


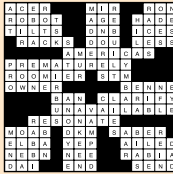
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Ana Andenmatten with one of the many dogs she has helped find a forever home for.

Ana's Angels has new home

By Martie Thompson
editor@floridanewslines.com

Effective June 7, Mandarin's own Ana's Angels Pet Rescue will relocate to Pet Supermarket, located across the street from Target on San Jose Boulevard. According to the 25-year-old group's founder, Ana Andenmatten, the move was necessary due to the closing of Petco, Ana's Angel's home since 2008.

"We are happy to stay in Mandarin," Andenmatten said. "It's long been our homebase. Mandarin is where we work and live."

Ana's Angels started in 1999 and

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Mandarin Museum honors McCorkle and Schemer during Miss Aggie Day 2025

By Brittany Cohill
mail@floridanewslines.com

On May 3, Mandarin Museum hosted its annual Miss Aggie Day celebration at the historic Mandarin Store & Post Office. Since 2003, Miss Aggie Day has celebrated the legacy of Agnes Grace Jones, the daughter of Walter and Edith Jones. "Miss Aggie," as she was affectionately known, was a resident of Mandarin from 1898 until her death in 1992 at the age of 94. Her father, Walter, was Mandarin's U.S. postmaster from 1906 to 1928. From 1928 to 1964, Miss Aggie assumed the role and that of store proprietor. She was an independent, strong-willed, confident woman who possessed a deep sense of community and a charitable heart. Her reputation for helping those around her in time of need was well known.

As part of the celebration, the Miss Aggie Award was presented to four current and former residents of Mandarin whose lives demonstrate the same sense of community and caring attitude. The 2025 honorees were Rosemary McCorkle and Vina Schemer; the late Memphis Wood and Charlie Brown were honored posthumously. This re-



Rosemary McCorkle and Vina Schemer pictured with Mandarin Museum Executive Director Brittany Cohill.

markable group co-founded the Mandarin Art Festival in 1968, and played a continued role in its success in the decades following. A juried fine art and craft show held annually by the Manda-

rin Community Club, it is the longest running festival of its kind in Northeast Florida. Gifted artists themselves, or in McCorkle's case, an avid supporter and champion of the arts, they actively contributed to Mandarin's reputation as an "artist colony" and added value to the lives of so many around them. Among many other accomplishments, Schemer pioneered the technique of photo-transfer on clay, producing vivid imagery on small and large-scale pottery pieces.

The day of the Miss Aggie Day celebration was a festive occasion, featuring ice cold RC Cola and Moon Pies, once staples at Miss Aggie's store. Guests moseyed in and out, stopping awhile on the front porch to catch up with friends and neighbors, a scene reminiscent of days gone by. The event culminated in remarks by McCorkle and Schemer, who recounted their deep ties to and love for Mandarin. The standing-room only crowd was a testament to their impact.



Vina Schemer's work, "The Firebird," pictured far right, resides in Mandarin Museum's permanent collection.



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Ana's Angels cont. from pg. 1

was incorporated as a 501 c 3 non-profit in 2003. Every Saturday, Andenmatten drives to animal shelters in rural areas like Clay County, Putnam County and Bradford County, and loads up her car with dogs and kittens to be adopted locally. She said it's more convenient for local residents to adopt their new furry friends in Mandarin than to have to drive to the rural shelters. Plus, the rural shelters appreciate the new audience of potential adopters that Ana's Angels provides in Mandarin. To date, Ana's Angels has placed more than 10,000 animals in loving homes.

During the week, Andenmatten utilizes her early childhood education degree that she earned from the University of North Florida. She has worked for 20 years as a Duval County Public School teacher and currently teaches kindergarten at Mandarin Oaks Elementary. She fosters animals in her classroom at the school, with permission from administration as well as parents of students in her classroom. She said it is not unusual to have a mama cat in the back of her classroom nursing kittens while the children work on their studies.

Addenmatten, a finalist for the 2024 VyStar Duval County Teacher of the Year, incorporates her love of animals into many of her lessons and feels it is important for children to learn responsibility and empathy.

"I started the school's 4H program and the school's garden, where the kids can plant and take care of the rescued pig, goat, chickens and rabbit." Addenmatten said. "We just recently hatched quail and chickens in our classroom incubator."

Andenmatten said she is in need of foster families in the Mandarin area for the animals awaiting adoption so that she can continue her passion of helping animals — especially those with special medical needs who might be harder to place. Additionally, she is always looking for volunteers and awards community service hours to high school students for dog walking, fostering, and helping transport the animals.

"A student can earn 50 service hours per week to foster a cat or dog in their home for a week," she said.

Ana's Angels is completely volunteer-run and Andenmatten said she couldn't make it work without the approximately 25 volunteers who help her. Donations to pay for the required veterinary visits for each animal as well as food, blankets and towels, are gratefully accepted and tax deductible. Visit "Ana's Angels Animal Rescue" on Facebook for more information or to contact Andenmatten to learn more about fostering.

"I'm excited for our new adventure at Pet Supermarket," Andenmatten said. "We want to keep going to inspire future generations of pet rescuers."

Briefs

Mandarin Women's Club offers summer activities
The Mandarin Women's Club's popular Fashion Show, held on April 24, had a large turnout as members modeled outfits from The Petunia Patch. Following the Fashion Show, club members held the election of 2025 – 2026 officers who will serve under the guidance of Judy Witte, president

With the beginning of summer, the club will take a break from 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, Continental Rummy, and Pennies Canasta.

Women in Mandarin are invited to join or renew their membership as soon as possible so they can be included in the directory. Visit www.mandarinwomensclub.com for information regarding summer activities and to complete a membership form.



Photo courtesy Gail Packard
Members of Mandarin Women's Club modeled at their recent Fashion Show: Vickie Rumbers, Linda Peacock, Iris Read, Diana Stevenson (Petunia Patch rep), Marion Linda, Kathy Broderick, Sharon Rosenblum, Michele Mack, Patty Blalock and Jo-Ellen Baxley.

Elder abuse workshop scheduled
Older adults and caregivers are encouraged to register for an upcoming webinar hosted by ElderSource and focused on elder abuse and fraud prevention. "Empower and Protect: Elder Abuse and Fraud Prevention" will be held virtually on Zoom on Wednesday, June 11 from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

In observance of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, ElderSource is partnering with the 10 other Area Agencies on Aging from across the state of Florida to host this free webinar. The speakers will share their expertise on:

- The Florida Abuse Hotline
- What elder abuse is, and how to report it
- How to spot and prevent Medicare fraud
- How scammers try to steal Medicare numbers
- The top scams to look out for in 2025

Attendees must register for the event to join; visit bit.ly/FLWEAAD2025 to register.

Congressman John Rutherford visits River Garden
U.S. Congressman John Rutherford (FL-5) visited the River Garden Senior Services campus in May to engage with leadership, staff and families about the ongoing challenges and concerns facing nursing homes in Florida. He toured the award-winning nursing care center and met with board members, administrators and family representatives. The discussions centered on a range of critical issues affecting the long-term care sector, including Medicaid funding, federal staffing mandates and the impact of current immigration policy on the availability of qualified workers.

River Garden has a long history of supporting thoughtful public policy and looks forward to working with Congressman Rutherford as he reviews issues that impact older adults, particularly as Florida continues to experience rapid growth in its senior population.



Photo courtesy River Garden
U.S. Congressman John Rutherford visits River Garden.

Shad Robotics Lab dedicated
The Bolles School welcomed the Shad family to the Bolles Upper School San Jose Campus April 25 for a ceremony celebrating their generous \$1 million gift for the newly dedicated Shad Robotics Lab in the Frank R. Sanchez and Hope and Dana E. Fender Center for Innovation. Bolles president and head of

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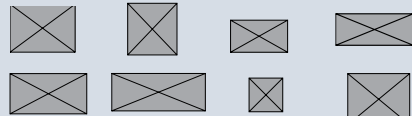
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BFF

Best Furry Friend of the month

Meet Berkley!

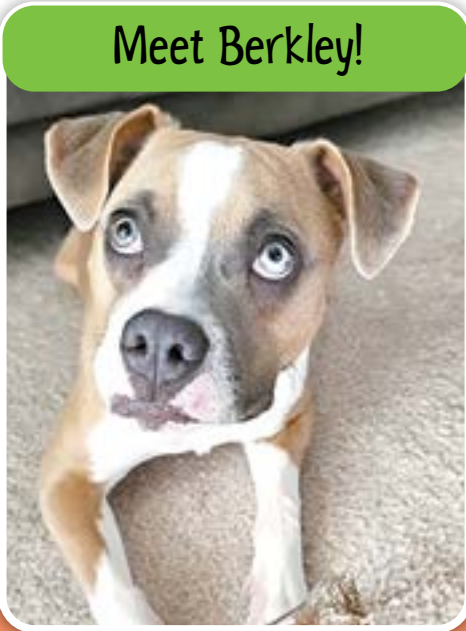
Breed:
American Bulldog

Favorite Activity:
Playing with all my toys and wreaking havoc on my mom's plants

Favorite Food:
All the (dog friendly) treats!

Favorite Friends:
My best friend, Theo, as well as all my other friends at DogTown

How did your BFF get her name?
I was named in honor of my mom's beloved pet, Bruiser, and she wanted a "B" name to carry on his legacy



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.

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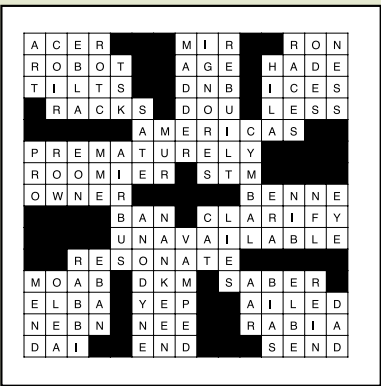
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MYSTERY PHOTO



Can you guess where this is?
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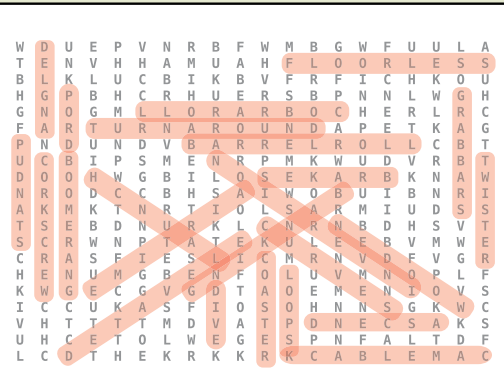
Last month's Mystery Photo was outside the Publix on Mandarin Road.



Answers to our Puzzles
PG 8



A. speed B. height C. tracks D. amusement



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June

Community Calendar

What's Happening in Mandarin

Shuffleboard is played on Tuesdays at 10:30 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.

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/>.

MPC MomCo meets every other Tuesday from 9:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. on the Mandarin Presbyterian Church campus. MPC MomCo is a vibrant fellowship of moms who support each other in motherhood and grow together in faith. Register at mandarinpres.com/momco; space is limited. Email momco@mandarinpres.com for more information.

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 mu-

sic. 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.

3rd: Honeybee Quilters Guild will meet on Tuesday, June 3 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 understanding the colors in your fabric stash. New members/guests welcome. Visit honeybeequilters.org for more information.

7th: 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, June 7 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.

7th: 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, June 7). 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.

10th: Mandarin American Legion Post 372 general meeting will be held on June 10 at 7 p.m. at Williams Family YMCA 10415 San Jose Blvd., on the second floor. Visit <https://alpost372fl.org/> for more information.

14th: Second Saturday Arts and Farmers Market at First Christian Church, 11924 San Jose Blvd. on June 14 from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Visit www.facebook.com/SecondSatMarket/ for more information.

14th: Third annual History Fair will be held June 14 from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Jacksonville History Center, 314 Palmetto St. Mandarin Museum will be present at the newly renovated former Florida Casket Company building that will be open to the public for the first time. Dozens of Northeast Florida history organizations, as well as cars from the First Coast Region Model A Club, will be on display. Tickets at the door; no advance sales. \$10/person includes a raffle ticket for items donated by the participating organizations. Free parking available onsite and along Marsh Street. Visit www.jaxhistory.org for more information.

16th: The All Star Quilters Guild will meet at 9:30 a.m. for socializing prior to the 10 a.m. meeting on Monday, June 16 at First Christian Church, 11924 San Jose Blvd. Come help solve the

"Mystery" as presented by Sharon Tomore, Linda McClelland, and a few extras. "Show and Tell" is always a feature. Guests are welcome. Visit www.allstarquilters.org for more information.

14th: North Florida Genealogical Society (formerly SGES) will host its monthly meeting on Saturday, June 14 from 10 a.m. – 11 a.m. at the Mandarin Branch Library on Kori Road. Visit www.sgesjax.org or call (904) 778-1000 for more information.

20th: Mandarin Parkinson's Support Group meets at Church of Eleven22, 4911 Losco Road, on the second Sunday of each month (this month, June 20 due to vacation) from 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. Contact group leader Katheryn Donaldson at serving4_him@yahoo.com or (904) 710-1449 for more information.

26th: Mandarin Republican Club will meet on Thursday, June 26 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.

27th: The Italian American Club of Jacksonville will hold its popular Spaghetti to Go on Friday, June 27 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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Q&A with Jacksonville City Council Member Michael Boylan, District 6

Q: On May 14, you hosted a Mandarin Road sidewalk project meeting at the Mandarin Community Club. Can you give an update?

A: It was a lively meeting. The intent of the meeting was to revisit and review Ord. 2001-1009, which designated Mandarin Road and some other roads as scenic and historic corridors. One requirement is the city arborist as well as the city councilmember must sign off on anything that would require tree removal. It has been agreed that the city arborist will have an even greater role than what is specified in the ordinance: he will be part of the plan review process. Also, JTA has agreed to hire an independent arborist to be on site as needed. Secondly, we looked back at the 2016 Complete Streets recommendation reports, which advocated for a sidewalk along Mandarin Road.

I showed slides from the first segment of the sidewalk project and JTA gave an overview of the process then hosted breakout sessions for attendees to review the preliminary plan and ask questions. This was followed by public comment.

I think the vocal majority of people at the meeting did not support the sidewalk extension, but that is offset by the number of emails I receive supporting the effort.

Q: It sounds like you are supporting the project?

A: There's a fine line between my personal opinion, which admittedly I think the extension of the sidewalk to whatever is reasonable is warranted, and my responsibility to represent the many

constituents who are advocating for the extension.

Q: What are the next steps?

A: JTA is in the process of creating a website with all the relevant materials available as well as public comment captured at the meeting. The website will be updated as needed and the link to the website will be promoted as soon as it is available. It's important to note that so far we have a preliminary plan. We will be taking the next 12 – 15 months to flush out the plan as much as possible and then another meeting, taking into account all the new information and public input, will be scheduled.

Q: Constituents recently received a statement regarding a non ad valorem assessment with regards to solid waste. Can you provide background to this?

A: It's been 15 years since the solid waste fee has been increased and it's currently \$151 per year. In fiscal year 2017, the City of Jacksonville began lending money to the General Fund, increasing each year to nearly \$40 million this year, to help pay for solid waste disposal. The increase constituents see this year will bring the fees paid by residents closer to the amount charged for the service, but still will not completely cover them. Look at it this way: we receive 52 trash pickups, 52 yard waste pickups and 26 recycling pickups per year for a total of 130 points of service. Even at the new rate of \$324, that amounts to \$2.49 per service. Those on fixed or limited income should look at the back of the letter as there is an opportunity for some relief.

Fr. McGivney statue installed at St. Joseph's Catholic Church

By NewsLine Staff
mail@floridanewsline.com

The Knights of Columbus St. Johns River Council 10850 sponsored and installed a life size bronze statue of Blessed Fr. Michael McGivney on March 23 at St. Joseph Catholic Church. Fr. McGivney was the founder of the Knights of Columbus. Bishop Erik Pohlemier of the Diocese of St. Augustine was the main celebrant at the Feast of the Solemnity of St. Joseph mass. After the mass, the statue of Fr. Michael McGivney was unveiled and blessed by Bishop Pohlmeier. Our Lady Queen of the Knights Assembly 2679 had its Color Corp of 16 Sir Knights present for this important event.



Photo courtesy Knights of Columbus St. Johns River Council 10850

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Q&A

with Duval County School Board Member Melody Bolduc, District 7

Q: Last month, we discussed a school arrival/dismissal safety meeting you were attending with various stakeholders following the traffic visits you made to Mandarin schools. Do you have any updates from that meeting?

A: The meeting was very successful and productive. Almost all of our principals were able to attend, in addition to Councilman Michael Boylan and representatives from the Public Works department and the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO).

Q: Were any agreements reached?

A: The JSO officer in attendance was shocked when we presented our findings from our traffic visits as to people driving across the grass and sidewalks as well as making illegal u-turns. He agreed to step up patrols around our Mandarin schools. The head of traffic engineering for the City of Jacksonville also agreed to certain safety measures, including changing out some of the pedestrian walk signals to an audible countdown. He also agreed to paint crosswalks in some areas, including one across the Mandarin High School entrance on school property.

Q: Are there still some outstanding

safety enhancements you would like to see?

A: One thing I requested had to do with the fact that right now our middle schools and high schools have basically no safety support. There are no school zones or crossing guards at middle or high schools and I've requested both for them. We have 25 traditional middle schools and 15 traditional high schools in Duval County out of a total of 157 traditional schools, so it's not really a huge increase in number.

We learned that apparently the reasoning years ago when the decision was made to exclude middle and high schools was that these students don't obey rules anyway. We stuck up for our older kids and disagreed. In fact, sometimes they follow the rules better than adults!

So our request for school zones and crossing guards at all schools is being reviewed. I would say that overall, some good came from the meeting and I am hopeful that more good will come.

Q: How can our readers contact you?

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

Wrapping up the 2024 - 25 school year at Mandarin Oaks

By NewsLine Staff
mail@floridanewslines.com

Resource teachers rocked it out in May and April. Coach Carol Butler received the 2025 Wellness Ambassador of the Year for Duval County Public Schools. It was a no-brainer as she coordinated the Kids Heart Challenge, the Junior River Run for Mandarin Oaks students, host hands on CPR training and coordinator for student and faculty flu shots, just to name a few. She was agreed to be slimed by students for the top fund raisers.




Photo courtesy Debbie Scarbrough

ESE students used Zot Artz adaptive art materials to create art in a room filled with black lights.


Mandarin Oaks cont on pg. 8

CATARACT AWARENESS MONTH



In the United States, an estimated 24 million Americans age 40 and older are affected by cataracts. By age 75, nearly half of all Americans have, or have had, cataracts.

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Life

Get to Know ...

By Martie Thompson
editor@floridanewsline.com

Mary Eyler

Mary Eyler, special education teacher at Crown Point Elementary School, was born and raised in Amman, Jordan. She attended very structured, all-girls Catholic schools. Her father was in the Jordanian Army, and upon his retirement, agreed to his sister's request to join her and other family members by immigrating to the United States. Mary had just graduated from high school and when she moved with her family to Jacksonville, she found it to be so different from what she had experienced growing up in Jordan. "It was really a culture shock," she said. With plans of becoming a dentist, she graduated from the University of Florida with a bachelor's in liberal arts and sciences. During a break after her graduation, she began substitute teaching at Pine Forest Elementary. She enjoyed it so much that she shelved her plans to be a dentist and went to the University of North Florida to earn her teaching certificate. She has worked in Duval County Public Schools for 37 years and will retire at the end of this school year. She lives in Mandarin with her husband of 27 years, James ("Jamie"). They have three children, daughter Erin, a nurse at Mayo; daughter Gabriella, a social worker; and James Jr. ("Jay"), a student at the University of Central Florida.

Q: What was the culture shock like when you first moved to Jacksonville from Jordan?

A: The biggest shock to me was seeing



Photo courtesy Mary Eyler
Mary Eyler

people jogging and elderly people riding bikes. Those things didn't happen in Jordan. In Jordan, girls didn't have the freedom to ride bikes or meet up with their friends. We stayed home and helped the family and did chores. Also, the stores here, like Pic 'N' Save, were so big!

Q: How did you transition from your goal of being a dentist to becoming a teacher?

A: When I found out there were girl dentists in the United States, I decided to become one because I liked science. After I earned my degree, I wanted a break from college because I was also working while taking classes. But soon I wanted something to do, so I started substitute teaching and found I loved working with the kids. I especially liked working with the ESE students because I found that I could make a difference.

Q: What grades have you taught and how did you come to work at Crown Point 25 years ago?

A: I have taught all the elementary grades and even taught sixth grade at Mandarin Middle School. I came to Crown Point after Twin Lakes Academy Middle opened and they didn't need all of us ESE teachers at Mandarin Middle. When I first started at Crown Point, I worked at a new program they had called STAR for a couple of years. Then I started working in a self contained setting for ESE and now work in an inclusion setting.

Q: What is your favorite part about being a teacher?

A: Being with the kids and building relationships with them. I want them to know I care about them and want the best for them. I also want them to do their best. I work with small groups and when the students make progress, it melts your heart. They gain confidence and that is what keeps me going.

Q: What challenges do you face in education?

A: There are so many these days. First is time. There's not enough of it to do everything we need to do, like lesson plans, grading, and paperwork. Also a lot of kids are reading below grade level and we work with them at school, but it is crucial for parents to read to their children and with them so that they can build a love for reading. Finally, we have such a teacher shortage. If we had more teachers, we could have smaller class sizes, which allows the teacher to do more with each student.

Q: What are your retirement plans?

A: I don't have many plans right now. I want to take time to relax. I'd like to spend more time gardening and reading and I really want to travel to London to see my brother. Also, my dream is to take my family back to visit Jordan one day.

Briefs cont. from pg. 2

school Tyler Hodges said the state-of-the-art lab, which opened last fall, is designed with collaboration and creativity at the forefront, providing educators and students an unmatched setting for specialized, hands-on and project-based learning in robotics and engineering.



Photo courtesy River Garden
Shad Robotics Lab dedicated

Bolles' associate head of school Andrew Forrester kicked off the intimate event honoring the Shad family by acknowledging the three generations that have walked the halls of Bolles and the Bartram School for Girls, including Harold "Mike" Shad III '64, Jennie Shad '65 Bartram, Harold "Bill" Shad IV '91, Piper Moyer-Shad '91, Jack Shad '93, Lori Shad '92 and Scott Shad '01. Three of the Shad grandchildren, who are current students at Bolles — Michael Shad '26, Jane Shad '29 and Harper Shad '31 — beamed with pride throughout the program and stopped to take pictures with the new signage now installed outside of the lab.

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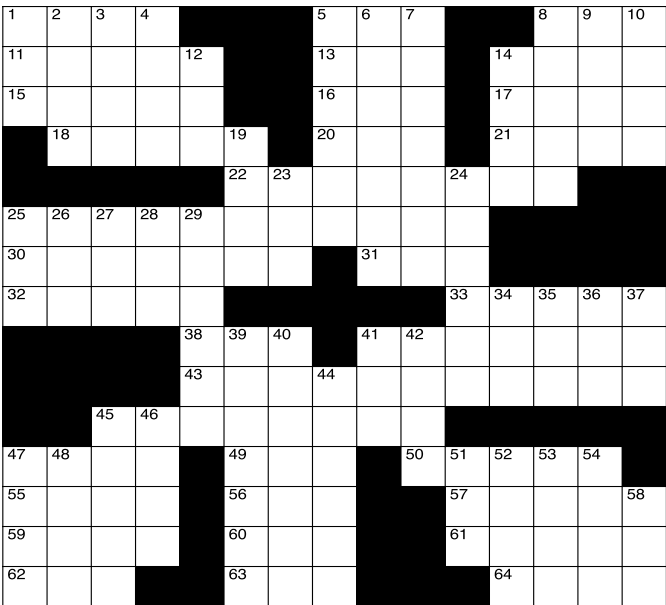
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Puzzles

Answers on page 3
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CLUES ACROSS

1. Computer manufacturer
5. Noted space station
8. Kurt Russell film “Captain”
11. Automaton
13. Everyone has one
14. Incline from the vertical
15. Fights
16. Dunn & Bradstreet (abbr.)
17. Finishes off
18. Places to store things
20. Dutch painter Gerard ____
21. Smaller quantity
22. There’s a North, South and Central of these
25. In an early way
30. More spacious
31. Short-term memory
32. One who possesses
33. Sesame
38. Forbid
41. A way to explain
43. Not around
45. Evoke or suggest
47. Ancient kingdom near Dead S
49. Dekameter
50. Fencing sword
55. “Luther” actor Idris
56. Affirmative (slang)
57. Afflicted
59. One point north of northeast
60. Born of
61. Arabic name
62. Hong Kong food stall: ____
63. Not the start
64. Post

CLUES DOWN

1. Creative expression
2. Fiber from the outer husk of a coconut
3. City in ancient Syria
4. College army
5. More disturbed
6. Pays no attention to
7. Restored
8. Competitions
9. Lyric poems
10. Famed American lawman
12. Expression of disappointment
14. Scars
19. Satisfy
23. Central European river
24. Brass instrument
25. One who gets paid to perform
26. Propel with oars
27. Long period of time
28. Woman (French)
29. Type of plane
34. Pitching stat
35. Pointed end of a pen
36. Pro sports league
37. Body part
39. Inoffensive
40. Yellowish cotton cloth
41. Feline
42. Does not tell the truth
44. Set out to attract
45. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
46. Abba ____, Israeli politician
47. Repair
48. Genus of flowering plants
51. Tributary of the High Rhine
52. Prejudice
53. C. European river
54. Restrain
58. Father

DIPS AND FLIPS WORD SEARCH

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

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

WORDS

AIRTIME
ANGLED
ASCEND
BANKING
BARREL ROLL
BOOMERANG
BRAKES
CAMELBACK
COASTER
COBRA ROLL
CORKSCREW
CURVES
DIVE
DROP
ELEVATED
FLOORLESS
GRAB BARS
INVERSION
LAUNCH
LOOPS
STANDUP
TURNAROUND
TWISTER
WOODEN

CRYPTO FUN

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

A. 18 24 1 1 22

Clue: Velocity

B. 2 1 14 25 2 26

Clue: How tall

C. 26 6 11 3 23 18

Clue: Rails

D. 11 4 9 18 1 4 1 5 26

Clue: Diversion

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Mandarin Oaks cont. from pg. 6

Debbie Scarbrough, the visual arts teacher, held a Glow Art event for all of the ESE students. Students used the new Zot Artz adaptive art materials to create art in a room filled with black lights. The materials were provided through her fellowship with Jacksonville Public Education Fund and the Cindy Edleman Foundation. Students rolled their wheelchairs creating designs all over the floor while other students used pogo stamp poles to add designs. Each student took home a piece of the art they created.

Beth Martelli and Jeff Royal, Mandarin Oaks’ music teachers, had their spring M2 (M-square) show on May 8. M2 consists of students in fourth and fifth grade. There wasn’t a dry eye in the house during the performance of “Over the Rainbow” and “For Good.”

Next year promises to be an exciting one with the school’s theme: “Building Our Futures at MOE.”

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GARAGE SALE

Gates of Olde Mandarin Neighborhood Garage Sale June 20,21,22 9AM -3PM. Mandarin Road across from Publix.

Gardening

June in the Garden

By Master Gardener Volunteer Lesley Arrandale
mail@floridanewsline.com

As always, the weather plays a big part in our gardening exploits. After very dry conditions, in the second week of May we finally had a few inches of much needed rain. But as of mid-May we're expecting near record high temperatures, so irrigation is still on my mind, and the hurricane season begins officially on June 1.

I've spent weeks regularly dead-heading coreopsis plants to encourage more flowers, as they were a good source of food for small bees and other insects. It was gratifying to take an early morning stroll and see those bees still asleep on the open flowers.

Soil underpins everything, so when I heard about biochar as a soil amendment, I wanted to learn more. It is a byproduct of processing carbon rich waste from various sources. Producing charcoal from wood is one example. Depending on the waste material being processed, the resulting biochar has different characteristics. For more information, see An Introduction to Biochars and Their Uses in Agriculture (<https://tinyurl.com/2rvatdd3>).

Basically, biochar can improve the water-holding capacity of soil, thereby reducing the leaching of nutrients, and it encourages a biodiverse soil biome (all of which contribute to a healthier more productive soil). It should be especially effective in sandy soils, which can suffer from those deficiencies; however, it isn't an immediate remedy as it remains in the soil and works gradually over time.

Another article I found particularly relevant is Soil Health and Fertility of Florida-Friendly Edible Landscapes (<https://tinyurl.com/5n83mr8p>).

If you have ever considered volunteering, you might like to join the ranks of the Master Gardener Volunteers. For a general description of the statewide scheme, see <https://tinyurl.com/mu8sucnr>. In Duval County, applications will open in June. Classes will be held every Tuesday morning in September and October. For more information or to get on the application list, email Tonya Ashworth, our Environmental Horticulture Agent, at t.ashworth@ufl.edu.

Fishing

Jimmy's Fishing Report

By Jimmy Tomazinis
mail@floridanewsline.com

Happy shrimp season! I hope you got all your nets patched and other projects done, because our summer fishing is in full swing. From June through December, most years the river is blessed with an influx of marine shrimp from the ocean. The shrimp travel upriver past Palatka, eating and growing as they go. Later in the fall the shrimp begin to exit the river to go back out to the ocean to reproduce. There they are caught by local shrimp boats and marketed as our famous Mayport shrimp. Their upriver and down river journeys are shadowed by droves of fish taking advantage of the seasonal bounty. For that reason, our area fishing is closely tied to the shrimp.

As of right now our shrimp season runs June – March. At least that is when we can legally catch shrimp from the river for food or bait. How do you catch shrimp from the river? The most common method involves a cast net. If you're hesitant or not very experienced throwing a cast net, shrimp are one of the easiest things to catch with one. If you're wanting to catch shrimp during the daytime, I would highly recommend a taped net. The tape around the circumference of the net keeps the net open as it sinks in deeper water. This is important because during the day the shrimp can be at depths of 20 feet or more. An un-taped net would barely be open after it sinks in water that deep. At night shrimp move into shallow water and the tape is less important. You can buy an already taped net, or



Photo courtesy Jimmy Tomazinis

you can add it to one by putting duct tape around it or sewing chair webbing around it. The webbing lasts longer and is less messy but might take a little more time depending on your sewing skills.

Any prominent drop offs will hold shrimp during the day. The mouth of Doctors Lake and the marker in front of Club Continental are two well known spots that will have boats throwing nets around them most days. Shrimp will congregate on specific depth contours along the drop offs, so pay attention to the depth you are in when throwing for them and move deeper or shallower to find the highest numbers of them. I've run out of words for this month so more on shrimp next month. Tight lines.

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Summer reading is back at your Mandarin Libraries

By Jeremy Yates
mail@floridanewsline.com

Embark on a journey of creativity, read fantastic stories and participate in fun, art-themed activities for free, all summer long at your Library! Plus, kids and teens can sign up for reading challenges and earn free books. Read more at jaxlibrary.org/summer.

Ready for special guest performances, live animals, and more — happening Live from the Library? Award-winning S.T.E.M. author, Jennifer Swanson, will show your kids how to write their own books. Intended for ages five through 12, this program runs 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. on Thursday, June 12, at Mandarin Library. Then, Clark's Critters is back with their live reptile show for two back-to-back performances at 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. on Thursday, June 26, at South Mandarin Library. Both animal programs are made possible by the Friends of the South Mandarin Branch Library.

Kids and teens (aged nine through 17) looking to enhance their drawing and illustration skills: Explore traditional and contemporary art styles with

professional artist and educator, Thony Aiuppy, from 4 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. every Monday in June (starting June 9) at South Mandarin Library. Note: This program is also made possible by the Friends of the South Mandarin Branch Library.

Teens (aged 12 – 17): Learn everything from yarn bombing to mural design in Teen Lab: Street Art, an eight-week series running 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. every Friday at South Mandarin Library.

Kids (aged nine through 12): This June and July, take a trip to the PokéPalms Resort, the ultimate summer getaway for Pokémon trainers. You'll create custom souvenirs, play beachside games, and more. Discover Lab: Pokémon Concierge runs from 4 p.m. – 5 p.m. on Wednesdays starting June 4 at South Mandarin Library and 4 p.m. – 5 p.m. Thursdays starting June 5 at Mandarin Library.

Don't miss: Donuts with Dad from 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. on Saturday, June 14, at the Mandarin Branch. This Father's Day activity is sponsored by the Friends of the Mandarin Library.

Mandarin Rotary: 50 years of community service



Photo courtesy Mandarin Rotary
A team of Rotarians led by Rotarian Louis Dunbar completed its 92nd wheelchair ramp.

By NewsLine Staff
mail@floridanewsline.com

Led this year by President Jim Johns, the Rotary Club of Mandarin marks its 50th year of continuous service to our community. The club recently held its fourth 5k Run for the Hungry to raise funds for local food banks with the help of local sponsors and approximately four hundred enthusiastic participants who enjoyed a family environment on a fast circuit shaded by Mandarin's beautiful oaks.

The Rotary Club of Mandarin has also redoubled its mission to improve accessibility, a team led by Rotarian Louis Dunbar completed its 92nd wheelchair ramp and recently set a record, constructing five ramps in just six days, enabling community mem-

bers with mobility challenges to maintain their independence and remain active participants in the community. These projects were possible through a long-standing partnership with Heart Felt Ministries, which generously donated the lumber as part of its Fall Prevention Program.

Mandarin Rotarians act locally, but also foster international connections, supporting hundreds of children through feeding centers in Alajuelita and Horquetas, Costa Rica. In collaboration with 6:8 Ministries, Rotarians, including Major Harding, Jim White, and Jim Matthews, recently participated in hands-on service projects in Costa Rica. This, together with the club's participation in Rotary International's efforts to completely eradicate polio, demonstrated a clear commitment to global service and creating positive change worldwide.

Other highlights of this Rotarian year, which ends this month, were the club's collaboration with the Mandarin Community Club for the Mandarin Art Festival, its recognition of the DCPS Teacher of the Year, and assisting in the Mandarin Food Bank Thanksgiving and Christmas distributions.

The Rotary Club of Mandarin meets for breakfast every Tuesday at 7:30 a.m. at the Ramada Inn on Hartley Road in Mandarin. Visit mandarinrotary.org or email John Meux at johnmeux@gmail.com for more information.

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Appointments

Carnival fun at Crown Point

By Meghan White
mail@floridanewsline.com

On April 11, Crown Point PTA held a spring carnival allowing students to take some time off from learning and have fun with their families. With a \$5 admission, families enjoyed many exciting activities, including a professional balloon artist, professional face painter, a mobile escape room, a game truck, and two bounce houses. One of the highlights was the indoor table games where the kids played to earn tickets, which they could then use for prizes. Kona Ice and four food trucks were on site for parents to purchase dinner and a treat to enjoy with their children. A little more than 400 parents and kids attended the event.



Photos courtesy Meghan White
The Chick-fil-A mascot with second grader Leslie, her mom, and friends.

Mandarin Parkinson’s support and exercise expands quickly

By NewsLine Staff
mail@floridanewsline.com

What started last fall with just eight participants in group leader Katheryn Donaldson’s home as an interest meeting has become a strong support system group. Additionally, exercise classes have popped up all over with more than 30 in attendance.



The Mandarin Parkinson’s Support group meets the second Sunday of every month and is booming with exciting activities from learning games, Bingo (scheduled for 10 a.m. on Sept. 6), dinner outings, and informative speakers and presentations. The support group meets at the Church of Eleven 22 on Losco Road.

Exercise is one of the few proven ways to improve Parkinson’s symptoms and slow the progression. Mandarin’s exercise group now meets every Wednesday, 6 p.m. – 7 p.m. at Christ Church, 6045 Greenland Road; Thursday, 6 p.m. – 7 p.m. at Fruit Cove Baptist Church, 210 Ridgecrest Lane; and Sunday, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m. for boxing at Smiley’s Martial Arts Academy in Orange Park. All of these classes are free for those with Parkinson’s.

Leader Katheryn Donaldson is a certified group fitness instructor, certified PWR (Parkinson’s Wellness Recovery)


instructor and boxing coach. With aspirations to add more exercise classes, her only disappointment right now is finding space for boxing or aqua locations in the Mandarin area.

Caregiver Conie Sherburn said, “My husband has Parkinson’s and I have been struggling to get through to him that he needs to keep moving. My daughter and I went to the support group to find help on what to say. We got a lot of information and felt like part of a family.”

All caregivers and those with Parkinson’s are invited to check out the support group and the exercise classes. Visit www.jaxhopeinc.org for more information.



Photos courtesy Katheryn Donaldson




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Travel

Barcelona Travel Tips: Gaudí, Gothic Charm, and Culinary Delights

By Debi Lander
mail@floridanewslines.com

Barcelona ranks as one of Spain’s top tourist destinations — for good reasons. This dynamic Mediterranean city of more than 1.6 million residents offers a rich blend of architecture, culture, history, and food.

Gaudí’s Barcelona: The city’s most iconic landmarks are the creations of hometown superstar architect Antoni Gaudí. His whimsical, imaginative style defines much of Barcelona’s architecture.

The crown jewel is La Sagrada Família, the still-unfinished basilica that has become a symbol of the city. Construc-

tion began in 1882 and continues to this day, with projected completion in the late 2020s. The Nativity façade resembles a drippy sandcastle, with intricate sculptures of people, animals, and biblical scenes. The Passion façade is stark, angular, and emotional — conveying the suffering of Christ. Be sure to book tickets well in advance; they sell out. Personally, I’d skip the tower tour — the views were mostly blocked by scaffolding.

Next is Park Güell, another Gaudí masterpiece, located on a hill above the city. While the park is stunning — with colorful mosaics, serpentine benches, and fairytale-like buildings — it can be hard to reach. Unless you enjoy long uphill climbs and staircases, take a taxi or public transport. You can tour a former Gaudí residence and others looking like Hansel and Gretel gingerbread cottages. My personal favorite Gaudí creation? Casa Vicens, the first house he designed in Barcelona. Originally a summer home, it’s a delightful mix of color, pattern, and Moorish-inspired fantasy. It’s less crowded than his more famous works, and the audio guide is excellent — just bring your own earbuds.

Music and Architecture: If you have time, attend a concert at the Palau de la Música. If not, take the guided tour. Built in 1908, this Art

Nouveau concert hall feels like it was constructed yesterday, thanks to its brilliant design and restoration. Expect stained glass, mosaic tiles, and ornate sculptural details — truly one of the most beautiful performance spaces I’ve ever seen.

Culinary Highlights: Foodies should consider a hands-on experience at the Barcelona Cooking School. My class included traditional dishes like tomato-rubbed bread, chicken paella, and a silky Spanish crema, similar to crème brûlée. Before class, we toured the fabulous Boqueria Market — a vibrant explosion of color, smells, and flavors. I only wish I’d discovered it earlier!

Neighborhood Strolls: Las Ramblas, the city’s famous pedestrian boulevard, is lined with shops, cafés, and street performers. Though it can be touristy, it’s a fun stroll. The Gothic Quarter is a maze of medieval lanes, tucked-away plazas, and Roman ruins. While I skipped the interior of the Barcelona Cathedral, the exterior is breathtaking, especially when lit up at night. Nearby, check out the Picasso Museum, home to hundreds of early works that show a different side of the famous artist. Also consider the Museum of the History of Barcelona where you can walk through underground Roman ruins.



Photos courtesy Debi Lander
Dramatic mountains of Montserrat.

Day Trip: Montserrat: One of my favorite experiences was a day trip to Montserrat, a jagged mountain range about an hour outside Barcelona. A cogwheel train took us up to the monastery complex and the Basilica of Montserrat, home to the revered Black Madonna statue. Note: If you want to get up close to the Madonna, you’ll need a timed ticket — I didn’t have one, so I viewed her from below the altar. Afterward, my tour included lunch and a wine tasting at a centuries-old vineyard. The views of the Catalan countryside were the perfect contrast to the buzz of the city.

What I Missed: I didn’t have time to visit (and wish I had), Montjuïc, the hill above the city with its Magic Fountain show, Olympic venues, or Barcelona’s beaches.

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



Park Güell with a gingerbread style house.



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