

Mandarin NewsLine

April 2022 Volume 16 Issue 6

A Florida NewsLine Publication



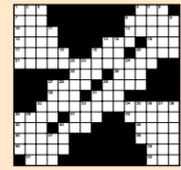
page 3
BFF Best Furry Friend



page 6
Q&A with
Michael Boylan



page 13
Get To Know ...
Dan Lahey



page 14
Puzzles

City resumes curbside recycling collection

By NewsLine Staff
mail@floridanewsline.com

Curbside recycling will resume the week of April 4, 2022. All 15 recycling drop-off sites will close Thursday, March 31. Visit the Residential Waste Collection Schedule lookup page (<https://myjax.custhelp.com/app/hauler>) or call (904) 630-CITY (2489) to confirm the schedule for your specific address. Garbage and yard waste are collected weekly. Recycling is collected every other week. Household bulk collection varies by service area. Tires and appliances are collected only by request and household hazardous waste cannot be collected curbside.

The following standards are applicable to all service areas in accordance with Sec. 382.415, Jacksonville Ordinance Code:

- Place all items curbside no later than 6 a.m. on collection day, and no earlier than 5 p.m. the day prior.
- Remove empty receptacles by 6 a.m. the day after collection.
- Items set out for collection must be visible, accessible, and placed three feet away from obstructions such as vehicles, mailboxes, fire hydrants, and utilities.
- Garbage, yard waste and recycling must be kept separate.

Curbside recycling cont. on pg. 2



Festival grounds.



Photos courtesy Mandarin Community Club
Festival-goers under the oaks.

Mandarin Art Festival returns following pandemic-driven hiatus

By NewsLine Staff
mail@floridanewsline.com

Following a two-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Mandarin Art Festival will return on Easter weekend, April 16 and 17. Held on the grounds of the Mandarin Community Club at 12447 Mandarin Road, the family-friendly event is a more than half-century long tradition.

"I am constantly told by people how the festival has been their Easter tradition," said Mandarin Art Festival chair Susie Scott. "Just imagine the stories of the thousands who have attended since 1968 — as exhibitors and patrons of the event. We are looking forward to great weather, robust sales and happy festival-goers returning to make memories!"

The Mandarin Art Festival serves as the premier fundraiser of the Mandarin Community Club, a non-profit identified as the oldest civic organization in Jacksonville. Proceeds support the club's preservation, education and beautification efforts throughout the Mandarin

community.

Free parking and shuttle service is available from Albert Field at Orange Picker and Brady roads and at the Mandarin Masonic Lodge on Loretto Road. This is an outdoor, rain or shine event, but no pets, please. A \$2 donation per person is requested at the gate.

The largest community event in Mandarin, the Mandarin Art Festival has been an Easter tradition for generations of families. Over the years, tens of thousands of guests have strolled under the oaks of the historic Mandarin Community Club to peruse the artwork of more than 100 local and nationally-known artists working in a variety of media. The Mandarin Art Festival is a juried fine art and fine craft show and awards will be given in the categories of Functional Fine Craft, Jewelry, Mixed Media, Painting, Photography, Sculpture and Best in Show.

The Children's Art Show, a beloved favorite of Festival patrons, will display

the creations of talented students from area elementary and middle schools and is proudly sponsored by Emily and Lawrence Lisska. Other features include a Green Market of unique locally sourced and made items, a bake sale with homemade goodies from the kitchens of club members, food vendors providing an array of cuisine and a chance drawing for items contributed by Mandarin area businesses. Live entertainment will be performed and the historic, 100-year-old Post Office and General Store will be open and manned by the Mandarin Museum and Historical Society so that guests may stroll through its doors and back into history.

"The Art Festival has always been a joyful celebration of spring and Easter — and finally after two very tough years we are so excited to bring it back to Mandarin!" Scott said.

For more information, visit www.mandarinartfestival.org or contact the Festival at mandarinartfestival@gmail.com.



The Mandarin Community Club.



The Children's Art Show.

Presorted Standard
ECRWSS
US Postage Paid
Jacksonville, FL
Permit No. 1858

*****ECRWSSDDM****

Residential Customer

Florida NewsLine
450 State Road 13 North Suite 106 PMB 101
St. Johns, FL 32259

NUVENTURE
FINANCIAL GROUP

Retire With A Purpose™

O: 904.253.7600 | F: 904.253.7601
13241 Bartram Park Blvd. Building 900
Jacksonville, FL 32258

NuVentureFinancialGroup.com

Find us on Nextdoor

NuVenture Financial Group is an independent financial services firm that utilizes a variety of investment and insurance products. Investment advisory services offered only by duly registered individuals through AE Wealth Management, LLC (AEWM). AEWM and NuVenture Financial Group are not affiliated companies. 00837541 03/21

April events at your Mandarin libraries

By Jeremy Yates
mail@floridanewsline.com

This month, Jacksonville Public Library is celebrating childhood and creativity with truly imaginative artwork from students in the visual arts programs at Duval County Public Schools. Don't miss the Best of Elementary Art Show, running now through April 26 at the Mandarin and South Mandarin libraries. (For all participating locations, visit: bit.ly/ElemArtJax).

National Poetry Month is a great time to hone your skills or discover

a new talent. Youth in grades four through 12 are invited to participate in the Jax Student Poetry Contest, which celebrates the city's upcoming bicentennial. Top winners from three age categories will win a cash prize. Entries are due April 30. (Get the prompt and submission guidelines at: bit.ly/jax200poetry).

For something a bit silly and fun: Make a diorama of your favorite book featuring Peeps® as characters and bring it to the Mandarin Library. Dioramas are due April

14 with prizes for kids, teens, and adults/families. And stop by April 9 for a Surprise Saturday craft. Take and Make Crafts this month include bumblebees and umbrellas for celebrating Spring.

South Mandarin Library is adding more drop-in activities. Join Game Day for Teens on Tuesdays anytime between 5 p.m. – 6 p.m. for board games, card games, and snacks. Or drop in and Read with Tenor the Therapy Dog from 2:30 p.m. – 3:30

Mandarin libraries cont. on pg. 13



Photo courtesy Jacksonville Public Libraries

Curbside recycling cont. from pg. 1

- Place items within five feet of the curb/edge of pavement.

Typically, waste isn't collected because it doesn't meet service standards. Common mistakes include:

- Items not set out by 6 a.m.
- Materials are not separated by type; garbage cannot be mixed with recycling and/or yard waste
- Prohibited items set out for collection
- Excess size, weight and/or amount
- Automated collection carts are filled over capacity (lids aren't shut tight) or are placed too close to an obstruction
- Waste is blocked, obstructed or inaccessible for collection (for example: vehicle blocking waste)

As a reminder, here are some facts about curbside recycling:

- Must use city-issued recycling cart with a yellow lid
- Place cart three feet apart from bulk items or garbage and away from obstructions, with wheels facing away from the road
- Lid must be fully closed; save excess recycling for the next recycle collection day
- Ensure items are empty and free from residue
- Do not put recycling in plastic bags!

All items should be clean, empty, and dry. These items are accepted:

Paper

- Mail, office and school paper
- Newspapers, magazines, catalogs, phone books
- Paperback books
- Brown paper bags
- Fiberboard boxes
- Corrugated cardboard, flattened and 2'x3' or smaller

Plastics

- Numbered 1-3, 5 and 7
- Water/soda bottles
- Detergent bottles
- Cleaning solution bottles

Cartons

- Milk and creamer containers
- Juice boxes
- Soup and broth containers

Glass

- Green, brown or clear bottles and jars (discard lids with garbage)

Metal

- Steel food containers
- Aluminum cans
- Aluminum baking pans

These items are not accepted:

- Any #4 plastics (LDPE) including cling wrap, sandwich bags, and plastic garbage or grocery bags.
- Any #6 plastics (polystyrene) includ-

ing Styrofoam, disposable cups and bowls, take-out food containers, packing peanuts, plastic cutlery, hangers, and medicine bottles.

- Any type of plastic that is not marked as recyclable
- Shredded paper
- Weapons
- Batteries
- Fireworks or flares
- Needles
- Food or yard waste
- Cables or wires
- Rubber
- Aerosol cans
- Colored glass (except brown and green)

Remember, just because an item might contain a recyclable material does not mean it can be recycled. Most recyclable items, including plastics, will be marked with a recycling symbol.



Family Medicine  Familiar Locations

Now Open — For more than 130 years, we've cared for our growing community. And we've grown with it, providing innovative healthcare in new places and new ways. Today we are bringing that level of care to our friends and families in Julington Creek and Greenbriar. From birth through geriatrics, we are delivering complete health and wellness for all stages of life. We're ready to serve your whole family—and the whole community.



JULINGTON CREEK
2570 Race Track Rd, Suite A
St. Johns, FL 32259
904.819.1005

Tristan Imhof, MD
Family Medicine -
birth through geriatrics



GREENBRIAR
304 Ashourian Ave, Suite 105
St. Augustine, FL 32092
904.819.1006

Mark Michaels, MD
Family Medicine -
birth through geriatrics

To learn more about becoming a new patient, visit FlaglerHealth.org/JulingtonCreek or FlaglerHealth.org/Greenbriar



450 State Road 13 North
Suite 106 PMB 101
St. Johns, FL 32259
(904) 886-4919
www.FloridaNewsLine.com

Publisher

Mark Pettus
Publisher@FloridaNewsLine.com

Editor

Martie Thompson
Editor@FloridaNewsLine.com

Bookkeeper

Emily Whitehead
Accounting@FloridaNewsLine.com

Social Media

SocialMedia@FloridaNewsLine.com

Advertising Sales

Rebecca Thomson
Rebecca@FloridaNewsLine.com
(724) 968-7602 cell

Linda Gay

Linda@FloridaNewsLine.com
(904) 607-5062 cell

Mandarin NewsLine Community Newspaper is a free monthly publication distributed via bulk mail and carrier to all addresses in Zip Codes 32223, 32258 and selected routes in 32257. Submission of articles and photographs are received by mail or email, although email to editor@FloridaNewsLine.com is preferred. The writers' opinions do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Florida NewsLine. Advertising Rates are available by request. Florida NewsLine is not responsible for advertisement content or accuracy of information provided by its advertisers. Nor does Florida NewsLine endorse any of the products or services included in this publication. Florida NewsLine reserves the right to refuse advertisement or copy from any advertiser. All rights are reserved and no portion of this publication may be copied without the express written consent of the publisher. ©2022.



BFF Best Furry Friend of the month

Meet Biscuit!



Breed:
Golden retriever

Favorite Activity:
Eating and swimming

Favorite Treat:
Cheese

Favorite Friend:
Molly, his sister, who is a black lab

How your BFF got his name:
Our daughter named him after the kids' book series about a dog named Biscuit.

Do you have a cute pet? Send us your pet's picture and the answer to the five questions above before the 10th of the month. Also tell us you saw the BFF contest in Mandarin NewsLine. Your pet could be our BFF of the month and appear in Mandarin NewsLine! Email editor@floridanewsline.com to enter your pet.

See pages 10 - 11

Table of Contents

- 4 What's Happening in Mandarin
- 5 Q&A with Lori Hershey
- 7 Quiltfest
- 12 Briefs
- 15 Italian American Club
- 17 Gardening
- 19 Travel

We take your business personally!

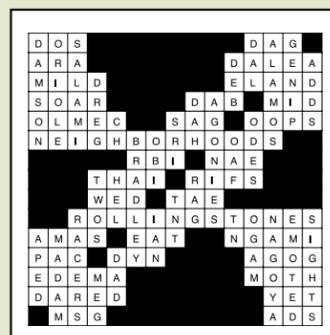
Call Rebecca Thomson 724-968-7602 to reserve your advertising space!



MYSTERY PHOTO

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

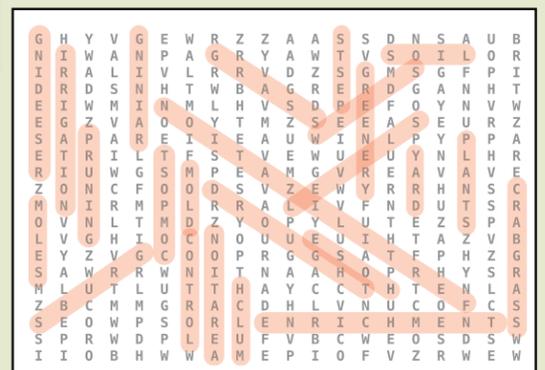
Last month's Mystery Photo was the Annie Oakley's on San Jose Boulevard. Our winner was Marina Frees. Congratulations!



Answers to our Puzzles
PG 14



Answers: A. mower B. weeds C. fertilize D. landscape



AFFORDABLE WATER

CONDITIONING • SOFTENING • PURIFICATION

Residential Commercial Industrial

Family Owned and Operated since 1989

CLEAN WATER FOR YOUR HOME

Affordable Water solutions for your home with the best customer service in the industry.

- Water Softeners & Filtration Systems
- Service on most makes and models
- Delivery of Salt & Potassium for your system

Call today 904-262-0197 for your Complimentary Water Test & Analysis.

3760 Kori Road • www.affordablewaterjax.com

Nesting Season is Here!

Wild Birds Unlimited Nature Shop

20% OFF
One regularly priced item

Valid in-store at the participating stores listed. Coupon not valid for Seed/Bird Food, Optics, Gift Cards, DSC Memberships, Campania Baths or Sale Items. Cannot be combined with other coupons/discounts. Offer expires 4/30/2022.

St Johns 450 SR13 at Racetrack Rd (next to Publix) 904.230.3242 wbu.com/jacksonville	Jax Beach 4138 Third Street South (between Trader Joes & Staples) 904.246.6832 wbu.com/jacksonvillebeach	World Golf Village 180 Capulet Drive #5 (At Murabella) 904.209.5754 wbu.com/staugustine
--	--	---

April

Community Calendar What's Happening in Mandarin

Shuffleboard is played on Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. at Mandarin Park (note new starting time as of April 5). The courts are at the park entrance next to the tennis courts. Try to get there a few minutes early for court assignments. Beginners are welcome. Just show up (a few minutes before playing time), unless it rains.

Acoustic Jam Session is held on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in the Annex Building of Trinity Mandarin, located at 2955 Orange Picker Road. This jam is open to everyone and all levels of ability are welcome. Come to play with the group or just sit back and enjoy the music. For more information, contact Burt Coulliette at (904) 302-0423.

Playing HOOKie, a group for those who enjoy knitting, crocheting and looming (with all items donated to charity) meets every Wednesday from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. at the outside eating area at Belgian Sweet House Bistro, 12276 San Jose Blvd. (next to Harbor Chase). Visit the group's Facebook page (Playing HOOKie) or email playinghookie31@gmail.com for more information.

2nd: The historic buildings of the Mandarin Museum, including the 1875 Webb/Jones farmhouse, 1876 Barn, 1898 St. Joseph's Mission Schoolhouse for African-American Children, and Losco Winery log cabin will be open from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. on April 2 and April 16 in Walter Jones Historical Park, 11964 Mandarin Road. The Mandarin Museum, also in the park, is closed for construction and renovation, but Gift Shop items (books, Mandarin Frogs, art prints) will be available on the front porch when the park buildings are open. The 1911 Mandarin Store and Post Office will also be open on April 16 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. at 12471 Mandarin Road, just a mile west of the Walter Jones Historical Park. This building is on the National Register of Historic Places. Visit www.mandarinmuseum.net for more information.

3rd: The Under the Oaks community music jam, hosted by the Mandarin Museum & Historical Society and North Florida Folk Network will resume underneath the beautiful trees in front of Mandarin Museum on Sunday, April 3 from 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. If you play an acoustic instrument, feel free to join the song circle. If not, just bring a chair and relax and listen.

5th: Honeybee Quilters Guild will meet on Tuesday, April 5 at 6:30 p.m. at Mandarin Presbyterian Church in the Loft on the County Dock Road side of the church at 2501 Loretto Road. Dawn Burns, owner of the new local store Tilted Quilter, will be presenting. Wearing masks is encouraged. New members/guests welcome. Visit honeybeequilters.org for more information.

5th: Lifetree Café will meet at the Mandarin Senior Center, 3848 Hartley Road, on Tuesday, April 5 and Tuesday, April 19 at 1 p.m. Lifetree Café events allow attendees to share thoughts and experiences on a wide variety of life and faith subjects. March topics are "I disagree. How to have a healthy argument" on April 5 and "Upsizing life by downsizing stuff" on April 19. Visit www.LTCJax.com for more information including a video trailer about each topic.

7th: The Jacksonville Camera Club will meet on April 7 (print contest results) and April 21 (digital contest results) from 7 p.m. – 9 p.m. at Shepherd of the Woods Southside, 7860 Southside Blvd. Visit jax.jaxcameraclub.com for more information.

9th: The Jacksonville Camera Club plans an outing to Paynes Prairie State Park in Gainesville on April 9. Visit jax.jaxcameraclub.com for more information.

9th: Time Out Florida, with special feature Charlyn Thomasson and guest speaker Kelly Stigliano, will

be held on Saturday, April 9 from 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. at Renaissance Hotel World Golf Village. The cost for the program is \$25 and includes brunch. RSVP by April 2 to Jo (904) 860-4008 or jo.swallow@comcast.net. This program is presented by St. Augustine, Ponte Vedra, Jacksonville Women's Connection, affiliated with Stonecroft.org.

12th: Jacksonville Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution will hold its chapter meeting and 127th anniversary celebration on April 12 at 11 a.m. Prospective members are welcome. Contact Betty Reed at DARJacksonville@gmail.com for more information.

13th: Town Hall with Councilmember Michael Boylan will be on April 13 at 6:30 p.m. at the Mandarin Senior Center on Hartley Road.

18th: The All Star Quilters Guild will meet at 10 a.m. on Monday, April 18 at the First Christian Church, 11924 San Jose Blvd. The program is "The Big Stitch" presented by Linda Hungerford. Sew and Tell is always a feature. Guests are welcome. Visit www.allstarquilters.org for more information.

23rd: Rotary Club of Mandarin will hold an online auction to benefit the Mandarin Food Bank and Presbyterian Food Pantry, as well as other local charities, from April 23 – May 7. Participants can bid on a variety of items of great value. Visit mandarinrotary.org for details and to place your bid.

28th: The Mandarin Women's Club will host its monthly luncheon on April 28 at the Ramada Inn Mandarin. This is the annual Game Day and attendees choose to play either Bunco or Mexican Train. Doors open at 9 a.m. and reservations for lunch are required. The luncheon cost is \$18 and must be received by Thursday, April 21. To make reservations and obtain payment

instructions, call Susie at (904) 262-8981 or email her at spm104@aol.com. Visit www.mandarinwomensclub.com for more information on events, photos, and membership forms.

29th: The Italian American Club of Jacksonville will hold its popular Spaghetti to Go on Friday, April 29 from 5 p.m. – 7 p.m. at the club building, 2838 Westberry Road. Visit www.iacofjacksonville.com or call (904) 586-2700 for more information.

29th, 30th: Mandarin Garden Club will hold its annual Plant Sale on Friday, April 29 and Saturday, April 30 from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. on both days. A huge variety of low cost, high quality plants and hanging baskets will be offered for sale. Master Gardeners will be available to answer your gardening questions. Cash only is accepted. The event features free parking and admission. The Masons' "Famous" Barbeque lunch will be for sale both days. The Mandarin Garden Club is located at 2892 Loretto Road. Visit mandaringardenclub.org for more information.

30th: 5k Race to Feed the Hungry, sponsored by Rotary Club of Mandarin in conjunction with 1st Place Sports, will be held on Saturday, April 30. The 5K Race will begin at 8 a.m. and a one mile Fun Run will begin at 9 a.m. at Mandarin Presbyterian Church, 2501 Mandarin Road, where ample parking will be provided. Through April 23, registration fees are \$35 for the race and \$15 for the Fun Run. After April 23, registration fees will be \$40 and \$15 respectively. Runners are encouraged to bring a canned good for donation at the start of the event. All proceeds will benefit the Mandarin Food Bank and the Presbyterian Food Pantry. Register online at 1stplacesports.com or at any 1st Place Sports location.

Creating Smiles & Relationships for a Lifetime!



Our group of dental specialists provide expert care from simple to complex cases!

- Dr. Obdulia Rondon, DMD
- Dr. Yaney Gonzalez, DMD
- Dr. Jeanette Hanna, DMD
- Dr. Andrew Fowler, DMD
- Dr. Sydney Fowler, DMD
- Dr. Annie Vu, DDS

At Our Specialty Center:

- Dr. Dennis Mahan, Oral Surgery
- Dr. Anette Lorenzo-Reyes, Orthodontics
- Dr. Allison Johnson, Pediatric Dentist
- Dr. Eric Olson, Prosthodontics



JR DENTAL

General | Specialty | Dental Lab

Accepting New Patients of All Ages

\$39
EMERGENCY EXAM
&
ONE X-RAY

New Patient Special \$99
Comprehensive Exam
Includes cleaning & X-Ray
(D0150, D0220, D1110)

FREE IMPLANT CONSULT
with 3D X-RAY

Safe and quick implant placement with 3D Cone Beam Scan, for implant supported denture, single tooth/bridge. To determine implant fee starting at \$1500.

FREE SECOND OPINION

Your smile and investment deserve a second opinion.

JRDentalCare.com

904-786-9200

12276 San Jose Blvd.
Ste 314



with Duval County School Board Member
Lori Hershey, District 7

Q: Do you have an update on the school board's audit advisory committee that you mentioned in last month's column?

A: Yes. A Mandarin resident, Paul Numbers, reached out to me after seeing my request for a community member to serve on this committee in last month's column. Paul is a Navy veteran and has a strong financial background. In addition, he is active in the community and his children attended Mandarin schools. I believe he will be an asset to the committee and represent District 7 well.

Q: Can you give some insight into the newly created Read Jax program?

A: One of the priorities for the school board's strategic plan is literacy and in March we are kicking off Read Jax. This initiative is in partnership with the Kids Hope Alliance, the Jacksonville Public Education Fund and Read USA. It is a city-wide effort, chaired by Superintendent Greene and Mayor Curry, to increase and improve literacy for all ages in Jacksonville

Q: Do you have anything else to share with District 7?

A: The Northeast Florida Builders As-

sociation had its Construction Career Days in March, which provided opportunities for high school students in NE Florida to participate in hands-on experiences to learn more about the variety of career opportunities in the construction industry. For example, students were able to drive heavy equipment, make asphalt, and operate a model that mimicked raising the Main Street Bridge as well as the Bridge of Lions in St. Augustine. This partnership we have with the Northeast Florida Builders Association is essential for the career and technical education offerings in Duval County. I think it's important for the community to know that this is available to our high school students.

Also, did you know that Mandarin High School offers a program where students can earn certification to fly drones? This program is offered in partnership with Embry Riddle Aeronautical University and there are job opportunities right out of high school.

Q: How can our readers contact you?

A: They can email me at HersheyL@duvalschools.org or call me at (904) 390-2375.



Affordable Rates - Multi Issue Discounts - Complimentary Graphic Design

We make
advertising easy ...
Call today!

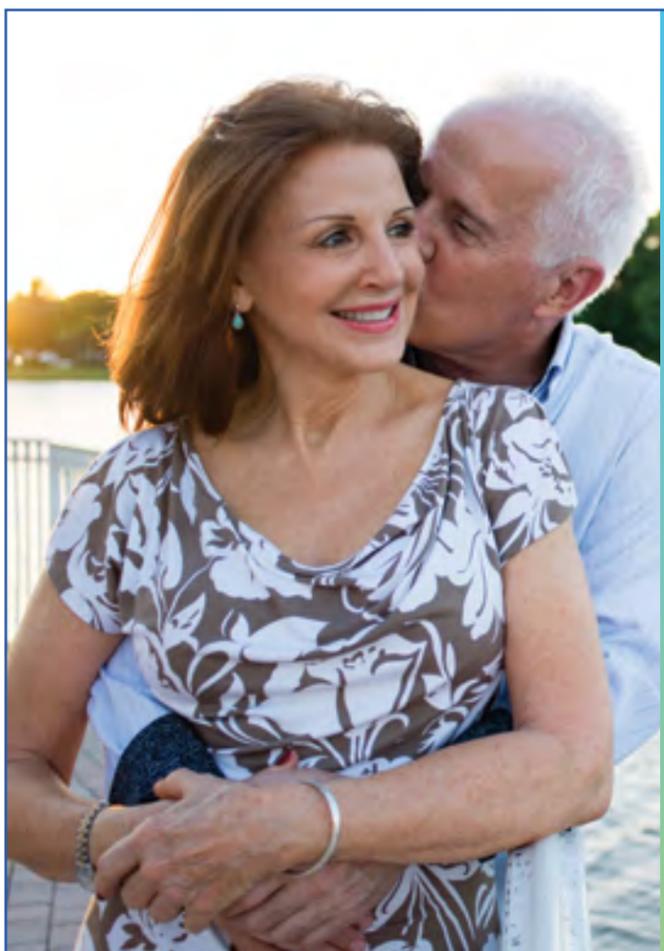


Rebecca Thomson
(904) 866-4919
Rebecca@FloridaNewsLine.com

St Joseph
EASTER FLOWERS
11730 Old Saint Augustine Rd, Jacksonville, FL 32258
Wednesday April 13th, April 14th, April 15th & April 16th
1PM to 8PM
Easter Sunday we will be open 6 AM to 2 PM
For more Information call or text
904-742-8777 Vincent

Annual Plant Sale
Baked Goods and BBQ
Huge variety of plants, hanging baskets, crafts
April 29 & 30, 9 am - 2 pm
Mandarin Garden Club
2892 Loretto Road, 32223
GREEN THUMB SALE
Cash only

Send us your community news!
editor@floridanewsline.com



The longer a wound goes without effective treatment, the greater the risk of infection. What are you waiting for? It's time for healing.
Call **904.202.HEAL (4325)** for an appointment.

It's time for healing.

Having a wound that won't heal can put your entire life on hold. Now you can get comprehensive wound care without leaving the area at Baptist Nassau's new Wound Care Center.

If you have a wound that hasn't healed within the expected amount of time, our team can help you get on the road to recovery. We treat a variety of wounds:

- Arterial ulcers
- Diabetic ulcers
- Neuropathic ulcers
- Pressure ulcers
- Venous insufficiency
- Traumatic wounds
- Surgical wounds
- Vasculitis
- Radiation wounds
- Burns
- Other chronic, non-healing wounds



Wound Care
and Hyperbaric
Medicine Center

Changing Health Care for Good.®

Baptist South Wound Care and Hyperbaric Medicine Center

14534 Old St. Augustine Road • Medical Office Building 3
Suite 3110 • Jacksonville, FL 32258



with Jacksonville City Council Member Michael Boylan, District 6

Q: Can you describe what you learned from the Florida Department of Transportation regarding a new entryway to the Chick-fil-A/Zoe's Kitchen parking lots?

A: I have been advised that there will be a minor modification to San Jose Boulevard at the entrance to Chick-fil-A and Zoe's Kitchen. Due to a number of crashes turning into the property, FDOT is planning to build an additional entrance into the parking lot accessible from southbound San Jose Boulevard. The far right hand turn

lane will turn into the parking lot just to the north of the current entrance and the space between the two entrances will be curbed with grass in it. Traveling south, once you pass the light at Oak Bluff Lane, if you are in the far right lane, you will be required to turn into Chick-fil-A/Zoe's Kitchen. It will be for entrance only. Cars traveling northbound will continue to make a left turn into the existing entrance and that will also serve as the exit. The additional entrance and curbing is proposed to be completed

by the end of the year.

Q: What about the current back-ups on Oak Bluff Lane?

A: This will not address that ongoing concern. I am proposing that a sign be added to southbound San Jose Boulevard, encouraging drivers to continue through the light at Oak Bluff Lane and access the new entrance (rather than make a right on Oak Bluff Lane and then a left into Chick-fil-A).

Q: Do you have an update on the San Jose Boulevard project discussed last month, in which you proposed to create an additional access lane to the Buckman Bridge in order to help with traffic back-up for through drivers traveling south on San Jose?

A: I have recently learned that this project is unfunded. It is on the docket, but it is probably still three to five years out.

Q: Do you have an update on curbside recycling, set to resume this month?

A: Curbside recycling will resume the week of April 4. Waste Pro has had some success in securing more staff with higher pay and bonuses offered, but with new staff comes new learning curves and mistakes. Missed streets should be picked up in a timely manner, but we expect some delays during the beginning. Our office continues to serve as an intermediary between constituents and the Solid Waste Department/Waste Pro.

Q: Is there an update on the waste transfer station?

A: East of District 6, on Greenland Road, there is a waste management facility that is zoned for heavy industrial purposes. It has been acquired by Waste Pro, likely for their waste transfer station. No rezoning is required, but it will still likely be about two years until we see improvements in travel time as a result of the operation of this transfer station.

Q: What is the latest on the Hartley Road overhaul?

A: This is one of the last Better Jacksonville projects. The overhaul of Hartley Road, including sidewalks, from Old St. Augustine Road to San Jose Boulevard, has gone out to bid. We expect to start construction in the fall.

Q: Do you have any Town Hall meetings planned?

A: The next Town Hall will be on April 13 at 6:30 p.m. at the Mandarin Senior Center on Hartley Road. We are experimenting with a different format to allow residents more individual contact with me and with City of Jacksonville department employees.

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

A: Community members can email me at MBoylan@coj.net or call (904) 255-5206.



"If I were still in my house I would not be doing half of what I'm doing here. And I've never had so many friends in my life."

— Resident Mary M. (with her dog, Jade)

WHAT MAKES OUR RESIDENTS HAPPY?

For some of us, it's a walk on a nature trail, or boating on the creek. Discover why you'll be happy here at Westminster Woods on Julington Creek! Our Life Plan Community offers a stunning natural setting with spacious garden apartments and villa homes and an active lifestyle every day. Best of all, you'll enjoy the assurance of a full range of supportive healthcare services, if they should be needed.

Discover all there is to be happy about — call us at (904) 861-6425 today!



www.WestminsterWoodsFL.org
25 State Road 13, Jacksonville, FL

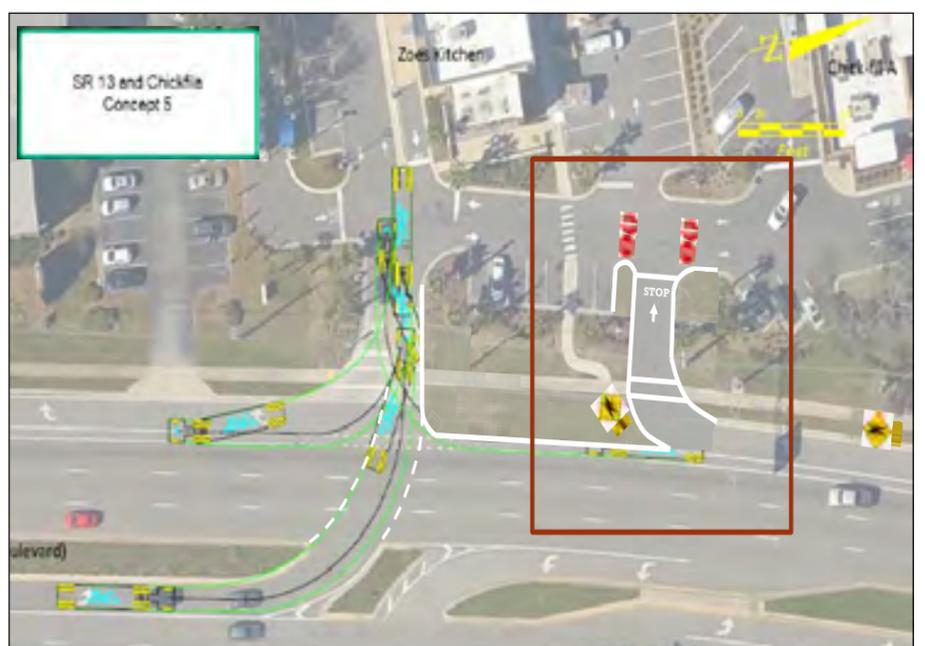


Photo courtesy Florida Department of Transportation
Current and proposed entrances to Chick-fil-A and Zoe's Kitchen from San Jose Boulevard.

QuiltFestJax announces judge and call for entries

By Sondie Frus
mail@floridanewsline.com

Quiltfest Inc. of Jacksonville, known as QuiltFestJax, is back. After a two-year hiatus due to COVID, the annual quilt show will be held Sept. 15 – 17, 2022 at the Prime Osborn Convention Center. This showcase will feature 400 to 450 quilts on exhibit plus numerous special exhibits, vendors, and activities.

Maribeth Schmit will be the judge for QuiltFestJax 2022. She is an accomplished fiber artist, quilting instructor, author and NQA Certified Quilt Judge. Visit wiqiltjudge.com/about/ to learn more about her.

Applications to enter quilts are available beginning April 1 through July 25. With 10 categories available for entry, from large pieced quilts to miniatures, from art quilts to traditional hand quilted treasures, the judge will select the top three quilts in each category as well as best of show and special prizes for the best hand quilted, movable machine quilted and stationery machine quilted entries. More than \$8,000 in prize money will be awarded so each quilter strives to present their very best work for display and judging.

QuiltFestJax is an open judged show,



Photos courtesy Sondie Frus
Maribeth Schmit, 2022 QuiltFestJax judge.



First place, Large Pieced Quilts, at 2019 QuiltfestJax.

with a history of high quality submissions. Visit www.quiltfestjax.com for important information and entry forms.

Mandarin Rotary Club builds 63rd wheelchair ramp

By NewsLine Staff
mail@floridanewsline.com

In the last nine years, the Rotary Club of Mandarin, in partnership with Hart Felt Ministries, has built 63 wheelchair ramps at the homes of local residents with impaired mobility. These construction projects have provided tremendous benefits in making it easier for residents to enter and leave their homes when they otherwise would have been homebound.

The most recent ramp was built on March 5 at the home of Dwayne

Alsobrook and his wife Carol. Rotary Club member Lewis Dunbar, who has coordinated the building of almost all of the 63 ramps, was the coordinator.

The Rotary Club of Mandarin is dedicated to service to our citizens in need, with a motto of "Service Above Self." For more information about the club, which meets for breakfast every Tuesday morning at the Ramada Inn on Hartley Road in Mandarin, contact Membership Chairman Wes Caldwell at Wes@cmabenefits.com.



Photo courtesy Lewis Dunbar
Dwayne and Carol Alsobrook's ramp was the 63rd built by members of the Rotary Club of Mandarin.

Prudential Financial Planning Services

Andrew Laino, CLU®, CFP®, CLTC®
Financial Planner
701 San Marco Blvd
1st Floor
Jacksonville, FL 32207
904-313-4553
Comprehensive Financial Planning

Offering financial planning and investment advisory services through Pruco Securities, LLC (Pruco), under the marketing name Prudential Financial Planning Services (PFPS), pursuant to separate client agreement. Offering insurance and securities products and services as a registered representative of Pruco, and an agent of issuing insurance companies. 1008115-00003-00 05404

Chefan Group
Northeast Florida Top Producers

ONE | **Sotheby's**
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

1207 Journeys End Lane, Jacksonville | \$2,870,000

UNDER CONTRACT

3620 Windmoor Drive, Jacksonville | \$1,750,000

SOLD

6144 San Jose Boulevard W, Jacksonville | \$3,800,000

\$41 Million in Sales in 2021
For service that's as elevated as your standards, **nothing compares.**

Chefan Group, Realtors® | Top Producers
JANE CHEFAN, Franchise Founder & JESSICA CHEFAN HANSEN, Broker Associate
chefangroup@onesothebysrealty.com
904.463.1179; 904.200.8855
sothebysrealty.com

© 2022 ONE Sotheby's International Realty. All rights reserved. ONE Sotheby's International Realty fully supports the principles of the Fair Housing Act and the Equal Opportunity Act. Each franchise is independently owned and operated.

scan me

2022

Mandarin

— ART FESTIVAL —

PRESENTED BY & BENEFITING THE MANDARIN COMMUNITY CLUB *for more than 50 Years!*

Tim Bullard, Artist, Best in Show 2019 • Raku demonstration by the artist Sunday at 2pm

April 16 & April 17

Saturday, 10am - 5pm Sunday, 10am - 4pm

100+ Juried Artists • Green Market • Food Court • Live Entertainment
Children's Art Show • Bake Sale • Children's Activities

Outdoor Event • No Pets • Free Parking & Shuttles
Use of Ride Sharing Apps Encouraged • \$2 Suggested Donation

Sponsored By:

MANDARIN NORTH OFFICE
KATHY AKEL, REALTOR

EMILY & LAWRENCE
LISSKA

VyStar
Credit Union

RENEWAL
SUNBELT

MARI
TERBRUEGGEN

State Farm
JIM REGISTER, AGENT

Mandarin Community Club • 12447 Mandarin Road • www.mandarinartfestival.org

CONGRATULATIONS

to my wife Rebekah and daughter Faith!!!

Homeschooled since birth and now a 100% college acceptance rate! Many questioned and doubted you. They were wrong! You are both the smartest, strongest, and bravest women I know! Awesome job! I love you both, Your proud husband and dad.



Photo courtesy San Jose Prep
StormTroopers team at Robotics Championships.

School's robotics team ranks second in division at state championships

By NewsLine Staff
mail@floridanewsline.com

The San Jose Prep Robotics Team, also known as the "StormTroopers," went undefeated in the qualifying matches and ranked second in its division at the FIRST Tech Challenge Robotics Florida State Championship. The StormTroopers scored 256 points, which was a personal best for this team. The event took place in Winter Haven, Florida, March 4-5.

Prep is made up of 13 students in grades nine through 12. The team captain is Sean Gullidge, who will graduate in 2022. San Jose Prep launched its Robotics Team in 2014 with the support of parent volunteer and engineering enthusiast Michael Shelton. High school students explore the world of bots year round in a Robotics Club that complements the team.

Eight teams from Northeast Florida competed. Five of them advanced to the semifinal rounds in their divisions. San Jose Prep was the only charter school to reach the semifinals from the NEFL League. San Jose Prep and Mandarin High School's team, Saturn, were the only two Duval County schools to make it this far. The other three Northeast Florida teams were homeschool teams.

In robotics competitions, young people team up to build and program robots capable of completing the current year's challenge. The challenge consists of various tasks that have point values assigned to them. In order to qualify for the state-level competition either the robot's performance on the field needs to place the team in the top ranking or judges grant the team's engineering notebook a top award. San Jose Prep's team qualified this year based on the performance of their robot on the field.

The 2021-22 Robotics Team at San Jose

Brian E. Floro DMD, PA
General and Family Dentistry
(904)268-0830 • www.florodental.com

Located near Quest and Brooks Rehabilitation
Corner of Loretto Road and San Jose Blvd.
11705 San Jose Blvd., Suite 211 • Jacksonville, FL 32223

Exams and Cleanings • Placing and Restoring Dental Implants
Extractions • Root Canals • Crowns and Bridges
Veneers and Teeth Whitening • Clear Braces with ClearCorrect

New Patient Special
\$99
Exam, Digital X-Rays
This offer is exclusive to self-pay patients and may not be used with any insurance program.
Must present coupon, Expires 4/30/22
Brian E. Floro DMD PA
11705 San Jose Blvd. • 268-0830

Whitening for Life!
\$99
Contact the office for details.
Must present coupon, Expires 4/30/22
Brian E. Floro DMD PA
11705 San Jose Blvd. • 268-0830

Voted one of the top dentists
in Jacksonville
by Jacksonville Magazine
Brian E. Floro DMD

FREE CONCERTS

JAX RIVER JAMS

PRESENTED BY:

APRIL 7 14 21 28 2022

RIVERFRONT PLAZA in DOWNTOWN JACKSONVILLE

GATES: 5 PM

OPENERS: 5:30 PM & 7:00 PM

HEADLINER: 8:30 PM

7

SPIN DOCTORS & SISTER HAZEL
with DIRTY BIRD & THE FLU

14

BOYZ II MEN
with KATZ DOWNSTAIRZ & MR. AL PETE

21

CARLY PEARCE
with JON STICKLEY TRIO & DEAN WINTER AND THE HEAT

28

MANCHESTER ORCHESTRA
with LUNAR VACATION & GLAZED

VISIT JAXRIVERJAMS.COM

Math Night at Crown Point Elementary



Photos courtesy Mary Eyler

Crown Point teachers and staff hosted a Family Math Night on Thursday, Feb. 17. From Pre-K to fifth grade, Crown Point Panthers engaged in a variety of hands-on and engaging math activities. Pre-K students rolled dice, counted the numbers, and matched the dots with numbers on the activity board. First graders were tasked with finding as many ways as they could to add up to a certain number. They also worked on filling out a hundreds chart. The Shark Station was staffed by second grade teachers. The second-grade students had fun measuring sharks of varied sizes. Third graders played multiplication bingo using smarties as their markers. Fourth graders worked on geometry and fifth graders played a game on Kahoot featuring 10 math questions where students and their parents competed against each other for the top score.

Greenland Pines second graders present Living Museum

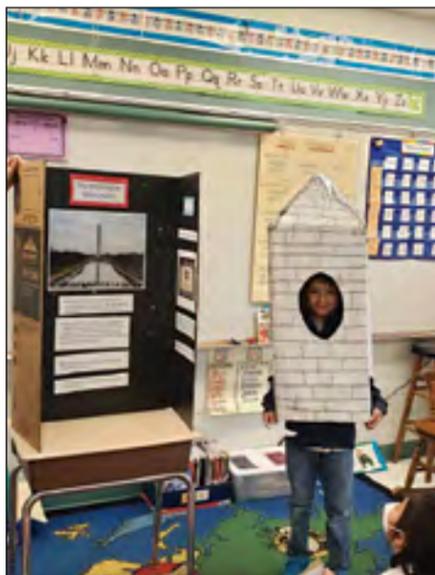
By Pam Rossomano
mail@floridanewline.com

During the month of February, second graders at Greenland Pines elementary focused on American symbols and leaders. As part of this theme, the grade level became a Living Museum on Friday, March 4. For a little longer than one hour, the faculty and staff were treated to recreations of famous American speeches, symbols, landmarks, and events by their second-grade students.



Photos courtesy Pam Rossomano

The children were given very simple instructions: they were to choose a famous American person, building, symbol, or event to creatively make into a museum display using their body as part or all of the display. The children prepared a three-to-five-minute oral presentation to explain their display to the virtual visitors. One student surprised everyone by singing her presentation while holding her torch high and creating her version of the amazing Statue of Liberty. The Boston Tea Party boy threw tea bags to his classmates after he presented and Ruth Bader Ginsburg quoted, "It's okay to disagree without being disagreeable."



The Living Museum has been a second-grade tradition for more than a decade. The children get so excited to present their speeches and display their costumes and posters. It has become a very special event for all the students and faculty. The creativity displayed each year is incredible and has moved attendees to emotions from tears to laughter.



The Greenland Pines Second Grade Annual Living Museum is a staple and is planned to be an annual event for many years to come.

Pam Rossomano is a second grade teacher at Greenland Pines Elementary School.



LET US SIMPLIFY YOUR ACCOUNTING NEEDS

43 years of serving clients!

- Tax Planning and Prep for Business/Individual
- QuickBooks Consulting/Training
- Church Accounting - Clergy Taxation
- Pension Plans - IRAs



Dianne K. Briery
CPA PLC

Certified Public Accountant

TAX TIP

Many taxpayers have not received their refund for 2019 or 2020 tax years. Earlier in 2022, the IRS was facing a backlog of over 6 million 2020 Forms 1040, many of which were paper returns. In addition, there were many 2019 returns and 2.3 million amended returns not processed. Agency officials cannot provide a time frame for when returns will be processed, or refunds sent out. The IRS response is, "don't file a second return or contact the IRS." Part of this problem has arisen due to the fact that both 2019 and 2020 had record numbers of fraudulent returns filed, which then required the person who was breached to file a paper return.

Call today for your no cost consultation
No cost consultation limited to 1/2 hour

904-880-3200 | www.dkbrierycpa.com

Located in the Julington Creek Business Park • 12627 San Jose Blvd, Suite 601 • Jacksonville, Florida 32223



Experience
a Taste of
HarborChase



COUNTER-OFFER CAFÉ

SPECIALTY COFFEES

.....

SWEETS AND SNACKS

.....

GRAB-AND-GO
ARTISAN SANDWICHES



HARBORCHASE OF MANDARIN
904.584.9806

NOW OPEN



COMPREHENSIVE SPEECH LANGUAGE SERVICES

- PEDIATRIC & ADULT ASSESMENTS
- IN-CLINIC THERAPY FOR SPEECH & LANGUAGE DISORDERS
- TELEHEALTH OPTIONS FOR ASSESSMENTS & THERAPY
- GROUP THERAPIES
- REHABILITATION
- LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS
- PARENT COACHING SESSIONS
- EARLY INTERVENTION/SCHOOL PREPAREDNESS

14595 PHILIPS HIGHWAY, STE. 2 WWW.SHCJAX.ORG
JACKSONVILLE, FL 32256 904.355.3403



Smiles by
GLENOS & HADGIS
ORTHODONTISTS




Dr. Jimmy Glenos Dr. Craig Hadgis

TWO STATE-OF-THE-ART LOCATIONS
ST AUGUSTINE ST JOHNS

FREE Initial Exam
●●●●●
904.79.SMILE (797.6453)
smilesbyGHortho.com

Voted Best Orthodontist St. Augustine and St. Johns

Start planning family-friendly vacations now

By NewsLine Staff
mail@floridanewsline.com

Old-fashioned family vacations are a treasured part of many family traditions. Such excursions may be the only time families get to spend any extended time together.

Families have plenty of vacation prospects at their disposal. If this is the year your brood bucks tradition and tries a new vacation destination, explore these family-friendly possibilities.

- ◆ Find a location with hands-on activities. Children may grow bored of simply taking in the sights. Vacations that enable them to "do" instead of just "see" may be more enjoyable. Visit locations with "touch" museums or science centers that encourage kids to get in on the action. Historic locales may do demonstrations or reenactments of how life was in eras past. Remember to include children in the family activities and give things a try, such as helping paddle a canoe or light a fire on a camping trip.
- ◆ Don't overlook smaller theme parks.

or Atlanta, can be a vacation in education. Metro areas boast attractions that can excite children, including tall buildings, museums and public transportation hubs just waiting to be explored. Families venturing internationally may want to see the cultural centers of Rome, London or Athens.

◆ Consider a family resort. If a beachside adventure is your family's idea of the perfect retreat, explore your options with regard to family resorts. For an all-inclusive price, these resorts may couple food packages with accommodations and activities to keep families happy. Check with popular hotel chains to see if they offer all-inclusive pack-



Photo courtesy MetroCreative

Camping makes for a fun, affordable and memorable family vacation.

While kids may have their hearts set on traveling to the widely popular theme parks, do not rule out options closer to home. Smaller parks may not have every attraction, but they do boast a variety of activities and rides that can keep children occupied for hours. Remember that amusement parks reach peak capacity when kids aren't in school. It may be wise to vacation at off-peak times to avoid the crowds and save time spent waiting in line.

◆ Choose places of cultural impact. Family vacations do not need to be limited to riding roller coasters. Children can learn a lot and take away lasting memories from vacations that open children's eyes to something new. Visiting a large city, such as Los Angeles, New York, Chicago,

ages in destinations your family wants to visit. Parents who are pressed for time often find all-inclusive resorts offer great values and don't involve too much advanced planning.

◆ Go off the grid. A memorable family vacation does not have to be spent in the heart of it all. Booking a campsite location and then spending a few days in the great outdoors allows families to get back to nature while enjoying an inexpensive vacation. Families can camp in lodges or basic cabins, or rough it outside in a tent. Some families enjoy the benefits of renting an RV and visiting various campsites on their vacations. Let the activities unfold as you explore different trails and backroads along the way.




Florida's Number 1 Youth Soccer Program

Programs for ages 2-19 - Boys & Girls
NEW PROGRAMS NOW OPEN
Year round program for all levels of play
Multiple locations



www.FloridaEliteSA.com

RIVER CITY CHORAL FESTIVAL
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

SUMMER DAY CAMP
JUNE 6 - 10, 2022

TO LEARN MORE AND REGISTER VISIT JAXCHILDRENSCHORUS.ORG
904 - 353 - 1636



Begin planning kids' summer recreation now

By NewsLine Staff
mail@floridanewslines.com

Summer school recess will be here before you know it. Make sure you're prepared for camp and other recreational programs. Parents thinking ahead to swimming pools and days lounging on the beach can put their daydreams to practical use by planning ahead for their youngsters' summer vacations.

Youth recreational programs and summer camps can bridge the gap in care between the end of school and the day when classes resume. Due in part to high demand, parents who want to place their kids in summer rec programs or summer camps should be vetting such programs and camps well in advance of summer. The following are a handful of tips for moms and dads who want their kids to have fun and fulfilling summers.

- ♦ Ask for recommendations. Speak with fellow parents and trusted friends about where they send their children. Personal recommendations can be helpful, providing firsthand insight into a particular camp or program. Schedule appointments to visit camps that fall within your budget.

Take your son or daughter along so he or she can get a sense of what camp will be like.

- ♦ Explore all options. Camps come in more flavors than ever before. Certain camps may be faith-based ministries while others may focus on particular sports. Band camps and art camps may appeal to creative kids. Also, there are plenty of general-interest camps that offer various activities without narrowing in on any particular one.
- ♦ Inquire about camp schedules. While many camps are flexible, day camps do not have the same level of flexibility as after-school programs. Arrangements will need to be made if care is required after regular camp hours. Speak with camp staff to see which types of after-hours programs, if any, are available.
- ♦ Determine your camp budget. As varied as program offerings may be, camps also can vary greatly with regard to cost. Government-run camps may be less expensive than those offered by private companies. Find out if a particular organization subsidizes a portion of camp costs. Scouting programs often have a dedicated camp and may offer affordable

options for scouts. Martial arts schools and dance centers frequently offer camp schedules.

If camp seems out of reach, look into local summer recreation programs at parks or schools. Such programs may not be as extensive as those offered by camps, but they

can quell kids' boredom and keep children occupied during the day.

In addition to camp, remember to plan for some free days so children can just enjoy some downtime. Such days can break up the monotony of a routine and provide kids and families time to relax together.

Summer classes and camp registration are now open

Afternoon classes run June 13 - July 16 for students from age two and up in ballet, tap, jazz, lyrical, contemporary, modern, acro and hip hop!

Summer musical theater camp runs June 13 - July 22 for students between 7-13 years old

Registration available on our website. Call or email for more information!

(904)880-2275 or academyofdancejax@gmail.com

academyofdancejax.com

FABULOUS FACILITIES, ENDLESS ACTIVITIES, SUMMER CAMP AT THE JCA IS BETTER THAN EVER.

DISCOVER ALL THAT'S PLANNED FOR YOUR YOUNG CAMPER* AT THE JCA THIS SUMMER, VISIT JCAJAX.ORG/CAMP

*AGES 2 - 16

Easter Worship

**Shepherd of the Woods
Lutheran Church & School**

Easter Worship

Saturday, April 16th

In-person 5:30 pm

Sunday, April 17th

In-person 6:30 am - 8:30 am - 10:30 am

Drive-in 9:30 am

Also providing Palm Sunday and Holy Week Services visit www.sotwjax.com



We've Moved!

Southside/Baymeadows

7860 Southside Blvd - Jacksonville, Florida

904.641.8385

www.SOTWjax.com

NOW ENROLLING

New Students 2022-2023 Term

Limited Space

Grades 1-5 Elementary

Our school specializes in learning disabilities utilizing an individual learning style approach in a classroom setting.

We accept the following scholarships under

AAA and Step Up for Students:

FES-UA (formerly McKay and Gardiner).

FES-EO, FTC

Self-Pay Available

Please call **904-288-0673**

For additional information.

Serving Duval County for 20 years



3423 Loretto Road, Jacksonville, FL 32223

LIGHTHOUSE
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Briefs

Mandarin Women's Club hosts popular Game Day

On April 28 the Mandarin Women's Club will hold its annual Game Day at the Ramada Inn in Mandarin. Ladies will choose to play either Bunco or Mexican Train. Game Day is one of the club's most anticipated events of the year, with the opportunity to make new friends and maybe take home one of the many cash prizes. Lunch will be served after game play is finished.

Doors open at 9 a.m. and reservations for the luncheon are required.

The luncheon cost is \$18 and must be received by Thursday, April 21. To make reservations and obtain payment instructions, call Susie at (904) 262-8981 or email her at spm104@aol.com. Visit www.mandarinwomensclub.com for more information on events, photos, and membership forms.

Elks Lodge to host Monte Carlo Night

Monte Carlo Night returns to the Mandarin/St. Johns Elks Lodge #2866, 4280 Oldfield Crossing Drive, behind the strip mall next to Lowe's, on Saturday, April 23 from 5 p.m. – 9 p.m. Tables open at 6:00 p.m.

Admission is \$25 and tickets can be purchased in advance or at the gate. There will be \$25,000 in table money and any leftover winnings can be used to purchase tickets for the raffle of prizes after the tables close. There will also be a buffet featuring a variety of finger foods.

All proceeds support Mandarin/St. Johns Elks Lodge, a not for profit fraternal organization, and their charities. Visit <https://www.elks.org/lodges/lodgefacilities.cfm?LodgeNumber=2866> for more information.

River City Toastmasters resume in-person meetings

After more than two years, River City Toastmasters are meeting in person (as well as online). The chapter's purpose is to give members the tools to feel comfortable when speaking in public. Members also help each other hone their speaking skills so that presentations are more effective.

The River City Toastmasters have members from all over the world and they meet early so that meetings don't disrupt the work day. The club meets at IHop, 8400 Baymeadows Road on Tuesdays at 7:15 a.m.



Photo courtesy River City Toastmasters

The River City Toastmasters meet Tuesday mornings at IHop on Baymeadows Road.

Call (904) 928-3333 or visit <https://rivercityjax.toastmastersclubs.org> for more information.

Take Steps Walk: Ten years and counting

The annual Take Steps Jacksonville Walk will take place April 23 at the Beachwalk Club on County Road 210 with registration at 9 a.m. followed by the walk at 10 a.m. Patients, families, caregivers, and healthcare professionals across the country have been walking in support of those living with Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis for more than 10 years and raised more than \$85 million to move forward the work in research, patient services, advocacy, and professional education.

Since its national launch in 2008, Take Steps has been a powerful force in accelerating crucial research into the causes of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD). Since it was first held here in 2009, the local walk has generated almost \$818,000 and it is the goal this year to add another \$90,000 to that total.

Supporters are encouraged to create a team and raise money to help to change the lives of the almost 18,000 residents of Northeast Florida affected. Needed are walk teams, participants and volunteers; visit www.cctakesteps.org/jacksonville2022 to register. There is no registration fee to participate, but all fundraising participants are encouraged to donate \$100 to receive a t-shirt and pennant and be eligible for the Pacesetter Club.

The Crohn's & Colitis Foundation is the largest voluntary non-profit health organization dedicated to finding cures for Inflammatory Bowel Diseases. Visit

www.crohnscolitisfoundation.org or call (888) 694-8872 for more information.

The Partnership: For Mental Health concludes after investing \$2.4 million

The Partnership: For Mental Health, an initiative of the Delores Barr Weaver Legacy Fund at The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida and Baptist Health, has concluded its three-year, \$2.4 million investment to improve access and strengthen the region's mental and behavioral health care systems. Sixty grants ranging from \$1,200 to \$160,000 went to 49 local agencies in their pursuit of innovative ways to address mental health needs in our region.

Delores Barr Weaver called for "new levels of ingenuity in providing a fully responsive mental health ecosystem" when she originally envisioned The Partnership in 2018. She was joined by Baptist Health to begin funding opportunities to move this work forward. That challenge took on a new urgency in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic as the need for mental health support soared.

Approved grants went to respected, long-time providers such as Barnabas Center in Nassau County, Betty Griffin Center in Clay County and Jewish Family and Community Services in Duval County, in addition to many smaller, newer providers who also received funding that allowed them to assist clients in unique ways.

The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida (www.jaxcf.org), Florida's oldest and largest community foundation, works to stimulate philanthropy to build a better community.

Hope for Anxiety, Depression, Addiction



Join us for Dinner and a Conversation about Family Mental Health. Learn about the roots of mental disorders and be inspired by the story of near suicide survivor David Minardi, founder of Minardi United.

All are welcome, but seating is limited. Register soon.

Wednesday, April 20, 6 PM | No cost | Registration: St.JamesCC.org

SAINT JAMES CATHOLIC CHURCH
Reverent Worship, Growth in Holiness, Welcoming Community

Sunday Masses: 8:00 AM & 10:15 AM • Confession Sunday 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM
StJamesCC.org • 904 - 999-1423 • 12447 Mandarin Rd at Mandarin Community Club



Life

travel • pantry raiders • gardening

fishing • entertainment • puzzles

Get to Know ...

By Martie Thompson
editor@floridanewslines.com

Dan Lahey

As a young boy growing up in East St. Louis, new Mandarin Community Club board member Dan Lahey said he watched the construction of the St. Louis Arch from a treehouse in his backyard. Fascinated with the construction, he now believes that might have been an early indicator of his eventual career as a civil engineer. Lahey and his family moved to Florida when he was a freshman at Illinois State University; he transferred to Florida State University and earned a degree in psychology before eventually returning to school at the University of Florida and earning his civil engineering degree. He has lived and worked in Jacksonville for the past 35 years. He and his wife Terrie, a retired adult studies educator at Florida State College at Jacksonville, have four adult daughters and six grandchildren ... with one more on the way in July.

Q: How did you make the switch from working in the field of psychology to becoming a civil engineer?

A: After I graduated from Florida State, I worked in the field of psychology for a few years and then I discovered I didn't like people as much as I thought! That's a joke, but I really did feel the need to do something else, so I went back to school to become a civil engineer. After I earned my degree, I moved to Jacksonville and I've worked in the civil engineering field for the last 35 years. I'm currently



Photo courtesy Dan Lahey
Dan Lahey and wife Terrie recently celebrated 41 years of marriage.

employed by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT).

Q: Are there any local projects that readers might recognize that you have worked on with FDOT?

A: I was the construction manager for the Express Lanes project on Interstate 295 near Mandarin. The construction took between five and six years, longer than anyone thought it would. Basically as the construction manager, I watch what the contractor builds, and if they do it correctly, I pay them with taxpayer money — which, as a taxpayer, is my money too. I think everyone at FDOT is proud of the roadway system we have in Florida.

Q: How did you come to be a board member at the Mandarin Community Club?

A: I'm very active at St. James Catholic Church, which has been meeting at the Mandarin Community Club for about two years now. It seemed like a good idea to have representation on the board. St. James is not in the same diocese as St. Joseph's Catholic Church; it is a Personal Ordinariate of the Chair of St. Peter. Basically, it is part of an effort on the part of Pope Benedict to bring Anglican communion into the Roman Catholic Church.

Q: When did you start on the Mandarin Community Club board of directors and what are your thoughts so far?

A: I started in January 2022. We have monthly meetings, but there have also been more meetings with the upcoming Mandarin Art Festival. The planning for this huge event has been very impressive and being new, I have mostly been watching at this point. We have a very diverse group of board members with many talents. I think I bring my engineering expertise to the board and hope to make a contribution in the area of maintenance and repairs of the physical property by utilizing my knowledge of the construction industry. The board is a well oiled machine and they've all been very welcoming. I look forward to working with them.

Q: What do you like to do in your spare time?

A: Lately I've been doing projects around our house. I'm presently figuring out new flooring in the living areas and last year I painted the house.

Mandarin libraries cont. from pg. 1

p.m. on Saturday, April 9, or Wednesday, April 27 (early dismissal day). Looking for more activities? Visit jaxpubliclibrary.org or talk to library staff.

Unlike the more informal "drop-in activities," the following programs do require pre-registration (online or in-person).

On Fridays at the Mandarin Library, join Little Readers storytime (for aged birth to five) at 10:15 a.m. or the encore performance at 11 a.m.

Little Readers at the South Mandarin Library can join us outside in the park every Thursday from 10 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. for a Pop-Up Storytime.

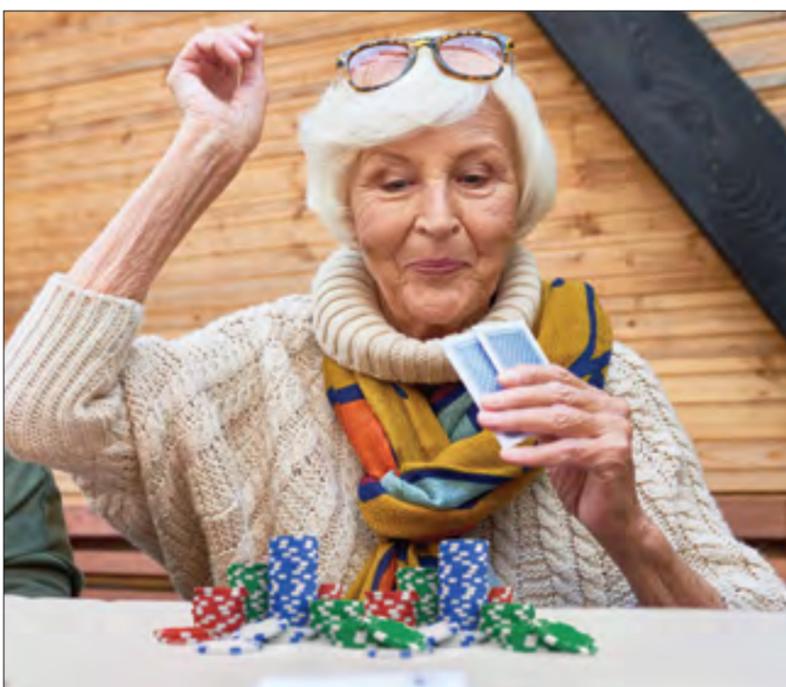
Junior Scientists at Mandarin Library explores STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) through crafts and activities. Junior Scientists (for ages five through eight) meet Wednesdays from 4 p.m. – 5 p.m. and Thursdays (ages nine through 12) from 4 p.m. – 5 p.m.

New program time: Junior Artists is now meeting an hour earlier on Saturdays at the South Mandarin Library. Younger kids (ages five through eight) are encouraged to attend the 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. program and older ones (ages nine through 12) the 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. program.

Teen Advisory Board (TAB) meets in-person at both Mandarin and South Mandarin libraries as well as online Saturday, April 9 and 23, from 12 p.m. – 1 p.m.

Advertise. Inspire. Sell.
Advertising is easy!
I will walk you through the process!

Rebecca Thomson
Marketing & Sales
724-968-7602 cell
Rebecca@FloridaNewsline.com



This Is Our Idea Of Cleaning Up

We'll bet you're looking for Independent Living that leaves nothing on the table. And if there is something on the table—leave it for housekeeping.

Leaving you more time with your friends, family, hobbies, recreation, art and culture – anything but chores. That's the name of the game at Windsor Pointe.

Can we deal you in?

CALL TO PLAN YOUR PRIVATE TOUR. (904) 490-6300

Windsor Pointe

VIBRANT INDEPENDENT LIVING

A Residence of Legend Senior Living®

WindsorPointeJAX.com

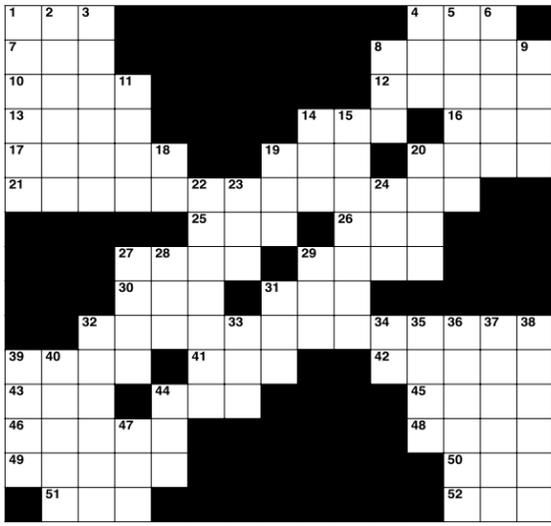


NO BUY-IN

4060 SAN PABLO PKWY, JACKSONVILLE, FL 32224

Puzzles

Answers on page 3
Provided by MetroCreative



CLUES ACROSS

1. Runs PCs
4. An entertaining, eccentric person
7. Small, faint constellation
8. Indigo bush
10. Not excessive
12. African antelope
13. A way to fly a glider
14. Tough softly
16. In the course of
17. Early Mesoamerican people
19. A way to drop down
20. Mistake!
21. Housing developments
25. Baseball stat
26. No (Scottish)
27. Type of cuisine
29. British Army infantrymen (abbr.)
30. Marry
31. Buffer solution
32. Legendary rock band
39. Recording industry show
41. A way to consume
42. Lake in Botswana
43. Political action committee
44. Field force unit (abbr.)
45. Very eager
46. Excessive fluid accumulation in tissues
48. Nocturnal insect
49. Challenged to perform
50. Thus far
51. Famed NYC arena
52. Commercials

CLUES DOWN

1. Small, purple-black fruit
2. Baltimore ballplayer
3. Highly seasoned sausage
4. Split pulses
5. Northwestern Mexico town
6. Edible fruit
8. Upper-class southern young woman
9. Sums up
11. The most worthless part
14. Dash
15. Sufferings
18. Clearinghouse (abbr.)
19. Indian title of respect
20. Poems meant to be sung
22. Actor Cooper
23. Luke's mentor ___-Wan
24. Clumsy person
27. Figures
28. Polish Baltic coast peninsula
29. Old cloth
31. Explosive
32. Automobiles
33. 007's creator
34. The Volunteer State
35. Old Irish alphabet
36. Japanese city
37. Portrayed emotion
38. Observers
39. Mimicked
40. Polite reference to a woman
44. Male parent
47. Peter Griffin's daughter

GREEN THUMB WORD SEARCH

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

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

- AERATION
- COMPOST
- CONTROL
- CRABGRASS
- DROUGHT
- ENRICHMENT
- FERTILIZATION
- GRASS
- GREENERY
- GRUBS
- HOSE
- IRRIGATION
- LEVELS
- MOLD
- MOLES
- MULCH
- PESTS
- PLANTS
- PRUNING
- RAINING
- RESEEDING
- SOIL
- WEEDS
- YARD

☉ * ☼ ☽ ☿ ♀ ♁ ♃ ♄ ♅ ♆ ♇ ♈ ♉ ♊ ♋ ♌ ♍ ♎ ♏ ♐ ♑ ♒ ♓ ♔ ♕ ♖ ♗ ♘ ♙ ♚ ♛ ♜ ♝ ♞ ♟ ♠ ♡ ♢ ♣ ♤ ♥ ♦ ♧ ♨ ♩ ♪ ♫ ♬ ♭ ♮ ♯ ♮ ♯

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

CRYPTO FUN

☼ ☽ ☿ ♀ ♁ ♃ ♄ ♅ ♆ ♇ ♈ ♉ ♊ ♋ ♌ ♍ ♎ ♏ ♐ ♑ ♒ ♓ ♔ ♕ ♖ ♗ ♘ ♙ ♚ ♛ ♜ ♝ ♞ ♟ ♠ ♡ ♢ ♣ ♤ ♥ ♦ ♧ ♨ ♩ ♪ ♫ ♬ ♭ ♮ ♯ ♮ ♯

Solve the code to discover words related to lawn care.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 1 = E)

- A. 20 6 18 1 16**
Clue: Cuts grass
- B. 18 1 1 23 15**
Clue: Unwanted plants
- C. 21 1 16 10 26 11 26 7 1**
Clue: Feed greenery
- D. 11 3 4 23 15 12 3 24 1**
Clue: Visual features of a yard

4 popular colors for 2022

By NewsLine Staff
mail@floridanewline.com

Home design trends come and go. Paint provides one way to stay current and refresh a home's interior without investing in new furniture and home accessories. These colors are already making the rounds in 2022.

- **Very Peri:** Very Peri is the Pantone® 2022 Color of the Year. A brand new shade of blue, Very Peri was designed to rekindle some of the qualities that the color blue represents while simultaneously complementing a modern perspective. The home design pros at HGTV recommend pairing Very Peri with neutrals like taupes and creams or deeper shades like navy or brown.

- **Evergreen Fog:** The paint experts at Sherwin-Williams note that this shade of green is symbolic of nature and a color associated with revitalization and growth.

- **Breezeway:** Breezeway from Behr® is another popular color that provides a soft look. Breezeway is the Behr® Color of the Year for 2022 and is described as a silvery green shade with cool undertones. Breezeway pairs well with creamy white, taupe, softened black, and nuanced pink.

- **Gilded Linen:** Gilded Linen from Valspar® is ideal for homeowners who want a color to organize and connect spaces throughout their homes. Gilded Linen is a minimalist white that mixes well with natural elements like wood and greenery. The soft tone of Gilded Linen makes it suitable in a variety of rooms, which is one reason why it's so popular in homes with open floor plans.

Community Marketplace Call (904) 886-4919 for advertising rates

CONCRETE WORKS
Commercial or Residential - no project too small

- Driveways • Walkways
- Pavers • Concrete Removal
- Patios • Driveway Extension

www.floridaconcreteworks.com
Free Quote Today!
Catering to the needs of the homeowner since 2002

Call 904.838.1836 and let's talk about what we can do for you!

Call for pricing on our new Business Card size ads!

PAVERS CONCRETE & MORE

- Tear Out and Replace
- Driveways • Walkways • Patios
- Cool Deck & Slabs
- Pool Deck Remodel

Free Estimate
904-651-5593

Licensed, insured, bonded

Call for pricing on our new Business Card size ads!

COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE



HEAVEN TREES SUBDIVISION
SAN JOSE BLVD AND LORETTA RD
SATURDAY 04/02/2022 8AM UNTIL ?

SNIP'S TREE & STUMP SERVICE

Tree Preservation • Plant Health Care • Insect & Disease Treatments

Paul Oklevitch

ISA CERTIFIED ARBORIST Over 25 Years Exp.
FL-5456A - LICENSED & INSURED

(904) 268-1017 www.snipstree.com

We offer Fictitious Name Advertisement Call for more info! (904) 886-4919

EDUCATION

Train online to do medical billing! Become a Medical Office Professional at CTI! Get trained & certified to work in months! 888-572-6790. The Mission, Program Information and Tuition is located at CareerTechnical.edu/consumer-information. (M-F 8-6 ET)

HEALTH & FITNESS

VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS! 50 Generic Pills SPECIAL \$99.00. 100% guaranteed. 24/7 CALL NOW! 888-445-5928 Hablamos Español

Dental insurance - Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Covers 350 procedures. Real insurance - not a discount plan. Get your free dental info kit! 1-888-623-3036 www.dental50plus.com/58 #6258

Attention oxygen therapy users! Inogen One G4 is capable of full 24/7 oxygen

Job Finder:

Water Treatment Installer/Tech wanted full time for an established Water Treatment company. 1 year experience, clean driving record & background check. Paid Health Insurance after 90 day probation, profit sharing with 401K. Send resume to: Terri@fordablewaterjax.com (904)262-0197.

Let us help you reach your career goals! Contact River Garden today to learn more about current job opportunities on our campus or visit www.rivergarden.org/careers. Your next job is only a click away!

SALES/MARKETING OFFICE STAFF WANTED for a State Farm agent's office in Mandarin. Experience in sales desirable. This position will require Florida Insurance Licensing. Please send resumes to sue@jimregister.com.

delivery. Only 2.8 pounds. Free info kit. Call 877-929-9587

MISCELLANEOUS

Prepare for power outages today with a GENERAC home standby generator \$0 Down + Low Monthly Pmt Request a free Quote. Call before the next power outage: 1-844-334-8353

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most

advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule free LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-995-2490

AT&T Internet. Starting at \$40/month w/12-mo agmt. 1 TB of data/mo. Ask how to bundle & SAVE! Geo & svc restrictions apply. 1-888-796-8850

BATH & SHOWER UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & Military Discounts available. Call: 855-761-1725

Donate Your Car to Veterans Today! Help and Support our Veterans. Fast - FREE pick up. 100% tax deductible. Call 1-800-245-0398

HughesNet - Finally, super-fast internet no matter where you live. 25 Mbps just \$59.99/mo! Unlimited Data is Here. Stream Video. Bundle TV & Internet. Free Installation. Call 866-499-0141

Looking for assisted living, memory care, or independent living? A Place for Mom simplifies the process of finding senior living at no cost to your family. Call 1-833-386-1995 today!

Become a published author. We want to read your book! Dorrance Publishing trusted since 1920. Consultation, production, promotion & distribution. Call for free author's guide 833-719-3029 or visit dorranceinfo.com/acp

Paying top cash for men's sportwatches! Rolex, Breitling, Omega, Patek Philippe, Heuer, Daytona, GMT, Submariner and Speed-

master. Call 833-603-3236

Put on your TV Ears & hear TV w/unmatched clarity. TV Ears Original - originally \$129.95 - now w/this special offer only \$59.95 w/code MCB59! 1-833-530-1955

Aloe Care Health medical alert system. Most advanced medical alert product on the market. Voice-activated! No wi-fi needed! Special offer w/code CARE20 for \$20 off Mobile Companion. 1-855-521-5138

Hero takes stress out of managing medications. Hero sorts & dispenses meds, sends alerts at dose times & handles prescription refill & delivery for you. Starting at \$24.99/month. No initiation fee. 90-day risk-free trial! 1-888-684-0280

DISH TV \$64.99 For 190 Channels + \$14.95 High Speed Internet. Free Installation, Smart HD DVR Included,

Free Voice Remote. Some restrictions apply. Promo Expires 1/21/23. 1-833-872-2545

The Generac PWRcell solar plus battery storage system. Save money, reduce reliance on grid, prepare for outages & power your home. Full installation services. \$0 down financing option. Request free no obligation quote. 1-855-270-3785

WANTED TO BUY

Wants to purchase minerals and other oil and gas interests. Send details to P.O. Box 13557 Denver, CO 80201

Reader Advisory: The National Trade Association we belong to has purchased the above classifieds. Determining the value of their service or product is advised by this publication. In order to avoid misunderstandings, some advertisers do not offer employment but rather supply the readers

Garage sales

Reds Gait Lane Saturday, April 9 from 8am to 1 PM

Heaven Trees (San Jose/Loretto), Sat. April 2 8 a.m. - ?

with manuals, directories and other materials designed to help their clients establish mail order selling and other businesses at home. Under NO circumstance should you send any money in advance or give the client your checking, license ID, or credit card numbers. Also beware of ads that claim to guarantee loans regardless of credit and note that if a credit repair company does business only over the phone it is illegal to request any money before delivering its service. All funds are based in US dollars. Toll free numbers may or may not reach Canada.



At the dedication for the new Italian American Club building in 1978.



Photos courtesy Lucy Giardino Cortese
Ribbon cutting at the dedication ceremony in 1978.

70 Years of Italian American culture, tradition and service

By Lucy Giardino Cortese
mail@floridanewsline.com

The Italian American Club of Jacksonville takes pride in being River City's oldest ethnic organization. Its history began during the early 1920s when a small group of immigrants decided to form a social club to continue their rich Italian heritage. After a short time this original club disbanded and in January 1935, the American Italian Club of Jacksonville (IAC) was born.

This organization consisted mainly of first generation Americans "to bring Italian people together." During World War II the club was temporarily disbanded, but friendships founded by common bonds continued and helped pass this period of national suffering. In 1951 with the war over, the club was officially founded by a formal Charter.

After years of assembling at members' homes, restaurants and meeting halls, a pavilion on the city's Southside became IAC's first formal structure. The vision of a new hall persisted and in June 1978, the new clubhouse in Mandarin was officially opened with much pomp and ceremony. This event brought misty eyes to many of the remaining founding fathers whose children and grandchildren shared this special day with them. In the new clubhouse, IAC has grown to a membership of over 250, covering four generations of Italian Americans along with their relatives and friends.

Varied activities for club members in-

clude dinner meetings, seasonal dances, Bingo and Bunko parties, picnics, Italian lessons and off-site trips. The Italian American Club offers support to I Am Special Camp, K-9 for Warriors, Wreaths Across America and other local community projects. Outreach to the public provides Spaghetti to Go the last Friday of each month. The clubhouse is also available for rentals for special occasions.

Every October, IAC honors Italian American Heritage Month with a celebration of all things Italian. Festa Italiana, now in its 30th year, welcomes the public to be "Italian for a day."

Italian culture is rich in the arts, family, culture, music and food. At the Italian American Club, members love to share stories, traditions and recipes when they

gather together. Membership is not limited to Italians and all are invited to join.

For seven decades, the Italian American Club in Jacksonville has grown and prospered through its recognition of "Orgoglio Italiano" — Italian Pride! Visit www.iacofjacksonville.com for more information.

Rotary Club group supports orphanage in Haiti



Photo courtesy Marsha Peacock

On Friday, March 4 the members of the Satellite Evening Club of Southpoint Rotary attended a fundraising gala for the All Things New orphanage in Haiti. One of the club members is the president of the Board of Directors of the non-profit. In total the Satellite Club members raised more than \$4,000 to support the orphanage. As Rotarians they focus mainly on our local community with Pine Castle and the North Florida School of Special Education being organizations they support year after year; however, Rotary International also asks each club to help with at least one international charity or service project every year. Club membership is only \$65 per quarter with no attendance requirement. Husbands and wives are allowed to both join. They meet every week for dinner (paid on their own) at 6 p.m. at The Athenian Owl on Baymeadows Road. Visit www.southpointrotaryevening.com for more information.

Give your brain what it needs so you can hear better



Introducing **Oticon More™** a life-changing hearing device with **BrainHearing™** technology.

Oticon **More** helps your brain decipher intricate details of relevant sounds for **better speech understanding** with **less effort** and the ability to **remember more**.



You're invited to try **Oticon More** *RISK FREE*

Come in and bring a loved one to receive:

- **FREE** Consultation
- **Risk-Free 60-Day Free Trial**

Try it at home, work and play!

Dr. Leslie A. Staverman
Audiologist/Owner



STAVERMAN
HEARING CENTERS

Call 904-262-5550 Today! *Your Community Resource for Better Hearing*
www.StavermanHearingCenters.com 12276 San Jose Blvd., Suite #710

Great auto & renters rates for any budget.



I can help you bundle your auto and renters insurance for a surprisingly great rate. Call me for a quote today.

A Proud Supporter of the 2022 Mandarin Art Festival.
Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.

Jim Register, Agent
12058 San Jose Blvd, Suite 302
Jacksonville, FL 32223
Bus: 904-268-5522 Fax: 904-262-7999
jim@jimregister.com

Individual premiums and budgets will vary by customer. All applicants subject to State Farm® underwriting requirements. Availability and amount of discounts and savings vary by state.

State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company State Farm Florida Insurance Company State Farm County Mutual Insurance Company of Texas
State Farm Indemnity Company Winter Haven, FL State Farm Lloyds Richardson, TX
State Farm Fire and Casualty Company
State Farm General Insurance Company Bloomington, IL



2101566

Nutrition Check

Celebrating International Carrot Day!

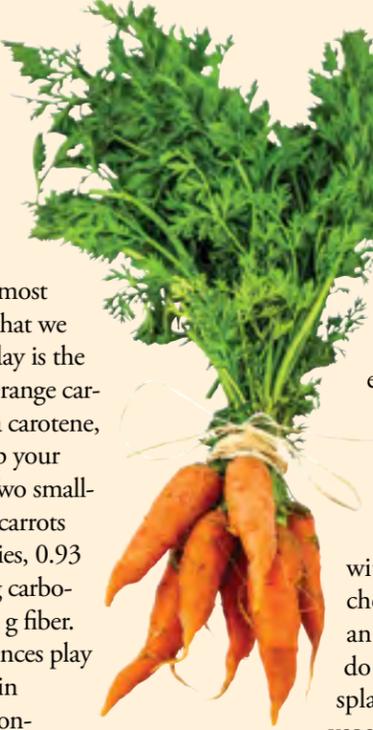
By Kristen Hicks-Roof PhD, RDN and Caroline Jury BS
mail@floridanewsline.com

We would like to feature this delicious vegetable in honor of International Carrot Day celebrated on April 4 each year. Carrots have now become an everyday staple in many households, dating back from the 10th century in Persia and Asia Minor. Did you know that carrots are the sixth most consumed fresh vegetable across the United States? (AGMRC)

Carrots can come in an array of colors including orange, red, white, purple, black, and yellow. One of the most popular carrots that we consume every day is the orange carrot. Orange carrots contain beta carotene, which helps keep your vision healthy. Two small-to-medium raw carrots provide 41 calories, 0.93 g protein, 9.58 g carbohydrate, and 2.8 g fiber. The color differences play an essential role in the nutritional contents of the carrots. Each color brings different nutrients and unique phytochemicals to provide nutritional boosts to our body and immune system.

What are some fun ways that you can add carrots into your dietary pattern?

- 1** Pack a small bag of carrots and your favorite dip (ranch, hummus, artichoke spread) as a healthy on-the-go snack
- 2** Shred carrot varieties into one of your regular dishes you cook. Some fun examples include meatloaf, spaghetti, soup, and roasts.
- 3** Try presenting carrots in different ways such as sliced vs. whole. You can also try cutting horizontal vs. vertical. Visual presentation is one of the five senses of how we enjoy food.
- 4** One of our favorite recipes to make are air-fried carrots with sprinkled parmesan cheese. If you don't have an air fryer, baking it will do just the trick! Add a splash of vegetable oil or vegetable spray and a dash of salt and rosemary and you will make the perfect combination.



Kristen Hicks-Roof PhD, RDN, LDN, CLC, FAND is an assistant professor in the Department of Nutrition and Dietetics, Brooks College of Health, University of North Florida.

Retire in style at Starling!

Our residents are unique – and so are their lives. Starling's senior living communities offer a range of retirement lifestyles that will keep you active, social and feeling right at home.

Whether you're sampling the gourmet dining options, enjoying the full-service salon or pursuing a new hobby, Starling is all about what matters: embracing life with friends, family and community.



Luxury senior living is just a call away.



STARLING
AT SAN JOSE

904.337.6395
9075 SAN JOSE BLVD
JACKSONVILLE, FL 32257




StarlingAtSanJose.com | Assisted Living Facility #12887 | Follow Us on Facebook

Gardening

Gardens for Nature

By Master Gardener Volunteer Lesley Arrandale
mail@floridanewsline.com

Information from the University of Florida, which master gardener volunteers rely on to inform the public, is research-based and reliable. Up-to-the-minute gardening advice and timely tips from UF can always be found in “The Neighborhood Gardener” (<https://tinyurl.com/39p7t8md>) and in our own Duval County newsletter “A New Leaf – Yard and Garden” (<https://tinyurl.com/2p899u5c>).

To go directly to the source, check out <https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/>, where you can find links to Lawn and Garden information and Natural Resources. The Florida Vegetable Gardening Guide is invaluable (<https://tinyurl.com/ysmpahnk>).

If you prefer, you can call the Extension Office at (904) 255-7450, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. or 12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. and ask to speak to a master gardener volunteer. They are available to give you friendly, informed advice whenever you need it.

There are other reliable online resources these days about gardening and related issues, which I’ve found can deliver fascinating, detailed information on how our yards and gardens can be both delightful for us and a welcoming habitat for our feathered — and other — friends.

Birds are the most obvious visitors to our gardens. Sadly, numbers of backyard birds have plummeted in recent years. The same might have been true of game birds, but with concerted efforts to improve their situation through wetland protection and restoration efforts, their numbers have rebounded.

So how can we make a difference nearer to home? First, we need to understand that the birds we see in our yards are primarily dependent on insects to feed their young — and that means mainly caterpillars. We are familiar with the milkweeds on which monarch butterflies lay their eggs, but many other butterflies and moths also lay eggs on one or a few species of plants and if we don’t include those plants in our yards, then the birds won’t have the caterpillars they need for their young to thrive.

Doug Tallamy is a noted expert on developing habitat in small spaces, like our yards, and recently he gave a talk to the Garden Club of Jacksonville: <https://tinyurl.com/2n5xe4k3>. It’s a comprehen-

sive and fascinating explanation of why we should and how we can use native plants to effectively support our birdlife.

For a table summarizing which native plants are most useful — our “keystone species” — go to the National Wildlife Federation (<https://tinyurl.com/y22cyfmk>). You’ll find that our oaks support hundreds of insects, and asters like goldenrods (*Solidago* sp.) are superstars in the border.

The Cornell Lab of Ornithology is another great resource. They offer online courses for a fee, but there is also a series of free videos on YouTube, and this is one that I’ve found useful: <https://tinyurl.com/wwnmfxu5>.

Check out the Xerces Society (<https://tinyurl.com/2p8fcfbm>), The Audubon Society (<https://tinyurl.com/mrxvuspe>), and from the USDA, a useful series of links to backyard conservation information (<https://tinyurl.com/2p9h8c2c>).

Here in Jacksonville, the Ixia chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society holds meetings and arranges field trips. Check them out here: <https://ixia.fnpschapters.org/>.

It was a warm and often too-dry start to our year. Clearing out some areas of my backyard in March, when it felt like high summer, I wondered just what the actual summer will bring. Cool season leafy vegetables have gone to seed more quickly than expected and aphids appeared at the end of February. I’m expecting the beneficial insects to show up, but their food source, the pests, arrive before the predators and I’ve only spotted two species of assassin bugs.

Our average last frost date now falls between March 1 and March 10. Ironically, on March 12, local temperatures fell to the low 30s. So, averages are just that — averages. I had recently trimmed back dead stems of various perennials, which made them more vulnerable to frost. Where practical, I covered some of them to protect the tender new growth they’ve already put on, but I was mainly concerned about potted plants, smaller plants and seedlings I’ve been propagating, potted citrus, and house plants. Luckily temperatures weren’t as low as I had feared. Here’s hoping that’s the last cold snap of the season!

Mandarin Garden Club announces annual Plant Sale

By Joann Butler
mail@floridanewsline.com

Every April, the Mandarin Garden Club holds a special event for the community: the annual Plant Sale will be held at the club at 2892 Loretto Road on April 29 and 30 from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. on both days. A huge variety of low cost, high quality plants and hanging baskets will be offered for sale. Master Gardeners will be available to answer your gardening questions. There will be a Kids’ Planting Booth where they will learn planting principles and every child will receive a free plant to take home. The Jacksonville Herb Society, the Rose Society, the Orchid Society and the Bonsai Club have been invited for sales and public education. There will also be a raffle.

Crafty Ladies will have a booth with gift items available for purchase. They handcraft unique items that would make wonderful gifts for Mother’s Day or any other special occasion. Mandarin Garden Club members will have baked goodies for sale, along with

free coffee and water. The Masons will be cooking and selling their famous pulled pork BBQ for lunch, sandwiches or by the pound.

The event is free and open to the public. The club’s gardens may be viewed to foster ideas for unique landscaping and planting ideas. The sale will include a variety of flowers, shrubs, trees and ground covers, all well adapted to the area. Plants will be well established and information for their care will be given by the experts. Cash only will be accepted. Free parking will be available next door, courtesy of the Masonic Lodge.

The Mandarin Garden Club is a 501c3 organization and was established in 1945. From its beginning the club has been instrumental in the beautification of the Mandarin area. Club members planted the live oaks along Mandarin Road that everyone identifies with the Mandarin area. The Mandarin Garden Club is available for rental. Visit www.mandaringardenclub.org or call (904) 268-1192 for more information.

Volunteer Opportunity! Help Older Adults Make Informed Medicare Decisions



SHINE - Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders - is volunteer program that provides older adults and persons with disabilities free and unbiased counseling on their health insurance options.

ElderSource needs more SHINE volunteers! All training is completed online through virtual classes. This is a volunteer opportunity where you can really make a difference in the lives of an older adults. Volunteers are wanted for Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, St. Johns and Volusia counties.

Bilingual volunteers are needed!



To learn more call:
904-391-6644

Log on to
www.Floridashine.org

to complete the volunteer application.



Marinela M. Nemetz, D.D.S.

Board Certified Pediatric Dentist

Robert J. Nemetz, D.D.S., M.S.

Adult Dentistry | Periodontics | Prosthodontics



We offer
Pediatric Dentistry
Family Dentistry
Periodontics/ Prosthodontics

Our team at Nemetz Dental Associates is ready to help you with all of your dental needs and we look forward to providing you with personalized service and unparalleled treatment.

Your New Smile Awaits!

We Welcome New Patients



Mandarin South Business Center 12421 San Jose Blvd. • Suite 310/320 • Jacksonville, FL 32223

Pediatric Dentistry: (904) 292-2210 • Adult Dentistry: (904) 886-4867



SUMMER CAMP
AND ACTIVITIES GUIDE

COMING IN OUR MAY ISSUES!
Don't be left out of this popular annual section.

Call Rebecca Thomson today!
724-968-7602
Rebecca@FloridaNewsLine.com




More Than a Home Away From Home

The Adult Day Program at River Garden offers a purposeful, safe environment for seniors who require extra support. Each day features a variety of activities designed to engage clients' physical, social, occupational and intellectual needs. It also provides a worry-free time during the week for caregivers to work, relax or tend to their own needs.



For more information, call (904) 288.7858
or visit RiverGarden.org



A not-for-profit agency sponsored by the organized Jacksonville Jewish community.

Fishing | Capt. David's Fishing Report

By Capt. David Lifka
mail@floridanewsline.com

April showers may bring more flowers, but best of all it's time for flounder. Not only flounder, but many other species of fish that find their way down the St. Johns River this time of year.

Bridges and docks from downtown Jacksonville to Green Cove Springs are the most likely areas to locate this tasty favorite. Shrimp, jig heads tipped with shrimp, and even live finger mullet are all quality baits that can be used. Flounder can be caught at most any depth, but when fishing docks and bridge pilings, depths of about 15 feet or less might be more productive. Remember that the minimum size limit is now 14 inches with a daily bag limit of five per person.

Croaker is another species of fish that can be expected at any time in the river. This smaller cousin of the redfish is both plentiful and very good eating and should be plentiful all through the river during the upcoming months. Croaker make a great fish fry for friends and family as there are no restrictions to size and the bag limit can't be over 100 pounds. Dead shrimp or even earthworms soaked on the bottom is all that is needed to catch this fish.

Yellowmouth trout, now referred to as weakfish, can show as early as April in our parts of the river. Since they are a little more finicky regarding the salinity of the river, rainfall amounts can speed up or delay their arrival. Shrimp, cut bait, or jig heads tipped with either, should be fished on the bottom

in holes and near ledges. Weakfish make for another great fish fry catch as there is no size limit and a daily bag limit of 100 pounds per person.

If there was to be a kickoff month to our fishing season for the St. Johns, April would be most likely the month. With warmer weather and increasing water temperatures bait fish and their predators will definitely be on the increase. Flounder, croaker, and weak fish are just some of the species to be expected along with drum, sheepshead, and everyone's favorite, the redfish and more.

While our saltwater fishing in the river is still on warm and waiting to get hot, our area's freshwater fishing is already there. The bass bite has been strong in all our area freshwater locations, and it should continue into the summer. Surf fishing is also turned all the way up with whiting catches of 30 to 40 being reported.

Fishing Report: Freshwater fishing for bass continues to be very good, while fishing the beach for whiting seems to be at its best.

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

Email your Catch of the Month photo to catchofthemonthpictures@gmail.com. Be sure to include the name of the person(s) in the photo, the name of the person who took the photo, the type of fish and date and location of the catch. We will select a photo each month for publication.



ATLANTIC

Tree & Landscape Services, Inc.

PROFESSIONAL TREE SERVICE

- Tree trimming & removal
- Hazardous or Unwanted Trees
- Storm Damage Cleanup
- Stump Grinding
- Climbing & Bucket Truck Work
- Crane Service Available

BOBCAT SERVICES

- Site Prep & Grading
- Clearing & Site Restoration
- Heavy Brush Mowing
- Fill dirt, Top Soil & Gravel

Fully Licensed & Insured Workers' Compensation

904-859-4188
18001 Wells Rd. Jacksonville, FL
Donald Smith, Owner
donnietreelife@gmail.com

Travel

World's first theme park for preschoolers: Peppa Pig

By Debi Lander
mail@floridanewslines.com

I first encountered Peppa Pig, a children's TV show, when visiting my son and his family in Baltimore. My three-year-old granddaughter was watching, so I joined her. The charm of the animated characters speaking with British accents captivated me: Peppa, her brother George, and Mommy and Daddy Pig.

Preschoolers adore the show, and their parents approve; thus, Peppa gained a following and rose to fame. Now, she stars in her own theme park located in Winter Haven, Florida, adjacent to Legoland. I checked out the preschooler's playground, a Certified Autism Center, and found it "oinktastic," as Peppa might say.

Rides and attractions are sized for children five and younger and handicapped accessible, but some require a minimum height. Daddy Pig's Roller Coaster ranks as the most adventurous. Take a seat behind Daddy Pig's red car — and you're off. The caravan scoots participants up (not too high) and then rolls the vehicles down and around numerous swift curves. Once was enough for me, but Izzy Hough of Clermont, celebrating her fifth birthday, claimed the roller coaster as her favorite attraction in the park.

Grampy Rabbit's Dinosaur Adventure (very tame) gently rocks a seated child and adult around the dino quest grounds. High Striker slides seated riders up and down a bench attached to a tower. You can ride in a boat or hot air balloon or let your kiddos pedal a tricycle (two sizes) within a

confined path.

Allow time to explore the Fun Fair with traditional games, a playground with a giant sandbox, nature trail, maze, fort, and greenhouse.

Water's always a winner. Muddy Puddles Splash Pad tickles the piggies with cooling spray via sprouting fountains and watery showers. Here, I found Izzy's sister, Eden, sopping wet. Eden, celebrating her second birthday, was delighted. Eden's mom, Christina, suggested visitors bring towels for drying off.

The park gets direct sun, so bring plenty of sunscreen and hats. If you get hot (and you will), take a break and head inside to watch some episodes of Peppa Pig on the big screen. Peppa and her family also perform live shows on a stage covered by a tent throughout the day. Check the schedule for Peppa's personal meet and greet sessions.

You can save by purchasing single-day tickets online at \$30.99 instead of the \$35 price at the gate. Everyone two and older needs a ticket. I was pleased to hear you can bring food into the playspace, another way to keep costs down.

To avoid peak crowds (snort, snort), choose a weekday, arrive before the park opens at 10 a.m., or start your visit in the afternoon. Many families leave in the early afternoon.



Peppa Pig.

I also spent a night in the Pirate Island section of the Legoland Hotel. Each room includes a king-size bed and a separate sleeping space (bunk beds with a trundle) for kids. Colorful pirate-themed murals cover the walls. Legos, of course — a container of them below the TV. The most fun thing about the room is following the treasure hunt that unlocks hidden treats.

While you might need to rob a treasure chest to afford the hotel rates, the facility offers many advantages: you can park and leave your car for free, walk only steps to Peppa Pig or Legoland theme parks, go back to your room for nap time, and extend the day at the hotel's pool and

Photos courtesy Debi Lander
Park sign.

Eden splashes!

waterpark. A mini-golf course and s'more fire pit are located on the property near the lake. Two restaurants await any hunger needs. The waiters serve complimentary breakfast at your table. The Shipwreck Restaurant serves bountiful family-style dinners — reservations suggested.

For a fun day and more information: VisitCentralFlorida.com.

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

MILLENNIUM
PHYSICIAN GROUP

Accepting New Patients!

Wissam Shaya, M.D.

- Walk-Ins Welcome
- Same-Day Appointments
- Annual Wellness Visits
- On-site X-Ray
- Also speaks French and Arabic
- Medicare, Medicare Advantage & most major insurance accepted

Dr. Wissam Shaya Family Medicine

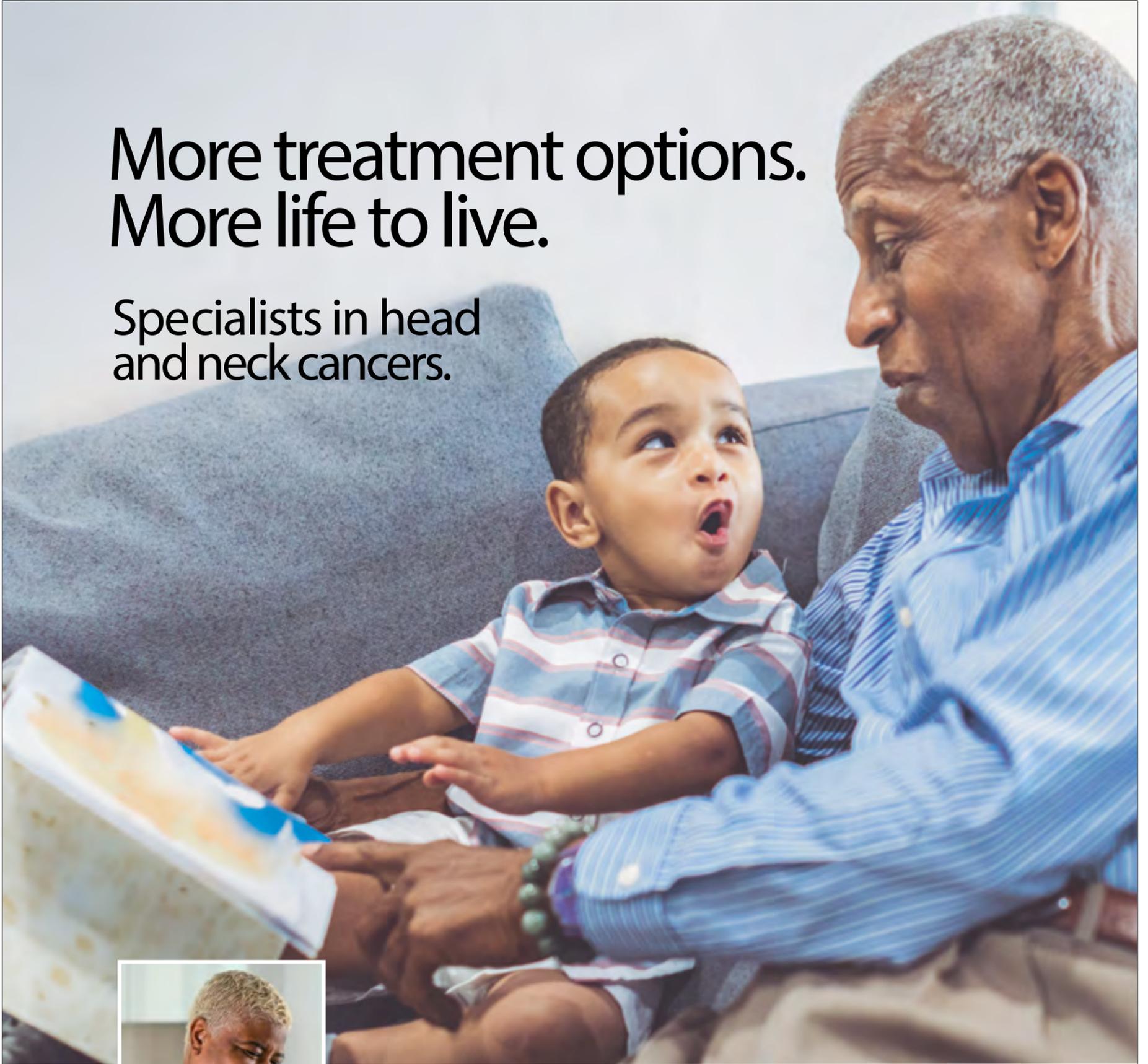
Connect Today!
(904) 322-8535

4235 Sunbeam Road, Jacksonville, FL 32257
www.MillenniumPhysician.com



More treatment options. More life to live.

Specialists in head and neck cancers.



When faced with a head or neck cancer, you have a lot of questions. You want to know: Where do I go? Can I be treated? What will my life be like?

The cancer specialists at UF Health Jacksonville are nationally and internationally recognized as experts in treating even the most complex head and neck cancers. Armed with leading-edge technologies, the most up-to-date research and a multidisciplinary team of physicians from multiple specialties, we offer more treatment options and therapies focused on just one thing: giving you more life to live.

Visit UFHealthJax.org/cancer to request an appointment and learn why UF Health Jacksonville is the only cancer program in the region to have earned national accreditation from the Commission on Cancer.



Cancer Program

UF Health accepts most major commercial insurance plans, including TRICARE.