, and free car and truck air-seat bags. The Winter Park Health Foundation will also be on site to help families establish a healthy lifestyle through good nutrition, smart exercises and healthy activities.

For more information regarding the City of Winter Park's 6th annual Family Fall Festival, please call 407-999-8506 or visit www.winterparkfamily.org.

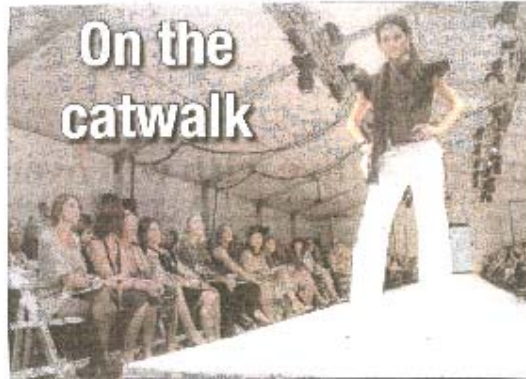
Visit the city's official Web site at www.cityofwinterpark.org

Observer

Winter Park / Maitland

42

Thursday, October 15, 2009



Model at Park Avenue Fashion Week kicks off on Sunday, Oct. 18 at Park Avenue West. Top: Tracy Peck's 2010 fall and 11th anniversary runway. At left: a look from 2009. (Photo: Park Avenue Fashion Week)

ROBYN SIDERSKY SHE'S HOT

Winter Park's fashion week will be more winter-friendly this year — its ticket prices cover an entire week of events and were slashed from last year.

An even bigger change: there will be two shows this year instead of one — one

ACCESS THE RUNWAY

Shows are available for two runway shows on Saturday, Oct. 24: a daytime show from 1-3 p.m. and an evening show from 7-9 p.m.

General admission tickets are \$40 for the daytime show and \$30 for the evening show. A VIP ticket \$100 gets you entrance to both runway shows and first pick of the merchandise your favorite designers in the week's wear. (See a24 for more info.)

Visit ParkAvenueFashionWeek.com for more information.

» 11 • FASHION 43 AJ

Winter Park / Maitland Observer

Thursday, October 15, 2009 Page

FASHION | Emerging designer contestants come from all over the state this year

< continued from the front page >
during the day and one in the evening.

Jose Casaley, director of Park Avenue Fashion Week, said they split the show in two in order to feature both daytime outfits and evening wear.

Another major part of the event is the Emerging Designers Contest. The competition was expanded to include designers across

the state — allowing for more participants.

Throughout the week, the shops on Park Avenue will hold special events geared toward fashion week.

Kari Baumgardner, manager of the Ellen Fisher store in Winter Park, said the store is holding a Dresser Success drive as part of fashion week.

Customers with gently used business attire, shoes and purses can donate to

the store and receive \$25 off any purchase.

Also, because they are allowed to collect gently used bras — for salubrious reasons — they will be collecting money for a “bra fund.”

She said the initiative is part of the company's support for women and girls' issues.

The store will also feature clothing in both fashion shows.

In the daytime show, Baumgardner said to expect

an eclectic mix with reves-sons — from Ten Thousand Villages — another store on Park Avenue. She said their line will have vibrant fall colors and casual fall looks.

For the evening show, the clothing will be more glamorous — with more satins and silks.

This is the third annual fashion week, and the second year the show will take place on the West Meadow near Park Avenue.

“It's our first year partici-

parting in the event,” Baumgardner said. “We're excited to be part of the community and part of the show. It's gonna be a lot of fun and a lot of people.”

Despite the economic climate, Casaley said they expect a good turnout for the shows. Both shows will be on Saturday, Oct. 24 after a full week of fashion-filled events on Park Ave.

For more information, visit www.parkavenuefashionweek.com.