

Mandarin NewsLine

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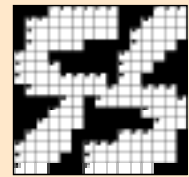
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Overall winner Joshua Smith at the finish line.

Mandarin Rotary raises \$55,000 for local charities

By Steve Gallagher
mail@floridanewsline.com

On April 27, the Mandarin Rotary Club held its third annual 5K "Run to Feed the Hungry," in which 475 runners participated. The event raised more than \$55,000 for the Mandarin Food Bank and the Daily Bread Food Pantry at the Mandarin Presbyterian Church, as well as for multiple additional local charities. The event was expertly organized by club member Jimmy Johns and Doug Alred of 1st Place Sports.

The winner of the female division of the 5K race was Emily Restrom, with a time of 22:23. The overall winner was Joshua Smith, with a time of 18:24.

Mandarin Rotary raises cont. on pg. 9

Saving native ecosystems: Repopulate our local native plants

By Martie Thompson
editor@floridanewsline.com

Recently, local couple John and Jessica Kellat were walking through one of their favorite local parks, Elizabeth "Betty" Wolfe Park in the Pickwick Park area of Mandarin. They noticed a bare spot along the path and had an idea to enhance and beautify the area by adding a butterfly garden to the spot. On April 13, after meeting with officials of the City of Jacksonville, who went over guidelines and approved the project, the butterfly garden was planted.

One caveat of both the city's approval as well as John and Jessica's preference, was that native species of plants be used.

"I am a native Floridian who grew up in New Smyrna Beach," John Kellat said. "I prefer the natural springs and parks of our state to places like Disney World. I feel we need to preserve this natural beauty of Florida."

As a professional landscaper, John Kellat said he has seen a lot of non-native plantings, which are contributing to the decline of the natural ecosystem. So



Photos courtesy Jennifer Kellat

Phase One of the butterfly garden is complete at Elizabeth "Betty" Wolfe Park.

when he and his wife got the go ahead from the city to plant the butterfly garden in Betty Wolfe Park, they did a lot of research and found local nurseries

that had some of the species of plants they were seeking. They gathered more

Repopulate local cont. on pg. 2

Mandarin Museum honors local residents with Miss Aggie Award

By Brittany Cohill
mail@floridanewsline.com

On Saturday, April 20, Mandarin Museum & Historical Society presented local residents, Olis and Jo Garber, with the 2024 Miss Aggie Award at the historic Mandarin Store and Post Office. The award has been given annually since 2003 to one or more Mandarin residents who have contributed to the community in the areas of business, civic, educational, or charitable accomplishment. Recipients are also recognized for their sense of community and caring attitude.

The award is named for Agnes Grace

Miss Aggie cont. on pg. 2



Photo courtesy Keith Bartholomew

Olis and Jo Garber (standing) and their family at Miss Aggie Day 2024.



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The barren area that inspired the Kellats to plant the butterfly garden.



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Repopulate local cont. from pg.1

than 15 different native species of plants for their butterfly garden.

When they arrived at the park on installation day, community members in the park saw their project and offered to help.

“Betty Wolfe Park is an active little gemstone in Mandarin,” John Kellat said. “Everyone has been so enthusiastic and supportive of our efforts.”

Jessica Kellat, a Jacksonville native who was introduced to arboriculture by her father, said that the Pickwick Park HOA has been especially supportive and community members have helped out by watering the garden and donating money for more plants.

As a result of this enthusiastic response, the Kellats have built a website, www.floridanativeplantrepopulation.com to help educate the public and display their work to date. They have applied for non-profit status and have worked on other projects like a privacy netting project for a local magnet school and the

donation of milkweed and caterpillars to a special needs school.

John Kellat said he just applied for a grant through the Florida Native Plant Society to expand the garden at Betty Wolfe Park. The original garden utilized about one-third of the available barren space, so the Kellats are moving ahead with plans for the remaining two-thirds. The new proposed expansion will include 15 additional species not in the first part of the garden.

The Kellats are seeking additional projects and funding via grants and donations following the success of their butterfly garden.

“We are just a local couple trying to make a difference,” John Kellat said. “We are trying to raise our children with respect for nature and for the community. We feel it is important to give back.”

[Author’s Note: Visit www.floridanativeplantrepopulation.com for more information about the upcoming projects, to sign up for the newsletter, and how you can help or donate.]

Miss Aggie cont. from pg.1

Jones, or “Miss Aggie” as she was affectionately known. The daughter of Edith and Walter Jones, she was a resident of Mandarin from 1898 until her death in 1992 at the age of 94. After her father’s passing in 1928, Miss Aggie assumed the role of proprietor and U.S. Postmistress at the Store and Post Office. She was an independent, strong-willed, confident woman who possessed a deep sense of community and developed a reputation for helping her neighbors in times of need. She was the last of her family to live in the Webb-Jones Farmhouse located in Walter Jones Historical Park.

Olis and Jo Garber are longtime Mandarin residents and owners of Olis Garber Photography. Their love for their community is evident in their friendly and neighborly spirits, and their selfless

giving of time and professional skills. In 2021, Olis Garber partnered with Mandarin Museum & Historical Society to document the last remaining 19th and early 20th-century structures in the Mandarin community. The images appeared in the museum’s “Images of America: Mandarin” book, with select images also appearing in Wayne Wood’s “Jacksonville’s Architectural Heritage Bicentennial Edition.”

Following this project, Olis and Jo Garber have continued to document countless people, programs, and events at the museum, throughout Walter Jones Historical Park, and the community, including the meticulous chronicling of Brenda Council’s sculpting of “Harriet Beecher Stowe in Mandarin.” Portions of this work will be featured in an upcoming permanent display at Mandarin Museum.

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BFF Best Furry Friend of the month

Meet Lilo!

Breed:
Puggle

Favorite Activity:
Loved to take naps and walks

Favorite Treat:
Whipped cream

Favorite Friend:
Everyone!

How did your BFF get her name:
We named her after Lilo from "Lilo & Stitch" because she was also an adorable spitfire. Lilo just passed in May. We loved her so much and miss her everyday.

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.

FLAG DAY JUNE 14

Commemorating the adoption of the flag of the United States on June 14, 1777 by resolution of the Second Continental Congress.

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MYSTERY PHOTO

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Last month's Mystery Photo was Sakura Japanese restaurant on San Jose Boulevard.

CRYPTO FUN

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A. father B. mentor C. parent D. celebrate

Answers to our Puzzles
PG 10

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June

Community Calendar What's Happening in Mandarin

Shuffleboard is played on Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. at Tommy Hazouri Park (formerly Mandarin Park). 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.

Toast of Jax Toastmasters meets every Saturday, except on holiday weekends, at 8:30 a.m. at Baha'i Community Center, 5034 Greenland Road. Guests are welcome. The meetings can also be attended online at <https://toastofjax.toastmastersclubs.org/>.

Acoustic Jam Session is held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Kids' 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 Maple Street Biscuit Company, 1627 Race Track Road in St. Johns. Visit the group's Facebook page (Playing HOOKie) or email playinghookie2022@gmail.com for more information.

GriefShare group will meet on Tuesdays through July 23 from 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. at the

Cody Enrichment Center at St. Joseph's Catholic church, 4152 Loretto Road. Registration is never closed and each week a different topic is covered. Call (904) 318-9308 for more information and sign up.

1st: Walter Jones Historical Park buildings, including the 1898 St. Joseph's Mission Schoolhouse for African American Children, the 1875 Webb Jones Farmhouse, the 1876 Barn, and the Losco Winery, will be open on June 1 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. The Historic Mandarin Store & Post Office, located at 12471 Mandarin Road, will also be open. Museum volunteers will be inside each building for guided tours. Admission is free; Donations help support the museum's programming and operations. Visit www.mandarinmuseum.org for more information.

1st: Meet the Maple Leaf Divers at the Mandarin Museum, 11964 Mandarin Road, from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. on Saturday, June 1. This is an informal, conversational-style event; drop in anytime within the two hours to chat with Dr. Keith Holland and his team and view the museum's expanded Maple Leaf exhibit. Admission to Meet the Maple Leaf Divers and Mandarin Museum is free. Donations help support the museum's programming and operations. For more information, visit www.mandarinmuseum.org or call (904) 268-0784.

2nd: Music 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, June 2 from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. Bring a chair or blanket and relax and listen. This is a free event; donations support the operations and programming at Mandarin Museum. Weather-related updates will be posted the day of the event on Mandarin Museum's Facebook page and website. Mandarin Museum and the 1898 Schoolhouse will be open to visitors. Visit www.mandarinmuseum.org or call (904) 268-0784 for more information.

4th: Honeybee Quilters Guild will meet on Tuesday, June 4 at 6:30 p.m. at Mandarin Presbyterian Church's Loretto Road Campus in the Kids Space at 2501 Loretto Road. A hand quilting tutorial with guild member Jill Voetsch will be featured. Wearing masks is optional. New members/guests welcome. Visit honeybeequilters.org for more information.

8th: Second Saturday Arts and Farmers Market at First Christian Church, 11924 San Jose Blvd. on June 8 from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Visit www.facebook.com/SecondSatMarket/ for more information.

8th: The Southern Genealogist's Exchange Society will meet from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on June 8 at the Jacksonville Public Library Main, 303 N. Laura Street for a tour of the fourth floor Special Collections, memory lab and help for those who want to digitize. Meet at the Fourth Floor Reference Desk. Visit www.southernexchange.org for more information.

sgesjax.org to register for the meeting or call (904) 778-1000 for more information.

17th: The All Star Quilters Guild will meet at 9:30 a.m. for socializing prior to the 10 a.m. meeting on Monday, June 17 at First Christian Church, 11924 San Jose Blvd. Victoria Rondeau of "I Sew Desire Quilts" will talk all about batting. Sew and Tell is always a feature. Guests are welcome. Visit www.allstarquilters.org for more information.

17th: Duval County Public Schools community meeting to discuss the Master Facility Plan and school boundaries will be held on June 17 at 5:30 p.m. at Atlantic Coast High School.

27th: Mandarin Republican Club will meet on Thursday, June 27 at St. Mary's Seafood, 11290 Old St. Augustine Road. Social time begins at 6 p.m. and the meeting starts at 6:30 p.m. Guest speaker will be Mara Maci, who is running for the US House of Representatives. First time visitors are welcome.

27th: Live Oak Circle at Mandarin Garden Club will celebrate its 20th anniversary on June 27 at 7 p.m. at the Mandarin Garden Club, 2892 Loretto Road. There will be refreshments and social time along with discussion of ideas for programs in the new fiscal year. Visit www.mandaringardenclub.org for more information.



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with Jacksonville City Council Member Michael Boylan, District 6

Q: We had a reader question whether you had any information about the Quality Inn on Hartley Road, which has evidently been in some phase of construction for the past three years?

A: I have seen this property, but I don't have any information about it. It appears they are making some effort to make it operational. My office will check with Development Services, which is responsible for permitting, to see if they have any information.

Q: What Mandarin updates do you have from the May 14 City Council meeting?

A: The Council did unanimously approve the rezoning for the Home Depot at the site of the old KMart, with some minor amendments that had to do with parking. The amendments did not change the basic design as proposed.

Also, Tony's Cantina's (at the site of the old Jumpin' Jax House of Food) distance waiver for the sale of alcohol was approved.

Q: Can you share your preliminary impressions on the stadium proposal by the city and the Jaguars?

A: I saw the very thorough presentation at the Council meeting on Tuesday (May 14) and also attended the huddle at Mandarin High School the next evening. For the most part at the huddle there were very few objections. The possibility of a referendum about this was raised by some folks, but knowing the time and energy that we as a council will put in to analyze what is really six agreements I think would be quite onerous for the average citizen to make an educated opinion on it. That said, I'm receiving emails from both sides and I welcome people sharing their opinion.

Q: What is the latest update from the JSO Primary Facility special committee on the City Council?

A: We are finalizing our report and will present it to the full City Council at the first meeting in June (June 11). Our charge was to make a critical assessment of the facilities today, understand how the evolution of the process from adjudication to detainment has evolved, especially with respect to mental health issues, and keep an eye toward fiscal responsibility. Going forward, all stakeholders in the process will have to come to some sort of agreement; we do know there will likely be a significant



with Duval County School Board Member Lori Hershey, District 7

Q: Can you bring us up to date on the search for a new superintendent [as of interview date of May 15]?

A: The two finalists were in town on May 13 and 14. They participated in panel interviews with the focus group, the school board members and they had the opportunity to meet the district cabinet on May 13. They also had the opportunity to tour an elementary, a middle school and a high school. On May 14, they sat for one-on-one interviews with each board member as well as attended the Meet and Greet for district employees and community members at EverBank. Despite the horrible rainy day we had that day, more than 200 community members, parents and students showed up.

There have been a lot of opportunities for the public to engage in this process. In addition to input via a QR code given to attendees at the Meet and Greet event, we received emails and online feedback.

I'd like to thank Dr. Wendy Northfleet and Reagan Copeland for their service as representatives from District 7 on the focus group for this search. Their involvement and input was invaluable.

Q: What's the next step?

A: The board will vote to select the next superintendent on May 23 and the anticipated start date will be July 1. We have two highly qualified candidates and either would do a great job for Duval County. I think it's important for the community to know that when

the board members met to select the finalists, these two were identified by every single board member.

Q: Do you have an update on the community meeting concerning school consolidations and boundaries for District 7?

A: On Monday, June 17 at 5:30 p.m. at Atlantic Coast High School, the district will host a public meeting to discuss the Master Facility Plan as well as have a conversation about school boundaries. While District 7 has no schools slated for consolidation or closure, input would be appreciated regarding the potential changes to school boundaries.

The goal is to unify and clean up boundary lines to make them more cohesive between middle school and high school. I think this will help us do a better job of building community.

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

A: I'd like to thank ReadUSA, who was in every elementary school in the district to provide two free books to each student for summer reading. I enjoyed visiting schools in District 7 and seeing the students' reactions to being able to pick out their books.

I also hope everyone enjoys a fun and safe summer!

Q: How can our readers contact you?

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

investment over the next three to five years.

Q: Do you have anything else to share with District 6?

A: Yesterday [May 15], I stopped by Orange Picker Road and spoke with some of the Coxwell workers. They anticipate their work being on time. Recall that the road closure was

expected to last for two months and as of today, we are about halfway through. The road is on track to be re-opened in mid-June as scheduled.

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.

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Briefs

Summer housing market expected to be fruitful for both buyers and sellers

More single-family homes are being listed in Northeast Florida, which may be a solid indication that this summer's housing market will be fruitful for both buyers and sellers. Specifically, the six-county region registered 3,750 new single-family listings, a 54.3 percent increase from a year ago and a 4.8 percent hike from last month. Add to this inventory in Northeast Florida, which steadily rose to 6,490 homes — a 63.7 percent increase from April 2023 and a 9.9

percent hike from March 2024. Also closed sales fell 5.8 percent to 1,843, and pending sales decreased 26.7 percent to 1,465. All together this is evidence that buyers may now have a better selection to choose from than they have seen in a long time.

On the sellers' side, prices are also continuing to rise, but the rate of increase is slowing. Single family homes on the First Coast inched up 2.7 percent to a median sales price of \$399,990. Northeast Florida's Home Affordability Index continued to

dip down to 64 in April. The Home Affordability Index measures housing affordability for the region. A higher number means greater affordability. This index measures affordability factors for all homebuyers making a 20% downpayment. An index of 100 is defined as the point where a median-income family has the exact amount of income needed to purchase a median-priced existing home. An index value over 100 means that the family has more than enough income, while a value below 100 means that a family doesn't have enough income to qualify for a mortgage loan.

The median price per square foot for single-family homes in Northeast Florida was \$215, a 2.9 percent increase over March 2024, when the median price was \$209.

Mandatory changes in the selling process are on the horizon, and in a few short months prospective buyers will be asked to sign buyers' sales agreements with their agents.

In Duval County, the April 2024 median price of single-family housing was \$345,500, a negligible drop from \$346,00 the month before. The median number of days on the market in April rose to 31, a 24 percent increase from March 2024. Month-to-month closed sales fell 2.5 percent to 964, pending sales fell 31.6 percent to 704, and new listings increased 1.5 percent to 1,840 homes. Active inventory for the county climbed 10.6 percent to 2,904 homes, a three-month supply. In April, the Home Affordability Index remained the same at 75.

her post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and the severe depression and anxiety she was experiencing. The Wounded Warrior Project® (WWP) Talk program gave her the connection she needed. Now, she travels the world to help others heal and find peace by sharing her powerful story.

This will be an in-person discussion meeting and no zoom linkage will be offered. Contact floridasistersincrime@gmail.com for more information. Bring your coffee and bring a friend. The group welcomes misters and sisters to learn more about writing, promoting, and enjoying crime fiction.

April's low rainfall highlights need for water conservation

April marks the third consecutive month of below-average rainfall for the St. Johns River Water Management District's 18-county region. While frontal systems brought some rain, it primarily benefited the northern counties, leaving the southern counties drier. Overall, six counties experienced above-average rainfall, while 12 were below.

Despite the dry conditions, groundwater levels districtwide remain well above drought indicator levels, with most areas within the normal range. District staff continue to monitor rainfall and groundwater levels to ensure adequate supply for public demand.

While it is always critical to use our water wisely, the District strongly encourages the public to be mindful of their water usage during these dry months until summer rainfall patterns return. Below are simple tips for residents and businesses to help save water and money on their water bill.

Indoor:

- Only run washing machines and dishwashers with full loads.
- Use the shortest washing cycle for lightly soiled clothes.
- Thaw frozen food in the refrigerator or microwave, not under running water.

- Scrape dishes instead of rinsing before loading into the dishwasher.
- Install high-efficiency shower heads, faucets and toilets.

Outdoor:

- Check and repair leaks in irrigation systems.
- Turn off irrigation systems and water only as needed.
- Use a kitchen timer to avoid overwatering with sprinklers.
- Use a hose with a shut-off nozzle when washing cars.
- Install a rain barrel with a drip irrigation system for landscaping; rainwater is free and better for plants.

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Northeast Florida Sisters in Crime welcomes Army veteran

The Northeast Florida Sisters in Crime will meet on June 8 at 11:15 a.m. at the Ponte Vedra Beach Branch Library. Featured speaker will be Army veteran Tonya Oxendine who will present "Words of a Woman Warrior."

"Military members have a 'can-do' mentality," Oxendine said. "Together, we faced challenges head-on, relying on hard work and determination to achieve our objectives."

And this she did during her 30-year Army career, but she also endured traumatic challenges, including harassment, rejection, stereotypes and prejudice in a "man's world." She coped with her situation the same way so many other women, and men, have done — by bottling up her emotions. Oxendine finally sought help for

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Adventure begins at your library this summer!

By Jeremy Yates
mail@floridanewslines.com

Visit your local library and take part in fun and educational programs, weekly drop-in activities, reading and book-related challenges. Summer reading, learning and fun starts June 3 and continues through Aug. 3.

Kids and teens: Get your free summer prize book at a Drop-In Summer Kick-Off Party on Wednesday, June 5, from 1 p.m. – 2 p.m. at Mandarin Library or Friday, June 7, from 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. at South Mandarin Library.

The popular Live from the Library (for ages five to 12) series returns to both Mandarin-area libraries in June, thanks to the generous support of the Friends of Mandarin Library and the Friends of South Mandarin Library. First up: Kaye Byrnes Storytelling: Cinderella Goes Around the World on Wednesday, June 5, from 1 p.m. – 2 p.m. at Mandarin Library.

Wednesdays from 2 p.m. – 3 p.m. at South Mandarin Library:

- Jacksonville Zoo – June 5
- Grow Youth Universal – June 12
- STEM Author Jennifer Swanson – June 26

For more reading and hands-on activities for children aged five to 12, check out STEAM & Stories Mondays at 3:30 p.m. at Mandarin Library.

For even more art and reading fun, attend Junior Artists (ages five to eight) Tuesdays at 4 p.m. at South

Mandarin Library. Explore even more Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math concepts every week at Junior Scientists (ages five to eight) Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m. at Mandarin Library.

Are you a teen scientist who isn't afraid to ask "What if?" Dr. Hyde, Dr. Jekyll's dubious alter ego, needs your help protecting The Society for Arcane Science from outside threats! Conduct a series of increasingly mad science experiments in Teen Mad Science Lab, every Friday (for nine weeks) starting June 7 from 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. at South Mandarin Library.

Self-publisher Lindsay Anderson offers a free Writer's Lab: Zine Making 101 workshop (for teens and adults) on Saturday, June 8, from 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. at South Mandarin Library. Zine, short for magazine or fanzine, is a self-published work, usually reproduced via a copy machine.

Little Readers storytime (children up to age five) continues Fridays at 10:15 a.m. or 11 a.m. at Mandarin Library or Thursdays at 10:15 a.m. or 11 a.m. at South Mandarin Library. Registration is not required, but space is limited. Please arrive early.

Drop in and read to a therapy dog at South Mandarin Library: Yona, the Newfoundland Dog, visits on Saturday, June 8, at 2:30 p.m. Sammy the Golden Retriever stops by Wednesday, June 12, at 11 a.m.

Visit jaxpubliclibrary.org/events for more information.



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Church celebrates reading the Bible cover to cover in 100 days



Photo courtesy Mandarin Presbyterian Church

More than 600 members of Mandarin Presbyterian Church read through the entire Bible in the church's "Cover to Cover in 100 Days Bible Study," led by Senior Pastor Rev. Dr. Andrew Stepp. The weekly study began on Jan. 27 and concluded on the 100th day, May 7, 2024. There were 595 teenagers and adults who signed up to read the Bible Cover to Cover in 100 days, while 29 children signed up to read 100 essential Bible readings from the Old and New Testament. Pictured are some of the Wednesday evening participants. Visit www.mandarinpres.com for more information.




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Mandarin Garden Club benefits from Eagle project

By Joann Butler
mail@floridanewslines.com

A new paraplegic raised bed has been built and donated to the Mandarin Garden Club by future Eagle Scout Aadi Shah. Consultant Mitchell Reedy tested it out for the final adjustments. The bed will be more comfortable for those patrons sitting in a walker or wheelchair. The Mandarin Garden Club appreciates the amazing gifts they have received from Scout Troop 321.

The Mandarin Garden Club held its annual Plant Sale on May 3 and 4. It was a huge success and during the sale, children stopped at the Kids Planting Booth and were able to pick out either seeds or a plant to put in a pot so they

could watch it grow at home. The club's next sale will be a Clothing and Jewelry Sale on Aug. 2 – 3.

The Mandarin Garden Club collects many different items to benefit the community: Old eyeglasses and cases are donated to the Lions Club; nonperishable items and hygiene products are collected and delivered to the Mandarin Food Bank; old cell phones are collected and disposed of properly; pop tops from any can are donated to the Ronald McDonald House; and retired flags are presented to the Mandarin Community Club for their annual flag ceremony to ensure their proper disposal.



Photo courtesy Joann Butler
A raised bed has been built and donated to the Mandarin Garden Club by future Eagle Scout Aadi Shah. Mitchell Reedy checks it out.

Mandarin Women's Club offers summer activities

By Gail Packard
mail@floridanewslines.com


Mandarin Women's Club' popular Fashion Show had a large turnout on April 25, as members modeled outfits from Chico's. Following the Fashion Show, club members held the election of their 2024-2025 officers, who will serve under the guidance of Sue Wojtowicz, president.

During the summer, the club will take a break from its monthly luncheons, but

that doesn't mean the fun winds down. Some of the activities available to active members during the summer months are Bunco, Hand & Foot, Mah Jongg, Mexican Train, and Pennies Canasta. Don't miss out on your chance to join us for some summer fun. Members are reminded to join or renew their membership as soon as possible to be included in the directory. Visit www.mandarinwomensclub.com for information regarding summer activities and to complete the membership form.




Photo courtesy of Gail Packard
Fashion Show participants.



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Get to Know ...

By Martie Thompson
editor@floridanewsline.com

Pat D'Elia

Now retired, Pat D'Elia was once a well-known pharmacist in Mandarin who filled prescriptions for much of the community in the mid 1980s and 1990s. Born in Syracuse, NY, she moved to Tampa with her family at age 12. She graduated from the University of Florida with her pharmacy degree and worked in a few Florida cities before being recruited, along with her husband Joe who was a store manager, by Walgreens to come to Jacksonville for the opening of the chain's new store on San Jose Boulevard (which most recently was home to Beall's). Upon her retirement in 2001, she became interested in quilting and joined the All Star Quilters Guild to learn more about it. Over the years, she has been very involved with the guild and currently is the president of QuiltFest, which is made up of seven local guilds and also produces the all-volunteer show, QuiltFest, each year at the Prime Osborn Convention Center. Pat and Joe have a grown son and daughter and one granddaughter. They have lived in Mandarin for 38 years.

Q: Did you always want to be a pharmacist?

A: I always wanted to be in the healthcare profession, but I couldn't find my niche. In my early years of college, I worked in a non-professional role in a Tampa hospital pharmacy and was exposed to the profession. I decided I liked the work, the respect the pharmacist was given, and also the pay. So I transferred to the University of



Photo courtesy Pat D'Elia
Pat D'Elia

Florida for pharmacy school.

Q: What was your favorite part about being a pharmacist?

A: I liked helping people solve their medical issues, since one thing will often affect another. I liked helping to more fully explain their medical condition from what their doctor said. Even over the counter medications need explanation sometimes, since people often don't understand the terminology. Pharmacy is a high stress profession, though, in that you have to be 100 percent accurate 100 percent of the time — and at a fast pace that's expected, despite interruptions of the phone or a customer with a question.

Q: How did you become interested in quilting and what do you like best about it?

A: I had sewn clothes and such since I was young, but had never quilted. After I retired, I took some classes and joined the All Star Quilters Guild, which provided camaraderie and access to classes. I love fabric ... the feel of it and even the smell of it. It's nice to create

something useful and beautiful at the same time out of it.

Q: Does the All Star Quilters Guild provide community service opportunities?

A: Yes. In addition to raising money and donating food to the Mandarin Food Bank, we also make quilts for several area nonprofits, such as Quilts of Valor, Daniel (for foster children), Hart Felt Ministries (for senior citizens), Hospice Pediatrics and Honor Flight. For some of the organizations, we make quilts for their clients' use, such as smaller quilts for laps or wheelchairs. A conservative estimate would be that the guild contributes 300 quilts a year to charities. We also produce a quilt for QuiltFest to raffle for charity; this year, proceeds will go to Foster Closet, a store where people with new foster children can "shop" for needed clothes and toys at no charge.

Q: What can you tell us about QuiltFest?

A: QuiltFest is an annual event whose purpose is to showcase quilts and encourage and inspire quilters. This year's show is our 37th and it will be held Sept. 19, 20, and 21. There will be numerous vendors and a section for young quilters, as well as approximately 400 quilts. We have multiple categories for entered quilts to win prizes. We have a modern category this year. We want people to know that not all quilts are your old-fashioned grandmother's quilt. Some of the quilts today are more like art. Everyone is invited to attend!

[Author's Note: Visit www.Quiltfestjax.com to learn more about this year's QuiltFest.]



The start of the "Run to Feed the Hungry."

Mandarin Rotary raises cont. from pg. 1

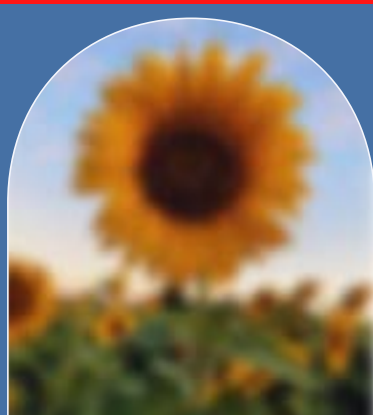
The Rotary Club of Mandarin is dedicated to the service of others, with the motto of "Service Above Self." The club meets for breakfast and fellowship every Tuesday morning at 7:30 a.m. at the Ramada Inn on Hartley Road. Email membership director Michael Sullivan at michaels@coj.net or visit www.mandarinrotary.org for more information.

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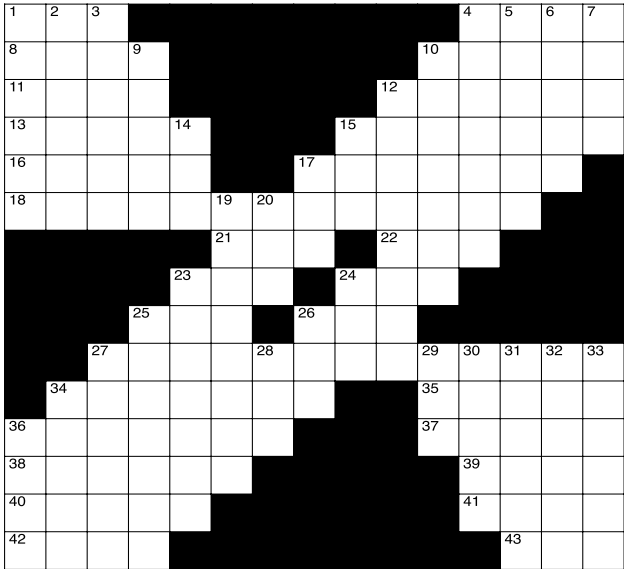


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Puzzles

Answers on page 3
Provided by MetroCreative



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Baby's dining accessory
- 4. Something free
- 8. Ancient Egyptian deity
- 10. Set-like mathematical categories
- 11. Top-quality
- 12. Expansive
- 13. Seizure
- 15. People with congenital absence of pigment
- 16. Gains
- 17. Mocked online
- 18. Clint's son
- 21. Body part
- 22. Humor
- 23. Code number

- 24. Your physique
- 25. Family of regulator genes
- 26. LA football player (abbr.)
- 27. "The Blonde Bombshell"
- 34. Charity
- 35. Bluish greens
- 36. Examined closely
- 37. A type of equation
- 38. Stretched uncomfortably
- 39. Indian religious god
- 40. Clocks
- 41. Slowly leak through
- 42. Witnesses
- 43. Midway between south and southeast

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Nestlings
- 2. Induces vomiting
- 3. A place to eat
- 4. Partner in the air
- 5. Offered one's take
- 6. Nobel-winning French biologist
- 7. Farm animals
- 9. Prevent from growing
- 10. Sensationalist periodical
- 12. Soft-bodied beetle
- 14. Very fast airplane
- 15. Imaginative creation
- 17. Recipe measurement (abbr.)
- 19. Evoked a response
- 20. French river
- 23. Shiny yellow minerals
- 24. Make illegal
- 25. U.S. military branch
- 26. River in France and Belgium
- 27. A woman of refinement
- 28. Male child
- 29. Type of medication
- 30. German city
- 31. Animal disease
- 32. Mediterranean dietary staple
- 33. Sneak out
- 34. Radioactivity unit
- 36. Performs on stage

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

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

WORDS

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- CARL WINSLOW
- CYRUS ROSE
- DAN CONNER
- DANNY TANNER
- ERIC TAYLOR
- FRANK COSTANZA
- FRED ANDREWS
- GOMEZ ADDAMS
- HOMER SIMPSON
- JACK PEARSON
- JAMES EVANS SR
- JASON SEAVER
- LOUIS HUANG
- MICHAEL KYLE
- MIKE BRADY
- MITCH LEERY
- NED STARK
- PHIL DUNPHY
- PHILIP BANKS
- RON SWANSON
- TONY MICELLI
- TONY SOPRANO
- WALTER WHITE

☉ ✱ ☼ ☽ ☿ ♀ ♁ ♃ ♄ ♅ ♆ ♇ ♈ ♉ ♊ ♋ ♌ ♍ ♎ ♏ ♐ ♑ ♒ ♓

CRYPTO FUN

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Solve the code to discover words related to Father's Day.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 15 = E)

A. 23 19 9 11 15 10

Clue: Male parent

B. 25 15 4 9 24 10

Clue: Provides guidance

C. 14 19 10 15 4 9

Clue: Guardian

D. 2 15 13 15 16 10 19 9 1!

Clue: Throw a party

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Wolfson Class of 1969 holds reunion at Mandarin Community Club

By Lynn M. Brady and Toby Williams
mail@floridanewslines.com

Members of the Samuel W. Wolfson class of 1969 and their guests gathered on April 27, 2024, at the Mandarin Community Club for barbecue and reminiscing. Classmates were delighted with the weather and the historic setting for their reunion.

The class was joined by Chris Begley, current principal of Wolfson, who gave a rundown of the achievements

of Wolfson in the years following attendees' graduation. Principal Begley is very proud of his school and was very grateful to the Class of '69, which raised \$11,000 for the "Leaders of the Pack" scholarships, a project begun by the class prior to their 50 year class reunion in 2019. As a result of the fundraising effort, four scholarships of \$2,750 will be awarded to students headed to college after graduation. This year's scholarship recipients are Aria

Brown, Leila Jane Davis, Lucy Gueye, and Amina Zelihic.

The Class of 1969 was the second class to complete all three years at Wolfson after it opened. Wolfson drew students from duPont, Landon and Douglas Anderson high schools, which were repurposed as junior high schools. Wolfson is currently one of three "magnet" schools for advanced studies and students must apply to go there.

In past years, the class has held reunions at beautiful sites along the St. Johns River and in St. Augustine, but this year a casual and local gathering spot was preferred. The Mandarin Community Club is in an area where many of the students grew up or came on the weekends to ride the Little Train, to buy meat from Jo Curry, pick up some oranges at the Post Office & General Store, or grab some barbecue from Jenkins Bar-B-Q along State Road 13, now known as San Jose Boulevard.



Photo courtesy Lynn M. Brady

Wolfson High School class of 1969 at their 55th reunion.

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Crown Point Elementary hosts induction ceremony

By Mary Eyer
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On Thursday, April 25, more than 50 students in third and fourth grades were recognized for their academic and leadership achievements as Crown Point School held its second National Elementary Honor Society to induct those leaders who have displayed these principles. Principal Brett Hartley and Rachel Nunnally welcomed all attendees and explained the requirements needed to join the National Elementary Honor Society,

including the society's four values. These values are commitment to learning and scholarship through character, responsibility, service, and leadership which highlight the importance of taking an active role in both schooling and community. The inductees then recited the pledge in the presence of their teachers and families. A reception was held in the school's cafeteria after the ceremony to honor all of the new National Elementary Honor Society members and their families.



Photo courtesy Mary Eyer
Fourth graders Carlos, Madilynn, and Cole showing off their NEHS certificates.

Local residents to educate at Youth and Teen WordPress Workshop in Nicaragua

By NewsLine Staff
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Jacksonville professors William and Aida Jackson are part of the team of teachers that are looking forward to working with businesses across Central and South America in AI, VR and Metaverse training and workshops. This opportunity will allow businesses and schools to learn how to apply new technologies that are influencing the development of digital environments and ecosystems that have grown because of AI, VR, Web 3, and the Metaverse.

The June 28 – 29 WordPress Workshop for Youth and Teens is a continuation of building in Central America digital innovators, creatives, and leaders for the future of Central America when growing technologists in the future of the increasing populations that are happening in Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, and other Central American nations. Central American youth are creative, intelligent, innovative and in many cases will compete against American, Canadian, and other youth and teens for high paying remote digital careers.

At the workshop, youth and teens will learn how to create dynamic WordPress.com web sites and use AI as a tool. They will be involved in creating digital avatars that represent

their creativity, innovation, artistic skills and even their ability to create a digital and immersive representation of themselves for the future world of AI, VR, MR, AR and Metaverse engagement, using programs like ReadyPlayer.me where multiple avatars can be created and Spatial.io where youth and teens will build metaverse sites as business owners and entrepreneurs.

William and Aida Jackson have taught internationally at other WordCamp and WordPress events (Costa Rica, Athens, Greece and Italy) where youth, teens and young adults are the main focus. Their goal is to encourage business ownership to help build financial opportunities to start businesses, employ other workers in technology and even open eyes to careers that can influence education, commerce, and finances expansion. The workshops will include sessions of: Metaverse and Network Content and WordPress, How to Build a Digital Avatar, Internet and Metaverse Safety.

Metaverse sites in Central America are created by MetaverseWP at no charge and youth not able to pay for registration is sponsored by MetaverseWP (<https://metaversewp.com/destination>). Six children have been sponsored so far to attend in June.

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Fishing

Jimmy's Fishing Report

By Jimmy Tomazinis
mail@floridanewline.com

Happy shrimp season! I hope all of you have been mending nets or getting new ones in the off season, because this month marks the beginning of a busy but very productive time in the river. We may not have a ton of shrimp in June, but the few that you do catch won't last long since the fish in the river might be more excited than we are to have them around. I did see fish chasing shrimp in May so they're definitely here; we'll just have to see how many.

The sheepshead bite in the river was great throughout May. Just about every piece of structure in the river was bound to have them on it. Clams were the preferred bait. The smaller shrimp this month should be great as well. Try either a fish finder rig or knocker rig with the smallest weight you need to hold it in place. Hook size is also something to minimize. I use mostly size 2 to 4. They are finicky fish by nature, so don't give them any more reasons to be.

A good number of drum have also moved into the river, but most of them are undersized. Just more to look forward to later this fall as they grow into slot sized fish. Clam, shrimp, and crab are go-to baits for these bottom dwellers.

Stripers should also improve this month with live river shrimp at your disposal. Look for them on bridges and deeper docks. Like most fishing in the river, some tide movement helps a lot.

It has been a few months since I mentioned goals for this year and while there's still a lot of 2024 left, my goal



of catching my first river tarpon in 20 years came to fruition last month. The moral of the story would be to not neglect talking to your fellow anglers around town. I'm not proposing giving spots away or anything, but mentioning catching or seeing something can go a long way towards having success yourself. For instance, I got word of a tarpon sighting at a local ramp and after three days of searching I jumped two tarpon and saw others. The following day, I caught one. I'm determined more than ever to catch more now, but I hope this gets you thinking about your own goals this year and lights a fire under you to get after them. Tight lines.

Bolles Students to Participate in Summer International Programs



Photo courtesy The Bolles School

Ten students from The Bolles School have been selected to represent the United States this summer in international leadership programs sponsored by the nonprofit Children's International Summer Villages (CISV). The students range from rising fifth graders to a soon-to-be junior and will travel to various destinations in the U.S., Europe and Asia. Founded after World War II, CISV is an independent, non-political, worldwide volunteer organization that educates and inspires action for a more just and peaceful world.

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Gardening

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Photo courtesy Lesley Arrandale
Native petunia, *Ruellia caroliniensis*.

Spring is historically our dry season, and this year has been no exception. I'm stingy with watering, because about 50 percent of Florida's precious drinking water is used in our landscapes, so up until the storm on May 10 my garden was looking a bit "crisp!" Nevertheless, it had been so long without appreciable rainfall, that I had been watering the precious shrubs which are the framework of my front yard as well as recently installed flowering perennials and potted plants. The small area of Bahia grass that looks quite decent with adequate water was parched, but with rain in the forecast I had let it fend for itself.

Now it's time for the clean-up after the storm. Some tall perennials have been blown sideways, the coral honeysuckle support is no longer vertical, and everywhere there are leaves and twigs of southern magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*). But we came off so lightly compared to people whose trees were downed by the wind. In our street, a huge hickory snapped and fell on a garage, and another neighbor's much-loved greenhouse was crushed by their favorite tree.

It had been a good week for watching wildlife. Fledgling bluebirds were learning to eat suet, fed by their parents. The cardinals' nest in the native coral honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*) had seen more action; I'm guessing the adults were feeding their young hatchlings. Hopefully the storm didn't destroy them.

One perennial that hasn't wilted in hot dry conditions is native petunia (*Ruellia caroliniensis*: <https://www.fnps.org/plant/ruellia-caroliniensis>). I've found that its roots go deep, which is why it's drought tolerant. The flowers are a delicate shade of pale mauve. Each one lasts only for a day, but there are plenty more to keep the show going from spring through autumn. Although it's less showy, it's a good replacement for its cousin, Mexican petunia (*Ruellia simplex*), which is an invasive plant and not recommended for Florida gardens (<https://assessment.ifas.ufl.edu/assessments/ruellia-simplex/>). Some Mexican petunia cultivars are sterile (read the plant label!), but they spread freely as they are stoloniferous and should be kept in check. Beware if a neighbor offers to share with you. Neither of these is to be confused with the wide variety of bedding petunias, which are treated as annuals and are lovely in hanging baskets and pots and make a good groundcover.

The May/June edition of the Duval Extension newsletter, A New Leaf – Yard and Garden, is available here: <https://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/duval/lawns-gardens-and-trees/new-leaf-newsletter/>. (If you'd like to subscribe, contact the Extension Office at (904) 255-7450.) Along with advice on what ornamentals to plant that withstand the heat, there's an article on summer vegetable gardening. But if you don't plan to plant a garden till fall, how about solarizing the soil (<https://tinyurl.com/5x9dmdcj>)? Or maybe plant a cover crop (<https://tinyurl.com/6rrmmprp>)? Both techniques can benefit your garden. Solarizing helps kill weed seeds and pathogens. A cover crop dug into the soil will replenish nutrients. Also in the newsletter, Larry Figart's article on how to use yard chemicals safely goes into detail about why we should always read and follow the instructions on the product's label. And he has a cautionary tale to tell, which is well worth reading. Following the label will not only ensure you get the best result from the product, but you will be protecting yourself, your family, your garden, and potentially our water supply.

Also in A New Leaf, Tonya Ashworth, our Horticultural Agent, offers advice about how to work safely in the garden in the heat of summer.

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Travel

Explore New Discoveries at Historic Jamestown

By Debi Lander
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For decades, historians believed that the 1607 English settlement in Jamestown, Virginia, lay underwater in the James River. Jamestown is considered the first permanent English settlement in the Americas, although Floridians know that Spaniards settled St. Augustine in 1565.

In 1994, under the leadership of Dr. William Kelso, Jamestown Rediscovery, an archeological dig was launched in hopes of locating the assumed lost fort. Within three archeological seasons, Kelso and his team uncovered enough evidence to prove the remains of James Fort existed on dry land. Better yet, the search led them near the remains of the 17th-century church tower and to the graves of four founders.

This discovery became exciting news about America's birthplace and renewed interest in the Jamestown story. Today, visitors to the Historic Jamestown Settlement begin their experience at the state-of-the-art visitor center. I was immediately impressed with the museum's size, scope, and elaborate interactive displays. A 4-D film provides an overview of Jamestown's beginnings. Depending on your interest, you'll need at least 30 minutes, while those wanting to learn more could spend several hours.



Costumed interpreters.

After you tour the museum, head outside to see the recreated Paspahegh town or Powhatan Indian Village. This area reflects the typical daily life of the Virginia tribe. Within the wooded clearing, see reed-covered houses dotted with cooking circles, dugout canoe, and a ceremonial circle. Learn about the culture of the Indigenous people from costumed interpreters. Personalities like Captain John Smith, John Rolfe, Powhatan, and Pocahontas lived here.

The Indian reserve leads down to the river's edge, where docked replicas of the ships, the Susan Constant, Godspeed, and Discovery await. Take the time to go aboard and imagine how the original 104 voyagers spent their cramped days and nights aboard the vessels.

Another walkway leads to the reconstructed triangular-shaped James Fort, which encloses multiple wooden buildings and offers more costumed interpreters. Life within the fort wasn't easy, but here, free, enslaved, and indentured people mixed during their struggles with early colonization.

To complete the tour, visitors must drive a short distance to Jamestowne Island, a National Park Historic landmark and site of exciting ongoing archeological digs. There, you'll find an outline of the original fort, a statue of John Smith near the shoreline, and likely working archeologists. The Archaearium Museum showcases relics from the 1607 – 1624 Virginia Company period.

You'll also see the site of the original 1608 church, named one of 2010's 10 most significant archaeological discoveries in the world by Archaeology Magazine. The church was where Chief Powhatan's daughter Pocahontas married John Rolfe on April 5, 1614.

A well-known episode involving Pocahontas occurred in 1607 when she reportedly intervened to save the life of Captain John Smith. According to Smith's account, when captured by Powhatan's forces, Pocahontas, then around 10 years old, pleaded with her father to spare Smith's life. While historians debate the story, she is credited for providing diplomacy and understanding.

In 1619, the church was the site of an important and historic series of meetings: those of the first elected



Photos courtesy Debi Lander

Aboard the Susan Constant.

legislative body in America, the Virginia General Assembly. Unfortunately, the church burned during Bacon's Rebellion in 1676. Repairs were made, and the church continued to serve until approximately 1750. Today, the site includes the remains of the 17th-century tower. While 10 feet of its height and the original nave were lost, preservation groups stepped in. They erected a new church for the settlement's 300th

anniversary with glass panels to see the original foundations.

To learn more about colonial America, visit all three sites within Virginia's Historic Triangle: Jamestown, Yorktown, and Colonial Williamsburg. Online: HistoricJamestowne.org or jyfmmuseums.org

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



James Fort interior.

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The Pantry Raiders

Celebrate the start of summer with a picnic

By NewsLine Staff
mail@floridanewsline.com

This year the summer solstice, which marks the official start of summer, falls on June 21. During this time of year, schedules become lax and meals often occur on-the-fly — and usually outdoors. When firing up the grill or packing picnic essentials, home chefs should consider which dishes they'll serve alongside the main course. Of course, no summertime meal would be complete without a tasty potato salad in the mix. This recipe for "Potato Salad with Bacon and Parsley" from Allie Lewis Clapp, Lygeia Grace and Candy Gianetti's "Real Simple: Easy, Delicious Home Cooking" (Time Home Entertainment) offers a tasty take on this classic dish.

Potato Salad with Bacon and Parsley Serves 6

1 ½ pounds new potatoes, about 15
Kosher salt and black pepper
4 slices bacon
3 tbsp. olive oil
2 tbsp. red wine vinegar
2 tsp. Dijon mustard
1 cup fresh, flat-leaf parsley, roughly chopped

Place the potatoes in a pot with 1 teaspoon salt and enough water to cover and simmer until tender, 15

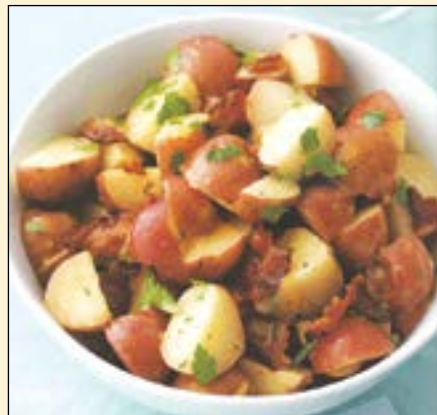


Photo courtesy MetroCreative
Potato Salad with Bacon and Parsley

to 18 minutes. Drain and run under cold water to cool. Cut into quarters.

Meanwhile, cook the bacon in a medium skillet over medium heat, stirring occasionally, until crisp, 6 to 8 minutes. Transfer to a paper towel-lined plate. Let cool, then crumble.

In a large bowl, whisk together the oil, vinegar, mustard, ¾ teaspoon salt, and ¼ teaspoon pepper. Add the potatoes, bacon and parsley and toss to combine.

Tip: The potatoes can be cooked and tossed with the dressing and parsley up to 1 day in advance; refrigerate, covered. Bring to room temperature and add the bacon just before serving.

Blackberries in Florida may become even more nutritious in the future

By Brad Buck, University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS)
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Blackberries are already known for their health benefits, and someday, they might provide even more antioxidants than the ones you buy now, say University of Florida researchers. UF/IFAS researchers are trying to breed and grow blackberries, which ripen in April, May and June in the Sunshine State. In a new study, scientists found metabolites that may boost antioxidant contents and anti-inflammatory properties of the berries.

In the study, Yu Wang led a team that compared the metabolite profiles of six blackberry varieties. Among them, "Kiowa" showed the highest ability to protect cells from damage and fight inflammation.

"This work could provide a perspective on potential health benefits of consuming blackberries," said Wang, an associate professor of food science and human nutrition at the UF/IFAS Citrus Research and Education Center. "This study deepens our understanding of the molecular mechanisms contributing to the health benefits of blackberries."

"Kiowa" grows well and produces large berries, but has many thorns. It does not grow commercially in Florida. Zhanao Deng, a UF/IFAS professor

of environmental horticulture, has been breeding and trying to grow blackberries at the Gulf Coast Research and Education Center since 2015.

In the United States, the major blackberry producing states include Oregon, California, and Washington on the west coast, and Georgia, Texas, and North Carolina in the east and south.

They're an emerging crop in the Sunshine State. About 130 acres of the fruit are commercially produced in the Mayo area of North Florida and in Plant City and Parrish in the Tampa Bay region, Deng said. Blackberry cultivars on commercial farms include "Osage," "Ouachita," "Ponca," "Prime-Ark Freedom" and "Prime-Ark Traveler." Now, Deng envisions adding "Kiowa" to his toolkit as he breeds blackberries for Florida growers.

"'Kiowa' was developed by James Moore and John Clark at the University of Arkansas in the 1990s," Deng said. "We grow them in blackberry field trials, but it's not grown commercially in Florida because it's thorny. Since it has the highest levels of antioxidants, we are using this cultivar as a parent in breeding to develop new thornless cultivars with high antioxidant contents as well as high yields and flavorful berries."



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