

# Southside NewsLine

OCTOBER 2017 Volume 5 Issue 8

A Florida NewsLine Publication



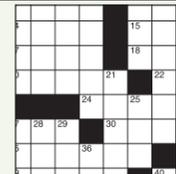
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Crypto Fun and more.

## Bears in the 'burbs

By Angela Higginbotham  
angela@floridanewline.com

Many residents in both Duval and St. Johns counties have been faced with an unexpected surprise as they came and went around local neighborhoods in recent months. Black bear sightings are a recent talk of the towns in Jacksonville, Mandarin, Ponte Vedra and St. Augustine. Bartram Springs, Nocatee, Julington Creek and beyond are all areas where the bears have come out to explore recently. The string of sightings began in late April and have continued throughout the summer months.

The black bears have not posed a threat to any known humans or pets. Although, seemingly comfortable around people and busy parking lots, such as the St. Augustine Outlets and the Chili's in Bartram Park, many agree that the bears are being forced into the busy areas because of the tremendous city growth and construction.

"It's important to remember these bears are just using their natural instincts to look for mates and food. Don't bother them or encourage them in any way. Try not to leave your trash overflowing and they will naturally move back towards their normal environment," said Roland Green of the Florida Fish and Wildlife

Bears cont. on pg. 7



Photo courtesy Jeni Trautman

Black bear with a birdfeeder in Mandarin.

## The Carnation Ceremony: A personal story in every flower

By Elaine Omann  
mail@floridanewline.com

The Carnation Ceremony is a breast cancer dragon boat race tradition that originated in 1996 in Vancouver when a paddler picked fuchsia colored roses from her garden to give to other paddlers to wear and toss into the water after a race as a way to honor a member who could not participate. By 1998, pink carnations and the tossing ceremony became rooted in dragon boat culture.

On Sept. 23, Jacksonville's Dragon Boat Festival held its races and carnation ceremony.

As part of the ceremony, pink flowers are given out to survivors on a stage or in dragon boats in the breast cancer division of a race. The boats pull up to the shore and are linked together with paddles. Often paddlers jump into other boats as a way of showing common cause, drummers beat in sync, and the paddles go up as another sign of tribute.

The audience is included with accepting flowers, especially those who are family, friends, and supporters or caretakers. The ceremony is most often accompanied by a personal talk which focuses the audience on the topic of cancer and survival. Music provides another means of reflection and those holding flowers will raise them high and sway with the music before tossing them into the water.

This year for the second year, Winn Dixie at Baymeadows donated the fuchsia carnations that were held high as the music from Martina McBride's "I'm Going to Love You Through It" was played over speakers at the Jacksonville Dragon Boat Festival. The survivors on stage held their flowers high and swayed to the music. The audience participated with them and a memorable moment was captured when one of the paddlers unexpectedly and poignantly signed the words to the song. The expressions on the faces told each personal story as a cancer victim, survivor, or a friend and family of those with breast cancer.



Photos by Elaine Omann

Survivors respond with expressions during the music tribute.

Research on the sport of dragon boating for breast cancer survivors indicates there are both physical and psychosocial positive effects on paddlers. The camaraderie and support for a physical exercise has been healthy and thriving for the survivors as part of post-operative rehabilitation.

Dragon boating has prompted more studies to be conducted on the psychosocial effects for emotional support and camaraderie. It is a common way for exercising, participating in a sport, and supporting one another. It is the importance of celebrating lives of survivors and a hope to those living with the disease.

During the month of October — Breast Cancer Awareness Month — organiza-

Slim, one of the paddlers, unexpectedly signs the words during the song.

tions such as In the Pink provide many opportunities for the community to learn more, to support breast cancer, and to contribute to the effort of living with breast cancer. Visit <http://jaxinthepink.com/http://jaxinthepink.com/> for additional information and events in October.

Dragon boating has prompted more studies to be conducted on the psychosocial effects for emotional support and camaraderie.

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*Caroline came up with the idea to hold the lemonade stand in early September. She has held lemonade stands before for charity.*

**Lemonade Stand**  
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**Pet of the Month**



Garcia  
Small mixed breed dog  
5 years old  
Male

Aloha  
Domestic Shorthair/mix  
5 years old  
Female

Come meet us and our friends at the Jacksonville Humane Society, 8464 Beach Blvd. Call (904) 725-8766 for more information.

**Mystery Photo**



Can you guess where this is?  
Submit your answer to [mail@FloridaNewsLine.com](mailto:mail@FloridaNewsLine.com).  
No one correctly guessed last month's Mystery Photo, which was the park in front of Maggiano's in the St. Johns Town Center.

**FLORIDA NewsLine**

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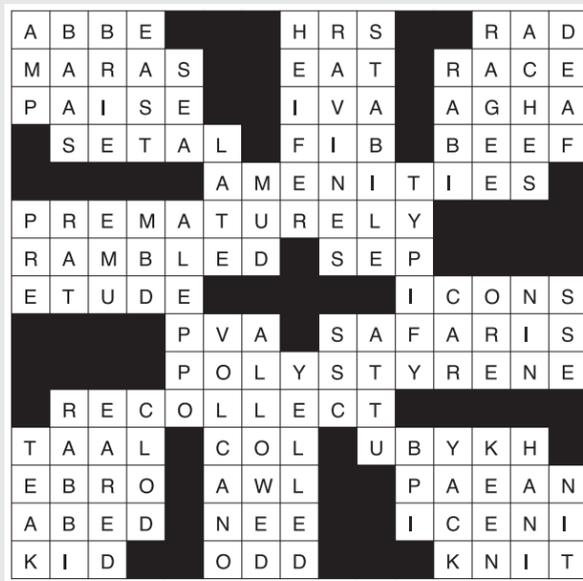
**Social Media**  
Melissa Cooper, Lisa Felegy  
[SocialMedia@FloridaNewsLine.com](mailto:SocialMedia@FloridaNewsLine.com)

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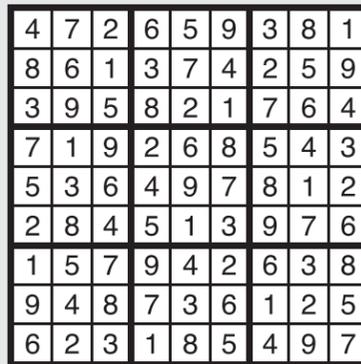
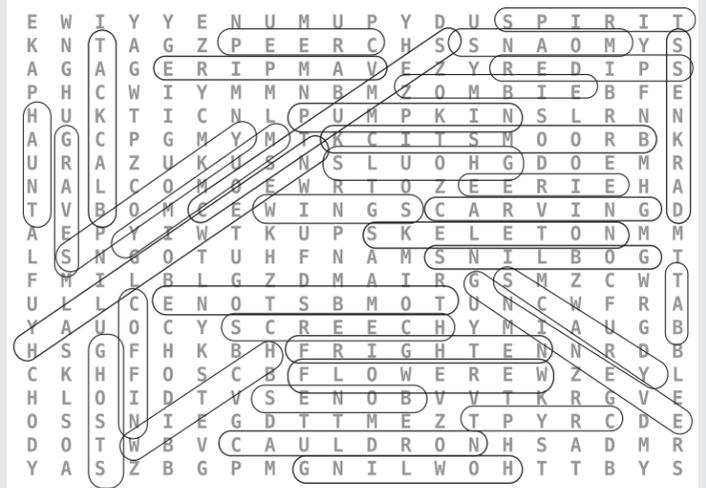
**answers** to puzzles on page 8



**CRYPTO FUN**

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Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Answers: A. hammer B. saw C. nails D. drywall



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\*Source: CVC audit 2015

# take 5



Photo courtesy MetroCreative

### Archaeologist to discuss information revealed by animal remains

The Archaeological Institute of America – Jacksonville Society will meet at 12 p.m. on Oct. 21 to hear a lecture by Vicki L. Rolland titled “What’s Cookin’, February 16, 1017?” The lecture will be part of the International Archaeology Day celebration at the Beaches Museum and History Park in Jacksonville Beach and will be held in the historic 1887 chapel. Rolland, a zooarchaeologist, will explain how identification of the condition of skeletal elements allows scientists to attempt to link preferences of prey age and size with appropriate capture methods and equipment used by St. Johns II (A.D. 900 – 1300) people in the estuaries of Northeast Florida. The lecture is free and open to the public. Contact Melva Price at (904) 241-9411 or [aiajassoc@gmail.com](mailto:aiajassoc@gmail.com) for more information.

### Neighborhood run to be held in Bartram Park

The Flagler Center YMCA will hold a neighborhood-inspired 5K with a run through Bartram Park and Flagler Station community on Oct. 7 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Sponsored by Trillium Eye Care, an independent eye doctor and optical office, Dr. Alexandra Vorobeva will provide free vision screenings to attendees while raising health awareness within the community. The Flagler-Rama 5K and Mash-Up encourages runners to showcase love, peace and happiness in the First Coast community, while dressing up in ‘70s-style costumes. Participants may run, walk or stroll along the designated route. A series of 30-minute exercise classes (Mash up) are also available for people of all ages. In addition, the event will feature food trucks for attendees. All participants will

receive a tie-dye race shirt, goodie bag and groovy finisher medals. The registration fee is \$25 for members and \$35 for non-members. Visit [www.firstcoastymca.org](http://www.firstcoastymca.org) to register online.

### Authentic Italian food featured at Festa

The Italian American Club of Jacksonville presents the 27th annual Festa Italiana on Saturday, Oct. 21 from 11 a.m. – 8 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 22 from 12 p.m. – 6 p.m. This free event will be held at the Italian American Club located at 2838 Westberry Road in Mandarin and will include authentic Italian dinners, pizza, meatball and sausage subs and homemade desserts available for purchase. There will also be activities for the kids, live music and souvenirs. This two-day celebration of all things Italian is held during the observance of October 2017 as Italian American Heritage Month. Visit [www.iacofjacksonville.com](http://www.iacofjacksonville.com) for more information.

### League of Women Voters to learn about felon restoration of voting rights

The League of Women Voters Jacksonville/First Coast will host Gary Farris, founder of the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition, St. Johns Chapter, at lunch at Seasons 52 at the St. Johns Town Center on Oct. 4 at 11:30 a.m. While registering voters and canvassing to get out the vote in 2016, Farris connected with several people who could not vote because of a prior felony conviction. He decided to help them after

the election and started working on the ballot initiative petition to amend the Florida state constitution to restore their voting rights as soon as they have paid their debt to society. He attended the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition Convention and obtained permission to start the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition St. Johns Chapter in July 2017. The cost of the luncheon is \$20; RSVP to Nora Manahan at [dnmanahan@comcast.net](mailto:dnmanahan@comcast.net) or (904) 355-8683.

### Southside Newcomers welcomes members

The Southside Newcomers Club welcomes women from all around the Jacksonville area. If you are new to the area or have experienced a lifestyle change, you can meet new people, discover the area and have some fun as a member of the club. Activities include game days, Mah Jongg, bridge, Canasta, beading, book clubs, line dancing and more. The group holds a monthly coffee get together at Mimi’s (10209 River Coast Drive) on the first Monday of each month at 10 a.m. Monthly luncheons are held at various country clubs and have different themes or programs each month. Visit [www.meetup.com/Southside-Newcomers-Club](http://www.meetup.com/Southside-Newcomers-Club) to learn more or contact Paula at [phorn94479@aol.com](mailto:phorn94479@aol.com) for more information.



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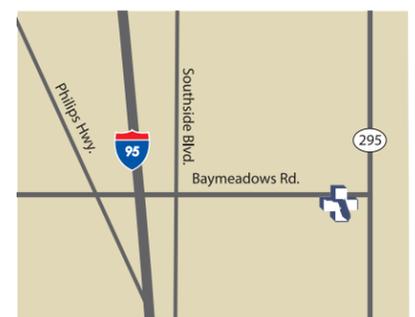
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# around town

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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**November 4 Bartram Park Car Show and Community Festival** 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. 12341 Bartram Park Blvd. (904) 551-9283

**November 4 US Coast Guard Auxiliary About Boating Safely class** NE Florida Regional Airport Conference Center, 4730 Casa Cola Way, St. Augustine, Registration required; [www.abs.mysafeboating.com](http://www.abs.mysafeboating.com)

**November 4 American Cancer Society's Cowford Ball** VIP Party, 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m., Ball, 6:30 p.m. – 12 a.m., Morocco Shrine Auditorium, [Callie.hugo@cancer.org](mailto:Callie.hugo@cancer.org), (904) 391-3607 or [www.cowfordball.org](http://www.cowfordball.org)

**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](http://www.artandantiquesshow.com)

save the date!

**2nd Southside Newcomers Club meetup**  
10 a.m.  
Mimi's Cafe in St Johns Town Center  
[phorn94479@aol.com](mailto:phorn94479@aol.com)

**3rd Honeybee Quilt Guild**  
6:30 p.m.  
Mandarin Presbyterian Church,  
11844 Mandarin Road  
[www.honeybeequilters.org](http://www.honeybeequilters.org) (Repeats first Tuesday of each month)

**The Retirement Continuum seminar**  
6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.  
Adam W. Herbert University Center  
1090 Meeting Room  
\$79; [valerie.murphy@unf.edu](mailto:valerie.murphy@unf.edu) or (904) 620-4255

**5th National Stuttering Association meeting**  
6 p.m. – 8 p.m.  
Southeast Regional Library, Room D,  
10599 Deerwood Park Blvd.  
<https://sites.google.com/site/jacksonvillensa/> or  
(904) 247-6892

**6th Paws for Giving Party to benefit Therapy Animal Coalition**  
5:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.  
Jessie Ball duPont Center,  
40 E. Adams St.  
Register at [www.therapyanimalcoalition.org/party](http://www.therapyanimalcoalition.org/party)  
**Deerwood Rotary Club meeting**  
7:30 a.m.  
Deerwood Country Club

10239 Golf Club Drive  
(Repeating event on Fridays)  
[Deerwoodrotary.org](http://Deerwoodrotary.org)

**6th - 8th Fall Mega Adoption Event**  
Oct 6 at 10 AM to Oct 8 at 6 PM  
Jacksonville Fairgrounds  
510 Fairgrounds Place  
(904) 353-0535

**7th 2nd annual Therapy Pet Expo, sponsored by Therapy Animal Coalition**  
8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
Schultz Center,  
4019 Boulevard Center Drive  
Register at [www.therapyanimalcoalition.org/expo](http://www.therapyanimalcoalition.org/expo)

**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](http://www.toastofjax.com) (Repeating event on Saturdays)

**Florida Sisters in Crime writers/readers group**  
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
Southeast Regional Library, Room B,  
10599 Deerwood Park Blvd.  
<https://floridasistersincrime.wordpress.com/>

**10th River City Writers group**  
6:30 p.m. – 9 p.m.  
Southeast Regional Library, Room D,  
10599 Deerwood Park Blvd.  
(904) 996-0325

**12th Mandarin American Legion Post 372**  
7 p.m.  
Elks Lodge #2866,  
4280 Oldfield Crossing Drive  
(Repeats second Thursday of each month)  
(904) 553-1848  
**Southside Writers group**  
6 p.m. – 8 p.m.  
Southeast Regional Library, Room F,  
10599 Deerwood Park Blvd.

**13th Deerwood Toastmasters Club**  
12 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.  
Southeast Regional Library, Room B,  
10599 Deerwood Park Blvd.  
[Deerwoodtm.toastmastersclubs.org](http://Deerwoodtm.toastmastersclubs.org)

**14th UNF Women's soccer vs. Stetson (Florida Elite Soccer Night)**  
7 p.m.  
Hodges Stadium; \$5 adults

**16th All Star Quilt Guild**  
9:45 a.m.  
First Christian Church,  
11924 San Jose Blvd.  
[www.orgsites.com/fl/allstarquiltguild](http://www.orgsites.com/fl/allstarquiltguild) or  
(904) 502-5254

**18th River City Women's Club luncheon**  
10:30 a.m.  
Ramada Inn,  
3130 Hartley Road  
RSVP to Florence, (904) 262-8719

**19th Knitting Chicas**  
1 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.  
Southeast Regional Library, Room F,  
10599 Deerwood Park Blvd.  
(904) 996-0325

**21st Oktoberfest 5 Points**  
12 p.m. - 10 p.m.  
1035 Park Street  
[EventBrite.com](http://EventBrite.com)

**21st - 22nd Festa Italiana**  
11 a.m. – 8 p.m. Saturday; 12 p.m. – 6 p.m. Sunday  
Italian American Club,  
2838 Westberry Road  
[www.iacofjacksonville.com](http://www.iacofjacksonville.com)

**26th Jacksonville Shell Club**  
7 p.m. – 9 p.m.  
Southeast Regional Library, Room A,  
10599 Deerwood Park Blvd.  
(904) 996-0325

**29th Ninth Annual Right Whale Festival**  
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Seawalk Pavilion  
75 1st St N, Jacksonville Beach  
[www.rightwhalefestival.com](http://www.rightwhalefestival.com)

**Want to be in our Calendar Section?**

Simply email your information to:  
[Calendar@floridanewslines.com](mailto:Calendar@floridanewslines.com)



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with Duval County School Board Member,  
District 7, Lori Hershey

**Q: During Hurricane Irma, several schools were used as shelters. Can you give us an update?**

A: We had three District 7 schools that were open as shelters for about five days and served a total of approximately 600 residents: Mandarin Middle School, Twin Lakes Academy Elementary and Atlantic Coast High School, which operated as a special needs shelter. Atlantic Coast even sheltered some hospital patients from outside Duval County.

The principals of these schools are there for the set up and then manned their schools, in conjunction with their assistant principals, in 12-hour shifts. I think we tend to forget the roles principals play and the sacrifices they make with their own families when the schools are open as shelters. I'd like to acknowledge that effort.

**Q: Can you enlighten us as to why it was necessary for the schools to be closed for the whole week of Sept. 11 (in addition to the Friday prior)?**

A: There are many things that went into the decision to keep the schools closed through Friday, Sept. 15. It's not just whether or not the schools sustained damage, but a much broader discussion: how many students are without power? Does debris make roads inaccessible for our buses? Generally, is it safe for students to travel to school?

**Q: In all, Duval County students missed six days of school due to Hurricane Irma. Are there any plans yet to make up that many days?**

A: We have not yet determined the make up days, but expect to do so in October. Our current calendar has five weather days allocated: Dec. 21, Feb. 2, 2018 and June 4 - 6, 2018, which essentially elongates the

### Teachers trained by Code.org



Photo courtesy W. Jane Harvey

Thirteen Duval County computer science teachers were chosen to be among their peers in Houston, Texas for a special week-long training conducted by Code.org. The Code.org Computer Science Discoveries Professional Learning Program is designed for middle school educators who are interested in teaching Code.org's CS Discoveries course, which prepares educators to provide high quality instruction based on the CS Discoveries curriculum, tools and approach to students in their classrooms. Code.org® is a non-profit dedicated to expanding access to computer science and increasing participation by women and underrepresented minorities. Their vision is that every student in every school should have the opportunity to learn computer science, just like biology, chemistry or algebra. Pictured are (top row) Brandy Saunders, James Weldon Johnson Middle School; Jonathan Bopp, Atlantic Coast High School; T. Uysal, River City Science Academy; Robert Holcomb, Twin Lakes Academy Middle School; Crista Nicola, Matthew Gilbert Middle School; (bottom row) Jane Harvey, Twin Lakes Academy Middle School; Heather Waters, Stilwell Military Academy of Leadership; T. Amaker, Duval Charter Westside; Sheela Allen, Landmark Middle School; and Jessica Fernandez, Mayport Coastal Sciences Middle School.

### FYI Contact Numbers

**Duval County Local Government (coj.net)**  
 Sheriff's Office: Sheriff Mike Williams, (904) 630-2120  
 Patrol Zone 3: Assistant Chief Mat Nemeth, (904) 828-5463  
 Property Appraiser: Jerry Holland, jholland@coj.net, (904) 630-2011  
 Supervisor of Elections: Mike Hogan, mhogan@coj.net, (904) 630-1414  
 Tax Collector: Michael Corrigan, taxcollector@coj.net, (904) 630-1916  
 Clerk of Court: Ronnie Fussell, (904) 255-2000  
 Jacksonville City Council  
 District 11: Danny Becton, dbecton@coj.net, (904) 630-1383  
 At Large, District 3: Tommy Hazouri, thazouri@coj.net, (904) 630-1396

**Duval County School Board (www.duvalschools.org)**  
 District 7: Lori Hershey, hershey@duvalschools.org, (904) 390-2375

**State of Florida Elected Officials**  
 State House District 12: Representative Clay Yarborough, (904) 723-5300  
 State House District 16: Representative Jason Fischer, (850) 717-5016  
 State Senate District 4: Senator Aaron Bean, (904) 346-5039

**Federal Elected Officials**  
 U.S. Congress District 4: Representative John Rutherford, (202) 225-2501  
 U.S. Senate:  
 Senator Bill Nelson, (202) 224-5274  
 Senator Marco Rubio, (202) 224-3041

school year. We will communicate with parents once we have reached a decision on how to handle the make up days.

**Q: Are there any updates on the superintendent search?**

A: We are still moving forward, but everything has been delayed due to the storm. We have had to re-schedule several meetings. I believe we have a good foundation for our framework of ideas of the type of superintendent we are looking for, but still have not scheduled the meetings for public input. Once we get the process restarted, I anticipate it to be about a six month process.

**Q: Do you have anything other District 7 news to share?**

A: We are still making progress in

our efforts to get a school zone in front of Twin Lakes Academy Elementary. I have reached out to City Council Member Tommy Hazouri and he is aware of the issue and committed to working with us to explore options. My point on this is that if Jacksonville Country Day School can have a sign on Baymeadows Road reducing the speed limit, why can't the public school?

Additionally, on a good note, both Mandarin High School and Atlantic Coast High Schools will have their homecomings in October. Both schools will host their homecoming game on Oct. 20.

**Q: How can our readers contact you?**

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

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

**Q: Can you give us an update on the latest city-wide response to Hurricane Irma?**

A: We learned many lessons from Hurricane Matthew last year that we were able to implement this year and I'm sure we will learn even more from Hurricane Irma. One big improvement was that 95 percent of the city's electricity was back on within five days of the storm.

Yard debris cleanup started on Sept. 25. We had 800,000 cubic yards of yard debris with Hurricane Matthew and anticipate more from Hurricane Irma. A helpful hint to residents is to make sure you don't mix yard debris with construction or flood debris, like saturated drywall or carpet. If you put these in separate piles with will make for easier pickup.

**Q: What can you share about the status of a potential school zone outside of Twin Lakes Academy Elementary?**

A: I like to meet with the school board members just to talk about joint issues like this at least once a year. I know the importance of relationships between the school district and the city council. On Oct. 10, the Duval County Safety Committee will take up as part of its agenda the issue of Twin Lakes Academy Elementary and Middle School and Atlantic Coast High School traffic safety concerns. The city's Public Works Department (traffic engineer) and School Board Members Couch and Hershey will be in coordination with our office to address these concerns.

**Q: Where is the city in the budget process as of today, Sept. 22?**

A: The mayor has presented his budget to the city council. It is very ambitious and it includes many capital improvements over the next few years, including new fire stations, resurfacing of roads and downtown projects. The City Council will vote on this \$2.4 billion budget on Sept. 26; the budget will go into effect on Oct. 1.

**Q: What is the latest on the Confederate statues issue?**

A: The City Council president said in mid-August that she intended to propose legislation for removal of monuments from public property, but that has not happened yet. Despite multiple City Council public comments regarding the removal or saving of the Confederate monuments in town, there is no legislation for us as council members to debate or discuss in reference to this issue.

**Q: Do you have anything else to share?**

A: I'm excited to see the first Amazon opening as well as IKEA. They will bring thousands of jobs to Jacksonville. As we grow, we need to maintain the quality of life we all enjoy.

**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.

**Briefs**

**UNF Coggin College of Business stages first annual gala**

The University of North Florida Coggin College of Business presents its first annual gala, "Celebrating Milestones and Memories," from 6 p.m. – 10 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 21, in the Student Union Ballroom, Building 58W, Room 3703, in the UNF campus.

Coggin College is celebrating many milestones and memories, including commemorating the 10th anniversary of its nationally recognized flagship programs — International Business as well as Transportation and Logistics. It's also celebrating more than a decade of success by its Career Management Center. Coggin has also been recognized as a "Best Business School" in the country for 10 years by Princeton Review.

The evening will kick off at 6 p.m. with cocktails, music and a silent auction, followed by dinner and an awards presentation at 7:30 p.m. Following the awards presentation, there will be dancing and dessert. Cost for the event is \$150. Dress attire is cocktail, black tie optional.

Three awards — Community Advocate Award, Coggin Distinguished Alumni Award and the Coggin Young Alumni Service Award — will be presented to the Energy Authority, Anna Brosche and Benjamin Freedman.

Visit [www.alumni.unf.edu/netcommunity/coggin-college-of-business-gala](http://www.alumni.unf.edu/netcommunity/coggin-college-of-business-gala) to register for the event. For more information, contact Teresa Nichols, Coggin College director of development, at (904) 620-1833.

**Grand opening celebrated at tennis complex**

The Tennis Complex at 9A Baymeadows Regional Park, 8000 Baymeadows Road East, was officially opened on Saturday, Sept. 30. The new tennis facilities include six clay courts, one hard court, four pickleball courts and a pro shop.

Activities at the grand opening included a "First Serve" official ceremony, remarks by District 11 Council Member Danny Becton and park advisory board members followed by exhibitions of pickleball and tennis.

**College Factual Ranks UNF Among 2018 "Best Colleges"**

For the fourth consecutive year, the University of North Florida has been ranked among the best colleges across the coun-

try in a new ranking, published in USA Today, by College Factual, a trusted online resource that uses customizable tools and outcomes-based rankings systems to guide students through the college selection process.

The University of North Florida was ranked No. 21 nationwide as a "Top Ranked Veteran" university when it comes to a quality education to veterans in computer information systems. The university is also ranked as one of the best colleges in Florida for the money and among the best colleges in the state. UNF was ranked No. 14 statewide as one of the 2018 "Best Colleges for the Money" and No. 20 as one of the 2018 "Top Quality Overall Best Colleges" in the state.

This latest recognition comes on the heels of UNF receiving several other national designations, including 2018 "Best Regional" University by U.S. News & World Report, 2017 Higher Education Excellence in Diversity Award from Insight into Diversity magazine, 2017 "Best College Value" by Kiplinger's Personal Finance and 2017 "Best in the Southeast" by Princeton Review.

College Factual ranked more than 1,300 colleges and used a number of outcome-based factors to determine the ranking, which includes both research universities and liberal arts colleges. Some important data points are how well the institution retains and graduates students, the boost in expected earnings, the percentage of full-time teachers and the average student loan default rate. The rankings also looked at the quality and average cost of each college. For more information, visit [www.collegefactual.com](http://www.collegefactual.com).

**Free meals for public school students**

Due to the wide ranging effects that Hurricane Irma has had on the state, Duval County, its citizens, and families, the Florida Department of Agriculture has authorized every child in the Duval County Public School System to be provided a meal at no charge through Oct 20. This does not include ala carte items on the menu, only complete meals.

During this time frame, families will not have to worry about providing lunch to their children as many recover from catastrophic damage to their homes. No paperwork is required to be entitled to receive this meal at no charge.

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# Life

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## Get to Know . . .

By Elaine Omann  
mail@floridanewsline.com

### Zeina Spaulding

Zeina Spaulding is the new principal at Atlantic High School. She has been a previous administrator in the Duval County School District with seven years of experience at Englewood and Southside Middle School.

Spaulding grew up in Jacksonville and graduated from Stanton High School. She attended the University of Florida for undergraduate education and obtained her master's degree in Educational Leadership from the University of North Florida. She is married with a three-month-old son and lives in the Southside.

**1. What are initial changes you feel a need to make, both in academic areas and extra-curricular?**

Our school follows the same AB scheduling as other high schools. We have a wide range of Advanced Placement courses and dual enrollment opportunities. We will continue to follow through with what is in place.

We have increased in enrollment and hired more teachers to meet that need.

If new extra-curricular choices are wanted by students, there is a plan to have students take the initiative and ownership for clubs or activities. They have steps and a process to follow which includes finding sponsors. Once this is in place, we can follow through with developing and helping get these started.

**2. How are you planning to develop further community involvement and parent involvement?**

I would like to do a better job of using different forms of communication and review all avenues of social media as a driving force to keep aware. I can show you some recent example with a dance class and most are posted on the school website.

**3. What makes this school unique to your experience in previous experiences? What goals or growth opportunities do you anticipate?**

The theme at this school is "All In." I am committed to children, to the work, and to them succeeding in the world. That is my biggest joy. I am passionate about students and their success is my success.

**4. How is technology creating opportunities for students?**

Technology is a big portion of the classroom instruction. Students can use their own laptops or phones when it is part of the academic process. Also, there is a Parent Academy through the district which provides learning opportunities for parents to be updated on technology for classroom use.

Zeina Spaulding

Photo courtesy Zeina Spaulding

**Bears** cont. from pg. 1

Conservation Commission. "These aren't aggressive animals, but if you are surprised by one, react calmly and slowly back away."

There are about 500 black bears in the area and more than 4,000 statewide. Although land development has a profound impact on the wildlife in the area, it is also the time of year when bears are no longer hibernating and are wandering around, which is also bringing them into more populated areas. The wildfires around the area in the spring are another probable reason contributing to the influx of bear sightings.

Residents living in areas where the bears have been roaming have mixed feelings about sharing space with these animals that are not typically roaming the streets, but overall, most are understanding, calm and even excited to get a glimpse of a black bear.

"I think it's a good reminder that wildlife is all around us, and closer than we think. I do like seeing wildlife, but I know that seeing them within neighborhoods is dangerous for them and possibly us. If land keeps being developed, well, this is what happens," said Bartram Springs resident Jennifer Lester.

Many photos and videos sharing the thrill of black bear sightings have been in circulation in recent months. Tipping over garbage bins, roaming streets and yards, gracefully climbing fences and even stealing snacks from bird feeders, have all been documented.

"My mother is a huge animal fan. She was disappointed with the lack of bear sightings after several hiking trips out west. Imagine her excitement when she found one in her own backyard," Donovan Alexander said.

Is our convenience worth the constant displacement of animals due to new building construction? Depends on whom you ask, but it's an increasing reality that is upsetting for many to think about. New development is essential to the livelihood of many people, yet the destruction of nature it brings is the loss of livelihood for wildlife.

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- Collaborate with customers marketing and sales teams to create designs for display advertising

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- Previous experience in advertising design
- Working knowledge of InDesign, Photoshop, and Excel
- Creative flair
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Accept and formulate constructive criticism for both internal and external clients

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Email resume to: [publisher@floridanewslines.com](mailto:publisher@floridanewslines.com)

**Beauty for Warriors benefits K9s for Warriors**

By NewsLine Staff  
[mail@floridanewslines.com](mailto:mail@floridanewslines.com)

Garcia Facial Plastic Surgery, near the St. Johns Town Center, hosted a special event on Sept. 21 that benefited K9s for Warriors. The facial plastic surgery center raised money in various ways including donating \$1 for every unit of Botox sold during the event.

"My staff and I all have a love for animals and the utmost respect for the military," said Dr. Phillip Garcia. "It is an honor to be able to benefit our veterans with our services. Partnering with K9s For Warriors foundation has allowed us to give back to this very special group of people."

"The unfortunate, staggering fact is, every day 22 veterans returning from combat take their own lives," said Rory

Diamond, executive director at K9s For Warriors. "The K9s for Warriors training program not only provides our soldiers with a live-saving gift, but it's also an opportunity for peer to peer support with other servicemen and women who suffer from similar issues."

Visit [www.k9sforwarriors.org](http://www.k9sforwarriors.org) for more information about K9s for Warriors and [www.garciainstitute.com](http://www.garciainstitute.com) for more information about Garcia Facial Plastic Surgery.



Photo courtesy Garcia Facial Plastic Surgery

Dr. Phillip Garcia (left) and Nick Kalynych, CRNA, one of several veterans associated with Garcia Facial Plastic Surgery.

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# Neighborhood lemonade stand raises money for Hurricane Harvey victims

By NewsLine Staff  
mail@floridanewsline.com

On Labor Day, Sept. 4, Caroline Posey, Alex Dimmick and Ashley Dimmick opened a lemonade stand in their neighborhood of Hampton Glenn. According to Caroline Posey's father, Jake Posey, the lemonade stand was open from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. and raised \$183, which the children donated to the Red Cross for the benefit of victims of Hurricane Harvey.

Jake Posey said, "Caroline came up with the idea to hold the lemonade

stand in early September. She has held lemonade stands before for charity. She thought of the idea after she and her fellow National Honor Society members at Twin Lakes Academy Elementary held a bake sale to benefit the hurricane victims."

Caroline Posey then enlisted the help of her neighbors, Alex Dimmick and Ashley Dimmick. The Posey family supplied the lemonade for the stand and the Dimmick family made muffins and cookies to sell.

The lemonade stand had about 30 customers during the two hours it was open. Many people bought a \$1 lemonade, but gave \$5, \$10 or \$20. People were lined up when the stand



Caroline Posey, Alex Dimmick and Ashley Dimmick at their lemonade stand in Hampton Glen, which raised money for victims of Hurricane Harvey.

Photo courtesy Jake Posey

opened to donate, having seen signs the families put out on Baymeadows Road to call attention to the fundraiser.

"Everyone was super generous," Posey said.

# Twin Lakes Academy Elementary announces Fall Festival

By NewsLine Staff  
mail@floridanewsline.com

Twin Lakes Academy Elementary's annual Fall Festival is open not only to school families, but also to friends and neighbors in the community. This year's festival will be held on Friday, Oct. 27 from 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. at the school, 8000 Point Meadows Drive.

The Fall Festival is great way for the whole family to have a lot of fun in a friendly, safe environment. Some of the attractions included are bounce houses, a hayride, a petting zoo, haunted houses, various game booths, hamburger and hotdog meals, as well as vendors, sponsors, and community supporters that will have booths and sponsor events. The Twin Lakes Academy Elementary Student Council will also host a Food Drive to collect items for those in need in the community.

All proceeds from this event will be used to purchase technology for classrooms and student use in support of the school's leadership and technology focus. Twin Lakes Academy Elementary students will bring home an informational flyer about this event.

For information and questions about this event, call (904) 538-0238.

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## Southeast Regional Library to celebrate 20th anniversary

By Kaylee Burke  
mail@floridanewsline.com

October is a big month for Southeast Regional library. On Oct. 21 the library will be honoring its 20th Anniversary with a celebration. The community is invited to come to the library between 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. to enjoy refreshments, various family activities, a Zumba class, dance exhibitions, live art and music, face painting and robot demonstrations. Councilman Danny Becton will serve as the keynote speaker at 12 p.m., as well as many other community organizations and partners.

Como Funcion El Dinera/How Money Works, a Financially Fit Program, welcomes Spanish speakers to learn how mutual funds work in the U.S. economy; to find out how to eliminate debt faster without consolidating or refinancing; and to understand how life insurance really works. Get ahead of the game and learn how to best manage your money on Oct. 26 from 6 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Science Fair Help for teens will be held Oct. 12 at 4 p.m. For more scientific



Photo courtesy Jacksonville Public Library

Last month kids had a blast creating their own dog balloons that went along with program's dog theme.

fun, Budding Scientists, a STEM program, will take place on Oct. 11 and 25 from 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. and will be hosted by the students from the Atlantic Coast High School's Science National Honor Society. This program will involve a series of science demonstrations and activities, and is open to kids aged five – 18.

Maker Monday is an exciting new program for children aged six – 12 that explores the world around us through experimentation and hands-on activities. Maker Monday is happening on Oct. 16 at 7 p.m.

Mr. Paul's Painting Program will be held on Oct. 4 and 18; Mr. Paul will introduce children aged five – 12 to developmentally appropriate painting activities that promote interpretation and self-expression.

Jacksonville Public Library Maker Con supports maker culture, comic books, sci-fi, fantasy, gaming and cosplay, and will run from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. on Oct. 14 at the Main Library. Come in costume if you wish, and visit booths where makers, authors, and artists will present and sell their products to the public.

Visit [jaxpubliclibrary.org/events](http://jaxpubliclibrary.org/events) or call (904) 996-0325 for information about additional upcoming events at Southeast Regional Library.

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## The Pantry Raiders

Turn dinner time into family time.

By Melissa Cooper  
mail@floridanewsline.com

It's Fall y'all — and you know what that means ... pumpkin season has officially arrived. This yummy recipe will satisfy all those pumpkin cravings and your kitchen will smell heavenly while the bread bakes. You can thank me later!

### Pumpkin Cranberry Bread



Photo by 123RF.com

Pumpkin Cranberry Bread

3 cups all-purpose flour	4 large eggs
1 tbsp. plus 2 tsp. pumpkin pie spice	1 cup vegetable oil
2 tsp. baking soda	½ cup orange juice
1 ½ tsp. salt	1 cup dried cranberries
3 cups granulated sugar	1 cup walnuts, optional
1 can pumpkin (15 ounces)	

Preheat oven to 350° F. Grease and flour two 9 x 5 inch loaf pans.

Combine flour, pumpkin pie spice, baking soda and salt in large bowl. Combine sugar, pumpkin, eggs, oil and juice in large mixer bowl; beat until just blended. Add pumpkin mixture to flour mixture; stir just until moistened. Fold in cranberries. Spoon batter into prepared loaf pans.

Bake for 60 to 65 minutes or until wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool in pans on wire racks for 10 minutes; remove to wire racks to cool completely.

For three 8 x 4-inch loaf pans: Prepare as above. Bake for 55 to 60 minutes.

For five or six 5 x 3-inch mini-loaf pans: Prepare as above. Bake for 50 to 55 minutes.

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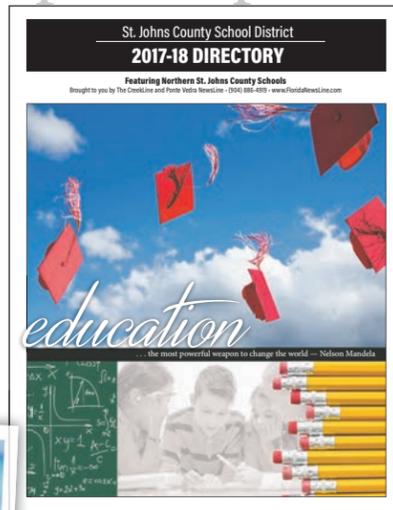
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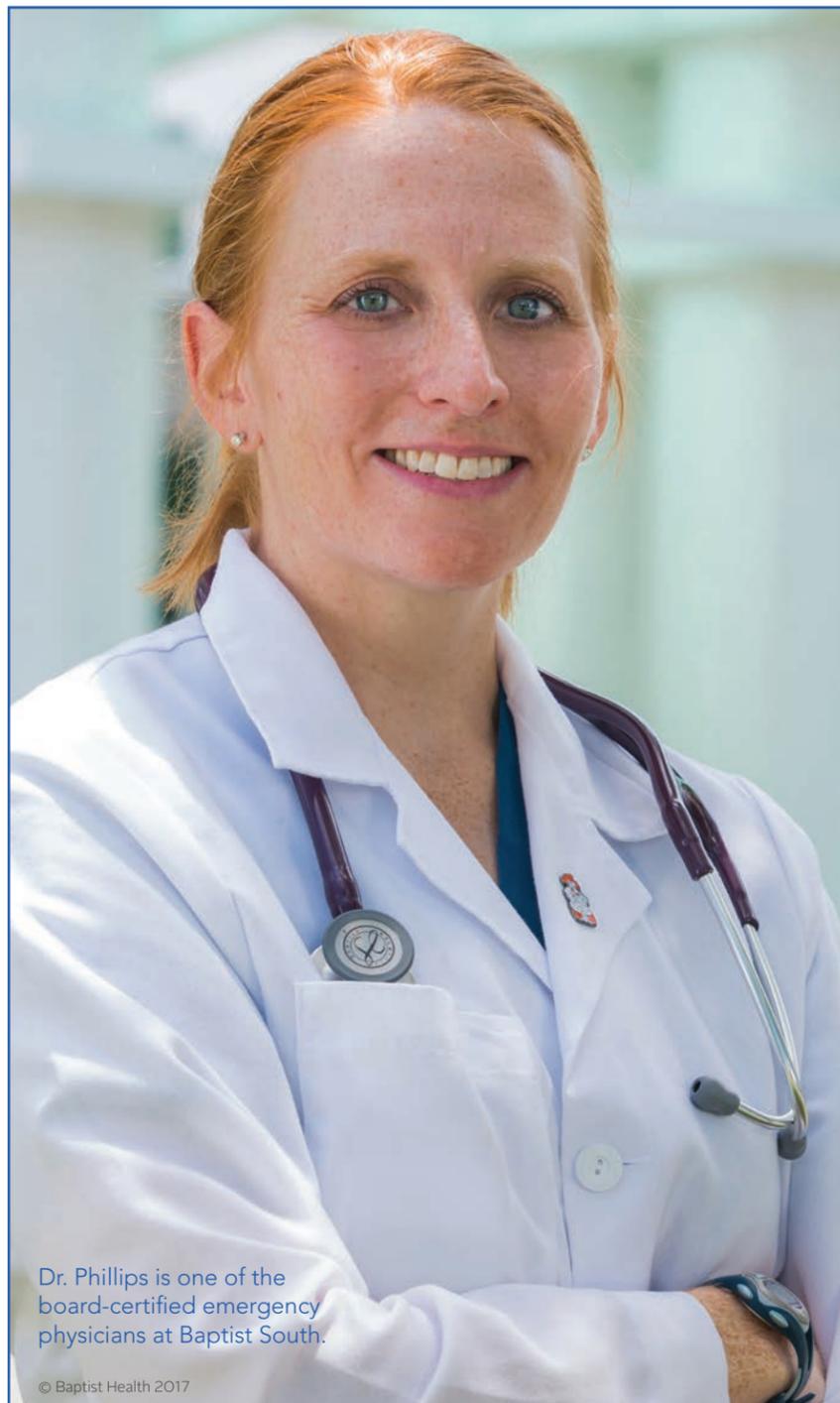
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