

CATEGORIES

- [Adam C. Smith](#)
- [Adam Putnam](#)
- [Agriculture Commissioner race](#)
- [Alan Grayson](#)
- [Alex Leary](#)
- [Alex Sink](#)
- [Attorney general's race](#)
- [Barack Obama](#)
- [Bill McCollum](#)
- [Bill Nelson](#)
- [Books](#)
- [Budget](#)
- [Business](#)
- [C.W. Bill Young](#)
- [Charles Bronson](#)
- [Charlie Crist](#)
- [Constitution](#)
- [Courts](#)
- [Current Affairs](#)
- [Dan Gelber](#)
- [Dave Aronberg](#)
- [Debates](#)
- [Democrats](#)
- [Editorials](#)
- [Education](#)
- [Elections](#)
- [Endorsements](#)
- [Environment](#)
- [Five Questions](#)
- [Florida House](#)
- [Florida Legislature](#)
- [Florida Senate](#)
- [Food and Drink](#)
- [Fred Thompson](#)
- [Fundraising](#)
- [Games](#)
- [George LeMieux](#)
- [George W. Bush](#)
- [Ginny Brown-Waite](#)
- [governor's race](#)
- [Gus Bilirakis](#)
- [Hernando](#)
- [Hillary Clinton](#)
- [Hillsborough](#)
- [Inauguration](#)
- [Jeb Bush](#)
- [Jeff Atwater](#)
- [Jeff Kottkamp](#)

THE Buzz

FLORIDA POLITICS
News from the Times staff

[Charlie Crist as the new Tom Gallagher](#) | [Main](#) | [Wexler endorses Ted Deutch for Congress](#) »

October 25, 2009

Winner and loser of the week



Winner(s) of the week: Larry Williams, Deveron Gibbons, Scott Wagman, Jamie Bennett. The more people see and hear of St. Pete mayoral candidates Bill Foster and Kathleen Ford, the more we hear disgust with the choices. The also-rans in the primary look better with every passing day.

Loser of the week: Charlie Crist. So much for Gov. Crist's easy waltz into the U.S. Senate. Polls show Marco Rubio is closing the gap, even former conservative fans like the Cato Institute are turning on Crist and now come revelations about how little actual governing time Crist schedules. Helping fuel the rap that Crist consistently puts his own self-interest above all else, the governor is dispatching his chief of staff to help stem Rubio's momentum at a time when he could use all the horsepower available actually governing Florida.



Posted by Adam Smith at 01:11:21 PM on October 25, 2009 in [Adam C. Smith](#) , [Charlie Crist](#) , [Marco Rubio](#) , [Pinellas](#) , [Republicans](#) , [U.S. Senate](#) , [Winner and loser of the week](#) | [Permalink](#)

ABOUT THIS BLOG

From the writers of the St. Petersburg Times, The Buzz offers the latest news in Florida politics. This is a public forum sponsored and maintained by the St. Petersburg Times. When you post comments here, what you say becomes public and could appear in the newspaper. You are not engaging in private communication with candidates or Times staffers.

E-mail Times political editor Adam Smith: asmith@sptimes.com.

SUBSCRIBE TO | BOOKMARK THIS BLOG

 [Subscribe to this blog's feed](#)

  

 ADD THIS BLOG TO MY **Technorati FAVORITES**

Beyond the Buzz

In Democratic condo belt, outsider Graber finds it's tough to get speaking time - Palm Beach Post

Democratic U.S. Reps. Wexler, Klein, Hastings, Wasserman Schultz endorse Deutch for Congress - Palm Beach Post

Former utility regulator defends FPL's \$1.2 billion rate hike request - Palm Beach Post

FPL \$1.2 billion rate case will wrap up today - Palm Beach Post

Rep. Maria Sachs to run for Deutch's state Senate seat — if it's open - Palm Beach Post

Today's Gutierrez endorsement is from...Miami - Orlando Sentinel

CQ ranks Florida; Grayson now a 'tossup' - Orlando Sentinel

Ostrov files for Wellington council; eyes county commission bid if Santamaria doesn't seek reelection - Palm Beach Post

FPL last-minute gotcha on \$1.2 billion rate hike opponents - Palm Beach Post

Video: cops remove "disruptive" critic at Riviera Beach council meeting - Palm Beach Post

A pay-to-play solution for Corruption County? - Palm Beach Post

Crist puts former editorial writer on utility reg panel - Palm Beach Post

Meek removes support from two controversial bills - Palm Beach Post

Meek adds endorsements from Sink, former quasi-rival Brown - Palm Beach Post

Grayson versus the GOP (round 10) - Orlando Sentinel

Sink gives her blessing to Meek - Orlando Sentinel

Orlando Small Business Owner Set to Accept 'Call' to Take On Grayson - Orlando Sentinel

FPL spent almost \$4 million on rate hike request so far - Palm Beach Post

Tea Party Cand. To File Ethics Complaint vs. Grayson - Orlando Sentinel

Gutierrez picks up former Rep. Randy Johnson's endorsement - Orlando Sentinel

NAKED POLITICS



[Republicans "welcome" Obama to Miami](#)

[Deutch picks up endorsement from Wexler](#)

ARCHIVES

- [October 2009](#)
- [September 2009](#)
- [August 2009](#)
- [July 2009](#)
- [June 2009](#)
- [May 2009](#)
- [April 2009](#)
- [March 2009](#)
- [February 2009](#)
- [January 2009](#)

COMMENT POLICY

Please be sure your comments are appropriate before submitting them. Inappropriate comments include content that:

- Is libelous
- Is abusive, harassing, or threatening
- Is obscene, vulgar, or profane
- Is racially, ethnically or religiously offensive
- Is illegal or encourages criminal acts
- Is known to be inaccurate or contains a false attribution
- Infringes copyrights, trademarks, publicity or any other rights of others
- Impersonates anyone (actual or fictitious)
- Solicits funds, goods or services, or advertises

The St. Petersburg Times does not edit posts but reserves the right to delete comments that violate our policy.

[Report abuse:](#)
abuse@tampabay.com

Comments

You can follow this conversation by subscribing to the [comment feed](#) for this post.

I wonder if one of the goals discussed at Jeb's retreat in Orlando this weekend was how to put a Republican back in the Governor's mansion?

Posted by: Rubio is looking good | [October 25, 2009 at 01:17 PM](#)

Yup. The priorities:

GET CHARLIE ELECTED
GET CHARLIE ELECTED
GET CHARLIE ELECTED

If there is any time left, or available first rate manpower, then take a shot at governing Florida.

That's why you put the good man to running Charlie's campaign and the lazy pencil pusher to running the Governor's staff.

Posted by: Priorities | [October 25, 2009 at 01:21 PM](#)

I wonder if one of the goals discussed at Jeb's retreat in Orlando this weekend was how to put another failure in the Governor's mansion?

Posted by: Crist is bad, Jeb was awful, Rubio would be worse. | [October 25, 2009 at 01:25 PM](#)

The Loser of the week and 4 years is us! The people of Florida.

Posted by: GOP INSIDER | [October 25, 2009 at 01:31 PM](#)

No question Chuckles the Clown is the loser of the week. To his detriment, he has ignored the conservative base of his party for entirely too long and has smugly brushed aside Rubio as a non-threat.

Well, Chuckles, your RINO chickens are coming home to roost. The sad part of all this is that we, the people of Florida that you so profess to care about, are the real losers because of the mess you're leaving behind. That's all you've ever viewed the honor of the governorship of Florida: just another mere step in your pathetic climb to the top. Shame on you.

Posted by: LEMIEUX=CRIST=SPECTER | [October 25, 2009 at 01:45 PM](#)

On October 14, 2009, Governor Crist signed a "Petition For Order To Impanel A Statewide Grand Jury."

This was indeed a step in the right direction.

I voted for Governor Crist in 2006 and have been nothing but disappointed since he took office.

Currently, I can not support him in his quest for the US Senate.

If he decides to fully investigate the Central Florida Commuter Rail project, he has my vote.

The project has failed twice and yet talk of it being resurrected is once again in the news.

Obviously, "personal" gains are at stake here, it's not rocket science.

My demographics: 49 yr old, male, lifetime Republican, married, college-educated.

Posted by: Thibault | [October 25, 2009 at 01:49 PM](#)

Every day at least 3 negative headlines in the St. Pete Times about our Governor. When do we pull the covers back on Rubio, his failures and his gang?

Posted by: > | [October 25, 2009 at 01:53 PM](#)

[Wexler endorsement coming today?](#)

[Statues touch off row in race for Meek's seat](#)

[The hour was late, but the passion was great](#)

[LeMieux travels to Afghanistan](#)

[The best worst ad ever: Joe Sanchez](#)

[Obama to attend FPL's solar plant opening](#)

[More articles.](#) | [Subscribe](#)

ADVERTISEMENT

RECENT COMMENTS

[Gator\(R\) on Cabinet meeting didn't stop Crist from appearing with Obama before](#)

[Crist raises \\$125K in Mich. \(with Greer in tow\) as report shows he's off 10 weeks a year on Winner and loser of the week](#)

[Gator\(R\) on Can Eric Eikenberg right the Charlie Crist campaign?](#)

[liberals democrats lie lies lie and here is the proof on Wexler endorses Ted Deutch for Congress](#)

[whasup on Cabinet meeting didn't stop Crist from appearing with Obama before](#)

[Children First on Winner and loser of the week](#)

[givemebreakharry on Winner and loser of the week](#)

[7:40 on Winner and loser of the week](#)

[.. on Charlie Crist as the new Tom Gallagher](#)

[Gilbert Ford on Sansom wants House investigation put on ice](#)

MOST POPULAR CATEGORIES

[Adam C. Smith](#) [Adam Putnam](#) [Agriculture](#) [Commissioner race](#) [Alan Grayson](#) [Alex Leary](#) [Alex Sink](#) [Attorney general's race](#) [Barack Obama](#) [Bill McCollum](#) [Bill Nelson](#) [Books](#) [Budget](#) [Business](#)

[C.W. Bill Young](#) [Charles Bronson](#) [Charlie Crist](#) [Constitution](#) [Courts](#) [Current Affairs](#) [Dan](#)

[Gelber](#) [Dave Aronberg](#) [Debates](#) [Democrats](#) [Editorials](#) [Education](#) [Elections](#) [Endorsements](#)

[Environment](#) [Five Questions](#) [Florida House](#)

[Florida Legislature](#) [Florida Senate](#) [Food and Drink](#) [Fred Thompson](#) [Fundraising](#) [Games](#) [George LeMieux](#) [George W. Bush](#) [Ginny Brown-Waite](#) [governor's race](#) [Gus Billrakis](#) [Hernando](#) [Hillary Clinton](#) [Hillsborough](#) [Inauguration](#) [Jeb Bush](#) [Jeff Atwater](#) [Jeff Kottkamp](#) [Jim Greer](#) [Joe Biden](#) [John Edwards](#) [John McCain](#) [Kathy Castor](#) [Kendrick Meek](#) [Larry Cretul](#) [Lobbying](#) [Marco Rubio](#) [Marriage amendment](#) [Media](#) [Mel Martinez](#) [Mike Huckabee](#) [Mitt Romney](#) [Offshore drilling](#) [On the 2008 campaign trail](#) [Pasco](#) [Pinellas](#) [Political ads](#) [Polls](#)

[Presidential campaign](#) [Public Service Commission](#) [Ray Sansom](#) [Redistricting](#)

[Republicans](#) [Sarah Palin](#) [State agencies](#) [State Cabinet](#) [Tax reform](#) [Television](#) [U.S. House](#) [U.S. Senate](#) [Vern Buchanan](#) [White House](#) [Winner and loser of the week](#)

Post a comment

If you have a TypeKey or TypePad account, please [Sign In](#)

Name:

Email Address: (Not displayed with comment.)

URL:

Remember personal info?

Comments:

Preview

Post

POLITICAL CONNECTIONS

Join Times Political Editor Adam Smith and Bay News 9 anchor Al Ruechel as they invite guests to discuss and debate the hot political topics making news, every Sunday on [Political Connections](#).



SITES OF INTEREST

- [Sayfie Review](#)
- [Fort Report](#)
- [CQ Politics](#)
- [Governing](#)

POLITICS LINKS

- [Republican Party of Florida](#)
- [Florida Democratic Party](#)
- [Division of Elections](#)
- [State of Florida](#)
- [State legislature](#)
- [Campaign contributions](#)
- [Congressional delegation](#)
- [Federal campaign contributions](#)

TIMES COLUMNS

- [Tallahassee Bureau Chief Steve Bousquet](#)
- [Political Editor Adam C. Smith](#)
- [Senior correspondent Lucy Morgan](#)

LATEST STORIES ON POLITIFACT.COM



A request for "an increase in troops sat on desks in this White House (during the presidency of George W. Bush), including the vice president's, for more than eight months, a resource request filled by President Obama in March." — **Robert Gibbs**



[Details](#)

The Obama Administration notified Poland and the Czech Republic about cancellation of major missile-defense facilities "at the last minute in midnight phone calls." — **Dick Cheney**



[Details](#)

"Usually it's about \$900 a month to get health coverage. (Florida's program has) reduced that, on average, to about \$150 a month." — **Charlie Crist**



[Details](#)

a service of the
St. Petersburg Times

CQ POLITICS BLOG



- [Political Economy: Derivatives Unmasked](#)
- [CQ Transcript: Sens. Schumer, Cornyn on NBC's 'Meet the Press'](#)
- [CQ Transcript: Sens. Hatch, Nelson, Brown on CNN's 'State of the Union'](#)
- [Gauging the Prospects for a Public Option](#)
- [CQ Transcript: Sens. McCaskill, McConnell on ABC's 'This Week'](#)
- [House GOP Preps Midterm Message](#)

[More articles](#) | [Subscribe](#)

REAL CLEAR POLITICS POLLS

REAL CLEAR POLITICS

Job Approval	Approve	Disapprove	Spread
Obama	52.4	43.4	+9.0
Congress	25.0	66.8	-41.8

[More RealClearPolitics Polls](#)

Latest News and Analysis on RCP

[Promises, Personality Cults, and American Exceptionalism](#)

[The 'Public Plan' Delusion](#)

[Obama at Odds With His Own Vision for the World](#)

[More on RCP](#)

POLITICS HEADLINES FROM THE AP

- [Scientist pleaded guilty to overbilling NASA, DOD](#)
- [HHS' Sebelius: Ample flu vaccine will be available](#)
- [Clock ticking on Democrats' health care reform](#)
- [Obama to address Marines, sailors on Monday](#)
- [GAO: FDA fails to follow up on unproven drugs](#)
- [Obama quotes about the news media](#)
- [Carrots and Sticks: Obama's split media strategy](#)
- [FACT CHECK: Health insurers' profits 35th of 500](#)
- [Top foundations involved in education](#)
- [Lawmakers split on timing of Afghan decision](#)

From the makers of enMotion® touchless towel and soap products.
Learn more at gpro.com/healthsmart.



© 2009 · All Rights Reserved · St. Petersburg Times
490 First Avenue South · St. Petersburg, FL 33701 · 727-893-8111
[Contact Us](#) | [Join Us](#) | [Advertise with Us](#) | [Subscribe to the Times](#)
[Privacy Policy](#) | [Standard of Accuracy](#) | [Terms, Conditions & Copyright](#)