



See pg. 1B

West Orange compete in state softball semifinals

*****CAR-RT LOT**R 007

Jingela Withers

Zeta Mallone

Windermere FL 34786-3723

The West Orange Times

80 No. 20

Winter Garden, Florida

Thursday, May 16, 2013

Three Sections, 44 Pages

50 Cents

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City of Ocoee was
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Photo by Cindy Baker

Orange County Commissioner Scott Boyd (from left), Barbara Bochiardy, Richard Nehrling and Patty Nehrling-Armstrong unveil the Florida Heritage Landmark Marker for Henry Nehrling's Palm Cottage Gardens last Thursday in Gotha.

Nehrling's gardens receive state heritage marker

Residents, Nehrling Gardens officials and volunteers, as well as politicians, gathered for the dedication ceremony of the Florida Heritage Landmark Marker for Henry Nehrling's Palm Cottage Gardens last Thursday morning at Nehrling Gardens in Gotha.

The dedication ceremony was led by Orange County Commissioner Scott Boyd. The special event demonstrated Nehrling Gardens' significance to the state of Florida. May 9 is symbolic not only because it marked Henry Nehrling's 160th birthday, but it also commemorates the Orange County Board of County Commissioners' proclamation of May 9, 2009, as Henry Nehrling Day.

The Florida Heritage Landmark Marker for Palm Cottage Gardens was made possible by the support of the Henry Nehrling Society, Rotary Club of Windermere, Bloom & Grow Garden Society, Windermere Garden Club and the Florida Department of State.

Nehrling Gardens is owned and operated by a local nonprofit volunteer organization whose focus is rehabilitating Dr. Nehrling's historic home and gardens, creating new teaching gardens and providing a historical, horticultural and environmental enrichment center for the

(See Bloom, 9A)

**W.G. giving outdated
sign code an overhaul**

Heroes of World War II

(Continued from 1A)

Nehrling

(Continued from 1A)



James Gray (right) receives his jump wings.

went back to Holland or settled in the United States."

Gray's command also went into Japanese airports and gathered equipment, and they sometimes would go on fact-finding missions, as well. It was a "funny time," Gray said. Japanese occupation in Indonesia would prove a crucial factor in helping the country

Gray became an engineer in Florida, working for Howard, Needles, Tammen and Bergendoff for four years and the Florida Department of Transportation for 27. His job was to read construction plans and proof them for errors and feasibility.

He joined the U.S. Army Reserves in 1962

community.

Henry Nehrling was an internationally renowned horticulturalist, naturalist, botanist, ornithologist and writer known as the "patron saint of Florida gardens." Dr. Nehrling introduced and tested more than 3,000 new and rare species of plants and trees, as well as Florida native plants. More than 300 of these became es-

sential to Florida's horticulture industry, including caladiums, palms, bamboos, magnolias and amaryllis. Nehrling's gardens became a mecca for plant lovers and a tourist destination in the early 1900s. It was visited by many prominent people, including Theodore Roosevelt, Thomas Edison and several renowned horticulturists. His most notable works include

Our Native Birds of Song and Beauty, The Plant World in Florida, and My Garden in Florida.

Tours were given of the gardens during the event, and refreshments were served.

For more information about Nehrling Gardens, visit www.NehrlingGardens.org, call 407-445-9977 or email info@NehrlingGardens.org.



Photo by Cindy Baker

Light shines through canes of the golden bamboo on the grounds of Nehrling Gardens in Gotha.