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BFF Best Furry Friend

Q&A

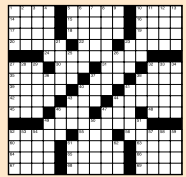
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Debbie Scarbrough



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Puzzles



Photos courtesy Mary Eyer
Making the Fiesta flowers was these girls' favorite activity.

Cultural arts extravaganza at Crown Point

By Mary Eyer
mail@floridanewslines.com

On Thursday, April 3, Crown Point Elementary School held a cultural arts night in celebration of artwork created by the students. The event featured huge displays of artwork from around the world, which included posters and exhibits reflecting different cultural traditions from artifacts, food, dances, and historical contexts. Each exhibit provided a cultural arts activity for students to perform.

The students enjoyed making wearable samurai helmets from two-toned origami paper, fiesta flowers, drawing and coloring

Crown Point cont. on pg. 7

Another beautiful weekend for Mandarin Art Festival

By Martie Thompson
editor@floridanewslines.com

The Easter weekend Mandarin Art Festival tradition continued this year with huge crowds, estimated at approximately 8,000, due no doubt to the gorgeous weather.

"Attendance was strong and stable all weekend," said Susie Scott, festival supervisor. "We had so many remarks by both patrons and exhibitors commenting on the perfect weather."

Thousands of guests strolled under the magnificent live oaks of historic Mandarin to savor the creativity of more than 130 artist exhibitors and 15 Green Market vendors. Eight food vendors were also onsite. Attendees enjoyed entering into the historic Mandarin Community Club building to enjoy the Bake Sale and the Children's Art Show, which featured the works of students from 16 schools.

"We were really excited to welcome more than 50 new artists this year," Scott said. "Their talents and credentials were remarkable."

Among these first time exhibitors was



Photo courtesy Olis Garber
Thousands enjoyed the Mandarin Art Festival on the grounds of the Mandarin Community Club.

a local museum restoration specialist named Joshua Cooper, who, according to Scott, has "masters level painting talent."

Also making her debut at the Mandarin Art Festival was established local painter Sharon Leehy. Scott noted that each year, the Art Festival welcomes both local as well as national artists.

It serves as the primary fundraiser for the Mandarin Community Club, a local non profit 501c3 whose mission focuses on preservation, education and beautification.

This year's winners were:

Best in Show: Michael Nelson

Best Booth Display: Kim Coy Jewelry

Reclaimed/Recycled: Jan Lindahl

Judges' Choice: Sergei Orgunov, Tim Bullard, Jason Becker, Jesse Kraker, Juan Carlos Cahue, and Ana Obermayr

Awards of Merit: Jami Childers, Dan Bi, Harry and Julie Hearne, Peter Schilling, Robin Holt, and Christine Booras.

"The Mandarin Community Club is so proud to continue this tradition for Mandarin since 1968 and continue to grow and improve year after year," Scott said.



Photo courtesy Olis Garber
Mandarin Community Club president Mark Waterman; Mandarin Art Festival show supervisor and Mandarin Community Club board member Susie Scott; and Mandarin Community Club board member John Meux.

Scott has been involved with the Art Festival as a volunteer for 25 years and said the hard work is worth it due to her love of the community and love of this event.

The juried and judged fine art and fine craft festival was founded in 1968 and has been an Easter weekend tradition and treat for guests for the past 57 years.



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Gardening

Irrigation and pests - The usual

By Master Gardener Volunteer Lesley Arrandale
mail@floridanewslines.com

By Master Gardener Volunteer Lesley Arrandale
mail@floridanewsline.com

It's early April as I write, and we've had very little rain, but with higher temperatures lawns are growing, we hear lawnmowers more frequently, and irrigation comes to mind. Since the clocks changed, our watering restrictions have also changed:

- Homes with odd-numbered or no addresses may water on Wednesday and Saturday,
- Homes with even-numbered or no addresses may water on Thursday and Sunday,
- No watering between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. (early morning is preferable),
- Limit watering to one hour per zone.
- These restrictions apply to all water sources except reclaimed water.

To ensure that your lawn is getting adequate water (<https://ufdc.ufl.edu/IR000003389/00001/pdf>), lay out shallow cans and run the irrigation system. Measure how much water is collected after a quarter of an hour. Adjust the time to achieve $\frac{3}{4}$ inch of water per watering. Too much water and lush growth can result in overgrowth of weeds, the spread of disease, and a proliferation of damaging insects. Checking coverage can help you keep your lawn in the best condition through the summer. Finally, make sure that you don't irrigate regardless of need. Ideally the grass should show signs of stress, including a bluish cast and footprints that don't immediately bounce back (<https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/publication/SS586>). If rain is predicted in the next 24 hours, hold off, and similarly if it's rained less than 24 hours beforehand.

Vegetable gardeners will be seeing the effects of higher temperatures and

increased numbers of insects. As always, take the lightest approach with pest control, bearing in mind that plants can benefit when we encourage a wide range of insect species in our yards. Check out this article on integrated pest management (IPM) for more details: <https://tinyurl.com/3ku7davb>.

While cutting back dead flowering stems in late spring, instead of hauling them all to the curb, I “chopped and dropped” some of the smaller more brittle stems and tucked them beneath the plants. As they decompose they add organic matter to the soil. Any green trimmings can be treated the same way, but when cleaning up any obviously diseased plant material it should be put out for collection, along with weeds with seeds and roots that might simply start growing again if left lying. A simple compost heap, with layers of green and brown material, can help reduce kitchen and yard waste being “wasted.” This article says it all: <https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/publication/EP323>.

By May, I had hoped to get my landscape under control, especially the weeds, and I had hoped to get more potted plants in the ground — but I remind myself that a garden is never static, and with the best will in the world, life intervenes, and we can come up short. Regardless, caring for landscapes, however humble or imperfect, can be rewarding. A few flowering plants in a large pot can attract pollinators. Weedy areas — hopefully located where they don't cause you stress — can benefit the butterflies and other insects that use those plants to procreate. And although we don't see them, undisturbed soil hosts countless numbers of microbes and invertebrates. Our homemade compost, used sparingly as a light mulch, can add even more life to our soil, just like decomposing fallen leaves and debris in a woodland.

Mandarin High School wrestlers look to build on success



Photo courtesy Emily Whitehead

Last season the Mandarin High School wrestling team had three individual placers at the Gateway Conference Championships and took three wrestlers to the FHSAA 3A Regional Championships. Mandarin High Wrestling is looking to build off last season's success

as they head into the 2025 – 2026 season. If you are interested in joining the team, being part of summer conditioning, have questions about the 2025 – 26 season, or are interested in being an assistant coach, contact Coach AJ Stensrud at Stensrud.andrew@mavo.edu

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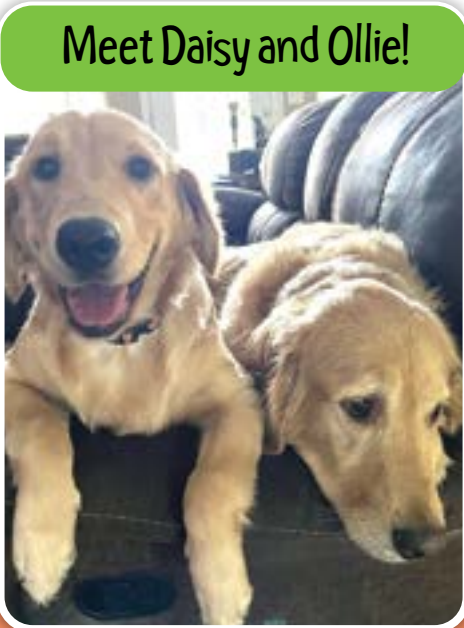
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BFF

Best Furry Friend of the month

Breed:
Golden Retriever
Favorite Activity:
Riding around town with rear windows down, going side to side saying hi to other drivers
Favorite Food:
Venison jerky
Favorite Friends:
Each other
How did your BFFs get their names:
My daughter said he looks like an Ollie and he took to it before we even left with him. Daisy was a compromise for fear that Molly would confuse them since it rhymes with Ollie.



Meet Daisy and Ollie!

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.



Summer Camp Guide in this issue!
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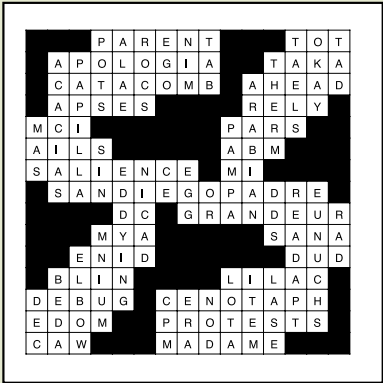
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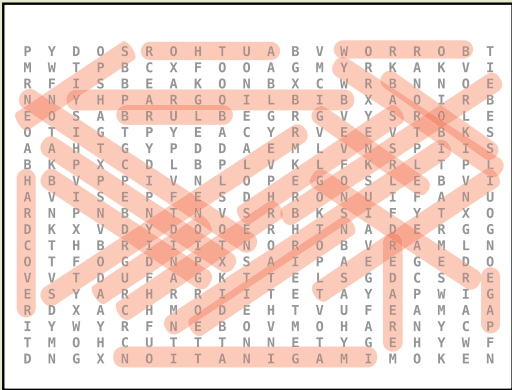
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Last month's Mystery Photo was the Mandarin Museum.



Answers to our Puzzles
PG 8



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May

Community Calendar

What's Happening in Mandarin

Shuffleboard is played on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. (beginning May 6) 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.

Parkinson's Exercise Group meets every Thursday from 6 p.m. – 7 p.m. at 4911 Losco Road. People of all ages and stages of Parkinson's as well as spouses and caregivers are welcome to attend these free classes. Contact group leader Katheryn Donaldson at serving4_him@yahoo.com or (904) 710-1449 for more information.

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 playing-hookie2022@gmail.com for more information.

3rd: 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, are open the first Saturday of each month (this month, May 3 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 or call (904) 268-0784 for more information.

3rd: Meet the Maple Leaf Divers at the Mandarin Museum, 11964 Mandarin Road, from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. on the first Saturday of each month (this month, May 3). 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.

4th: Music Under the Oaks community music jam, hosted by the Mandarin Museum & Historical Society and North Florida Folk Network will resume on Mandarin Museum's front lawn on the first Sunday of each month (this month, May 4) 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. Visit www.mandarinmuseum.org or call (904) 268-0784 for more information.

6th: Honeybee Quilters Guild will meet on Tuesday, May 6 at 6:30 p.m. at Mandarin Presbyterian Church on the Loretto Road Campus in the Kids Space at 2501 Loretto Road. The program will be the annual auction of member-provided sewing items; bring a checkbook for new-to-you treasures. New members/guests welcome. Visit honeybeequilters.org for more information.

8th: Mandarin American Legion Post 372 general meeting will be held on May 8 at 7 p.m. at Williams Family YMCA 10415 San Jose Blvd., on the second floor. Visit <https://alpost372fl.org/> for more information.

10th: Second Saturday Arts and Farmers Market at First Christian Church, 11924 San Jose Blvd. on May 10 from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Visit www.facebook.com/SecondSatMarket/ for more information.

14th: Community Meeting to discuss the Mandarin Road sidewalk extension will be held on May 14 at 6 p.m. at the Mandarin Community Club, 12447 Mandarin Road.

15th: "Growing Herbs and Using Medicinal Vinegars" will be presented by Tonya Ashworth, Duval County Horticultural Agent, at the Cherokee Rose Circle on May 15 at 10 a.m. at the Mandarin Garden Club, 2892 Loretto Road. The public is invited. Call (904) 268-1192 for more information.

15th: Third Thursday Lecture hosted by Mandarin Museum on May 15 from 6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m. will feature recently retired Florida Times-Union photographer Bob Self, who will recount his four decades of work documenting the stories, people and events of Jacksonville. Refreshments begin at 6:30 p.m. and the program is at 7 p.m. Mandarin Museum is located at 11964 Mandarin Road, inside Walter Jones Historical Park. Admission is free. Visit www.mandarinmuseum.org or call (904) 268-0784 for more information.

17th: Mandarin Parkinson's Support Group meets at Church of Eleven22, 4911 Losco Road, on the second Sunday of each month (this month, May 17 due to Mother's Day) from 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. This month will feature a certified nutritional therapist. Contact group leader Katheryn Donaldson at serving4_him@yahoo.com or (904) 710-1449 for more information.

17th: North Florida Genealogical Society (formerly SGES) will host a cultural and architectural tour of Jacksonville's most historic neighborhoods (San Marco, Riverside and Avondale), on Saturday, May 17 from 9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. Meet at 9:15 a.m. outside the Brick Restaurant (3585 St. Johns Ave. in Jacksonville). The cost is

\$50 per person. Visit www.sgesjax.org or call (904) 778-1000 for more information.

19th: The All Star Quilters Guild will meet at 9:30 a.m. for socializing prior to the 10 a.m. meeting on Monday, May 19 at First Christian Church, 11924 San Jose Blvd. The program will feature quilter and fabric artist, Julie Mainor. "Show and Tell" is always a feature. Guests are welcome. Visit www.allstarquilters.org for more information.

22nd: Mandarin Garden Club Annual Meeting will be held at the garden club, 2892 Loretto Road, on May 22 at 10 a.m. Call (904) 268-1192 for more details.

22nd: Mandarin Women's Club's "Members Only" luncheon will be held on May 22 beginning at 10:30 a.m. at the Ramada Inn in Mandarin. The luncheon cost is \$25 and must be received by Monday, May 12. To make reservations and obtain payment instructions, contact Barbara at (904) 612-6494 or email her at barbara.metallo@outlook.com. Visit www.mandarinwomensclub.com for more information on events, photos, and membership forms.

22nd: Crafting Ideas for Gardeners will be presented at the Live Oak Circle on May 22 at 7 p.m. at the Mandarin Garden Club, 2892 Loretto Road. The public is invited. Call (904) 268-1192 for more information.

22nd: Mandarin Republican Club will meet on Thursday, May 22 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. First time visitors are welcome.

30th: The Italian American Club of Jacksonville will hold its popular Spaghetti to Go on Friday, May 30 from 5 p.m. until the spaghetti is gone at the club building, 2838 Westberry Road. Take out only; cash, credit and debit cards are accepted. Dinners cost \$13 and there are small charges for extra meatballs, cannolis and pizza rolls. No phone orders. Call (904) 586-2700 for more information.



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with Duval County School Board Member Melody Bolduc, District 7

Q: Can you share some insights into your attempts to make school arrivals and dismissals safer for students?

A: Jacksonville is one of the worst places in the country for pedestrian deaths and we are working to try to fix this in Mandarin. Along with Councilmember Michael Boylan, I've been making traffic visits in the morning and the afternoon at all the Mandarin schools. Some things I have seen have been shocking, like people driving across the grass and sidewalks as well as making illegal u-turns. We have also met with the schools' principals and listened to their concerns and suggestions.

Q: What do you plan to do with the information you have gathered?

A: In late April, we will have a meeting with all interested parties — District 6 principals, and representatives from traffic engineering, public works and JSO — to try to fix the safety problem. I will present some statistics and circumstances of recent accidents and the principals will also share their concerns. We plan to push for the safety of the kids.

Q: What have you identified as areas needing improvement?

A: First of all, we need students and adults to follow the rules already in place. We can't expect the kids to follow rules if they see adults breaking them. We need a contingency plan for those who don't follow the rules.

Other areas for improvement include

the fact that we don't have crossing guards at all at our middle schools and high schools. At the elementary school level, we do have crossing guards, but don't have a reliable way for them to report their absence and get a replacement. It happens frequently that we are missing crossing guards on any given day due to this.

For middle school and high school, there are no school zones in front of their schools with reduced speed. For example, there is no reduced speed on Hood Road and on Greenland Road, the speed limit is reduced only in front of Greenland Pines Elementary, but not Mandarin High School. And at the elementary schools, which do have speed zones, I feel we need better signage and more enforcement of the reduced speed limit. Crossing guards have told me even they get nervous by drivers speeding sometimes, and they are wearing bright clothing and holding a large sign. We need occasional monitoring by JSO.

Q: What are your long term goals for this initiative?

A: Hopefully we can come to some kind of agreement on actionable items to help keep our kids safe. And then the hope is that Mandarin can be a model for the rest of the county, per Superintendent Bernier's request.

Q: How can our readers contact you?

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

Mandarin Women's Club to honor members

By NewsLine Staff
mail@floridanewslines.com

On Thursday, May 22, the Mandarin Women's Club will be celebrating its own. This "Members Only" luncheon will be held at the Ramada Inn in



Photo courtesy Gail Packard

Mandarin Women's Club members enjoyed an outing to DeLeon Springs State Park and the Old Sugar Mill Pancake House.

Mandarin, 3130 Hartley Road. Members have continued old friendships and made new friends this year — and this lunch will celebrate all members. There will be a photo booth and a trivia game, as well as some surprises for everyone.

Doors open at 10:30 a.m. and reservations for the luncheon are required. The luncheon cost is \$25 and must be received by Monday, May 12. To make reservations and obtain payment instructions, members should call Barbara at (904) 612-6494 or email her at barbara.metallo@outlook.com. Visit www.mandarinwomensclub.com for more information on events, photos, and membership forms.

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with Jacksonville City Council Member Michael Boylan, District 6

Q: Can you bring us up to date on the Mandarin Road sidewalk extension [as of interview date of April 16]?

A: We do have some updates here. As you may or may not know, in 2001 the Jacksonville City Council passed an ordinance that declared parts of Mandarin Road, County Dock Road, and Loretto Road as scenic and historic corridors. Live oaks of a certain size are protected and any work to be done requires the involvement of the city arborist and the city councilmember for approval. With that said, the long-awaited Community Meeting about the sidewalk will be held on May 14 at 6 p.m. at the Mandarin Community Club on Mandarin Road. We will have JTA there to present their proposed path and a representative from the Public Works Department as well as the city arborist, Jonathan Colburn, will be there with their recommendations.

I know this is a subject of great interest and concern for some, and I would ask people to take a look at the sidewalk from Flynn Road to Walter Jones Park (particularly the stretch from just before County Dock Road to the park) to see what the canopy looks like and how the trees have thrived for decades following the installation of sidewalks there. From Red Cypress Road all the way down to Big Cypress is a good example of how the canopy was preserved as part of the last extension five years ago, what with the weaving of the sidewalk throughout. From my perspective, safety is first and

foremost, and also we will make every effort to protect the tree canopy as we did previously.

Q: What can you tell us about upcoming safety initiatives at Mandarin schools?

A: At the suggestion of School Board Member Melody Bolduc and under her leadership, I'm visiting area schools to observe arrivals and dismissals. We are trying to assure the safety of students and next week will have a meeting with school principals and representatives from the City of Jacksonville to address the safety concerns.

Q: Do you have any park updates?

A: Playground equipment has been installed at Tommy Hazouri Park and should be open for use by the end of April. Alberts Field construction is likewise anticipated to be completed in a timely fashion. As for the recognition of the Losco family at the soon-to-be-renamed Richard H. "Dick" Kravitz Regional Park, we are meeting with the family to go over details, but I anticipate either the pavilion or soccer field to be renamed "Losco Pavilion" or "Losco Field" in their honor. Additionally, we will have a historical marker about the Losco family located at the entrance to the trails. The plan is to have this signage installed to unveil at the same time as the renaming ceremony for the park.

Q: Can you shed insight on your proposed bill to change how City Council leadership is chosen?

A: The bill will be filed today [April 16]. I propose limiting council leadership to the five At Large members on a rotating basis starting in 2030. I stand by my comments. The intent from my perspective is to bring attention to this not only being a good process, giving greater purpose to the At Large elections, but perhaps we could also be more diligent with following Sunshine Laws in the future.

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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Life

Get to Know ...

By Martie Thompson
editor@floridanewsline.com

Debbie Scarbrough

Debbie Scarbrough came by her artistic talent honestly — her father was talented musically and at one point was country musician George Jones’ bass player. “My talent went more towards art,” she said. So she attended Austin Peay State University as an art major, but soon found that the fun was taken out of art for her. So she changed her major to education. Recruited directly out of college by Duval County Public Schools, she is celebrating 40 years of teaching. She and her husband of 30 years, Dwayne, have two grown daughters: Meagan, who works in the energy industry in Jupiter, Florida, and Alex, who is in graduate school at Valdosta State College to become a speech pathologist.



Photo courtesy Debbie Scarbrough
Debbie Scarbrough

Q: How did you end up in Florida after going to school in Tennessee?

A: When I was graduating from Austin Peay, I interviewed with nearly every Florida county as well as a few in other states. I wanted to leave Tennessee. Even though I didn’t know a soul here, I took the job in Jacksonville because I could go home to Tennessee in a day. I moved to Arlington and taught at San Mateo. I then moved to Argyle and helped open Chimney Lakes Elementary.

Q: How did you meet your husband?

Get to Know ...

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

band?

A: I met Dwayne when we were in the Jacksonville Jaycees together. He had moved here from Orlando. We were married in 1995.

Q: Why did you start working at Mandarin Oaks Elementary?

A: We bought a house in Mandarin and I didn’t want to drive across the Buckman Bridge from Argyle every day. We love Mandarin because it’s like a small community and reminds me of Hendersonville, Tennessee, where I grew up. I’ve now been at Mandarin Oaks for 30 years and I’ve taught every grade from kindergarten through fifth. Now I’m teaching the children of some of my first students! I became the art

teacher about nine years ago when the school’s long-time art teacher retired.

Q: What do you like best about teaching?

A: God made me a caretaker. No matter what I’m teaching, I’m taking care of the children and I’m making a difference in their lives. At the end of the day, it’s very rewarding. Our family joke is we bet on how long it will be when we go somewhere until we run into someone that I taught. It’s usually only about 10 to 15 minutes.

Q: Tell us about the grant you recently received.

A: I was honored to be awarded the Cindy Edelman Excellence in Teaching Fellowship via the Jacksonville Public Education Fund. I submitted for adaptive art materials and special training with Zot Artz, which specializes in making art more accessible for ESE students. We’re excited that we’re having a Glow Art event with these classes in late April.

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

A: I love to read; last year I read 77 books. I also like to do jigsaw puzzles and go to Jumbo Shrimp games. For personal art, I do furniture refinishing. I like to take something old and repurpose it. One time, Dwayne went on a trip to visit one of our daughters and came home to find that I had refinished all of our bedroom furniture. He was fine with it; he’s a very supportive husband.

Crown Point cont. from pg. 1

flags from around the world. Students also made African necklaces and Italian master chef hats. The event demonstrated an appreciation of various cultures, while highlighting the importance of fostering a sense of community within the Crown Point family.



Kindergartners and first graders making flags from around the world.

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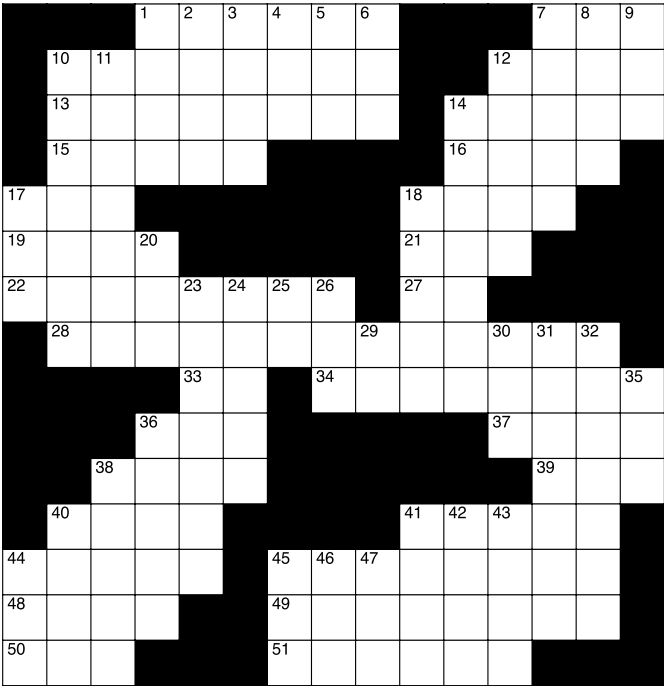


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CLUES ACROSS

1. Bring up
7. Child
10. Formal written defense
12. Bangladeshi currency
13. Burial site
14. In the lead
15. Large recesses in a church
16. Count on
17. Defunct phone company
18. Golf scores
19. Afflicts
21. Defensive nuclear weapon
22. Prominence
27. “The Great Lakes State”
28. SoCal ballplayer
33. Location of White House
34. Magnificence
36. Hip hop songstress
37. Capital of Yemen
38. __ Blyton, children’s author
39. Bomb
40. Pancake made of buckwheat f
41. Pinkish-violet color
44. A way to make right
45. Monument to one buried elsewhere
48. Region south of Dead Sea
49. Acts out against
50. Harsh cry of a crow
51. Formal title for a woman

CLUES DOWN

1. Kitchen devices
2. Wings
3. Mythological birds
4. Everyone has one
5. Matchstick game
6. Bar bill
7. Weights
8. Satisfactorily
9. Small amount
10. Tree types
11. Small protuberances
12. Equivalent of 100K BTU
14. Type of horse
17. More (Spanish)
18. Argentinian province
20. A bad act
23. Moving in a circular way
24. Battery type
25. Atomic #58
26. Popular breakfast food
29. An alternative
30. Tooth caregiver
31. A way to conform
32. Disfigured men
35. Cool!
36. Genus of mosses
38. Body part
40. Kashmiri people
41. Round water pot
42. Something to purchase
43. Emit coherent radiation
44. Indicates 10
45. Advertising metric
46. Pitching stat
47. Head movement

CAUGHT READING WORD SEARCH

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

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

WORDS

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SPINE
STORYTELLER

CRYPTO FUN

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Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 20 = A)

A.

26 25 25 7 15 20 8 7

Clue: Holds place

B.

23 20 9 3 2

Clue: Sheets of paper

C.

10 21 20 8 20 10 13 3 8

Clue: Person in book

D.

11 17 10 13 17 25 6

Clue: Invented or untrue

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Mandarin Senior Center supports and entertains seniors

By NewsLine Staff
mail@floridanewsline.com

More than 100 seniors celebrated St. Patrick's Day at the Mandarin Senior Center with a corned beef and cabbage luncheon followed by entertainment provided by the Kavanagh Porter Academy, Jacksonville's premier Irish dance school. The troupe of young dancers presented an array of lively Irish dance numbers that highlighted their individual and group talents. The Kavanagh Porter Academy is a transatlantic dance school with studios across the U.S. and in Ireland. The Academy offers instruction in Irish dancing for all ages and abilities from those just beginning to those students advancing to world wide competitions.

If you haven't discovered the Mandarin Senior Center on Hartley Road, now is a great time to take advantage of its many services and activities. The center is open to all adults who live in the Mandarin area and are 60 years of age and older. All activities are free for members. A cold breakfast is served Tuesday through Thursday at 9 a.m., and a warm lunch daily



Photos courtesy Mandarin Senior Center
Seniors were entertained by Kavanagh Porter Academy on St. Patrick's Day.

at 12 p.m. Weekly offerings include line dancing, chair volleyball, exercise classes, bingo, mahjong, billiards, wood carving, ceramics, knitting, chair yoga, jewelry making, and field trips.

Stop by the Mandarin Senior Center any weekday from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. to inquire about membership and activities and enjoy the friendly atmosphere and fun. Search the City of Jacksonville's website at coj.net for more information about the Mandarin Senior Center or call (904) 255-6750.

Free resources available to ease caregiver stress

By NewsLine Staff
mail@floridanewsline.com

Adult caregiving in the United States is a significant and growing responsibility. In Florida alone, AARP reports that 2.7 million adults serve as unpaid family caregivers on top of their existing responsibilities. The growing complexity of caregiving affects the caregivers' own finances, health and well-being. As the Area Agency on Aging and the Aging and Disability Resource Center for Northeast Florida, ElderSource offers a free program aimed at relieving the stresses on local caregivers.

ElderSource's Tailored Caregiver Assessment and Referral Program (TCARE) is designed to prevent caregiver burnout. Program participants are paired with trained specialists that provide them with strategies to reduce root causes of burnout and develop care plans customized for each caregiver's unique needs. It is completely free to participants, as the program is supported by a grant from the Humana Foundation.

TCARE has been a major lifeline for Northeast Florida families since 2021, helping more than 220 caregivers to date. Aside from direct support provided by trained specialists, the program also connects caregivers with community resources that best meet their needs. It's a unique resource that enables caregivers to help loved ones age in place and delay nursing

home placement, while also taking care of themselves.

The relief experienced by those who participated in TCARE is evident in the program's exit surveys.

"Working with you has changed my life, it's giving me a few hours off, which at 77 I desperately need. Dementia is a 24/7 job," one participant noted anonymously. "Your assistance is priceless, amazing!"

Access to the free TCARE program is available to caregivers who are supporting a loved one who is age 60 or older and resides in Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, St. Johns, Nassau or Volusia counties. ElderSource currently has 90 free spots available in the program. Visit MyElderSource.org or call (904) 391-6647 to learn more about TCARE and sign up.

ElderSource is a local nonprofit organization designated by the state as the Area Agency on Aging and the Aging and Disability Resource Center for Northeast Florida. The agency provides information and referral resources for caregivers and seniors in Northeast Florida, reaching more than 12,000 people in its seven-county service area – Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, St. Johns and Volusia. Programs and services are funded by federal, state and local grants as well as private donations and endowments.

Summer Camp Activities Guide*



Summer reading fun!

By Jeremy Yates
mail@floridanewslines.com

It's almost time for summer reading, learning and fun! Kids and teens can take part in live guest performances, storytimes, crafts, hands-on activities, reading challenges, and more from June 2 through Aug. 2. It's all 100 percent free, all summer long. Read more at jaxlibrary.org/summer.

Add a free book to your home library — you can pick up your first prize book at your local Drop-In Summer Kick-Off Party between June 2 – 9. To earn more free books, complete your 2025 Summer Reading Trackers and return them by Aug. 2.

But first, are you ready for a “pawesome” educational visit from Jacksonville Humane Society? Kids, aged five through 12, can Paws to Read with JHS from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 6, at Mandarin Branch. Activities include a read-aloud from animal-themed children’s books and a fun service project benefitting the cats and dogs at JHS.

Drop in and have Muffins with Mom from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 10, at Mandarin Branch. This Mother’s Day activity is sponsored by the friends of the Mandarin Library.

Explore S.T.E.M. books and hands-on activities with Junior Scientists or read about and create your own art with Junior Artists. Programs start at 3:30 p.m. Wednesdays at the Mandarin Library and 4 p.m. Tuesdays at South Mandarin Library. Programs alternate week to week between “Scientists” and “Artists.” Find the schedule at jaxlibrary.org/events. Want the best of both worlds? With S.T.E.A.M. & Stories (for ages five to 12), you get S.T.E.M. + Art, along with reading and fun, hands-on activities at 3:30 p.m. every Monday at Mandarin Library.

Kids (aged nine to 12): Discover your inner LEGO Legend. Join the Masters of Spinjitzu as they search for their missing leaders. You’ll help them solve problems and complete building challenges. Discover Lab: LEGO Legends continues from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesdays at



Photo courtesy Jacksonville Public Library
Friends of the Mandarin Library will host another book sale June 6 – 7.

South Mandarin Library and 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Thursdays at Mandarin Library.

Teens (aged 12 – 17): Do you often read a book and think, “That’s not what I would do?” Now’s your chance to be in charge of the story. Teen Lab: Engineer Your Adventure runs 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

every Friday at South Mandarin Library.

Save the date: The Friends of the Mandarin Library Book Sale is scheduled from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, June 6 – 7. Fill up a brown paper bag full of books for \$10. Individual items will be \$5 and less.

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Summer Camp Activities Guide*



Water recreation safety tips

By NewsLine Staff
mail@floridanewline.com

Fun in the sun often involves playing in the water. Whether you're soaking up some rays in a backyard pool, catching some ocean waves on a surfboard or sliding your way across a Slip 'N Slide, there's no shortage of ways to incorporate water into warm weather recreation.

Water-based recreation makes especially warm days more comfortable, but caution must reign supreme when engaging in water play. The National Drowning Prevention Alliance offers the following safety tips to lower the risk of water recreation accidents.

- Brush up on your swimming skills. The NDPA reports that learning how to swim can reduce drowning risk by 88 percent. Adults and children alike are urged to go over the basics of swimming before getting in the water to ensure their skills are up to the task. If possible, practice the basics in the shallow end of a pool to reacclimate your body to swimming. Parents can keep a watchful eye on their young swimmers to ensure they haven't forgotten how to swim since last season.

- Never swim alone. Swimming with a partner is a fun way to stay safe. The buddy system ensures someone is there to look after swimmers and offer help if a swimmer is struggling. A buddy also can call for help by alerting a lifeguard when swimming in a public place such as a beach, lake or community swimming pool.


- Stick to designated swimming areas. The flag system is often employed at parks, beaches and lakes to indicate when and where it's safe to swim. A red flag typically symbolizes swimming is unsafe, whereas a green flag means conditions are welcoming for swimmers. Stick to areas designated as safe. The NDPA notes it's always

preferable to swim under the supervision of a lifeguard.


- Err on the side of caution. The NDPA notes it's best to get out when in doubt. If water conditions don't feel right, exit the water. Falling rain, rough currents, muscle cramps, and/or physical fatigue can quickly transform a fun swimming session into a dangerous situation. Get out of the water at the first sign of doubt. You can always return later if your physical condition and/or the conditions in the water change.

- Be an educated swimmer. Savvy swimmers know to check the local forecast, including water conditions, before getting their toes wet. The NDPA notes it's unsafe to swim in the rain, particularly if there is thunder and lightning. That's true whether you're swimming in an ocean, a lake or a backyard pool.

Additional water safety strategies can be found at ndpa.org.



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Fishing

Jimmy's Fishing Report

By Jimmy Tomazinis
mail@floridanewslines.com

By now the heat is really starting to set in. For better or worse, 90 degree days are going to be more and more common for a while. Fishing should continue to improve this month. Just about everything I mentioned last month will still be applicable, but as a whole, the fishing will be more consistent.

The small redfish that seemed to be everywhere last month will still be ubiquitous, but larger slot reds will start to be more common. Docks and shell bars are good places to target, but they will also be up in the shallows cruising any grass beds we might be lucky enough to have. You can start to size up any artificials you've been throwing, since their natural forage is also growing. Mullet, crabs, and croakers to name a few.

Trout will be a better bet since salinity has increased with the water temperatures. Deeper docks and bridges are good areas to look. If you see any bait schools on the surface, try any structures in that vicinity. Trolling dock lines with soft plastics is a great way to find concentrations of trout. Don't go too fast; just fast enough to keep the

baits from dragging on the bottom is a good speed to start with. You can also experiment with colors and tail styles, but be sure it swims straight.

Chances are there might be a sheepshead on any dock in the river right now. If you're looking for simple, messy, and possibly aggravating fishing look no further than our convict fish. Aptly named for their striped outfits and knack for stealing baits, they are humbling fish. Clams are probably my favorite bait for them, followed by crab and fresh dead shrimp. If I could catch live shrimp in the river this month, I'd say that — but since the season is still closed, fresh dead is what I have. I fish them on a fish finder rig or knocker rig. Hook size will range from size 4 to 1/0. I size the hook to the size of the bait. Use just enough weight to keep the bait on the bottom. Fish up current from structure and drop baits back to it. Don't be afraid to move if nothing is happening. I usually give a spot 15 minutes before moving.

Lastly, there might be a few silver things showing up if you're interested. Tight lines.

Mandarin Middle students take part in track meet



Photo courtesy Jennifer Litchfield
Mandarin Middle School's National Junior Honor Society program recently participated in the annual Andrew Turner Adaptive PE Track Meet. Mandarin Middle School students were honored to be included in this event by Mandarin Oaks Elementary School.



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