

Winter Garden lifts Sunday booze ban, B2

Local News

Gay activists will protest in Orlando, B3

36M

Total area of Florida in acreage, according to the Florida Secretary of State's Office. For more statewide statistics, click on OrlandoSentinel.com/data

OrlandoSentinel.com/local

Eagle Scout's dream comes true, even after he succumbs to cancer



COMMENTARY
Darryl Owens
SENTINEL COLUMNIST

Simon Sharp could have been the poster child for Scouting — the kind of Boy Scout who lived the creed, served his community, respected elders and embraced people with friendship. A born leader his fellow Scouts admired.

Bradley Trowbridge came up in Scouting with Simon, looked up to his senior patrol leader, and wouldn't shrug at going that extra mile if Simon asked.

At 11 this morning, friends, families, and veterans will meet at Founder's Park in the Osceola County community of Cele-

PLEASE SEE **SCOUT, B2**



COURTESY OF MICHAEL PREVOST
Bradley Trowbridge (left) and Simon Sharp at summer camp in 2006. Simon's vision for a veterans memorial will be realized today.

New trial set after 27 years in prison

By **SATTA SARMAH**
SENTINEL STAFF WRITER

After spending 27 years in prison, convicted killer Bill Dillon will get a new trial.

The State Attorney's Office agreed to the move, approved by a Brevard County judge Friday, even though prosecutors think they can uphold his conviction.

"We are just exhilarated. It's a new chapter now," said Dillon's brother, Joe, of Palm Bay. "The whole family is really excited."

Assistant State Attorney Wayne Holmes said he decided to go along with the defense team's request for a new trial because it appeared the judge was going to approve it anyway.

Dillon, 49, who has always maintained his innocence, is getting help from The Innocence Project of Florida, an organization that uses DNA evidence to try to overturn convictions.

The group has footed the bill for tests that showed Dillon's DNA was not on a bloody T-shirt that was used to convict him.

The shirt did have blood from victim James Dvorak, as well as DNA from other people. Dillon was convicted in 1981 of killing Dvorak, whose beaten body was found in the palmettos along Canova Beach.

Holmes said the new DNA evidence isn't proof of Dillon's innocence. During the past 20 years, many people have handled evidence in the case and possibly left their DNA on the shirt, he said.

"The DNA evidence does not establish his actual innocence," Holmes said. "We believe that the evidence [presented during the trial]



BILL DILLON

PLEASE SEE **TRIAL, B2**

The Caylee Marie Anthony case



RED HUBER/ORLANDO SENTINEL

Casey Anthony's Pontiac Sunfire, which investigators think held a body in its trunk, remains Friday in the forensic bay at the Orange County Sheriff's Office.

Star criminalist joins defense team

By **BIANCA PRIETO and WALTER PACHECO**
SENTINEL STAFF WRITERS

A marquee name joined the growing cast of characters in the missing-child Caylee Marie Anthony case Friday when a star forensic expert arrived to help defense lawyers.

Criminalist Henry Lee spent the day at the Orange County Sheriff's Office peering at evidence from a white

Pontiac Sunfire driven by Caylee's mother, Casey Anthony.

The 22-year-old single parent is charged with murder in Caylee's disappearance, and investigators think the girl's body — which has not been found — was in the trunk.

Lee was a key defense expert during the O.J. Simpson trial in 1995. His testimony on how Los Angeles police handled blood evidence helped win Simp-

son's acquittal.

Lee's visit was the latest in a train of high-profile events in the Caylee case, which launched July 16 when grandmother Cindy Anthony reported her missing.

Defense-team spokesman Todd Black gave few details on how Lee became involved, but did say the expert



LEE

PLEASE SEE **CAYLEE, B2**

BIKE TRAIL FLOWS FROM RIVER TO SEA

By **RACHAEL JACKSON** || SENTINEL STAFF WRITER

This weekend, more than 20 bicyclists will embark on a 260-mile, seven-day journey through five Florida counties. Their trip, from historic St. Augustine to the Kennedy Space Center and points in between, will be a test run of what county officials hope will become the longest bike trail in the Southeast — and an off-season tourist draw. The riders taking the inaugural trip will mostly stick to roads, but when the trail is completed, it will be on roads, paths through the wilderness and old railroad tracks adapted for bikes. Dubbed the St. Johns River to the Sea Loop, it's to open in 2013 to coincide with the 500th anniversary of the arrival of the Spanish in Florida.

What's the cost?

Construction is estimated to cost about \$100 million. Because half the trail will be in Volusia, the county expects to spend about \$46 million. John Harper, senior project manager for Volusia, said the county already planned to build much of the Volusia portion and has budgeted \$7 million. Other counties involved — Flagler, Putnam, St. Johns and Brevard — also had been working on trails and realized that by filling in gaps, they could create a loop. They signed an agreement in September and have U.S. Rep. John Mica's support; so planners are hopeful they will get grants to complete the project. Herb Hiller, a writer involved in planning the trail, estimates it could attract about half a million users a year and boost the economy by more than \$20 million.

Can I ride the trail?

This weekend's ride is all booked, but Bike Florida plans to make it an annual event. Portions of the trail already are accessible to the public, and when the trail opens in 2013, it will be open to everyone. You can learn more at bikeflorida.org.



ORLANDO SENTINEL



SENTINEL FILE PHOTOS

Points along the way:

1 The trail will officially start in Palatka. Amtrak trains stop there, so bikers may not need to bring cars.

2 Bikers can stop to stroll through the historic district of St. Augustine.

3 Bikers will pass through Daytona Beach and can stop at the International Speedway.

4 At one point, riders will take a water taxi through the Intracoastal Waterway to get from Ponce Inlet to New Smyrna Beach.

5 Riders can explore Kennedy Space Center.



6 Bikers can look for sea cows at Blue Spring State Park, a designated manatee refuge in Orange City.

7 The route will include DeLeon Springs State Park, where riders can eat breakfast at the Old Spanish Sugar Mill restaurant. There, each table is equipped with a griddle so diners can pour their own pancake batter.

Also

Officials are hoping to promote the loop as a wildflower trail, as well. There are plans to reseed many areas along the way to enhance wildflower showings.

The trail is expected to boost business for bed-and-breakfasts along the way, and maybe even inspire others to open their own small hotels.

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