

Mandarin NewsLine

NOVEMBER 2017 Volume 12 Issue 1

A Florida NewsLine Publication



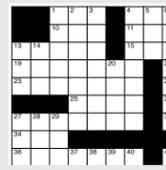
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Mandarin Community Club announces Mandarin Road corridor tree canopy project

By Susie Scott
mail@floridanewslines.com



Photos courtesy Susie Scott

Trees along Mandarin Road have uprooted as a result of Hurricane Irma.

The Mandarin Community Club has announced their partnership with the City of Jacksonville, Greenscape, Rotary of Mandarin, Mandarin Museum & Historic Society along with private donors and residents who are working together to restore the devastated tree canopy along Mandarin Road.

A steering committee led by the community club met to discuss the extensive damage to the tree canopy along the roadway from two separate storm systems in two years and coalesce ideas into a plan to mitigate the damage. Damaging wind and rain-soaked soil led to the loss of dozens of trees along the roadway, including several of the historic patriarch oaks.

The only designated Scenic and Historic Corridor in Jacksonville, the tree canopy of Mandarin Road is essential to its identity. This collaborative effort will bring together these groups to

Tree Canopy cont. on pg. 13

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Maple Leaf shipwreck divers continue historical awareness efforts at Mandarin Museum

By Angela Higginbotham
angela@floridanewslines.com

Jacksonville native Dr. Keith Holland's passion for history has always been prevalent, but his interest in underwater shipwrecks was piqued when his brother-in-law made trips to Florida to dive in the springs. In 1980, Holland began his research and began checking off shipwrecks that had been documented and found in the area — but one ship in particular, the Maple Leaf, sank off Mandarin Point more than a century ago and had never been found. Even retrieving official records with information on the vessel proved extremely difficult. With persistence, Holland eventually found the one-inch Maple Leaf file, and he began speaking with others to gain his own conclusion that the Maple Leaf did indeed still remain at the bottom of the St. Johns River.

Built in Kingston, Ontario in 1851, at 181 feet long by 25 feet wide, and weighing 398 tons, the Maple Leaf was sunk by a Confederate mine on April 1, 1864. Approximately 42 people were on board and four of them were killed. The steamboat was under contract to the U.S. Army, and had belongings of the 112th and 169th Regiments of New York Volunteers, and the 13th Indiana Regiment en route from Folly Island, S.C., to Jacksonville.

"Once I saw in my mind's eye that this was an incredible opportunity, the idea of searching for the shipwreck was in the midst of absolute skepticism. No one believed it was there, that it could be recovered or that it was important enough. It took several years to locate the physical site of where the ship went down," Holland said.

In 1984, Holland's brother-in-law, an avid diver, went down into the murky water to find that the main deck of the Maple Leaf was buried under six to eight feet of mud. Although the mud would bring additional challenges to the efforts of the divers, Holland was well aware that what was buried deeper would also be better preserved.

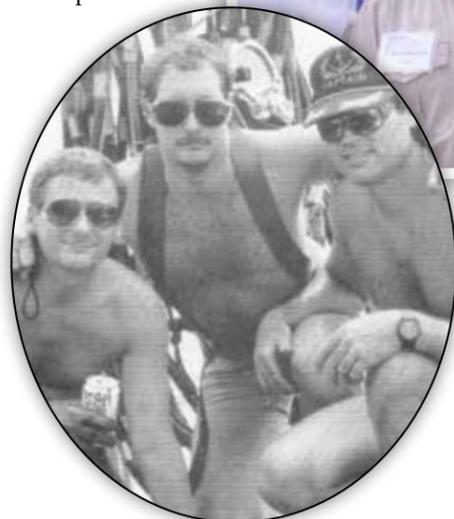
In 1988, after announcing the Maple Leaf discovery and proceeding into an

extensive effort of gaining the legal rights needed to move forward, the hull of the Maple Leaf was penetrated and hundreds of well-preserved items were retrieved.

In 1989, the exceptional



Dr. Keith Holland, Steve Michaelis, Bobby Lunsford, Paul Kramer, Larry Tipping and Mike Dupes at the Mandarin Museum.



Photos courtesy Mandarin Museum & Historical Society
Dr. Keith Holland, Lee Manley and Larry Tipping during the expedition.

divers, all volunteers, chosen by Holland were trained and went on to recover approximately 2,000 pounds of material, the largest collection of its kind known to ever exist. Gum rubber blankets, a never before seen rain hat, china, candlesticks, pencils, pens and many other treasures were recovered in the Maple Leaf shipwreck. After receiving a four year grant in 1994, the Maple Leaf wreckage became a historical landmark and the divers went on to recover a tremendous amount of cargo from the ship — yet it's been determined that only 1 percent out of 800,000 pounds of cargo has been recovered thus far.

In 1996, after approximately 300 hours in the water, Holland and his team wrapped up the project and shared their

findings with the world. Eighty percent of the items recovered were gifted to the state of Florida and none of the material was left in private hands. Holland hand-selected items recovered to display in the Mandarin Museum.

"I selected items with the intent of bringing out the personal side of the story. It's important to understand that these were human beings. My greatest fear is that this part of our history will drift back into time and disappear again," Holland said.

The talented and passionate divers that served on the team bringing this wreckage into the spotlight still come together twice a month to connect with each other and to contribute to the awareness of the incredible history of the Maple Leaf.

Larry Tipping, one of the six main divers on Holland's team, remembers the experience fondly as a once in a lifetime opportunity. Tipping and Holland met after Holland had just discovered the wreckage, and the two became immediate friends. A typical day would often mean spending four to six hours becoming mobilized to start the activities for each

Maple Leaf cont. on pg. 13

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See our special Senior NewsLine section devoted to seniors. Full of tips, activities and great offerings from our partners!

Senior NewsLine
page 8

Pet of the Month



The great Bandito has arrived! Watch me zoom all around the yard (and your heart) as I capture everyone's attention! I'm a good boy who knows how to sit, lay down and give kisses. Mixed Breed, Large (over 44 lbs fully grown)/Mix, 5 years old, Male, neutered.



Meet Tomas! He is a man of mystery, but he loves to snuggle. He is looking for his forever home! Domestic Shorthair/Mix, 3 years old, Male, neutered.

The Jacksonville Humane Society is open 12 p.m. – 7 p.m. on weekdays, and from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. on the weekends. Call (904) 725-8766 for more information.

Mystery Photo



Can you guess where this is? Submit your answer to mail@FloridaNewsLine.com.

Last month's winner was Joyce Varns.

FLORIDA NewsLine

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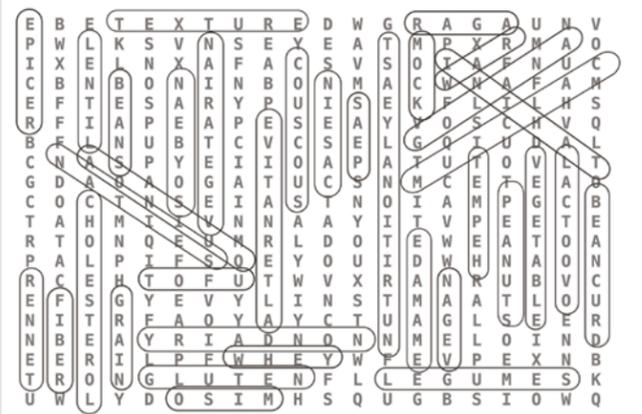
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answers to puzzles on page 16

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Answers: A. protein B. vegetable C. health D. diet

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take 5

Car show to benefit Toys for Tots scheduled

The third annual Bartram Park Car Show and Community Festival will be held on Saturday, Nov. 4, from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. at 13241 Bartram Park Blvd., in the parking lot of Railing Chiropractic. The event will feature inflatables, vendors, face painting, a raffle, food trucks and live music — and is free and open to the community. To enter your car in the show, there is a \$20 charge or a reduced charge of \$10 if you also bring two new, unwrapped toys for Toys for Tots. Sponsored by Railing Chiropractic, last year's event resulted in approximately 6,000 toys being donated to Toys for Tots. Contact (904) 551-9283 for more information. Take Five

African Children's Choir to perform

The African Children's Choir will perform at San Jose Baptist Church, 6140 San Jose Blvd., at 7 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 10. The program features



Photo courtesy African Children's Choir

children's songs, spirituals and gospel favorites. Concerts are free and open to the community. Donations will be accepted at the performance to support the African Children's Choir programs, such as education, care and relief, and development. The African Children's Choir is a nonprofit humanitarian and relief organization dedicated to helping Africa's most vulnerable children today so they can help Africa tomorrow. Visit www.africanchildrenschoir.com for more information.

Backyard birds and shorebird presentations announced

Nature photographer and Florida Naturalist Gary Whiting will present a free program on how to identify local backyard birds and take easy and great photographs of them on Wednesday, Nov. 15 from 6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m. at the Wild Birds Unlimited Store, 450 State Road 13 in St. Johns. Also, the St. Johns County Audubon Society will present "Florida Beaches and the Birds and the Birds That Nest on Them" on Thursday, Nov. 9 from 7 p.m. – 8 p.m. also at the Wild Birds Unlimited Store. Jean Rolke, president of St. Johns County Audubon, and the Audubon Florida Anchor Steward for Northeast Florida will help with identifications, talk about what can be done to



Photo courtesy Mandarin Community Club

help both the migrating and the beach-nesting birds, and answer questions. Attendees should bring their photos for help with identification. There is limited seating for these presentations and reservations are required; call (904) 230-3242.

Catholic Writers welcome Bishop Felipe Estevez

On Thursday, Nov. 2, the Catholic Writers Guild will host Bishop Felipe Estevez as its keynote speaker from 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. in the auditorium of St. Paul's Catholic Church, 2609 Park St. His topic will be "The Book of Wisdom: A Preparation for the Gospel." The program will also include screening of a commercial about the value of public prayer, produced by Brian Shields of Lumen Entertainment, as well as selections from Anne Coyle and readings from other members. The presentation is

free and the community is invited. Visit www.dosafl.com/outreach/catholic-writers-guild/ or email writerrod@comcast.net for more information.

Mandarin Community Club to honor veterans

The Mandarin Community Club will hold its annual Wreath Laying Ceremony in honor of Veterans Day at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 12 at Billard Commemorative Park located at 11642 Brady Road. Following the Wreath Ceremony, the club will celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Billard Commemorative Park, which is one of the club's three historic properties. Refreshments will be served. The public is invited and free parking is available at the Mandarin Community Club, 12447 Mandarin Road. Visit mandrincommunityclub.org or call (904) 268-1622 for more information.



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26	27	28	29	30		

Nov. 18 - Jan. 31, 2018 St. Augustine Nights of Lights Nightly
www.visitstaugustine.com/event/nights-lights

December 1 - 3 41st annual Art and Antiques Show: "London Calling"
 Hosted by the Women's Board of Wolfson Children's Hospital
 Prime F. Osborn III Convention Center
www.artandantiquesshow.com

December 2 Children's Way 5k & Family Day benefiting Ronald McDonald House
 3 p.m. 5k; 4 p.m. fun run
 Ronald McDonald House in San Marco
<https://rmhcjacksonville.org>

December 6 December Art Walk
 5 p.m. - 9 p.m.
 Downtown Jacksonville
<http://jacksonvilleartwalk.com>

save the date!

1st Duval County Public Schools hurricane make-up
 Full instructional day

2nd Catholic Writers Guild featuring keynote speaker Bishop Felipe Estevez
 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
 St. Paul's Catholic Church school auditorium, 2609 Park St.
www.dosafl.com/outreach/catholic-writers-guild/ or writterod@comcast.net

4th 2017 First Coast Walk for Children with Apraxia
 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
 The Bolles School, 7400 San Jose Blvd.
<https://casana.apraxia-kids.org/jacksonvillewalk>
Bartram Park Car Show and Community Festival
 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
 13241 Bartram Park Blvd.
 (904) 551-9283

Mandarin Republican Club breakfast meeting featuring Mayor Lenny Curry
 10 a.m.
 Golden Corral, 11470 San Jose Blvd.
rmclean1@bellsouth.net

1911 Historic Mandarin Store and Post Office open
 12 p.m. - 4 p.m.
 12471 Mandarin Road
www.mandarinmuseum.net or (904) 268-0784
Toast of Jax Toastmasters meeting
 7:30 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.
 Baha'i Community Center of Jacksonville, 5034 Greenland Road
www.toastofjax.com (Repeating event on Saturdays)

US Coast Guard Auxiliary About Boating Safely class
 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
 Florida Tackle and gun Club, 9010 San Jose Blvd.
www.safeboatingjax.com

5th Under the Oaks music jam
 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
 Walter Jones Historical Park, 11964 Mandarin Road
www.mandarinmuseum.net or (904) 268-0784

7th Honeybee Quilt Guild
 6:30 p.m.
 Mandarin Presbyterian Church, 11844 Mandarin Road
www.honeybeequilters.org (Repeats first Tuesday of each month)
Jacksonville Fine Arts Forum excursion to Lightner Museum for Downton Abbey exhibit
 Call Jean Hopper, (904) 268-5542 or jaxfineartsforum.com

Shuffleboard
 1:30 p.m. (repeating event on Tuesdays)
 Mandarin Park, next to tennis courts at park entrance
 Just show up unless it rains

9th American Legion Post 372 general assembly
 6 p.m. meet and greet / 7 p.m. meeting
 Mandarin/St. Johns Elks Lodge, 4280 Oldfield Crossing Drive
 (904) 297-8344 or www.mandarinpost372.org

11th St. Johns Chapter of the Catholic Writers Guild
 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
 St. Paul's Catholic Church school auditorium, 2609 Park St.
www.dosafl.com/outreach/catholic-writers-guild/ or writterod@comcast.net

15th Duval County Public Schools hurricane make-up
 Full instructional day
Backyard Bird Photography with Florida Naturalist Gary Whiting
 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.
 Wild Birds Unlimited Store, 450 State Road 13, St. Johns
 Free; call (904) 230-3242 to register
River City Women's Club featuring holiday treats raffle for charity
 10:30 a.m.
 Ramada Inn Mandarin, 3130 Hartley Road
 RSVP to Florence, (904) 262-8719

16th Third Thursday Lecture: A Soldier's Story
 6:30 p.m.
 Mandarin Community Club, 12447 Mandarin Road
 Free event; (904) 268-0784
Cherokee Rose Circle of the Mandarin Garden Club
 10 a.m.
 Mandarin Garden Club, 2892 Loretto Road
 (904) 260-2764; mandaringardenclub.org
Mandarin Women's Club features personal chef Ali Kaplon
 10:30 a.m.
 Ramada Inn Mandarin, 3130 Hartley Road
 RSVP by Nov. 9; gerimarch23@gmail.com or (904) 993-7649

18th Toy Train/Christmas Show sponsored by TCA Southern Division
 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
 Morocco Shrine Auditorium
 \$5 admission, (904) 272-7060
Fall Festival and Chili Cook-Off
 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
 RiverPlace Shopping Center, 11111 San Jose Blvd.
www.mandarinCouncil.org
Cruise In sponsored by Sunshine State Chevelles
 4 p.m. - 8 p.m.
 PDQ parking lot, 194 State Road 13
 Repeating event on third Saturday of each month
Mandarin Toastmasters meeting
 10:15 a.m. - 12 p.m.
 South Mandarin Library, 12125 San Jose Blvd.
MandarinToastmasters.org

20th All Star Quilt Guild
 9:45 a.m.
 First Christian Church, 11924 San Jose Blvd.
www.orgsites.com/fl/allstartquiltguild or (904) 502-5254

21st Dogwood Circle of the Mandarin Garden Club
 10 a.m.
 Mandarin Garden Club, 2892 Loretto Road
 (904) 260-2764; mandaringardenclub.org

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with Duval School Board Member,
District 7, Lori Hershey

Q: Do you have any updates on the superintendent search?

A: The school board has developed a timeline for the superintendent search. The goal is that by the December board meeting, we will approve the RFP (Request for Proposal) to solicit proposals from recruiting and search firms. By January 2018 we will decide on which firm to use and we plan to select the superintendent, via a national search, by mid-March 2018.

Q: That seems like a very quick turnaround.

A: Well, the process actually started in October, when the board developed our strategic plan, which we plan to roll out to the public in November. In District 7, there will be a meeting at Atlantic Coast High School on Nov. 13 from 6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. This will be an opportunity for the public to learn more about the strategic plan and provide their first input for the search for the superintendent. Also, on Nov. 30, there will be a board development workshop that will help set the stage for the superintendent search. So, there will be a lot of work going on in the months prior to the actual search.

Q: What additional opportunities will be available for public input?

A: Community engagement and stakeholder input is very important to us. We do not have the timeline for all the meetings yet, but should have them in the next couple of months. There will definitely be opportunities for the public to share their input in February and March. And, as with the previous superintendent search when Dr. Vitti was hired, the public will be able to observe some of the interview process.

I would like to caution the public, though, that any event they attend should be school board sanctioned, as this is the only type event that their feedback will be incorporated into the superintendent search.

Q: What is the latest with the efforts to get a school zone in front of Twin Lakes Academy Elementary?

A: School board members Couch, Wright and I, as well as City Council members Hazouri and Becton, met with the School Safety Council recently. It was a productive conversation and we discussed concerns regarding school safety zones at Twin Lakes Academy Elementary as well as crossing guards at middle schools. Things are moving forward and the conversations are continuing.

Q: Do you have any additional District 7 news to share?

A: I appreciate being contacted by members of the community who made me aware of hurricane debris that was inhibiting their way to school — particularly Loretto Elementary and Crown Point Elementary. This enabled me to contact Councilmember Matt Schellenberg's office to get the debris removed, and it was removed pretty immediately. I think it is important to note the collaborative role we in government often take. And I'd also like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Q: How can our readers contact you?

A: They can email me at HersheyL@duvalschools.org or call me at (904) 316-3609.



with Jacksonville City Council Member
Matt Schellenberg (District 6)

Q: How is the collection of debris from Hurricane Irma progressing?

A: As you know, the Marbon Road property is being used as a debris site. The first run of collection in Mandarin, and also throughout Jacksonville, will be completed by Nov. 9. At that time the city will meet with the district councilmembers to determine if additional runs are needed. As a point of reference, in 30 days of pickup following Hurricane Matthew, 808,000 metric tons of debris was collected. After Hurricane Irma, 900,000 metric tons of debris has been collected in 22 days.

Q: What happens to the debris after it is collected?

A: The debris is made into mulch, which is used for the necessary cover of landfills. Using the hurricane debris mulch ultimately saves the city money.

Q: Can you give us an update on the rezoning and sale of the Marbon Road property?

A: The property has been rezoned to PUD, but consummation of the sale has not been completed as of Oct. 13. I understand that the price is under negotiation. The potential purchaser is the one who presented the site plan that includes the townhomes, retail and greenspace.

Q: Do you have anything to report from the Town Hall meeting you held on Oct. 5?

A: The meeting went well. A lot of people had flooding and wanted to know what the city was planning to do. Representatives from the Public Works Department are handling this; they are investigating what caused the flooding and if the City of

Jacksonville or the individual homeowners associations are responsible ... or if it was just a phenomena of Mother Nature. But this really brought to attention something we've known for a long time and that is with all the money the city has spent over the past 16 years funding the pension, many quality of life items were deferred. We are now in the catch up phase for items like drainage, sidewalks and road repairs.

Q: Do you have any Mandarin updates to share?

A: The zipline is up and running at Palmetto Leaves Park off Greenland Road. We have many other things planned for this park, including a playground. Losco Park is also slated to get a great playground in the first quarter of 2018 and the splash park there is already operational. I'm excited that construction on the sidewalks on Mandarin Road from Orange Picker Road to Bolton Abbey has begun. The first phase is to be completed by the end of the year with final completion expected by April 30, 2018. Also in this year's budget are sidewalks along Orange Picker Road from Mandarin Road to Brady Road/Alberts Field as well as extending the sidewalk north about 3/8 mile along Mandarin Road from Orange Picker Road. We're trying to achieve a walkable community plus a great place for families, which is why I keep pushing for things like sidewalks and playgrounds in the budget.

Q: What is the best way for our readers to contact you?

A: Community members can email me at MattS@coj.net or call (904) 630-1388.

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with Jacksonville City Council Member Tommy Hazouri (At Large District 3)

Q: What is happening with the Marbon Road property?

A: The rezoning of this property to PUD was granted and JTA brokers are now working with potential purchasers. I recently had a meeting with the JTA staff which will hopefully lead to allocation of land for a passive park at the back of this property.

Q: At the city level, what can you tell us about the City Council's latest response to the opioid crisis?

A: The special Opioid Committee, of which I am a member, has recommended that the city pursue a lawsuit against opioid pharmaceutical firms. By the publication date of this newspaper, I expect the full City Council to have passed a bill allowing the city's general counsel to consider outside representation, similar to what other cities in Florida are doing. Costs are to be borne by the outside counsel. It's important to note that overdose deaths are burdening our system. For instance, Jacksonville Fire and Rescue has spent more than \$400,000 on Narcan, which blocks the effects of opioids and reverses an overdose.

Q: Why is the city planning on suing the manufacturers of the drugs rather than those who distribute them unethically or illegally?

A: There are a number of areas of concern in this instance, including distribution of opioids by doctors or even the internet. The proposed lawsuit is just one step in one area of review to attempt to curtail the massive number of deaths due to overdose.

Q: Do you have any updates on the most recent human trafficking initiatives?

A: I've been working as a liaison with

the Neighborhoods Department of the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office as well as the State's Attorney's Office to ensure compliance with the second wave of our sign requirements bill which passed a few months ago. This one requires that signage containing human trafficking hotlines be posted by hotel and motel management in their employee areas. Our goal is to prosecute the perpetrators of this crime, not the survivors.

Q: Do you have anything else to share?

A: The City Council passed the mayor's bill formulating the Kids Hope Alliance recently. It realigned a couple of entities into a single, more streamlined organization. Strategies included in the bill, that a seven person board the mayor will be naming (with city council approval) will oversee, include early learning, literacy and school readiness, juvenile justice prevention/intervention; out of school programming including summer camps; pre teen and teen programming and mental health. I proposed an amendment to the bill, which was also passed, which names four permanent liaisons to the board: the sheriff, the superintendent of schools, the state attorney and the public defender (or any of their designees). The city council president can also name one liaison. I'd like to especially thank the Jacksonville Children's Commission and Jacksonville Journey for their hard work to date.

Q: What is the best way for our readers to contact you?

A: They can email me at THazouri@coj.net or call (904) 630-1396.

American Legion member honored for work with Boy Scouts

By Stephanie Gerbec
mail@floridanewline.com

American Legion Post 372 Commander Alan Painter presented the American Legion and Scouting Square Knot award to Dean Phillippi during the Mandarin "Fallen Heroes" Post 372 October General Assembly. Phillippi, an American Legion member with Post 372, was presented the award for his work and dedication for working with the Boys Scouts. He is a U.S. Navy veteran who is a scout chaplain/assistant scoutmaster for Troop 101 in the North Florida Council, River Bend District. Since 1919, The American Legion has encouraged its members to support and become involved in scouting as a primary part of their service to their community, state, and nation. American Legion Manda-



Photo courtesy Donald Severns

rin "Fallen Heroes" Post 372 meets the second Thursday of each month in the Mandarin/St. Johns Elks Lodge located at 4280 Oldfield Crossing Drive. All eligible veterans, sons, daughters and wives of eligible veterans are encouraged to join the American Legion Family.



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*Source: CVC audit 2015

Briefs

Mandarin Community Club seeks members

The Mandarin Community Club is a 501 (c) 3 non profit organization located at 15447 Mandarin Road in the heart of old Mandarin. Founded in 1923, membership is open to all, but should be of special interest to those living in Mandarin and NW St. Johns County. Membership categories range from individual and family to Life memberships. There is also a level for businesses. Any new memberships received after Oct. 15, 2017 will be honored through December 2018.

The club sponsors a variety of events for members and the community over the course of the year. Most notably, the Mandarin Community Club is host and sponsor of the Mandarin Art Festival held annually on Easter weekend. Upcoming fall events include the annual Veterans Day Wreath Laying Ceremony in November.

Visit www.mandarincommunityclub.org, the club's Facebook page, or call (902) 268-1522 for more information.

New car wash opens

On Saturday, Oct. 21, Prime Car Wash, 11860 San Jose Blvd., celebrated a Grand Opening for its first Jacksonville location by giving away free interior and exterior car washes from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Donations were accepted and



Photo courtesy Zac Bruker
Cars line up to be washed at the Prime Car Wash grand opening.

all proceeds benefited St. Jude's Charity for Childhood Cancer Research.

Radio personalities from WQIK's Big Show were onsite from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. playing music. Adding to the festive atmosphere were activities for children and food from local food trucks.

Prime Car Wash is a flex-service car wash, which means it offers a variety of

options including exterior wash only, full service wash and express details.

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Visit www.primecarwash.com for more information.

Frozen yogurt store celebrates grand opening

Yogurt Mountain, located in Mandarin South shopping center near Earth Fare, celebrated its grand opening the weekend of Sept. 29 – 30. A ribbon cutting ceremony with local dignitaries was held on Friday morning, Sept. 29 at 10:15 a.m. On Saturday, Sept. 30,



Photo courtesy Jax Chamber
Stephanie Deimling (Jax Chamber), Cameron Leone, Danielle Druhl, Megan Sharp (Yomo Man), Bo Bishop (Vice President of Yogurt Mountain), Cameron Leone and Heather Seay (Mandarin NewsLine)

Yogurt Mountain offered special pricing on cups of frozen yogurt as well as hourly appearances by mascot YOMO Man. "We're thrilled to bring Jacksonville our style of frozen desserts. With a wide variety of flavors and toppings the only limitation is one's creativity," said Bo Bishop, vice president of Yogurt Mountain. "Beyond frozen treats, we are also excited to be part of the community through partnerships and fundraising."

Yogurt Mountain offers pay-by-the-ounce soft-serve ice cream, sorbet, custard, Italian ice, and all-natural products.

Since opening the first store in 2009, Yogurt Mountain has expanded to 37 locations in 13 states throughout the Eastern United States.

Visit www.yogurtmountain.com for more information.

Local doctor honored for community and industry contributions

Dr. Jon Edenfield OTD, OTR/L, founder and director of Great Strides Rehabilitation Center in Mandarin, was presented with the 20th anniversary Occupational Therapy Professional Award from the University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences for his outstanding commitment to the occupational therapy profession in leadership, advocacy, service, scholarship, mentorship and innovation.

After earning his undergraduate degree in occupational therapy at the University of Florida, Edenfield completed his masters in 2000 at the University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences when the occupational therapy program was in its infancy. He also earned his doctorate from University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences, researching his capstone project for three years, titled "Pilot Study: The physiological effects of animal assisted therapy on children with autism spectrum disorder."



Photo courtesy Sage Justice, Justice Photography
Dr. John Edenfield, holding plaque, is presented 20th anniversary Occupational Therapy Professional Award by John Hoey, chair of the University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences board of directors and president and CEO.

After working with special needs children he saw that most require multiple types of therapies with specialists typically at different locations. He created Great Strides — a comprehensive rehabilitation center for children — providing unique interdisciplinary teams of specialists at one rehab and special education facility so parents can meet their child's varied needs in one location. In only 13 years, Great Strides has grown from a one-room space to a 19,000 square foot new building employing 85 specialists and assistants, helping children with disabilities from birth to 21-years-old.

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Senior NewsLine 2017

Add hearing care to your end of the year to-do list

By Rosann W. Faull, Au.D., CCC-A
mail@floridanewsline

Here it is again: that time of the year to review our overall health, health care benefits, prepare for the holidays and get together with friends and family. Don't miss the sounds of the season; add hearing care to your list. Hearing care is health care. Now's the time to schedule an evaluation. Unfortunately, hearing loss is often ignored.

Worse yet, excuses are made for not hearing well: "My family mumbles," "I like the TV loud," and "No one can hear in noisy restaurants." Research has revealed that people wait five to seven years before having their first hearing evaluation. Several factors can and do affect hearing. Family history, aging and noise exposure

are the most common risk factors for hearing loss. Two very common health issues, heart disease and diabetes, lead to a higher incidence and more severe hearing loss. Also, ongoing research shows that hearing loss and dementia are linked.

Hearing is one of our major senses and it should be evaluated when you or your family notices communication difficulties. It is a good idea to have it evaluated when you become Medicare eligible. Medicare will pay for a diagnostic hearing evaluation, with your doctor's referral and performed by a Doctor of Audiology. A complete, diagnostic hearing evaluation will determine the softest tone and speech you can hear. Importantly, it will determine how clear speech is in quiet and a noisy listening environment. You have a diagnosis — now what? If medical intervention is needed, a referral will be made to your physician. If medicine or surgery will not correct your hearing loss, then amplification will be recommended.

Now is the best time to try hearing aids. Digital technology truly makes hearing aids automatic — soft speech heard, loud sounds tolerable, background noise reduced, and no squealing feedback. Finally, instruments with rechargeable batteries and direct to cellphone and TV connections. If at first, you are not satisfied, do not give up. There is no "one size fits all." Try another brand or provider. It is Florida Law that hearing aids may be returned for any reason during the first 30 days. Start with a provider that works with more than one manufacturer and brand.

Prepare for a Happy Holiday Season. Start with better hearing.

Rosann W. Faull, Au.D., CCC-A is a Board Certified Doctor of Audiology. Visit www.drfaull.com for more information.

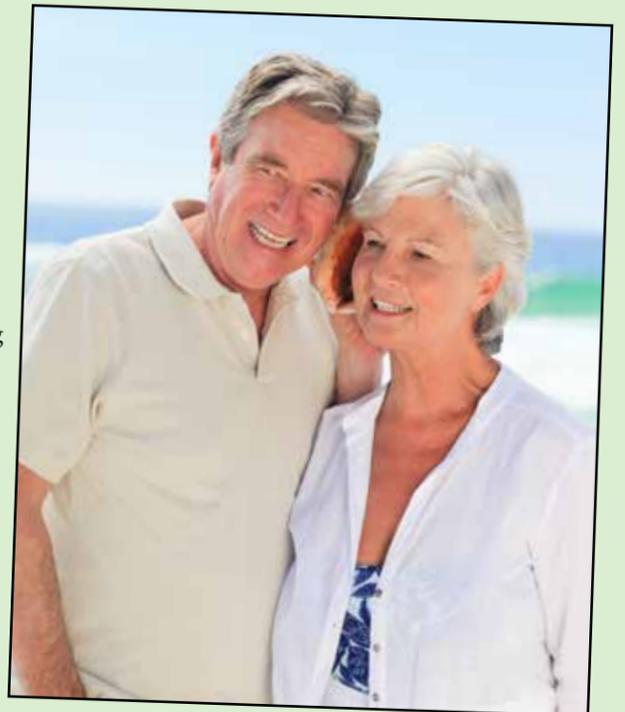


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Senior NewsLine 2017

Mandarin Museum & Historical Society welcomes senior volunteers

By Sandy Arpen
mail@floridanewsline.com

Mandarin's fascinating history encompasses stories as diverse as the Timucuan Indians, Victorian citrus growers, Civil War events and African-American education during Reconstruction; however, not many people are aware of the deep and rich heritage of this area. Volunteers at the Mandarin Museum & Historical Society (MMHS) have an opportunity to bring the stories of Mandarin and its people to life for visitors of all ages and interests. Since MMHS is volunteer led and driven, our volunteers form the very foundation of the organization — we could not function without them.



Photo courtesy Olis Garbe
Mandarin Museum volunteer Hope Ferrigno portraying Edith Jones in the farmhouse at Walter Jones Historical Park.

Most of the volunteers at MMHS are seniors who have had busy lives and interesting professions and now have time to get involved with their communities in a new way. They bring special and diverse talents and abilities to the museum. Some work as docents who greet and assist visitors and work in the museum gift shop or help with special events. Others guide tours of the historic buildings, develop school programs, work in planning and finance, develop and promote educational programs, do public relations and fundraising work, plan and implement exhibits or catalog and manage the museum's collection of artifacts. There is a special task for each person who wants to help.

There is also much fun and satisfaction awaiting if you join the team and participate in the growth of this non-profit organization, while performing a valuable service for the community. If you have an interest in learning more, please refer to www.mandarin-museum.net/join/volunteer, where you can print a volunteer application. Or

call Paula Suhey, Volunteer Coordinator, at (904) 268-0784 and she will be happy to talk with you about your interests.

Sandy Arpen is president of the board of directors of the Mandarin Museum & Historical Society.

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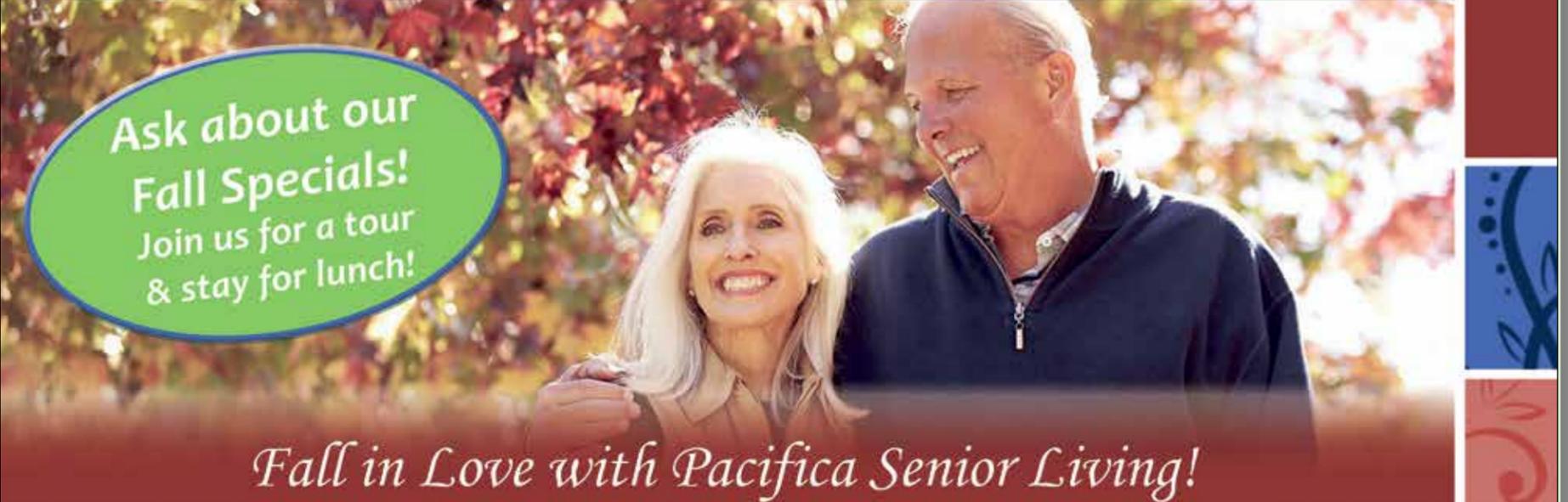
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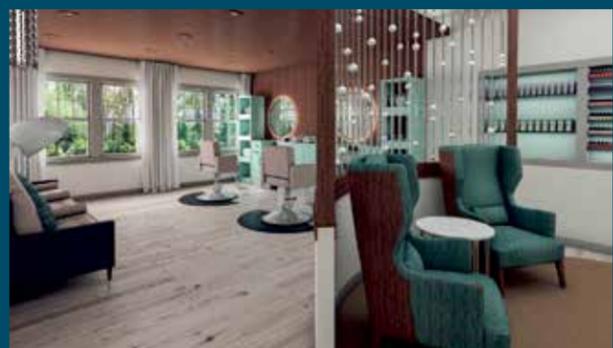
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Get to Know . . .

By Angela Higginbotham
angela@floridanewsline.com

Jeanine Rogozinski

Jeanine Rogozinski has fond memories of growing up in Dallas, Texas with her parents and three siblings. She received her bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Texas. She and her husband, Dr. Chaim Rogozinski, enjoy calling Mandarin home and have been married for 36 years. They have four children and two small grandchildren. Rogozinski enjoyed many years as a stay at home mother, while volunteering her time where needed in the community and within The Bolles School.

Active in nonprofit organizations for the past 30 years, Rogozinski is passionate about helping those around her. As the four-time chair of the annual River Garden Gala and Foundation board president for 15 years, Rogozinski is a constant force in moving people forward and having a positive impact on those around her. Inspired by her in-laws, who were Holocaust survivors, Rogozinski finds motivation in their story of resilience, courage, strength, tolerance and love of family and country.

"I find a lot of joy in helping others and I believe that what you give, you will receive back in spades," she said.

1. What do you enjoy most about living in Mandarin?

I enjoy the serenity, nature and inherent beauty of the area. We do a lot of walking. The sidewalks are nice, the people are friendly, and the community is healthy and vibrant. The southern hospitality reminds me of home in Texas.

2. What do the River Garden Foundation and the Gala represent and what goes into making the event such a success?

River Garden is an eight-time state gold seal recipient senior living facility with tremendous leadership. My mother in law, Ella, resides there, and the gala started 25 years ago by a group of women who were passionate about community awareness. More than \$3 million has been raised in the past 25 years. That money goes to subsidize the immediate needs of River Garden residents and they have grown to depend on this help from the community.

This year, our theme is "Shimmer & Stars" for the River Garden Foundation's Silver Anniversary Gala. We will honor many for their dedication over the years. It will be held at the Sawgrass Marriott Resort and Spa on Nov. 18 and it's just a night filled with fun and love for everyone involved. The entire public is invited and they can find information on the River Garden website. We typically have upwards of 600 guests attend. Cocktails, a silent auction, and a lovely dinner make the night fun. Eighty volunteers and special sponsors come together to bring such great positivity and energy to make it the highly anticipated event that it has become.

3. What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

I stay active in helping the community with most of my time, but I enjoy spending time with friends and family as much as possible. Jacksonville is a melting pot with so much diversity and I enjoy having friends with so many different backgrounds. My husband and I enjoy our time together and working out is one of our ways to spend time with each other. We do travel some, but we have a



Photo courtesy Jeanine Rogozinski
Jeanine Rogozinski with her husband, Dr. Chaim Rogozinski.

dog that is important to us at home.

4. What do you feel is your greatest accomplishment?

My children. They are all adults with good hearts and good souls. They are very close, have a tight bond and they look after each other. Rachel and Erin are both attorneys. Jonathon is an orthopedic surgeon in residency, who hopes to work with his dad, and Danielle is in banking.

5. Is there anything that most people don't know about you?

I don't think so. I am an open book. I don't usually hold back much. We all have flaws, but I wake up every day with a smile on my face. I have so much to be thankful for. Everything matters. I'm a routine person; I do the same thing every day, but I love what I do and I'm content. I pray for everyone's health all the time. You can't buy it and you can't control it.

Get to Know . . .

Interested in being featured?
Email Martie Thompson at
editor@FloridaNewsLine.com

Maple Leaf from pg. 1



Model of the Maple Leaf at the exhibit at the Mandarin Museum & Historical Society.

dive. The darkness of night was never a hindrance, because down deep in the St. Johns River it remains dark at all times. Bringing the artifacts up to the surface and having the responsibility to maintain them was a very labor intensive task for the team.

"Each person on this team brought their own set of skills and talent to the table. They were unselfish with their time and I'm thankful to have been a part of something so very worthwhile in preserving history," Tipping said.

The Mandarin Museum has materials recovered from this historical treasure on display. Located in the Walter Jones Historical Park at 11964 Mandarin Road, the Mandarin Museum has a large, informative exhibit on the Maple Leaf, along with the diving operation and the artifacts recovered from the wreckage. Dr. Keith Holland and the other St. Johns Archaeological Expedition divers are at the museum on "Meet the Divers" days to greet and talk with visitors of the museum. The next event will take place at the 18th annual Winter Celebration on Dec. 2 from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Visit www.mandarinmuseum.net for more information about the Maple Leaf or Dr. Holland and his team.

Tree Canopy from pg. 1

restore and preserve the tree canopy for which Mandarin Road is known.

The Scenic roadway is not just a visual asset, but an asset to Mandarinites by enhancing property values and honoring the unique natural beauty of the area. Restoration of the lost trees, rehabilitation of the at-risk trees and maintenance of the tree canopy is essential to the long term viability of the Corridor.

The venture seeks to restore and preserve the Corridor as a glimpse into the past while protecting the natural beauty for generations to come.

Call the Mandarin Community Club at (904) 268-1622 or email at mandarin-communityclub@gmail.com if you would like more information or wish to volunteer or donate. Founded in 1923 and the oldest civic organization in Jacksonville, the Mandarin Community Club is a 501c3 non-profit dedicated to the preservation and beautification of Mandarin; to providing educational forums for the community; to enhancing the cultural and recreational life of the area; and to maintaining the club's historic properties.

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Photo courtesy Betty Waldrep

Mandarin Garden Club announces craft show

The Mandarin Garden Club's Craft Show will be held Nov. 4 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the garden club, 2892 Loretto Road. The event will include local vendors inside and outside of the club offering their wares. The Masons will sell a barbecue lunch and the Garden Cafe will be open with homemade baked goods for purchase as well as free coffee and water. Throughout the month, the gardens are open for tours, walks, picnics, running, and sitting and watching the wildlife. Visitors are reminded that the gardens are for all Mandarin residents to enjoy; don't pick flowers or take any cuttings from the Demonstration Gardens and do clean up after your pets. Visit www.mandaringardenclub.org or call (904) 268-1192 for membership or other information about the Mandarin Garden Club.

Library hosts cornucopia of events from Medicare to history fair, antiquing to writing

By Kaylee Burke
mail@floridanewsline.com

Jacksonville Public Library, which bested more than 800 Florida libraries to win the Florida Library Association's 2017 Library of the Year, wants to thank its customers, whose patronage and loyal support are appreciated every day. The public is invited to support — and celebrate — the library by purchasing a ticket to a special Library of the Year Celebration, sponsored by the Jacksonville Public Library Foundation, on Nov. 9, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. at the Main Library. Enjoy live jazz, open bar, and hors d'oeuvres. You may get tickets and more details by visiting the Jacksonville Public Library Foundation website at jplfoundation.org.



Photo courtesy Jacksonville Public Libraries
On Sept. 30 South Mandarin Library hosted a Hispanic Heritage Celebration where families came to enjoy bilingual stories, dancing, music and folktales.

The library is also offering an abundance of informative events for you and your family this month. At South Mandarin Library, aspiring authors can learn how to create well-developed, believable characters, one of the key ingredients to writing a good story, in Building Characters in Your Novel, which will be held Nov. 29 from 6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m. Teens and adults are welcome to attend this program.

Calling all Antiques Roadshow enthusiasts! It is time to dust off your cherished, antique possessions and discover more about them — and what they're worth. Mandarin Branch Library will host its own version of the popular TV show with Antique Treasures on Nov. 4 at 10 a.m. Bring your items in and have an expert from reputable B. Langston's Antiques provide informal evaluations.

History Fairs require students to research and analyze events from the past in order to better understand our present and future. Library staff will inspire students with new ideas and

explain a step-by-step process for a successful project. Your child will also learn about the different resources they can use for free with their Student Card (DCPS student ID number) or library card. A help session will be held from 4 p.m. – 5 p.m. at Mandarin library on Nov. 4 and at South Mandarin Library on Nov. 14.

If you're not completely sure how Medicare works, you are not alone. On Nov. 9 at 12 p.m., Mandarin Branch Library will be hosting Lunch and Learn: All About Medicare. Bring lunch to enjoy while a representative of Eldersource's SHINE organization explains everything you need to know about Medicare.

All library locations will be closed on Nov. 10 and Nov. 11 for Veterans Day and on Nov. 22 starting at 6 p.m. through Nov. 24 for Thanksgiving. Find information about additional upcoming events at Mandarin and South Mandarin branch libraries at jaxpubliclibrary.org/events or call the Mandarin Branch Library at (904) 262-5201 or the South Mandarin Branch Library at (904) 288-6385.

Mandarin Garden Club

Fall Craft Fair

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Tax Tip of the Month

Your 2016 return has likely been filed by now. It is time to start thinking about 2017 taxes—either planning for your current tax situation, dealing with IRS issues of the past, or getting your books in order for filing your 2017 return. We can help you with all of those. Some examples are 1) a new or old business and your record keeping is severely lacking. You need help getting your books where they need to be; 2) IRS notices regarding the balance due from a prior year threatening a levy. You need help getting a payment plan arranged; or 3) a sale of a piece of property yielding a high gain. You need to know if there is anything you can do to cut your taxes. This is a perfect time of year to plan for 2017—whether IRS, taxes or bookkeeping. Give us a call!

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Mandarin Toastmasters excel

By Stephanie Gerbec
mail@floridanewsline.com

The Mandarin Toastmasters held the Area 61 and 62 Contest on Sept. 16 with the club's Ed Zoller taking home first prize for Humorous Speech, and Toast of Jax's Demetrius Jenkins taking home first place for Best Evaluator. Both worked very hard on their content and were up against very strong contestants from other clubs through the districts.

Zoller's hilarious speech about IKEA's hidden Bed n' Breakfast was a crowd pleaser, and Demetrius woke up the crowd with his vivid and in your face style of delivering constructive criticism. Both men progressed to the next level, the Division F contest, held on Oct. 7 at Christian Family Chapel.

The contest was chaired by Mandarin Toastmasters President Jennifer Suharmadji and the camaraderie of so many different clubs coming together was evident.

Mandarin Toastmasters inducted several new members into their club during their first meeting on Oct. 7. They are preparing for the Inter-



Photo courtesy Stephanie Gerbec
The "Best Of's" from the Sept. 30 bonus meeting: Aishah Abousamra, Best Table Topics; Hirkant Shet, Best Speaker; and Jenny Barreda, Best Evaluator.

national Speech and Table Topics Contest in which contestants will move from club level, to area, to district and up to the Annual Toastmasters International Convention. A bonus meeting was held on Sept. 30 in order to give talented club members the opportunity to practice. Winners of the meeting were Best Speaker, Hirkant Shet; Best Evaluator, Jenny Barreda; and best Table Topics, Aishah Abousamra.

Mandarin Toastmasters meets every first and third Saturday of each month at the South Mandarin Branch Library, 12125 San Jose Blvd. Visit www.mandrintoastmasters.org for more information.

Winter Celebration to be held in Mandarin

By Sandy Arpen
mail@floridanewsline.com

The Mandarin Museum & Historical Society will host the 18th annual Winter Celebration from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 2 at the Walter Jones Historical Park, located at 11964 Mandarin Road. Activities are planned for the community that will educate and entertain all ages, including horse-drawn hayrides, live music, antique cars, Civil War re-enactors, local non-profits, Santa and Mrs. Claus, nature crafts, s'mores and old fashioned games.

The First Coast Plein Aire Painters will be in the park painting all day long and the "Under the Oaks" acoustic music jam will be held from 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. The Mandarin Museum will be open all day and the museum gift shop is stocked with holiday gift ideas. The featured art this year is a print of a painting of the schoolhouse, done by artist Dorothy Green. All proceeds from sales of this print are designated for upkeep of this historic structure.

The Webb/Jones Farmhouse, the 1898 St. Joseph's Mission Schoolhouse for African-American Children, the 1876 barn and Losco Winery will all be open for tours and there will be demonstrations of old-time quilting and

weaving, as well as the Soldier's Story exhibit about Pvt. Marion Losco, a Loretto/Mandarin resident who served in World War I and died in France in 1918. In honor of the Union steamship Maple Leaf, Dr. Keith Holland and other Maple Leaf divers who recovered precious Civil War artifacts from the National Historic Landmark shipwreck in the St. Johns River will be in attendance.

Admission is free, but the hayride and s'mores have a small donation request to cover the expenses. Parking is available at the Mandarin Presbyterian Church across the street. Visitors are encouraged to bring some canned food items to leave for the Mandarin Presbyterian community food pantry. For more information call (904) 268-0784, email mandarinmuseum@bellsouth.net or visit www.mandarinmuseum.net.



Photo courtesy Mandarin Museum & Historical Society
Winter Celebration at the Webb/Jones Farmhouse.

Giving thanks.

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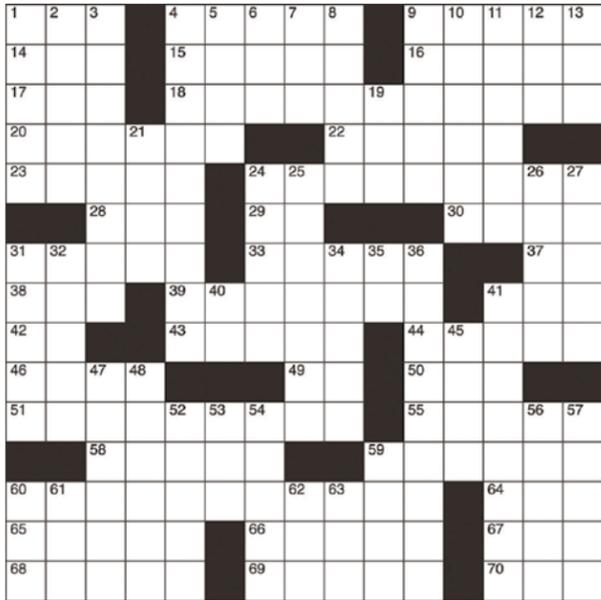
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Puzzles

Answers to puzzles on page 2
Provided by MetroCreative



CLUES ACROSS

1. Corpuscle count (abbr.)
4. Longtime sports columnist Cook
9. Tributary of the Rio Grande
14. Geological time
15. About ilium
16. Religion
17. Beverage holder
18. Its largest city is Fargo
20. Attaches muscle to a bone
22. Hindu queens
23. Sir ___ Newton
24. Developments
28. British thermal unit
29. The Ocean State
30. Smell
31. Line
33. Seizure
37. Where vets are tended to
38. Goddess of the dawn
39. Pear-shaped fruit

41. Taxi
42. Where injured ballplayers end up
43. Preceding period
44. Uncovers
46. Smudge
49. Dad
50. Peyton's little bro
51. Flawless
55. Judges
58. Expressed one's displeasure
59. Immature
60. PBS interviewer
64. Hat
65. Cover with wood
66. Acts dejectedly
67. Perform
68. Where people store their tools
69. Sulfuric and citric are two
70. Long-term memory

CLUES DOWN

1. Muscles that control eyeball movement
2. Hillsides
3. The dried leaves of the hemp plant
4. Used to see far away things
5. Inventor Musk
6. We all need it
7. ___ King Cole
8. Earthy pigment
9. Stringed instrument
10. A language of the Inuit
11. Shuttered
12. Cereal plant
13. Senior officer
19. Sportscaster Patrick
21. What day it is
24. Petrels with saw-toothed bills
25. Bumps in the road
26. Stars
27. Riding horses
31. Swamp plant
32. Type of bear
34. Style of cuisine
35. Home of the Flyers
36. Serious-mindedness
40. Velvet Underground album
41. Highly important
45. Winged
47. Cultured
48. Fastened
52. ___ Royce
53. Wreath
54. Excessive fluid accumulation in tissues
56. Synchronizes solar and lunar time
57. Ninth month
59. Deployed
60. Cycles per second
61. Expresses surprise
62. Mythological bird
63. Open payment initiative

VEGETARIAN WORD SEARCH

E B E T E X U R E D W G R A G A U N V
 P W L K S V N S E Y E A T M P X R M A O
 I X E L N X A F A C S V O I A F N U C
 C B N B O N I N B O N M A C W N A F A M
 E F T E S A R Y P U I S E K F L I L H S
 R F I A P E A P E S E A Y V O S C H V Q
 B F L N U B T C V C S E L G Q I U D A L
 C N A S P Y E I I O A P A T U T O V L T
 G D A O A O G A T U C S N M C E T E A O
 C O C T N S E I A S T N O I A M P G C B
 T A H M I I V N N A A Y I T V P E E T E
 R T O N Q E U M R L D O T E W E A T O A
 P A L P I F S Q E Y O U I D W H N A O N
 R C E H T O F U T W V X R A N R U B V C
 E F S G Y E V Y L I N S T M A A T L O U
 N I T R F A O Y A Y C T U A G L S E E R
 N B E A Y R I A D N O N N M E L O I N D
 E E R I L P F W H E Y W F E V P E X N B
 T R O N G L U T E N F L L E G U M E S K
 U W L Y D O S I M H S Q U G B S I O W Q

WORDS

- AGAR
- ALTERNATIVE
- ANALOG
- BEAN CURD
- BEANS
- CALCIUM
- CASEIN
- CHOLESTEROL
- COUSCOUS
- EDAMAME
- FIBER
- GLUTEN
- GRAIN
- LACTO-OVO
- LEGUMES
- LENTIL
- MISO
- MOCK
- NONDAIRY
- NUTRITIONAL YEAST
- PEANUTS
- PEAS
- QUINOA
- RAW
- RECIPE
- RENNET
- SEITAN
- SOYBEAN
- TAHINI
- TEMPEH
- TEXTURE
- TOFU
- VEGAN
- VEGETABLE
- VEGETARIAN
- WHEY

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

CRYPTO FUN

- Solve the code to discover words related to being vegan. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 17 = t)
- A. 18 6 12 17 7 15 10**
Clue: Essential nutrition
 - B. 3 7 24 7 17 21 26 2 7**
Clue: Nutritious plant
 - C. 16 7 21 2 17 16**
Clue: Free from illness
 - D. 4 15 7 17**
Clue: Food choices

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Fishing

Capt. David's Fishing Report

By Captain David Lifka
mail@floridanewslines.com

When it comes to fishing our area waters, the weather gives, and the weather takes away.

This spring, following a mild winter with little rain, expectations were high that this year was shaping up to be a really good fishing year. Expectations were right on. Spring fishing started off with a bang. Early summer fishing continued with yet an even bigger bang. Fishing was good, really good. If conditions would hold, freezers were going to be stocked with fish and shrimp to last through the winter. The only thing that could possibly mess things up would be drastic changes in the weather.

Sure enough in early summer, the much needed, but very heavy rain became the norm. Above average rainfall became a daily occurrence up and down the river. The once high salinities of the river were slowly being flushed away. Fishing and shrimping began to slow, but catches were still good, and hope for a strong finish still remained.

When September arrives fishing and shrimping are usually beginning to a peak. This September, despite the slowdown from the summer rains, there were still shrimp in the river. With shrimp in the river, fish were going to be there also. There were even reports of tarpon near downtown area bridges. The fishing outlook was good again; it looked like this year's season could still

finish strong. That is, until Hurricane Irma decided to visit the State of Florida. Bringing historical flooding to the St. Johns River and its tributaries, any new hopes of a fishing comeback were put on hold once again.

The ups and downs of fishing our area of the St. Johns is probably influenced more by weather than anywhere else on the entire river. With the right brackish mix, we can experience the best of both saltwater and freshwater fishing. When dry spells occur salinities go up, when wet spells occur, salinities go down. In a typical year, we can expect a weather balance of wet and dry which makes for excellent fishing for most of the season; however, this year was a year of many extremes with a cause and effect that provided both some of the best fishing in years, and also some of the most difficult. This year was a year that confirms, when it comes to fishing our area waters, the weather gives, and the weather takes away.

Fishing Report: Take advantage of cooler days and give area freshwater a try for bream and catfish. Traditionally Seatrout should be off the docks from Goodby's Creek to San Marco.

Whether you catch one, some, or none, the family time spent fishing will last a lifetime.

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Gardening

After the storm

By Lesley Arrandale
mail@floridanewslines.com

The day after Hurricane Irma passed by Jacksonville, the multi-trunked live oak tree in our front yard fell — apparently quite elegantly, although we weren't there to witness the event — onto our house. Aside from dealing with the repair work, my thoughts have turned to — what next for our yard?

If you are still dealing with debris, see this article, which pays particular attention to safety issues: <http://tinyurl.com/yc35sfvh>. People understandably want to restore some semblance of order as soon as possible, but in the heat and humidity following the storm, it is safer to go slow and steady.

With a now-exposed south-facing aspect, we hope to find another less massive, possibly native tree that will be more in scale with our modest street. There are resources to help with tree selection on the University of Florida's website. This publication (<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/pdffiles/EP/EP31000.pdf>) guides the reader through an extremely detailed analysis of the process, and although very informative, if you are considering

planting a new tree, you might prefer this website: <http://tinyurl.com/yacznu2g>. From here, you can research the characteristics of trees which are suitable for the Jacksonville area, and match the tree to your particular site. Fall is a good time to plants trees and shrubs. Give them the care they need, and they will put down roots in the winter months, and be ready to take off, come spring: <http://tinyurl.com/y8x68f73>.

As of early October, our lawn is still being smothered by limbs, trunks, and dead leaves, and may well be dead by the time the debris is removed. We might decide to substitute shrubs, native clumping grasses, and flowers in mulched beds, rather than lay new sod. In any case, sod shouldn't be installed until spring, as the grass won't have time to develop strong roots before turning dormant in the cold weather: <http://tinyurl.com/yb5a6ros>.

If you are planning for new flower or vegetable beds, and don't want to dig out weeds, or use chemicals to kill them, try sheet mulching. Lay down overlapping sheets of damp cardboard or several layers

Gardening cont. on pg. 19

Travel

Return to Andy Griffith's

By Debi Lander
mail@floridanewslines.com

North Carolinians may call it Mount Airy, but it's still Mayberry to me. Imagine cruising down Main Street in a 1962 Ford Galaxie squad car. That memory lane transported me into a 1960s time capsule. Siren blaring, we cruised past white-stone buildings, the old Earle Movie Theater, a hardware store, Floyd's barbershop, and Snappy Lunch. My driver, Allen Burton, a life-long resident of Mount Airy, points out that Andy Griffith actually grew up here. "The Andy Griffith Show," a popular '60s television show starring Griffith, was set in Mayberry, a fictitious Mount Airy, N.C.

The town offers nostalgic scenes — manicured neighborhoods with pretty post-card homes, where children can still bike safely to a friend's house. Why I bet you could still borrow a cup of sugar to bake a batch of homemade cookies served up like Aunt Bea's.

The childhood home of Griffith, a small, one-story bungalow is available as an overnight rental. His parents lived there until Andy moved them to Hollywood. Griffith kept a lifelong friendship with childhood pal Emmett Forrester. Forrester returned the favor with the town highlight, the Andy Griffith Museum.

Allen relays bits of history about the town and its famous landmark, the world's largest open-face granite quarry that still operates today.

Jumping out of the squad car, a bit less fidgety that Deputy Fife, brings you to photo-worthy Wally's Service Station, built in 1937. Wally's stands next to a replica of the Mayberry Courthouse. Visitors can sit behind Andy's desk, type on the vintage typewriter, and pretend to place phone calls through the operator. The two memorable jail cells (town drunk Otis's home away from home) still stand across from the room. Like Otis, you can lock yourself in.

Floating in Mayberry's easy atmosphere took me all the way back to childhood. Don't count the years, but Baby Boomers like me grew up with Opie — Andy's son on the show, played by Ron Howard, who left Mayberry behind to become an acclaimed movie director and producer. I



Photos courtesy Debi Lander
Andy Griffith's original in desk in the museum



Photos courtesy Debi Lander
Statue of Andy and Opie

still recall the nervous, ineffective antics of Don Knotts as Barney Fife, girlfriend Thelma Lou, Floyd the barber, and, of course, Goober and Gomer Pyle, the mechanics.

The Andy Griffith Museum offers a small gem packed with memorabilia. A bronze statue of Andy and Opie heading for the fishing hole stands outside. It'll get you whistling the show's theme song. The inside features original cast costumes and set props. Iconic signs from the show's courthouse doors read "Sheriff" and "Justice of the Peace" and the original items from Sheriff Taylor's office remain on display, with video clips as background. The museum memorializes Andy's career from his early radio days to his role as Matlock in a 1986 – 95 television series

Rerun Fan Club members descend upon Mount Airy each September for Mayberry Days to celebrate the down-home town and show. They spend hours in the museum, which the less dedicated can do in 45 – 60 minutes.

Other sites of note include the Mayberry Distillery, run by Van McCoy, surprisingly a retired monk and another hometown boy. I found his tour a hoot, and not just for the generous moonshine tastings. The Mayberry Motor Inn dedicates a room to the late Frances Bavier — "Aunt Bee." A window inside the inn provides the portal to the "warm and fuzzy" she brought to every situation.

Remember Mt. Pilot? Actual Pilot Mountain State Park, nearby, invites a drive to the top and a hike around "the Knob." Views of the Yadkin Valley, a booming wine region, are spectacular. A getaway to the area featuring mountains, bluegrass music, Mayberry, and Merlot makes a budget-friendly but memorable escape.

Visit www.bylandersea.com to read more of local travel writer Debi Lander's stories and travel tips.

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School Briefs

St. Joseph Catholic School students weigh in on third grade



Photo courtesy Theresa Twisdale
St. Joseph Catholic School third graders

Third grade students at St. Joseph Catholic School have just finished the first quarter of the school year. They began school excited and enthusiastic to begin learning many new skills this year, including multiplication, division, and cursive handwriting. When asked what their favorite thing about third grade was, they said:

“That is so easy! My favorite part is there are so many great friends I met, and I have great teachers. I just love third grade!”

“My favorite part of third grade is when we do centers and STEM projects.”

“My favorite part of third grade is the teachers and learning new things.”

“My favorite part of third grade is it’s not too tricky, and it’s not too easy. It’s perfect!”

Hurricane Irma make-up days announced

To address the six instructional days lost to Hurricane Irma, the Duval County School Board approved some date changes at the Oct. 3 board meeting. Six early release days (Nov. 1, Nov. 15, Jan. 17, 2018, Feb. 28, March 14 and May 16) are now full instructional days and Feb. 2, 2018 (formerly a weather day) is now a full instructional day.

Two of the six days lost to the storm were declared a State Emergency by the state of Florida and waived. An updated 2017 – 18 school calendar is being finalized and will be shared once available.

Students at RCSA Mandarin make cards for Las Vegas victims

“Dear Survivor.” That is how sixth and seventh grade students at River City Science Academy – Mandarin addressed cards they wrote to send to Las Vegas following the Oct. 1 massacre.

Their teacher, Ashley Hiorns, asked her world history and civics students to write cards to the injured victims in Las Vegas. Her nephew is one of them, hospitalized after being shot in the arm during the concert attack.

Hiorns’ nephew, a 17-year-old honor student and football player, attended the concert with his best friend and his friend’s father.

“My nephew was in line getting food when he started hearing loud bangs which he thought were fireworks,” Hiorns said. “He looked around with his best friend, and everyone was wondering is that part of the show?”

As the gunfire strengthened, the friend’s father forced both boys to the ground and laid on top of them, Hiorns said. The father, a hero, died there, the two boys sheltered beneath him.

Hiorns said the students’ cards will be distributed around the hospital where her nephew is currently resting and healing. The students hope these cards will bring hope or a smile to the injured and their families.

“Many children poured their hearts into these cards and as their teacher, I am very proud,” Hiorns said.



Photo courtesy River City Science Academy
Sixth and seventh graders at River City Science Academy sent cards to the victims of the Las Vegas massacre.

Gardening from pg. 18

of damp newspapers, cover with at least three inches of compostable material, and top that with mulch to make the area look presentable. Building up more layers of compost followed with nitrogen-containing material like shredded leaves or straw will add even more humus to your soil. The process of decomposition takes several months, but the result will be worth the effort (<http://tinyurl.com/ycvopkcj>).

Check out the November/December edition of A New Leaf, available in early November (http://duval.ifas.ufl.edu/ig_new_leaf_news.shtml). There you’ll find timely gardening advice, and information on upcoming programs at the extension office. This is the ideal time to plant cool season vegetables, as well as some perennials, bulbs, and shrubs and trees, and there are plenty of annuals available to brighten the winter landscape — something that many of us need!

Lesley Arrandale is a Master Gardener with the Duval County Cooperative Extension Service/City of Jacksonville Agriculture Department, which is a partnership between the United State Department of Agriculture (USDA), the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) and the City of Jacksonville.

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