

## 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

[GOP goes on Miami radio to bash Obama](#) | [Main](#) | [Is Charlie Crist 'America's worst governor?' »](#)

October 26, 2009

## This week: Crist with Ah-nold, Ari and former Ariz. gov for cash

Gov. Charlie Crist's schedule has him returning to the Capitol this afternoon after a visit with the United South & Eastern Tribes at the Seminole Hard Rock in Fort Lauderdale (ya' know, where House Speaker Larry Cretul wants the gaming shut down).

He's here for Cabinet tomorrow, but by Thursday he's on a jet plane again for another long weekend of fundraising with some notable, high-profile supporters -- including the former Arizona governor convicted of fraud and later pardoned by President Clinton. Thursday is the Palazzo Las Vegas in an event (minimum \$1,000 per person) hosted by lobbyist Nick Iarossi, among others.

Friday he's in Phoenix for cocktails and dinner at the home of Rev. Ann and husband Fife Symington. She is the vocational deacon at All Saints-by-the-Sea in Phoenix. Fife Symington was governor of Arizona until he resigned in 1997 after a bank fraud conviction that was later overturned by an appeals court. He was also pardoned by Clinton -- a college friend who credits Symington with saving him from drowning.

Saturday, Halloween, Crist will be in Brentwood, Calif., at the home of the Terminator Gov. Ah-nold Schwarzenegger for a "sporty casual attire" lunch at \$2,400 per couple.

And then Monday night, he's back in Florida -- but not the Capitol. That evening in Boca Raton, former White House press secretary Ari Fleischer is having a VIP reception "with photo op" for Crist. Host committee members include Brent and Debbie Sembler, Wayne Huizenga and his wife, and lobbyist Fred Karlinsky.

\*

Posted by Shannon Colavecchio at 09:44:18 AM on October 26, 2009 in [Charlie Crist](#) , [U.S. Senate](#) | [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](mailto:asmith@sptimes.com).

SUBSCRIBE TO | BOOKMARK THIS BLOG

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

  

 ADD THIS BLOG TO MY **Technorati FAVORITES**

## Beyond the Buzz

Vote on FPL vote kicks off with new commissioner - Palm Beach Post

Florida stimulus chief says it's too soon to tell if state will get the 207,000 jobs Obama touted - Palm Beach Post

GOP Outrage, Dems Chide Grayson over "K Street whore" Remark - Orlando Sentinel

Crist says he didn't know Obama was coming to Florida - Orlando Sentinel

Crist says he didnt know Obama was in the state - Palm Beach Post

Rubio on MSNBC: Crist has gone blue since 2006 - Orlando Sentinel

Fineout: Is Rubio sending mixed messages on stim bucks? - Orlando Sentinel

McCollum, Sink go round and round over abusive debt collectors - Orlando Sentinel

Can job-promises put Central Florida's rail plans over the top? - Orlando Sentinel

Obama to unveil \$3.4 billion in "smart grid" grants today in Florida, including \$200 million to FPL - Palm Beach Post

GOP Says Grayson Went Too Far with 'K Street whore' Comment - Orlando Sentinel

Obama lands in Miami to raise money for Dem Senate, House candidates - Palm Beach Post

Morgan, others quit the FJA over racial mailer - Orlando Sentinel

Obama says 14 dead in Afghanistan "gave their lives to protect ours" - Palm Beach Post

UPDATED: Obama plans stimulus announcement in Arcadia tomorrow, visits Jacksonville, Miami today - Palm Beach Post

Maxwell: Crist, McCollum need to investigate Brevard 'dog-tracker' convictions - Orlando Sentinel

namesoftheliving.com Launches Today to Counter Grayson's namesofthedeat.com - Orlando Sentinel

....And Today's Gutierrez endorsement is from... Palatka - Orlando Sentinel

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

### NAKED POLITICS



In partnership with  
the Miami Herald

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](mailto:abuse@tampabay.com)

Comments

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

Does he ever work?

Posted by: Sick of RINOs | [October 26, 2009 at 09:49 AM](#)

Florida has benefited from the Governor's leadership. A positive approach to governing. Please keep up the good work, Governor.

Posted by: Lyle | [October 26, 2009 at 09:50 AM](#)

good grief, no wonder Crist was nominated for worst governor of America. He never governs!

Posted by: XX | [October 26, 2009 at 09:59 AM](#)

Actually, Governor Crist was ranked the most fiscally conservative governor in America by the CATO Institute, which translates to the best governor in America in my book.

Thanks for helping me keep my hard-earned money in my wallet, Governor! That's some darn good governing.

Posted by: Truth | [October 26, 2009 at 10:10 AM](#)

This is what Chuck has to do. The ONLY way he can win at this point is too raise enough money to create a parallel political world where 51% of GOP voters believe his lies.

The rest of this campaign is going to be the political equivalent of Shermans march to the sea. I don't think it'll work because Rubio will have the resources (his money, outside groups, Jeb, the media) to thwart the attack and cut through the lies.

Posted by: ////////// | [October 26, 2009 at 10:31 AM](#)

From an Edwards email:

According to the Miami Herald's Naked Politics (October 16),

Gov. Charlie Crist is trumpeting his grade of "A" on Cato's "Fiscal Policy Report Card on America's Governors." The governor earned the grade in last year's report based mainly on his property tax cuts and moderate spending approach.

I am pleased that Crist values Cato's ratings

because we work hard to make them accurate and nonpartisan. But as the report's author,

I am concerned that the governor has fallen off the fiscal responsibility horse since the report was written in mid-2008.

In particular, Crist approved a huge \$2.2 billion tax increase for the fiscal 2010 budget, even though he had promised that \$12 billion in federal "stimulus" money showered on Florida over three years would obviate the need for tax increases.

About \$1 billion of the tax increases are on cigarette consumers, which will particularly harm moderate-income families. The rest of the increases are in the form of higher costs for often mandatory services, such as automobile registration, which is really just a sneaky form of tax increases.

These tax increases will be particularly painful to Floridians in the short-term because of the recession. But Crist has also jeopardized the state's long-term finances with his expanded subsidies for hurricane insurance. Hurricanes are a major challenge in Florida, but giving big subsidies to coastal property owners, driving private insurers out of the state, and guaranteeing a massive state bailout

- [More on Tynan appointment to School Board](#)
- [Three members of Congress picked Brown over Meek](#)
- [Is Rubio a proxy for Jeb v. Crist?](#)
- [DNC fires back at Obama radio ad](#)
- [Obama greeters in Miami: Kendrick Meek, DWS, Dan Gelber, Mayor Manny Diaz and Alex Sink](#)
- [Big crowd waits to hear Rubio in Broward](#)
- [Obama's golf game sparks Miami protest](#)
- [Kevin Tynan has an easy act to follow](#)

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

ADVERTISEMENT



RECENT COMMENTS

- [Not me on 'No show Marco'](#)
- [No you're just an idiot and a "liar for hire" on Obama's Miami fundraiser nets \\$1.5 million](#)
- [\(about 0.04% at last count\) on Obama's Miami fundraiser nets \\$1.5 million](#)
- [meanwhile on Back from Afghanistan, LeMieux disagrees Obama is 'dithering'](#)
- [Want another big gulp of Kool-Aid? on Obama, Fla Dems face tough climate in 2010](#)
- [Gator\(R\) on 'No show Marco'](#)
- [How's that stimulus the governor supported working?...it is not on Responding to GOP radio ad, Democrats tout Charlie Crist's stimulus support](#)
- [I'm confused on Obama's Miami fundraiser nets \\$1.5 million](#)
- [ronnie on Back from Afghanistan, LeMieux disagrees Obama is 'dithering'](#)
- [Effie the Toad on Charlie Crist supporters alarmed with Rubio](#)

**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

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 Bilirakis](#) [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](#)

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



The Truth-O-Meter Says:

Barack Obama wrote a thesis at Columbia University in which he criticized "plutocratic thugs" and said the Constitution gave Americans "the shackles of hypocrisy." — **Bloggers**



[Details](#)

A "fairly limited number of people, 25 million to 30 million," will be allowed to access a national health insurance exchange. — **Claire McCaskill**



[Details](#)

"Here in Florida, I've slashed government by 10 percent. That's \$7 billion." — **Charlie Crist**



[Details](#)



CQ POLITICS BLOG



- [Politics of Health Care: Republicans Vs. AARP](#)
- [GOP Picks Promising 'Young Guns' Candidates](#)
- [Primary Influence: Some Lawmakers Willing To Pony Up Early](#)
- [Special Election Debate: Capuano Shows Passion, Coakley Shows Polish](#)
- [McDonnell Outpaces Deeds in Latest Fundraising Push](#)
- [DCCC Targets Conservative Candidate in N.Y. Special](#)

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

REAL CLEAR POLITICS POLLS



Job Approval	Approve	Disapprove	Spread
Obama	52.0	43.8	+8.2
Congress	25.0	66.8	-41.8

[More RealClearPolitics Polls](#)

Latest News and Analysis on RCP

[Lessons for the White House from the Doctor Fix Debacle](#)

[Hillary 2016?](#)

[If Public Option is Really Back, Why Such a Heavy Lift?](#)

[More on RCP](#)

POLITICS HEADLINES FROM THE AP

- [New safety worry: Laptops, devices in the cockpit](#)
- [Long-term care insurance program gains in House](#)
- [No guarantees on Senate health bill's public plan](#)
- [Obama putting \\$3.4B toward a 'smart' power grid](#)
- [Obama promotes 'smart grid'](#)
- [Preventing preemies: New rules limit induced labor](#)
- [Groups call for balance in labor, immigration laws](#)
- [First US official resigns to protest Afghan war](#)
- [CAPITAL CULTURE: Obama a tough critic of himself](#)
- [Defense Department's top auditor forced from post](#)

---

© 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](#)